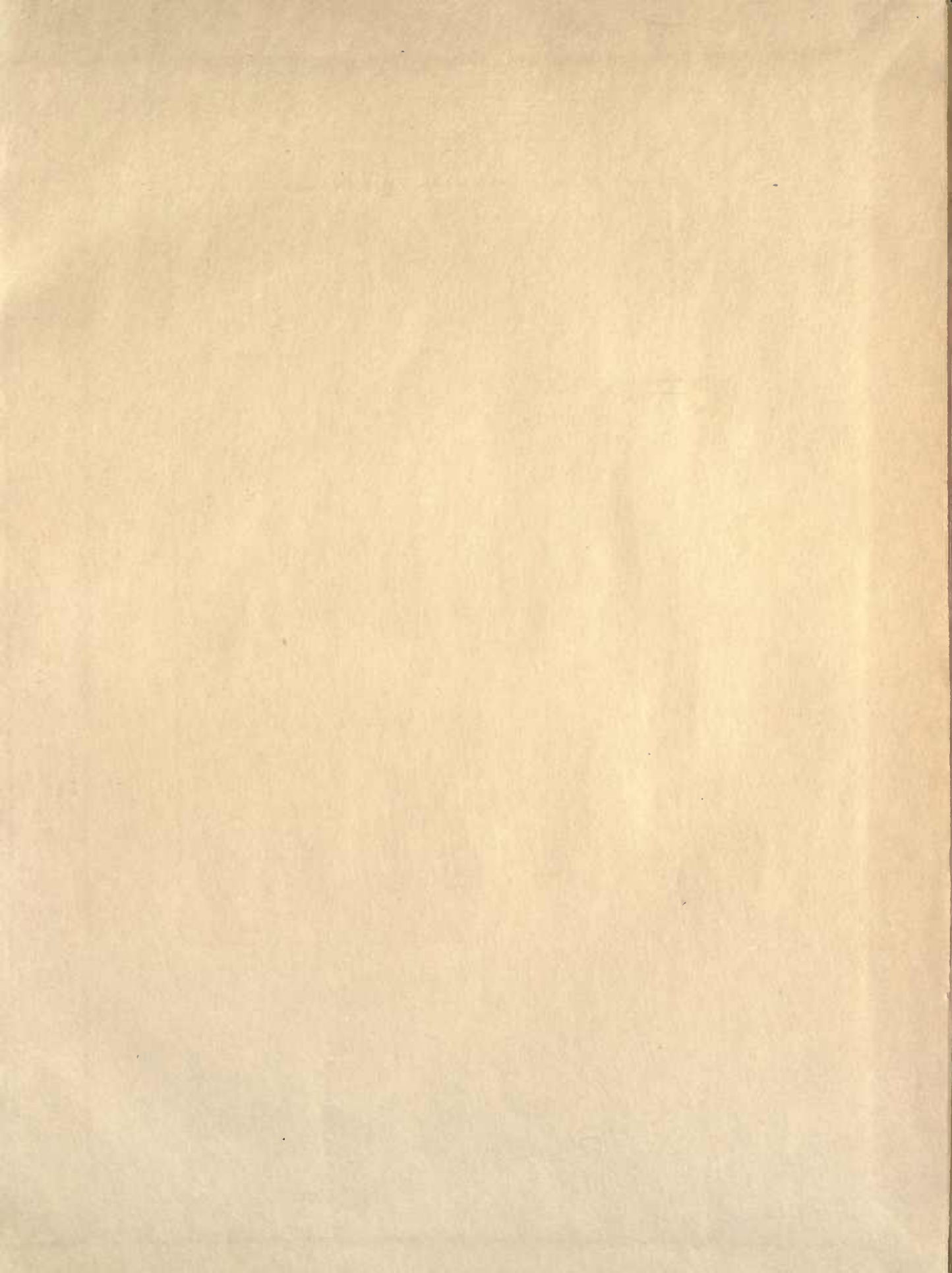


<http://stores.ebay.com/Ancestry-Found>



Illinois Historical Survey

<http://stores.ebay.com/Ancestry-Found>



PORTRAIT AND
BIOGRAPHICAL



—OF—

COLES COUNTY, ILL.,

CONTAINING

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

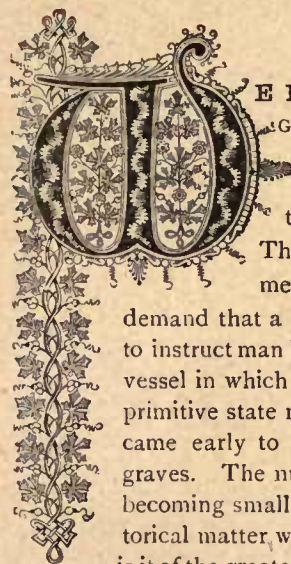
TOGETHER WITH

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

CHICAGO:
CHAPMAN BROTHERS,
1887.



PREFACE



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

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

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

CHICAGO, October, 1887.

CHAPMAN BROTHERS.



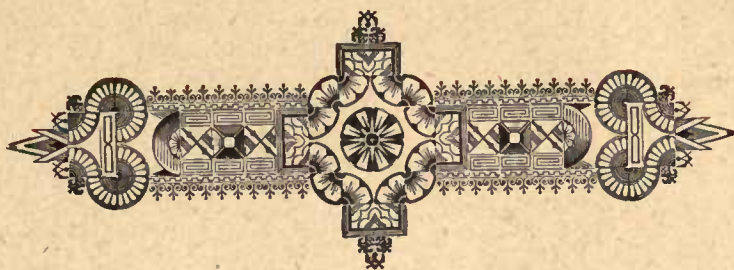
PORTRAITS
AND
BIOGRAPHIES

OF THE
GOVERNORS OF ILLINOIS,

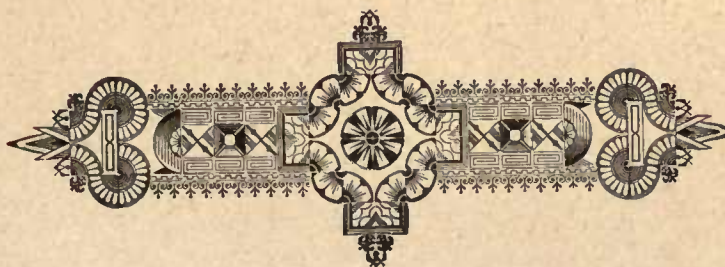
AND OF THE
PRESIDENTS

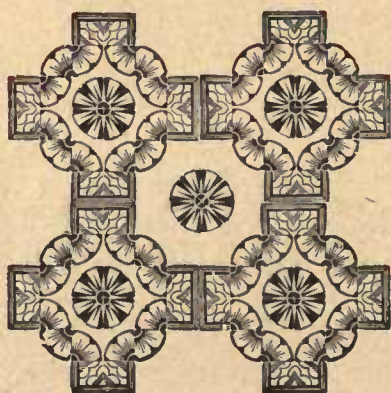
OF THE
UNITED STATES.



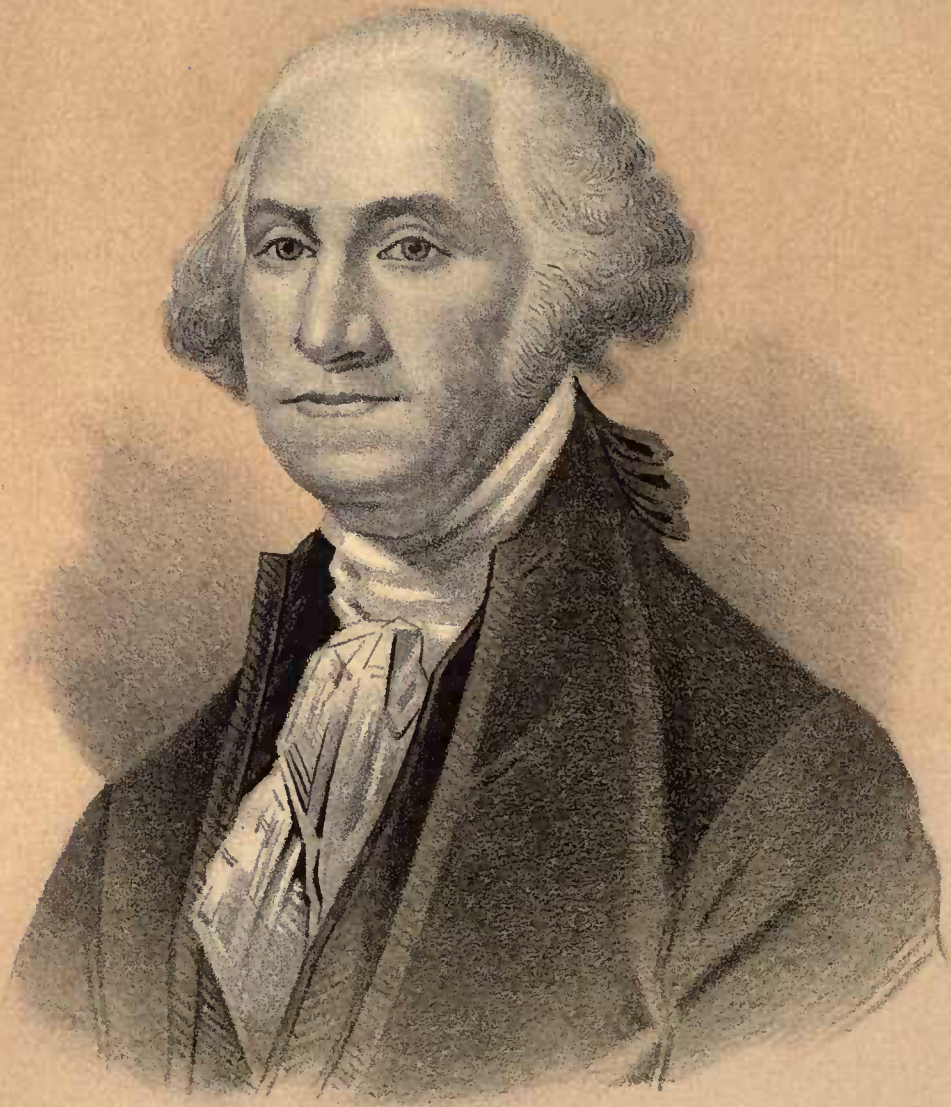


PRESIDENTS.





The Library
of the
University of Illinois



George Washington



GEORGE WASHINGTON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Library
of the
University of Illinois



John Adams

JOHN ADAMS.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

While Mr. Adams was Vice President the great

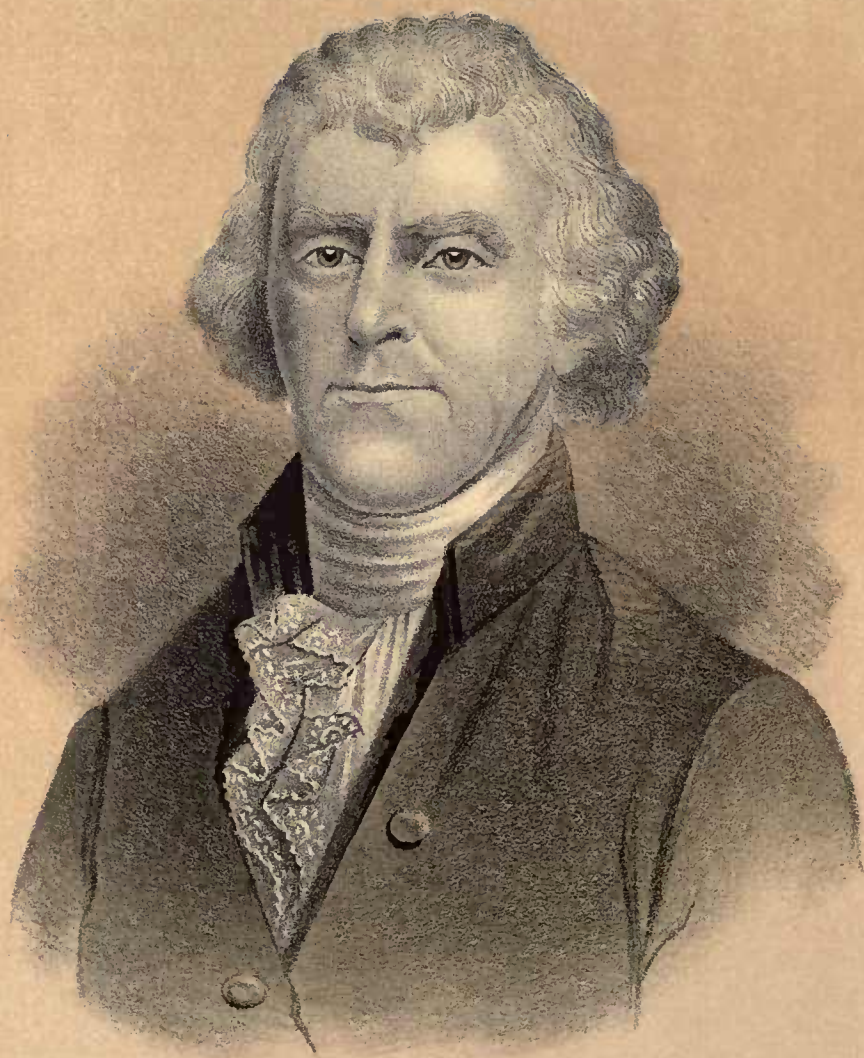
French Revolution shook the continent of Europe, and it was upon this point which he was at issue with the majority of his countrymen led by Mr. Jefferson. Mr. Adams felt no sympathy with the French people in their struggle, for he had no confidence in their power of self-government, and he utterly abhorred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

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

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

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

The Library
of the
University of Illinois



Th. Jefferson



THOMAS JEFFERSON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The fourth of July, 1826, being the fiftieth anniversary

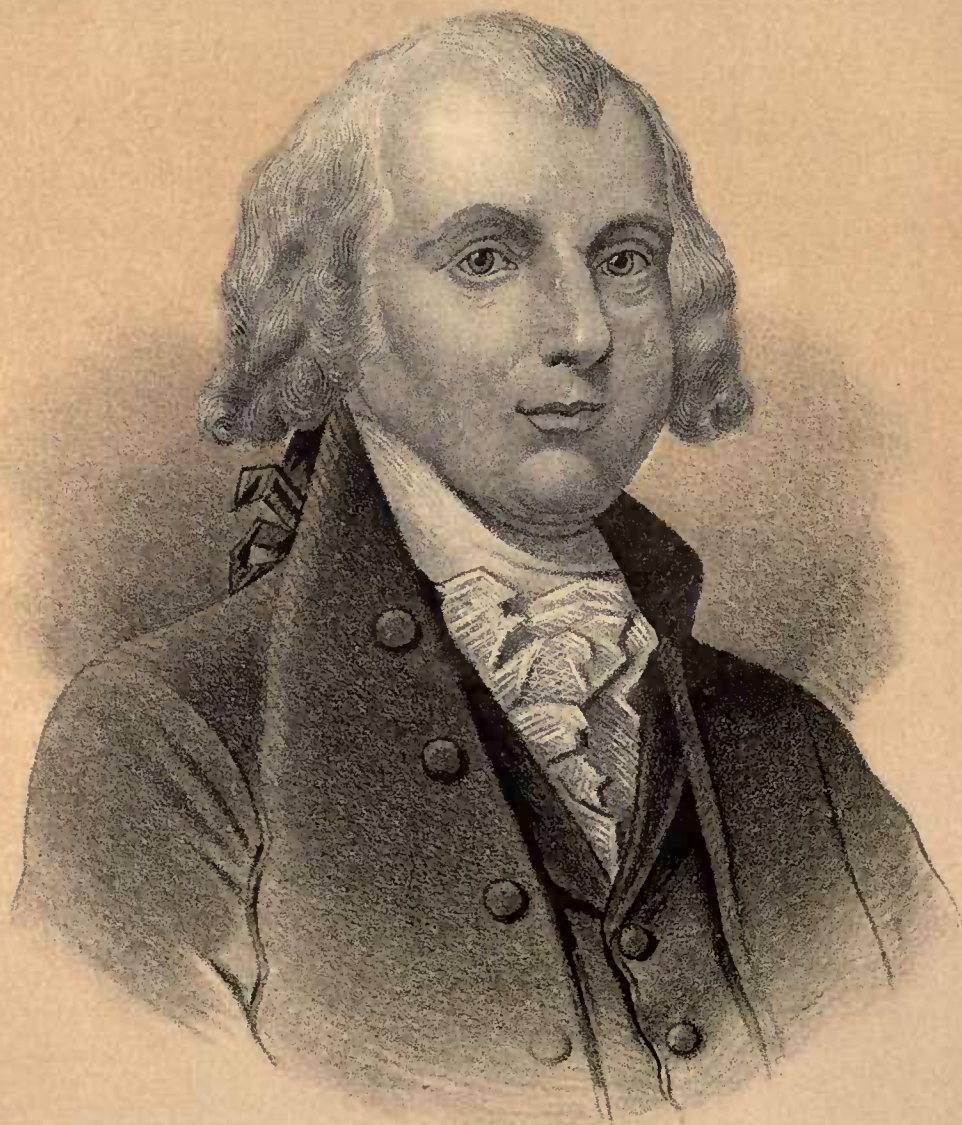
of the Declaration of American Independence, great preparations were made in every part of the Union for its celebration, as the nation's jubilee, and the citizens of Washington, to add to the solemnity of the occasion, invited Mr. Jefferson, as the framer, and one of the few surviving signers of the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

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

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

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

The Library
of the
University of Illinois



James Madison

JAMES MADISON.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Library
of the
University of Illinois



James Monroe



JAMES MONROE.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Library
of the
University of Illinois



J. 2. Adams



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

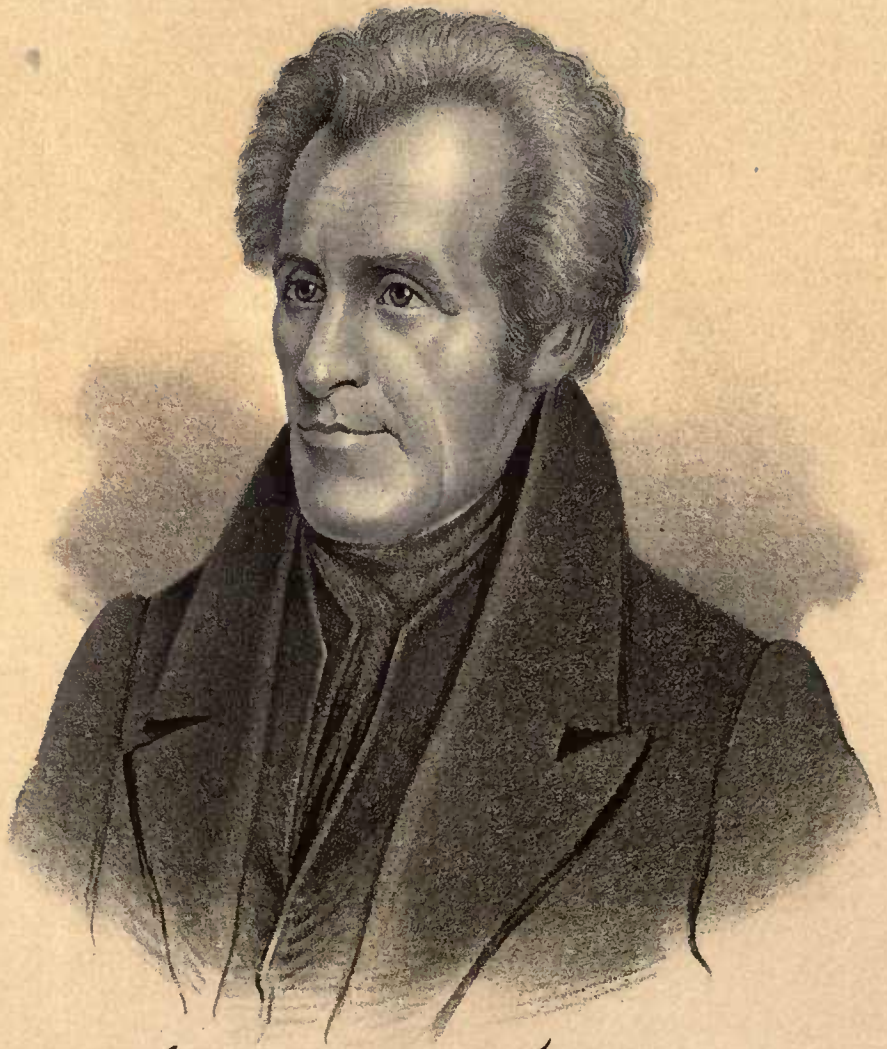
Mr. Adams was, to a very remarkable degree, abstemious and temperate in his habits; always rising early, and taking much exercise. When at his home in Quincy, he has been known to walk, before breakfast, seven miles to Boston. In Washington, it was said that he was the first man up in the city, lighting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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Andrew Jackson

ANDREW JACKSON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

sessions,—a distance of about eight hundred miles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



77 van Buren,



MARTIN VAN BUREN.



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

or unbounded by shrub or flower.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



W. H. Harrison

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

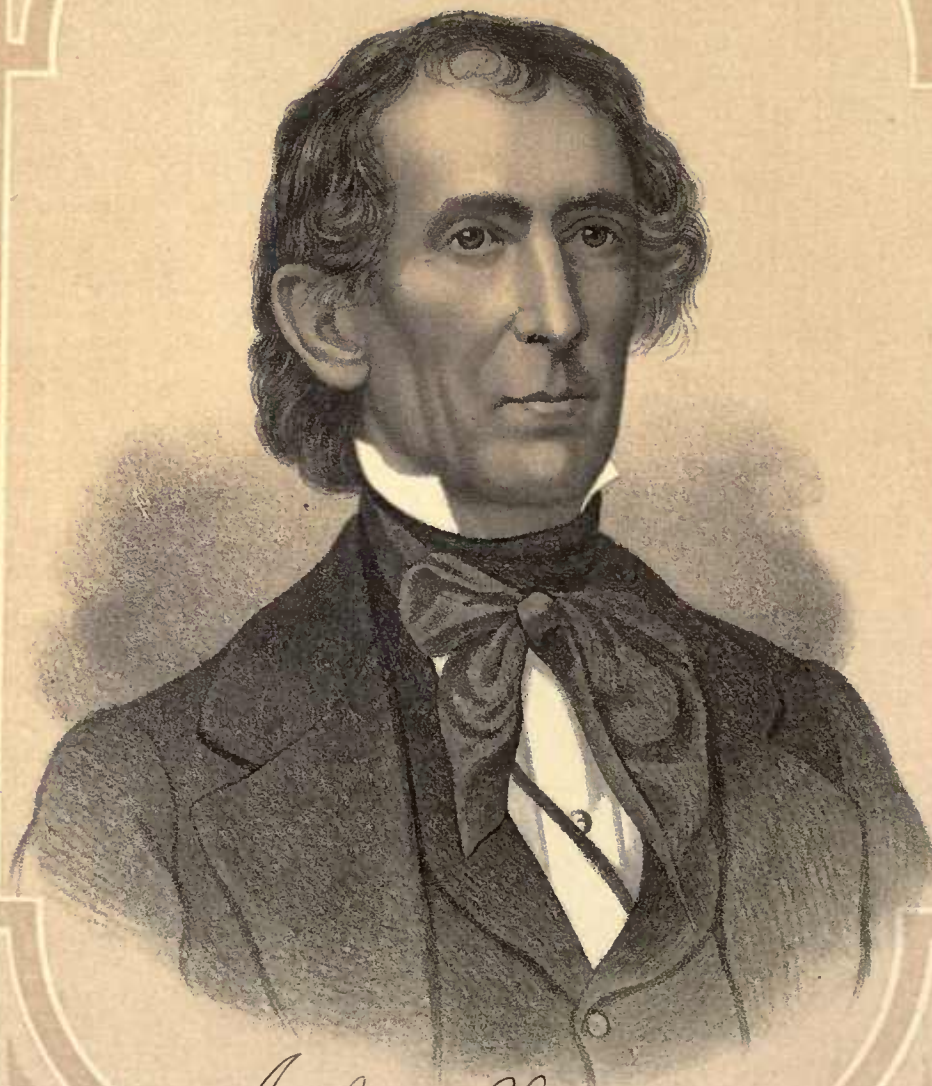
In 1816, Gen. Harrison was chosen a member of the National House of Representatives, to represent the District of Ohio. In Congress he proved an active member; and whenever he spoke, it was with force of reason and power of eloquence, which arrested the attention of all the members.

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

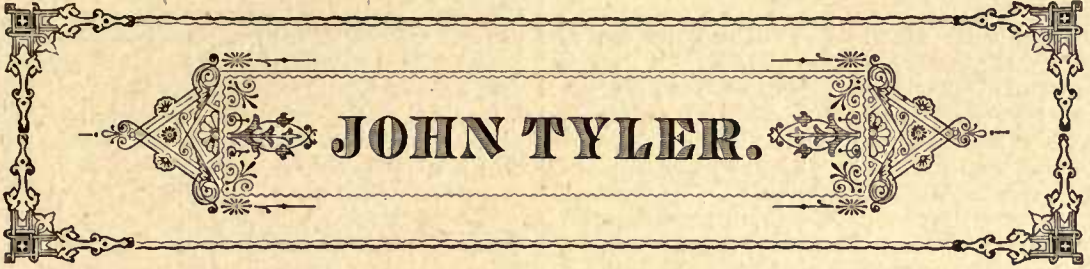
In 1836, the friends of Gen. Harrison brought him forward as a candidate for the Presidency against Van Buren, but he was defeated. At the close of Mr. Van Buren's term, he was re-nominated by his party, and Mr. Harrison was unanimously nominated by the Whigs, with John Tyler for the Vice Presidency.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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



John Tyler



JOHN TYLER.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

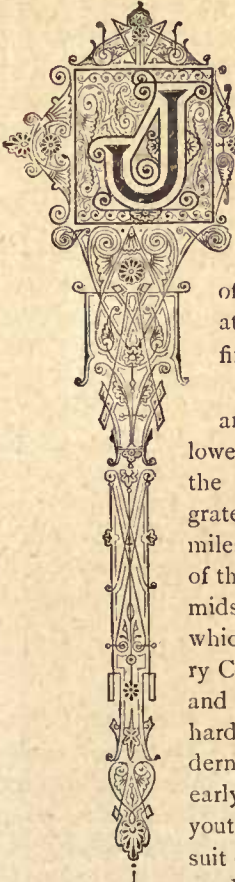
LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



James K. Polk



JAMES K. POLK.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

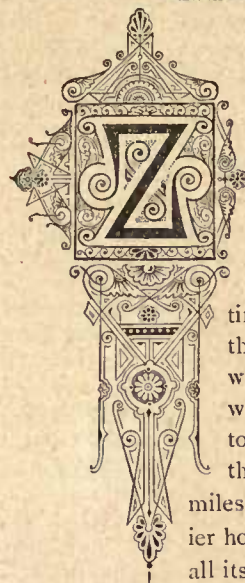
LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Zachary Taylor-



ZACHARY TAYLOR.



ZACHARY TAYLOR, twelfth President of the United States, was born on the 24th of Nov., 1784, in Orange Co., Va. His father, Colonel Taylor, was a Virginian of note, and a distinguished patriot and soldier of the Revolution. When Zachary was an infant, his father with his wife and two children, emigrated to Kentucky, where he settled in the pathless wilderness, a few miles from Louisville. In this frontier home, away from civilization and all its refinements, young Zachary

could enjoy but few social and educational advantages. When six years of age he attended a common school, and was then regarded as a bright, active boy, rather remarkable for bluntness and decision of character. He was strong, fearless and self-reliant, and manifested a strong desire to enter the army to fight the Indians who were ravaging the frontiers. There is little to be recorded of the uneventful years of his childhood on his father's large but lonely plantation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Millard Fillmore



MILLARD FILLMORE.



MILLARD FILLMORE, thirteenth President of the United States, was born at Summer Hill, Cayuga Co., N. Y., on the 7th of January, 1800. His father was a farmer, and owing to misfortune, in humble circumstances. Of his mother, the daughter of Dr. Abiathar Millard, of Pittsfield, Mass., it has been said that she possessed an intellect of very high order, united with much personal loveliness, sweetness of disposition, graceful manners and exquisite sensibilities. She died in 1831; having lived to see her son a

young man of distinguished promise, though she was not permitted to witness the high dignity which he finally attained.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Franklin Pierce



FRANKLIN PIERCE.




RANKLIN PIERCE, the fourteenth President of the United States, was born in Hillsborough, N. H., Nov. 23, 1804. His father was a Revolutionary soldier, who, with his own strong arm, hewed out a home in the wilderness. He was a man of inflexible integrity; of strong, though uncultivated mind, and an uncompromising Democrat. The mother of Franklin Pierce was all that a son could desire,—an intelligent, prudent, affectionate, Christian woman.

Franklin was the sixth of eight children.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

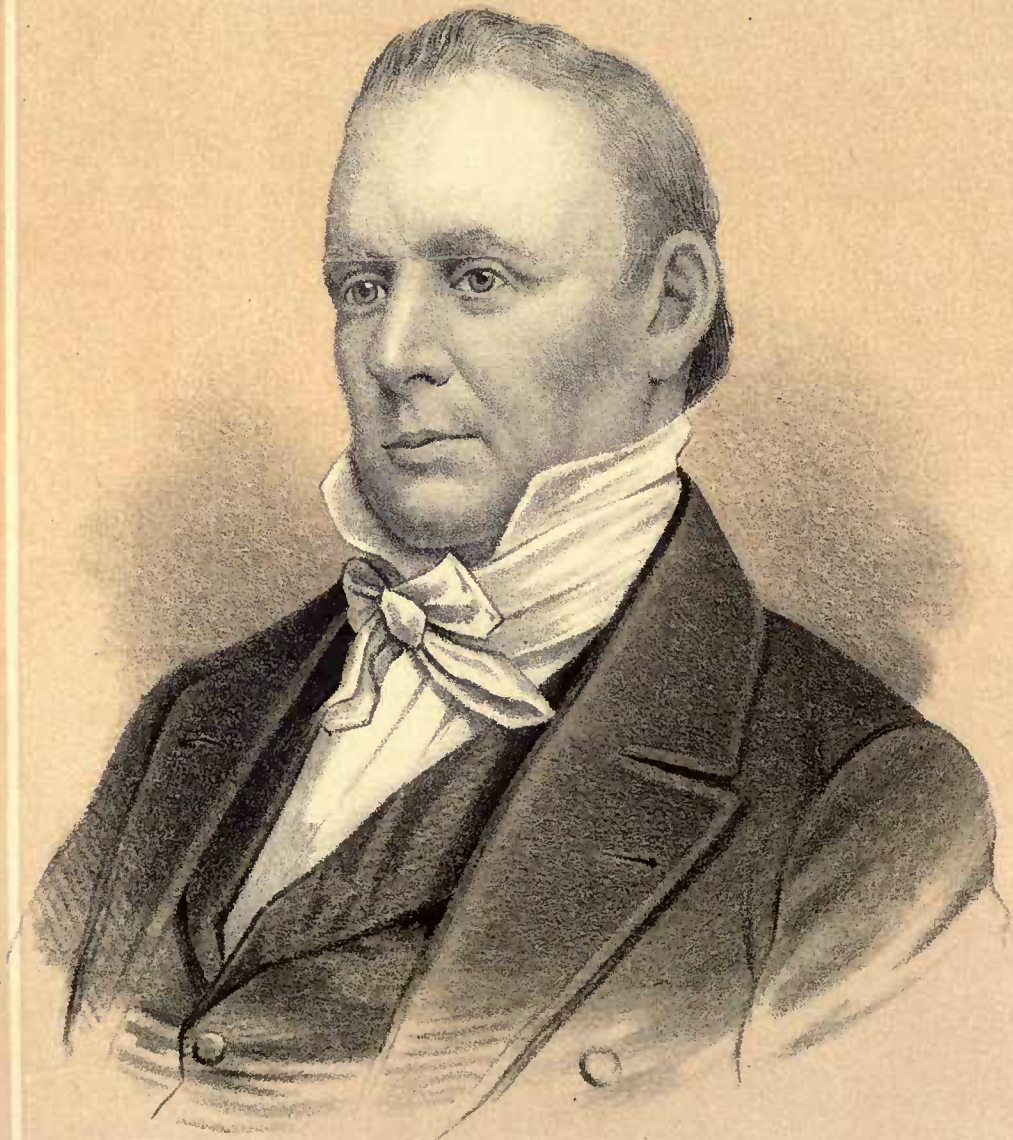
His administration proved one of the most stormy our country had ever experienced. The controversy between slavery and freedom was then approaching its culminating point. It became evident that there was an "irrepressible conflict" between them, and that this Nation could not long exist "half slave and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

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

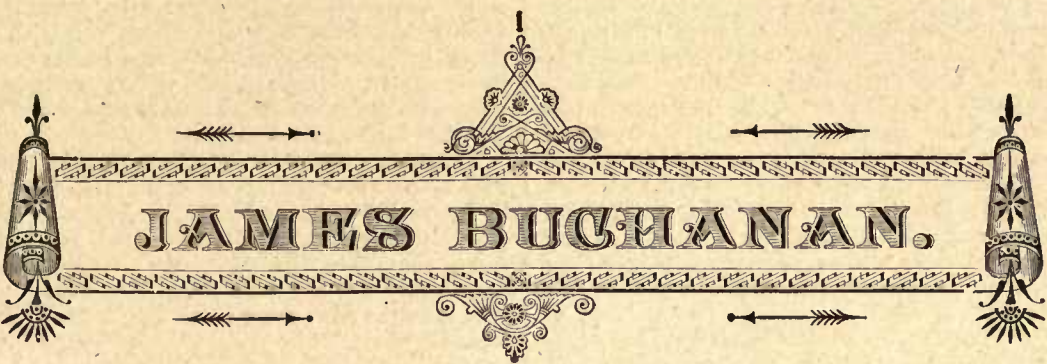
On the 4th of March, 1857, President Pierce retired to his home in Concord. Of three children, two had died, and his only surviving child had been killed before his eyes by a railroad accident; and his wife, one of the most estimable and accomplished of ladies, was rapidly sinking in consumption. The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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



James Buchanan



JAMES BUCHANAN.



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

abled him to master the most abstruse subjects with facility.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



A. Lincoln

ABRAHAM

LINCOLN.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Election day came and Mr. Lincoln received 180 electoral votes out of 293 cast, and was, therefore, constitutionally elected President of the United States. The tirade of abuse that was poured upon this good

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Andrew Johnson



ANDREW JOHNSON, seventeenth President of the United States. The early life of Andrew Johnson contains but the record of poverty, destitution and friendlessness. He was born December 29, 1808, in Raleigh, N. C. His parents, belonging to the class of the "poor whites" of the South, were in such circumstances, that they could not confer even the slightest advantages of education upon their child. When Andrew was five years of age, his father accidentally lost his life while heroically endeavoring to save a friend from drowning. Until ten years of age, Andrew was a ragged boy about the streets, supported by the labor of his mother, who obtained her living with her own hands.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

opposition to, the principles laid down in that speech.

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



G. A. Grant



ULYSSES S. GRANT.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Sincerely
R. B. Hayes



RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



J. A. Garfield

JAMES A. GARFIELD.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



C. A. Arthur.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Grover Cleveland

S. Grover Cleveland.



STEPHEN GROVER CLEVELAND, the twenty-second President of the United States, was born in 1837, in the obscure town of Caldwell, Essex Co., N. J., and in a little two-and-a-

half-story white house which is still standing, characteristically to mark the humble birth-place of one of America's great men in striking contrast with the Old World, where all men high in office must be high in origin and born in the cradle of wealth. When the subject of this sketch was three years of age, his father, who was a Presbyterian minister,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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







GOVERNORS.





LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Shadrach Bond.



SHADRACH BOND.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Edward Coles



Edward Coles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Herman Edwards



Ninian Edwards.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



John Reynolds



John Reynolds.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

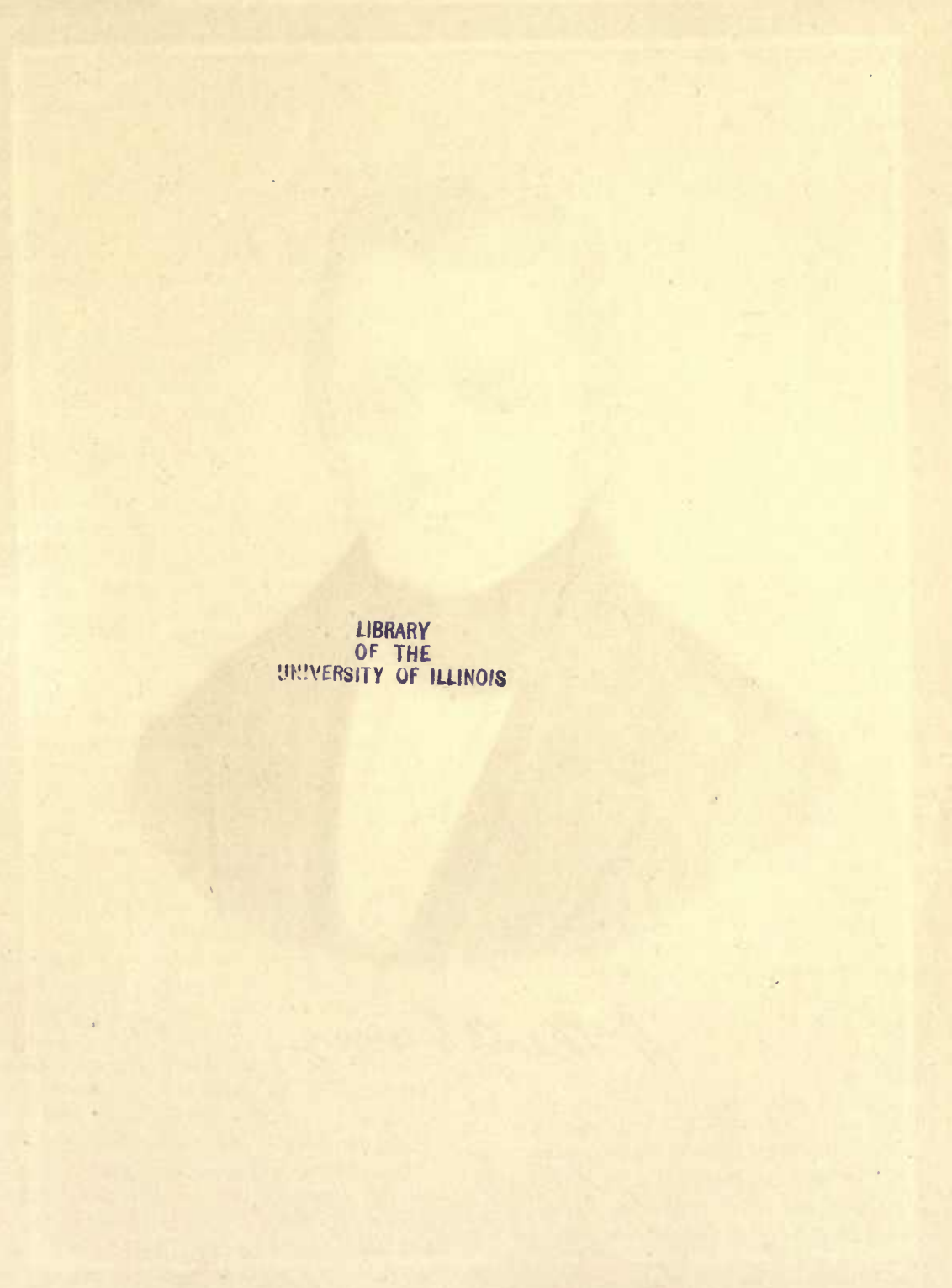
entially adopted, and remained the controlling principle for many years. The ex-Governor was scarcely absent from his seat a single day, during eight sessions of Congress, covering a period of seven years, and he never vacillated in a party vote; but he failed to get the Democratic party to foster his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

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

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

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

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

A very faint, light-colored portrait of a man with dark hair, wearing a suit jacket, white shirt, and a dark tie. The portrait is centered on the page and serves as a background for the text.

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



James Lee D. Ewing



WM. L. D. EWING.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

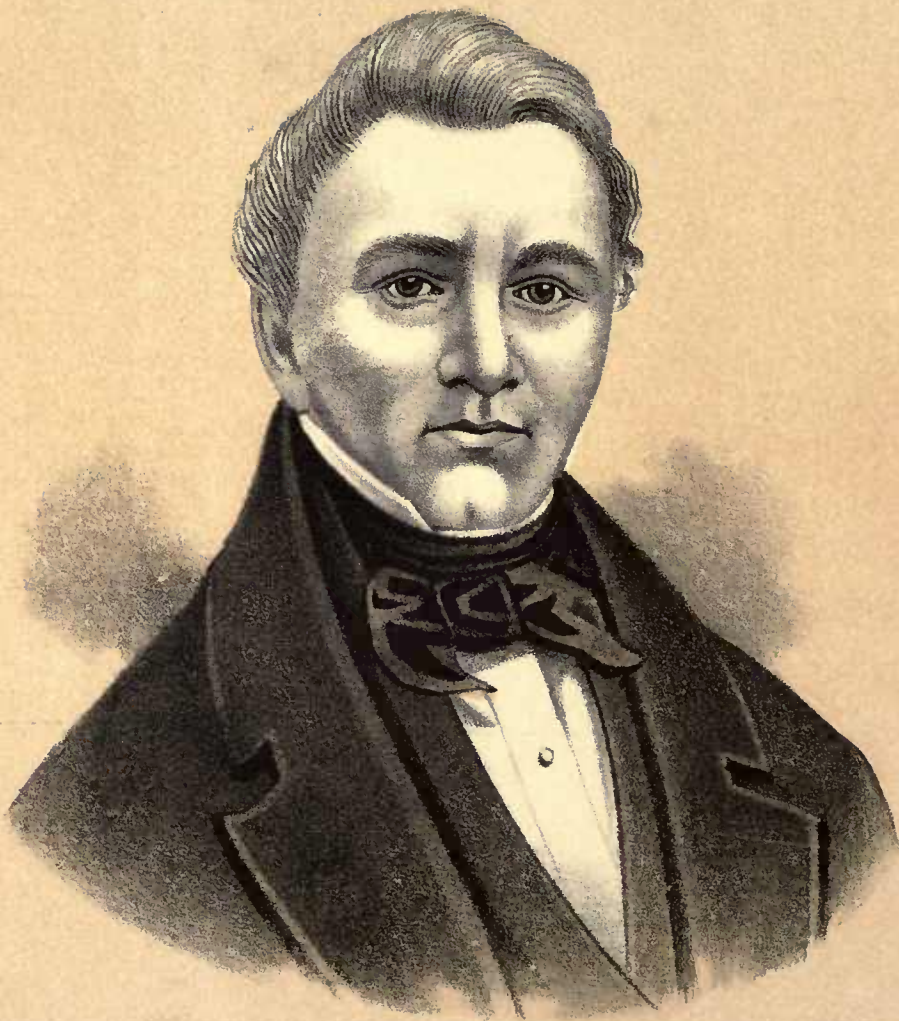
the responsible situation. This is the only time that such a juncture has happened in the history of Illinois.

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

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



LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Joseph Duncan

Joseph Duncan.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

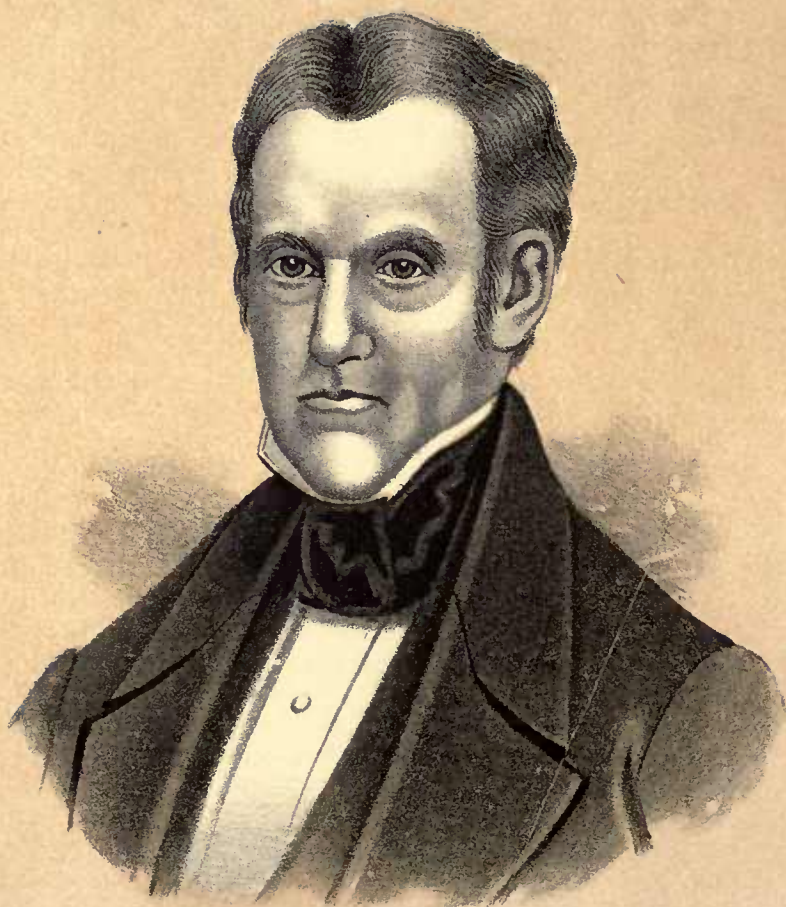
About this time, also, the question of removing the State capital again came up, as the 20 years' limit for its existence at Vandalia was drawing to a close. There was, of course, considerable excitement over the matter, the two main points competing for it being Springfield and Peoria. The jealousy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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Thos. Carlin

Thomas

Carlin.



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

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

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

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

more conveniently he removed to the city of Quincy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Thomas Ford



Thomas Ford.




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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Aug. C. French



Augustus C. French.

AUGUSTUS C. FRENCH, Governor of Illinois from 1846 to 1852, was born in the town of Hill, in the State of New Hampshire, Aug. 2, 1808. He was a descendant in the fourth generation of Nathaniel French, who emigrated from England in 1687 and settled in Saybury, Mass.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



J. A. Matteson



JOEL A. MATTESON, Governor 1853-6, was born Aug. 8, 1808, in Jefferson County, New York, to which place his father had removed from Vermont three years before. His father was a farmer in fair circumstances, but a common English education was all that his only son received. Young Joel first tempted fortune as a small tradesman in Prescott, Canada, before he was of age. He returned from that place to his home, entered an academy, taught school, visited the principal Eastern cities, improved a farm his father had given him, made a tour in the South, worked there in building railroads, experienced a storm on the Gulf of Mexico, visited the gold diggings of Northern Georgia, and returned *via* Nashville to St. Louis and through Illinois to his father's home, when he married. In 1833, having sold his farm, he removed, with his wife and one child, to Illinois, and entered a claim on Government land near the head of Au Sable River, in what is now Kendall County. At that time there were not more than two neighbors within a range of ten miles of his place, and only three or four houses between him and Chicago. He opened a large farm. His family was boarded 70

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



James W. Russell



William M. Bissell.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



John Wood

John Wood.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Rich. Yates



Richard Yates.

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

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

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

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

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

Gov. Yates occupied the chair of State during the

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

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

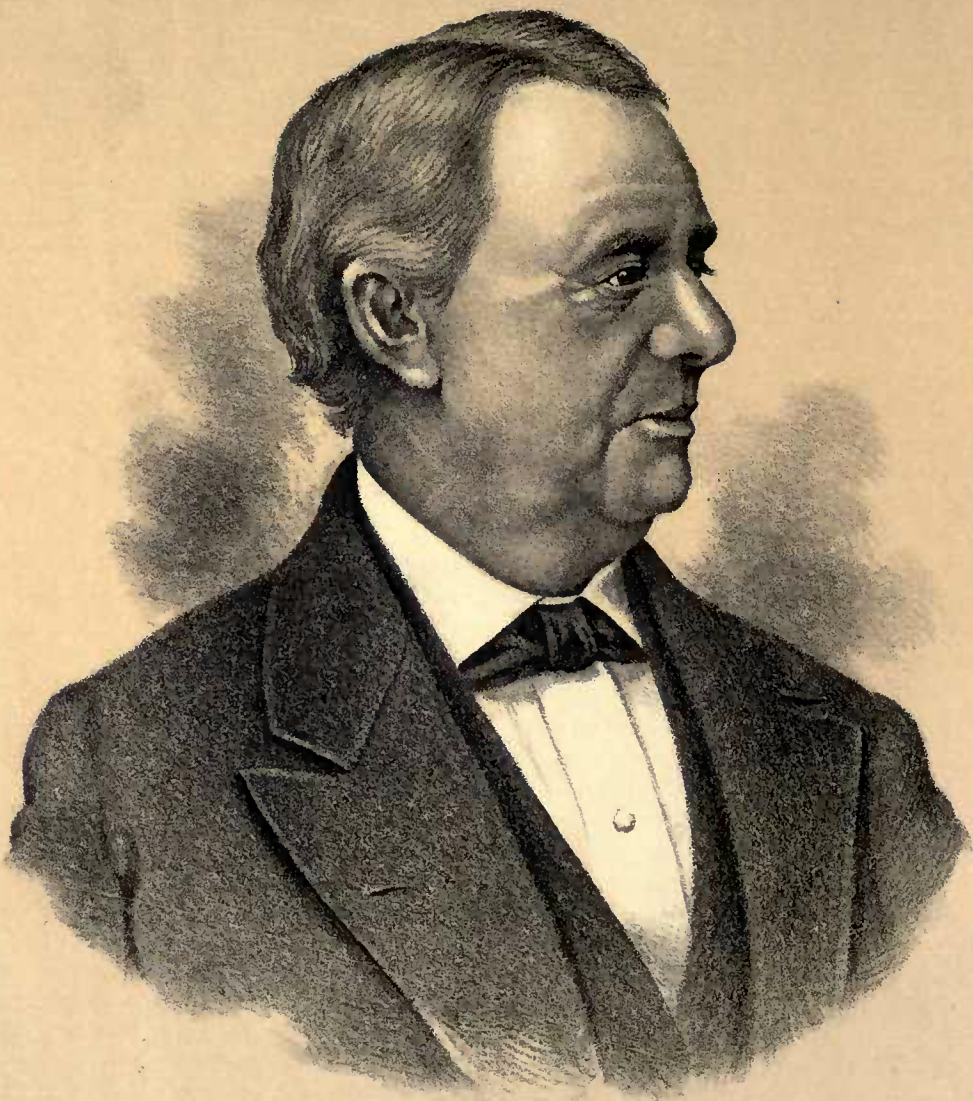
and to the re-establishment of one for the "happiness, prosperity and freedom of the citizens," limited only by the Federal Constitution. Notwithstanding the law calling the Convention required its members to take an oath to support the Constitution of the State as well as that of the general Government,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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



R. J. Aglesby



Richard J. Oglesby.

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

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

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

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

pany of eight men, Henry Prather being the leader.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

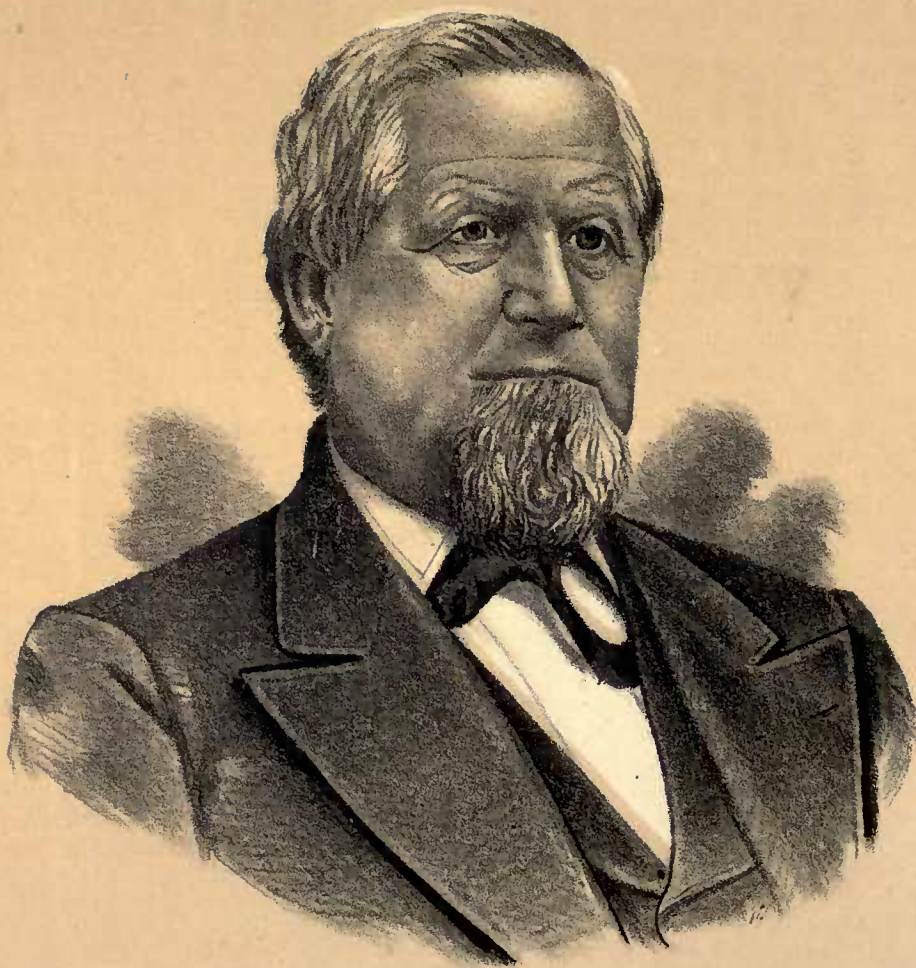
During the year 1872, it became evident that if the Republicans could re-elect Mr. Oglesby to the office of Governor, they could also elect him to the United States Senate, which they desired to do. Accordingly they re-nominated him, for the Executive chair, and placed upon the ticket with him for Lieutenant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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



John A. Peen



JOHN M. PALMER

JOHN Mc AULEY PALMER, Governor 1869-72, was born on Eagle Creek, Scott Co., Ky., Sept. 13, 1817. During his infancy, his father, who had been a soldier in the war of 1812, removed to Christian Co., Ky., where lands were cheap. Here the future Governor of the great Prairie State spent his childhood and received such meager schooling as the new and sparsely settled country afforded. To this he added materially by diligent reading, for which he evinced an early aptitude. His father, an ardent Jackson man, was also noted for his anti-slavery sentiments, which he thoroughly impressed upon his children. In 1831 he emigrated to Illinois, settling in Madison County. Here the labor of improving a farm was pursued for about two years, when the death of Mr. Palmer's mother broke up the family. About this time Alton College was opened, on the "manual labor" system, and in the spring of 1834 young Palmer, with his elder brother, Elihu, entered this school and remained 18 months. Next, for over three years, he tried variously coopering, peddling and school-teaching. During the summer of 1838 he formed the acquaintance of Stephen A. Douglas, then making his

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

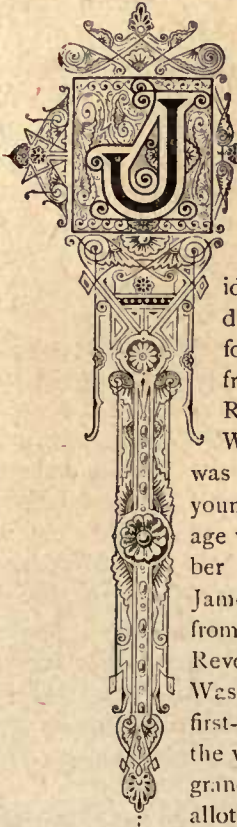
LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



John L. Beveridge



John L. Beveridge.



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

being over 85 years. They belonged to the "Associate Church," a seceding Presbyterian body of

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



McCullough

SHELBY M. CULLOM.



HELBY M. CULLOM, Governor 1877-83, is the sixth child of the late Richard N. Cullom, and was born Nov. 22, 1829, in Wayne Co., Ky., where his father then resided, and whence both the Illinois and Tennessee branches of the family originated. In the following year the family emigrated to the vicinity of Washington, Tazewell Co., Ill., when that section was very sparsely settled. They located on Deer Creek, in a grove at the time occupied by a party of Indians, attracted there by the superior hunting and fishing afforded in that vicinity. The following winter was known as the "hard winter," the snow being very deep and lasting and the weather severely cold; and the family had to subsist mainly on boiled corn or hominy, and some wild game, for several weeks. In the course of time Mr. R. N. Cullom became a prominent citizen and was several times elected to the Legislature, both before and after the removal of the capital from Vandalia to Springfield. He died about 1873.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



John M. Hamilton

John M. Hamilton.



JOHN MARSHALL HAMILTON, Governor 1883-5, was born May 28, 1847, in a log house upon a farm about two miles from Richwood, Union County, Ohio. His father was

Samuel Hamilton, the eldest son of Rev. Wm. Hamilton, who, together with his brother, the Rev. Samuel Hamilton, was among the early pioneer Methodist preachers in Ohio. The mother of the subject of this sketch was, before her marriage, Mrs. Nancy McMorris, who was born and raised in Fauquier or Loudoun County, Va., and related to the

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

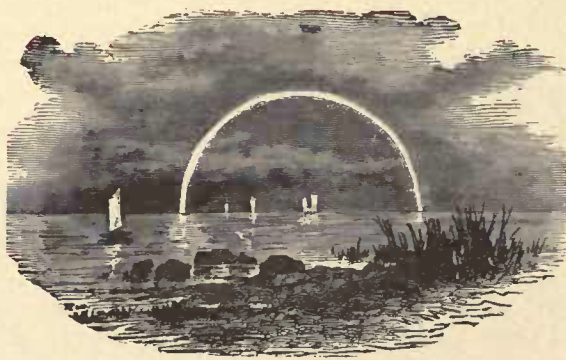
The Governor was a Delegate at large to the National Republican Convention at Chicago in June, 1884, where his first choice for President was John A. Logan, and second choice Chester A. Arthur; but he afterward zealously worked for the election of Mr. Blaine, true to his party.

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



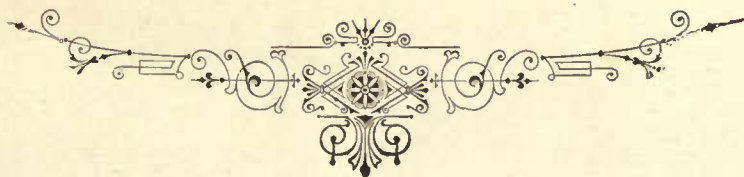
Coles County,
Illinois.

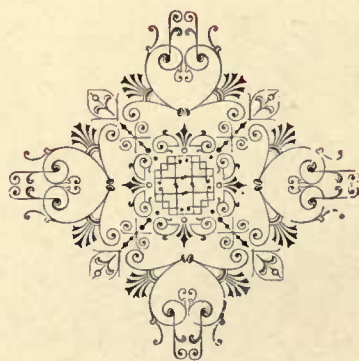






BIOGRAPHICAL.







INTRODUCTORY.



COLES COUNTY, prior to its organization, which occurred in 1830, had been attached to Clark. It was christened in honor of Edward Coles, who was elected Governor of Illinois in 1822, and who was one of the most noble and worthy men who ever occupied that high position. Gov. Coles was a Virginian by birth and a large slave-owner, and when he emigrated to Illinois he brought his slaves with him. Upon becoming a citizen of this State he liberated all of them and gave each head of a family among them 160 acres of land. At the time of the organization of Coles it embraced the territory now forming Douglas and Cumberland Counties.

Coles County is situated in latitude 40 north, and longitude 11 west from Washington, embracing about 500 square miles, and divided into thirteen townships. Its general surface is undulating, but there are some parts of it which are broken, yet not to that extent as to be regarded hilly. Its elevation is about 800 feet above the level of the Gulf of Mexico. The soil, which is rich, especially the prairies, is well drained by the Embarras, Kaskaskia and Kickapoo Rivers, and numerous other little water courses. The county is liberally timbered and contains many fine groves.

Like most of the counties of Illinois, Coles' first

inhabitants were Indians. At one time in the history of the State their wigwams were numerous and their camp-fires left but a few groves unlighted by night. The first white people to settle in the county, who came in 1824, were John Parker and Samuel Kellogg with their families, in all fourteen. John Parker erected the first cabin, which was located in what is now Hutton Township, on the east bank of the Embarras, and opposite to where Blakeman's Mill was in after years set up. These pioneers were soon followed by many others and it was not long before the county had quite a respectable population.

Among the early settlers in Coles County were Thomas Lincoln, father of President Lincoln, and Dennis F. Hanks, who was first cousin to Abraham Lincoln's mother. They moved here from Macon County in the fall of 1831, and located near Goose Neck Prairie, in what is now Pleasant Grove Township. The early life of Abraham Lincoln is well known by the settlers here. His father erected a cabin on his claim, where he lived until his death, Jan. 15, 1851, and was buried in the little Garden Churchyard near Farmington, where a few years ago a monument was erected to his memory, by his grandson, Robert T. Lincoln. His second wife, who survived him several years, was buried by his side. Dennis Hanks took up a farm near Mr. Lincoln's, where he lived for about two years when he moved to Charleston. He became quite conspicuous in the country at one time as the companion

of young Abraham Lincoln and one who taught him to read, and subsequently (in 1876) as the exhibitor of the celebrated Lincoln log cabin. He is a man of the old type, honest and positive in his nature, and has many interesting remembrances still held by his good memory of the great President. He lives at Charleston, surrounded by his children and grandchildren, in his eighty-ninth year, and remarkably preserved in all his faculties.

In 1831 the county seat was located and the name was called Charleston. Here a good courthouse was completed in 1835, which has since been remodeled. What is an unusual thing for counties, Coles has had no county seat contests, nor any change in its county seat location.

The early settlers of Coles did not lack for religious instruction, and that of a solid, substantial character. Its pioneer was a preacher and of the "hard-shell" Baptist order. This society was followed by many others, and the people now are well supplied with places of worship. Schools were early established in the county, but the buildings were rude structures and the system was imperfect. When the present free school system was adopted, the people of Coles earnestly interested themselves in providing for the education of their children, which resulted in the establishment of good schools throughout the county. The people were alive to the benefits of railroad transportation and early interested themselves in having the county traversed by good lines. The first to complete its track through the county was the St. Louis, Alton & Terre Haute (now forming part of the Bee Line), which was during the latter part of 1855. About the 1st of January, 1856, the Illinois Central ran its first passenger train through Mattoon, from Chicago to

Cairo. It would be a great error to think of those lines as we would of the present almost perfect system of railroads. The tracks were laid with strap iron, the coaches were crude in construction, and the locomotives were weak in power. Often the neighboring farmers were called on to assist with fence rails, a weary train up a grade. Other lines have since been completed—the Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City, the Peoria, Decatur & Evansville and the Illinois Midland—which give to the county splendid transportation facilities.

Coles is chiefly an agricultural county, its principal products being corn and broom corn. In the latter product it stands ahead of any county in the United States. Considerable attention is also paid to stock, and some splendid pure blooded stock can be seen in the county.

Underlying the surface at different depths are extensive coal beds of a very good quality of bituminous coal, some of which have been opened and are being worked with profit.

There are three thriving towns in the county—Charleston, Mattoon, and Oakland. There are several other little villages, some of which are growing slowly. The population of the county is now about 30,000, and it is steadily increasing. The northern portion of the county is under splendid cultivation, and a more desirable farming country could hardly be found, while the southern part contains many fine and well cultivated farms.

The original settlers were chiefly from Kentucky, Virginia and Indiana. The present population is composed of these and their descendants, those coming in since from the Northern States, and some from foreign lands. They are, in the main, an intelligent, industrious and thrifty people.



LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



O. B. Ficklin



BIOGRAPHICAL.



ORLANDO B. FICKLIN, one of the most prominent and useful citizens who ever honored Coles County, and one who in many respects did more in its behalf than

any other man, was born Dec. 16, 1808. He was the son of William and Elizabeth Kenner (Williams) Ficklin, natives of Virginia, but who removed to Kentucky, where their son Orlando was born. He received a practical education in the schools of Kentucky and Missouri, whither his parents subsequently removed, and passed one year in Princeton College, Caldwell Co., Ky. He commenced the study of law at Potosi, Washington Co., Mo., and during the winter of 1829 and 1830, prosecuted his legal studies in Transylvania University, and in the law office of Gen. Robert Farris, at St. Louis. In the spring of 1830 he was admitted to the bar at Belleville, St. Clair Co., Ill., and commenced the practice of law in Mt. Carmel, Wabash County.

In 1832 Mr. Ficklin entered Capt. Jordan's company, and went to the Black Hawk War, serving as Quartermaster, and in the following year he was elected Colonel of the militia of Wabash County, and shortly afterward began his political career, which was one of the most honorable and brilliant enjoyed by any of his contemporaries. In August, 1834, he was elected to the Lower House of the Legislature, and chosen by that body as States At-

torney for the Wabash Circuit. In 1837 he removed to Charleston, and the ensuing year represented Coles County in the Legislature. In 1842 he was again elected to the Legislature, and the following year was made the Member of Congress from the Wabash District, and was re-elected in the years of 1844 and 1846. At the close of this long public career he resumed the practice of law in Charleston, but his services were considered too valuable to the public to be permitted to lead a quiet life, and in 1850 he was returned to Congress. In 1856 he was a member of the Democratic Convention at Cincinnati, which nominated James Buchanan for President, and in 1860 was a member of the National Convention held at Charleston, S. C. In 1864 he was a delegate to the National Convention held at Chicago, which nominated Gen. George B. McClellan for President, and in 1869-70 represented the counties of Coles, Moultrie and Douglas in the State Constitutional Convention. In 1878 he was elected to the House of Representatives in the State Legislature. He was Elector for the State at large three terms; the last was when Cleveland was elected President.

The Hon. O. B. Ficklin was faithful in the discharge of his public duties, which were heaped upon him, and possessed the respect and esteem of his political constituents. He devoted his time and talents to the service of the State, with a rare spirit of devotion and unselfishness. After a long and useful life, chequered by many national vicissitudes, he passed away from the busy scenes of earth May 5, 1885. It is with pleasure that the publishers place the portrait of this lamented and honored

citizen on an accompanying page, the first in the volume, a fitting place for the man represented.

Mrs. O. B. Ficklin, Postmistress of Charleston, and the widow of the late Orlando B. Ficklin, is the daughter of W. T. and Nancy (Lane) Colquitt; the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Georgia. Her paternal grandparents, Henry and Nancy (Holt) Colquitt, were natives of Virginia and of English descent. They removed to Georgia when her father was two years of age. Her maternal grandparents were Joseph and Elizabeth (Hill) Lane; the former was a native of North Carolina, and the latter of South Carolina, and her great-grandfather, Richard Lane, was a native of Virginia.

Henry Colquitt, who was a slave-holder under the old regime, owned an extensive plantation in Virginia, as well as one in Georgia after his removal to that State. A family of three children was born to him, as follows: Sarah H., the wife of Edmond Randell, a resident of Georgia; W. T. and John. W. T. Colquitt was born in 1807, and graduated with honors from Princeton College before he attained his majority. He subsequently studied law in Georgia, where he was admitted to the bar. He was brilliant and successful in his profession and was made Judge of the Circuit Court before reaching the age of twenty-five. He was interested in all affairs of national importance, and served several years as Member of Congress. He was enterprising and successful in business, and became an extensive land-owner. His death occurred in 1857, and his wife died in 1840. Only three children of their family are now living, whose record is as follows: Alfred H., who was the Governor of Georgia eight years, and is now United States Senator from that State; Mrs. O. B. Ficklin, the subject of this sketch; Emily L., the wife of Samuel Carter, a wealthy planter of Dalton, Ga., and Payton H., who was a Brigadier General in the Civil War, and was killed at Chattanooga.

Mrs. Ficklin has a family of three children now living, whose record is as follows: Alfred C., an attorney, residing at Tuscola, Douglas Co., Ill., and who married Miss Emma Weiss, has three sons—Orlando B., Otto W. and Walter C.; Joseph C., an attorney, residing at Paris, Edgar Co., Ill., married to Miss Susan Thomas, of Chicago, and has one

son, James R.; Orlando B., an attorney, residing in Charleston, married to Miss Mary Wright, has three children—Joseph C., Mary C. and Samuel W. Mrs. Ficklin, as the wife of a distinguished politician, has had much experience in public affairs. She possesses tact, good judgment and rare business ability, which render her well fitted for the position she holds, which was one of the first appointments made by President Cleveland in 1885. Mrs. Ficklin is a member of the Episcopal Church, and an accomplished lady, and enjoys the highest esteem of the entire community in which she lives, and of which she is a very important factor.



GREEN ARTERBURN. The farm owned by this gentleman forms one of the prettiest spots in the landscape of Ashmore Township. The dwelling with its out-buildings, is located on a rise of ground, and the pasture and grain fields stretch away on either side forming a picture which is delightful to look upon. The grounds around the residence, which are ample and well kept, are planted with choice shade trees, and in the rear is a fine carp pond fed by living springs, and stocked with an abundance of the funny tribe procured from the Government in 1886. The farm contains 160 acres, finely cultivated, and the residence is one of the most elegant in the township, while the barn and stables correspond in every respect with the main building.

Mr. Arterburn is a native of the Prairie State, his birth taking place in Edgar County, Dec. 26, 1834. His parents, John and Mahulda (Watkins) Arterburn, were natives of Jefferson County, Ky. The former, born Feb. 28, 1804, is still living and a resident of Edgar County, where he owns a fine property and is one of the prominent men of that section. He votes with the Republican party and is one of the pillars of the Christian Church. The mother, who was born Jan. 22, 1808, departed this life at the homestead in Edgar County in the spring of 1875. She was a lady greatly beloved by her family and friends, a faithful and loving wife and mother, and one who performed all her duties in life with a conscientious fidelity which has left its

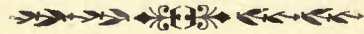
impress upon the hearts of all who knew her. The household circle included eight children, namely, James, John, Allen, Green, Ann, Norben, Henry, and Mary, now deceased.

The Arterburn family is of German descent, the earliest representatives in this country settling first in the Blue Grass regions, where they built up for themselves good homes and a name of which their descendants may justly be proud. Green, of our sketch, remained a member of the parental household until twenty-two years of age, and was then united in marriage with Miss Isabella Kester, a native of his own county, who was born June 16, 1838. Their wedding took place on Christmas Day in 1855, and they began life together amid the surroundings of a neat little home in Kansas Township, Edgar County. After the birth of four children, the wife and mother departed this life in the summer of 1878. Their eldest child, Alice A., was born Dec. 9, 1856, and married David Ross, a merchant of Kansas; Lyman T., born Feb. 3, 1859, married Miss Clara Boyer; John A. was born June 13, 1867, and Mariam E. in November, 1869.

Mr. Arterburn was the second time married, March 10, 1880, to Miss Katie Epperson, a native of this county, born in 1847, and the daughter of Green and Thirza (Woods) Epperson, of Kentucky. Mr. Epperson was born in 1803 and died in 1855, after having spent his entire life as a farmer and stock-dealer. His wife, Thirza, born in 1807, is still living, a member of the Christian Church and a resident of Ashmore Township. The nine children of the parental household were named respectively, Burtis C., Cassius, Clemens, Sidney, Rhodes, Green L., Martha, Joseph and John G. The latter is a practicing physician of the old school, and a resident of Edgar County; he was well educated, and graduated from the medical department of San Francisco College. Our subject by this latter marriage has one child, a bright little daughter, Jessie T., born Feb. 16, 1885.

Mr. Arterburn keeps himself well posted upon current events. As soon as old enough to exercise the rights of a free American citizen, he identified himself with the Republican party, in whose principles he still thoroughly believes, and which he

honestly supports by his voice and vote as opportunity occurs. Both Mr. and Mrs. Arterburn are connected with the Christian Church, in the doctrines of which Mr. A. was reared from early childhood by his excellent parents. He is filling worthily his niche in life, and in all respects deporting himself as an honest man and a good citizen.



JOHIN B. BEAVERS and his twin brother, Samuel M., were the eldest children of John W. and Mary A. (Madden) Beavers, a sketch of whose lives appears elsewhere in this ALBUM. The brothers were born in Hampshire County, Va., Nov. 3, 1842, and have continued to live together since that time.

During his childhood and youth our subject, with his brother, attended the district schools, and as soon as his services could be made available they were utilized on the farm. His limited education was completed in Washington, Iowa, where he attended the public schools six months, and continued to reside on the home farm until thirty-four years of age. On the 4th of March, 1877, he was united in marriage with Miss Catharine J. Bruce, who was born in Fulton County, Ohio, in 1845, and was the youngest child of James and Elizabeth (King) Bruce, natives of Ireland. Mr. Beavers after his marriage, continued two years on the old homestead and then purchased eighty acres of land on section 27, Humbolt Township, which he occupied two years, when he sold out and purchased another eighty acres on section 2. Four years later he removed to the house of his brother on section 35, renting his own land. On the 5th of July, 1879, his wife, Catharine, after having been his companion but a little over two short years, passed away, leaving him with two children—Frederick and Blanche. Mrs. Beavers was a lady greatly esteemed by her friends and acquaintances, and had been a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church from childhood. Her parents were of Scotch-Irish ancestry and the descendants in a direct line from the family of Sir Robert Bruce of Scotland. Mrs. Beavers was proud of her ancestry as she had a right to be, and her father's family in-

cluded some of the most worthy representatives of the great patriot and King of Scotland. Mr. Beavers is a highly respected citizen, unobtrusive in his character and mostly engaged with his own concerns. Although never taking any active part in politics and especially declining to become an office-holder, he keeps himself well posted upon current events and is an earnest supporter of Democratic principles.

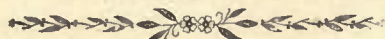


HARRIET BUCKLER, the widow of John Buckler, who was formerly one of the prominent farmers and stock-growers of East Oakland Township, resides on her late husband's estate on section 4. She was born Oct. 15, 1842, in Clark County, Ill., and was the daughter of Thomas and Clarinda (Craig) Davis. Her father was born Dec. 30, 1817, in Kentucky. He was a farmer possessed of excellent business qualifications and had acquired considerable wealth. During his life he was interested in promoting the welfare of the Baptist Church, of which he was a member. His first marriage took place in 1841, and his death occurred March 11, 1872. His wife was born in 1826, and died in 1848. By the first marriage there were born three children: Harriet; Eliza J., who married Mr. D. Campbell, and Isabell, who died in 1848. Thomas Davis was united in marriage a second time, to Miss Elizabeth Lamb. Of this marriage there were seven children born—Martha E., George R., Julia A., Emma F., Susan C., Evalin and James W.

Harriet, the subject of this biography, was married to John T. Buckler, April 6, 1862. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. John Shields, pastor of the Baptist Church. Her husband, Mr. Buckler, was born June 22, 1838, in Marion County, Ky., and died Feb. 26, 1883, after an illness of about six weeks. He was brought up on his father's farm in Kentucky, and attended the common school there until he was sixteen years of age, when he removed to Illinois, and first located in Edgar County. He was active and energetic, and worked so successfully by the month until his marriage, that he was then able to purchase eighty

acres of land. He afterward sold this property and purchased the estate of 200 acres where his widow now resides, and where he became one of the leading men of the township until his death. He was interested in educational affairs and held the office of School Director. For thirteen years prior to his death, he had been a member of the Baptist Church, and was in every respect a true Christian gentleman, a kind and affectionate husband, beloved by his neighbors and respected by the entire community. In politics he was a Democrat. He left a family of five children to mourn their loss, namely: Rosana, born May 8, 1863, married William Hanner; Richard T., born Oct. 27, 1865; Emily J., Sept. 18, 1869; Lorenzo D., Dec. 29, 1871, and Nettie V., May 27, 1878.

Mrs. Harriet Buckler is highly esteemed by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. She is a member of the Baptist Church, in which she is actively interested. Her eldest son, who now represents the head of the family, assists his mother in the management of the farm. He is a Democrat.



WILLIAM M. BARR, deceased, was a native of Loudoun County, Va., born Aug. 17, 1829, and was the son of Lot and Nancy Ann (Chin) Barr. His parents removed from the Old Dominion to Janesville, Ohio, when he was but six months old.

William M. Barr was a painter by trade and followed his occupation in Ohio until his removal therefrom, in the spring of 1850. Then, accompanied by two brothers, he migrated to Terre Haute, Ind., where he worked at his trade successfully for a number of years. There also he met and married Miss Sarah Ann, youngest child of Enoch and Harriet (Dexter) Dole, who settled in Terre Haute at a very early day. The young people continued their residence in that city, and there the death of William M. Barr occurred May 11, 1876.

During the progress of the late war Mr. Barr enlisted in Co. I, 16th Ind. Vol. Inf., serving until the close and being promoted Orderly Sergeant. In 1863 he was mounted at New Orleans and from

that time on served in the Mounted Infantry. He passed through the Vicksburg and Red River campaigns, escaping injury although participating in some of the hardest fought battles of those campaigns. After the surrender of the confederate army he was mustered out with his comrades, and returning to Terre Haute took up his trade again and remained a resident of that city until his death. He was Republican in politics but took no part in public affairs, otherwise than to perform the duties of an American citizen at the polls. Mrs. Barr, after the death of her husband, came to Illinois and purchased 120 acres of improved land in Mattoon Township, this county, upon which she located, with her family of nine children. These were Charles H., Joseph L., Harriett A., Frank D., Fannie M., Chattie D., Sarah, Carrie G. and Edith W. All are living and are at home with their mother. Her three sons, who are carrying on the farm, are principally engaged in grain-raising. The homestead thus built up is one of the most comfortable in Mattoon Township, and the family are held in the highest respect. Both Mr. and Mrs. Barr identified themselves with the Universalist Church years ago.

J F. REEL, of the firm of Curtis & Reel, dealers in general merchandise in Oakland, is a native of this county, born in Hickory Township, Oct. 12, 1856. His parents were Dr. Samuel A. and Elizabeth (Adams) Reel, the former a native of Gibson County, Ind., born April 22, 1836, and the mother, of Coles County, Ill., born April 21, 1836. J. F. Reel, of this sketch, spent his youth and boyhood on the farm of his father in Coles County, and attended the common schools chiefly during the winter seasons, until attaining his majority.

Our subject began early in life to form his plans for the future, and after he had laid the foundations for a home of his own, was married Oct. 15, 1885, to Miss Antoinette Hackett. Mrs. R. is also a native of this county, born Dec. 13, 1859, and the daughter of George F. and Angeline Hackett. She is a lady of high culture and rare accom-

plishments, and a great favorite among the social circles of Oakland. The one child born of this union is a daughter, Lyda J., who came to the household on the 28th of June, 1887.

Mr. Reel is numbered among the enterprising business men of Oakland, is high-minded and honorable in his dealings with his fellow-men, and by his courteous manner and straightforward business methods has built up an extensive and lucrative trade. He became the partner of Mr. Curtis, Jan. 1, 1886. The firm is a strong one, and there is a prospect of a future before them, which in its results can hardly fail to be satisfactory. Mr. Reel, politically, is a staunch supporter of Republican principles, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity. Messrs. Curtis & Reel carry a well-selected stock of dry-goods and groceries, and their business is conducted after the most approved methods.

RANDOLPH C. BARNES, a farmer and stock-grower, residing on section 25, Ashmore Township, belongs to one of the old pioneer families of the county, and was born in the township in which he now lives, Aug. 9, 1836. He is the son of Enos and Nancy (Collett) Barnes, and his parents were natives of Kentucky and North Carolina respectively. Enos Barnes was of Scotch and Irish extraction, born in 1785, and inherited the enterprise and courage characteristic of both nationalities. Previous to his marriage, which occurred in 1830, he removed to Indiana and subsequently to Coles County, Ill., where he entered Government land, and engaged in farming. He bravely encountered the difficulties and privations of pioneer life, cultivated and improved his land, and made a comfortable home for his family on the western frontier. The wife who had shared his trials through many years, died in 1855, at the age of fifty. He survived her seventeen years, his death occurring in 1872. A family of nine children was born to them and the record is as follows: Roann Maria, deceased, was formerly the wife of L. F. Smith; Temple Ann, deceased, was formerly the wife of W. S. Childress; Granville A. married Miss Sarah Welch, and both

are deceased; Milton W. was twice married; his first wife was Mary S. Goodnight, and after her death he married Miss Mattie Hoffman. Fountain H. married Miss Mary Sackett; Elizabeth is the wife of John B. Zimmerman; Randolph C. is the subject of this sketch; Emeline is the wife of Arthur Welch; Huston M. died of fever while serving in the Civil War, at Alexandria, Va.

Randolph Barnes was married, Oct. 19, 1870, to Miss Louisa Ashmore. Mrs. Barnes is the daughter of Robert and Mary (McClure) Ashmore. Her parents were natives of Tennessee and are both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes have two interesting children: Callie J., born May 19, 1874, and Alvin M., Jan. 23, 1877.

In response to the call of his country, Mr. Barnes enlisted as a private in Co. F, 1st Minn. Vol. Inf. He served three years in the Army of the Potomac and fought in the battles of Bull Run, Fair Oak, and in the deadly conflict at Antietam, where the slain were numbered by thousands. He also took part in many other minor engagements, and was but slightly wounded during his entire service. After the close of the war he engaged in farming, and owns a fine tract of well-cultivated land containing 140 acres. Mr. Barnes possesses good business qualifications, and is a highly esteemed citizen of his township. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. In politics he votes for the success of the Republican party.



RICHARD AVEY, one of the most thorough and progressive farmers of Coles County, owns and occupies a quarter section of valuable land in Humbolt Township, where he is principally engaged in raising grain and broom corn, and gives considerable attention to the breeding of fine stock. The farm buildings and machinery are of first-class description, and everything about the premises denotes the supervision of the enterprising agriculturist. Like many of the men who have assisted in the development of Northern Illinois, the early years of Mr. Avey were spent on the other side of the Atlantic in County Suffolk, England, where his birth took

place Aug. 19, 1837. He was the fourth in a family of six children, born to Richard and Mary (Wing) Avey, natives of the same county, the father a son of Robert Avey, who was familiarly known as the popular inn-keeper at Kentford, where he had long lived, and where he spent his declining years. The mother of our subject was also born in Sussex County, where her father followed farming all his life.

Mr. Avey received a good education, completing his studies in the academy at New Market, where he finished his classical course at the age of eighteen years. Soon afterward, in 1855, he embarked from London on the ship Oregon, an English sailing-vessel, accompanied by several of his acquaintances. After a fair voyage of seven weeks they landed in New Orleans, where a few days later all proceeded North to Ottawa, Ill., and our subject for two years thereafter was principally engaged in gardening. In the meantime he had purchased forty acres of prairie land in Humbolt Township, this county, of which he took possession in the spring of 1858. He built a house and made other improvements, and on the 31st of May, 1858, was united in marriage with Miss Celia Oakland, and not long afterward introduced his bride to the home which he had prepared for her.

Mrs. Avey was the fourth child of Guner A. and Celia (Oakland) Oakland. The real name of her father, however, was Norton, and he was a native of Norway. He emigrated to America with his wife at an early day, and coming to Illinois they located on a tract of land on Indian Creek, in La Salle County, where Mr. O. built up a good farm, and where he died, July 5, 1887; his wife, well advanced in years, still occupies the home place.

Mr. Avey proceeded with the improvements he had begun, and continued the cultivation of the soil until he was enabled to exhibit some of the finest crops in the Prairie State. The household was in due time enlarged by the birth of eight children, of whom seven are now living, namely, Mary J., William T., John L., Maude I., Newton R., Martha C. and Oscar L. William T. married Miss Minnie McBride, and is a resident of Charleston, where he officiates as Deputy Circuit Clerk; he is a well-educated man and fully competent for his

responsible position; Mary is teaching school in Socorro, N. M., where she went for her health in 1882, and is being greatly benefited by the milder climate of that region. The others are at home with their parents.

Mr. Avey has been prominently identified with local affairs for many years serving as Road Commissioner, School Trustee and School Director, and is one of the most active promoters of those measures tending to the moral and intellectual advancement of the people. He meddles little with politics, although casting his vote regularly with the Democratic party. His children have been carefully reared in the doctrines of the Episcopal Church, with which nearly all the members of the family are connected, and with which Mr. A. officiates as Warden. The family is highly respected wherever known, and enjoys the society of the best people of Humbolt Township.



JAMES ANDERSON is the owner of a fine estate, containing 155 acres of land, located on section 20, Pleasant Grove Township. He was born in Montgomery County, Md., Dec. 25, 1825, and is the son of James and Mary (Rodgers) Anderson, natives of Pennsylvania. His paternal grandfather, Andrew Anderson, was a native of England, and emigrating to the United States early in life, settled in Pennsylvania. His maternal grandparents were natives of the North of Ireland, who, after their arrival in this country, were likewise among the early settlers of Pennsylvania. After his marriage, James Anderson, Sr., removed to the State of Maryland, and engaged in farming in Montgomery County. In about 1832, the family removed to Guernsey County, Ohio. It was before the days of railroads, and they made the long and weary journey overland, camping out for the night in the open country, when the weather was not too rough, and sometimes seeking the friendly shelter of the neighboring farm houses.

In the pioneer days, each one was obliged to do whatever work presented itself, and James Anderson was engaged in teaming and farming until about the year 1837, when he removed to Knox County, of the same State, and was there engaged

in farming nearly twenty years; he then removed to Morrow County, where the remaining years of his life were passed. He was industrious and enterprising in business, and his death occurred at Iowa City, Iowa, whither he had gone to enter land. He was a successful farmer, and at his death was enabled to leave his children some property. His wife's death occurred at the homestead in Ohio, several years prior to his own. Mr. Anderson was a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, but never sought political preferment. He was for many years a prominent member of the Methodist Church. They had a family of nine children, all of whom grew to maturity, the record being as follows: Ann Eliza, deceased, formerly the wife of Charles Osborn; Samuel, a resident of Monroe County, Ohio; Lydia, deceased, formerly the wife of Daniel Knowles; James, the subject of this sketch; Mary E., deceased; William, a resident of Mahaska County, Iowa; Elizabeth, deceased; Charles W., a resident of Mattoon, and Maria, the wife of Anson Conklin, a resident of Mahaska County, Iowa.

James Anderson, Jr., grew to manhood in Ohio, where he was reared on his father's farm. His educational advantages were necessarily limited to the district log school-house of the pioneer days. Nevertheless, he obtained much practical knowledge, and early learned the details of systematic farming. Dec. 27, 1847, he was married to Miss Lucinda Knight, the daughter of Rena and Sarah (Hall) Knight. Her parents were natives of Maine, where their marriage occurred. They subsequently removed to Ohio and located in Licking County, where they engaged in farming, and made their permanent home there during the remainder of their lives. Their family consisted of sixteen children, of whom Mrs. Anderson was the youngest. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson had a family of eight children born to them, one of whom died in infancy. The record is as follows: Mary Ann, the wife of Joseph Dornblazer; Columbia, the wife of Luther Lander; William H.; Sarah P., the wife of Clarence Ferguson; Emma, the wife of William D. Horton; Martha, the wife of Ralph Jeffris, and Charles W. married Leulla Brown.

After his marriage, Mr. Anderson gave his attention exclusively to agricultural pursuits in Ohio,

until 1854, when he removed to Illinois, locating in Cumberland County. He purchased land there and remained seven years. He then decided to change his location, and in the spring of 1862 came to Coles County, where he rented land near Mattoon. After remaining there five years, he purchased 133 acres of his present farm. The land was all improved, but he has erected substantial buildings, and the appointments of his farm are all comfortable, and in good order. He has added some land to his first purchase, and now owns a tract containing 155 acres.

In early life, Mr. Anderson served one year in the Mexican War. He was a member of the Democratic party until after the Civil War; he then became a Republican, and adhered to that party twenty years, and has since affiliated again with the Democrats. He has no taste for public life, and when requested, has always refused to become a candidate for any local office. He is interested in educational affairs, and at one time was School Director. His family were formerly connected with the Methodist Church, but Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been for several years members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.



WILLIAM Z. ALLEN. The name of this gentleman is familiar throughout East Oakland Township as that of an enterprising and wide-awake citizen, whose determination to settle down in this section of the country, was one of the best things that could have happened to said section, as he brought to it his resolution and industry, and has built up within its borders one of the finest farms which has assisted so largely in the embellishment of the landscape. The history of Mr. Allen, who may be most properly termed a self-made man, is essentially as follows:

The first twelve months of the life of William Z. Allen were spent in South Carolina, where his birth took place on the farm of his father, Oct. 16, 1821. His parents, John and Delilah (Clauton) Allen, were natives of the same locality, whence they removed when their son was a year old, to East Tennessee, where they remained eleven years, and

then coming North, located in Edgar County, this State, of which they were residents for thirty years following. They finally sold out the old homestead in Edgar County, and became residents of Douglas County, where the death of the father took place in 1865. The mother survived her husband twenty-one years, dying in 1886. Both parents were born in 1796. Their ten children were named respectively, Jane, Martha, William Z., Elizabeth, Mary, Dorcas, Margaret, James B., Francis M. and John. The latter died in childhood. John Allen was a man of deep piety, and a prominent member of the United Brethren Church, in which he was one of the chief pillars, and to whose support he always contributed liberally and cheerfully.

The subject of this notice received the advantages of a common-school education, came to Illinois with his parents, and remained with them on the homestead in Edgar County until his marriage. He then purchased forty acres of land and set to work with the intention of accumulating a fortune. How well he has succeeded in his determination, the broad acres which constitute his farm, and the fine improvements which he has made upon it, are silent but forcible witnesses. When starting out in life he was thrown entirely upon his own resources, even having to borrow the \$1.12½ with which to buy his license to be married. The young lady who had consented to unite herself with these doubtful fortunes, was Miss Amanda Ervin, who became his wife on the 14th of May, 1840, the wedding taking place in Edgar County. Mrs. Allen was born in Fayette County, Ky., in 1823, and is the daughter of Elias and Martha (Eaton) Ervin, natives respectively of Maryland and Kentucky. Both parents were born and died in the same year, being each eighty-four years of age. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Allen, were John I., who died in childhood; William H., Delilah E., Martha A.; Sarah E. became the wife of James Lowler, and died in Kansas in 1886; James C., Charles W. and Job; the two latter died in infancy.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Allen worked in harmony with the one purpose in view, of establishing a home and a worthy position, both socially and financially. They lived economically, and each year added to the snug sum which was invested in

a wise and judicious manner. After a residence of thirty-four years in this county, they can look back with satisfaction and the consciousness of a well-spent life, in which they have sought to render kindly offices to those in need, and to rear their children in a manner best calculated to make of them worthy and honorable citizens. Mrs. Allen never attended school a day in her life, and after she was fifty years old learned the art of penmanship, in which she is quite proficient. She has developed into a fine reader, and spends a large portion of her time with her books and periodicals, from which she has gained a valuable fund of information, and by reason of which she is a lady of more than ordinary intelligence, and one extremely pleasant to converse with.

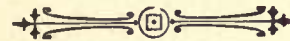
Both our subject and his wife, at an early day identified themselves with the United Brethren Church, of which Mr. A. has been a Trustee for thirty years, and since 1857 has officiated much of the time as Class-Leader and Steward. He contributed largely to the erection of the first church of that denomination in this county. He has been greatly interested in the success of the temperance movement, and politically, is a staunch Republican, upholding his principles with all the energy of his character, and during the late war was the uncompromising foe of rebellion and secession.

DAVID REPLOGLE, deceased, was a resident of this county for over thirty-seven years, during which time he identified himself largely with its agricultural interests, and built up a good home on section 33, in Charleston Township. This consisted of 240 acres of land, which he improved and cultivated with marked success, and where his death took place, Jan. 17, 1878. Mr. Replogle was born in Rockbridge County, Va., April 19, 1806, and remained a resident there until reaching his majority. He then migrated to Ross County, Ohio, where not long afterward he was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Beckham, who was a native of that county, and born in about 1812.

Our subject and wife afterward sought the far-

ther West, and coming to this county, in August, 1841, permanently located and remained the balance of their lives. Mrs. Eliza Replogle, after becoming the mother of four children, departed this life at the old homestead in Charleston Township in 1845. One child afterward died when about two months old. Elizabeth is the wife of Daniel T. Fields, of Charleston Township; Rose Ann married Peter G. Redman, and is a resident of Holt County, Mo.; Matthias is the youngest, a sketch of whom appears on this page.

The second wife of David Replogle was formerly Miss Maria White, who became the mother of three children: Loisa, who married John C. Redwine; Phebe E., the wife of J. Nathan Nees, and Margaret, the wife of Nathan Bales. She is still living, making her home in Shelby County. David Replogle in early manhood belonged to the old Whig party, but upon its abandonment he identified himself with the Republicans, with whom he remained the balance of his life. He was a quiet and unobtrusive citizen, attending strictly to his own concerns, and performing the duties of life in a worthy and creditable manner.



MATTHIAS REPLOGLE, proprietor of 300 acres of fine farming land on section 33, in Charleston Township, is a gentleman in the prime of life, and in the midst of a successful career. He is the son of David and Eliza (Beckham) Replogle, natives respectively of Rockbridge County, Va., and Ross County, Ohio, a sketch of whom will be found just preceding this, and is a native of this county, his birth taking place on his father's farm, in Charleston Township, Nov. 8, 1841. His early education was conducted in the pioneer schools, and his childhood and youth were spent after the manner of most farmers' sons, his service being utilized around the homestead as soon as they could be made available.

Our subject received careful home training, and was reared to principles of honor and integrity, and upon the breaking out of the Civil War volunteered his services as a Union soldier. He became a member of Co. I, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf., and for three

years following experienced all the vicissitudes of a soldier's life, and participated in many of the important battles of the war. With his comrades he met the enemy at the battles of Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Perryville, Farmington, and Kennesaw Mountain, and at the battle of Big Shanty received a gunshot wound in the right thigh, which disabled him for three months, and from which he has never fully recovered. On account of this he now receives a pension from the Government. At the close of the Rebellion he was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., and receiving his honorable discharge, returned home and prepared to enter upon the more quiet scenes of a farmer's life. He was married Dec. 27, 1866, to Miss Virginia Roberts, a native of Pleasant Grove Township, and born Nov. 25, 1850. Mrs. R. is the daughter of Charles and Matilda Roberts, who were natives of Virginia, and have been residents of this county since 1843.

The young people after their marriage located in Charleston Township, and became the parents of nine children—Ella May, John A., William M., Elmer S., Charles, Leona, Maggie, Clara, and one daughter who died at the age of two years, two months and two days. The homestead is finely located, provided with good buildings, and all the requisite farm machinery. Mr. Replogle has confined his attention principally to his business matters and farm operations, and has meddled very little with public affairs, although he casts his vote with the Republican party upon occasions of important elections.

MRS. EMMA REAT, widow of Robert C. Reat, and daughter of Jesse and Maria (Johnson) Veach, was born in 1833. Her parents, who were natives of Kentucky, became residents of Coles County in 1831. They were married in Crawford County, Ill., in 1827, and settled first about four miles west of Charleston, where Mr. Veach took up a tract of Government land and became an extensive farmer. He first settled on a timber tract which he had cleared, and to which he added until his estate embraced 400 acres, 180 of which he occupied until his death, in

1884. In the meantime he had put up handsome and substantial farm buildings, and was always foremost in the march of progress, doing everything in his power to assist in encouraging immigration, and the settlement of one of the most desirable portions of the Prairie State. He became prominent among his fellow-citizens as a man possessing admirable traits of character, honest and upright in his transactions, and in all respects a sincere and liberal-minded Christian. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, and politically, gave his influence to the support of Democratic principles. Mrs. Veach is still living, and now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Palmer. The household included seven children, of whom but three are now living, namely, Emma, of our sketch; Harriet, Mrs. Palmer, of Humbolt Township, and Melissa, Mrs. Brown.

Mrs. Reat spent her childhood and youth with her parents, and when twenty-six years of age was united in marriage, Dec. 28, 1859, with the gentleman whose name she has since borne. Robert C. Reat was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, Nov. 2, 1828, and was the son of James and Susan (Rodgers) Reat, who were also natives of the Buckeye State. They came to Northern Illinois in 1840, and located in this county on a farm three miles west of Charleston, which they occupied until 1857, and then removed into town. Of their eleven children only three are now living—Mary, James L. and Susan. The father died at Charleston in 1857. The mother afterward removed to Douglas County, where her death took place in the spring of 1866.

Robert Reat was reared on the farm and received a liberal education, completing his studies in the common schools. After reaching his majority, he proceeded to California, and spent seven years in the mining districts, where he met with fair success in searching for the yellow ore. Upon his return from the Pacific Slope he purchased ninety-five acres of land lying adjacent to the city limits of Charleston, which he occupied and cultivated until resting from his earthly labors. His death took place on the 7th of March, 1871, and he is remembered as a man of excellent Christian character, who exerted a good influence upon all around him. He was for many years connected with the Method-

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



D. W. Robinson



Mrs. Mary E. Hobbs

ist Episcopal Church, both as a layman and an official, and contributed cheerfully of his means to those measures which tended to the general welfare of the people around him.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Reat there are three children, namely, Clyde, born Jan. 10, 1864; Charles, Dec. 27, 1868, and Jessie, July 4, 1871. All are at home with their mother. Mrs. Reat is a lady of many excellent qualities, a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a worker in the missionary society of the W. C. T. U. She also belongs to the Royal Templars. Since the death of her husband, she has conducted the interests of her farm and her children with judicious care, and has kept up the homestead in the same creditable manner for which it was distinguished during his lifetime.

DANIEL W. HONN, Sr., occupies a little more than a quarter of section 16, in Ashmore Township, where he has lived for nearly thirty years. During the long period of his residence here he has fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of the people of Coles County, and has built up one of its most substantial homesteads. The fine dwelling standing in a prominent position, is the admiration of the passing traveler, while the well-filled barns and well-kept stock denote the thrift and enterprise of the proprietor.

Mr. Honn is a native of Kentucky, born in Nicholas County, Oct. 4, 1822, and is the son of Daniel and Annie (Everman) Honn, also natives of the Blue Grass State. Daniel Honn, Sr., was a man of excellent Christian character, and a member of the Reform Church, in which he officiated as Deacon for many years, and also as a local preacher. His brother Peter was also noted for his talents as a minister, to which he devoted the greater part of his life. The father of our subject did not live to old age, dying when about forty years of age, on the 25th of June, 1826. He always had a love for country life and was the owner of a good farm in Nicholas County, where he spent the greater part of his time. He was twice married, his second wife being the mother of our subject, and who died when

sixty years of age, on the 26th of August, 1857. The children born of this union were Hezekiah B., Peter K., Andrew E., Sarah A., Samuel D., Absalom C., Daniel W., of our sketch, and Mary E., who died in infancy.

Our subject was reared on his father's farm and attended the common schools, remaining a member of the parental household until about twenty-four years of age. He was then married, Aug. 26, 1846, to Miss Nancy E. Hook, a native of his own county, and born June 10, 1828. Her parents, Mathias and Matilda (Huddleson) Hook, were also natives of Kentucky. The mother died in Kentucky, March 2, 1851. The parental household included but two daughters, twins. Mary A., the sister of Mrs. Honn, married Harrison Parker, and died at the home of her husband in Nicholas County, Ky., Aug. 11, 1851; her only child also died the same year.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Honn, eleven in number, are recorded as follows: Clarinda F. became the wife of S. D. Watts, and lives in Douglas County, Ill.; Eliza A., the wife of John H. Sehulse, is a resident of Ralls County, Mo.; Mary E. married William M. McConnaha, and is living in Edgar County, Ill.; Amanda E. was married Dec. 24, 1879, to William F. Sehulse, who died of consumption on the 4th of June, 1884, at the age of thirty-seven years, having been born Nov. 7, 1847; their two children were Rolla N., born in January, 1882, and died Aug. 10, 1884, and Jessie A., born May 31, 1883; Mr. Sehulse was a farmer by occupation and a member in good standing of the Christian Church. The next child of Mr. and Mrs. Honn was John B.; George D. married Miss Emma R. Geyer, Feb. 16, 1882; she is a native of Illinois, born in 1864; she has become the mother of two children, Lilly W., born July 5, 1883, and Leonard O., June 24, 1886; they live on a good farm in Ashmore Township. Andrew J. Honn was born April 16, 1860, and died June 12, 1865; Sarah R., born Sept. 18, 1862, died June 12, 1865; Daniel W., Jr., was born Sept. 2, 1864; Matilda M., born May 10, 1867, died July 11, 1868; Jesse A., born July 12, 1868, was married Sept. 9, 1886, to Miss Mary E. Kearns, and they have one child, William J., born June 6, 1887.

Mr. Honn left his native State in 1858, coming directly to this county, and soon afterward locating upon the land which constitutes his present homestead. He first purchased 120 acres, to which he afterward added forty-five, and in addition to general farming is breeding Poland-China hogs of the very best quality. He has held the office of School Director in his township, is a staunch Democrat politically, and religiously, a prominent member of the Christian Church. He has officiated as Elder for a period of fourteen years, and has always been greatly interested in Sunday-school work, giving to it his time as Superintendent for many years. He has also been Clerk, and is one of the chief pillars among the brethren, who would scarcely know how to do without him.

Daniel W. Honn, Jr., the son of our subject, is a gentleman of fine education and a minister of the Christian Church, occupying the pulpit in Dana and Hazel Dell. He is still, however, pursuing his studies in the college at Irvington. He was united in marriage with Miss Gertrude Wood, daughter of C. C. and Delila F. (Barnett) Wood, Aug. 31, 1887, at the home of the bride's parents in Tuscola, Ill.

Portraits of Daniel W. Honn, Sr., and his wife are presented in this ALBUM in connection with this personal sketch.



JOSEPH ARMSTRONG, a prosperous farmer and stock-grower, residing in Pleasant Grove Township, has been a resident of this county since 1844. He was born Aug. 11, 1823, in Highland County, Va., and is the son of Jarred and Agnes (Hiner) Armstrong. His paternal ancestors had been for many years residents of Virginia, and his mother's family was of German extraction.

In early life Jarred Armstrong was occupied at the shoemaker's trade and also owned a distillery and mill, but subsequently he engaged quite largely in farming and stock-raising. He passed his life in Virginia and died there at the advanced age of over eighty years. His wife also reached the age of fourscore years. The family on each side is noted for longevity, some members having attained over one hundred years. Mr. and Mrs. Jarred Arm-

strong had a family of four sons and five daughters born to them, whose record is as follows: Matilda became the wife of P. J. Edman, and after his death married Charles Roberts, with whom she came to Coles County, where her death occurred at the age of seventy-two years; Mahala became the wife of Jacob Edman, whom she accompanied to this county, where her death occurred in September, 1853; Abel H. died in his native county in Virginia; Martha, who became the wife of Solomon Hedrick, died in West Virginia; John T. is a farmer and stock-grower, residing in Highland County, Va.; Mahulda became the wife of Joseph Hiner, and resides in West Virginia; Allan resides on the old homestead in Virginia; Joseph, the subject of this sketch, and Lucinda, the wife of George Hiner, a farmer residing in West Virginia.

Joseph Armstrong was reared on the old homestead in Virginia, where he acquired a practical knowledge of the details of systematic farming and stock-growing. When twenty-one years of age, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Leitch. Mrs. Armstrong was born May 23, 1824, in Pendleton County, Va. Immediately after his marriage, Mr. Armstrong resolved to seek his fortune in the West, and with his young wife, bravely started out on the long and perilous overland journey from Virginia to this State, with a team of strong horses and a substantial wagon. After passing through many trials and adventures, they reached their destination in safety, and with hopeful and courageous hearts began the world together on the Western frontier. Mr. Armstrong settled in Coles County, and in 1847 entered forty acres of his present farm, which he has made the homestead. He erected a log cabin in the primitive fashion, which his wife, with her womanly tact and good judgment, rendered as comfortable and homelike as the circumstances would permit. Mr. Armstrong marked off the land and cleared and cultivated his farm, and being industrious and economical, and aided by the housewifely thrift of a devoted wife, has advanced steadily on the road to success.

Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong had a family of four children born to them, one of whom died in infancy, and a daughter named Margaret J. died in the spring of 1885, at the age of thirty-four. The

two children living are, Charles E. and Abel T. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong are both members of the Methodist Church. Mr. Armstrong is interested in educational affairs, and has served many years as School Director. He is a Republican in politics.

In 1862, at the call of his country, Mr. Armstrong left his home and business and enlisted in Co. I, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf. He took part in all the principal engagements of the war, and served until its close, proving himself throughout his military career, a brave and efficient soldier. After his return home, Mr. Armstrong resumed farming, and now owns over 300 acres of valuable land, with an excellent residence and appropriate farm buildings. He gives special attention to stock-raising, in which he has been very successful.



MOSSES ELLISON has been for more than twenty years a prominent citizen of North Okaw Township, his fine estate containing 240 acres of well-improved land, being located on section 7. He was born Jan. 30, 1808, in Adams County, Ohio, and is the son of Robert and Rebecca (Lockhard) Ellison. Robert Ellison was born Jan. 28, 1770, in County Tyrone, Ireland, and in 1787 accompanied his parents to the United States. They left their native land, which has been for so many centuries the battle-ground of conflicting Governmental policies, to seek a home and heritage for their children in this land of freedom, where a welcome has ever been extended to all who come. Mr. Ellison landed at Philadelphia, and with his family made the journey to Pittsburgh by wagon. He there embarked on a float and went down the river to Maysville, Ky., and thence to Manchester, Ohio, where he made his permanent home. The early settlers of Ohio were greatly disturbed by the Indians at that time, and his brother Andrew was once captured by a band of fierce savages who spared his life, but sold him to a Frenchman for a quart of whisky. After a few months of captivity, he made his escape and returned home in safety.

Mr. Ellison had the advantage of a good com-

mon-school education, and possessed excellent business qualifications. He was for several years employed by a company of surveyors in Ohio, and subsequently became a large land-owner himself, having at one time over 1,000 acres. When he was about thirty years of age his marriage to Miss Rebecca Lockhard took place, Oct. 11, 1802. Mrs. Ellison was born Sept. 7, 1781, near Philadelphia. After their marriage, they settled near Manchester, Ky., and passed the remainder of their lives there. Mrs. Ellison died June 7, 1829, leaving her beloved husband under sad circumstances. He had shortly before received a stroke of paralysis, and was an invalid for about twelve years prior to his death, which occurred May 13, 1839. Their family consisted of ten children, as follows: Mary, born Feb. 20, 1804, became the wife of James Hood, and died May 9, 1838, leaving three children; Margaret, born April 7, 1805, died at the age of eighty years; John, born Aug. 18, 1806, died at the age of seventy-one years; Moses, the subject of this sketch; Isabel, born Aug. 14, 1809, married James Hood, her deceased sister's husband; Robert, born April 5, 1811, married Ann Work; Elizabeth, born Jan. 11, 1812, married Thomas Huston, and both are deceased; Catherine, born July 30, 1814, became the wife of Hanson Newell, and both are also deceased; Cyrus, born Aug. 24, 1816, was twice married; Thomas, born June 6, 1819, married Miss Mary A. Wilson, and both are deceased.

Moses Ellison passed his boyhood and youth on the homestead, and was about fifteen years of age when his father was stricken with paralysis. His educational advantages were very limited, he never having either the time or opportunity to attend school, but about fifteen months in his life. He lived on the homestead, taking charge of his father's farm until he was about thirty years of age, when his marriage to Miss Mary A. Lockridge took place April 6, 1839. Mrs. Ellison was born April 16, 1809, in Adams County, Ohio, and was the daughter of William and Margaret (Anderson) Lockridge. Her parents were natives of County Tyrone, Ireland, and emigrated to the United States at an early day, making their home in Ohio. After his marriage, Mr. Ellison was engaged for some time in farming in his native county, on

property he inherited from his father. Desiring to move farther westward he disposed of his property there in the winter of 1863, and came to North Okaw Township. In the following spring he purchased 240 acres of improved land and forty acres of timber. He was active and enterprising in business, and on coming to his new home identified himself successfully with the interests of the community, by whom he is held in high esteem.

His family consisted of seven children: Robert, born Feb. 18, 1838, married Miss Ann Siberl, and resides in Nebraska; Margaret, deceased, born Oct. 20, 1839, was the wife of C. Mowery; Mary, born Aug. 19, 1841, is the wife of Hugh Cook, and resides in Missouri; William, born June 26, 1843, married Miss Mary Moore, and after her death married the second time; he resides in Kansas; Theodore, born Nov. 20, 1845, married Miss Jane Gallion, and resides in this county; Emma, born Feb. 28, 1848, is the wife of Madison Hunt; Cynthia, born June 20, 1852, is the wife of Samuel Jackson.

May 11, 1870, Mr. Ellison's happy household was darkened by the death of his wife. With her husband she had been for many years a member of the Presbyterian Church, and her daily life bore witness to the sincerity and earnestness of her Christian faith. She was beloved by a large circle of friends, and deeply mourned by her family and all who knew her. In politics, Mr. Ellison is a Republican, and has held several of the township offices, giving satisfaction to the people in the faithful discharge of his public duties.



MARK S. ASHWORTH owns and occupies a finely cultivated farm of 120 acres on section 24, in North Okaw Township, where he ranks as a first-class agriculturist, and beside manipulating the soil to profit and advantage, is giving much attention to the raising of graded stock. Mr. Ashworth is a native of Mercer County, Va., born March 1, 1838, and is the sixth in a family of twelve children, the offspring of Cornelius C. and Hannah (Mooney) Ashworth, also natives of the old Dominion. Cor-

nelius Ashworth followed farming the greater part of his life, to which he had been reared by his father, Samuel. The latter in early manhood married Miss Vandusen, and it is supposed that both were also natives of Virginia.

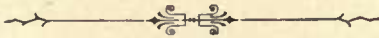
The father of our subject, after his marriage, removed with his family from his native State to Shelby County, this State, in about 1854. A year later he came to Coles County, which was then almost a wilderness, and where Mark S., our subject, herded cattle upon land which he would not have accepted to the amount of ten sections, as a gift. The mother of our subject was the daughter of John and Mary (Stoneman) Mooney, the former a soldier of the Revolutionary War. After the conflict was ended, he settled down in his native State of Virginia, and both parents there spent their declining years.

The subject of this sketch remained a member of his father's household until twenty-one years of age. His early education was exceedingly limited, but he felt the necessity of more learning, and accordingly set about the study of useful books and also preparing himself to give instructions to others. In due time he had succeeded admirably and attended the first school in what is now the city of Mattoon. He followed the profession of a teacher for nine years in this county, and then, desirous of establishing a permanent home, abandoned teaching and purchased the land which constitutes his present homestead. He was married Oct. 20, 1870, to Miss Ann M., third and youngest child of John and Maria (Mallinson) Thornton, natives of England, who emigrated to the United States and settled in Illinois during the pioneer days. Mrs. Ashworth was born in Cook County, Nov. 21, 1844. Her father owned a small piece of land, but was mainly engaged as a cabinet-maker and a carpenter.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Ashworth located on the land which they now occupy, and Mr. A. in course of time erected a neat frame residence in place of the humble dwelling in which they first set up housekeeping. He was successful in his farming operations, and has accumulated a fair competency. The household circle was completed by the birth of six children, all living, and

named respectively, Elmer, Bertie, Ralph, Leila, Flora and George. All are at home with their parents, and with them are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Ashworth has served as Trustee, and has been a liberal and cheerful contributor to its support.

Politically he has been identified with the Democratic party since exercising the right of suffrage, and has held the various local offices, being Town Clerk five years, Assessor four years, Collector two years, and representing the township in the County Board of Supervisors. The farm stock, which comprises one of the most attractive features of the homestead, consists of throughbred English draft horses, full-blooded Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs, among which Mr. Ashworth is able to exhibit some fine specimens.



LOUIS A. ASHWORTH, Supervisor of North Okaw Township, is a prominent and influential citizen, residing on section 22, where he carries on an extensive business in farming and stock-raising. He was born Dec. 22, 1839, in Mercer County, Va., and is the son of C. C. and Hannah (Mooney) Ashworth, natives of Virginia, as were also his paternal grandparents, Samuel and Rebecca Ashworth. Virginia has ever been distinguished for the patriotism of her sons, and Samuel Ashworth in his early life served as a private in the War of 1812. He possessed rare mental abilities, which had been cultivated and improved by an excellent education, and was engaged in teaching throughout his entire life, in which profession he was very successful, and at the age of eighty-four had charge of a class in mathematics in Greenbrier College. He had full possession of his mental faculties at the age of eighty-seven, when his death occurred. The preferences of C. C. Ashworth led him to follow the occupation of agriculture. Late in the autumn of 1853 he emigrated to Illinois, making his first settlement in Shelby County, but soon after changed his location to this county, where he made his permanent home in Mattoon, and there passed the remaining years of his life.

Louis Ashworth passed his boyhood and youth

on the homestead, assisting his father in cultivating and improving the farm during the summer, and attending the district school in the winter, where the educational advantages at that time were very limited. At the age of twenty-three he started out in life for himself, and engaged in farming on rented land. At the expiration of two years, passed in energetic application to business, his marriage to Miss Eliza A. Rice took place, July 16, 1863. Mrs. Ashworth is the daughter of Amos and Sarah (Compton) Rice, the former a native of New York, and the latter of Ohio. After his marriage, he engaged in farming on rented land belonging to Harrison Smith, located on section 23. At the expiration of one year he rented the property where he now resides, and after carrying on a successful farming business for five or six years, he moved to section 24, and, associated with his brother Mark, purchased 128 acres of land. A year later he sold his interest to his brother and returned to section 22, where he had previously rented, and within three or four years purchased 160 acres of that property, making his permanent residence there. He has since made additional purchases, and now owns a fine estate containing 200 acres, all of which is well improved and well stocked. He has erected a tasteful farm residence, and is rapidly bringing his entire property into a fine state of cultivation.

Mr. and Mrs. A. had a family of eleven children born to them, all of whom, with one exception, are now living—Mary Elizabeth, Job A., Walter E., James L., William A., Annetta, Sarah Belle, Jessie L., John Arthur and Clinton C. Their first born, named George Allison, died in infancy. Mary Elizabeth married Dr. Albert Hamilton, the son of ex-Sheriff Hamilton. The remainder of the children reside on the homestead with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Ashworth are members of the Missionary Baptist Church at Pleasant Grove, in which the former has been a member for twenty-five years, and Deacon twenty-two years; he has also served ten years as Clerk. With his wife he is an active worker in both the church and Sunday-school, having held the positions of Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent in the latter for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Ashworth are influential members of society, possessing the respect and affectionate

regard of a large circle of friends. Mr. Ashworth is actively interested in politics, and has been elected to several official positions by the Democratic party, of which he is a warm supporter; he has served as Justice of the Peace for two terms, and is now serving his eighth term as School Director, and his third term as Supervisor of the township, giving general satisfaction to the people in the discharge of his duties.



JOHN H. BLEVINS came to this State in 1840, when a youth of eighteen years, and to this county in 1854, locating in Oakland Township. He has been engaged in farming the greater part of his life, but is now retired from active labor and is living in the village in ease and comfort, upon the competency which he accumulated by years of industry and a wise investment of his savings. Mr. Blevins was born in Knox County, Ind., Oct. 2, 1822, and is the son of John and Sarah (Hunt) Blevins, natives respectively of Kentucky and Indiana. John Blevins, Sr., was born in 1766, and upon becoming a young man learned the trade of a shoemaker. He left his native State after his marriage, in 1819, and located for a time in Knox County, then in 1842 removed to Vermillion County, Ind., where his death took place in 1856. He was a man of much force of character, and greatly respected for his integrity and high moral character. The mother, who was born in 1772, came to Indiana with her husband in 1819, and died the year following her husband's decease, in 1857. She was of German descent, a devoted wife and mother, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The nine children of the parental household were: Elizabeth, James, Henry, William, Mahala, Matilda, Cynthia, Amelia and John H.

The youth and childhood of Mr. Blevins were passed under the parental roof, and on coming to this State he located in Edgar County, and commenced working on a farm. Afterward he spent three years in Shelby County, and upon coming to Coles County purchased 187 acres of land in East Oakland Township, where he carried on farming, and lived until retiring from active labor, in 1885.

He has a fine residence in the village, is surrounded by hosts of friends, and is one of the pillars of the Christian Church, in which he has officiated as Deacon, and occupied other important positions for a period of twelve years. His connection with this church dates from the spring of 1851.

Our subject before reaching his twentieth year, was united in marriage with Miss Harriet, daughter of Samuel and Amelia (Groff) Blevins, their wedding taking place Feb. 9, 1841. Mrs. B. was born in Jefferson County, Ky., Jan. 2, 1825, and by her union with our subject became the mother of fifteen children, ten now living. These were named respectively, Thomas W., Francis J., Isabel, Louisa E., Amelia, James G., Martha K., John S., Sarah E., Mahala and George (twins), Berry, Marion and Hamilton (twins), and Maggie E. Thomas W., the eldest son, was killed in an engagement at Atlanta, Ga. He was a soldier in Co. H, 79th Ill. Vol. Inf.



MRS. OLIVE A. ADAMS, widow of Capt. William E. Adams, is well known throughout Charleston Township as having been the close friend and helpmeet of one of its most highly respected citizens. Capt. Adams was a native of Bedford County, Tenn., born Oct. 15, 1830, and the son of John J. and Martha (Gammill) Adams, who became residents of Coles County in December, 1830. They located in what is now Pleasant Grove Township, and became the parents of a family of seven children, of whom the record is as follows: Elizabeth is the wife of R. P. Brown, of Hillsboro; Eliza married Dr. S. A. Reel, of Oakland; Martha is the wife of Thomas West, a merchant of Western Texas; Margaret, Mrs. John Grimes, is a resident of Kansas, where her husband is conducting a good farm; David married Miss Hannah Harris, of this county, and is farming in Benton County, Ark.; John A., who served as a Union soldier, died in the army of typhoid fever; William E., of our sketch, was the eldest.

John J. Adams engaged in farming all his life, and gave his children an excellent practical education. William E. remained steadily at home until

fifteen years old, and early in life distinguished himself as an ambitious boy of more than ordinary intelligence. At the age mentioned, he commenced buying and herding stock, and driving to Wisconsin. In the meantime he occupied his leisure moments in the reading of law, and made such proficiency, that in 1857 he was admitted to the bar, receiving his credentials at Madison, Wis. He at once commenced the practice of his chosen profession at Mattoon, this county, which he continued until after the outbreak of the Rebellion. After watching the fruitless struggle until August, 1862, he could content himself at home no longer, and accordingly enlisted in the 123d Illinois Infantry, being at once chosen as Captain of Company I. He was engaged in the battles of Perryville, Ky., Chattanooga, Chickamauga and Farmington, Tenn., during which he received three wounds and depicted himself as a brave and unflinching soldier. He possessed in a remarkable degree the respect of his superior officers and the affection and esteem of his subordinates. After the surrender of Lee, he returned with his comrades to Springfield, Ill., and was mustered out as Major.

Upon his return to civil life, Capt. Adams was destined to play an important part in the affairs of Coles County. He soon became Clerk of the Court, and at the expiration of his first term, was re-elected. He was chosen to the position of County Judge in 1873, and served with marked ability until 1877. Besides being entrusted with other important matters he was a member of the City Council for three years, and Secretary of Coles County Old Settlers' Society. Everything pertaining to the moral and intellectual welfare of the people around him uniformly received his considerate attention. He was one of the pillars of the Presbyterian Church, in which he served as an Elder for many years, and was also connected with the Board of Education. At his death, which occurred on the 21st of September, 1884, the Coles County Bar passed resolutions of respect, as did also the Knights of Honor, the I. O. O. F., and Charleston Post No. 271, G. A. R.

The marriage of Capt. Adams and Miss Olive A. Holton, of Blue Mound, Wis., took place at the home of the bride's parents in Blue Mound, in 1859.

Mrs. Adams was the daughter of David and Olive (Green) Holton, natives of Vermont, who emigrated to Wisconsin from Bedford in 1853. They located upon a tract of land in Blue Mound Township, engaged in farming, and were numbered among the most highly respected residents of that section. They possessed the kindly and reliable traits of an excellent English ancestry, and reared a family of six children, as follows: Sarah, the eldest daughter, became the wife of V. M. Fairbanks, a farmer of Minnesota; Mary, Mrs. W. Sawyer, continues to reside in her native State of Vermont; Maria, who was the wife of Samuel Clarke, died in Springfield, Mass., several years ago; Harriet is the wife of J. Jameson, a carpenter of Mattoon; Olive, Mrs. Adams, was the fifth child; Jane, Mrs. E. B. Needham, is sojourning in Delight, Neb., where her husband is engaged in the hardware trade. David Holton departed this life at Madison, Wis., on the 17th of January, 1870. The mother survived her husband over six years, her death occurring at Charleston, Dec. 17, 1876. She was a member of the Congregational Church, and a lady held in high regard for her many estimable qualities.

The children of Capt. and Mrs. Adams, five in number, were John H., Jennie M.; Sarah S., the wife of S. M. Leaitch, and the mother of one child, Marion; William E. and Olive E. Mrs. Adams has a fine home in the southern part of the city, and is surrounded by all the comforts of life, while enjoying the affection of her children and a large circle of friends.

GEORGE F. BURGNER. The snug homestead of this thrifty and well-to-do resident of Humbolt Township is finely located on section 36, and forms one of the attractive spots in the landscape of that region. His estate includes 100 acres of highly cultivated land in the home farm, eighty acres on section 25, fifty-five acres in Hickory Township, and ten acres of timber in Lafayette Township. Mr. Burgner has distinguished himself as an active and enterprising agriculturist and a worthy citizen, and enjoys in a marked de-

gree the esteem and confidence of his neighbors and fellow-citizens.

The farm of Mr. Burgner is chiefly devoted to stock-raising. He makes a specialty of high-grade Short-horn cattle, and has three very valuable animals, registered in the American Herd Book. His stables contain some fine Clydesdale mares, and he has several colts and trotters, which have attracted considerable attention in this section. He also breeds choice Poland-China hogs. The farm buildings are tastefully and substantially built, combining beauty with utility, and indicating the taste and means of the proprietor.

The subject of this narrative is a native of the wealthy and populous State of Ohio, and drew in with the air of his native hills the independence of spirit and the substantial qualities of character which marked his course in life. His birth took place in Fairfield County, Sept. 28, 1850. His parents were Conrad and Nancy (Whitesell) Burgner, natives respectively of Lebanon County, Pa., and Pickaway County, Ohio. Conrad Burgner was born Dec. 13, 1822, and spent his boyhood and youth in his native State. He was there married and reared his family, and removing further westward in the fall of 1854, located in Lafayette Township, this county, where he still resides with his estimable wife. The latter was born Oct. 3, 1822, the same year as her husband.

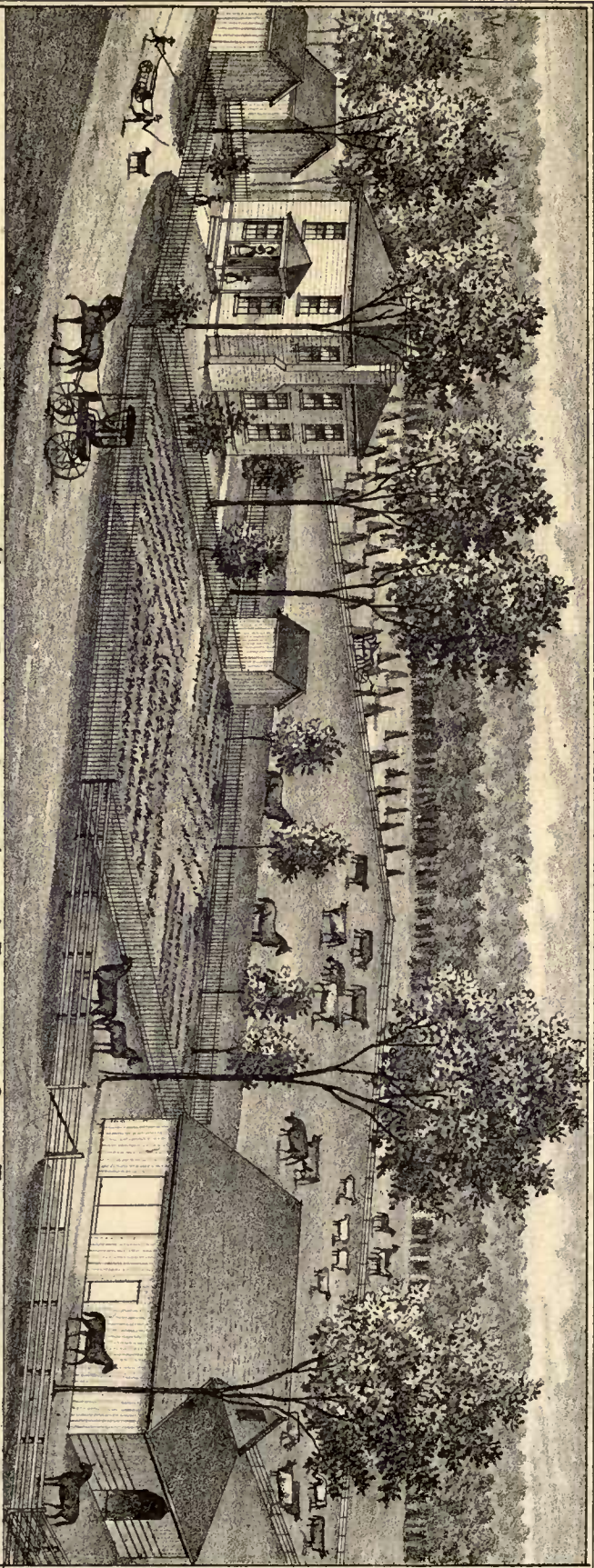
George F. Burgner was the second in a family of seven children. His brothers and sisters were Allen C., a resident of Charleston Village; Louisa J., of this township; James E. and Mary E., deceased; Joseph M., a resident of Lafayette Township, and Rhoda L., the wife of A. Newby. Young Burgner remained with his parents until twenty-six years of age, and on the 20th of September, 1876, was united in marriage with Miss Dillie A., daughter of Christopher and Tabitha (Tipton) Booze. Mrs. B. was born April 10, 1856, at Martinsburg, Ohio. Her parents were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and came to Illinois in the spring of 1864. They located in Whitley Township, Moultrie County, where the mother died Dec. 2, 1881. Her father is still living and occupied with farm pursuits. The four children of the parental family were Dillie A., Solomon T.,

George C. and Charles J. Mr. and Mrs. Burgner have one child, a daughter, Nina M., born July 20, 1878.

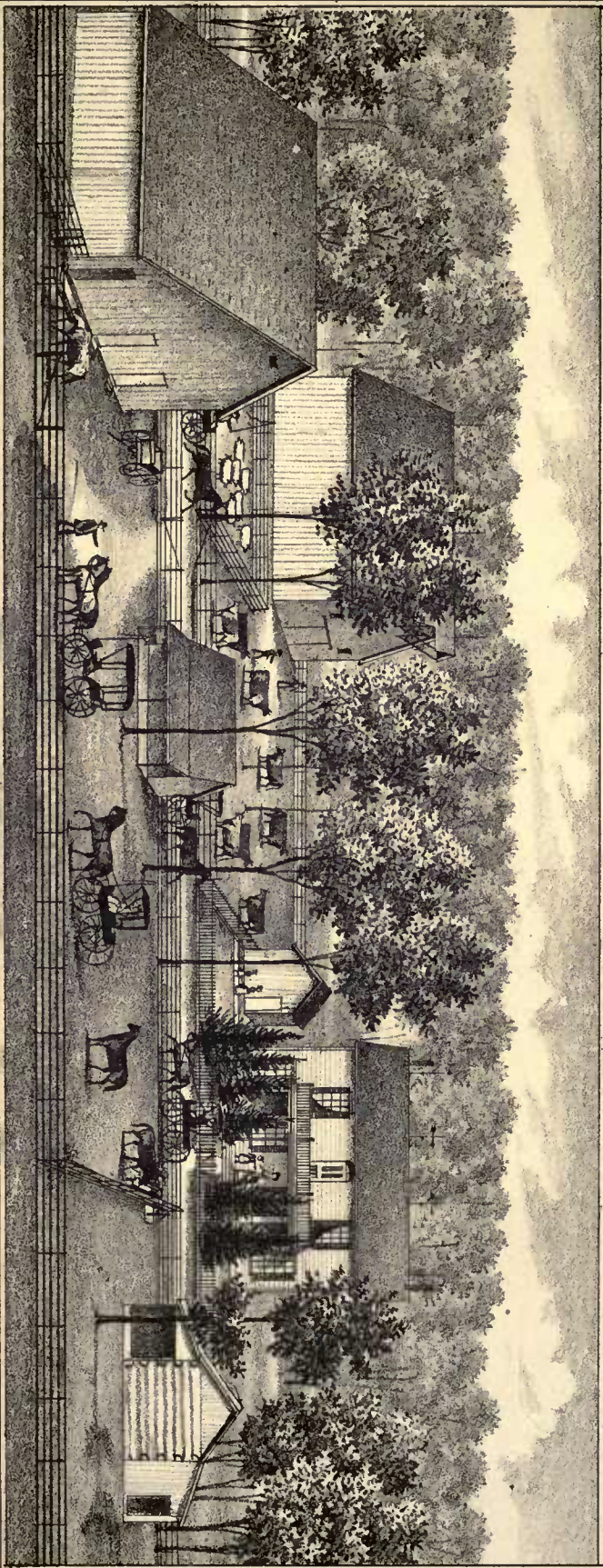
Mr. Burgner has given most of his attention to his private business, and has had little time to mix with politics or local affairs. He gives his support however, to Republican principles. He and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially Mr. B. belongs to the I. O. O. F., being connected with the Encampment No. 94, and Lodge No. 609. He has fulfilled all the obligations of a good citizen, and much credit is due him for his assistance in building up and developing the resources of his adopted county.

HENRY C. BARNSBACK, a descendant of one of the pioneer families of Madison County, Ill., is the owner of a fine estate containing 320 acres of valuable land located on section 29, North Okaw Township. He was born July 17, 1838, in Edwardsville, Madison Co., Ill., and is the son of Julius L. and Mary M. (Gonterman) Barnsback. His grandfather, Ludwig Heinrich Julius Barnsback, was born at Salzliebenhalle. He passed his childhood at home with his parents, and was confirmed in the Lutheran Church at Grossenheere. While a boy he was sent to his uncle, Mr. Seidensticker, at Lautenthal, Hanover, for the purpose of learning the mining and smelting business there. His uncle was very faithful and judicious in his training, requiring him to work for a time as a common laborer in all the different departments of the works, in order that he might acquire a practical, as well as theoretical knowledge of that difficult occupation. After several years of diligent application, he was promoted to the place of Huetten, master of the silver mines at Lautenthal. Soon afterward he married the daughter of Mayor Brauns, of Zellerfeld, and was appointed over-factor and agent of the saltpeter works there. His death occurred in 1806, from the effects of nervous fever. His family consisted of four children: Julius Louis Hans, born Aug. 6, 1800, Augusta

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



RESIDENCE OF KENNY EDMAN, SEC. 14, (R. 9. E.) PLEASANT GROVE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF ISAAC TAYLOR, SEC. 20, (R. 9. E.) PLEASANT GROVE TOWNSHIP.

Minna, born June 6, 1803, now deceased, and two sons who died in infancy.

Julius L. Barnsback was born in Lautenthal, in the Kingdom of Hanover, and was six years of age at the time of his father's death. His mother's death soon followed, and he was educated by his aunt, Hannah Bomtrager. At the age of nineteen he began his business career in the mining districts of the Hartz Mountains. But his health was not sufficiently robust to enable him to continue long at that very laborious occupation, and in company with William Ernst, he emigrated to the United States in 1820. On his arrival he came directly to Illinois, where his Uncle George was then residing. He purchased land here and was engaged in farming until 1836. But this occupation also proving unfavorable on account of his delicate physique, he then made a voyage to Germany for his health, returning in the autumn of 1837. Unable to resume the active duties of farm life, and having the command of some capital, he entered upon the mercantile business at Edwardsville, making his home there. Mr. Barnsback lived an active, stirring life, during his residence in America. In 1832 he was Captain of a company of mounted riflemen, and served four months in the campaign against Black Hawk. He also embarked in many different enterprises, having been engaged in mining, surveying, and various agencies. Although a foreigner, he was interested in the public affairs of the county, and was elected Justice of the Peace in Edwardsville, four times.

The marriage of Mr. Barnsback, Sr., to Miss Mary M. Gonterman, took place in March, 1827. Mrs. Barnsback was born March 29, 1807, in Christian County, Ky., and is the daughter of Jacob and Hannah (Ball) Gonterman. Her father's family are of German descent. She became the mother of seven children, as follows: Elizabeth M., born Jan. 28, 1828, was married Nov. 4, 1847, to John A. Prickett, a resident of Madison County, Ill.; Louis J., born Jan. 7, 1830, died Sept. 7, 1831; George M., born July 21, 1832, died Feb. 4, 1847; Minna C., born Nov. 12, 1834, was married Oct. 8, 1855, and is the widow of David Gillespie; she resides in Edwardsville; Henry C., the subject of this sketch; Julius G., born April 26, 1841, married

Miss Mary O. Smith, June 22, 1865, and resides in Edwardsville; Mary E., deceased, born Oct. 20, 1845, was married June 30, 1864, to John Armstrong; her death occurred Nov. 4, 1886.

During their residence in this country, the orthography of the family name has been slightly altered, owing to the difficulty which Americans found in giving it the correct pronunciation. The original name is Berensbach, and the history of their family was compiled by Maj. August Berensbach in Hoyershausen, in 1818, and was translated into English in 1842. When George Frederick Julius Berensbach came to the United States he found it was very difficult for the people to pronounce the last syllable of his name properly, and rather than attempt it, the neighbors frequently called him Barns. Not wishing to lose his name entirely, he found himself compelled to alter the final letter of his name to "k," and the name finally became Barnsback, and he has since used that form of orthography, entering his land and executing his papers with that signature.

Henry C. Barnsback was reared and educated in the early pioneer days of Illinois. His parents were anxious to give him all the advantages possible, and he attended the subscription school during nine months of the year. He made the best use of his opportunities there, and in 1837 continued his studies one term at McKendree College, Lebanon, St. Clair Co., Ill. On his return he entered a printing-office and resided at home until the spring of 1861. He then entered the service of his country, and enlisted in Co. I, 9th Ill. Vol. Inf., under the command of Capt. Joseph G. Robinson. This company was the first one organized in Edwardsville, and was composed principally of the old Madison Guards. He enlisted for three months, and was sworn in April 23, 1861, and mustered out at Cairo, July 27 of the same year. On his return home he entered the field of journalism, and, associated with James R. Brown, established the Edwardsville *Intelligencer*, the publication of which is still continued.

In 1862 Mr. Barnsback, who is active and enterprising in business, sold out his interest in the paper and joined a company on the overland journey to California, attracted by the mining interests

of that State. He remained there, however, but one year, and on his return home purchased the interest of J. A. Prickett, who was associated with his brother, Julius G., in a general mercantile business at Edwardsville, which was then carried on under the firm of Barnsback & Bros. After remaining in this business twelve years they closed out, and Mr. Barnsback passed one year of leisure in order to recruit his health. In the spring of 1876 they resumed business under the same firm, and continued the partnership until 1880, when Henry Barnsback sold out his interest to his brother, and in the autumn of the same year moved to North Okaw Township. He owns 320 acres of improved land, and built a pleasant frame residence and other substantial farm buildings. There is a good tenant house on his place, and Mr. Barnsback is chiefly engaged in supervising the work, having retired from active labor.

Mr. Barnsback's marriage to Miss Mary M. Montgomery took place Jan. 17, 1877. Mrs. Barnsback was born Aug. 2, 1844, in Madison County, Ill., and is the daughter of Nelson and Eleanor (Kinder) Montgomery. Her parents were likewise natives of this State. Mr. Barnsback is essentially a self-made man, and has acquired his property through industry and close application to business. He has always been a member of the Democratic party and cast his first presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity; and in 1867 became a member of Edwardsville Lodge No. 99, of which he has been Secretary for five years.

JMORRIS BURGNER, a rising young farmer of Lafayette Township, this county, was born Nov. 15, 1860, and here developed into manhood. He is the youngest son of Conrad Burgner. Mr. Burgner, Sr., gave his children all the educational advantages possible, and J. Morris was trained in his childhood at the district schools, and subsequently attended Lee's Academy at Loxa, and the Normal School at Valparaiso, Ind. He also assisted his father and gained a practical insight in the duties of farming.

Sept. 15, 1885, our subject was married to Miss Anna Hancock. Mrs. Burgner is the daughter of Richard J. Hancock, a resident of Loxa. She was born in Coles County, Aug. 9, 1868, and completed her education at Lee's Academy. She is an accomplished and charming young lady, and upon the close of her studies was for a short time engaged in teaching. After his marriage, Mr. Burgner settled upon the farm where he now resides, which was the gift of his father, and contains 150 acres of valuable land. He has erected a pleasant residence and appropriate out-buildings, and his prospects for future prosperity and success are promising.

Mr. and Mrs. Burgner have a beautiful little girl named Maud. Both himself and wife are members of the Methodist Church, and in politics Mr. Burgner votes with the Republican party.

DR. O. W. FERGUSON, who for many years has been prominent among the intelligent and progressive farmers of Mattoon Township, is the proprietor of a fine estate including 320 acres of land, embellished with handsome and substantial buildings, and supplied with all the requirements of a modern country home. The Doctor, who is still a young man, is a native of this county, and was born six miles south of Mattoon, on the 19th of August, 1859. He is the third of four children, the offspring of Myron J. and Martha (Williams) Ferguson. His father, a native of Pennsylvania, came to this State with his parents in about 1830. He settled in the southern part of Coles County, and not long afterward was united in marriage with Miss Martha Williams, and established himself with his young wife, upon a tract of land, where he continued farming the greater part of his life. He dealt extensively in stock of all kinds, but, while having upon his mind and hands large business interests, kept in mind at the same time the welfare of his children, and finally removed to the city of Mattoon in order to give them the benefit of a good education. His death occurred there in 1876, at which time he was interested in the Mattoon Bank, and when it became

necessary to settle the estate, the crippled condition of that institution swept away all the property which he had accumulated.

Our subject completed his education in the city schools of Mattoon, and at an early age entered Bellevue College Hospital, in New York City, and at the age of twenty-one secured his degree of M. D. He commenced practice in partnership with Dr. J. W. Dora, of Mattoon, with whom he had formerly studied, and continued until 1885. He then moved to the country upon the farm which he occupied until the fall of 1887, when he again resumed practice in the city, his office being on the corner of First street and Broadway.

The marriage of Dr. O. W. Ferguson and Miss Jennie Joseph, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents on the 17th of May, 1882. Mrs. F. is the eldest child of Harrison and Vashti (Hamrick) Joseph. Her father was a native of Ohio, where his daughter, Jennie, was born in 1860. He now carries on the trade of a jeweler in Mattoon, Ill. The one child of Dr. and Mrs. Ferguson is a daughter, Vesta, born June 8, 1883. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Doctor uniformly votes with the Republican party. He purchased his farm six years ago, and has superintended its operations since, while at the same time practicing moderately, although not endeavoring to extend his territory.



DAVID C. DAVIS owns and occupies a snug farm of 170 acres of fine land in Ashmore Township, pleasantly located on section 14. Here for the last seven years he has given his principal attention to the various pursuits of farm life, including the breeding of fine stock, his favorites being Short-horn cattle and Clydesdale horses. As a thorough business man and enterprising inhabitant of the rural districts, he has become one of its most important factors, and could not well be spared from its farming or financial interests.

Mr. Davis first drew breath Sept. 10, 1839, in Lawrence County, Ind., at the home of his parents, Bluford G. and Mary (Edwards) Davis, who were

among the most highly respected residents of that section. They were natives respectively of Kentucky and North Carolina. The father, born in 1796, followed farming all his life, and died on the homestead in Illinois in 1871, after having arrived at the good old age of seventy-four years. Mary, his wife, who was born in 1817, is still living. The seven children of the parental household were Ellen, Angeline, David C., of our sketch, Mary J., Adaline, Alexander and Matilda. Most of these were born in the same county as our subject, and are living, some in Indiana and some in this State.

Mr. Davis continued with his parents in his native county until a youth of sixteen years, then started out in life to do for himself. He first worked for eighteen months on a farm for very moderate wages, but having been trained to habits of economy by his excellent parents, spent none of his money foolishly, and after a few years was enabled to purchase forty acres of land. Of this he took possession in 1863, and proceeded with its cultivation and improvement. He was prospered in his honest labors and wisely invested his surplus capital in more land. He climbed up steadily on the social and financial ladder, and now presents the picture of a self-made man, who has arisen to a good position in the community and in the business world, solely by his own unaided efforts. The farm is supplied with good buildings, and our subject and his family are surrounded by all the comforts of life. About the time of purchasing his first land, Mr. Davis very wisely secured unto himself a counselor and helpmate in the person of Miss Mary McLaughlin, to whom he was married in Lawrence County, Aug. 19, 1862. Mrs. Davis, a native of Indiana, was born Dec. 22, 1843, and of her union with our subject, became the mother of five children. The eldest, George M., married Mrs. Ema Lowden.

Mr. Davis takes an honest pride in the result of his stock-breeding operations, and his stables contain some very fine animals. Among these is the stallion named Tom, which is one-half pure blood Clydesdale, four years old, and weighs 1,400 pounds; he is sixteen hands high; and in color, a rich red roan. Although giving most of his attention to his farm and family, Mr. Davis has kept an eye upon the welfare of his neighbors and

assisted them in their efforts to maintain the district school in a creditable manner, giving to it his services as Trustee and his moral support in carrying it on creditably. Although not meddling much in politics, he believes in Democratic principles, and expresses his opinions decidedly at the polls.



ALONZO J. FUNKHOUSER, County Superintendent of public schools, is a prominent citizen of Pleasant Grove Township. He is the son of Wilson L. and Susanna (Thomas) Funkhouser, and was born Nov. 24, 1860, in this county. His parents spared no pains in affording their son an excellent education, and until the age of sixteen, Alonzo attended the common schools, also assisting his father in the lighter duties of farm labor. He then attended Lee's Academy at Loxa, where he was graduated in 1878. He passed the first year after his graduation in teaching in the public schools, and in the fall of 1879 entered the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill., taking the law and literary course. After giving three years of close application to study he was graduated by the law department of the University in 1882. Mr. Funkhouser is deeply interested in the cause of education, and his inclinations led him to pursue that line of work, rather than the practice of law, and after leaving the University at Bloomington he spent four years in teaching school and farming alternately. In 1886 he was elected to his present office by a large majority. It was his first experience in being a candidate for any office, and resulted successfully.

Mr. Funkhouser is a very efficient and fluent public speaker, and has evidently chosen the vocation best adapted to his mental abilities, which are of a high order. He is now engaged in arranging and perfecting a systematized plan of work for the county schools, by which it is proposed to establish a uniform course of study for the ungraded schools. When he first began teaching he received \$28.50 per month for his services, but his rare ability in imparting instruction was soon recognized, and his salary was increased until he finally received \$70 per

month for teaching county schools. Mr. F. recognizes the importance of moral training as an adjunct of intellectual culture. He is a lecturer and earnest worker in the Sunday-schools, and is also actively interested in the Methodist Church, of which he is a member. His influence in educational affairs has already been widely felt throughout the county, 205 teachers attending the county institute in July, 1887, which is three times the number of attendance in any previous year, and is an evidence of the deep interest our subject has awakened among the teachers. Mr. F. is a member of the order of Knights of Pythias, and is a Royal Arch Mason, having been made Senior Warden at the age of twenty-three, and Master the following year.



JAMES T. BROWN, a native of this county, is located in Seven Hickory Township on section 30, where he took up his abode in 1878. His birth took place Nov. 12, 1838, on the Kickapoo River, south of Charleston. He is the son of Abner and Edie J. (Glassco) Brown, the former born in Tennessee, in 1821, and the latter in Hardin County, Ky., the year after. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of North Carolina, and joined his children later in this State, where his death took place in Brown County, in about 1852.

The children of Abner and Edie Brown, nine in number, are recorded as follows: James T., of our sketch, was the eldest; Martha died when not quite two years of age; Mary R., born in Missouri, became the wife of George W. Gideon, of Lafayette Township, and the mother of nine children, all living; John married Miss Susan A. Martin, and they have four children, and are residing on a farm in Humbolt Township; Robert R., born in Brown County, married Miss Elizabeth Blue, of Indiana, who died in early life, and he then went South, and married Miss Hattie Whittaker, of Arkansas, in which State they are now living, and have two children; Enoch O. married Miss Maggie Reed, who became the mother of a son, and departed this life in Coles County, while a young woman; he afterward married the sister of his brother's wife, a

Miss Whittaker, of Arkansas, and is now a resident of Boliver County, Miss.; Margaret, born in this county, became the wife of George N. Todd, of Ohio, and is now a resident of Mattoon, being the mother of two children; Alice S., also a native of this county, became the wife of Jerome W. Miller, and the mother of two children; they are now living in Boone County, Neb.; Linton, born in this county, died when a lad of seven or eight years old. The parents of our subject came to this county each with their fathers' families, and were here reared and married. They located south of Charleston, where the elder Brown engaged in farming, and where his son has succeeded to the homestead. The latter, with the exception of four years spent in the grocery trade at Charleston, has passed nearly the whole of his life on the farm which he now occupies.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Charleston Township, Oct. 25, 1860, was in her girlhood Miss Melissa Veach, a native of this county, and has remained a resident of the county since. Her parents, Jesse and Maria (Johnson) Veach, were natives of Kentucky, and had a family of seven children, including four sons and three daughters. Mr. V. lived to the advanced age of seventy-seven years, departing this life at his home in Charleston, in the spring of 1884. The mother is still living, and a resident of Humbolt Township, making her home with her daughter.

The seven children of our subject and his wife are recorded as follows: Edna C., born Sept. 2, 1862, was naturally studious, and perfected herself as a teacher, which calling she has followed some time in Nebraska; Eugene W., born Sept. 13, 1865, married Miss Venie Goff, of this county, and is carrying on farming in Seven Hickory; Carrie May was born in 1868, and died in March, 1869, when about one year old; Harry L., born March 31, 1870; Walter, Dec. 4, 1872; Lillie A., Jan. 7, 1874, and Georgie, Nov. 29, 1879, are all at home with their parents.

Mr. Brown has been prominently identified with local affairs since reaching his majority. He cast his first vote for Stephen A. Douglas, and has always been a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. He was the candidate of his party for Circuit Clerk

in 1868, but the Democrats being in the minority he was "counted out" with the balance of his ticket. This was the year of the Presidential election, and Grant carried the county by a majority of 411. The fact that Mr. Brown was only 280 votes behind his competitor, indicates the position which he occupies in the popular mind. He was Township Clerk from 1862 to the fall of 1868, and has represented the township in the County Board of Supervisors two years. Mr. and Mrs. B., with their eldest daughter, are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the family enjoy the society and friendship of the best people in the section.



E. RAY, proprietor of a large livery and sale-stable in Charleston, under the firm name of S. E. Ray & Son, is one of the active, enterprising business men of the city. He was born Aug. 5, 1833, in Montpelier, Vt., and is the son of George G. and Betsy (Billingsley) Ray, the former a native of Vermont, and the latter of New York. George Ray was a farmer in his native State, and came West in 1833, settling in Lake County, Ohio. That State is noted for its agricultural resources, and Mr. Ray successfully engaged in farming there, making it his home for life. He belongs to a substantial old New England family and served in the Revolutionary War. In politics, he was a member of the Henry Clay Whig party. Himself and wife were members of the Methodist Church, and actively interested in promoting the cause of religion. Mrs. Ray, who has attained the advanced age of ninety years, is still living in Ohio. They had a family of twelve children born to them.

S. E. Ray was reared on his father's farm, receiving a good common-school education and acquiring a practical knowledge of the details of farming. He remained at home until he was fifteen years of age, and was then employed by the Geauga Iron Company as Collector, and traveled for them two years. He was next employed by Luce & Co., blank-book manufacturers at La Fayette, Ind., and traveled for that firm six years, selling and collecting through Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota. He then accepted the same position for Culver,

Page & Hoyne, of Chicago, and was employed by that firm five and one-half years. In 1862 Mr. Ray came to Illinois and engaged in the grocery business in Charleston, but soon sold out and started a livery stable. He built his barn in 1866, and continued in that occupation until 1875, when he sold out again and engaged in the dry-goods line. In six years he sold out again and re-entered the livery business, in connection with which he has engaged in buying and shipping horses. He keeps a fine stock of horses and carriages and his former establishment was the oldest in Charleston.

March 31, 1863, Mr. Ray was married to Miss Josephine Bunnell, of this city, but their married life was of short duration. Mrs. Ray died Sept. 18, 1867, leaving one child, Henrietta, since deceased. He was married the second time, Dec. 10, 1867, to Mrs. Elizabeth J. Wilhoit, of Edgar County, Ill., the sister of his first wife. They have one son, Samuel A. William Bunnell, Mrs. Ray's father, was a native of Kentucky. In 1835 he came to Illinois and engaged in farming in Edgar County, but subsequently removed to Charleston, where he was for ten years proprietor of a hotel.

Mr. Ray is interested in municipal affairs, and was President of the Board of Education four years, and also served two terms as Alderman. He is a Democrat in politics, a member of the I. O. O. F., and the Knights of Honor.

WILLIAM L. R. FUNKHOUSER is a public-spirited citizen of Coles County, and his farm, containing 100 acres of well-improved land, is located on section 4, Pleasant Grove Township. He is the son of Wilson L. and Mary (Henry) Funkhouser, and was born Jan. 14, 1854, in the township where he now resides. He was reared on his father's farm, and in the meantime received a good common-school education, and was also trained in the various branches of farm labor, an education requisite to success in agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Funkhouser was married, April 23, 1876, to Miss Alice Raines. Mrs. Funkhouser is the daughter of George and Harriet (Maize) Raines, and was

born in Lafayette Township, Coles County, Dec. 1, 1858. After his marriage, Mr. F. settled upon the farm he now occupies, and has since carried on an extensive farming business there, bringing his land to a high state of cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Funkhouser had a family of seven children, four of whom died in infancy; those still living are Alice L., Mary H. and George W.

In politics Mr. Funkhouser is a Republican, and is always ready to assist in promoting the interest of his party. He has served as Township Collector, giving general satisfaction to the people in discharging the public duties of that position. With his wife he is a member of the Methodist Church. He is a member of Muddy Point Lodge No. 396, of which he is a Warden, and also a member of the A. F. & A. M., Mattoon Chapter No. 85, R. A. M.

HERVEY FOWLER, deceased, closed his eyes upon the scenes of earth at his home in Charleston Township, on the 20th of December, 1877, while still in the prime of life, being little past the age of forty-six years. His birth took place in Tennessee, Sept. 24, 1831. His parents were Joseph and Sarah (Speer) Fowler, natives of the same State, whence they removed when their son was a boy of seven years. Coming to Illinois they located in this county, where the death of both parents took place, the father dying in 1845, and the mother in 1885, the latter reaching the advanced age of ninety-two years.

Hervey Fowler was the seventh of a family of eight children, and spent his childhood and youth amid the scenes of rural life. He became expert in all the employments of the farm, and after reaching manhood was united in marriage, Thursday, Nov. 8, 1855, to Miss Harriett, daughter of Isaac and Cathrin Craig. Mrs. Fowler was born on her father's farm in Charleston Township Jan. 4, 1837. She remained under the parental roof until her marriage with Mr. Fowler, and they located on a farm of eighty acres owned by the latter. He prospered in his labors, invested his surplus capital wisely, and added to his landed area until he had become the possessor of 190 acres. He

became prominent among his townsmen as a man capable of representing their interests, and held the various offices at different times. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler became the parents of seven children, of whom only one survives, a son, Isaac, now a resident of his mother's home.

Mrs. Fowler after the death of her husband continued on the homestead, and in 1880 became the wife of Luther C. Mitchell, the wedding being celebrated March 17, at the home of the bride. She is a lady greatly respected for her excellent qualities and is the center of a large circle of warm friends.

PHILLIP ASHBY, an extensive stock-grower and dealer, owns a fine estate containing 300 acres of valuable, well-improved land located on section 4, Hutton Township. Mr. Ashby is a prominent citizen, and represents an old and honored pioneer family of this county. He is the son of John and Elizabeth (Redding) Ashby, and was born in this township, April 24, 1832. His paternal grandparents, Joseph and Abecca (McGinnis) Ashby, were natives of New York, and soon after their marriage removed to Halifax County, Va., where they passed the remainder of their lives. His father, John Ashby, was born there in 1778. The early years of the colonists in Virginia were greatly disturbed by Indian wars and at a later period that State took a prominent part in the French wars and the Revolution, and during John's boyhood society there was in a crude and formative state. The educational advantages were very limited, and with his wife, he learned to read and write after their marriage. Mrs. Ashby was born in 1780, in Halifax County, Va., and was the daughter of Joseph and Rachel Redding, who were likewise natives of the same county. During his boyhood, Mr. Ashby had learned the blacksmith's trade, and immediately after his marriage he removed with his young wife by wagon to Tennessee, where he purchased land near Columbus, and was for three years engaged in farming there and also working at his trade.

At the expiration of that time Mr. A., Sr., sold out and removed to North Carolina, and after re-

maining there a short time went to Crawford County, Ill. He remained there one year and then came to Coles County, being one of its earliest pioneers. Here he entered forty acres of timbered land on section 9, Hutton Township, the property now owned by Joshua Johns. During the years 1830, 1831 and 1833, he entered 160 acres of land on section 4, where he built a log house in the primitive fashion and settled with his family. He opened the first blacksmith-shop in Hutton Township, not far from the present village of Salisbury. The county was at that time an almost unbroken wilderness, and many settlers who came prior to 1832 often lived in their wagons until they could erect a cabin, in the meantime cutting the timber from the forests for that purpose, near which the early settlements were usually made. He cultivated and improved his land, carrying on a successful business there, and in the year 1855 manufactured the brick and erected a fine residence, which his son Phillip now occupies. His death occurred on the homestead in Hutton Township, in 1864, and his widow who survived him two years, died at the same place in 1866.

John Ashby was a generous, kind-hearted man, conspicuous for his hospitality to all. With his wife he was an active member of the Christian Church, in which for thirty years he was an Elder and Deacon, and his house was ever open for the entertainment of ministers representing any denomination, interested in building up the cause and establishing the faith of our common Lord and Master. He was beloved and respected by the entire community, where the uprightness and integrity of his character exerted a wide and beneficent influence. His family consisted of sixteen children, as follows: Henry, born in Tennessee, deceased; William, born in Tennessee, married Miss Sarah Ann Beaver, and is a resident of Coles County; Mary, born in Tennessee, was the wife of Alexander Baker; both are deceased. John, deceased, was born in Tennessee, and married Miss Mary M. Barriek; his widow resides in Kansas. Nancy, born in Tennessee, was the wife of George Lamb, but is now deceased; Eliza, born in North Carolina; died in childhood. Rebecca, born in North Carolina, was the wife of Isaac Wilson; both

are deceased. Joseph, born in North Carolina, married Miss Samantha Gardner; his wife is now dead; James, born in Crawford County, Ill., married Miss Margaret Goodman, and resides in Kansas; Robert, born in Crawford County, Ill., married Miss Elizabeth Hodge, and both are deceased; Eleatha Ann, born in Coles County, Ill., was the wife of George W. Brooks; both are deceased. Phillip, the subject of this sketch; Nathaniel, born in Coles County, married Miss Abasha Riggins, and resides in Cumberland County, Ill.; Stephen was born in this county, where he now resides, and is married to Miss Mary Smith; Martha, born in Coles County, is the wife of John Cartwright, and resides in California, and Edwin, likewise born in this county, married Miss Cornelia Wright, and resides in Charleston.

Phillip Ashby was reared in the early pioneer days of this county, and the only educational privileges afforded him were those found in the subscription schools of that period, which he attended about three months during the winter season, and in the summer time assisted his father on the farm and in the shop. He lived at the homestead until his marriage with Miss Margaret L. Smith, which occurred May 9, 1852. Mrs. Ashby was born Jan. 16, 1834, in Hutton Township, and was the daughter of John and Catherine (Goodman) Smith. Her parents were natives of Indiana. After his marriage, Mr. Ashby purchased forty acres of partly improved land of his father, and also engaged in farming on rented land for about eight years. In the meantime he cultivated and improved his own land, and purchased two farms containing fifty acres each, one of which is known as the Gilbert farm and the other as the Harmon Smith farm. He subsequently exchanged the two latter purchases with his brother Stephen, for ninety acres of the old homestead. He has made some additional purchases and his estate now contains 300 acres of well-improved land, with substantial and well-appointed residences and farm-buildings; 160 acres of this property is the land which his father entered during the years 1830, 1831 and 1833, and Mr. Ashby has in his possession the sheepskin his father received from the Land Commissioner of Palestine, Crawford County.

bearing the signature of Andrew Jackson, which he prizes highly as a relic of the early days. He recollects seeing the Indians about their home, fierce with war paint and feathers, bearing little resemblance to those now seen at times in Western towns and villages. The land entered by John Ashby has remained intact in the family since that time, and has never been encumbered with a mortgage.

Mr. and Mrs. Ashby have had a family of nine children born to them: Elizabeth C., born Aug. 18, 1853, died in infancy; John H., born Sept. 4, 1855; Nellie J., born June 13, 1857, died in infancy; Stephen A. D., born May 20, 1858, married Miss Dosia Brooks; Sarah E., born in 1861, married J. A. Colby; Mattie B., born in 1865, married Willie Griffin; Nora, born in 1864, died in childhood; Walter C. married Elizabeth Scott, and Joseph N., born in 1867. The home circle was broken by the death of Mrs. Ashby in 1871.

Mr. Ashby is active and enterprising in business, and deals extensively in stock, buying cattle, sheep and hogs, shipping mostly to Chicago and Indianapolis. He is a public-spirited man, and is interested in all measures relating to the interests of the county which has been the home of his family for so many years. He was one of the first Commissioners of Highways, and with Messrs. D. Brooks and E. R. Connelly laid out the town in roads and districts, and has served several terms in that position. He was elected Supervisor by the Democratic party of which he has always been a warm supporter, serving one term, and has also served several terms as School Director. His first vote was cast for James Buchanan. Mr. Ashby is a self-made man, having earned all the property he now owns by industry and energy. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and is a member of Hutton Lodge No. 698, of Diona.



WILLIAM H. ROBERTS, a successful stock-grower of East Oakland Township, is located on section 9. He was born Oct. 17, 1840, in Muskingum County, Ohio, and removed to Illinois with his parents, Thomas and Alice (Mock) Roberts, both natives of Virginia,

the father born Oct. 12, 1802, and the mother Nov. 8, 1808, in Londoun County, where their marriage took place, and from which State they removed to Ohio in 1830, and remained there until they migrated to Illinois in 1860. They purchased a farm of 265 acres of improved land in East Oakland Township, and passed the remainder of their lives here. The parents of Thomas Roberts possessed but little wealth, save their intelligence and integrity of character. His father was a weaver by trade, and Thomas, when a boy of thirteen, bravely bore his share of the burdens, hiring out by the month to do farm work in order to assist his parents. He also attended the common school and applied himself diligently in the short intervals that could be spared from toil, and thus acquired a good practical education. He cut his way through the snow-drifts in the winter to the old school-house, and in the summer worked on the farm a happy "bare-foot boy," though deprived of many of the pleasures incident to childhood and youth, and grew up to manhood strong and self-reliant, prepared to battle with the world.

February 7, 1828, Thomas Roberts was united in marriage to Miss Alice Mock, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Mock. Her family were of German extraction. The life of Jacob Mock, her father, was brought to a sudden close by a sad tragedy. One night in August, 1837, he failed to return home at the usual time. As the night wore on, the family grew alarmed and listened anxiously to every sound in the hope of hearing his accustomed step. As soon as the first ray of morning dawned, inquiries were made and a search instituted, which resulted in a ghastly discovery. His hat was found in a tree, pierced by some instrument, and his body in the creek, which ran through his own farm, his head also bearing evidences of having been cut by something sharp. It is supposed that he was murdered and robbed, as he sometimes carried large sums of money with him, but no clew was ever found to the perpetrators of the terrible deed, and it has remained one of the unsolvable mysteries of life. He left a family of nine children, as follows: John D., George, Joseph, James T., Isaac F., Phoebe, Susan, Mary E. and Alice.

Thomas and Alice Roberts had a family of

twelve children born to them, named as follows: Jacob A., born Nov. 3, 1828, died at the age of five years; Mary E., born Jan. 19, 1833, married George Geyer; Matilda A., born June 26, 1834, married Peter Gobert; Stephen, born Nov. 22, 1838, died in November, 1840; William H., born Oct. 17, 1840; Caroline, born April 27, 1842, married J. W. Titus; Isaac N., born Jan. 6, 1846, married Miss Almeda Davis; Castara, born March 6, 1844, married B. F. Taylor; John D., born March 5, 1850, married Miss Mary Prather; Sarah J., born March 11, 1848, married Francis Parker; Sherman W., born Jan. 11, 1852, married Miss Sarah Dollar, and James B., born Oct. 9, 1854, died Aug. 22, 1872. The death of the father occurred Aug. 6, 1879. He was for many years a Trustee and Class-Leader in the Methodist Episcopal Church. His religious faith, which was practical and earnest, was illustrated by his daily life, and in politics he was a warm supporter of the Republican party.

William H. Roberts was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Reed, April 24, 1866. She was born Feb. 20, 1844, in Edgar County, Ill., and is the daughter of John W. and Elizabeth (Lamb) Reed. John W. Reed is a retired farmer and was born in Kentucky, Sept. 30, 1817. He has been for many years a member of the Baptist Church, and although not actively engaged in business, he is interested in all the current affairs of the day. He was thrice married, his first wife dying when Mrs. Roberts was a child, and there has been no record of her family preserved. She was the mother of three children: Francis M., who married Miss Anna Lumbrick; John, who died in infancy, and Mary E., the wife of our subject. Mr. Reed was married the second time to Miss Mary J. Ashmore, who died within a year, leaving no children. His third wife was Eliza C. Moffett. To our subject and wife there have been born three children, recorded as follows: Arminta A., born Dec. 28, 1867; James B., July 6, 1875, and an infant unnamed, who died Jan. 15, 1872.

When the Civil War broke out, William H. Roberts enlisted in the defense of his country Aug. 8, 1862, as a private in Co. H., 79th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served three years. He belonged to the Army of the Cumberland, and on Dec. 31, 1862, was

severely wounded at the battle of Stone River by a minie ball, which passed through the calf of the left leg. While he lay wounded in the hospital, inflammatory erysipelas set in, and one night the attending nurse gave him by mistake a tablespoonful of nitric acid, which proved a more dangerous dose than the cold lead of the enemy, and would have cost him his life but for the prompt and efficient remedies that were administered. He was compelled to swallow three army-tinfuls of sweet oil to neutralize the acid, followed by copious draughts of warm water, which acted as an emetic and saved his life. He remained in the hospital until the following May, when his strength was restored, and he was permitted to rejoin his regiment. He was engaged in the stubborn fight at Resaca and in the brilliantly fought battle of Dallas, where Gen. Logan so signally distinguished himself. He took part in the battle of Rocky Face, and was also in many skirmishes during the progress of the war, and at its close was mustered out of service and discharged at Springfield, Ill., June 23, 1865.

Mr. Roberts owns 160 acres of valuable land, which is highly cultivated, and improved with pleasant and substantial farm buildings. He owns fifty head of Hereford and two head of full-blooded cattle. His family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he has been one of its Trustees for the last two years.



WILLIAM H. DRISH, the son of one of the earliest pioneers of Illinois, was born in Greene County, Feb. 26, 1844, and is the fifth child of John W. and Martha L. (Adams) Drish, of Loudoun County, Va. His father was a practicing physician, and after following his profession a few years in his native State emigrated to Illinois in about 1836, locating in Greene County when there was not a settlement within fifty miles of his pioneer home. He was possessed of some means and became an extensive land-owner. He continued his practice but superintended the cultivation and improvement of his land, and was the original projector of the town of White Hall, which he platted, and was instrumental in its settlement

and progress. This has become one of the important towns of Greene County, and where the wild creatures of the prairie formerly roamed is now located a flourishing community. Mr. Drish also secured the establishment of schools and churches, one of the first teachers being Stephen A. Douglas, who acted as pedagogue in a little log school-house on the prairie. That structure long since gave place to an ample frame building and everything about it has been in keeping.

The father of our subject was a man of broad culture and widespread influence, and possessed a ready command of language. He was largely interested in mercantile business, and was instrumental in the building up of many enterprises calculated for the good of the people and the enlargement of the town. Politically he was a stanch Whig until the abandonment of the old party, and then cordially allied himself with the Republicans. He was an extensive reader and kept himself well informed upon current events. His death took place Oct. 10, 1861, about the time when the mutterings of rebellion presaged the coming on of the late Civil War. The wife and mother survived her husband about twenty-four years, her death taking place in 1885, after she had arrived at an advanced age.

The subject of this history received his education mostly in the common schools, and early in life began to lay his plans for the future. When sixteen years of age he enlisted in the United States service, becoming a member of the 91st Illinois Infantry, from which, however, he was soon transferred to the 122d. With him also was his brother, who held the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Young William, with his comrades, was under the immediate command of Gens. Smith and Thomas in the Army of the West, which eventually constituted the right wing of Gen. Sherman's command. He first saw active service at Trenton, Tenn., against the rebel General, Forrest, and was captured, but afterward paroled. He was exchanged about fifteen months later, and joined his regiment at Ft. Blakely, Miss. He followed the campaign in the same company as an Orderly, at regimental headquarters, meeting with many hairbreadth escapes, and at the close of the war was mustered out unharmed, Oct. 25, 1865,

at New Orleans. His journeyings through the South and his opportunities for sight-seeing form a chapter in his history with which he would not willingly part.

After his return to civil life Mr. Drish resumed his old life in his native county and engaged as clerk in a general store at White Hall. He afterward became connected with a drug-store in the same capacity, but nine months later on account of ill-health was obliged to abandon indoor pursuits. Afterward he engaged in teaming two years. On the 28th of March, 1871, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Neece, a native of Greene County, Ill., born Feb. 22, 1844, and the daughter of Henry H. and Elizabeth (Barring) Neece, natives of Middle Tennessee. The young people began life together on a farm in Greene County. He soon afterward purchased 120 acres partially improved in Paradise Township, which he occupied until 1879. Then selling this he took up his residence near the village of Humbolt, for two years, and engaged in harness-making, where he is still employed. Mr. and Mrs. Drish have one child, a son, Frank W., now (1887) a lad of fifteen years.

Mr. Drish uniformly votes with the Republican party, although not taking any active part in politics or desiring office. He has served the citizens of the village as an Alderman several terms, and is a man of excellent judgment, who is frequently called into the counsels of his fellow-citizens upon matters pertaining to the general welfare. Both he and his estimable lady are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



ANDREW FEAGAN is located in the northwestern part of Charleston Township, where he first settled in March, 1865. He in former years owned quite a body of land, which he has reduced to 145 acres and brought to a fine state of cultivation, erecting a brick residence, a large barn, and all other necessary and convenient out-buildings. He has of late years given much attention to stock-raising, and one of the finest features of the place is a handsome herd, including thirty head of thoroughbred

Hereford cattle. The homestead is notable for the air of plenty which surrounds it, and the indications of good taste and enterprise displayed on every hand.

Our subject is a native of Bracken County, Ky., where his birth took place on the farm of his father, Sept. 20, 1827. His parents, Richeson and Martha (Dunn) Feagan, were natives respectively of Virginia and Pennsylvania, the former born in 1801. His ancestors had been residents of the Old Dominion for several generations. When sixteen years of age he became the main support and stay of his widowed mother, the family having been deprived by death of a father's care and protection. Our subject remained on the homestead with his mother, and after reaching manhood was united in marriage with Miss Martha Dunn, who had removed from Pennsylvania to Kentucky with her parents when a young girl.

Mr. Feagan was a strong anti-slavery man, and carried on his plantation with the assistance of hired help, refusing to avail himself of slave labor. His estate included 250 acres of land, and both parents remained in Kentucky until the death of the mother, which took place in 1866. Of their seven children but four lived to mature years, viz., William T., now a resident of Coles County; James F., who is occupying the old homestead in Kentucky; Nancy Jane, the wife of John R. Norris, a farmer of Charleston Township, and Andrew of our sketch. After the death of his wife Richeson Feagan, in 1869, came to Illinois, and made his home with his children until his death, which took place in 1884. He was reasonably successful in his struggle with the world, acquiring a fair amount of property, and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Andrew Feagan was reared to farm pursuits, and received the advantages of the common schools. One of the most important events of his life took place on the 10th of November, 1853, namely, his marriage with Miss Hadassah Best, a native of Pendleton County, Ky., born May 20, 1825. She is the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Best, natives of Kentucky, who departed this life at their home in that State. Mr. Feagan after his marriage continued farming, and became the owner of 150 acres

of land in Bracken County, Ky., which he occupied until 1865. He then sold out, and coming to this State became associated in partnership with David Teel, and the two purchased 290 acres of land on section 6 in Charleston Township. A year later William T. Feagan came to Illinois and purchased the interest of Mr. T., and the Feagan Bros. operated the land together for a period of six years. William T. then sold out his interest, but our subject continued to occupy the homestead which he had labored to build up and beautify.

Mr. and Mrs. Feagan have no children of their own, but have performed the faithful and affectionate office of parents to an adopted son, Charles H. Both are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which Mr. F. became connected in 1844, when a youth seventeen years of age. He has been a liberal and cheerful giver to the cause of the Master, and it was largely through his influence and assistance that New Salem Chapel was erected and the society kept up. The edifice is a fine brick structure, and an ornament to that part of town. Mr. F. has officiated as Steward and Trustee, and his cool head and clear judgment are often called into requisition by his brethren in their counsels for the welfare and advancement of the church.



DR. J. C. BROOKS, dental surgeon, Charleston, is a native of this State, born in Edgar County, Aug. 28, 1838. His parents, Thomas M. and Sarah B. (Chenoweth) Brooks, were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio. They were married in Ohio and came to this State in about 1818, locating in Edgar County, being among its earliest settlers. Later they removed to Iroquois County where the mother passed away in 1865. Mr. B. survived his wife until Aug. 28, 1881, and died after reaching the advanced age of seventy-six years. Of the thirteen children which gathered around the family hearth, the subject of this sketch was the seventh in order of birth. Of these but five are now living.

Thomas M. Brooks was a very prominent man in Edgar County, being most of the time an incum-

bent of some office. He was well educated and taught school for a number of years. During the existence of the old Whig party he was one of its staunch supporters and later, a Free-Soil Abolitionist. Upon the abandonment of the old party he cordially endorsed Republican principles and was one of the first in Edgar County to cast his vote for its contemplated measures and its candidates. He was also interested in the establishment of educational and religious institutions, assisted in organizing the Presbyterian Church in Edgar County, and officiated as Elder in the same for a number of years.

Dr. Brooks during his early years attended school in the winter season and later took a full course in the academy at Paris, being there about the time of the breaking out of the late war. In the fall of 1861 he enlisted in Co. E, 66th Illinois Western Sharpshooters, and served as a soldier for three years and four months, holding all the positions from Private to Second Lieutenant, and participating with his regiment in many of the important battles of the war. He escaped comparatively unharmed, receiving only a slight wound in a skirmish with the enemy while in Georgia. He was at the siege and capture of Ft. Donelson, Shiloh and Corinth, and went through the Atlanta campaign, sharing bravely and uncomplainingly the vicissitudes of a soldier's life, and receiving his honorable discharge and the approval of his superior officers at the close.

Upon returning from the army our subject, in company with E. Blake, established a book-store at Mattoon but subsequently withdrew, and returning to his father's farm in Edgar County, engaged in the nursery business until the following year. Not quite satisfied with the results of this, and having a taste for dentistry, he entered the office of Dr. W. Bradley, under whom he studied for a year, and then placed himself under the instruction of Dr. Richardson, of Mattoon, where he perfected himself in his chosen profession. He commenced practice in Charleston in the spring of 1867, opening a neat office and securing ere long the patronage of the best people of that city and vicinity. Circumstances, however, induced him to change his location, and in 1871 he moved to Sullivan, Moultrie County, where he practiced successfully nine years. Thence he returned to Mattoon and two years later

to Charleston, of which he has since been a resident. The home of himself and family is pleasantly located on West Washington street, and besides this he has other good property in the city.

The marriage of Dr. Brooks and Miss Lottie, daughter of Simeon Blake, formerly of Charleston, took place Oct. 17, 1864. Of this union there are three children, Frank A., born in 1865; Essie F., in 1868, and Clare W., in 1880. Both the Doctor and Mrs. B. are prominently connected with the Presbyterian Church. He is a stockholder in the Loan and Building Association, and politically is a Prohibitionist of the first water, giving to the subject of temperance much of his time and attention, and assisting in the organization of the party. He also belongs to the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., G. A. R. and R. T. of T.



DR. W. S. DUNCAN, a well-known resident of Hutton Township, spent his childhood and youth in Greene County, Ind., where he was born Feb. 26, 1825. He comes of worthy ancestry, his grandfather having been Isaiah Duncan, an enterprising Southern farmer, who was born, reared and spent his entire life in South Carolina. He married and became the father of a family, including five sons and two daughters. The sons were Isaiah, George, John, Eli and Joshua. Of these, the father of our subject was next to the youngest. He received a common-school education, and remained with his father on the farm until reaching manhood. He then migrated North, and locating in Greene County, Ind., was married to Miss Rebecca Stevens in the spring of 1822. Mrs. Duncan was born Feb. 28, 1801, in Kentucky, and was the daughter of William Stevens, who emigrated from the Blue Grass regions to Harrison County, Ind.

After marriage Mr. Duncan rented a tract of land and carried on farming until the spring of 1835. He then came to Edgar County, this State, and secured possession of forty acres of timber land, a part of which he cleared and occupied until the spring of 1853. He then removed with his family to Laclede County, Mo., and died there in

1856, leaving a family of seven children. While a resident of Indiana he and his wife had become members of the Dunkard Church, but after coming to Illinois united with the Christian Church. The mother survived her husband about twenty-three years, making her home with her children, and died Dec. 10, 1881. The parental family included the following children: Isaiah, who died in infancy; W. S., of our sketch; John, who died in infancy; George, now a minister of the Christian Church at Arkansas; Joshua; Marion, who died when twenty years of age; Obadiah, a resident of Piatt County, Ill.; Jane; Elizabeth, a widow, now residing in Marion County, and Polly A., who has carried on a millinery establishment in Bement, Ill., for the last twenty years.

Dr. Duncan was the second child of his parents, and received but a common-school education. When eighteen years of age he commenced working in a tanyard, where he continued three years, and then enlisting in Co. H, 4th Ill. Vol. Inf., started on the 16th of June, 1846, by wagon to Springfield, Ill., bound for Mexico. After reaching the seat of war he found that the precarious state of his health would prevent him from continuing in the ranks, and in December received his discharge on account of disability, the result of measles contracted at Matamoras, Mex. Upon returning to Edgar County he began teaching school, which he followed during the winter season and worked on the farm in summer, in the meantime employing his leisure moments in the study of medicine. He finally placed himself under the instruction of Dr. Harris Meeker, of Edgar County, and in about 1853 began practicing in Coles County.

The marriage of Dr. Duncan and Miss Charlotte W. Elsbury, was celebrated at the home of the bride, Dec. 3, 1847. Mrs. Duncan was born March 13, 1826, and is the daughter of John and Charlotte (Winters) Elsbury, natives of Indiana. Dr. Duncan continued teaching for about three years after his marriage, and then abandoning this, located at Stringtown, where he followed his profession until 1860. In the spring of that year he took up his residence at Sidney, Champaign County. In January, 1864, during the progress of the Civil

War, he enlisted in Co. I, 10th Ill. Vol. Cav., and was appointed Assistant Surgeon, receiving his commission from Gov. Yates on the 18th of March. He held this appointment until October 13 following, when he resigned, and returning to Sidney continued his practice until 1868. His health, however, which had become seriously impaired during his experience in the army, compelled him to leave the prairie country, and he accordingly moved to Farmersburg, Ind., where there was more timber and clay. He remained there until August, 1884, then returned to Sidney, and thence removed to Hutton Township, in October, 1886, where he has since followed his practice successfully, and receives ample patronage from the best people of the community.

Mrs. Charlotte Duncan departed this life at Farmersburg, Ind., in October, 1874. She was a lady of many estimable qualities, and a faithful member of the Christian Church. Of her marriage with our subject there were born nine children, recorded as follows: Minerva P., born Oct. 3, 1848, is the wife of John W. Payne, of Evansville, Ind.; Melissa C., born June 11, 1850, is the wife of Alfred Duncan, of Fulton County, Mo.; Mary E., born Sept. 12, 1852, died thirteen days later; Minnie C., born May 10, 1854, is the wife of Joab Patton, of Indiana; Laura B., born Jan. 14, 1857, died when eighteen months old; Josephine F. P., born May 15, 1860, is the wife of Dr. George H. Bogart, of Indiana; Rebecca D., born July 12, 1863, died August 15 following; her twin brother, William M., died August 5 following. Nora, born July 10, 1865, became the wife of Lester E. Foulke, and is a resident of Champaign County.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Jan. 5, 1875, was formerly Miss Elizabeth Johns, a native of Boone County, Ind., and born June 29, 1846. She is the daughter of Hardin W. and Charlotte T. Johns, natives of Kentucky. Of this union there were two children: William O., born Sept. 25, 1875, and who died Sept. 15, 1878, and Blach G., born April 16, 1883. The Doctor and Mrs. Duncan are members of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. While a resident of Indiana, Dr. Duncan identified himself with the Sullivan

County Medical Association, and socially, belongs to Fairbanks Lodge No. 373, A. F. & A. M., at Fairbanks, Ind., Chapter No. 11, R. A. M., at Terre Haute, and is also connected with the I. O. O. F. He votes with the Republican party, and keeps himself well posted on current events.

MRS. HANNAH DUTRO, widow of George W. Dutro, occupies a fine homestead on section 29, in Ashmore Township, which was built up by the industry and thrift of her late lamented husband. Mr. Dutro was a native of Ohio, born April 24, 1836, and was the son of Reuben and Maria (Neff) Dutro, natives of Maryland, and of German descent. Mr. Dutro spent his childhood and youth in his native State under the careful training of his excellent parents, and became fully acquainted with the employments of farm life. After reaching manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Moore, April 15, 1858. They came to Illinois, and Mr. D. purchased 280 acres of land in Ashmore Township. He afterward sold a quarter section of this so that the home farm comprises now but 120 acres.

Mr. Dutro proceeded with his farming operations in an intelligent and skillful manner, and by his upright and worthy life established himself in the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. He was a Class-Leader of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, and by his consistent Christian character adorned his profession, and was greatly beloved by the brethren. The death of Mr. Dutro, which occurred under very painful circumstances, took place on the 31st of October, 1884. The remains were interred in the cemetery at Ashmore, and followed to their last resting-place by most of the people of that section, and who had held the deceased in universal respect. Mr. D. was an intelligent man, Republican in politics, and one who always took an interest in the welfare and prosperity of his fellow-men.

Mrs. Hannah Dutro was born in Butler County, Ohio, April 10, 1838, and is the daughter of Levi and Abigail (Flenner) Moore, natives of Pennsylvania, who died in their native State some years

ago. The mother survived her husband about twenty years. The parental household included twelve children, who were carefully reared in the doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which both parents were consistent members for many years, and of which Mrs. Dutro has been a member since early youth. The offspring of George W. and Hannah Dutro were as follows: Frank, the eldest, was born Jan. 23, 1859; Laura, Oct. 23, 1860; Emma, Dec. 24, 1864; Leonard, Dec. 24, 1869; Earnest, Sept. 26, 1873, and Hattie, June 1, 1875. All are at home, and members of the same church as their mother.



JEROME A. BROWN is one of the leading citizens of Ashmore Township, residing on section 5. He was born Dec. 21, 1838, in Edgar County, Ill., and is the son of Job W. and Martha E. (Archer) Brown. Job Brown was a native of Connecticut, and during the early part of his life was engaged in farming. His educational advantages had been very limited, but he possessed an active mind and good native business capacity, which always secured him success in financial affairs. He commenced in the world with nothing, and at his death was worth over \$20,000. His family was of English extraction, and he possessed that invaluable heritage, a fine physique, being five feet and nine inches in height and weighing 195 pounds. He was a man of progressive spirit, enterprising character, and a liberal supporter of every measure calculated to benefit his fellow-citizens. In his daily life he always evinced the character of a true Christian. For many years he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but afterward united with the United Brethren Church, in which he was an earnest worker, affording it substantial aid in many financial difficulties.

Job Brown came to Illinois in 1824 and located in Walnut Grove, Edgar County, where he remained until 1840, and then removed to this county, where the closing years of his life were passed. His wife was born March 4, 1808, in Maryland, and thence moved to Monroe County, Ind., with her parents, where her father remained until his death.

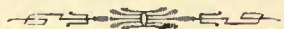
Their marriage took place in January, 1831. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but with her husband joined the United Brethren Church, and was sincere and earnest in her Christian life. The following is a record of their children: Warren E. married Miss Hettie A. Bradfield; Mary E. married Nelson Green; Eliža J. married W. P. Green; George A. married Miss Ardin O'Brien; Jerome A.; Lucy A. married Adon Wyley, and is now deceased; Sarah R. married James Wyley; Caroline A. married A. J. Waters; Mahala H. married Richard Waters, and Susan M. married T. Sublett.

Jerome Brown was united in marriage, Nov. 1, 1860, to Miss Margaretta Pottenger. She was born Feb. 27, 1838, in Preble County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Dennis R. and Elizabeth (Fort) Pottenger. Her father was born Nov. 15, 1805, in Ohio, and his death occurred Sept. 20, 1845, in his native State, where he had passed his entire life engaged in farming. His wife was born Sept. 20, 1808, in New Jersey and died Aug. 11, 1859, on the homestead in Ohio, where her married life began. She was a member of the New-Light Church, and was much beloved by all who knew her. Six children were born to them, whose names are as follows: Mary F., Hiram, Margaretta, Grandville, Hester F. and Cecelia.

Mr. Brown is the owner of a fine estate, containing 295 acres of valuable land, all under a high state of cultivation. His residence is commodious and tasteful, and his farm buildings are excellent in all their appointments. He engaged in farming and stock-raising in 1860, and is especially successful in breeding high grades of cattle and horses. In 1864 he joined the Masonic fraternity, and has filled various offices in his lodge. He was elected Justice of the Peace, but never qualified for the office. His entire family are devoted to the service of Christ, and are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which he has been for many years an Elder.

An elder brother of Mr. Brown died recently in Nodaway County, Mo., where he had been for many years a successful physician. He was an active, energetic man and had gained a wide reputation for skill in his profession. He was a liberal-minded,

earnest, consistent Christian, and beloved by a large circle of friends. He had no children, and at the death of his widow his property, consisting of \$30,000, is willed to the church.



JESSE HUDSON, the owner of a fine estate of valuable, well-improved land, resides on section 7, Morgan Township, where he carries on an extensive business in farming and stock-growing. He was born June 27, 1840, in Jessamine County, Ky., and is the son of Leander M. and Sophia (Rader) Hudson. Leander Hudson was born Sept. 5, 1809, in Carter County, Tenn., and remained at home until twenty-four years of age, when his marriage to Miss Sophia Rader took place, Oct. 23, 1833. Mrs. Hudson was born July 22, 1808, in Virginia. Her family originally came from Germany and settled in Virginia at an early day.

Mr. and Mrs. Hudson had a family of five children: Lemuel, a resident of Douglas County, has been twice married, and is the father of two children, a son and daughter; Minerva, the wife of J. W. Powers, a resident of Douglas County, has three children, one daughter and two sons; Jesse is the subject of this sketch; John, a resident of Kansas, was married and his wife died, leaving a family of six children; Mary J., the wife of F. M. Stark, a resident of Iowa, has six children. After the death of his wife, which occurred Feb. 13, 1866, Mr. Hudson was married, September 15 of the same year, to Miss Delilah J. Rutherford. Mrs. Hudson was born Dec. 6, 1836, in Dubois County, Ind. In 1851 Mr. Hudson came to Coles County, Ill., and purchased 200 acres of land in East Oakland Township, where he engaged in farming and passed the remainder of his life. He died on the homestead, Dec. 19, 1879, at the age of seventy years. He was a highly esteemed citizen of the township, and with his wife was a member of the Christian Church.

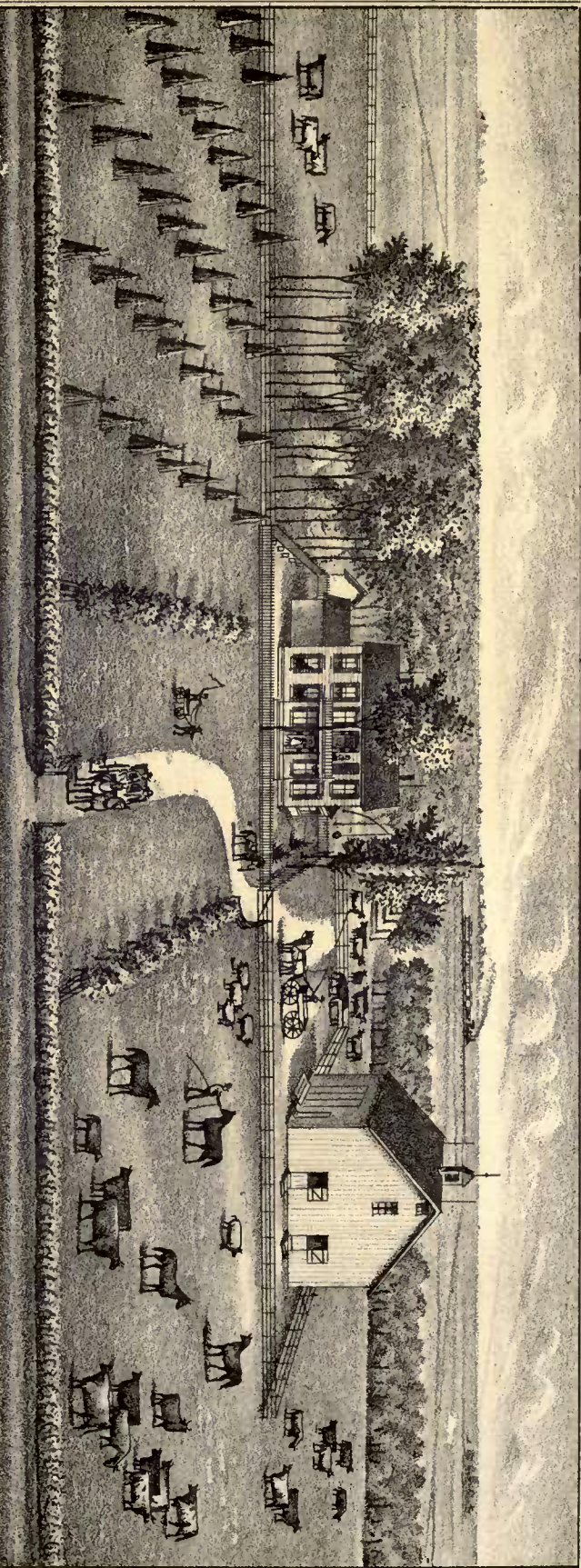
Jesse Hudson came with his parents to this county in the autumn of 1851, when eleven years of age. He attended school until he was eighteen, and remained at home until he was twenty, assist-

ing his father in the farm labor, receiving one-third of the crops in return for his services. In 1864 he engaged in business for himself on rented land, and in 1868 purchased eighty acres of the estate he now owns. In 1877 he erected his frame residence and a large, well-appointed barn. In the intervening time from 1872 to 1882, he purchased on different occasions forty, sixty and twenty acres of land, increasing his estate to 200 acres. There is a fine grove of walnut-trees growing on his place, which was planted thirty years ago, some of the trees being from twelve to sixteen inches in diameter, and there is likewise a grove of maples on the farm, nearly as large in growth as the former.

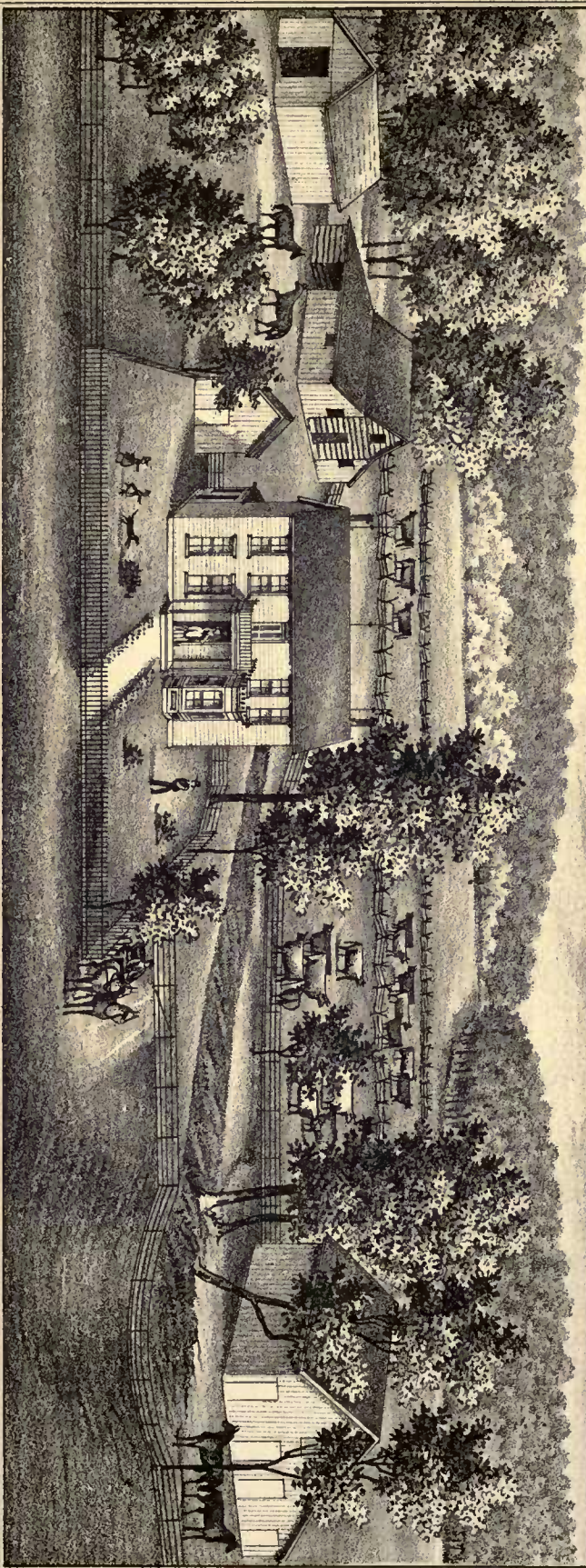
On the 10th of October, 1861, Mr. Hudson was married to Miss Harriet Stark. Mrs. Hudson was born Nov. 15, 1842, in Vigo, Ind., and is the daughter of Simeon and Lucetta (Heron) Stark. Mr. and Mrs. Stark's family consisted of fourteen children, whose record is as follows: Eliza J., the wife of James Craig; Harriet, the wife of our subject; Francis M. is married, and has a family of six children; Bell, the wife of Nelson Branch, has a family of six children; James A. is married, and has a family of six children; Ann is the wife of Bruce Lee, a resident of Douglas County, and has a family of seven children; William H. is a druggist in Edgar County, and has a family of five children; Melinda married T. D. Davis, and has four children; Rosa L. is the wife of Robert Stark, and has one daughter; Mary E., the wife of Isaac Davis, has two children; Effie, the wife of Stanley Burget, a resident of Douglas County, has one child; Lillian; Eugenia and Simeon. Mrs. Stark died in 1867, and Mr. Stark subsequently married Miss Mary Devars. By his second marriage three children were born. In 1887 Mr. Stark sold out his property and moved to Pulaski County, Mo.

Mr. Hudson's residence is surrounded by a pleasant lawn, shaded in front by a large ash, which is probably over sixty years old. A view of the place is shown in connection with this sketch. His land is high and rolling, and the soil is very productive. He is engaged in stock-raising, and owns about sixty-five head of Short-horn cattle; he devotes most of his farm to the cultivation of corn and grass, to furnish feed for his cattle and hogs.

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



RESIDENCE OF JESSE HUDSON, (BREEDER OF SHORT-HORN CATTLE, & HIGHLANDER HORSES.) SEC. 7. MORGAN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JAMES WOODSON, SEC. 27. CHARLESTON TOWNSHIP.

Mr. Hudson is an active, enterprising citizen of the township, and holds the office of Justice of the Peace, having been elected to that position for four successive terms. In politics he is a Democrat.



JAMES W. WOODSON is one of the self-made men of Coles County who commenced life without means, and by his own industry and perseverance has attained to a good position among his fellow-men, and become the owner of a valuable property. His fine farm of 370 acres, a view of which appears on an adjoining page, is located on section 27, in Charleston Township, and is supplied with a commodious dwelling, a large barn, and all the other out-buildings required by the progressive modern farmer. He has of late years turned his attention largely to stock-raising and wheat, and from these realizes a handsome income.

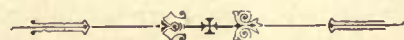
Mr. Woodson commenced life with a cash capital of \$2.50, and possessed but \$250 at the time of his marriage. In looking upon his broad acres and the buildings and machinery of the farm, with all the evidences of ample means and the comforts and luxuries of life, it is hardly necessary to say that our subject presents a fine example of what may be accomplished by sensible economy and a judicious disbursement of funds. He has always made it a point to live within his income, and the result has been what we have already described.

Our subject is a native of the Hawkeye State, born in Lima County, Sept. 22, 1851. His father, Jemison Woodson, was born in Kentucky, whence he emigrated when a young man to this State, and afterward crossed the Mississippi into Iowa, where he married Miss Cintha Davis. She was born in Indiana about 1833, and removed with her parents to Mower County, Minn., where they still reside, Jemison and Cintha Woodson became the parents of nine children, of whom James W. was the eldest. He remained under the home roof until eighteen years of age, and then started out for himself. Coming to this county he began as a farm laborer at \$16 per month, and afterward rented a tract of

land in Charleston Township, which he occupied until 1871.

In the spring of the latter-named year our subject was united in marriage with Miss Margaret, daughter of John and Lucy Hall, who was born in Charleston Township, this county, in 1852. Mr. Hall for a consideration of \$2,000 deeded to his son-in-law 160 acres of land which he had entered from the Government fifty-four years ago. The young people "pulled together," labored industriously, lived economically, and in due time the farm was paid for, and they had a home which they proudly called their own. Mr. Woodson thereafter invested his surplus capital in more land, which he brought to a fine state of cultivation, and upon which he erected the present commodious farm house for \$1,200. He has been remarkably successful in his farming operations, and ranks among the representative agriculturists of Central Illinois.

The five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Woodson were named respectively, Mary, Ida, Florence, Elsie and Alvah. Mr. Woodson has been prominent in local affairs, serving as School Director nine years, and also officiating as Township Trustee. He is a man of upright principles and excellent judgment, and is held in universal respect. In politics he has always been identified with the Republican party.



WILLIAM BURGESS, Supervisor of Mattoon Township, and a resident of Mattoon, has been engaged there in the boot and shoe business since the spring of 1860, when he established a factory and gave employment to eight men. He has of late years almost abandoned the manufacture of this article of wearing apparel, and turned his attention to the sale of ready-made work, in which he has built up a good patronage, and realizes an income which provides comfortably for himself and family. Mr. Burgess, in common with a large proportion of the successful business men of this county, spent his early years on the other side of the Atlantic. He was born in North Moulton, Devonshire, England, Oct. 12, 1827, and is the son

of Henry and Elizabeth (Parkins) Burgess, natives of the same country, where the father followed the business of a builder and contractor the greater part of his life. Both parents spent their entire lives in their native country, the mother dying in 1881, and the father in 1884.

Henry Burgess was a man of considerable prominence in his native county, and carried on a large business, giving employment to from eight to twelve men, and was Secretary of the Old Union of North Moulton. Both parents belonged to the Church of England. Of the eleven children of the parental family, eight grew to mature years and seven are now living, namely: Ann, Mrs. Kerslake; Henry, William, Francis, John, Michael, and Elizabeth, Mrs. Frayne.

Our subject spent his younger years mostly in school, and when ten years of age commenced to drive a team on a farm, and afterward engaged in hauling goods for a store which was kept by his mother. At fourteen years of age he was apprenticed to learn the boot and shoe trade, at which he served six years. His employer then gave him his time, and going to South Moulton he hired out for one year, receiving one shilling per week and his board. During the six years of his apprenticeship he had only received his board, and his parents furnished his clothes. In 1849 he started to do for himself, and determined to try his fortunes on another continent. Bidding adieu to his friends, on the 3d of May, 1849, he embarked on a sailing-vessel from Liverpool, and after a voyage of four weeks found himself in New York City. From there he proceeded to Syracuse, where he worked at his trade a year, and then, in company with others, engaged in the co-operative boot and shoe business. After the first year, the two foremen stole the proceeds, and the concern was forced to suspend operations.

Our subject then went to Courtland County, N. Y., and worked as a journeyman shoemaker five weeks, and after being employed at various other places in the Empire State, in 1855 decided to recross the water and visit the home of his childhood. After a stay of thirteen months, he returned, greatly refreshed in body and spirits, and took up his residence in Wellsburg, Pa. After seven weeks he proceeded to Corning, N. Y., thence to Dundas,

Canada, and from the Dominion to the State of Michigan, and thence to Indiana, finally arriving in Decatur, Ill., in 1857, and was variously employed until May, 1860, when he made his first permanent entrance into this county.

Mr. Burgess after getting a good foothold in business, and feeling justified in establishing domestic ties, was united in marriage, Nov. 26, 1862, to Miss Agnes Evans, of Mattoon. Mrs. B. was born in London, England, and is the daughter of S. R. and Mary Ann (Scully) Evans, also natives of England. Of her union with our subject there are two children living, Mary E. and Emma F. The family residence is a tasteful structure, pleasantly located, and is the resort of many friends of our subject and his estimable wife.

Mr. Burgess, after becoming a naturalized citizen, identified himself the Republican party, and has been prominent in local affairs since coming to Mattoon Township. In 1875 he was chosen Alderman of the Second Ward, and in 1883, having removed, was elected Alderman of the Fourth Ward, and is now serving his third term in that position, having been for four years Chairman of the Committee on Streets, Alleys and Drainage. He was elected Township Supervisor in 1887, and in the discharge of his public duties has acquitted himself with credit, and to the satisfaction of his fellow-townsmen. He is a stockholder and one of the Directors of the First National Bank of Mattoon. His wife and daughter are members and regular attendants of the Congregational Church.

SAMUEL J. JACKSON, Postmaster, merchant, and manufacturer of tile and brick at Fuller's Point, in North Okaw Township, is operating not far from the scene of his birthplace, he having been born in this township March 7, 1859. The family history of our subject is in its main points as follows: Bernard Jackson, his grandfather, was born near Alexandria, Va., in 1770, and carried on the trades of a cabinet-maker and carpenter in connection with farming for many years. Later in life he abandoned active labor at his trades and confined his attention to the quiet pursuits of a country life. He was married

in his native county, and a few years later removed to Stanton, now Ripley, Brown County, Ohio. There the wife and mother died, Oct. 3, 1814, aged forty-one years and fifteen days. This was the first death which occurred in the town of Ripley, and the funeral sermon was preached at the grave by Rev. John Collins, who happened to be passing through the neighborhood, and falling in with the funeral procession, repaired to the burying-ground and kindly proffered his services. His text was taken from the Gospel of St. John. Up to this time her husband had been an avowed infidel. The solemnity of the occasion had great effect upon his mind, and then and there renouncing his skepticism, he became an earnest inquirer after the way of salvation. In after years the Rev. Collins formed his acquaintance and often heard him relate how he was brought out of darkness into light. He united with the Methodist Episcopal Church and remained an active member until his death. His remains were laid to rest at Stone Chapel, in West Union Circuit, Adams Co., Ohio. He has two sons who are engaged in the ministry, namely, Rev. William H., of Indiana, and Rev. Andrew B., located in Southeastern Kansas. Both are members of the Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The family of the grandparents included ten children, there being besides those above mentioned, William, deceased; Samuel, deceased; James, a resident of Louisiana; Polly, deceased; George, Juliet, Harriet and John, the latter residents of Williamstown, Ky. After the death of his first wife, Bernard Jackson was married, in 1815, to Miss Elizabeth Whistner, who was born in Maryland in 1793. Her parents afterward removed to Kentucky. Fifteen years later Mr. and Mrs. Jackson took up their abode on a farm in Ripley County, Ohio, where the grandfather spent his last years. His wife, Elizabeth, subsequently came to this county, and made her home with her son, Madison B., until her death. Of this marriage there were born ten children: William, a resident of Indiana; Jerome M. died at Memphis, Tenn.; Maria, Andrew B., Wesley, Newton J., Malinda (deceased), Susan J., Milton M., the father of our subject, and Madison B.

Milton M. Jackson was born in Adams County, Ohio, Jan. 31, 1833. He received a common-school education and remained on the homestead a few years after his father's death. He and his brother, Madison, worked together and supported their mother, and in the fall of 1855 Milton resolved to seek his fortunes in the Prairie State. He located in North Okaw Township, this county, and that same winter was united in marriage with Miss Emeline Fuller, a native of this county and born Nov. 28, 1838. Her parents, Henry and Mary Fuller, were natives of Virginia. After his marriage, Mr. Jackson purchased a tract of land adjoining the homestead of his father-in-law, and in connection with the latter carried on farming until the fall of 1861. The young men of the country were then called upon to prove their loyalty to the Union, and in common with many of his acquaintances he volunteered his services, by enlisting in the 123d Illinois Infantry, and served nearly three years. In the meantime he was promoted Corporal and then on account of failing health was obliged to accept his discharge. He returned home and died a few days later.

The four children of the parental family are recorded as follows: Henry, born April 19, 1857, died eleven days later; Samuel J., of our sketch, was the second child; William W. was born July 26, 1861, and was cut down while still young, his death taking place Feb. 7, 1887. His education was completed in the common school, and when old enough he assisted his widowed mother on the farm. Subsequently he purchased land for himself adjoining that of the parental homestead, but always made his home with his mother. He was a young man upon whom were centered great hopes, and was universally respected by all who knew him. He served as Assessor five terms and possessed more than ordinary ability and good judgment in connection with his farm labors, and in deliberating upon matters connected with the welfare of the township. He suffered greatly with typhoid fever for three weeks before his death. Milton M. was born April 19, 1863, and died when about four years of age. Milton M. Jackson and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the former, politically, cast his in

fluence with the Democratic party. His widow subsequently married William Gilmore, and is now living in North Okaw Township.

The subject of this sketch was about seven years of age when his father died. His education was begun and completed in the common schools, and he remained with his widowed mother until her marriage. When he was eighteen years old his mother had given him forty acres of improved land, and to this he subsequently added, and has since been industriously engaged in its improvement and cultivation. This, in connection with his operations in brick and tile occupies his time fully. In the spring of 1887 he opened a store near the factory, where he keeps a full line of general merchandise and also attends to the duties of his position as Postmaster.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married June 14, 1881, was formerly Miss Cynthia A. Ellison, a native of this county and the daughter of Moses and Mary A. (Lockridge) Ellison. She was born June 20, 1852, and remained with her parents until her marriage and afterward, for Mr. Jackson took up his abode with his father-in-law, and has since been a member of the family. His wife was the youngest daughter, and is the only one of their children at home. In the fall of 1886 Mr. Jackson became the partner of his brother-in-law, Madison Hunt, and they established their present factory, which they have since operated successfully under the firm name of Jackson & Hunt. The only child born to Mr. and Mrs. J. died in infancy.

JOSEPH E. BOYD, Supervisor of Lafayette Township, is the owner of a fine estate containing 154 acres of valuable land. He was born July 3, 1849, in Rush County, Ind., and is the son of John A. and Rebecca (Maze) Boyd. John Boyd was born in Harrison County, Ky., Oct. 12, 1805, and is the son of Arthur Boyd. About the year 1817 his parents removed to Fayette County, Ind., and subsequently to Rush County, where his marriage to Miss Rebecca Maze took place. Mrs. Boyd was likewise a native of

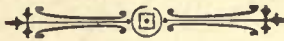
Harrison County, Ky., and was born Aug. 25, 1810.

In 1851 John Boyd removed with his family to Illinois, settling in Hutton Township, Coles County. They remained on a farm there nine years, and then removed to North Okaw Township, where Mr. Boyd operated a sawmill one year, and subsequently changed his residence to Humbolt Township. While operating the sawmill in North Okaw Township, he met with an accident which crippled his hands so seriously as to render him unfit for manual labor, in consequence of which he opened a boarding-house at Humbolt. After managing the house five years he was obliged to relinquish active business, and is now passing the closing years of his life in the home of his son, Joseph E. Boyd. He was blest with a vigorous physique, and although eighty-two years of age is still hale and hearty. He has recently been bereaved of the beloved companion, who shared the joys and sorrows of a long life with him, her death occurring in December, 1886. They had a family of nine children, five of whom grew to maturity. Their record is as follows: William A., deceased; Mary E., deceased, was formerly the wife of Dr. V. R. Bridges; Fannie, deceased, was formerly the wife of David S. Junkin; Robert T., a resident of Mattoon, and Joseph E., the subject of this sketch.

At the age of fourteen years, Joseph Boyd commenced mercantile life as a clerk, and has been engaged more or less in that business throughout the greater part of his life. Feb. 6, 1872, he was married to Miss Alice B. Nabb. Mrs. Boyd is the daughter of Hamilton and Martha E. Nabb, and was born Feb. 2, 1854, at Lawrenceville, Ill. Mr. Boyd was engaged in mercantile pursuits until the first year after his marriage, when his health began to fail, on account of hemorrhage of the lungs. By advice of his physician, he left the store and carried on a farm six years. At the expiration of that time his health seemed apparently restored, and he again entered upon mercantile life. His abilities and inclinations both led him in that direction, rather than toward agricultural pursuits, but after a trial of six months, his health again failing he found himself compelled to relinquish the mercantile business and return to farming.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd had a family of six children

born to them, only three of whom are now living—Flora R., John H. and William V. Mr. Boyd is a public-spirited man, interested in all the affairs of the county. He has held many minor offices of his township, serving as Collector for seven terms, and is now serving his third term as Supervisor, being faithful in the discharge of his duties, and giving satisfaction to the people, whose interests he is ever careful to promote. Mr. B. is a highly esteemed member of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics is a staunch supporter of Democratic principles.



JOHNSON ELLISON is a native of Adams County, Ohio, where his birth took place May 14, 1811, and where he lived with his parents until 1862. He comes of an excellent family, which originated in Ireland, his grandfather having been John Allison, who was born in County Tyrone. He learned the trade of a wheelwright and was married in his native Ireland, where his four sons and one daughter were born. These were John, James, Andrew, Robert and Margaret. All grew to mature years, married and reared families of their own, and all emigrated to America with their father in about 1790. Grandfather Ellison located in Kentucky, whence he afterward removed to Manchester, Ohio, where his wife died first and himself afterward, he being seventy-six years of age at the time of his decease. His sons all settled in Adams County, Ohio. The daughter married John Clark and reared a family. Late in life she and her husband removed to Indianapolis, Ind., where the decease of both took place, that of Mrs. Clark when she had attained an advanced age.

James Ellison, Sr., the father of our subject, was the second child of his parents, and born in County Tyrone, Ireland. He received a common-school education, and was married to Miss Givens, a native of his own county, and they became the parents of four children—Mary, Isabel, Jane and George. The mother of these died after emigrating to America. The children grew to mature years and all died in Ohio. The second wife of James Ellison was Miss Sidney McClanahan, a native of his

own country. They were married in Kentucky, and afterward removed to Adams County, Ohio, where Mr. E. purchased a tract of land and opened up a fine farm which he occupied until his death, when about seventy-three years of age. The wife and mother survived several years and also died on the old homestead. They were people greatly respected in their community, and active members of the Presbyterian Church. Their children are recorded as follows: Elizabeth died when an interesting young lady twenty years of age; James is unmarried, and makes his home with our subject; John was twice married, and is now deceased; Sidney died when about thirty years old; Margaret, the wife of James Baldrige, is deceased, as is also Rebecca, who died at the age of fifty years; Johnson of our sketch was the youngest of the family.

Mr. Ellison was but five years of age when his father died. He received a common-school education and assisted his mother on the farm until his marriage, which took place in Adams County, Ohio, July 26, 1837. The maiden of his choice was Miss Elizabeth Boyle, a native of Cumberland County, Md., and born June 17, 1817. Her parents, John and Mary (Winow) Boyle, were also natives of Maryland. After his marriage Mr. Ellison and his brother James carried on farming for a number of years in Adams County, then selling out, moved in the fall of 1862 further westward, locating in N. Okaw Township, this county. James about ten years before had entered 320 acres of land for our subject, but no improvements had been effected. As Mr. Ellison viewed the task before him of bringing the soil to a good state of cultivation he anticipated years of arduous and continuous labor. He lost no time, however, in contemplating a difficult task, but set about the improvement and cultivation of his land, and in due time was richly rewarded. He at one time was the owner of 600 acres, but divided with his children as they became old enough to settle in life, and now occupies but forty acres. On the 26th of October, 1878, he met with a great affliction in the loss of his wife who had been his kind companion and counselor for a period of forty-one years. The family history of this estimable lady is substantially as follows:

Mrs. Elizabeth Ellison was born in Maryland

June 17, 1817, and removed with her parents to Ohio when a child of about four years old. She was thoughtful beyond her years, and at the age of sixteen united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she remained a consistent member until her death. Her marriage to our subject took place in Adams County, Ohio, July 26, 1837, and she accompanied him to this county with her family in 1862. After coming to Illinois she identified herself with the Quinn Chapel Class, on the Humbolt Circuit, and was numbered among its most useful and valued members. The kindly Christian influence which she shed around her was the means of great good to both old and young, and her name is held in affectionate remembrance by hosts of friends. Johnson and Mrs. Elizabeth Ellison became the parents of eight children, who are recorded as follows: Mary Ann, born Sept. 1, 1840, is the wife of William Seaman, a prosperous farmer of Humbolt Township; Margaret, born March 1, 1843, is living at home; James H., born April 12, 1845, first married Miss Rachel Wilson, who died leaving one child; he afterward married Miss Hattie Gibbs, and farms in North Okaw Township; Rebecca J., born Oct. 20, 1847, is the wife of Wilson Fleming, of North Okaw Township; John, born March 9, 1850, married Miss Maggie A. Miller; she became the mother of two children, and departed this life March 20, 1887. William A., born April 13, 1853, married first Miss Mollie Cheekley, who died leaving two children; he was afterward married to Miss Elizabeth Miller, Sept. 2, 1884, and they are living in North Okaw Township; Susan A., born Sept. 30, 1856, is the wife of John C. Ellis, a resident of Thomas County, Kan.; George F., born July 30, 1859, died on his father's homestead in 1872.

Mr. Ellison and his brother James still continue together, their household affairs being managed by Margaret, the daughter of our subject. The latter, although mostly engaged in business affairs, having little time to meddle with politics, performs his duty at the polls and assists in perpetuating the Republican party.

James Ellison, our subject's brother, whose school days, like those of his brothers, were of brief duration, was a youth of eighteen years when the family

was deprived of a father's care, and he was charged with the responsibility of assisting his mother in looking after the farm and family. At the age of twenty-four years, when he could be spared from home, he went into Kanawha County, now W. Va., and engaged in making salt, having charge of the works at Kanawha, and being paid three cents per bushel, with coal and water found. He was thus employed about seven years, up to 1833, and then returning to Ohio operated the old homestead until about the time of the Jackson administration; he then came to this county and entered a tract of land, and for the following fifteen years made several trips to and fro.

James Ellison has been the close companion of his brother since settling in this county, and their fraternal regard for each other is often made a subject of remark. As stated above, he has never married. He is a quiet and unobtrusive citizen and has been no unimportant factor in the building up of this section of country. He still owns the land he entered from the Government, and has a valuable property embracing 1,000 acres in Illinois, mostly in Coles County. He cast his first presidential vote for Gen. Jackson, and since that time has been an active member of the Republican party. During the war he was a staunch supporter of the Union cause.

EVERHARTY, proprietor of a meat-market on West Broadway, now serving his fourth term as Alderman of the Second Ward, is one of the prominent German citizens of Mattoon. He was born in Prussia, June 28, 1833, and is the son of Matthias and Margaret (Kemmer) Everharty, the former a native of France and the latter of Prussia. The father of our subject was a weaver by trade, and was among the first of his countrymen who emigrated to America. He came in 1837 and settled in Cincinnati, Ohio, the first employment he procured being on the White Water Canal. He was industrious and frugal, but unfortunately placed the money received for his services in a bank, which went down during a financial crash, sweeping with

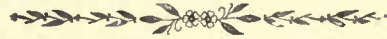
it all of his hard-earned savings. He next engaged in the business of market gardening near the city, and was one of the first Germans who undertook that work in Cincinnati. He had a small farm and kept an excellent garden, supplying the city market with fresh fruits and vegetables, by this means making himself quite independent until his death, which occurred in 1866.

When Mr. E. emigrated to America he was accompanied by his aged father, who was a soldier in the French army and had served seven years under Napoleon Bonaparte. He made his home with his sons until his death, which occurred in 1850. Five years later his widow died in her native land. Matthias Everhart had a family of nine children, five of whom are now living, and whose names are as follows: Matthias, the subject of this sketch; Jacob, a resident of Los Angeles, Cal.; Josephine, the wife of Mr. Papp, a resident of Leavenworth, Kan.; Agnes, the wife of Mr. Haag, and Peter, both of the latter residents of Leavenworth, Kan. Mr. Everhart was a Democrat, and with his family belonged to the Roman Catholic Church.

Our subject was brought up at home, assisting his father in the labor of the farm and garden until 1848, when he spent two years learning the butcher's trade, and was engaged in that business several years in Cincinnati. In 1860 he changed his occupation, and embarked in a variety show under the firm name of Everhart & Palmer. Two seasons sufficed for this employment, and he then obtained a position as beef agent in the Commissary Department of the army. He purchased and supervised the slaughter of the cattle, and also had charge of the distribution of rations to the soldiers. He served in that position three years, and was once shot by a party of bushwhackers in Tennessee, receiving a flesh wound in the arm, and was taken prisoner, but detained only a short time. After his return from the war, he came to Mattoon and engaged in his present business. In 1874 he purchased fifty feet of land fronting on West Broadway, and erected a substantial brick business house. He also purchased five acres on West First street, where he resides. He owns a share in the fair ground, and an interest in the Natural Gas Company, and also

in the Real-Estate and Loan Association of Mattoon.

In 1854 Mr. Everhart was married to Miss Elizabeth Horn. Mrs. Everhart is the daughter of John Horn, and was born in Havre de Gras, France, coming with her parents to America in 1836, and settling in Cincinnati, Ohio. They have a family of four children, all of whom are residents of this city. Their names are as follows: Catherine, the wife of Mr. Mead; John; Annie L., the wife of Mr. Cleveland, and Maggie, the wife of Mr. Timmans. Mr. Everhart and his family are members of the Roman Catholic Church. In politics he is a Democrat.



EZEKIEL EASTON, a carpenter by trade, is the owner of a fine estate containing about seventy-seven acres, located on section 18, Hutton Township, where he resides. He was born April 6, 1831, in Clark County, Ill., and is the son of Daniel and Mary (York) Easton. His paternal grandparents, Richard and Betsy Easton, were natives of Kentucky. Richard Easton was a successful farmer in his native State, and when about sixty years of age removed to Clark County, Ill., where he rented land, and after remaining a few years removed to Pleasant Grove Township, this county, where his wife died. Mr. Easton subsequently married Miss Celia Waltrip, and his death took place about six years after his second marriage. A family of eleven children was born by the first marriage—Jackson, Delia, Daniel, Zachariah, Nancy, Washington, Wesley, Betsy, Harmon, Silas and Arena. All married but Silas, and all are deceased with the exception of Harmon and Wesley.

Daniel Easton was born in Kentucky in 1807, and received a common-school education, living on the old homestead with his parents and assisting in the farm labor until his marriage with Miss Mary York. Soon after that event he left his native State and came to Crawford County, Ill., where he was engaged in farming on rented land for about six years. At the expiration of that time he removed to Clark County, and after remaining a few years, came in 1833 to Coles County and made his

permanent home in Hutton Township. He bravely encountered the difficulties of pioneer life, and made a home in the wilderness for himself and his family. His death occurred at the homestead in March, 1882, at the age of seventy-five years. His widow is still living, and makes her home with her son Stephen, in this county.

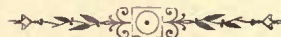
Mr. and Mrs. Easton were highly esteemed members of the Christian Church. They had a family of twelve children, whose record is as follows: William died at the age of twenty-six; Betsey Jane, deceased, was the wife of George Wilson, and left eight children; Isaac N. married Miss Julia Tucker; his wife died leaving five children. Ezekiel is the subject of this sketch; James O. married Miss Lucy Darling, and died leaving six children; Archie married Miss Mary Turner, and is the father of two children; Harriet is the wife of A. Winternute; Mary A. died at the age of twenty-one; John S. married Miss Rissa Johnson; Stephen resides near Stockton, with his mother; Charles married Miss Emma Fansler, and resides in Danville, Ill.; Marion A. married Miss Rebecca A. Rounds.

Ezekiel Easton was brought up in the early pioneer days of this county, and his education was necessarily very limited. During his boyhood he resided on the homestead and learned the carpenter's trade, in which he has been occupied throughout the greater part of his life. In 1872 he purchased his farm as a pleasant home residence, and his sons have charge of the place, and do most of the work. His marriage to Miss Rebecca J. Orchard took place July 12, 1853. Mrs. Easton was born Jan. 3, 1834, in Hutton Township, this county, and is the daughter of William and Jane (Richardson) Orchard. Her parents were natives of Kentucky, and removing to Illinois, were among the early settlers of Coles County. Her father was born July 26, 1801, in Kentucky, and died Dec. 4, 1870, at his home in this county. His widow, who survived him several years, was born March 31, 1804, and died Oct. 18, 1879.

Mrs. Easton's grandfather, Alexander Orchard, was a Baptist minister and had charge of a church in Madison County for forty years. His wife was Miss Sally Owens, and they had a family of five

children—William, Levi, James, Nancy and Josie. None of the family are now living. James served in the Mexican War; William married Jane Richardson, and a family of five children was born to them: Mary A. was the wife of Samuel Smith, and both died leaving two children; Sally, the wife of David Martin; Fannie Ann, the wife of C. R. Martin; Rebecca J., and Nancy J., who died at the age of seventeen. Mr. and Mrs. Orchard were both members of the Christian Church and endeavored to instill into the minds of their children, the pure and holy principles of that faith.

Mr. and Mrs. Easton had a family of seven children, as follows: Melissa E., born May 14, 1854, was married, Jan. 27, 1876, to William Tippy; William R., born Sept. 8, 1861, married Miss Sally Neese, and his wife died, leaving one child, Mary; Rosetta, born May 14, 1866; James C., Nov. 14, 1869; Charles O., Sept. 1, 1876; Elder, June 11, 1879, and one who died in infancy. After his marriage Mr. Easton was successfully engaged at his trade, in which he is still occupied. With his wife, he is a member of the Baptist Church, and in politics belongs to the Democratic party, having cast his first presidential vote for Zachary Taylor.



NIMROD RILEY is the owner of a fine farm containing 120 acres of valuable land, located on section 15, Pleasant Grove Township. He was born March 16, 1827, in Kentucky, and is the son of James and Delila (Gibson) Riley. His paternal grandfather, Patrick Riley, emigrated from Ireland at an early day, and settled in Virginia, where his son James was born. Delila Gibson was likewise a native of Virginia. She was the second wife of James Riley. Their marriage took place in Kentucky, and they afterward removed to Boone County, Ind., making a permanent home there. Their family consisted of eighteen children, of whom Nimrod was the eighth in order of birth. There are only three now living—William and Jacob, residents of Ottawa County, Mo., and Nimrod, the subject of this sketch.

Nimrod Riley passed his boyhood in Indiana, where the advantages for education were ex-

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Mrs L. F. Silverthorn.

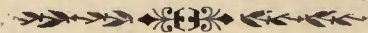


L. F. Silverthorn.

tremely limited in the pioneer days; however, he gained all the knowledge possible and learned much from practical experience. On the 26th of May 1846, he married Miss Martha Saxson. Mrs. Riley was born Jan. 15, 1827, in Marion County, Ind., and is the daughter of Lemuel and Martha (Davis) Saxson. Her parents were natives of Kentucky, but subsequently removed to Indiana, where her mother's death occurred. Her father died in Ottawa County, Mo. Their family consisted of six children, four of whom are now living. Their names are as follows: Betsy, the wife of Mr. McBride, a resident of Missouri; Permelia, the wife of Mr. Combs, a resident of Ottawa County, the same State; John, a resident of Cass County, Mo., and Martha, the wife of Mr. Riley.

After his marriage Mr. Riley gave his attention to farming, remaining in Boone County until 1861, when he came to Illinois, and settled in Coles County. He first located on the borders of the Kiekapoo River, and in 1864 purchased his present farm, where he has since resided. He owns 120 acres, all of which, with the exception of twenty acres, is well improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Riley had a family of eight children born to them, whose record is as follows: John, James; Mary, the wife of John B. Sapp; William; Sirena, the wife of James Ransdell; Irene, deceased; Nannie, deceased, and George W. Mr. Riley is not actively interested in politics, but always votes with the Democratic party.



L L. SILVERTHORN, M. D., one of the most prominent and successful physicians of Charleston, and whose portrait is shown on the opposite page, has been a resident of this county for many years, building up a good practice, accumulating a competency, and thoroughly identifying himself with the interests of the people. He comes of excellent ancestry, and the first representatives of his family in this country located in Pennsylvania, which was the birthplace of his father, Nicholas Silverthorn, who was born May 12, 1787, and there passed his early life.

Dr. Silverthorn was born in Stroudsburg, Mon-

roe Co., Pa., Oct. 21, 1830. His mother, Margaret (Linn) Silverthorn, was a native of New Jersey, and was of Scotch and German ancestry. She married Nicholas Silverthorn in or near Belvidere, N. J., June 23, 1810, and in 1833 they became residents of Blairstown, N. J., where they remained until 1843, and thence removed to Orange County, N. Y. The elder Silverthorn was a tailor by trade, but was fond of country life and followed farming in connection with his trade. In 1848, he migrated from New York to Rock County, Wis., where he purchased 160 acres of unimproved land, and in connection with his trade, proceeded to build up a home. He erected a plank house, set out fruit and shade trees, and occupied the homestead thus established until his death, in 1874, after he had arrived at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. The mother survived her husband until the 29th of August, 1884, being within fourteen days of ninety-five years.

The parental household included twelve children, of whom our subject was the youngest, and seven still survive: Oliver is a resident of Iowa; Lewis, of Albany, Wis., and Mary M., Daniel, Jehial, and Finley are residents of Rock County, Wis. Our subject made his home on the farm of his parents, receiving, in common with his brothers and sisters, careful training and a good education in the district school. Early in life, however, he began to work away from home, and was variously employed until eighteen years of age, when he commenced teaching in Rock County, being thus employed four successive winters, and during the summer worked at farming and carpentering. This kind of life, however, did not satisfy his ambition. He had always taken an interest in medical works, and commenced to read medicine regularly at Fond du Lac, under the instruction of Dr. Olds, with whom he remained several months, turning his attention principally to diseases of the eye. In 1854 he went to Paris, Edgar County, where he entered upon the practice of his chosen profession alone, making a specialty of treating the eye and meeting with fine success. He was convinced, however, that it would be to his advantage to still pursue his studies in this direction, and coming to Charleston gave his attention to his books and placed himself

under the instruction of Dr. T. B. Trower. In the winter of 1855-56 he entered the Jefferson College, where he took a thorough course, and after his return commenced a general practice which he has since continued.

Dr. Silverthorn has wisely invested his surplus capital in real estate, becoming largely interested in mineral lands in Clear Creek, Summit, and Chaffee Counties, Col. His mines contain gold, silver, copper and lead, and are being developed as rapidly as possible. In connection with these far-away interests, however, he has not forgotten the city where he makes his abiding-place, but has assisted to build up both its business and residence portions, especially the latter. He has one business block on the east side of the public square, and several tenements which he rents to good advantage. While having many interests to look after he neglects none, and his clear head and cool judgment are indicated in his successful management of both his practice and his finances. He is a prominent member of the American Medical Association, the Illinois Medical and the Esculapian Societies of the Wabash Valley. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party, and socially is a Royal Arch Mason.

The marriage of Dr. Silverthorn and Miss Aerial Trower was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Charleston, Oct. 8, 1856. Mrs. S. is the daughter of Dr. T. B. Trower, a native of Virginia, who came to this State in 1830, locating first in Shelbyville. Thence six years later he removed to Charleston, where he became prominent as a successful physician, and where his death took place in April, 1878. His family included five children, of whom the wife of our subject was the eldest.



ELI FOSTER, one of the most influential and respected citizens of Seven Hickory Township, is an extensive stock-grower, and the owner of a fine estate containing 370 acres of valuable land. He was born Aug. 12, 1827, in Lawrence County, Ind., and is the son of William and Sarah (McCormie) Foster. His family were among the early English settlers of Virginia, and William

Foster was a successful farmer in that State, but attracted by the superior advantages which the opening of a new country offers, he came to Indiana at an early day and made his permanent home there. His wife was born about 1799, just at the close of the eighteenth century, and died Sept. 4, 1873. Her family was of Scotch and Irish extraction, from which nationalities many among the shrewdest and most intelligent citizens of the country have descended.

Mr. Foster was a man of great intelligence and uprightness of character. He was actively interested in promoting the cause of religion in the West, and for nearly forty years was a Deacon in the Christian Church, of which his wife was also a member. He was ever ready to forward any measures tending to promote the welfare of the community and held several of the township offices. His death occurred at the homestead in Indiana Oct. 5, 1874. The following is the record of their family: James died in childhood; Ann Jemima, deceased, was the wife of Hyrum Guthrey; Emarsetta is the wife of Hamilton Dixon; Susanna was married to Lemuel Proctor; Samuel, deceased, married Miss Lida Beasley; Eli is the subject of this sketch; John married Miss Catherine Beggs; Henrietta, deceased, was the wife of William Hill; Jane was married to Rapin Newkirk; Elizabeth and Nixon are single and at home.

Eli Foster married Miss Harriet Armstrong in August, 1855. Mrs. Foster is the daughter of Cummings and Elizabeth (Goodman) Armstrong. Her parents were natives of Kentucky, but subsequently moved to Indiana, where their daughter Harriet was born, Sept. 2, 1831, in Clark County. Mr. Armstrong was a farmer, and passed the closing years of his life in the latter-named State, where his death occurred about forty years ago. He left a family of five children—Harriet, Thomas, Elizabeth, Rebecca and James.

In 1858 Mr. Foster came to Illinois with his young wife. The only capital that he possessed existed in his shrewd business qualifications, energy and enterprise, and through the exercise of these, aided by the good judgment and housewifely skill of a devoted wife, he has acquired a fine property, and is numbered among the wealthy men of the

township. He carries on an extensive business in stock-raising, and his residence and farm buildings are commodious and well appointed.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster have had a family of seven children: Horace B. died at the age of four years; Ida B. is now Mrs. VanVoorhees; William E., Homer L., Rosina, and two who died in infancy. Mr. Foster, with his wife and daughters, has been a member of the Christian Church for many years, in which they are all earnest workers. He is interested in educational affairs, and has held the office of School Trustee.



JAMES H. CLARK, who is engaged in real-estate and loan transactions, including investment securities, is a representative business man of Mattoon, where he has been located since the spring of 1859. He first drew breath in Putnam County, Ind., Feb. 26, 1836, and is the son of John and Eliza (Newman) Clark, natives of Virginia. They removed with their parents to Kentucky early in life, and after reaching manhood John Clark engaged extensively in farming, remaining in the Blue Grass regions until 1828. He then sold out and emigrated to Putnam County, Ind., where he occupied himself as before until the fall of 1868, when he sold out there and came to Mattoon, and now lives with his son, Frank T. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the mother departed this life in January, 1885, going to her rest sustained by the hope and faith which had been her stay and support through a long and worthy life.

The house of John Clark and his wife had often served as a place of worship in the early days, and the services were not infrequently conducted by Bishops Simpson, Ames and Bowman, who afterward became famous in connection with this Church. Bishop Bowman was a close friend of the family, and often visited them in Indiana. John Clark was one of the first men to subscribe \$100 for a scholarship in Greencastle College. He was a man of great force of character and delighted in

encouraging the establishment and maintenance of educational and religious institutions.

The household circle of John Clark and his wife was completed by the birth of ten children, of whom six are now living, and recorded as follows: Alexander N. is carrying on merchandising at Clayton, Ind.; Joseph H. is engaged in buying and selling real-estate at Indianapolis; he was formerly a resident of Mattoon and organized the National Bank there, of which he was President for a number of years; James H., of our sketch, was the third son; Elijah M., a resident of Mattoon, is traveling for the firm of Roberts & Allison, of Indianapolis; Margaret E., the wife of J. Harrison, is the mother of one child, a daughter, Katie; Frank T. is living in Mattoon.

The subject of this biography received his early education in the log school-house among the timber of Putnam County, Ind. The temple of learning was a rude structure with puncheon floor and home-made seats and desks. For the window a log was left out and the aperture filled with glass, which was considered quite stylish and an improvement upon greased paper, which was often used in those days. The school was conducted mainly in the winter season, and our subject attended from two to four months each year until twenty-two years old. He made good use of his opportunities, however, and at the expiration of this time entered Greencastle College, where he pursued a thorough course of study for two years. He located in Mattoon in 1859, and engaged first in general merchandising, in which he was occupied until 1869. Being then appointed Postmaster by President Grant, he sold out his stock of goods and entered upon the duties of his office, which he held for a period of sixteen years. Upon the change of administration he found it convenient to withdraw and engaged in his present business.

Mr. Clark was married in Forest Port, Oneida Co., N. Y., in the spring of 1864, to Miss Samantha Tyler, a native of said county. She is the daughter of Amos and Elizabeth (Lawton) Tyler, natives of Vermont and New York respectively. Her father was a successful farmer of the Green Mountain State, and both parents are now deceased. Our subject and his wife have no children. Their

pleasant and attractive home is located at No. 59 Essex street, and they enjoy the friendship of the best people of Mattoon. Mr. Clark, politically, is a straight Republican, a member of the Masonic fraternity, and he and his estimable lady are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

COMMODORE D. GREEN, a prosperous young farmer and stock-grower of Ashmore Township, is a native of the township where he now lives, and was born March 2, 1861. He is characterized by that energy of character so essential to success, and although comparatively young in years, has already attained to a good position among the substantial farmers and business men of Coles County. He comes from a good family, his parents being John and Mary T. (Patenger) Green, natives of Ohio. The former was born in 1820, and the latter in 1835, and they became residents of this county in 1860. Mr. Green, who is now well advanced in years, is a large property-holder in this section, and occupies one of the most imposing homesteads in Ashmore Township. It is finely located on section 5, and includes a handsome and commodious residence with barns, out-buildings, valuable machinery and stock, and everything appertaining to the modern country estate. The parents of our subject are both members in good standing of the Christian Church, and John Green is one of the staunchest adherents of the Republican party. Their children are, William S., who married Miss Urmina Goble; Granville D., who married Miss Prudence C. Mack; Commodore D., of our sketch; Seymour, Walter S., Mayer, Norman, Earnest, Otis and Oris; the latter are twins.

The subject of our sketch remained under the home roof during his childhood and youth, and gained a good insight into farming and business transactions. He began early in life to lay his plans for the future, and when twenty-two years of age formed domestic ties by his marriage with Miss Mary Miller, their wedding taking place Dec. 20, 1883. Mrs. Green was born in Ohio, in 1864, and is the daughter of Christian and Mary (Shift-

enhellem) Miller, of German descent and parentage. They emigrated from the Fatherland in the spring of 1860, and two years later took up their abode in Ashmore Township, where the father of Mrs. Green engaged in farming and milling. Their children, six in number, were named respectively, Amel, Christian, George, Mary, Emma and Lenora.

The one child of Commodore D. and Mary Green is a daughter, Belva, who was born Oct. 18, 1884. The farm of Mr. Green is stocked with good grades of horses and cattle, and everything about the place is neatly kept and in good order. Politically, he follows in the footsteps of his father, giving his support to Republican principles, and is a rising young citizen of whom the community expects much in the future.

JESSE K. ELLIS, located on section 7, North Okaw Township, commenced many years ago to build up a homestead, succeeded admirably with his first plans, and is now spending his declining years in ease and quiet, the farm being carried on by his sons, who are enterprising and industrious men, and are keeping up its reputation as did their father before them.

Our subject was reared to farming pursuits, and began life in Lincoln County, Tenn., on the 20th of February, 1817. He received a good education in the common schools, taking readily to his books, and remained a member of his father's household until twenty-three years of age. After leaving home he traced his steps to this county, where he commenced working by the month. He was thus content to "paddle his own canoe," and in due time received from his father a deed to 200 acres of land, which is now included in the Ellis homestead. Upon this he operated successfully with the result already indicated.

When in his thirtieth year Jesse K. Ellis was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Fuller, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in North Okaw Township, Aug. 20, 1846. Mrs. Ellis was born in Russell County, Va., Dec. 23, 1822, and is the daughter of Henry and Jennie (Jesse) Fuller, natives of South Carolina. They emigrated

to Virginia after their marriage and subsequently, in the fall of 1834, came to this county and took up their residence on a farm in North Okaw Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Ellis after his marriage invested his surplus capital in additional land, which he divided among his children, reserving to himself the home farm of 120 acres. This is highly cultivated and supplied with good buildings, neat and substantial fences, and all the farm machinery required by the modern agriculturist.

Mr. Ellis has been prominent in township affairs, and in the fall of 1857 was elected Justice of the Peace, which office, with the exception of two and one-half years, he has held to the present time. He was Collector for four years and School Treasurer fifteen years. He cast his first presidential vote for Martin Van Buren, and since exercising the right of suffrage, has been an uncompromising Democrat. His estimable wife is a highly respected lady and a member in good standing of the Separate Baptist Church. The ten children born to this worthy pair are recorded as follows: James W., born May 2, 1847, married Miss Helen Button and is farming in N. Okaw Township; Elizabeth J., born May 15, 1849, is the wife of Jackson Hearn, and is a resident of Mattoon; Henry W., born Jan. 27, 1851, resides with his parents; William, born Feb. 8, 1852, married Miss Amanda Blythe, and is employed in the pottery business in Mattoon; Samuel F., born Dec. 18, 1853, is clerking for his brother, a grocer in Mattoon; Stephen D., born Sept. 16, 1855, married Miss Rosa J. Fuller, and is engaged on the street car line at St. Louis, Mo.; Mary B., born Sept. 16, 1857, is the wife of John Votaw, who is farming in Osage County, Kan.; Willis C., born Nov. 23, 1859, married Miss Katie J. Luce, and is assisting in the management of the farm; David J., born Dec. 25, 1861, married Miss Amanda Luce, and is living at Mattoon; Nancy I., born May 10, 1866, died in infancy.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, James Ellis by name, is supposed to have been born in New Jersey. It is certain at least that he passed his early years there and subsequently removed to Jefferson County, Tenn., and afterward to Lincoln

County, which is now a part of Moore County, where he spent the remainder of his days. He was married in early manhood to Miss Sarah Riggs, who also died in Tennessee. Their seven children were named respectively, Jesse, William, Hulda N., Elizabeth, Mary, Delilah and James. Delilah died when about twenty years of age, but the others reached years of maturity, married and reared families of their own. All are now deceased. Mary, the wife of James Curry, together with her husband, died in this county. William died in Shelby County, this State, and James in Tennessee. Grandfather Ellis became a large land-owner in Tennessee, and was engaged in the pursuit of agriculture his entire life.

Jesse Ellis, the father of our subject, was born in Jefferson County, Tenn., in 1784. He received a limited education and remained under the parental roof until his marriage. The maiden of his choice was Miss Jennie Elliott, a native of his own county, and who became his wife in 1804. She was born in October, 1782. After their marriage they continued on a farm in Jefferson County for about three years, and then Mr. Ellis entered a tract of land in Lincoln County, upon which he operated until March, 1836. He then sold out, and coming North entered land in what was Shelby but is now Moultrie County, Ill., and proceeded with its improvement and cultivation until the fall of 1853, when his earthly labors ended. Mrs. Jennie Ellis had died in the fall of 1839. She was a member of the old-school Baptist Church, and was the mother of the following-named children: James, John, William, Clisbe, Margaret, Pleasant M., Wiley C., Jesse K., and Willis H. (deceased). Of this family but three are living.

The second wife of Jesse Ellis, Sr., was Mrs. Isabel (Elliott) Curry, the sister of his first wife. She only lived about three years after her marriage. Her only child was a daughter named Sarah Minerva, now the wife of William A. Hendricks. The third wife of Mr. Ellis was Mrs. Nancy (Chowning) Owens. She died in 1846, and he was then married to Mrs. Maria (Curry) Bennett, in 1847. Of this marriage there were born five children, two of whom died in infancy. There are living two sons

and a daughter, namely, Joseph B., married, and a practicing physician in Carbondale, Kan.; Mary A., a resident of Tennessee, and Nathan C., who is married and farming in North Okaw Township, this county.



MARTIN FLENNER, a well-known and highly respected citizen of Ashmore Township, has a good farm of 200 acres on section 28, and is one of the important factors in the agricultural interests of Central Illinois. He comes of an excellent family, being the youngest son of Isaac and Hopy A. (Hollingsworth) Flenner. Isaac Flenner was born in Butler County, Feb. 25, 1825, and was the son of Daniel and Hannah (Andrews) Flenner, natives respectively of Maryland and Ohio, the latter a descendant of an old Pennsylvania family. Daniel Flenner emigrated from his native State to Ohio in 1809, during its early settlement. He served in the War of 1812, and was a prominent citizen, holding many offices of trust in his county.

Isaac Flenner was reared in his native State, and came to Central Illinois in 1856, his father also coming to Clark County at the same time. The former purchased 200 acres of land and engaged quite extensively in farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of thoroughbred Short-horn cattle and Berkshire hogs. He built up one of the finest homesteads in Coles County, and being a man of rare intelligence and cultivated tastes, erected a beautiful residence and surrounded it with evergreen shrubbery and other choice trees. In the rear was one of the finest fruit orchards in that section and the homestead, standing upon a rise of ground, commanded a fine view of the surrounding country. After a life of usefulness and honor, during which by his upright course and kindly disposition he had made hosts of friends, Isaac Flenner was gathered home to his fathers on the 6th of June, 1886, mourned by his family and the entire community. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and contributed liberally and cheerfully to every enterprise calculated for the moral

and intellectual advancement of the people about him.

Isaac Flenner was first married, Sept. 30, 1847, to Miss Rachel A. Hughes, who was a native of Maryland, but removed with her parents in early childhood to Butler County, Ohio. Of her union with Isaac Flenner there were born two children, of whom only one, Albert W., is living. This lady died in 1852, in Ohio. The second wife of Mr. Flenner was a native of Illinois, and was married to him on the 12th of January, 1858. The one child of this union was Martin, of our sketch. Mrs. Flenner is still living and continues on the homestead which is now managed by her son, our subject. The remains of Isaac Flenner were laid to rest in the cemetery at Ashmore, and a fine monument erected by his wife and son marks the spot where rests all that is mortal of the kind husband and father, and the man who in all the walks of life was faithful to his duties. Mr. F. was a staunch Republican, politically, and at the time of his death Vice President of Coles County Agricultural Association.

Martin Flenner was born on the homestead which he now occupies, Jan. 27, 1859. He received a good education, and early in life was made acquainted with the various employments of the farm, being an apt scholar under the excellent instruction of his father. Since the death of the latter he has kept up the reputation of the estate in a worthy manner, and for years has cheerfully labored with his parents to build up and beautify the homestead. He has been the worthy son of most excellent parents, and has profited well from his early teachings and the example so constantly set before him.



JOHAN G. CRAWFORD, formerly a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser of East Oakland Township, is spending his latter days in ease and retirement in the village, where he has a fine residence and two acres of land, and is surrounded by all the comforts of life. He has been a resident of this county since 1860, and has nearly all his life engaged in agricultural pursuits. His property includes his home in Oakland and 700 acres

of valuable land in the township, the latter comprising a fine farm which is now operated by tenants, and from which the owner receives a handsome income. He is a fine representative of the thrifty and prosperous element of Central Illinois, and has contributed his full share toward bringing it to its present condition.

The early home of our subject was in Martinsville, Ind., where his birth took place on the farm of his father, James Crawford, Aug. 10, 1837. His mother, Delilah (Gray) Crawford, a native of Pennsylvania, was born June 10, 1802, and is still living, being eighty-five years of age. James Crawford was born Jan. 18, 1798, on the James River in Virginia, and departed this life at his home in Washington County, Ind., on the 12th of April, 1872. The parents were married in the latter-named county in 1822, and early in life became members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which the father was an Elder at Martinsville for many years. He was a man of intelligence and exerted much influence in the local and political affairs of his adopted State. He was identified with the Whig party until it was abandoned, and then cordially endorsed the principles of the Republicans.

The children of James and Delilah Crawford are as follows: William, who married Miss Sophia Day, died a year later at his home in Martinsville, Ind.; George and James A. are also deceased; Mary is the wife of William R. Harrison, and Sarah A., the wife of George W. Cramer, both residents of Martinsville, Ind.; Joseph B. and Robert H. are deceased. The latter during the late war enlisted in the 72d Indiana Infantry, in which he served two years and until the close, and afterward enlisted in the United States Regulars. His regiment was stationed at Monroe, La., where he died in August, 1868.

The subject of this biography spent his boyhood and youth after the manner of most country boys, and after reaching his majority and laying his plans for the future, was united in marriage with Miss Virginia Valodin, the wedding taking place in Portsmouth, Ohio, on the 10th of January, 1866. This lady was born in New Madrid, Mo., Nov. 2, 1838, and died at the home of her husband in Oakland Township, July 30, 1882, after being ill with con-

sumption one year. Her two children were John F., born Aug. 9, 1874, and Roseoe V., Aug. 11, 1881. Mrs. Crawford was a lady of deep piety, and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church when a young girl fourteen years of age. Her parents were Frank and Temperance (Burt) Valodin, the former a native of Paris, France. The mother was born in Ohio and both were connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. V. died in New Orleans in the spring of 1839.

Mr. Crawford came first to Illinois in 1860, and purchased land in Sergeant Township, Douglas County, where he carried on farming eight years, and thence removed to this county. He was remarkably successful in his agricultural operations, and devoted much attention to the raising of fine stock. He identified himself with the Masonic fraternity in 1872, and is also a member of the I. O. O. F. He united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1870, and politically is a Republican of the first water. During the war he was the staunch enemy of rebellion and secession, and although not actively engaged in the field, contributed of his means and influence to the encouragement of the Union sentiment. He served as Supervisor of Oakland Township, and has in all respects fulfilled the obligations of a good man and worthy citizen.

HENRIE CHAMBERS, a gentleman in the prime of life and in the midst of his usefulness, is numbered among the worthy residents of Morgan Township, where he has built up a good homestead on sec. 19, and has fully kept pace with his neighbors in thrift and enterprise, tilling the soil and marketing annually some of the choicest products of the Prairie State. Our subject has spent the greater part of his life in this county, having been born and reared in Charleston. His birth took place Sept. 16, 1842. His parents, Thomas G. and Olivia (Monroe) Chambers, came to Central Illinois in 1838, and for nearly fifty years have watched with interest and satisfaction the development and growth of the Prairie State. They experienced all the hardships and vicissitudes of pioneer life and have reaped their reward in the

accumulation of a competency and the profound respect and confidence of all who know them. They are residing in Charleston.

The father of our subject was born in Harrison County, Ky., Jan. 22, 1816, and is the son of James and Sallie (Rankin) Chambers, who descended respectively from Irish and Scottish ancestry. He emigrated from his native State in about 1838, and after locating in Charleston, this county, was married to Miss Monroe, March 12, 1840. Of this union there were born eleven children: Alice, the eldest, is the wife of J. A. Parker, a farmer of Charleston Township; Henrie, of our sketch, is the second child; John was married and died in about 1869; Lucy died in infancy; Belle is the wife of D. H. Calvert, a druggist of Charleston, and they have one child; George R. is a merchant at Charleston, and the father of three children; Maggie is the wife of Charles Rickets, who is employed in the Census Department at Washington, D. C.; Nannie married W. E. Hill, who is engaged in the grocery trade at Charleston; William M. is a resident of the latter-named place; Alfred is studying law; Thomas G. died in 1874.

Our subject spent his childhood and youth under the parental roof, pursuing his primary studies in the schools of Charleston, and completed his education at Jacksonville, Ill. The next important step in his life was his marriage, Dec. 31, 1867, with Miss Clara R. Conditt, the adopted daughter of Mrs. M. G. Braddock, formerly of Charleston, but now of Humbolt Township. Mr. and Mrs. Chambers became the parents of six children, namely: Edwin, born Nov. 19, 1868, and now at home with his parents; Mary E., born June 12, 1871, and who died Feb. 25, 1872; Francis B., born Nov. 3, 1872, and died July 25, 1874; Olivia B., born Dec. 5, 1874, at home with her parents; Nannie May, born June 21, 1877, and Ralph M., Jan. 1, 1880.

In 1872 Mr. Chambers purchased 100 acres of his present farm, and afterward added twenty acres. He is engaged to a considerable extent in the breeding of graded stock, including Clydesdale horses and Durham cattle, and he carries on general farming. He built his present residence in about 1874. The house which first stood on the

place was burned in 1874, together with most of its contents. Our subject and the various members of his family are connected with Salem Baptist Church, of which Mr. C. has been a member for the last twelve years, and his estimable wife for twenty-three years. He is a stockholder in the Coles County Agricultural Fair Grounds, and has been identified with many of the enterprises calculated to advance the prosperity of the county.

During the late war, Mr. Chambers fulfilled faithfully the duties of a loyal citizen by proffering his services for the preservation of the Union, enlisting in Co. C, 54th Ill. Vol. Inf., in the fall of 1861, and enduring the vicissitudes of a soldier's life for a space of three years and eleven months. He marched by the side of his comrades over the greater part of the South, and met the enemy in the siege of Vicksburg, at the capture of Little Rock, Ark., and in many other important battles of the war. He went out under the command of Col. Harris and came back with the troops of Col. Mitchell, now Warden of the State Penitentiary at Chester.



JOHN W. GWIN, the proprietor of a good farm on section 31, Hutton Township, has been favorably known to the people of this locality since the spring of 1877. He then commenced as a young man to build up his present homestead, in which he has succeeded admirably, and is also carrying on a good business at blacksmithing in the shop erected on his land. He has a fine family, a comfortable home, and enjoys the esteem and respect of his neighbors.

Our subject spent his early years in Highland County, Va., where his birth took place Aug. 7, 1853. His parents, John and Margaret (Friel) Gwin, were natives of Bath County, Va., and after their marriage continued on a farm in their native State until 1871, when they removed with their family to this county and located in Hutton Township, where they have since resided. The parental household included nine children: Rhoda A., now deceased; Charles H., John W.; Luella S., deceased; James, George H., Warwick H., Nannie J. and

Elizabeth I. With the exception of the youngest daughter all married and had families.

John W. Gwin during his youth and childhood attended the subscription schools of his native county, and when a youth of seventeen migrated northwest, and coming to this county engaged on a farm by the month and afterward rented land, in the meantime saving what he could of his earnings until he was enabled to purchase eighty acres on section 1, where he now resides. He was married, Oct. 15, 1871, to Miss Martha I., daughter of Redick and Susan (Parker) Cartwright, who was born in Coles County, March 1, 1854. Her father was a native of South Carolina, and her mother of Illinois. The latter is still living, but the former is deceased. Mr. Gwin after his marriage operated the farm of his father-in-law until 1877. Of his union with Miss Cartwright there have been six children, namely, Sarah A., who was born July 30, 1873, and died August 24 of the same year; Eddie O., born Jan. 25, 1875, and died Sept. 7, 1878; Mary L., born Jan. 14, 1876; Pleasant E., born April 13, 1878, and died Sept. 3, 1879; Zoa Aner was born Jan. 20, 1880, and Smith E., May 24, 1883. Mr. Gwin has served as Constable of his township three years, and belongs to the I. O. R. M., Minnehaha Tribe No. 19, at Ashmore. Mrs. Gwin is a member of the United Brethren Church.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Robert Gwin by name, was a native of Virginia, where he remained during his childhood and youth, and where he was married to Miss Sarah Lockridge, also a native of the Old Dominion. Their eight children were Joseph, Andrew; Samuel, the only one surviving; Robert, Jane, Margaret, Molly and William. His first wife died in middle life, and he was then married to Miss Betsey McCraig, of Virginia, who became the mother of six children, namely, Sarah, Renwick, Catherine, David, Blackburn and John. The youngest son and David are the only children living of this marriage. Grandfather Gwin died in Virginia in about 1840. His last wife survived him several years.

The father of our subject was the youngest child of his father's second marriage, and was born in Bath County, which is now a part of Highland

County, Va., May 1, 1827. He was bred to farm life and received a limited education. After the death of his father he remained on the homestead with his mother during her lifetime, both parents having died before he was twenty years of age. Soon after reaching his majority he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Friel, the wedding taking place Dec. 14, 1848. Mrs. Gwin was a native of the same county as her husband, and was born Nov. 16, 1826. Her parents, William and Jane (Stewart) Friel, were also natives of Bath County. Her father died in 1843, when fifty-seven years of age, and the mother, who was born Jan. 1, 1796, survived him for a period of thirty-three years, her death taking place in Upshur County, W. Va., March 16, 1876. John Gwin after his marriage continued farming in his native State until becoming a resident of Putnam Township, this county, to which he removed in 1871. Here he has carried on agriculture successfully and is numbered among the highly respected citizens of Coles County.

The father of Mrs. Gwin of our sketch, was born in South Carolina, Sept. 25, 1793, and was three times married. His last wife was formerly Miss Susan Parker, a native of this State, born Jan. 1, 1823. She is still a widow, and lives with her brother, John Parker, in North Okaw Township. Of her union with Redick Cartwright there were born six children, namely, Rachel H., who died in infancy; Martha I., the wife of our subject; Edmund, a resident of North Okaw Township; Willis B., Amanda M. and Mandilla. The three youngest died in infancy.

STERLING P. CURTIS, senior member of the firm of Curtis & Reel, who are successfully engaged in general merchandising at Oakland, is well known to people of the village, as he has lived here all his life, and this also was his birthplace. He was born June 19, 1858, and is the son of Philander and Elizabeth (Modrell) Curtis, natives respectively of Ohio and Kentucky. Philander Curtis was born in Somerset County in October, 1825, came to Illinois when a

small boy and resided in Coles County; he followed farming nearly all his life. He was a good man in every sense of the word, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Although quiet and unobtrusive in his life, mixing but little in public matters, he uniformly voted with the Republican party, and was a staunch believer in its principles. He served in the Civil War, and after that spent his declining years in Oakland, this State, and rested from his earthly labors in February, 1879.

The mother of our subject was born Sept. 12, 1825, the same year as her husband, and died in July, 1879, six months after his decease. She also was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Of their six children the record is as follows: Carlos C. married Miss Abigail Fickett, and is a resident of Wellington, Kan.; Belle J. is the wife of A. N. Chapman, of Oakland; Catherine married E. C. Brown, of Tuscola, Ill., who died leaving two children; her second husband was E. A. Pearce, and they reside in Lamont, Ill. Orcelia was married in Iowa to John Glasburner, who died leaving one child, and she then married Dr. Elmer Booth, of Waynetown, Ind.; Walter A. married Miss Estella Strange, and lives in Oakland, Ill.; Sterling P., of our sketch, married Miss Susan Taber, in August, 1879.

Mr. Curtis was educated in the common schools and worked on the farm part of the time until fourteen years of age. He then began clerking in a store, and was variously employed until 1881, when he became a member of the firm of Lippincott & Curtis, which continued until January, 1886, and our subject then became associated with Mr. Reel.

The firm of Curtis & Reel carries a stock of dry-goods, boots and shoes, and everything pertaining to the needs of a family either in the town or country. They occupy two large storerooms, a part of which is devoted to drugs and groceries, and probably transact the largest amount of business of any firm of the kind in the county, their sales averaging annually about \$50,000. They are live business men, and valued members of the community, contributing their full share toward its trade interests and its progress and advancement morally and intellectually.

The wife of our subject was born in Edgar County, in March, 1858, and is the daughter of James C. and Hester A. (Norton) Taber, natives respectively of Indiana. Of her marriage with Mr. Curtis there has been one child, a son, Herbert, who was born in March, 1881, and died in July following. Mr. Curtis is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has taken much interest in Sunday-school work, having officiated as Superintendent for some years. He has also served as Alderman, and upon becoming of suitable age identified himself decidedly with the Republican party. He is one of the valued and enterprising young citizens of Oakland, from whom much is expected in the future.

ALEXANDER TINCH. This self-made man and independent agriculturist of Humbolt Township, is the possessor of a snug farm of seventy-nine acres under a fine state of cultivation, with good buildings and all the appurtenances of a first-class country estate. He commenced life in a humble manner, receiving his education in a log school-house in Tennessee, and by the exercise alone of his own industry and resolution, has attained to a good position, socially and financially, among his fellow-men.

Mr. Tinch first drew breath near the city of Knoxville, Tenn., on the 16th of February, 1825. It is hardly necessary to state that Knoxville, sixty years ago, was scarcely to be compared with the present town, which has since gained a national reputation. The parents of our subject, George and Mary (Norman) Tinch, were natives respectively of Virginia and South Carolina. They spent the greater part of their lives in Tennessee. They are now deceased and buried near Knoxville.

Mr. Tinch remained a resident of his native State until 1862, in the meantime having been married, and then removed North to Indiana. Three years later he came to this county, and first purchased forty acres of land, which is included in his present homestead. To this he afterward added thirty-nine acres, and has carefully cultivated the entire area, utilizing every rod and suf-

fering nothing to go to waste. His stock and machinery are of first-class description and well cared for, and the farm in all its departments indicates the thrift and industry of its proprietor.

The first wife of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Isabel Davis, to whom he was married in Tennessee in early manhood, and who became the mother of six children, namely, Josiah A., Richard, Levi, Asia, Chesley and Erie. Mrs. Isabel Tinch departed this life Feb. 26, 1864. Mr. Tinch was the second time married, June 1, 1864, to Miss Martha Jones, of Tennessee, and their seven children were: Ettie, born May 29, 1867; Nancy, June 10, 1869; Julian, Aug. 29, 1871; Nettie, Feb. 23, 1873; Rhoda, Jan. 21, 1875; James, June 17, 1876; and Emma, Oct. 1, 1883. Ettie was married to Allen Bensley, Dec. 16, 1885; they have one child—Franklin Alexander, who was born Jan. 30, 1887.

During the progress of the late war Mr. Tinch enlisted as a Union soldier in Co. K, 22d Ind. Vol. Inf., serving one year and to the close. He is a Republican of the first water, and never had any sympathy with rebels or secessionists. Mr. and Mrs. T. are members and attendants of the Baptist Church.



JOHAN S. GOODYEAR, County Clerk, became a resident of Charleston in 1887, and has been incumbent of his present office since December, 1886. His history is one of remarkable interest, illustrating the career of a bright and ambitious temperament, which led its possessor, early in life to attempt that which many older men would have shrunk from as impossible.

Mr. Goodyear was born in the city of St. Louis, Mo., June 27, 1844, and is the son of Antoine and Catherine A. (Shibley) Goodyear, natives respectively of France and Virginia. Our subject, being the first grandchild of John and Eliza Shibley, was taken by them at an early age, and brought to this State, where he was reared on a farm and received a good education, completing his studies in the academy at Winchester. At the outbreak of the war, in 1861, he was one of the first to offer his services in behalf of the Union, and attempted to

enlist in the 14th Illinois Infantry. He was rejected, however, on account of his youth, but managed to follow his grandfather who was a sutler, and whenever there was any prospect of a battle young John would seize a gun and go out with the 14th into battle, where he was permitted to do guard duty and go with the soldiers foraging. In this manner he succeeded in being present at the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and took great pleasure in drawing his gun on the enemy, standing guard and gathering in provisions. His grandfather finally disposed of the ship which had carried his stores as a sutler, and returned home in the summer of 1863.

Our subject, however, was not prepared to become a civilian, and once more attempted to enlist, this time with success, becoming a member of Co. F, 33d Ill. Vol. Inf., in March, 1864, and remained thereafter in service until the close of the war. He formed one of the guard posted on the route from New Orleans to Brazier City, and was afterward at the capture of Spanish Fort, the city of Mobile, Ft. Blakesley, Montgomery, and Selma, Ala. The war had now practically ended, and our hero proudly marched with his comrades along the streets of Springfield, Ill., where he was paid off and received his honorable discharge, Dec. 7, 1865.

Upon returning from the army Mr. Goodyear worked at the tinner's trade in Elkhart, Ill., for about six months, after which he officiated as clerk in a dry-goods store until 1868. Soon afterward he crossed the Mississippi, and was similarly occupied in a store at Humboldt, Kan., in which he subsequently purchased an interest, but continued his connection with the business only about eight months. Afterward he engaged in the sale of books and stationery until 1873, then came back to Illinois, locating for a time at Winchester. After another trip to Kansas, we find him in Columbus, Ohio, where he was engaged in clerking until the spring of 1874, and then returning to Winchester, taught school until the following spring. He clerked awhile at Mattoon, and then purchased a book-store with which he occupied himself until his election to his present office. In the meantime he had served as City Clerk of Mattoon four terms and was Town Clerk five years. He represented

the township in the County Board of Supervisors one year, which office, with that of City Clerk, he resigned to enter upon his duties as County Clerk. He has been well and favorably known throughout the county for many years, and in locating in Charleston only took up his residence among his old friends.

Mr. Goodyear was married, on the 6th of November, 1868, to Miss Mary E., daughter of Emanuel and Mary Poston, of Ohio. Of this union there has been born one child, a daughter, Maude E. Our subject's maternal grandfather was a native of Amsterdam, Holland, where his birth took place April 18, 1796. He emigrated to America with his parents at an early age. They located in New York City, and when eighteen years of age their son removed to Charleston, S. C., and thence to Charlottesville, Va., where he married Miss Eliza Bacenstowe. After marriage, they located at Chillicothe, Ohio, afterward removing to Cincinnati, and from there to St. Louis in April, 1833, where they remained for twelve years following.

Mr. Shibley became a resident of Winchester, Ill., in 1847. At the breaking out of the war, in 1861, he went as a sutler with the 14th Illinois Infantry, until the following year, when he returned, and moving into the city, practically abandoned active labor, and lived retired until his decease, Sept. 20, 1881. His wife, the grandmother of Mr. G., died in December, 1876.

The mother of Mr. Goodyear died at the residence of the family in Winchester, Ill., in January, 1887, when about fifty-two years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Goodyear are members of the Presbyterian Church. Politically, Mr. G. is a pronounced Republican, and socially is a member of the G. A. R. and various other orders.



JOHN HILDRETH, who for the past ten years has been identified with the farming interests of Charleston Township, occupies a good homestead located on section 6. He is the owner of 400 broad acres, under a fine state of cultivation, stocked with excellent grades of

domestic animals and supplied with good buildings and all the other appurtenances of a first-class country estate.

The early years of our subject were spent in Suffolk County, L. I., where his birth took place Jan. 19, 1823. His paternal grandfather, John Hildreth, was a sea captain, and his father, Nathan Hildreth, also followed a seafaring life, being commander of a whaling-vessel for many years. The mother of our subject, who in her girlhood was Miss Katura Payne, was also born in Suffolk County, and by her marriage with Nathan Hildreth became the mother of six children: Maria, the wife of Watson Payne; Henry is living in Wisconsin; Phebe, deceased; John, of our sketch, was the fourth child; Albert, a sea captain, died in the Sandwich Islands; Ann is also deceased.

The parents of John Hildreth died when he was but a boy and he was left dependent upon his own resources. He possessed much of his father's love of the water and when sixteen years of age embarked as a sailor and for five years crossed to and fro over the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans on merchant and whaling vessels, visiting the ports of Japan and many islands in the Pacific Ocean. After attaining his majority he quit the sea and joined some of his brothers and sisters who had married and located in Wayne County, N. Y. He was afterward engaged at farm labor for a time, and finally going into Onondaga County, learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed several years, when he again resumed agricultural pursuits. In 1872 he went up into Green Lake County, Wis., where he remained most of the time until 1877. In the meantime he had also staid considerably with friends in this county, and in 1877 settled here permanently upon a part of the land which he now occupies. His first purchase consisted of 185 acres, and he industriously cultivated the soil, adding such improvements as his means would allow and invested his surplus capital in more land. Of late years he has been remarkably prosperous, and is numbered among the wealthy and influential agriculturists of Central Illinois.

The wife of our subject, who has been his close counselor and friend for more than thirty years, was in her girlhood Miss Cordelia Amidon, a

native of Onondaga, N. Y., and the daughter of Cheny and Polly (Rouels) Amidon. Their wedding took place in the spring of 1854, and they went to housekeeping on the farm in New York. The household was in due time enlarged by the birth of six children, two of whom died in childhood and four are now living. The latter are: Lura, the wife of Charles Gramsly; Albert; Fannie, the wife of John Snyder, and Henry. Mr. Hildreth is Republican in politics and in all respects is fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen, forming one of the most important factors in the agricultural interests of his township.



ANDREW J. MANROE. No finer farming country is to be found in the Prairie State than much of that in the northern part of Coles County, notably in North Okaw Township. Mr. Manroe for the last twenty years has been a resident of that township and owns 280 acres of valuable land on section 21. This is well improved, thoroughly drained with tile, and embellished with a handsome frame residence, standing in the midst of a beautiful grove, and forming one of the attractive features of that locality. There is also a fine orchard, two good barns and all the other accessories of a modern country home. In addition to his farming interests Mr. Manroe has also given much attention of late years to bee culture, keeping on an average about 150 stands of Italians, and being very successful in his operations in this line. He also has seven ponds stocked with German carp, some of which will now weigh from three to four pounds. This enterprise, it is hardly necessary to state, is attracting much attention and its projector is sanguine of success.

The main points in the family history of our subject are as follows: His grandfather, John Manroe, was a native of Maryland, where he was married in early manhood and became a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Subsequently he removed to Clermont County, Ohio, where he resided a number of years, and then removed to Allen County. A few years later he took up his abode in Shelby County, Ind., where he spent the

remainder of his days. His wife, Mary, also a native of his own State, preceded him to the silent land. They had reared a large family and lived together harmoniously for the unprecedented period of sixty-five years. Among their sons was Samuel, who became the father of our subject. He was the eldest child of his parents and was born in Cumberland County, Md., in 1798. He was educated in the common schools and remained a resident of his native county until twenty-five years of age. In the meantime he had engaged somewhat in surveying, and after removing to Rush County, Ind., learned the trade of a tanner, which he followed there and in Shelby County a number of years. He was there also married, in 1825, to Miss Dorcas Hayman, and they spent the remainder of their days in Shelby County, where Mr. Manroe had several years previously entered a tract of land and upon which he built up a permanent homestead. He rested from his earthly labors in the spring of 1880. The wife and mother survived five years, dying in 1885. The parental household included eight children.

The subject of this history was educated in the common schools of his native county, and worked with his father in the tannery until reaching his majority. He then took up the carpenter's trade, which he followed for about ten years and subsequently, with the capital thus accumulated, purchased land in Richland County, Ill., which he occupied with his family twelve years and until the spring of 1866, when he took possession of his present farm. His marriage with Miss Julia Hoffman took place in Shelby County, Ind., April 11, 1849, and they became the parents of two children—Nathaniel, who married Miss Martha Leggitt and is a resident of Douglas County, Ill., and Amanda J., the wife of James Moore, of Osage County, Kan. The mother of these children departed this life in 1867, the second year of their removal to this county.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married April 27, 1869, was formerly Miss Maggie Kitchens, a native of Clark County, this State, and who removed with her parents to this county in 1859. Of this union there are two children—Mary E., born July 21, 1871; and Alfred, March 17, 1877. Mr. M. is a member of the Methodist Epis-

copal Church, while his wife is connected with the Baptist. Our subject is Republican in politics and while in Richland County served as Assessor. He has for the last thirty years officiated as School Director and Trustee, and in all respects has been a warm supporter of those measures calculated for the welfare of the community.

JOHAN FOREMAN, of Seven Hickory Township, and a native of the District of Columbia, early in life emigrated West to seek his fortune and build up a permanent home. His birth took place March 17, 1823, and he remained in his native township until eleven or twelve years old, when his parents removed to Lexington, Ky. His father, Joseph Foreman, a native of England, was born in July, 1797, and crossed the Atlantic in 1819. He was first married in his native land, the lady dying and leaving no children. About two years after coming to America he married the mother of our subject, Miss Chloe Payne. Of this union there were born nine children, of whom our subject was the eldest; Catherine was born in 1825, and died in infancy; Julia was born in September, 1826, and is still living at Lexington, Ky., unmarried; Jane B., born in July, 1828, became the wife of Hugh L. Webb, a printer by trade, and is living in Richmond, Ind., having become the mother of three children; Catherine (2d) was born in 1830, and became the wife of Henry V. Barringer, and the mother of two children; her son Earnest A. is United States Pension Agent at New Orleans, and was married in 1886; Johanna was born in September, 1832, and married James Srugham, a printer, who died in Lexington, Ky.; they had two children, both now deceased; Mary, born in January, 1835, married Milton G. Thompson, of Lexington, Ky., who is a banker and a dealer in hardware, and has amassed a fortune; they have five children; James died in infancy in the fall of 1836; Thomas, born in September, 1838, is the partner of his brother-in-law, M. G. Thompson, at Lexington; he married Miss Saxton, who died not long afterward, and he then married Miss Marsh, of Dayton, Ohio, who died in 1885; by the first

marriage there were three children, and two by the second, and only two survive.

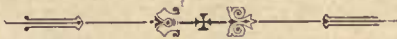
The maternal grandfather of our subject, Jacob Payne, was a native of Fairfax County, Va., and married a Miss Glover, by whom he became the father of seventeen children, of whom they reared twelve. He was the son of Henson Payne, also of the Old Dominion. His grandfather Foreman, together with two uncles, were soldiers under the great Napoleon, and participated in the battle of Waterloo. Joseph Foreman, while a resident of the District of Columbia, engaged extensively as a farmer and gardener, being especially fond of horticulture. After removing to Kentucky he followed the same business.

John Foreman, our subject, was married, Oct. 10, 1842, to Miss Harriet E. Richardson, a native of Franklin County, Ohio, where she grew to womanhood, remaining a member of her father's household. The latter then decided to take up his residence in Kentucky, and after her marriage with John Foreman they remained in the Blue Grass regions until the fall of 1853. They then decided to seek the Prairie State, and coming to this county located at Charleston, while Mr. F. proceeded with the cultivation of a tract of land which his father-in-law had entered in Seven Hickory Township. This included 200 acres, and he proceeded industriously with its cultivation and improvement, turning his attention largely, as before, to the raising of fine fruits. He fenced the land, put up good buildings and established a comfortable homestead.

He became the father of seven children, of whom the record is as follows: William T., born Dec. 30, 1843, married Miss Jane McNutt, who died in August, 1881; of this marriage there were eight children, five of whom are living: John R. was born in November, 1845, and married Miss Minerva Nichols, of Coles County; they have three children. Joseph married Miss Cynthia Buckley, of this county, and is engaged in farming in Hutton Township; I. P. born Jan. 16, 1852, married Laura O'Hair; David B., born in Charleston, March 11, 1853, married Miss Sella Shriver, and they have two children; Thomas, born in February, 1862, died at his father's house in September, 1880; Edward P., born May 8, 1866, is unmarried and liv-

ing at home. Mrs. Harriet Foreman departed this life at the homestead in February, 1881. She was a lady greatly respected for her sterling worth of character, and a member in good standing of the Baptist Church of Charleston.

The subject of our sketch was the first Justice of the Peace elected in Seven Hickory Township, and in 1865 represented the township in the County Board of Supervisors. He has served as Road Commissioner and School Trustee, and was elected a Director at the time of the organization of District No. 2. He has always been interested in those measures calculated for the advancement of the people, and has fulfilled his duties in life in an honest and highly creditable manner. His property includes 100 acres of good land on section 16, Seven Hickory Township, and twenty acres of timber.



WILLIAM H. GALBREATH, Sr., one of the honored pioneers of Ashmore Township, came to Coles County in March, 1831, locating on section 23, which he has since made his home. He has resided fifty-six years in this township, and during the long period of residence in this county has identified himself with the interests of its people. His kindly Christian character commended him to their respect and esteem long years ago, and his straightforward method of doing business has placed him among the representative citizens of Central Illinois.

Our subject was born in Nichols County, Ky., Aug. 17, 1809, and is a descendant of excellent Scotch-Irish ancestry. His parents, William and Phebe (Foreman) Galbreath, were both natives of Pennsylvania, and the father served as Captain of a pack-horse company in the Revolutionary War, for a period of seven years. He was one of the guards placed over Cornwallis at Valley Forge and most of the time was under the immediate command of Gen. Washington. In consequence of the exposure and hardships which he endured, he contracted a disease from which he never fully recovered, but lived, however, to the advanced age of eighty-three years. After the independence of the Colonists had been established, he retired to

the rural districts of Berks County, where he engaged in farming, and where his death took place in 1833. William Galbreath, Sr., was married in the city of Philadelphia in about 1796, his wife being but sixteen years of age. She was born in 1781, and reared in the Quaker City, was of excellent Scotch-Irish ancestry, and with her husband was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Her death took place in Coles County, in 1849. The children of William and Phebe Galbreath were named respectively, Fannie, John, Mary A., Sarah, Phebe, William, Robert, James, John and William. The two latter died in infancy.

William H. Galbreath was born in Berks County, Pa., and received a common-school education in the Keystone State. Early in life he began to make himself useful around his father's homestead and as soon as possible went into the cornfield and held the plow. He removed to Kentucky and not long afterward to Indiana, whence in 1829 he came to Edgar County, Ill., and engaged in farming, and two years later came to this county where he established his permanent home.

Among the other important arrangements which Mr. Galbreath was perfecting, in order to complete the outfit of his future abode, was the securing unto himself a wife and helpmeet, to assist him in his difficulties and rejoice with him in his prosperity. The maiden whom he had chosen for this important position was Miss Louisa Lashbrooks, to whom he was married at her home in Scott County, Ind., Nov 4, 1830. This wedding was one of the notable events of that section, as were all weddings and births at that period, when life flowed on in an uneventful manner and there was little to amuse the settlers besides their own private and personal affairs. Mrs. Galbreath was born in Spencer County, Ky., June 14, 1814, and like her husband was of Scotch-Irish blood. She came from an excellent family, her mother having been Miss Elliott, a first cousin to the noted Gen. Lee, late of the Southern Confederacy.

William H. and Louisa Galbreath became the parents of eleven children, viz.: Sarah E., who married John Newberry, of Tennessee; they have two children—Mary L. and William B.; Thomas, now deceased; John, who married Miss Paulina

Clark; George W., who married Miss Fiette Icenhour; Phebe F., Mrs John C. Mitchell; Gideon F., who married Miss Frances H. Brooks, and William B., deceased; Millird, Ann, James H., Pembroke, also deceased. William B. possessed more than ordinary ability and became prominent in the political affairs of Central Illinois. In 1884 he was elected to the State Senate on the Democratic ticket, but had only served one session when his death took place.

Mr. Galbreath has a snug farm of eighty acres, which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation and provided with convenient and substantial buildings. He assisted his children in their settlement in life, and has always possessed that large heart and liberal disposition which have induced him to lend a helping hand to the needy whenever it was in his power. He cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Jackson, in 1832, and since that time has been a staunch adherent to the Democratic party. He was one of the Trustees of Ashmore Township for a period of twelve years, and no man in this county has been more deeply interested in noting its advancement and welfare. Mrs. Galbreath has been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church since 1850. Mr. Galbreath never connected himself with any church, but has aimed to shape his life in accordance with the principles of the Golden Rule, and in which, those who know him best claim that he has succeeded admirably.

SFLORER, a successful and extensive stock-farmer of Morgan Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 29, and for a period of seventeen years has been largely identified with the agricultural interests of Central Illinois. He first drew breath in Newport, Vermillion Co., Ind., March 29, 1839, and is the son of Alexander B. and America A. (Herbert) Florer, both natives of Kentucky, the father born in 1801, and the mother in 1816. They were of German and French extraction, respectively.

Alexander B. Florer was one of the earliest pioneers of Indiana, and became prominently connected with public affairs in Vermillion County.

He was the second clerk of the County Court, which office he held for fourteen years, and was also Recorder, holding the office at different times for a long period. He had educated himself, and was well informed in regard to legal matters, in due time becoming one of the most eminent lawyers of the day, while also exercising no small influence in the Republican party, of which he was one of the most earnest supporters. He held office for a number of years, his services terminating only with his death, which occurred in Vermillion County, Aug. 9, 1865.

The mother of our subject was but sixteen years of age when she became the wife of Alexander Florer. She was a lady in all respects eminently fitted to be his companion through life, and sympathized with him in all his worthy ambitions and undertakings. Her childhood was spent in Kentucky, whence she removed with her parents to Indiana before her marriage. She became the mother of five children, of whom the record is as follows: William J. grew to manhood in his native State of Indiana, and became a man of property in Wabasha County, Minn., where he finally engaged in banking, and departed this life July 20, 1881, leaving a wife and three children, who are now residents of Greencastle, Ind.; our subject was the second son; Elizabeth is the widow of F. M. Odell, and lives at Oakland, this county; Ellen died in infancy; Bruce when twenty-one years of age engaged in banking with his brother in Minnesota, and was subsequently elected Auditor of the county on the Republican ticket by a majority of 700; he was cut down in the midst of his usefulness, dying one year after his election, leaving a wife and one child, who are now residents of Wabasha County, Minn.

The subject of this history was reared in Vermillion County, Ind., and when fourteen years of age commenced clerking for the firm of Jones, Culbertson & Co., and three years later was appointed Deputy Auditor of the county under Henry D. Washburn. Afterward he was Deputy Clerk and Recorder, when but twenty years of age. At the beginning of the late war he enlisted in Co. C, 18th Ind. Vol. Inf., serving three years and being occupied much of the time as private messenger for Col.

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



C. Bridgner

Tom Patterson and Gen. H. D. Washburn. He served until the close of his term of enlistment, and then receiving his honorable discharge, came in September, 1864, to this county, joining his mother at Milton Station, where he engaged in general merchandising, and carried on business successfully until October, 1870. He then removed to his mother's farm in Morgan Township, where he now resides.

The father of our subject purchased the land which the latter now occupies, in 1853, and after making some improvements upon it, returned, in 1854, to Indiana. The later embellishments have been effected by our subject, who was married June 24, 1866, to Miss Lonisa A. Hawkins, a native of Rush County, Ind., born March 7, 1846. She came with her parents to this county when a child four years of age, and was deprived by death of the affectionate care of her mother while still young in years. She has one brother, Frank M., who is now engaged in the real-estate business at Indianapolis.

Mr. and Mrs. Florer settled down upon the farm, and in due time became the parents of six children, five daughters and one son: William B., born in 1867, died in 1871; Laura A., born in 1868, died in 1869; Elizabeth, born May 13, 1876, is at home with her parents; Katie and Clara, twins, were born June 11, 1878; Jessie Ellen, in 1884. Mr. Florer is also proprietor of a sorghum factory which he operates profitably each year, turning out some seasons as many as 13,000 gallons. He also raises a large amount of broom corn, and in addition to this, gives much attention to the breeding of fine stock. He is accounted among the thorough and enterprising farmers of Morgan Township, and has built up a homestead which forms one of its most attractive features.

Mr. and Mrs. Florer are members in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, while our subject is also connected with the Knights of Honor, and the I. O. O. F. Encampment, at Paris, Edgar County. Mrs. America Florer, the mother, is still living, making her home with her son, on the home place, which is mainly her own property. She was born in September, 1816, and is consequently seventy-one years of age, but retains her former

energy and activity in a remarkable degree. Her mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth McGruder, lived to be eighty years of age, and finally came to her death by accident, falling downstairs. The McGruders were Democrats of the strongest type, and our subject has adhered largely to the teachings and beliefs of his honored mother, being Democratic in politics, although not strictly radical.



CONRAD BURGNER is a well-known and wealthy citizen of Lafayette Township, who was born Dec. 13, 1822, in Lebanon County, Pa. He is the son of Conrad and Elizabeth (Shaffer) Burgner, who were likewise natives of Pennsylvania. When Mr. Burgner was about six years of age his family removed to Ohio, and located in Fairfield County, where they were among the early settlers. He passed his childhood and youth with his parents there, and was taught the carpenter's trade.

On the 5th of March, 1846, Mr. Burgner was married to Miss Nancy Whitesel. Mrs. Burgner is the daughter of George and Mary (Sidener) Whitesel, and was born Oct. 2, 1822, in Pickaway County, Ohio. After his marriage, Mr. Burgner worked at the carpenter's trade several years, and then engaged in farming. In the autumn of 1854 he removed with his young family to Illinois, and the following spring settled in Lafayette Township, Coles County. With a capital of about \$5,000 he invested in land, first purchasing 200 acres, and subsequently adding to this he became the owner of 1,200 acres of valuable land. He gave his attention exclusively to farming, in which he has been very successful.

Mr. Burgner is a man of great activity and energy, and applied himself so closely to business that his health began to fail, and he has recently been obliged to relinquish it altogether. His farm is supplied with all the modern improvements, a commodious brick residence, and appropriate farm buildings. He has for many years been an active member of the Methodist Church, giving liberally of his means to its support. He is generous, both in public and private life, and has given each of

his children about 160 acres of land. Mr. and Mrs. Burgner had a family of seven children born to them, five of whom are now living. Their names are as follows: Allen C., George F., Louisa J., the wife of Thornton Ashbrook; J. Morris, and Rhoda L., the wife of Alfred S. Newby. It is with pleasure that we present the portrait of Mr. Burgner in this connection as being that of a worthy and honored resident of Lafayette Township, and a representative citizen of the county.



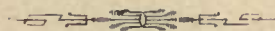
ENOCH DOLE, deceased. During the early history of the American Colonies Stephen Dole (or McDole as some claim), a native of Scotland, settled in Massachusetts, where he reared a family. Among his children was Stephen, Jr., who, after reaching manhood, married and became the father of Col. Stephen Dole, one of the first settlers of Bedford, N. H., where he took up his abode in 1779. Col. Dole was the father of nine children, namely, Richard, William, Jane, Joseph G.; Enoch, of our sketch; Anna, Friend, Betsey and Sallie.

The fifth child of the family above named is the subject of this sketch. He was born in Bedford, N. H., in 1788, and was reared under the home roof, and during early manhood learned the cabinet-maker's trade, but afterward followed carpentering and plastering. He left his native State while a young man, migrating first to Ohio, and thence to Terre Haute, Ind. He located on a farm near the latter city, and was content to follow the life of an agriculturist until resting from his earthly labors, his decease occurring March 30, 1855.

The marriage of Enoch Dole and Miss Harriett P., daughter of Stephen and Prudence (Sumner) Dexter, was celebrated at the home of the bride in Danville, Vt., in 1809. Stephen Dexter operated the first scythe factory in the United States, and spent the greater part of his life in the Green Mountain State, where his remains were finally laid to rest.

Three sons and one daughter of Enoch Dole settled near Mattoon, Ill., namely, Joseph C., Charles M., Stephen Dexter and Sarah Ann. The latter is

the widow of William M. Barr, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Stephen departed this life at his home March 17, 1885. The household included ten children, and the four mentioned came to this State while the country was practically a wilderness. Their names are familiar among the pioneers who still survive, and with whom they labored in common to develop the resources of Central Illinois. They proved themselves self-sacrificing, industrious and enterprising, and as having inherited in a marked degree those traits of character which distinguished their honored father. Those who knew Enoch Dole entertained for him the profoundest respect, and found in him a man of great kindness of heart, and always willing to serve his friends or his community. One of the sons, William P., also a native of Vermont, is a resident of Washington, and was Commissioner of Indian affairs under the administration of President Lincoln. He has, by a life of industry and a wise investment of funds, secured a competency, and the latter years of his life are being spent in ease and comfort. He married Miss Elizabeth Gordon, daughter of the late Daniel Gordon, of Beloit, Wis.



JOHAN CUNNINGHAM, attorney at law, and engaged in the real-estate and insurance business at Mattoon, is the son of the late James T. Cunningham, widely and favorably known throughout Coles County as a gentleman of more than ordinary ability and largely identified with the agricultural and business interests of Central Illinois. Our subject was born in Grayson County, Ky., Jan. 6, 1828. His parents were natives of the same county, and his mother before her marriage was Miss Elizabeth C. Yocum. The elder Cunningham engaged in farming first in his native county, but after his marriage emigrated to Central Illinois, where he became owner eventually of 4,000 acres of land. He served as a member of the Illinois Legislature three terms and was a man of fine business capacities, contributing his full quota toward the development and progress of this county. The children of his first marriage, five in number, were John, our subject;

William, who died when seventeen years of age; James, who died when three years old; Mary, now the wife of Capt. Hinkle, of Mattoon, and James H., Jr.

The subject of this biography was reared on his father's farm and completed his education in Transylvania University, at Lexington, Ky. He remained a member of his father's household until after reaching his majority, and then engaged in merchandising at Richmond, three miles southwest of Mattoon. His partner at that time was Charles W. Nabb, and after the first year the father of our subject purchased the interest of Mr. N., and with his son, John, opened a store in Paradise, which they operated four years under the firm name of Cunningham & Son. Afterward they removed their goods to Mattoon, and the firm became True, Cunningham & Co.; they operated about two years, and then sold out.

Afterward Mr. C., with four other gentlemen, Messrs. Marshall, Cunningham, True and O. B. Ficklin, organized the Mattoon Bank, which was operated about two years. Our subject at the same time engaged in merchandising with G. M. Mitchell at Mattoon, and at the same time ran a grain warehouse for about four years. Mr. Mitchell then sold his interest, and the firm became Cunningham & Craig. This firm remained in existence ten months, and our subject then engaged in the merchandise and live-stock trade with E. P. Allen and M. B. Able, the firm name being Cunningham, Allen & Able. Two years later Messrs. Allen and Able sold their interest to Mr. C., who carried on business two years longer, then closing out commenced to read law, and a few years later entered upon the practice which has now become extensive and successful. Mr. C. has held the office of City Attorney two years, and was Master in Chancery six years. He was appointed Postmaster in 1885, holding the office two years. He is Democratic in politics, and has aided materially in building up the business interests of the city.

Mr. Cunningham was first married to Miss Hallie B. Allen, of Kentucky, and they became the parents of one child, Ella, the wife of Joe McCrorey, of Charleston, and the mother of one child, a daughter, Hallie. Mrs. Hallie Cunningham departed

this life at the home of her husband in Mattoon, June 24, 1863. The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1866, was formerly Miss Sarah Hinkle. Of this union there have been born two sons, James and Walter, who learned the printing business and are now engaged at it in Mattoon.

Mr. Cunningham, politically, is an uncompromising Democrat, and as a citizen and business man, is held in high regard among his fellow-townsmen. Besides being a gentleman well informed and of good education, he possesses considerable literary talent, and has often been a correspondent of Chicago and other papers.

WILLIAM GUEST, one of the honored pioneers of Seven Hickory Township, came to Central Illinois while it was yet a wilderness, and while assisting in the development of its resources has noted with pride and satisfaction the growth and progress of his adopted county.

Mr. Guest was born in Hawkins County, Tenn., Oct. 30, 1809, and from his earliest boyhood has had little experience with anything other than farm life. His father, Basil, was a native of Maryland, and his mother, Rachel (Crews) Guest, was a native of Virginia. The five children of the parental household are recorded as follows: Rebecca, born in Tennessee, became first the wife of D. Shiplet, and the mother of five children; her second husband was John Woodall, now living in Douglas County, Ill. Of this marriage there were born two children. The mother died in about 1840. Mr. W. was afterward married twice, first to Rachel Miner, of Ohio, by which union two children were born, both dying young, and then to Miss Lucy Miner, who became the mother of five children, three of whom are now living in Douglas County; Mary, who was born in Tennessee, was the first wife of John Woodall; she became the mother of one child, both mother and child passing away soon afterward; Jacob, born in Tennessee, Feb. 7, 1802, married Miss Polly Welsh, of Virginia, and they had three children, and died in Kentucky, the former at the advanced age of eighty-five years; Nathan, born

in 1807, came to this county and improved a farm, occupying it until his death in 1854; William, of our sketch, was the youngest of the family.

The subject of our sketch spent his youth and boyhood in Kentucky, and after reaching his majority, Feb. 20, 1834, was married to Miss Christina James, of that State. She was the daughter of John and Margaret James, natives of Virginia. While still single they moved to Ohio County, Ky., on the home farm, and in 1838 came to Central Illinois, locating first in Douglas County, whence he removed to Morgan Township, and then to a point near Oakland, where he resided until 1879. He then purchased the land which is included in his present homestead. During the early days he entered with zest into the employments and pleasures of the early pioneers, and with the aid of one yellow dog and two white greyhounds, largely assisted in clearing the wolves from the northern part of Coles County.

Mr. and Mrs. Guest became the parents of one child only, John Basil, born at Crab Orchard, Ky., Jan. 12, 1835. He was a small boy when his parents came to this county, and with the exception of several years which they spent at Oakland, has always lived with his parents. He married Miss Anna Galbraith, a native of this county, whose parents were born in Kentucky, and emigrated to Illinois at an early day. Mr. and Mrs. John Guest had three children, of whom only two are living—William Avis, who was born March 17, 1869, and John Oscar, March 8, 1872. Both are promising young men, and reside with their parents at home.

PHILIP GARVER, who has been a resident of this county for over thirty years, has been engaged the greater part of the time in farming pursuits. He took possession of the land which he now owns and occupies in about 1867. His first purchase consisted of eighty acres, which he brought from wild prairie to a good state of cultivation and which constitutes a part of his present homestead, where he is engaged in general farming and stock-raising.

Upon coming to this county, Mr. Garver, for

about two and one-half years, was employed in getting out ties for the I. & St. L. R. R. He commenced in life without means, and by the exercise of his own industry has attained to his present position and accumulated a goodly amount of property, his farm containing 240 acres. His birth took place on the other side of the Atlantic, in the Kingdom of Prussia, April 27, 1831, 3:15 P. M., and he continued with his parents in his native Province until about 1836, and then the latter decided upon emigrating to the New World. They embarked upon a sailing-vessel, and after a voyage of nine weeks landed in New Orleans, whence they proceeded to Cincinnati, reaching the Queen City during the week between Christmas and New Year. Peter Garver, the father of our subject, and his wife, who was formerly Miss Mary Koeler, were both natives of Prussia and were occupied in farming pursuits. This lady was the second wife of Mr. Garver.

By Peter Garver's first marriage there was born one child, a son, John. By the second there were three children, of whom the eldest died when three years of age. The youngest, Jacob, was born in Germany, and is now a man of considerable prominence, being Sheriff of Franklin County, Ind. He married Miss Phronia Shrunk, a native of Germany, and they had four children, two now deceased. The mother of our subject died when her son Jacob was about three weeks old. Peter Garver was the third time married to a lady of his own country, and there were born twelve children, including two sets of twins, all boys. John is now a resident of Crawford County, Kan. One son, Peter, who, during the late war enlisted as a Union soldier in an Indiana cavalry regiment, was drowned while crossing a pond, his horse becoming entangled in weeds or brush. Michael is a liquor dealer in Connersville, Ind.; Kate died when about sixteen years of age, and another daughter, Frances, died when thirteen years old; Youst is a resident of Arkansas.

The subject of our sketch, while a resident of Franklin County, Ind., was married, Jan. 28, 1857, to Miss Barbara Emerine, a native of Cincinnati, who was the sixth in a family of nine children born to her parents. Mr. and Mrs. G. became the

parents of five sons and four daughters: Mary Susan was born Dec. 9, 1857, and died Aug. 28, 1871; Sallie became the wife of Clarence H. Hursey, and lives in Charleston; Rosa was married to Nicholas Mead, and died April 3, 1884; Louis is a resident of this township; Jacob and Louisa are at home with their parents. The younger children were Laura, Joseph, John, now deceased, and Edward.

GEORGE R. HALLOCK, a native of this county, still honors it by remaining in it, and is a resident of section 19, Ashmore Township. He has a valuable farm of eighty acres, finely cultivated, and in addition to ordinary farm duties, is engaged in breeding high-grade cattle and horses, and makes a specialty of Poland-China hogs. He also operates a steam threshing-machine of ten-horse power, being engineer himself, and from which he has realized a handsome little sum annually for the last eight years. He is genial and companionable in disposition and besides being a favorite among his fellow-citizens, is considered a first-class agriculturist.

Mr. Hallock was born in Charleston Township Sept. 12, 1847, and is the son of Thomas W. and Elizabeth M. (Clarke) Hallock, the former a native of New York, and the latter of Kentucky. Thomas Hallock and his wife are still living on the homestead in Ashmore Township, which they have occupied for many years, and where Mr. H. has been extensively engaged in farming and stock-growing. They are highly respected members of the community, and belong to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Mr. Hallock was born in New York, in 1817, and his wife Elizabeth was born in Kentucky, in 1820. Their eight children were George, Charles, Elizabeth, James, Thomas, Eldora, William and Alice.

The subject of this biography remained on the home farm until his marriage, Sept. 30, 1869. His chosen bride was Miss Virginia B. Gover, a native of Leesburg, Va., born June 22, 1850, and the daughter of Edward R. and Ellen R. (Hammerley) Gover, also natives of the Old Dominion. Mr. G. was born in 1818, and died Sept. 17, 1881. He

was a saddler by trade and also engaged in the lumber and grocery business. He was one of the leading members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a man of fine education, and a singer of marked talents. During the late war he enlisted as a Union soldier with the Loudonn County Independent Rangers, and served four years, in the meantime being taken prisoner by the rebels. He was promoted First Lieutenant. He yielded up his life in Ashmore Township in 1881, after having suffered many weeks with typhoid fever. The mother of Mrs. Hallock was born in 1820, and became the wife of Edwin Gover on the 18th of April, 1849. Of this union there were born five children, namely, Virginia B., Hannah H., Fannie and Carrie, deceased, and Rachel. Mrs. G. was a member of the same church as her husband. The latter also belonged to the I. O. O. F., and was a Mason of many years' standing.

Mr. and Mrs. Hallock became the parents of seven children, namely, Elizabeth, Welling, Edwin, now deceased, Emory, deceased, Charlie, Louis and Platt. The parents are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically Mr. H. uniformly votes with the Republican party.

OLIVER D. HAWKINS, a prominent member of the agricultural community of Ashmore Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 36, of which he has been in possession since the spring of 1873. He came to this county when a youth nineteen years of age, with his parents, and for a period of forty-six years has been closely identified with its progress and advancement. The essential points of his history are as follows:

The Hawkins family is of excellent origin, being of Irish and German on the paternal and Scotch and Welsh on the maternal side. The first representatives of the family in this country settled in the Southern and Middle States. Oliver D. was born in Fleming County, Ky., Feb. 28, 1822, and is the son of Gregory and Elizabeth (Ballar) Hawkins, natives respectively of Maryland and Kentucky. Gregory Hawkins was born May 10, 1789,

and died in this county, Nov. 9, 1869. He came here with his family in the spring of 1841, and locating on section 33, range 10 east, in Ashmore Township, engaged in farming until his earthly labors ended. The wife and mother was born Jan. 17, 1793, and survived her husband but four years, dying at the homestead in Charleston Township, May 12, 1873. The parents were married in Kentucky on the 8th of June, 1809, the ceremony taking place near the home of the bride under a large sugar-maple tree. They lived harmoniously during the many years they were permitted to pass together and were buried side by side in Ashmore Cemetery. The father of our subject was a man of more than ordinary ability and at one time possessed a large property, which was lost on account of his going security for friends. He possessed extreme kindness of heart, was remarkably indulgent and affectionate in his family and beloved by all who knew him. He was very strong, physically, and of fine personal appearance, being five feet nine inches in height, and weighing 180 pounds. He was prominent in the local affairs of his native county in Kentucky, serving as Sheriff and being otherwise identified with its public interests. The mother was a lady of attractive personal appearance, possessing dark hair and eyes, and of good stature and weighed 150 pounds. They became the parents of fifteen children, viz., Harvey H., born April 15, 1810; Ashel J., Oct. 9, 1811; George B., April 12, 1813; John C., Nov. 30, 1814; July A., Nov. 6, 1816; Felix A., June 24, 1820; Oliver D., Feb. 28, 1822; Louisana L., Feb. 13, 1825; Polly C., Sept. 29, 1827; Gregory R., Dec. 11, 1829; James C., April 11, 1832; Elizabeth C., Aug. 13, 1834; Laura, born in 1836, and Lorenzo E., May 1, 1839. Of these five are now living, namely, Felix A., Oliver D., Polly C., Gregory R. and Lorenzo E.

Mr. Hawkins removed from Kentucky to Indiana with his parents in 1829, when a boy of seven years, and from there in 1841, to this county. After reaching his majority he commenced working out by the month, receiving at first \$6, and finally \$10 per month. Money was very scarce in those days and our subject partly secured his marriage license by the sale of a coon skin. He had but twenty-five cents in cash and the price of the li-

cense was sixty-two and one-half cents. While he was deliberating as to what course to pursue, his dog one night treed a coon, which Oliver captured, and with the proceeds was enabled to get the permit to be married. The maiden of his choice was Miss Mary Lafler, and they were made husband and wife March 21, 1844, by H. C. Dunbar, Justice of the Peace, the wedding taking place in Ashmore Township, at the home of the bride. Mrs. Hawkins was born in Wayne County, Ohio, Jan. 6, 1823, and made the most of her advantages at the common school, in due time becoming a teacher, which profession she followed for many years. Her parents, John and Mary (Hurd) Lafler, were natives of New York State. Her father was born April 19, 1789, and came to this county in 1837. He located on a tract of land in Ashmore Township, where he carried on farming until seized with the fatal illness which terminated in his death, Jan. 3, 1844. His wife, Mary, was born in 1798, and died at the homestead in Ashmore Township, ten years after the decease of her husband, her death taking place in 1854. Both had united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in their native State. The parental family included eleven children, who were born as follows: George, Oct. 22, 1818; Amy, Oct. 7, 1820; Mary, Jan. 6, 1823; Jane, Nov. 9, 1824; John, Dec. 5, 1826; William, Nov. 8, 1828; James, March 11, 1831; Lyman, April 27, 1833; Edward, April 19, 1836; Aquilla and Priscilla, twins, March 9, 1840.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins went to housekeeping in a modest dwelling constructed of split hickory logs, and "pulled together" in their efforts to establish a comfortable home and secure something for a rainy day. They finally met with the reward of their labors, and have now an estate consisting of 365 acres of valuable land, with shapely and substantial farm buildings and the best fencing in the county. The farm is supplied with streams of living water, which add to its value by hundreds of dollars. Mr. Hawkins has been a man prominent among the agricultural interests of Central Illinois, and his excellent judgment in public matters was long ago recognized by his fellow-townsmen. He served first as Constable nine years, and in the spring of 1860 was elected

Justice of the Peace, which office he held for a period of twenty-five years. He was the first Police Magistrate in Ashmore Township, and has been School Treasurer and Director for many years. In the spring of 1869 he was elected to represent the people of Ashmore on the County Board of Supervisors, and his careful attention to the duties of this responsible position secured him the approval of his townsmen. In the meantime he was appointed Chairman of the Finance Committee, during which time the county purchased the grounds for the Poor Farm, of which he was Superintendent for three years. He was also County Coroner for two years.

Mr. Hawkins is the only surviving charter member of Ashmore Masonic Lodge No. 390, which was organized in 1861. He has voted the Republican ticket since the organization of the party, and is one of the staunchest supporters of its principles.

JOSHUA YOUNG. One of the most attractive homesteads of North Okaw Township, and the property of the gentleman above mentioned, is pleasantly located on section 12, and embraces 250 acres of land. The fields are well fenced, the buildings convenient and substantial, and one of the attractive features of the place is the choice stock, including Norman and Clydesdale horses of superior quality, besides the other farm animals, which are well cared for, and present a healthy and thriving appearance.

Mr. Young on coming to Illinois, located first in Mattoon Township, where he engaged in farming. Soon afterward, however, he repaired to Monroe County, Ind., and located one and one-half miles east of Bloomington, where he resided for ten years, and until after the outbreak of the late war. He watched the progress of the Rebellion for a time and seeing no prospect of its immediate suppression, concluded that it was his duty to assist in the preservation of the Union, and accordingly in 1864, enlisted in an Indiana Infantry regiment, and was mustered in at Indianapolis. The regiment was sent to Bridgeport, Ala., and arrived there just in time to be present at the battle of Brush Creek. From this our subject escaped unharmed, and then

going to Chattanooga was assigned with his comrades to guard duty, and thus continued until the expiration of his term of service. Then, returning to his old haunts near Indianapolis, he continued farming until 1884. In the spring of that year he came back to Illinois, and with his family located on the old Hopper homestead, where they now reside.

Joshua Young was born in Monroe County, Ind., Jan. 10, 1844, and was the youngest of a family of nine children, the offspring of Joseph and Barbara (Whisman) Young, natives of Virginia. Joseph Young was a farmer by occupation, and after his marriage pursued his chosen calling in Indiana, with the exception of a short time, continuously until his death. He spent his last days at the home of his son Joshua. His widow still survives and is living with our subject, having reached an advanced age. The latter was the last child to leave the parental roof and remained unmarried until thirty years of age. His union with Miss Talitha Hopper was celebrated at the home of the bride in North Okaw Township, Oct. 7, 1873. Mrs. Young was born in that township, Sept. 9, 1852, and is the daughter of Dudley and Jane (Dixon) Hopper, natives respectively of Kentucky and Virginia, and a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this ALBUM.

The children of Mr. Young, five in number, were born as follows: Dudley, Sept. 4, 1876; Wilbur, born July 21, 1878, died July 3, 1879; Homer was born July 9, 1880; Rebeeca, Oct. 24, 1883, and Grace, Aug. 2, 1886. Mr. Young is carrying on his stock-raising in company with his father-in-law, Mr. Hopper, and the firm has built up quite a reputation in this locality. Our subject, politically, is decidedly Democratic, and takes quite an active part in local politics.

MADISON NEWMAN. Mr. Newman, one of the substantial citizens of Coles County, is a retired farmer residing in Charleston. He was born April 3, 1813, in Jefferson County, E. Tenn., and is the son of John and Nancy (Franklin) Newman, natives of Virginia. John Newman removed to Tennessee and passed his entire

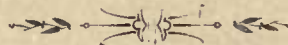
life there engaged in farming. He was twice married and had a family of seventeen children born to him, all of whom grew to maturity. He was an active, energetic man, and for eight or ten years held the office of Collector. His death occurred Oct. 9, 1865.

Madison Newman was reared on his father's farm, attending school and assisting in the farm labor until he reached the age of twenty-two, when he began the world for himself. He first tried the experiment of farming on rented land, and then purchased a farm on credit, which he conducted sixteen years. At this time he became involved in financial difficulties by going security for other parties, which obliged him to sell off his property in order to pay his debts. He subsequently purchased another tract of land containing 500 acres, where he carried on an extensive farming business fourteen years. In 1865 he came to Charleston and rented a place nine miles southwest of the city, where he lived four years. He then purchased 187 acres of land for which he paid \$5,850, and where he spent twelve years, in the meantime adding sixty-two and one-half acres to his estate. In 1882 he purchased his present place of residence in Charleston, and also another house and two lots adjoining.

Mr. Newman's marriage to Miss Mary A. Nicholson took place March 5, 1835. She was a native of Tennessee and the daughter of Joseph and Ann (McGuire) Nicholson. The former is a native of North Carolina and the latter of Pennsylvania. Their family consisted of seven children, of whom Mrs. Newman was the third in order of birth. She was born Aug. 21, 1813. Mr. and Mrs. Newman had a family of eleven children born to them, seven of whom are now living. The record is as follows: George W. married Miss Emma Enlow; Matilda E., now Mrs. Johnson; Nancy J., now Mrs. Rankin, has two children, Ida and William P.; James M. married Miss Caroline Freeman, and has a family of four children—Claud, Mary, Ellen and Jessie; Thomas J. married Miss Margaret M. Nicholson; Henry D. married Miss L. Q. Thompson, and has a family of five children—Olive G., Bertram M., Clyde P., Myrtle E. and Carl E.; Andrew J. married Miss Rosa Perisho, and has a family of three children—Olive P., George M. and Ruby R.; Jo-

seph J., deceased, married Miss Minerva Carr, and had a family of three children—Sarah A., William F. and Jessie B. The deceased are, William F., who died Aug. 23, 1863; Patrick L. died Sept. 27, 1866, and John J. died Feb. 29, 1876.

Mr. Newman is a progressive, public-spirited man. While living in Tennessee he was Captain of the State Militia, and also held the office of School Director there. Since his residence in Coles County he has served as Road Commissioner, giving entire satisfaction in the discharge of his duties. Both himself and his wife are highly esteemed members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics Mr. Newman is a Democrat.

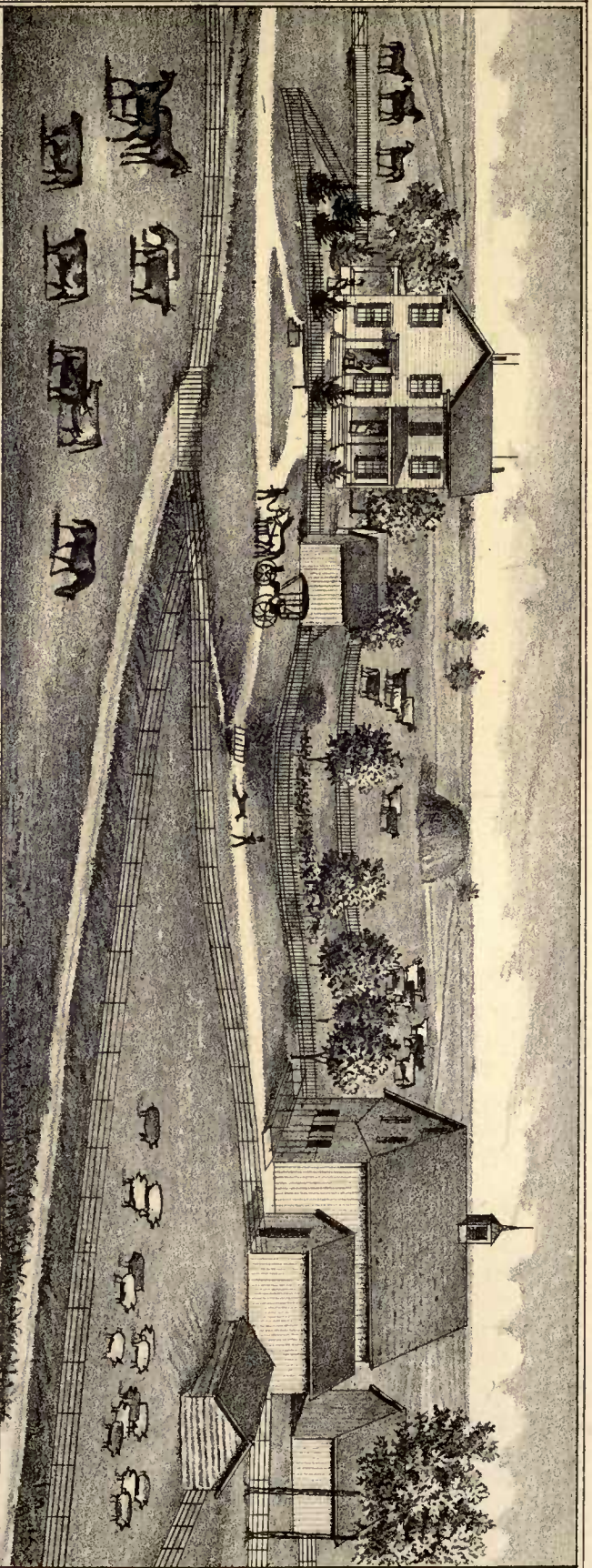


I SAAC NEWTON VANNATTA, residing on section 34, Lafayette Township, is the descendant of one of the pioneer families of the county. He is the son of Samuel and Lucy (Gibbs) Vannatta, and was born at Mock's Point, Cumberland Co., Ill., June 16, 1844.

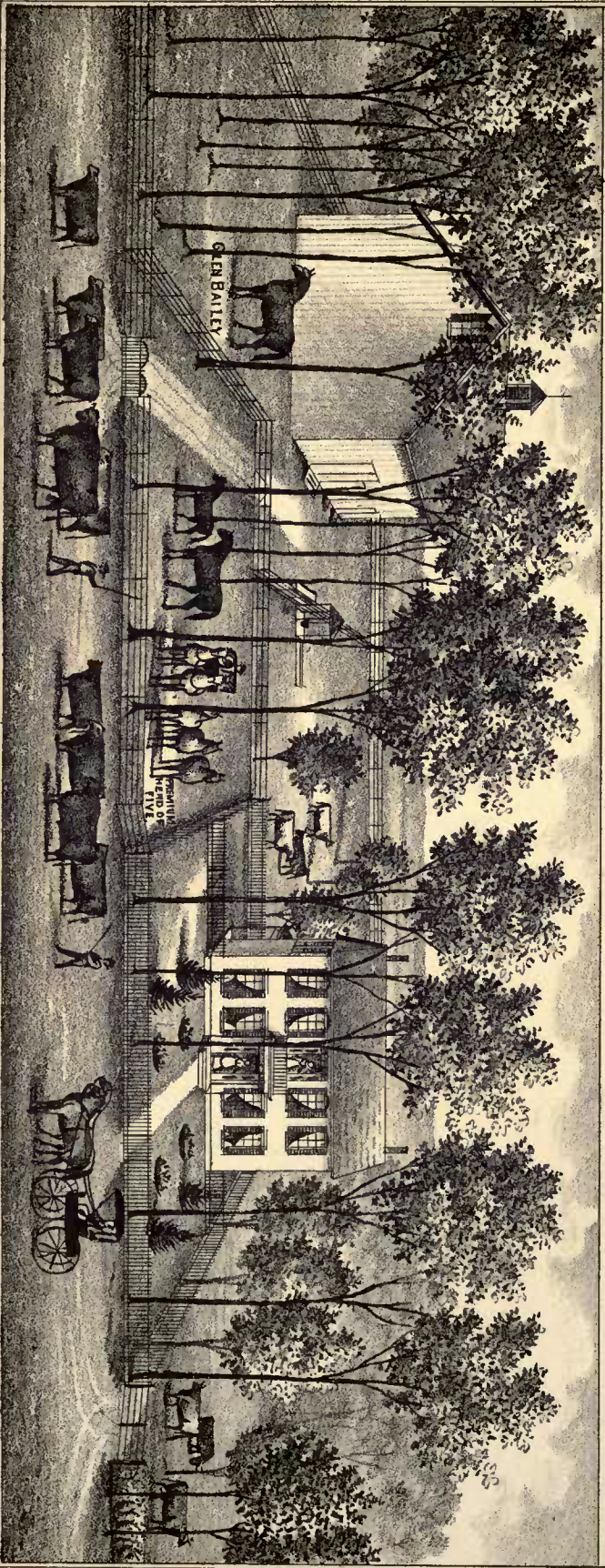
Samuel Vannatta was a native of Fairfield, Ohio. He was the son of Aaron and Nancy Vannatta, and in 1816 his parents emigrated to the Territory of Illinois. They made their home in Lawrence County, and were among the earliest pioneers of the State. They encountered many privations and trials in those early days. The country was almost an unbroken wilderness; there were no school advantages for the children, and the neighboring families were separated by wide stretches of lonely prairie, or desolate woodland. Samuel assisted his father in breaking the new land, burning brush and cutting timber, finding little time or opportunity for mental cultivation. In 1827 his marriage with Miss Lucy Gibbs took place. Mrs. Vannatta was born Jan. 5, 1809, in New York, and came to Illinois with her father, Elijah Gibbs, who was among the pioneers of Coles County, having settled there in 1827.

Mr. Vannatta was engaged in farming in Cumberland County until 1853, when he removed to Coles County and settled in Lafayette Township. He passed the remainder of his life there, and died

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



RESIDENCE OF JAMES HOOD , SEC.19. HUMBOLT TOWNSHIP.



MAPLE-WOOD. RESIDENCE AND STOCK FARM OF LAFAYETTE CRAIG, SEC.18. MORGAN TOWNSHIP.

May 5, 1881, having long survived his wife, whose death occurred Jan. 5, 1865. They had a family of ten children born to them, eight of whom grew to maturity.

Isaac Vannatta was reared on his father's farm, where he acquired a practical experience in the details of farm labor, and also learned the carpenter's trade. In September, 1871, he was married to Miss Nancy Mary Frakes. Mrs. Vannatta is the daughter of James and Elizabeth Frakes, and was born in Indiana, June 16, 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Vannatta have nine children, all of whom, with one exception, are now living. Their names are as follows: Daniel Voorhees, Robert Allen, Benjamin Franklin, Homer Gibbs, John Milton, Elijah Hubbard, George Elmer and Lucy. Mr. Vannatta is a Democrat in politics, and was elected Justice of the Peace by that party. His wife and himself are members of the hard-shell Baptist Church.

JOHAN S. SARGENT, one of the most extensive farmers of Hutton Township, is the owner of nearly 600 acres of land, two-thirds of which is under a high cultivation and the balance in valuable timber land. He has one of the finest residences in his locality. It was erected in 1884, and is situated on a gentle rise of ground which commands a fine view of the surrounding country. Mr. Sargent has given much attention to the raising of fine stock, and is in all respects a model agriculturist and citizen, and has materially assisted in the development of the resources of Central Illinois, and has had much to do in shaping its moral and educational welfare.

Our subject is the descendant of an excellent family. His father, Stephen Sargent, was born in Candia, N. H., July 1, 1797, and when thirteen years of age traveled with his father to a point in New Jersey, near the New York line, where the parent left the child and was never seen or heard from afterward. The boy, after recovering from his dismay and astonishment, set out to look for work, in which he was successful, and maintained himself in that locality for the following three years. He then traveled on foot to Ohio, remaining one year

in the Buckeye State, then, going to Louisville, Ky., he learned the trade of a stonemason. There he also purchased an interest in a flatboat, with which he made a few trips to New Orleans and back, and in 1836 migrated to this State, locating at New Richmond, now Westerfield, in Clark County. There he engaged in general merchandising, and some years later purchased a farm upon which he removed and remained until his death. He prospered greatly and became the owner of 600 acres of land, a portion of which was willed to his son, our subject.

Stephen Sargent was married late in life to Nancy (Chenoweth) Harland, daughter of John and Rebecca (Rose) Chenoweth, and the widow of Jacob Harland, the wedding taking place Oct. 18, 1842. Mrs. S. was born March 25, 1805, in Jefferson County, Ky., and is still living on the old homestead. Her parents were natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky, and by her union with Mr. Sargent she became the mother of two children: Margaret R., and John S., of our sketch. The former, who is now deceased, married Charles H. Rice and became the mother of six children, of whom only two are living—Carrie E. and H. C. The death of Stephen Sargent took place at his home in Hutton Township, Nov. 30, 1878, after he had reached the advanced age of eighty-one years, four months and thirty days. He had been widely and favorably known in Coles County and the funeral services were attended by a large concourse of people, who gathered to pay their respects to one of the most highly valued citizens of the county. We have already detailed the incidents of his early life. He was married when forty-five years of age and up to that time had taken but little interest in religious matters. He then became interested in the theories of Swedenborg and was satisfied that his doctrines the most nearly coincided with his ideas upon these important subjects, and to these he adhered thereafter. Upon being compelled by failing health to abandon active labor, he devoted the funds which afterward accumulated from various sources in assisting men without means to secure homes, and seldom closed an interview with anyone without touching upon religious subjects and endeavoring to impress the

truth he held dear upon others. He entertained peculiar views in regard to woman suffrage, arguing that as husband and wife were one, their names should be received only as one vote. He would require intelligence and respectability, and that the Legislative proceedings should be attended and watched over by the wives of the Legislators. He sincerely believed that these measures would in due time become necessary for the preservation of the nation. He left to his son and daughter the duty of distributing each year where they were likely to do the most good, \$100 worth of books pertaining to Swedenborgian doctrines.

The first husband of Mrs. Stephen Sargent, Jacob Harland by name, was born in Warren County, Ohio, Feb. 18, 1799, and was married to Miss Chenoweth, Nov. 7, 1822. His death took place in Clark County, Ill., Aug. 7, 1836. The five children of this marriage were Burn; Louisa, who married John Short and is a resident of Charleston; Amanda, who died in October, 1830; George, who died in Springfield, Ill., after serving as a Union soldier, and Martin C., a resident of Guthrie County, Iowa. The mother of our subject was born in Kentucky and emigrated to Vincennes, Ind., with her parents when a young lady, riding on a pack saddle the greater part of the way. The family afterward removed to Clark County, this State, where she was married to and resided with Mr. Harland until his death. John Chenoweth, the father of Mrs. S., was born March 15, 1780, and died in Clark County, Ill., March 18, 1855. His wife, Rebecca, was born Jan. 18, 1785, and died July 17, 1846. They were buried in the old family cemetery on the homestead in Clark County.

John S. Sargent received a common-school education and remained with his parents until after the outbreak of the Civil War, when he enlisted in Co. C, 68th Ill. Vol. Inf., and was assigned to patrol duty around Washington and Alexandria. He was then but sixteen years of age, and remained in the army until the close of the war. After receiving his honorable discharge he returned home and took charge of his father's farm, and on the 24th of March, 1870, was married to Miss Maria A. Turner. Mrs. Sargent was born June 3, 1848, and is the daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth J. Turner,

natives of Kentucky. Of her union with our subject there have been eight children born, namely: Margaret P., born Jan. 28, 1871; Jessie R., April 23, 1873; Ernest, born Feb. 20, 1874, and died Aug. 23, 1876; Ada O., born Sept. 15, 1875; Coral T., Jan. 15, 1878; Paul T., July 23, 1880; St. John, March 23, 1884, and one who died in infancy unnamed.

Mr. Sargent has been prominently connected with township matters since reaching manhood, holding the offices of School Director and Trustee, and casting his influence upon the side of prohibition. He was a candidate for State Senator on the Prohibition ticket in 1884, and is at present Chairman of the County Committee. With his family he belongs to the New Jerusalem Church. Mr. and Mrs. Sargent removed to Urbana, Ohio, to educate their children at the university. This being accomplished they returned to the farm, where our subject experiences no greater pleasure in life than watching the products of the seasons and embellishing his homestead as his means and tastes may dictate.



JOHN STOKES, an aged and retired farmer, now a resident of Oakland Village, came to Illinois in the spring of 1840, and located in Edgar County, where he purchased fifteen acres of land and engaged in farming. In 1849 he moved to near the Edgar and Coles County line, where he engaged in brick-making and general farming one season.

Mr. Stokes commenced life in a humble manner, and when setting out for himself possessed a cash capital of twenty-five cents. He labored hard, lived economically, and is now one of the prosperous property holders of Coles County, who is enabled to live comfortably upon the fruits of his early industry. Our subject is a native of Halifax County, Va., was born Sept. 2, 1799, and is consequently advanced a long distance on the journey of life. His parents, Samuel and Mary (Gentry) Stokes, were also natives of the Old Dominion, whence they removed to North Carolina, where the death of both took place. The children of the par-

ental household, eight in number, were named respectively, John, Richard, Elizabeth, Henry, William, Samuel, James and Mary.

John Stokes remained under the home roof until reaching his majority, and was subsequently occupied in farming. When thirty years of age he was united in marriage with Miss Lutitia Allen, the wedding taking place in Wayne County, Ind., in 1829. Mrs. Stokes was born in South Carolina, June 22, 1810, and by her union with our subject became the mother of eleven children: Richard was married three times, and is now living in Edgar County; George W. died when eighteen months old; Samuel, when four weeks old; Mary A. became the wife of Benjamin Timmons, and departed this life at the home of her husband in Edgar County, in 1877; John W. married Miss Rosa E. Slater, and lives in Oakland; Susan, the wife of Ambrose Bandy, lives in Oakland; James K. P. married Miss Melinda Wright, and is living near Oakland; Levi is deceased; Ellen is the wife of Charles Gobart, of this county, and Alma married Mr. Sherman, of Moultrie County. Mr. Stokes removed from his native State to Indiana, and thence to Illinois in 1840. He meddles very little in public affairs, but usually votes the Democratic ticket. Mrs. Stokes is a worthy member of the Baptist Church, with which she became connected sixteen years ago.

John W. Stokes, the second son of our subject, owns seventy acres of land in Oakland Township, where he is engaged in the breeding of fine horses. He received the advantages of a common-school education, spent a few months in teaching, and afterward engaged in farming on eighty acres of land, ten of which he afterward sold. He was married, Dec. 16, 1874, to Miss Rosa E. Slater, who was born in Loudoun County, Va., Nov. 18, 1854, and is the daughter of John G. and Ann (Rush) Slater, natives of Loudoun County, Va. They have three children: Flora M., born May 7, 1876; Bertha E., Jan. 18, 1878, and Willis V., Nov. 13, 1879. Mr. Stokes, in 1886, spent two months in Florida on a business speculation, but meeting with better results in Illinois concluded to abandon Southern enterprises and remain in the Prairie State. He has a fine assortment of draft horses and mules, and is

quite successful in his present calling. He has been School Director for several years, is a member of the United Brethren Church, and, like his father, is a staunch Democrat.

WILLIAM H. THORNTON, deceased, well known to the agricultural community of Humbolt Township for a period of twenty-five years, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising, was a native of Huddersfield, Yorkshire, England, born Nov. 20, 1837, and departed this life at his home in Humbolt Township, Oct. 29, 1879.

Mr. Thornton was the eldest in a family of three children born to John and Maria (Mallinson) Thornton, natives of England, who emigrated to America in 1842, and settled in Cook County, this State, where the father followed carpentering and cabinet-making. He also purchased a tract of land where William H. was reared. The latter received a good education, completing his studies in the schools of Chicago. He remained at home until nearly twenty-one years of age, then returned to England and spent six months visiting among his old friends and acquaintances. After coming back to the United States he engaged in mercantile business in a suburb of Chicago for a short time, but this being unsuited to his tastes he sold his stock of goods and coming to Coles County, purchased sixty-four acres of wild land of the Illinois Central Railroad, and for seven years thereafter was industriously engaged in its improvement and cultivation.

Mr. Thornton was married rather late in life on the 8th of June, 1869, to Miss Mary G. Jaquess, third child of Ashbury C. and Jane (Ashworth) Jaquess, natives respectively of Kentucky and Tennessee, and they became the parents of ten children. They removed from the South to Indiana during its early settlement, their daughter Mary being born in Posey County, Jan. 30, 1842. She came to Coles County to visit friends and there met our subject. After their marriage they took up their residence on the farm of Mr. Thornton. He had never been robust in health and not

long after his marriage found his strength unable to meet the hard demands of labor on the farm. He had added eighty acres to his original purchase, but in 1877 rented the entire farm, and crossing the Mississippi settled down in Wichita, Kan., where, with his wife who had accompanied him, he resided nearly two years. The change at first seemed beneficial but a severe attack of measles shattered his constitution beyond its power to recover. He returned to his old home in Illinois and there closed his eyes upon the scenes of earth.

The life and character of Mr. Thornton had been such as commended him to the good-will and affection of a large circle of friends. He was upright and conscientious in his dealings, and for many years prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church as Class-Leader and Trustee. He built up for himself a good record and his name is held in kindly remembrance by all who knew him. He left a widow and three children, the latter named respectively, James, Wilbur and Nellie. Their second child, a little daughter named Flora, died at the age of five years while her parents were residents of Wichita. Mrs. Thornton continues on the farm with her family, and with the aid of her sons carries it on in a commendable and profitable manner. She is carrying out as far as possible the wishes and plans of her late lamented husband, carefully superintending the cultivation of the soil, and giving her attention to stock-raising. She also is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and an active worker therein.



ABJAH D. NEAL, a well-to-do farmer of Hutton Township, is comfortably located on section 23, and carrying on the various departments of his chosen calling with intelligence and success. He is a native of the Blue Grass regions, born in Bourbon County, Ky., Feb. 11, 1822, and is the descendant of Jacob Neal, well known in that section, where he built up a good home and spent the greater part of his life as a carpenter and powder-maker. He was born March 24, 1747, and died in his native county, at an advanced age. His wife was formerly Miss Ann

Yeamin, who was born Nov. 11, 1751, and they were married Dec. 4, 1772. They became the parents of a fine family of sons and daughters, all of whom reached maturity and among whom was John T., the father of our subject.

John T. Neal was the youngest son of Jacob and Ann (Yeamin) Neal, and was born Sept. 5, 1795, in Bourbon County, Ky. His younger days were spent at home with his parents and his schooling was very good for those days. After reaching manhood and making his preparations for the establishment of a home he was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Darnels, who was born April 18, 1796, and was the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Robie) Darnels, natives of Maryland. The young people after their marriage continued in Bourbon County until 1827, then came to Crawford County, this State, where the death of the father occurred in 1832, when he was but thirty-seven years of age. He had improved his opportunities for gaining information and taught school several seasons after coming to Illinois. The mother survived her husband over forty years, her death taking place Sept. 27, 1874, at the home of Lowery, in Clark County, Illinois.

The six children of the parental family were: Granville D., who died May 26, 1886; James, who also died young; Mary; A. D., of our sketch; Joseph T. and Elizabeth. Our subject was the sixth child of the family, and with his brothers and sisters received simply a common-school education. He was but eleven years of age when his father died and continued with his mother until his marriage, which occurred when he was twenty. The maiden of his choice was Miss Eveline Reed, and the wedding took place at the home of the bride Jan. 27, 1842. Mrs. Neal was born Dec. 26, 1820, in Kentucky, and was the daughter of Samuel and Hannah Reed, natives of Virginia. The young people after marriage settled in Hutton Township, and in the spring of 1844 removed to the place which they now occupy. Mr. N. in the spring of 1839, had entered eighty acres of timber land and now commenced opening up a farm, cutting down a large quantity of timber, and after much labor had prepared the greater portion for cultivation. The change since that time has indeed been great. The

household was gradually enlarged by the birth of children, of whom the record is as follows: Owen C., born Feb. 19, 1843, when a youth of nineteen years, during the progress of the Civil War, enlisted in Co. K, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf., and was killed at the battle of Perryville, Oct. 8, 1862; Mary E., born Dec. 19, 1844, became the wife of Chris Stanbury, and is residing with her husband in Hutton Township; John T. was born Aug. 17, 1847; Samuel D., Dec. 3, 1849; Vincent T., Feb. 10, 1852; Martin P., Oct. 11, 1854; Hannah M., the wife of Napoleon Phipps, Oct. 26, 1856, and James E., May 21, 1860. In about 1864, Mr. Neal met with a serious and almost fatal accident by a wagon upsetting with a log upon it, pinning him to the ground and nearly crushing the life out of him. He was laid up a year on account of this, but has now mostly recovered from its effects.

Our subject meddles very little with politics and has repeatedly declined office, although consenting to serve his township in local matters. He votes the straight Republican ticket. Mrs. Neal is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church.

REV. SAMUEL MILLS, one of the well-known figures passing in and out among the people of Hutton Township, has been a resident of Central Illinois for the past twenty-one years, and is proprietor of one of the finest homesteads in Coles County. His residence stands upon the highest point of land between the Wabash and Mississippi Rivers and commands a fine view of the surrounding country, which comprises a beautiful landscape, stretching away fifteen miles to the south over the Parker Prairie, including a delightful valley with just enough of wood and water to make one of the fairest pictures ever presented to the eye. The farm has been brought to a good state of cultivation and the buildings include a handsome dwelling, a substantial barn, and all the other appliances of a first-class country estate. Mr. Mills has been largely instrumental in effecting these improvements and deserves great credit for the taste and enterprise which have characterized his labors.

Our subject is the descendant of an excellent

Southern family, his grandfather, Ethelbert Mills, having been a native of Virginia, where he obtained a classical education, and for many years afterward carried on the trade of a hatter. He married the daughter of Capt. Charles Wells, and there were born four children, a daughter, Mary, and three sons. Two of the latter served in the War of 1812, and one died at Pueblo, Mex. Hiram was a Christian preacher, and Nicholas a blacksmith by trade. Samuel C. was the father of our subject, and Charles, a minister of the United Brethren Church, and traveled in its interests for a period of twenty-five years.

Grandfather Mills left his native State in about 1812, or during the war of that period, and emigrating to Perry County, Ind., bought a tract of heavily timbered land, a part of which he cleared and occupied a few years, then removed to Dubois County, where he passed the last years of his life. He survived his wife several years, and both were buried in the cemetery at Huntingburg. The Mills family were of English origin, and the paternal grandmother was of German descent. Her son, Samuel C., the father of our subject, was born in Virginia, Feb. 2, 1792, and received a common-school education. While a young man he learned the hatter's trade of his father, which, however, he only followed for a brief time, his tastes inclining him to a more active life. When twenty-two years old he entered the army as a substitute, receiving for his services two land grants. After serving out his term of enlistment, he returned to his father's for a time, but re-enlisted in the regular army and was detailed to duty, running on the Mississippi River. After serving his time and being discharged, he purchased a boat and began trading with the settlers up and down the Father of Waters, and was thus employed until his marriage. The lady of his choice was Miss Lucinda Main, who became his wife in 1818, the wedding taking place at Cannelton, Perry Co., Ind. Mrs. M. was born in Luzerne County, Pa., Aug. 30, 1802. Her parents, also natives of the Keystone State, removed to Perry County, Ind., during the early settlement of the State, and were numbered among its most honored pioneers. After marriage, Mr. Mills followed his trade at Cannelton a few years,

then purchased a tract of heavily timbered land in Dubois County and began opening up a farm. He erected a comfortable house with a good barn and engaged in the cultivation of the soil for ten years thereafter. Then, selling out, he removed to a point near Vincennes in order to give his children the better advantages of the schools of that section. This proved his final home and where his death took place, Nov. 18, 1871.

The father of our subject fought in the noted battle of New Orleans, Jan. 8, 1815, and for his bravery during his whole career as a soldier, received the approval of his superior officers and the respect of his comrades. Notwithstanding his somewhat changeful life, he preserved the high moral principles in which he had been trained from childhood, and for a period of thirty-five years was a consistent member of the United Brethren Church. He was reared a Catholic and debarred from reading the Bible, but determined that he would procure a copy, and for this purpose rode from Dubois County to Troy, in Perry County, a distance of over forty miles, returning with the coveted prize. This book is now preserved by his son as one of the most precious relics of the past. The home of Samuel Mills, Sr., was the abiding-place of the traveling ministers journeying through that section, and his support and influence were uniformly given to the encouragement of the Gospel. In early manhood he belonged to the old Whig party, but afterward cordially endorsed the principles of the Republicans. The wife of his youth died in May, 1858, while they were residents of Knox County, Ind. She was a lady highly esteemed in her community, and the active sympathizer of her husband in his religious views, belonging with him to the United Brethren Church. Their thirteen children were Mary Ann, Allatha, John C., Nicholas, Lucinda, Samuel, of our sketch, Rachael, Sarah, Hannibal, Charles, Harriet and James (twins), and Martha Jane. The second wife of Samuel Mills, Sr., was formerly Miss Mary Overby, who survived him about five years. Hannibal and Charles Mills served in the late war under the command of Gen. Grant in Missouri, and were present at the siege of Vicksburg. Their regiment was captured by the rebels, but the Mills boys made their escape.

James marched with Sherman in his famous campaign from Atlanta to the sea.

Samuel Mills was born in Dubois County, Ind., June 13, 1831, and was the third son of his father by his first marriage. He received only the advantages of the pioneer schools and remained under the parental roof until reaching his majority, becoming familiar with the various duties of farm life. Soon after attaining manhood, March 25, 1852, he was married to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of William Carpenter, of Kentucky. She was born in Indiana. The young people, after their marriage, located on a tract of land near the Mills homestead, where our subject had purchased forty acres, which, added to the same amount which his father had given him, constituted a snug farm which he occupied until the spring of 1858. The work, however, was performed by employes, while our subject engaged in teaching and studying for the ministry. Upon this place his two oldest children were born, and here the mother died March 25, 1858. His eldest son, Sylvester H., born Jan. 2, 1853, married Miss Parker, of Crawford County, Ill., and is farming in Elk County, Kan.; Erminda, born Oct. 10, 1854, is the wife of James Boyer, a farmer of Clark County, Ill.

After the death of his wife, Mr. Mills began the life of an itinerant minister, but in due time was located where he continued until the spring of 1861. He was here married to Mrs. Sarah (Mason) Cummings, March 14, 1859. Mrs. M. was born in Knox County, Ind., April 7, 1836, and is the daughter of Bennett and Mary Mason, natives of Kentucky. Her father was born in June, 1790, and died May 12, 1873. The mother, born Feb. 14, 1795, died Sept. 29, 1872. Both were buried in Maple Bluff Cemetery, in Knox County, Ind. Mr. Mills was for some time afterward employed in mission fields, and in the spring of 1863 was elected Presiding Elder and became agent for Westfield College, in the interests of which he has since labored. From 1864 until the fall of 1881, he was a resident of Westfield. Then, his sons, having become old enough to employ their time profitably on a farm, he purchased ninety-six and one-half acres, which constitutes the homestead, and which the boys have since managed with ex-

cellent judgment. Mr. Mills also has eighty acres five miles distant from the home farm.

The children of our subject and his wife, nine in number, are recorded as follows: Ivia E., born Dec. 21, 1859, is the wife of Rev. E. H. Shuey, and the mother of two children; they are residents of Clark County, Mr. S. having charge of Shiloh Mission. Alexander H., born Oct. 23, 1861, died when not quite three years old; Charles W. was born March 20, 1864; Jennie J., born Sept. 5, 1866, became the wife of J. Pickrell, and died Feb. 12, 1886; Willie N. was born Nov. 3, 1868; Samuel, born July 23, 1870, died Feb. 23, 1871; Franklin A. was born Feb. 24, 1872; Marsh E., March 2, 1875, and Harry Pearl, April 22, 1877.

Mr. Mills has been a member of the Board of Trustees of Westfield College for a period of twenty-three years, being much of the time President, which office he now holds. He has been one of the most active laborers for that college, which is under the supervision of the United Brethren Church. During the General Conference, which meets once in four years, he is usually delegated to legislative duties, and possesses the ability which has rendered him almost indispensable in connection with Westfield College and the Church at Westfield. He has always supported Republican principles, and is one of those citizens whose place in the community could scarcely be filled as well by any other man.

DANIEL CAMPBELL, of Oakland Township, made his advent into this State nearly forty-four years ago, when a young child, with his parents, who came by team to Edgar County in 1844. His father entered eighty acres of land from the Government, and afterward purchased enough to make a farm of 150 acres, upon which he has continuously resided since that time. The homestead proper is pleasantly located in Oakland Township, on section 28, where, of late years, in addition to general farming, he has given much attention to the breeding of fine stock, in which he has met with more than ordinary success. During his long residence in this section he has

fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and has become one of the landmarks whose place can scarcely be filled when he shall have been gathered to his fathers.

Our subject was born near Fletcher, Miami Co., Ohio, Aug. 10, 1841, and is the son of Abram and Martha (Luce) Campbell, natives respectively of Virginia and Ohio. Abram Campbell was born in 1813, and the mother in 1815. Both are now in Edgar County. The parental family included eight children, five of whom are living. Elizabeth and Ann are deceased; the latter was the wife of I. N. Ward, and died in Edgar County, Ill.; Judia became the wife of Ezekiel Brading; Daniel, of our sketch, was the fourth child; Hester became the second wife of I. N. Ward, and lives in this county; Sarah married Ezra Bear; Clara Jane married John Hodge; Benjamin L. was killed when about sixteen years of age by being thrown from a horse.

Daniel Campbell came with his parents to this State when but an infant, and remained on the farm of his father until reaching his majority. He was then united in marriage with Miss Eliza J. Davis, their wedding taking place on Christmas Day, in 1862, Rev. William Shields, a Baptist clergyman of Edgar County, officiating. Mrs. Campbell was born near Martinsville in Clark County, Ill., Jan. 24, 1844, and is the daughter of Thomas and Clarinda (Craig) Davis, natives of Kentucky. They removed from the Blue Grass regions to this State during its early settlement, before their marriage. After this event Mr. Davis purchased a tract of land, from which he built up a good farm, and which he occupied until the death of his second wife. He afterward married Mrs. Lamb, of Edgar County, and with her took up his residence in that county, where his death occurred in the spring of 1871. He was a member in good standing of the Baptist Church, and both parents possessed those qualities which secured them the profound respect of those who knew them.

Mr. Campbell became a resident of Oakland Township in 1875, and located upon a tract of eighty acres, where he has since followed mixed husbandry and become a valued addition to the farming community. The household of our sub-

ject and his estimable lady was completed by the birth of ten children, namely, Sarah E., now deceased; Thomas A., Benjamin L., Martha A., William A. and Harriet A., deceased, Estella E., Susan C., Lawrence C., and a twin brother of the latter who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. C. united with the Baptist Church about fourteen years ago, and are among its most valued members. Our subject is a Jeffersonian Democrat, fearless in the expression of his opinions, and uniformly upholding that which he esteems to be just and right.



JAMES H. WILLIAMS, a prominent farmer and stock-grower of Paradise Township, was born June 12, 1828, in Culpeper County, Va., and is the son of William and Elizabeth (Templer) Williams, natives of Virginia. William Williams was the son of John and Elizabeth (Whitescaver) Williams, who were likewise natives of Virginia. Elizabeth Templer was the daughter of James and Martha Templer, both of whom belonged to old Virginia families.

In early life William Williams enlisted as Captain and served during a greater part of the War of 1812. He left his native State, and turned westward, when about fifty-two years of age, and settled in Knox County, Ohio. After passing twelve years there he resolved to push still farther West, and accordingly removed to Illinois, and settled in Coles County, where he passed the remainder of his life. He was an active, energetic man, closely identified with political affairs, and a staunch Democrat.

When about nineteen years of age, James Williams left his father's house to begin in the world for himself. He engaged in the first employment that offered itself—that of breaking prairie in the central part of the State. After continuing in this business a few years, he sold his teams, and went overland to California to hunt for gold. The journey was toilsome and hazardous, and required nearly four months for its accomplishment, but he reached his destination in safety, and remained four years in Nevada City, and that vicinity, engaged in mining.

He was quite successful in this enterprise, and had it not been for ill-health would have returned in the possession of a fortune; however, he did well under the circumstances, and returned to Illinois in 1854, where he engaged in farming. He continued in that occupation until May 12, 1862, and then at the call of his country, enlisted in Co. D, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf., under the command of Capt. James L. Hart and Col. James Monroe. He was mustered in at Mattoon and ordered to Louisville, Ky., and thence to Perryville, where they encountered the rebel forces under Gen. Bragg, and engaged in one of the hottest battles of the war. He served throughout the entire war, taking part in the battles of Selma, Chickamauga, Milton Hill, Farmington and many others. At the close of the war he returned home, and settled on the farm on section 14, Paradise Township, where he now resides. He first purchased sixty acres and subsequently added 100 more to this.

April 14, 1880, Mr. Williams was married to Miss Mary Newcomb. Mrs. Williams is the daughter of Oliver and Vina (Strovle) Newcomb. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, but removed to Illinois, where their daughter, Mary, was born and educated in Mattoon. Mr. Newcomb, who was a carpenter and builder by trade, was engaged in the employ of the I. & St. L. R. R. Co., for eight years as a coach builder.

Mr. Williams has erected a fine residence on his property, with other commodious and appropriate farm buildings. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are both earnest Christians, although differing in the outward form of their religious views, the former being a member and Trustee of the Methodist Church, and the latter a member of the Baptist Church. They have one son—Oliver. In public affairs, Mr. Williams has served as Commissioner thirteen years, and in politics always votes with the Republican party.



WILLIAM A. COMBS, one of the honored pioneers of this county, was born in Ashmore Township, July 21, 1837. His parents were John and Doreas (Cox) Combs, of Tennessee, who emigrated north during the early set-

tlement of Illinois. John Combs was a millwright by trade, but also followed farming and the practice of medicine; he only lived to middle age, being cut down in his prime when our subject was a lad seven years of age. After his death the widow purchased forty acres of land in Ashmore Township, to which she removed with her family, and five years later contracted a second marriage.

When about ten years of age our subject left home and took up his abode with his brother-in-law, with whom he remained three years. He then began life practically for himself, engaging at whatever he could find to do, working by the month on a farm. He had learned no trade, nor had he received the advantages of an education. He was industrious and economical, however, and when about twenty-five years of age purchased eighty acres of wild land in Humbolt Township, of which he took possession and proceeded with its cultivation and improvement for twelve years following. In the meantime, in 1865, he took unto himself a wife and helpmeet, namely, Miss Susan Orcutt, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Samuel W. and Roxy (Kellogg) Orcutt, of Massachusetts.

Our subject and his bride located on a farm on section 35, in Humbolt Township, where they lived the first year, and then took possession of his own land. He is now the owner of 227 acres, finely improved, with a handsome and substantial set of buildings, where the proprietor and his family are surrounded by all the comforts and conveniences of a well-regulated modern homestead. He is giving much attention to the raising of graded stock, including Canadian and Clyde horses, Poland-China hogs and Short-horn cattle. His only son and child remains with him and assists in the management of the farm.

Of the four children born to William A. and Susan Combs but one is now living, namely, Dwight M. He was married, in 1886, to Miss Annie, daughter of John and Julia Bowman, of Ohio, and born in Solono County, Cal., in 1866. The first wife of William A. Combs departed this life on the 9th of August, 1876, amid the sorrow and regret of all who knew her. She was a lady possessing many excellent qualities, and had fulfilled in an admirable manner the duties of wife and

mother. Mr. Combs was married the second time, Nov. 6, 1883, to Miss Julia Chambers, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Till and Eliza J. (Trotter) Chambers, natives of the same State, who removed first to Illinois and then to Kansas, where they died several years ago. Of this marriage there have been no children. Mr. Combs is a Democrat politically.



HENRY WRIGHT, foreman of the paint shops of the I. & St. L. R. R. at Mattoon, has been a resident of this city since March, 1872. He has charge of a force of from ten to twenty men, and from his long experience in matters under his supervision has become fully qualified for the duties of his responsible position.

Mr. Wright was born on the other side of the Atlantic, in Stony Stratford, Buckinghamshire, England, Nov. 22, 1833, and is the son of John and Ann (Baldwin) Wright, also of English birth and parentage. John Wright was Superintendent of a large stable in Calverton, England, which position he held many years, and died at the advanced age of eighty-four years. The wife and mother lived to be eighty-seven years old.

Our subject is the youngest of twelve children born to his parents. He attended school until he was fourteen years of age. He was then bound out to serve an apprenticeship of seven years at painting, and at the expiration of this period, worked as a journeyman in his native shire until in July, 1869, when he was nearly thirty-six years of age. He had in the meantime been married, and seeing little prospect in his own country for his advancement or the desired welfare of his family he decided to emigrate to the New World. Landing in Boston he located first at St. Louis and for a year was engaged with the North Missouri Railroad, then went to Jefferson City on the Missouri Pacific, following his trade until 1872. In April of that year he became connected with the I. & St. L. R. R. at Mattoon as foreman of the paint department, and the length of time which he has been with the company is sufficient indication of the re-

spect in which he is held and the value of his services.

Mr. Wright was married in Stony Stratford, England, in 1860, to Miss Martha Downing, also a native of Buckinghamshire, and the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Babbing) Downing, who are now deceased. Of this union there have been born seven children, namely, Ada C., Annie, John D., Harry, Joseph S., Catherine E. and Thomas V. Our subject with his wife and five of their children are members of the First Congregational Church, and possessing unusual musical talent have been prominent in this feature of the Church service for the past seven years. The eldest son, John D., learned painting of his father, and now has charge of the paint shops of the C., R. I. & P. R. R. at Keokuk; Harry is rapidly becoming an expert machinist in the I. & St. L. shops; Joseph S. is in the shop with his father.

Mr. Wright, after becoming a naturalized citizen, identified himself with the Republican party, and socially is connected with the Knights of Pythias.



WILLIAM M. CHETTLE, manager of the Western Union Telegraph office at Mattoon, is an interesting example of the self-made man who began early in life to "paddle his own canoe," and has persevered until he has gained a position with which any reasonable man should be satisfied. The early life of our subject until he was sixteen years old was spent on the other side of the Atlantic, in Nottingham, England, where his birth took place Oct. 16, 1853.

William M. Chettle is the son of George and Ann (England) Chettle, also natives of the British Empire, born not far from the birthplace of their son. The father died in the Crimea of fever in 1855. He had been a soldier in the English army a greater part of his life. While away upon his duties his wife and three children made their home at Nottingham. Of these but two are now living, our subject and his sister, Mrs. Carrie Thompson, of Hyde Park, Cook County, this State. The paternal grandfather of our subject, George M. Chettle, followed a soldier's life nearly all his days and was color-bearer

in an English regiment. The maternal grandfather, Barnes by name, also served in the Life Guards.

The subject of this sketch was in the military school at Nottingham from the time he was seven years old until fifteen. He then went into a printing-office, where he spent ten months, and then started for the United States. After landing in New York he proceeded to Indianapolis and was employed in a telegraph office one year, becoming quite proficient as an operator. Soon afterward, in 1870, he was sent to Chicago to take charge of a branch office for the Pan Handle Railroad, and from there to Stanford, Ky., on the line of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. He was for some time afterward employed at the different points on this road, and finally repaired to New Albany, Ind., where he became assistant in the Union Telegraph office, and remained until 1873. Thence he went to Water Valley, Miss., where he became Train Dispatcher for the Illinois Central. He came to Mattoon in 1875, and has held his present position since that time. He has discharged his duties in a faithful and efficient manner, and has proved himself capable and equal to all emergencies.

Mr. Chettle was married, in 1874, to Miss Emma Edwards, of New Albany, Ind.; and they are the parents of two children—Harry and Gertie. Their residence is located on Broadway. It is in all respects the home of taste and refinement, and is the resort of a large circle of warm friends. Mr. Chettle, politically, is Democratic, and socially, belongs to the K. of P.



AJ. CRAIG, who is located on section 11, Seven Hickory Township, is a native of Morgan Township, this county, where his birth took place on the farm of his father, Isaac Craig, Sept. 11, 1846. He is consequently a gentleman in the prime of life, and by his industry and enterprise years ago, became an important factor among the agricultural and business interests of this part of Illinois.

Mr. Craig remained a resident of his native township until a boy nine years of age, when his parents removed to Edgar County, where he lived

until reaching his majority, being engaged mostly in the labors of the farm. In the meantime he had also acquired a good education and taught school for six months. This occupation, however, had little attraction for him, and desiring a more active life he returned to this county and located on a tract of land which is now included in his present homestead. He commenced with energy the task of its improvement and cultivation, and was greatly prospered in his labors, in due time adding to his real estate until he was the possessor of 440 acres. He has of late years been largely engaged in the breeding of fine horses, the head of his stables being a magnificent Clyde stallion which he and his brother Lafayette own together, and which has already become a favorite in this part of the county.

The subject of this history is one of fourteen children born to Isaac and Elizabeth (Bloyer) Craig. The former was a native of Kentucky, born near West Liberty, Sept. 25, 1810, and remained a resident of his native county until his removal to this State. He first located in Edgar County, subsequently coming to this county, then returned to Edgar, and finally retraced his steps to this section, locating in Charleston, where he is still living, retired from active labor but still competent to look after his banking and real estate interests.

The first wife of Isaac Craig became the mother of six children, namely, Lafayette, Robert, Elizabeth, Harriet, William R., now deceased, and one who died young. Mrs. Craig died at the homestead in Coles County. He was subsequently married to Miss Elizabeth Bloyer, a native of Lancaster, Pa., who had come to this State with her parents and located in Morgan Township. Of this union there were born eight children, of whom the record is as follows: Catherine is married, and a resident of Charleston Township; her first husband was T. Beatty, who died while a soldier in the late war, and she was afterward married to Robert McMullen; of her first marriage there were born two children, and of her second, five. The second child, James, was born June 29, 1844, and is engaged in the practice of law at Mattoon; he married Miss Mary E. Chilton, and they have five

children. Andrew J., born Sept. 11, 1846, married Miss Sarah Zinks, a native of Edgar County; she was born Aug. 9, 1848, and is the daughter of Emanuel and Delilah (Wright) Zinks, natives respectively of Kent. Pa., and North Carolina. They were the parents of eight children, Mrs. C. being the youngest. Of this marriage there are three sons: Luther, born April 19, 1873; Frank H., Aug. 9, 1875, and Arthur E., March 8, 1877. Ellen Craig was born in April, 1848, and became the wife of Newton Swango, a native of Kentucky, where his parents are still living; Mr. and Mrs. S. had six children, of whom two are deceased; they are residents of Charleston. Isaac B. Craig, Jr., was born in 1850, and married Miss Helen Hasbrook; he is engaged in the practice of law in Mattoon; they have no children. Benjamin F., born in 1852, died at home in the fall of 1873. Thomas J., born in 1865, married Miss Martha Mountjoy; they have no children, and are residing with the father in Charleston; Mary F. died when young.

Andrew J. Craig since locating in this county permanently, has been prominently identified with its local affairs, and in June, 1874, was elected to represent Seven Hickory Township on the County Board of Supervisors and re-elected two years thereafter. He has of late been largely engaged in stock-raising, feeding large numbers of cattle and shipping them to Chicago and other Eastern markets. He takes a genuine interest in the welfare of his community, uniformly votes the Democratic ticket, and is a member in good standing of the Christian Church.

HENRY C. LAYTON, of North Okaw Township, located on section 28, is a native of Garrard County, Ky., where his birth took place April 9, 1822. His family history in its main points, is briefly as follows: Stephen Layton, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of France, under whose sunny skies he remained until reaching manhood, and was there married to Miss Martha Anderson. He emigrated to the United States in 1774, and settled in South Carolina two years previous to the breaking out of the

Revolutionary War. In this he engaged, as did his famous countryman, La Fayette, on the side of the Colonies, fighting in their behalf until they had secured their independence. He then returned to his farming interests, and spent the remainder of his life in the State that he had first selected for his residence. His wife, the year following his death, removed to Garrard County, Ky., accompanied by her three sons and four daughters. She remained there the balance of her life, passing away at the ripe old age of eighty-three years. Her ten children were named respectively, James, Annie, Elizabeth, Thomas, John, Stephen, Martha, William, Lydia and Jennie. All of these, with the exception of the two latter, became men and women, and were all married. The parents were people of the highest moral principles, and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Among the sons of Stephen and Martha Layton was William, who became the father of our subject. He was born in Spartanburg District, S. C., April 9, 1783, and received his education in the schools of his native county. He was quite young at the time of his father's death, and removed with his mother to Garrard County, Ky., remaining with her while she lived. He was married in 1805, to Miss Mary A. Yator. This lady was born in Kentucky in 1787, and was the daughter of Henry and Nancy Yator, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ireland; both are now deceased. After his marriage, William Layton followed boating on the Mississippi for about fourteen years, and then learned the trade of a stonemason. This he pursued several years, and then purchased a farm in Garrard County, upon which was a gristmill and a sawmill. These he operated several years, and then selling out, removed to Butler County, Ky., where he continued farming until his accumulated years obliged him to abandon active labor. His death took place in March, 1866, when he was eighty-four years of age. The wife and mother had died thirty-three years before, March 14, 1833, while the family resided in Garrard County. The remains of both were laid to rest in the family burying-ground of her father. They were members of the Baptist Church. William Layton served in the War of 1812, receiving a Major's

commission, and participating in the battle of New Orleans. Their children, thirteen in number, were named respectively, Nancy, now deceased; Susan, Elizabeth, John J.; Henry C., of our sketch; Amanda, Margaret, James, Thomas, Mary A., Martha; William, who died young, and Abraham, who died in Tennessee in about 1868.

Henry C. Layton received his education principally from his wife after they were married, his early advantages having been extremely limited. The country around his father's homestead was thinly settled, and the nearest school-house was at least four miles distant, the path to it being marked by blazed trees. He remained a member of the parental household until twenty-four years of age, and was then united in marriage with Miss Martha J. Logan, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride, Dec. 3, 1844. Mrs. Logan was born in Garrard County, Ky., Sept. 29, 1827, and is the daughter of Hugh and Elizabeth (Lay) Logan, natives respectively of North Carolina and Virginia. Her paternal grandfather, Timothy Logan, went to Kentucky with Daniel Boone, of whom he was a close associate, and his nearest chum during the Revolutionary days. After his marriage Mr. Layton purchased land in Garrard County, upon which he operated until 1853, then sold out and moved to Macon County, Ill., in the fall of the year. There he purchased 150 acres of land, which he occupied thirteen years and then sold out, and with the proceeds came to this county and purchased 120 acres near Fuller's Point in North Okaw Township. Here he resided eleven years and then leased the northeast quarter of section 28, of which he has since retained possession. He has brought about many improvements upon his later purchase, and has become one of the familiar figures of this section, whose place it would be difficult to supply. He and his estimable wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically, Mr. L. uniformly upholds the principles of the Democratic party. He served as Assessor one term, and has been School Director a number of years. The thirteen children of our subject and his wife are recorded as follows: Elizabeth, born March 5, 1847, is the wife of Henry McDaniel, a resident of Nebraska; William T., born April 24, 1848, mar-

ried Miss Lucy Ross, and is living in Coles County; Mary A., born Jan. 19, 1850, is the wife of Martin V. Ellis, of Gage County, Neb.; J. Hugh, born Sept. 24, 1851, married Miss Louisa Rightsell, and is living in Stoddard County, Mo.; John J., born May 31, 1853, died Sept. 12, 1854; James M., born May 14, 1855, died on the 24th of September following; Amanda, born April 4, 1857, died Dec. 6, 1858; Margaret A., born June 23, 1859, died Sept. 29, 1860; Laura, born June 4, 1862, is living with her parents; Frances M., born April 16, 1864, is a resident of Kansas; Andrew J., born May 31, 1866, is at home; Louis C., born April 16, 1868, died in July following; Charles was born Oct. 27, 1869.

Stephen and William Layton, the grandfather and great uncle of our subject, were the only members of their family who came to the United States. They both settled in South Carolina, but William, becoming dissatisfied, started for Vermont, and was never afterward heard from.



WILLIAM H. COMBS, located on section 19, Morgan Township, is the son of William and Margaret (Myers) Combs, and was born in Clark County, Ind., Dec. 26, 1844. The father of our subject was born near Pittsburgh, Pa., and died in Clark County, Ind., when forty-five years of age. He had emigrated to that State in early manhood during its first settlement, when many of the people took refuge in the forts as a protection against the Indians.

The father of William Combs, Sr., was a native of Wales. The maternal grandfather of our subject was of German parentage and born in Pennsylvania. He grew to manhood in his native State, and going to Spencer County, Ky., located there, reared a family, and remained a resident until quite old. He then went to Clark County, Ind., where he died at the home of his son-in-law, William Combs, Sr., at the age of ninety-three years. Grandmother Myers had died in Kentucky when seventy-six years of age. Their family consisted of nine children, all now deceased, and two of whom spent their last days in Indiana. Grand-

father Myers was a cabinet-maker by trade, with which he occupied himself in Pennsylvania and Kentucky, and being fond of country life also purchased a farm and carried on agriculture. There is in the family of Mrs. Cofer, a sister, a large side-board which was made by Grandfather Myers and is greatly valued as a relic of the past.

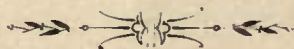
William Combs, Sr., learned the trade of a shoemaker when a young man, which he followed during the early part of his life, principally in the winter seasons, and manufactured the shoes for his family after he was married. Miss Margaret Myers became his wife in the spring of 1823, in Spencer County, Ky., whence they afterward migrated to Clark County, Ind., where they remained until June 1, 1853. They then came to this county and located on a part of the land which is the present home of our subject. William Combs, Sr., first purchased 352 acres of land for which he paid \$10 per acre. Of this eighty acres were fenced, and there had been built a log house, which the family occupied for a number of years. In about 1855, Mr. C. put up the dwelling which is now occupied by his son, our subject, and the lumber for which was hauled by teams from Terre Haute, Ind. Mr. Combs finally became the owner of 618 acres of land, but had parted with considerable of it at the time of his death. At the settlement of the estate, his son William received forty-five acres.

William Combs, Sr., died on the homestead which he had established in this county, Sept. 1, 1874, being in the seventy-second year of his age. The children of the parental family were nine in number, viz., Sarah Ann, Mary J., Jessie, Nancy B., Catherine, Maggie J., William H., Rachel E. and John. The mother of these children departed this life on the 2d of July, 1881, having survived her husband nearly seven years. She had been a devoted member of the Christian Church for a period of forty-one years, and with her husband had trained up her children in the same faith. The father of our subject had been a Deacon in this Church from 1854 to the time of his death. He was social and genial in his nature, and delighted to talk about one adventure in his life when he joined twenty or thirty of his neighbors and started on a bear hunt. Tradition does not state how many

animals they found or killed, but there is no doubt but that the honest old pioneers made of it a very enjoyable occasion.

The subject of this sketch owns 175 acres of good land which was a part of the old homestead of his father, and where he has resided since a boy of nine years old. Here he developed into manhood and was married, Oct. 9, 1874, to Miss Marietta Lippincott, of Morgan Township. The wedding occurred at the home of the bride's parents, and the happy pair took a trip to the capital of the State, making an examination of the public buildings and visiting other points of interest. Upon their return they settled contentedly down to housekeeping, and since then have been living quietly and contentedly, rearing their children and enjoying the confidence and esteem of their neighbors. Of their union there were born five children, viz., Ollie May, who died when an interesting little girl of four years; Clara Williams; Freddie B., Nellie and Elmore.

Mr. Combs and his family occupy a substantial and commodious dwelling, and the barns and out-houses are in keeping with the general thrift and enterprise of the proprietor. Our subject, politically, is a reliable Republican, and with his wife, a member in good standing of the Christian Church, in which he was reared. He keeps himself well posted upon current events, is interested in the welfare of his community, and has served as School Director for the past five or six years.



MRS. SARAH E. CUNNINGHAM, widow of the late Hon. James T. Cunningham, comes of a family widely and favorably known in this section of Illinois, being the daughter of Rev. Thomas and Martha (Patterson) Threlkeld, natives of Scott County, Ky. Her paternal grandparents were Jesse and Lucinda (Campbell) Threlkeld, natives of Virginia, who removed to Owen County, Ky., at an early period in its history. They engaged in agricultural pursuits, and became the parents of nine children, of whom Thomas, the father of our subject, was the eldest born.

The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Cunningham

were Matthew and Margaret (McHatten) Patterson, natives of Pennsylvania, whence they removed early in life to Scott County, Ky., and there spent the remainder of their days. Martha, the mother of Mrs. C., was their eldest child. Mr. Patterson was a surveyor, and acquired a good property in Kentucky. Rev. Thomas Threlkeld was a minister of the Baptist Church, and commenced preaching in Kentucky when twenty-two years old. He served in the War of 1812, and came to Illinois in 1830, settling in Coles County on a tract of land in Lafayette Township, where he farmed and administered to the spiritual wants of the people until arriving at the advanced age of seventy-one years. He preached his last sermon in the Baptist Church at Mattoon, when so feeble that he was unable to stand, and survived but three weeks afterward, dying at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Cunningham, in the village of Mattoon, April 19, 1865.

Mr. Threlkeld was a man singularly gifted with those qualities of character which obtained for him the universal respect and esteem of all who knew him. He possessed more than ordinary ability, and represented Coles County in the Legislature of Illinois in 1841. His amiable and estimable wife passed to the better land in 1862. Of their nine children but two are now living, namely, Mrs. Cunningham, and Nancy, the wife of Gen. Milton True, of Seward County, Neb.

The marriage of Miss Sarah E. Threlkeld and John T. Hendricks was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Lafayette Township, in 1839. Mr. H. was a native of Cynthiana, Harrison Co., Ky., born in 1811, and the son of John and Cynthia (Wilson) Hendricks, natives of the same place. John Hendricks, Sr., came to Illinois at an early day, and locating in Moultrie County, formerly Shelby County, engaged in farming and merchandising until his decease. Of his marriage there were born two children, John T. and Polly A. The latter became the wife of Charles W. Nabb, and both are now deceased. The son, John T., after arriving at suitable years, also engaged in farming and merchandising, like his father before him, and in 1839 was appointed Postmaster at Whitley's Point. He was stricken down in his prime, however, dying in the spring of 1841. By his marriage he

was the father of two children: Cynthia A., who married Ira James, of Mattoon, and had three children—John Q., Frank P. and Justin C. John Q. married Miss Mattie D. Stubbins, and they have two children; Frank P. married Harrietta Watt; Justin C. married Miss Florence E. Weaver. Mrs. Cynthia James died in 1872. Martha E. Hendricks became the wife of J. W. Doran, of Mattoon, and has three children, namely, Thomas T., who married Miss Emma Casey, of Boston, Mass., and is the father of one child, Thomas J., a resident of Washington, D. C.; the others are Laura B. and Nellie R. Mr. Hendricks was a Democrat, politically, and a prominent member of the Christian Church.

Mrs. Hendricks was the second time married, in 1852, to Hon. James T. Cunningham, who was born in Hardin County, Ky., in 1802, and was the son of Wright and Nancy (Taylor) Cunningham, of the same State, where they were numbered among the most highly respected members of the agricultural community. Mr. Cunningham came to this State in 1830. He had formerly been married to Miss Elizabeth C. Yocum, of Kentucky, who departed this life in September, 1848. After his marriage he continued farming in Coles County, became possessor of a large area of valuable land, and also purchased and sold cattle extensively. He was elected to the Illinois Legislature six times from Coles County, and served as Justice of the Peace a number of years. He was largely identified with the business interests of Mattoon Township, and was instrumental in the organization of the first bank. In 1860 he was the Congressional nominee of the Republican party, but defeated with the balance of his ticket. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham became the parents of two children: Nancy T., now deceased, and Elizabeth C. Mason, of Mattoon, who is the mother of two children—Bertha and Burton.

Mrs. Cunningham is passing her declining years among her children and the friends who gathered around her many years ago, and to whom she became endeared by her amiable and excellent qualities. She is blest with an abundance of this world's goods, and is kind and hospitable, always mindful of the comfort of those less fortunately situated.

She united with the Baptist Church in 1843, but became connected with the Christian Church in 1865, and is an active member of the Home and Foreign Missionary Societies.

SAMUEL E. CHAPMAN, who has followed farming a large part of his life, is at present engaged in the manufacture of brick and tile within the town limits of Oakland, with whose business and industrial interests he has been identified for the past forty-five years. He is a fine illustration of the self-made man, who commenced life at the foot of the ladder, and by his energy and perseverance has made of it a gratifying success. Besides his property in Oakland he owns one of the finest farms in Douglas County, which is under a high state of cultivation, and said to be excelled by none in the State in point of quality.

Mr. Chapman is a native of Brown County, Ohio, born May 8, 1821, and is the son of Benjamin and Indiann (Ellis) Chapman, natives of the same State. The father followed farming, and died in his prime, when forty years of age, in 1835. The mother, who was some years younger than her husband, survived him fifteen years, dying in Illinois in what is now Douglas County, in 1850. The record of their children is as follows: Henry married Miss Black, and is a resident of Douglas County; Samuel, of our sketch, was the second son; Elizabeth E. died many years ago; Adam F. married Miss Porter, who died after a few years, and his second wife was Miss Ramsey, of Bracken County, Ky.; Mary died in Brown County, Ohio, when a child of six years, and Benjamin F. died some years ago in New Mexico.

When Mr. Chapman set out in life for himself he embarked in merchandising, carrying a stock of dry-goods, groceries and jewelry, and also furnished undertakers' materials. After a successful trade of six years he was burned out, in 1886, and only recovered about \$1,700 insurance on a building and stock worth \$7,500. He had become a prominent factor in the business interests of Oakland, and this misfortune was a severe blow, but he lost no time in repining, and not long afterward established his

present business. He has worked hard and been very successful, and is now running the largest factory in the township. His product is of first-class quality, and he burns about 200,000 tile per year.

Mr. Chapman has been President of the Town Board for many years, and School Director for fifteen years. He served as Constable in Douglas County four years, and acquitted himself creditably in the duties of a position which called for careful work and cool judgment. Politically he is a true-blue Republican, and socially has been identified with the Masonic fraternity for a period of twenty years.

The lady who has been the worthy and estimable companion of our subject for more than thirty years, was formerly Miss Charlotte J. Coleman, to whom he was married in September, 1855. Mrs. Chapman is a native of Indiana, born in Vermillion County, in March, 1832, and removed with her parents to Vermilion County, Ill., and afterward to Douglas County. Of this union there was born one child only, a son, Alfred N., who married Miss Belle Curtis, and is following the trade of a carpenter in Terre Haute, Ind.



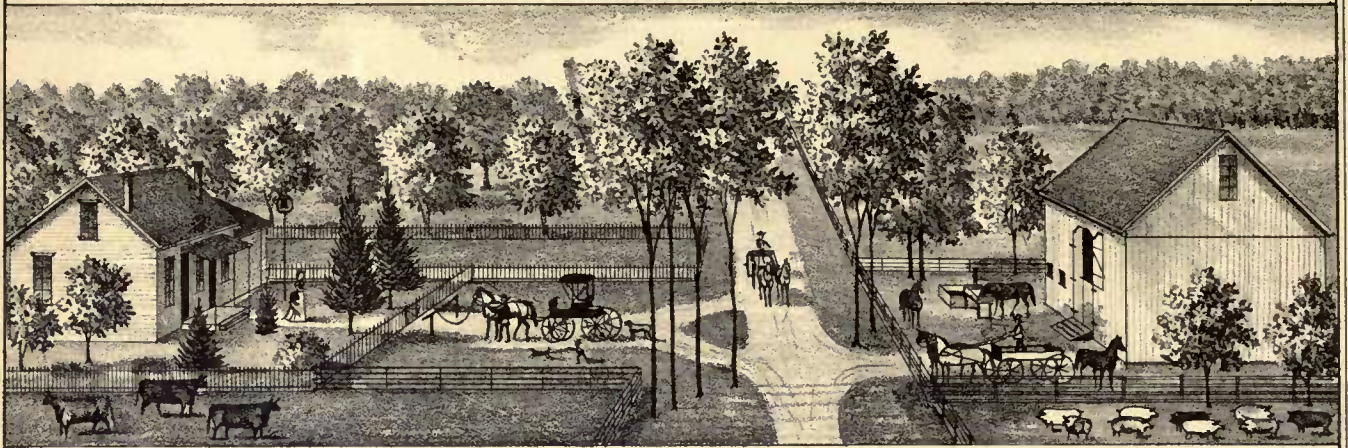
WILLIAM CLARK, a native of Greene County, Pa., was born Feb. 14, 1814, and was the ninth in a family of thirteen children, the offspring of Samuel and Lydia (Strong) Clark. His father was a shoemaker by trade, but strongly inclined to a country life, and occupied a farm in Greene County, while at the same time carrying on his trade as time and opportunity afforded. He removed from his native State to Ohio while still a young man, and thence to Harrison County, Ind., where he continued to pursue his farming operations and shoemaking until resting from his earthly labors, at the ripe old age of eighty-seven years. In the meantime he had served in the War of 1812, and frequently related many interesting incidents of army life, the remembrance of which continued with him until his last days. He was a

man of much intelligence and kept pace with current events.

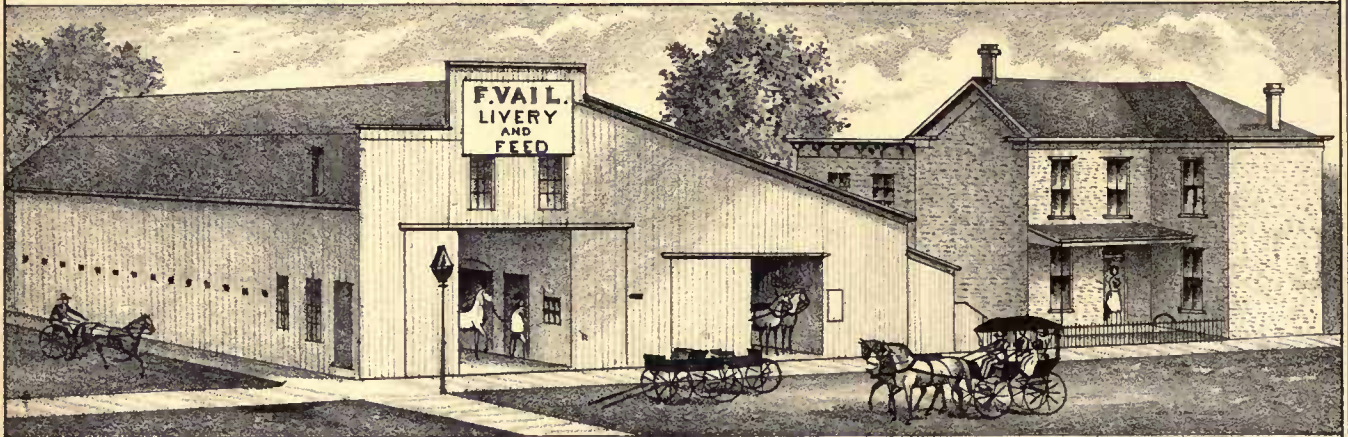
The mother of William Clark died when her son was too young to remember her. He continued on the farm with his father until thirteen years old, and in the meantime worked considerably at cabinet-making. At the age of fourteen he went to learn the latter's trade, and followed this nine years, afterward engaging in the dry-goods trade at Cynthiana, Ind. From there he removed not long afterward to Portland, this State, transporting his stock and settling up his business there. His next removal was to Brandywine, and thence to Beard's Mill, where he ran a country store one year, and then traded his stock of goods for eighty acres of land. It had been partially improved and he at once began its cultivation, occupying it just thirteen years to a day. In the meantime, on the 29th of November, 1839, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah A., daughter of Ephraim and Winnifred (Hood) Tucker, and who was the third in a family of eight children. Mrs. Clark was born in Preble County, Ohio, July 6, 1818. Her father had served as a soldier in the War of 1812, but soon after entering the army was disabled from active service.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark soon after their marriage located on the eighty-acre farm first purchased by our subject. After selling this Mr. C. came to this county and purchased 150 acres of improved land on section 32, in Mattoon Township, taking possession on the 1st of September, 1853. With the exception of two years spent in Mattoon for the purpose of completing the education of their children, this has been the home of our subject and his wife for the last thirty-four years. He developed into one of the best farmers in this section, and invested his surplus capital in additional land until he became the owner of about 800 acres, embracing some of the choicest soil in this locality. His residence and other farm buildings are tasteful and substantial structures, and the entire premises has the air of peace and plenty, while the stock and pasture lands each year yield a handsome income to the proprietor. He and his estimable wife are now passing down the hill of life, but they have made for themselves a good record, and one of

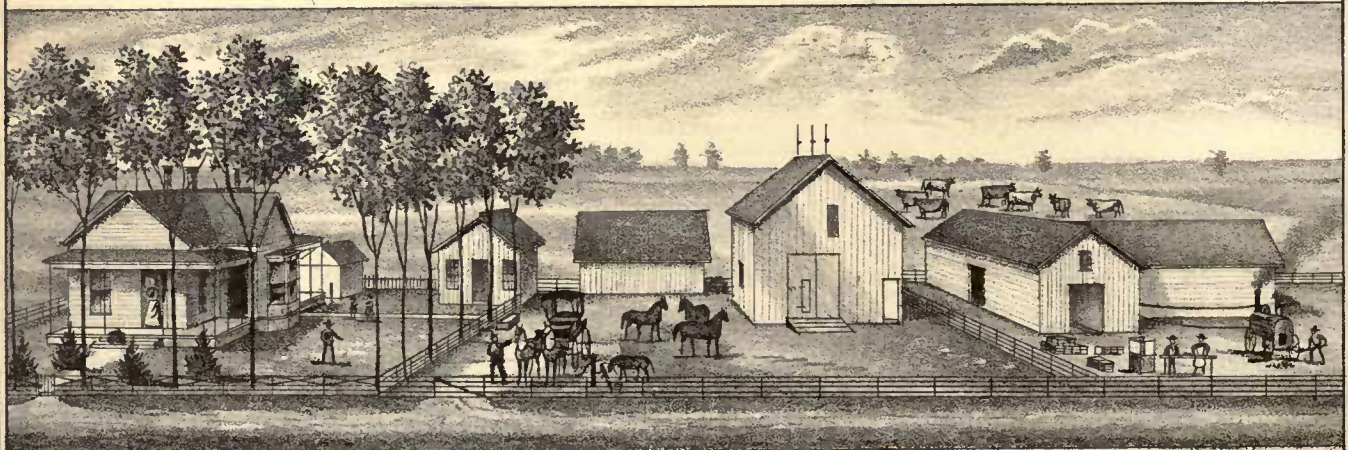
LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



RESIDENCE OF T. A. BENSLEY, SEC. 21. (R. 10. E.) HUTTON TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE AND BARN OF F. VAIL, JACKSON ST., CHARLESTON, ILL.



RESIDENCE OF GEO. L. MILLER, SEC. 23. NORTH OKAW TOWNSHIP.

which their descendants will never be ashamed.

Of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Clark one died in infancy. The survivors are Mary Angeline, Eliza Jane, William Henry, Martha Ann, Samuel Ephraim, Emma Elizabeth and James Calvin.

THOMAS N. COFER is the owner of a fine estate containing 320 acres of land, located on section 29, Seven Hickory Township, where he carries on a large business in farming and stock-growing. He was born July 20, 1839, in Hardin County, Ky., and is the son of Col. John and Eleanor (Magill) Cofer. His boyhood and youth were passed on the homestead in his native township until 1854, when his parents removed to Illinois. Their family located six miles west of Oakland, and their house was the last dwelling on the western borders of that settlement until the belt of timber was reached, at the extreme western limits of the county. They purchased land, and during the first year devoted 250 acres to corn and seventy-five to oats, but nearly all of their crops were lost, owing to the unusually dry weather which prevailed during that season. Mr. Cofer had purchased 130 head of cattle, and was obliged to drive them to the head of Lake Fork, northwest of Arcola, to furnish feed for them until spring. They resided on this place three years, and then returned to their old home, where after two years they were burned out, losing all of their household property.

On the 23d of November, 1870, Thomas Cofer was united in marriage with Miss Rachel E. Combs, by Elder Samuel Miller, Pastor of the Christian Church, who is still living, and has reached the age of seventy years. Mrs. Cofer was born July 29, 1846, in Clark County Ind., and is the daughter of William and Margaret (Myers) Combs. Her parents removed to Illinois in 1853, and settled in Morgan Township, where they passed the remainder of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Cofer have an interesting family of four children: Thomas N. J., born Sept. 1, 1871; William E., Dec. 10, 1872; John C., Feb. 17, 1874, and Margaret E., March 28, 1880.

Mr. Cofer is active and enterprising in business,

and has brought his farm to a fine state of cultivation. His residence is substantial and comfortable, and all of his farm buildings are well appointed and kept in excellent order. His genial disposition and integrity of character in all the relations of life have won a large circle of friends both in business and in social life. Mr. and Mrs. Cofer differ in the outward form of their religious faith, the former belonging to the Methodist and the latter to the Christian Church at Rural Retreat. Mr. and Mrs. Cofer are members of the Grange and active in promoting its interests.

JAMES W. CRAIG, attorney and counselor at law, and a resident of Mattoon, was born in Morgan Township, this county, June 29, 1844. He is the offspring of a well-known and highly respected family, being the son of Isaac N. and Elizabeth (Bloyer) Craig, natives of Kentucky and Pennsylvania respectively. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Robert Craig, a native of Virginia, removed to Kentucky when a young man, and located on the Licking River, where he became one of the most prosperous farmers of that region. Desiring, however, to come North, he, in 1828, removed to Clark County, Ill., where he followed his former occupation, and became prominent among the well-to-do and reliable citizens of that locality.

The Craig family is of Scotch ancestry, and the great-grandfather of our subject served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and religiously, was a Scotch Presbyterian of the old school. His son, Robert, served in the War of 1812. His grandson, Isaac N., the father of our subject, was in the Black Hawk War, a part of which was fought on the soil of Illinois. On the maternal side of the house the Bloyers were from Switzerland, whence they emigrated at an early day and settled in Lancaster, Pa. After the death of Grandfather Bloyer, the mother came with her family to this county, and located at Charleston, where she resided until her death. Isaac N. Craig made farming his business during the early part of his life, but retired from active labor many years ago, having accumulated

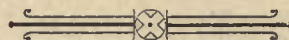
a fine property, and is now living in Charleston, surrounded by all the comforts of life. His biography will be found elsewhere in this volume.

The parental family of our subject included nine children, and James W., of our sketch, was the fifth of the family. He remained on the farm with his parents until twenty years of age, and received a practical education at the country schools, being fond of his books and ambitious to excel. Before reaching his majority he entered the office of Col. O. B. Ficklin, where he engaged in reading law from July, 1864, to the fall of the following year. Afterward he entered the law department of the Michigan University at Ann Arbor, from which he was graduated in 1867. Soon afterward he formed a partnership with Col. Ficklin, and commenced the practice of his profession in Charleston. He removed to Mattoon in 1868, but continued in partnership with the Colonel several years. His progress has been steadily onward. In 1872 he was elected States Attorney for Coles County, which office he held four years, and aside from this has built up a profitable and extensive practice. At the same time he has been interested in the moral and intellectual welfare of the community around him, interesting himself in the city schools, and is at this time President of the Board of Education.

The marriage of James W. Craig and Miss Mary, the daughter of James and Lavina (Dore) Chilton, was celebrated at the bride's residence, June 17, 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Chilton were natives of Maryland and Maine respectively, whence they both emigrated West in their youth, and were married in Scott County, this State. Mr. C., during his early manhood, engaged in merchandising, but in 1860 sold out his stock of goods and repaired to a farm north of Charleston.

Our subject and wife have become the parents of four children, namely, Lizzie I., Edward C., James W. and Donald B. They occupy a handsome home in the western part of Mattoon, and number among their friends the most cultivated people of the city. Mr. Craig, politically, is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, and socially a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity. As a citizen and business man he ranks with the prominent and successful element of Central Illinois.

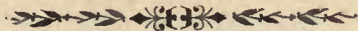
Isaac B. Craig, who is the junior of his brother by nearly eleven years, was born on the farm in Morgan Township, April 28, 1855, and remained there, attending the district school during the winter season, until a youth of eighteen years. He then entered the High School at Charleston, where he was graduated, and later commenced studying law under the instruction of Col. O. B. Ficklin & Co. He completed his legal education in the University at Ann Arbor, and commenced practice at Mattoon in 1879. That year also he was united in marriage with Miss Helen, the daughter of Abram and Susan (Smith) Hasbrouck, of Mattoon. He bids fair to follow in the footsteps of his brother, who has attained to such success and popularity, and is a worthy representative of one of the finest families in the State.



JAMES KANE owns eighty acres of good land on section 13, in Humbolt Township, where he has built up a good home and is surrounded by all the comforts of life. He commenced life without means and his accumulations are the result of his own perseverance and energy. His birthplace was on the other side of the Atlantic in the city of Belfast, Ireland, in about December, 1834, and he is the only survivor of ten children born to his parents, Patrick and Eliza (O'Harry) Kane. The parents also died in their native Ireland many years ago. Their children were named respectively, Mary, Rosanna, Eliza, Sarah, Ellen, Margaret, John Patrick, Robert and James, our subject being the youngest. Mr. Kane spent his boyhood and youth in his native city, and after beginning to think of the future, saw little in that part of the world to induce him to remain. Accordingly in 1854, he secured passage on a sailing-vessel, and after a voyage of seven or eight weeks, found himself in the city of New York. From there he proceeded to Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, and commenced in earnest the later battle of life. The year following his arrival in this country he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Brady, their wedding taking place in Madison, Ind., on the 15th of May, 1856. Mrs. K. is a native of the same country as her husband, born

in County Math, in 1836, and is the only child of James and Rosanna (Riley) Brady, also natives of Ireland. Her father died in the county of his birth, and her mother, emigrating to this country, departed this life in the city of New Orleans in about 1850.

The eleven children of Mr. and Mrs. Kane are Eliza, John, Patrick, Robert, James, Rosanna; Ellen, the wife of John Stewart, of Indiana; Sarah, Mary, Margaret and Daniel C. All are members of the Catholic Church, and Mr. Kane, politically, votes with the Democratic party. During the late war he enlisted as a Union soldier in the 22d Indiana Infantry, participating in many important battles, and being wounded at Pea Ridge in both feet by a piece of shell. He was mustered in in 1861 and discharged in 1863.



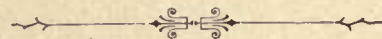
KENNY EDMAN is a substantial farmer, residing in the eastern part of Pleasant Grove Township, his land adjoining the Embarras River, where his father located in 1853. He is the son of Jacob and Mahala (Armstrong) Edman, his maternal grandparents being Jarred and Agnes (Hines) Armstrong (see sketch of Joseph Armstrong). Jacob Edman was born Jan. 30, 1807, in Highland County, Va., and passed his early life in his native State, where his marriage to Miss Mahala Armstrong took place in 1831.

In 1852 Mr. Edman removed with his family to Illinois, and settled in Coles County, where he passed the remaining years of his life engaged in agricultural pursuits. His wife did not long survive the removal from her Southern home to the harsh climate of Illinois, but died soon after their arrival here, leaving a family of seven children, whose record is as follows: Abel and Wellington, deceased; the latter served in the Civil War in the 8th Illinois Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Shiloh. The names of those living are: Joseph, Martha, Mary, Kenny and Jacob. Mr. Edman was married the second time, to Miss Frances Rodgers. Several children were born to this marriage, three of whom are now living—Robert, Anna and John. Mr. Edman's death

occurred Feb. 28, 1883. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church until a few years previous to his death, when he attached himself to the United Brethren Church. He left an estate of 188 acres of land and his widow still survives him.

Kenny Edman was born Feb. 19, 1849, in Highland County, Va., and was a child when his parents left their native State and removed to Illinois. He has been a resident of this county since that period, where he was reared on his father's farm. In 1871 he married Miss Eliza Hughes. Mrs. Edman is the daughter of William and Ellen Hughes, and is a native of this county. After his marriage Mr. Edman engaged in farming on rented land until 1884. He then purchased a tract of land containing 168½ acres, to which he has since added seventy-one, all of which is well cultivated and improved. Mr. Edman is industrious and energetic in business, and courteous and hospitable in his home.

Mr. and Mrs. Edman have a family of five children—Fred, Charles, Fannie, Minnie and Wesley. Mr. Edman, deeply regretting the limited educational advantages of his own boyhood, is very desirous of affording his children the inestimable privileges of a liberal education. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and in politics always votes with the Republican party.



HENRY EVERSOLE, a prominent farmer and stock-grower of Seven Hickory Township, is the owner of a fine estate containing 240 acres of valuable land, located on section 22. He was born Oct. 2, 1831, in Fairfield County, Ohio, and is the son of David and Elizabeth (Miller) Eversole. His great-grandfather was a native of Germany, who emigrated to this country and settled in Pennsylvania. His grandfather was born in that State, but subsequently removed to Virginia, where his father, David Eversole, was born, and where his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Miller took place. She was likewise a native of Virginia. A family of ten children was born to them, all of whom, with one exception, are now living. Maria is the wife of Joseph Graham,

and they live in Fairfield County, Ohio; Lizzie died of measles at the age of eighteen; Jacob is married and resides in Shelby County, Ill.; Emanuel is married and lives in Iroquois County, this State; David is married, and residing in Van Wert County, Ohio; John P. is married and a resident of Fairfield County, Ohio; Lydia is the wife of N. Peters, and they live in Fairfield, Ohio; Nancy is the wife of Abram Turner, and resides in Woodford County, Ill.; Martha, the wife of Jacob Tidd, also resides in Fairfield County, Ohio; Henry is the subject of this sketch.

Henry Eversole lived on the homestead until the age of twenty-eight, then in 1854 came to Coles County. His marriage to Miss Sarah J. Work took place Oct. 21, 1858. Mrs. Eversole is the youngest daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Henley) Work, and was born Oct. 10, 1836, in Clark County, Ind. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania, and her mother of North Carolina. Mrs. Work's family were among the earliest settlers of Indiana. Her parents made the long, toilsome journey from North Carolina to that State by team, and their daughter Elizabeth walked a great part of the way. Mr. and Mrs. Work's family consisted of ten children, four of whom are deceased. Jesse resides in Missouri; Campbell C. is married, and lives in Texas; Samuel resides in Hot Springs, Ark.; Louisa is the wife of John Beggs, and resides in Clark County, Ind.; Elizabeth is the wife of James Wheatly, an extensive farmer residing in Seven Hickory Township, and Sarah J. Mr. and Mrs. Eversole had a family of five children born to them. Lula L., born Jan. 16, 1860, resides at home; McClellan, born Aug. 25, 1861; Henley, July 31, 1863; John H., Feb. 17, 1867, and Bert, born Nov. 30, 1872, died Sept. 13, 1873. The latter was a beautiful child, the pride of the family, and his death was a great blow to his parents. The children all reside at the homestead, and the two eldest sons, who are talented, well-educated young men, teach school during the winter and assist their father on the farm in the summer. They are all bright and intelligent, and their parents may well take a justifiable pride in them.

Mr. Eversole came to Coles County in 1854, and lived for one year on what is known as Greesy

Point, and bought a quarter of a section of land, the part of section 23 that now belongs to Ely Foster. After selling his property to Mr. Foster he returned to Ohio, but came back soon after, and in 1858 settled on the farm where he now resides. His pleasant and commodious residence is located in a fine grove, and his farm buildings are all substantial and well appointed. He also owns 400 acres of excellent land in Butler County, Kan. With his wife and family, Mr. Eversole is a member of the Christian Church at Rural Retreat. In politics he is a Republican.

JOHN W. B. GROVE, a valued member of the farming community of Charleston, came to this State in the spring of 1864, and commenced operations on a tract of rented land in Douglas County. A year later he removed to a point about four miles from the town of Charleston, where he rented a farm one year, and then purchased 181 acres, which he occupied six years. This he afterward sold and took up his residence at Charleston, where he engaged in the hotel business two years, and afterward spent a year in Kansas. Then returning to Illinois, he leased the place which he now occupies, and upon which he has since remained.

Mr. Grove is a native of Fayette County, Pa., his birth taking place Aug. 15, 1817. His parents, Parry and Mary (Sprinkle) Grove, were also natives of the Keystone State, where the father engaged both in farming and trading in grain until his removal to Ohio, in 1844. There he located in Fairfield County, where he pursued farming until removing to Champaign County, in that State, when he changed his occupation somewhat, and conducted a hotel until resting finally from his labors. He was a man of great energy and industry, which qualities he preserved until the close of a long and eventful life, his death taking place July 2, 1881, after he had arrived at the age of eighty-five years. His wife, Mary, had preceded him to the silent land, her death taking place May 21,

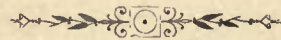
1872, her age sixty-nine years and eight months. Their children were named respectively, John W. B., Mary M., Henry, Matilda, Elizabeth, Shepard, William, Maria and Sarah L. With the exception of Henry and Maria, who died when young, these are all living. The father descended from English ancestry, and the mother from the German. Parry Grove was a genuine Jacksonian Democrat, a great admirer of "Old Hickory," a man of decided views, and fearless in the expression of them. Both parents were connected with the Presbyterian Church, and reared their children to strictly observe the rules and regulations laid down for the government of its members.

The subject of this history, in common with his brothers and sisters, was trained in early life to habits of industry, and when but fifteen years old could drive a four-horse team and take a large Pennsylvania wagon-load of grain safely to its destination many miles away. He continued a member of the parental household until twenty-three years of age, in the meantime having been married. After this event he farmed twelve years in his native State, and in 1854 emigrated with his family to Champaign County, Ohio. He first located on a farm near Urbana, which he rented five years, and afterward leased a hotel which he conducted three years. In 1864 he desired to proceed further westward, and came to Douglas County, this State. His subsequent career we have already indicated.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married in the spring of 1840, was formerly Miss Jane Gettys, a native of his own county, and who became the mother of nine children. These were named respectively, Ashbel M., William H., Samuel E., Shepard B., James H., Isaac N., Anna M., Parry W. and John E. Mr. Grove is, as was his father before him, Democratic in politics, and possesses in a marked degree the same substantial traits of character which distinguished Parry Grove during his early manhood, and which did not leave him as his years multiplied. Mr. Grove has served as Assessor of Hickory Township, and has been School Director besides occupying other important offices among his townsmen. He has been for many years identified with the Masonic fraternity and the I. O. O. F., and is in all respects a reliable

citizen who is held in high regard by his friends and neighbors.

The parents of Mrs. Grove were Samuel and Annie (Gettys) Gettys, natives of Ireland, the former coming to this country when a lad twelve years of age, and the latter being brought by her parents when a babe of three months. Their ancestry had been crossed by the excellent Scotch element, which had made of them honest and upright citizens, and both became residents of Fayette County, Pa., where they were reared and married, and where their twelve children were born. Of these eleven lived to be men and women; Mrs. Grove was the fifth in order of birth. Samuel Gettys departed this life in Fayette County, Pa., in the spring of 1850. The mother afterward removed to Meigs Co., Ohio, where she resided one year, then went to Champaign County, and thence returned to her old home in Pennsylvania, where her death took place in 1873. Both parents were members of the Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Grove officiated as Elder for many years. But four of the children are now living, viz., John, Sarah, Mary, and Jane, the wife of our subject.



JOSEPH CARTER, who for the last twenty-four years has been located on section 33, in Morgan Township, is the son of John and Mary (Templeton) Carter, of Tennessee, and was born Aug. 6, 1827. John Carter, a native of Tennessee, was born in 1784, and departed this life at his home in Ashmore Township, July 19, 1841, when fifty-seven years of age. He requested that his funeral services be conducted on the following Sabbath by James Ashmore. He had been a resident of this county for eleven years, residing near Ashmore. The mother was a native of East Tennessee; she died about the year 1857. Both parents belonged to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, of which the father had been a member since early manhood. His parents had reared a large family of children, of whom only John came to this locality.

The children of John and Mary Carter, nine in number, are recorded as follows: Susan became

the wife of John Austin, and died in Ashmore; Shelton is married, and lives there; Nancy is the wife of Robert Boyd, of Kansas; Bailey was married, and died in 1847, leaving a wife and two children; Thenia married Solomon Collins of Morgan Township, and died in 1856; Jane, the wife of Caleb Reed, is living at Ashmore; Joseph, of our sketch, was the seventh child; Betsey married James Cox, of Ashmore, and is now deceased; Catherine became the wife of George Young, and died in Oregon.

Joseph Carter remained a member of the parental household until twenty-one years of age, and early in life began to make himself useful about the homestead. He was a bright and intelligent boy, and when but fifteen years of age partially took charge of his father's farm. Soon after reaching his majority he was married to Miss Martha J. Collins, of Morgan Township. Our subject then located on section 32, where they lived until 1863. Mrs. Carter was the daughter of Aaron and Margaret (Campbell) Collins, of North Carolina, and became the wife of our subject Oct. 18, 1848, the wedding being celebrated at the home of the bride. She is a native of this county and was born March 2, 1831.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Carter resulted in the birth of the following children: William J. was born Oct. 1, 1849, is married, has one child, and is living in Oakland; Thomas B., born Nov. 3, 1851, is married, has two children living, and is farming in Douglas County, Ill.; David W., born Oct. 2, 1855, died Sept. 11, 1858; Mary Jane, born April 23, 1858, is the wife of J. K. Brown, a farmer of Edgar County; Alice, born Jan. 7, 1861, is at home with her parents; John A., born June 3, 1863, died Sept. 15, 1869; Delilah B., born Sept. 10, 1865, died Nov. 5, 1866; Jacob S., born Sept. 14, 1867, died Sept. 19, 1869; Margaret E., born May 26, 1870, became the wife of David Carnahan, and is living with her parents.

Mr. Carter took possession of his present homestead over twenty-four years ago, and has since given the greater part of his time and attention to its improvement and cultivation. The land is largely devoted to grain-raising, and the proprietor keeps a goodly assortment of live-stock. While

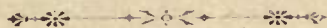
having plenty to engage his attention about his premises, he has still maintained a proper degree of interest in the welfare of his community, and for some years has been a member and Elder of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, together with his wife and three daughters, attending at Rardin. He was one of the first supporters of this religious institution at its organization, and ten years previously had been connected with the Union Church in the northern part of the township. Politically he is a stanch Democrat, a free-trade man, and a member of Hazel Dale Grange No. 1,322.

Mr. Carter was born in Wayne County, Ky., whence his parents removed when he was a child not quite three years of age. They made the journey overland to Central Illinois, and a little daughter was added to the family after they located in Coles County. His father had led quite an adventurous life in his manhood, being engaged in the fight with the Creek Indians under Gen. Jackson. Joseph, our subject, served in the Mexican War. He did not, however, remain with the army many months, as he was taken ill soon after crossing the Gulf, and confined in the hospital, from which he was discharged Nov. 20, 1846, and also from the army on account of physical disability.

Mr. Carter, in 1852, like a great many others at that period, was seized with the California gold fever, and joined the caravan moving toward the Pacific Slope. The journey was made with an ox-team and consumed five months and eighteen days. He was gone from home twenty-nine months, returning to this State in August, 1854, but aside from his opportunities to see the country, the adventure proved of but little benefit, as his labor in the mines yielded but small returns. He came back by way of the Isthmus and New York City, and has never regretted the opportunity which he had for witnessing the strange sights connected with life in the wild West at that early period.

Mr. Carter has been prominently identified with local affairs since coming to Morgan Township, having been School Director for a period of twenty-one years and Road Commissioner eight years. He is the oldest settler in the county now living in the township, and is accorded that peculiar reverence and respect due those who have so ma-

terially assisted in redeeming the soil of Central Illinois from its original condition. His farm includes 200 acres of finely cultivated land, with a good residence and all necessary out-buildings, and everything about the premises is creditable to the taste and industry of the proprietor. The lowland has been drained with 800 rods of tile, and Mr. Carter has operated in a marked degree after the methods of the intelligent and progressive farmer.



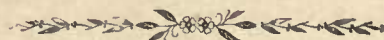
REV. JOHN GILBERT SAWIN, of the firm of J. G. Sawin & Co., general merchants, and of the firm of I. W. Sawin & Co., grain and hay dealers at Loxa, was born on the farm of his father in Bartholomew County, Ind., March 1, 1838. He is the son of James H. and Carolina (Harvey) Sawin, the former a native of New York State and the latter of New Jersey. James H. Sawin located in Bartholomew County, Ind., after his marriage, where he engaged successfully in farming pursuits, and spent the balance of his life, his death taking place in the spring of 1871. He left an estate including 200 acres of land and its buildings, which constituted a comfortable homestead. There the wife and mother still resides. She was born in 1808, and has consequently attained to the advanced age of nearly fourscore years. The parental family included nine children, all of whom attained their majority and five are now living.

The subject of this history, who is a gentleman of excellent education and more than ordinary ability, was reared on the farm and received briefly the advantages only of the common schools, his attendance there being limited to six months. He was fond of his books, however, and did not abandon them after leaving school, but kept up a course of reading by which he secured a good fund of information and which enabled him to cultivate his literary tastes, which were developed largely in after years. He resided in his native State until after reaching his majority, and in 1862 came to this county, settling in Lafayette Township, on the farm where he still resides, and which comprises a fine body of eighty-five acres, adjacent to the town

limits and upon which is a good set of frame buildings. Mr. S. became connected with his present business in 1870, and has been engaged in merchandising for the past twenty years. He was married in this county, in 1862, to Miss America L., daughter of Dumas and Lucy (King) Jones, and who was born in Coles County, May 26, 1846. Of this union there are four children—Ida F., the wife of J. P. Stout; Lucy C., Clara V. and William G.

Mr. Sawin has been identified with the old-school Baptist Church since 1860. The year following he was ordained as a minister, and for twenty-seven years thereafter officiated in various places, traveling one year 11,000 miles in the prosecution of his pious duties. His health, however, gave way, and he was obliged to abandon his arduous labors and choose something less active, although he still officiates in the pulpit of the church near Loxa and occasionally in other places. He represented Lafayette Township on the County Board of Supervisors five years, and since becoming a voter has been the staunch supporter of Republican principles.

Mr. Sawin is a natural linguist, a fluent speaker and writer, and an excellent penman. He never studied grammar in his life but has been the author of many interesting articles, and his manuscript has always been highly complimented by the "intelligent compositor." His tastes have been literary in a large degree, and in 1881 he founded the "Youth's Home Journal," a sixteen-page monthly, which he published at Loxa with success for two years. His strength then gave out, and he was obliged to abandon for a time anything which required the exercise of labor, either mental or manual.



GRAY BROTHERS comprise Samuel B., David D. and Matthew S. Gray, who are associated together in conducting an extensive stock farm, containing 668 acres, located on sections 29 and 30, Lafayette Township. Their parents were Robert and Martha (Dunwiddie) Gray. Robert Gray was born Feb. 16, 1790, in Tennessee. His father was a farmer in that State, and Robert was reared at home, where he received a practical training in the various departments of agriculture.

When the War of 1812 broke out he enlisted, and received the commission of Lieutenant, serving his country faithfully until peace was restored. At the close of the war he returned to his native State, and resided there until 1830, when he removed to Illinois, and for a short time made his home in Paris, Edgar County. In the spring of 1831 he changed his location, and became an early settler of Coles County, spending one season near Charleston, and during his residence there Charleston was first laid out as a city. In the spring of 1832 he entered land in Pleasant Grove Township, and made his permanent home there, giving his attention to agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his life.

Robert Gray was twice married. His first wife was a Miss Fain, who died leaving six children, only two of whom are now living—John M., a resident of Concordia, Kan., and Mary J., now Mrs. McCord, a resident of New Enfield, Ill. On the 21st of October, 1828, Mr. Gray was married to Miss Martha Dunwiddie; she was born Dec. 25, 1800, in Tennessee, and her death occurred March 6, 1873. By this marriage eight children were born, six of whom attained maturity: Samuel B. was born Oct. 27, 1829, in Washington County, Tenn.; David D., Dec. 23, 1831, in Charleston, Ill.; Robert R., July 18, 1833, in Pleasant Grove Township, and his death occurred Nov. 30, 1858; Matthew S. was born Oct. 18, 1835, in Pleasant Grove Township; Ellen J. was born June 4, 1837, and died at the age of ten years; Margaret A. was born Nov. 8, 1839, and is now the wife of Thomas N. Means, making her home at Paris, Ill.; Franklin N. was born Jan. 15, 1842, and died at the age of nine years; Martha C. was born March 10, 1845, and died Dec. 9, 1880. Robert Gray's death occurred Feb. 7, 1865.

The Gray brothers have always been associated together in business, although at one time several of them held clerkships in Charleston for a number of years. When the Civil War broke out Samuel B., John M. and Matthew S. enlisted Aug. 1, 1862, and were all mustered into service with Co. I, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf. Samuel B. was severely wounded in the engagement at Milton, Tenn., and was conveyed to the hospital, at the end of eighteen months re-

ceiving his discharge on account of physical disability; Matthew was wounded in the last battle of the war at Selma, Ala., and John returned home unscathed by shot or shell.

It is not often that so pleasant an instance of fraternal regard can be recorded as that existing between Gray brothers. In their childish sports and school days they were ever together, and the sterner duties of manhood found them side by side and shoulder to shoulder in the defense of their country, and in the duties of business life. They settled on their present place of residence in the autumn of 1869, and have since kept "bachelor's hall" on that estate. Only two members of their family ever married. In politics they are all supporters of the Republican party, and have occasionally held local offices.

Samuel Gray is one of the Directors of the National Bank of Mattoon, and the brothers own a grocery store in that city, which is conducted by their nephew, P. B. Linn. Samuel Gray, although not a church member, is one of the Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Mattoon, and with his brothers is a supporter of that religious body. There is now a Methodist Church in process of erection on their farm, of which Samuel is a member of the building committee. The Gray brothers are among the substantial and highly esteemed citizens of this county. In business transactions their signature is S. B. Gray & Bros.

MYRON J. FERGUSON, deceased. The subject of the following narrative was a native of Bradford County, Pa., born May. 7, 1828, and the youngest son of Stephen and Mary (Atwood) Ferguson, who were born in the same county. He was reared on a farm and educated principally in the common schools. When he was ten years of age his parents removed from the Keystone State to Illinois, settling on a farm in Pleasant Grove Township, this county, where they spent their declining years.

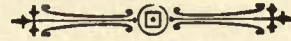
Our subject was reared as a farmer's boy, and after reaching his majority was seized with the California gold fever which, in 1850, was attract-

ing many young men from the East to the Pacific Slope. Young Ferguson joined the caravan moving westward, and after reaching California engaged in mining, in which he was fairly successful. After some years he recrossed the Father of Waters and engaged in farming on the old homestead. The mountain air had greatly benefited his health, and he entered with vigor upon the duties which lay before him, having in view the establishment of a home and domestic ties. Soon after his return he was married, Dec. 20, 1853, to Miss Martha G., the youngest child of William L. and Catherine (Kellar) Williams. Her parents were natives respectively of Maryland and Virginia, but after their marriage took up their abode in Kentucky, whence they removed to Illinois, locating in this county in the pioneer days. Their daughter, Martha G., was born April 24, 1835.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson continued on the old homestead for a period of thirteen years, and then Myron J. put up a dwelling for himself and family near by, and practically breaking loose from the active labors of the farm, began to deal in stock, and as a natural consequence required additional land. At the end of fifteen years, during which he had been remarkably prosperous, he found himself the owner of about 1,000 acres. This comprised a valuable and fertile tract and the large fields were alive with the finest of stock, embracing horses, cattle and hogs. In 1872, however, in order to carry on the education of his children he retired from the farm and moved to Mattoon. He had been already somewhat interested in business there, but continued the supervision of his farm and dealt in stock until failing health compelled him to set aside worldly interests. His death occurred on the 24th of May, 1876. He had purchased a fine residence property in Mattoon where his widow now resides, and is remembered as a wide-awake and enterprising citizen who contributed his full quota toward developing the resources of his adopted county. His straightforward business methods had secured him the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and his genuine kindness of heart drew around him a large circle of warm friends.

Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Fergu-

son, three are still living. Catherine is the wife of Joseph Glenn, an attorney of Mattoon; Oscar is a practicing physician in the latter-named place; Cyphora is the wife of Charles Lindley; Leroy died when four years of age, and an infant died unnamed.



JOSEPH ALLISON, deceased, was one of the pioneers of Coles County, his residence here dating from 1833. His father, Andrew Allison, was born in the North of Ireland, and was seven years of age when his parents left their native land and emigrated to the United States. They were probably the descendants of a Scottish family who took refuge in the North of Ireland during the religious dissensions by which Scotland was disturbed during the latter part of the seventeenth century. They settled in North Carolina, where Joseph Allison was born in 1796. He passed his early life in that State, and his marriage to Miss Margaret Ann Cathey took place there. Mrs. Allison was the daughter of Henry and Margaret Cathey. Her parents were natives of Scotland, who came to the United States and settled in Carolina, where their daughter Margaret was born.

After his marriage, Joseph Allison removed to the State of Tennessee, where he remained about twelve years. The successful close of the Black Hawk War at that time, resulted in attracting many Eastern settlers to Illinois, and Mr. Allison resolved to move with his young family, and brave the perils and hardships of pioneer life on the Western frontier. He came to Illinois in 1833, and settled in Coles County, where his influence in political, religious and moral questions, was of great advantage in the formation of society in a new country. He assisted in organizing the New-School Presbyterian Church, of Pleasant Grove Township, of which he was an active member and one of the first Elders. He was a strong advocate of temperance, and in the early days belonged to the Whig party in politics, becoming a staunch Republican after the organization of that party. His convictions in regard to all subjects of National or social importance were very pronounced, and previous to the war he was a warm Abolitionist. With the

consent and approval of his wife, he made use of a sum of money which she had received from her father's estate in North Carolina, to assist the slaves, who endeavored to escape from the galling chains of bondage to Canada, over the Underground Railroad, and in 1861 circulated a petition containing a large number of names, in behalf of the emancipation of the slave, which was sent to President Lincoln at Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. Allison had a family of seven children born to them whose record is as follows: Sarah, Andrew, Rebecca and John are deceased; Frances is now the widow of Rufus Allison, who served in Co. I, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf., and died at Murfreesboro, Tenn., in 1863; Nancy T., now Mrs. Nicholson,¹ and Mary, Mrs. Grimes. Mr. Allison never aspired to political preferment, but was interested in educational affairs, and served as School Director; he was Treasurer eighteen years. His death occurred in August, 1862. His widow survived him many years, and died in October, 1877.

Mr. Allison was distinguished for his strict adherence to honor and principle in all the affairs of life, and his influence was ever exerted on the side of truth and justice, qualifications which rendered him a man of great value in a new community, where a strong element of law and order-loving people is necessary to restrain the license resulting from a crude state of society.



WILLIAM M. CHAMBERS, M. D., the oldest resident physician of Charleston, came to this county in the fall of 1855, from Covington, Ky., where he had successfully followed the practice of his profession for a period of ten years. He was born in Cynthiana, Ky., April 11, 1814, and is the son of James and Sallie (Rankin) Chambers, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Kentucky. His grandfather, James Chambers, was born in Scotland, whence he emigrated to the United States while a young man, and settled near Chambersburg, Pa., where he followed his trade as a stonemason. He also married there and reared a family, and his son, James, Jr., learned the same trade.

James Chambers, Jr., the father of our subject, served as a soldier in the War of 1812. He came to Illinois in 1850 and settling near Charleston, remained a permanent resident until his death, which took place in the summer of 1873, after he had attained the age of eighty-three years. He was a man of much force of character, a stanch member of the old Whig party, and signalized his belief in the Christian religion early in life by becoming a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he continued until his death. The mother departed this life at the old homestead, near Charleston, in 1855. She also belonged to the same church as her husband, and was in all respects his suitable and worthy helpmeet. The parental household included eight children, five now living, namely, William M., of our sketch, Thomas G., Mary A., Hannah A. and Sarah B.

Dr. Chambers was reared in his native town and attended school there until seventeen years old. There also he commenced the study of medicine in 1833, and three years later began the practice of his chosen profession in Harrison County. He still continued his close application to his books, and in due time entered the medical department of Transylvania University at Lexington, from which he graduated in 1843. His practice while a resident of Kentucky was mostly in Covington and vicinity. After coming to this county and soon after the outbreak of the Rebellion, Dr. Chambers was appointed by President Lincoln Brigade Surgeon in the Union army, serving in the division of the Cumberland until in July, 1865. The fidelity with which he fulfilled the duties of that position was rewarded with the brevet of Lieutenant Colonel and afterward Colonel. In his management of the hospitals under his charge, he displayed most excellent judgment and introduced many features which proved of great benefit to both patients and attendants.

After an absence of four years Dr. Chambers returned to Charleston and resumed his practice as a private citizen, and became connected with the various important medical societies of the Mississippi Valley. He was President of the Kentucky State Medical, the Illinois Medical, and the Esculapian Societies of the Wabash Valley, and in 1877 was

appointed by Gov. Cullum a member of the Health Association of the United States. He is now Examining Surgeon for Pensions.

The marriage of Dr. William M. Chambers and Miss C. A. Porter, of Harrison County, Ky., took place in Pulmansville, Ky., in the spring of 1837. After remaining the companion of her husband but three short years Mrs. Chambers departed this life in the spring of 1840, leaving one child, a son, Charles S., who now a resident of Hopkinsville, Ky. Dr. Chambers was subsequently married to Miss Mary B. F. Ingals, of Kentucky. This lady was a lineal descendant of Daniel Boone, and died on the 30th of December, 1876, at her home in Charleston, leaving two children. These were Mollic M. S., now the wife of Dr. C. A. Payton, surgeon of the Sac and Fox Indian Agency in Indian Territory, and T. Gavin, who is an attorney and a resident of Kansas. The Doctor is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and a Royal Arch Mason.



WILLIAM H. DODDS is a prosperous farmer residing on section 16, Hutton Township. He was born Nov. 8, 1811, in Rockbridge County, Va., and is the son of John and Harriet (Thompson) Dodds, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia. The family of John Dodds removed to Virginia during his boyhood, and his marriage subsequently took place there in Bath County. In 1842 he removed to Fayette County, Ohio. He was a stonemason by trade, but engaged in agriculture in Ohio, and remained there six years. In 1848 he came West and settled in Fulton County, Ill., where he passed the remainder of his life. Mr. Dodds, with his wife, was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and was interested in promoting the cause of religion in the West. In politics he was a Democrat. His first wife, who became the mother of thirteen children, died in Virginia. The following is the record of their family: Mary; William, the subject of this sketch; Alexander, Margaret, Jane, John, Franklin, Charles, Isaac and Robert; three died in infancy; Margaret and Charles are also deceased. The others are married and have fami-

lies. Mr. Dodd's second wife was Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas; their marriage took place in Fayette County, Ohio. Mr. Dodds died at the homestead in Fulton County, where his widow is still living.

William Dodds remained at home until he was about twenty-two years of age. During his boyhood the educational advantages of the country were very limited, and he attended the subscription school of the pioneer days, acquiring such education as its restricted privileges afforded. When about twenty-two years of age he engaged in business for himself, and was married, Oct. 12, 1835, to Miss Frances Deverick. Mrs. Dodds is the daughter of Thomas and Annie (Ewing) Deverick, and was born Aug. 3, 1819, in Virginia. Her parents were natives of Virginia, and Mr. Dodds resided in that State when his marriage took place. He purchased a small tract of land there and was engaged in farming for about nine years. He then disposed of his interests there, and in 1844 removed to Fayette County, Ohio. He carried on a farming business there for about five years, and in the autumn of 1849 came to Coles County, Ill., and purchased eighty acres of partly improved land, which he has since brought to a high state of cultivation. Mr. Dodds is active and energetic in business, and has added to his property until he now owns 120 acres on which he resides, and 120 acres in Union Township, Cumberland County. He rents his farm in the latter place, about 100 acres of which is farming land, and is supplied with a house and farm buildings. He made the purchase at different times as he was prospered in business. In conducting his farm, Mr. Dodds gives special attention to raising the cereals—corn, oats and wheat.

Mr. Dodds has been twice married. His first wife was the mother of ten children. She was a member of the Methodist Church, and a sincere Christian, devoted to the interests of her home and family. Her death occurred Nov. 4, 1861. The following is the record of their family: Mary Jane, deceased, was the wife of John Gossett, and left a family of six children; Harriet, the wife of S. Giffin, resides in Coffey County, Kan.; John W. married Miss Almira Woodworth; his wife died in 1886; Martha, the wife of William H. Berkley,

resides in this county; James married Miss Mary Marrs, and resides in Coffey County, Kan.; Virginia died in childhood; Louisa, the wife of W. S. Cooper, resides in Cumberland County, Ill.; Margaret, the wife of Urias Bennet, lives in Hutton Township; Sally, the wife of Frank Rowe, is a resident of Pleasant Grove Township; Alma is the wife of John McMorris.

July 15, 1862, Mr. Dodds was married the second time, to Mrs. Catherine (Beery) Berkley. Mrs. Dodds is the daughter of Samuel Beery, and was born Sept. 3, 1833, in Rockingham County, Va., of which State her parents are natives. By the second marriage there were five children: William Logan, born July 19, 1863; Charles S., Nov. 9, 1866; Clara M., Jan. 11, 1868; Robert E., May 27, 1870; Dora H., born Feb. 16, 1873, died Dec. 2, 1875. With his wife Mr. Dodds is a member of the United Brethren Church. In politics he is a Republican, and cast his first vote in the early days for Harrison.

Mrs. Dodd's father was born April 3, 1803, in Virginia. His marriage took place there, and he subsequently removed with his family to Ohio, where his death occurred in Hocking County; his wife likewise died in Ohio, in Perry County. Their family consisted of thirteen children—Anna, Milly, David, Catherine, Barbara, Mary F., Joseph, William H., Betsy Jane, John, Margaret and two who died in infancy. Milly, Anna, Catherine, John and Barbara are now living and have families.



JONATHAN SHAVER, a gentleman of fine education and more than ordinary intelligence, has been a resident of this county since the spring of 1866, and is located on a fine farm of 180 acres in Ashmore Township, his property occupying a part of the east half of section 29. The farm is embellished with first-class improvements, and is chiefly devoted to stock-growing, and in all respects indicates the supervision of a proprietor skilled in his calling, and one who has taken advantage of the most approved methods of modern agriculture. The dwelling is a

neat and tasteful residence, handsomely furnished, one of its most attractive features being a library containing the best literature of the day. Mr. Shaver is an extensive reader, and devotes all his leisure moments to the perusal of the subjects treated by the best authors, and thus has kept himself well informed upon current events, as well as the history of times gone by.

Mr. Shaver is a native of Indiana, his birth taking place in Montgomery County, July 22, 1836. His parents, Jonathan M. and Susan (Cook) Shaver, were natives of Virginia. The father, who was born July 10, 1805, followed farming and was also a bricklayer by trade, and spent his last years in Indiana, his death taking place in February, 1866. He had received but limited school advantages, but through his own efforts obtained a good fund of general information, and being a natural mathematician, became master of arithmetic and geometry. He was also well versed in the Scriptures and a devoted member of the Lutheran Church at Ladoga, Ind. The church building at that place was put up mainly through his exertions, and he was always a cheerful and liberal supporter of the institution, giving his means and influence to advance its prosperity. He was a man of decided views, Democratic in politics, and by his energy and industry secured a good homestead for his family and a competence. The mother of our subject was born in 1802, and became the wife of Jonathan M. Shaver in 1826. Their twelve children were Mary, David C., Daniel, Sarah J., Susan S., Jonathan, John, Francis M., Martha W., Martin L., James M., and Eliza A., who died in infancy.

The Shaver family is of German ancestry, and it is supposed that the first representatives in this country located in Pennsylvania. Our subject came to Illinois in 1866, and for more than twenty years has been a resident of this county. He first purchased 140 acres, to which he afterward added forty more, and has now one of the finest farms in Ashmore Township. His marriage with Miss Mary J. Stratton was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Ladoga, Ind., Sept. 31, 1856. Mrs. S. was born in Greene County, Ohio, July 19, 1834. She departed this life, leaving two children: Rozella is married and a resident of Bloomington,

Ind.; Emma J. married John Perry, and died in April, 1887. The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1866, was formerly Miss Angeline Trickey, a native of Indiana, born in 1846. Of the ten children which blest this union but seven are living, viz., Laura V., John H., Ivan H., Grace, Hugh, Lovina and Kyle.

Mr. Shaver is Democratic in politics, and a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he is Superintendent of the Sunday-school, and also officiates as Steward and Trustee. Mr. and Mrs. S. number among their warmest friends the most cultivated people of this section, and their home is in all respects a model one, the admiration of the passer-by and a hospitable resort for a large circle of acquaintances.



JOSEPH M. FERGUSON is one of the prominent farmers and stock-growers of Pleasant Grove Township, and an honorable representative of one of the pioneer families of Illinois. He was born July 17, 1825, in Bradford County, Pa., and is the son of Stephen and Polly Ann (Atwood) Ferguson. His paternal grandfather, likewise Stephen Ferguson, was a native of England, and a member of the British army. He emigrated from the mother country at an early day, and settled in Pennsylvania, where he married a Miss Foster, who came from one of the Eastern States. His maternal grandfather, Myron Atwood, was a native of Wales, and served as a teamster in the Revolutionary War. His marriage took place in this country.

Stephen Ferguson, the father of our subject, passed his boyhood and youth on his father's farm in Pennsylvania. His marriage to Miss Polly Ann Atwood took place there. She was likewise a native of that State. In 1836 he moved to Illinois, and settled in Coles County. He was an active, enterprising man, and carried on a large and successful business here during the remainder of his life. He was endowed with excellent mental abilities, possessed a vigorous physique, and lived to the

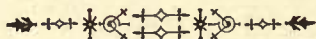
advanced age of eighty years. His death occurred July 5, 1868. His widow survived him ten years, and died Feb. 19, 1878, at the age of eighty-three. They were actively interested in promoting the cause of religion on the Western frontier, and were prominent members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Three children have been born to them, whose names are as follows: William, a resident of Washington Territory; Joseph M., and Myron, deceased.

Joseph Ferguson was eleven years of age when his family settled in Illinois. He was reared on his father's farm, and gained much practical experience in assisting in the various branches of farm labor. He also attended school, making good use of the limited advantages afforded in the pioneer days. In 1849 he married Miss Phœbe Ann Brown, a native of Kentucky. Their married life was of short duration. She died within two years, leaving two children, Mary M. and Stephen, both of whom are deceased. On the 9th of March, 1852, Mr. Ferguson was married to Miss Sarah Alexander. Mrs. Ferguson was born May 30, 1832, in Coles County, and is the daughter of Robert and Jemima (Howard) Alexander. Robert Alexander was a native of Hardin County, Ky. His wife was likewise a native of that State, and their marriage took place there. They came to Illinois in the pioneer days and settled in Coles County in 1831, making their home here until 1854, and then moved to Sullivan County, Mo., where Mr. Ferguson's death occurred in the autumn of the same year. His widow died Nov. 21, 1878. They had a family of ten children born to them, all of whom grew to maturity. Mrs. Ferguson is the eldest child.

Mr. Ferguson located on his present farm in 1858, and in the meantime has given his attention exclusively to farming and stock-growing. He owns 170 acres of valuable land, and has given 200 acres to his children. Eleven children were born to him, only six of whom are now living, as follows: William A., Clarence A.; Clarissa, the wife of Hugh McFadden; Effie, the wife of Charles Landers; Alice and Joseph W.

In early life Mr. Ferguson was a Whig, but became a Republican after the organization of that party. He does not aspire to political preferment,

but is interested in educational affairs and has served as School Director. He is also active in promoting the cause of religion, and for twenty-five years has been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.



NELSON R. GREEN, a prominent and wealthy farmer of Coles County, is now practically retired from active labor and is enjoying the comforts of one of the most elegant homes in Charleston Township. This is located outside the city limits and comprises eighty acres of highly cultivated land, with one of the most handsome and substantial residences in the county. Besides this property Mr. Green owns a farm of 303 acres in Ashmore Township, on which is a commodious farm house and other modern improvements. It is well stocked with the best grades of domestic animals, and Mr. Green, while occupying the farm, makes a specialty of raising Poland-China hogs, importing probably the first animals of the kind in Coles County. He commenced life without means, working much of the time as a farm laborer, and the position which he now occupies in his community, amply indicates the perseverance and industry with which his years have been employed.

Mr. Green has been a resident of this county since the spring of 1849. His boyhood years were spent in Miami County, Ohio, where his birth took place on Christmas Day, 1830. His father, James Green, was a native of West Virginia, in which State various representatives of the family have resided for several generations. The father of our subject remained in the Old Dominion until reaching manhood and was there married to Miss Elizabeth Hemingway, who was born in the western part of the State, in that portion which remained loyal to the Union during the late Civil War.

After marriage, James Green and his bride migrated to Ohio and located in Hamilton County, amidst the timber, where the father of our subject opened up a farm upon a portion of the present site of the city of Cincinnati. After a few years spent in that region they pushed on further westward into Miami County, where the elder

Green proceeded as before, clearing away the timber, erecting a log cabin, and the second time assuming the role of a pioneer settler. After a few years spent there he became uneasy and desirous of setting forth on another pilgrimage. He accordingly loaded his worldly effects into wagons and with his family started to cross the Mississippi and located in Missouri. While journeying through Coles County, this State, they met some of their old neighbors who were returning from Missouri to their former homes. The distressing account which these people gave of matters in that State, persuaded Mr. Green from continuing his journey and he concluded to locate where he was, namely in Coles County. He accordingly settled upon a tract of land in Hutton Township, which he occupied four years and then decided to return to Ohio. Locating in Darke County he again cleared away the forest, broke the virgin soil and put up the cabin of the pioneer. His residence there, however, was of short duration, and we next find him in Randolph County, Ind., where he entered a large tract of land, platted a town, built several houses, and effected many other improvements which induced people to repair there for settlement. He also fitted up a building for a hotel and was pressing rapidly along the road to wealth when he made the mistake of so many generous-hearted men, that of going security for a large sum of money in order to accommodate friends. As is too often the case, when the obligations became due Mr. Green was obliged to meet them, and by this means lost the larger part of his fortune. He finally removed from Randolph to Grant County, and located upon 100 acres of land which he cultivated to the best of his ability until in 1848, when, greatly broken in health and spirits, he was obliged to abandon active labor and died in the fall of the year. Mrs. Green after the death of her husband resided one year in Randolph County and then returned again to Grant County. Finally, at the request of her children, she came to this county and passed her remaining years, her death taking place at the home of her son in Morgan Township.

The household of James and Elizabeth Green included fourteen children, all of whom lived to become men and women, and the parents lived to

witness the marriage of each. Nancy, the wife of Nelson Reddick, and Arthusia who married Nelson McCoy, are now deceased; Katie is the wife of Andrew Frazier, of Union City, Ind.; Andrew is deceased; Zachariah is a resident of Logansport, Ind.; Hester is the wife of Branson Anderson, of Randolph County, Ind. The younger members were: James, John H., William P.; Mary, the wife of A. Wiggs; Nelson R. of our sketch; Henry H., and Hannah J., the wife of G. W. White. The last two are numbered among the dead.

James Green was a man of great force of character and when becoming entitled to the right of suffrage identified himself with the Whig party. When this party was abandoned by the organization of the Republicans, he rallied to the support of the latter and continued their firm adherent to the end of his life. He was strongly opposed to slavery and was one of the most active members of the Abolition party whenever the question of human freedom was agitated. His son, our subject, is imbued with the same principles and affiliates with the same party to which his father belonged at the time of his death.

Nelson R. Green was a youth of eighteen years at the death of the father, and a year later came to Central Illinois and commenced work as a farm laborer at \$10 per month. In 1853 he was employed in a sawmill at \$16 per month. He had been trained to habits of industry and economy, however, and saved his earnings, so that by June, 1854, he had a cash capital of \$300, and a good team of horses. This was considered a fair start in those days and he felt fully justified in beginning to think about a home of his own and some one to share his fortune. The maiden of his choice was Miss Mary E., daughter of Job W. and Martha (Archer) Brown, and they were married at the home of the bride's parents in Ashmore Township, Jan. 19, 1854. Mr. Brown was one of the earliest pioneers of Illinois and located first in Edgar County, where the wife of our subject was born on the 7th of September, 1835. After the marriage of Mr. Green his employer offered him \$26 per month and a house to live in if he would continue in the mill, but he was obliged to decline on account of his health which would not permit con-

tinuous indoor employment. He accordingly rented a tract of land and the first season sowed fifteen acres of wheat, forty acres of oats, and planted sixty acres of corn. He labored early and late, but the season proved unfavorable and at the end he harvested but 225 bushels of wheat, eleven bushels of oats and 200 bushels of corn. This was rather discouraging to begin with, and during the following winter he was glad to work for his father-in-law at fifty cents per day. In the spring, however, he determined to try farming again on his own account, and leased another tract of land. He was fairly successful this year but begrudged the paying of rent, and in 1860 managed to secure possession of seventy-three and one-half acres of land, for which he contracted to pay \$1,400, \$1,000 in cash down. Eighteen months later he cancelled his indebtedness and had a home which he could call his own. His property lay on section 11, in Ashmore Township, and he occupied the homestead thus established for more than twenty-five years and until Jan. 25, 1886, when he took possession of the place he now occupies. He still retains possession of his farm, which is operated by a tenant, and from which he realizes annually a handsome income.

The first agricultural fair ever held in Coles County occupied a strip of pasture then owned by Nathan Ellington, but which is now a portion of the site of Charleston. Mr. Green and his father-in-law attended, the latter exhibiting stock and receiving a goodly share of the premiums. Each year since then Mr. Green has been actively identified with the agricultural society, and is uniformly found in attendance. One year he exhibited a three-year-old that "tipped the beam" at 1,000 pounds.

Mr. Green during his youth received very limited advantages and has been painfully aware of the difficulties encountered by those but imperfectly versed in the common branches of education. In order that his children should not labor under this difficulty, he determined to leave the farm and remove to a point where they could avail themselves of competent instructors. The household circle was completed by the birth of eleven children, of whom two died when young and nine are still

living. Jonathan W. and George A. are prosperous farmers of Edwards County, Kan.; Lulu is the wife of Malden Conelly, and a resident of Hodgeman County, Kan. Those unmarried and at home are William A., Leonard, Carrie, Claude O., Charles N. and Eugene D. They have all inherited the worthy qualities of both parents, and form a family group of which Mr. and Mrs. Green have reason to be proud.



JONATHAN N. SNAPP, after many years spent in honorable toil, is now enjoying the fruits of his early labors, and on a fine homestead in Mattoon Township lives at his ease, amid the affection of his children and the goodwill of his neighbors. His history briefly recorded is in its main points as follows: His birth took place in Washington County, Tenn., March 6, 1832, and he is the son of Jacob and Hepzibah (Waddill) Snapp, his father of German ancestry, but born on the ocean while his parents were coming to this country. The mother was born in Tennessee near Jonesboro.

Our subject remained with his parents, who had moved at an early day to this county, until the death of his father, which took place when he was a young child, and as soon as of suitable years was made acquainted with honest and useful labor, so that upon reaching his majority he was fully competent to "paddle his own canoe." After three years spent in California he purchased seventy acres of land on section 30, in Mattoon Township. He was married, Sept. 4, 1856, to Miss Eliza J. Clarke, whose parents, William and Sarah Ann Clarke, are treated of elsewhere in this book.

The young people first located on a farm adjoining their own land, and thence removed to section 32, on land owned by the brother of our subject. After a sojourn there of eighteen years, they removed across the Mississippi into Barton County, Kan., where our subject purchased a quarter section, which he occupied four years. From there he emigrated to Bates County, Mo., and three years later eastward across the Mississippi, until reaching the old homestead in Illinois, where he

took up his abode and where he has since remained. Here he has reared his children, and desires nothing better than to spend the remainder of his days amid the scenes of his early youth. While watching the development of his adopted State with interest and satisfaction, he has meddled very little with public affairs, simply casting his vote with the Republicans upon occasions of general elections.

Mr. and Mrs. Snapp are members in good standing of the Methodist Protestant Church, and have carefully reared their three children in the same faith. These are Mary H., now the wife of B. F. Bell, a prosperous farmer of Mattoon Township; Jonathan E. and William H. are unmarried. Aside from his services as Constable, Mr. Snapp has declined becoming an office-seeker, content to remain as a private and unobtrusive citizen, and priding himself upon attending strictly to his own business.



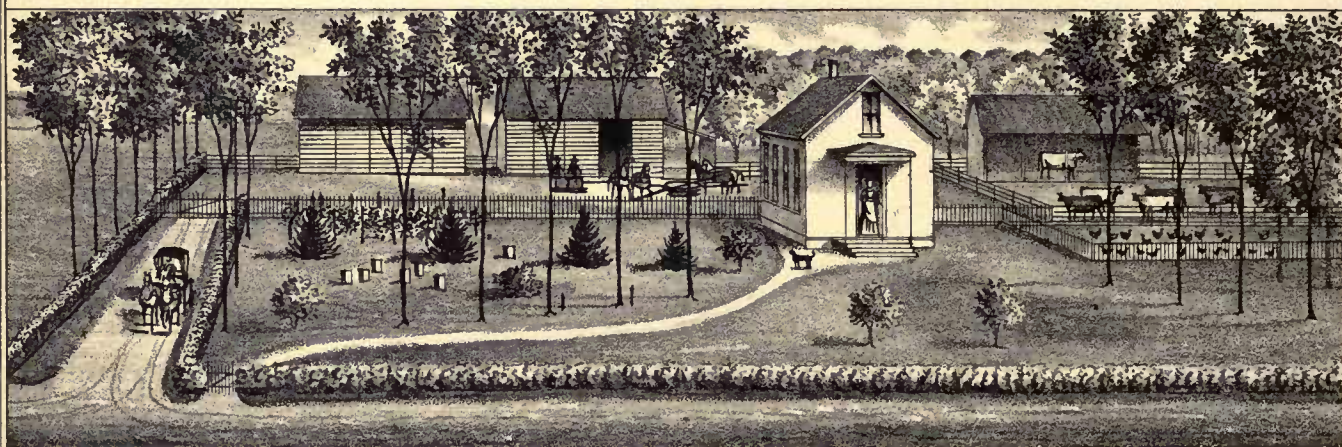
GEORGE W. WOODS, a well-known merchant and insurance agent in Humbolt, is now Postmaster of the place, having been appointed to that position Sept. 1, 1885, by President Cleveland. He was born Feb. 22, 1837, in Rush County, Ind., and is the son of John and Lucy (Pitts) Woods. John Woods was a native of Kentucky, but removed from that State and became one of the early settlers of Rush County, Ind. He had been brought up to the latter's trade in his native State, but preferring an agricultural life, relinquished his trade and purchased a farm in Rush County. His wife, Lucy Pitts, was a native of Virginia.

George Woods received his education at the common schools of his native county, and made good use of the limited advantages there provided. At the age of twenty he left home and began the world for himself. He was occupied in farming two years, and Sept. 1, 1859, married Miss Sarah Junken. Mrs. Woods is the daughter of James and Catherine (Wilson) Junken. Her family were natives of Kentucky, but removed to Indiana at an early day, where their daughter Sarah was born Feb. 19, 1836. They subsequently removed to Illinois, at the same

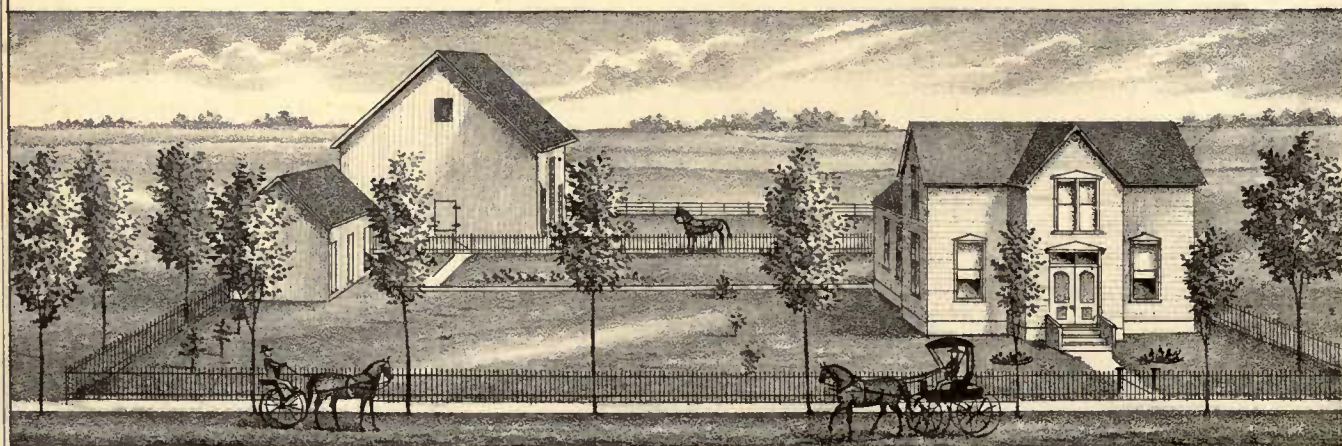
LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



RESIDENCE OF DAVID SANDERS, SEC. 19. HUTTON TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JOS. H. WATKINS, SEC. 5. SEVEN HICKORY TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF DR. W. D. MORGAN, RARDIN, ILL.

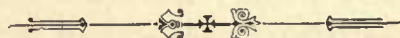
time that George Woods came to this State, and settled on a farm in Coles County. Immediately after his marriage, Mr. Woods rented a farm, which he conducted two years, and then, upon the division of his father-in-law's estate, located on section 8, and took possession of the home place. This property contained nearly a section of valuable land of which he secured eighty acres which he cultivated and improved about five years, and then removed to Humbolt, where he has since resided.

Mr. Woods had previously been engaged in mercantile pursuits, and his residence on the farm was occasioned by the death of his wife's mother. She was an only daughter, and her father felt so keenly the death of his wife and the loneliness of the homestead deprived of her beloved presence, that Mr. and Mrs. Woods relinquished their own plans in order to cheer his solitude and afford him companionship. After spending five years on the farm Mr. Woods returned to town and resumed his former business. His father-in-law accompanied the family, and passed the declining years of his life in their home, and died there in November, 1874.

Mr. Woods was successfully engaged in the mercantile line about twelve years, during which time under the credit system he found himself cramped, and further desiring a change of occupation for rest from the duties in which he had been for so many years engrossed, he sold out, and engaged in the insurance business. At that time he was elected Justice of the Peace, and served in that capacity about seven years, although his time was given more exclusively to the insurance business. Since Sept. 10, 1885, he has served as Postmaster, giving general satisfaction in the discharge of the responsibilities of that position. He is a public-spirited man, has served as Treasurer on the Board of Highway Commissioners, and also as Town Clerk three terms and Collector two terms.

Our subject and wife have a family of five children, whose names are as follows: Elbert J., James C., John A., Ellis H. and Katie May. Elbert married Miss Annie Sayer, and lives on a farm near town. Mr. Woods was educated as a teacher and has hitherto been engaged in that vocation, but his natural inclination leads him to perfer

agricultural pursuits. Mr. and Mrs. Woods are members of the Old-School Presbyterian Church, in which the former serves as Trustee. In politics Mr. Woods is an old-line Democrat, and a staunch adherent to the principles of his party, although he is liberal in political affairs, and strictly partisan in none. He is, however, strictly of the belief that the Democrats never make mistakes in their nominees.



MADISON GLASSCO, deceased, formerly a prominent citizen of Charleston, was born in Hardin County, Ky., July 21, 1824. His parents, Enoch and Rachel Glassco, were among the pioneers of Coles County. They removed from Kentucky to this State in 1830, when the county was a wilderness, and the Indian tribes in the vicinity, which had not then been wholly subdued, rendered life on the Western frontier a perilous enterprise. However, they settled here, and it was not long before peace was established and the prosperity of Illinois began. They passed their lives in this county, and died leaving a family of ten children.

Madison Glassco was a child when his parents settled in Illinois, and grew up inured to the privations and hardships of pioneer life. Struggling with difficulties and trials, however, developed that energy and strength of character which fitted him to take a leading part in the building up of a new country. He was married, Dec. 24, 1846, to Miss Anna Frost. Mrs. Glassco is the daughter of William and Sarah Frost, and was born June 4, 1828, in Virginia. Her father was a native of Virginia and her mother of Pennsylvania. They were likewise among the pioneers of Illinois, having moved to this State in 1829. The death of both occurred in this county, and Mrs. Glassco is now the only survivor of her father's family.

After his marriage Mr. Glassco settled on a farm, and devoted himself to agricultural pursuits with so much energy and skill that he met with marked success. He commenced life a poor boy, and by his own exertions acquired a fine property, but during the panic of 1873 he met with reverses,

caused by the failure of a business house in Charleston, for which he had become security. He lost \$31,000 in money and some of his valuable land was sold by the sheriff at \$50 per acre. The trouble which these losses involved probably hastened his death, which occurred March 19, 1876.

Mr. Glassco was a very successful dealer in livestock, and notwithstanding his losses, at his death left an estate containing 700 acres of valuable land. He had served as Supervisor of the township, and in politics always voted with the Republican party. Mr. Glassco was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and was a man whose uprightness and integrity of character won the respect of all who knew him. A family of eight children was born to him, only three of whom are now living—Emmet T., Ella and Elizabeth, all of whom are married.

WILLIAM H. COCHRAN, a farmer residing on section 14, Seven Hickory Township, has the misfortune to be afflicted with blindness, occasioned by disease contracted while serving his country in the Civil War. He was born Sept. 4, 1837, in Floyd County, Ind., and is the son of William and Louisa (Anderson) Cochran. His grandfather was a native of Scotland, whose family settled in the United States; in his early life he served in the War of 1812. His parents were both natives of Kentucky, although his wife's family was originally from Virginia. Louisa Anderson was an only child, and her mother died at the time of her birth. Her marriage to William Cochran took place in Kentucky, and soon after they removed to Indiana, and were among the early settlers of Floyd County, where they made their permanent home. Mr. Cochran died in the prime of life at the age of forty-six years. His widow survived him many years, and her life went out with the closing days of the year 1869. She was buried on the first day of the New Year.

A family of nine children was born to William and Louisa Cochran, whose record is as follows: Sarah died in childhood; Mary was the wife of George K. Erwin, of Floyd County, Ind.; both are

deceased; the former died in 1859, in Indiana, and the latter in 1886, in Kansas; they had a family of five children. Susanna became the wife of Alexander Brocard, a resident of Floyd County, by whom she had a family of six children; in 1871 she was left a widow, and subsequently married William L. Wright, of which union two children were born. William H. is the subject of this sketch; Maria, the wife of Alva E. Hodge, resides in Floyd County, Ind., and has a family of eight children; Samuel, a carriage manufacturer, also residing in Floyd County, has a family of eight children; Harriet E. has been three times married; her first husband, Green H. Neeled, by whom she had three children, died in 1879; her second husband, Lee Onan, died in 1883; she is now the wife of B. H. Bacon. Julia and Preston died in childhood.

William H. Cochran remained at home with his widowed mother, assisting her in carrying on the farm, and also attending the common schools until he was twenty-two years of age. Sept. 4, 1859, he married Miss Catherine Roberts. Mrs. Cochran is the daughter of John and Rachel (Kenoyer) Roberts, and was born in Washington County, Ind. Her father was a native of Virginia, and her mother of Ohio. They had a family of eight children, two of whom died in infancy; the names of the remaining six are: Mary Ann, deceased; Elizabeth; Nelson, deceased; Catherine, Simpson and Maria Jane. Her parents now reside in Dade County, Mo.

After his marriage Mr. Cochran lived at home until 1862. He then enlisted in Co. K, 93d Ind. Vol. Inf. While in camp he was stricken down with typhoid fever, and during his illness erysipelas set in, which resulted in blindness, and all means to restore his sight have hitherto proved unavailing. Mr. Cochran bears this affliction with great fortitude, and he is able to some extent to supervise the work on his farm, assisted by his sons. In the autumn of 1863 Mr. Cochran first came to Coles County and purchased the place where he now resides in Seven Hickory Township. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising.

Mr. and Mrs. Cochran had a family of six sons born to them: John William died in infancy; Charles N., born Jan. 25, 1865, was married Dec.

16, 1886, to Miss Sarah Harris, of Cumberland County, and resides in Morgan County; Frederick A., born Aug. 8, 1870; Dudley S., Oct. 30, 1873; Clarence McDonald, Sept. 22, 1876, and Jesse E., Feb. 16, 1879. Frederick, Dudley and Jesse reside at the homestead. Mr. Cochran is a staunch Republican.



ET. GLASSCO, one of the leading citizens and substantial farmers of Coles County, resides on section 9, Charleston Township. He is the only surviving son of Madison and Anna E. (Frost) Glassco, and was born Sept. 27, 1852, in this township. He was reared at the homestead, where he acquired a practical knowledge of farming and also received an excellent common-school education. On the 5th of September, 1882, Mr. Glassco was married to Miss Lizzie Birch. Mrs. Glassco is the daughter of George and Parthenia Birch, and was born July 7, 1859, in Clark County, Ill. After his marriage Mr. Glassco leased his father-in-law's farm, which he cultivated two seasons, and in the meantime erected a tasteful and commodious farm residence on his own farm, which ranks among the best in the county. He owns 173 acres of valuable land, and in stock-growing gives special attention to raising Polled-Angus cattle.

Like his father, Mr. Glassco is very successful in all of his business enterprises, and his integrity of character and genial disposition have won a large circle of friends by whom he is held in high esteem. Mr. and Mrs. Glassco have one son living, Walter E. Two other sons were born to them, who died in infancy. Mr. Glassco is a Republican in politics.



COL. JOHN COFER, deceased, formerly a prominent citizen of Rural Retreat, Douglas Co., Ill., was born July 9, 1804, in Cane Spring, Bullitt Co., Ky., and was the son of Thomas and Sarah Winn (Griffin) Cofer, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Maryland. Thomas Cofer was born in 1781 at Old Limestone Fort, Va., and his father, William Cofer, emigrated from that State to Kentucky. Mrs. Sarah Griffin, *nee*

Winn, was born in Maryland, and her marriage to Thomas Cofer took place in Kentucky, where she was at the time residing.

Col. Cofer was reared to agricultural pursuits, and his early advantages for education were very limited, but his native mental abilities were of a high order. He possessed a thoughtful, inquiring mind, and took advantage of every opportunity to satisfy his craving for knowledge, and readily acquired a vast fund of general information. He was a profound thinker on all subjects of National and social importance, a ready reasoner, and an apt and forcible writer. From his early youth he was a staunch Whig, and warmly sustained the principles of political and social economy advanced by that party. He represented Hardin County, Ky., in the Lower House of the Legislature in 1838-39 and from 1841 to 1848. His superior ability in the management of public affairs was then recognized by his election to the Senate, where he represented Hardin, Meade and La Rue Counties until 1850. He warmly advocated economy in public expenditures, and an improved system in the general educational and charitable institutions of the State.

Col. Cofer originated and aided in drafting and passing the bill chartering the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, which is now the most prosperous corporation in Kentucky. At the time when railroad enterprises were unknown in that State, he was one of a committee sent to investigate the operations of the Eastern and Western Roads, with a view to securing similar advantages for Kentucky, and his earnest and eloquent appeals to the people along the line of the proposed road aided largely in inducing them to offer voluntary subscriptions of the stock, which secured to them the building of their first railroad. After retiring from the Senate in 1854, he disposed of his interest in Kentucky and moved to Rural Retreat, which at that time was in Coles County. He was soon chosen Postmaster of the place, and in 1856 was one of the Electors on the Fillmore ticket, and in 1860 was an Elector on the Bell and Everett ticket.

During the Civil War Col. Cofer was rigid in his adherence to the Union cause, and from 1860 was independent in politics, voting for the man whom he considered best fitted for the position, without

regard to party. He usually sustained the Democratic party, however, but was firmly opposed to nullification and secession; his views of emancipation favored the gradual colonization policy. In 1871-72 he represented Douglas County in the General Assembly with his accustomed zeal and ability, which closed his career as a representative law-maker of Illinois.

Col. Cofer's marriage to Miss Mary Eleanor Magill took place Dec. 1, 1825. Mrs. Cofer was born Feb. 7, 1807, in Annapolis, Md., and is the daughter of Robert and Helen (Stockett) Magill. Her parents were natives of Maryland, and her great-grandfather, Rev. James Magill, was the first minister ordained to preach in America, of the Church of England. He was a faithful worker for the Master in the old Colonial days from 1730 to 1736. Her grandfather's name was John Magill. Mrs. Cofer's mother was the daughter of Dr. Thomas (Noble) Stockett, a prominent physician of Annapolis.

Col. Cofer was a man of temperate habits, and by his industry and enterprise acquired a fine property, which enabled him to provide all of his children with comfortable homes. His family consisted of ten children: Elvira Ann, deceased, was the wife of William D. Martin, a resident of Kentucky; she left a family of four children. Thomas N., deceased; Robert A., deceased, married Miss Catherine A. Duvall; John S., deceased, married Miss Sarah K. Wyeth; Charles F., deceased; Mary H. married David T. Shirley, and resides in Texas; she had a family of eight children, one of whom, David T., died March 5, 1881, in Cook County, Tex. Thomas N. (2d) married Miss Rachel E. Combes, and resides in Seven Hickory Township, Coles County; William Henry married Miss Margaret Daily, of Lerna; they have a family of four children, and reside in Gainesville, Tex. Henrietta M., deceased, married Thomas Midwinter, and left one daughter, who resides in Arcola, Douglas Co., Ill.; Susan A. married H. M. McCrory, and lives in Hardman County, Tex.

Col. Cofer and his wife were members of the Methodist Church. They were both earnest, sincere Christians, and were actively interested in building up the cause of Christ on the Western

frontier, giving liberally both of their time and means, in that labor of love. Col. Cofer died Feb. 12, 1881, in Cook County, Tex., at the home of his youngest daughter, Mrs. McCrory, where he had gone for his health. His widow still survives him, and has now reached the advanced age of eighty years. She possesses a fine physique, and is well preserved, hale and hearty. She resides with her son, Thomas N. Cofer. Col. Cofer was a wise counselor in public affairs, and in every relation of life bore the character of a thorough Christian gentleman. In his home he was a kind and loving husband and father, and courteous and hospitable to all. During his later years he devoted a great deal of his time to the compilation of an autobiography, to leave to his children, and had reached the proof sheets when his work was cut short by death.

JAMES WALLACE is a farmer and one of the leading citizens of Ashmore Township, residing on section 22. He was born April 6, 1849, in Edgar County, Ill., and is the son of William and Ellen (Davis) Wallace. His parents were both natives of Ohio, and his mother is still living, having reached the age of seventy-six years. His father's death occurred in 1856. He had been a farmer in Ohio, and died when James was but seven years of age. The family were members of the Methodist Church. The parental household included the following children: Thomas, who is living in California; Nancy J., a resident of Indiana; Margaret, who is residing in Kansas; William H., deceased; George, a resident of Illinois; Eliza A., who makes her home in Missouri; Elizabeth, a resident of Illinois; one died at four years of age; James, the subject of this biography; Jessie, who lives in Kansas, and Pamela, deceased.

James Wallace was engaged in farming by the month until his marriage, when he began business for himself, and purchased a small farm with one horse. He now has a fine farm of fifty-nine acres, and eight valuable horses of Clydesdale extraction, sixteen head of steers, and five cows and heifers. His marriage to Miss Margaret Childress took place

Jan. 12, 1873. She is the daughter of John and Catherine (Hogue) Childress, and was born in this township in 1854. Her father is a farmer and a native of Tennessee. He is one of the pioneers of this township, and formerly held the office of Commissioner of Highways. He is still living, but his wife's death occurred in March, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace have three children: Elizabeth, born Oct. 26, 1873; Permelia C., June 28, 1877; John W., Dec. 6, 1878.

Mr. Wallace is a man of excellent business qualifications, and is actively interested in all the public affairs of the county. He has been School Director for the last six years, and Constable of the township four years, and has been re-elected to the latter office. He is a member of the Christian Church, in which his family take an active interest. He is a wide-awake, energetic, progressive man, and recently spent five months traveling through the States of Kansas, Missouri and Indiana. He is a Republican in politics, and socially belongs to Kansas Lodge No. 633, I. O. O. F.



JOHN JOHNSON. The early home of the subject of this history was on the other side of the Atlantic, in County Fermanagh, Ireland, where his father carried on a small farm. He is the son of John and Anna (Bell) Johnson, natives of the same country but of Scotch descent, and was the eighth child in a family of ten. Our subject early in life bore a strong resemblance to his father, but afterward his features seemed to change and he grew like his mother. John Johnson, in 1850, accompanied by all his family with the exception of one son, emigrated to the United States, leaving the shores of his native Island on the 15th of May. The voyage was made on a sailing-vessel, and after landing in New York, the elder Johnson proceeded shortly to Peru, Ill., then to Moultrie County, where he located and followed farming until his death, which occurred in 1864.

The subject of this sketch was a lad twelve years of age when he sailed with his father's family for

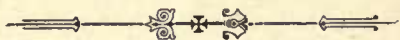
America, and remembers many of the incidents connected with the preparations and the voyage. He was reared on his father's farm, and received a limited education in the district schools. The father had purchased 120 acres of land wholly on credit, but met his payments promptly and became a man of means, so that he was enabled to assist his sons to a good start in life. Upon becoming of suitable age our subject and his five brothers engaged together in raising stock, feeding each year hundreds of cattle and hogs. They also purchased land together, and owned in the aggregate about 1,800 acres. One of the brothers, James, was killed on the 26th of May, 1883, by the explosion of a portable boiler. Two others since then have partially withdrawn from the partnership, and the two remaining, John and Fred, still continue together.

The wife of our subject, to whom he was married Jan. 22, 1868, was formerly Miss Martha E. Smith. Mrs. J. is the daughter of William Harrison and Mary (Osborne) Smith, natives of Ohio and Tennessee respectively. Her paternal grandparents were Jesse and Elizabeth (Willis) Smith. After their marriage our subject and wife settled on a farm in North Okaw Township, where they lived about ten years, and thence removed to their present residence in Humbolt Township. The homestead embraces 300 acres of valuable land, and is supplied with a substantial set of frame buildings. The industry and enterprise of Mr. Johnson are displayed on every hand, in the arrangement of the farm, the care of the stock, and the neatness and good order which prevail in every department.

The six children born to Mr. and Mrs. J. are all living and at home with their parents. They were named respectively, William, Alice, John, Walter, Clarence and May. Their father, realizing the disadvantages of a limited education, is doing all in his power to advance the interests of his children in this direction. The elder ones are taking a collegiate course, and the others will follow if their inclinations are in that direction. Mr. and Mrs. J. are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support of which they have always contributed liberally and cheerfully. Mr. Johnson meddles very little with politi-

cal matters, but usually votes with the Democratic party.

The farm of our subject is largely devoted to the raising of fine stock, including horses, cattle, hogs and sheep. At the head of his stables is a magnificent animal named John I., valued at \$5,000. On account of the diseases incident to hogs and sheep in this section, he has somewhat lost his interest in these. Of late he has interested himself in bee-keeping, and has bred up his hives to a very high grade with choice Italian queens. In partnership with Dr. James McDougal, of Humbolt Township, Mr. Johnson is largely engaged in the breeding of Norman horses, of which they usually keep about thirty-five head in hand, ranging in value from about \$200 to \$1,000.



CHARLES CURTIS is an extensive farmer and stock-grower, residing on section 1, East Oakland Township. He is the son of Nicholas and Sarah (Hunt) Curtis, and was born in this township, Dec. 15, 1841. His parents were natives of Ohio, where they were engaged in farming. Attracted by the advantages for farming and stock-raising offered by the fertile State of Illinois they moved here in 1839. Nicholas Curtis died in middle life, and his widow is still living.

Charles Curtis has been twice married, first in 1864, when he was united to Miss Martha J. Hannar. The home circle was broken by her death, which occurred in January, 1874. She had become the mother of five children, two of whom died in infancy. They were as follows: Sarah R., William, James William, Lucinda, who is the wife of Mr. J. Eads, and Roddy Ellsworth. Mr. Curtis was united in marriage the second time, to Miss Margaret Yearger, the daughter of John Yearger. Her family is of German descent, and her parents were natives of Pennsylvania. Like many other citizens of foreign extraction Mr. Yearger cheerfully left his home and business to serve in the Civil War in defense of his country, and while thus engaged contracted a disease from exposure and hardship which resulted in his death. His widow is still living, and in consideration of her husband's services

in the war, she is drawing a small pension. Six children were born of the second marriage of our subject—Alfred, O., deceased; John S., Lulie, Ella S., Alva, and an infant unnamed.

Mr. Curtis enlisted during the late war in Co. K, 63d Ill. Vol. Inf., and served his country faithfully for over three years. He was mustered in at Jonesboro, Ill., and proceeded at once to Cairo, where he remained three months and was then ordered to Corinth. He was engaged in several important battles. He fought at the memorable siege of Vicksburg, and took part in the battle of Missionary Ridge, where the cannon thundered and the musketry rattled like hail around him. He was with the army at Huntsville, Ala., preparing for the siege at Atlanta, and he there obtained a thirty days' furlough. It was on this occasion that he returned home and married his first wife. But he was at his post again, leaving the comforts and pleasures of home at the call of duty, for the hardships and possible death of the battle-field. He marched with Sherman to the sea and on to Washington, from thence to Louisville, Ky., and celebrated the 4th of July at home. He afterward returned to his regiment and was mustered out at Springfield, Ill. Exhausted by hardship and exposure he was an invalid most of the time for two years after his return, and now suffers greatly from rheumatism. He is a member of the G. A. R. Oakland Post No. 188, and is a Republican in politics.

Mr. Curtis owns a fine estate of 170 acres of valuable, improved land, upon which in 1844 he erected a substantial farm residence. His house has a large and commodious cellar, and all of its appointments are adapted to home comfort. In stock-growing he has been especially successful in raising the finest breed of hogs.



FREDERICK JOHNSON, one of the reliable and substantial farmers of North Okaw Township, spent his earliest years on the other side of the Atlantic, where his birth took place in County Fermanagh, Ireland, Feb. 29, 1840. He was the ninth child of John and Annie (Bell) Johnson, also natives of County Fermanagh, and a

sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work. His education was begun in the common schools of his native county, and he came with his parents to the United States in 1850, completing his studies in the subscription schools of Moultrie County, Ill. He was twenty-three years of age when his father died, and up to this time had remained a member of the household, which was now somewhat broken up by the death of the remaining parent. About this time he purchased 320 acres of wild land in North Okaw Township, this county, and a few years later, accompanied by his two sisters, Christiana and Margaret, took possession and has since occupied it.

The present farm of our subject bears little resemblance to the land that he first took possession of. It is now laid off conveniently, and supplied with good fences and buildings, among the most prominent of which is a handsome, substantial frame building, put up in the summer of 1868, and a large barn, erected in 1882. The brothers and sisters have lived continuously together, our subject being still unmarried, this being the only instance in which he has failed to perform his whole duty as an enterprising and naturalized American citizen.

The Johnson brothers are widely and favorably known throughout North Okaw Township. Frederick and John operate largely together in lands and stock, being the owners of over 1,000 acres, the largest part of which lies in Coles County. They also still retain an interest in the homestead in Moultrie County, which their father built up from the uncultivated prairie, that also comprises a valuable tract of land, which with its appurtenances, constitutes one of the most desirable homesteads in that section. The dwelling stands back a short distance from the road and is surrounded with a natural grove of oak and hickory trees. There are also handsome evergreens artistically trimmed and which, in winter especially, serve to greatly embellish the place.

Our subject and his brother John are at present giving their attention to the breeding of fine horses, the former having two valuable imported stallions, and from which are being produced some of the finest animals in this section. Frederick is

taking life easy and aside from the general management of his property, engages little in active business. He is genial and hospitable in his home, which forms a pleasant resort for the many friends of himself and his estimable sisters, Christiana and Margaret. Mr. J. is plain and unostentatious in his manner, but impresses all with whom he comes in contact as a man whose word is to be relied upon and whose friendship and honor are of the highest order. The warm and generous characteristics of his forefathers are broadly apparent, and have lent to him that simple and attractive mien, which at once secures the confidence of both friends and strangers. Mr. Johnson has never been connected with any religious organization, but presents the example of the Christian impulse which constrains a man to do unto others as he would have others do unto him. This principle, closely followed, has gained him an enviable reputation among his fellow-townsmen and the friendship of the best people in this locality. Politically, he is Democratic, and has served two terms as Township Commissioner.

BENJAMIN D. TURNEY, the owner of a fine estate containing 366 acres of land, is the descendant of a pioneer family of Coles County. He was born June 2, 1819, in Harrison County, Ky., and is the son of John and Sarah (Jones) Turney (see sketch of John Turney). His family came to Illinois in 1834* and settled in Coles County. During the first two weeks of their residence here they lived on the land now occupied by Benjamin Turney. They came at a period in the history of the Northwest when frontier life was a hazardous enterprise, making heavy demands upon the courage and hardihood of those who were daring enough to encounter its trials. Mr. Turney's family occupied a log cabin comprising but one room, and all around their dwelling stretched the broad prairie, scattered here and there with isolated cabins like their own. Mr. Turney, Sr., purchased a large tract of land at that time in Lafayette Township, for which he paid \$3.50 per acre. The same property is now worth \$50 per acre.

Benjamin Turney was reared on his father's farm,

and learned in early life to endure hardship and privation, which is an important lesson in life. He assisted his father in clearing the land, and in cultivating and improving the farm, and the implements with which they had to work rendered this a difficult task in the early days. Mr. Turney settled on the place where he now resides in 1853, and the following year his marriage took place, July 29. His wife, Mrs. Amanda Compton, was born in Harrison County, Ky., Sept. 4, 1838. They had a family of eleven children born to them, nine of whom are now living: Elizabeth, the wife of George B. Baker; John, Benjamin, William J., Franklin, Sally, James, Martha and Isabell. Daniel and one unnamed died in infancy.

Mr. Turney had been previously married to Miss Sally Munson, who was born in Nicholas County, Ky., Oct. 4, 1824, and died Dec. 1, 1846. In politics, Mr. Turney is a Republican, and has served as Road Commissioner and School Director, giving general satisfaction to the people in the discharge of his public duties. Mr. Turney has fine sulphur springs on his farm which he is contemplating opening as a health resort. Hundreds of barrels of this water have been hauled away daily, and yet the spring continues to flow with equal strength.



THOMAS E. WYETH is the owner of one of the largest and finest estates of Seven Hickory Township, located on sections 22 and 23. He is the descendant of an old New England family, and was born in Franklin County, Mass., June 21, 1833. His grandfather, Gad Wyeth, was a native of Massachusetts, and served in the Revolutionary War under Gen. Washington. He subsequently removed to Licking County, Ohio, where his death occurred in 1849. The parents of our subject, Nathan and Hannah (Kellog) Wyeth, were also natives of the Bay State, where the former was born May 16, 1801, and the latter in 1800. They were married Nov. 15, 1824, and left Massachusetts and removed to Ohio about 1837, when their son Thomas was four years of age, and remained there twelve or fifteen years, engaged in farming in Licking County. In the autumn of 1850 Mr.

Wyeth visited Illinois and purchased land in Coles County, whither he removed with his family in the following spring. Mr. Wyeth's death occurred in Tuscola, Douglas Co., Ill., Aug. 11, 1864, at the age of sixty-three years, and his wife died Feb. 6, 1866. Their family consisted of nine children, six of whom are now living, namely: Leonard, a banker residing in Tuscola, who is married and has a family of two children; Joseph, a resident of Douglas County, is married and has a family of five children; Albert is a money loaner, and resides near his brother Thomas in Seven Hickory Township; he is married and has a family of two children. Samuel (see sketch); Thomas E.; Ellen, deceased, was the wife of Oliver Hackett; she died in 1869, in Douglas County, leaving a large family of children; and Mary, the widow of John Coffey, who has a family of six children.

Thomas Wyeth has been twice married; his first wife was Miss Nancy Combs, of Clarke, Ind., and a family of three children was born to them; Maggie, who was born Dec. 9, 1861, married Stephen A. D. Harry, a Professor in Normal College, Covington, Ind.; she has one child, Allie, born Feb. 1, 1863, who was married to Emery Bradford in December, 1886; Charles, born Jan. 10, 1868, resides at home. Mrs. Wyeth, the mother of these children, was removed from her home and family by death, in September, 1872. May 12, 1875, Mr. Wyeth married Miss Julia Price, who was born Aug. 21, 1849, and educated in Meigs County, Ohio. They have one child, Percy, born May 29, 1878.

Mr. Wyeth's estate contains 906 acres of valuable, well-improved land, 320 of which formerly belonged to the homestead, and was a gift from his father. He is liberal and enterprising in all his dealings, and his farm is managed with perfect system and exactness, the results of which are apparent in all its appointments. His farm buildings are substantial and commodious, and the grounds around his tasteful residence are ornamented with a variety of shade trees, and offer a pleasing appearance. There is a walnut grove on the place containing 1,000 trees, and he has a fine orchard of excellent fruit-bearing trees planted twenty years ago. There is a well of natural gas on the place, which is eighty feet in depth, and will throw

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



George Meyer F.R.



Cornelius Prall

a stream of water to the height of twenty feet. He used the gas of this well a year for the purpose of lighting his house, and also for fuel, but the apparatus that belongs to it is now out of repair. His farm is supplied with 2,000 rods of tiling, and he owns about 250 head of high-grade cattle and twenty-five head of horses.

Both in public and private life, Mr. Wyeth does honor to his New England ancestry. He is courteous and dignified, and although enjoying social recreation, always attends rigorously to business engagements. With his wife he is a member of the Christian Church, in which he is a Deacon. In politics he is a Republican.



CORNELIUS PRALL, a successful stock-grower of Seven Hickory Township, honorably represents one of the self-made men of the West. He was born Jan. 25, 1834, in Morgan County, Ohio, and is the son of Asa and Asaneth (Botkin) Prall. His family was originally from Germany, although Asa Prall was born in New Jersey in 1803. Mrs. Prall was born in Greene County, Pa., in 1807. Her father, Robert Botkin, was a native of Ireland, and her mother was of English birth; their families had emigrated to the United States at an early day, seeking to avail themselves of the many privileges offered by this liberal Government to men of all nationalities.

Asa Prall's family removed to Pennsylvania when he was a boy, and he passed his early life in that State. Coming to Ohio in 1831 he engaged in farming there, and remained a few years. In 1844 he resolved to move still farther westward, and accordingly came to Indiana and settled in Clark County, and thence in 1851 to Van Buren County, Iowa. In the latter place he made his permanent home, and passed the remainder of his life there. His death occurred in about 1875. The following is the record of their family: Thomas, born in 1831, in Pennsylvania, is married and resides in Iowa; Robert, born in 1832, in Ohio, also resides in Iowa; Cornelius is the subject of this sketch; Sarah was born in 1835, in Ohio; she has been twice married and twice made a widow; her first husband was

Anthony Bradford, and her second husband was Hafford Bradford, each bearing the same name although not related to each other; her home is in Schuyler County, Mo. Matilda, now Mrs. Columbus Fowler, was born in Ohio, and resides in Harper County, Kan.; Euphronius, deceased, was born in Ohio, and died in Iowa, in 1881, leaving a wife and two children; John, who died in childhood, was born in Ohio; Amanda, deceased, was born in Indiana, and became the wife of George Brooks, a resident of Iowa; Charles C. was born in Indiana, and is a resident of Iowa.

Cornelius Prall remained in Indiana when his father removed to Iowa, but his marriage occurred soon after and he took his young wife there on their wedding trip, to visit his family and see the country. After remaining four or five months they decided to return to Indiana, and in 1853 located in Monroe Township, now in Clark County, and were engaged in farming on rented land three years. Mr. Prall then removed to Edgar County, Ill., and soon after his arrival there his wife was stricken down and died, leaving a little child five months old, who soon followed its mother to the grave. In February of the following year, Mr. Prall married Miss Amelia D. Thompson. Mrs. Prall's father was a native of New York and her mother of North Carolina.

In the winter of 1859 Mr. Prall came to Coles County, making his home in Seven Hickory Township, only about two and one-half miles from their former residence. For three years he rented land, and at the expiration of that time was enabled to buy forty acres of his present estate. Proud in the possession of a home he could call his own, he cultivated and improved his land, and by hard work and the exercise of due economy, in a few years added forty acres more to his farm. He was prospered in business and added forty acres successively in the years 1867, 1872 and 1881, and in 1886 made a purchase of eighty acres; he now owns 240 acres of land, all of which is under good cultivation.

In 1883 Mr. Prall was again bereaved of his wife, who died on the 27th of April, leaving a family of eight children. The following is their record: Louisa M., born Feb. 1, 1858, married

Thomas Todd, a relative of Abraham Lincoln's family, and lives in Scotland County, Mo.; William A., born Aug. 1, 1859, married Miss Mary Perrel, and lives in Comanche County, Kan.; Florence, born Aug. 8, 1861, married John W. Watkins, and is a resident of Seven Hickory Township; Alice, born Nov. 25, 1863; Mary, Sept. 1, 1865; Charles, June 20, 1869; Josephine, Jan. 14, 1871, and Walter, July 11, 1874; the four latter reside at home.

In conducting his farm Mr. Prall gives special attention to stock-growing, raising the best breeds of cattle, horses, sheep and hogs, and dealing to some extent in graded stock. Mr. Prall is deserving of great praise for his persevering efforts in overcoming obstacles. When he came to Coles County he possessed but \$3 in money and a broken-down team, but with untiring courage and energy, he has battled successfully with the world, and made a comfortable home for himself and family. He belongs to the Charleston Lodge of the Odd Fellows' Association. In politics he is a member of the Republican party, and in 1880 received the appointment of Drainage Commissioner, holding the position until 1885, when he resigned.

The portrait of Mr. Prall, which is presented in connection with this personal narrative, will be looked upon with pleasure by his many friends, and forms a valuable adjunct to the Coles County ALBUM.



GEORGE GEYER, a successful farmer and stock-grower, residing on section 9, Oakland Township, and whose portrait is shown in this connection, was born May 8, 1832, in Muskingum County, Ohio. He is the son of Henry and Elizabeth (Cooper) Geyer, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Virginia. Henry Geyer came to Ohio in 1815 with his parents, and was reared on his father's farm, receiving a common-school education. He was married in 1825, and remained in Ohio throughout his life. He held several local offices in the township where he lived, but was not actively interested in public affairs, giving his attention more exclusively to the duties

of private life. His death occurred Nov. 11, 1863. His wife was born in 1804, and survived him several years, her death occurring in 1870, at the homestead in Ohio. They were for many years members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. Geyer was a Trustee. The following is a record of their children: Violinder is the wife of Harrison Taylor; Cassandra was married to E. J. Crane; Samuel H. married Miss Julia A. Thompson; George is the subject of this sketch; James W. first married Miss Martha Winn, and after her death married Melissa F. Fell; Washington M. married Miss Melinda Jennings; Catherine, and three boys (triplets) died in infancy.

George Geyer was married, Jan. 5, 1854, to Miss Mary E. Roberts, Rev. J. M. Bray, Pastor of the Methodist Church, officiating. Mrs. Geyer is the daughter of Thomas and Alice (Mock) Roberts. Her parents were natives of Virginia, where her father was born Oct. 12, 1802. Thomas Roberts was possessed of remarkable energy and force of character; he was industrious and hard working, and by the exercise of these qualifications acquired success in life. He removed from Virginia in early life, and became a resident of Highland Township, Muskingum Co., Ohio, where he settled in 1830, the year following his marriage to Miss Alice Mock. He became a member of the Methodist Church in 1832, and was a Class-Leader for several years at Bethel Church, in Highland Township.

In the autumn of 1860 Mr. Roberts moved with his family to Illinois, and purchased a valuable farm in the eastern part of this county, where he lived until the spring of 1879. His children all having married and left home, and feeling the advancing infirmities of age, he built a house on the farm of his oldest son, William, where, with his aged wife, he could pass the closing years of his life free from business cares, but on August 6 of the same year he was seized with paralysis, and passed away after a short illness. Eight children were by his bedside at the time of his death. His daughter, Mrs. James Titus, a resident of Missouri, was not able to reach there in time. He had thirty-two grandchildren, nearly all of whom were present at the funeral, which was one of the largest ever witnessed in the place. He possessed the respect

and affection of a large circle of friends, who were sincere in the expression of their grief.

His widow, Alice (Mock) Roberts, was born in Loudoun County, Va., Nov. 8, 1808. Her marriage to Thomas Roberts took place Feb. 7, 1828, and in 1830 she moved with her husband to Muskingum County, Ohio. She was converted in 1833, and united with the Methodist Church, living a consistent Christian life until her death. After the death of her husband she resided with her son-in-law, George Geyer, where her death occurred May 10, 1887. She was a woman of deep religious convictions, and did much work for the Master. As the result of her wise instructions and godly example, most of her children are useful members of the church. At her death her family, relatives, neighbors and church, all felt that one of God's best children had been taken from among them.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Roberts had a family of twelve children born to them, nine of whom are still living; the record is as follows: Jacob A. was born Nov. 3, 1828; Mary E., Jan. 19, 1833; Matilda A., June 26, 1834; Stephen B., Nov. 27, 1838; William H., Oct. 17, 1840; Caroline, April 27, 1842; Castara, March 6, 1844; Isaac N., Jan. 6, 1846; Sarah J., March 11, 1848; John D., March 5, 1850; Sherman W., Jan. 11, 1852; James M., Oct. 9, 1854.

George Geyer came to Illinois in 1857. When he left his native State his possessions consisted of \$100 and a team, of which one of the horses was not yet paid for. He made a partial payment upon a small tract of land in this township, which he cultivated and improved five years, and then sold for \$500. With this capital he purchased 111 acres, paying \$500 down and going in debt for the rest. He has been industrious and energetic in business, and now owns 290 acres of valuable land, with a fine residence and appropriate farm buildings. In stock-raising he has given special attention to raising Short-horn cattle.

Mr. and Mrs. Geyer had a family of nine children born to them, five of whom are now living. The following is their record: The first-born died in infancy; Oliver B., born March 6, 1856, died Nov. 17, 1856; Miranda C., born May 1, 1858; Emma R., July 18, 1860; an infant daughter, born

Sept. 16, 1862, is deceased; Elizabeth I. A. was born May 27, 1864; Arletta A., March 16, 1868; William F., May 1, 1870; an infant daughter born July 22, 1873, is deceased.

Mr. Geyer is interested in the public affairs of the township, holding the offices of School Trustee and Justice of the Peace; in the discharge of his duties, in the latter position, his decisions have never been reversed when sent to the higher courts. He is a man of excellent business capacity and good judgment. In 1854 he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has been for many years a Class-Leader and one of the Trustees. His wife united with the same church in 1848. Like her beloved mother she is sincere and earnest in religious convictions, and has endeavored to instill the precepts of the Master in the minds of her children. Mr. Geyer is a prominent Republican in politics.

JACOB H. WIBLE is the owner of a fine estate containing 163 acres of valuable land, located on section 23, Lafayette Township. He was born April 17, 1845, in Sullivan County, Ind., and is the son of Benjamin V. and Hannah Wible. The father was a native of Kentucky, and in 1858 removed with his family from Sullivan County, Ind., to Illinois, where he settled in Lafayette Township, Coles County. He was engaged in farming and passed the remainder of his life here. His family consisted of nine children, all of whom grew to maturity, and the record is as follows: Mary F., the wife of Mr. Odell; Adam, deceased; Cyrena Ann, deceased; Samuel; Jane, the wife of Uriah Sellars; Joseph, William; Eliza, deceased, and Jacob H.

Jacob H. was a young lad in his thirteenth year when the family removed to Illinois, and since that time has grown up with the township. He attended school in the winter and assisted his father in the various branches of farm labor during the summer. In 1869 he was married on the homestead, to Miss Plina Fisher Hurst, the daughter of John and Elizabeth Hurst. Mrs. Wible was born in Johnson County, Ind., Feb. 18, 1852. Mr. Wible resided at home until twenty-five years old,

and soon after his marriage settled on his present farm, which contains 162 acres of land, all of which is under cultivation.

Mr. and Mrs. Wible have three children—Mary E., Elizabeth and Bertha May. Although not actively interested in politics, Mr. Wible is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. Himself and wife are members of the Missionary Baptist Church.



ROBERT J. MCCALLISTER, a successful farmer residing on section 28, Seven Hickory Township, is the descendant of a pioneer family of the Northwest, distinguished for enterprise and mental ability. He was born Feb. 12, 1836, in Madison County, Ind., and is the son of Thomas and Margaret (McGrady) McCallister. His parents were natives of Virginia, and removing to Indiana at an early day were among the pioneers of Madison County in that State. Thomas McCallister was actively interested in building up the interests of the community where he resided, and represented the county eleven years as a member of the State Legislature. He was subsequently elected Senator, and after serving two or three terms, his ability in public affairs was recognized by a re-election in the autumn in which his death occurred. His marriage to Miss Margaret McGrady took place in 1818. Mrs. McCallister is the daughter of James and Mary (Neal) McGrady, the former a native of Ireland, and the latter of Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. McCallister removed to Madison County, Ind., in 1831. After her husband's death, Mrs. McCallister removed with her family, in 1870, to Illinois, and they settled in Coles County, where she is now living, although in feeble health, with her daughter. Their family consisted of eleven children, only four of whom are now living, three in Illinois and one in Hancock County, Ind.

Robert J. McCallister passed his youth and early manhood at home until the breaking out of the Civil War. He then enlisted in Co. K, 8th Ind. Vol. Inf., Aug. 20, 1861, and during his service proved himself a brave and efficient soldier, taking part in eighteen of the most prominent engage-

ments of the war. He passed through the terrible siege of Vicksburg entirely uninjured, and never shrank from either the post of danger or duty. He was discharged Sept. 21, 1865, and soon after his return from the war was married to Miss Martha Somerville. Her parents were natives of Mason County, W. Va., where their daughter, Martha, was born, and removed to Indiana in about the year 1862.

Mr. and Mrs. McCallister had a family of nine children, as follows: Otis C., born Dec. 19, 1866; Ardella, Feb. 11, 1868; William A., Aug. 16, 1869; Robert B., Feb. 15, 1871; Leota O., July 21, 1872; Minnie, Feb. 27, 1874; Thomas, deceased, born June 22, 1876; Martha E., deceased, born Oct. 29, 1877, and one who died in infancy. The home circle was broken by the death of Mrs. McCallister, May 22, 1880. She was beloved by all who knew her, and deeply mourned by her own family and a large circle of friends. Mr. McCallister is a member of the Christian Church and in politics is a Democrat.



ISAAAC N. MOORE, one of the prominent citizens of Ashmore Township, residing on section 35, was born Aug. 24, 1836, in Butler County, Ohio, six miles east of Hamilton. He is the son of Levi and Abigail (Flenner) Moore, both natives of Ohio, where his father was engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in 1859 at the age of forty-one. His mother survived the death of her husband several years. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The following is the record of their children: Ursula, the wife of J. B. Flenner; Isaac N., the subject of this sketch; Hannah, the wife of George W. Dutro; Drusilla, the wife of William Mock; Daniel F. married Miss Emily Wright; his wife died and he afterward married Emily Hill. Harriet, the wife of John Willhoit; Solomon, who died at nine, and Levi at the age of six years.

Vanderbilt, when once asked the secret to success in acquiring wealth, replied, "Keep at work and say nothing about it." The remark is very applicable to the course pursued by the subject of this biography. Isaac Moore began to build up his

fortune when a lad, by mending pocket knives for his schoolmates on the way to school, and in return for his workmanship received from two to five cents apiece. He carefully saved his earnings until he had acquired the sum of sixty cents. This he invested in pine lumber, from which he manufactured quilting-frames and launched into a more extensive business, receiving fifty cents per pair for his frames. After he had accumulated \$12.50 in this way, he came to Illinois and purchased a pair of young steers, which he broke and kept until they were three years old, when he sold them for \$85. From these small beginnings he has steadily continued to advance up the rounds of the ladder to prosperity.

Isaac Moore was married, Aug. 24, 1856, to Miss Effie Conley. Mrs. M. was born in Coles County, March 9, 1832, and her death occurred Sept. 26, 1873. She was a devoted wife and mother and a sincere Christian, having been for many years a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject was subsequently twice married. His second wife was Miss Mary White, but their married life was of short duration, her death occurring Sept. 1, 1878. She was also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His marriage to Miss Sarah Bancroft took place Dec. 10, 1878. She was born May 23, 1845, in Clark County, this State, and is the daughter of William and Lydia (Culp) Smith. Her parents were both natives of Fairfield, Ohio, where her father was born in 1812, and her mother in 1814. They are both now living in Clark County. When the Civil War broke out in 1861, her father enlisted in Co. G, 54th Ill. Vol. Inf. He served three years and six months, and throughout his career proved himself a brave and efficient soldier. The record of their children is as follows: Elizabeth, Mary, Louisa, David, Sarah, Jacob, Rebecca and William.

Mr. Moore has a family of seven children, five of whom were born to the first marriage, one to the second and one to the last. Their names are as follows: Levi, Lincoln, Ardilla E., Charles E., Albert, Nellie and William M. Mr. Moore joined the Masonic fraternity in 1873, and is a member of Ashmore Lodge No. 390. He is ardently devoted to the principles of the order, in which he is held

in high esteem. He has held several official positions in the order of the Blue Lodge, has acted as W. M. three terms, and represented the lodge three terms at the Grand Lodge at Chicago.

Mr. Moore came to Illinois in 1854 and first located in Clark County, but removed to this county in the same year. His educational advantages were somewhat limited, but his native qualities of mind and heart make ample amends for the deficiency. He owns a fine farm containing forty-two acres of valuable, well-improved land, with a pleasant residence and excellent farm buildings. He has held several official positions in the township, and is a member and Trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a warm adherent of the Republican party. Mr. Moore possesses the esteem of the entire community, among whom he has a large circle of warm friends. He is a kind father, an affectionate husband, and is faithful in the discharge of all duties, both public and private, devolving upon him.



AR. CANDY, division clerk of the I. & St. L. R. R., is one of the prominent residents of Mattoon. He was born March 7, 1844, in Lexington, Ky., and is the son of John and Celeste F. (Robert) Candy. His father, John Candy, was a native of England, and came to America when twenty years of age. He was a professional musician and settled in Boston, where he was engaged in teaching music. He was a Democrat in politics and a member of the New Jerusalem Church. His wife was a member of the Episcopal Church; her death occurred Jan. 17, 1849. Her husband survived her many years, and died in 1885. There were four children in their family, whose names are as follows: Theodore J.; Laura V., now Mrs. S. Miller; A. R. and Edward B.

A. R. Candy passed his boyhood in Lexington, Ky., whither his family had removed from Boston. He received an excellent education, both at the public and private schools of that place, and attended the University at Urbana, Ohio. He learned the printer's trade, but finding no suitable business opening, took a position as watchman and second

mate with a steamboat line plying on the Ohio and Mississippi. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted as a private in Co. D., 38th Ind. Vol. Inf., and was engaged in the battles of Perryville, Stone River and Chickamauga, besides numerous skirmishes. At Chickamauga, Sept. 19, 1863, he was taken prisoner and conveyed to Richmond, thence to Andersonville, thence to Savannah, Millen and Blackshear. From the latter place he escaped with two other prisoners. Through many difficulties they made their way to one of the blockade ships, named *Diaching*, off the head of Cumberland Island, and were taken on board Dec. 14, 1864, grateful to find themselves once more under the protection of the "Stars and Stripes," after being held prisoners for nearly fifteen months. Of the seven others who were taken prisoners with Mr. Candy, one was exchanged after eleven months, and he was the only one who survived to reach home.

Mr. Candy suffered severely from scurvy, the result of his long imprisonment, and his limbs were so swollen for a long time as to render it impossible for him to turn over while lying down without assistance. After his return home he received the appointment of Assistant United States Revenue Assessor of the First District of Ohio. He retained that position one year, and in 1867 went to Urbana, where he took charge of a printing-office for three years. He next went to Kansas, and entered a homestead there, but after remaining three years was driven out by the grasshopper scourge, which at that time overran the country. He returned to Ohio, and in a short time obtained employment on the *Cleveland Leader*, remaining there eighteen months. He then obtained a position as storekeeper for the C. C. C. & I. R. R. Co. at Cleveland, where his excellent business qualifications were recognized, and he was variously promoted until he received the appointment of Assistant Chief Clerk in the general mechanical office. In 1882, when the C. C. C. & I. R. R. came in possession of the I. & St. L. R. R., he was sent to Mattoon, Ill., to take charge of the locomotive and car department, and to change the old system of account of that department to correspond with the system in use on the C. C. C. & I. R. R. He has

since retained this position and become identified as a citizen with the interests of Mattoon, where he has twice been elected a member of the School Board from the First District.

In 1869 Mr. Candy was married to Miss Sarah E. Armstrong, the daughter of Snover Armstrong. Mr. Armstrong is one of the prosperous farmers of Northern Ohio, where his daughter, Mrs. Candy, was born. Mr. and Mrs. Candy have one child living, Maie. Mr. Candy is a member of the G. A. R., the Masonic fraternity and Knights of Pythias. In politics he is not restricted by party spirit, but always votes for the man whom he considers best adapted to successfully fill the position. His residence is located at No. 86 Charleston street.

JOHN HURST, a retired farmer residing in Lafayette Township, Coles County, is a native of Harrison County, Ind., where he was born Oct. 28, 1809. His family was of German extraction, and his parents, Abraham and Polly (Dunn) Hurst, were natives of Tennessee. They subsequently removed to Indiana, and died in Spencer County, that State. They reared a family of eleven children, of whom John, the subject of this sketch, was the fifth in order of birth.

John Hurst passed his boyhood and youth on the homestead, assisting his father in the various duties of the farm, and attending the log school-house of the primitive days. His marriage to Miss Elizabeth Woodruff occurred in 1833. After this event he engaged in farming, and carried on a successful business until 1864, when he sold out his interests in Indiana, and moved to his present home in Illinois. On his arrival here he purchased 320 acres of land, which he managed successfully for many years, but the evening of life is now closing around him, and desirous of release from business cares, he has given the greater portion of his land to his children.

Mr. Hurst has been twice married; his first wife died Sept. 10, 1874, leaving five children: Anna, John and Rhoda Jane are deceased; Plina is the wife of Jacob H. Wible, and Jackson. Mr. Hurst was married the second time in December, 1875, to

Mrs. Sarah Mock. She was the mother of a large family of children by her first marriage.

Mr. Hurst has been a successful man through life. He possessed excellent business qualifications, and acquired his prosperity through the exercise of industry and energy. At the time of his marriage he only possessed \$115 in capital. His life is an example of what enterprise and integrity of character, united with industrious and temperate habits, can accomplish. Mr. Hurst has been for many years a member of the Methodist Church. In politics he is a Democrat.



JOHN WILSON, Postmaster and merchant of Cook's Mills, is one of the prominent German citizens of North Okaw Township. He was born March 8, 1840, in Wurtemberg, Germany, and is the son of Frederick and Fredrica (Schafer) Zeppelin. His parents were natives of Wurtemberg, and his father was engaged in the manufacture of gas at the town of Heilbronn, which place derives its name from the spring that supplies the town with water, signifying "fountain of health." He held the commission of First Lieutenant in the army but resigned some time before his death, which occurred at the town of Stuttgart. His mother's death occurred about two years ago in Germany. Three children of their family emigrated to America.

John Wilson was adopted in infancy by a distant relative, in whose household there were no children, and from that family obtained the name of Wilson. His relative died while John was still a child and he then returned to his own home where he remained until he was sixteen years of age. In the meantime he had been preparing himself in college for mercantile life and after leaving school entered a book-store. At the death of their father the children were left without resources to care for themselves, and after remaining in the book-store a short time, John resolved to come to the United States. December 12, 1856, he stood with his elder brother, Charles, on board the *Helvetia*, a passenger bound for America. The brothers standing together on deck looked, perhaps regretfully, backward toward

the fast receding shores of their native land, but hopefully forward over the vast expanse of blue water, stretching far away to the Western Continent, which has been the goal of so many hearts since the days when Spanish cavaliers and Italian navigators dreamed of a marvelous land beyond the sea, where the setting sun dipped its burning disk in the cool waters of the Atlantic. After a stormy voyage, during which two dangerous gales were encountered, they landed safely at Castle Garden on Feb. 22, 1857, strangers in a strange land.

John Wilson apprenticed himself to a cabinet-maker and spent three years learning the trade, and at the expiration of that time worked one year as a journeyman. The long smouldering fires preceding the Civil War broke out at that time, and he entered the service of his adopted country, enlisting March 12, 1861, in the 4th United States Cavalry, under the command of Capt. Crittenden and Col. Sedgwick. He was mustered in at New York and sent to Carlisle Barracks and placed in Company A. The regiment was then dispatched to Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., and soon after to Independence, where it drove out a body of rebel troops. Thence they were ordered to Springfield, Mo., and there joined the Army of the West under Franz Seigel, commanded by Gen. Lyons. Their regiment then attacked the rebels at Duck Springs and defeated them, following them up to Wilson's Creek, where Gen. Lyons was killed and Gen. Sturgess succeeded him. A retreat was then conducted to Springfield, Mo. They continued to retreat three days until they reached Rolla, and the rebels abandoned the pursuit.

The company then returned to Springfield, and joining Company D were appointed body-guard to Gen. Fremont. They conducted him to Sedalia, Mo., and making that place their winter quarters passed the time until spring, engaged in scouting and harassing the enemy. They then made a dash down to Black Water and captured 1,200 rebel recruits with all their provisions, intercepting them as they were moving on to reinforce Gen. Price. After conveying their prisoners to Sedalia, they joined Fremont in his trip to Springfield, which, proving abortive, they returned to the north of the river. There they were placed under Pope and

aided in the capture of New Madrid and Island No. 10, where they took 6,000 prisoners. They then embarked for Vicksburg, but were stopped at Memphis and sent to the aid of Gen. Grant, who was engaged in the memorable battle of Shiloh. They did not arrive until the day after that conflict, but took part in the battles following at Farmington and Corinth, accompanying Buell to Huntsville, Ala. and to Louisville, Ky., in pursuit of Gen. Bragg, who moved on to Perryville, where a desperate struggle took place and the Union forces were victorious. Not being able to follow him over the mountains on his retreat to Murfreesboro, they moved to Nashville and passed around to his right, making their attack at Stone River, where a hard fought battle of three days took place. Rosecrans had then taken command of the Union forces, and Mr. Wilson was a member of his body-guard.

The force to which Mr. Wilson was attached next moved to Middleton, surprising the rebels under Gen. Bragg, and thence to Chickamauga, whence they were forced to retreat to Chattanooga. They then followed Wheeler through Tennessee for seven days, keeping up a running fight nearly all the time. Mr. Wilson was then sent to Memphis as orderly for Gen. Smith, and joined his raid through Mississippi. On the third day out he was taken prisoner at Black Water by Gen. Forest, and sent to Cahaba, Ala. After remaining in prison there two months he was transferred to Andersonville, where he remained until September, and was then conveyed to Florence, S. C. On the 22d of February, 1865, he was liberated on parole and taken to the hospital at Annapolis, Md. After remaining there a month he obtained a furlough of thirty days, and in the meantime went to Indiana, and thence to Camp Chase, Ohio, where he reported again for duty, and was sent to join his regiment at Gravelly Spring, Miss. His time had expired nearly a year prior to this, and he was discharged March 7, 1865, having served within five days of four years. After being paid off at Louisville, Ky., he went to Indiana, near Bedford, where, April 2, 1865, his marriage with Miss Sarah A. Prince took place. Mrs. Wilson is the daughter of John and Ann Prince. Her parents were natives of North Carolina, but

had removed at an early day to Indiana, where their daughter Sarah was born.

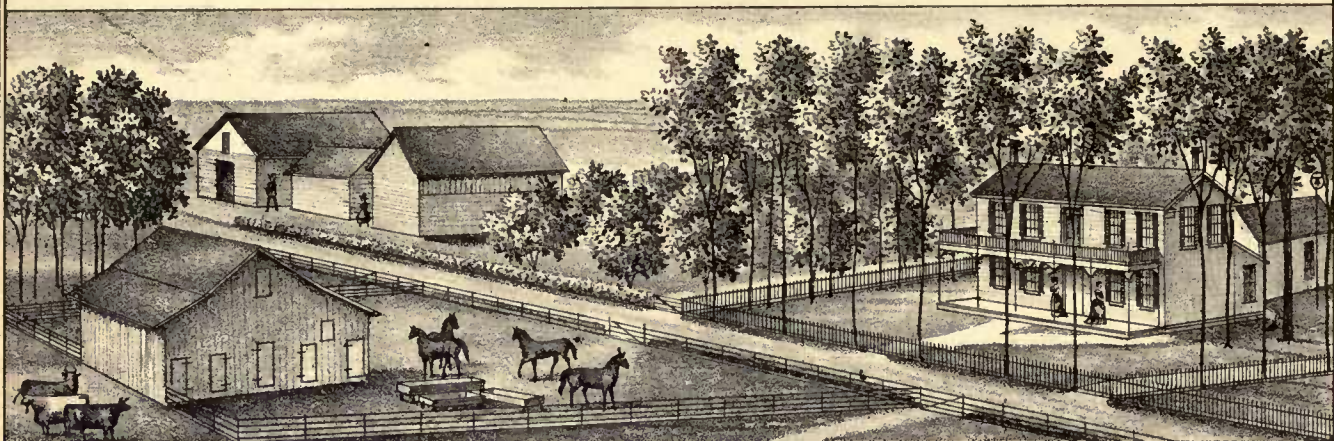
Immediately after his marriage, Mr. Wilson came to Illinois and engaged in farming in Cumberland County. He remained there seven years and then came to Coles County, where he purchased land in North Okaw Township, and carried on a successful farming business twelve years. In the autumn of 1881 he entered upon mercantile life at Cook's Mills, purchasing a residence and store in that village. He is now associated with Mr. Hoots in business, under the firm name of Wilson & Hoots. He was elected to the offices of Constable and Town Clerk by the Democratic party, of which he is a member, and Aug. 21, 1885, received the appointment of Postmaster at Cook's Mills.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson had two children, both of whom died, leaving the household desolate; their names were Mary and Louisa. Mrs. Wilson is a highly esteemed member of the Baptist Church, in which she is actively engaged in all good works. Mr. Wilson has never fully recovered from the effects of his imprisonment at Andersonville. He was afflicted with scurvy and other troubles resulting from the horrors of that place, and has never received either bounty or pension from the Government for his services or sufferings.

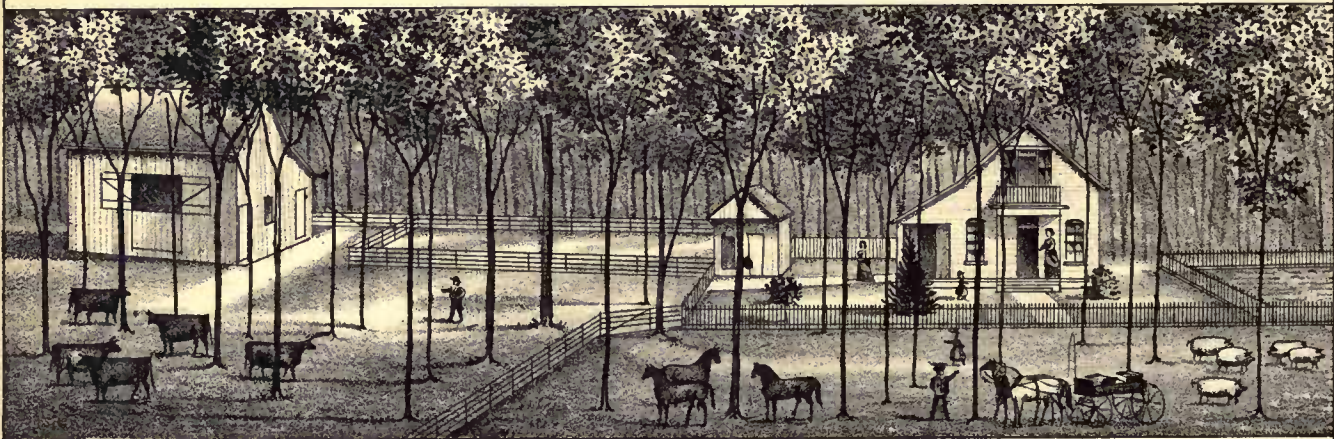
 **D**ANIEL BOONE WINKLEBLACK, one of the rising young men of Coles County, is a farmer and stock-raiser residing on section 25, Seven Hickory Township. He was born in this county, in Morgan Township, April 11, 1858, and is the son of John and Catherine (Weaver) Winkleblack. The father was born in Ohio, where his early life was spent. He subsequently removed to Illinois, and became one of the leading men of this county in the early days. He was successful in business enterprises, and after a long life of usefulness died in 1886, at the age of eighty-two years.

The parental family consisted of twelve children, whose record is as follows: William H., born Aug. 16, 1841, is married and resides on the old homestead; Milton, born July 27, 1842, is married and

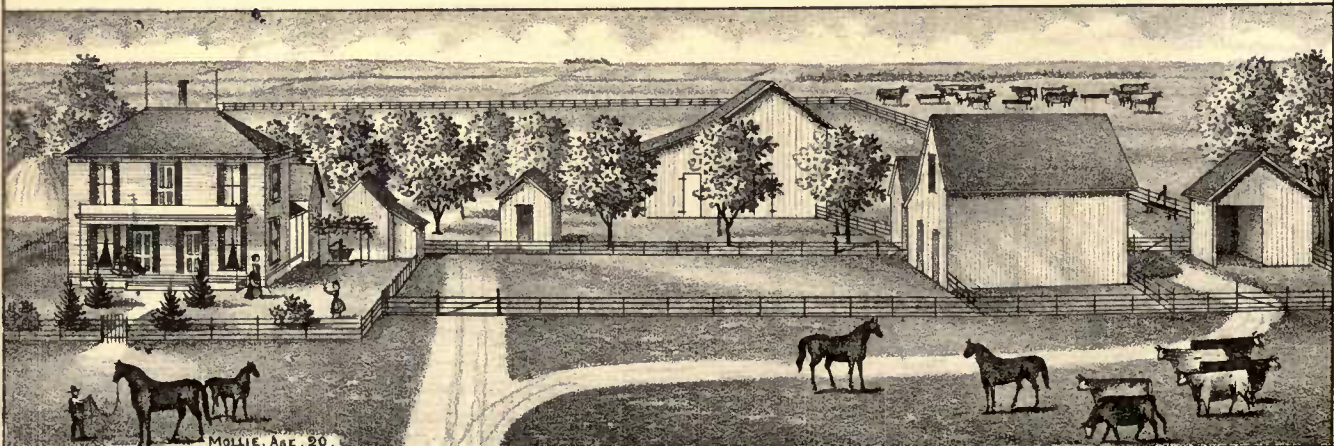
LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



RESIDENCE OF M. E. O'HAIR, SEC. 36, SEVEN HICKORY TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF MR. & MRS. Wm. A. GILMER, SEC. 8, NORTH OKAW TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF I. N. ROBERTS, SEC. 16, (T. 13. N. & R. 14. W.) ASHMORE TOWNSHIP.

lives in California: Robert A., born Jan. 1, 1844, is married, and resides in Morgan Township, Coles County; Mason F., born Sept. 12, 1845, is married, and also makes his home in Morgan Township; Nancy J., born Oct. 3, 1847, is the wife of William Griggs, and resides in Seven Hickory Township; Thomas T., born March 20, 1849, lives on the homestead; Mary E., born July 30, 1851, became the wife of S. Clark, and died July 4, 1887, leaving a family of two children; John, born Aug. 20, 1853, is married, and resides in Morgan Township; Victoria Sophia, born March 20, 1855, is the wife of Isaac Walter, and lives in Ashmore Township; she is the mother of one child; Daniel Boone is the subject of this sketch; Susanna, born July 24, 1861, died in childhood; Jacob Henry was born Jan. 13, 1864, and lives on the homestead where he was born; he is married and has a family of four children. John Winkleblack was an extensive farmer in this county, owning from 800 to 1,000 acres of land. He gave his attention chiefly to raising the different varieties of cereals, and was very successful in business.

Daniel Winkleblack passed his boyhood and youth on the homestead, where he acquired a practical knowledge of systematic farming, receiving at the same time a good education in the common schools. Feb. 9, 1881, he was married to Miss Mary Ann Myers. Mrs. Winkleblack is the daughter of James and Emeline (Smith) Myers, the former born Feb. 12, 1834, and the latter Nov. 27, 1839. Their family consisted of ten children: Mary Ann, born June 19, 1859; Charles, March 18, 1861; John, born Aug. 20, 1863, died Aug. 12, 1864; Elisha, born Nov. 28, 1866, died Oct. 12, 1880; Nettie, born June 20, 1871; Nannie and Julia (twins), were born Aug. 20, 1876; the latter died at two years of age, and the former makes her home with her sister, Mrs. Winkleblack. Katie, born Dec. 12, 1878, resides at home; Carrie and Harry (twins), were born March 12, 1881; the former died at five years of age. The family came to Coles County in 1860, and reside in Bushton, Morgan Township, Coles County.

On Thanksgiving Day of 1883, Mr. Winkleblack brought his young wife to the home where they now reside, and celebrated the festivities of the

day with due ceremony. In conducting his farm, Mr. Winkleblack is engaged to some extent, but not exclusively, in stock-raising. His farm was a gift from his father. In politics Mr. Winkleblack is a Republican; his wife belongs to the Baptist Church, having become a member of Salem Church, Morgan Township, when fifteen years of age.

JAMES HAMILTON, ex-Sheriff of Coles County, and now engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 13, North Okaw Township, spent his childhood in Adams County, Ohio, where his birth took place May 1, 1826. He was the eleventh child in a family of twelve born to John and Isabel (Smith) Hamilton, natives of Ireland, but of Scotch descent. They came to America with their parents when mere children, and settled in South Carolina, whence both families removed, first to Kentucky and then to Ohio. The paternal grandfather of our subject was John Hamilton, Sr., who married Miss Mary McClure; both were natives of Ireland and of Scotch-Irish descent. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Samuel and Isabel (Brown) Smith, of the same country and descent as the Hamilton family.

The father of our subject carried on farming in Adams County, Ohio, and served as a volunteer in the War of 1812. In 1853 he emigrated to Illinois with the expectation of remaining in the West, but two years later returned to Ohio, where his death took place in about 1868. James, of our sketch, was bred to farm pursuits and received a limited education in the district schools. When twenty-three years of age he left home, and for two years thereafter engaged in farming on his own account in his native county. Subsequently he came West and engaged in teaching in Coles County, which he followed for about a year and a half, and then located on a tract of rented land, which he occupied one year. In the meantime he purchased eighty acres of wild prairie, which he fenced and settled upon, and in due time had made it ready for the reception of his bride. The lady chosen for this position of honor and trust was

Miss Margaret L. Hoskins, who became his wife Nov. 16, 1853. Mrs. Hamilton was born in Morgan County, Ill., July 19, 1832, and is the daughter of Lowry and Martha (Prewett) Hoskins, natives of Kentucky, who emigrated from the Blue Grass regions to Illinois during its early settlement. They located in Coles County in 1835, while it was still a wilderness, with no settlement within a radius of sixteen miles and no mill nearer than Springfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoskins became the parents of eleven children, of whom Margaret L. was the second. The mother departed this life at the homestead in North Okaw in 1847. Lowry Hoskins is still living, and a resident of Nebraska. Although having reached the advanced age of eighty-four years, he is still active and capable of managing his business affairs. The experience of the Hoskins family in Illinois during the pioneer days was marked by many hardships and trials. At one time a band of robbers took away four head of horses, escaping with them to Kentucky. Mr. H. overtook the thieves, but could not satisfactorily prove that the animals belonged to him, and was obliged to relinquish his claim. This for the time crippled his farming operations, as he had no other horses left, and he went to work at twenty-five cents per day, cutting rails, until enabled to start again. Afterward he followed trading principally, and accumulated a fine property in Coles County, owning at one time nearly 800 acres of land. He was particularly fond of pioneer life, and delighted in overcoming the difficulties set before him.

Mr. Hamilton occupied his first purchase of land about four years, and then in the fall of 1859 purchased eighty acres on section 13, where he now resides. He put up a fine residence in 1872, together with good barns and other necessary out-buildings, and added to his first purchase so that he has now 260 acres, the whole, with its buildings, constituting one of the most attractive features in the landscape of Coles County. He has been prosperous in his farming operations and fortunate in his investments, and is looked upon as a man possessing more than ordinary ability and good judgment, both in farming and finance.

Mr. Hamilton, after the outbreak of the Re-

bellion, although having large interests to look after, considered it his duty to aid in the preservation of the Union, and accordingly, on the 4th of September, 1862, enlisted in the 128th Illinois Infantry, which was soon afterward consolidated with the 26th and 130th. The soldiers were mustered in at Camp Butler, and soon afterward ordered to the scene of conflict, with headquarters at Memphis, Tenn. They participated in the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and Mr. Hamilton in the meantime was attacked with typhoid fever, from the effects of which he was slow to recover, and finally received his discharge for disability on the 7th of May, 1863. He then returned to his home and farm pursuits, but for a period of twelve years thereafter was able to do but very little active labor. He finally began to improve, however, and is now quite strong again.

Mr. Hamilton always voted the Republican ticket, and in 1880 was the successful candidate for Sheriff of Coles County, being elected by a handsome majority. He served two years, and in 1882 was re-elected for four years, discharging the duties of the office with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He encountered some unpleasant duties during his term of office, but never swerved from the line of rectitude, and received much praise for his fidelity to duty and his bravery in times of difficulty and danger. During the last three years of his term he had his family with him at his headquarters at Charleston, and upon relinquishing the office retired to his farm, leaving his son, John R., as Deputy under McClelland, the present incumbent.

Mr. Hamilton has also served the people in minor offices and has thoroughly identified himself with the growth and progress of his adopted county. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. H., eleven in number, four, Mary E., Thomas, Arthur and Lulu, have been laid to rest in the quiet country burying-ground. Those surviving are John R., William H. and James L. (twins), David W., Albert Grant, Samuel L. and Margaret I. John has been mentioned above; Albert married Miss Mollie E. Ashworth, and is a practicing physician; he resides on the homestead; he was graduated at the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati. David read

law at Charleston in the office of States Attorney Leitch, and was admitted to the bar. The others are at home with their parents. Our subject is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church, in which he serves as Deacon and Trustee. Socially he belongs to the Knights of Honor and the I. O. O. F.

The farm stock of Mr. Hamilton includes Short-horn cattle, Clydesdale horses and Poland-China hogs. The land is largely devoted to the cultivation of broom corn and grain, and yields each year a bountiful supply of the richest products of the Prairie State.



JOHAN W. MURPHY, a prosperous farmer and stock-grower of this county, residing on section 33, Seven Hickory Township, was born April 13, 1841, in Kentucky, and is the son of Miles and Sibbie (O'Hair) Murphy. His great-grandparents were natives of Ireland, who emigrated to this country at an early day, and settled in Kentucky, making their permanent home there. Miles Murphy was born in Kentucky in 1818, and was the son of William and Matilda (Biles) Murphy, who were the parents of twenty-two children, sixteen sons and six daughters. Those now living reside in Kentucky, where there are about 500 descendants. One son, who removed to Indiana with his family, was killed by the falling of a tree while at work cutting timber in the forest.

In 1856, Miles Murphy removed with his wife and family of thirteen children, to Coles County, and settled in Seven Hickory Township, making his permanent home here. Several years prior to this removal he had come to Edgar County, and after remaining three years, returned to Kentucky. Mr. Murphy was a member of the Christian Church and a highly esteemed citizen of the township. He was industrious and energetic in business, and lived peaceably with all men, attending exclusively to his own affairs, and never becoming involved in difficulties with his neighbors. During the Civil War he was taken prisoner, and conveyed to Springfield, where he died. The family record is: William H., a resident of Texas; John W.,

the subject of this sketch; Calvin C., a resident of Kansas; Michael A., a resident of Seven Hickory Township; Benjamin F. died at the age of fourteen; James T., Miles T., Leander B. and Hilton N., all reside in Kansas; Eliza C., who died in 1880, was the wife of Martin McCallister, and left a family of three children; Matilda E. is the widow of John Erwood, and has a family of three children; Nancy I. is the wife of William Grimes, and has a family of three children; Diana E. is single, and resides with her widowed sister, Matilda, in Elizabethtown, Ind.

John W. Murphy was a child when his parents came to Edgar County, Ill. He returned with the family to Kentucky, and accompanied them again to Illinois when they came the second time, and settling permanently in this county, has since remained here, engaged in farming and stock-raising. His first purchase of land was 200 acres, located on section 36, Seven Hickory Township, which was part of the original homestead, bought of the Illinois Central Railroad; he owns it in partnership with his brother, Michael A. Murphy. He now resides on section 33, where he owns a fine estate, containing eighty acres of well-improved land. He is engaged in general farming, raising all the cereals, and also giving his attention to stock-growing.

Dec. 28, 1864, Mr. Murphy was married to Miss Rebecca Wells. Mrs. Murphy was the daughter of William and Sally Wells, residents of Kentucky. Their married life, which opened with every prospect of future happiness, was doomed to a sudden close; on February 11 of the following year, Mrs. Murphy died at her husband's home in Seven Hickory Township. April 5, 1867, Mr. Murphy was married to Miss Rachel Pittinger. Mrs. Murphy is the daughter of Smith and Eliza Pittinger. Her parents were natives of Kentucky, who removed to Illinois, where their daughter, Rachel, was born in Clark County. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy had a family of eight children. Their first-born died in infancy, unnamed; Lola G., born April 5, 1870; Nelson M., June 7, 1872; Maud E., Feb. 22, 1875; John T., Oct. 2, 1878; Anna E., June 24, 1880; Corsa A., born Feb. 22, 1882, died at the age of eleven months, and Jessie P., born July 14, 1885.

Mr. Murphy, with his wife, belongs to the Christian Church at Rural Retreat. He is an active and enterprising citizen of this county, and in 1885 was elected Commissioner of Seven Hickory Township by the Democratic party, of which he is a member; he has been delegate to the County Conventions, and served as School Director several terms, giving general satisfaction to the people in the discharge of his public duties.



MICHAEL A. MURPHY, a prosperous farmer of Seven Hickory Township, is the owner of a fine estate containing 200 acres, located on section 36. He was born Aug. 10, 1844, in Morgan, now Wolfe County, Ky., and is the son of Miles and Sibbie (O'Hair) Murphy. His great-great-grandfather was a native of County Down, Ireland, who emigrated to this country at an early day and settled in Kentucky. His wife was a native of Bourbon County, that State. His grandfather, William Murphy, was born in 1792, in Morgan County, Ky., and married Miss Matilda Miles, who was born in 1801, in the same county.

Miles Murphy was born in 1818, in Morgan County, Ky., and remained on the homestead with his parents until his marriage with Miss Sibbie O'Hair, which took place at Hazle Green, Ky. The ceremony was performed by Elder Joseph Nichols, pastor of the Christian Church at that place. After his marriage he was engaged in farming a few years in his native State, and in 1847 removed to Edgar County, Ill. After remaining there one year he returned to Kentucky, but in 1856 came again to Illinois, and settled on section 36, Seven Hickory Township, where he carried on a successful farming business until the Civil War broke out. With his sons, Michael A. and John W., he was taken prisoner during the war and conveyed to Springfield, where he died April 14, 1864, as it was then supposed, from the effects of poison administered while in prison.

The following is the record of the family of

Miles Murphy: William H., a resident of Parker County, Tex., is married and has a family of four daughters; John W.; Calvin C., a resident of Greenwood County, Kan., is married and has a family of four children; Michael A., the subject of this sketch; Eliza C., deceased, was the wife of Martin McCallister; she died in February, 1881, leaving a family of three children. Matilda E. is the widow of John Erwood, and resides in Bartholomew County, Ind., with her family of three children; Nancy J., the wife of William Grimes, has a family of three children, and likewise resides in Bartholomew County, Ind.; Miles T., a resident of Greenwood County, Kan., has been twice married, and is the father of one child by each marriage; Benjamin F. died on the homestead in the autumn of 1856, at the age of fourteen; James E., a resident of Cherokee County, Kan., is married and has one child; Diana E. resides in Bartholomew County, Ind., with her sister; Leander B. resides in Cherokee County, Kan., with his brother; Hilton N. is married, and likewise resides in Cherokee County, Kan.; he has one child. Miles Murphy and his wife were highly esteemed members of the Christian Church; the latter survived her husband many years, and died Feb. 2, 1882, in Charleston, Ill.

Michael A. Murphy was twelve years of age when his parents removed from Kentucky to Coles County, Ill. He attended the common schools in his native State, and after coming to Illinois studied one year at Kansas Station in Edgar County. At the age of twenty-one he began to work for himself on the home farm, and in the spring of 1866 went to Kentucky, and married Miss Sarah J. Powers. Mrs. Murphy was born Nov. 14, 1849, in Morgan County, Ky., and is the daughter of Louis and Emily J. (Cox) Powers, also natives of Kentucky. Their family consisted of four children—Sarah J., James P., Martha E. and William H. James P. served as Deputy Marshal in Kentucky eight years; Martha E. is the wife of Wiley Perkins, and resides in Wolfe County, Ky., and William H. resides in Howard, Dak.

Mr. Murphy's marriage took place March 3, 1866, and the ceremony was performed by Elder Joseph Nichols, Pastor of the Christian Church at

Hazle Green, Ky. Mr. Nichols had the reputation of having conferred the blessing of matrimony upon a greater number of people than other ministers in the State. He performed the marriage rite for the parents of both Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, and in 1860 married over 300 couples. On one occasion he is said to have united fifteen couples before leaving the church. Mr. Nichols was a native of Morgan County, Ky. He possessed a fine physique, and his hair had never turned gray, although he died at the advanced age of ninety-one years.

After his marriage Mr. Murphy returned to Coles County, Ill., and engaged in farming on the homestead. In 1868 he added to his property by purchasing forty acres of land of the Illinois Central Railroad, and in 1868 built his present residence. He has on his farm six acres of walnut trees and 10,000 maples, besides a large growth of nearly every variety of native trees. His farm is well cultivated and improved, and is supplied with over 2,000 rods of tiling. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy have an interesting family of three children: Herschel S., born Jan. 22, 1868, is now a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Emily J., born Dec. 12, 1869, and Harlan A., Sept. 2, 1883. Mr. Murphy, with his wife and daughter, is a member of the Christian Church. In politics he is a Democrat, and was elected by that party to the local office of Constable, and has held that position nine years.

On Sept. 2, 1881, Mr. Murphy was struck by lightning while hauling a load of broom corn from the field on his farm. He had reached the yard with his team, and his wife, with Miss Lacy, a lady friend from Kentucky, was assisting him in covering up the load to protect it from the rain which was fast approaching, when the shock occurred. The current struck his right shoulder and passed down the right leg to the load of broom corn, tearing his clothing in its course, and searing the flesh from his shoulder to his feet, from which the boots were torn and literally riddled. Parts of his pocket-knife and the strap-iron on the wagon box were melted. His wife was also stricken down, and remained in a state of paralysis for several hours. The lightning set fire to the load, and but for the timely aid of Miss Lacy, who was uninjured, he would

have been cremated on his wagon. Mr. Murphy has preserved the boots and clothing as mementos of his terrible experience, from the effects of which he will suffer throughout the remainder of his life. He oversees the work on his farm as usual, but is not in sufficiently robust health to perform active labor himself.

MADISON HUNT, manufacturer of and dealer in tile and brick, owns 160 acres of land on sections 6 and 7, in North Okaw Township, where for the last year he has been prosecuting his chosen calling extensively and profitably. He is considered one of the rising young business men of the northwestern part of Coles County, and much is expected of him in the future.

Mr. Hunt was born of a good family, first opening his eyes to the light in Jasper County, this State, Aug. 30, 1858. His grandfather, Joseph Hunt, a native of Ohio, was born Sept. 29, 1805, and was engaged in farming and carpentering all his life. In early manhood he married Miss Nancy McCalip, who was born June 21, 1806, in Ohio, and became his wife July 27, 1824. Seventeen years later they emigrated with their family to this State, arriving in Jasper County, Nov. 19, 1841, where they took up their residence, and where the death of Joseph Hunt occurred May 20, 1857. His wife, Nancy, survived him until Sept. 26, 1868. Their nine children were Zimiriah, who died when fifty-five years old; Elisha, a resident of Douglas County; Alfred, of Coles County; Elizabeth, the wife of John McComis, of Kansas; Leann, the wife of Jacob Dettimore, of Kansas; John, deceased, also Sarah; Joseph, a resident of Washington Territory, and James T., of Kansas. The grandparents were buried in the Hunt Cemetery in Jasper County.

The father of our subject was born Jan. 20, 1831, and remained under the parental roof until reaching manhood. His school advantages were extremely limited. He was but eleven years of age when his parents came to Jasper County, and soon after reaching his majority he was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Harris, of Ohio. His father presented him with a wedding gift of forty acres

of land in Jasper County, which, however, he sold not long afterward, and dealt in land in that locality for some time thereafter. Upon coming to this county in the spring of 1859, he rented a tract of land in Lafayette Township, upon which he operated until he purchased the land which constitutes his present farm. This he has brought to a fine state of cultivation, the lowland being thoroughly drained with tile, and has brought about all the improvements required by the progressive, modern farmer. Of the six children born to Alfred and Nancy Hunt, Joseph and the two following died in infancy; Elisha died when an interesting lad nine years of age; Ardilla became the wife of Willis Hand, and is a resident of Coles County; Madison, of our sketch, was the youngest of the family.

Our subject attended the primary school during his childhood and completed his studies in Lee's Academy, at Loxa, where he took a full course of instruction. After leaving the academy he commenced teaching, which he followed a short time, then rented a tract of land in Coles County, and carried on farming. He was united in marriage with Miss Emma Ellison, of North Okaw Township, on the 21st of January, 1880, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride. Mrs. Hunt was born in Ohio, Feb. 28, 1848, and is the daughter of Moses and Mary A. (Lockridge) Ellison, natives of the same State. After his marriage Mr. Hunt rented land in Humbolt Township, and a year later removed to the place where he now resides. During the fall of 1886, he became associated with his brother-in-law, S. J. Jackson, in the manufacture of tile and brick, the business being carried on under the firm name of Jackson & Hunt. Both are wide-awake and energetic men, and are building up a prosperous and lucrative business, receiving orders from all parts of the county and beyond.

Mr. Hunt usually votes with the Democratic party, although having but little time to give to political matters. His wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The household circle was completed by the advent of five children, namely, Ellison, born June 23, 1882; Louis A. and Luella, twins, May 30, 1883; Maggie, July 31, 1884; Claude, Aug. 11, 1886; Luella died in infancy.

NELSON S. FREEMAN, M. D., a retired physician of Pleasant Grove Township, is a resident of Farmington, and Postmaster at that place. He is the son of Thompson and Catherine (Kelso) Freeman, and was born Feb. 17, 1833, in Orange County, Ind. His paternal grandparents were natives of England, who emigrated to the United States and settled in Virginia. The marriage of our subject's parents took place in Virginia. Mrs. Freeman had been previously married, and was the mother of one child, John Smith, now a resident of Vigo County, Ind. After his marriage, Mr. Freeman removed to Orange County, Ind., and thence to Putnam County, making the latter place his home. He was a carpenter by trade, but possessed considerable business talent, and was proprietor of a hotel, and also engaged in the mercantile business, dealing in furniture.

Mr. and Mrs. Freeman had a family of ten children born to them, all of whom attained maturity, but only three are now living: Nelson S., the subject of this sketch; Sarah, Mrs. Simpson, a resident of Crawford County, Kan., and Elizabeth, who is married, and a resident of Westfield, Ill. When the home circle was broken by the death of his wife, Mr. Freeman desired a change of scene, and removed to Clark County, Ill., where he passed the closing years of his life, and died at the advanced age of eighty-six years.

Dr. Freeman was an infant when his family moved to Putnam County, Ind., and his early life was passed on the homestead there. He received a good common-school education, and studied medicine, preparatory to entering the medical profession. His marriage to Miss Mary F. Carman took place there in 1851. Mrs. Freeman is the daughter of Isaac H. and Elizabeth (Beers) Carman, and was born April 2, 1832, in Pennsylvania. In 1855 Dr. Freeman removed with his young family to Coles County, Ill., and engaged in the practice of medicine. After remaining a short time, he changed his residence to Clark County, and remained there until August, 1857, and then, returning to Coles County, settled in Campbell.

When the Civil War broke out, Dr. Freeman was among the first to offer his life in the defense of his country. He enlisted in the autumn of 1861,

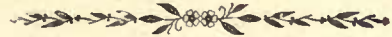
and was mustered into service with a company of Western Sharpshooters, which afterward composed Co. F., of the 66th Illinois Infantry. Within fifteen days he was promoted to the rank of Assistant Surgeon, and served in that capacity until Feb. 20, 1862. He never possessed a vigorous physique and the hardships of war told so severely upon his health, that on account of physical disability, and by the advice of Gen. Grant, he then left the regiment for home to recruit his strength. But, reluctant to leave the service when so much assistance was needed, he stopped at Mound City, near Cairo, and engaged to do hospital duty there. During the June freshet it became necessary to move the hospital from that locality, and Dr. Freeman then went to Springfield, where he recruited a company of men, who were mustered in with the 123d Illinois Infantry. During the winter of 1862-63, he was engaged in hospital duty at Corinth, Memphis and President's Island, and in August, 1863, received the commission of Captain of Co. I., 63d U. S. Col. Inf. His regiment was stationed on guard duty in Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana, and was at one time encamped on the plantation belonging to Jefferson Davis. The Doctor has a chair in his possession which was brought from there as a memento of the war. He served until the close of the war, and his regiment was mustered out Jan. 9, 1866, and disbanded under general order.

Dr. Freeman is the owner of his pleasant residence in Farmington, and also other town property. He has been Postmaster for many years, and while in the enjoyment of good health, was very active and energetic, besides attending to a large medical practice; he was also interested in mercantile pursuits and other enterprises. On account of his health he has been obliged to relinquish the practice of medicine entirely.

Dr. and Mrs. Freeman had a family of six children born to them, all of whom, with one exception, are now living: Caroline, the wife of James M. Newman; Charles E., Lizzie A., Wilbur F. and Frank F.

Dr. and Mrs. Freeman have been for many years active members of the Methodist Church. In politics the Doctor is a Republican, and cast his first

vote for John C. Fremont in 1856. He has been Postmaster at Farmington for many years, and has also held several other local offices, and in the discharge of his public duties, both civil and military, he has won the respect of his colleagues and the confidence of the people. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the G. A. R.



JOHN E. PERISHO is the owner of a fine farm containing 160 acres, located on section 1, Seven Hickory Township, where he is chiefly engaged in stock-growing. He was born Feb. 20, 1850, in Edgar County, Ill., and is the son of Isaac and Rosana (O'Hair) Perisho. Isaac Perisho was born May 2, 1818, in Washington County, Ind., and was about eight years of age when he came with his parents, Joseph and Barbara (Zink) Perisho, to Edgar County, Ill. The former was a native of North Carolina, and the latter of Kentucky. Their family consisted of seven children: Harvey, a resident of Edgar County; Isaac, a resident of Coles County; Daniel, a resident of Clark County; Joseph, deceased; Emanuel, a resident of Clark County, Ill.; John and James, residents of Edgar County.

Isaac Perisho resided with his parents until his marriage with Miss Zimmerly, a native of Edgar County, which took place when he was eighteen years of age. Mrs. Perisho died within a few years, leaving three children, only one of whom is now living, Jacob, who is married and resides in Edgar County; he has a family of seven children. Mr. Perisho was married the second time, to Miss Purlee, a native of Washington County, Ind. Only one child was born to this marriage, Hiram, who is now married, and a resident of Edgar County. Mr. Perisho's married life was again of short duration, and after the death of his second wife, he married Miss Rosana O'Hair. Mrs. Perisho is the daughter of Michael and Rose (Wells) O'Hair. Her parents were natives of Kentucky, where their daughter Rosana was born. Five children were born to this marriage: Emily J., the wife of O. C. Bower, a resident of Morgan Township, is the mother of one son, Arthur E.; Ella died at the age of fifteen;

John E. is the subject of this sketch; Mary E., the wife of G. O. Davis, a resident of Charleston, Ill., has a family of three daughters—Minnie, Lulu and Pearl; Rosana C., the wife of A. J. Newman, resides in Seven Hickory Township, and has a family of three children—Olive P., George M. and Ruby R.

September 24, 1874, our subject married Miss Aurelia Alice Miller. Mrs. Perisho is the daughter of Samuel F. and Bethany J. (Jean) Miller, and was born Feb. 7, 1852, in Jefferson County, Ky. Her paternal grandfather, Michael Miller, was a native of Pennsylvania, but removed from that State at an early day and settled in Kentucky, where he died at the advanced age of ninety-one years. He was twice married, and Samuel Miller, the father of Mrs. Perisho, was a son of the second wife. There were five children born to the second marriage—Elizabeth, Susan, Samuel, William and Amanda. Samuel Miller's marriage took place March 13, 1836, and his family consisted of twelve children: Mary E., died in childhood; Catherine M. is the wife of James W. Mulliken, a native of Indiana; they live in Arcola, Douglas Co., Ill., and have a family of eight children—Edgar, Lola, Ira, Lorena, Gertie, Myrtle, Ruth and Pearl. John S. is married and lives in Hoopeston, Ill.; he is the father of one child—Cora. Jane C. is the wife of E. L. Frazier, a native of Indiana, and they have four children—Bertha C., Otis O., Maud M. and Bessie B; William A. died when a young man; Robert E. died in childhood; Maynard P. is married and resides at Hoopeston; he is the father of two sons—J. S. and Walter. Aurelia A. is the wife of our subject; Michael is married and lives in Charleston; he has a family of three children—Frederick, Charles and Grace. Ara and Ira are twins; the former married Miss Lottie Long, and lives in Charleston, they have one child—Ethel; the latter died in infancy. Oscar is single and resides in Champaign, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Perisho have resided in this neighborhood for many years. They passed one year in Arcola, and the following year in Charleston, where Mr. Perisho opened a meat-market. In 1875 they built their present residence, and have since made their home here. Mr. Perisho is chiefly en-

gaged in stock-raising. His farm is well improved, and supplied with about 1,000 rods of tiling, all of which is on sections 1 and 12. Mr. and Mrs. Perisho have only one child, a daughter, Edith E., born Nov. 4, 1875.

With his wife, Mr. Perisho is a member of the Christian Church, at Rural Retreat. Mrs. Perisho became a member of the church in Seven Hickory Township at the age of eighteen, and her husband at the age of twenty-two. In politics Mr. Perisho is a Democrat.



RALPH DOLLAR, proprietor of 300 acres of valuable land on section 6, East Oakland Township, has been connected with the agricultural interests of that locality since early manhood, and has been a member of the community since first being introduced to life and its responsibilities, as he was born in this township, Feb. 15, 1861. Our subject is of excellent Scotch ancestry, being the son of John and Sarah (Hunt) Dollar, the former born in Scotland, July 1, 1807, and the latter a native of Ohio, born in Clarke County, Aug. 19, 1822. Both parents were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and carried out in their daily lives the principles of the religion which they professed.

John Dollar emigrated from his native country in 1833, and sojourned in Northern Illinois until 1840. After a brief time spent in Chicago he came to this county, arriving here on the 4th of July, that same year, and located on eighty acres of land on section 2, East Oakland Township. He was a man of great industry, and while engaged in the improvement of his farm, occupied his spare time in ditching for the neighbors around him. By close economy he managed to save something each year, and in time became one of the wealthiest men in the eastern part of Coles County. His honesty and integrity secured him hosts of friends, and no man was more straightforward in his business transactions. As time progressed he accumulated more land, and engaged largely in stock-raising. After becoming a naturalized citizen he identified himself with the Republican party, and during the war

sympathized warmly with the Union cause. After building up a good record as a man and citizen, he was gathered to his fathers at an advanced age, his death taking place Jan. 16, 1883.

The mother of our subject was the daughter of James D. and Nancy (Jones) Hunt, of Clarke County, Ohio, and became the wife of John Dollar on the 8th of April, 1847, their wedding taking place in this county. She had been previously married to Nicholas Curtis, in February, 1840, and Mr. C. died four years later, on the 2d of June, 1844. He was born in 1818, and followed farming all his life. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis had three children—Charles, Ophelia and Samantha.

The three sisters and the brother of our subject were Margaret, Nancy, Sarah and James B. The latter died in childhood. Ralph, of our sketch, was married three days after reaching his twenty-fifth year, to Miss Josie M. Harmon, Feb. 18, 1886. Mrs. D. was born in Clermont County, Ohio, June 13, 1862, and is the daughter of Arthur and Rebecca (Gregg) Harmon, who are now living in this township. They have one child, John Arthur. Mr. Dollar is Republican in politics, like his father before him, and is in all respects the peaceable, law-abiding, industrious and enterprising citizen who, like his compeers, has followed in the footsteps of the pioneer fathers and mothers, and carried on the work which they began half a century ago. But for their labors, the great State of Illinois would not have attained its present importance, and it is gratifying to observe how well the sons of the old settlers are carrying the mantle which descended upon them from their fathers.

FRANK F. FREEMAN, the youngest son of Dr. Nelson Freeman, a sketch of whom appears in this work, was born June 24, 1862, in this county. He received an excellent business education, and at the age of seventeen perfected himself in the art of telegraphy. He was first employed as telegraph operator on the T. & P. R. R., and subsequently held the position of Station Agent for the T., St. L. & K. C. R. R. at Edwardsville. He returned home March 15, 1885, and has

since carried on a general mercantile business at Campbell.

The marriage of our subject to Miss Mary A. Andrews took place Aug. 26, 1883. Mrs. Freeman is the daughter of Thomas and Caroline Andrews. She was born in Fayette County, Ill., and at the time of her marriage resided in McLean County. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman have two beautiful children—Ernest M. and Francis Fay. In politics Mr. Freeman is a Republican, and holds the position of Town Clerk.

Mr. Freeman is a young man whose career in life is just opening. He is popular among his friends, honorable and upright in his business dealings, and is one of whom all may reasonably predict a successful future.

JOHN J. GANNAWAY, who for fifty-eight years has been numbered as one of the worthy residents of Paradise Township, first drew breath in Grayson County, Ky., July 20, 1826. He was the son of John and Elizabeth (Williams) Gannaway, whose household included eighteen olive branches, ten of whom lived to maturity.

John Gannaway, Sr., a native of Virginia, born in November, 1789, was the son of William and Sallie (Gannaway) Gannaway, and when a young man learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed in his native State until 1829. He then removed with his family to Illinois, locating first at Muddy Point, this county, whence he soon afterward removed to Paradise Township, where he remained until his death, Feb. 27, 1875. He bought sixty acres of wild land on section 13, which is now occupied by his son, our subject. He was a quiet and unobtrusive citizen, highly respected by his neighbors, and with his wife, a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Our subject was a youth of eighteen years when he came with his parents to the farm which has since continuously been his home. He has added to the original area, and is now the proprietor of 400 acres. When twenty-seven years of age he

was married, Dec. 1, 1853, to Miss Sarah L., daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Love) Williams, of Hardin County, Ky. Samuel Williams was the son of William and Elizabeth Williams, and his wife, Margaret, was the daughter of William and Mary Love. Mr. and Mrs. G. became the parents of five children, all living and named respectively, Samuel, Margaret E., Artemesia M., Abraham L. and John. The eldest son, Samuel, married Miss Mary, daughter of John and Ruth Jones, and is occupied in farming near the homestead of his father; they have two children—Sarah and Willard Earl. Margaret M. is the wife of Simeon Horsley, and is living with her husband on a farm in Mattoon Township; they have four children—John, Landie Lee, Homer and Josephine.

Mr. Gannaway has been prominent in the local affairs of his township, serving as School Director and Commissioner, but takes no further part in politics than to cast his vote at important elections, with the Republican party. He is a member and Trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has in all respects fulfilled his duties as an honest man and a good citizen.



JOSEPH F. GREEN, who worthily represents the legal profession at Oakland, is a native of Miami County, Ohio, born in the town of Troy, April 7, 1857. His parents, Stephen D. and Hannah (French) Green, were natives of the same State, the father born in September, 1823, and the mother in May of the same year. The latter died at the homestead in Troy, Ohio, Aug. 19, 1883. The father is still living, and remains in the home where he settled when first married, and where his children were born.

Stephen D. Green was fairly educated, completing his studies in the High School at Pickaway, Ohio, and being reared to manhood in Miami County. During the progress of the Civil War he engaged in the commission business with a partner, under the firm name of Huddleson, Green & Co., making his headquarters at Cincinnati and dealing principally in live stock. In 1866 he took up his residence in Berea, and engaged in the real-estate

business there, his transactions also extending into Mason County, Ill. The record of Stephen D. Green's children is as follows: Asa T., Zelora, Glenn; Eliza, who married Alonzo Thackery, and Joseph F.

The subject of this notice came to Illinois in 1879, and taking up his abode in Oakland spent a part of his time here and the balance in Ohio, where he was interested in teaching school. He had completed his classical course of study in the Lebanon Normal University in 1873, but continued at his books thereafter four years, finally taking a regular course in the college at Vermilion, giving his attention principally to the dead languages and the sciences. Afterward he was engaged in teaching for several years. He finally engaged in the grain trade at Oakland, having offices likewise at Hinesboro, Lake City and Hervey City, operating with his brother under the firm name of Green Bros. They subsequently added lumber, in which they transacted quite an extensive business, and continued four years, there and at Lebanon, Ohio. In 1882 the brothers commenced the manufacture of tile at Oakland, turning out annually about \$10,000 worth.

Our subject, however, desired a different kind of life, and felt that he had talents which might be better employed. Accordingly, in 1884, he entered the Cincinnati Law School, where he studied a year, and being still athirst for learning, repaired to Valparaiso, Ind., and studied civil engineering, in which he perfected himself, and has followed it for the last two years. In 1885 he entered the Union Law School at Chicago, where, after closely applying himself two terms he was admitted to the bar, in 1886, and soon afterward entered upon the practice of his profession, which he has since followed.

The marriage of Joseph F. Green and Miss Jennie Sausser, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Lebanon, June 2, 1881. Mrs. Green was born in Lebanon, Warren Co., Ohio, in 1858, and is the only daughter of Col. C. E. and Mary (Fay) Sausser, natives of Ohio. Her father served as Colonel of an Ohio regiment of infantry during the late war, being commissioned for his bravery and fidelity in the Union cause. Mr. and Mrs.

Green have one child, a daughter, Annie E., who was born Oct. 9, 1884. Mrs. G. is well connected, being second cousin to Senator Payne of Ohio. Our subject and wife are members in good standing of the Old-School Presbyterian Church, and Mr. G. is a stanch Republican, politically, although a second cousin to Jefferson Davis, of Confederate fame.

JAMES McCrory, one of the pioneers of Illinois, is a well-known and substantial farmer, residing in Lafayette Township on section 2, town 12, range 8. He was born Nov. 16, 1814, in Bourbon County, Ky. His father, James McCrory, Sr., was born in the North of Ireland, whither his family had fled from Scotland to escape the persecutions which disturbed that country during the latter part of the seventeenth century. He emigrated to the United States when a young man, and settled in Kentucky, where he engaged in farming, his marriage to Mrs. Sarah Vance taking place there. Mrs. McCrory was a native of Virginia. Both parents died before reaching the prime of life, leaving a family of three children, whose names are, Jane, Elizabeth, and James, our subject. Jane became the wife of James Gray, and Elizabeth the wife of William Kendall. The two daughters are now deceased, leaving James the sole survivor of the family.

James McCrory was a young lad when he had the misfortune to lose both of his parents, and resided with his brother-in-law until he was twenty-one years of age. At that time, while on a visit to some friends in Missouri, he engaged as clerk in a store at Palmyra, retaining the position several months. He then returned to Kentucky and opened a dry-goods house, but the panic of 1837 compelled him to leave Kentucky, and consequently he removed with his goods to Charleston, this county, where he closed out his stock. In 1839 he returned to Kentucky, and for a short time he resumed the mercantile business in Harrison County, and subsequently engaged in various employments there, until the spring of 1850. He then returned to Coles County, and was en-

gaged in the mercantile business three years in Charleston. In 1853 he was elected County Clerk, and retained the position eight years, having been elected the second time. At the expiration of this time he resumed the mercantile business, and in 1867 sold his stock and purchased the farm upon which he now resides, which contains 160 acres of land, all brought to a fine state of cultivation. After passing through many business vicissitudes he is now spending the evening of life in comparative tranquility and retirement.

His marriage to Miss Mary E. Chambers took place in Cynthiana, Harrison Co., Ky., March 20, 1838. She is the daughter of James Chambers, and was born in Harrison County, Ky. Mr. and Mrs. McCrory had a family of nine children, as follows: William E., Henry M., Frank, Joe, Charles D., Sarah E., Elizabeth; one daughter died in childhood, and one son, James T., died at the age of nineteen. Sarah became the wife of Luke F. Wilson, and Elizabeth the wife of J. W. Neal, M. D.

Mr. McCrory was faithful in the discharge of his public duties while holding office, and is a highly esteemed citizen of the township. Although not actively interested in politics, he votes with the Democratic party.

ALEXANDER MONTGOMERY, deceased. The name which heads this sketch is worthy of honorable mention among the self-made men of whom the State of Illinois may well be proud. Mr. Montgomery was born May 5, 1808, near Huntsville, Ala. When a young man his parents removed to Indiana, and settled near Rockville. He accompanied them, and remained there until 1829, and then removed to Coles County, Ill., where he first settled near Charleston, but subsequently changed his location to Lafayette Township. He commenced life a poor man, and when he came to Illinois his wife and himself rode on the same horse, which was their only possession. However, he was possessed of excellent business qualifications, and engaged in stock-dealing, which enterprise proved very suc-

cessful. He purchased cattle and drove them to the Terre Haute market, and began building up his fortune on this foundation. He made money rapidly, and became the owner of about 700 acres of land, all of which was well improved and cultivated, with the exception of 100 acres of timber.

In 1871 Mr. Montgomery moved with his family to Texas, in order to afford his children the advantages for advancement in life, which were very promising in that State. While there he resided three years near Sherman and two years in the vicinity of Denison. He was successful in business, and became the owner of 2,000 acres of land in that State. At the expiration of five years he returned to Coles County, having retained his property here, but unknown to himself his life was fast drawing to a close, and the mysterious curtain of death was very soon to be drawn over the last scene of his busy, useful life. He died in 1877, the year following his return home. Mr. Montgomery became a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at the age of eighteen, and continued his relation with that religious body throughout life. In politics he was a staunch supporter of the Democratic party.

Mr. Montgomery was thrice married, his first marriage to Miss Margaret McCollister taking place in Indiana. She died leaving three children, two of whom are now living—Eliza J., now Mrs. Ewing, and Margaret, the wife of W. W. Puriton. Both are residents of Texas. His second wife was Miss Martha Ann Glass, who died leaving one child, Elizabeth, now Mrs. Cochran, who is also a resident of Texas. His third wife, Mrs. Lucinda (Miller) Abbott, was born in Kentucky in 1812, and died two months prior to the death of Mr. Montgomery. A family of six children were born to them, whose names are Mary E., Leander Franklin, Mattie M., Robert D., William M. and Benton. Mary E. became the wife of C. P. Sites, and resides in Texas; Leander is a resident of El Dorado, Kan.; William M. married Alice P. McPherson and resides on the old home place, and owns 300 acres of land, and Benton died in infancy. By her former husband Mrs. Montgomery had one child, Nancy, who married Fletcher Miller and resides in Mattoon.

Robert D. was born in Coles County, May 6,

1850, and now represents the family here. He was reared on his father's farm, and accompanied the family to Texas when they removed to that State, remaining there six years. Like his father he has been prosperous in business, and is the owner of a fine estate containing 300 acres of land. His sister Mattie resides with him, and has an interest in the property. In politics Mr. Montgomery is a Democrat.



ROBERT I. COLEY is a farmer and stock-raiser residing on section 1, East Oakland Township. He is the son of William and Elizabeth (McClain) Coley, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky, and was born Nov. 30, 1825, in Mason County, Ky. His father served as a private in the War of 1812, and was stationed at Norfolk, Va. He was a carpenter by trade and also engaged to some extent in farming. He moved from Kentucky to Greencastle, Ind., in about the year 1831, where he followed his trade for one year. He then entered a tract of land and turned his attention more exclusively to farming. He remained in Indiana until 1851, when he removed to Pike County, Ill., settling near Pittsfield, where he spent the last days of his life. His death occurred Aug. 5, 1874. He was born in 1799, and was married in about the year 1823. For many years he was a Deacon in the Christian Church, and was actively engaged in promoting its interests. His wife was born Oct. 10, 1802, and died Nov. 16, 1878. She also was a member and earnest worker in the Church of Christ.

The following is the record of their family of twelve children: Three died in infancy; Robert I.; Nancy A. married William Brown, and is now deceased; Albert G. married Miss Southerland, and resides in Pike County, Ill.; Lewis J. married Miss Rooks, and is deceased; Eliza E. married Jesse Crow; Thomas H. married Martha Goodin; he was formerly a well-known teacher, and in 1868 was elected County Treasurer of Pike County, Ill. John L. married Miss Mary Weaver; Ann E. is the

wife of William Duffield; Mary F. married William Goodin, and is now deceased.

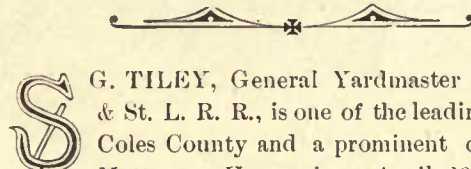
Robert I. Coley, the subject of this biography, was married Nov. 25, 1851, in Hendricks County, Ind., to Miss Elizabeth R. Kennedy, the ceremony being performed by Rev. John Edwards, Pastor of the Methodist Church. Mrs. Coley was born Oct. 13, 1829, in Hendricks County, Ind., and is the daughter of Jesse and Elizabeth (Dodson) Kennedy. Her father, Jesse Kennedy, was a native of Virginia, where he was born in 1792. In 1853 he moved to Newtown, Iowa, where he passed the remainder of his life, his death occurring Sept. 27, 1874. He was married three times; the first time in March, 1817; the second, April 29, 1841, and the third Jan. 1, 1855. His children were all by his first wife, and the following is the record: Maria, born March 27, 1818, was married to Isaac Kelly, in 1836; Mary, born Feb. 18, 1820; Stockton D., Dec. 25, 1821; Catherine A. Dec. 18, 1823; Leonard D., Dec. 28, 1825; Olive J., Sept. 4, 1827; Elizabeth R., Oct. 13, 1829; Jessie R., June 9, 1831; Thomas T., Dec. 8, 1834; Solomon E., born May 21, 1836, is deceased; Simeon, born Dec. 25, 1837, deceased; Joseph C., born March 19, 1839.

Robert I. Coley came with his family to this township in October, 1858, where he first purchased eighty acres of land. He has constantly added to this until he now has a fine estate of 114 acres. He was brought up to the printer's trade, in which he was very successful during the early part of his life, but since his removal to this township he has given his attention more exclusively to farming and stock-raising. In the latter pursuit he gives special attention to the breeding of Poland-China hogs.

The family of our subject and wife comprises nine children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Laura E., born Dec. 30, 1852, is the wife of James W. Leitch; Origen V., born Sept. 5, 1854; Henry C., May 4, 1856; Horace B., March 7, 1858; Charles D., May 6, 1860; May J., Feb. 8, 1862; Carrie E., April 21, 1866; Jessie F., June 21, 1870; Albert L., Feb. 28, 1872.

Mr. Coley is a Deacon in the Christian Church, in which organization himself and wife have been active members for many years. In politics he is

an ardent supporter of the Republican party. His property is mostly invested in his farm and stock. His family has long been well known and highly respected in the community, and six of his children are or have been school teachers.



S G. TILEY, General Yardmaster for the I. & St. L. R. R., is one of the leading men of Coles County and a prominent citizen of Mattoon. He was born April 29, 1847, in Liverpool, England, and is the son of Samuel G. and Eliza (Owen) Tiley. His parents were also natives of Liverpool, England, where their marriage took place. They emigrated to America about the year 1852, and settled at Lillie's Station, in the Alleghany Mountains, where, in connection with his brother William, the father was extensively engaged in the coal works for a number of years. He then sold out his interest there and moved to Johnstown, Pa., and was there appointed Superintendent of the Cambria Iron Works. He subsequently removed to Pittsburgh, Pa., where he became connected with the public works of that city. In 1860, he changed his location to Portsmouth, Ohio, and there accepted the position of Superintendent of the gas works and city improvements.

When the Civil War broke out, he enlisted in the pioneer corps under Gen. Buell, and served until 1864. He was twice taken prisoner by Morgan, but only detained for a short time, and returned from the army broken in health, from disease contracted while in the service. He engaged in taking contracts on the East Division of the I. & St. L. R. R., and afterward engaged in coal-mining at Carbon, Ind. He had never recovered from the ravages of the disease contracted during his service in the Civil War, and his death occurred in 1880. His widow is still living, and resides at Terre Haute, Ind. The family consisted of twelve children, seven of whom are living, as follows: John S., the engineer and book-keeper at Snoddy's Mills, Ind.; Rose, the wife of Mr. Folk, a resident of Terre Haute, Ind.; S. G., the subject of this sketch; Annie, the wife of Mr. Dickerson, a resident of

Seelyville, Ind., and one of the leading men of Vigo County; William, the proprietor of a blacksmith shop at Fontanet, Ind.; Thomas W., operator of the coal shaft at Snoddy's Mills, Ind.; and James, a resident of Raton, N. M., engineer on the A., T. & S. F. R. R.

S. G. Tiley received a practical education, and remained at home until seventeen years of age, and when the last call was made for troops he enlisted at Terre Haute, but his father thinking him too tender in years to undergo the hardships of the service, entered his objection to the recruiting officer, and the boy was accordingly dismissed. But he was active and ambitious, and later in the autumn started out in search of work, which he succeeded in obtaining on a farm, near Farmersburg, Ind., where he remained until the fall of 1866, when he journeyed overland to Arcola, Ill. He there assisted a farmer, N. J. Wall, in gathering corn, and when this work was completed, went on foot to Mattoon, arriving there with only \$2 in money, having sent the rest of his earnings to his parents.

Our subject next accepted a position in the Water Supply Department of the I. & St. L. R. R., and aided in boring for water in a large well near Capen's implement house, and afterward assisted in sinking wells at Dorsey and Sandford. In 1869 he was promoted to the position of night baggage-man, and in 1871 assumed the duties of night yard-master, and served in that capacity for two years; he was then appointed night and day baggageman, and was thus engaged for three years, and in June, 1876, again had charge of the night yards and continued until the following September, when he was appointed to his present position. Mr. Tiley is reliable and energetic, and during his services on the I. & St. L. R. R., although there have been many changes in its management, his position has always been secure. The capacity of the yards has grown from 150 to 1,000 cars, and while he could at first manage that department alone, he now has no less than 150 men under his supervision, and so universally honorable are his dealings with his employes, that all hold him in the highest esteem.

Three times he came near losing his life in the discharge of his duties; the first time by a brake

giving way, he was thrown from the top of a car to the ground, and besides sustaining other injuries his foot was broken. The second and third times by a draw-bar giving way in coupling cars, and the last time he was so seriously hurt that he was taken home, as it was supposed, lifeless, but after a protracted illness was restored to health and vigor. In 1868 he was married to Miss Sue Rowley. Mrs. Tiley is the daughter of William and Nancy (Dillon) Rowley, of Scioto, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Tiley have a family of four children, all living, as follows: William G., Lillie L., Harry and S. G., Jr.

Mr. Tiley forms a notable example of a mechanic and laboring man, who commenced life engaged as a wage-worker by the day, at any honorable, honest occupation that presented itself, and by his industry and integrity has worked his way up to a high and responsible position, thereby illustrating what industry, coupled with ability and integrity, can accomplish in this country of freedom, where such qualities are sure of their reward. In every position in which he has been called upon to act, he has proved himself worthy of the trust reposed in him. He was Assistant Supervisor of Mattoon during the years 1884-85, and at all times considered the best interests of the people, his official acts bearing the closest investigation. Mr. Tiley is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party; he is a member of the Masonic fraternity and also of the Knights of Pythias. In 1886 he was candidate for the position of County Sheriff, but was defeated by the small majority of seventy-six votes, the entire Democratic ticket being defeated.

 **M** W. GILBERT. As a fair representative of the farming interests of Oakland Township, this gentleman deserves more than passing notice in a volume which will doubtless be perused with interest by a large proportion of the intelligent people of Central Illinois. His employment has been principally farming and stock-growing, in which he has attained a fine reputation as having operated with more than ordinary success. His real estate embraces a valuable farm of

200 acres of highly cultivated land, with a handsome and convenient residence, and all the out-buildings required in this age of progress and improvement. He located on his present homestead in 1882, and has become one of the important factors in the agricultural interests of his section.

Mr. Gilbert is a native of Jackson County, Ind., and was born Sept. 19, 1840. He is the son of Amasa and Nancy N. (Baldwin) Gilbert, natives respectively of New York and Indiana. The parental family included four children, namely, Meedy of our sketch, Toss, Tipton S. and Mary. The mother departed this life Dec. 16, 1881, while the family were residents of this township. Amasa Gilbert, for his second wife, married Miss Elizabeth Redman, and is still living, a resident of Oakland. He came to this State in the spring of 1872, locating in Oakland, and has since resided there, retired from active labor, and enjoying the accumulations of industry as a prosperous farmer of Jackson County, Ind.

The subject of our sketch continued on his father's farm until after reaching his majority, and on the 26th of March, 1862, was united in marriage with a lady of his own county, Miss Mary E. Williams, who was born in January, 1839, and is the daughter of James and Julia (Bobo) Williams, also natives of that State, where the death of both occurred several years ago. Mr. and Mrs. G. came to this State shortly after their marriage, locating first in Oakland Township, which remained their residence until their removal to their present farm. Their household includes three bright children—Lenny C., Grace M. and Meedy B. Mr. Gilbert identified himself with the Masonic fraternity in 1866, and at present belongs to Oakland Lodge No. 219. Politically he is a staunch Republican, and religiously a member of the Free Baptist Church.

Mr. Gilbert may be termed a self-made man, and his career presents an illustration of resolution and energy which the faint-hearted will do well to follow. He has met with many reverses, having lost all his property at one time in Indiana, and being totally without means upon coming to this county. He lost no time, however, in bewailing his fate, but immediately set about to retrieve his fortunes, and

in the space of fourteen years, beginning with nothing but his willing heart and strong hands, has become in reality a capitalist. His farm is well stocked with good grades of the domestic animals, including horses, cattle and hogs, fattening 150 of the latter annually. His horses will bear fair comparison with anything of the kind in this section, and as a breeder he has already made for himself an enviable reputation. He has now (1887) on his farm three carloads of very fine fat cattle, which he will ere long ship to the Eastern markets, and which, if no misfortune happens to them, will bring to the enterprising owner a handsome sum of money. Those who know Mr. Gilbert best agree that he deserves his prosperity, and that as an honest man and a good citizen his rightful place is in the front ranks.

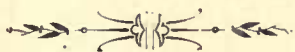


JOSEPH S. WRIGHT, a farmer and one of the leading citizens of Ashmore Township, was born May 14, 1831, in Butler County, Ohio. He is the son of Robert and Catherine (Mell) Wright, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Virginia. Robert Wright was born Feb. 2, 1798, in Bracken County, Ky., and was a cooper by trade. He came to this State in 1851, settling in Coles County, where his death occurred the following October. His wife, who was born in 1806, died eight days previous to her husband. They were members of the Methodist Church, and he was for many years a Class-Leader. Eleven children were born to them, whose names are as follows: John, Joseph S., Elizabeth M., Catherine J., Robert, Sarah H., Patience A., George W., Wesley, Emma and William.

Joseph Wright came to Illinois in 1851, where his marriage to Miss Diadania P. Brooks took place Feb. 7, 1856. She is the daughter of Archibald and Nancy (Powell) Brooks, and was born in Illinois, Feb. 29, 1836. Her parents were natives of Ohio. On his arrival in this township Joseph was engaged for two years in farming by the month, and also found employment at the carpenter's trade, in which he was very skillful. He succeeded so well in business, that in 1870 he was enabled to

purchase a farm of forty acres, which he cultivated and improved, and subsequently added twenty more. He had received an excellent education, and taught school for two years. He is much interested in educational affairs, and was for many years School Trustee, and is now Treasurer, having served as Supervisor of the township two terms, and acted as Chairman of the Board for some time. Since 1864 he has held the office of Justice of the Peace, and his decisions have never been reversed when carried to the higher courts. He is a man possessing great executive ability, good judgment and tact, and has faithfully discharged all the duties committed to his trust.

Our subject and wife became the parents of the following children: Charles A. married Miss Martha E. Wicker, who died leaving one child, Tenie O.; Mary H., deceased, formerly the wife of John A. Frazer; George A., deceased; Benjamin A. and Stephen A. His sons are all teachers. Mr. Wright has been for many years a member, and one of the Elders of the Presbyterian Church. In politics he is an ardent supporter of the Republican party.



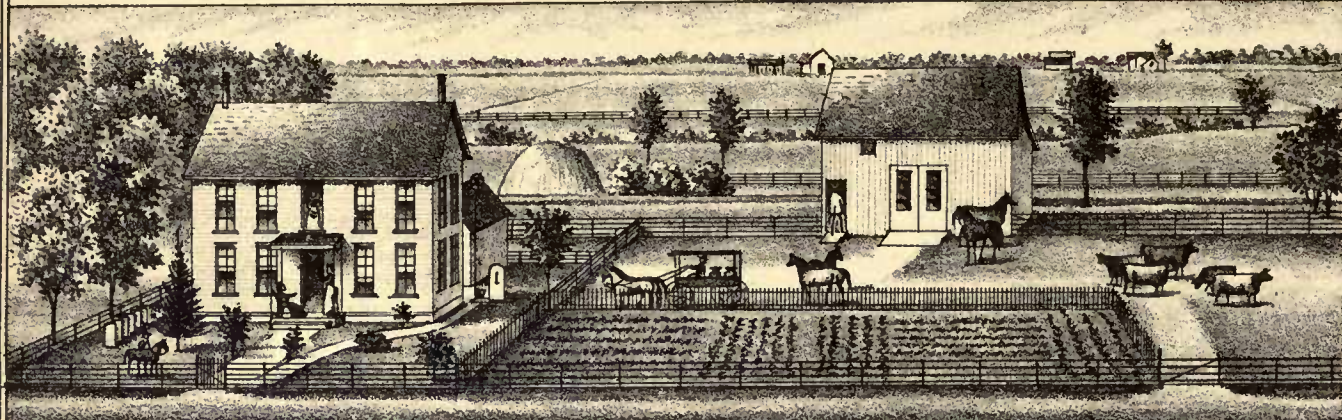
HON. AZARIAH JEFFRIS, a prominent citizen of Coles County, is an extensive farmer, stock-raiser and dealer, residing in Pleasant Grove Township. He is the son of Thomas and Patsey (Shelton) Jeffris, and was born April 29, 1836, on the farm he now owns. Thomas Jeffris was born in 1796, in Hanover County, Va., and was of Scotch parentage. In his infancy his family removed to Grayson County, Ky., where his father engaged in farming, and made his permanent home. Thomas was reared on the farm, and passed his early life in that State, where his marriage to Miss Patsey Shelton took place. She was born in 1794, in Tennessee. After his marriage, Mr. Jeffris with his young wife left his home in Kentucky, and in the autumn of 1830 came to Coles County. He purchased forty acres of land in Pleasant Grove Township, and at the same time entered a tract of

Government land. Brave hearts and willing hands were required to face the perils and hardships of pioneer life in Illinois at that early day, but, aided by his devoted wife, he successfully encountered and overcame the difficulties and obstacles incidental to the settlement of a new country. Mr. Jeffris was a poor man when he came to the county, and by his industry and enterprise acquired a fine estate, containing about 400 acres of valuable land, where he carried on an extensive business in general farming. As soon as he had acquired sufficient means, he erected a pleasant residence, with excellent, well appointed farm buildings, requiring so many of the latter to accommodate the various branches of his extensive business, that his place wore the appearance of a small village.

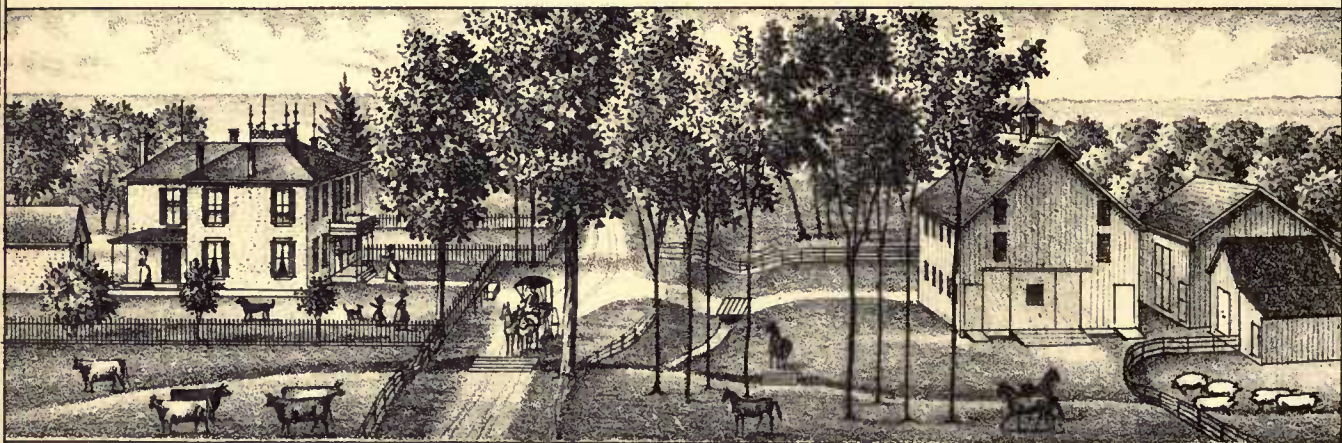
Thomas Jeffris possessed remarkable executive ability and a rare knowledge of human nature. During his residence in Kentucky he served as Justice of the Peace, and after coming to Illinois was elected to that office in 1831. After serving twenty-seven years, he declined to hold that position any longer, the duties of which had been arduous. At that time Cumberland and Douglas Counties were included in Coles County, necessarily throwing a large amount of legal work within the jurisdiction of the latter place. In judicial affairs he was always inclined to promote a peaceful solution of vexed questions, wherever such an adjustment could be made, and frequently succeeded in effecting a reconciliation between adverse parties, without resorting to a lawsuit. He was a Democrat in politics, and never allowed business engagements to interfere with his attendance at the polls to cast his vote.

Mr. Jeffris was a member of the Old-School Baptist Church, and his daily life bore witness to the sincerity of his Christian faith. For many years he was an Elder in the Church, and no matter how unfavorable the weather, through rain and snow, summer's heat and winter's cold, he was never known to be absent from the service. He was kind and generous in his home, and devoted to the interests of his children, giving them as good an education as it was possible to obtain at that time, and also assisting each one to start in life. After a long life of usefulness, he died Aug. 4, 1866. His

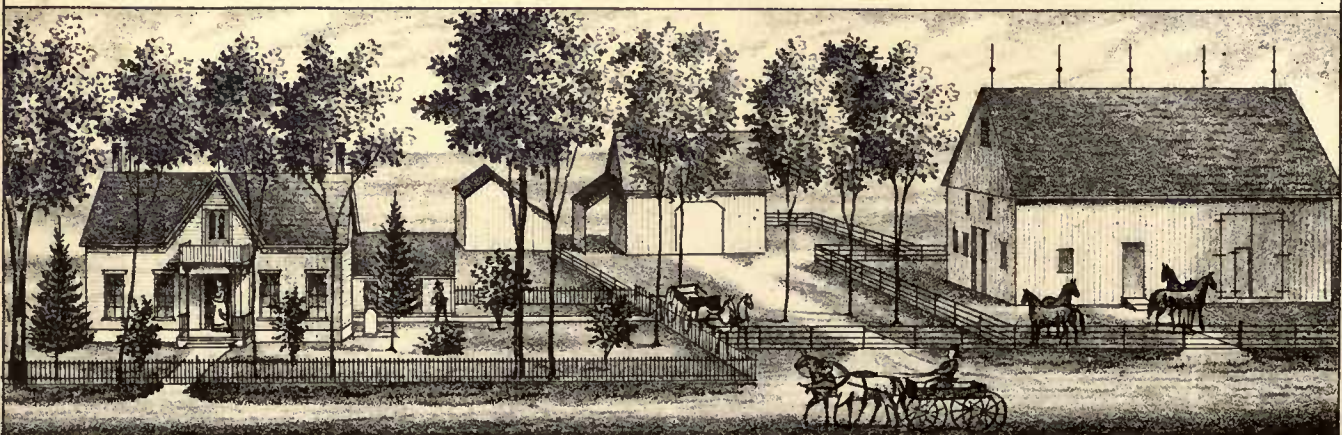
LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



RESIDENCE OF A. H. HUCKABA, SEC. 7. (R. 10. E.) CHARLESTON TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF T. J. BULL, SEC'S. 12 & 13. ASHMORE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF W^M. MORGAN, SEC. 4. MORGAN TOWNSHIP.

widow survived him a number of years, her death occurring in 1875. They had a family of nine children, whose record is as follows: Sallie married Blaine Matthews, and after his death became the wife of George Diehl; George lived to be seventeen years old; James married Matilda Johnston, and lives in this township; Mary, deceased, was the first wife of George Diehl; Ann was the wife of Jacob Dornblazer, but is now deceased; Harriet, deceased, was the first wife of I. H. Johnston; John married Mary F. Vandever; Isaac, deceased, and Azariah, of this sketch.

Azariah Jeffris was a boy of unusual intelligence, possessing ready powers of observation, combined with good judgment. He was reared on his father's farm, and received the foundation of his education at the subscription school, which was the only system of instruction the pioneer days afforded. He did not lay aside his books, however, upon leaving school, but continued his studies, and by close application acquired a practical business education. March 10, 1860, he was married to Miss Ann Mary Hackley. Mrs. Jeffris is the daughter of John and Susan (Thomas) Hackley, and was born in Grayson County, Ky., March 2, 1841. After his marriage, Mr. Jeffris and his wife commenced house-keeping at once.

Our subject commenced business for himself with 180 acres of land, but has increased his property until he now owns a fine estate containing 600 acres. In conducting his farm he gives special attention to stock-raising, and has for several years past also been engaged in stock-dealing. Like his father, in politics he is a stanch Democrat, and has served as Supervisor and held all the minor offices of the township. In 1870, in recognition of his superior ability in the management of public affairs, he was chosen to represent the Twenty-seventh District in the General Assembly.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffris had a family of three children—Zavala, Shelton and Laura. Shelton died at the age of eighteen, and his death, just on the verge of manhood, was a crushing blow to his parents. Mrs. Jeffris is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, but Mr. Jeffris has never connected himself with any religious body or secret

society, but is not opposed to them; on the contrary he has given liberally of his means toward all religious denominations of this community.

JOSEPH A. DAVIS. The history of this worthy resident of Hutton Township, although not characterized by any thrilling details, is that of the life of an honest man and a good citizen, who has performed his part worthily and established himself in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens. He is a native of Fountain County, Ind., born Oct. 2, 1846, and is the son of Samuel and Rachel (Mitchell) Davis, natives respectively of West Virginia and Ohio. His father was a farmer by occupation, and after his marriage located in the Buckeye State, where two children were born, and where the mother died five years later. The two sons of this union were James, now a resident of Kansas, and John, who died in infancy. A few years after the death of his wife, Samuel Davis was again married, to Miss Rachel Colvert, a native of Somerset County, Md., and the daughter of Isaac and Alsey Colvert, who were born in the same State. Soon afterward Mr. Davis went back to Ohio.

Of the second marriage of Samuel Davis, there were born ten children, viz., Mary, Minerva, Robert, David, Emily, Nancy, Armanda, Samuel, Joseph and Alice. With the exception of Samuel, who died young, all lived to become men and women. Samuel Davis finally removed to Fountain County, Ind., and from there in 1850, to Charleston Township, this county, where he carried on farming some years, and then removed to Cumberland County, returning to this county five years later; he died in Hutton Township in 1875. He was a man of high moral principle, and while in early youth connected himself with the Methodist Church, later becoming an exhorter. After his death Mrs. Davis became the wife of John Scott, and still survives.

Joseph Davis received an ordinary education, and was but a youth at the breaking out of the late Rebellion. He could not then go into the army on account of his boyish appearance, but was

permitted to enlist before the close, which he did in March, 1865, when nineteen years old, becoming a member of Co. B, 54th Ill. Vol. Inf. He was not permitted to participate in any very serious engagements with the enemy, his regiment being detailed on the railroad between Little Rock and Devall's Bluff, and was in a skirmish with Quantrel and the James boys. The latter finally got away, and the war being then practically ended, young Davis was mustered out a few months later.

After becoming a civilian Mr. Davis returned to Coles County, where he engaged in farming until the spring of 1866, and on July 16 following, was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Bennett. This lady, a native of Ohio, was born May 24, 1849, and is the daughter of Hiram and Polly Bennett, natives of Ohio. The young people located on a tract of land in Hutton Township, where our subject operated until the spring of 1885, then going to Union Center, learned the blacksmith's trade, and is now carrying on business for himself. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Davis, eight in number, are recorded as follows: Daisy, born Dec. 4, 1867, died Jan. 5, 1868; Sarah was born March 8, 1869; Ozetta, Dec. 5, 1870; Lyda, Dec. 1, 1872; Sora, Oct. 28, 1874; Joseph, June 20, 1878; Elizabeth, May 24, 1879; Jess, Feb. 21, 1885. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and Mr. Davis uniformly votes with the Republican party.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Walter Davis by name, was a native of France, and came to this country as a soldier with Gen. LaFayette, under whom he served during the Revolutionary War. After the independence of the Colonies had been established, he located near Wheeling, Va., where he purchased a tract of land and carried on farming. He married Miss A. Tracey, a native of his own country, who came over with Count De Gras. They became the parents of fifteen children, twelve sons and three daughters, namely, Joseph, Archibald, Walter, Luther, William, James, David, Samuel, John, Arthur, Polly and two others. Two boys died young. Joseph served under Gen. Harrison in the Indian War, and was killed on the Wabash River in Indiana. Archibald, a seafaring man, while hunting pirates, was captured by the

Turks, and held a prisoner twelve months. After escaping he returned to the United States and located in Virginia, where he died.

Grandfather Davis finally left Virginia and emigrated to Ohio, settling near Chillicothe, where he purchased a tract of land and became one of the most successful farmers in that region. His death took place there in 1858. His wife survived a few years, and died upon the old homestead. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



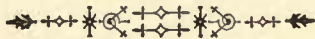
GIDEON MINOR, a successful farmer and stock-grower of East Oakland Township, owns and occupies a fine homestead on section 8, which possesses all the requirements of a first-class country estate. He has been a resident of Illinois since 1832, when he was a boy fourteen years of age, and since that time has been closely identified with the agricultural and business interests of Coles County.

Our subject was born in Brown County, Ohio, Aug. 16, 1818, and is the son of Ephraim and Rachel (Lamb) Minor, natives respectively of Virginia and Maryland. Ephraim Minor was born in 1775, and died at his homestead in Douglas County, in 1835, when about sixty years of age. He removed from the Old Dominion to Kentucky in early manhood, and was variously employed until his marriage in 1797. He continued in Kentucky ten years afterward, and then migrated with his family to Brown County, Ohio, where he purchased 100 acres of heavily timbered land and proceeded to build up a homestead in the wilderness. In this he succeeded admirably, clearing a fine and fertile farm which, however, he sold, and then went to flat-boating on the river to New Orleans. He followed this occupation for two years, making considerable money and being quite prosperous until upon his last trip. While on the steamer between New Orleans and Natchez on his return home, his money, \$1,800, was stolen from him, and this ended his river operations. In 1832 he came with his family down the Wabash to Darwin, thence to this county, where he purchased 100 acres of wild

land and followed farming until unfitted for active labor. Both parents were members of the Christian Church. The mother was born in 1781, and died at the homestead in Coles (now Douglas) County in 1844. She was the daughter of William and Sarah (Wood) Lamb, her father being the first man elected to the Legislature from Mason County, Ky., and in which he served for many years.

Our subject remained with his parents during his childhood and youth, in the meantime receiving a good common-school education, and after the death of his father assisting his mother in the management of the homestead. Upon setting out for himself he was married to Miss Nancy Powers, Nov. 25, 1847. Mrs. M. was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 30, 1830, and was the daughter of Daniel D. and Maria (Runnels) Powers. She departed this life at the home of her husband in East Oakland Township, March 30, 1884. She was a lady of deep piety, greatly beloved by her family and friends. Her kindness of heart and amiable character endeared her to all with whom she associated, and she is greatly missed and mourned by those who knew her best. She left one child, a son, George A., who was born in April, 1849. He married Miss Malinda Willison, and is a resident of this county.

The farm of Mr. Minor includes 200 acres of valuable land under a high state of cultivation. He has been prominent in local affairs and has held the various township offices, being elected Supervisor in 1869-70, and acting as Chairman of many important committees. Politically he is a staunch Democrat.



FRANCIS M. McCARTNEY is Postmaster, and proprietor of the largest drug-store at Lerna, Pleasant Grove Township. He was born Jan. 5, 1847, in Cumberland County, Ill., and is the son of John and Susan (Powell) McCartney. He is of Scotch and Irish extraction, from which nationalities many of the most enterprising and successful citizens of Illinois have descended. His paternal grandparents, Jacob and Sarah McCartney, were natives of Ireland. Soon after their marriage in that country they emigrated to the United

States and settled in Virginia. His maternal grandparents, Jacob and Elizabeth Powell, were natives of Scotland, and upon their arrival in this country likewise settled in Virginia.

When John McCartney was eighteen years of age, his father's family left their home in Virginia and moved to Ohio, whither he accompanied them. In 1831 he resolved to push still farther westward, and consequently moved to Illinois, which State was at that time attracting many settlers from the East. He settled in Cumberland County, making his permanent home there, and passed the evening of life at his old home in that county, of which he had been a citizen for half a century, dying on the 14th of August, 1887. He was born in 1804, and had reached the advanced age of eighty-three years. The wife who shared with him the trials and privations of pioneer life, died Feb. 16, 1883, at the age of sixty-seven. A family of seven children was born to them, all of whom grew to maturity. Their record is as follows: Elizabeth, the wife of Bennet Cline; Jacob; Peter, deceased; George; Nancy, the wife of Ira Parker; John W. and Francis M.

Francis M. McCartney was reared on his father's farm, and received a good common-school education. He possessed an unusual degree of intelligence and made the best use of his limited advantages. In 1867 he was married to Miss Celeste Floatonett Swingle. Mrs. McCartney is the daughter of Jacob and Mary (Wolver) Swingle, and was born in Bartholomew County, Ind., Oct. 23, 1859. Mr. McCartney, being of a studious and reflective mind, was not inclined to engage in agricultural pursuits, and accordingly after his marriage purchased stock and engaged in the drug business at Neoga, in the meantime educating himself in pharmacy. He was successful in his enterprise, and remained at Neoga until Feb. 25, 1886, when he moved to Lerna, and established his present business. He carries a fine stock of drugs, paints, oils, and druggists' sundries, and although a recent citizen of the place, is carrying on a successful trade.

Mr. and Mrs. McCartney have three children—Laura Idola, Sidney Erbert and Oscar Theodore. Mr. McCartney is a Democrat in politics, and re-

ceived his appointment as Postmaster, Sept. 20, 1886. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and his wife and himself are members of the Methodist Church.

JOHN B. TURNEY is the owner of a fine estate containing 120 acres of land in Lafayette Township, and represents one of the old pioneer families, their residence dating from Oct. 1, 1834. He was born June 18, 1834, in Harrison County, Ky., and is the son of John and Sarah (Jones) Turney, also natives of Kentucky, the former born about 1795 in Bourbon County, and the latter April 5, 1800, in Harrison County. The family removed to Illinois in the autumn of 1834, bravely facing the perils and hardships of pioneer life. Cold weather was rapidly approaching, and the first necessity being to provide shelter for his family from the rude blasts of winter, as well as protection from the wild animals, which roamed at will over the broad and desolate prairies, Mr. Turney purchased 400 acres of land and erected their primitive dwelling. The successful close of the Black Hawk War two years previous having been followed by a great increase in the number of settlers from the East, confidence was restored, and the early dawn of the future prosperity of Illinois had begun to gild the horizon.

Mr. Turney cultivated and improved his land, and aided by the housewifely thrift of his wife, made a comfortable home for his family in the heart of the wilderness. He passed the remainder of his life here, and died Oct. 15, 1851. His widow survived him many years, her death occurring May 22, 1870. Their family consisted of ten children, eight of whom grew to maturity. Their names are, Benjamin D., Sarah A.; Susan, deceased; Daniel M.; Nancy V., deceased; Louisa M.; William J., Franklin J., John B. and Thomas G. are also deceased. Sarah is now Mrs. Fisher; Susan M. was the wife of Hiram Cox, and Louisa M. is now Mrs. W. L. Hayden.

John B. Turney was an infant when his parents came to this State, and he grew up under all the educational disadvantages of pioneer life. However, he attended the district schools in his boy-

hood, and acquired all the education possible from those primitive halls of learning. As soon as he was old enough, he assisted his father in the various branches of farm labor, burning brush, rolling logs, hunting wolves, and many other pursuits in which a bright and active boy finds amusement as well as work.

In 1855 our subject was married to Miss Mary D. Jones, a native of Virginia, and the daughter of Richard and Lucy Jones. Their married life was of brief duration, for her death occurred the following year, in this State. On the 13th of December, 1859, Mr. Turney married Miss Cyrena A. Wible. His second wife was the daughter of Benjamin and Hannah Wible, and was born in Indiana. Feb. 23, 1865, his home was again invaded by death, his beloved wife being taken, leaving the household desolate, and his three children motherless. The names of the latter were, John F., Mary E. and Charles, all of whom are now deceased. Mr. Turney's third marriage took place Jan. 6, 1876. Mrs. Turney is the daughter of James H. and Caroline Sawin. Her parents were residents of Indiana, where their daughter, Caroline, Mrs. Turney, was born July 31, 1846, in Bartholomew County. Mr. and Mrs. Turney had a family of five children born to them, three of whom are now living—Clara A., Harvey and George W. Since his marriage Mr. Turney has given his attention to agricultural pursuits, and with his wife, he is a member of the Old-School Baptist Church. In politics he is a Republican.

AMOS RICE, deceased, formerly a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of North Okaw Township, was one of the pioneers of the Northwest, and an early settler of this county. He was born Oct. 15, 1787, in New York State and was the son of Abraham Rice. His parents were likewise natives of New York, and his father served in the Revolutionary War. Amos Rice was reared on his father's farm, where he passed his youth and early manhood and to which he was much attached. He was twice married. His first wife was Mrs. Martha (Hatton) Davies,

and by this marriage three children were born—Catherine, Mary Jane and Frank. Mrs. Rice's death occurred soon after the death of her youngest child, and in later years, Mr. Rice was married to Miss Sarah Compton. Mrs. Rice was the daughter of John and Lucinda Compton. Her parents were natives of Ohio, where their daughter Sarah was born. Her father served in the Black Hawk War in the early days.

Mr. Rice emigrated to Indiana in 1816, where he settled in Vigo County, and aided in laying out the city of Terre Haute. He purchased land there, and was engaged both in farming and boating, during his residence making fifty-two trips on flat-boats from Terre Haute to New Orleans, and also serving as a pilot on the river. In the War of 1812 he was engaged under Gen. Andrew Jackson in the defense of New Orleans, and immediately after his discharge from the service, settled in Terre Haute where he remained until 1852. He then removed to Illinois, where he purchased land of the railroad company and settled in Coles County, making his permanent home here. During the remainder of his life he carried on a successful business in farming and stock-raising.

The early settlements in the county were made almost entirely along the borders of the timber, and for some time it was not supposed that the prairies could be utilized for farming purposes; the grass and weeds by which they were overgrown were so rank and tall that the prospects of their ever furnishing rich pasturage for flocks and herds, or waving with harvests of golden grain, was something scarcely dreamed of. Deer, wolves and wild game abounded, and during the summer season, the prairie fires were extremely troublesome. When Mr. Rice arrived, there was not a single dwelling on the site of the city of Mattoon, and he saw the first house placed there, which was an old building moved in. The wild game provided an abundant supply of meat for the settlers, but the wolves were troublesome, and often made the night hideous with their howlings, besides carrying off chickens, young lambs and pigs.

By his last marriage Mr. Rice had a family of ten children—Abram, William, Nancy L., John, Amos, Job C., Sarah, Eliza, Arthur and Walter;

four now deceased. Three brothers and one sister reside in this county, and also one half-sister, but the family have been scattered by business interests, and another brother and sister are residents of Kansas.

Mr. Rice was actively interested in public affairs, and was ever ready to promote all measures tending to advance the political and social welfare of the community. He never sought political preferment, but occasionally served in the local offices, always giving satisfaction in the discharge of his duties. In politics he was throughout life an old-school Jacksonian Democrat. He was a member of the Missionary Baptist Church.

Mr. Rice lived to see the flourishing city of Mattoon spring up as if by magic on the site where the lonely old house had stood in the early days, and the prairie grass that seemed almost unconquerable, give place to fertile fields of wheat and corn. After a long and useful life his death occurred Aug. 10, 1872, at the age of eighty-five years.

A J. PINNELL, a retired farmer, and a prominent resident of Charleston, first opened his eyes to the light in the Blue Grass regions, his birth taking place in Oldham County, Ky., Jan. 14, 1821. He is the son of Edward and Nancy (Ross) Pinnell, the former a native of Culpeper County, Va., and the mother born in the same county as our subject. The birth of Edward Pinnell took place March 23, 1795, and his youth and boyhood were passed amid the stern scenes of conflict with the mother country, himself engaged in the War of 1812, and receiving afterward for his services a pension for the balance of his life. He was but twenty-one years of age when he became a resident of Kentucky, and engaged there in agricultural pursuits until the fall of 1830. He had in the meantime been married, and at this date determining to try his fortunes in the West, came to Edgar County, and commenced farming on 260 acres in Kansas Township. He was a man of great energy, and at the same time established a store of general merchandise in connection with his farm.

Through his own efforts Edward Pinnell had be-

come fairly well educated, and his deep piety constrained him to devote a part of his time to the spread of the Gospel. He commenced preaching in the Christian Church in 1832, and for a series of years rode through Edgar, Coles and Clark Counties, establishing societies, building up the faint-hearted, and in every sense of the word "doing good as he had opportunity." His influence was also exerted in the establishment and maintenance of schools, and every other measure which had for its object the moral and intellectual welfare of the people. These traits he had inherited in a large measure from his father, John Pinnell, who descended from substantial Scotch ancestry, and who settled in Virginia at an early day, where John Pinnell was born and reared his family.

The children of Edward and Nancy Pinnell were five in number, three only now living, viz.: Andrew J., of our sketch; Rachel M., the wife of J. K. Boyer, of Kansas, Ill., and Margaret M., Mrs. T. Atkins, of Dakota. The mother departed this life at the homestead in Edgar County, Nov. 19, 1864. Mr. P. survived his wife several years, dying March 16, 1879.

Our subject came with his parents to Edgar County, Ill., when a boy nine years of age, and continued on the farm until reaching his majority. In the meantime he had pursued his primary studies in the common schools, and later returned to his native county, where, after a thorough course in the school near Brownsboro, Ky., he graduated in the common branches, and commenced teaching when nineteen years of age. Later he returned to Kansas Township, and followed teaching there for a year, after which he resumed farming with his father, receiving for his labors a part of the proceeds. Four years afterward he invested his savings in eighty acres of good land in Ashmore Township, this county, upon which he effected good improvements and occupied five years. Then, deciding to change his location he sold out, abandoned farming for the time, and engaged as clerk in the dry-goods store of J. K. and W. F. Boyer, with whom he remained until the fall of 1862.

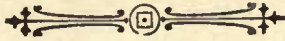
Resolving now to try country life once more Mr. Pinnell purchased a quarter section of land in Hickory Township, of which he took possession,

and to which in due time he added 125 acres, devoting the whole to the raising of grain and stock. He retained possession of this farm until the fall of 1865, then sold out and purchased 220 acres in Charleston Township, two miles east of the city. After occupying this several years, and instituting good improvements, he engaged in merchandising, first as a clerk in Charleston, then on his own account, in connection with others, in Kansas, Edgar County, his stock consisting of hardware and agricultural implements, in which he built up a good trade and continued four years. He did not, however, feel entirely at ease until he once more came in possession of real estate in the country, and accordingly purchased back the old farm in Charleston Township, upon which he moved, and which he occupied until 1883. The flight of years had now admonished him that it was time to rest, and, as much perhaps through the influence of friends as his own inclinations, he rented his farm, purchased a fine house in Charleston, and repaired thither, where he has since remained. Adjoining his property were two desirable houses and lots, of which he has secured possession, and from the rents of which he realizes a good income.

The lady who has presided over the household affairs of our subject, and been his closest friend and counselor for a period of over thirty years, was formerly Miss Eliza A., the daughter of John Ponlter, who located in Edgar County in 1830. Mr. P. was a native of Jefferson County, Ky., and passed his youth and boyhood in the Blue Grass regions, where he married, and whence he came with his young wife to this State. Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Pinnell only two survive: James H. married Miss Ella H. Clement, of White Hall, Greene Co., Ill., and is farming in Charleston Township; they have four children—Lulu, Mary, Otto and George. Winfield S. married Miss Sarah H. Whitney, of Charleston, and is engaged in the hardware and agricultural implement trade in Kansas, Edgar County; their three children are named respectively Flavie, Frederick and Bessie.

While a resident of Hickory Grove Township Mr. Pinnell represented his fellow-citizens on the County Board of Supervisors, and served as School Treasurer. Since becoming a resident of Charles-

ton he has officiated as Assessor; he was Township Trustee while in Kansas. Both he and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church. Mr. P. is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Kansas, and in all respects has distinguished himself as one of the industrious and enterprising citizens to whom Coles County is indebted for its growth and prosperity.

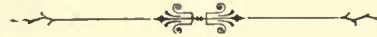


ANDREW A. HONN is a substantial farmer residing on section 31, Seven Hickory Township, his farm comprising eighty acres. He was born Feb. 12, 1852, in Nicholas County, Ky., and is the son of Absalom and Miranda (Moler) Honn. His parents, who were natives of Bourbon County, Ky., came to Illinois in 1858, and in 1861 settled in Coles County, where they now reside. The following is the record of their family: Peter D. married Miss M. Snyder, and has a family of three children; he resides in Mattoon, Ill. Isaac F. married Miss Cornelia Wright; he resides in Coles County, and has a family of six children. John D. married Miss Zarilda Gibbs; he resides in Seven Hickory Township, and has a family of three children. Mary J. was twice married, and is now the wife of William Lewis, a resident of Moultrie County, Ill.; by her first marriage she became the mother of three children. Joseph resides at the homestead, and Andrew A., our subject. There were four deceased.

Andrew A. Honn resided at the homestead and assisted his father in conducting the farm until he was twenty-five years of age. He was married to Miss Mahala J. Kerns, Oct. 22, 1874, at Ashmore, and he then began the world for himself. Mrs. Honn was the daughter of Henry T. and Angelina (Mills) Kerns, natives of North Carolina. Their family consisted of nine children, six of whom are living, as follows: Mary E. was twice married, her present husband being Mr. Flemming, and by this marriage she is the mother of seven children, and resides in Oswego, Kan.; Elizabeth J., the wife of Ezra Whipple, a resident of this county, is the mother of two children; Loretta J., the wife of Joseph

Davis, a resident of this county, is the mother of six children; Mahala J.; James W. is married and resides in Minnesota; his family consists of five children. Ella J. was twice married, her present husband being Mr. Hann, a native of Germany; she has one child by her first marriage, and they reside in Kansas.

Our subject and wife became the parents of seven children: Maranda A., born Oct. 26, 1875; Hattie May, March 5, 1877; Sarah E., Sept. 12, 1878; Mary, May 7, 1880; Absalom J. Aug. 16, 1882; Andrew Lee, Jan. 3, 1884, and William P., Aug. 14, 1886. Mr. Honn purchased the land where he now resides Nov. 1, 1880, and took possession of the place with his family in the following year, and has since carried on a successful business in farming there. With his wife he is a member of the Christian Church. In politics he always votes with the Democratic party.



DR. SAMUEL D. GARDNER, who for many years has been farmer and physician combined, and in each department more than ordinarily successful, first opened his eyes to the light near Bowling Green, Warren Co., Ky., on the 27th of March, 1822. He is the second child of Asa B. and Amelia (Bowles) Gardner, natives of Virginia. His paternal grandparents were Thomas and Sarah (Ford) Gardner, also natives of the Old Dominion. The parents of his mother died when he was a child. The Gardner family, as well as the Fords, were of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and located in Kentucky during an early period in its history. Asa B. Gardner occupied a farm in Warren County, and was engaged mostly in raising tobacco. The mother died in 1843, and the father, after his second marriage, lived to a good old age, passing away in 1877.

The subject of this history pursued his early studies in a log school-house in his native county, and began teaching when eighteen years of age. This, however, he followed only a short time, but afterward clerked in a dry-goods store. When twenty-six years of age he began the study of

medicine under the instruction of Dr. John Austin, of Morgantown, with whom he remained three years, and subsequently entered the office of Dr. Withers at Dripping Springs, about seven miles from the Mammoth Cave. Here he commenced practice, and a year later, in 1853, came to Illinois. He located first in Paradise Township, where he taught school and practiced medicine, and also made the acquaintance of Mrs. Margaret Clarke, to whom he was married in July, 1855. This lady is the widow of Willis H. Clarke, and the daughter of Dr. John and Sydney (Hanson) Apperson, natives of Virginia. They lived for two years following in Paradise Township, near the limits of the town, where the Doctor had secured possession of a snug home, and where he taught school when the community was healthy, and practiced medicine in the sick season. In 1857 Dr. Gardner, desirous of changing his location, purchased 144 acres of improved land in Mattoon Township while it was inhabited principally by wolves and other wild animals. This purchase was brought about on the occasion of a hunting expedition, which led him into that section and which has remained his residence until the present.

During the progress of the Mexican War, Dr. Gardner was anxious to distinguish himself as a Federal soldier, but on account of the loss of an eye occasioned by the bursting of his gun in a deer hunt during his visit to his home in 1845, he was of course rejected. He has now almost entirely given up his practice, and confines himself to superintending the labors of his farm, where he raises roadster horses, of Lexington and Eclipse blood.

Dr. Gardner, upon first beginning to exercise the right of suffrage, voted with the old-line Whigs, but upon the abandonment of that party cast his lot with the Democrats. In former years he was connected with the Baptist Church, but there being no church of that denomination in this locality, is not identified with any religious denomination. Mrs. Gardner belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. They became the parents of five children, three now living, namely, John Asa, Harry and Margaret. The Doctor has been a man of note in his community, and one interested in the moral and intellectual welfare of its people. He has

served as Road Commissioner and School Director, and while in his native State was Circuit Clerk and Deputy County Clerk.

AMOS RICE, a prominent farmer and stock-grower, resides on the old Rice homestead, located on section 22, North Okaw Township. He was born in Vigo County, Ind., and is the son of Amos and Sarah (Compton) Rice. (For history of parents see sketch of Amos Rice.) Our subject passed his early life at home, where he was associated with his father and brother in conducting the farm, each receiving one-third of the profits. One of the strong characteristics of the family is their attachment to home ties and home interests, and Amos Rice never worked away from home at any period of his life, living on the homestead at the time of his father's death. He then divided the land and stock with his brother, and the old homestead fell to his lot. It includes 240 acres of improved land and twelve acres of timber in the vicinity.

After the death of his father, Amos Rice was married, Dec. 24, 1867, to Miss Sarah C. Checkley, the sister of his brother's wife. Of this union there are five children, all of whom reside at home. Their names are, Lucinda Isabell, William G., Sarah C., Clara Josephine and Jennie Letitia. Mr. Rice is strongly attached to the old homestead, and carries on a successful business in farming and stock-raising there, giving special attention to graded Short-horn cattle, Norman horses, and Poland hogs.

In politics Mr. Rice is a Democrat of the Old Jacksonian school. He never seeks official preferment but is interested in educational affairs, and serves as School Director most of the time.

RALPH JEFFRIS, a resident of Pleasant Grove, is one of the rising young men of Coles County, and the son of one of its pioneers. He was born Jan. 30, 1860, in Coles County, and is the son of John and Mary (Vandever) Jeffris. John Jeffris was born in Coles County, Jan. 6, 1831, and is the son of

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



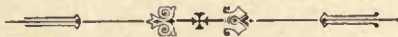
W. Philhoffer

Thomas and Patsey (Shelton) Jeffris. He was reared on his father's farm, enjoying such privileges as the pioneer days offered, and in the spring of 1859, was united in marriage with Miss Mary Vandever. She was born March 1, 1836, in Orange County, Ind., and is the daughter of Lovel and Mary Vandever.

After his marriage, Mr. Jeffris settled on the place where he now resides, on section 10, Pleasant Grove Township. His estate contains over 320 acres of valuable land all of which is well improved. He carries on an extensive farming business, giving special attention to stock-raising. Mr. and Mrs. John Jeffris have a family of five children: Ralph; Bell, the wife of William Walker; Herschel, Isaac and Abbie; Isaac married Miss Alice McCartney, and lives in Kansas. Mr. Jeffris is a Democrat in politics, and has served as School Director.

Ralph Jeffris passed his boyhood and youth at home, receiving in the meantime, an excellent education at the common schools and at Lee's Academy. Jan. 17, 1882, he was married to Miss Martha E. Anderson. She is the daughter of James and Lucinda Anderson, and was born in Coles County, Jan. 28, 1863. After his marriage, he located on section 15, Pleasant Grove Township, where he now resides. His estate contains 100 acres of valuable land.

Mr. Jeffris is an active, enterprising young man, being interested in the public affairs of the community, and has already served as Supervisor, Collector and School Treasurer. His wife and himself are both members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. They have two beautiful children—Stella and Roscoe. In politics, Mr. J. is a Republican.



A W. PHILHOWER, a member of the firm of D. N. Harwood, Son & Co., dealers in hay and seeds, is one of the substantial business men of Mattoon. He was born October 17, 1836, in Clermont County, Ohio, and is the son of William and Lucinda (Snyder) Philhower, the former a native of Hunterdon County, N. J., and the latter of Seneca County, N. Y. His great-grandfather, Adam Philhower, in

about the year 1745, at twelve years of age accompanied an elder brother to America, running away from his home and parents in Germany, to encounter an adventurous life in the New World. He settled in New Jersey, where he married, and subsequently, with his son John, eighteen years of age, served seven years in the Revolutionary War, under Gen. Washington, and during the entire period of his service never received the slightest wound. After passing through many adventures and vicissitudes in Colonial life he died in New Jersey. His son, Jacob, emigrated to Clermont County, Ohio, in 1815, accompanied by his wife and eight children. They passed the remainder of their lives in that county, engaged in farming.

William Philhower made the journey to Ohio with his parents, and passed his early life on his father's farm, assisting in the farm labor, and receiving a common-school education. He was born April 16, 1811, and his wife was born April 11, of the same year. His marriage occurred in 1830, at Clermont. He carried on an extensive farming business there, owning 100 acres and also renting additional land. In 1854 he removed with his family to Richland County, Ill., and there purchased 476 acres of land. His death occurred two years later, while on a visit to the old home and friends in Ohio. His widow survived until in April, 1882, when her death occurred.

There were fourteen children in the parental family, ten of whom grew to maturity, and of whom the following is a record: Paulina, the wife of Mr. Finn, of Richland County, Ill.; Eliza, the wife of Mr. Hiskey, a resident of Gibson County, Ind.; Sarah J., the wife of Mr. Baldwin, a resident of Greene County, Mo.; A. W., the subject of this sketch; Mary A., the wife of Mr. Turney, a resident of Clinton County, Ohio; Catherine, the wife of Mr. Clark, a resident of Gibson County, Ind.; Jacob W., a resident of Shelby County, Ill.; Dewy M., a resident of Pekin, Ill.

A. W. Philhower was reared on his father's farm, where he remained, receiving a practical education and assisting in the various departments of farm labor, until twenty-five years of age. He then engaged in railroading in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and Iowa, being employed in the construction de-

partment. He was also contractor for laying sixty miles of railroad, which is now a part of the Washash road. He was occupied in this business fourteen years, and then for eight years was proprietor of a hotel in Windsor, Shelby County. During the latter part of his residence in Windsor, Mr. Philhower was engaged in the hay business. He then removed to Mattoon and formed his present partnership. The capacity of the barn belonging to their establishment here is 1,000 tons, and the firm is engaged in shipping to Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Tennessee and many other points.

In 1860 Mr. Philhower was married to Miss Hannah McKinney, the daughter of James McKinney, of Clermont County, Ohio. In 1861, Mr. Philhower served as Deputy Sheriff of Richland County, and since his residence in Mattoon has served as Assistant Supervisor, and also Alderman, representing the Fifth Ward. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Honor.

In presenting portraits in this volume of leading and representative citizens of Coles County, we are pleased to include that of the gentleman whose life is briefly outlined above. He is a man who enjoys the esteem of a multitude of the best people of the county, and one whose business judgment and sagacity are unquestioned.



WILLIAM D. JONES honorably represents one of the early pioneer families of Coles County, owning an estate containing 165 acres of well-improved land located on section 29, Lafayette Township. He is the son of William R. and Eliza P. (Threlkeld) Jones, and was born Nov. 21, 1856, in this township. William R. Jones was the son of John Dumas and Sarah (Blackburn) Jones, and was born Aug. 12, 1808, in Harrison County, Ky. His boyhood and youth were passed in his native State, but possessing an enterprising and active temperament, he came to Illinois in 1831, but did not remain. He returned, however, in 1837 and settled in this county. He came with no capital, save willing hands and a brave heart, and applied himself closely to hard work, and his

struggle with the perils and hardships of the wilderness was for a time arduous in the extreme, but he was industrious and economical, and gradually acquired some capital with which to purchase more land and increase his business facilities. His efforts were crowned with success, and he became the owner of over 600 acres of well-improved land, and erected a substantial two-story brick residence, which was one of the best in the vicinity.

Mr. J. always exercised a generous hospitality in his home, and during the Civil War evinced his loyalty by affording material assistance to the families of the soldiers who had left their wives and little ones at home to lay down their lives in the defense of the "Old Flag." In early life he was a Whig, but subsequently became a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He never made a public profession of his religious faith by becoming a member of the church, but was strictly moral and upright in his daily life, never forgetting in his business dealings and social relations the brotherhood of man and the precepts of the "Golden Rule."

Mr. Jones was married twice. His first wife, Miss Eliza P. Threlkeld, was the daughter of Elder Thomas Threlkeld, and was a native of Kentucky. Their marriage took place in 1853, and after three brief years she died Dec. 31, 1856, leaving two sons, Thomas T. and William D. In 1862 Mr. Jones was married to Miss Elizabeth Ewing. Mrs. Jones is the daughter of William and Louisa Ewing. One daughter was born to them, Sarah Louisa. Mr. Jones died April 6, 1879, and lies buried in Bethel Cemetery. His funeral services were attended by a large concourse of sympathizing friends, who thus evinced the high esteem in which their departed neighbor and fellow-citizen was held. His widow still survives him, and resides in Mattoon.

W. D. Jones has grown up with this township, where he was reared on his father's farm and received a good common-school education, and was also taught the practical details of farming by his father, who was active and diligent in all enterprises. Before his final settlement in Illinois in 1837, he had frequently made trips to this State, purchasing hogs, which he drove to Kentucky to

fatten and feed for the market, one horse serving to convey him on thirteen trips. He has inherited his father's good judgment in business, and owns a fine farm containing 165 acres of well-improved land.

Mr. Jones was married, Oct. 1, 1879, to Miss Cynthia A. Williams. Mrs. Jones is the daughter of Robert Elliott Yates Williams, and was born June 10, 1859, in Coles County. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have two interesting children, Franklin R. and Claude D. In politics Mr. Jones is a Republican.



EPHRAIM HARWOOD, a prominent farmer and stock-grower, resides on section 22, in the eastern portion of Pleasant Grove Township, where he settled in the spring of 1865. Mr. Harwood was born April 20, 1827, in Franklin County, Ind., and is the son of John and Elizabeth (Carroll) Harwood, natives of Indiana, where his father died in 1827, soon after the birth of Ephraim, leaving his widow with two little children: Leah, deceased, formerly the wife of Reuben Johnson, and Ephraim, the subject of this sketch. His widow subsequently married John R. Dickerson, her second marriage taking place in Franklin County, Ind., where, after several years the home circle was again broken, Mr. Dickerson dying, leaving his widow with four children—Clarinda, Ezra, Sarah Jane and Elizabeth A., all of whom are living. Their widowed mother is still living, at the advanced age of seventy-nine years, and makes her home with her children.

Ephraim Harwood, who was an infant at the time of his father's death, remained with his mother, and passed his early life on the farm. At the age of seventeen he commenced to work at the carpenter's trade, meeting with excellent success in that line of employment. March 23, 1852, he was married to Miss Hannah M. Teetor, who was born Feb. 29, 1836, in Butler County, Ohio, where the wedding took place. Mrs. Harwood is the daughter of Isaac and Mary (Moore) Teetor. Isaac Teetor was a farmer, born Jan. 7, 1809, in the State of New York. He was brought up to the tanner's trade, but has given his attention especially to agricult-

ure, and is now a substantial farmer of Butler County, Ohio, where he has resided for more than forty years. Mr. Teetor has been twice married. His first wife, Mrs. Mary (Moore) Teetor, was born in 1813, in Butler County, Ohio, and died in 1847, leaving six children. His second wife, with whom he is now living, was Miss Mary J. Clawson, and by this marriage eight children were born. After his marriage Mr. Harwood resided in Hendricks County, Ind., where he was occupied at the carpenter's trade until 1865. He then came to Illinois, and settled in Pleasant Grove Township, where he now resides, being engaged both at his trade and farming, and also giving special attention to stock-raising. His estate contains 218 acres of well-improved land, and is supplied with a good farm residence.

Mr. and Mrs. Harwood had a family of thirteen children, nine of whom are living, as follows: Mary E., the wife of A. J. Whisennand; John Wesley, a resident of Fullerton, Neb.; Charles F., a resident of Cumberland County; Frank L., a resident of Coles County; Jesse L., a resident of Cowley County, Kan.; James Allen, residing at home; Isaac C., and Lillie Florence and Caroline Matilda, twins. Mr. and Mrs. Harwood are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which they are actively interested. The former has been a Class-Leader and has held several official positions on the Church Board. In politics Mr. Harwood is a Democrat and has served as School Director. He is one of the self-made men of the county, having commenced life a poor man, and has acquired his property by his industry and energy in applying himself to business.



JOHN JOHNSON, deceased, father of John, Irvin, William and Frederick Johnson, well and favorably known throughout North Okaw Township, was a gentleman of fine character, whose excellent personal traits had endeared him to a large circle of friends and acquaintances. He was born in County Fermanagh, Ireland, Jan. 7, 1793, and departed this life at the home-

stead in East Nelson Township, Moultrie Co., Ill., Aug. 17, 1864. This family, who formerly spelled their name "Johnston," is of English ancestry. In about the seventeenth century, one branch of it emigrated to Scotland and thence to Ireland. The great-grandfather settled upon land in Fermanagh County, which was owned and occupied by three successive generations, the last representative being John Johnson, of our sketch, who sold it in 1850, and came with his family to the United States.

The subject of this history was the son of James Johnson, also a native of Ireland, who farmed extensively in his native county, where he spent his entire life. He married Miss Christiana Irwin, a native of the same county and the daughter of David and Jennie Irwin. She also continued with her husband a resident of County Fermanagh, where the remains of both were laid to rest in what is called Castle Archdall burying-ground. Their lives were ordered after the strictest principles of honor and morality, and they were for many years prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their six children were recorded as follows: Margaret, who became the wife of James C. Woods, died leaving four children—Jane, John, James and Anna; Mary became the wife of John Johnson, and both died leaving five children—Arthur, Margaret, James, Irwin and Sidney; Jennie died when fifty years of age, and David in infancy; John, of this sketch, was the fifth child; Sidney married John J. Scott, and is living in Australia.

John Johnson was educated in the common schools of his native county, and was principally engaged in farming, while a resident there. He was a man of more than ordinary business capacity, and established a country store about thirty miles north of Londonderry. He purchased his supplies in the fall of the year, and dealt largely in oats which he would buy, and, kiln drying them, would store them away for sale during the summer following. In about 1820 he purchased a set of looms and established a linen manufactory which he operated successfully several years. When twenty-seven years of age he was united in marriage with Miss Annie Bell, July 2, 1820, who was a native of the same county as her husband, and born June 1,

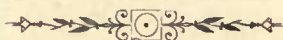
1800. Her parents were William and Margaret (Johnson) Bell, who also were born and spent their entire lives in County Fermanagh.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson became the parents of nine children, five sons and four daughters, and then, not being satisfied with their condition or their prospects, determined to emigrate to the New World. After making due preparations they sailed on the 13th of May, 1850 and after a voyage of thirteen weeks landed in New York City. They staid there with friends a short time, and then continued their journey by steamer to Albany, thence by canal to Buffalo, and thence by steamer again to Chicago, and then proceeded by canal to Peru, Ill. A friend of Mr. Johnson had already located in Moultrie County, and thither Mr. J. determined to proceed. At Peru, however, no one could give him any information as to the whereabouts of Moultrie County, so he concluded to remain there until he could hear from his friend. He dispatched a letter, to which he soon received an answer, and started at once with his family by wagons, in due time reaching his destination. As may readily be supposed the country was wild and practically uninhabited.

Mr. Johnson rented 120 acres of improved land in East Nelson Township, upon which stood a house that had been used as a hotel and store, and which, with the land around it, was known as Juliann. This he operated upon one year, and then purchased and built up a comfortable homestead, which the parents occupied until their earthly labors were ended. The wife and mother departed this life, Feb. 19, 1863. The father survived about eighteen months. Their remains lie side by side in the Sullivan burying-ground. They had lived worthily and uprightly, and were sadly missed by a large number of friends and acquaintances who had regarded them as pillars of the church and members of the community whose places it would be difficult to fill. John Johnson was a man singularly gifted with those characteristics which have kept his memory green in the hearts of all who knew him. As a husband and father he was rarely affectionate and indulgent, as a friend, generous to a fault, and as a citizen, kind, hospitable and charitable, generous to the poor and a liberal and cheer-

ful contributor to the support of religious and educational institutions. The property in Moultrie County is still retained by his children.

The household circle of John and Annie Johnson was completed by the birth of eleven children, of whom the record is as follows: Arthur, born Sept. 15, 1821, married Miss Rebecca J. Caldwell, and emigrated with his family to the United States in 1875, twenty-five years after the arrival of his father here; he is now the owner of a farm in North Okaw Township. William is made the subject of a biography on another page in this work; Christiana, born Aug. 15, 1825, is living with her brother, Frederick; Isabella, born in 1827, is the wife of John A. Warren, a resident of Texas; James, born Jan. 19, 1831, was killed by the explosion of a boiler, May 26, 1883; Irvin was born March 26, 1832, and the principal points of his history are given in his sketch on another page; Margaret, born in 1837, is living with her brother, Frederick; John and Frederick are treated of elsewhere in this ALBUM; Jane, who was born in 1845, died Sept. 28, 1855, and one child died unnamed in infancy.



DR. J. S. GARNER, who for the last twenty-two years has been a successful practicing physician of the village of Salisbury, owns a well-improved farm of sixty acres adjoining the village, and is a prominent citizen of that locality. He is a native of Russell County, Ky., born Oct. 14, 1831, and comes from an excellent North Carolina family. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Paris Garner by name, was a native of North Carolina, and spent the greater part of his life in his native State. He was there married to Miss Lydia Ann Curtis, a native of the same State, and they became the parents of seven children, namely, Francis; Paris, Jr., the father of our subject; Curtis, Nancy, Permelia, Lilly Ann and Henry. These are all deceased. Grandfather Garner was active and enterprising in character, and previous to the War of 1812, visited Pulaski County, Ky., where he purchased a tract of land. Upon the coming on of the war he shouldered his musket and served as a soldier all

through the conflict, and died when within three miles of his home, while on his return there after receiving his honorable discharge. His wife had died three years before.

Their son, Paris, Jr., the father of our subject, was the second born, his birth taking place in North Carolina in 1801. He left his native State with his parents and located with them in Pulaski County, where he was reared to manhood and received a good common-school education. He was but twelve years old at the time of his father's death, and was then taken by his uncle, Vincent Garner, with whom he remained until his marriage. The maiden of his choice was Miss Sarah L. Pierce, who was born in 1806, and became his wife in 1822. Her parents were James and Elizabeth Pierce, natives of Kentucky. The elder Garner after his marriage purchased a tract of land in Russell County, Ky., which he occupied and cultivated with marked success until 1840, then selling out purchased 800 acres in Wayne County, and became the owner of twenty slaves, by which means his land was cultivated and improved. He put up one of the finest residences in that section, also a grist and saw mill and a large distillery, and remained a resident there until 1860. That year he purchased a valuable farm in Grayson County, which remained his final residence.

While on a visit to his son-in-law, Charles King, of Hart County, Paris Garner was seized with fatal illness and passed away in February, 1866. His wife survived him for a period of nineteen years, her death taking place in Wayne County, Ky., in 1885. Both were devoted members of the Baptist Church. Paris Garner held the various offices of his county, including those of Sheriff and Assessor, and was in all respects prominently identified with the business and agricultural interests of the Blue Grass State. The children of the parental household were named respectively, Curtis, James P., Lettice B., Sarah A.; J. S., of our sketch; Mary Elizabeth, Martha F., John P., Sarah and Jane. The latter two are deceased.

The subject of our history, who was the fifth child of his parents, remained under the home roof until nineteen years old, receiving the benefits of the common school and gaining a good insight

into the labors of the farm. His taste, however, lay in a different direction, and he commenced the study of medicine under the instruction of J. S. Pierce, of Lancaster, Ky., with whom he remained two years and then attended a course of lectures at Louisville. He commenced the profession as the partner of his tutor, and six months later, going into Wayne County, practiced there until 1860. Thence he removed to Grayson County and purchased a farm of eighty acres. He did not abandon his practice by any means, but extended his professional duties into Breckinridge County, where he also purchased another tract of land, comprising 120 acres.

Dr. Garner was a strong Union man, and during the summer of 1863, while the Rebellion was in progress, recruited Co. K, 48th Kentucky Mounted Infantry, of which he was tendered the commission of Captain, but preferred that of First Lieutenant, and served with this rank about eighteen months. He was subsequently appointed Surgeon of the regiment. He did not hide himself from danger behind his professional duties, but was present with the balance of the regiment at the various battles and skirmishes encountered by the Army of the Cumberland, and at the surrender of Lee received his honorable discharge, and was mustered out in December, 1864. After the war ended Dr. Garner returned to Breckinridge County, Ky., and during February, 1865, sought the Prairie State and began practice at Salisbury, where he has since remained. His life has been one of energy and activity, and he has witnessed with unabated interest the growth and development of one of the most promising of the Western States.

The marriage of Dr. Garner and Miss Minnie E. Roberts was celebrated on the 24th of April, 1854, in Wayne County, Ky., at the home of the bride's parents. Mrs. Garner was born in the latter-named county, and is the daughter of Squire and Penelope Roberts, also natives of the Blue Grass State. Her father died in Wayne County, in 1861, and the mother in 1883. They were members of the Baptist Church and the father was Justice of the Peace for a number of years in his township.

The record of the seven children of Dr. and Mrs. Garner is as follows: Marietta, born Aug.

11, 1858, was married to John D. Muncy, a farmer of Finney County, Kan.; Emma A., born Aug. 12, 1859, is the wife of G. M. Roberts, of Meade County, Kan.; John P. L., born Feb. 21, 1861, married Miss May C. Davis, and is engaged in farming in Ashmore Township; Minnie M., born Dec. 27, 1866, is at home; Viola B., born March 9, 1869; Edwin M. S., July 9, 1871, and Lulu M., Oct. 5, 1873, are at home with their parents. The Doctor and his wife are regular attendants of the Baptist Church at Salisbury. He is a staunch Republican, politically, and socially, a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Lodge No. 698, at Diona.



JOHN M. MOFFETT is one of the substantial farmers and stock-growers of Ashmore Township, located on section 28. He was born Sept. 20, 1835, in Augusta County, Va., and is the son of James and Sarah (Mitchell) Moffett, natives of Virginia. James Moffett was born July 13, 1809. He came to Illinois in 1838 and engaged in farming. His death occurred in 1880. He had received a superior education in his native State and spent several years of his early life in teaching. He was married four times, his first marriage occurring March 13, 1831. His wife was born March 3, 1808, and her death occurred April 7, 1844. Five children were born to them, whose record is as follows: Betsy A. married John Wright; Harvey C. died at the age of twenty-five; John M., our subject; Sarah V. married Robert Wright; Cynthia J. married C. C. Howerton. The family were all members of the Presbyterian Church. Harvey C. belonged to that branch called the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. James was married the second time, to Miss Margaret J. Mitchel, but their married life was of short duration. Not long after her death he married Miss Sarah Shumaker, who died leaving no children. His last marriage was to Miss Eva A. Walters, and three children were born to them—George V., Burley S. and Amanda B.

John M. Moffett lived with his parents and passed his childhood and youth in attending the common school during the winter season, and in the summer

assisting his father in the various branches of farm labor. His first purchase of land was made in 1863, when he invested in a small farm of forty acres. He has gradually added to this, until he now owns a fine estate containing 150 acres of valuable land. His attention has been especially given to raising graded stock.

Our subject was married, Jan. 26, 1860, to Miss Lydia J. Brooks. She is the daughter of Archibald and Nancy (Powell) Brooks, and a native of this county, born Jan. 25, 1834. (For the history of her parents see sketch of Archibald Brooks.) Mr. and Mrs. Moffett had a family of seven children, only three of whom are now living. Their record is as follows: Kate A. died at the age of eighteen years; James A., Joseph A., Diadama and Maria J., twins; the latter died at the age of ten weeks. Nancy P. died at the age of eighteen months, and Benjamin M., at the age of two years.

Mr. Moffett is interested in all affairs calculated to benefit the township and county, and has for two years held the office of Commissioner of Highways. He is prudent in business affairs and holds a life policy for \$2,000 in the Temperance Order of Royal Templars. His life has been consecrated to the service of Christ from boyhood, he becoming a member of the Presbyterian Church when nineteen years of age, and is now one of its Elders.



ANDREW J. WHISENNAND, a prominent farmer and one of the self-made men of Coles County, resides on section 20, Pleasant Grove Township, near Campbell. He was born April 3, 1839, in Monroe County, Ind., and is the son of John and Lucinda Whisennand. John Whisennand was born Nov. 10, 1810, in Virginia. When a boy his parents left their Eastern home and moved to Indiana, where his early life was passed, and his marriage to Miss Lucinda Wright took place. She was a native of that State, born in 1817. Late in the autumn of 1848, Mr. Whisennand removed with his family to Illinois, and purchasing land in Cumberland County, he was engaged in farming there until 1855; when he

sold out his interests and removed to Collin County, Tex., where they passed the winter and were well pleased with the country. But circumstances caused them to change their plans, as Mr. Whisennand had sold his property in this State on time, and a financial panic was threatening, so he returned with his family to Illinois in order to attend to his business interests. In the adjustment of affairs, he finally decided to remain, and made his permanent home in Cumberland County, near the limits of Coles. Mrs. Whisennand was removed from her home and family by death Oct. 15, 1865. She was the mother of four children, two now living—Andrew J. and Semilda, the wife of James E. Phipps. Mr. Whisennand subsequently married Mrs. Susanna (Bradford) Matthews, and by this marriage four children were born, two of whom are living—John C. and James. After the death of his second wife Mr. W. was married to Mrs. Sarah Russell.

In politics, Mr. Whisennand was a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and filled several local offices, giving general satisfaction to the people in the discharge of his public duties. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and his death occurred at the homestead in 1881.

Andrew Whisennand was a child when his family removed to Illinois. He was reared on his father's farm in Cumberland County, where he acquired a practical knowledge of agriculture, and also received a good common-school education. Feb. 4, 1869, he was married to Miss Mary A. Best, and subsequently removed to Coles County, and settled in this township, on the farm where he now resides. Within a few years after his marriage, the home circle was broken by the death of his wife, who died June 8, 1877, leaving four children—Cora, Lizzie, Willie and Mary. Jan. 19, 1878, Mr. Whisennand married Miss Mary E. Harwood, the daughter of Ephraim and Margaret Harwood. Mrs. Whisennand was born Dec. 18, 1852, in Butler County, Ohio. They have no children.

Mr. Whisennand has acquired his property through his own exertions, and is the owner of nearly 200 acres of well-improved land, with excellent farm buildings. He gives special attention to stock-raising, in which he has been very successful. In politics, he is a Democrat, and has served

in some of the local offices. Mr. and Mrs. Whisenand differ in the outward form of their religious faith, the former being a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian and the latter of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

THOMAS T. JONES was born Oct. 12, 1854, in Lafayette Township. He is the only brother of William D. Jones, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume; they reside near each other, and a strong fraternal regard exists between them. Thomas was reared at home, where he received a good common-school education, and assisted his father in the various branches of farm labor. He was married, Sept. 11, 1878, to Miss Rosa Clark. Mrs. Jones is the daughter of G. P. Clark, and was born in 1860, in Lafayette Township. They have an interesting family of four children—Robert, Estelle, Carrie and Earnest.

Mr. Jones is the owner of a fine estate containing 250 acres of land, all of which is well-improved and cultivated. In conducting his farm he gives special attention to stock-raising.

grocery store in Brooklyn, where he remained two and one-half years, after which his employer sent him to Canada to sell fruit. He remained in the Dominion one year, and returning to New York engaged as clerk in a jewelry house. Subsequently he returned to the fruit business and also dealt in flowers.

Upon the outbreak of the Rebellion Mr. Traver enlisted in the 176th New York Infantry, and followed the life of a soldier for over three years. His career in the army was creditable in the extreme, and he fortunately escaped injury and imprisonment by the rebels. After receiving his honorable discharge he returned to his native State, where he engaged in business for a short time, but in 1865 decided to make his home in the West. He first located in Clark County, this State, near the town of Marshall, and engaged in the raising of broom corn, which he shipped East at a good profit. Two years later he came to this county and engaged in the manufacture of brooms at Charleston, which he followed the remainder of his life. His death occurred at the family homestead on the 7th of August, 1878.

The marriage of William H. Traver and Miss Mary S. Parker, of Charleston, took place in the spring of 1868, at the residence of the bride's parents in Charleston Township. Mrs. T. is the daughter of Daniel and Dorcas (Heath) Parker, who were natives respectively of this county and North Carolina. Mr. Parker engaged in farming the greater part of his life and was County Surveyor for many years. His father, Benjamin by name, was one of the pioneers of Coles County, and owned a large portion of the present site of the city of Charleston. He met his death while on his way to Texas in 1869, being killed by the Indians. The parents were married in 1845, and there were three children—John H., Mary S., and Martha, now Mrs. J. P. Phillips. The farm of Mr. Parker in Charleston Township embraces 360 acres. The mother remained on the homestead seven years after the death of her husband, and passed away in 1876. Both parents were devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and greatly respected for their excellent qualities of mind and heart.

Mr. and Mrs. Traver early in life united with the

MRS. MARY S. TRAVER, the widow of William Henry Traver, late of Charleston, is pleasantly located on a fine farm of 114 acres, a part of which lies in the city limits, and which through the industry and excellent judgment of her late husband, comprises a valuable and beautiful homestead and assists largely in embellishing the landscape of Charleston Township.

Mr. Traver, a native of Schenectady County, N. Y., was born June 11, 1843, and was the son of William and Maria (Reese) Traver, also natives of the Empire State. William Traver was a farmer by occupation but later engaged in mercantile pursuits at Brooklyn. The son, Henry, was reared on the farm until fifteen years of age, in the meantime receiving a fair education in the common schools. He then engaged as clerk in a wholesale

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



RESIDENCE OF I. W. SAIN; SEC. 6. MORGAN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF W^M. WILLIAMS, SEC. 6. HUTTON TOWNSHIP.

Presbyterian Church, with which the former continued until his death, and with which the latter is still connected. Socially Mr. T. belonged to the Odd Fellows, and Mrs. T. is a member of the Royal Templars Society. They became the parents of three children—Lelia, Orton, and Guyella. The latter is deceased; the others are at home.



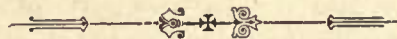
ROBERT ELLIOTT YATES WILLIAMS, a worthy descendant of one of the early pioneer families of Coles County, and a prominent citizen of Lafayette Township, was born March 1, 1815, in Grayson County, Ky., and is the son of William L. and Mary (Gannaway) Williams, natives of Virginia, who removed to Kentucky at an early day and thence to Illinois in 1829, and were among the earliest settlers of Lafayette Township, which, at the time of their advent was a primeval wilderness, surrounded by tribes of hostile Indians; its vast, lonely prairies, covered with tall, rank grass, abounded with wolves and deer, and beasts of prey lurked within the shade of its forests. It was a hazardous enterprise to face the perils of frontier life at that early day, and the few settlers who were hardy enough to venture there were widely separated and almost entirely isolated during the long cold winters.

William L. Williams was twice married. His first wife died in Kentucky, leaving a family of twelve children, all of whom, with one exception, attained maturity. Only two, however, are now living—Robert, the subject of this sketch, and Louisa, now Mrs. William Ewing. His second wife was Mrs. Catherine (Keller) Van Meter, their marriage taking place in Coles County, and three children were born to them, one of whom is now living—Martha, the wife of Myron Ferguson.

Robert Williams was about fourteen years of age when his father moved to Illinois, and while there is much to interest and employ a boy of that age in pioneer life, it is a period when he can ill afford to forego the advantages of education, and Mr. Williams has keenly felt in later life his deprivations in that respect. He possesses, however, an

intelligent, progressive mind, and by close application, and the improvement of every opportunity within his reach, keeps himself well informed in regard to all the topics of the day, and is especially well-read in history. His elder brother, John, served in the War of 1812, and as Robert was born in 1815, he was named after the Captain under whom his brother served, and from that incident received the appellation of "Captain," which has clung to him through life, and he is generally known as "Capt. Williams."

Mr. Williams was married, May 31, 1839, to Miss Mary A. Van Meter. Mrs. Williams is the daughter of John and Catherine Van Meter, and was born July 10, 1817, in the State of Kentucky. Our subject and wife have a family of six children—John W., Leagon, Robert E., Melissa C., Thomas and Cynthia C. Melissa is the wife of Samuel W. Balch, and Cynthia is the wife of William D. Jones. Mr. Williams has given his attention to agricultural pursuits throughout his life, and was the owner of a fine estate containing 400 acres of valuable land, until it was divided among his children. Mr. Williams was a Whig in early life, but has been a stanch Republican since the organization of that party. He is a public-spirited man, and has held many local offices in the township, giving general satisfaction in the discharge of his duties. He became a member of the Methodist Church at the age of twenty-five, and through life has been an earnest worker within the fold of that religious body.



JOSEPH McNEEL, who is occupying a good farm on the northeast quarter of section 28, is comparatively a young man, and accounted one of the most worthy citizens of Seven Hickory Township. He was born on the homestead of his parents, Dec. 18, 1848, and remained under the parental roof until the death of his father, March 23, 1862. Afterward he continued with his mother, and remained her support and counselor, taking upon himself the management of her affairs, and performing with great credit the filial duties as-

signed him. The mother is still living, making her home with her son Joseph.

Our subject received a common-school education, and after reaching his majority was united in marriage, March 30, 1881, with Miss Rosa L. Cook, a native of Monroe County, Ind. The wedding took place at the residence of the minister, Rev. Louis Lauman, east of Charleston. Mrs. McNeel came to Illinois with her parents when a young girl, and they settled at Mattoon, whence they afterward removed to Hutton Township. Her father, John Cook, was a native of Germany, and his wife, Harriet (Wiseman) Cook, of Monroe Co., Ind. The children of the parental household were Rosa, George M., Emma, Elizabeth, Kittie B., Hattie, Hannah, and one child, Jacob, who died in infancy. The children of Mr. and Mrs. McNeel are: John Benjamin, born March 25, 1883, and a babe, which did not live to receive a name. The farm of our subject embraces 200 acres of good land, and is largely devoted to stock-farming, including Clydesdale horses and fine grades of Short-horn cattle.

The parents of our subject, Benjamin and Eleanor (Fowler) McNeel, were natives respectively of Ohio and Tennessee. After marriage they settled in Coles County, Ill. Joseph, of our sketch, was their eldest son; Albert was born Aug. 9, 1850; Daniel Webster, Jan. 15, 1852; Irwin was born in 1854, and died in 1855; William S. is a resident of this township; Elizabeth May became the wife of A. R. Bridges, and is also a resident of this township, being the mother of two children—Ethel and William; Benjamin H., born April 4, 1862, was married to Miss Anna Baulch, and is now engaged in teaching in this county.

WM. JENKINS, who for a number of years was one of the most successful merchants of Charleston, is now retired from active business and enjoying the fruits of a well-spent life, in a handsome home on Washington street, of which he has been in possession since 1861. The family residence is a fine brick structure, and its surroundings are those of a prosperous, refined and intelligent citizen.

Mr. Jenkins was born in Putnam County, Ind.,

July 1, 1832, and is the son of J. M. and Nancy (Martin) Jenkins, natives of Lexington, Ky. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Elijah Jenkins, was a native of Virginia, of German descent, and followed agricultural pursuits. He became a resident of Kentucky at an early period in its history, and was there married and reared a fine family of sons and daughters. He died in Putnam County, Ind., at the age of ninety-three years. Among his children was the father of our subject, who, following in the footsteps of most of his ancestors, took naturally to farming, and also perfected himself as a business man, engaging for a number of years as a builder and contractor. He was but a child when his parents became residents of Indiana, and remained there the balance of his days, his death occurring after he had reached an advanced age, in 1883. The parental family of our subject included seven children, four now living, namely, Mary J., Mrs. Parks, of Iuka, Kan.; William M., of our sketch; Elijah A., a resident of Charleston, and Samantha, the wife of William H. O'Neal, and a resident of Putnam County, Ind. The wife and mother passed to the other life in the spring of 1848.

William M. Jenkins remained with the family on his father's farm until twenty years of age, in the meantime receiving a practical education. He commenced teaching when eighteen years old, which occupation he followed three years, then engaged as a clerk at Putnamville, Ind., one year. He then resumed teaching for a brief time, after which he entered the store of T. W. Williamson, of Greencastle, with whom he continued five years and gained a good insight into general merchandising.

Mr. Jenkins became a resident of Charleston in the fall of 1859, and in company with his brother Elijah A., and T. W. Williamson, established a business in general merchandise, in which the three continued for two years following. Mr. Williamson then withdrew, and our subject and his brother continued the business until 1865. They then sold out to Wilson Bros., and in two weeks re-established with a new stock and continued until the summer of 1886. William M. then sold out to his brother and the son of the latter, and retired

from business to enjoy his justly earned competency.

Mr. Jenkins since taking up his residence in Charleston has been one of its most energetic citizens, and has identified himself with the interests best calculated to build up the city and minister to the welfare of its people. He is still one of the stockholders of the Second National Bank, also a Director, and was identified in former years with the First National as a stockholder. His influence and means assisted greatly in the establishment of the Charleston Hotel, and the plank road, which runs ten miles into the country, and was of great assistance to travel, would scarcely have been completed to its present distance without his material aid. He has also an interest in the Charleston Creamery, and in the Narrow-Gauge Railroad, and is one of the moving spirits in the stock company which has been engaged in developing the coal mines north of the town. Charleston hopes in time to be lighted by natural gas, and Mr. Jenkins, in company with other enterprising citizens, has risked considerable in this venture.

The lady who has been the worthy sharer of the home and fortunes of our subject since the spring of 1857, was formerly Miss Elizabeth, the daughter of Benjamin and Catherine (Skelton) Jenkins, natives of Kentucky. The father of Mrs. J. for many years engaged in farming in Indiana, and then removed to Illinois. He resided, however, but a short time in the Prairie State, then returned to Indiana, whence he afterward moved across the Mississippi to Nebraska, where he now resides. He and his estimable lady reared a family of seven children, five now living, namely, Sarah, Mrs. Ward, of Louisville, Neb.; Elizabeth, Mrs. Jenkins; Elijah, of Greenwood, Neb.; Emily, Mrs. Bias, of Missouri; and Columbus, of Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins were not blest with children, but reared two belonging to a sister of Mr. J. His sister Elizabeth became the wife of Rev. B. Carten, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and at present a member of the Indiana Conference. Of their daughters, Myra became an inmate of the home of our subject when a little girl two and one-half years of age, and continued there until her marriage with S. M. Tooke, of

Charleston; she had three children—Stella; William, deceased, and Lizzie. Stella went to live with Mr. and Mrs. J. when a child of eighteen months, and remained with them until her marriage with J. M. Davis, of Omaha, Neb.; she has one daughter, Myra.

Mr. Jenkins has always given his undivided support to Republican principles, and socially belongs to the Knights of Honor. He and his wife are exemplary members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The great-grandfather of our subject, David Martin, was born in the North of Ireland about the year 1725 or 1728, and married a Miss Allison, by whom he had seven children, four sons and three daughters. He emigrated to this country, and served as a minute-man in the Revolutionary War, being in a number of battles. His son William, our subject's grandfather, married Mary Ann Cook, a daughter of William Cook. The latter in the time of the war between France and England, was on a vessel of marque and reprisal, which captured a great many merchant vessels belonging to France. At the close of this war he came to the United States and served seven years in the Revolutionary War, under Washington. He then returned to the old country, and it is uncertain when or where he died. Grandfather Martin and wife were born in Augusta County, Va., where they were married, and in the fall of 1805 moved to Kentucky, thence, in 1826, to Putnam County, Ind.



J. MONFORT, deceased, formerly a leading citizen of Pleasant Grove Township, was one of the pioneers of 1836. He was born May 11, 1812, in Henry County, Ky., and subsequently removed to Owen County, where he was married June 13, 1833, to Miss Mahala A. Marston, a native of Shelby County, Ky., born Oct. 11, 1813. In 1836 Mr. Monfort moved with his young wife to Illinois and settled in Coles County, near the headwaters of the Kickapoo River, and a few years later located on section 1, Pleasant Grove Township, and gave his attention to farming.

Prior to his removal to Illinois, Mr. Monfort had

suffered financial losses from fire, and on his arrival in Coles County was the owner of only about \$100 worth of property. He had received a fair education for the early days, and engaged in teaching school at \$16 per month. He always shouldered his gun, and on his way to and from the log school-house shot the prairie chickens, which were very abundant. These served for food, and his economical wife saved the feathers, and thereby procured some pillows and a feather-bed, which added materially to the household comfort. Mrs. Monfort was a most industrious and careful housewife, making the best use of her time and the meager opportunities within her reach, to aid her husband in all the duties and trials of pioneer life. She was skillful in the use of the spinning-wheel and loom, and manufactured a large amount of cloth. Besides supplying her own family with clothing, she sold 150 yards of jeans each year, during a period of twenty-five years. Mrs. Monfort looked well to the ways of her household, while her husband invested his money in land, which he cultivated and improved.

Their first abode was a log cabin, and the rude couch upon which they rested at night, wearied with the toils of the day, was a bedstead made of poles, and the cradle in which the babies were rocked to sleep, was manufactured from a log split lengthwise and hollowed out. Their industry and energy, however, were rewarded with success, and in about the year 1855 the log cabin gave place to a comfortable frame house. This was subsequently destroyed by fire in 1859, and Mr. Monfort then erected a substantial two-story brick residence, which was the first of its kind in the neighborhood. Mr. and Mrs. Monfort had a family of ten children born to them, six of whom are living, as follows: Eliza Jane, the wife of J. D. Farris, Sr.; Martha M., the wife of John P. Harrah; William H., John N.; Mary A., the wife of William R. Robinson, and Joseph A. The children were all born in Coles County with the exception of the eldest.

Mr. Monfort was very successful in business and became the owner of nearly 700 acres of valuable land. The family continued to reside on the farm until 1883, when, desirous of resting from the cares

of business, they removed to the city of Charleston, to pass the closing years of their lives in the enjoyment of ease and prosperity. In June, 1883, they celebrated their golden wedding, at which anniversary nearly every member of the family was present, besides a large circle of friends, who took pleasure in offering their congratulations, and also numerous valuable presents, to a family so beloved and respected. This happy reunion was a fitting scene for the closing years of a long life of honor and usefulness. Mr. Monfort died Jan. 13, 1885, and his bereaved widow did not long survive him, her death occurring May 13, 1886.

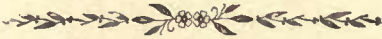
Mr. and Mrs. Monfort were active in promoting the moral and religious interests of the community; they were members of the Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Monfort was an Elder, and for more than forty years the teacher of the Bible class. On his removal from the place the class presented him with a gold-headed cane, in token of their affection and respect. In politics, Mr. Monfort was an active supporter of the Democratic party, and was for some years a prominent member of the Patrons of Husbandry.

JOHN W. DOTY, the owner of a fine estate containing 155 acres of valuable land in Charleston Township, was born March 7, 1832, in Lafayette Township, Coles County, and is the son of James and Mary (Teel) Doty. (For history of his parents, see sketch of James Doty.) He was reared on his father's farm and remained at home, assisting his parents until he was twenty-three years of age. July 12, 1855, he was united in marriage with his cousin, Miss Melinda Doty, the daughter of Levi and Matilda Doty.

After his marriage our subject purchased forty acres of his present farm and with his young wife moved into the log cabin, which stood there awaiting its new occupants. They were rich in courage, hope and good health, if not in this world's goods, and happy in beginning the world together "for better or for worse." He subsequently added to his farm as he prospered in business, until he acquired his present fine property. There were some minor improvements on the original purchase,

and with the exception of a few acres of timber land it is now all under good cultivation, and he carries on an extensive business in general farming. His wife died in 1857, leaving one son, James Marion, who married Miss Emma Parker, of Westfield, this State, Dec. 24, 1879, and to whom two sons were born: Clarence A., born Dec. 5, 1880, and Lyman L., April 8, 1886.

Sept. 1, 1858, our subject was married the second time, to his cousin, Miss Amanda Doty, the sister of his first wife. Five children were born to them, only two of whom are now living: Sylvia E., now the wife of Joseph Monfort, and Candice A. Mr. Doty is interested in the public affairs of the community; he has been School Director twenty-five years, and is now serving his fourth term as Justice of the Peace. He is a Democrat in politics, and has always given satisfaction to the people in the discharge of his public duties.

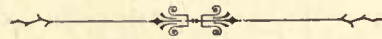


ZOLLIFFER O'HAIR. The subject of the following history has been identified with the farming interests of Central Illinois for a period of twenty-three years, and has assisted in building up a homestead creditable to himself as an industrious and enterprising agriculturist, while it has also added greatly to the farming interests of this section, and enters largely into the embellishment of the rural district. He assists in carrying on the home farm for his mother. Mr. O'Hair was born on the homestead, Oct. 5, 1863, whence his parents removed shortly afterward to Simms Township, five miles south of Paris, in Edgar County, where they remained about seven years. At the end of that time they came back, remaining three years, and then returned to Edgar County, residing there three years, finally returning to the homestead where they still live.

James Sylvester O'Hair, the father of our subject, was born in Morgan County, Ky., Aug. 22, 1822, and came with his parents to this State when a small boy. He was the eldest of their ten children, and when coming here the country was practically unsettled. His father entered a tract of land from the Government, but on account of ill-health,

not long afterward sold out and took possession of a tract which had been partially cultivated, removing with his family into one of the first houses built in the township and which was replaced by the present more modern dwelling. He was first married July 5, 1846, to Miss Minerva Ann Ellidge, of Kentucky, and they became the parents of three children, namely, Sylvanus S., who died Nov. 22, 1876; Arminta Ellen, a resident of this county, and Cynthia Jane, who lives in Clark County, Ill.; she is the wife of Mahlon Beunst. The mother of these children died of typhoid fever, Dec. 8, 1860. Mr. O'Hair was again married, April 18, 1861, to Miss Polly Ann Frazier, a native of Clark County, Ill., where she was reared and educated. Her father, Thomas Frazier, a native of Kentucky, was married in early manhood to Miss Anna Stark, and they became the parents of nine children, three sons and six daughters, as follows: Louisa M., John, James William, Polly Ann, Catherine, Emily Jane, Rebecca E., Emeline and Thomas R.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. O'Hair there were born three children, namely, Zollicoffer, William Pierce and James Frazier. William is farming near Eureka, Kan., and James is occupied on the home farm with his brother, our subject. This is the property of Mrs. O'Hair, and the boys live with their mother and assist her in the management of the farm. The father died at their farm in Edgar County, Ill., April 16, 1875, at 8 o'clock in the morning. He is buried in the old family graveyard on his father's homestead. Mr. Zollicoffer O'Hair met with a serious accident on the 5th of April, 1887, having his leg broken just above the ankle which laid him up for some time, but from which he now bids fair to recover.



JOSEPH A. MONFORT is the youngest son of I. J. Monfort, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume, and resides on the old homestead in Pleasant Grove Township. He is one of the rising young men of the county, and well represents an old and honorable family. He is a native of this county, and was born Jan. 22, 1850. He was reared on his father's farm,

where he learned the practical details of systematic farming, and also received an excellent education at the common schools of the neighborhood, and at Lee's Academy.

Mr. Monfort was married, March 7, 1878, to Miss Sylvia E. Doty. Mrs. Monfort is the daughter of John W. and Amanda Doty, and is likewise a native of Coles County. Mr. and Mrs. Monfort have one child, a beautiful daughter named Candice. He is the owner of 210 acres of land, and carries on a successful business in agriculture.



THOMAS T. SHOEMAKER, one of the most prominent farmers and stock-growers of Humbolt Township, has a fine estate located on section 24, of which he has been in possession since the spring of 1879. His property consists of a handsome and substantial residence, and all the out-buildings required by the progressive and intelligent agriculturist. The fields are conveniently laid off, enclosed with good fencing, and the out-buildings are finely adapted for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock.

Mr. Shoemaker usually keeps about seventy-five head of Short-horn cattle, which include calves, cows and breeding bulls, comprising one of the finest herds in this section of the country, all the animals which are of the required age being registered in the American Herd Book. At the head is "Antiquarian," a two-year-old, who with his mate "Acklen Geneva" (Rose of Sharon), form a couple of which their owner is proud. Mr. S. has 100 head of Poland-China hogs and the same number of fine wool Southdown sheep, and in both departments has distinguished himself as a breeder of more than ordinary success. He also feeds cattle to a considerable extent, and each year ships a car-load of choice animals to the Eastern markets. The farm of Mr. Shoemaker embraces 632 acres of valuable land in a fine state of cultivation. He is provided with the latest and most improved machinery, and has five fine barns which are all utilized in the shelter of his grain and stock. The water necessary on so large an estate is carried to

the places required by a force pump, operated by wind power.

The subject of our sketch is a native of this county, born in Lafayette Township, Sept. 14, 1847, and the son of Samuel and Martha (Woods) Shoemaker. His parents were natives respectively of North Carolina and Kentucky. Samuel Shoemaker was born in 1812, and removed from his native State with his parents when a small boy to Virginia, where he was reared on his father's farm until reaching manhood. He came to this county in 1834, locating on a farm near Charleston, and became one of the most highly respected citizens of this locality, esteemed as much for his kindness of heart as for his admirable business qualities. He departed this life at his home in Lafayette Township in December, 1867, amid the universal regret of the community. The mother had preceded her husband to the silent land, her death taking place in 1863, when she was forty-five years of age, having been born in 1818.

Thomas Shoemaker was the fourth of a family of six children, his brothers and one sister being Franklin, James O., Lilburn D., Mary and Charles. He spent his early years on the farm of his parents, and when twenty-four years of age was united in marriage with Miss Emma Reat. Their wedding occurred at the home of the bride's parents in Charleston Township, Aug. 31, 1871. Mrs. Shoemaker is a native of this county, born Oct. 18, 1850, and is the daughter of John W. and Sarah (Linder) Reat, natives respectively of Ohio and Virginia. Mr. R. came to this county in 1837, and engaged in farming on the homestead where his death took place in 1883. The mother makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Shoemaker. Our subject and his wife have become the parents of seven children—Estella, Harry R., Theodora, John E., Joseph T., Katie, and an infant who died unnamed.

As an important factor of the agricultural community, Mr. Shoemaker has been identified with its interests for many years, serving as President of the Coles County Agricultural Board, and giving his experience and influence for the benefit of his co-laborers in a field whose success largely influences the welfare of the entire country. Both he

and his estimable wife are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Wesley Chapel, and socially, Mr. S. belongs to Elwood Lodge No. 299, A. F. & A. M. His homestead is one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of this county, and forms no unimportant adjunct to its reputation and prosperity.



REV. SILAS WHITE, who for the last thirty-five years has worthily officiated as a minister of the Church of God, in connection with agricultural pursuits, in the vicinity of Charleston, is widely and favorably known in this section as an individual possessing all the elements of a kindly Christian character, whose days have been filled with industry and usefulness. He is now passing down the hill of life—a life that has had many sorrows, but has also held many joys and pleasures. His history, briefly narrated, is in substance as follows:

Mr. White was born in Wayne County, Ind., March 3, 1818, and is the son of Asa and Polly (Lewis) White, natives respectively of North Carolina and Kentucky. The parents were married in the Blue Grass State and not long afterward became residents of Indiana, being among the first settlers of Wayne County, where they engaged in farming pursuits. In 1840 they set out for Illinois, and coming to this county the elder White rented a tract of land which he occupied until 1861. He then removed to Douglas County, where his death took place during the war. Both parents were devoted members of the Baptist Church, and reared a family of eight children.

Rev. Silas White was reared on the farm, receiving such education as is afforded in the district school, and remained under the parental roof until seventeen years of age. His father then gave him his time, and he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked in connection with farming, and gave to his father a portion of his earnings. He thus followed the life of an exemplary and dutiful son, and when twenty-two years of age took the first step toward establishing a home and domestic ties of his own. This was his marriage with Miss

Mary J., daughter of Solomon Boone, and whom it is supposed was the grand-niece of the famous Kentuckian, Daniel Boone, who so delighted in fighting the Indians during the pioneer days. Mrs. White was born at Pickaway Plains, Ohio, in about 1822.

After their marriage the young people located upon a farm in Wayne County which our subject rented for one year, and from which he removed in 1842, to this county. Here he entered 120 acres in Hutton Township, and having saved quite a sum of money from his former earnings, was enabled to purchase the land when it came into market. He occupied this until the spring of 1844, in the meantime laying off the grain fields and pasture lands, building neat and substantial fences, and improving the property with good farm buildings. Upon the homestead thus established he continued a resident for over forty years, and was then admonished by declining strength that he must rest. He accordingly rented his farm, and purchasing a snug home at Charleston, repaired to it with his estimable wife. Mr. White added to his first purchase of land until he became the possessor of 250 acres, which constitutes one of the finest farms in that section of country.

The children of Rev. Silas and Mrs. Mary J. White included five sons and five daughters, of whom only two sons survive. The elder of these, Monroe, married Miss Mary Hall, and they have six daughters—Sarah F., Hannah A., Millie H., Lucy E., Sarah J. and Charity E. Isaac married Miss Josephine Sandoe, and is the father of three children—Zaccheus Boone, Emma M. and Effie E.

When Mr. White came to this county he settled in the timber, and the howling of wolves and panthers was often heard in the night around their cabin home. There were plenty of deer and wild turkey, and the family always enjoyed the luxury of wild meat. The first dwelling was a hewed-log house, 22x18 feet, which was well built and considered very fine for those days. Of this Mr. White was the main carpenter and builder, getting out his lumber by means of a whip-saw, by which he also manufactured his flooring, doors and window casings. The next business was to clear the ground around it, and the first year he succeeded in get-

ting ten acres in a good state of cultivation. The next spring he put in a crop of corn and wheat, the former of which brought but fifteen cents per bushel and the latter thirty-seven and a half cents. He pursued the even tenor of his way thus year after year, welcoming with pleasure the little faces that came one by one to the household circle, and bending with sorrow over the many graves which contained the forms of his loved ones, most of whom died in early childhood.

Mr. White commenced his labors as a Christian minister in 1850, and was ordained two years later. He often recalls the time when he traveled through the country from one appointment to another, and the kindly manner in which he was treated by the pioneers, who, living partially isolated, were always rejoiced to welcome the face of a friend. He received a rich reward for his labors in witnessing the salvation of souls, and was the humble instrument in turning many from the errors of their ways. For these services he required not money, glad if he could accomplish something for the Master, and now while nearing the close of a long and useful life he has the satisfaction of being able to look back upon his years as well spent, and upon a life which has not been in vain.



NEWELL S. McDONALD, manufacturer of tile and brick near Lerna, is a prominent citizen of Pleasant Grove Township, and an honorable representative of one of the pioneer families of Illinois. He is the son of Rev. John and Nancy (Means) McDonald, and was born Aug. 1, 1849, in this county. Rev. John McDonald was born near Wheeling, W. Va., and in early manhood removed to Ohio, where he studied theology, and was ordained to the ministry of the Presbyterian Church. At an early day, in about 1830, he became one of the pioneer ministers of Illinois, counting it no loss in the service of the Master to leave behind all the comforts of civilization, and encounter the hard, rough life of an early settler on the Western frontier. The temples of worship at that period were usually the log cabins, used as school-houses; these were used as chapels during

the winter season, and in the summer time divine worship was held in the groves, arched by the blue dome of heaven.

Mr. McDonald was untiring in the work of promoting the cause of Christ in the wilderness; he preached at Urbana, Charleston, Paris, and had charge of many minor points, establishing churches wherever it was practicable. As nearly all of the settlers at that time were poor, the pioneer minister was obliged to provide for his own necessities, and like St. Paul, who was engaged in tent-making as well as preaching the Gospel, Mr. McDonald entered land in Pleasant Grove Township, and has by his industry and energy made a comfortable home for himself, at the same time pursuing earnestly his work in the ministry, to which cause his time and talents were devoted until old age. Mr. McDonald was interested in all the vital questions of the period in which he lived, being earnest and pronounced in his opposition to slavery, and never hesitating to express his views on that subject. He was a loyal and conscientious citizen, and always attended the general elections, casting his ballot in favor of such measures as his judgment deemed right.

Mr. McDonald was called home from his earthly labors in 1866, having reached the age of sixty-nine years. His wife was born in Adams County, Ohio, but her parents had removed to Illinois at an early day, and her marriage took place in Edgar County. She was a faithful, devoted wife, and a true companion to her husband in his life-work of self-sacrifice and toil. Her death occurred in 1880 at the age of sixty-seven years. Rev. and Mrs. McDonald were the parents of thirteen children, nine of whom attained maturity. The following is their family record: William N., deceased; Mary E., the wife of Rev. R. G. Ross; Eliza, the wife of George Coen; Ann, the wife of Hon. Joseph Ewing; Elizabeth, the wife of John Paisley; Newell S., the subject of this sketch; Sarah, the wife of R. L. Ewing; Chalmers and John. William N. was a volunteer in the Civil War, and served as First Lieutenant of Co. I, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf., until the close of the war.

Newell S. McDonald was reared on the farm, affording his father assistance during his boyhood,

and receiving such education as the common schools at that early day afforded. He was thoughtful and intelligent, making the best use of his limited advantages, and was subsequently a graduate of Lee's Academy at Indian Point. In the autumn of 1869 he left the farm, and for a period of five years was a faithful and trusted clerk in the employ of the Wabash Railroad Company, at Attica, Ind. On account of failing health he was then obliged to relinquish his position, and accordingly returned to Coles County, and engaged in farming and grain-dealing. However, the five years of his residence at Attica proved an important epoch in his life, for he there made the acquaintance of his future wife, Miss Mattie Love. Their marriage took place Dec. 23, 1873. Mrs. McDonald is the daughter of Calvin and Abigail Love, and was born in Miami County, Ind., May 25, 1853. Left an orphan at an early age she was reared by kind friends, and when a young girl of seventeen, learned the art of telegraphy, at Peru, Ind., not wishing to be dependent longer upon others for support, and subsequently became the operator at Attica. She is an accomplished lady, an affectionate wife and devoted mother. Their family consists of four interesting children—Nellie, Charles, Louis and Birdie.

In 1882 Mr. McDonald engaged in his present enterprise, which proved successful, and as the business increased he formed a partnership with his brother, John T., under the firm name of McDonald Bros. Mr. McDonald owns a well-improved farm of eighty acres, on which he resides, and in politics is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, having served five terms as Supervisor of the township, and performing his public duties creditably to himself, and giving general satisfaction to his constituents. He is a Royal Arch Mason, and by a dispensation from the Grand Master of the State, his lodge elected him Master before he had ever served as Warden, a distinction rarely conferred. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald are active members of the Methodist Church. They are courteous and hospitable in their home, which is supplied with all the comforts of life, and are deeply interested in the education of their children, in whom they may justly take great pride.

I N. GIBBS, proprietor of a flourishing sale and livery stable at Mattoon, is a gentleman in the prime of life, and carrying on a successful business. He has been buying horses and mules since 1861, shipping to the Eastern markets, besides to New Orleans, La., and Natchez, Miss. He has dealt largely in horses for cavalry and artillery use, and is an excellent judge of this noblest of animals.

Mr. Gibbs is a native of this county, born in Pleasant Grove Township, Jan. 8, 1841, and is the son of Homer and Laura (Meedham) Gibbs, natives of Kentucky, who came to this State before their marriage, their wedding taking place in this county. The paternal grandparents of our subject, Elijah and Elizabeth Gibbs, were natives of Virginia, whence the former removed at an early day to Ohio, and from there to Illinois in about 1825. He served as a soldier in the Mexican War, holding a Captain's commission, and afterward purchased a large tract of land in this county, where he spent the remainder of his life, being located near the Kickapoo Church, about seven miles southeast of Mattoon.

Homer Gibbs learned the carpenter's trade early in life, but afterward engaged in farming, and departed this life at his home in the spring of 1879. The mother's death took place seven years previous, in 1872. The parental household included nine children, eight living: I. N., of our sketch, and his brother John M. (twins), William, Elijah; Catherine, Mrs. Perryman, of Missouri; Margaret, Mrs. Edson, of Missouri; Elizabeth and Martin, of Memphis, Tenn. The parents were members of the Baptist Church, in which the father was an Elder. He was prominent in the local affairs of his township, and Supervisor while living in Moultrie County.

The subject of this biography spent his boyhood and youth in the rural community, receiving a practical education in the district school. He remained a member of the parental household until twenty-two years of age, and then coming to Mattoon engaged in the livery business, in which he was successful from the first, and now has the largest stable in the city. This covers an area of 107½x55 feet, and is a brick structure, erected in 1871. The greater part of it was destroyed by fire eight

years later, involving a loss to Mr. Gibbs of \$1,200 beyond the insurance. He recovered from this disaster, however, and besides his rolling stock and fifteen to thirty horses, has a fine farm embracing 220 acres in Moultrie County.

Mr. Gibbs was married in Moultrie County, Ill., in 1862, to Miss Sarah, daughter of Joseph H. and Orena (Davis) Munson. Mrs. G. was born in the latter-named county. Her parents were natives of Kentucky and early settlers of Moultrie County, where they engaged the greater part of their lives in agricultural pursuits. They are now deceased.

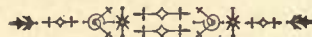


ALBERT H. HUCKABA, proprietor of 134 acres of good land on section 7, Charleston Township, has been a resident of this county over thirty years, coming here when a youth of seventeen. He is a native of the Prairie State, and was born in Clark County, Feb. 21, 1835. His parents, Lewis and Margaret J. (Evans) Huckaba, were natives of North Carolina, whence they removed after their marriage to Orange County, Ind., at an early period in the settlement of that region. They did not tarry there long, however, but soon afterward came to Illinois, locating on a tract of land in Clark County, where they were engaged industriously in building up a home for themselves and their children, and where they remained for a period of thirty-five years. The death of both took place near Martinsville, and they left quite a valuable estate, which was divided among their children. Of these there were nine, namely, Miles; Nancy, the wife of John Bradbury; Lucinda, now the widow of Robert Landon; Clarinda, the wife of S. Spraker, deceased; Rachel, the wife of Morris Meeker, of Clark County, Ill.; Martha, the wife of A. C. Landon; Lewis R., a member of the 59th Illinois Infantry, and who died at Nashville, Tenn., from wounds received in battle, and Alfred, who has been connected with the Medical Institute at Indianapolis for a period of twenty-five years.

The subject of this history, in common with his brothers and sisters, received a common-school education, and followed railroading from 1852 to

1854. He was married in the spring of the latter year to Miss Mary J., daughter of Samuel Lumbrick, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Charleston Township. Mrs. H. is also a native of this county. After their marriage the young people located first in Charleston Township, and two years later Mr. Huckaba purchased eighty acres of land there, to which he subsequently added until he became the owner of 134 acres. He has given forty acres each to two children and has fifty-four left. His land was unimproved when he took possession of it, but is now under a good state of cultivation and supplied with substantial frame buildings. A view of the place is shown on another page of this work.

The children born to our subject and wife are Samuel L., James A.; Ida M., the wife of Alex Conley; Daniel, B. M., Margaret E., Dora E., Albert O., Edward O. and Clarence H. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. H. has served as Assessor ten terms, and has also officiated as Constable and Deputy Sheriff. He is an uncompromising Democrat, politically, and has unswerving faith in the correctness of the principles of his party.



JOHAN RUTHERFORD, son of one of the old and honored pioneers of East Oakland Township, is Cashier of the Oakland National Bank, and a gentleman of good business abilities, now in the prime of life, and occupying a good position among the people who have known him since a boy. Oakland is his native town, and the date of his birth June 21, 1844. His parents were Hiram and Lucinda (Bowman) Rutherford, natives of Pennsylvania. His father was born Dec. 27, 1815.

Mr. Rutherford remained a member of the parental household until twenty-three years of age, and after completing his education in the common schools, embarked in the mercantile business at Oakland, in which he was employed for five years, and then becoming a stockholder and Director of the Oakland National Bank, was elected Cashier, and has held the position since 1874. He was

married, April 4, 1882, to Miss Kate Nash, a native of Rappahannock County, Va., and born Sept. 2, 1844. She is the daughter of Henry and Susan (Nethers) Nash, both also natives of the Old Dominion. Henry Nash was born in 1795, and died in his native State in 1852. Mrs. Rutherford was the youngest of her father's family, he having been married three times. The mother of Mrs. R. was his second wife, and was formerly Mrs. Nethers. Of this union there were born John, Henry C. and Kate. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford are Eva L., born June 16, 1883, and Hiram J., Jan. 27, 1887.

Our subject and wife occupy a fine residence in the village, and Mrs. Rutherford is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. R. has been identified with the Masonic fraternity for a period of eighteen years, and has represented the fraternity in the Grand Lodge at Chicago many times. Politically he is a Republican of the first water, and both in business and social circles is held in high regard by the best people of Oakland. He fulfills the duties of his responsible position with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.



S H. RECORD, a senior member of the firm of Record & Co., manufacturers of drain tiling, is one of the prominent business men of the county, and a leading citizen of Charleston. The history of his life is specially instructive, inasmuch as it throws some light upon the vexed question of "how to get on in the world." Mr. Record shrewdly foresaw the demands for tiling in the present improved methods of farming, and ingeniously turned his attention to its manufacture. To be able to discern the golden opportunity leading to success, and to grasp it at once, is a rare faculty, and one much to be desired.

S. H. Record is the son of William S. and Martha (Said) Record, and was born Dec. 16, 1847, near Falmouth, Ky. His father was a native of Tennessee and his mother of Ohio, their marriage taking place about 1840, in Kentucky, where he was engaged in farming. In 1857 they removed from Kentucky to Illinois and purchased a farm in

this township, where they passed the closing years of life. His father retired from active business in 1863, and resided in Charleston until his death, which occurred in 1868. His mother died in 1864. Their family comprised nine children.

S. H. Record was brought up on his father's farm, receiving a practical education, until he was twenty-one years of age. He had been trained to no special trade or profession, and after leaving the home roof, engaged for a time in whatever employment he could procure. In 1871 he was employed as clerk in the drug-store of Andrew Moore of this city, and remained in the business six years. In 1877, in company with his wife and sister, he embarked in his present manufacturing enterprise, commencing in a small way. Their works, which consisted of one kiln and a building 20x80 feet, were located in the northwestern part of the city. The business has proved very successful, and they now operate four kilns; their buildings are 30x500 feet and they employ fifteen men in the works, turning out \$15,000 worth of stock per annum, half of which is shipped, and a ready market is found for the remainder in the vicinity of Charleston within a radius of eight miles.

In 1874 Mr. Record was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie Emerson, the daughter of Judge Charles and Nancy (Herrold) Emerson, of Decatur. They have an interesting family of seven children, whose names are as follows: May, Clara, Myrtle, Frank, Lou, Belle and Florence. Mr. Record is a Republican in politics, a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Knights of Honor.



WILLIAM A. GILMER, who, with his family, resides on section 8, in North Okaw Township, has been a resident of this county for the last seventeen years. His first recollections are of Russell County, Va., where his birth took place April 22, 1843. His father and grandfather had always been residents of that region, where both were born. The latter spent his entire life in Russell County engaged in farming pursuits, and departed this life the same year that our subject was born. He was three times married.

The first wife became the mother of six children, and after her death, Grandfather Gilmer made a division of his land among his four sons, giving the daughters their portion of the property in hard cash. He was at that time the owner of 1,440 acres of land and a large number of slaves. Of his second marriage there were born five children, and at the death of his second wife he made another division of his property, thus wisely settling his estate so there could be nothing for his heirs to quarrel over. Of his third marriage there were no children. His son William, by the first wife, became a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Isaac, the third child, became the father of our subject.

Isaac Gilmer was born in Russell County, Va., in December, 1800. He was educated in the subscription schools of his native county and remained under the parental roof until the death of his mother. He received for his share of the property the home farm, the father removing to another part of the county. Isaac Gilmer did not marry until forty years of age, and then took for his wife Miss Mary Hendricks, their wedding taking place in the spring of 1840. Mrs. Gilmer was also born in Russell County, Va., and was the daughter of Anderson and Elizabeth (Scott) Hendricks. Isaac Gilmer spent his entire life on the homestead where he was born, his death taking place in 1876. The mother still lives and occupies the old homestead. She is now well advanced in years and has retained her mental faculties remarkably. For many years she has been an active and devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The twelve children born of the parental union were: Martha, William A., of our sketch; Elizabeth; James K. P., who died when nine years of age; Anderson, Thomas, Mary, Rebecca, Isaac A., Annie, George and Carrie. All are residents of the Old Dominion with the exception of our subject and his sister Mary; the latter is the wife of McCagha Philips, and resides in Kansas. Three of the daughters are at home with their mother.

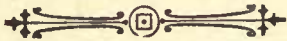
Our subject was educated in the common schools of his native county and remained with his parents until eighteen years of age. Then, upon the outbreak of the Rebellion, he enlisted in Co. G, 29th

Va. Vol. Inf., under command of Gen. Longstreet, serving three years and until the close of the war. Afterward he returned to his father's house and assisted in the farm work on the homestead until the fall of 1867. He then turned his steps northward, and taking up his residence in North Okaw Township, this county, worked one year by the month. He was married in September, 1870, to Mrs. Emeline Stewart, who was born in this county, Nov. 28, 1838, and is the daughter of Henry and Jane (Jesse) Fuller. Her parents were born in Russell County, Va., her father April 1, 1792, and her mother April 19, 1796. They were reared in their native county and married there Jan. 20, 1814. Eighteen years later they emigrated to this State, and taking up their residence in North Okaw Township, continued here the remainder of their days.

Mr. and Mrs. Fuller were people who enjoyed the highest respects of the community and were among the warmest supporters of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Henry Fuller was Justice of the Peace for several years, and took a genuine interest in the various enterprises having for their object the welfare and progress of the people at large. The household circle included eleven children, namely, Samuel, Rebecca, Mary, Abraham, Catherine, Nancy, Archer, Wilson V., Leah, David H. and Emeline. With the exception of Mrs. Gilmer, all were born in Virginia. All lived to years of maturity, but only three are now living—Nancy, Leah and Emeline. At the time of her marriage with our subject Mrs. Gilmer owned ninety acres of land and a set of farm buildings which she occupied, and which had been the property of her second husband and her father's estate. She was first married to Milton Jackson, of Coles County, and became the mother of four children—Henry B., Samuel J., William W. and Milton M. Her second husband was Anderson Stewart; of this union there were no children.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Gilmer presents a picture of plenty and comfort. The residence, which is a substantial frame structure, and a view of which is presented in this work, stands back from the road in the midst of a fine natural grove, which affords delightful shade in the summer and a

shelter from the cold winds of winter. The household has been brightened by the birth of five children, as follows: Mary J. was born July 19, 1872; Nancy C., Feb. 14, 1874; Charles H., born Oct. 21, 1876, died Jan. 9, 1879; Emma M. was born Nov. 2, 1878, and Albert R. A., Nov. 10, 1883. Mr. Gilmer is a staunch adherent to the Democratic party, has represented his township in the County Board of Supervisors two terms, has been Assessor one term, and School Director for the last twelve years.

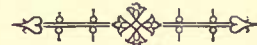


CHARLES M. DOLE, a highly respected resident of Mattoon, is a native of Terre Haute, Ind., where his birth took place May 24, 1826. He is the seventh in a family of ten children born to Enoch and Harriett P. (Dexter) Dole, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume. Our subject spent the greater part of his time during his childhood and youth on the farm of his father in Indiana, and came to Illinois in 1851, when about twenty-five years of age. He first engaged with his two brothers trading in cattle and hogs, which he followed quite successfully until 1852, having no permanent residence. In the fall of the year mentioned they all settled on section 7, Mattoon Township, where they kept "bachelor's hall," and lived together until the marriage of the brother, Stephen D. In 1874 or 1875 the brothers divided their land and farmed separately.

Charles M. Dole was one of the original platters of the town of Mattoon, and at the close of the war engaged there in banking. He was President of the First National Bank for a period of ten years and was otherwise identified with the most important business interests of the place. In company with his brother he built the "Dole House," the largest hotel there, besides the Dole Opera House and many other prominent buildings in the city. He was thus engaged industriously until the fall of 1880, when advancing years admonished him that it would be wise to retire to a more quiet life. He accordingly moved to his farm on section 4, Mattoon Township, where he has since been a resident

and is farming, enjoying all its comforts and the esteem and confidence of many friends.

The marriage of Charles M. Dole and Miss Mary Palmer, of Clinton, Ind., took place at the home of the bride in 1849. This lady fell a victim to the cholera scourge one year later, leaving an infant son, Frank D., who now occupies a farm near that of his father. At the time of his sad affliction Mr. Dole was living in Terre Haute, where he and his brother were engaged in the livery business. Our subject several years later, in 1861, was again married, Miss Charity A. Blackman becoming his wife. This lady is the daughter of Remember B. and Lois Blackman, who were among the pioneer settlers of Edgar County, this State, and were numbered among the most highly respected members of the farming community. To Mr. and Mrs. Dole there were born two children, Charles E. and Mary B., both still at home with their parents.



DR. HIRAM RUTHERFORD, of Oakland, has been a resident of the Prairie State for over forty-five years, and soon after coming within its borders located on the spot which he now calls his home. As a physician he was remarkably successful in his practice, which he abandoned about fourteen years ago, having accumulated a fortune, and is now the owner of 1,100 acres of some of the finest land in Central Illinois. He has for many years been prominently identified with the prosperity of Coles County, and has contributed his full share toward bringing it to its present condition.

The early home of our subject was in Dauphin County, Pa., where his birth took place Dec. 27, 1815. He is the son of William and Sarah (Swan) Rutherford, also natives of Dauphin County, Pa. The father, born Aug. 4, 1776, was married to the mother of our subject March 17, 1801. He followed the occupation of a farmer all his life, accumulating a fair competency, and departed this life at the homestead in Pennsylvania, Jan. 17, 1850. The mother, who was born Dec. 25, 1779, survived her husband but two years, dying in 1852. Their ten

children lived to become men and women, and were named as follows: John P.; Martha, now deceased; Dr. William W., a graduate of Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia; Margaret; Samuel, who died in 1872; Sarah, the wife of Daniel Kendrick; Abner; Hiram, of our sketch; Mary, who died in infancy, and Cyrus G.

The youth and childhood of Dr. Rutherford were spent on the farm in Pennsylvania, and his education was received in the common schools during the winter season. When eighteen years of age he took up the study of medicine, under the instruction of his brother William, at Harrisburg, at which he continued three years, and afterward pursued his studies at Jefferson Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1838. His certificate dates back further than any physician's in Coles County. He commenced the practice of his profession in Likens Valley, on the Susquehanna, in 1838, whence he removed West two years later, and has since been a resident of this county. Since first coming here he has been identified with the local interests of Oakland, representing the township in the County Board of Supervisors seven years, officiating as School Director for several years, and being Township Treasurer thirty-five years. With this record further words are not necessary to illustrate the status of his position among his fellow-townsmen and the county at large. He was prominent in the organization of the bank at Oakland, of which he has been a Director for some years.

Dr. Rutherford was bred by his excellent parents to principles of freedom and equal rights, and when old enough to exercise the rights of an American citizen, indicated his opposition to slavery by harboring fugitives, for which, at one time (1847) he was sued for damages to the amount of \$2,500; this was non-suited, and another suit respecting the liberty of the slaves, resulted in a decision favorable to the Doctor, who espoused their cause. Abe Lincoln was engaged in this case as opposing counsel. O. B. Ficklin and Judge Constable were the Doctor's attorneys. He began to vote when the old Whig party was in existence, casting his ballot with its followers, and upon the abandonment of the old party cordially identified himself with the Republicans, with whom he has since remained. In

all the relations of life he has acquitted himself creditably, and is accounted as one of the finest representatives of the business and social element of that section.

BASIL B. REDMAN has been a prominent figure among the farmers and stock-growers of Ashmore Township since the spring of 1859. He then located upon an uncultivated tract of land where is now his valuable farm of 160 acres, which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation. He deals largely in high-grade Short-horn cattle and Norman horses. He has a handsome residence and other buildings, and is in all respects one of the representative men of an intelligent community. The farm is located on section 33, in the southern part of the township, and from its location and natural surroundings is one of the most desirable in that section.

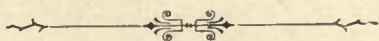
Mr. Redman is a native of the Prairie State, and first drew breath in Edgar County, Jan. 12, 1832. He is the son of Joseph and Lucy (Bennett) Redman, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Kentucky. Joseph Redman was born about 1785, and came to Illinois in 1831. He took up his abode in Edgar County, followed farming, and became a man highly respected among his fellow-citizens. He was a member of the Old Baptist Church, and was noted for his integrity and kindly Christian character. He served as School Trustee during the establishment of the first school in the county, and in all his dealings bore the reputation of an honest and straightforward citizen. He died in 1850, upon the homestead which he had built up in Edgar County. The mother survived her husband about four years, and was sixty years of age at the time of her death. She was a lady in every respect fitted to be the companion of her husband, and was a member of the same church. Their children were John, Vincent, Amanda; Solomon, now deceased; Harrison, Warder, Hilton, Eli, Lucy, Lancaster; Basil B., of our sketch; Mary, Emily and Joseph.

Our subject was reared on the farm in Edgar County, attended the district schools during his childhood and youth, and early in life made himself

useful around the homestead. After passing his twenty-third birthday he married Miss Eliza J. Kester, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents in Edgar County, Ill., in October, 1858. This lady died after becoming the mother of one child, Orson, who after reaching manhood was married to Miss Mary Corty, and is now farming in Edgar County.

Mr. Redman was the second time united in marriage, to Miss Matilda Cornwell, the ceremony taking place at the home of the bride, Nov. 8, 1859, Rev. P. K. Honn, of the Christian Church, officiating. Mrs. Redman, a native of Kentucky, was born May 11, 1837, and is the daughter of Hiram and Lucy (Toler) Cornwell, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Virginia. Hiram Cornwell was born in January, 1812, and his wife in 1820. He has followed farming all his life, and both parents are living, making their home in Ashmore Township. They are worthy members of society, and belong to the Christian Church. Their ten children were Ann, Mary, James, Bennett, Susan, George, Lucy, William, Dora and Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. Redman after their marriage, located on their present farm, which was then but a tract of uncultivated prairie. The wife has labored equally with her husband to build up the attractive homestead which now greets the eye of the passer-by, and where their children were born. Their eldest daughter, Annie, born in 1860, is now a resident of Ashmore Township; Emma, born July 31, 1861, was taken from the household circle by death on the 17th of April, 1876, when an interesting young girl fifteen years of age; Olive, born in 1862, died Aug. 7, 1877; Willie, born Sept. 27, 1866, married Miss Laura N. Zink, and is farming in Ashmore Township; Alva, born Oct. 9, 1869, is still a member of the parental household.



HENRY MOHLENHOFF owns and occupies a fine homestead in Humbolt Township, on section 22, of which he took possession in the spring of 1871. He has eighty acres of good land, thoroughly drained with tile, and improved with substantial fences and good buildings.

He is regarded as a skillful and enterprising farmer, and a man taking a genuine interest in the welfare of the people around him. He has served as School Director for fifteen years, and Overseer of Highways eight years. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party.

The subject of our sketch was born May 6, 1841, in the Kingdom of Hanover, which is now a Province of Germany, and was the fourth child of his parents, John G. and Anna Adaline (Linder-mann) Mohlenhoff, also natives of the Fatherland, where they were married and reared a family. In the fall of 1871 they embarked on a sailing-vessel from Bremen, and after a tedious ocean voyage landed in New York City. Thence shortly afterward they proceeded westward, and taking up their abode in this county, purchased forty acres of improved land on section 15, Humbolt Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. The father only survived about six years, his death taking place in June, 1876. The mother died a few years later. Both were active members of the Lutheran Church, and are remembered by their children as people of the highest moral worth and entitled to their entire respect and affection. The household circle included William, Mary E.; Henry, of our sketch; Anna and Elizabeth; the eldest child died in infancy. The paternal grandfather of our subject, John Mohlenhoff, was also a native of Hanover, where he married and spent his entire life. His five children were named respectively: Henry; John G., the father of our subject; Elizabeth, Dietrich and Catherine; all are now deceased. John G. was the only member of the family who emigrated to America.

Our subject, in accordance with the laws of his native country, received the advantages of the common school, pursuing his studies continuously until he was fourteen years of age. Much of this time was spent at the home of his uncle, Dietrich Mohlenhoff, and at the age of fifteen he commenced working on the farm for himself, being thus employed four years, and until embarking for the United States. He landed in New York City in the spring of 1869, and thence proceeded south to Nashville, Tenn., where he engaged with his brother William in market gardening, for two and one-half

years. In the meantime he had accumulated a small sum of money, and in company with a partner, engaged in the grocery trade under the firm name of Peoples & Co. They continued together nearly two years, and then Mr. M. sold out his interest to his partner, to engage in the liquor trade. This, however, he also sold out shortly afterward, and then became clerk in a hotel at Nashville, where he continued until near the close of the late war. In 1865 he engaged as sutler's clerk in the 8th Kansas Infantry, until the regiment was mustered out of service. The following spring he rented a tract of land in Humbolt Township, of which he has since remained a resident. He has been greatly prospered in his farming transactions, and is accounted a reliable man and responsible citizen.

Mr. Mohlenhoff was united in marriage in this county, with Miss Mary B. Steelbarr, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride April 1, 1869. Mrs. M. was born May 2, 1852, in Adams County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Charles and Mary (Copes) Steelbarr, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ohio. The four children of this marriage were Anna; Charles W., who died in infancy; Frederick and Mary. Mr. M. and his eldest daughter, Anna, are members of the Lutheran Church.

OSCAR J. RICKETTS, a practical printer, publisher and editor of the *Ashmore Republican*, bears the distinction of being the youngest editor in the State. He was the founder of this journal, which was established March 27, 1886. The experiment of starting a newspaper in Ashmore after so many others had failed in the attempt, was one which required considerable nerve, and to be undertaken by a young man, even though his experience had been considerable in this line, indicated that he possessed more than ordinary self-reliance, and also a confidence in the respect of the people around him. He assured his friends in the business and social world that the *Republican* would continue as long as their patronage would warrant.

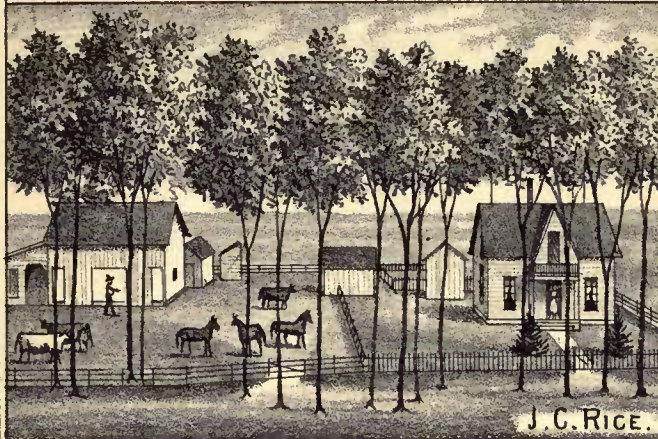
It was his aim to publish a clean and reliable journal, and a glance now at the files of the *Repub-*

lican would convince the casual observer that the expectations of its projector had been fully realized, for he believed in the intelligence of the community around him, and that nature had provided him with the tact and genius to administer to their wants in this direction. The *Ashmore Republican* was originally a four-column quarto, from which it grew in the space of less than six months to a seven-column folio. It steadily advanced in popular favor, and its circulation increased so rapidly that it was found necessary to add a new cylinder press to the already ample office outfit. The paper, in May, 1887, was again enlarged, and is now a five-column quarto.

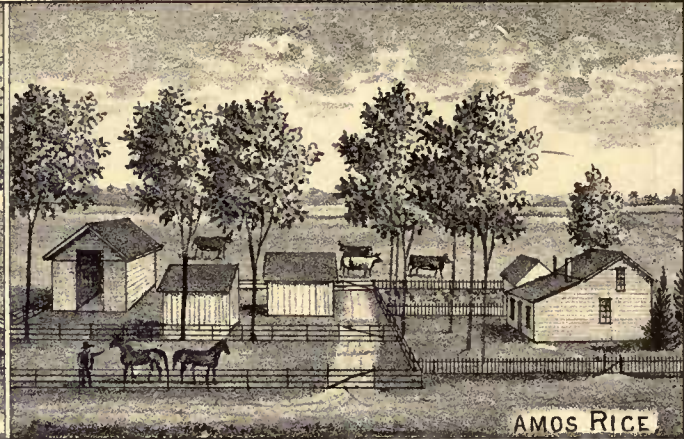
The subject of our sketch is a native of this county, born near the village of Loxa, July 14, 1868, and is the son of Joshua and Melvina (Jones) Ricketts. He shared the advantages of the common schools during his boyhood days, and afterward attended the Shenandoah Normal College, at Middletown, Va., where he received special literary training. At an early age he manifested great interest in the profession of journalism, becoming a regular reader of the weekly newspaper before he had reached the age of ten years. There were few public questions, especially of a political nature, which he could not discuss in an intelligent manner, and he became a regular contributor to the newspapers when scarcely fourteen years old, writing short sketches and stories which were often published in the periodicals devoted to young people. One in particular, a short story entitled, "My Recollections," which was written in 1884, for the *Northern Star*, a literary paper of Chicago, attracted considerable attention.

The first newspaper venture of Mr. Ricketts was the *Prairie Youth*, which he published a short time in May, 1884. Later he connected himself with the *Free Lance*, a literary and story paper published at Maywood, Ill. In June, 1884, he began to acquaint himself with the art of printing, in the office of the *Ashmore Citizen*, and on the 1st of September following, assumed editorial management of the paper, and conducted it during the Presidential campaign. He received great praise for the manner in which he dealt with his adversaries, and for the high moral tone of his journal.

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

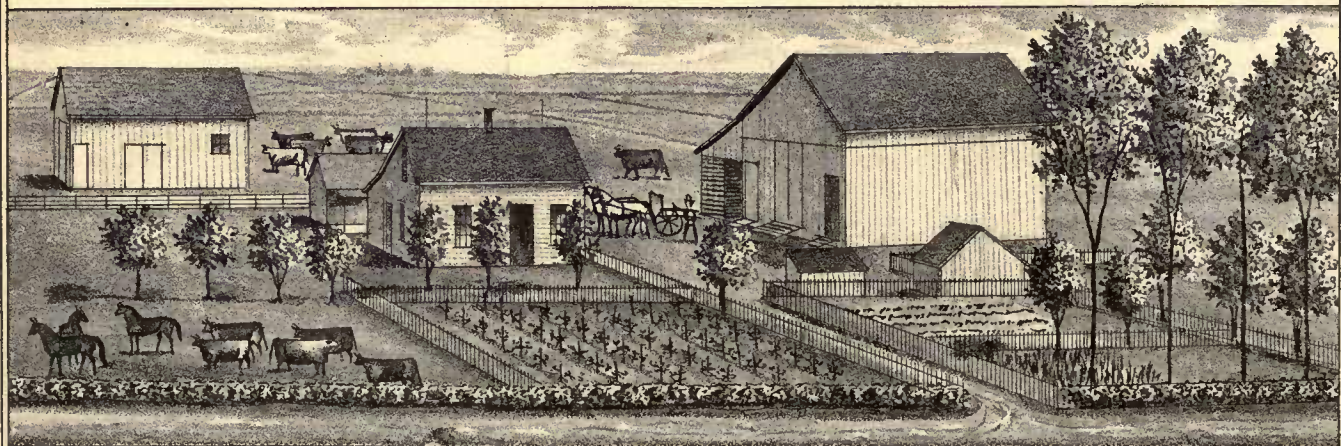


J. C. RICE.



AMOS RICE

RESIDENCES OF RICE BROS., SEC. 22, NORTH OKAW TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF LOUIS W.M. PFEIFER, SEC. 20, SEVEN HICKORY TOWNSHIP.

Mr. Ricketts was next connected with the *Charleston Herald*, and in March, 1886, returned to Ashmore and founded the *Republican*. He is a natural born journalist, a rapid and versatile writer, and whether upon social or political questions, gives expression to his opinions in a forcible manner, to which no sensible person can take offense, or fail to be convinced. Of late he has occupied himself principally with discussions upon the tariff, to which he has given deep study, viewing the questions connected therewith in all their bearings upon the business elements of the country. There is predicted for Mr. Ricketts a prosperous future and an enviable position among the journalists of the West.

WILLIAM D. SNOWDEN is one of the rising young men of Pleasant Grove Township, and a descendant of one of the pioneer families of Illinois. He was born Aug. 20, 1858, and is the son of John F. and Maria L. (Glenn) Snowden. The former was born Feb. 19, 1819, in Overton County, Tenn. When he was about nineteen years of age his parents, James and Elizabeth Snowden, left their Eastern home and moved to Illinois, settling in Cumberland County. He had been trained from boyhood in the details of farming, and Illinois was at that time giving promise of her future success as an agricultural State. He purchased land in Coles County, and in 1846 became a permanent citizen there. On the 3d of September, 1848, he was married to Miss Maria Glenn. Mrs. Snowden was born in Hardin County, Ky., Jan. 23, 1825, and is the daughter of James and Lydia (Harris) Glenn.

After his marriage, Mr. Snowden carried on a successful farming business in Pleasant Grove Township, where he passed the remainder of his life. He began the world poor, and by his own exertions acquired a fine estate, containing over 400 acres of valuable land, all of which is under cultivation. But the hardships and privations of pioneer life wore upon his physical constitution, and his life went out in the prime of manhood, his death occurring May 10, 1865. Mr. Snowden was

a man of great intelligence and force of character, and was interested in promoting the welfare of the community. He was a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and had held at different periods several official positions in the township. He was a Baptist in religious belief, although not outwardly connected with the church. His widow was early left to take the place of both mother and father to her young family of seven children, and well has she fulfilled the trust. She is still living, and resides on the old homestead. The names of her children are as follows: James F., Alvin C.; Joseph W. died at the age of twenty-two years; prior to his death he was a telegraph operator. Harriet E. is the wife of Thornton Gilman; William D., Thomas J. and Anna.

William D. Snowden received a thorough education at the common schools and graduated from Lee's Academy, June 22, 1882. Immediately after his graduation he began the study of law, and is now a student with Stevens, Lee & Horton, of Peoria, Ill. He is a young man of promising abilities in his profession. Life with all its possibilities yet lies before him, and he is one for whom all may predict a bright and prosperous career.

DANIEL MCCARTHY, retired farmer, and at present a resident of Charleston, was born on the other side of the Atlantic, in Ireland, in 1829. His parents, Patrick and Catherine (Shay) McCarthy, were natives of the same country, where they spent their entire lives. Patrick McCarthy was a farmer in easy circumstances, and the parental household included eight children, of whom but three are now living, namely, Cornelius, a resident of Mattoon; Daniel, of our sketch, and Jeremiah, also a resident of Charleston.

Our subject attended school until fourteen years old during the winter season, while in summer his services were utilized on the farm. After reaching his majority, not being satisfied with his prospects in his native land, he boarded a sailing-vessel at Liverpool, and after a voyage of over five weeks, landed at New Orleans, Dec. 20, 1851. He

remained in the Crescent City about six weeks, waiting to be joined by his brother, who had preceded him to America, and was employed on a steamboat on the Mississippi. After they met, both proceeded up the river to Cincinnati, whence they made their way to Chillicothe, Ohio, working on the railroad, at which they continued until the fall of that year, and then returned to Cincinnati, where, however, they remained but a short time, going to Terre Haute, Ind., where they were employed first on the railroad and afterward in the Park House. In the spring of 1854, Mr. McCarthy, accompanied by his brother, came to Paris, Edgar County, and for five months thereafter they were employed on the I. & St. L. R. R. Afterward they engaged on a farm east of the city of Charleston, and the following year were similarly employed near Mattoon and Charleston, in the latter a year.

Mr. McCarthy, although having no capital but his strong arms and his resolute will, decided to establish a home of his own, and was accordingly married, in 1856, to Miss Mary Downey, a native of his own country, and then a resident of Terre Haute, Ind. Mrs. McC. was the daughter of Daniel and Mary (O'Connor) Downey, and came with her parents to this country when a young woman. Mr. and Mrs. McC. became the parents of twelve children, eight now living, namely, Michael, Jeremiah; James, who married Miss Ella Kinney; Cornelius, Daniel, Katie, William and Ella.

Our subject after his marriage, continued to work on the railroad, in the meantime living economically and saving what he could of his limited earnings. In 1858, he was enabled to obtain possession of a moderately sized farm near Seven Hickory Township, on which he remained four years with ordinary success. Soon afterward he purchased the tract of land in Seven Hickory Township, which is now included in his present farm. This land was unimproved when it came into his possession, and for several years he was industriously engaged in its cultivation, and in instituting those conveniences and improvements required by the modern and progressive farmer. He invested his surplus capital in more land, until he became the owner of 320 acres, upon which he expended \$2,000 in tiling alone.

Upon deciding to abandon the farm, our subject placed it in the hands of tenants, and moved to a fine brick house on Washington street, in Charleston, which he had purchased, and which stands about two blocks from the county court-house. Here, amid the society of his children and friends, he is passing his declining years, enjoying the reward of his early industry, and the respect of all who know him. While in Hickory Township he served as School Trustee and Superintendent of road work, and since becoming a naturalized citizen, has uniformly given his support to the Democratic party. He was born and reared in the Catholic Church, and with his wife still adheres to his early faith.

SAMUEL F. LOGAN, the owner of a fine estate of 100 acres, located on section 25, Ashmore Township, is a native of Lincoln County, Ky., where he was born Oct. 4, 1830. He is the son of Allen and Martha (Givens) Logan, both of whom are natives of that county. He belongs to the famous Ben Logan family of Kentucky. Allen Logan was a blacksmith by trade, but was also a successful farmer. Kentucky has a high reputation as an agricultural State, its wheat, wool, cattle and thoroughbred horses having a world-wide reputation for their excellence.

Allen Logan was born in 1790, and his death occurred in 1862 after a long and useful life of seventy-two years. He was a member of the Old-School Presbyterian Church. His first wife died in 1834, and he was united in marriage the second time with Mrs. Green; a widow, who was also a native of Kentucky. By both marriages there were fifteen children, whose record is as follows: Sarah J., Rachael, James A., Alfonzo, Hugh, William P., Francis M., Hugh G., Martha A., Samuel F., Mary D., Pleasant W., M. D., Harriet E. and Mahala D.

Samuel F. Logan was twice married, first to Miss Martha A. Nevins, Feb. 4, 1858, who was born June 5, 1841, and died Oct. 7, 1870, leaving three children—William N.; Lizzie W., now Mrs. Moxham, and Minnie, the wife of Albert Rice. He

was married the second time in August, 1871, to Miss Armilda Galbreath. To this last marriage three children were born—James A., Hugh T. and Robert N.

Samuel Logan came to Illinois and purchased his farm in this township in 1864, and in the meantime brought his land to a high state of cultivation, his residence and farm buildings being among the best in the township. He is interested in public affairs, and has twice been elected Assessor of the township, giving entire satisfaction in the discharge of his duties. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and a warm advocate of temperance principles. In politics he belongs to the Democratic party.

WILLIAM MORGAN, a resident of the township which bears his name, is the son of David and Jane Morgan, of Kentucky, and was born in Sullivan County, Ind., in 1827, removing with his parents to Central Illinois in the spring of 1835. They located on what is now known as Greasy Creek, a tract of bottom land which the elder Morgan entered from the Government at \$1.25 per acre. He first improved 160 acres, then doubled the amount of his real estate, and at the time of his death was the owner of 360 acres. As one of the pioneer settlers of Coles County he was accorded that peculiar reverence and respect due those who came with courage into the wilderness and marked out a track for the later civilization.

The family of David Morgan was the third which settled in what is now known as Morgan Township. He died, however, before the county was organized into townships, the one in question being named after him on account of his sterling worth of character, and the efforts which he made to build up a homestead creditable to himself and his descendants. His nearest neighbor for many months was Mr. Parker, who had settled upon a tract of land now one-half mile from Charleston, which was a distance of twelve miles from the Morgan land.

The parents of our subject were married in Kentucky, and there was born to them one child in the

Blue Grass regions. The next one, David Morgan, born in Indiana, married Miss Catherine J., daughter of James Rodman, of Kentucky. The latter was a native of Ireland and emigrated to this country when a young man. He spent the balance of his life in the Blue Grass State, living to the advanced age of ninety years. Of his first marriage there were born three daughters and one son. By his second wife there were no children. He lived to see his children married and settled in good homes of their own, and was prominent among the affairs of his adopted county, where he followed the trade of a carpenter.

Our subject remained under the parental roof until twenty-one years of age, and soon afterward was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Shirra, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, who came to America with her parents when a child ten years of age. They soon afterward came to Central Illinois and located upon the place which is now occupied by our subject and his wife. Here the death of the parents took place, that of the father in 1851, and the mother in 1880. The former was fifty-one years old and the latter seventy-five. Mrs. Morgan was their only child. Of her union with our subject there have been born seven children, three now deceased: William D. is a physician, practicing largely in Morgan Township; Ralph Dollar is farming, as is also Alexander J., in this township; Josie Clay is at home with her parents.

Upon starting out in life Mr. Morgan received \$50 in cash from his father, with which he made the first payment on a tract of land in Morgan Township, which he owned until 1849, and then, selling out, purchased the land included in his present homestead. To this he added until he had 825 acres under his control, but after dividing among his sons and daughter there remained 320 acres, from which he receives a handsome income annually. A lithographic view of Mr. Morgan's residence and surroundings is shown in this work.

Mr. Morgan has been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Rardin since 1852, in which he has officiated as Elder for more than twenty years, and is Trustee at the present writing. His wife and daughter, Josie, belong to the same. Mrs. Morgan first united with the Methodist Episcopal

Church during her girlhood. Our subject has usually voted with the Democratic party, but reserves his right to vote for the candidate whom he considers best fitted for office, irrespective of party. His father, Dave Morgan, was also prominently identified with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which he officiated as Elder, and to the support of which he contributed according to his means.



JOHAN A. McCONNELL, editor of the Charleston *Plaindealer*, is a native of Cadiz, Harrison Co., Ohio, and was born Dec. 26, 1826. His parents, Michael and Susan (Gallagher) McConnell, were natives of Maryland and Ireland respectively. His grandfather, Alexander McConnell, was a native of Ireland, who emigrated to America when a young man, settling in Steubenville, Ohio, afterward removing to Jefferson County, where his death took place on the homestead. He was married and reared a family of six children. He possessed much mechanical genius, and was a very industrious man, and for a time was Deputy Sheriff of Jefferson County. He invested his accumulations in a good farm, of which he took possession and occupied the latter part of his life. His son, Michael, the father of our subject, learned house-painting and chair-making, which he followed for several years, and later engaged in the grocery business at Cadiz, Ohio, where he spent the last years of his life, and passed to his final rest in the summer of 1872. The mother survived her husband about three years, dying in November, 1875.

The subject of this sketch was the eldest of ten children born to his parents, and early in life exhibited unusual brightness, being able to read quite well when but four years of age. At this time he was afflicted with a disease of the eyes, and for four years was not allowed to look into a book, and in the meantime forgot nearly all he had learned, being obliged to begin over again at his letters. He remained at home during his childhood and youth, and for six or seven years was occupied in teaching, remaining under the parental roof until

his marriage, in 1861. The lady destined to share his future life was Miss Mary Quest, of Hummelstown, Pa., and their wedding took place in January, 1861. Our subject then engaged in the grocery trade at Cadiz, Ohio, for ten years following, then selling out, engaged in company with Hersey W. Kinsey, in the tannery business. They operated together until 1877, then sold out, and the following year Mr. McConnell came to Charleston and assumed his present position on the *Plaindealer*.

On the 14th of March, 1883, he met with a great affliction in the loss of his estimable wife, who died lamented by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. He was afterward married to Miss Martha A. Kennedy, daughter of M. H. and Catherine (Snider) Kennedy, of Ohio. They occupy a snug home on Washington street, and number among their friends and associates a large proportion of the refined and educated people of Charleston. Mr. McConnell writes and fights for Republican principles, and with his wife, is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The *Plaindealer* under his excellent management has become a paper much sought for by the people of Coles County, and exerts no small influence in the molding of public opinion.



WD. MOUNTJOY is proprietor of a meat-market and one of the prominent business men of Charleston. He was born Aug. 28, 1841, in Anderson County, near Frankfort, Ky., and is the son of George and Francis M. (Stout) Mountjoy, natives of that State. George Mountjoy passed his entire life in Kentucky, engaged in farming and stock-raising, and his death occurred there in 1864. His wife died in the autumn of 1886. They had a family of five children born to them.

W. D. Mountjoy was the eldest child, and passed his boyhood and youth on his father's farm, where he received a practical education. When the country became involved in the Civil War he relinquished all other plans, and enlisted Aug. 13,

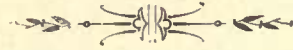
1862, in Co. M, 9th Ky. Vol. Cav. He fought bravely at the battle of Perryville, and in the autumn of that year had the misfortune to be taken prisoner in a skirmish on the Cumberland River at Horse-Shoe Bend. He was conveyed to Libby prison at Richmond, and confined there thirty-five days. During his incarceration he was allowed only two pints of bean-soup twice daily, and on this diet he lost thirty pounds of flesh. The cruel treatment of Northern prisoners during that period will ever remain a dark shadow upon the escutcheon of Southern chivalry.

After his release, young Mountjoy went to Annapolis, Md., and thence to Camp Chase, where he was exchanged and mustered out, having enlisted for twelve months. After his return to Kentucky, he was drafted, but had suffered so severely through his previous experience that he paid \$800 for a substitute. At this time he engaged quite extensively in buying and selling cattle and hogs, shipping his stock to Louisville, Ky. He continued this business several years, and in 1871 invested in land near Terre Haute, Ind., where he was engaged in farming until 1881. He then came to Charleston, and engaged in the grocery business, with T. J. Hutton, under the firm name of Hutton & Co. They continued this partnership two and a half years, when Mr. Mountjoy disposed of his interest in the firm and engaged in his present business. Mr. Mountjoy is a practical judge of stock, and his market is one of the best in the county.

In 1864 Mr. Mountjoy was married to Miss Virginia Scott. She is the only child of John and Martha (McCall) Scott, and was born in Kentucky, of which State her parents are natives, and where Mr. Scott is extensively engaged in the mercantile business. Mr. and Mrs. Mountjoy have a family of six children, whose names are as follows: Molly, Martha, Scott, Isabell, Gertie and Virginia. Molly, who married Oscar Kruzan, resides near Terre Haute, Ind., and has one child, George W. Martha married Thomas J. Cragg, and resides in Charleston.

In 1886 Mr. Mountjoy was elected to the office of School Director by the Democratic party, of which he is a staunch supporter. In 1864 he became a Mason and holds the office of Junior Deacon in

that fraternity. Mr. Mountjoy is one of the liberal-minded and progressive men of the county, and is interested in all measures tending to promote its welfare. His residence is on Jackson street.



WILLIAM SHOEMAKER, who has one of the best appointed stock farms in the central portion of Coles County, is located on section 36, of Humbolt Township, where he has 358 acres, including sixty of choice timber, a shapely and substantial farm residence, good barns and out-houses, and everything required for the successful prosecution of his calling.

Our subject is a native of Wythe County, Va., and was born Nov. 17, 1822. His parents, John and Anna (Brown) Shoemaker, were natives of North Carolina, born near Gifford Court-House, where they were reared and married. They settled first in Wythe County, Va., where they resided until the spring of 1829, and thence removed to Washington County, Va. In the fall of 1834, they migrated to this county, where the father still followed his old-time occupation of farming, and where his death took place in 1843. The mother survived her husband thirteen years, dying in 1856.

Both parents were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which John Shoemaker occupied a prominent position. In all the relations of life he was distinguished by his uprightness and kindliness of heart, and when finally gathered to his fathers, was mourned as one whose place could not easily be filled. His family included nine children: Benjamin, Aaron, Susanna, Samuel, John and Elizabeth A. are all deceased; the three living are Matilda, the widow of Parker Woods, and a resident of this county; William of our sketch, and James, whose home is in this township.

Our subject passed his youth and boyhood after the manner of most farmer's sons, and when starting out in life for himself was married, May 20, 1846, to Miss Lucinda, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Highsmith) Woods. The parents of Mrs. S. were also natives of the Carolinas, whence they emigrated first to Kentucky and then to Illinois,

coming to this county in about 1825. Of this marriage there were born three children—James O., Dovy and Thornton. The first and last named are deceased, and the mother departed this life at the home of her husband, on the 1st of April 1869.

Mr. Shoemaker was afterward married to Mrs. Elizabeth Webster, the widow of Lawson Webster, of Kentucky, and daughter of William and Jane (Mitchell) Mason. Mrs. S. by her first husband became the mother of two children, Alice J., and William L., both now deceased. Of her marriage with our subject there are no children. Mrs. Shoemaker was one of seven children born to her parents, namely, John K., deceased; Elizabeth, William, Killis M., Charles R., Tabitha I. and Mary J.

Mr. and Mrs. S. are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and our subject, politically, affiliates with the Democratic party. He has held the office of Road Commissioner, and is a man of intelligence, whose opinions are generally respected.

LUCIAN DUNBAR, one of the proprietors of the *Charleston Courier*, is a native of this town. He was born Nov. 4, 1842, and is the son of Alexander P. and Susan F. (Mason) Dunbar, his father, a native of Kentucky, born in Flemingsburg, July 4, 1810, of Scotch ancestry, and his mother, a native of Harrisburg, Va., born Nov. 23, 1812, of English ancestry. They were married at Shelbyville, Ill., in 1836. Prior to his marriage with the mother of our subject, Alexander Dunbar had been married to Miss Ella Monroe, of Charleston, who lived but a short time after her marriage. She was a sister of Mrs. T. G. Chambers and John Monroe. The parents of our subject had a family of four sons and four daughters, namely, Mason A., Mary E., Imogene, Lucian, Albert P., Belle, Charles U. and Sue. Of these but three are living: Mary E., now Mrs. Lawrence, of Charleston, Ill.; Charles, also a resident of Charleston, and Lucian, of our sketch. The parents died in 1883, the mother on the 22d of February, and the father on the 22d of April.

Lucian Dunbar began attending school at an early age, and when thirteen years old entered the office of the *Charleston Courier* to learn the printer's trade. He remained there four years and then for a time engaged as a compositor on the *Gazette*, in Mattoon. Subsequently he returned to Charleston, and afterward visited the cities of Terre Haute, St. Louis, and Sullivan, Ill., occupying himself at his trade. In the latter place he engaged with the *Express* for a year, and then returning to Charleston purchased, in company with his brother Albert, the *Plaindealer*, becoming its proprietor in 1866. They continued the publication of the paper until the death of his brother in 1875, and for three years following Mr. D. conducted it alone. In 1878 he sold out to M. A. McConnell & Co., and for two years afterward was engaged in the grocery business. He seemed out of his element, however, in this branch of the business world, and finally returned to the "art preservative."

Mr. Dunbar was married, Oct. 27, 1875, to Miss Mary L., daughter of David L. and Elvira (Sites) Stowers, of Kentucky, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride's grandfather at Palmyra, Mo., the parents of Mrs. D. being dead. The four children born of this union are, Imogene, Stowers, Cadet and Christina, all at home. Mr. Dunbar is liberal in his religious views, and in politics, strongly Democratic. He has held the office of City Treasurer two terms, and his paper has become one of the indispensable features of his town. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Charleston Lodge No. 35, and is also a K. of P., identified with Syracuse Lodge No. 143. He stands high in both societies, and as a business man and citizen, enjoys the unqualified respect of his fellow-townsmen.

WILLIAM D. BUSBEY, a retired farmer, now a resident of Oakland Village, and whose portrait is shown in this connection, is a native of the Buckeye State, and was born in Clarke County, Dec. 28, 1820. He is the son of Hamilton and Sophia (Lewis) Busbey, natives of Virginia, whence the former emigrated to Ohio in 1815, and farmed there until 1839. He then came

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



John Poirson



Mr. D. Busby

overland to this county with horse-teams, and locating in East Oakland Township, experienced all the vicissitudes of pioneer life, and labored with his neighbors to build up a comfortable homestead. For several years after he came here, he was obliged to transport his farm produce by teams to Terre Haute, Ind. He did not live to old age, but died in his prime, Dec. 16, 1847. The mother died in April, 1855.

The parental family included the following children: Thomas C., Susan M., Almira, Hamilton, Hiatt, Ann, John, Samuel, Maria, Eveline, Washington, Henry C., and William D., our subject. Of these, nine are still living. In 1882, there was a family reunion at Arcola, Douglas County, in which eleven of the sons and daughters participated. Two have since died. It was a memorable event, both for the family and for the people who knew them.

Our subject came to this county with his parents in 1839, and remained under the home roof until reaching his majority, in the meantime acquiring a limited education in the district schools. He was studious, however, and fond of his books, and fitting himself for a teacher, followed this employment two years. In 1845, when twenty-four years of age, he formed a matrimonial alliance with Miss Letitia Black, who was a native of Indiana, born in 1824, and came to Illinois with her parents in 1828. After becoming the mother of three children she departed this life in the spring of 1855, and her remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Oakland. The children of this marriage were: Josiah H., now a resident of Oakland; Milton T., in Wyoming Territory, and William L., who is engaged at farming in Oakland. Josiah H. Busbey entered the army in 1863, and participated in many of the battles of the late war. He marched with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea, and up through the Carolinas, and when the war was ended received his honorable discharge, as one who had performed his duties as a soldier in a brave and creditable manner.

Mr. Busbey was the second time married, Feb. 23, 1860, to Mrs. Margaret (Newman) Milbolland, widow of Allison Milbolland, and daughter of Alexander and Margaret Newman. Her parents came

from Tennessee to this county when she was a child of seven years, and located on a tract of land in East Oakland Township, where they built up a good home and spent the remainder of their lives. Mrs. B. was born in Tennessee, Dec. 18, 1826, and by her union with our subject became the mother of three children, of whom only one, a son, Francis M., survives. Eveline died in infancy, and Carlton when about twelve years of age, in 1878.

Mr. Busbey, in about 1859, embarked in the harness business, which he followed for nearly thirty years. During this time he lived on a farm of eighty acres near the village of Oakland, where he still resides, surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. With his estimable wife he is a member in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which he has officiated as Elder since 1848. He was a great Sunday-school worker in his more active days. Politically, he votes the Republican ticket.

JOHN POORMAN, one of the honored pioneers of Coles County, is passing the sunset of life in peace and plenty at his home in the village of Humbolt, surrounded by the care and affection of the friends who have known him for so long as a man worthy of their respect and esteem. The history of this long and worthy life, necessarily brief in a work of this kind, is essentially as follows:

Mr. Poorman, a native of Lycoming County, Pa., was born Oct. 4, 1806, and was the third child in a family of eleven, the offspring of Peter and Jane (Sturges) Poorman. Peter Poorman, also a native of the Keystone State, was a shoemaker by trade, and at the same time being fond of rural life, carried on a farm in Lycoming County. The mother was the daughter of Amos Sturges, a native of England, who married and reared a family in his native country. He emigrated to this country and located on the Susquehanna. After the marriage of his daughter, he moved to Canada, and there spent the remainder of his life.

John Poorman, in common with his brothers and sisters, was reared on the farm, his education being conducted mostly during the winter season in the

district school. At twenty-three years of age, as the first step toward starting out in life for himself, he was married, Feb. 4, 1830, to Miss Sarah Dunn, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Lycoming County, Pa. Mrs. P. was the daughter of William and Lydia (Baird) Dunn, also natives of the Keystone State. The young people located first upon a rented farm, which they occupied six years, and then decided to emigrate West. Coming into this county, our subject purchased a large tract of land, embracing about 502 acres. He located here in the spring of 1836, when the country around was thinly settled, there being but five or six families within as many miles. The nearest markets were at Chicago, St. Louis and La Fayette, Ind., which were reached overland with teams. Even five years later, in 1841, money was so scarce that people seldom saw a dollar, and much less thought of handling money in the course of their business transactions. Of the settlers of that time not one now remains to keep our subject company, and while he has marked with intense interest and satisfaction the development and progress of his adopted State, he sometimes heaves a sigh of regret for the old scenes, the old faces, and the old friends, who, in common with him, labored to build up a home and make for themselves a position of which their children should not be ashamed.

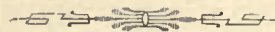
Mr. Poorman cultivated his farm to the best of his ability until the Illinois Central Railroad was completed, which made things better for everybody, for farmers as well as travelers. Transportation was now cheaper and more rapidly effected, and the stock and produce repaid better the efforts of the husbandman. Our subject had been prospered in his labors, and in 1872 wisely resolved to retire from active life and give place to younger and stronger men. He purchased a snug home in the village of Humbolt, where he has since resided. His wife, the faithful companion of his toils and the sympathizer in all his plans and undertakings, departed this life in August, 1877. Their union had been blest by the birth of seven children, viz., Daniel, born Dec. 10, 1830; Lydia Ann, July 31, 1832; Peter M., June 30, 1834; Jane Ellen, Aug. 27, 1836; Rebecca Amanda, Nov. 16, 1839; William Allison, March 7, 1842; John Franklin, Oct. 1,

1851. Of these only two survive—William A., a farmer of Mattoon Township, living not far from his father, and John F., who is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Poorman was married the second time, in December, 1879, to Mrs. Margaret J. McClaren, daughter of James and Hannah S. (Vanada) Savage, and widow of William McClaren. Mrs. P. was born in Wayne County, Ohio, July 12, 1839, and came with her parents to Indiana when that State was almost a wilderness, and wolves and other wild animals were plenty. She remained under the parental roof until her first marriage, and with her husband became a resident of Indiana.

Mr. Poorman was early recognized as a man of more than ordinary ability, and soon after coming to Mattoon Township was appointed to the various positions of trust within the gift of his fellow townsmen. He has held nearly all the local offices in the county, and there are few enterprises tending to the good of his community in which he has not taken an active and leading part. When a young man he identified himself with the old Whig party, but after its abandonment cast his lot with the Democrats. Mr. and Mrs. Poorman are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which they have been earnest workers for many years. The life of our subject presents the pleasant picture of a man whose days have been well spent, and whose record will be perused by his descendants with pride and satisfaction.

It is with pleasure we give his portrait in this work, knowing that it will be welcomed by all who know him, and will, in connection with this personal narrative, serve as a means of perpetuating his memory when he shall have been gathered to his fathers.



DR. W. D. MORGAN, a rising young physician of this county, is the descendant of a prominent pioneer family, and resides in the village of Rardin, Morgan Township. He was born Oct. 8, 1856, in this township, which received its name in honor of his grandfather, David Morgan, one of the early settlers of this county in 1835. David Morgan was a farmer

and stock-grower in Indiana prior to his removal to Illinois. He was active and enterprising in business, and identified himself with the new and rapidly developing community into which he moved, and with his family aided in building up the political and social interests of the township. His death occurred here in 1860.

Dr. Morgan is the son of William Morgan, who was born Dec. 13, 1827, in Sullivan County, Ind. He was eight years of age when his parents removed to Illinois. The country was then little more than an unbroken wilderness inhabited by Indians, and the home of the wolf, deer and other wild animals, and from his home in the northern part of what is now Morgan Township to within a half mile of Charleston, a distance of twelve miles, there was not a single habitation. William Morgan married Miss Margaret Shirra, Sept. 6, 1850. Mrs. Morgan was born in Glasgow, Scotland, May 28, 1835. Immediately after his marriage Mr. Morgan engaged in farming for himself, in which he has been very successful. The homestead contains 320 acres in other parts of the township.

Dr. Morgan passed his boyhood and youth at home, assisting his father on the farm in the summer and attending school in the winter until he was twenty years of age. His father, who was brought up in the pioneer days and suffered from the limited educational advantages of that period, spared no pains in the education of his family. Dr. Morgan attended school two years at Oakland and in 1874 studied one year at the Iowa University in Keokuk. In 1875 he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Peak, who was graduated by a medical college in Philadelphia and one in St. Louis. In the autumn of the following year he entered the Chicago Medical College, where he remained three years, applying himself closely to the study of his chosen profession, and was graduated in 1879.

Immediately after his graduation Dr. Morgan began the practice of medicine in Rardin, and on the Christmas Day following, his marriage to Miss Florence Jeffrey took place. Mrs. Morgan was born in Rockford, and is the daughter of John and Mary M. (Lombaker) Jeffrey. She is a charming and accomplished lady, and a graduate of the Rockford Sem-

inary. Her only brother, Arthur, is engaged in the lumber business in Chicago. Mr. Jeffrey's family is of English extraction. He was a skillful machinist and had charge of the machine-shops at Rockford for twenty-six years. His wife died in 1880, and after the marriage of his daughter he came to Rardin to live with her, but after remaining a year missed the home scenes and faces and returned to Rockford, where his death occurred in 1886, at the age of seventy-four. He was a highly esteemed member of the Methodist Church, and had been a Deacon for five years prior to his death. In politics he was a Republican.

Dr. Morgan owns his residence and office in Rardin. He keeps a full line of drugs for his own use in the practice of his profession, and has a valuable medical library, comprising all of the best authors. He is a constant student and reader, keeping himself well informed in regard to all the recent discoveries in medical science and the current literature of his profession, recognizing the great fact that to excel one must always keep learning. By his energy and skill he has built up a fine and constantly increasing practice in Rardin and throughout the surrounding country. He is a member of the Coles County Medical Association, and with his wife is a prominent member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. A view of the handsome residence of Dr. Morgan is shown elsewhere in this work.



GREEN BERRY MARTIN. The history of this worthy resident of Humbolt Township is substantially as follows: He is a native of Vanderburg County, Ind., and was born Nov. 26, 1820, being the fifth of a family of eleven children, the offspring of Berry and Deborah (Cook) Martin, natives of South Carolina. The paternal grandfather of our subject, William by name, was a farmer by occupation, and served in the Revolutionary War. After the independence of the Colonies had been established he located in Georgia, where he carried on agriculture successfully and raised a fine family of sons and daughters. Among these his son Berry removed first to Georgia and

thence to Indiana, where he continued a resident of Vanderburg County the remainder of his life. The mother of our subject was the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Cook, of South Carolina, where she was born and reared. Her marriage to Berry Martin took place in Georgia.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm in the wilds of Vanderburg County with no advantages for education. He was trained, however, to habits of industry, and when twenty-two years of age set out in life for himself, the most important step being his marriage with Miss Elizabeth Barrett. Mrs. M. was the fourth child of Isaac and Lucy (Fowler) Barrett, of Alabama, who in their youth removed with their parents to Indiana and were married in Warrick County. Our subject and his young wife began life together on a farm in Vanderburg, whence he afterward removed to Warrick County and thence to Gentryville, Spencer County, where he engaged to learn tanning and shoemaking. Of these trades he became master, and followed them in that locality for sixteen years. He invested his surplus capital afterward in 120 acres of land with several town lots. He also engaged in merchandising, but this not proving successful soon abandoned it.

After the outbreak of the late war Mr. Martin enlisted with the three-months' men, but on account of an overplus of volunteers his regiment was sent home without seeing any active service. In the fall of 1861, he sold out his property in Spencer County, and coming to this county purchased eighty acres of railroad land on section 34, in Humbolt Township, where he took up his abode with his family. A year later, however, he sold his property and purchased a farm in the southern part of the county. He had occupied this about eight years, and then discovered a flaw in the title. In seeking to correct the error he lost the land entirely. Afterward he farmed on rented land seven or eight years, and then, in company with his son, purchased eighty-one and one-half acres on section 32, in Humbolt Township, where he has since resided. He has meddled very little with politics, but casts his vote in support of Republican principles.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin became the parents of ten

children, of whom one, Benjamin F., is deceased. Rachel married Franklin Lozier, and is residing on a farm in Humbolt Township; Eliza is the wife of John Morgan, a farmer residing in Iowa; Lucy, the wife of Louis Mullen, is a resident of Phillips County, Kan.; Caroline married Silas Morgan, and lives in Logansport, Ind.; Elizabeth married John Donnelly, a farmer of Humbolt Township; Deborah Ann, Newton Jasper, Caroline and William are at home with their parents; Newton Jasper is farming on his own account in Humbolt Township. The parents and children are all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

 **W** F. PURTILL, of the firm of Woods & Purtill, publishers of the *Mattoon Journal*, is a practical printer and has been connected with the *Journal* in various capacities for eighteen years, working first at the case, then becoming associated with Mr. Woods as equal partner. He has principal charge of the mechanical department, and the *Journal* under their management has attained to a creditable position among the newspapers of Central Illinois.

Mr. Purtill was born in Chicago, Ill., Nov. 19, 1848, and is the son of Richard and Ann (Fowler) Purtill, the former a native of Limerick, Ireland, and the latter of Jersey City, N. J. Richard Purtill left his native Erin in 1840, and settled first in Toronto, Canada, where he followed the trade of a boot and shoe maker, which he had learned of his father, Henry, on the other side of the water. He was one of two children born to his parents, the other child being a daughter, Matilda, who was married in Ireland, to William Kasan, and they afterward removed to Chicago, where her death took place in 1859.

Richard Purtill followed his trade in Canada until 1841, then, going to Chicago, engaged in pork-packing with his brother-in-law, Mr. Kasan. They continued together until 1855, and then Mr. Purtill engaged in the boot and shoe business at Middleport, until 1863, meeting with signal success. In the spring of the latter year he moved to Mattoon, but three years later took up his residence at Wat-

seka, where he remained until his death, in 1872. The mother is still living in the latter-named town. They were the parents of seven children, namely, Henry, William, Edward, James, Katie and Annie (twins,) and Mattie.

The younger days of our subject were spent mostly in school at Middleport, Ill., and when fifteen years of age he went into the office of the *Middleport Press* to learn the printer's trade. After eighteen months he took up his residence in Mattoon, where he became connected with the *Gazette* office, in which he continued until 1867. In the spring of that year he went into the *Journal* office as a journeyman, remaining until 1872, then returned to the *Gazette*, continuing until 1875, and five years later, in 1880, became connected with the *Journal*, with which he has since remained.

The marriage of W. F. Purtill and Miss Lizzie, daughter of John Owens of Mattoon, took place at the home of the bride, Oct. 19, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. P. have two children—Carl and Florence.

JAMES R. HONN is one of the rising young farmers of Coles County, residing on section 8, Oakland Township. He was born in this county Nov. 20, 1860, and is the son of Samuel D. and Hannah (Shront) Honn. His parents were natives of Kentucky, where his father was born in 1819, and his mother in 1816. They are living in Kansas, Edgar County, where his father is now a retired farmer. They have always been interested in promoting the cause of religion and are members of the Christian Church. A family of nine children was born to them, whose record is as follows: Andrew E., deceased in infancy; Sarah E., the wife of Thomas J. Kiskadon; George A., married to Miss Florence A. Childers; Anna J., married James M. Ashmore; William K. married Miss Melinda Childers; Melissa H. married James E. Steel; John D. married Miss Ida A. Geyer; James R., the subject of this sketch, and Samuel J., who died at the age of twelve years.

James R. Honn passed his boyhood and youth on his father's farm, receiving an excellent common-school education, and is now conducting a farm

containing ninety acres, belonging to his father. The rising generation who are enjoying the improved methods of agriculture can hardly imagine or realize the hardships and disadvantages under which their predecessors labored in the pioneer days. Our subject was married, Oct. 13, 1886, to Miss Mary L. Zimmerman. Mrs. Honn is the daughter of John B. and Elizabeth (Barnes) Zimmerman, and was born in this State Feb. 17, 1861.

Mr. Honn is just beginning his career in life, with every promise of prosperity and success. He has been a member of the Christian Church nine years, and his wife is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. In politics he uniformly casts his vote with the Democratic party.

WILLIAM MYERS has been a resident of Coles County since the spring of 1863, when he emigrated with his father's family from Hendricks County, Ind. He was born in Miami County, Ohio, April 30, 1844, and is the son of Amos Myers, a native of Hamilton County. His mother, Lydia (Sutphon) Myers, was a native of New Jersey, whence she removed early in life to Northern Ohio, where her parents were among the earliest settlers. The parents of our subject continued residents of the Buckeye State until 1849, and then emigrated to Hendricks County, Ind., when they followed farming until 1863. Amos Myers then determined to push still further Westward, and coming to this county purchased 152 acres of land in Charleston Township, which he operated upon until the fall of 1878. Being then well advanced in years he wisely determined to abandon active labor, and removing to the city of Charleston, lived there in retirement until his death, which occurred in January, 1884, after he had passed his seventy-third birthday. The wife and mother had preceded her husband to the silent land in 1865, leaving seven children, of whom the record is as follows: Irvin M. is engaged in the grocery business at Indianapolis; Catherine, and Elma, now Mrs. Feagan, are residents of Charleston; William is living in Charleston Township; Mary is deceased; Henry is farming in Osage County, Kan.; Sarah, the

wife of David W. Hall, is a resident of Sangamon County, Ill.

William Myers was a child of five years when his father removed from Ohio to Indiana. He remained a member of the parental household, coming with the family to Illinois in 1863, and assisted his father and brothers in tilling the soil. Later he varied his occupation for a couple of years, and engaged in butchering. He continued on the homestead after the parents had retired to Charleston, and is now the possessor of 153 acres under a good state of cultivation. Of late years he has dealt quite extensively in live-stock, and is considered one of the representative and enterprising farmers of this locality.

The marriage of William Myers and Miss Priscilla B., daughter of David and Harriett C. Stites, took place at the home of the bride in Charleston Township, Sept. 26, 1882. The result of this union has been two children—Walter A. and Mary C. Our subject, politically, is a genuine Republican and has held the local offices of his township. He was brought up in the Methodist faith, which was the faith of his parents, and has been connected with that denomination since eighteen years of age. In all the relations of life, as a husband, father, citizen and business man, his course has been creditable in the extreme and worthy of imitation.



WILLIAM H. PULESTON, deceased. The early home of this gentleman was across the sea in Carmarthen, South Wales, where his birth took place on the 28th of March, 1849. He was the son of John and Sarah (Phillips) Puleston, the former an Englishman by birth, who followed the sea from early youth. During one of his voyages he formed the acquaintance of Miss Sarah Phillips, who was a native of his own town, where they were married.

The subject of this sketch was the third child of his parents, and when he was about eighteen months old they removed to London. When three and one-half years of age he went upon the streets of London as a newsboy, following this until ten years old. His father was still on the water and his

mother kept a news stand in the great city. At this time John Puleston, becoming wearied of his arduous duties, decided to emigrate to America. One fine morning in the spring of 1858, he embarked with his family on a sailing-vessel at Liverpool, and after a voyage of twelve weeks, landed in New York City. Thence they proceeded directly westward, and settled in Odin, Marion County, Ill., where the father purchased a tract of land and where he farmed for many years. He was successful in his New World adventure, and is now retired from active life, living at his ease in the little city of Odin. He still retains possession of his farm property.

William Henry Puleston remained on the farm with his parents until nineteen years of age, in the meantime having pursued quite a thorough course of study in the public schools. He was now sent to the Normal School at Carbondale, and being fond of his books and ambitious to excel, soon qualified himself for the duties of a teacher. This he pursued until his marriage, July 19, 1870. The lady chosen to share his fortunes was Miss Rebecca, the sixth child of Elisha and Rebecca (Sawyer) Linder, a sketch of whom will be found on another page in this volume. The young people located on a farm in Mattoon Township, upon which Mr. Puleston labored in the summer season and followed his profession in the city schools in winter.

In 1871 our subject took up his residence near Dalton City, in Macon County, where he purchased eighty acres of land which he occupied for nearly five years, managing as before, teaching in winter and pursuing agriculture the balance of the year. He sold this property in 1876, and returned to Coles County, locating upon eighty acres which he had purchased in Mattoon Township. Here he put up a neat cottage, and prepared to establish a permanent home, being employed as heretofore. Failing health, however, forced him to leave the farm and seek a different climate. In June, 1885, he crossed the Mississippi and going into Colorado, located at a point near the Greenhorn Mountains, in Pueblo County. Here he began his favorite old occupation as a teacher, and his family joined him after harvest. A few months later his

weakened condition obliged him to abandon his school, which, however, was carried on by his excellent wife. He fought hard for his life, but consumption had seized upon him with its relentless grasp and he passed away on the 6th of January, 1886. The bereaved wife at once prepared to return to Illinois, and brought his remains to be laid at rest near his old home in Dodge Grove Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Puleston were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which the former had been an active Sunday-school worker and efficient Superintendent for several years. He is greatly missed in his family and in his neighborhood, where his kindly disposition and excellent qualities of heart had endeared him to all. His three living children are Elisha Thomas, John Samuel and William Henry, all at home with their mother. The only daughter, Mary Rebecca, died when one month old.



STEPHEN DEXTER DOLE, deceased. The name which stands at the head of this sketch is that of a prominent and deeply lamented citizen of Mattoon, Coles County. Mr. Dole was the son of Enoch and Harriet (Dexter) Dole, whose personal history appears elsewhere in this work. He was born Dec. 23, 1813, in New Bedford, N. H., and when a child went with his parents to Terre Haute, Ind., where he grew to manhood, and with his two brothers engaged in the livery business. This subsequently led to their engaging in stock-dealing, after their removal to Illinois, and still later, the three brothers became land-owners in this county, where Mr. Dole permanently settled in about the year 1850, on section 7, Mattoon Township. The three brothers lived together, and were successful in business, sharing their prosperity, and holding their possessions in common, until about 1875. The property was then divided, and the old homestead fell to Stephen Dexter's lot, and he occupied it until his death.

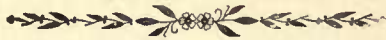
November 23, 1853, Stephen Dexter was married to Mrs. Emily J. Ogden. Mrs. Dole was the

widow of Michael Ogden, by whom she had three children—Nancy A., James P. and Sarah E. James is now dead, and the daughters are both married—Nancy A. the wife of Dr. Lloyd, and living in Missouri, and Sarah E. the wife of William A. Rush, a farmer residing near Mattoon. Mrs. Dole is the daughter of Daniel and Nancy (Orchard) Tipton, natives of Kentucky, where their daughter Emily was born, near Mt. Sterling, March 8, 1823. Her parents removed to Illinois in about 1832, and were among the early settlers near Mattoon. Mr. Tipton was identified with the early history of the State, and served in the Black Hawk War. He resided in the eastern part of the State during the remainder of his life, and died in 1871, in his seventy-fifth year.

After his marriage, Mr. Dole settled on section 7, of this township, where his widow now resides. The land at that time was all wild, uncultivated prairie, no fences even having been made between their farm and the town. Mr. Dole was distinguished for activity and enterprise, and was among the first to aid in establishing the city of Mattoon. He became the principal owner of its banking institutions, and with his brothers assisted in the erection of the public buildings which bear their name. Mr. Dole was the fortunate possessor of a vigorous physique, and pushed his business enterprises with as much earnestness at the age of seventy-two as at any period of his life. Mr. and Mrs. Dole had a family of four children, only two of whom are now living. Their names are as follows: Mary, Frances, Joseph E. and William C. Joseph and William both died in childhood. Since her father's death, Mary has become the wife of D. H. Oblinger, a druggist of Mattoon. She spends every summer at the homestead, in order to cheer the loneliness of her widowed mother.

Mr. Dole's death occurred March 18, 1885, at his country residence, leaving it indeed desolate and sorrowful. His death cast a gloom over the business and social circles of the city, where his uprightness, integrity of character, and genial courtesy had won a large circle of friends. In private life he was a faithful friend, a kind father and devoted husband, and will be mourned by his family until the home circle is reunited beyond the grave.

Mr. Dole was a member of the Universalist Church, and in his daily life practiced the precepts of his faith. His widow resides at the homestead and conducts the farm, with the aid and counsel of her daughters. Her home is tasteful and elegant, and she is passing the closing years of her life surrounded by the comforts acquired by a long life of activity and usefulness.



JOHN HENDRIX, a prosperous farmer residing in Paradise Township, is a worthy descendant of one of the pioneer families of Illinois. He was born Nov. 28, 1809, in Bath County, Ky., and is the son of Jacob and Catherine (Thompson) Hendrix. His paternal grandfather was Abraham Hendrix. He was a native of Pennsylvania, and married a Miss Goodwin, of Virginia. The maternal grandparents were natives of Virginia.

Jacob Thompson was born in Pennsylvania, but his family left their home in that State, and removed to Kentucky in the early days, when Daniel Boone established himself there, and was followed by many hardy and adventurous pioneers from the Eastern States. Mr. Hendrix was engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout his entire life, and struggled successfully with the many privations and disadvantages of frontier life. He became the owner of a fine farm, which by industry and energy he finally brought to a high state of cultivation, and was one of the leading citizens of the county where he resided. He subsequently moved to Ohio, and after remaining there two years came West again to Indiana. He made the latter place his home until 1842, and thence moved to Iowa, where his death occurred soon after. His widow returned to the old home and friends in Indiana, where she died in 1846.

John Hendrix remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age, assisting his father on the farm during the summer and attending the old log school-house of the primitive days during the long, cold winters. The educational advantages of that period were exceedingly limited, but John was a bright, intelligent boy, and acquired much general

information and practical knowledge. On beginning the world for himself he obtained his first work among the farmers in the vicinity of his home, and remained in that neighborhood until he was twenty-eight years of age, at which time his marriage with Miss Nancy Goar took place. Mrs. Hendrix was the daughter of Clement and Elizabeth (Hart) Goar. Her parents were natives of Hardin County, Ky., but removed from that State at an early day, and settled in Illinois, where Mr. Goar still lives near Jacksonville, having reached the advanced age of ninety-one years. Mrs. Hendrix died Oct. 23, 1854, leaving a family of seven children, whose names are as follows: George W., Miles H., Iredell W., Samuel S., Martha E., Hiram H. and William C., all of whom are living with the exception of George, who lost his life in the service of his country during the Civil War.

In 1855 Mr. Hendrix was again married, taking for his wife Miss Eliza Ann Hart, the daughter of Miles H. and Catherine (Yokum) Hart, the former a native of North Carolina and the latter of Kentucky. Three children were born to them—Elizabeth P., Thomas S. and Nancy C., all of whom are living. Their children with one exception are all married. Miles married Miss Georgiana Hayes; Iredell W. married Miss Jane Payton; Samuel married Miss Sally E. Love; Martha E. became the wife of James R. Boone. Mr. Boone is a prosperous farmer residing in Utica, Seward Co., Neb. He and his wife are mutes, but are well educated and intelligent, and have two bright, interesting children. Hiram H. married Miss Laura A. Groves; William married Miss Alice Spellman; Elizabeth became the wife of Wilson G. Hart, and Nancy is the wife of William Surber.

April 26, 1837, Mr. Hendrix made his first landed investment in Illinois, purchasing 170 acres of wild land on section 10, Paradise Township, to which he subsequently added thirty acres, upon which he has resided for the past fifty years. The first settlement of the county had been made but a few years previous, and brave hearts and willing hands were required to struggle successfully with the hard, rough life of the pioneer days. Cold and hunger were not the least of the difficulties to be encountered, and fathers and mothers bitterly

regretted the educational privileges of which their children were deprived. School-houses were few and remotely scattered over the vast stretches of prairie, and their children were often compelled to struggle through the bitter cold and heavy snow of winter for several miles before reaching the nearest log school-house, where the barest rudiments of education could be obtained. But among the pioneers of the early days were brave men and noble women, who accepted patiently and courageously the hardships and trials of frontier life. Mr. Hendrix having come here at so early a day, has had the pleasure of witnessing the development of the country from an almost unbroken wilderness to its present state of prosperity; he has aided in making its history, and the trials and struggles of those early days now

"shine at last
Through memory's sunset air,
Like mountain ranges overpast
In purple radiance fair."

Mr. Hendrix and his family have always been interested in promoting measures calculated to improve the political and moral status of the county. With his wife he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has served for many years as a Trustee. They have both been earnest workers in the church, and the Christian influence of their daily lives has extended throughout the community. Mr. Hendrix has never sought political preferment, but always votes with the Republican party.

WILLIAM F. HORTON, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser, residing in Pleasant Grove Township, and an honorable representative of one of the pioneer families of the State, was born on the 31st of January, 1824, in Bradford County, Pa. His father, Isaac J. Horton, was a native of Maryland, born March 11, 1792. Early in life he left his Eastern home and removed to Pennsylvania where he engaged in farming, and where his marriage to Miss Ruthem Ferguson took place. In 1836 he resolved to emigrate to Illinois, and accordingly procured a team, and with his wife and young family started on the long overland journey. The roads were rough, and in many

places almost impassable, and there were vast stretches of lonely prairie to be traversed before their destination should be reached. The Black Hawk War had been successfully closed a few years previously, but fear still lurked in the hearts of many white settlers, and they frequently shivered with dread at the thought of Indian atrocities, which had been committed so recently on the Western frontier. But the little band arrived safely, worn by the wearisome journey, but in good health and prepared to encounter the perils and privations of pioneer life. They entered land in Coles County, but resided in Edgar County until the spring of 1837, when they settled in Pleasant Grove Township, where they passed the remainder of their lives.

To Isaac Horton and his wife a family of eight children were born, all of whom, with one exception, grew to maturity. Their record is as follows: Mary Ann, the wife of Jesse Beals; Amanda, the wife of Oliver Beals; Isaac died Aug. 23, 1850, while crossing the plains on his way to California; Richard and William (twins); Ruthem, the wife of Mr. Gray, a resident of Randolph County, N. C.; Miner, deceased, served as a soldier in the 5th Illinois Cavalry; Richard was a soldier in the 5th Illinois Cavalry, and died at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., in 1863. Isaac Horton was a Democrat in politics, but his wife belonged to a Whig family, and was so imbued with the doctrines of that party that all of her sons concurred with her political opinions, rather than those of their father. They were members of the Presbyterian church. The father died June 9, 1863, and his wife, who was born Aug. 10, 1795, died Aug. 1, 1859.

William Horton was reared on his father's farm, and although the advantages for education were limited in the pioneer days, he gained a practical education, which has served him through life. Feb. 1, 1849, he was married to Miss Emeline Dryden, the daughter of William and Abigail (Henderson) Dryden. Mrs. Horton was born Sept. 15, 1821, in Bedford County, Tenn., and was ten years of age when she came with her parents to Coles County, in 1831.

After his marriage Mr. Horton entered land in Cumberland County, and was there engaged in

farming twelve years. He then returned to Coles County, and settled on the homestead, where he has since resided. His farm contains over 200 acres of valuable, well-improved land. Mr. and Mrs. Horton had a family of seven children, four of whom died in childhood. One daughter, the wife of Lewis McGinnis, died leaving two little girls. The names of those living are, Mary, who became the wife of Lewis McGinnis, her deceased sister's husband, and William D.

Mr. Horton was formerly a Republican. He is not actively interested in politics, and does not aspire to any official position. He is interested in the temperance cause, and is now a Prohibitionist. He possesses excellent business qualifications, and was one of the first engaged in the manufacture of molasses from sorghum in Coles County, carrying on an extensive business in that line. He is an Elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and is an earnest worker, both in the church and Sunday-school.



JOHAN W. KING, proprietor of a popular restaurant located at No. 46 East Broadway, Mattoon, is a descendant of one of the pioneers of Illinois. He was born Dec. 26, 1848, and is the son of William T. and Nancy (Hightower) King, the former a native of North and the latter of South Carolina. His great-grandfather served in the Revolutionary War. His paternal grandparents, Andrew S. and Hannah (Gaddess) King, were natives of North Carolina.

In early life Andrew King served in the War of 1812. He was a farmer, and in the year 1814, moved with his family to Shelby County, Tenn., where he remained engaged in farming until 1832, then coming to Montgomery County, Ill., entered Government land, which he cultivated and improved, and, together with his brave and self-sacrificing wife, encountered the perils and hardships of pioneer life on the Western frontier. He made this farm the homestead, and remained there until his death, which occurred in 1856, at the age of seventy-two. His wife died in 1852. His maternal grandparents, Sterling and Beersheba (Davis) Hightower, were natives of South Carolina. Mr. High-

tower was a teacher, and the family subsequently left their native State, and removed to Shelby County, Tenn., where they passed the remainder of their lives.

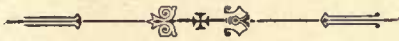
William T. King was born Aug. 13, 1805, and was nine years old when his parents moved to Tennessee. He received a practical education, and remained at home assisting his father in conducting the farm until he was twenty-six years of age. His marriage then took place, and the following year he came with his young wife to Illinois, where they were among the early settlers of Montgomery County, near Hillsboro. Mr. King entered Government land, which he cultivated and improved, and while struggling with the wilderness to advance the material prospects of his family, did not forget the higher interests of spiritual and mental culture. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and with his wife was an earnest worker in building up the cause of Christ in his Western home. He took a deep interest in educational affairs, and served several terms as School Director.

Mr. and Mrs. William King had a family of twelve children born to them, six of whom grew to maturity, but only three sons are now living. Their record is as follows: James A., a carpenter residing in Montgomery County, Ill.; John W., the subject of this sketch, and Thomas H., the proprietor of a restaurant in Champaign County, Ill. William King died at the old homestead where he had lived for more than a half a century, respected by all who knew him. His widow is now living at the home of her son, John W., in Mattoon, having reached the advanced age of seventy-four years. She has passed through many trials and vicissitudes, but her faith has ever rested upon Him who will not forsake her now that her head is crowned with gray hairs, and her life with many years.

John King attended school from the age of seven to fifteen, in the meantime assisting his father in conducting the farm. He remained at home until he reached the age of eighteen, and then for a time obtained employment on the neighboring farms. In 1871 he was married to Miss Melinda E. Hume. Mrs. King is the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Mason) Hume, and was born in Pike County, Ill. Mr. Hume was a farmer in this State,

and at the call of his country left his business and family to serve in the Civil War. He belonged to the 116th Illinois Regiment, and in 1864 died at a hospital in Chicago, of illness resulting from wounds and exposure while in the army.

Mr. King left his native county in 1873, and removed to Jacksonville, where he took charge of the farm and fine stock belonging to Mr. Goltrie. But his inclinations and business abilities did not lie in the direction of agricultural pursuits, and after remaining there two years he came to Mattoon, where he was employed by the I. & St. L. R. R. as fireman, for four years and six months. He was then promoted to the position of locomotive engineer, and remained with them until 1884, when he opened his present business, in which he has met with marked success. In 1886 Mr. King was elected Assistant Supervisor by the Democratic party, of which he is a member. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Mr. and Mrs. King are members of the Methodist Church, in which the former has been a Steward since 1886.



EDWIN W. BROWN, one of the successful farmers and stock-raisers of Ashmore Township, residing on section 11, was born July 4, 1855, in this township. His parents were William H. and Emily (Buck) Brown, natives of New York. William H. Brown was born in Onandaga County, N. Y., March 23, 1813. His parents moved to Kentucky when he was about four years of age, but not feeling satisfied there came to Lawrence County, Ill., a few years later. In 1825 they changed their location to Edgar County, Ill., and William H. was a mere boy when he assisted in building their log cabin out on the broad, lonely prairie, covered with long, rank grass and brilliant wild flowers, and scantily populated except by deer and wolves. He afterward became one of the early pioneers of this township, having come here in about the year 1839. Nov. 4, 1835, he was married to Miss Elizabeth McGahin. She was of Irish descent, and a native of Clark County, Ill., but their married life was of brief duration, the be-

loved wife and mother being taken from her home by death in 1838, at the age of twenty-five, leaving one son, William, born Jan. 10, 1837. When the smouldering flames of the Civil War broke out, this son, then grown to manhood, enlisted in the service of his country as Orderly Sergeant, and was killed Sept. 11, 1863, near Little Rock, Ark.

June 13, 1839, William H. Brown was united in marriage the second time, to a widow lady, Mrs. Emily (Olmstead) Buck. The following is the record of their family: John, Elizabeth; Harriet, who married James Bull; George W., who died at the age of seventeen; Charles F., who married Miss Elizabeth Timmons; Emma A., who died at the age of nineteen; James H.; Edwin W., who is the subject of this biography, and Francis A., who married Miss Maggie Myers. John, the first born of this family, also served in the Civil War, and although his life did not fall a sacrifice, he has since suffered severely from disease contracted while in the army, and is now at Saylor Springs for his health.

Mrs. William H. Brown died in October, 1886. She was a member of the Baptist Church, and was greatly beloved by her family and a large circle of friends. William H. Brown has always been much interested in promoting the growth of the township. He has held the offices of School Director and Road Commissioner for fifteen years. He has been for many years a member of the Missionary Baptist Church, and has held several official positions in the organization.

Edwin W. Brown, while a boy, attended the common schools of the county, and afterward finished his education at Westfield College. Dec. 28, 1881, he was married to Miss Alice Reinoehl, a native of Illinois, born in 1862, and the daughter of George and Henrietta Reinoehl. Her parents, both living, are natives of Pennsylvania. Her father is a carpenter and joiner by trade. The names of their children are: Clinton, who married Miss Mattie Sutherland; Alice, the wife of Edwin Brown; Emma, Charles and Lulu. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have two bright little girls, Vivian May and Henrietta F., who resemble their mother.

Mr. Brown is the owner of a fine farm comprising 100 acres of valuable land, on which there is a spring of living water, which renders it especially

adapted to stock-raising, and is well stocked with high grades of cattle. He has a pleasant farm residence erected in 1881. Mr. Brown and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church. In politics he has always been a Republican, but is a Prohibitionist on the temperance question.



C G. PECK, one of the proprietors of the *Mattoon Gazette*, became connected with the office in November, 1884. He is of New England birth, first opening his eyes to the light in Brookfield, Conn., March 17, 1853. His parents were Garrie M. and Sarah T. (Ruggles) Peck. The maternal grandparents were Samuel and Nancy Ruggles, the latter being Miss Wells in her girlhood, and a niece of Gov. Trumbull, of Connecticut, who occupied this high office during the Revolutionary War. The great-grandfather of our subject, John Ruggles by name, served as a Major in the Revolutionary War. The family is of English origin, the first representatives settling in this country in about 1640. Samuel Ruggles and his wife, Nancy, in about 1819, went to the Sandwich Islands as missionaries and there their daughter, Sarah T., the mother of our subject, was born. She was married to Garrie M. Peck in 1848, and they located in Dunkirk, N. Y., where the death of the father took place in December, 1852.

Four years later the mother, with her family, removed to Ft. Atkinson, Wis., where our subject spent his childhood and youth, and when sixteen years of age was apprenticed to a jeweler, with whom he remained until the summer of 1872. He then visited Chicago, remaining, however, only about six months, and returning to Wisconsin went into a newspaper office where he learned the printer's trade, and continued until February, 1874. Then coming to Mattoon, he became the employe of C. B. Bostwick of the *Gazette*, until Sept. 12, 1879. Afterward he repaired to Indianapolis and was connected with the daily *Journal* until March 1, 1881. Soon afterward he returned to Mattoon and re-entered the *Gazette* office where he continued until Nov. 10, 1884, when he became associa-

ted with the paper, which has since been operated under the firm-name of C. B. Bostwick & Co.

Mr. Peck was married at Mattoon, Jan. 2, 1878, to Miss Nancy J. Conway of the same place. Of this union there have been born three children—Ida Frances, Howard Leon and Clara Louise. Mr. Peck, politically, is an uncompromising Republican, loving liberty and believing in equal rights for all. These qualities were transmitted to him in a direct line, his grandfather, Samuel Ruggles, having been a strong Abolitionist and giving the best years of his life to the cause of human freedom.

Our subject in 1874 joined the Knights of Pythias and became identified with the Uniform Rank, K. of P., in November, 1885. He has passed the chairs in this order and is Commander of the Division, being a great admirer of the principles of the order. He joined the Knights and Ladies of Honor in April, 1883, and has served three terms as Protector.



J AMES F. SNOWDEN, M. D., is a young physician of Pleasant Grove Township, whose ability and skill are rapidly placing him in the foremost ranks of his profession. He was born Aug. 23, 1849, and is the son of John F. and Maria (Glenn) Snowden, a history of whom is given in the sketch of William D. Snowden. Dr. Snowden was reared on his father's farm, and received an excellent common-school education. From boyhood he possessed a studious and thoughtful mind, which was expanded and developed by judicious self-instruction at home. He is one whom Nature has apparently chosen to serve in her temple of healing, and those only make the truest and best physicians.

Our subject was married, Feb. 14, 1869, to Miss Elizabeth Hackley. Mrs. Snowden is the daughter of John R. and Susanna Hackley, and was born April 25, 1849, in Grayson County, Ky. It was not until after his marriage that Dr. Snowden decided to enter the medical profession. He first purchased land and engaged in farming until 1879, and then yielding to his inclinations, began the study of medicine, applying himself closely to his chosen work at home, under the instruction of Dr.

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



A. C. Butler



Elizabeth Butler

P. A. Kemper. In 1882 he entered the medical college at Indianapolis, and was graduated in 1884. In order to perfect himself still more in his profession he has recently taken a physician's course at one of the medical colleges in Chicago. He makes a specialty of treating diseases of the eye and ear, and his practice extends over a large area.

Dr. Snowden has never connected himself with any society or order. He is a member of the Democratic party in politics, but since entering the medical profession has given little attention to public affairs. Formerly he served in several local offices, but his time and interests are concentrated upon the professional duties of a large practice. Dr. and Mrs. Snowden have an interesting family of four children—John H., Luella, Delia and Emma.



DR. A. C. BUTLER, physician and surgeon, residing at Diona, is a native of Logansport, Ind., his birth taking place May 26, 1837. He prosecuted his medical studies under the instruction of Dr. John Williams, of Rose Hill, and commenced practice at Diona in the fall of 1866. During a residence of more than twenty years among the people of that section, he has built up a good practice and fully established himself in their esteem and confidence.

Dr. Butler grew to manhood in his native town, receiving a very limited education, and after reaching his majority was married, Oct. 12, 1856, to Miss Elizabeth J. Howrey. Mrs. Butler was born in Shelby County, Ind., Oct. 11, 1841, and is the daughter of Jacob and Alvira Howrey. After marriage our subject continued on his mother's homestead until 1857. Then, coming to Jasper County, Ill., he purchased forty acres of improved land in Crooked Creek Township, where he carried on farming until the outbreak of the Rebellion. In the meantime he had become the father of one child, Malinda Jane. The wife and mother closed her eyes to earthly scenes Dec. 9, 1859, a little over three years after her marriage. Their little daughter was reared by her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Howrey.

Upon the call for volunteers made immediately

after the firing upon Ft. Sumter, Dr. Butler was one of the first to respond, enlisting in May, 1861, in Co. K, 21st Ill. Vol. Inf., and served three years under command of Gen. Grant. He was in many of the important battles of the war and endured with bravery and fortitude all the vicissitudes of a soldier's life. With his comrades he met the enemy at Frederickstown, Corinth, Perryville, Stone River, Liberty Gap, Chickamauga, Resaca, Kennesaw Mountain, Jonesboro, Franklin and Nashville. After serving out his term of enlistment he re-entered the ranks, becoming a member of Co. G, 50th Ill. Vol. Inf., and at the battle of Nashville, Dec. 15, 1864, was wounded in the left arm, which since then has been useless and on account of which he draws a pension of \$30 per month.

Dr. Butler completed his medical studies after returning from the army, and on the 5th of December, 1866, was united in marriage with Mrs. Elizabeth (Houts) Rundell. She was born Oct. 19, 1839, and is the daughter of Jacob and Suquinda Houts, the former a native of Pennsylvania and of German ancestry. His wife was born in Kentucky, and they came to this county during the pioneer days, locating in Hutton Township. They had but three children: Mary M., the wife of Joseph Taylor, of Gibson County, Ind.; Jacob D., who married Miss Sarah Williams, and is a resident of Arkansas, and Elizabeth, Mrs. Butler, who was the eldest. Of her marriage with J. W. Rundell there were born three children: Florence E., the wife of Robert Edmond, of Charleston; Mary B., who only lived seven days, and Hester A., the wife of Henry Cecil, of Pleasant Grove.

Dr. and Mrs. Butler became the parents of ten children: Ida May, born Aug. 1, 1867, is the wife of James Smith, of Diona; Edmond A., born in 1868, died in infancy; Etta V., born July 11, 1869; John O., born Feb. 18, 1872, died Dec. 10, 1881; Minnie T., born Dec. 31, 1873; Albert L., Nov. 16, 1875; Owen C., Oct. 18, 1877; Carrie M., Jan. 1, 1879; Odessa B., Jan. 27, 1882; Frank O. was born Dec. 31, 1883, and died Oct. 5, 1886. They occupy a pleasant home in Diona which is the resort of a large circle of warm friends. The Doctor is a member of the Medical Academy at Charleston, Ill., and socially belongs to J. J. Adams Post No.

548, G. A. R., at Janesville, Ill. Politically, "he votes the way he shot."

The paternal grandparents of our subject lived on a farm in South Carolina for a time after their marriage, and then removed to a point near Lexington, Ky., where they spent the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of a son and daughter only: Annie married a Mr. Royal, of New York City, who was editor of a paper there entitled the *Huntress*. Mrs. R., who was finely educated, died in about 1857. James, the father of our subject, was born Oct. 18, 1787, in Lexington, Ky., and with his sister, received a more than ordinarily good education. The parents died when the children were young, and the advantages which the father of our subject received were due to the exertions of his sister. After completing his studies he learned the saddler's trade, which he followed mostly through life. He was married at Connersville, Ind., in the spring of 1832, to Miss Elizabeth Hamilton. She was born Jan. 1, 1800, and was the daughter of James and Mary (Caldwell) Hamilton, who were natives of South Carolina. Shortly after their marriage they removed to Connersville, Ind., and thence to Logansport, where Mr. Butler died Oct. 1, 1845. His widow became the wife of Nathan Moore, June 11, 1848. Mr. M. died in 1852, and the mother of our subject, Aug. 9, 1862. She was a lady highly respected in her community and an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

James Butler was a man of more than ordinary ability and served one term in the Indiana Legislature during 1840. He served as Justice of the Peace a number of years, and was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Connersville Lodge No. 15. Our subject has in his possession a card issued to his father by this lodge, dated Oct. 22, 1836, and signed by John Wiley, W. M., and John D. Ross, Secretary. The parental household included five children: Samuel S. perfected himself in the study of law and built up a good practice at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, where his death took place May 10, 1863; A. C., of our sketch, was the second child; Philip M. died when a lad of five years, and Margaret when eleven years of age. Warren C., during the late war enlisted in Co. C,

97th Ill. Vol. Inf., where he served two years. Afterward he commenced teaching, which he followed the remainder of his life. He married Miss Ella Purry in 1876, and died in Pleasant Grove Township, Feb. 4, 1881. He left one child named Byron. His widow is still living in this county.

Portraits of Dr. A. C. Butler and his wife are shown on an adjoining page.

J H. BIDLE, senior member of the firm of Bidle & Co., merchants in Lerna, Ill., was born Oct. 12, 1861, in Campbell, Coles County, and is the son of Gottlieb and Sophronia (Walker) Bidle. During his boyhood and youth he attended the common schools of the county and the college at Westfield, Ill., and received an excellent business education. He was reared on his father's farm, but evinced no taste for agricultural pursuits, and in 1881 engaged as clerk in the grocery store of W. A. Snyder, at Westfield, Ill. He remained with them two years, and then returned to the home farm, where he remained until 1887. He then purchased an interest in the business of R. H. Osborn, at Lerna, in which he is now engaged. On the 6th of March, 1883, Mr. Bidle was married to Miss Nellie Horner, of Kokomo, Howard Co., Ind. They have one son, George A. Mr. Bidle is one of the rising young men of the county, and his excellent business qualifications and genial disposition have won a large circle of friends. He is interested in public affairs, and has already served as Clerk and Commissioner of Highways. In politics he is a Republican. His career in life is but just opening, and he is one of whom all may reasonably predict prosperity and success.

E ZRA G. PATTERSON, a prosperous farmer residing on section 3, Mattoon Township, is numbered among the most enterprising citizens of this county. He was born Oct. 31, 1835, in Dearborn County, Ind., and is the eldest son of Alexander and Sarah (Burkam) Patterson,

Ezra Patterson received a practical education at the public schools, and resided at the homestead until he attained the age of twenty-two, when his marriage with Miss Sarah Hill took place, Oct. 18, 1857. Mrs. Patterson is the daughter of Robert and Letitia (Orr) Hill. Her parents were natives of Ohio, where their daughter Sarah was born, Oct. 31, 1835, on the same day of the month and year as her husband. This coincidence likewise occurs with her sister and his brother. After his marriage,

Mr. Patterson's farm is well stocked with a fine assortment of cattle, horses, sheep and hogs. He is a systematic, enterprising farmer and carries on an extensive and successful business. He is an active member of the Grange and is interested in politics, voting always with the Democratic party, by which he has been frequently elected to the office of Road Commissioner. He does not seek political preferment, his business affairs occupying his time and attention almost exclusively.

Our subject is the son of Stanton and Sarah (King) Pemberton, also natives of Virginia, where they were reared, and married in 1804. Stanton Pemberton was born in 1776, the year distinguished by the declaration of American independence, and was trained to those qualities of industry and enterprise which made him a successful business man. He was a farmer by occupation, and also ran a flouring and carding mill in his native

State. He emigrated with his family to Illinois in the fall of 1831, and locating in East Oakland Township, spent the remainder of his days, his death taking place in 1841. At the time of his death he was the proprietor of a good farm, and had established a comfortable home for his family. The mother of our subject was born in 1780, and survived her husband about nine years. With the exception of one, their ten children all grew to mature years. They were named respectively, Alfred D.; John, who died in infancy; Harvey G., Eliza A., Claybourne C., Sarah A.; Jonathan J., of our sketch; Susan A., Henry A., and Edna A., all deceased excepting the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Pemberton, after becoming established in business, was united in marriage with Miss Clarinda Davis, a native of his own State, born near Norfolk, Va., in 1816. In the meantime he had been interested in the building of the Narrow-Gauge Railroad from Toledo to St. Louis, and had become security for the company to the amount of about \$11,000, the half of which he lost. He was elected Justice of the Peace, which office he has held for a period of two terms, and also served as Assessor and occupied other positions of trust. During the war he was appointed Internal Revenue Assessor for the north half of Coles County, in which capacity he served about four years. In 1852 he was appointed Postmaster of Oakland, under the administration of Millard Fillmore, and held the office during Pierce's administration. He has also been a member of the Town Council, and is at present one of the Directors of the Bank at Oakland.

Mr. Pemberton was remarkably fortunate in merchandising, and while in business carried the largest stock of goods of any house in this part of the county. He has considerable real estate in the town, and occupies a fine residence provided with all the comforts and conveniences of modern life. He has a valuable fruit orchard of six acres near San Jose, Cal., which contains the choicest varieties of cherries, prunes, apricots, etc., and for which he paid \$1,000 per acre. This is provided with a good dwelling and outhouses and everything convenient for the gathering in and shipping of the products of the orchard.

Mr. Pemberton, politically, is a Republican of

the first water. He was reared in the doctrines of the Old-School Presbyterian Church, his parents having been devoted members of that organization, but Mr. P., in 1838, connected himself with the Cumberland Presbyterians.



MICHAEL E. O'HAIR is the proprietor of 582 acres of land on sections 36 and 1, in Seven Hickory and Morgan Townships, all of which is connected. He was born in the Blue Grass regions, Feb. 22, 1829, being a native of Morgan County, Ky., and the son of John and Eliza (Hardwick) O'Hair, natives of the same State. They grew up together in the same locality, and were married in 1828. They continued in their native State a number of years after their marriage, and in 1842 emigrated to Illinois, where the father of our subject engaged extensively in farming, and rested from his earthly labors in September, 1886, at the age of ninety-one years, six months and eight days. The mother had passed to the other life the previous year.

The parental family included eight children, of whom the subject of our sketch was the eldest. The record is as follows: Polly, born in 1832, became the wife of J. W. Frazier, a native of Spencer County, Ky., and they are now living in Seven Hickory Township; William H. married Jane Frazier, and is farming and stock-raising in Kansas; John H. married Miss Eveline Swango, of Kentucky, and died in Edgar County, in the fall of 1873; he was a man of much ability, and was elected Sheriff of Coles County in the fall of 1860, serving two terms. He was the owner of a good farm and carried on agriculture successfully. His widow is now a resident of Edgar County. James married Miss Diana Dougherty; he died in 1866, and his widow is living in Edgar County. Sarah died when a child of eleven years, and Calvin when about four years of age; Sarah (2d) married William Elledge, who accidentally killed himself in about 1876; she resides in Edgar County.

The subject of this sketch passed his childhood

and youth after the manner of most farmers' sons, receiving a limited education in the subscription schools. He remained under the parental roof until reaching his majority, and then joined the caravan bound for the gold fields of California. The overland journey was accomplished after the space of five months, and young O'Hair entered the mines, where he was engaged a part of the time in searching for the yellow ore, and also kept a hotel and a store, passing between two and three years on the Pacific Slope. He was very successful, and started homeward with quite a little fortune. He made the return trip by water, crossing Central America to Havanna, where he remained two weeks, and then proceeding to New Orleans, came up the river to Evansville, Ind., and from there to Edgar County, Ill. He spent two or three weeks in Central America, crossing from the Pacific to the Gulf on a mule, and describes the country as being the finest he ever saw. After locating in Edgar County he engaged in the stock business, and in 1853-54 purchased the homestead, upon which he operated two or three years and then, moving into the village of Kansas, engaged in general merchandising four years, during which time he built up an extensive and lucrative trade. In the meantime he had taken in as partner Mr. J. Hanks, and in 1860 sold out to his partner and removed to Paris, in Edgar County.

Later Mr. O'Hair was elected Sheriff, serving two terms, and afterward became the Deputy of his successor. In the spring of 1865 he removed from Edgar to this county, locating on his present homestead, where he had already put up a handsome and substantial residence and had raised one crop of corn. After taking possession of his farm he engaged largely in buying hogs and driving them to Terre Haute, Ind., in which speculation he realized a handsome sum of money. At one time he transported 4,000 head of swine in this manner, driving them in the winter season, making about eight miles per day. He now keeps from 100 to 200 head, mostly of Poland-China but some Berkshires.

Mr. O'Hair was married on the 6th of June, 1856, to Miss Catherine R. Zink, who was born in Edgar County, Sept. 26, 1836, and died at the home

of her husband in Seven Hickory Township, Dec. 7, 1873. Mrs. O'Hair was the daughter of Emanuel and Delilah (Wright) Zink, natives of Pennsylvania, and the parents of the following children: David W., Jane, Mary, Harvey, Ellen and Catherine. The parents died in Edgar County in 1873. The children of Michael E. and Catherine O'Hair are recorded as follows: Calvin L. married Miss Lizzie Stott, who died four years after, leaving two children—Almeda and Lizzie. His second wife was Miss Martha Tichenor, by whom he has a daughter, Rebecca E.; this son is farming on section 36, in Seven Hickory Township. Laura B. is the wife of Isaac P. Foreman, of Seven Hickory Township; Nettie T. is the wife of H. V. Thompson, of Edgar County, and they have three children—Estella, Elvin and an infant; Harvey Z., unmarried, is at home with his parents; Gladys V. married George Williams, of Morgan Township, in December, 1886; an infant, born Sept. 12, 1871, and died the same day; another infant, born Nov. 16, 1873, also died the same day; Alvaretta C. is at home with her father.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Oct. 14, 1875, was formerly Miss Sarah E. Bryant, born in Edgar County, July 29, 1851, and the daughter of Elisha and Francina (Roberts) Bryant, natives of Kentucky. The mother died in Coles County, this State, March 2, 1874; the father is still living there. This union resulted in the birth of five children—Charles, Francina D., Reba, an infant who died unnamed, and Oather.

Mr. O'Hair has distinguished himself as an intelligent and progressive farmer, and takes pardonable pride in the fact that he has 260 acres of Kentucky blue grass, the seed for which he obtained from his native State and which is thriving finely on the soil of Central Illinois. He at one time sent across the line for fifteen bushels, and from which has sprung one of the most valuable products of his farm. The homestead in all respects reflects great credit upon the skill and enterprise of the proprietor. He has taken a genuine interest in the development and progress of his adopted county, and represented his township in the Board of Supervisors for four years. He has been Commissioner of Highways

for many years, and is a member of the Christian Church at Rural Retreat. He votes the straight Democratic ticket, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity, Lodge No. 288, in Kansas, Edgar County.



DR. J. P. DECKARD, physician and surgeon at Paradise, is a native of this county, and was born in Paradise Township, Dec. 6, 1856. He is one of the rising practitioners of this section, where he is securing the patronage of the best people of the community and long ago established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. The family of our subject originated in Germany, of which his great-grandfather, Peter Deckard, was a native, and where he was occupied in farming pursuits until emigrating to the United States. He had married in his native country, and after reaching American shores proceeded to Pennsylvania, where he remained a few years and then purchased a tract of land near Wheeling, W. Va., upon which he built a permanent homestead, and which he occupied the remainder of his life. His family consisted of eight children, namely: John, Jacob, Peter, Joseph, William; Anna, the wife of a Mr. Douglas; Polly, the wife of a Mr. Newel, and Peggy, the wife of a Mr. Grimes. Of these William is the only survivor and is a resident of Hardin County, Ky.

Jacob, who became the grandfather of our subject, remained on his father's farm in Pennsylvania until their removal to Virginia, which took place when he was a young man. When twenty-eight years of age, he was united in marriage with Miss Jane Sutton, a native of South Carolina, whence she moved with her parents to West Virginia, probably when a child. After a time, Jacob Deckard purchased a tract of land in Grayson Co., Ky., where he farmed a few years, and then engaged in merchandising until his removal to this State, in the fall of 1856. He then purchased a tract of improved land in Paradise Township, this county, in the cultivation of which he was engaged until called hence, his death taking place in the spring of 1878.

His wife survived him about four years, dying in about 1882. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their three children were William, Josiah and John, all born in West Virginia, and the eldest and youngest, deceased.

Josiah Deckard, the father of our subject, removed with his parents to Kentucky when a boy, where his education was completed in the common schools of Grayson County. He was married when twenty years of age to Miss Martha Hart, Nov. 17, 1844. The mother of our subject was born in Hardin County, Ky., March 4, 1827, and was the daughter of Jacob and Matilda (Goar) Hart, also natives of the Blue Grass State. Mr. D. after his marriage, purchased a tract of land in Grayson County, upon which he operated until his removal to Illinois in the fall of 1856. Coming to this county he purchased a tract of improved land in Paradise Township, which he has since successfully cultivated and where he now resides, with his estimable wife. Both are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Deckard has been a Mason for a period of thirty years. He is now identified with Wabash Lodge No. 179, at Etna. Politically, he is a supporter of Democratic principles and has served as School Director for several years. The children of the parental household were named respectively: Mary J., now the wife of Col. Fellows, of Springfield, Mo.; Preston, who died young; Jacob; Annie, the wife of O. C. Rominger; Aaron W., deceased; John P., of our sketch; William; Josiah, who died young; Joseph, who died when twenty years of age; Ella, the wife of Ed. Ferguson, and James, who died in infancy.

Dr. Deckard commenced his education in his native county, and when sixteen years of age went down into Southwestern Missouri and attended Drury College one year, returning home in the fall of 1872. He then took up the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. G. W. McGlashon, at Paradise, and in the winter of 1877 entered Rush Medical College of Chicago. Later he attended the University of Kentucky, where he was graduated, and then commenced the practice of his chosen profession at Paradise, first in partnership with Dr. J. O. Wheat. They continued together for a few years following, when the partnership was dissolved

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Lashie Kelly

by the death of Dr. Wheat. Since then Dr. D. has practiced alone.

The marriage of Dr. Deckard and Miss Melissa Thompson, took place at the home of the bride in this township, Nov. 17, 1877. Mrs. D. was born in Indiana, Aug. 6, 1860, and is the daughter of Edward and Lovina Thompson, also natives of that State, both now deceased. Of this union there were born five children, namely, Mary, Anna, Stella; Joseph, now deceased, and Bessie. The Doctor is Democratic politically, and with his estimable wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially, he belongs to Wabash Lodge No. 179, A. F. & A. M., at Etna.

LARBIA KELLY, a prosperous farmer and stock-grower residing in Pleasant Grove Township, is an honorable representative of the early pioneers of the county, and of the self-made men of Illinois. He was born in September, 1826, in Washington County, Ind., and is the son of James and Elsie (Listham) Kelly. In 1827 the family came to Illinois and settled in Coles County, on the eastern branch of the Embarras River, near the present site of the Charleston water-works. The country at that time was an almost unbroken wilderness. The Indian tribes in the vicinity were hostile, and the white settlers were limited to a few widely scattered families. Wolves, deer, panthers and bears roamed over the lonely prairies and made their homes in the forests, but, undaunted by the perils of the wilderness, James Kelly entered land and established himself with his young family on the Western frontier. They came poor, and for many years the struggle with poverty, hardship and privation was a bitter one, but it was bravely met, and Mr. Kelly was subsequently enabled to purchase more land, finally becoming the owner of over 300 acres, which he improved and cultivated.

James Kelly was a man of genial disposition, and, like Abraham Lincoln, enjoyed a good joke, which characteristics doubtless served to soften many of the asperities of pioneer life. Mrs. Kelly's more delicate organization was not able to endure the discomforts and privations to which she was

exposed, and she died soon after their settlement in this county, leaving a family of nine children—Rebecca, Matilda, Lucinda, Thomas, Spencer, James, Ebenezer, Larbia and Catherine. The four elder children are dead. Mr. Kelly subsequently married Miss Rhoda Taylor, and by this marriage three children were born—Nancy, Sabrina and Henry Clay; of these the latter only is living. Mr. Kelly was a Whig in politics. His death occurred about the year 1849.

Larbia Kelly was an infant when his parents removed to Illinois, and he grew up inured to the hardships of pioneer life, but almost entirely deprived of educational advantages. He passed his boyhood and youth at home, assisting his father in the various duties of farm labor, and when twenty years of age began the world for himself. Going to Wisconsin he engaged in hauling ore from the lead-mines, and continued in that business several seasons. In the spring of 1850 he crossed the plains to California with an ox-team, which was a perilous and adventurous journey, and during an absence of about three years was variously occupied in milling and teaming. He saved some money out of this enterprise, and returned home via the Isthmus and New Orleans, and has since given his attention exclusively to farming, and now owns over 300 acres of land, supplied with a substantial two-story brick residence and appropriate farm buildings.

Mr. Kelly possesses excellent business qualifications, and has acquired his property by the exercise of energy and industry. He was thrice married, his first marriage occurring when he was twenty-one years of age. His wife was Miss Marilda Sullivan, who died leaving two little girls—Sarah and Laura. The former became the wife of Benjamin Parker, and the latter the wife of George Bates. His second wife, Miss Sarah Lemons, died leaving five children—Susan, Elsie and Larbia, and two deceased; Susan became the wife of John W. King, and Elsie the wife of Noah Hackett. The maiden name of his present wife was Miss Millie Catherine Carter, and this marriage has been blest with one child, Ellen.

In conducting his farm Mr. Kelly gives special attention to stock-raising, in which he has been

very successful. He is not actively interested in public affairs, his own business requiring his almost exclusive attention. * With his wife he is a member of the Baptist Church, and in politics belongs to the Republican party. As one of the pioneers of Coles County and a worthy representative of its farming element, we present the portrait of Mr. Kelly in connection with this brief personal narrative.

JAMES W. LEITCH, the owner of a fine estate containing 160 acres, located on section 18, Pleasant Grove Township, belongs to one of the pioneer families of the county. He is the son of Robert and Jane (Erwin) Leitch, and was born in this township, Sept. 17, 1839. His grandfather, John Leitch, was a native of Ireland, and at the time of the Revolutionary War came to America with the British troops to fight for the King, but availing himself of that prerogative of a wise man, the privilege of changing his mind, he deserted, joined the federal troops, and fought for the Republic throughout the war instead of the King. He subsequently twice visited his native country in disguise.

James Leitch was taught the practical details of agriculture on his father's farm, and received as good an education as the limited advantages of the pioneer days afforded. Jan. 19, 1860, he was united in marriage with Miss Nancy J. Hughes, the daughter of William J. and Ellen J. Hughes. Mrs. Leitch was born in the State of Ohio, and died May 18, 1880, leaving three children: Alice, the wife of John Allison; Robert U. and Samuel E. After his marriage Mr. Leitch engaged in farming in the vicinity of Farmington, but in 1872 sold out his interest there and removed to Dade County, Mo., where he was successfully engaged in farming until 1878. The climate of Missouri proved unfavorable to the health of his wife, and by her physician's advice he then returned to Coles County; his wife, however, did not survive her removal home many years.

March 18, 1885, Mr. Leitch was married the second time, to Miss Laura E. Coley, the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth R. Coley. Since his return

to Illinois he has been engaged in agriculture, and is the owner of a fine farm containing 160 acres of valuable land. Mr. Leitch is a Republican in politics, is actively interested in promoting all measures calculated to benefit the community, and has held the offices of Assessor, Collector and Justice of the Peace. He is an active worker in the Methodist Church, of which he is a member, and for many years has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school, and one of its most valued teachers. In educating his family he has spared neither pains nor expense. His oldest son, the graduate of a homeopathic medical college, is now successfully practicing medicine in Willow Lake, Dak.

BASIL BAKER, manufacturer and dealer in tile, also has a little farm comprising forty acres of finely cultivated land, located on section 4, Hutton Township. He is a gentleman in the prime of life, and in his farming and manufacturing operations has met with success. He has one of the most desirable homesteads in the southeastern part of Coles County, including an elegant residence, which was put up in 1886. His thrift and energy have met with their deserved reward, and he is numbered among the enterprising and reliable business men of Coles County.

Mr. Baker was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, April 9, 1841, and is the descendant of an excellent old family which originated in England. His paternal grandfather, Basil Baker, Sr., was born in England and emigrated to the United States in the Colonial days before the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. He married a lady of his own country, and they became the parents of ten sons and one daughter, most of whom grew to mature years. Of these Abel, the father of our subject, was the sixth child. He was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, Nov. 23, 1810, and spent his younger years on his father's farm and in attendance at the district school. After reaching manhood he followed rafting and boating a few years, and in 1833 was married to Miss Isabel Endsley, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Andrew and Isabel Endsley, of Pennsylvania. Upon starting out in life together

the young people first located on the farm of his mother, where they continued until the spring of 1848. Our subject then decided to seek a permanent home in the West, and making the journey overland by team to this county, entered forty acres from the Government and purchased another forty of timber land. Upon this he took up his abode with his family, and continued its cultivation and improvement until 1875. He had now become quite well advanced in years, and selling out, purchased a house and lot in Stringtown, where he passed the remainder of his days, his death occurring in January, 1885. The mother of our subject died in 1880, and is remembered by her children as a lady possessing all the womanly virtues. She was for a long period a member of the Presbyterian Church. The nine children of the parental family were Aaron, Cassandra, Basil, Andrew, Nancy Jane, Sarah E., Isabel, James and Mary A.

Basil Baker spent his youth and childhood under the parental roof, receiving the advantages of the common schools and being trained to habits of industry and principles of honor. After the breaking out of the Civil War he enlisted in Co. K, 123d Ill. Mtd. Inf., and for a period of three years assisted as best he could in the preservation of the Union. He participated in many important battles, including Perryville, Chickamauga, the siege and capture of Atlanta, and in all of the engagements with the enemy by the Army of the Cumberland. He was wounded at Milton, also at Selma, Ala., being shot through the shoulder, but refused to go into the hospital and continued on duty. His health was preserved to a remarkable degree, and after the surrender of Gen. Lee, he was mustered out at Springfield, Ill.

After being transformed from a soldier to a civilian, Mr. Baker returned to this county and engaged in farming on a piece of land given him by his father, which he occupied a few years, and then sold and rented a quarter section in Hutton Township. Upon this he operated three years, then purchased the land which constitutes his present homestead. Mr. Baker, in 1881, put up the buildings connected with his business as a tile manufacturer, and in his operations in this line was successful from the beginning. He turns out from 8,000 to

9,000 rods per year, the products of his factory being mostly disposed of in his own township.

The marriage of Basil Baker and Miss Elizabeth Rennels was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Hutton Township, on the 25th of January, 1866. Mrs. B. is the daughter of William and Susan (Ingrum) Rennels, natives of Kentucky, who were married in Indiana and came to Illinois in 1838, being among the early settlers of Coles County. Their family included seven children, and Elizabeth was born Sept. 4, 1840. Of her union with our subject there are the following children: William R., born May 30, 1867; Curtis W., Nov. 6, 1868; Mary E., Nov. 17, 1871, and Leonard W., Jan. 9, 1875. They are all at home, and constitute a fine group of which their parents may reasonably be proud.

Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Baptist Church in Hutton Township, and politically Mr. B. affiliates with the Republican party. He has been Township Collector and served twelve years as School Director. He was a charter member of Omega Lodge No. 775, A. F. & A. M., at Charleston, and also belongs to Charleston Post No. 271, G. A. R.

JOHN H. GREEN, one of the prominent farmers and citizens of Ashmore Township, residing on section 5, is a native of Ohio, where he was born Oct. 27, 1826, in Miami County. He is the son of James and Elizabeth (Hemenway) Green. His parents were both natives of Virginia. His father, who was a progressive, energetic man, emigrated to Illinois in 1840. The country was then little more than a wilderness, and feeling dissatisfied with his surroundings he removed to Darke County, Ohio. He possessed excellent business qualifications, and was successful in his undertakings, but during the latter years of his life was seriously afflicted with rheumatism, which interfered with his business and obliged him to spend nearly all he possessed. He was born in 1784, and his death occurred in Randolph County, Ind., Dec. 29, 1849, at the age of sixty-five.

James Green was a man of prominence in the

community where he resided, and a member of the New-Light Church. His widow survived him many years. She was born in 1786, and died Feb. 2, 1872, at the advanced age of eighty-six. She was a devoted Christian and a member of the Methodist Church. Fourteen children were born to them, whose record is as follows: Arthusa, deceased, was formerly the wife of N. R. Reddick; Nancy became the wife of N. McCoy, and both are deceased; Andrew married Miss Elizabeth Coble; Sarah was married to Jephthah Parker; Catherine is the wife of A. Frazier; Hester was married to B. Anderson; Zachariah married Miss C. Wiggs; James W. married Miss Maria Wyson; John H. is the subject of this sketch; William P. married Miss Eliza Brown; Nelson R. married Miss Mary Brown; Henry J., who died in 1883, was married to Miss S. G. Walker; Hannah J. was the wife of George White, both of whom are now deceased.

In October, 1852, John H. Green was united in marriage with Miss Mary Pottenger, by Rev. Thomas Brannon, pastor of the New-Light Church. She was born Aug. 1, 1834, in Preble County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Dennis R. and Elizabeth (Fort) Pottenger. Her father was a native of Ohio, and died at the early age of thirty-nine. Her mother was a native of New Jersey, and her death occurred in 1859. She was a devoted Christian, and a member of the New-Light Church, in which she was for many years an active worker.

Mr. and Mrs. Green had a family of thirteen children born to them, all of whom, with one exception, are living. The following is their record: Alice E., the eldest child, is the wife of L. Bates, and resides in St. Louis, Mo.; William S., born March 21, 1854, married Miss Urmina Goble; Granville D., born Sept. 7, 1857, married Miss Prudence Mack; Commodore D., born March 2, 1860, married Miss Mary Miller; Hester C., born May 11, 1862; S. A., Dec. 27, 1864; Walter S., Feb. 23, 1866; Mayer, June 24, 1868; Norman, May 2, 1870; Mary E., Sept. 16, 1872; Ernest, Sept. 10, 1875; Oris and Otis (twins), Aug. 3, 1879.

Mr. Green came to Illinois Nov. 1, 1856, and purchased 120 acres of land at \$18 per acre. He gradually added to his purchase, and is now the owner of a fine estate containing 607 acres of val-

uable land. He is an active, energetic, hard-working man, and has brought his farm to a fine state of cultivation. His family are all members of the Christian Church, in which he is one of the Elders, and also an eloquent speaker. In 1871 he joined the Masonic fraternity, and is an ardent advocate of its principles; he is a member of Ashmore Lodge No. 390. In politics Mr. Green is an active supporter of the Republican party.

 **D**R. WILLIS J. PEAK, physician and surgeon, has been a resident of Oakland Village for twenty years, where he has built up a good practice, and established himself fully in the confidence and esteem of the people. The essential points of his history are as follows: Dr. Peak was born in Gallatin County, Ky., April 3, 1836, and is the son of Grigg and Susan (Crow) Peak, natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania respectively. His father was born in 1796, and followed farming nearly all his life, making a specialty of cattle-raising, by which means he accumulated a fortune. He died of yellow fever in the city of New Orleans in the fall of 1838.

The Peak family were formerly slave-holders in Virginia, and the paternal grandparents of our subject removed to Kentucky, carrying with them their slaves. Grandfather Peak was a soldier in the Revolutionary War for three or four years, and was murdered by the Indians. The Peak family was a very prolific race, and the male members, almost without exception, Democratic in politics. Grigg Peak became a resident of Kentucky in early manhood, and was there married to the mother of our subject, in about 1824. She was born March 15, 1802, and died in Warrensburg, Mo., in March, 1863, and had for many years been a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church. The elder Peak was not connected with any religious denomination. After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Peak was married the second time, to Sanford Rose, who was murdered by some of Quantrell's men in Missouri, in 1863. The children of the first marriage were Elizabeth, Albert, David, Jordan, James, Joseph, Charlotte and Willis, and of the second

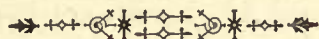
marriage, Wallace, Henry, Richard and Riley. The latter were all in the Union army, and members of a Missouri regiment.

Our subject began the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. Adolphus Sayer, of Warsaw, Ky., and was graduated by St. Louis Medical College in 1861. He commenced practice in Johnson County, Mo., and at the breaking out of the war was the owner of six slaves, and located near Kansas City. In order to save his property, he took them down into Texas, and to avoid being conscripted into the rebel army, entered as a volunteer, and served in Col. Caldwell's regiment until discharged, whereupon he entered the Union service in February, 1863, as Assistant Surgeon, 14th Kansas Cavalry. In 1864 he was commissioned as Surgeon, and was mustered out June 17, 1865, at Lawrence, Kan.

The marriage of Dr. Willis J. Peak and Miss Lucinda Howard, took place in Johnson County, Mo., March 17, 1861. This lady died three years later at the home of her husband in the same county. Of this marriage there was born one child, a daughter, Ella, who received a fine education, and for several years engaged in teaching; she is now the wife of Colin Bell, of Holden, Mo. The present wife of our subject was formerly Miss Mary A. Burr, to whom he was married Dec. 2, 1869. She was born in Momence, Ill., Aug. 6, 1852, and is the daughter of Rev. Samuel P. and Elmira J. (Evans) Burr, also natives of this State. Samuel P. Burr departed this life at his home in Madison, Neb., Nov. 19, 1881. The mother is still living, making her home in Dane, Dak. Their children were George, Laban, Mary, Jessie, Maude and Louisa. Dr. Peak, by this later marriage, became the father of another child, a daughter, Maude, born Nov. 19, 1871, and died on her birthday, in 1879.

In 1884, Dr. Peak associated himself in partnership with P. L. Garvey. The firm constitutes a strong one, and the Doctor has accumulated a fine property, including seven houses and lots in the village, and 100 acres of valuable land near the town limits. Politically, he is a straight Democrat, and as a business man and citizen, occupies a place in the front ranks among his fellow-townsmen. The

Doctor is a member of the Esculapian Society of the Wabash; also of A. F. & A. M., I. O. O. F. and K. of P.



C. REYNOLDS, Chief Train Dispatcher of the I. & St. L. R. R., and stationed at Mattoon since 1881, is a fine illustration of a gentleman who has risen to a responsible position through his own efforts, and whose fidelity to duty has gained him the good-will of the great corporation by which he is employed, as well as the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Reynolds was born in Jennings County, Ind., May 1, 1859, and is the son of Curtis T. and Drusilla F. (Ray) Reynolds, natives of the same State. His father, early in life, was occupied with farming pursuits, but for the last thirty-three years has been engaged in construction work on railroads as foreman. The paternal grandfather of our subject, William L. Reynolds by name, a native of the Green Mountain State, was reared to agricultural pursuits, and after reaching his majority emigrated to Indiana, being among the pioneer settlers of the State, where he married and reared a family of children, among them being Curtis, the father of our subject.

Curtis T. Reynolds was reared to manhood in Jefferson County, Ind., where he was married to the mother of our subject, and they became the parents of four children, three now living, viz., William L., Byford E., and Charles C. of our sketch. The eldest son is engaged in railroading in Indiana, and Byford is foreman of construction on the T., St. L. & K. C. R. R., in the same State.

Our subject attended school at Shelbyville, Ind., until thirteen years of age, where he learned telegraphy, which he followed one year in that place, and in the meantime employed his leisure hours with his studies at the public school, then after spending a few months on a farm he went to Indianapolis, Ind., where he was engaged as clerk at a book and news stand, and then secured a position as night operator at the same place, on the I. & St. L. R. R., which position he held for two years. Mr. Reynolds came to Mattoon in 1881, and was engaged for

six months as telegraph operator. He then went to Indianapolis, where he was similarly occupied for six months, and then transferred back to Mattoon as Assistant Train Dispatcher. A year later he was promoted to the position which he now holds.

While a resident of Mattoon, Mr. Reynolds was married to Miss Agnes A. Henderson, a native of Elora, Ontario, Canada, and daughter of John and Jeanette (Wilkinson) Henderson, natives of Scotland, who emigrated to Canada in about 1850. Their family included two children only, Mrs. Reynolds and her brother Morris. Mr. and Mrs. R. have two children—Ray W. and Alice. Both are members of the Presbyterian Church, and number among their warmest friends the cultivated people of Mattoon. Their residence is pleasantly located at the intersection of Wabash and Fifth streets. Mr. Reynolds votes the Republican ticket, and socially, is connected with the Knights of Pythias.



WILLIAM B. ZIMMERMAN, a retired farmer, and at present residing in Oakland Village, has been one of the prominent figures in the agricultural districts of Coles County for the past thirty-five years. He cannot by any means be called an old man although he has retired from active labor and has wisely set aside a portion of his means as a source of comfort and ease in his declining years. His early industry and economy have fully justified him in thus retiring from the active employments of life, and his upright course has secured for him the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Zimmerman was born in Augusta County, Va., Feb. 4, 1826, and is the son of Martin and Sarah (Griever) Zimmerman, natives of the same county. They were there reared, growing up as playmates together, and were united in marriage in about 1823. The mother departed this life in 1852, of a disease which then prevailed in this part of Illinois, and the father followed one week later. The parents of our subject after their marriage remained in the Old Dominion until 1837, then coming to Illinois located first in Edgar County, where

the father raised one season's crops and removed in the fall to Oakland Township, this county. He commenced life without means, but his willing hands, stout heart and fine constitution, served him well, so that he was enabled to secure a comfortable living and provide properly for his family. It was hard pulling at first, and William B. when fourteen years of age was compelled to commence work away from home, and by this means add to the family income.

Our subject was thus occupied until nineteen years of age, and then commenced to do for himself. He received for his labors \$10 per month, but lived economically and saved what he could. His first proceeds were invested in a horse, and thus equipped he rented a tract of land, the owner of this furnishing him another horse, and with his team he commenced to till the soil. After two years' labor in this manner he considered that he was justified in establishing domestic ties, and was united in marriage with Miss Louisa J. Black, of Oakland Township, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents, March 1, 1848. Not long afterward he was enabled to make a payment on eighty acres of land, which was provided with a log cabin, sixteen feet square, and with his young wife commenced housekeeping. In due time the family was enlarged by the birth of three children, and in 1856 Mr. Z. erected a frame house, into which the family proudly removed and which he occupied until 1881.

Mr. Zimmerman in the meantime had been prospered in his farming operations, and had wisely invested his surplus capital in additional land. He thus operated until he became the owner of 800 acres, the whole of which he brought to a good state of cultivation and provided with excellent frame buildings. At the date mentioned he concluded to retire, and accordingly rented the farm and erected a fine dwelling in Oakland Village. This consists of two stories with a basement, and stands in the midst of a hickory grove, covering one and one-half acres, and constituting a most attractive and valuable homestead. Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Z., James M. died when two years old; Elizabeth P. at about the same age, as also did John Y.; Sarah L. became the wife of Quince Kin-

zel, of Oakland; Florence J., the youngest daughter, is the wife of L. J. Norton, of Oakland.

Mr. Zimmerman is one of the Directors of the National Bank of Oakland, and has been identified with many of the enterprises set on foot to build up his township. He is a straight Republican, politically, and uniformly casts his vote in support of the principles of his party. He and his estimable wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.



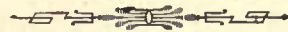
ARCHIBALD BROOKS. The name of Archibald Brooks is prominent among the pioneers of Ashmore Township. He was born Dec. 7, 1807, in Washington County, Pa., and is the son of Robert and Mary (Little) Brooks. Robert Brooks was born June 8, 1773, and died July 12, 1844, at the age of seventy-one. His wife was born June 13, 1776, and died Oct. 28, 1851. The following is the record of their children: Maria J., born Dec. 27, 1800; Alfred, Jan 3, 1802; Thomas M., in 1811; Margaret, Archibald; John, June 7, 1810; Elizabeth, March 29, 1812; Robert A., June 21, 1815, and William S., Sept 10, 1818.

Archibald Brooks was twice married. His first marriage, to Miss Nancy Pownell, took place Sept. 30, 1830. She died Jan. 12, 1850, leaving a family of five children, as follows: Mary A., born June 22, 1832, married Benjamin F. McPheters; Lydia, born Jan. 25, 1834, married J. M. Moffett; Diadama P., born Feb. 29, 1836, married Joseph S. Wright; Robert W., born Jan. 22, 1844; and Benjamin A., born Aug. 27, 1846, married Mary E. Squire. Our subject was married the second time, to Mrs. (Cheesman) Scott, April 23, 1853. She was born Nov. 21, 1824, in Adams County, Ohio, and the following is the record of their children: Kate E., born April 11, 1854, died in infancy; Hannah F., born July 23, 1856, married Gideon Galbreath; Tarleton, born March 22, 1859, married Miss Rosa E. Galbreath; Archibald J., born Jan. 28, 1862, married Miss Mary Cutler, and Mattie E., born March 30, 1867, married W. O. Kimball.

Mr. Brooks came to Illinois and settled in Ashmore Township in 1827. He vividly recollects

many incidents of the Black Hawk War, which is memorable for being the last conflict with the Indians in this part of the United States. The winter previous was noted for an unusually deep fall of snow, which lay on the ground from December to March. It was a period of great privation, and even many wild animals died from starvation while it lasted. The few families of the township were isolated and unprotected, and lived in great fear of Indian depredations; deer and wolves roamed over the prairies in vast numbers, and panthers and bears were not unfrequently found. But a new era was dawning for this unbroken wilderness, and the prosperity of Central Illinois dates from the successful close of the Black Hawk War.

Mr. Brooks began life on the Western frontier with no capital, save courage, energy and integrity of character, and his career in life has been rewarded with exceptional prosperity. Although he has been one of the prominent men of the township for many years, he has never desired political preferment, and has refused any office offered him by the people. He has always been interested in educational affairs, and together with his family, is a member of the Old-School Presbyterian Church. His first Presidential vote was cast for Henry Clay, and he warmly sustains the Republican party in politics. The homestead comprises 160 acres of fine prairie land, and forty acres of timber.



JAMES WILEY is pursuing the even tenor of his way as a prosperous and intelligent farmer of Morgan Township, where he located in the spring of 1865. He is the proprietor of 295 acres of valuable land, with a fine residence, a good barn and other out-buildings, and deals largely in graded stock, including Short-horn cattle and Clydesdale horses. The residence is a frame structure, which was built in 1870, and the main barn was put up in 1887. Everything about the premises is kept in good order, and displays on all sides the thrift and enterprise of the proprietor.

Mr. Wiley first drew breath in Bracken County,

Ky., July 24, 1825, and is the son of John A. and Ruth (Wells) Wiley, [also natives of the Blue Grass State. John Wiley was born in Bracken County in 1799, and was the son of Eli and Elizabeth (Coles) Wiley, who reared a large family of children, of whom John was the eldest. The others were named respectively, James, Reason, Adam, Dow, Darius, Asa, Hannah, Mary, Dorcas, Susan, Nancy and Lettie. Nancy is the wife of Michael Whalen, of Charleston, and Lettie, the widow of James Sublet, of the same place. It is supposed that these are the only ones living.

John Wiley grew to manhood in his native State, and was there married. Four or five years later in about 1830, he came with his family to Illinois, remaining one summer in Edgar County. He then purchased a tract of land in Ashmore Township, this county, which he occupied until the spring of 1851, then sold out and purchased a farm in what is now Douglas County, upon which he spent the remainder of his days, his death taking place in April, 1874. He was considered a good man in every sense of the word, and for many years was prominently connected with the Christian Church. The children of the parental family, six in number, were, James, of our sketch; Louis, now deceased; Sallie, the wife of James Arterbeon, a farmer of Edgar County; Aden, a resident of Chester, Ill.; Elizabeth and Amos, who died in childhood. The wife and mother passed away in December, 1846. John Wiley was then married to Mrs. Lucy (Williams) Rout, and of this union there were also born six children, who are recorded as follows: Ruberta, Mrs. Haines, became the mother of two children, and died in 1886; Hester Ann is the widow of George Richmond, who died in 1877, and left four children, of whom Townsend and Mary Frances (twins) are the only ones surviving, and with their mother, are residents of Douglas County; Eli, a blacksmith by trade, and William, are at home.

The subject of our sketch was but five years of age when his parents came to this county. He was bred to farm life and completed his education in the district schools of Ashmore Township, and after reaching manhood was married, in March, 1866, to Miss Sarah Brown, who was born in this

county, and is the daughter of J. W. and Martha Brown, natives of Kentucky, who became the parents of eight sons and three daughters. The four children of Mr. and Mrs. Wiley are recorded as follows: John W., born Nov. 19, 1867, died July 2, 1869; Millie Susan, born Oct. 27, 1869; Minnie, Jan. 26, 1874, and Grace A., Oct. 22, 1882, remain with their parents.

Mr. Wiley is one of the most reliable members of the Republican party, although meddling little with politics, and uniformly casts his vote with it upon occasions of important elections. He has been the encourager of those enterprises calculated for the best good of his community and is properly classed among the worthy and valued citizens of Morgan Township, who have aided in developing its resources and bringing it to a good position among the surrounding communities.

ISAAC TAYLOR. How like the perfect day is the period of full life—birth, manhood and death. Life, like the day, may commence in sunshine and then become clouded, through which the sunlight will come at times only in rifts; and then some lives may be like the days on which the sun shines all the time, and others may begin with clouded skies and close in the beauty of a full sunset. No matter how dark the beginning, nor how cloudy the day may be, the glorious sunset through all the ages has presaged clear skies for the following days. So with life; the clear sky at its sunset is its own prophecy of a beautiful life in the Beyond, where the sun rises in a cloud-burst of glory never to set again, but to shine and illumine the sky for all eternity. These reflections in this place are not inappropriate, for the good people, the events of whose lives are herein sketched, resemble the simile of the day which began cloudy and remained so until after the meridian line of time was passed, and then became more beautiful in its full sunlight as the horizon is reached, and will close with a glorious sunset.

Among the excellent people of whom Pleasant Grove Township possesses many, Isaac Taylor stands eminent, and is a descendant of one of the

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Isaac Taylor



Eliza J. Taylor

families who were pioneer settlers of Illinois. He was born on the 16th of March, 1829, in Rutherford County, Tenn., and is the son of Michael and Elizabeth (Patterson) Taylor, natives of North and South Carolina respectively. When Michael Taylor attained to manhood he removed to Tennessee. In early life he served in the War of 1812, and was a participant in the battle of New Orleans. While serving in the army, and being but illy provided for comfort, his health became impaired, which doubtless led to his comparatively early death. He descended from long-lived ancestors, but died at the age of fifty-five. In 1830 he removed with his family to Illinois, when the subject of this sketch was but a year old, and for one year resided near the Kickapoo River; he then changed his residence and passed one year in the northern part of Cumberland County, but not being satisfied with the outlook there removed to Coles County.

Mr. Taylor was twice married; by the first marriage there were born four children, none of whom survive. Their names were Elijah, Stephen, Polly and Jane. By his second marriage Mr. Taylor became the father of ten children, and their record is as follows: Temperance is the wife of Mansfield Patterson, and a resident of Oregon; Cynthia, deceased, was formerly the wife of Charles Powers; Matilda was the wife of Morton Anderson, and is now deceased; William A. resides in Pleasant Grove Township, with his brother Isaac, the subject of this sketch; Polly, deceased, was the wife of Presley Highland; James is deceased; Susan was the wife of Levi Enyard, and is now deceased; Michael is a resident of Cumberland County, Ill.; Elizabeth is the wife of John J. Hall. Mr. and Mrs. Michael Taylor were members of the Baptist Church, in which they were actively interested, the former having been a frequent exhorter during his residence in Rutherford Township, Tenn. Mr. Taylor's death occurred in 1838, and his widow, who survived him many years, died in 1865. Mr. Taylor left 120 acres of land and some other property, which in that early day was considered quite a fortune.

Isaac Taylor, our subject, passed his boyhood days in Coles County, in the neighborhood where he now resides. His early education was limited

to such as could be procured at the old log school-house of pioneer days. These rude structures, through the cracks and apertures of which the wind whistled and played at will, were the only halls of learning where the children of the pioneers could obtain the scant rudiments of education. The spaces used for windows were tacked over with white homespun cloth, or oiled paper in lieu of glass, and the benches were constructed of split logs supported by rude wooden pegs. His patrimony consisted of eleven acres of land from his father's estate, and upon this foundation he began his career in life.

His first marriage was with Miss Sarah E. Ryan, a native of Illinois, the event occurring in 1856. Their married life was of but brief duration, for her death occurred in the following year. In 1860 Mr. Taylor was again married, this time to Miss Eliza Erwin, the daughter of James S. and Margaret E. Erwin. She was born on the 5th of October, 1841, in Coles County. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have had a family of ten children born to them, one of whom was accidentally burned to death when a child six years of age. The names of the others are as follows; Marion W., Willie E., Oscar A., Margaret Elizabeth, Perry S., Isaac V., Carrie O., Minta E. and John Y.

Mr. Taylor has ever been deeply interested in promoting the moral and religious welfare of the community, and for the last thirteen years has been engaged in preaching the Gospel in the Baptist Church, and stands high in the esteem and respect of the members of that denomination. His life is a beautiful exemplification of Christianity. Mr. Taylor has served as Assessor in Pleasant Grove Township, and for many years held the office of School Director. His estate consists of 800 acres of valuable land. His farm buildings are excellent, and he carries on a successful business in general agriculture. In politics Mr. Taylor votes with the Democratic party.

In the winter of 1886 Mr. Taylor revisited his birthplace and old home in Tennessee, but time had changed the scenes of his childhood, to which he was now a stranger, and others were equally alien to him. There were few faces which he could recognize by sight, or even recollection. While

there he met many relatives whom he had never seen or known of before. The greater number had become scattered over the world, or were quietly resting in the churchyard. Four cousins were living who had reached the age of fourscore years.

Mr. Taylor, having passed over the summit and now on the journey down the other side of the hill of life, can look back over his pilgrimage with the satisfaction of one who has been faithful to every trust and duty, never evading any obligations as a citizen. Most esteemed by those who know him best, all join in wishing that his sunset days may be his happiest, surrounded by all that makes old age blessed, the love and reverence of children, and the respect and esteem of neighbors and friends. Beginning on nothing at a time when the West was sparsely settled he has seen Illinois become an empire, himself aiding in building it up, a work which he can now contemplate with both pride and pleasure. As pioneers and highly esteemed citizens of Coles County we present the portaits of both Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, and also a view of their admirable home and its most cheerful and comfortable surroundings.



JACOB WINKLEBLACK, of Morgan Township, was born and reared on the homestead which he now occupies, and which includes a fine body of land, lying on section 30. This has been his home during his entire life, and includes 230 acres under a good state of cultivation, enclosed, and supplied with substantial buildings, and in all respects presenting a pleasant picture of rural life in the midst of peace and plenty. Besides this property he has eighty acres on sec. 25, Seven Hickory Township. His landed possessions now embrace 310 acres, 180 of which are under cultivation, and the balance in valuable timber.

Our subject was born Jan. 13, 1864, and is the son of John and Catherine (Weaver) Winkleblack. His father was born in Dauphin County, Pa., March 4, 1805, and remained there until a youth of fifteen years, where he learned the tanner's trade. Subsequently he engaged at his trade at Harrisburg until 1829, and then going to Northern

Ohio, was employed at Cleveland, Massillon and Janesville, until the fall of 1835. He then came to this State, and entered 160 acres of land in Morgan Township, to which he afterward secured his title and added until he became the possessor of 1,500 acres, the result of his own industry and perseverance.

The parents of our subject were married March 4, 1841. Mrs. Catherine Winkleblack was born in York County, Pa., Oct. 23, 1822, and died Jan. 23, 1866, two years after the birth of her son, our subject. The father survived until Sept. 28, 1886, and was then the father of twelve living children. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Adam Winkleblack by name, was born and died in Pennsylvania, his decease taking place Nov. 10, 1837. He had married, and reared a large family, the mother passing to her final rest Oct. 9, 1831. The children of John and Catherine Winkleblack are recorded as follows: William H., born Aug. 16, 1841, married Miss Lizzie Davis, and they are residents of Seven Hickory Township, being the parents of two children—Charles and Cary. Milton C., born July 27, 1842, married Miss Caroline Coon and has two children; they live in California. Robert A., born Jan. 1, 1844, married Miss Matilda Hullin, and they have three children—Willis, Maggie and Lawrence; Mason F., born Sept. 12, 1845, was married three times, his last wife having been Mrs. Anna (Walters) Rowe, who became the mother of two children—John and Bertie Alice; Nancy J., born Oct. 3, 1847, is the wife of William Gregg, of Seven Hickory Township, and the mother of three children—John, Lulu and Lonney (twins); Thomas T., born March 20, 1849, married Miss Rose Hancock, of Seven Hickory Township, and they have one child—Vina V.; Mary E., born July 30, 1851, became the wife of William Camp, who was killed by the Indians in Kansas, while hunting buffalo, in 1884; of this marriage there were two children—Thomas and Lilly. Mrs. C. was married the second time, to Shannon Clark, and of this union there was one child, Dora, who died July 4, 1887; they are living in Morgan Township. John, born Aug. 20, 1853, married Miss Luellan Ratliff, and they have one child, Franklin; Victoria S., born March 20, 1855, is the wife of Isaac Walters, and has one

child, John; Daniel Boone, born April 10, 1858, married Miss Anna Myers, and is farming in Seven Hickory Township; Susanna, born July 24, 1861, died in childhood; Jacob, of our sketch, was the youngest of the family.

Our subject received a fair education, and after reaching manhood was married, March 4, 1884, at the home of the bride, to Miss Catherine, the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Carl) Beck. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania, and member of a large family. Mr. and Mrs. W. have become the parents of two children, namely, Lillie Ellen, born Feb. 13, 1885, and Otto, Oct. 28, 1886. Our subject is a stanch Republican politically, and socially, belongs to Lodge No. 609, I. O. O. F., at Charleston.

ROBERT W. WRIGHT, who is well and favorably known in Morgan Township, of which he has been a resident since the fall of 1872, was born in Hocking County, Ohio, Aug. 26, 1838. He is the son of Joseph and Lovina W. (Carver) Wright, the former a native of the same county, born Sept. 17, 1806. He died in his native county June 17, 1860, aged fifty-three years and nine months. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Thomas and Barbara (Johnson) Wright, the former born in Ireland, July 4, 1773. He emigrated to America when a young man, and was afterward married to Miss Johnson, who was of German parentage, and born in the Fatherland, Feb. 18, 1777. After his marriage, Thomas Wright located upon a tract of land on the Hocking River and followed farming thereafter to the close of his life, and was buried within seven miles of where he had lived.

The family of Thomas Wright included the children recorded as follows: John B., born March 21, 1801, was married, and at his death left a family of seven children; Sarah C., born Nov. 16, 1802, was married, and became the mother of a family, dying at a ripe old age; Joseph was the father of our subject; Robert, born June 2, 1809, married and became the father of five children, and is now living in good health in Logan County, Ohio;

Catherine was born Sept. 14, 1811, and died in Hocking County; William, born Sept. 10, 1816, died in Ohio, leaving a family; Charles, born June 13, 1814, married and reared a family, and died near Pittsburgh, Pa.; Mary, born May 1, 1819, was first married to Irin Calhoun; her second husband was Isaac Weeks.

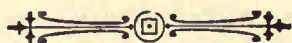
The father of our subject, after his marriage settled in Hocking County within eight miles of where he was born, where he engaged in farming and continued until his death. He had ten children, of whom the record is as follows: Lucinda, born Feb. 24, 1828, is married, and lives in Douglas County; Albert C., born July 1, 1829, is married, has a family, and is living in Hocking County, Ohio; Presley O., born Nov. 8, 1830, is married and living with his family in Cromwell, Iowa; Herman K., born Sept. 1, 1832, is married and living in Ohio; Mary, born Sept. 29, 1834, became the wife of George Bond, and died in India; Catherine, born Oct. 30, 1836, married Samuel Sherry and lives in Ohio; Robert W., of our sketch, was the sixth child; Barbara, born Oct. 10, 1840, was married in Ohio to Samuel Johnson, is the mother of nine children, and now resides in this county; Irvin C., born June 16, 1845, was graduated from the medical college at Springfield, Ohio, and is practicing in Logan County, Ohio; Emily L., born July 3, 1848, was the wife of Daniel F. Moore, and died in 1885, leaving three daughters. The children all received a good education, and the most of them engaged in teaching before they were married. Presley O. served four years in the Union army during the late war, and suffered greatly in health, from the effects of which he never recovered. Mrs. Lovina (Carver) Wright was born in Ohio, Sept. 18, 1806, and was the only daughter of Albert Carver, a native of Ohio. Her brother Albert died when a young man, and the mother died in middle life. The father was married the second time, and reared another family.

Robert W. Wright remained under his father's roof until twenty-three years of age, engaged in farming pursuits, and receiving a fair education in the district schools. Upon starting out in life for himself he was married, May 10, 1861, to Miss Nancy J. Roverscraft, who was also a native of the

Buckeye State, born Jan. 17, 1845. Her parents were John and Isabel (Riggs) Roverscraft, the former a native of Maryland, and the latter of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. R. had four children, namely, Nancy, Willie, Noah and Elizabeth.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Wright are recorded as follows: John W., born May 23, 1862; Ulysses Grant, born March 8, 1864, in Union County, Iowa, is engaged in gardening; Etta Bell, born Aug. 23, 1868, died Feb. 6, 1870; Charles, born April 26, 1870; Albert W., April 5, 1872; Alma L., Dec. 25, 1875; Jesse O., Feb. 1, 1878; Willie P., April 27, 1881, and Harry S., Feb. 13, 1885; all are at home with their parents. Mr. W. is Democratic politically, and with his estimable lady has been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for many years.

Mr. Wright located in this county in 1865, and soon afterward settled in Ashmore Township, where he remained until 1872, and then took possession of his present homestead. He has labored industriously and with excellent results. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, and is in all respects fulfilling the obligations of a good citizen.



JOSEPH W. BITNER, who owns a good farm of 133 acres on section 13, in Ashmore Township, has been a resident of this State since a lad twelve years of age. He was born in Perry County, Pa., Aug. 11, 1834, and is the fifth child of William and Rebecca (Trostle) Bitner, also natives of the Keystone State, and of substantial German ancestry. Both parents identified themselves with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church early in life. William Bitner followed farming and came to Illinois in 1846, when in middle life, having been born in 1791. He was not permitted, however, to carry out his plans in relation to a homestead in the Prairie State, as he was stricken down the following year by the hand of death. His remains were laid to rest in the cemetery in Ashmore Township. He is remembered as a bright example of the Christian gentleman, fulfilling all his duties in life in a most praiseworthy manner and leaving behind him

a record of good deeds. The mother, who was born June 22, 1804, is still living and in good health. She was eminently fitted to be the companion of such a man as her husband, and has been a faithful member of her church for the last sixty years. The eleven children of the parental household were: Henry, now deceased; Isaiah, Susan, Martha, Angeline, Rebecca, Robert, Eliza, Amanda, and two who died in infancy unnamed.

The subject of our sketch passed his childhood and youth after the manner of most country boys, spending a few weeks each winter in the district school, and laboring with the balance of the household on the homestead in summer. When twenty-four years of age he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah E. Jarvis, their wedding taking place at the home of the bride's parents in the spring of 1858. This lady died on the 22d of November, 1873, at the home of her husband in Ashmore Township, after having become the mother of five children. These were John, Mary; Melissa, who became the wife of Robert Reedus, and is now deceased; Sarah and Annie. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married Nov. 26, 1874, was formerly Miss May A. Franklin. Her death took place on the 10th of May, 1883, and she left four children—Susan, Lydia, Martha and Joseph. Both these ladies were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The present wife of our subject was formerly Miss Mary A. Williams, and they were married Nov. 6, 1883. Mrs. C. was born in Knox County, Ohio, in 1840, and is the daughter of William and Elizabeth (McCarty) Williams, who were natives of Virginia, born near Culpeper Court-House, and in early life removed to Ohio, where they established a comfortable farm homestead, and where the decease of both occurred. Mrs. Williams was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while her husband, although a true Christian in life and character, never identified himself with any Church. They were the parents of the following children: Daniel, Sarah, James, Albert, Martha, Elizabeth, Lewis, John and Mary. Of the last marriage of Mr. Bitner there were born no children.

Our subject is a staunch Democrat, politically,

and one of the pillars of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Ashmore, where he has held the office of Deacon for many years. He has labored faithfully, and contributed generously to insure the maintenance and welfare of the church of his choice, and at one period in his existence was its main prop. He is a great admirer of the principles of Masonry, and identified himself with the fraternity many years ago.



DR. CORNELIUS B. RUDELL owns and occupies a fine farm of 240 acres on section 8, in Seven Hickory Township. He put up a handsome residence in the fall of 1881, taking possession of the place the following year, and since then has devoted the greater part of his time to the cultivation of his land and the embellishment of one of the finest homesteads in Coles County. He has also eighty acres within the limits of Fair Grange, which is well improved and quite valuable. The principal events in the life history of our subject are mainly as follows:

Dr. Ruddell first drew breath in Clark County, Ind., June 23, 1830, and is the son of William and Rebecca (Tucker) Ruddell. His father, a native of Maryland, was born in 1794, and emigrated from his native State in about 1820, to Clark County, Ind., where he engaged in general merchandising and also carried on farming to a considerable extent until 1840, then removed to Jeffersonville. The mother was born in Kentucky in about 1800, and both parents were of Scottish ancestry. The record of their children is as follows: Alexander T. married Miss Catherine Haymaker, and is a resident of Clark County, Ind.; Sarah E. is the wife of M. W. Robertson, and resides in La Porte County, Ind.; Rebecca is the wife of Jacob Harbison, of Clark County, that State; Stephen R. died when an interesting youth of sixteen years, and Charles B., when about three and one-half years of age.

The subject of this narrative was the second child of his parents and spent his early days after the manner of most country boys, pursuing his studies in the winter season at the district school

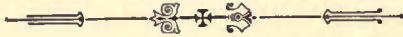
and making himself useful around the parental homestead. He came with his parents to Madison County, Ill., in 1842, where the latter died soon afterward, when he was but a boy twelve years of age. Two uncles then came and took the orphaned children back to Indiana, and our subject lived with his uncle Robertson until completing his ordinary school studies. He then decided to become a physician, and going to Louisville, entered the medical university where, after a course of two years, he was graduated in 1857. He commenced practice at Oregon, Ind., but continued, however, only eighteen months, finding that the profession neither accorded with his tastes nor his health. He then purchased a stock of goods and engaged in merchandising at the same place until 1862. In 1865 he located at Charleston, Ind., and sold goods there until 1881. Then, selling out, he purchased 240 acres of land in Seven Hickory Township, which constitutes his present homestead.

Dr. Ruddell was married in the spring of 1859, to Miss Julia A., the daughter of Jesse and Malinda (Drummond) Coombs, natives of Indiana, and the father a successful farmer and miller of Clark County. The brothers and sisters of Mrs. R. were: Sarah, who is now the wife of William Ferris, and a resident of Clark County, Ind.; James, who died young; Madison R., telegraph operator and Station Agent at Memphis, Ind.; John Lee, who married Miss Lydia Deitz, and lives in Clark County; Thomas, who married Miss Hannah Carr, and lives in Kansas; David B., who married Miss Emma Gurnsey, and is a resident of Louisville, Ky.; Campbell H., who married Miss Clara Deitz, and is milling in Clark County, Ind.; and Mahlon, who married Miss Susan Bower.

The wedding of our subject and his wife was celebrated at the home of the bride, Rev. Reason Hammond, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, officiating. Of this marriage there have been the following children: William C. died April 11, 1863, in infancy; Sallie M., was born Jan. 29, 1862, and married O. L. Gurnsey, of Clark County, Ind., who is now in the employ of a railroad company in Texas; Charles M., born May 7, 1863, married Miss Estella Coombs, of Clark County, Ind., and is Station Agent at Fair Grange,

being also engaged in general merchandising; Walter H. was born Nov. 28, 1865, and is a telegraph operator at Jeffersonville, Ind.; Albert, born Oct. 11, 1868; Jessie G., Oct. 18, 1870; Fannie L., Dec. 17, 1874, and Benson, Nov. 8, 1876.

The Doctor keeps himself well posted upon current events, and is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He is a strong Prohibitionist, and has watched with deep interest the success of the temperance movement. In 1876 he became identified with the A. O. U. W. at Charlestown, Ind., and still retains his connection with the order. He has contributed his full quota toward the building up of his county, and his beautiful farm, with its appurtenances, forms one of the most attractive features in the landscape.



W H. WALLACE, M. D. Dr. Wallace has retired from the practice of his profession, and is the owner of a fine farm in Humbolt Township, containing 500 acres of valuable land. He is the eldest son of Robert and Martha (Rowland) Wallace, and was born Oct. 11, 1840, in Ripley County, Ind., of which State his parents were also natives. His paternal grandparents, David and Jane (McKittrick) Wallace, were natives of Kentucky. David Wallace was a tanner by trade, and removed to Ripley County, Ind., where he was engaged in that occupation for many years. His maternal grandparents were Philip and Rebecca (Perlee) Rowland, the former a native of New Jersey, and the latter of Ohio. Philip Rowland was a weaver by trade, but entered land in the early days in Dearborn County, Ind., and engaged in farming. He was a soldier in early life and was presented with a sword in recognition of his services rendered to the country. His family on both sides are noted for longevity, and Dr. Wallace distinctly remembers on one occasion seeing his two grandmothers and one great-grandmother enjoying a social visit together. His grandfather was the parent of nine children and grandparent of forty-seven, among whom not a single death had yet occurred.

Robert Wallace, like his father, was a tanner by trade, and in early life was engaged in that business

in Ripley County, but he subsequently removed to Lawrenceburg, Dearborn County, and there engaged in the leather business. He received an excellent education in boyhood, and when a young man took a classical course in Wilmington College, in Indiana. He passed the remainder of his life in Lawrenceburg, where his death occurred in 1844. His widow, thus early deprived of the strong arm upon which she had leaned, soon removed with her little family to the old homestead, where she subsequently was married the second time, to James Vandolah. After this marriage, the family removed to Hillsboro, where her son W. H., received his education in the common schools. He made his home partly with his grandfather Rowland, assisting him on the farm during the summer season, and attending school in the winter. When about nineteen years of age he obtained employment with his stepfather in a shingle factory, in Lawrence County, Ind.

After leaving the factory our subject taught school one term, and then enlisted in Co. F, 37th Ind. Vol. Inf., under the command of Col. Hazzard and Capt. Markland. He was mustered in at Lawrenceburg and served three years. He was appointed Regimental Paymaster, and was soon after promoted to the position of Division Paymaster, and removed with the retreat to Louisville, where he took charge of the military mail. Chaplain Lozier was actively interested in procuring his rapid promotion. He was also employed as bookkeeper until the close of the war. In the autumn of 1864 he was mustered out of service at Indianapolis. Having had a little experience as drug clerk he then determined to study medicine, and entered the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati, where he was graduated in March, 1867. He first engaged in the practice of his profession at Miami, Hamilton Co., Ohio, and after remaining there four years removed to New Haven in the same county, and there formed a partnership with Dr. Bartlett, which continued five years.

On the 22d of February, 1872, Dr. Wallace married Miss Albina Scott, the daughter of Andrew and Maria (Sefton) Scott, of Ohio. Her father's family was of Scotch descent and her mother's of Irish. Two years after his marriage, Dr. Wallace moved with his young wife to Humbolt, in this

county, where his father-in-law had previously entered a section of land. He purchased this tract of the heirs, gave up the practice of his profession, and has since devoted himself exclusively to agricultural pursuits. In conducting his farm he was at one time extensively engaged in raising broom corn, but is now giving his attention to growing fine breeds of stock. He makes a specialty of raising English draft horses, and in cattle has a pedigreed Short-horn and a graded Polled-Augus as a cross. His hogs are bred from choice Poland males, which has given him a fine stock.

Dr. and Mrs. Wallace had a family of five children born to them, three of whom died in infancy. Those living are Harry H. and William G. Dr. Wallace is not actively interested in politics, but always votes with the Republican party. The Doctor and his wife are both members of the Presbyterian Church, in which the former is an Elder and also an earnest worker in the Sunday-school.



GARRETT V. MILLAR, a substantial and prosperous farmer of Lafayette Township, is located on section 4, and is also engaged in the manufacture of tile. He had been a resident of the Prairie State since a youth seventeen years of age, when he came with his father's family from Hampshire County, Va., where he first opened his eyes to the light on the 1st of February, 1837. His parents, William and Sarah (VanMeter) Millar, emigrated from the Old Dominion to Illinois in 1854, and located in Lafayette Township, where the elder Millar still carries on farming. (See sketch on another page.)

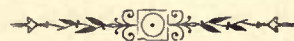
Our subject spent his childhood and youth under the parental roof, and under the training of his father, who was a thorough farmer, became intimately acquainted with the best methods of tilling the soil and carrying on general agriculture. After reaching his twenty-fifth year, he was married, in September, 1862, to Miss Mary Knowles, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Homer, Ohio. Mrs. M. is the daughter of William

and Mary Knowles, and was born in Licking County, Ohio, June 9, 1839.

Mr. and Mrs. Millar, when starting out in life together, located upon a part of the land which they now occupy. Our subject was prospered in his farming operations, and in due time became the possessor of 342 acres, which is thoroughly drained with fifteen miles of tiling, the product of his own manufacture, and is furnished with a good set of farm buildings. He set up his tile factory mainly for his own benefit, it was the second one established in Coles County. Afterward there seemed to be such demand for this commodity that he continued his operations, at the request of the neighboring farmers, and now manufactures large quantities for outside parties annually, turning out during the season of 1886, ninety miles of tile, varying in size from three to twelve inches.

Mr. Millar followed stock-raising for a number of years, but now gives his attention mostly to grain. Of the ten children born to this household the eldest daughter, Mary, died in 1886, when an interesting young lady of twenty years. The nine living are Edwin, Garrett, Charles, Sadie, Harry, Vause, Fannie, Bertha and Ruth.

Mr. and Mrs. Millar identified themselves with the Presbyterian Church many years ago, and politically, our subject usually votes with the Democratic party, although by no means confining himself to party candidates. He has held the local offices of his township, but would much prefer to follow the life of a private citizen, and give his entire attention to his family and his farm.



FRANCIS A. BROWN is a farmer and stock-grower residing on section 10, Ashmore Township. He was born Feb. 1, 1859, on the place where he now resides. (For history of the parents see sketch of Edwin W. Brown.) June 25, 1882, Francis A. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Maggie Myers. She is the daughter of Frederick and Mary (Johns) Myers, and was born in Illinois, Nov. 3, 1861. Her parents are natives of Virginia, but are now living in Coles County, Ill. Her father is a man of fine business qualifica-

tions, and is one of the leading stock-dealers in the county. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have a beautiful little girl named Nettie P., born Sept. 11, 1885.

Mr. Brown owns a fine stock farm of 125 acres, on which he resides. He is a young man of energy and enterprise, and is successfully engaged in raising high grades of cattle and hogs. He is interested in public affairs, and like all the other members of his family is a Republican and Prohibitionist. His grandfather was a Mason.



OLIVER C. BOWER, a well-known and highly respected citizen of Morgan Township, spent his early years in Clark County, Ind., where his birth took place July 25, 1846. He is the son of Absalom and Nancy (Hostetter) Bower, and his paternal grandfather was Adam Bower. The latter's children were Joseph, Solomon, Absalom, Elizabeth, Thomas Jefferson and Barbara, and the male members of the family became prominent in public affairs, being men of more than ordinary ability.

The father of our subject was born in North Carolina in 1804, to which State his father had removed from Pennsylvania. Absalom was a boy of five years when his parents removed to Louisville, Ky., and two years afterward took up their residence in Clark County, Ind. Adam Bower purchased about 600 acres of land, in the cultivation and improvement of which he was engaged the balance of his life, and at his death had a fine estate to divide up among his children. Absalom Bower after reaching manhood married and settled in Clark County, where he continued until his death, which occurred in November, 1870. His share of his father's estate was about 100 acres, to which he added as time passed on, and finally became the owner of nearly 600 acres, with a large area of valuable timber. A part of this he cleared and improved, and built up a homestead which was a credit to himself and formed one of the attractive features of Clark County, Ind. He was a man of more than ordinary business ability, kindly in his character and disposition, and had for about forty

years been prominently connected with the Christian Church, being one of the pillars of the organization at Olive Branch, in which he officiated as Deacon for many years. He was liberal in his contributions to the Church and to objects of charity, and with his excellent wife, trained his children in the faith which sustained him in his old age.

Adam Bower was a preacher of the Dunkard denomination, with which he identified himself when a young man and carried on his pious administrations during the greater part of his life. His funeral was attended by people from all parts of the county, the procession extending over one mile in length. He was greatly missed from the community, which had learned to respect him for his excellent traits of character, and with whose agricultural interests he had been identified for over a quarter of a century. His son Joseph was for twelve years the Recorder of Clark County, and his brother Daniel a Colonel of militia. He served in the Black Hawk War at the time when the present site of the city of LaFayette was an untrodden wilderness, and endured with true pioneer courage and manly fortitude the dangers and difficulties of settlement in a new country.

The main points in the history of the children of Absalom and Nancy Bower are given briefly as follows: William E., a practicing physician of Sullivan, Ind., was more than ordinarily successful, building up a large practice and a fine reputation; Elizabeth became the wife of Jesse Coombs, who died shortly afterward, and she then commenced studying medicine; she was graduated from the same college where her brother had studied, and practiced successfully a number of years. By her first marriage she became the mother of one child, which died young. Her second husband was John C. Barnes, a farmer of Jefferson County, Ind., where they resided five years and then moved to Rural Retreat, thence to their present home. They have three sons—Elmer, Omer and Calmer. Solomon L. Bower married and located in Clark County, Ind., on land given him by his father, to which he has added and is now the possessor of 200 acres; he has no children. Adam died when two years of age; Emma, when twenty-one years old was accidentally killed by being thrown under a

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



John Neff



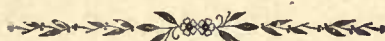
Nancy Neff

wagon while riding on horseback. She was highly gifted and a natural poetess, and her writings are carefully preserved. She seemed to have a presentiment that she would meet an accidental death, and expressed a belief that she would not live to be twenty-two years old. In consequence of this she refused to be married to her betrothed until after her twenty-second birthday. Her death took place when she was twenty-one years and six months old. Abraham H. was graduated at the Cincinnati Medical College in 1862; he was subsequently drafted and furnished a substitute. Daniel died when eight years of age.

The subject of our sketch remained at home during the early part of his life, and was married soon after reaching his majority. He had received a good education, completing his studies at the Northwestern University at Indianapolis. There he was only permitted to attend one year on account of the illness of his brother, returning home to take care of the latter until his death. He was married, Dec. 29, 1869, to Miss Emily J. Perisho, a native of Coles County, born April 10, 1846, and the daughter of Isaac and Rosana (O'Hair) Perisho, who were natives of Washington County, Ind., and became prominent in Coles County, where they spent the greater part of their lives. The biography of Isaac Perisho will be found on another page in this ALBUM.

Mr. and Mrs. Bower became the parents of two children: William Perisho died when an infant of six months; Arthur E. is at home with his parents. Mr. Bower came to this county in 1871, arriving here on the 20th day of January. He had already purchased the farm to which he now removed his family, and proceeded industriously with its improvement and cultivation. It includes 265 acres, and is intersected by the T., St. L. & K. R. R. He has given much attention of late years to the breeding of fine stock, and buys broom corn in large quantities, which he ships to Eastern markets, his transactions in this line yielding him annually a handsome sum of money. Included in the farm is a timber tract of 110 acres lying along the Embarras River, and the lowland has been drained with 2,500 rods of tiling. His live-stock includes horses, cattle, hogs and sheep. Mr. Bower, politi-

cally, is an uncompromising Democrat, and in 1886 came within two votes of receiving the nomination for Sheriff. He has occupied various local offices, and been prominent among the counsels of his townsmen in matters concerning the general welfare,



JOHN NEFF, widely and favorably known throughout North Okaw Township, and a portrait of whom is shown on the opposite page, operates a fine body of land comprising 240 acres under cultivation, and sixty acres of timber on section 32. The improvements are first-class, and Mr. N. of late years has given considerable attention to the raising of fine stock. His early days were passed in Wythe County, Va., where his birth took place Sept. 20, 1813. He received a limited education, and when eighteen years old started out in life for himself, tracing his footsteps first to Fountain County, Ind., to which place a married sister had preceded him, and where he worked for two years following on a farm, at \$100 per year. His father then coming to Indiana on a visit to his son-in-law, our subject returned with him to Virginia, and remained at home several years thereafter.

In 1838 Mr. Neff returned to Indiana, and for two years thereafter had charge of a farm near Shakertown. In the meantime he had been united in marriage with Miss Mary Bumgardner, the wedding taking place in July, 1833, in Virginia. This lady was a native of the same county as her husband, and after becoming the mother of one child, a son, William F., departed this life at the home of her husband in Virginia. Mr. Neff afterward returned to Indiana, where he was engaged as we have stated, and in 1835 went back to the Old Dominion, and was there married in 1836, to Miss Susan Nelson. He remained in his native county several years thereafter, and in the fall of 1849 came with his family to this State, locating in North Okaw Township. He had learned the blacksmith's trade in his native State, and now rented a tract of land which he cultivated, and upon which he erected a shop, and worked at his trade as time and opportunity permitted. In 1859, he removed

to Texas, of which State he was a resident one year, and then repaired to a point near Kansas City, where he farmed several years, and then purchased a tract of land in Johnson County, Kan.

The children of John and Susan Neff, eleven in number, were Mary, James, Fannie, Franklin, Caroline, Nancy, Henry, Harvey, Cora, Sarah C., and an infant who died unnamed. Cora died when about fifteen years of age; Sarah C. died in Coles County, and Mary died in Kansas. The wife and mother departed this life at their home in Kansas, in 1861, and for a time after this affliction the household was broken up. Mr. N. did not engage in anything for a time, and the children were cared for by Fannie Lewis. In February, 1863, Mr. Neff was united in marriage with Mrs. Nancy (Stineman) Osborn, daughter of Rudolph and Mary Stineman, and widow of William Osborn, who died in North Okaw Township, in 1861; he was a thrifty farmer, and left his widow a fine property. The Stineman family is of German ancestry.

The parents of Mrs. Neff had a family of five children, namely: John, Mary, Harriet, Nancy and Phoebe. Mr. and Mrs. Stineman spent their last years in Indiana, where the mother died Feb. 18, 1838, and the father in 1840. Mrs. Neff is the only one of their children living. Rudolph Stineman was born Oct. 3, 1793, and his wife, formerly Miss Mary Hawkins, Dec. 3, 1797. Their marriage took place in Ohio, Jan. 11, 1815, of which State Mrs. Neff is a native, born Jan. 5, 1825. Her parents afterward moved to Fountain County, Ind., where they spent their last years. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Neff, who were natives of Germany, spent the latter part of their lives in Ohio, dying near the town of Oxford, where their remains were laid to rest. Mrs. Neff was carefully reared, receiving a common-school education, and remained with her sister until her first marriage. There were no children by either marriage.

The father of our subject, George Neff by name, was born in Pennsylvania, and was of German ancestry. He became a resident of Wythe County, Va., while a young man, and was there married to Miss Catherine Etter. Soon afterward he purchased a farm in Wythe County and followed farming continuously during his life. He served as a

soldier in the War of 1812, and died on his farm not long after the late Civil War. The mother had passed to her final rest several years previously. They were conscientious people, and consistent members of the Lutheran Church. The parental household included ten children, namely: Hettie, Elizabeth and Samuel, who were married, and are now deceased; Christina, the widow of Stephen Cormany, and now a resident of Wythe County, Va.; Rachel, who died young, and Lydia, who became the wife of Joseph Flory, both now deceased; John, our subject; Martin, who occupies the old homestead in Virginia; Hiram, who died in Texas, and David, who died in Virginia two years after marriage.

Mr. Neff is now approaching the sunset of life. He has lived worthily and gained the respect of his neighbors and acquaintances, and has been content to follow the course of a quiet and unobtrusive citizen, attending strictly to his farming and stock-raising, and performing, to the best of his ability, the duties set before him. He has had but little to do with politics, aside from casting his vote at general elections, and uniformly upholding the principles of the Democratic party. Mrs. N. is a lady highly esteemed in the community, and a member in good standing of the Baptist Church at Fuller's Point. It is with pleasure that we present her portrait beside that of her husband as a fitting accompanying picture.



WILLIAM D. ROBERTS, a prosperous and prominent farmer located in the northeastern part of the county, has been a resident of Morgan Township for over thirty years, the greater part of this time being spent on the body of land which constitutes his present homestead. His first purchase consisted of forty acres of timber, to which he has added by degrees, until he is now the possessor of 243 acres, the greater part under a high state of cultivation. His farm buildings are convenient and substantial, and bear comparison with those of his neighbors. The soil is fertile, and

that which needed draining has been underlaid with about 300 rods of tile. He has a good assortment of live stock, and has devoted his land mostly to the raising of grain. He came to Central Illinois when the country was practically unsettled, and while watching with interest the development and progress of the Prairie State, has contributed his full share toward bringing it to its present proud position among the commonwealths of the West.

The earliest years of our subject were spent in Hendricks County, Ind., where his birth took place April 4, 1829. He is the son of Isaac and Nancy Roberts, who were natives of Scott County, Ky. His paternal grandparents, Azariah and Lucy (Smith) Roberts, it is supposed were of Southern birth. This branch of the family originated from one of the three brothers who came to America from Wales at an early day; one located in the South, one went North, and the whereabouts of the other was lost track of. One was employed as a blacksmith and another as a ship carpenter, the one locating in the North having no particular trade. Azariah, the grandfather of our subject, was a minister. The maternal grandparents of Mr. Roberts were natives of the Old Dominion, and had a family of nine children, of whom but two are now living. One sister is in California; she married Jacob Boots, who was a farmer by occupation and is now deceased. She became the mother of six children.

Azariah Roberts was one of a large family, and was married in Kentucky, where he engaged in farming, and also officiated as a Baptist preacher. He and his estimable wife reared a fine family of sons and daughters, and finally removed to Jennings County, Ind., where his death took place in 1857. The grandmother did not long survive her husband. Their children had all married and left home before they removed from Kentucky, some of them having gone to Indiana, where they were joined by their parents, who lived among them the balance of their lives. Rev. Roberts was a man of much force of character, and a faithful servant in his religious calling.

Isaac Roberts emigrated to Indiana in 1828, where he followed his trade of a blacksmith in Hendricks County. He had received but a limited education, but had been trained to habits of indus-

try and economy, and always succeeded in providing comfortably for his family, which included six sons and three daughters, of whom the record is as follows: William D., of our sketch, is the eldest; John Louis was married in this county when twenty-one years old, and died soon afterward; his widow is still living and a resident of Moultrie County; Aratus, a resident of Morgan Township, where he is carrying on farming, owns a good property and is the father of five children; Anna Elizabeth died in this county in 1853; Margaret Jane died in childhood; Martha Susan died in infancy, and Thomas after he had become a young man; Isaac Milton, a resident of Charleston, where he is following blacksmithing, is married and has a family of four children; Alpheus, the father of three children, is living on a farm in Morgan Township.

William D. Roberts spent his early life in his native county engaged in blacksmithing and farming until 1852, when he came to this county, and made his first purchase of land in Morgan Township. He has been prominent in local affairs since coming here, was Road Commissioner nine years, School Director the same length of time, and Township Collector one year. He united with the Salem Baptist Church many years ago, and has been one of its most liberal contributors. The name of this church was taken from the Scriptures. He has officiated as Deacon for a period of twenty-one years, and been Clerk and Trustee. His wife and four of his children belong to the same, and the church building which he once owned is located on his land.

The marriage of William D. Roberts and Miss Ann Douglass, of Hendricks County, Ind., took place at the home of the bride, March 14, 1852. Mrs. R. is the daughter of Isaac and Margaret (Reed) Douglass, whose family included eleven children, the greater part of whom are still living. They emigrated from Ohio to Indiana in about 1827, making the journey overland in a two-horse wagon. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts were Josephine, now the wife of Joseph Shafer, of Morgan Township; Ada Margaret Jane, born Sept. 18, 1859, died Nov. 26, 1863; Mary E. is the wife of William Shafer, a prosperous farmer of Ash-

more Township; Isaac Thomas, born Feb. 13, 1866, remains at home on the farm. The wife and mother departed this life Feb. 25, 1866.

Mr. Roberts was married the second time, June 13, 1866, to Miss Cynthia Lanman, and the children of this marriage were Spurgeon, born April 18, 1867; Oscar, born March 26, 1869, died in infancy; William A., born April 15, 1870; Rosanna, Oct. 3, 1872; Nancy L., Sept. 25, 1875. These four are at home, and Omega, who was born Dec. 20, 1878, died in infancy. Mrs. Cynthia Roberts departed this life Dec. 27, 1878.

Mr. Roberts uniformly votes the Democratic ticket, and has been largely interested in the many enterprises set on foot for the building up of his community. He has filled his niche in life worthily, and ranks among the representative men of his township.



HON. H. A. NEAL, a leading local attorney of Charleston, is a native of the Old Granite State, born in Tuftonboro, Dec. 13, 1846. He is the son of Nathaniel and Mary E. (Folsom) Neal, natives respectively of Maine and New Hampshire. The elder Neal has followed farming from his boyhood, and is still living in the town where his son, our subject, was born. He has been a man prominent in the affairs of his county, holding the various local offices, and serving as Captain of the State Militia for several years. Both parents are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Nathaniel Neal is a chief pillar in Tuftonboro, and active in all enterprises calculated for the well-being of his community. He is a radical Prohibitionist, and has watched with keen interest the workings of the temperance movement in both New England and the West.

The parental family included four children, only two now living, namely: Lydia A., Mrs. L. A. Orne, of New Hampshire, and Henry A., of our sketch. The latter spent his younger years mostly in attendance at the public schools, and when sixteen years old entered the seminary at Effingham, where he remained studying six months. The Civil War being then in progress he enlisted, in the

fall of 1864, in Co. K, 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery, and continued in the service until June, 1865. Upon returning home he resumed his studies in a school at Effingham, and from there went to Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and after attending the Eastman Commercial College three months, was graduated with honors in the class of 1866. Upon coming to Illinois he located for a time in Charleston, this county, where he taught school until the fall of 1867. He then took charge of a grammar school at Paris, Edgar County, and in the fall of 1868 became Principal of the city schools of Watseka, the county seat of Iroquois County, which position he retained for three years following, and the duties of which he discharged with great credit.

Mr. Neal had always felt an inclination for the profession of law, and while a resident of Paris had employed his leisure time in such works as would best inform him upon legal questions. He now commenced reading in earnest under the instruction of Gen. George Hunt, and in the fall of 1871 repaired to Ann Arbor, Mich., and after a thorough course in the university was graduated in the spring of 1873. His studies, however, did not stop here, but he pursued them industriously until fully qualified for admission to the bar, which was effected that same year. He chose Charleston for his maiden efforts, becoming the partner of Messrs. Wiley & Parker, with whom he continued until 1876. Mr. Parker then withdrew, and the firm of Wiley & Neal has continued to the present. Their office is on the east side of the public square, and they have charge of many of the important cases in litigation in this section.

The talents of Mr. Neal received recognition many years ago. He was elected a member of the State Legislature in 1876-78, and as a faithful exponent of the principles of the Republican party has represented its interests in various capacities in his township and outside. The business interests of Charleston have received his due attention as an enterprising and liberal-minded citizen, and he is now a stockholder in the Second National Bank and the Loan and Building Association. He has been a Director in both of these institutions, being connected with the latter in such capacity for three years. He is also general solicitor for the Toledo,

St. Louis & Kansas City Railroad Co., for the State of Illinois, and local attorney for the Indianapolis & St. Louis and the Peoria, Decatur & Evanston Railroad Co's. in Coles County. Socially he is a prominent Mason, and a member in good standing of the G. A. R. and the K. of H.



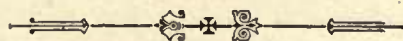
CHARLES F. BROWN, residing on section 10, Ashmore Township, first opened his eyes to the light on the farm which he now owns and occupies, and where for several years he has been carrying on farming and stock-breeding. He is yet comparatively young in years, but has already established himself upon a firm basis, and ranks among the representative men of Coles County, and one closely identified with its agricultural interests.

The birth of our subject took place Sept. 7, 1848. His parents, William H. and Emily (Olmstead) Brown, were natives of New York State. The former was born in 1813, and came to this township in 1837, locating upon a tract of timber land, where he opened up a good farm, which he occupied and cultivated until 1882, when he retired from active labor. The mother was some years the junior of her husband, and died Oct. 12, 1886, passing to her final rest after a long and painful illness. She was a lady of amiable Christian character, and her memory is held most sacred in the hearts of her children and friends. Her death took place Oct. 12, 1886, and her remains were laid in the cemetery at Enon Church.

Young Brown remained under the parental roof, assisting his parents until after reaching his majority, receiving a fair education, and becoming thoroughly acquainted with the duties of farm life. One of the most important events of his early manhood was his marriage with Miss Elizabeth A. Timmons, which took place at the home of the bride's parents in Ashmore Township, Feb. 29, 1871. Mrs. Brown was born in Madison County, Ohio, Nov. 4, 1854, and is the daughter of Thornton A. and Mary A. (Kendall) Timmons, natives respectively of Fayette and Madison Counties, Ohio. They were of German ancestry, and possessed in a marked

degree the reliable and substantial characteristics of the people of the Fatherland. Thornton A. Timmons was born Oct. 12, 1832, and his wife, Mary, Dec. 30, 1835. They were married, Nov. 17, 1853, in Madison County, Ohio. Mr. Timmons now owns a fine farm of 130 acres in Ashmore Township. Five of his brothers served as Union soldiers in the late war, all being members of Co. A, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf. They enlisted in 1862, and served during the entire war, in which, although participating in most of its important battles, none ever received a wound. They were all about five feet and ten inches in height, and when standing in a row made a group of fine-looking men. One brother, Battle H., was taken ill at Murfreesboro, Tenn., and died there in the fall of 1863. Mr. Timmons had nine brothers and two sisters, namely, Salathiel, George B., Harrison, Leroy, Laban, John, Isaac, William, Cornelius, Sallie M. and Lucinda Jane. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Timmons were: Elizabeth; Margaret, now deceased; Frederick I. and Peter A.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown became the parents of four children: Amy was born Feb. 10, 1873; Ora, Nov. 4, 1875; Mary E., born May 3, 1884, died in February, 1885; Hattie E. was born in 1886. The homestead includes ninety-five acres, thirty-four of which is in valuable timber, and the balance carefully cultivated. The stock and farm implements are of the best description and well cared for, and the premises are kept in good shape. Mr. and Mrs. Brown enjoy in a large degree the respect and esteem of their neighbors, and for some years have been actively connected with the Missionary Baptist Church, of which our subject is a Trustee and one of the chief pillars. He is a strong temperance man, favoring prohibition measures, and politically, since exercising the right of suffrage, has uniformly cast his vote with the Republican party.



SAMUEL DOTY, the owner of a fine estate in Charleston Township, containing 106 acres of valuable land, nearly all of which is in a good state of cultivation, has grown up with the township, having been born here March 4, 1834, and belongs to one of the substantial old

pioneer families of the county. He is the son of James and Mary (Teel) Doty (see sketch of James Doty), and was raised on his father's farm until twenty-one years of age. He then began the world for himself, and earned his first money on the road to independence as a wage-worker. He obtained employment on farms in the vicinity, receiving for his services \$15 per month in the summer, and \$13 in the winter. He was faithful, industrious and economical, and at the end of five years had saved \$300 from his hard-earned wages.

Our subject then purchased fifty acres of his present property, which was unimproved and covered with a dense growth of underbrush, but he worked hard, and soon cleared the land and also the indebtedness incurred in making the purchase. He then increased his possessions by an addition of forty-six acres, and subsequently purchased ten acres more, all of which comprises his present fine farm. The soil is rich, producing excellent crops every year, and he is energetic and industrious, cultivating and improving it to the utmost.

April 24, 1864, Mr. Doty was united in marriage with his cousin, Mrs. Cynthia (Doty) Parker, who was likewise a native of this township, born Aug. 26, 1834, and the daughter of Levi and Matilda (Phipps) Doty. By her first marriage she had a family of three children: Melinda, now the wife of N. B. Hill; Levi D. and Eldorado E. Mr. and Mrs. Doty have no children.

In 1884 Mr. Doty established a mercantile business at Lerna, in partnership with his stepson, Eldorado, which they continued until the autumn of 1886. His stepson having decided to enter school for the purpose of preparing himself for the ministry, they sold off the stock, although Mr. Doty still owns the property. He is a Democrat in politics, and Mrs. Doty is a consistent member of the Missionary Baptist Church.

JOHN T. MONTGOMERY, M. D., well known throughout Coles County as one of its most skillful and successful physicians, is still a young man, with a prospect of many years of usefulness, both as a citizen and practi-

tioner. He has already made his mark in his profession, and has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Dr. Montgomery is a native of Greenfield, Mo., born Oct. 18, 1852, and the son of Rev. George W. and Sarah A. (Rankin) Montgomery, natives of Tennessee. His paternal grandfather, Samuel Montgomery, was born in the North of Ireland, and was brought when an infant to this country by his parents, who located in North Carolina. He was reared to farming pursuits, and moved across the Mississippi, where his death took place in Greenfield, Mo., in 1858. He had in the meantime married, and reared a family of eleven children. Two of the sons are yet living, namely, Rev. George W. and Nelson. The former commenced his labors as a Christian minister in 1849, identifying himself with the Cumberland Presbyterians. His first charge was in Greene County, Mo., whence he came to this county in 1866, settling in Oakland, where he remained until 1872, and then became a resident of Ashmore, where he has a charge and continues his pious mission in the same intelligent and able manner for which he was distinguished at the outset.

In the household of Rev. George and Mrs. Sarah Montgomery were twelve children, of whom John T. was the eldest. The father had wisely invested his surplus funds in a medium sized farm, which provided a comfortable home for his children, and where our subject was reared until seventeen years of age, pursuing his studies in the district schools. Afterward he attended Mt. Zion Seminary, the Decatur High School and the Illinois State Normal School, finishing his studies in the latter institution. He commenced reading medicine under the instruction of Dr. W. J. Peak, of Oakland, after which he entered Chicago Medical College, where he graduated with honors on the 21st of March, 1876.

Dr. Montgomery commenced the practice of his chosen profession as partner of his former preceptor, Dr. Peak, with whom he continued six months at Oakland. He then removed to Bushton, where he practiced five and one-half years. He took up his residence in Charleston in the spring of 1882, and in the comparatively brief time as a

physician here, has made really remarkable headway. He is a close student and an extensive reader, and has availed himself of every opportunity to advance in the knowledge of his profession. He has identified himself with the American Medical Association, the Esculapian Medical Society of the Wabash Valley, and the Coles County Medical Society of Surgery and Medicine.

Dr. Montgomery was married, Oct. 12, 1876, to Miss Mary A. Gerard, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Jackson Gerard. Of this union there have been born four children—Sarah E., Mack G., Mary M. and John T. The family is pleasantly located in a snug home in the central part of the city, and enjoy the society of its refined and cultivated people. The Doctor is Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the Masons, the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P. He was one of the original Directors of the Charleston Home and Loan Association, and in 1884 was United States Examining Surgeon of the Fourteenth Congressional District. He is at present a member of the City Board of Education, and a man who uniformly takes an interest in every enterprise calculated for the welfare and progress of his fellow-citizens.



WILLIAM MILLAR became a resident of Lafayette Township, this county, in March, 1854, and for a period of over thirty years has walked in and out among its people in a worthy and creditable manner, and has contributed his share toward the farming interests of this section by building up a homestead which forms one of the most attractive features of the landscape. This includes 346 acres on section 3, in Lafayette Township, and is provided with shapely and substantial buildings and all the accessories of the modern rural home. The history of this honored pioneer, who is now passing down the sunset hill of life, comprises an interesting array of facts which are substantially as follows:

Mr. Millar was born in Hampshire County, now West Virginia, Aug. 10, 1811. His ancestors for several generations resided in the Old Dominion, his grandfather, Isaac Millar, having been Surveyor

of the State, and received his commission from Lord Dunmore of England in 1774. The books containing his notes in relation to his calling, are in the possession of his grandson, our subject, and are treasured as one of the priceless relics of the past. Isaac Millar was married, and reared a family in the Old Dominion, among his sons being Michael, the father of our subject, who was born in Hampshire County, March 30, 1785. He followed farming, and dealt largely in live stock. There were then no railroads, and stock had to be driven from the place where it was raised, to Baltimore, Philadelphia or New York City, the trip frequently consuming thirty days' time.

Michael Millar spent nearly all his life in his native State, with the exception of a short time spent near Columbus, Ohio, after his marriage. About that time he built a flatboat, loaded the same with bacon, and went down with it to New Orleans, his boat being the first to make the trip to the Crescent City. Upon the return he traveled on horseback through the Indian Territory, and not long afterward settled down permanently in his native State, where his death took place Nov. 10, 1872. The mother of our subject was formerly Miss Hannah Decker, who was born in Hampshire County, Va., Jan. 23, 1790, and became the wife of Michael Millar in 1808 or 1809. Her death occurred at the homestead in Virginia, Aug. 9, 1860. The parental household included four children, namely, Elizabeth, who became the wife of James Parsons, and is now deceased; William, of our sketch; Sarah, who married Francis Murphey and is now deceased, and John D., who is in possession of the old homestead.

William Millar received the advantages of a common-school education, obtaining further instruction in a private school. He assisted his father and brothers around the homestead, and frequently traveled the long distance required in driving his stock to market. Soon after reaching his majority, he was married, Dec. 26, 1832, to Miss Sarah, daughter of David and Hannah (Cunningham) Van Meter, a native of Hardy County, Va., born July 15, 1817. The father of our subject owned a large tract of land, and after his marriage, William located upon a portion of this and carried on farming

in his native State until 1853. He had now become the father of ten children, and desiring for them better advantages than could be obtained in the South, came to this State to seek for a permanent location, in which plan his excellent wife and helpmeet cordially co-operated. The face of the country in Central Illinois pleased him greatly, and he soon afterward purchased 640 acres of land in Lafayette Township, to which he removed his family the following spring. Like his father before him, he had turned his attention largely to stock-raising, and after becoming permanently settled here, his great herds of cattle grazed on the site now occupied by the flourishing little city of Mattoon. It was all open prairie at that time, and the neighbors were few and far between.

William Millar, upon coming to this section, had enough money to pay for his land, and brought with him good horses from his native State. His farm underwent rapid improvement, and he added to his first purchase until he became the owner of 1,200 acres in one body in Lafayette Township, besides 970 acres in Piatt County, and afterward purchased other land in different places. Soon after coming to this State he imported two head of Short-horn cattle from Ohio, being one of the first to introduce this breed into Coles County. His uncle, William Millar, Sr., was one of the first importers of fine cattle from England, as will be seen by examination of the American Herd Book.

Mr. Millar was always wide-awake and enterprising, keeping his eyes open to what was going on around him, and was one of the original members of the Coles County Agricultural Society, in which he served as President, with the exception of two years, for thirty consecutive years. The society under his management became self-sustaining and prosperous, and was one of the four county societies in the State whose treasury was sufficiently well-filled to meet the demands upon it. Mr. Millar finally found that the duties were too great for his advancing age, and resigned the position amid the regrets of all who had been interested in its establishment and maintenance.

The household circle of Mr. and Mrs. Millar was completed by the birth of thirteen children, of whom one died in infancy, and three others were

laid in a country churchyard since their residence in Illinois. The remaining nine are living, and all married, being settled with their families in comfortable homes of their own. Mr. M. and his wife feel quite proud of the fact that they are grandparents to upwards of thirty children, and great-grandparents to seven. One Sabbath Day there were representatives of four generations of the Millar family seated in one pew at the church at Mattoon. The living children of our subject and his wife are, Hannah, the wife of Edwin W. Vause, of Lafayette Township; Garrett V.; Adam; Elizabeth, the widow of Dr. T. B. Dora; Michael; Jemima, the wife of James Vause; Sarah M., the wife of William Parsons, of Kansas City, Mo.; Mary Frances, the wife of John I. Van Meter, of Harper County, Kan., and William E. With the exception of the two daughters residing in the West, all are located near their parents in Lafayette Township. They have been well educated, and form a family group of which the parents may well be proud.

Mr. Millar has been a good father to his children, giving each of them a goodly amount of personal property and land, so that they were enabled to start out in life in a manner creditable to their position, as sons and daughters of a wealthy and influential citizen. He still retains 500 acres of his original farm, the proceeds of which yield him a handsome income. He has held the various offices of the township, and although independent of party lines, usually casts his vote with the Democratic party. He has been an active member of the Presbyterian Church for over half a century, officiating as Elder for over forty years. He was a member of the Building Committee which erected the church edifice at Charleston, and afterward assisted materially in the erection of the church at Mattoon, and has always been interested in the measures set on foot for the moral and intellectual welfare of the community.

Our subject and his estimable lady have lived together harmoniously for a period of over fifty-five years. They celebrated their golden wedding, Dec. 26, 1882, and were visited by a large circle of children and friends. It was the special request of the aged pair that no presents should be given, but

nevertheless the friends could not refrain from furnishing some slight token of their respect and esteem, and accordingly among other gifts, presented a large and elegantly bound Bible, which was the offering principally of the members of the church. Mr. and Mrs. M. are well-preserved, sociable and happy old people, and have so lived that their children heartily unite in speaking of their home as the spot which has been immortalized in song, and which will probably be sung as long as the sentiment reigns within the human heart, that "There is no place like home."



PETER GOBERT, one of the extensive land-owners of East Oakland Township, is finely located on sections 19 and 31, where he has a valuable farm of 240 acres, a handsome and commodious dwelling, and all the appurtenances of a first-class country estate. He also has a tract of equal size in Douglas County. It is a notable fact, that a large proportion of the early settlers of Central Illinois came from across the sea to seek a home in the New World, at a time when their native land seemed to offer them but little inducement as citizens, and but little reward for their labors as agriculturists, or in the industrial department of business and trade. Of these, our subject is a striking example. His early home was in the department of Murthe and Province of Lorraine, France, where his birth took place at the home of his father, Oct. 17, 1821. He is the only child of John C. and Ann (Gazin) Gobert, who were natives of the same Province as their son, and believed to be of pure German ancestry.

John C. Gobert was born June 26, 1799, at the time when France was a Republic, and emigrated to the United States with his family in 1832. His decease occurred at his home in East Oakland Township, Oct. 29, 1864, on Saturday, and he was buried the following day in the cemetery near his home. He was born and reared in the Catholic Church, but for the last thirty years of his life seldom attended religious services. His early life was spent in the vineyards of his native France,

but after coming to this country, he turned his attention to farming, and accumulated a fair competency. As a man, he was generous and free-hearted, and made many friends.

The marriage of the parents took place Oct. 10, 1820, at 10 o'clock A. M., being thus recorded on the parish register of the village of Dombasle. Twelve years later he and his wife set sail for America and landed in New York City, whence they at once proceeded directly to Buffalo, which remained their home for five years following. The elder Gobert, in the meantime, maintained his family working by the day, and by this means laid the foundation for his future home. On the 4th of May, 1837, he started for the West, reaching Chicago on the 10th of June, remaining until November. Thence he came to this county, and entering forty acres of land in East Oakland Township, erected a log cabin for the shelter of his family, which they occupied for five years, while the father proceeded with the cultivation and improvement of his land. At the expiration of this time he put up a hewed-log house which in those days was considered very fine indeed. There, with their only child, our subject, they continued to live until the death of the mother, in February, 1861. She was a lady of many estimable qualities, and the junior of her husband by about three years.

The subject of our sketch remained a member of the parental household for about a year after reaching his majority, and began the establishment of a home of his own by his marriage with Miss Melinda R. Ashmore, which took place at the home of the bride's parents in this township on the 8th of June, 1843. This lady was a native of Kentucky, born March 22, 1824, and after becoming the mother of nine children, five of whom are now living, she departed this life at the home of her husband in East Oakland Township, Feb. 21, 1861. Their family included Samuel, Charles, Louis, Lafayette and Virginia, living, and Elizabeth A., Mary J., Albert and John C., deceased. The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Oct. 17, 1861, was formerly Miss Matilda A. Roberts, a native of Ohio, born June 26, 1836. The children of this union are Alice, born Aug. 1, 1862; Thomas, June 11, 1864; Napoleon, born

Jan. 18, 1866, died Aug. 25, 1885; Frank, born Sept. 23, 1870; Willis P., born March 18, 1877, died Aug. 19, 1878.

The parents of our subject reared their son in the Catholic faith. He has, however, not connected himself with any Church organization, being a free-thinker and esteeming the Golden Rule the sum and substance of true religion. He has been prominent in the affairs of the township and there are few enterprises set on foot for the good of the community in which his townsmen have not solicited the aid of his discreet and temperate judgment. In 1861 he served as Township Collector, and was Commissioner of Highways six years, also School Director for a number of terms. Politically, he casts his vote with the Democratic party, and is greatly pleased with the present administration.

JAMES DOTY, one of the pioneers of Coles County, is the owner of a fine estate of 150 acres of valuable land in Charleston Township. He was born Jan. 15, 1810, in Butler County, Ohio, and is the son of John and Anna (Mann) Doty (see sketch of Levi Doty). With his widowed mother he came across the Wabash River to Coles County, Ill., in 1826, and first settled near the headwaters of the Kickapoo Creek, where he assisted his mother and worked for the neighboring farmers.

Our subject's marriage to Miss Mary Teel took place in 1831. She was born Sept. 28, 1812, in Tennessee, and is the daughter of Samuel and Isabelle Teel. Her parents were likewise among the early settlers of this county. After his marriage, he purchased land, which he successfully cultivated and improved, adding to it as his circumstances improved, until, by industry and energy, he acquired his present fine property.

Mrs. James Doty, who for so many years had shared with her husband the joys and sorrows of pioneer life, was removed by death in 1880. She left a family of eleven children, whose record is as follows: John W., Samuel T., George W., James T., Emsley T., Riley; Vienna, the wife of Charles

Briggs; Sarah, Mrs. H. L. Briggs; Mary, Mrs. William Wade; Almeda is also married, and Harriet E., Mrs. Alex Streeter.

ARTHUR D. SUITT, proprietor of a general mercantile establishment at Loxa, and one of the rising young men of the place, was born Oct. 9, 1857, in Guernsey County, Ohio, and is the son of William and Matilda (Cowan) Suitt. William Suitt was born Jan. 23, 1824, in Maryland, and was there taught the carpenter's trade. Early in life he left his Eastern home and removed to Ohio, where his marriage to Miss Matilda Cowan took place, in 1847. Mrs. Suitt was born in 1826, in Pennsylvania. After his marriage Mr. Suitt remained in Ohio for some time, and then removing to Illinois with his family, settled in the city of Mattoon. After remaining there two years he went to Lafayette Township, and there commenced farming, and the following year removed to Loxa, where he still lives, and continues working at his trade, although quite advanced in years.

Mr. and Mrs. William Suitt had a family of six children, whose record is as follows: Philip C., a resident of Leotia, Kan.; Arthur; Emma, the wife of John Gaines, a resident of Douglas County, Ill.; John, Frank, and Matilda, the wife of George E. Shinn. Mr. and Mrs. Suitt are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. In politics Mr. Suitt sustains the Republican party, although he never aspires to office, and is not actively interested in political affairs. John and Frank are residents of Douglas County, Ill.

Arthur Suitt was a boy when his family removed to Coles County. He received a practical, common-school education, and attended Lee's Academy at Loxa for a short time. After leaving school he worked at the carpenter's trade with his father, but his inclinations and business abilities led him to prefer mercantile life, and in July, 1883, he established a general mercantile business at Loxa, associated with his brother, Philip C., under the firm name of P. C. Suitt & Bro. They were success-

ful, and continued the partnership until December, 1885, when Arthur Suitt purchased his brother's interest in the store, and has since been sole proprietor of the business.

Arthur Suitt was married on the 31st of August, 1887, to Miss Nettie Dornblaser. Mrs. Suitt is the daughter of P. H. and Mary (Jeffris) Dornblaser, and was born Nov. 28, 1864, in Paradise Township, Coles County.

JAMES M. PHILLIPS, a gentleman in the prime of life and in the midst of his usefulness, is a native of this State, and was born in Moultrie County Feb. 8. 1848. He was bred to farm pursuits, and purposes following these in the future. He comes of a good family, whose first representatives upon coming to this country settled in the South. His great-grandfather, Robert Phillips, was a native of Tennessee, where he grew to manhood and was married. He emigrated to Moultrie County, Ill., in about 1846, and subsequently took up land in this county, where he established a good homestead, and spent the remainder of his days. His death occurred in about 1859, his wife having died some years previously. They reared a large family of children, and experienced all the hardships and privations of pioneer life, contributing their full quota toward the development of a new section of country.

Among the sons of Robert Phillips was McCagha, who was born in Tennessee, and educated in the schools of his native county. He left home when quite young, and commenced working by the month, continuing thus occupied until his marriage. His wife was also a native of Tennessee, and they became the parents of five children, all born in that State. In about 1844 they came north to Moultrie County, this State, and settled upon a tract of land in East Nelson Township, where the father spent the remainder of his life, resting from his earthly labors in October, 1876. When about sixty-six years of age, he was stricken with blindness, and for a period of nearly twenty years never saw the light of day. He bore his affliction with remarkable patience and courage, never complaining of

his misfortune, but accepting it from the hand of Providence, as the dispensation of a Power wiser than ourselves. He lived to be eighty-five years of age, and was a man of many excellent qualities. He had served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and took part in the battle of the Horse Shoe.

The paternal grandmother of our subject was born, married and died in Tennessee, and with her husband, lived the life of a devoted Christian, both being members of the Baptist Church. Her death took place in about 1840. Their five children were, Malinda, now the wife of J. W. Vaughn, of Mattoon; Calvin, the father of our subject; Emeline, who married her cousin, William Phillips, of Tennessee; William, who died young, and Martin K., now living in Coles County. After the death of his first wife, Grandfather Phillips was married a second time, in about 1845, to Miss Sarah Cropper, in Moultrie County, Ill. Their three children were Andrew J., now living in this county; Pauline, the wife of Joseph Weiley, of Moultrie County, Ill., and Benjamin, who died when four years of age. This lady survived her husband, and is still a resident of this county. She also possesses many estimable qualities, is a devoted Christian, and a consistent member of the Baptist Church.

Calvin Phillips, the father of our subject, was born in Tennessee, Oct. 20, 1825. He remained under the home roof until his marriage, and was bred to farm pursuits. He possessed more than ordinary ability, and after his marriage came to Moultrie County, this State, and entered sixty acres of wild land upon which he made good improvements, and which he occupied for several years. In 1856 he sold out, and going across the Mississippi, purchased 320 acres of wild land in Adair County, Mo., where he resided eight years. He put up a good house on his land, and made some improvements, but finally came back to this State and purchased 120 acres in North Okaw Township. This he occupied ten years, in the meantime having accumulated a competency, and then abandoning farming, purchased property at Mattoon, where he took up his residence and spent the remainder of his life, retired from active labor. His death took place on the 26th of August, 1881, amid the tears and regrets of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

He had built up the record of an honest man and a good citizen, and served his township in the various minor offices, discharging his duties in a faithful and conscientious manner. In politics, he uniformly cast his vote with the Democratic party.

The mother of our subject was formerly Miss Ruth M. Chowning, a native of Kentucky, and born Feb. 8, 1829. She was the daughter of Charles and Mary (Owens) Chowning, and was married to Calvin Phillips in Moultrie County, this State, July 6, 1846. She was the earnest sympathizer with her husband in his plans and labors in life, and with him was a member in good standing of the Baptist Church. Her death took place May 25, 1877, at the homestead in Mattoon. The household circle was completed by the birth of six children, of whom the record is as follows: James M., of our sketch, was the eldest of the family; Nancy E. became the wife of W. A. Hoots, and is now a resident of this county; Mary A. is living in Mattoon; McCagha married Miss Ada Gilmer, and is farming in Butler County, Kan.; two died in infancy.

The subject of this history remained a member of his father's household until his marriage. He was educated in the common schools of Coles County, and early in life began his plans for the future. He accumulated some money, and purchased fifty acres of land, and was thus prepared to introduce his bride to a comfortable home. This lady was Miss Nancy E. Wade, a native of this county, and born March 3, 1854. Her parents, William A. J. and Mary (Stineman) Wade, were natives of Ohio, the father being born in Adams County. They came to Coles County in the pioneer days, and suffered the privations and hardships of life in a new settlement. The mother died when her daughter, Nancy E., was an infant of eleven months, in 1855. The death of the father took place in this county, some years later. Miss Wade became the wife of our subject Oct. 10, 1872. Soon afterward they commenced housekeeping on a farm which Mr. Phillips had previously purchased, and which they occupied seven years.

Mr. Phillips took possession of his farm in North Okaw Township in the spring of 1881. It comprises one of the most desirable homesteads in this section and contains eighty acres under a fine

state of cultivation, with a handsome frame dwelling in the midst of beautiful grounds, with a good barn and other out-buildings, and a valuable orchard in the rear. The improvements effected here are the result of his own industry and good taste, but he has thought best to make a change, and recently sold this to purchase another farm on section 18, also well-improved and supplied with good buildings. It embraces 103 acres, and of this Mr. Phillips purposes taking possession next year.

Mr. and Mrs. Phillips became the parents of four children, two of whom were taken from the household circle by death: Ina, born Oct. 14, 1874, remains at home with her parents: Calvin, born Feb. 10, 1876, died Jan. 6, 1877; Robert, born Oct. 22, 1878, died Feb. 10, 1879; Francis M., born May 12, 1881, is a bright little boy, and the darling of the household. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips are members in good standing of the Baptist Church at Fuller's Point, and politically, Mr. P. affiliates with the Democratic party.



JAMES TAYLOR CUNNINGHAM was born in Hardin County, Ky, July 11, 1802. He was a very energetic boy but his father was a cripple, and unable to work on the farm, and as the children were all girls except his young brother, Harrison, it was no easy task for James T. to practically assume the role of head of the family, and keep the wolf from the door.

On the 15th of September, 1825, James T. Cunningham was married to Elizabeth Cea Yocum. They were both poor, but managed to secure a little tract of land about four miles from Litchfield, Ky., where they lived a short time, when Ambrose Yocum and our subject conceived the idea of building a flatboat, and taking the surplus products to New Orleans. The rude craft was launched on Rough Creek, whence it made its way to the Crescent City, and the produce was disposed of satisfactorily. This was really the first start in James T. Cunningham's life. He and his brother-in-law, Ambrose Yocum, (who were captains and capitalists of this vessel) sold the ship and cargo and worked their way home on a steamboat. In

October, 1830, Mr. C. and his partner, Yocum, moved to Illinois. Yocum settled on the Embarras River about two miles from Charleston, and was the first Sheriff of Coles County, while Cunningham settled four miles south of what is now Mattoon.

Mr. Cunningham never had the advantages of an early education, but was endowed with brains and energy never excelled by the pioneers of Illinois. His accumulations of property were very considerable, as he bought large tracts of land and was the leading dealer in live-stock in Coles County. He was elected Justice of the Peace, and afterward served as a member of the Legislature for three years, two of which sessions were held in Vandalia.

During these sessions he formed the acquaintance of some of the greatest men who ever lived; W. L. D. Ewing, Speaker of the House, Gen. William F. Thornton, Col. Ed. Baker (the brilliant poetic orator), Abraham Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas, O. B. Ficklin, John J. Hardin (afterward killed in the Mexican War), and a host of other great names which would honor any country. At Vandalia, Mr. C. formed a friendship for Abraham Lincoln, which lasted through life.

One little incident would illustrate this: His son-in-law, Col. Monroe, came home on a furlough, and while here the 123d Illinois Regiment was formed and organized at Mattoon. James Monroe was elected Colonel, and while these elections by raw recruits were not binding except as a recommendation to Gov. Yates, yet they had a voice, almost of authority, in dictating the commissions to be issued. The election of officers occurred in the afternoon on the fair ground, and seemed to delight the new regiment and the people of Mattoon, but what was the surprise when the Chicago papers of that day brought the news of Secretary Stanton's order that all old officers holding positions in the Government service should not be allowed to take places in the new regiments forming at that time. This broke the slate. What should be done! Maj. Connelly, Dr. Allen and others who had been elected to places, were in trouble. So it was agreed to send James T. Cunningham to Washington to see Mr. Lincoln, and

see if some modification of Secretary Stanton's order could not be made. When Mr. Cunningham arrived at Washington he saw Mr. Lincoln who had never even seen the order before. Mr. Lincoln said: "Well, I don't want to cancel my Secretary's order, but I will write to Mr. Stanton a card and see what he can do, in the premises." Then the President took a card and wrote in his concise way:

"SECRETARY OF WAR:

Admit the bearer, Mr. Cunningham, at once. He is an old and tried friend of mine. He will not deviate one hair'sbreadth from the truth. Do what he wants done, if possible. A. LINCOLN."

Mr. Stanton promptly wrote to Gov. Yates to waive the order in this case, which he was delighted to do.

Mr. Cunningham was a proud man in many respects, although plain. Never in his life did he seem so pleased as when he brought this card home. His cattle and his lands were matters of triumph as the labor of his hands and head, but they, all of them, seemed small to him compared with this endorsement by the greatest man on earth, as he regarded Mr. Lincoln.

Mr. Cunningham never belonged to any church or society of any kind, but was a liberal donor to Church purposes, giving of his substance freely. Not tens or hundreds, but thousands of dollars for Church purposes. More than once he has given \$500 at a time for such uses.

Mr. Cunningham's children by the first marriage were, in the order named: John, William, James, Mary Jane and James Harrison. After his wife's death, in 1849, he married Sarah E. Hendricks, *nee* Threlkeld. By this marriage Nancy Taylor and Elizabeth C. are the offspring.

Mr. Cunningham was the Republican candidate for Congress in this District, when Abraham Lincoln was first elected President. The District was overwhelmingly Democratic and he was of course defeated, but he ran 1,000 votes ahead of the Lincoln ticket, and considering the high party strife, this was a great triumph, and showed the people's confidence in the man.

When the war broke out the 21st Illinois Infantry (Grant's Regiment) was raised at Mattoon, and organized in the fair ground. The

soldiers were pouring in according to the call, but no provisions had been made for their support. Then Mr. C. telegraphed to Gov. Yates the situation, and in reply the Governor said: "Take care of the soldiers." So Mr. C. entered upon the duties of Quartermaster, and took care of the regiment until it left Mattoon. This was an odd, irregular way of appointing a Quartermaster, but Mr. C.'s accounts were audited with as much credit as if his commission had been on parchment, the State of Illinois paying his bills in full. Mr. Cunningham died June 26, 1863.

*John Monroe m. 13 Dec. 1858 Lucy Rogers
Barrence, Ky.*

COL. JAMES MONROE was born in Greensburg, Ky., Jan. 4, 1832. His father, Dr. Byrd Monroe, also a native of Kentucky, was born at Glasgow, Oct. 8, 1807. His mother was Margaret Linder, also of Kentucky. On his mother's side he was related to the Underwoods of that State. His grandfather was a Virginian and his great-grandfather was Dr. Alexander Monroe, the celebrated Scotch Professor of anatomy, and medical writer, who was born in 1732.

Dr. Byrd Monroe moved from Kentucky to Charleston in 1834, when his son James was but two years old, and here he was brought up among pioneer scenes and times, and his schooling was received here, his father, a scholarly man, teaching him Latin, the classics, etc., giving him that taste for letters and literature that made him through life a great reader and student. He also received from his father, who was rather more of a mercantile than a professional man, a business training, and early took to business pursuits, in which he soon won the respect and confidence of the people, and in which that charity and public spirit with which he was imbued, became manifest and conspicuous.

As early as 1854 he had charge of a general store in Paradise, at that time the country-village center of quite a scope of country. It was while here, as a young business man of spirit and promise, that he formed the acquaintance of Miss Mary J. Cunningham, daughter of Hon. James T. Cunningham, which ripened into an ardent love. But

the course of true love never did run absolutely smooth, and the young hero in embryo was rejected as a suitor for the hand of his (at that time) only daughter, by Mr. Cunningham, and, disappointed, in a spirit of recklessness natural to a fiery and adventurous soul like his, he started for Central America, at that time the scene of Gen. Walker's dream of military glory and power. An entry from young Monroe's diary will serve to spice this lover's episode. Under date of Jan. 28, 1855, he wrote: "Tuesday, afloat on the dark and turbulent waters of the Ohio, broken in health, with nothing to make existence endurable; all the bright and glorious visions of youthful enjoyment and happiness crushed, withered and dead; all the ties which bound me to life severed and broken, I am leaving home, wishing, hoping never to return to it again. And, oh! if this be so—if beneath the burning sun of the tropics I shall find a nameless and forgotten grave, grant this request, oh, God, I ask nothing for myself, and care little, but grant to shield her from all harm, to guard and protect her through life; suffer no dark clouds of sorrow or misfortune to sully the pure horizon of her life, or separate or alienate her from Thyself. May she remember me in kindness, and suffer us after death, purified from all stains of earthly sin or corruption, to meet again in that world where sorrow, disappointment and sin can never enter."

But, returning to Illinois, restored in health and heart-mended, James Monroe again engaged in mercantile pursuits, this time as one of the first grain merchants in Mattoon, and as a dry-goods merchant and partner with his brother, Byrd Monroe, in the grocery trade, a live, active business man. And Dec. 1, 1857, James Monroe and Mary J. Cunningham were married. They had also attached themselves to the Christian Church; and the following reference thereto, written afterward, when as Major he was treading the red field of war, reveals something of the spiritual side of his brief, stormy life. Writing to his wife, he says: "You speak in your last of the Church, etc., and ask me some questions. It is very true that our connection with the Church was very pleasant, and I assure you I do not regret that part of our lives; but really one has but little time in the field to think

of anything but our business. I do not think I am growing worse, but rather better. I strive to avoid all excess and to improve myself every way." He was also one of the early Masons of Mattoon.

James Monroe's sincere and fervent patriotism and public spirit naturally called him to early participate more or less in politics and public affairs, although not a politician. In the quadrangular contest of 1860, in Illinois, James Monroe was the nominee of the Bell and Everett party for the office of Secretary of State, and the following spring was elected President of the City Council of Mattoon. But this was in the wild days of the spring of 1861, when politics was chaotic—when, in the language of Stephen A. Douglas, there were "but two parties, patriots and traitors;" and in a few days, as the echo of the rebel Beauregard's guns at Ft. Sumter was heard rolling over the land and thrilling it, under Gov. Yates' call of the 16th of April, the young Major's career of military glory and blood began, which was to cover his name with lustre, and shed honor upon Mattoon and Coles County in the service of his proud State and the country. On the 17th of April, 1861, a meeting was held at Mattoon, and Co. B, 7th Ill. Vol. Inf. (Mattoon Guards), was almost immediately formed, and James Monroe elected Captain. The company reached Springfield on the 19th, the first one outside of that city to get into camp, Col. Cook, of Springfield, tendering Company A. Soon the 7th Infantry was hurried to Cairo, where its "three months' service" was put in, and then in Gen. John Cook's Brigade of Gen. Paducah Smith's Division, under Grant, the three years' service of the regiment began. Its career of honorable and hard service was commenced at Ft. Donelson, Capt. Monroe commanding Co. B in this great engagement. Col. John Cook, commanding the brigade, in his official report to Gen. Smith, made special mention of the bravery, devotion and efficiency of the 7th Illinois Infantry, and of Capt. Monroe and his Colonel.

Capt. Monroe was "promoted for meritorious services rendered at the battle of Ft. Donelson," and was commissioned Major to date from March 21, 1862. As Major he went through the battle of

Pittsburg Landing or Shiloh, and the siege of Corinth. Maj. Rowett, commanding the 7th Illinois, at Shiloh, in his official report to Col. Sweeney commanding the 3d Brigade, said: "I am permitted only to mention the name of Acting Major Monroe, who gallantly sustained his share of the command of the regiment during the whole engagement." He had his horse shot, and was slightly wounded. After Shiloh, Maj. Monroe wrote to his wife: "If I believed in special providences, I should expect to be killed in the next battle. Dearly as I love my wife and babes, I would cheerfully, willingly give up my comparatively worthless life to restore to their friends and their country even one-tenth of the noble men who so gallantly offered up their lives on Sunday and Monday."

In August, 1862, the 123d Illinois Infantry went into camp at Mattoon, and September 5 the regiment was mustered into the service, James Monroe having been elected (virtually unanimously) Colonel. Companies A, C, D, H, I and K were recruited from Coles County. Many of the men had known Col. Monroe as a citizen, and all had marked and gloried in his soldierly record as Captain and Major.

On the 19th of September, Col. Monroe left Illinois for the front, with his new regiment, and was assigned to Terrill's Brigade of Jackson's Division, under Buell, and without ever having had battalion drill, started on the march to Perryville, Ky., after Bragg, and history records that "the 123d behaved with great gallantry," losing in less than one month from the time they entered the service, thirty-five killed, 119 wounded and thirty-five missing, and losing both brigade and division commanders. Then, under command of Col. Hall, of the 105th Ohio, in a winter campaign, Col. Monroe chased Gen. John Morgan through Kentucky and Tennessee, finally engaging and whipping him in a gallant fight at Milton, Tenn., March 20, 1863. This detached and independent service, frequently performed with his own regiment alone on expeditions and scouts, fitted commander and command for the noted service afterward performed by the First Mounted Infantry Brigade in the service, and the first command to secure the famed Spencer rifle arms.

In the early spring of 1863, while the army lay at Murfreesboro, organizing for the Chattanooga campaign, Col. John T. Wilder, the hero of Mumfordsville, Ky., determined to organize a picked command to march as cavalry and fight as infantry, and to arm them with the Spencer repeating rifle. Accordingly he chose the 17th and 72d Indiana and the 92d, 98th and 123d Illinois Regiments, and with the 18th Indiana Battery, led the advance of Gen. J. J. Reynolds' division of the 14th Army Corps through Hoover's Gap, and gaining the name of the "Lightning Brigade" through a general order from Gen. Rosecrans; then to Manchester and the railroads in the rear of Tallahoma, Col. Monroe being charged with the task of destroying the bridge over Duck River, over which he found a division of Confederates moving, as he approached with his regiment. In command of the 123d Illinois and 17th Indiana, Col. Monroe also made a raid west to Columbia and Centerville capturing some prisoners and hundreds of horses and mules. Then, with his regiment, Col. Monroe led Gen. Hazen's gallant advance on Chattanooga; and when Crittenden led his corps to Chickamauga by way of Ringgold and Dalton, Col. Monroe was with him, and then opened the fight at Alexander's Bridge, over Chickamauga Creek, and with Wilder's Brigade harassed the concentrating Confederate hosts, held Longstreet's opening assaults in check, and finally, with their deadly Spencer rifles, aided Thomas to the last to save the army from rout and disaster on that bloodiest field of the war.

Immediately after Chickamauga the rebel General, Wheeler, was sent to cut Thomas' communications north of the Tennessee, and Col. Monroe went with the brigade on what is known as the "Wheeler Raid," and fell in the cruel fight at Farmington, Tenn., under Gen. Crook, Oct. 7, 1863, at the head of his devoted regiment.

The following letters, addressed to Col. Monroe's wife, form only a fitting close to this brief sketch of a brilliant military hero, cut down early in what would otherwise have been a marked career of command and leadership:

CINCINNATI, OHIO, Jan. 15, 1863.

MY DEAR MADAM:

Nothing could afford me greater pleasure than to

testify my high appreciation of the modesty, gallantry and soldierly enterprise of the late Col. Monroe, who fell, gloriously leading his men in the battle of Farmington, when one brigade of our cavalry and Wilder's Mounted Brigade under his command, whipped two divisions of rebel cavalry under Gen. Wheeler. Gen. Crook, who commanded our troops, speaks in the highest terms of the coolness and gallantry of Col. Monroe on that occasion.

He had become known to me very soon after I assumed command of the Army of the Cumberland, for his prudence, sagacity and enterprise, distinguishing himself during the stay of our forces at Murfreesboro, in an expedition in the direction of Lebanon, wherein, with a small body of picked men, he soundly whipped a regiment of rebel cavalry, who had thought to cut him off.

Very truly yours,

W. S. ROSECRANS.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., Feb. 26, 1864.

MADAM:

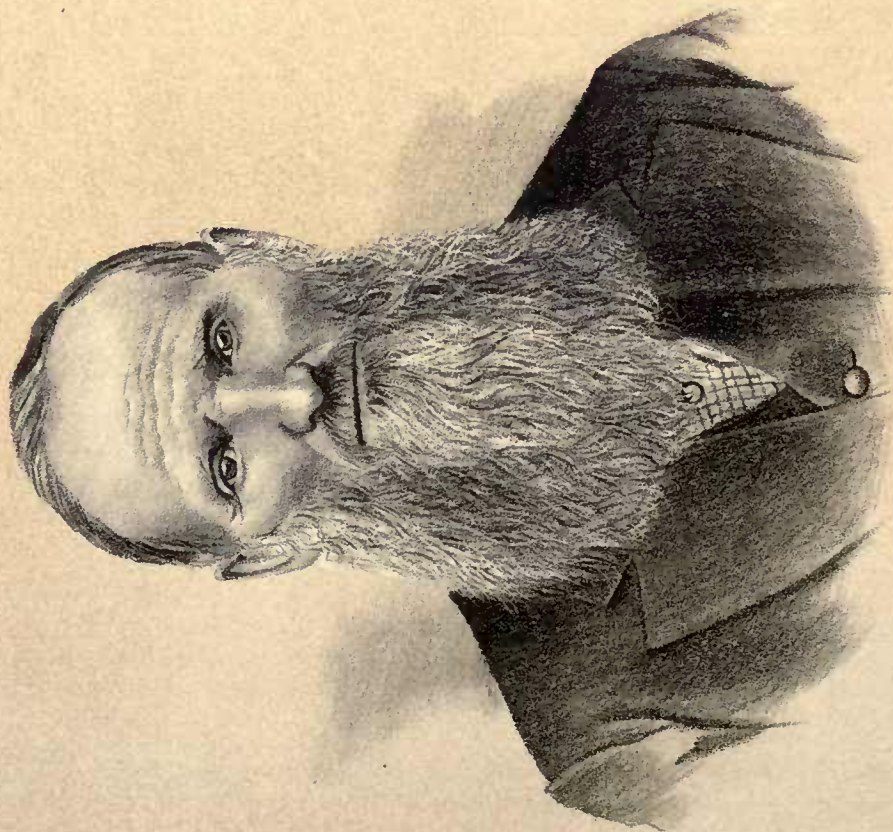
In your letter to Maj.-Gen. Reynolds dated 1st ult., you ask for a testimonial as to services of Col. James Monroe, late commanding the 123d Illinois Regiment. As it was our pleasure to serve with him, for several months during the war, we are able to bear testimony of the valuable services rendered by him. Col. Monroe commanded the 123d Regiment Illinois Volunteers, serving in the 4th Division of the 14th Army Corps in the Department of the Cumberland, during the campaign of 1863, in Tennessee, Northern Alabama and Georgia. The regiment formed a part of Wilder's Mounted Brigade of Infantry, which became famous by acts of military skill and daring. This brigade was the only one of its character in the Department of the Cumberland. Its organization was effected after much discussion as to the merits and capacities of officers and regiments. It was determined that the gallant Col. Monroe, with his no less gallant officers and men, should form a part of this corps of distinction and honor, from which much was to be expected. Nor was the selection ever regretted by the Division Commander, Maj.-Gen. Reynolds, whose judgment dictated the choice.

In all the movements of the division this brigade took the van, and in every achievement of the Army of the Cumberland, it was among the foremost in the conflict. In the general movement from Murfreesboro southward, Reynolds' Division with Wilder's men in the advance, secured Hoover's Gap by a bold dash and a hard struggle. Next, with a celerity which astonished the enemy, they appeared in their rear at Tallahoma, and contributed much in compelling their precipitate evacuation of that stronghold. After a short rest the advance upon

OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Hannah C. Cecil.



H. H. Cecil.

Chattanooga was determined upon. Again this brigade of mounted heroes was in requisition. They pressed forward over the mountains and surprised the enemy before their presence was suspected, or even dreamed of. Here by strategic threatening they held the enemy in suspense and uncertainty, until the main force of the army had crossed the Tennessee River and almost secured position in rear of the rebel horde, which compelled another flight.

In the great battle of Chickamauga this brigade was again in the advance, and gallantly fought the enemy for hours before the engagement became general, suffering heavy loss and inflicting no less severe punishment than they received. They fought with an endurance almost unequaled during that protracted conflict, and with the division commanded immediately by Gen. Reynolds, formed a part of the little band which held the field with a stubbornness that resisted every shock, even after the main portion of the army had yielded to the tempest of battle.

The partial success of the enemy encouraged him to throw forward all his available mounted force to harass the country and disturb our communications. Again this brigade was called upon, and nobly did they respond and sustain themselves. They met the enemy at every possible position, fought and defeated him, foiling him in his efforts and plans. In the battle of Farmington, Tenn., where our forces fought a superior strength of the enemy's cavalry and artillery and defeated them, Col. Monroe fell, and but few such sacrifices have been made upon our Nation's altar.

In every movement of this famous brigade, Col. Monroe contributed much in earning the fame to which it is so justly entitled. Selected on several occasions to take command of special expeditions, his management and success always determined the wisdom of the choice. Solicitous for the comfort of his men and the general condition of his command, their wants were always supplied, and they were always ready for duty.

As a soldier, Col. Monroe was faithful and fearless. He possessed a judgment which knew no flattery, a patriotism which knew no compromise with rebels.

* * * *

With great respect, yours truly,
JOHN LEVERING, Maj. and A. A. Gen.,
Chief of Staff to Maj.-Gen. Reynolds.

"His steed is dust,
His sword is rust;"
But live his name,
And glow his fame.

When thus cut down in the pride of his young

manhood, Col. Monroe left two children, Margaret in her fifth year, and Ruth, only a little more than two years old. Growing to womanhood, Miss Margaret was married, Feb. 14, 1883, to Mr. Noble Gordon, a young merchant of Metamora, Ind., of standing and influence, and, on the 9th of January, 1884, Miss Ruth became the wife of Dr. Corbin J. Decker, of Vineland, N. J., at present surgeon in the United States Navy.



HENRY HAMILTON CECIL, a substantial farmer and prominent citizen of Pleasant Grove Township, is the son of Samuel W. and Kasiah (Bryan) Cecil, and was born Feb. 15, 1826, in Mercer County, Ky. Samuel W. Cecil was a native of Maryland, where he was brought up to the shoemaker's trade, but subsequently engaged in farming. When a young man he removed to Kentucky, where his marriage took place. Mrs. Cecil was born in Virginia, but her family had removed to Kentucky in an early day. After his marriage Mr. Cecil remained in that State until 1830, and then removed to Putnam County, Ind., making that place his home until 1849. At that time he changed his residence to Davis County, Iowa, where his death occurred in 1870, at the age of seventy-three. His wife died in 1867, and was likewise seventy-three years old.

The family of Samuel W. Cecil and wife consisted of nine children, eight of whom attained maturity. Their record is as follows: William, a farmer, residing in Davis County, Iowa; Harriet, the wife of William Vallandigham, a farmer, also residing in Davis County, Iowa; Henry H., our subject; Andrew, a farmer, residing in Kansas; Jemima, deceased, was the wife of Joseph Evans, a farmer, residing in Kansas; Sally, the wife of James Wilcox, a farmer, residing in Missouri; John, a farmer, residing in Davis County, Iowa, and Mary. With his wife, Mr. Cecil was a member of the Baptist Church. He took little active interest in politics, but always voted with the Democratic party.

Henry Cecil was four years of age when his parents removed to Indiana. He passed his boyhood

and youth at his father's home in that State, and in 1847 was married to Miss Hannah Elizabeth Robinson. Mrs. Cecil was born July 23, 1827, in Kentucky, and is the daughter of Benjamin and Lydia Robinson. After his marriage Mr. Cecil purchased a small tract of land, and was engaged in farming in Indiana until 1863. He then came to Coles County, Ill., and during the first year was occupied in farming, and subsequently purchased a sawmill, which he operated two years. His preferences, however, inclined toward agriculture, and accordingly he purchased land and settled on the farm where he now resides. His estate contains 130 acres of well cultivated land, with good improvements.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil had a family of six children, one of whom died in childhood. The record of the remaining five is as follows: Fannie, the wife of John Roberts; Margaret Jane, the wife of John Baker; Henry H. married Miss Hester A. Randel, of this county; Mary, the wife of William Adkin, and Daniel E., who married Miss Lena L. Greene. Mrs. Cecil is a member of the Baptist Church. In politics Mr. Cecil supports the Democratic party.

In presenting the portraits of leading and representative citizens, none are more worthy of a place than that of Henry H. Cecil, both as a farmer and a leading resident of his township. We are pleased to give as a companion picture that of his esteemed companion. Both are shown on a preceding page.



J T. HANLEY, a native of the Prairie State, owns and occupies a comfortable homestead in Hutton Township on section 11, and since his residence here has identified himself thoroughly with the interests of the people of his township. He was born in Edgar County, Sept. 15, 1824, and is a descendant of excellent Irish ancestry, his grandfather, Samuel Hanley, having been a native of Ireland. The father of the latter died while he was young, and when about fifteen years old he ran away from home, determined to try his fortunes on this side of the water. He had read considerably of America, and without bidding his mother, brothers or sisters good-bye, embarked

on a sailing-vessel, and with the high hopes of youth, made the tedious voyage from Liverpool to New York. Thence he proceeded to Pennsylvania, where he engaged to work on a farm, and was very successful in his efforts in the New World.

Samuel Hanley married early in life, his bride being Miss Mary Ripple, and they settled near Louisville, Ky., where young Hanley established a distillery and remained in business for fifteen years. He finally sold out, and coming to this State entered forty acres of land at \$1.25 per acre in Edgar County, and not long afterward started a distillery there also, which he operated in connection with farming until his death. He departed from the scenes of his earthly labors in the spring of 1852, when about seventy-eight years of age. His wife had died three years previously, being seventy-five years old. The fifteen children born of this marriage were named respectively, Joseph, Matthew, William, Lyda, Polly, Sytha, Michael, Anthony, Samuel, Ephraim, John, David, Betsey, Sallie and Savilla. Most of these are deceased.

Joseph Hanley, the father of our subject, was the eldest child of his parents, and was born near Louisville, Ky., June 9, 1803. He received a very limited education, and upon becoming old enough to labor declined to work in the distillery and was allowed to confine his industry to the farm. Upon reaching a marriageable age he chose for his bride Miss Sallie Hendsley, who became his wife when a maiden of fifteen years. Soon afterward he entered forty acres of land in Edgar County, where he lived twelve years, then selling out went into Pike County and entered eighty acres. This also he sold two years later, and after buying and selling 160 acres, took up his residence in Hutton Township, this county, in the spring of 1836. Here he entered first eighty acres and afterward doubled his landed area, and proceeded with the improvement and cultivation of his property until his death, which took place Jan. 11, 1880. He had been a worthy and esteemed citizen, and a member in good standing of the Baptist Church.

The young wife of Joseph Hanley only lived four years after their marriage, dying while a resident of Edgar County, Oct. 4, 1828, and being only nineteen years of age. She possessed many

lovable qualities and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. There were born of this marriage four sons—William, John T., Samuel, and a babe who died unnamed. Mr. Hanley, in 1832, was married to Miss Sallie Bowen, and of this union there were born eight children, viz.: Joshua, Jacob R., Michael, Stanley, Mary Ann, David, George and Louisa. The mother of these died at the home of her husband in Hutton Township in May, 1862, aged forty-six years. She was a lady of many excellent qualities and a member of the Baptist Church. The third marriage of Joseph Hanley was with Miss Nancy Anderson, and took place in Hutton Township, Oct. 22, 1864. The only child of this marriage was a daughter, Nancy, and the mother a few days after her birth was taken with measles, and died Oct. 22, 1865. The fourth wife of Joseph Hanley was formerly Miss Mary A. Bates, to whom he was married in April, 1866. Their four children were Joseph, Arvilla, Marcus C. and Dennis. This lady is still living.

The subject of our sketch remained under the parental roof during his boyhood and youth, receiving limited school advantages, and early in life became useful around his father's homestead and has spent but few idle days during his whole life. After reaching his majority he went up into Grant County, Wis., where he remained twelve years, during the summer seasons, and spent his winters with his father. He was married, Jan 28, 1850, to Miss Nancy E., daughter of John and Nellie Donelson, who was born May 26, 1831, in Pennsylvania. Her parents were natives of Scotland, and her father was eighty years of age at the time of his death. The mother lived to be nearly as old.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hanley settled on a farm in Pleasant Grove Township, this county, where they lived one year, and Mr. H. then purchased 105 acres now included in his present farm. He has been remarkably prosperous, and is the owner of 640 acres, comprising the home farm, besides twenty-five acres in Edgar County and forty on section 12, in Hutton Township. His residence is a fine brick structure erected in 1874. The farm is situated near the banks of the Embarras River, five and one-half miles east of Charleston. Mr.

Hanley and his wife have no children. They are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, and politically our subject votes with the Democratic party. He has given much attention to diseases of horses, and for the last thirty years has practiced successfully as a veterinary surgeon.

JAMES SHINN, a retired farmer residing on section 13, Lafayette Township, is the owner of a fine estate, containing 435 acres of land, all of which is well cultivated and improved. It is divided into two farms, which are among the best in the county. Mr. Shinn was born Nov. 10, 1825, in Montgomery County, Ohio, and is the son of Ezra and Anna (Lane) Shinn. His grandfather, likewise James Shinn, was a native of Scotland, emigrating to the United States when a boy, and settling in New Jersey, where he was engaged in both the lumber and real-estate business. He was possessed of great shrewdness and energy, and met with remarkable success, becoming a very wealthy man. At his death he left each of his children a fortune of \$60,000.

Ezra Shinn was born in New Jersey, and after he had attained manhood he became a member of the firm of Shinn, Kissam & Cooper, a large mercantile house in Philadelphia. He left his business to serve in the War of 1812, and his partners taking advantage of his absence, sold out and embezzled the proceeds. Mr. Shinn was an unusually honorable man in business dealings, which led him to place too much confidence in others. He returned from the war to find himself a poor man, stripped of everything. At that time he found a true friend, Stephen Gerard, who allowed Mr. Shinn to use his name in order to buy goods, and through this kindly assistance he was enabled to settle up his business affairs and pay off all the debts of the firm. After this disastrous experience he resolved to come West, and accordingly moved to Ohio. The family resided there until about the year 1851.

After removing West Mr. Shinn never undertook mercantile business again, but engaged in farming. When the Civil War broke out, although he was nearly seventy-seven years of age, he

evinced his loyalty by going to Indianapolis and offering his services once more in defense of his country, but his friends interfered to prevent the execution of this generous and patriotic impulse. Mr. Shinn possessed a vigorous physique, and at that age was hale and hearty in appearance, looking much younger than his years. His death occurred in 1864, after an illness of four days. His wife, whom he married in Ohio, was a native of New Jersey, and died in 1854. Their family consisted of twelve children, of whom five are now living—Benjamin, James, Lavina, Ezra W. and Thomas. Lavina became the wife of William Kyle, and resides in Edinburg, Ind.; Ezra W. is a banker, residing in Lathrop, Mo., and Thomas is a farmer, also residing in Missouri.

James Shinn passed his early life in his native State, and was married in 1847, in Butler County, Ohio, to Miss Eliza Ann Barklow. Mrs. Shinn is the daughter of William and Anna (Lane) Barklow, and was born in Butler County, Ohio, Oct. 18, 1828. After his marriage Mr. Shinn was engaged in farming in Ohio until 1851, and then removed to Bartholomew County, Ind., where he owned land. He carried on a successful agricultural business there until 1865, when he sold out his interests and came to Coles County, Ill., where he has since resided. He settled on the place where he now lives in the early autumn of 1865. In the various States in which he has lived he has given his attention exclusively to agricultural pursuits, and has been to a marked degree successful in his business enterprises. He is now quite advanced in years, and desirous of rest and relief from the active duties of the farm, has rented his land, and is passing the closing years of his life in retirement and ease. He commenced life without a dollar, but his energy has been crowned with success, and he has acquired a fine property, enabling him to give his children \$30,000 to aid them in beginning life. During his residence in Illinois he has been very successful in dealing in real estate.

Mr. and Mrs. Shinn have a family of three children: Anna C., the wife of George East, a farmer residing in Wilson County, Kan.; Aaron, a farmer living in Lafayette Township, and George, a farmer, residing in Humbolt Township. Mr. Shinn is

fortunate in having his two sons near him in his declining years. He is universally honorable in all the relations of life, and has won the regard of all who know him, both in business and social circles. In politics, he is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, but is liberal toward those who differ from him in their views. He has never aspired to office, having no taste for public life, and being engrossed in his own business affairs. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church, but Mr. Shinn has never connected himself with any religious body, although he is opposed to none.



IRVIN JOHNSON has been a resident of North Okaw Township for over twenty years, during which time he has built up one of the finest homesteads within its limits. His property includes 320 acres of valuable land, highly cultivated, and supplied with a handsome and substantial set of frame buildings. The residence stands on a gentle elevation, some distance from the roadside, and invariably attracts the eye of the passing traveler, surrounded as it is by beautiful shade trees, with well-kept grounds and the evidences of a refined and cultivated taste. A beautiful grove occupies a portion of the premises, and the whole comprises a model country estate, evidently under the supervision of a proprietor whose taste and good judgment are apparent in every detail.

Mr. Johnson spent his childhood and youth on the other side of the Atlantic, in County Fermanagh, Ireland, where his birth took place on the 26th of March, 1832. He remained in his native country with his parents until the spring of 1850, when they all emigrated to the United States, and proceeding at once to Montrie County, Ill., located upon a tract of land and engaged in farming. Our subject had been fairly educated in the schools of his native county, and remained with his parents until his marriage, which took place on New Year's Day, 1863. The maiden of his choice was Miss C. A. M. Kleiver, who was born in Licking County, Ohio, Jan. 12, 1825, and was the daughter of G. M. and Elizabeth (Neibarger) Kleiver, natives re-

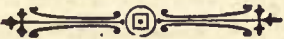
spectively of Pennsylvania and Virginia. The young people commenced life together on the land which our subject had previously purchased from the Illinois Central Railroad, and which forms a part of his present homestead. He operated this in company with his four brothers—William, John, James and Frederick. They continued together three years after his marriage, and then effected a division of the property, since which time our subject has carried on farming and stock-raising by himself.

Mr. Johnson has been greatly prospered, and wisely invested his surplus capital in more real estate, which could not be stolen by a bank cashier. The land is mostly laid off in forty-acre lots, and of late years has been devoted almost entirely to stock and grain raising. He feeds large numbers of animals annually, and ships principally to Chicago. He has made a specialty of Poland-China hogs, and has abundantly proved that fine stock is far more profitable than the common grades. Mr. Johnson has served his township several years as School Director, and politically affiliates with the Democratic party, which he has cordially supported since the time of casting his first Presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas. His estimable wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Quinn Chapel. Their only child died in infancy.

George M. Kleiver, the father of Mrs. Johnson, was born in Northumberland County, Pa., Jan. 7, 1789, and his wife, Elizabeth, a native of Shenandoah County, Va., was born November 21, of the same year. They were married in Licking County, Ohio, Jan. 30, 1817. Mr. K. owned land in Ohio, which he sold in 1856, preparatory to coming to Illinois. After reaching this State, he took up his residence in Moultrie County, where he carried on farming until his death, which took place Feb. 1, 1864. His widow survived until Nov. 25, 1879. Both were buried in the cemetery at Sullivan. The parental household included nine children, namely, Rebecca, Mrs. O. P. Powers, of Dresden, Ohio; Mary, the wife of Samuel McKinney, of Licking County, Ohio; Henry, who died in infancy; Evelina, the wife of Thomas Leggitt, of Kansas; Elizabeth S., Mrs. Barrick, of Licking County, Ohio;

C. A. M., the wife of our subject; Catherine, Mrs. V. C. Corkins; Willie J. and George J.

The paternal grandparents, Henry and Margaret Kleiver, were natives of Germany, and, emigrating to America, were among the earliest pioneers of Pennsylvania, whence they moved to Ohio, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Their children, all now deceased, were Henry, Frederick, George M., Joseph, Elizabeth, Catherine, Mary and Margaret.

 GEORGE L. MILLER is a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 23, North Okaw Township. He was born in Pleasant Grove Township in this county, Oct. 27, 1852, and is the eldest child of James L. F. and Rachel E. (Gray) Miller, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Illinois. His paternal grandparents, George and Elizabeth (Antle) Miller, were natives of Kentucky, and removed at a very early day to Illinois, where they were engaged in farming and stock-raising. His maternal grandparents were Richard and Rachel (Pugh) Gray, who were likewise natives of Kentucky and pioneers of this State.

James Miller was a child when his parents moved to Illinois, and grew up with the country in the pioneer days. After his marriage he settled in Pleasant Grove Township, where he now resides on the same estate which he then purchased, and carries on an extensive business in farming and stock-raising.

George L. Miller received a good education at the common schools, and attended Lee's Academy at Loxa for two years. He remained at home engaged in farming, associated with his father and brothers, until he reached the age of twenty-six, when his marriage to Miss Mary Isabel Smith took place, Oct. 31, 1878. Mrs. Miller was born Feb. 15, 1850, in this county, in one of the first log houses in North Okaw Township, and is the daughter of William H. and Mary (Osborn) Smith. Her parents were among the pioneers of this county. After his marriage Mr. Miller settled on a tract of almost wild land located on section 23, North Okaw Town-

ship, and by industry and close application to work has succeeded in bringing his farm, which contains 240 acres, to a high state of cultivation. His cottage residence, a view of which is given in connection with this sketch, is one of the finest in the county, and his other farm buildings are correspondingly appropriate and well appointed. He also owns forty acres of timber land.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller had a family of five children born to them—Allie, James Walter and Harrison S. (twins), E. Howard, and one who died in infancy; Harrison S. is also dead. Mrs. Miller is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Mattoon. Mr. Miller is one of the rising young men of the county. He is a warm supporter of the Democratic party, but does not seek political preferment and has never held office.



MRS. P. A. TROWER is the widow of the late Hon. T. B. Trower, and one of the influential residents of Charleston. Mrs. Trower is the daughter of Judge Jacob and Sinia (Clark) Cutler. Her grandfather, Benjamin Cutler, was one of three brothers, who came from England to America in the old Colonial days, the other brothers being John and Jacob Cutler. John came West, and no tidings ever returned of him; whether he met his death at the hand of some treacherous Indian foe, was slain in battle, or perished on the plains, was never known. Jacob settled in Virginia, and Benjamin in Maryland, where he became the owner of thirty square miles of land. He subsequently removed to Virginia, and spent the remainder of his life there. His family consisted of five children.

Judge Cutler was born in Maryland, June 9, 1770. His wife, Sinia Clark, was born July 1, 1795. She was the daughter of Andrew and Nancy (Fitzpatrick) Clark, the former a native of England and the latter of Scotland. They came to America in early life, and their marriage took place in Virginia. Subsequently they removed to Kentucky and thence to Indiana, where Mr. Clark carried on an extensive farming business. They passed the

remainder of their lives in that State, and reared a family of eight children, none of whom are now living. Judge Cutler removed from Maryland to Virginia, thence to Kentucky and thence to Indiana. He was there engaged in the mercantile business, and was for many years Judge of the Circuit Court. He possessed great executive ability, and was successful in all the enterprises he undertook. He invested largely in real estate and became the owner of thousands of acres of land. Fortune smiled upon his pathway, at every step enabling him to amass great wealth. But he regarded himself as a steward, who must give an account of his possessions. He was generous to his friends and benevolent toward the poor. He was warmly interested in promoting the spiritual and material welfare of the Methodist Church, of which both himself and his wife were prominent members. In business and social circles he was respected and beloved by all who knew him.

Judge Cutler came to Illinois in 1828, and for a time resided in Edgar County, and thence removed to Shelbyville. His family consisted of nine children, four of whom are still living, as follows: Nancy, the wife of William Shaw, a resident of Missouri; Polly Ann, now Mrs. Trower, the subject of this sketch; Otway, a resident of Ft. Madison, Iowa, and Rebecca, now Mrs. Barlow Espy, likewise a resident of Ft. Madison, Iowa. Her husband was killed at Chickamunga during the Civil War. The lives of all the children have been crowned with prosperity and success. The death of Judge Cutler occurred March 5, 1863, and that of his widow Nov. 3, 1872.

Mrs. Trower's marriage to Dr. T. B. Trower took place Dec. 21, 1833, at Shelbyville, Shelby Co., Ill. Dr. Trower was born Nov. 15, 1809, in Albermarle, Va., and at the age of nineteen commenced the study of medicine in Bloomfield, Ky., with Drs. Beamiss and Merryfield, spending three years under their instructions. In 1830, he came to Illinois and practiced medicine six years in Shelbyville. He then removed to Charleston, and was engaged in the mercantile business three years, after which he resumed his profession. His practice was large and lucrative, extending throughout this county and into several others. He was a member of the

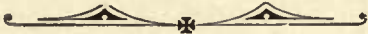
Esculapian Medical Society and the Wabash Valley and State Medical Societies. He was industrious and untiring in the discharge of his professional duties, and acquired a large fortune. His mental endowments were of a high order, and skill in his profession was united with rare business abilities. He was President of the Moultrie County Bank, of Sullivan, Ill., and Vice President of the First National Bank of Charleston.

During his residence in Shelbyville, Dr. T. represented the county in the State Legislature, was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1847, and likewise represented Coles County in the Legislature one year. On coming to Charleston he purchased a house and three lots on the northeast side of the court-house square, and erected a brick block, which is now used for the post-office, and also his fine brick residence on the block adjoining. He was also engaged in the real-estate business, and at the time of his death was an extensive land-owner. He possessed a broad and liberal spirit, and throughout life his habits were temperate almost to abstemiousness. He never made use of tobacco in any form, nor drank any spirituous liquor, and was never known to be idle. Such a life is more eloquent than a thousand temperance lectures. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, but his generosity in supporting the cause of Christ was not limited by a narrow denominational spirit. He belonged to the Brotherhood of Christ, and wherever the Master's work was to be done, he was ready with a helping hand. He donated a lot, and gave \$1,000 toward the erection of the Methodist Church, and was ever generous in affording aid to all worthy objects. He died April 15, 1878.

Dr. and Mrs. Trower had a family of eight children, four of whom are now living, as follows: Amerial, the wife of Dr. L. L. Silverthorn, a resident of Charleston; Sinia, the wife of Mr. Norfolk, a resident of Charleston, is the mother of two children—Mary and Thomas; Sally, the wife of Mr. Sayer, a resident of Chicago, is the mother of two sons—Rockwell and Edward; and Dr. Xavier B., a resident of Pana, Christian Co., Ill., married Miss Annie Pottenger, of Kentucky.

Mrs. Trower is a lady of culture and refinement, and also bears the responsibility of possessing great

riches. She is the owner of several farms in Coles and Sullivan Counties, a block of buildings in Charleston, is a stockholder in the First National Bank, and owns property in Chicago.



DR. SMITH TAYLOR, a physician of good repute, and who has been a resident of North Okaw Township since the fall of 1860, is an extensive land-owner and has carried on stock-farming with more than ordinary success. His property includes 478 acres in the home farm, 212 acres on section 31, in North Okaw Township, and forty-five acres on section 13. The family residence is a fine frame structure, which was put up after the close of the war. The barn is substantial and commodious, and in ordinary seasons the entire area of land is generously supplied with good water. Dr. Taylor has always been fond of country life, and would not exchange it for the King's palace in a crowded city. He has been prominent in the affairs of North Okaw Township since coming here, representing it on the County Board of Supervisors and serving it as Assessor. He cast his first Presidential vote for Frank Pierce in 1852, and since then has been a staunch advocate of Democratic principles.

The first recollections of our subject are of his father's farm in Niagara County, N. Y., where he first opened his eyes to the light, Aug. 20, 1829. His family was well known in that section. His paternal grandparents were natives of New Jersey, where they were reared and married, and whence they afterward removed to New York State. The Taylors are of German ancestry. The grandfather was an extensive land-owner in New York State, where he spent his last years. His family included five sons and two daughters, all of whom grew to mature years and were married. The sons were named respectively, William, Christopher, Henry, Jacob and Jeromus. The names of the daughters are not known to any of the living descendants.

Jeromus Taylor, the father of our subject, was the fourth child of his parents and was born in New Jersey. He grew to manhood in his native

township, and then going into Niagara County, N. Y., entered a tract of land in the Holland Purchase, where he made considerable improvement, and after a few years sold out and purchased on another section in the same county. This also he sold after a few years, and removing to Delaware County, Ohio, purchased land in the Military Tract. There he established a comfortable homestead, upon which he remained the balance of his days. He was married in Niagara County, N. Y., to Miss Wall, who became the mother of four children—Jacob, John, Mary A. and Elizabeth, of whom Jacob is the only survivor. The mother died in New York.

The second wife of Jeromus Taylor was formerly Miss Eliza Smith, to whom he was married in Niagara County, N. Y., and who became the mother of eleven children, namely, George, Henry, Smith of our sketch, Adam, Nancy J., Charles, Snsanna, Eliza, Elizabeth, Sarah and Jeromus. With the exception of one all grew to mature years and were married. The mother died in the spring of 1885, in Marion County, Mo. She was a highly esteemed lady and a consistent member of the Baptist Church.

Young Taylor received a common-school education and remained a member of the parental household until nineteen years of age. He was but three years old when his parents removed from New York to Ohio. After starting out for himself he was employed on a farm at \$12 per month during the summer seasons, and in the winter made himself useful in the shop of a blacksmith in Niagara County, N. Y. For his services at the latter place he was to receive \$6 per month, but only succeeded in obtaining \$13 for six months. The summer following he worked six months on a farm at \$12.50 per month, and in the fall returned to his parents in Ohio.

The marriage of Smith Taylor and Miss Lucinda Smith took place in Delaware County, Ohio, in 1851. Mrs. Taylor was born in Franklin County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Dr. Silas Smith. After his marriage our subject took up the study of medicine under the tutelage of his father-in-law, and two years later commenced practice in Delaware County, Ohio. After a few months he removed to Middletown, Champaign County, and thence two years later to Grove City, Franklin County. He then

crossed the Mississippi, and locating in Scotland County, Mo., took possession of a tract of land and carried on farming there in connection with his practice until the spring of 1856. He then recrossed the Father of Waters and purchased 160 acres of railroad land in Moultrie County, this State, and during the period of his four years' residence upon this, turned his attention entirely to agriculture.

Dr. Taylor became a resident of North Okaw Township in 1860, and for several years carried on farming and the practice of medicine. He then purchased his present farm, and for several years thereafter was entirely interested in agricultural pursuits, giving but little attention to his profession. He met with a severe affliction by the death of his wife, on the 5th of March, 1874. Mrs. Taylor was a lady of many estimable qualities, a faithful and affectionate wife and mother, and her death was deeply mourned by her family and friends. Their nine children are recorded as follows: Mary E., the wife of William Myers, is a resident of Coles County; Jeromus L. married Miss Rosa Baley, and is engaged in farming in this county; Samantha was married to Leonidas H. Ellison, of North Okaw Township; Jonah W. is at home with his father; Elizabeth is the wife of William Deckard, who is farming in Paradise Township; Charles is engaged in agricultural pursuits in this county; George and Walter S. are at home; Eliza died in infancy. The present wife of our subject was formerly Mrs. Matilda Brannon, the daughter of Simpson Kinnery, and widow of Thomas Brannon, who was formerly a resident of Cumberland County, Ill.



JOHAN G. SLATER, a prominent resident of the northeastern part of Coles County, owns a good farm on section 21, in East Oakland Township, where he located in the fall of 1869. His property embraces 350 acres of finely cultivated land, a commodious brick residence, erected in 1882, handsome and convenient out-buildings, and a good assortment of live-stock. He

has displayed excellent judgment in the management of his farming operations, has been wise in his investments, and uniformly successful in the various branches of agriculture in which he has been largely interested.

Our subject is a native of Loudoun County, Va., where his birth took place Aug. 11, 1830. His parents, George and Sarah (Shumaker) Slater, were natives of the Old Dominion, and both born in 1791. They died in their native State, George Slater in 1865, and his wife, Sarah, in 1881. Their marriage took place in 1829. The children of the parental household were John G., James W., Thomas E., Ann Eliza, who is now deceased, and Luther, who died in infancy. An infant died unnamed.

The father of our subject received a fair education in the common schools, and upon reaching manhood engaged in farming, which he followed the remainder of his life. Both parents were members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, in which the elder Slater officiated as a member of the Board of Trustees many years. His farm was carried on by slave labor, as he had been born and reared amid the surroundings of the peculiar institution, and had never questioned its justice and propriety. The mother of our subject was of French and German ancestry, but the Slaters were of pure German blood.

John G. Slater spent his boyhood and youth on the farm of his father in Virginia, and after reaching manhood married a lady of his own county, Miss Ann E. Ruse, their union taking place Dec. 9, 1852, Rev. Martin, of the German Reform Church, officiating. Mrs. Slater was born July 5, 1832, and is the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Day) Ruse, also natives of Loudoun County, Va., where they spent the early part of their life, and whence they finally removed to the Shenandoah Valley, where the death of John Ruse occurred Sept. 26, 1884. The mother is still living there. They were among the most highly respected people of the agricultural districts, and the mother belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. R. was broad and liberal in his views, a free-thinker and a man of more than ordinary intelligence. Their family consisted of six children, namely,

Mary J., A. E., Edward S., Julia, John and Lydia C.

Mr. and Mrs. Slater after their marriage continued in their native State until 1861, and then came to Edgar County, Ill., locating in Grand View Township, whence they removed a year later to Embarras Township, of which they remained residents until the fall of 1869. Mr. Slater then transferred his citizenship to this county, where he has since remained. Politically, he is a true-blue Republican, and during the late war illustrated his principles in the most forcible manner of which he was capable, by enlisting as a Union soldier, becoming a member of Co. B., 54th Ill. Vol. Inf. He was content to serve in the capacity of a private until the surrender of the Confederate army, enduring bravely and cheerfully the vicissitudes of war for the sake of the result, in which he had faith from the very first. He was in the Trans-Mississippi Department, and was at Little Rock and Ft. Smith, Ark., and though quite ill at one time, sturdily refused to be placed in the hospital, and finally triumphed over his ailments. At Ft. Smith he was detailed as Clerk in the Freedman's Bureau, in which capacity he subsequently served until the regiment was mustered out of the service.

The children of our subject and wife, eleven in number, are recorded as follows: Rosa E. is the wife of J. W. Stokes, of Oakland; Edgar F. married Miss Laura Braden, and is located in East Oakland Township; James S. married Elizabeth Boggs; Julius S. married Ella Unangst, and is in Kansas; John G., Owen, Charles W., Paul A. and Thomas D. (twins), and Luther A. are at home; Grant died in infancy.

Mr. Slater has been prominently connected with local affairs since coming to this township, and in 1887 was elected to represent East Oakland Township on the Board of Supervisors by a majority of ninety-one on the Republican ticket. He was also appointed as a member of the committee on roads and bridges, and of the committee on the equalization of personal property. He is liberal in his religious views, as is also his estimable lady. As a representative of the wide-awake and thrifty element of his township he stands second to none, and has contributed his full share toward its business

and industrial interests. He despises the idler, and when his hands are not employed, his busy brain is always devising some enterprise which will be of benefit both to himself and his neighbors. He is of the same stuff of which the earliest pioneers were made, and without which the great commonwealth of Illinois might have remained an uncivilized tract of country, given over to wild beasts and savages.



DUDLEY HOPPER, retired farmer, and at present a resident of Mattoon, first opened his eyes to the light in Knox County, Ky., Aug. 18, 1826. He is of Southern parentage, being the son of Jacob and Lovina (Garland) Hopper, the former a native of Tennessee, and the latter of Virginia. The Hopper family is of Scottish ancestry, but the Garlands were of English descent, the maternal grandfather of our subject having been born in England. He came to this country early in life, and served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was wounded in the head and a half-dollar piece was beaten out and placed over the fracture, where it remained until his death. After the independence of the Colonies had been established, Grandfather Garland settled in Clay County, Ky., where his death occurred. In the meantime he had married and reared a family, among his daughters being Lovina, the mother of our subject.

Jacob Hopper was reared on a farm in Tennessee, whence he removed to Kentucky while a young man, and was there married to Miss Lovina Garland. His parents remained in Tennessee and died there. Jacob Hopper and his young wife located on a small farm in Knox County, Ky., where in addition to agriculture he carried on coopering until 1837. He then emigrated with his family to Illinois, and located on a tract of Government land in North Okaw Township, Coles County, where as one of the early pioneers he endured all the vicissitudes of life in a new country. The first dwelling of himself and his family was a log cabin, covered with shakes, and furnished with a puncheon floor and a door of clapboards. The huge fireplace occupied nearly one side of the house,

and a chimney was built outside of mud and sticks. Within this humble dwelling their younger children were born. Jacob Hopper was a man of industry and perseverance and took an intelligent interest in what was going on around him. He encouraged the establishment of schools and churches, serving in his district as Director, and identifying himself with the First Baptist Church organization, of which he remained a liberal supporter until his death. The parental household included ten children, eight now living, viz: Andrew J., Uriah, William R., Dudley, Susan, Elizabeth, James F. and Rhoda.

Dudley Hopper was a lad ten years of age when his father emigrated to Coles County, and he was occupied around the homestead until reaching his majority, in the meantime receiving a common-school education. After leaving home he enlisted as a soldier in the Mexican War, becoming a member of Co. G, 5th Ill. Vol. Inf., and serving a term of eighteen months. At the termination of this conflict he returned to Illinois, laying a land warrant on 160 acres in North Okaw Township, upon which he built a log house and proceeded with the improvement of his farm from 1850 until 1884. In the meantime he had brought about excellent improvements and added to his first purchase until he became possessor of 423 acres, all of which he brought to a fine state of cultivation.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Jane Dixon took place in North Okaw Township, Jan. 17, 1850. Mrs. H. was the daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Dixon, of Virginia, and removed with her parents to Illinois, becoming a resident of this county in 1835. She departed this life at the homestead in 1870, leaving three children: George H., who married Miss Vina Jackson, and has three children—Elsie M., Walter E. and Minnie D.; Telitha, Mrs. Young, who has four children—Dudley, Homer, Rebecca M. and Eva G.; Harvey H. married Miss Etta Hitch, and has two children—Rowley and Lulu.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Dec. 16, 1870, was formerly Miss Margaret, daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Ritchie) Easter. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania and farmers by occupation. Her grandfather, Nicholas

Easter, who was born in Cumberland County, Pa., descended from German ancestry. Mrs. Hopper was born in Adams County, Ohio, in 1829. Her father had emigrated to the Buckeye State in about 1825, and carried on farming there the remainder of his life. Both parents died in Adams County.

As we have seen, Dudley Hopper was prospered in his business and farming transactions, and as declining years admonished him it was time to rest from his arduous labors, he removed, in 1884, to Mattoon and purchased ground at the intersection of Fifth and Shelby streets, where he put up two houses, one of which he occupies. This forms an attractive home, where Mr. and Mrs. H., surrounded by the friends whom they have made during a long and worthy life, are enjoying their later years in the ease and comfort so justly earned.

Mr. and Mrs. H. are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which our subject officiates as Steward and to the support of which he has contributed liberally and cheerfully for many years. He is Democratic, politically, and is a citizen highly respected for his sterling worth of character and the upright course which he has uniformly pursued through life.



ISAAC PERISHO came to this county over thirty years ago and settled in Hickory Township, where he successfully cultivated the soil and became the possessor of a fine estate, embracing 400 acres of land. After laboring industriously and accumulating a competency, the passing years and the decline of bodily strength warned him that it would be wise to rest. He accordingly abandoned the more active labors of life, and repairing to the village, has since lived in retirement in a handsome home, where he is surrounded by all the comforts of life.

Our subject is of French ancestry, his grandfather, Joseph Perisho, having emigrated from France and settled in North Carolina, forty miles south of Norfolk, on the sea coast. There he employed himself as a fisherman, conducting quite an extensive yard, and there remained until resting from his earthly labors in about 1801. The grand-

mother in her girlhood was Miss Nancy Sanders, also of French parentage. They reared a family of sons and daughters, among whom was Joseph, Jr., the father of our subject, who was born Dec. 25, 1785, in North Carolina, and there spent his childhood and youth. Upon reaching manhood he engaged in farming, and also operated a gristmill until twenty-six years of age. He then removed to Washington County, Ind., being one of the first settlers there, and built one of the first houses in the county. Here he was married in 1814. Six years later he removed to Monroe County, near Bloomington, settling in the timber, and clearing a farm from the wilderness. This he occupied until 1825, then sold out and came to Edgar County, this State, where he took up a tract of Government land, and remained a resident until his death, in April, 1838. He seemed to take pride in going into the uncultivated portions of the country and building up from the virgin soil a fine and fertile farm. He was prospered in his labors, and at the time of his death was the owner of 640 acres.

The mother of our subject, who in her girlhood was Miss Barbara Zink, was born July 25, 1792, and was the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Shelly) Zink, natives of Germany. Mr. Z. emigrated to America when a young man, and settled in Washington County, Va., where he engaged in milling on the Holston River. Thence he removed to a point near Louisville, Ky., where he followed milling and farming a number of years, and then proceeding to Salem County, Ind., was similarly occupied there until becoming a resident of Monroe County, in 1818. There he put up a saw and grist mill, which he operated until 1827, then selling out, came to Edgar County, Ill., and continuing his former employments, remained a resident of Grand View Township until his death, in 1841. His wife, Elizabeth, had preceded him to the silent land many years before, in 1819. They reared a family of nine children, three now living: Rosa, aged eighty-seven; Elizabeth, aged eighty, and Andrew F., aged fifty-seven. Barbara, the mother of our subject, died in her seventy-ninth year.

Isaac Perisho, our subject, was born in Monroe County, Ind., May 2, 1818, and in common with his brothers, was reared on his father's farm and re-

ceived a limited education. When not quite twenty years of age he was married, Jan. 9, 1838, to Miss Sarah Zimmerly, who was a native of Washington County, Va. This lady became the mother of three children, of whom only one, Jacob W., survives. The wife and mother died in Jasper County, Ill., Dec. 25, 1842. Mr. Perisho was the second time married, June 27, 1843, to Miss Lavina Purlee. This lady was a native of Washington County, Ind., and after becoming the mother of one child, a son, Hiram, died on the 15th of October, 1844. The present wife of our subject, who was the widow of James Wells, was formerly Miss Rossanna M. O'Hair, a native of Wolfe County, Ky., and they were married June 12, 1845. Of this union there were born five children, four now living, namely, Emily J., John E., Mary E. and Rosa A.

Mr. Perisho came to Illinois with his parents and all engaged together in farming in Grand View Township until 1825. The two families continued to live together until 1838, and then our subject removed to a farm adjoining that of his father, which he occupied until 1840. Thence he removed to Jasper County, where he improved a farm and remained three years. Then returning to Edgar County he located on a tract of land in Simms Township, which he cultivated until 1855, and then took up his abode in Seven Hickory Township, this county, where he became the possessor in due time of 400 acres and also was widely known as one of the most thorough and progressive agriculturists of that section. Since becoming a resident of Charleston he has wisely given himself his needed and well-earned rest, and in the companionship of his family and friends is beginning to feel that his last days are his best ones.

The record of our subject's children is as follows. Jacob married Miss Nancy Breeding, and they have seven children, viz., Allen, Ida, Elizabeth, Viola, William, Everet and Nancy; they reside on a farm in Edgar County. Hiram, who is farming near Paris, married Miss Eveline Morris, of Edgar County; Emily J. married O. C. Bower, a farmer of Morgan Township, and they have one child, Arthur E.; John E., who is farming in Seven Hickory Township, married Miss Aurelia Miller, and

they have one child, a daughter, Edith E.; Mary E. is the wife of Otis Davis, of Charleston, and the mother of three children—Minnie R., Llewellyn and Mabel P.; Rosa A., the wife of Andy J. Newman, of Seven Hickory Township, is the mother of three children—Oliver P., George M. and Ruby R. Mr. Perisho is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, and with his wife and children is a member and regular attendant of the Christian Church.

JOHAN M. DOTY, a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser of Charleston, is the owner of a fine estate containing 155 acres of choice, well-improved land. He was born Dec. 20, 1844, in this township (for the history of his parents see sketch of Levi Doty). He passed his boyhood and youth on his father's farm, receiving a good common-school education, and gaining practical experience in the details of farming. His marriage to Miss Mary E. D. Parker took place Nov. 13, 1864. She is the daughter of Fielding and Phœbe (Hughes) Parker, and was born July 18, 1847, in Scott County, Ky. Her family is of English extraction.

After his marriage Mr. Doty settled on the farm where he now lives. His farm residence is pleasant and commodious; his land is valuable and well improved, and he gives special attention to the raising of high-graded stock. In 1866 he removed to Scott County, Ky., on account of his wife's failing health, and engaged in farming there until 1869, when he returned to Coles County. His wife died Aug. 30, 1884. She was the mother of five children, three of whom are now living—Ludie M., Chauncy R. and Bertie. Mr. Doty, like his father, is a Democrat in politics, and has served two terms as Supervisor.

SAMUEL LIPPINCOTT settled in Coles County in October, 1855, at what is known as Greasy Point, where he rented land for a term of five years, and in the meantime saved enough to make a purchase of forty acres in the fall of 1859. This land is now included in his

present homestead, which he took possession of in 1851. Afterward he purchased eighty acres which his son now occupies, and in due time became the owner of 215 acres, upon which he perfected the improvements which had already been begun, so that he now has one of the most desirable homesteads in Morgan Township.

Mr. Lippincott is a forcible illustration of the self-made man, who began life equipped only with his strong hands and persevering disposition. At the same time he was remarkably fortunate in his selection of a life companion, his excellent wife having worked hand in hand with him, encouraging him under misfortune, and proving at all times a wise counselor and his most faithful friend. Their efforts in time were abundantly rewarded, and besides reaping the substantial benefits of their industry, they secured the respect and esteem of all who knew them. One feature of the homestead is the blooded stock, which includes one imported English Shien and one Hambletonian horse, besides a number of other fine animals.

Samuel Lippincott is the son of William and Phebe (Henry) Lippincott, the former a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1801, and the latter of Virginia, born in 1805. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Samuel B., a native of Pennsylvania, was the descendant of an excellent old English family, whose history has been preserved through the lapse of more than 200 years, embracing 500 individuals, and extending down to the grandchildren of our subject. Grandfather Lippincott, one of a family of three or four children, remained in his native State until quite an old man, then emigrated to Allen County, Ohio, during its early settlement, himself and family being among the first to locate there. He purchased a tract of Government land in about 1827, upon which the town of Lima stands, and which is now the county seat, and departed this life in that county in 1839. His wife was formerly Miss Elizabeth Morgan, to whom he was married in Pennsylvania. She was of German ancestry, and became the mother of seven children, viz., Morgan John, Samuel, Joseph, William, Henry, Jane and Elizabeth. Jane married and reared a large family; Elizabeth died in her youth. The boys were all married in Ohio and reared large

families; Henry, the youngest, became Sheriff of Allen County; William, the fourth son, was the father of our subject, and removed with his parents to Ohio, which journey was performed overland with teams. Upon one occasion the tedious days of travel were enlivened by the running away of all the teams in the mountains. They were recaptured, however, without serious injury to goods or animals.

The father of our subject was twice married, his first wife being Miss Lydia Waters, a native of his own State. They located upon a farm in Champaign County, Ohio, where they remained for a number of years, then removed to Allen County, whence, after a residence of eight years, they returned to Champaign County, where the father died. Of the first marriage there were born a son and daughter—John and Harriett. The former engaged in wagon-making in the city of Newark, and became the father of a large family; Harriett, the widow of James Daniels, is a resident of Wisconsin, and the mother of seven children. The second wife of William Lippincott was Miss Phebe Hensey, of Virginia, who became the mother of our subject.

Samuel Lippincott was born March 22, 1822, in Logan County, Ohio, whence his father removed not long afterward to Champaign County, where he grew to manhood. He lived in Allen County also with his parents, and after his marriage in 1847, followed farming in Champaign County until his removal to Central Illinois in 1855. The wife of our subject, formerly Miss Rachel Johnson, was born Sept. 20, 1826, in Champaign County, and was the daughter of Thomas and Anna (Heath) Johnson, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Virginia. Thomas Johnson was born in 1802, and was cut down in his prime, his death occurring when he was but thirty-seven years of age. The wife and mother survived until 1863, dying in Champaign County, Ohio, when sixty-nine years old. They were the parents of nine children, six now living: Eliza, Mrs. Jenkins, is the mother of five children, and lives in Ohio; Levi has a farm of 275 acres in Champaign County, Ohio; Emily married Samuel Smail, who died in April, 1897, and left three children; Mrs. S. is now living at the

home of our subject, in this county. Martha Ann married Peter Baker, of Urbana, Ohio, and became the mother of three sons and three daughters, two of the former now deceased; Rachel, Mrs. L., was the youngest of the family; Minerva, unmarried, is living with one of her sisters in Ohio. Levi, the son of David Johnson, served as a Union soldier in the late war, from 1861 to 1864.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Lippincott became the parents of eight children, all living, as follows: George William, born June 9, 1848, married Miss Mary Montgomery, and is the father of seven children; they occupy a part of the homestead; James Milton, born Oct. 4, 1850, married Miss Lulu Sumner, has two children, and lives in Moultrie County; Marietta, born Dec. 18, 1852, is the wife of William Combs (see sketch); Martha Ann, born Sept. 18, 1856, is the wife of John Hornaday, of Morgan Township, and the mother of two children; Rosella Jane, born Feb. 24, 1859, is the wife of Matthias Smith, of Seven Hickory Township, and the mother of three children: Lydia Celia, born Feb. 3, 1863, is the wife of James Smail, of Oakland, and has one child living, one being deceased; John Henry, born April 6, 1866, is unmarried and at home; Edward Theodore, born Nov. 30, 1868, was the last baby of the household, and is now a bright lad not quite nineteen years of age.

Mr. Lippincott in 1865 became a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and for a period of twenty years has been one of its warmest supporters and most cheerful givers. During this time he has officiated a long period as Elder, and has the pleasure of knowing that all of his family are gathered into the fold with him. He became connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1864, which had been organized at Union Point in 1845, by Mr. Ashmore, one of the early settlers of the county, and one of its most highly respected citizens, but afterward found it convenient to withdraw. Mr. L. considers that the best sermon he ever heard was preached in the early times in Ashmore Township. He assisted in hauling the material for the church edifice in which he now worships from Newport, Ind., in the winter of 1855, and was one of the chief pillars in upholding the organization amid discouragements and difficul-

ties. Politically he has been a staunch supporter of the Republican party since its organization, although only meddling in politics enough to determine the candidate best worthy to receive his support.

The brothers and sisters of our subject are recorded as follows: Jane, the wife of E. Smith, is a resident of Licking County, Ohio, and has a family of two sons and five daughters; Lydia Ann married George Smith, has six children, and lives in Scotland County, Mo.; George, a merchant of Springfield, Ohio, was married and became the father of only one child, who died young; he has been a widower for several years. Nancy died when two years of age. George served as a soldier through the late war. Soon after enlisting he was sent home on account of disability, but employed himself in recruiting a company, and going back to the field was appointed Lieutenant, and afterward Captain, receiving in the meantime a ball in the shoulder, which he still carries.

JAMES S. YEARGIN. The history of this gentleman, who is the founder and proprietor of the *Oakland Weekly Ledger*, forms a biography which will be read with interest and which is in its main points as follows: The paternal great-grandfather of our subject, William Yeargin by name, was a native of Wales. He married a Huguenot lady who emigrated with her parents from France. They settled near Winyaw Bay, S. C., and, further than that they reared a family of sons and daughters, little is known of them by their descendants.

The maternal great-grandparents were William and Ellen (Tripp) Swafford, of Scotch ancestry. This was said to have been a runaway match, but proved a remarkably happy one. To them were born seven sons, among whom was James, the grandfather of our subject, and after whom the latter was named. He served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and was under the command of Gen. Morgan at the battle of Cowpens. He married, in early manhood, Miss Miriam Julian,

who was a native of North Carolina, and of Welsh descent. She was one of the brave women of that day who sympathized with the Colonists in their struggle for liberty, and assisted in taking care of the wounded at the battle of Guilford Court-House, in her native State. Their son, Thomas, the grandfather of our subject, was also a native of Virginia, and served his country at the time that "tried men's souls" for a term of six years. He officiated as chief of the Commissary Department at Yorktown, at the surrender of Cornwallis. His son Peter, the father of our subject, was born in Loudoun County, Va., in 1785, and when twenty-four years of age, emigrated with his father to Randolph County, N. C. He was soon afterward married to Miss Patience Swafford, with whom he lived happily.

Peter Yeargin emigrated with his family to Illinois in the spring of 1846, locating in Edgar County while it was still a wilderness. He built up a comfortable homestead and resided there until his death, which occurred in 1863. He also, following in the footsteps of his forefathers, was at one period a soldier in the Federal army, and was stationed at Norfolk, Va., under the command of Col. Roderick C. Cotton, the hero of Craney Island. He served one year and received his honorable discharge.

James S. Yeargin, of this sketch, was born in Randolph County, N. C., Feb. 1, 1833, and came with his father to Edgar County, Ill., where he was reared and obtained his schooling in a log cabin, attending three months in the year until eighteen years old. His brother, Parmeno, having developed into a physician, our subject engaged to catch and saddle his horse, keep his office in order, make fires and milk the cow, thus paying his board while he kept on with his studies. He finally graduated under the tuition of "Uncle James Ewing," having learned all that individual could teach him, and then himself began the profession of a pedagogue, by which he was enabled to obtain funds to enter Wabash College. He took two terms in that institution, and afterward taught school in Illinois and Indiana until 1857. Then, desirous of settling down in life, he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth J. Koontz. They became the parents of

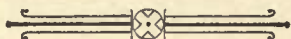
two sons and one daughter, and in 1863 removed from Edgar to Coles County, settling in Oakland, where they still reside.

The early efforts of Mr. Yeargin to obtain an education form a chapter in his history greatly to his credit. The people of East Oakland Township at once recognized his ability and worth, and in 1865 he was elected County Surveyor of Coles County on the Republican ticket, which office he filled with satisfaction to all concerned for two years, and then declined a re-election. In 1873 he was elected Police Magistrate of the village of Oakland, holding the office four years, and was then Clerk of the township for five consecutive terms. He was appointed Postmaster in 1885, under the administration of President Cleveland, not only as a reward for services rendered the Democratic party, but for having fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-townsmen.

The *Weekly Ledger*, with which our subject continues to be connected as senior editor and manager, is mainly edited by his son, Lyman T. The history of this newspaper is peculiar and a little out of the ordinary. It was established as a monthly on the 6th of September, 1878, and in size was about as large as a common-sized window-pane, it being a folio and each page printed at a run. Notwithstanding that at this time there was another paper in the village of Oakland, the *Ledger* by its strict attention to home matters, soon became the popular paper, and was, after a few months, published as a weekly, remaining the same size as before. Its proprietors possessed but limited means, and were not able to purchase a mammoth printing establishment, consequently were obliged to enlarge their outfit by degrees. Their progress, although perhaps slow, was sure, and in 1880 a large power press was secured, and the paper enlarged to a four-column quarto, set in nonpareil type, and still containing the larger amount of home news of the two papers in the village. This same year the politics of the paper was changed from Republican to Democratic, which it still remains.

In 1882 the *Ledger* was enlarged to a five-column quarto, its present size, and an entire new outfit

purchased. On the 28th of July, 1885, the elder Yeargin, having received the appointment of Postmaster, took charge of the latter office, leaving the *Ledger* practically in charge of his son, L. T. Yeargin, better known as "Nixie," a biography of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. The *Ledger* is accounted the leading local paper in Coles County, and the generous manner in which it is patronized by the people, is a sufficient indication of its influence and popularity.



GEORGE RAINES is proprietor of a blacksmith-shop, and also the owner of a farm containing forty acres of land, located in Lafayette Township. He is the son of George and Susan (Bland) Raines, and was born March 22, 1829, in Pendleton County, W. Va. His father was a farmer, and he was reared at home, assisting in the various branches of agricultural labor. He passed his early life in his native State and in 1852 came to Illinois, and settled in Lafayette Township. After his arrival here he was engaged for three years as a wage-worker in farm labor. But his preferences were not inclined to agricultural pursuits, and he subsequently learned the blacksmith's trade, which he has since successfully carried on.

In 1858, Mr. Raines was married to Miss Harriet Maze. Mrs. Raines is the daughter of William and Mahala (Coleman) Maze, and was born May 31, 1840, in Shelby County, Ind. A family of seven children was born to them, six of whom are living: Alice, now the wife of W. L. R. Funkhouser; Laura Belle, the wife of George Hurst; George B. M.; Etta Viola, the wife of L. D. Eldridge; Adeline and Martha. Mrs. Raines is a member of the Christian Church.



THE WOODS, editor of the *Mattoon Journal*, a daily and weekly paper which has become quite indispensable to the people of Coles County, is also part publisher and proprietor of the same, and has distinguished himself as a practical journalist of sound sense, and with a fair

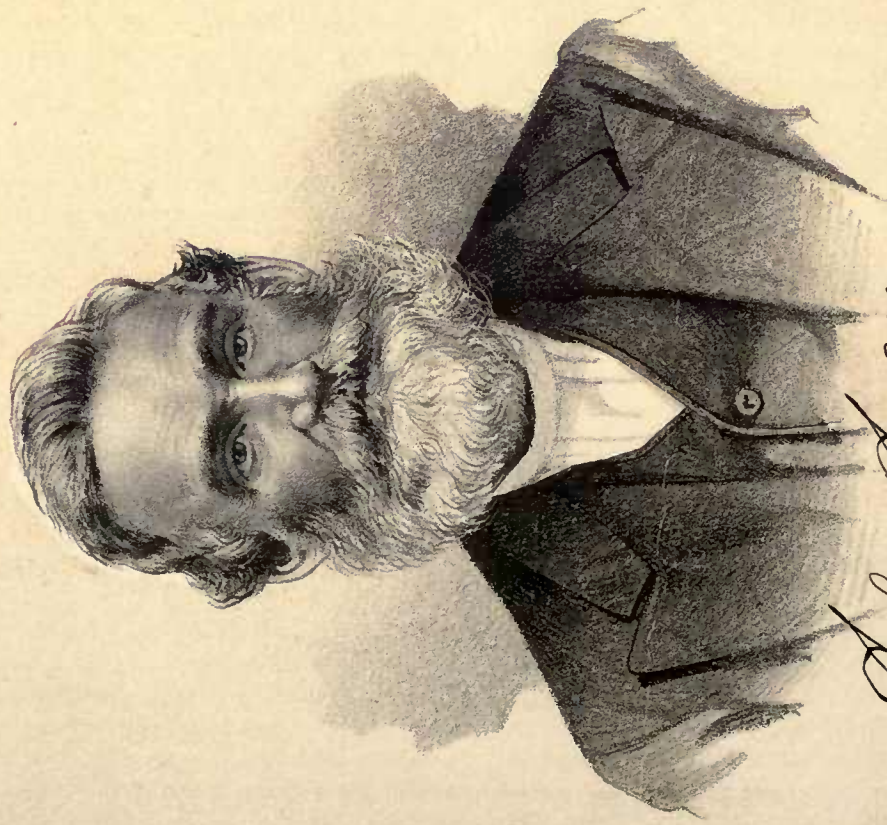
acquaintance of the needs of the people in this direction. He is a gentleman well known in this section of country, having been born in Lafayette Township, this county, June 2, 1837, and being consequently of the age when his capacities are in their full vigor, and his judgment, sharpened by an acquaintance with the world and human nature in general, has given him broad and liberal views of life.

The parents of our subject were Hiram and Margaret (Threlkeld) Woods, natives of Kentucky and highly respected members of the farming community. They emigrated to this county in about 1833, and from the undeveloped soil built up a good farm. During the late war, the father of our subject enlisted in the 62d Illinois Infantry, and gave three years to the service of his country. He participated in various campaigns, and was once captured by the rebels at Holly Springs, being, however, retained as prisoner but a short time. It is hardly necessary to say that he was a staunch Republican, and both parents were members of the Old-School Baptist Church. The elder Woods became more or less identified with the local affairs of the township, being a man of cool and temperate judgment, whose opinions were held in general respect. He possessed great enterprise and industry, and was a sub-contractor on the I. & St. L. R. R.

The parental family of our subject numbered six children, four now living, namely: Thomas E., of our sketch; Harriet A., Mrs. Bridges, of Malvern, Iowa; Winfield and Milton Y. The mother departed this life in Mattoon, in the spring of 1859. Hiram Woods survived until 1884, spending his last years in Mattoon.

Thomas E. Woods remained on his father's farm until he was a youth of eighteen years, in the meantime receiving a good education, and then commenced teaching school. A year later he engaged as clerk in a general store at Mattoon, and also officiated as Deputy Postmaster, being the second man to fulfill the duties of Postmaster at Mattoon. In 1858 he purchased the *Mattoon Gazette*, which he conducted two and one-half years, and then returning to the rural districts, engaged in farming for a year. He now decided upon the study of law, and going to Charleston entered the office of

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



John F. Hall



Elizabeth J. Hall

Hon. H. P. H. Bromwell, where he read law and at the same time officiated as editor of the *Charleston Courier*. The war now coming on he enlisted, in 1862, in Co. A, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf., and was soon afterward made Quartermaster Sergeant. Eighteen months later he became Sergeant Major, and the last year commanded Company H, being mustered out with a Captain's commission.

After returning from the army Capt. Woods purchased the *Mattoon Journal*, and since that time has had editorial charge. Under his supervision the *Journal* has become very efficient and popular as an exponent of Republican principles, while at the same time it is a lively record of local and general news.

Mr. Woods was married, in 1860, to Miss Lizzie N., daughter of Dumas and Lucy Jones, of this county. This lady died in 1866, and six years later Mr. Woods contracted a second marriage, with Miss Lonie V. Powers, of Griggsville, Ill., the daughter of Rev. William R. Powers, a native of Vermont, and now deceased. Of this union there have been born four children—Eulalie, Percival, Margaret and Hallie. Mr. W. belongs to the K. of H., the K. and L. of H., and is a member in good standing of the G. A. R.

JOHAN J. HALL, a substantial farmer and stock-grower of Pleasant Grove Township, resides in the dwelling erected and occupied by Thomas Lincoln, father of the lamented President. He is the son of Squire and Matilda (Johnston) Hall, and was born in Spencer County, Ind., April 12, 1829. His parents were natives of Kentucky, where they were married, and removed thence to Spencer County. In 1830 the family came to Illinois, and were among the early settlers of this county. Mr. Hall was a first cousin to Abraham Lincoln's mother, and his wife was the step-sister of Abraham Lincoln.

The Lincoln and Hall families moved from Spencer County, Ind., to Macon County, Ill., in the same wagon, and Abraham Lincoln drove the team. Both families passed one year in Macon County, during which period Abraham Lincoln split the rails which afterward became historic, and proved

a successful factor in his political career. It was the last work he ever did on the farm. In the following year both families moved to Coles County, and settled in Pleasant Grove Township. Mr. Hall's death occurred Oct. 5, 1851. His widow survived him many years, and died Feb. 20, 1878. They had a family of nine children, all of whom are now living, their record being as follows: John J. is the subject of this sketch; Nancy Ann is the wife of Miles Moore; Elizabeth J. married John Berry; Alfred L.; Louisa became the wife of Merrill Fox; Amanda is now Mrs. Robert Brown; Joseph; Rachel and Harriet, twins; the former is the wife of Alfred Payne, and the latter married J. E. Landrus. After the death of her husband Mrs. Hall married Reuben Moore, by whom she had one child, named Giles.

John Hall was reared on his father's farm in the pioneer days of Coles County. He assisted his father in the summer, and during the winter trudged bravely three and a half miles through the bitter cold and drifted snow to the nearest log school-house, which, when reached, afforded but little shelter from the sharp prairie winds, and the learning dispensed there was of a very rudimentary character. However, it was the best the times afforded, and much shrewd wit and wisdom were developed by observation and experience in those early days, if not acquired from book-learning.

On the 10th of April, 1866, Mr. Hall was united in marriage with Mrs. Elizabeth (Taylor) Gaston. Mrs. Hall was born Sept. 28, 1835, in Coles County, and was first married to Oliver B. Gaston, on the 23d of October, 1856. Of this union there were born three children, only one of whom is now living, Ludlow Gaston. In 1851 Mr. Hall purchased the estate of Thomas Lincoln, where he has resided since his marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have a family of six children, whose names are as follows: Harriet, Squire, Nancy Ann, Matilda, Abraham Lincoln and Joseph.

Mr. Hall has acquired his property by industry and energy. He owns an estate containing 325 acres of valuable land, and in conducting his farm gives special attention to stock-raising. Our subject possesses ample means to erect a fine residence, and will doubtless do so in the future, but so many rec-

ollections cluster about the old homestead, that they desire to retain it in a habitable condition as long as possible. Mr. Hall cast his first vote for John Fremont in 1856, and since that time has been a staunch supporter of the Republican party.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Hall is shown in this connection, as a fitting adjunct to the above brief sketch of his life, and as a companion picture we are pleased to place beside it that of his estimable wife.



ISAAC N. CRAIG, a wealthy and retired farmer, has been a citizen of Charleston for nearly twenty years, taking up his residence here after his abandonment of farm life in 1869. His homestead consists of sixty-two and one-half acres of valuable land adjacent to the city limits, and besides this property he is the owner of 700 acres elsewhere in Coles County. Since becoming a resident of Central Illinois he has distinguished himself as a wide-awake and enterprising citizen, identifying himself with the interests of the people, and being the especial encourager and supporter of the institutions pertaining to the intellectual and moral welfare of the people. He is one of the pillars of the Baptist Church, and has been connected with the Second National Bank as a stockholder and Director, since its organization. His career illustrates in a marked manner the influence which a man of wise judgment and generous impulses may exert upon a community, and the good which may be accomplished directly and indirectly by one, who, while looking after his own property, has a thought also for the interests of the community around him.

Isaac N. Craig is a native of Montgomery County, Ky., his birth taking place Sept. 25, 1810. His parents, Robert and Elizabeth (Nickel) Craig, were natives of Virginia, but reared in Kentucky. The paternal grandfather of our subject, also a native of the Old Dominion, was a blacksmith by trade, and the son of Victor Craig, who was of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and who settled in Virginia early in life, and engaged in merchandising. Robert Craig was born in 1781, and was but a lad when his parents moved to Kentucky. He was reared on a farm and within the confines of Strode

Fort, to which his father at one time removed for protection from the Indians. He received the advantages of a good English education, and remained in the Blue Grass regions until 1828, in the meantime being bred to farming pursuits. He carried on agriculture several years, then sold out, and coming to Clark County, this State, purchased a quarter section of Government land upon which he built a log house, and proceeded with its improvement and cultivation until 1842. Thence he removed to Edgar County, where he remained until his death, in 1847. His wife also died the same year. Robert Craig was a staunch Democrat, politically, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812. He was one of the first to identify himself with the Masonic fraternity, and was also connected with the Universalist Church. His wife, Elizabeth, was a Baptist. They reared a family of eight children, of whom only two survive, namely, Isaac N. and his sister, Narcissa, Mrs. Thomas Davis, of Morgan Township, this county.

The subject of this history was reared on the farm until about twenty-one years of age, receiving a common-school education. One of the first steps toward the establishment of a home, was his marriage with Miss Catherine Henson, a native of Kentucky, which took place at the home of the bride, April 14, 1831. After their marriage, the young people located upon sixty acres of land in Clark County, given them by the father of our subject, and of which they retained possession for five years. Mr. Craig then sold out and purchased 164 acres in Morgan Township, this county, which he occupied thirteen years, and where his wife died, leaving five children, three now living, namely, Lafayette; Elizabeth, Mrs. Gregg, and Harriet, Mrs. Mitchell.

The second wife of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Elizabeth Bloyer, who was born in Pennsylvania, and is the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Harding) Bloyer, natives of Switzerland. They emigrated to America in 1817, and located in Pennsylvania, where they became the parents of three children, of whom Mrs. C. is the only one living. Mr. Bloyer only lived seven years after coming to America. The mother afterward came to this county, and locating at Charleston, remained a resident there until her death, in 1851. The union

of Isaac N. Craig and Miss Elizabeth Bloyer resulted in the birth of six children, namely, Catherine, now Mrs. McMullen; James W., practicing law at Mattoon; Andrew J., a farmer; L. E., Mrs. Swange; Isaac B., an attorney at Mattoon, and Thomas J.



SAMUEL WYETH, a son of one of the earliest pioneers of this county, is located on the land entered by his father from a Mexican land grant in 1853, and which he purchased of the latter, in 1853. He is located on section 27, in Seven Hickory Township, with whose farming interests he has been identified for the last thirty years. He is a New Englander by birth, his native place being Franklin County, Mass., where he was born Nov. 20, 1832. His father, Nathan S. Wyeth, was born in Massachusetts May 16, 1801, and his mother, formerly Miss Hannah P. Kellogg, a native of the same State, was born in 1800.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Gad Wyeth by name, and a native of the Bay State, was born July 27, 1763, and married Miss Mary Kendall, also a native of Massachusetts, born Dec. 3, 1770, their wedding taking place at the home of the bride in 1792. They became the parents of six children, namely, Jonas Parker, born Oct. 27, 1793; Gad, Jr., July 4, 1795; Joseph S., Nov. 8, 1796; Mary, Sept. 15, 1799; Nathan S., May 16, 1801, and David, Oct. 3, 1802.

The eldest son of the grandparents' family, Jonas P., emigrated to Illinois about 1853, having been married to Miss Margaret Files, July 25, 1825. He located on a farm in Humbolt Township and died there. His widow afterward removed to Michigan, where her death took place after a few years. Gad W. married Miss Elizabeth Chase, May 18, 1823, and died in middle life in his native State; Joseph S. married Miss Sallie Star, Oct. 11, 1823, and is a resident of Massachusetts; Mary W. became the wife of Silas Stites, Feb. 9, 1825; David married Miss Sallie Kellogg, Jan. 2, 1826, and died in Ohio; his widow is still living there. Nathan S. removed from Massachusetts to Ohio, where he lived until 1851, then came to this county

and located in Seven Hickory Township, where he became a large land-holder; he died Aug. 11, 1864; his wife, the mother of our subject, died Feb. 6, 1866. Years ago he united with the Baptists, but subsequently became a Methodist. His wife was also a member of the latter church.

The parents of our subject were married Nov. 15, 1824, and to them were born the following children: Nancy E., born Nov. 7, 1825; Leonard J., born Jan. 13, 1827, married Miss Malinda Northway, and is a resident of Tuscola, Ill.; they have two children, a son and daughter, Clarence and Emma. Joseph S., born Sept. 13, 1828, is a resident of Douglas County; Albert B., born Dec. 22, 1829, is married and a resident of Seven Hickory Township, his wife being formerly Miss Angelina Carris; their children are George and Cora. Samuel K., our subject; Thomas S., born June 21, 1833, has been twice married, and is a resident of Seven Hickory Township; Mary K., born Dec. 28, 1838, is the widow of John F. Coffey and a resident of Douglas County; Delilah, born June 7, 1841, died the following year in Licking County, Ohio. The father of our subject came to Illinois in 1851, opened up a good farm in Seven Hickory Township, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits. While on a visit to Tuscola he died at the home of his son, Aug. 11, 1864. The wife and mother departed this life in Seven Hickory Township Feb. 6, 1866.

The subject of our sketch was but a youth when his father emigrated to Ohio, and received a limited education, continuing under the parental roof until reaching his majority. Soon afterward he started out for himself, first farming on rented land and then purchased 160 acres of his father, where several years later he engaged largely in the cultivation of broom corn, and afterward turned his attention to stock-raising in addition to diversified farming. In 1879 he put up a commodious frame residence, and is amply supplied with other necessary farm buildings.

Samuel Wyeth was married, Oct. 27, 1857, to Miss Catherine Combs, who was born in Clark County, Ind., Aug. 29, 1838, and is the daughter of William and Margaret (Myers) Combs, natives respectively of Indiana and Kentucky. They

located in Coles County in 1853, where the mother died July 2, 1880. The father is also deceased, dying Sept. 1, 1874. Their children were, Mary Jane, now a resident of Indiana; Nancy, deceased; Catherine, the wife of our subject; William and Margaret, deceased; Rachel, the wife of Thomas C. Coffey, and John, who died Nov. 22, 1872. All were members of the Christian Church. The children of our subject and his wife are, William Madison, James F., Thomas J., Mary J., John, who died at the age of three, and Minnie when one year old. The only daughter living became the wife of Abraham Hardin, and resides fifteen miles east of Louisville, Ky. The others are at home with their parents.

Mr. Wyeth, politically, is one of the most reliable members of the Republican party, and with his wife and children is connected with the Christian Church at Rural Retreat. The home farm of Mr. Wyeth comprises 480 acres, which is one of the finest and best improved in the county. Besides the home place he has 160 acres across the line in Douglas County, 200 acres in Morgan Township, and 700 acres more in different localities in Seven Hickory Township, making a grand total of 1,540 acres. Besides his farm property he is a stockholder in the Arcola Bank in Douglas County, and in all respects a representative citizen of the progressive and enterprising Prairie State.



A M. MOZIER, Trainmaster of the I. & St. L. R. R. at Mattoon, an experienced railroad man, and who has occupied his present position since the fall of 1882, is a native of Morrow County, Ohio, born near Mt. Gilead, May 31, 1843. His parents, Luther D. and Abbie L. (Harrison) Mozier, were natives respectively of Vermont and New Jersey. The elder Mozier when a young man emigrated from his native State to Knox County, Ohio, and being in possession of a good education, entered upon the profession of a school teacher, which he followed for many years. After abandoning this he engaged in

farming, merchandising and railroading. He was a man of great energy, and was prominent in the local affairs of his county, being one of the staunchest adherents of the Republican party in that section. He was also an Abolitionist, and raised his voice whenever opportunity occurred in behalf of human freedom. Both parents belonged to the United Brethren Church. Luther Mozier and his excellent lady lived to celebrate their golden wedding, in 1882, which was a most interesting event participated in by their six children, and a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

The parental family of our subject consisted of seven children, six now living, as follows: Joseph W. was for many years engaged in farming in Ohio, but is now retired, and a resident of Edison, that State; William H., also retired from active labor, is a resident of Van Wirt, Ohio; A. M., of our sketch, was the fourth child; George W. is a resident of Kansas City, where he deals in real estate; Mary L., Mrs. Dodge, is a resident of Valparaiso, Ind.; Charles R., residing in Edison, Ohio, is agent for the Bee Line, Ohio Central & Mt. Gilead Railroad. He is also interested in farming and other business, being, like his father, a wide-awake and energetic man who never spends any time in idleness.

The subject of this sketch remained under the parental roof until after reaching his majority, in the meantime receiving a good education and completing his studies in the High School. He also learned telegraphy and was engaged at Delaware and Crestline with the Bee Line Railroad Company, in the capacity of telegraph operator and ticket agent for twelve years. In 1866 he engaged in merchandising, but railroading seemed his natural sphere, and going to Rochester, Pa., he engaged as an operator with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, remaining four years, and then being transferred to Dennison, Ohio, as train dispatcher. Not long afterward he was made chief train dispatcher, which position he occupied over ten years, in the meantime having been appointed manager of the telegraph department. In February, 1882, desiring to come West, he accepted the position of chief train dispatcher for the I. & St. L. R. R. Co., at Mattoon, in which position he was engaged eight months and then appointed to his present place.

His long experience and natural adaptation to business of this kind, have rendered him a valuable and trusted employe of a great and responsible corporation.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Marianne, daughter of William H. Boure, of Crestline, Ohio, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents, July 11, 1865. Of this union there have been born two children: M. Lee, now book-keeper and cashier for George N. Buck, a dry-goods merchant of Mattoon; and Edna L., at home with her parents. The family residence is pleasantly located on Charleston street, and our subject with his estimable lady, now enjoys the society of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. They are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Mozier has been Elder for some time. Politically, he is a Republican, and socially, belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Knights and Ladies of Honor. He has some property in the city, and is Vice President of the Mattoon Gas and Fuel Company.



WILLIAM J. SHIELDS, a native of Coles County, was born on the farm of his father, in Oakland Township, May 5, 1844, and at an early age became intimately acquainted with the routine of farm life, which he has since followed as the vocation of his choice, and by means of which he has built up a good home and surrounded himself with all the comforts of life. His property is pleasantly located on section 28, in the township of his birth, and he has naturally become identified with the interests of the people around him, both socially and financially.

The parents of our subject were John and Sarah (Sublet) Shields, the former born in Jennings County, Ind., Oct. 1, 1814. The mother was a native of Kentucky, her birth taking place in Garrard County, July 28, 1819. Both came to Illinois with their parents when young people, and were married in Charleston, this county, in October, 1835. In due time they became the parents of eleven children, of whom seven are still living: Elzina died

in infancy; Susanna died when about five years of age; Rebecca married John H. Patton and lives near Hinesboro, Ill.; William J., of our sketch, was the fourth child; James died young; Lucinda J. became the wife of Justin H. Hanley, now Sheriff of Edgar County; Jessie M. is living near Camargo, Douglas County; Daniel; Nancy B., who married J. H. Comstock, and Sarah E., the wife of Wilford Dean, are residents of Edgar County; John M. died in infancy. John Shields officiated for a period of thirty years as a minister of the Predestinarian Baptist Church, commencing his labors at Sugar Creek Church, in 1843. His standing in the ministry was of the highest, and the number of persons baptized by him ran up into the hundreds. He was serving the Providence Church in Edgar County, when death overtook him, May 13, 1873.

William J. Shields received but a limited education in his youth, attending school only occasionally during the winter season, his time being otherwise employed on his father's farm. One of the most important events of his early manhood was his marriage, which took place Oct. 29, 1862, his chosen bride being Miss Mary E. Buckler, and the ceremony being performed by Rev. Coleman E. Dawson, of the Baptist Church. Of this union there were born three children—Jesse, John T. and Alma A. The mother died Feb. 22, 1877.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Jan. 23, 1879, Thomas Wyatt, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, officiating, was formerly Miss Ann E. Spry. She was born in Ohio, Feb. 8, 1850, and is the daughter of Isaac H. and Catherine (Hunter) Spry, both also born in Ohio, in about 1818. They were married in their native State, and came to Illinois in 1857, locating near Murdock, where they now reside. Mr. and Mrs. Shields have one child, a daughter, Bertha. Mr. S., realizing the disadvantages of limited schooling, is giving his children a good education, and fitting them for intelligent and useful members of society.

The father of Mr. Shields left him forty acres of land, which he afterward sold, and purchased his present homestead of fifty acres, which he has brought to an excellent state of cultivation, believing with Horace Greeley, that a small acreage well tilled is more advantageous than a large area partially neg-

lected. The farm buildings are convenient and comfortable, and everything about the premises denotes the industry and thrift of the proprietor.

ARTHUR F. HARMON, a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 7, Oakland Township, was born Oct. 4, 1828, in Clermont County, Ohio, and is the son of John and Martha (Vandyke) Harmon, natives of Kentucky, the father born in 1800. His parents removed to Ohio when he was two years of age, and he passed his life there engaged in farming. John Harmon was twice married. His first wife was Elizabeth Chapman, who died four years after their marriage, leaving two little children: Catherine, who died at the age of nineteen years, and Elizabeth, the wife of Samuel Wyse. By his second marriage, which took place in 1826, six children were born, whose record is as follows: Arthur is the subject of this sketch; Susan is the wife of George Gregg; Mary is the wife of Wyatt Barr; John has been thrice married, the first time to Miss Molly Carr; after her death he was married the second time, to Miss Lida Burton, and his third marriage was with Miss Maria Jennie Coswell; Martha is the wife of Edward Dowden, and Eliza E., the wife of James Barr.

Arthur Harmon was married, Feb. 4, 1852, to Miss Rebecca Gregg. Mrs. Harmon is the daughter of Hiram D. and Elizabeth (Humlong) Gregg, and was born May 12, 1834, in Clermont County, Ohio. Mr. Gregg is of German extraction, and belongs to one of the pioneer families of Bracken County, Ky., where he was born in 1805; his wife was also born there, in 1807. They subsequently removed to Ohio, where they are now living. Mr. Gregg possessed excellent business qualifications, was prosperous and successful in farming, and acquired independence and ease, in which to pass the closing years of life. He is a public-spirited man, and in his earlier life possessed great influence in the public affairs of the community. He is one of the pillars of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has been Class-Leader and Steward for many years. In politics he is a staunch supporter of

the Republican party, and during the Civil War was devoted to the Union cause. His wife has been a noble, Christian woman throughout her life, having always taken an active interest in church work, and in her home has been an affectionate wife and devoted mother. Their family consisted of eleven children, whose names are as follows: Aaron H., George H., Rebecca, Vincent H., Samuel H., John H., Hiram F. and Mary E., twins, and three who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Harmon have a family of ten children, whose record is as follows: Mary E., the wife of Milton Garrison; Mattie B., the wife of John Yenawine; Luella; Josie M., the wife of Ralph D. Dollar; John A., Edward W., Effie, Ida, Stanley H. and Nellie G.

In 1869 Arthur Harmon came to Illinois, and located in Edgar County, remaining there six years. He then removed to Douglas County, but subsequently sold out, and in 1882 settled on his present farm in this county, which consists of 236 acres. Mr. Harmon and his wife are highly esteemed members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are actively interested in promoting its interests. In politics Mr. Harmon is an ardent supporter of the Republican party.

THOMAS SENTENEY has been a resident of Coles County for more than thirty years. His estate, located on section 27, North Okaw Township, contains eighty acres of choice land. He was born May 16, 1819, near Maysville, Ky., and is the son of Joab and Elizabeth (Doing) Senteney. His great-grandfather, John Senteney, was of German parentage, although born in the United States. He married Miss Mary Hyde, a native of England, and they made their home in the East, dying in the vicinity of New York City.

His grandfather, John Senteney, was born in 1761, in New Jersey, and his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Houghton took place there. She was likewise a native of New Jersey. In the year 1790 he moved West with his young wife, and purchasing land near Maysville, Ky., made his permanent home there. After a long life of usefulness his death occurred in 1835 at a ripe old age. His

widow survived him several years, and passed away in 1845. Both are buried in the Lawrence Creek Cemetery, near Maysville. Their family consisted of seven children—Thomas, Joab, Nancy, Catherine, Charity, Mary and Elijah, all of whom attained maturity and married. John Senteney and his wife were, during their lifetime, members of the Baptist Church, and were actively engaged in promoting its interests and building up the cause of Christ.

Joab Senteney was born in 1794, near Maysville, Ky. At that early day the educational advantages of the West were very limited, and he had little opportunity for mental cultivation. Business affairs required his father's absence from home most of the time, and at the age of twenty-one Joab took charge of the farm, and remained on the homestead until his father's death. His marriage to Miss Elizabeth Doing took place in the year 1816. Mrs. Senteney was the daughter of Thomas Doing, and was born in Virginia.

At the time of his father's death Joab Senteney was forty-four years of age, and, taking his share of the estate, went to Franklin County, Ind., where he purchased eighty acres of timber land, which he cleared and cultivated for about five years. He then disposed of his interests in Indiana and removed to Morgan County, Ill. Renting land near Jacksonville he carried on a successful farming business there for about fourteen years, and in the autumn of 1855 removed to that part of Coles County which is now included in Douglas. He there entered forty acres, which he improved and cultivated, making that place his home for life. Mr. Senteney was active and industrious in business, and successfully passed through the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life, in two different States. He was retiring in disposition, and devoted to the interests of his home, never desiring to mingle in public affairs. With his wife he was a member of the Christian Church. Having finished his life work he died in 1863. His widow survived him several years and died in 1875, and they both lie at rest in the old Humbolt burying-ground.

The parental family consisted of nine children: John, deceased, was married to Elizabeth Bobbet;

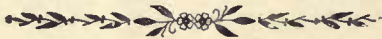
Thomas, the subject of this sketch; Elizabeth, the wife of Oliver Huckstep; Nancy died at the age of sixteen; Robert married Miss Jane Fleming, and resides in Guthrie County, Iowa; William married Miss Minerva Christman, and both died, leaving a family of six children; Jacob married Miss Elizabeth McNealy, and both also died, leaving a family of four children; Peter G., deceased, was married to Miss Ellen Hosteller; Mary is the wife of Martin Lathrop, and resides in this State.

Thomas Senteney attended the subscription schools in the early days, which afforded but meager advantages for education. He was a bright, intelligent boy, and possessed a natural talent for mechanical work. He had often worked with his grandfather in his shop, and became very skillful in the use of tools. Circumstances, however, led him to follow the occupation of agriculture rather than mechanics, and he remained on the homestead assisting his father on the farm until his marriage with Miss Ann Fleming, which took place April 27, 1842. Mrs. Senteney was born Sept. 8, 1824, in Parke County, Ind., and is the daughter of Stephen and Jane (Kerr) Fleming. After his marriage Mr. Senteney removed to Morgan County, Ill., and engaged in farming on rented land until 1847, when he purchased forty-seven acres in that township. In the autumn of that same year he accidentally cut his foot while chopping wood, inflicting a severe wound, which has ever since disabled him to some extent. In 1853 he disposed of his property in Morgan County, and entered eighty acres in North Okaw Township, on the day after Franklin Pierce was elected to the Presidency. He took possession of the place with his family the February following, and has since made his home here. He also owns a small tract of timber land.

Mr. and Mrs. Senteney have a family of eleven children, recorded as follows: George W., born in July, 1843, enlisted in 1864 for 100 days' service in the Civil War, and was stricken down with the measles during his absence, and died Nov. 9, 1865, soon after reaching home; Melissa died in infancy; John T. married Miss Lonisa Kelly, and resides in Humbolt County, Cal.; Martha died in infancy; Sarah is the wife of William Beatty, and a resident of Douglas County, Ill.; Mark married Miss Martha A.

Trout, and resides on the homestead, managing his father's farm; Joab died in infancy; James L. married Miss Ida Walker, and resides in this county; Julia, Samuel and Emma all reside at home.

Mr. Senteney's farm is well improved, and mostly fenced in ten-acre lots. His farm is considered one of the best in the State. He has some tiling on the place and a substantial frame residence with good farm buildings. With his wife he has been throughout life a consistent member of the Christian Church. In politics Mr. Senteney is a Republican, and is active in sustaining the principles of that party. He is interested in educational affairs, and has been School Trustee for ten years; he is also serving his second term as School Director, and has been Assessor one term.

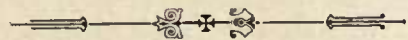


Z J. BAIRD, one of the early residents of Coles County, is a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser, owning 240 acres of finely improved land in Humbolt Township. He was born Nov. 4, 1833, in Adams County, Ohio, and is the son of John and Rebecca (Black) Baird. His parents were natives of Ohio, where his maternal grandmother, Hester Connell, died at the age of ninety-seven. His paternal grandfather, John Baird, served in the Revolutionary War. He was noted for his musical talent, and the story is related of him, that once, when stationed at a fort, he brought out his violin and played a lively tune for the young folks to keep time to with their feet. That night the Indians had planned to surround the fort and destroy it, but, pleased and almost spellbound by the marvelous strains of music, so new to them, they became absorbed in listening, and finally withdrew, their savage natures quelled and awed by the power of music. John Baird was a farmer, but during the long, cold winters, he was engaged in shoemaking and was successful in both branches of business. He was active and industrious, and after a long and useful life died in his native State.

Z. J. Baird passed his boyhood and youth assisting his father and attending the district school. At the age of twenty-two, he engaged in farming for himself, and the following year, Feb. 5, 1857, he

was married to Miss Catherine Easter. Mrs. Baird is the daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Ritchie) Easter. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, of German descent, and are both deceased. In the fall following his marriage, Mr. Baird came to Illinois in company with John Moore, and settled in Coles County, on a farm belonging to Mr. Moore, which he rented for a term of seven years. He was successful in this enterprise, and in 1863 purchased eighty acres of wild land on section 20, in Humbolt Township, on which he built a shanty in primitive style and occupied it with his young family. Mr. and Mrs. Baird have a family of ten children, whose record is as follows: Eva N., Clara M., William Henry, Franklin A., Thomas D., Maggie Belle, Lida May, Bertie Almira, Lulu Maud and Mary F. Eva N. married John S. Branham, and is now a widow. The others all reside at home.

In conducting his farm, Mr. Baird gives special attention to raising high-grade cattle. He owns some of the finest Clydesdale and Norman horses in the township and also a very fine assortment of Poland-China hogs. Mr. Baird has never taken an active part in politics, but is interested in educational affairs, and has served as School Director for many years, and also as Road Commissioner. He votes with the Democratic party. Mr. and Mrs. Baird are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which the former has served several terms as Trustee.



JACOB I. BROWN, publisher of the *Charleston Courier*, is a native of Jonesboro, Washington Co., Tenn., his birth taking place Oct. 12, 1819. His parents, John and Rachel Brown, were natives respectively of Tennessee and North Carolina, the former of English and the latter of German descent. John Brown was a farmer by occupation, and in about 1822 took up his residence in Indiana, where his father departed this life in November, 1823. The mother died in Charleston, Ill., April 24, 1867.

The subject of our sketch passed his early years after the manner of most farmers' sons, going a

barefoot boy to the district school, and early becoming acquainted with the various employments of farm life. When fifteen years of age he went to Bloomington, Ind., to learn the printer's trade, and was in the office of Mark Deal about four years. His first work as a journeyman was in Indianapolis, where he remained during the winter of 1837. In the spring he returned to the residence of his mother in Bloomington, and occupied himself in a printing-office there until the spring of 1840. Then, in company with Ephraim Abbott, he came to Paris, Edgar County, and they purchased the *Illinois Statesman*, which they conducted two years. Mr. Brown then purchased the interest of his partner, and subsequently took in John B. Alexander, and they operated together until the fall of 1844, when Mr. Brown again assumed entire control, and removed the plant to Charleston, where he commenced issuing a paper entitled the *Investigator*. In connection with this he also published a religious periodical, edited by Rev. Richard Newport.

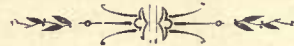
Mr. Brown, in 1845, was elected Assessor for Coles County, and the following year sold a half interest in his paper to W. D. Latshaw. The name was changed to the *Illinois Globe*, a title which Mr. A. had given to another paper published by him previously. This arrangement continued about eight years, and Mr. Brown then sold his interest to Mr. Latshaw, in order to enter upon his duties as Postmaster of Charleston, which office he occupied under the administrations of Polk, Pierce and Buchanan. Mr. Brown also, in connection with this office, carried on a grocery and drug business. In the fall of 1861, having been succeeded by the appointment of a Republican to the office, he was elected County Clerk on the Democratic ticket, in which position he served four years, being subsequently defeated by the election of a Republican. Upon retiring from this office he embarked in merchandising, but this venture not proving satisfactory, he became a candidate for Justice of the Peace, to which office he was elected in 1868, and which he still holds, receiving his first and last commissions from Gov. Oglesby.

Mr. Brown, in the fall of 1881, purchased an interest in the *Courier*, which he still holds, his partner being Lucian Dunbar. The *Courier*, under the

supervision of Mr. Brown, has become one of the indispensable features of Charleston, and is liberally supported by the people of Coles County generally. He is an old and experienced newspaper man, and never feels so much at home as when conducting an institution of this kind.

The marriage of Jacob I. Brown and Miss Ann E. Javins was celebrated at the home of the bride's uncle, in Charleston, on the 24th of June, 1845. Mrs. B. was born near Alexandria, Va., and is the daughter of John and Matilda Javins. They have no children.

The politics of Mr. Brown is clearly indicated in the columns of the *Courier*, which fearlessly advocates Democratic principles, is the staunch supporter of truth and justice, and in all its theories and arguments keeps prominently in view the matters and things mostly concerning the welfare of the general public.



J C. RICE, a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 22, North Okaw Township, was born Oct. 15, 1840, in Vigo County, Ind., and is the son of Amos and Sarah (Compton) Rice. (For history of parents see sketch of Amos Rice, Sr.) Mr. Rice is the descendant of a pioneer family, and his early life was passed under great educational disadvantages. The old log school-houses of the early days in Indiana and Illinois, were the only temples of learning wherein the children of the pioneers could obtain even the scant rudiments of education.

Our subject remained at home and assisted his father on the farm until he was about thirty years of age, when his marriage to Miss Martha J. Checkley took place, Oct. 6, 1870. Mrs. Rice was the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Crum) Checkley. Her father was a native of England, and probably the only one of the family who ever came to America, as none of their names are traceable here. He was formerly a resident of Indiana, but about the year 1854 came to Coles County, Ill., where he passed the remaining years of his life. Mrs. Rice was born in this county Oct. 14, 1855.

Immediately after his marriage Mr. Rice, with his wife, settled on the homestead which had always been her home.

After a happy married life of fourteen years his beloved wife died, in December, 1884. Mrs. Rice never possessed a very robust physique, and her death resulted from quick consumption. She was a devoted wife, an affectionate mother, and was beloved by a large circle of friends. She possessed a lovely Christian character, and bore the constant suffering of a year's illness with gentle, uncomplaining patience. The home circle has been desolate since her death, but Mr. Rice kept the little family together at home, with the aid of his eldest daughter, and a half sister, who makes her home with them, and has charge of the house. Their family consisted of seven children, four of whom are living. Ignatia, Elmer E., Thomas E., Lawrence E., Amos E., Job C., and one who died in infancy.

In stock-raising Mr. Rice gives special attention to Clydesdale horses and cattle of the Durham stock. He is industrious and energetic, and carries on a successful business. He has been elected to several official positions of the township by the Democratic party, of which he is a loyal member, and has served as Trustee four years, Collector three years, and Constable two years, proving faithful and efficient in the discharge of his public duties. He is a member of the Methodist Church. A view of the homestead of Mr. Rice is given in connection with this sketch.



MRS. MARTHA P. KERN is the widow of Ambrose Kern, formerly a prominent citizen of Mattoon. She is descended from New England lineage, from which source so many noble women, faithful wives and self-sacrificing mothers on the Western frontier, have sprung, and is the daughter of Eliphalet and Amelia (Lemons) Pearson, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Indiana. Her grandfather, likewise Eliphalet Pearson, was a native of Boston, Mass. Her father, Eliphalet Pearson, had received a practical education in childhood, and when fourteen years of age, he left home and went to Jeffer-

sonville, Ind., where he married and engaged in the grocery business, continuing in that occupation until 1821. He then removed to Springville, Lawrence County, and there opened a wholesale and retail dry-goods house. He remained in this place until his death, which occurred in 1862. His widow is still living at Bedford, Lawrence County, having reached the advanced age of eighty-two years. They had a family of ten children, four now living.

In 1841 Mrs. Kern was married to Madison Paugh, a native of Bloomington, Ind. Mr. Paugh was a merchant in Springville, Ind., and died in 1856. One son was born of this marriage—Walter Paugh, a resident of Columbus Junction, Iowa. He was married to Miss Kate Neeley, of Pittsburgh, Pa., and has one son—Charles.

Mrs. Paugh's marriage to Ambrose Kern took place in 1858, in Springville, Ind. Mr. Kern, formerly a resident of Bedford, owned a large farm at Fayetteville, where he had been extensively engaged in stock-dealing. He was a man of excellent business qualifications, and in 1862 came to Mattoon, and during his residence here was engaged in the dry-goods business, identifying himself with the interests of the city throughout the remainder of his life, his uprightness in business, and geniality in social life, endearing him to a large circle of friends. He erected several valuable buildings for mercantile purposes on Broadway, and was a stockholder in the First National Bank. He voted with the Republican party, and took an active interest in municipal affairs, serving on the City Board several times, and also as Alderman.

By her last marriage Mrs. Kern had a family of three children, two of whom are now living: Minnie, the wife of Robert Jordon, is the mother of one child, Frank; Charles is a graduate of the Commercial College at Terre Haute, Ind., and is now a resident of Kansas City, engaged in business with the firm of Abernethy & Co., wholesale furniture dealers.

Mrs. Kern was deprived of her beloved husband, by death, in 1879. She possesses a sincere Christian character and cultivated mind, and is actively interested in promoting the cause of Christ in the Methodist Church, of which she is a highly esteemed member. She is also warmly interested in the tem-

perance cause, and is a member of the W. C. T. U. Mrs. Kern is a stockholder in the First National Bank, and manages her property and business affairs with excellent judgment.

JOHAN SPITLER, a retired farmer living on section 5, Hutton Township, is one of the pioneer settlers of Coles County. He was born July 12, 1826, in Fairfield County, Ohio, and is the son of John and Sarah (Caldwell) Spitler. His paternal grandfather, whose name likewise was John Spitler, was a native of Virginia, and emigrated to Fairfield County, Ohio. His marriage took place in Virginia, and a family of seven children was born to them—David, Samuel, John, Henry, Lydia, Rebecca, and a daughter who became Mrs. Hoover. The grandparents lived to a good old age, and died in Fairfield County. They were members of the Baptist Church.

John Spitler, Sr., was born Sept. 25, 1805, in Rockingham County, Va. He received only a common-school education, and remained at home assisting his parents on the farm until his marriage. He was a young man when his parents removed to Ohio, and his marriage to Miss Sarah Caldwell, who was likewise a native of Rockingham County, Va., took place after their removal to Fairfield County. After this event Mr. Spitler passed a few years engaged in farming on his father's property. He then purchased a hotel, of which he was the proprietor for twelve or fifteen years, but in a hazardous business venture lost both his own and his father's property by going security for other parties who failed. Crippled by these reverses he then rented land, and for two years was engaged in farming. At the expiration of that time he rented a hotel in Salem, which he managed for two years. His health was then failing and he only lived one year after leaving the hotel. His death occurred Jan. 12, 1843, in Salem, Ohio.

The father of our subject had been twice married. His first wife died Oct. 7, 1837, while he was proprietor of the first hotel, in Pleasantville, Ohio. After her death he married Mrs. Nancy Mock. She survived him, and is still living in Indiana. The record of the children by the first

marriage is as follows: Mary was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and became the wife of John Fanning; she died, leaving three children, and her husband resides in Iroquois County, Ill. John is the subject of this sketch; Samuel R., born May 12, 1829, married Miss Mary A. Ball, and both are deceased, leaving three children; Andrew J., born Nov. 4, 1831, married Miss Mary Conner, who died leaving five children; he married the second time, and resides in Trenton, Mo. Elizabeth, born in 1833, is the wife of William Knoke, resides in Bellevue, Ohio, and has two children. By the second marriage one daughter was born, Rebecca, who died at the age of eighteen.

John Spitler, Jr., was about seventeen years of age when his father died. He had attended the common schools during his boyhood, but was now thrown upon his own resources, his father having suffered from financial losses, and died possessed of but little means. However, he resolutely set to work and learned the trade of a woolen manufacturer. After his apprenticeship was over he was occupied in that business for about fifteen years. On the 3d of October, 1847, Mr. Spitler was married to Miss Millie Beery. Mrs. Spitler was born Oct. 6, 1829, in Rockingham County, Va., and is the daughter of Samuel and Jemima (Spicer) Beery. Her parents were both natives of Virginia, and a few years after their marriage removed to Fairfield County, Ohio, where Mr. Beery purchased land and made his permanent home. After the death of his first wife Mr. Beery married the second time. By the first marriage thirteen children were born: Annie is the widow of William Her; Millie is the wife of our subject; David died in childhood; Catharine, the wife of W. H. Dodds, resides in Hutton Township; Barbara E. is married, and resides in Ohio; Mary Frances, deceased, was the wife of Isaac Featheroff, a resident of Ohio; William enlisted in an Ohio regiment for three years' service in the Civil War, but in one year was stricken down and died of fever; Joseph died in childhood; John is married and resides in Florida; Margaret died in childhood, and three in infancy.

A few years after his marriage Mr. Spitler left the woolen-mills, and in the spring of 1856 re

moved to Coles County, Ill., making the long and toilsome overland journey with his wife and three little children by team. On his arrival here he settled in Hutton Township, and in the intervening time has bought and sold several farms. In 1877 he purchased the place where he now resides, and in the following year took possession, with his family. The farm contains 159½ acres, all of which is well improved; he also owns twenty-four acres of timbered land, located on section 7, Hutton Township. Mr. Spitler has never enjoyed vigorous health, and during the last twenty years has not been actively engaged in farming, his sons managing the farm work almost entirely. During the last year he has suffered seriously from chronic bronchitis, which has confined him to the house. His family consisted of seven children. Their first-born child died in infancy; Mary E., born March 17, 1850, died Aug. 19, 1854; Ida E., born July 26, 1851, married Arch Smith, and resides on the homestead; William A., born Oct. 9, 1853, died Sept. 11, 1854; Alva B., born May 26, 1855, was married, Jan. 20, 1884, to Miss Rosa Gilbert, and resides in Hutton Township; Frederick L., born on Christmas Day, 1858, was married, Dec. 7, 1879, to Miss Juda C. Martin, and resides on the homestead; Benjamin F., born Feb. 8, 1863, was married Feb. 20, 1885, to Miss Catherine Scott, and likewise resides on the homestead. With his wife, Mr. Spitler is a member of the Christian Church. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party.



LEVI DOTY, deceased, formerly a resident of Charleston Township and an early settler of Coles County, is worthy of an honorable place among the pioneers of Illinois. By native force of character he struggled successfully against disadvantages, and won from the wilderness of the Western frontier a home for himself and a heritage for his children. He was born in Butler County, Ohio, Jan. 26, 1806, and was the son of John and Anna (Mann) Doty. His parents were natives of Maryland, and in about the year 1818 they removed to Illinois, locating in Crawford County,

where his father's death occurred, and in 1826, Levi removed with his widowed mother to Coles County.

The parental family consisted of six children, whose record is as follows: Levi, Samuel, James, Sarah, Isaac and Anna; the three latter deceased. Upon their arrival in Coles County, Levi Doty assisted his mother in carrying on a farm, and also worked by the month for the neighbors, when his help was not required at home. There was stern, uncompromising work to be done in those early days, and done also through great inconvenience and privation. Enough can hardly be said in praise of the stout hearts and willing hands of those whose enterprise and courage subdued the wilderness, and made a highway which has led to the present prosperity of Illinois. There were neither school advantages nor time for study, and Levi had no opportunity to learn to read until after his marriage, when his wife became his teacher.

April 20, 1829, our subject was married to Miss Matilda Phipps, who was born in Lawrence County, Ind., Oct. 17, 1812. Previous to his marriage, he had by hard work and economy, earned enough money to purchase a farm containing forty-five acres of unimproved land, and here in the wilderness he built a log cabin, and with his young wife, proud in the possession of land that he could call his own, set resolutely to work upon his small kingdom, trusting in God and his own right hand. He was industrious and painstaking and with a careful wife to share his burdens, it was not long before he became the owner of 425 acres of land.

January 23, 1853, his wife, the companion of his early pioneer life, was taken from the home circle by death. She was the mother of nine children, whose record is as follows: Harriet A., deceased, formerly the wife of Alex. Ferris; Mary J., deceased, formerly the wife of Levi Watson; Cynthia A., the wife of Samuel Doty; Melinda, deceased, formerly the wife of John W. Doty; Amanda, who became the wife of John W. Doty, her deceased sister's husband; Loisa, deceased, was formerly the wife of M. T. Freeman; John M.; Sarah, deceased, and Irvin A. Mr. Doty was married the second time, to Mrs. Melinda White, the sister of his former wife. She died Oct. 16, 1865, leaving four chil-

dren: James; Lavina and Samuel, deceased, and Joseph. Oct. 30, 1866, Mr. Doty was married the third time, to Mrs. Lillis (White) Gillett. She had a family of seven children by her first marriage, two of whom are now living—John Ira and Almeda.

Mr. Doty gave his attention closely to agricultural pursuits until 1875, when he was obliged to discontinue active business on account of rheumatism, and since 1884 was confined to his bed, unable to walk. He gave each of his children a portion of his property, affording them a good start in life. Mr. Doty voted for Andrew Jackson early in life, and always sustained the Democratic party as long as he was able to attend the polls. He served in public affairs as Commissioner of Highways and School Director, and for nearly half a century had been a member of the Baptist Church, and after a long life of usefulness and toil, of which his children are reaping the benefits, feeble and worn in the strife, he passed away July 14, 1887, deeply regretted by his family and numerous friends.

ISAAC N. ROBERTS is a farmer and prominent resident of Ashmore Township, located on section 16. He was born Jan. 6, 1846, in Muskingum County, Ohio, and is the son of Thomas and Alice (Mock) Roberts. (For history of parents see sketch of William H. Roberts.) Isaac N. Roberts was united in marriage with Miss Almeda Davis, Feb. 3, 1867. She is the daughter of Jesse and Elizabeth (Bowers) Davis, and was born Dec. 24, 1845, in Muskingum County, Ohio, of which State her parents were both natives. Her family settled there at an early day, and her father was one of the substantial farmers of the county. He was born in 1813 and died in 1864. His wife, who was also born in 1813, is still living. They were both members and active workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Davis was for many years Class-Leader and Steward. They had a family of nine children, whose names are as follows: Caroline, Almeda, Cyrus, Azariah, Samuel, Matilda, Mary, Harriet and Bray.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Roberts had a family of eight children born to them, whose names are as

follows: Jesse and Elizabeth (twins), the latter deceased; Thomas W., Tenette A., Leota, Harlin A., Lula J., and one who died in infancy. Mr. Roberts owns 120 acres of valuable land, and ten acres of timber land. In 1878 he erected a pleasant farm residence, which he improved in 1883 by building an addition. It is a commodious and tasteful two-story dwelling, a view of which is given elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Roberts is actively interested in the affairs of the county and in the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which religious organization he has been for several years Class-Leader and Steward. He was Superintendent of the Sunday-school for three years, and is now one of its most faithful teachers. He holds the office of School Director, and in politics, is a staunch Republican.

ELIAS MONROE, the County Treasurer, has been for many years a well-known resident of Charleston. He was born Feb. 7, 1842, in Shelby County, Ill., and is the son of David and Elizabeth (Deeds) Monroe. His father was in early life a resident of Ohio, where he was engaged in milling. He removed to Illinois and settled in Shelby County, where he successfully operated a flouring-mill for several years. Thence he went to Moultrie County, where his death occurred. His family consisted of three children, of whom Elias is the only survivor.

Elias Monroe was reared on the farm, and after the death of his parents worked for his uncle, Isaac Monroe, a farmer residing in Moultrie County. In 1861 he came to Coles County, and engaged in farming. In 1863 he enlisted in Co. H, 59th Ill. Vol. Inf., and served eighteen months. He was a mere boy of twenty-one before whom life was just opening, but he bravely offered it in the service of his country, not knowing how costly the sacrifice might prove. He was engaged in several important battles, in one of which he received a shot through the right shoulder, and in the battle of Nashville, Dec. 15, 1864, he received a wound in the right leg, which rendered amputation necessary. This misfortune ended his career in the war, and he

returned to this county where he attended school six months. His affliction debarring him from physical exertion, he turned his attention to mental cultivation, and attended school at Fulton two years, and on his return, was offered the position of Postmaster at Ashmore, which office he retained until Dec. 25, 1885, when he was elected County Treasurer. During his residence in Ashmore he held the offices of Town Clerk and Alderman, and purchased a farm of fifty-two and one-half acres in that township.

In 1881 Mr. Monroe was married to Miss N. E. Lockridge, a native of Indiana, and they have a family of three children—Chester A., Dessie E. and Josie E. Mr. Monroe is a man of much influence in the county, and possesses the respect of all who know him. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the G. A. R.

PETER K. HONN is a retired farmer, residing in the village of Ashmore. His life is an example of what may be accomplished by courage, enterprise and industry, unaided by any other means. He was born July 22, 1814, in Nicholas County, Ky., and is the son of Daniel and Annie (Ebberman) Honn, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Kentucky. Both are now deceased.

Peter K. Honn is one of the early pioneers of Illinois, having come to the State in 1835. He at once located in Ashmore Township, and bravely commenced a struggle with the wilderness without a cent in his pocket, but possessed of a stout heart and strong hand, by which he has successfully carved his way to prosperity. He has given each of his children a valuable, well-improved farm, and is also the owner of one himself, although he resides in the village. June 23, 1837, he married Miss Matilda Woods, a native of Madison County, Ky., born April 17, 1817. She is the daughter of Adam and Mary (Kerby) Woods, natives of Kentucky, where her father owned a fine farm. He died in October, 1829, at the age of forty-five; his widow survived him many years, and died in 1859, at the age of seventy-two. She was a lady

greatly beloved by her family and friends, and for many years had been a member of the Baptist Church. They had a family of nine children, the record of whom is as follows: William first married Miss Dorcas Gideon; he then married Miss Eliza Williamson, and is now deceased. Tirza, who married Green Epperson, is now a widow. Patsy became the wife of Fred Schaal; Nancy died in girlhood; Matilda is the wife of our subject; Mary A. is deceased; Sarah was married to Mr. William Gilman, and is now deceased; Hawkins P. married Julia A. Bull and is now deceased; Eliza became the wife of Thomas C. Sherwood, and is now deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Honn have a family of six children, as follows: William S. married Mary Noe; Martha A. is the wife of David R. Bane; Peter K. died in manhood; Sarah E. married F. M. Shaver; Samuel H. married Nellie Graham; Mary E. is now Mrs. R. L. Tremble. Samuel H. Honn, the son of our subject, early evinced a desire for professional life. He studied medicine with Dr. Steel, in Ashmore, and afterward graduated at Rush Medical College, Chicago, and has been for several years successfully practicing medicine in Edgar County, Ill.

Peter K. Honn is a man of much intelligence and mental vigor. He is a close student of all the topics of the day, social, religious and political, and having a logical turn of mind has been interested in investigating their various theories during the last forty years, while occupying the pulpit of the Christian Church. He became a member of that religious denomination at the age of fifteen and his wife united with the same church when twenty years old. He is considered a reliable authority in regard to all doctrinal matters, and is also possessed of great judgment and tact in managing Church difficulties. From boyhood he has been a faithful servant of the Master, and has administered the rite of baptism to many who have been led by him into the fold of Christ.

Mr. Honn has always been actively interested in the public affairs of the township, and has held several positions on the Official Board. In his early life he served as Postmaster three years. He was Chairman of the Board of Supervisors one year, and Vice President of the Agricultural Society

three years, and has also been School Director and Trustee for many years. He has been Foreman of the Grand Jury for a number of years and was Justice of the Peace four terms; during his entire life he has been one of the most important factors in the affairs of the township and county. Until the Civil War broke out he had been an old Kentucky Bourbon Democrat, but then he was a strong Union man and subsequently joined the Republican party, of which he is now a staunch supporter. He is warmly interested in the temperance cause, and has been a totaler for twenty-five years. The life of Peter K. Honn is its own commentary, expressive of what may be accomplished in this favored land by courage, enterprise, economy and good principles.



J N. McMorris is a merchant of Diona, and a worthy descendant of one of the pioneer families of Coles County. He was born Aug. 31, 1845, in this township, on the section where he now resides, and is the son of Joseph and Martha (Leming) McMorris. His grandfather, John McMorris, was a native of Virginia, and his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Kackley, who was likewise a native of that State, took place there. He came with his family to Coshocton County, Ohio, in the early days, and was engaged in farming there several years. In 1839 he removed to Illinois, and entered a large tract of land in Hutton Township, containing 160 acres, for which he paid \$1.25 per acre. He cleared and improved his land, contending successfully with the hardships and privations incidental to the pioneer days. His death occurred in 1868, at the age of sixty-eight; his wife died in 1878. Their family consisted of ten children—Joseph, J. R., Thomas, Samuel, James, William, Perry, Ellen, Jane, and one who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. John McMorris were members of the Separate Baptist Church, and were actively interested in promoting the cause of religion on the western frontier. They are both buried in Hurricane Creek Churchyard.

Joseph McMorris was born in Virginia, Feb. 8, 1824, and was a boy of fifteen when he came with

his parents to Illinois. At that early day the schools were few and scattered remotely over the prairie, and consequently his educational advantages were very limited. He remained at home assisting his father in cultivating his farm, until his marriage with Miss Martha Leming, which took place in 1844. Mrs. McMorris is the daughter of Nicholas and Martha (Hackett) Leming, and was born in Crawford County, Ill. Her parents were natives of New Jersey. Nicholas Leming left his native State when a boy, and never returned. He drifted to Ohio, and for several years was employed as a boatman on the Ohio River. In his early life he served in the War of 1812, and came to Illinois when it was a Territory. He was twice married. His first wife died leaving an only child, Martha, and he was subsequently married to Miss Judith McGahan.

After his marriage, which took place in Hutton Township, Joseph McMorris took charge of his father-in-law's farm for a few years, and then purchased ninety-one acres on the same section. Soon after making this purchase he entered forty acres in Cumberland County, subsequently buying eighty-four acres of partly improved land in the same place. He afterward sold forty acres of his property in Cumberland County, and has since purchased 240 acres there. His entire estate now contains 442 acres, all of which is valuable, well-improved, and supplied with tiling and substantial farm buildings. For the last twenty years he has not been engaged in farming, but having learned the carpenter's trade, has found successful employment as builder and contractor. He was employed in the construction of a number of residences and farm buildings in Coles and Cumberland Counties, and in 1860 constructed the last wooden bridge which spans the Embarras River at Blakeman Mills.

Joseph McMorris was a Whig until the Civil War broke out, and has since been a member of the Democratic party. His family consisted of eleven children: J. N., the subject of this sketch; Eliza Ellen, the wife of Elias Anderson, a resident of Hutton Township; Elizabeth A. married A. A. Neal, and resides in Union Township, Cumberland County; Judith, Mrs. Jasper Anderson, is a resident of Hutton Township; Samuel A. married to

Miss Jennie Hackett, and resides in Union Township, Cumberland County; George W., married to Miss Leoata Schuyler, and resides on the homestead, where his wife is housekeeper for her father-in-law; Thomas E., a resident of Grant County, Kan.; Amanda G., Mrs. Valentine Nunmaker, is a resident of Union Township, Cumberland County; one son and two daughters died in childhood.

J. N. McMorris received a very rudimentary education, although it was the best which the early days on the western frontier afforded. He assisted his father on the farm, in the various branches of agriculture, until he was about twenty-one years of age, when his marriage to Miss Martha E. Gill took place, Dec. 28, 1865. Mrs. McMorris was born Jan. 1, 1846, in Cumberland County, and is the daughter of James and Evaline (Neal) Gill. Her parents were natives of Kentucky, and emigrating to Illinois, were among the early pioneers of Union Township, Cumberland County. Both are now deceased. Their family consisted of nine children, of whom Martha was the youngest daughter.

After his marriage, Mr. McMorris, who was at this time suffering from poor health, remained at the homestead four years. In September, 1869, his father, associated with his father-in-law, established a mercantile business at Diona, of which Mr. McMorris took charge, receiving one-third of the profits. After the expiration of two years, his father-in-law gave him his interest in the store and 110 acres of land. His preferences inclined more toward mercantile life than agriculture, and he carried on that business about two years associated with his father. Having never possessed a robust physique, and feeling worn with close application to business, he closed out the store in 1882, and spent the summer traveling with his wife and two children. They made a long and enjoyable journey, passing through Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming Territory. After returning home with renewed strength and vigor, he turned his attention to stock-dealing, shipping mostly to Indianapolis, and in 1886 settled with his family on the farm. He remained there, cultivating and improving his property, until the spring of 1887, when he returned to Diona, and resumed

the mercantile business. He is now engaged in supervising both branches of business. His oldest son, Palmer, has charge of the store. Mr. McMorris has stocked and rented the farm in Putnam Township, which now contains 150 acres; he also owns a farm in Grant County, Kan., containing 160 acres.

Mr. and Mrs. McMorris had a family of four children: Palmer E., born Oct. 3, 1867; Carrie B., born March 16, 1870, is an accomplished young lady, and after completing her education, was engaged in teaching one term; one who died in infancy, and Charles E., born May 3, 1876.

During the first term of Grant's administration, Mr. McMorris was appointed Postmaster at Diona, retaining the position until 1882, when he offered his resignation. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and is a member of Hutton Lodge No. 698, of which he has recently been made Treasurer. He is also a member of Kickapoo Lodge No. 90, I. O. O. F., and Charleston Encampment, I. O. O. F., and was a charter member and First Dictator of Lodge No. 1174, of the Knights of Honor. In politics, he is a Democrat. Mrs. McMorris is a highly esteemed member of the Baptist Church.



R G. OWENS, freight agent of the I. & St. L. R. R., is a resident of Mattoon and one of the substantial, self-made business men of Illinois. He was born Feb. 14, 1856, in Saline County, Mo., and is the son of Robert and Julia R. (Davis) Owens. His parents were natives of Missouri, where his father was engaged in farming until 1864. At that time he moved with his family to St. Louis, where he was occupied in stock-dealing until 1866; he then came to Kansas, Ill., where he now resides, engaged in grain-dealing. His family consisted of ten children—C. W., J. C., W. E., R. G., J. L., Laura O., F. B., Lula, Ida and Thomas. Mr. Owens is active and enterprising in business, and in politics, is a member of the Democratic party.

R. G. Owens received a practical education, and at the age of seventeen left home to begin the

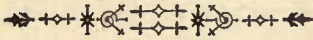
LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



E. W. Scott

world for himself. He learned telegraphy in Kansas, Edgar County, and obtained the position of telegraph operator for the I. & St. L. R. R. His prompt and reliable business habits gave satisfaction to his employers, and for fourteen years he was engaged in the same position at different stations on the line of that railroad.

He was stationed at Carbon, Ind., for six years as agent, and in August, 1883, was transferred to his present position. Mr. Owens has for many years been recognized by all the officers of the road as a man of exceptional reliability and accuracy in business, and all the different companies, who have in the meantime owned the road, have retained him in their service. He is a Democrat in politics, and a member of the Masonic fraternity.



DR. EDWIN D. SCOTT, a gentleman of education, and well versed in the intricacies of his profession, has been going in and out among the people of Oakland Village for the past five years, during which he has followed his profession and built up a large practice. He is one of the foremost surgeons of the county, and the possessor of a fine property including a beautiful residence and office on North Pike street, where he spends his leisure hours in application to his books, and keeps himself well informed upon current events. He is the encourager and supporter of every enterprise calculated for the moral and intellectual advancement of the people of his community, being an earnest Sunday-school worker, a strict temperance man, and the promoter of those qualities in a community which tend to its credit and advancement.

Dr. Scott was born in Como, Whiteside Co., Ill., Nov. 15, 1849, and is the son of Josiah S. and Harriett (Coryell) Scott, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. Josiah Scott was born May 18, 1819, and his wife, Harriet, Sept. 28, 1828. Both parents are still living. The father followed farming during the years of his active life, and is now in the enjoyment of a competency. The ten children of the parental household are recorded as follows: Walter H., who was graduated

from the classical department of Adrian College, (Michigan) in 1869, married Miss Gertrude Wilcox, of Adrian, and they are residents of Montmorency Tp., Whiteside Co., Ill.; Edwin D., of our sketch, was the second child; Celestia is the wife of William Richardson, of Comanche, Iowa; Hiram B. married Miss Mary Jarmin, of Bay City, Mich., and is now Professor of Rhetoric and Elocution in Iowa College, at Grinnell; Eliza J. is the wife of George Baker, of Muscatine, Iowa; Alice, Mrs. Hollis, is a resident of Brough, Iowa; Freeman J., a medical student, is pursuing his studies at Sterling, Ill.; Orange M. is engaged in teaching at Rock Falls; Bertha L. is a teacher at Rock Falls, and Hattie A. is unmarried, and at home with her parents.

Dr. Edwin D. Scott was united in marriage to Miss Alice Carolus, of Sterling, Ill., Sept. 27, 1883. Mrs. Scott is the daughter of I. S. and Amelia (Burkley) Carolus. Her father, a native of Pennsylvania, is now living on a farm near Sterling. Mrs. Scott was born near Chambersburg, Franklin Co., Pa., April 8, 1862. She has been a successful school teacher, being so engaged for several years prior to her marriage. Dr. and Mrs. Scott have one child, a daughter, Emma Amelia, born Sept. 11, 1887.

Dr. Scott during his youth and childhood spent his time mostly upon the farm, and availed himself of the advantages of the district schools. He was ambitious to learn something useful, and determined to secure an education. He worked his own way and paid his expenses through college, being graduated from the High School in Sterling, in 1873, and completed a course in Mt. Union College, Ohio, three years later. During the summer of 1876, he visited the Centennial Exposition, and afterward engaged in teaching, having charge of High Schools in various parts of Illinois, for a period of ten years. After passing a rigorous examination, he secured the State Teacher's diploma, and now determined to turn his attention to the study of medicine. He studied three years under the instruction of Dr. F. W. Gordon, of Sterling, and attended three courses at the Hahnemann Medical College, of Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1881, with first honors

of the institution. During the last year he became Institute Professor of Chemistry, and soon afterward commenced the practice of his profession after the homeopathist theory in Andalusia, Rock Island County. Thence he removed, in 1883, to Oakland, where he has since remained.

Dr. Scott is still a young man, and considering his rapid progress so far, there is reason to suppose that he is destined to become one of the leading lights of the medical fraternity in this section. He is a close student, and keeps himself well posted upon new theories of practice, and has already secured the confidence of a large and lucrative patronage. In politics the Doctor is Democratic. He is President of the Board of Trustees of Oakland. The publishers of this ALBUM are pleased to present the portrait of Dr. Scott to its patrons, as one of the foremost men of the county.



ALBERT B. NICHOLSON, a prominent citizen of Pleasant Grove Township, is the descendant of an old and honorable pioneer family. He was born in this township Jan. 11, 1850, and is the son of Patrick and Elizabeth (Ashmore) Nicholson. Patrick Nicholson was a native of Eastern Tennessee, where he resided until twenty-one years of age. He then came to Illinois, and located in Douglas County, where his marriage with Miss Elizabeth Ashmore took place in 1832. Mrs. Nicholson was likewise a native of Eastern Tennessee, whose family had removed to Illinois at an early day. In the autumn of 1831, he removed to Coles County and purchased forty acres of land in Pleasant Grove Township, at \$1.25 per acre. He had no capital, and to pay for his land he split rails at thirty-three and one-third cents per hundred. He was industrious and economical, however, and in a short time cleared off this debt and purchased more land, which he cultivated and improved. His efforts were attended with success, and he finally became the owner of 460 acres of land, on which he erected a pleasant residence with excellent farm buildings.

In his struggle with the material obstacles and privations of pioneer life, Mr. Nicholson did not

forget the claims of God, who rules over the seed-time and the harvest, and sends His rain alike upon the just and the unjust. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and was deeply interested in promoting the cause of religion in the community, annually devoting \$125 of his income to the church, and for charitable purposes. For forty years he was an Elder, and in that capacity represented his church at the National Assemblies, convened on different occasions at Philadelphia, Cleveland, St. Louis, Chicago, and other cities. Mr. Nicholson possessed great native intelligence, which was cultivated and improved by the habit of thoughtful reading. He was well informed in regard to all the important topics of the day, and actively interested in promoting the general welfare of society. He made several visits to his native State, but always returned with feelings of renewed attachment for his Western home. In politics, he was a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and represented his township on the County Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Nicholson died of a lingering disease, but his mental faculties were clear, enabling him to supervise his business affairs until the last. On the day previous to his death, which occurred Aug. 15, 1886, he made a large sale of cattle and grain. He was generous, both in public and private life, and when his children attained their majority, he gave each a portion with which to start in life. His widow is still living. They had a family of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, seven now living, whose names are: Patience Ann, William A., Sarah J., Harriet N., Albert B., Margaret and Ella. Patience Ann is the widow of James Balch; Sarah J. is the wife of T. A. Endsley; Margaret is the wife of T. J. Newman, and Ella, the wife of Alexander Newman.

Albert B. Nicholson is one of the rising young men of this county. He was educated at the public schools, and resided on the homestead with his parents until his marriage, which occurred Jan. 21, 1875. His wife was Miss Rhenhama T. Allen, the daughter of Benjamin F. Allen, a resident of New Albany, Ind., in which city Mrs. Nicholson was born, and where her marriage likewise took place. Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson have a family of five in-

teresting children—Amos E., May, Patrick F., Myrtle and Charles.

Mr. Nicholson is a Republican in politics, and socially, belongs to the Masonic fraternity, of Muddy Point. He owns seventy-five acres of well-improved land, and his residence and farm buildings are excellent and well appointed.

GEORGE M. PFEIFER, owner of a fine estate containing 160 acres of valuable, well-improved land, resides on section 20, Seven Hickory Township. He was born Oct. 7, 1849, in Germany, and is the son of Bernhardt and Barbara (Bock) Pfeifer. Bernhardt Pfeifer was a tailor, and during his early life was occupied at that trade; he subsequently bought several tracts of land, which he improved, and had three fine farms; on his city property he erected a stone residence and barn, and also a frame residence and barn on another lot in Wallrabs, in Saxe-Meiningen, Germany, where he resided and brought up his family. He made his money in about two years by building and contracting on the railroad, associated with two of his sons. The eldest son, Casper, has been connected with the road since 1854; he is very popular with the railroad officials, and still retains his position, although now about sixty years of age. (For further history of parents, see sketch of L. W. M. Pfeifer.)

George M. Pfeifer received a practical education at the public schools in Germany, and in May, 1867, he set sail for the United States, to seek his fortune in a new country. He arrived in New York about the 1st of June, having been fifteen days on the water, and found himself, a mere boy of seventeen, in that great city with but five cents left in his pocket, speaking a foreign language, and unfamiliar with the customs of the country. The occupation to which he had been trained was that of manufacturing meerschaum pipes, and at that time there was but one factory of the kind in operation in New York. The outlook was gloomy, but he bravely set himself to work, seeking for employment, which he finally obtained in a cooper's shop. He remained there three weeks, earning about

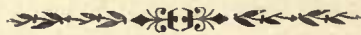
enough to pay for his board, when one day, to his surprise, a lady accosted him on the street and asked if his name was not Pfeifer. She had been well acquainted with his family in Germany, and recognized his face, having known him when a little boy. She took him to her home, and her husband found employment for him in a tinshop. He remained there until August, and then having earned enough money for his traveling expenses, came West and joined his brother Louis, who had previously located in Coles County, Ill. The brothers lived together, and during the first year, George was engaged in farming on shares. The following year his father gave him \$200, with which to purchase a team, and this amount was all the financial assistance he ever received from any one, with the exception of \$25, willed to him by his god-father, when he was thirteen years of age; it was placed on interest, and was used for part of his fare to America, his father supplying the balance.

May 26, 1870, Mr. Pfeifer was married to Miss Paulina Roser, also a native of Germany. There were six children in her parents' family, all of whom are living in Illinois and Indiana. Her father died in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Pfeifer were married in Charleston by Judge E. M. Peterson. They have an interesting family of five children: Emma M., born April 6, 1871; Clara J., Feb. 17, 1873; Edward, Dec. 5, 1876; Charles, July 14, 1880; and Georgia. William Zehner, an adopted son residing with the family, was born Sept. 10, 1871.

Mr. Pfeifer made his first purchase of land in 1878, buying eighty acres on section 29, just south of his present residence. In 1880 he bought eighty acres on section 20, where the following year he erected a pleasant farm residence. There were no improvements on either place when he purchased them, except a house which was too small and old to be of any practical use, and a well. Mr. Pfeifer is industrious and untiring in cultivating and improving his farm, on which he has about 500 rods of tiling. He raises some broom corn, and also corn and oats, but no wheat, and is to some extent engaged in raising fine stock, Short-horn cattle, Clydesdale and Norman horses, and also has some mules.

Mr. Pfeifer has acquired his property by hard

work and the judicious management of his resources. In 1881 he had the misfortune to be stricken down with pleura-pneumonia; the disease was very prostrating, confining him to his bed for a year, and he did not recover from the effects of his illness until 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Pfeifer are members of the Lutheran Church at Arcola. In politics, Mr. Pfeifer is a stanch Republican.



JOSHUA RICKETTS, Superintendent of the Coles County Almshouse, and a gentleman who for the past thirty-eight years has been closely identified with the business interests of Central Illinois, is a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, his birth taking place March 13, 1821. He has consequently seen more than threescore years, and has made the most of his opportunities in life. He possesses more than ordinary intelligence and business capacity, and is a man widely known and respected throughout this section of country.

Our subject is the son of Joshua and Sarah (Taylor) Ricketts, the former born in Maryland, Dec. 11, 1779, and the latter in Connecticut, June 20, 1781. Joshua Ricketts, Sr., was a hatter by trade, which he followed in his native State for a few years during his early manhood, and thence removed to Zanesville, Ohio, in 1813. After a residence there of three or four years he purchased a tract of land in the northern part of Muskingum County, upon which he removed and was engaged in its cultivation and improvement for a period of six years; he then sold out and purchased another farm in the same county, where he remained until his death, which occurred Jan. 2, 1833. The Ricketts family was of Welsh ancestry, and the mother of our subject of English parentage. She survived her husband twenty-one years, her death taking place on the old homestead in Muskingum County, in 1854. Both parents were devoted members of the Christian Church. Their thirteen children included nine sons and four daughters, who were named respectively, James, Mary, Benjamin, John, Samuel, Ruth, William, Calvin, Sarah A., Barnabas, Joshua,

Susan and Reason. Of these but four sons are now living, the eldest being at this date (1887) eighty years old. Joshua, Jr., of our sketch, is remarkably strong and healthy for a man of his years, and preserves the brightness of intellect which distinguished him in his youth.

The maternal grandfather of Mr. Ricketts, John Taylor, served seven years and six months in the Revolutionary War, a large portion of the time under the personal command of Gen. Washington, and was in the battle of Bunker Hill, where he was wounded. He was several times wounded and captured by the enemy.

Mr. Ricketts remained with his parents until thirteen years of age, and then going to Knox County, Ohio, engaged in study with a view of preparing for the ministry. His religious belief, however, met with a change, and he abandoned his first intention and for a time engaged in farming, afterward learning the trade of a marble-cutter. He finally removed to Terre Haute, Ind., where he engaged in the marble business, and thence removed, in 1849, to Illinois. After spending a year in Clark County he came to Charleston, and established himself in the marble business, which he carried on until the outbreak of the late war. He was one of the first to respond to the call for troops, and was soon promoted First Lieutenant. He afterward took part in the capture of Island No. 10 and the siege of Corinth, where he acquitted himself in such a manner as to secure the approval of his superior officers and the admiration of his comrades. He served until the expiration of his term of enlistment, and then entered the 109th Indiana Infantry, being commissioned by Gov. Morton, Adjutant of the regiment. This regiment was mustered out after Morgan's raid in Indiana, but at the call for 100-days' men in 1864, Mr. Ricketts, not waiting for a commission, volunteered in the 143d Illinois Infantry, serving as Sergeant in Company A. After the close of the war he returned to his business at Charleston, and was soon afterward appointed Superintendent of the Coles County Almshouse, which position he has since held. He has occupied the various local offices of his township, serving as Assessor, and was four times elected Justice of the Peace, the duties of which

office he discharged with more than ordinary discretion and good judgment.

The marriage of Joshua Ricketts and Miss Catherine D. Roberts took place in Coshocton County, Ohio, on the 29th of December, 1846. This lady was also a native of the Buckeye State, born March 26, 1825. They became the parents of three children—Sarah M., William W. and Cornelia M. The wife and mother departed this life Nov. 8, 1854. Mr. Ricketts was the second time married, Sept. 4, 1855, in Clark County, Ill., to Miss Malvina Jones, of Lawrence County, Ohio, who was born Oct. 24, 1834. Her parents were William and Barbara (Bumgardner) Jones, natives of Virginia, but both now deceased. Mr. Ricketts, politically, is a Republican of the first water, and was one of the organizers of the party in this part of the State. Religiously he is connected with the Universalist Church at Charleston.

BRUCE ANDERSON. The family of Mr. Anderson is well known among the prominent citizens of Coles County. He was formerly a farmer, but is now extensively engaged in shipping cattle, sheep and hogs. He was born March 29, 1840, in Clinton County, Ind., and is the son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Stutsman) Anderson, the former a native of North Carolina, and the latter of Indiana.

In early life Jacob Anderson had been engaged in milling in Indiana, but in the spring of 1849 disposed of his business interests there and came to this State, locating at Charleston, where he purchased a large tract of land containing about 3,000 acres, located east of the Roman Catholic Church, and comprising the eastern portion of the city. He laid out his first addition to the city in 1852, which was followed later by six other additions covering probably about eighty acres of land. When he first came to the city he erected a substantial brick house, which now stands facing the county road and the I. & St. L. R. R. He passed an active and useful life here, engaged extensively in farming. He was a public-spirited man, possessed of great executive ability, and interested in every enter-

prise calculated to improve the city or promote the welfare of those around him. He was original in personal characteristics, strong in his likes and dislikes, generous and faithful in friendship, upright and honorable in business, but not easily reconciled to an enemy, or forgiving where he deemed wrong or injustice had been done. He was a life-long Universalist, and one of the founders of the church in Charleston. His family consisted of eight children, four now living, Sarah, now Mrs. A. Van Sickle, a resident of Charleston; Bruce, the subject of this sketch; Henley, who occupies the old homestead; Samantha, now Mrs. C. Calvert, a resident of Tascola, Douglas Co., Ill.

Bruce Anderson was brought up to the milling business, but after the removal of his parents to Charleston, he engaged in farming until twenty-three years of age. He then left home to see the world, going to California, where he spent three years engaged in various business enterprises. On his return, he acquired a tract of land containing 240 acres of wild, unimproved prairie, where he built a house and resumed farming, cultivating and improving this place for five years. He then left home for two years, and on his return again engaged in farming for five years. At this time he removed with his family to Little Rock, Ark., and there engaged in the milling business, buying grain in Arkansas and Texas, but the climate proving unfavorable, within two years his family returned to the farm in Charleston, but Mr. Anderson remained and continued the business four years, when he rejoined his family, and conducted the farm for six years.

In 1883 our subject built a residence on a corner lot belonging to him in the city, where he now resides, and in 1886 removed with his family to the city. The first house built in Charleston was erected on this lot, the land at that time being covered with heavy timber. A fine grove of eleven native black-walnut trees now stands there, a pleasant memorial of the old forest. This is the highest point of land within the city limits north of the town branch.

Our subject was married in November, 1862, to Miss Emogene Dunbar, daughter of Col. A. M. and Susan Dunbar, of Charleston. They had three

children, two of whom are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson became the parents of two children—Gay and Cathleen. Upon the death of his wife, Mr. A. was married a second time, in 1868, to Mrs. Albena Murry. Mr. Anderson, like his father, is a staunch Democrat.



PETER FURRY, a substantial farmer residing in Pleasant Grove Township, is one of the pioneers of Coles County, his residence here dating from the year 1839. He was born June 14, 1817, in York County, Pa., and is the son of Peter and Barbara (Sherick) Furry. His family is of French extraction, although its members have for several generations been residents of the United States. Peter Furry was born in Adams County, Md., just adjoining the State of Pennsylvania. His wife's family were remotely of Swiss ancestry, and her parents were residents of Lancaster County, Pa., where she was born. Mr. Furry's marriage took place in Richland County, Ohio, where they were engaged in farming until 1839, when he removed with his family to Illinois, and settled in Coles County. Mr. and Mrs. Furry were swept away by the scourge of cholera, which prevailed in 1851, only four days intervening between the death of each. They had a family of nine children born to them, two of whom died in infancy, seven grew to maturity, and three are now living—Peter, Polly and George.

Peter Furry passed his boyhood and youth in the States of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and accompanied his parents to Illinois in 1839, settling in Coles County in the vicinity of his present residence. In 1845 he purchased four yoke of oxen and removed to Wisconsin, where he engaged in hauling goods between the lead mines of that region and the city of Milwaukee. He passed through Chicago, which was then a small village with grass growing in the streets. He did not continue in this business long, however, and after his return home was married, Jan. 27, 1850, to Miss Alvira White. Mrs. Furry is the daughter of James D. and Lucinda (Coldman) White. Her parents were

among the early settlers of Coles County and she was born here Jan. 27, 1833. After his marriage Mr. Furry purchased land in Pleasant Grove Township, and in 1860 located where he now resides. Since making his first purchase he has given his attention exclusively to farming, and now owns 121 acres of valuable, well-improved land.

Mr. and Mrs. Furry have become the parents of ten children, two of whom died in infancy. Their only son, George, a promising young man, died Jan. 19, 1887, at the age of eighteen. The record of the others is as follows: Lucy Ann is the wife of Martin Brady; Amanda E. became the wife of Warren C. Butler, and the mother of one son, Byron; her husband served in the Civil War, and his death occurred in 1882. Mary A. is the wife of John V. Summer; Ellena E. was married to Charles James; Susan Florence is the wife of D. Gray; Allie and Pearl E.

With his wife, Mr. Furry belongs to the Baptist Church. He is not actively interested in politics, and does not aspire to public office, but he always sustains the Republican party, and has served as a member of the School Board.



DAVID MARTIN, one of the most enterprising citizens of Hutton Township, owns and occupies 160 acres of improved land on section 13, with about thirty-five acres of valuable timber, and took possession of a part of his present homestead in 1853. The improvements which now invariably attract the eye of the passing traveler have been brought about by his own industry and good judgment. He erected a fine brick residence in 1875, and has two commodious barns, with all other necessary out-buildings. The land is neatly and substantially fenced, and the proprietor is supplied with all the machinery for carrying on his chosen vocation after the most modern methods.

Our subject is a native of Jefferson County, Ky., born March 29, 1825. He comes of excellent Scottish ancestry, and the first representatives of the family in this country are supposed to have located in the Old Dominion. His grandfather, John

Martin, was born in Albemarle County, and was there married. Soon afterward he removed to Kentucky, making the journey overland by teams to Jefferson County, where he entered about 600 acres of timber land, and after improving and living on it for thirty-five years became involved in litigation with his cousin, and lost the whole. He died, however, before the suit was ended, but suffered all the humiliation and inconvenience of being reduced from plenty to comparative poverty. His wife survived him a few years. Their seven children were named Hudson, Charles R., Henry, Wesley B., Mary, Judia and Amy. All lived to mature years, and with the exception of Amy, who died when twenty years of age, were married and reared large families.

Wesley B. Martin, the father of our subject, was the fourth child of his parents, and born in Virginia, Oct. 17, 1792. He was quite young when his father removed to Kentucky, and remained at home until the death of the latter, receiving a limited education. He married Miss Lydia, the daughter of Anthony and Catherine Snyder, whose parents were natives of Germany, but emigrated to this country when quite young, and settled with their parents in Pennsylvania, in which State they were married. After marriage they located on a farm in Jefferson County, Ky., but in October, 1847, Wesley Martin determined to seek his fortune in the Prairie State. Coming into this county he entered eighty acres of timber land in Hutton Township, which he cleared and improved, and upon which he built up a comfortable homestead, which he occupied for thirty-five years. In 1863 he sold out and purchased forty acres in Hutton Township.

Not long afterward Wesley Martin received a stroke of paralysis, from which he never recovered, being helpless the remaining years of his life. His death took place in 1860. He had been a man highly esteemed among his neighbors and served as a soldier in the War of 1812, being under the command of Gen. Jackson and participating in the battle of New Orleans. His wife survived for about twenty years, her death taking place Sept. 22, 1880. The remains of both were laid to rest in the Harrington Church burying-ground in Hutton Township. The mother was blind for about seven years

before her death. Three days previously she expressed a desire that she might look upon the faces of her children before closing her eyes forever upon the scenes of earth. About twenty-four hours before passing away the sight partially returned to one eye, so that she could recognize her children and called them by name. These, seven in number, were named respectively, George and Catherine, both deceased; Charles R., David, of our sketch; Wesley, deceased; Elizabeth, and one who died in infancy unnamed.

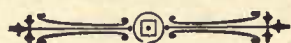
David Martin was the fifth child of his parents, and about thirteen years of age when they emigrated from Kentucky to Illinois. He received a limited education, and after reaching his majority purchased forty acres of timber land in Hutton Township, where he built a log house and made other preparations for the establishment of a home of his own. One of his most important ventures at that time was his marriage with Miss Sallie A. Orchard, which took place Aug. 12, 1847. Mrs. Martin was born in Madison County, Ky., Dec. 14, 1828, and is the daughter of William and Jane (Richardson) Orchard, also natives of the Blue Grass State, where they were reared and married. They came to this county in about 1833, and built up a farm in Hutton Township. They experienced all the hardships and privations of pioneer life, and lived to see the country around them built up and settled with an excellent class of people.

Mr. Martin, after his marriage, commenced farming on forty acres in Hutton Township, which he occupied two years, and then traded for eighty acres of timber on the Kickapoo Creek in Charleston Township. Here, in company with his brother, he put up a sawmill, which they operated three years, and then selling out our subject purchased sixty acres on section 13, in Hutton Township, to which he afterward added 100 more, and which now constitutes his present farm. While running the sawmill he learned the carpenter's trade and brick masonry, and has built more barns than any man in Coles County, besides several brick residences, school-houses and churches.

The twelve children of Mr. and Mrs. Martin are as follows: George W., born June 20, 1848, is still at home with his parents; Lydia J., born Jan,

22, 1850, became the wife of John Keckley, and lives in Hutton Township; Mary C., born Oct. 8, 1852, became the wife of George Rhue, and died at her home in Cumberland County, Feb. 26, 1876; Sarah F., born March 13, 1855, is the wife of John Fesler, of Diona; Nancy E., born Jan. 24, 1857, married B. Goben, and is a resident of Pleasant Grove; Luvina, born Dec. 17, 1858, married Samuel Stephens, and is living in Charleston Township; Rebecca, born Feb. 2, 1861, is the wife of R. E. Burt, of Shelby County; Charles W., born Oct. 17, 1862, married Miss Ida Walker, and is a resident of Cumberland County; Mandeny, born Aug. 12, 1865, became the wife of Warrick Gwin, and lives in Hutton Township; Laura B., born June 20, 1867, and Nelson T., Dec. 7, 1870, are at home with their parents. An infant died unnamed.

Mr. Martin has labored on the farm but little, although superintending its operations. His industry and enterprise have become proverbial, and in addition to his own private interests he has served his township as School Director twelve years, Road Commissioner three years, and held the office of Deacon in the Baptist Church for ten years. To this Church his wife and children also belong, and for years have been among its most cheerful and liberal contributors. Mr. Martin, politically, is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party.



J O. SILVERS, a retired farmer, residing in Mattoon, was born Aug. 18, 1827, in Sullivan County, Ind., and is the son of Bletcher and Elizabeth (Ingraham) Silvers, natives of Washington County, Ky., where his father was engaged in farming. His grandparents, John and Nancy (Springer) Silvers, were natives of Kentucky; the family of the former was of German extraction. He carried on an extensive farming business in his native State, and owned quite a number of slaves. In 1818 Bletcher Silvers removed with his family to Sullivan County, where he passed the remainder of his life. His wife died in 1856, and he did not survive her many years, his death occurring in 1861. They had a family of seven children, three of whom are now living, as follows: Letitia, the wife of

W. P. McClure, a resident of Graham County, Kan.; J. O., the subject of this sketch, and Hester, the wife of Mr. James French, also a resident of Sullivan County. Mr. Silvers in early life served in the War of 1812. He belonged to the Old Whig party in politics, but subsequently became a Republican. Both himself and wife were members of the Methodist Church, and in their daily lives exemplified the sincerity of their religious faith.

J. O. Silvers was reared on his father's farm in Indiana, and remained at home until eighteen years of age; he was then sent to the DePauw University, and after three years of study was graduated from that institution with honors. He then taught school in Indiana two years, and in 1851 came to Cass County, Ill., and was there engaged two seasons as teacher in a seminary at Virginia. But his tastes inclined him to prefer agriculture, and he returned to Indiana and engaged in farming in Vigo County until 1863, when he removed to Illinois and settled in Mattoon. He had previously been engaged in the mercantile business in Shelbyville, Shelby Co., Ill., and on coming to Mattoon was at first occupied in buying and selling real estate. In 1870 he purchased eighty acres of land in North Okaw Township, in this county, and engaged in farming. The following year he purchased ten acres on Western avenue, where he remained until 1877, and then returned to his other farm, passing six years there. In 1883 he retired from the cares of active business and returned to this city, where he now resides on West First street.

Our subject's marriage to Miss Sarah F. Pugh took place in 1852. Mrs. Silvers was a native of Terre Haute, and the daughter of Ishmael Pugh. Three children were born to them, whose names are as follows: Clara Belle, the wife of Mr. Thomas Lytle, is the mother of four children—Howard, Grace, Gertrude and Ralph; Hattie, the wife of Charles N. Brown, has one child, J. Herbert; and Frank. In 1871 the family circle was broken by the death of Mrs. Silvers.

In 1876 Mr. Silvers was happily married the second time, to Mrs. Sophia J. (Eggleston) Allen. Mrs. Silvers is the daughter of David and Rebecca (Judd) Eggleston, natives of New York. They had a family of five children, of whom only two are

living—Mrs. Bartlett, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Mrs. Silvers. Mrs. Silvers' grandfather, Jonathan Eggleston, was of English descent, and served in the Revolutionary War. Mrs. Silvers' first marriage occurred in 1842. Her husband, Samuel Allen, was a native of Massachusetts. He came to Illinois in 1863, and purchased a farm of 250 acres adjoining the city of Mattoon. He was an enterprising business man, and invested in city property to a considerable extent. His death occurred in 1874. He was a Republican in politics, and one of the leading citizens of Mattoon.

Our subject and his wife, having no children, have adopted four orphans, whom they have cared for and educated. Their names are, Aaron and Rebecca Wycoff, brother and sister, who were brought here by Mr. and Mrs. Allen from Ohio; Isaac Roby and Nellie V. Hyde. Mr. Silvers is a member of the Republican party, and socially belongs to the I. O. O. F. He has also been for many years a highly esteemed member of the Methodist Church.



JAMES HOOD, JR., one of the successful and prominent farmers of Humbolt Township, owns and occupies an elegant home on section 19, a lithographic view of which appears on page 266. He was born in West Union, Adams Co., Ohio, Oct. 29, 1834, and is the son of James and Mary (Ellison) Hood, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. John Hood, the grandfather of our subject, had a family of four children, two sons and two daughters.

James, the father of our subject, came from his native State to Ohio when a lad four or five years old. He there learned the tanner's trade, and subsequently worked with the father of Gen. Grant, but abandoning this he engaged in merchandising, which he successfully prosecuted for many years. His family consisted of three children by his first wife, namely: Rebecca, Mrs. Andrew Smalley, living in Ironton, Ohio; Hannah, Mrs. Nathan Branson, living in West Union, Ohio, and James, the subject of our sketch. James Hood's second wife was a sister of the first, named Isabelle Ellison, who died

in 1861, his first wife having died in 1838. He is yet living, in the enjoyment of good health, at the age of eighty-seven.

James Hood, Jr., from the time he could look over the counter was obliged to stay in his father's store, a task which always proved irksome to him. Whenever an opportunity offered for visiting one of his uncles in the country he gladly did so, and anxiously looked forward to the time when he could remain upon a farm. In the year 1853 he left his home, going to Etna Furnace, near Ironton, Ohio, where he had charge of the furnace store a year, at a salary of \$300. He then returned to the assistance of his father for one year, afterward resuming his charge at Etna Furnace at an increased salary of \$400, out of which he saved \$365. With this he went to Iowa in 1856 and entered a half section of land in Butler County. Here he remained until 1859, when he traded his land for 240 acres in the northeastern part of Coles, now Douglas County, Ill. In the fall of the same year he had 140 acres of sod broken and sown in wheat, and in the spring bought 112 head of yearling calves, which he herded near Milton Station, now Humbolt. Six months later he sold his calves and wheat and returned to West Union, where he rented a gristmill owned by his father. During his employment in this new business he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah E. Wilson, a resident of McLean County, Ill., the wedding taking place Jan. 1, 1861.

Mrs. Hood was the only child of James and Susan (McKee) Wilson, natives of Kentucky and Ohio respectively. She was born in Adams County, Ohio, Aug. 4, 1842. In the fall following his marriage Mr. Hood again moved to Illinois, and in the spring of 1862 built a shanty on his tract of land located on section 29, Humbolt Township. During the summer he broke forty acres and sowed it in wheat, but becoming discouraged by reason of sickness returned to Etna Furnace, and engaged as assistant manager at a salary of \$1,200 per annum. While thus occupied he rented his farm to D. C. Thomas, for grain rent. His share of the wheat marketed at \$1.85 per bushel at Humbolt, bringing him \$20 per acre, which has never been excelled in this part of the State. Elated by their

success, farmers engaged largely in wheat-raising the next year, only to meet a great failure.

In 1865 Mr. H. again came to Illinois, where he has remained until the present time. Although he had been a farmer merely in name previously, he now became one in fact, doing his first plowing that spring with a plow he had purchased at a sale for \$1.50, which he used four years. The cutter which was attached when he purchased the plow he sold for \$1, making his plow cost but fifty cents.

Mr. and Mrs. Hood have a family of eight children, recorded as follows: John E., Mary S., Sarah B., James W., Ann Eliza, Robert B., Clara D. and William H. Mr. Hood is a pronounced Republican in politics, having voted in 1856 for Fremont, and has since voted for each of the nominees in his party, save in 1860, when by virtue of changing his place of residence he lost his vote. He is an excellent citizen, a successful, painstaking farmer, and a gentleman of refined tastes.



JUDGE J. R. CUNNINGHAM, of Charleston, is descended from a family distinguished for intellect and character. He was born Sept. 19, 1831, in Litchfield, Grayson Co., Ky., and is the son of John and Elizabeth (Yates) Cunningham, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Maryland. John Cunningham was a man of prominence in the community where he resided. He was at one time Sheriff of Breckinridge County, and served one term as member of the State Legislature. He passed the greater part of his life engaged in agricultural and mercantile pursuits in Grayson County, Ky. He was twice married, and by his first wife had a family of ten children. His second wife was Miss Harriet B. Wortham, and by this marriage eight children were born.

The boyhood of Judge Cunningham was passed on his father's farm until the age of seventeen, when he was sent to St. Mary's College, in Marion County, Ky. He there applied himself diligently to study during three terms, and upon his return home was engaged one year as book-keeper in his father's store, and then deciding to enter one of the professions, went to Nashville, Tenn., where he

read medicine and attended medical lectures one year. After his return home he read law three years in the office of William L. Conklin, and in 1855 was admitted to the bar, and practiced law in Litchfield one year. In 1857 he was engaged in his profession a few months in Mattoon, and then came to Charleston, where he first commenced the practice of law associated with O. B. Ficklin, and remained with him about three years. His superior ability as a lawyer and as a man suited to the successful management of public affairs, soon became apparent, and in 1860 he was elected District Attorney in the 4th Judicial Circuit of Illinois, holding the office four years. He then resumed the practice of law in Charleston, and in 1865 was elected City Attorney for a term of two years. After the expiration of this office he served as City Clerk one year and Alderman two years. He was then elected Supervisor three years, and also Chairman of the Board. In 1870 he was elected a member of the State Legislature by a majority of 200, and in 1874 served again as Alderman. In 1878 he was elected County Judge, and held the office five years.

The marriage of Judge Cunningham to Miss Mary M. Smith, took place Jan. 9, 1862. She is the daughter of William O. Smith, of Lexington, Ky. They have an interesting family of eight children—William S., Robert O., John, James W., Mary A., Charles, Clifford and Thomas.

Judge Cunningham is now engaged in the practice of law in this city, at his office on Jackson street. During the incumbency of the various offices to which he was elected, he discharged his public duties faithfully, giving entire satisfaction to the community. He belongs to the Democratic party, and both socially and politically, is one of the prominent men of the county.



LAFALETTE CRAIG, who has been prominently identified with the farming community of Morgan Township and vicinity for the last fifty-two years, was born in Clark County, Ill., March 27, 1832. His parents were Isaac N. and Catherine (Hanson) Craig, whose ancestors were of Southern birth and parentage. The grand-

father of our subject, Robert Craig by name, a native of Virginia, removed first to Kentucky and then to Illinois, where his death took place about 1848. The family is of Scottish ancestry and the great-grandfather of the present representative in this section was driven from his country during the Rebellion. His son Robert reared a family of three sons and five daughters, of whom but two are now living, namely, Isaac N., a resident of Charleston, and his sister, Narcissa, Mrs. Davis, who lives in Morgan Township.

The father of our subject came to Clark County, Ill., in 1828, where he was married and whence he removed, in 1835, to this county, where he followed farming until 1872, and then retired from active labor. His wife, Catherine, was a native of Kentucky, born near Lexington, where she was reared and came with her parents, about 1828, to Central Illinois. The father's family included fourteen children. Robert, a merchant of Hickory, died in 1866, and left four children; Elizabeth, the wife of Herman Gregg, of Moultrie County, is the mother of six children; Harriet first married Harvey Fowler, now deceased, and subsequently married L. C. Mitchell; Nancy and William R. died in early childhood. Mrs. Catherine Craig departed this life at the home of her husband in Morgan Township, May 1, 1841. Isaac Craig was married again the same year to Miss Elizabeth Bloyer, of Pennsylvania, and of German parentage. She came to this State in 1838. Of this union there were born Catherine, now the wife of Robert McMullin, of Charleston Township, and the mother of four children; James W., practicing law at Mattoon, married and the father of four children; Audrey J.; Eliza E., the wife of A. N. Swango; Benjamin F., deceased; Isaac B., of the firm of Craig & Craig; Mary F., who died when young, and Thomas J., married and at home farming with his father, near Charleston.

The subject of our sketch remained at home until after reaching his majority. He had improved his advantages at school and now engaged in teaching, which he followed several winters while employed on the farm during the summer season. He was married, Jan. 3, 1856, to Miss Jemima, the daughter of Joseph Fowler, who was born in North

Carolina. Her parents were natives respectively of North Carolina and Tennessee. Of this union there were born three children, namely, James B., Alvin and Isaac E. The wife and mother departed this life on the 26th of March, 1862. On the 12th of February, 1863, Mr. Craig was married to Miss Margaret J. Woodfall, of Morgan Township, and they became the parents of seven children, viz., Charles P., Willis N., Ida M., Elmer T., Robert H., Oscar A. and Thomas D.

Mr. Craig, in 1855, purchased sixty acres of land in Morgan Township, to which he subsequently added until he became the possessor of 440 acres. Upon this he has brought about fine improvements and underlaid the low lands with 1,000 rods of tile. The land is mostly devoted to the raising of corn, wheat and oats, and the stock includes twenty-three horses and forty cattle. There is a fine growth of maples on the place, planted twenty years ago, which forms one of its most attractive features. Mr. Craig has been prominent in local affairs since reaching manhood; he was Collector the first two years after the organization of the township, Supervisor thirteen years, and also served as Assessor. He assisted in taking the census in 1865, and in 1882 took a trip to England upon business connected with the settlement of the estate of the Woodfall heirs.

The father of our subject, during the winter of 1832 was engaged in the Black Hawk War. His mother, who in her girlhood was Miss Catherine Hanson, was born March 12, 1812, and was the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Coons) Hanson, natives respectively of Virginia, whence they removed to Kentucky. Robert Hanson and his wife became the parents of nine children, namely, Sarah, Susan, Mary Ann, George, Gideon, Robert, Catherine, Permella and Nancy, seven of whom are deceased.

Mr. Craig is a stockholder in the County Fair grounds, and has for years been greatly interested in fine horses. He has been President of the Running and Trotting Society for a period of five years, and connected with nearly every enterprise calculated for the advance of the farming interests of Morgan Township. His genial disposition and courteous manner to all, have secured him an ex-

tended friendship among the people of his county, while his good business capacities and judgment in financial matters, as we have seen, have often been called into requisition in township and county affairs.

The good taste and industry of Mr. Craig are perhaps the most forcibly illustrated in the home which he has provided for himself and family, and a view of which is given on page 266. It is creditable alike to the proprietor and to Morgan Township.



ELISHA LINDER. The family history of the subject of this sketch comprises an interesting array of facts and figures, and proves it to have been one of prominence in the locality where the Linders first settled upon coming to this country. Wherever located they have made their mark, exerting a good influence upon the minds and morals of those with whom they have been connected, and have occupied positions of trust and importance.

Mr. L. was born in Hardin County, Ky., Aug. 16, 1807, and was the eldest of four children born to Isaac and Nancy (Richardson) Linder. The former was a native of Vermont, whence his parents removed when he was a child to Kentucky. They were Daniel and Rebecca (VanMeter) Linder, the former reared and educated in the country and a man of much force of character and great industry. His father was Lawrence Linder, a brother of Simon and Anthony Linder, who were natives of Germany. Daniel Linder, when the Colonies began to struggle for their liberty, identified himself with them and distinguished himself as a soldier of the Revolution. He then engaged in his farming until he was of a good old age.

Isaac Linder, the father of our subject, was born and reared among the stirring scenes of nearly a century ago, and when a young man was actively engaged in skirmishes with the Indians, who made life miserable for the early settlers of the Blue Grass Regions. He spent the greater part of his life in Kentucky and died there in 1814, while still in the prime of life. After his death the

mother kept her children together until Elisha, our subject, was old enough to assist her in caring for them, and finally the entire support of the family fell upon him. On the 10th of January, 1831, he came to this county, where he purchased forty acres of wild land and erected a log cabin. He staid there that season, raised one crop, and in the fall returned to Kentucky and brought his mother and her family to his home. The children then consisted of two sisters and a brother. Elisha had learned the bricklayer's trade in the South, and followed it at times after coming to this county, but gave most of his attention to farming and stock-raising. He was very successful and invested his surplus capital in additional land until he became the owner of 2,000 acres, lying mostly in the central part of this State.

In the meantime Mr. Linder had been mindful of home comforts and domestic ties, and April 16, 1837, took unto himself a wife and helpmate in the person of Miss Rebecca Sawyer. Mrs. Linder is the daughter of John and Hannah (Radley) Sawyer, who were natives of Kentucky but emigrated to Illinois before the arrival of Mr. Linder. John Sawyer was one of the first settlers of Central Illinois after the State was admitted into the Union, and became a prominent and successful farmer.

Mr. and Mrs. Linder have just passed the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage. Their children are Mary, Daniel, Martha, Nancy, John, Rebecca, Lillie Ann, Louisiana, Flora, Sarah, Sidney Jane, Isaac and Minta Elizabeth. Mary is the wife of Levi Johnson, a farmer of Barton County, Kan.; Daniel married Miss Rebecca Hall, and is also a resident of that county; Martha became the wife of John Parr, and is now deceased; Nancy is the wife of William Champion, a farmer of Mattoon Township, living near the Linder homestead; John married Miss Brunetta Mitchell, and is farming in Sumner County, Kan.; Rebecca became the wife of William Puriston, who is now deceased; Mrs. P. occupies a farm on the Western Avenue road. Lillie Ann is the wife of William A. Bell, and lives near the old homestead; Flora is the wife of George Howell, a railroad engineer of Brazil, Ind.; Sarah married John H. Linder, and lives near the homestead; Sidney, the wife of

Henry Howell, is a resident of Mattoon; Isaac, who manages the home farm for his parents, married Miss Sarah Brotherton. All the children, with their parents, are members of the Methodist Church..

The first Presidential vote of Mr. Linder was cast for Andrew Jackson, but the second one decidedly against "Old Hickory," as he considered that he had good reason for changing his views. Since then he has steadily opposed Democracy, and although never taking any very active part in politics, uniformly avails himself of his privileges as a free-born American citizen, in times of important elections.



LOCKARD SWISHER, the owner of a fine estate containing 190 acres of valuable land, located on section 21, (11, 9), Hutton Township, is an honorable representative of one of the pioneer families of this county. He was born July 29, 1833, and is the son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Wood) Swisher. His paternal grandparents were natives of Maryland, and emigrated to Ohio at an early day, where they were among the pioneers of Franklin County.

Samuel Swisher was born in Maryland, and accompanied the family to Ohio, remaining with his parents until his marriage. The educational advantages offered by Ohio were at that time very limited, but Samuel attended the district school during the winter, and assisted his father on the farm in the summer, acquiring some practical experience in the various branches of agriculture, and a moderate amount of book-learning, as it was dispensed in the early days. After his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Wood, who was a native of Franklin County, he engaged in farming for himself on the estate inherited by his wife. Their happy home there was soon darkened by the death of his wife. Her health began to fail soon after the birth of their only child, Lockard, and she died in the following February, 1834.

In 1835, Samuel Swisher married Mrs. Hester (Fleming) Campbell, and in the spring of 1838 removed with his family to Edgar County, Ill. He

remained there until autumn, and after looking about the country, changed his location to Hutton Township, this county, and entered eighty acres of timber land on section 12, on the banks of the Embarras River. He cleared and improved his land, and was very successful in business. The arduous task of settling in a new country, and the many privations of a pioneer's life, wore upon his health, and he died June 10, 1849, at the age of fifty-five years. His widow survived him several years, and died in the spring of 1858, on the homestead, leaving two children—Martha and Jane, twins, born Aug. 16, 1837, in Franklin County, Ohio. Martha is the wife of Henry Freezener, and lives in Iowa; Jane is the wife of John A. Patterson, and lives in Edgar County, Ill.

Lockard Swisher was only sixteen years of age when his father died, and he remained on the homestead with his widowed mother until he was twenty, assisting her in carrying on the farm. He was a bright and intelligent boy, but could obtain only a very limited education at the common schools. Possessing an enterprising disposition, he joined a company composed of eleven of his neighbors, who had planned an overland expedition to California by ox-teams. It was a difficult and perilous journey to undertake at that early day, but they started out full of hope and courage, April 4, 1854, and after a toilsome and adventurous pilgrimage, arrived safely at Placerville, El Dorado Co., Cal., Sept. 27, 1854. He found employment there in the gold mines at \$50 and \$60 per month, and remained until June 5, 1858, returning via the Isthmus and New York. The death of his step-mother occurred that spring, and he inherited the homestead, where on his return he engaged in farming, and purchased ninety additional acres.

November 25, 1860, Mr. Swisher was married to Miss Louisa Allen. Mrs. Swisher was the daughter of Jackson and Catherine Allen, and was born Feb. 2, 1840. Her parents were natives of South Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. Swisher had a family of eight children born to them: Martha Jane died in infancy; Mary C., the wife of Albert Bidle; Laura A. died at the age of sixteen; Phebe E., John E., Henry M., Polly V. and Charles C. all reside on the homestead. After twenty years of happy

married life, Mrs. Swisher was taken from her beloved family by death, Dec. 2, 1880. She was a devoted wife and loving mother, and her death was deeply mourned by her family and a large circle of sympathizing friends. Sept. 3, 1883, Mr. Swisher was married to his second wife, Mrs. Mary (Woodruff) Scott, the widow of John Scott.

In the autumn of 1884, Mr. Swisher exchanged farms with Mr. M. A. Walker. The estate he now owns contains 190 acres of land, all of which is well-improved, and supplied with a substantial brick residence and commodious barn. With his wife he is a member of the Christian Church. He is interested in educational affairs, and has been School Director for nine years. In politics, he is a Republican.

THOMAS J. PEPPER, an extensive land-owner and breeder of fine stock, whose operations for the last five years have attracted much attention in Central Illinois, took up his abode in North Okaw Township in the winter of 1880, purchased 600 acres of land, and proceeded, with the aid of a carload of Short-horn cattle which he had brought with him, to inaugurate a system of stock-raising which should be worthy of imitation by his neighbors. In this he succeeded admirably, and has realized from his transactions each year a handsome sum of money. He has lately sold 200 acres of his land, and purchased a good property in the village of Humbolt. Mr. Pepper possesses all the requisites of a desirable citizen; he is interested in the welfare of the community around him, and is a member in good standing of the Christian Church. Since becoming a voter, he has been a warm supporter of Democratic principles, and is a man of more than ordinary ability, as indicated by the position which he occupies socially and financially.

The paternal great-grandfather of our subject was a native of England, who emigrated to the United States when a young man, and locating in Virginia, married and reared a family, and it is supposed, there spent the remainder of his days. Among his sons was Jesse, a native of the Old Dominion, who in his youth removed to Mason Coun-

ty, Ky., during its early settlement. He engaged in farm pursuits and was married to a Miss Lampkin. Both were members of the Baptist Church, and Jesse served as Justice of the Peace for a number of years. They never left the Blue Grass regions, but died in Mason County, and their remains were laid to rest near the home which they had occupied for nearly half a century. The five children born of this marriage were, Eliza; James S., the father of our subject; Peter A., a resident of Kentucky; Abner, of Virginia, and William, who died when young.

James S. Pepper, who was the second child of his parents, was born in Mason County, Ky., in 1800. He was fairly educated, and remained with his parents until reaching years of manhood. He was united in marriage with Miss Lydia Worthington, in 1823. She was born in Mason County in 1805, and was the daughter of Thomas Worthington, a native of Maryland. After his marriage, the father of our subject rented land in Mason County until the death of his father. He then purchased the home farm, which remained his abiding-place until he was called hence. He was a man of much force of character, becoming prominent in local affairs and serving as Justice of the Peace for a number of years. He officiated as Captain of the State Militia, and with his wife, was an active member of the Christian Church. He departed from the scenes of his earthly labors June 7, 1875. The mother survived until Jan. 20, 1878, also dying at the old homestead. They were laid side by side in the Minerva burying-ground, in Mason County. Their twelve children were named respectively, Elizabeth, Ann, Fannie, Mary, John E., Lydia, Maria C., Amanda J., Thomas J., Alice, Vachel M. and William H. They lived to become men and women, and most of them married and had families of their own.

The subject of this history was born in Mason County, Ky., Jan. 8, 1841. He received the advantages afforded by the district school, and remained at home until his marriage, June 2, 1874. The maiden of his choice was Miss Jennie Spencer, a native of his own county, and born Feb. 15, 1858. Her parents, Thomas and Betty Spencer, were natives respectively of Virginia and Ken-

tucky. After his marriage, Mr. Pepper commenced buying and selling leaf tobacco, and was thus occupied for ten years following with excellent results. He came to Coles County in the winter of 1880, and his subsequent life we have already indicated. Mr. and Mrs. Pepper have no children.



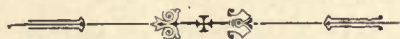
RR. FULLER. Among the descendants of the early pioneers of Coles County, the name of R. R. Fuller is worthy of an honorable place. He is one of the partners in the firm of Fuller Bros., dealers in lumber and manufacturers of wire and slat fencing in Charleston Township. He was born Feb. 6, 1861, in this county, and is the son of William N. and Phyneta M. (Ellis) Fuller. The former is a native of Russell County, Va., and the latter of Tennessee.

The grandparents of our subject were Hawkins and Phoebe (Nash) Fuller, natives of Russell County, Va. They were the descendants of Scotch and German ancestry, both of which nationalities are noted for thrift and enterprise. Hawkins Fuller was a farmer in Virginia and left his Eastern home in 1834 to encounter the trials and privations of pioneer life on the Western frontier. A tide of emigration was then beginning to sweep in from the East, and the vast lonely stretches of prairie were more frequently broken by human habitations than hitherto. The very early settlers had usually located in or near the timber, hardly expecting that the broad, wild prairies, covered with tall, rank grass, over which the deer and wolves roamed undisturbed, would ever wave with rich harvests of golden grain or become the safe pasture land of vast herds of cattle and flocks of sheep. The first necessity was to provide shelter for himself and family, which was soon secured by erecting one of the primitive houses of the early pioneer days, which, though rude in construction, were yet made very comfortable. He first settled in North Okaw Township, of this county. Settlers began rapidly to come in from the Eastern States, and the prosperity of the county was greatly increased. He was the first Justice of the Peace elected in the county.

William N. Fuller, who was only three months

old when his father settled in North Okaw Township, was brought up on the farm, assisting his father in subduing the wilderness and attending the primitive school which the neighborhood afforded. He acquired much practical knowledge of the details of farming, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout his life. Besides carrying on an extensive farming business he was actively interested in public affairs. He was County Commissioner, Assessor, and at the time of his death was a candidate for Sheriff. In politics he was a Democrat. His death occurred June 9, 1880. His widow still survives, and is a resident of Charleston. They had a family of five children, three of whom are now living—H. H. and R. R., of the firm of Fuller Bros., and Phoebe.

R. R. Fuller was brought up on his father's farm, receiving a good common-school education in the township. After his father's death he assumed the management of the farm. In 1882 his brother, H. H., was elected County Treasurer, and served in that office for four years, and R. R. was Deputy County Treasurer. In 1886 the brothers purchased the lumber business of W. S. Coon, now deceased, in which they are carrying on a large and extensive business. In 1880 H. H. Fuller married Miss Belle Hitch, a native of Coles County, and the daughter of Alexander and Permelia Hitch. They have a family of three children—Winnie W., Claude C. and Pearl. The brothers belong to the Democratic party. R. R. is a member of the Odd Fellows' Society, and also of the K. of P.



GEORGE W. GRAY, a prominent citizen of Humbolt, is the leading merchant of the village, and also the owner of an estate containing 120 acres of fine farming land in the vicinity. He was born June 3, 1827, in Greene County, Pa., and is the son of John and Rhoda (Bane) Gray. John Gray was likewise a native of Pennsylvania, and the son of David and Elizabeth (Baston) Gray. He was a farmer and miller by occupation, and in 1830 left his native State, moving further westward, and settled in Athens County,

Ohio, purchasing a farm in Hocking Valley. During the summer he cultivated his farm, and in the winter operated the Athens mill, for the firm of Miles & Matheny. He was successful in both lines of business, and passed the remainder of his life there, his death occurring in 1848. His wife was the daughter of Mordecai Bane, and was also a native of Pennsylvania.

George Gray was a graduate of the High School at New Albany, Athens County, and at the close of his studies there, determined to enter one of the professions, and with this aim in view, began the study of medicine at Hibbardsville, under the instruction of Dr. Dixon. At the close of the first year his preceptor died, which event influenced him to change his plans. He returned to the farm and engaged in its various duties, and about a year later his father's death occurred. This event caused a change in family affairs, and he then decided to come west. On his arrival in Illinois, he first located at Jacksonville, and remained there a year, engaged in stock-dealing with an uncle. He then came to Coles County, and operated a saw and grist mill near Westfield, for the firm of Brown & Hite. The business proved successful, and he remained there seven years. At the expiration of that time he took charge of the Westfield mill for three years, and then moved to Charleston, where he engaged in the grocery business with Mr. Hullman. He remained there from 1860 to 1865, and then left Charleston and opened a grocery store at Humbolt. Five years later he enlarged his business, making it a general store, and has since made this place his home.

April 24, 1855, Mr. Gray was married to Miss Mary E. Brown. Her parents, William and Clara (Salmon) Brown, were natives of Ohio, but subsequently removed to Madison, Ind., where Mrs. Gray was born, April 18, 1836. Mr. Brown was an engineer and mechanic, and successfully carried on his trade in Madison. Mr. and Mrs. Gray had a family of eight children, only four of whom are now living. The following is their record: Marietta, Mary, Belle, Rhoda, Clara, William, Jennie Maude and Jessie Blanche. Belle became the wife of Thomas I. Smith, a farmer residing in this township; Rhoda, Jennie and Jessie reside at home. The

daughters are accomplished young ladies, and Rhoda is a graduate of the Oxford Female College, of Ohio. She possesses a vigorous mind and enjoys active employment. She is a fine musician, and utilizes her talent by giving instructions in music, and spends her leisure time assisting her father in the store.

Mr. Gray has been successful in both of his business enterprises. In conducting his farm he gives special attention to stock-growing, and has commenced raising thoroughbreds. He possesses an unusual degree of executive ability, supervising his farm and store with equal facility. He was appointed Postmaster by Andrew Johnson, and retained the office until the reins of Government changed hands, filling the position ably and satisfactorily. Mr. Gray has been a Deacon and Trustee in the Presbyterian Church for many years, and is always interested in promoting measures calculated to benefit the community. He owns his store and residence, besides several vacant lots in town and other property. In politics, he is a staunch Republican.



G B. GRIFFIN, an extensive dealer in hay, feed and grain, is one of the successful and enterprising citizens of Charleston. He was born June 27, 1847, in Licking County, Ohio, and is the son of Asahel and Annie (Phelps) Griffin. Asahel Griffin was engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods in Ohio, which State is noted for its manufacturing facilities, possessing abundant water-power, coal, wool, timber and other raw materials. In 1851 his establishment was entirely destroyed by fire—his stock, notes, books and papers, all being lost, except his home. This serious interruption to the progress of his business resulted in his emigration to Illinois.

There were no railroads at that early day, and Asahel Griffin brought with him the first steam-engine ever used in Coles County. He came via the Ohio and Wabash Rivers, by canal to Terre Haute and thence by ox-teams to Charleston. With this engine he engaged in milling and carding,

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



L. T. (Nixie) Yeargin,
Editor Ledger.

in company with James Kennedy, Sr. His death occurred in 1854, soon after his arrival in the township. His wife had previously died in 1852. They had a family of five children, four of whom are now living: Ennice, Mrs. S. M. Thrall, a resident of Cheney, Kan.; Charles A., a resident of Muscatine, Iowa; Cassius A., a resident of Indiana, and G. B., the subject of this sketch.

The home life of G. B. Griffin was broken up by the death of both his parents, and he was thrown upon the world to begin the battle of life, when a mere boy. Until 1857 he found a home with his uncle, Lemuel Griffin, and then lived with his sister, Mrs. Quimby, until 1860. He next made his home with R. M. Parcells, now a resident of Denver, Col., where he remained until 1867, and subsequently worked in the woolen factory until 1877. His next business venture was to purchase an interest in a house-furnishing store in company with R. F. & G. T. McNutt, under the firm name of McNutt, Griffin & Co. In 1881 Mr. Griffin disposed of his interest in the store to George N. Gage, now a resident of Tombstone, Ariz. He then purchased of Harry Jeffries, the partner of R. F. McNutt, his interest in the hay press, and a little later bought out the firm. He continued this business successfully until 1884, when he was visited by the same calamity which had overtaken his father in Ohio. His establishment was destroyed by fire, over 300 tons of hay were consumed, and his machinery lost. The loss was \$4,000, \$3,000 of which was fortunately covered by insurance.

Mr. G. next purchased a half interest in the grocery store of R. F. McNutt, under the firm name of McNutt & Griffin, and continued the business until 1885, in the meantime, in the spring of 1885, commencing the hay business at Ashmore. In July, 1885, he sold out his interest in the grocery store to Riley Reynolds, and in the same year built a large hay barn, located west of the stockyards in Charleston. In 1886 he purchased the grain elevator of the Gage estate, and has since run both of his hay presses in connection with the elevator. He is now extensively engaged in shipping hay, his trade extending to New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Alabama, Tennessee,

Missouri and throughout Illinois. He pays to his employes several hundred dollars per week in wages.

Mr. Griffin was married, in 1868, to Miss Nora Strickland, the daughter of Robert Strickland. They have an interesting family of four children: Ora, who is attending school in Northampton, Mass.; Clyde, a farmer residing in Kansas; Max and Ina, who are at home with their parents.

Mr. Griffin has passed through many business vicissitudes, from boyhood, and successfully encountered and overcome obstacles, which, if met with less courage and energy, might have proved disastrous. He is a Republican in politics, and socially belongs to the Royal Templars. With his wife and two eldest children, he is a member of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is an Elder.

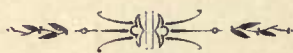


LYMAN T. YEARGIN, editor of the *Oakland Weekly Ledger*, is the son of James S. Yeargin, Postmaster at Oakland, and was born in Edgar County, Ill., March 9, 1859. For ten years he resided with his father's family, then, removing to Oakland with his father, he attended the High School, and was graduated at the age of thirteen. He then entered the law office of his father, where he pursued a course of study twelve months, and in 1875 went to Ithaca, N. Y., and entered Cornell University, from the law department of which he was graduated when eighteen years old. Returning to Oakland, he engaged in the practice of his chosen profession until his father started the *Oakland Weekly Ledger*, which, by hard work, economy and strict attention to business, he has made the leading local paper in Coles County, and probably in Central Illinois.

At different times, Mr. Yeargin has been connected with papers at Chicago, St. Louis, and other prominent cities, and thus gained a good insight into the methods of newspaper management. He became connected with the *Ledger* editorially in 1884. He is a clear and forcible writer, a first-class journalist, and a favorite among the newspaper fraternity, as well as in the social circles of Oakland. His marriage with Miss Minnie E. Lamb,

of Crawfordsville, Ind., was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents Dec. 26, 1885. Mrs. Y. is the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Ross) Lamb, and was born in Richmond, Madison Co., Ky., July 4, 1867. Her great-grandfather served under Gen. Washington in the Revolutionary War, and was on duty at the time of the surrender of Yorktown by the British.

Mr. and Mrs. Yeargin have become the parents of one child, Cecil Potter, born Jan. 14, 1887. They occupy a pleasant home in the western part of the city, and number among their warmest friends the best people of the place. With an attractive home, a well-equipped newspaper office that is doing a good business, and the consciousness that he has the best wishes of the community in his efforts to assist in its progress and advancement, Mr. Yeargin has reason to be contented with his lot and hopeful for the future. As a representative young journalist, we take pleasure in presenting the portrait of Mr. Yeargin on a preceding page.



WILLIAM JOHNSON, farmer and stock-raiser, section 28, North Okaw Township, was born, reared and educated in County Fermanagh, Ireland. He was born March 22, 1822, and remained there until twenty-eight years of age, when he came to the United States.

The parents of our subject, John and Annie (Bell) Johnson, were born and married in County Fermanagh, and after the birth of nine children started with their family for the United States. Their subsequent history is briefly given in a sketch of John Johnson, which will be found elsewhere in this volume. William Johnson, with his parents, after a voyage of thirteen weeks on a sailing-vessel, landed in New York City, whence they started after a few days for Moultrie County, Ill. Circumstances, however, detained them for a while in Peru, and our subject took a contract for burning a kiln of lime for which he was to receive \$44. After his work was completed, however, he

was enabled to collect but \$9 for his labor, on account of a worthless employer. They went on to Moultrie County, where the father rented a tract of land, which became his by purchase the year following. William, in common with his brothers, assisted in the building up of the homestead, and in February, 1851, was united in marriage with Mrs. Nancy (Curry) Ellis. After becoming the mother of one child, a son, whom they named John W., she departed this life in December, 1853. Her little son died when three years and six months old.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married April 1, 1856, was formerly Mrs. Mary J. (Miller) Drake. She was born in Lafayette Township, this county, July 22, 1834, and is the daughter of Robert and Mary A. (Price) Miller, natives respectively of Ireland and Pennsylvania. They were married in Ohio and emigrated to this county in 1827, settling in Lafayette Township. Mr. Miller entered a tract of land, and with his family endured all the hardships and vicissitudes of pioneer life, and was remarkably prosperous in the cultivation of the soil, becoming in time the owner of 500 acres. The mother departed this life in April, 1846. Mr. Miller survived until March, 1862. The remains of both were buried in Bethel Churchyard, and they are remembered as people worthy of the highest esteem. Their seven children were named respectively: William, now deceased; Peter; Sarah; Samuel, deceased; Henry, Mary J., and Robert, the last mentioned also deceased. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Miller was married, in 1846, to Mrs. Elizabeth (Bates) Martin. This lady is still living with her son, Charles Martin, in Lafayette Township. Of her marriage with Mr. Miller there were born three children: Thomas, Rachael, and Scott, the latter being the only one living. Her parents were members of the Baptist Church, the father acting as Deacon for forty years. He was a man of great enterprise and energy, and during the latter years of his life occupied himself largely in the raising of live stock, and was the first man to introduce the better grades of the domestic animals into Coles County. He at one time owned a Cherokee stallion for which he paid \$1,500. He purchased the first Durham introduced into the county and in various other ways was the leader in the de-

velopment of its most important interests. He served as Justice of the Peace for several years and was also School Director and Trustee.

The parents of our subject were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His house was the home of the ministers, in which they were always made welcome. In 1858 our subject purchased the land which constitutes his present homestead, and on which he has resided continuously for nearly thirty years. He has for a number of years served as School Director and Trustee. With his excellent wife he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has served as Steward for fifteen years and Trustee for twelve years.

The children of William and Mary J. Johnson, seven in number, are recorded as follows: Robert, born Jan. 22, 1857, died Aug. 11, 1859; John, born June 29, 1859, died Sept. 19, 1866; Robert M., born June 3, 1861, was married Aug. 14, 1883, to Miss Ella Crumm, and has charge of his father's farm; Anna was born March 14, 1863; Jennie, April 4, 1865, and Franklin A., Dec. 29, 1868; an infant daughter, born Oct. 10, 1873, died Oct. 17, 1873.

The first husband of Mrs. Johnson was John Drake, a native of Kentucky, and they became the parents of one child, a son, John T., who was born Feb. 24, 1853, and died Oct. 28, 1858. William Miller, the paternal grandfather of Mrs. J., was a native of Ireland, and was married in his native county to Miss Rachael Art. He emigrated to the United States and settled first in Pennsylvania, whence he removed after a few years to Ohio, taking up his abode on the Miami River, where he spent the remainder of his days. His widow and children afterward came to Illinois and located in Lawrence County, where Grandmother Miller died in 1857, aged about one hundred years. Both she and her husband were members of the Presbyterian Church. Their seven children were named respectively, Robert, John, Rachael, Elizabeth, Thomas Samuel and Belinda.

From 1850 until about 1865 William Johnson and his brothers, James, Irvin, John and Frederick, operated together on a large tract of land, being owners of nearly 1,000 acres and engaged largely in stock-raising. Irvin was the first to withdraw

and selected for his portion the farm which he owns on section 24. In 1882 our subject withdrew, and was also given his choice of the land left, which he now occupies. Since the death of James, John and Frederick have operated together. This is a remarkable instance of a family of brothers who worked together harmoniously for many years, and of whom all are living with the exception of James, who was accidentally killed by the explosion of a boiler. They have done much toward the building up of North Okaw Township, and their names will be long remembered after they are gathered to their fathers.



IRVIN W. SAIN. On section 6, in Morgan Township, lies a good farm of 210 acres, embellished with a handsome and substantial set of buildings, including one of the finest residences in Coles County, a view of which appears on another page. The homestead forms one of the most attractive features in the landscape, being enclosed with neat and substantial fences, well stocked with good grades of the domestic animals, and kept in first-class order. The thrift and enterprise of the proprietor, who is the subject of the following notice, is apparent on every hand, and is a fine illustration of what may be accomplished by perseverance, industry and ample means. The main points in his career are noted as follows:

Mr. Sain, a native of the Buckeye State, was born in Hocking County, Oct. 23, 1846, and is the son of James Q. and Lucinda (Wright) Sain, natives respectively of Fairfield and Vinton Counties, the same State. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Philip Sain, who passed the greater part of his life in Ohio, where his remains were laid to rest near the town of Mt. Pleasant. The mother descended from German ancestry, but her people had been residents of Ohio for two or three generations.

To the grandparents of our subject there were born eleven children, one of whom died in infancy. The others are recorded as follows: James Q., a resident of Douglas County, this State, and a man of good education, is living retired on a com-

petency; Samuel continues a resident of Ohio; Allen deals in fine horses at Indianapolis, Ind.; Athelinda, who was first married to a Mr. Kitchmiller, who was killed in battle during the late war, subsequently married Hiram Poole, and lives in El Dorado, Kan.; John is farming in Indiana; Isaiah F. is a resident of Ohio; Lemuel, of Topeka, Kan.; Caroline, David and Harvey are in Ohio, the first mentioned the wife of George W. Johnson.

James Sain first came to Illinois in March, 1860, and located at Kansas Station, Edgar County, but did not make any purchase of land until four years later, when he bought 120 acres which were improved, and which he occupied until 1866. He sold out and rented for two years, and in 1868 purchased 216 acres, including some of the choicest land in Seven Hickory Township, where he carried on farming until February, 1886. Then deciding to abandon active labor for a time, he rented his farm for \$1,150 cash per year for three years, and removed with his family to Arcola, Douglas County, where he now resides. His marriage with Miss Lucinda Wright occurred in the spring of 1844, at the home of the bride in Seven Hickory Township. Mrs. Sain is the daughter of Joseph and Lovina Wright, of Ohio, who were the parents of thirteen children, eight now living. Of these, one is now in Iowa, two in Illinois, and the balance on the homestead in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Wright are deceased.

James Sain and wife became the parents of eight children: Irwin W., the eldest, is the subject of this sketch; Milton, a farmer of Douglas County, Ill., is married and has one child; Vinton, unmarried, is dealing in real estate at El Dorado, Kan.; Homer, a farmer and stock-trader, makes his headquarters on the home farm; Richard Harvey, a farmer of Douglas County, is married, and has two children living and two deceased; Lovina Ann, the wife of Joseph Harr, is living on a farm in Dakota, and is the mother of five children; Caroline is living with her parents in Arcola; Mary, a teacher, is still at home. The parents are enjoying good health, and are still regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which they have been connected for a number of years. The father identified himself with the Republican party at its

organization, and has been a staunch adherent of its principles since that time.

Our subject remained under the home roof until after reaching his majority, receiving a common-school education and becoming acquainted with the best methods of carrying on a farm. He was ambitious and industrious, and began early in life to lay his plans for the future. His marriage took place in Seven Hickory Township, June 16, 1870, his chosen bride being Miss Eliza Belle, daughter of James W. and Mary (O'Hair) Frazier, who are treated of elsewhere in this work. Her grandfather served all through the Revolutionary War, and the family, wherever known, were people who universally enjoyed the respect of their community. To Mr. and Mrs. Sain there were born five children, as follows: Cora, born in June, 1872; Lulu, born in September, 1874, and died in November following; Jessie, born in August, 1876; Louisiana, in September, 1879, and James Walter on Christmas Day in 1886.

About the time of his marriage Mr. Sain purchased forty acres of land in Morgan Township, to which his father added an equal amount a short time afterward. Our subject, in 1874, increased his landed area to 160 acres, and the following year purchased fifty acres more, so that he now has 210 acres which he has brought to a fine state of cultivation. The improvements which attract the eye of the passer-by are mostly his own, which he has brought about by a wise investment of funds and the supervision of the work going on around him, trusting little to other hands. He has been engaged largely in raising grain and broom corn, and buying large quantities of the latter, of which, during the past seventeen years he has shipped 1,700 carloads. Most of this has gone to Cincinnati, where he has a brother-in-law dealing in this commodity, and to whom of late years he has shipped from 200 to 250 carloads a year. He has also sent large quantities to Philadelphia and Chicago. Mr. Sain has raised fine cattle to some extent and has twenty head of horses.

Our subject, although having plenty of private business to engage his attention, has served as Commissioner of Highways in his township, and interested himself in the welfare of the Christian Church,

at Rural Retreat. Socially, he belongs to the I. O. O. F. at Charleston, has also been interested in the Grange movement in Morgan Township, and politically, affiliates with the Democratic party, with which his mother's people were identified, while his father was a Republican.

PATRICK REILLY, Master Mechanic of the P., D. & E. R. R. Co., is one of the prominent citizens of Mattoon. He is the son of Edwin and Elizabeth (Mulligan) Reilly, and was born March 9, 1833, in County Meath, Ireland. Edwin Reilly emigrated to America in 1835, and settled in Utica, N. Y., but not feeling satisfied with his surroundings there, he resolved to move farther westward with his family, and came to Toledo, Ohio, where he found a good opening for employment, and made that city his home for the remainder of his life. He was an active, energetic man, and endeavored to give his children the best education which the early days afforded. He had a family of eleven children: Patrick, Bernard, Edward, Margaret, Kate, Elizabeth, John, William, James and Mary; Edward, John and an infant unnamed are deceased. The elder Reilly became a patriotic citizen of his adopted country, and in politics always voted the Democratic ticket.

Patrick Reilly was an infant when his parents crossed the Atlantic to make their home in a new country. He received a practical education, and at the age of fifteen years found employment with the Syracuse & Utica Railroad Co. Having gained some experience in the railroad business, he obtained a position as machinist on the Illinois Central Railroad, in Chicago, which he retained several years. He was then general foreman for the C., B. & Q. R. R. for a long time, and in 1880 was offered his present position on the P., D. & E. R. R. He has the supervision of from seventy to ninety men in the shops, and from thirty to fifty engineers and firemen on the railroad. He is faithful and reliable in the discharge of his important duties, and possesses the entire confidence of the company by whom he is employed.

In 1854, Mr. Reilly was married to Miss Mary

Duffy, the daughter of Christopher Duffy. Mr. and Mrs. Reilly have a family of eleven children, whose names are as follows: Lizzie, Mary, William, Katie, Annie, Charles, Drusilla, Nellie, Lucy, Emily and George. Drusilla is a graduate of the High School of Mattoon. Mary became the wife of Frank Flemming, who is book-keeper for a mercantile house in Montana, where they now reside; she is the mother of one daughter, named Helen. William is storekeeper for the P., D. & E. R. R. at Mattoon, and chief clerk for his father; he was elected Alderman of the Third Ward by the Democratic party, and served two years in that capacity. Charles is a mechanic in the P., D. & E. R. R. shops in this city.

Mr. Reilly belongs to the Masonic fraternity and is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. He is a man of excellent business qualifications, and a highly respected citizen of Mattoon.

WILLIAM SHAFER, a retired farmer living in the village of Ashmore, was one of the gallant soldiers who offered his life in the defense of his country, and although spared from death on the battle-field, has been a sufferer all his life. He was born Jan. 25, 1826, in Jefferson County, Ky., and is the son of Joseph F. and Elizabeth (Evinger) Shafer, his father born in Germany, and his mother a native of Kentucky.

Joseph Shafer was a successful farmer, possessing that shrewdness in financial affairs characteristic of his nationality. He was one of the early pioneers of the State, having come to Illinois in the year 1836, where he identified himself with the interests of his adopted country. His wife and himself were members of the United Brethren Church, and were actively interested in promoting the cause of religion on the Western frontier. His wife died in 1850 at the age of forty-two. He survived her several years, and died in Tuscola, Douglas Co., Ill. Their family comprised sixteen children, four of whom are deceased. Their names are: John; William, the subject of this biography; George, Catherine, David, Samuel, Solomon, Mary, Henry,

Lewis, Alexander, Sarah, Nancy, Henry, and two who died in infancy.

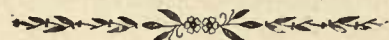
December 20, 1848, William Shafer was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Skinner, by Rev. William Brown, pastor of the United Brethren Church at Westfield, Clark Co., Ill. His wife was born in Canada, July 6, 1824. Her family came to the States when she was a child, and first located in Indiana, where her father died. After the death of Mr. Skinner, his widow came to Illinois with her family of seven children, where her death occurred in 1866. The names of her children are: Mary S., Joseph, John, Sarah, Catherine, Levi and Adam.

Mrs. Shafer is a lady of unusual mental ability and force of character. She has reared a family of eight children, in the training and education of whom she has been obliged to some extent to take the part of both father and mother, as her husband has the misfortune to be totally blind, his eyesight having been permanently injured during his service in the Civil War. The record of their children is as follows: John, born Nov. 30, 1849, married Miss Alice Holladay; William, born Sept. 4, 1851, married Miss Mary Roberts; Hannah E., born Nov. 24, 1853, married William King; Joseph A., born Dec. 21, 1855, married Josephine Roberts; Martha, born Nov. 23, 1858; Henry, born April 13, 1860, married Susan Wilkins; Winfield S., born July 19, 1862, died April 29, 1882; Elmer E., born July 8, 1866.

On the breaking out of the Civil War, Mr. Shafer enlisted, Aug. 1, 1862, in Co. F, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf., and was mustered in at Mattoon, Ill. He was encamped there about six weeks before marching to the front, and thence was ordered to Kentucky. He was engaged in the battle of Hoover's Gap, after which his eyes began to trouble him so severely that he was ordered to the rear and sent to Chicago, where he remained in the hospital from July 1, 1863, to March 6, 1865, when he returned home. His eyesight was finally lost beyond the power of restoration, and this affliction has, in a measure, unfitted him for the duties of life. Besides his pleasant home in the village he owns a farm of eighty-seven acres, which is in a fine state of cultivation.

Mr. and Mrs. Shafer are actively interested mem-

bers of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Mr. Shafer is a man of much intelligence and influence in the township, notwithstanding his affliction. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



WL. MAJOR, dealer in grain, including corn, wheat and oats, for a Peoria firm, Tyng, Hall & Co., is doing a flourishing business at Mattoon, located near the P., D. & E. R. R. track, where he has operated since 1882, and has become an important factor in the business interests of the village. He is a fine illustration of the self-made man, who has thus far in life paddled his own canoe and deserves great credit for his industry and enterprise.

Mr. Major was born in Davis County, Ind., April 24, 1849, and is the son of John A. and Mary J. (McAdams) Major, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Ohio. John Major followed farming during his early manhood, and for a year operated on the other side of the Mississippi in Keokuk County, Iowa. Not quite satisfied with his experiences in the Hawkeye State, he returned to Indiana and resuming his farming there, remained until 1868. He then became a resident of Lafayette Township, this county, and engaged in farming until 1870, then retired to the village and spent the balance of his life in the ease and comfort which he had so justly earned by a life of industry. He departed from the scenes of his earthly labors in 1875, leaving a wife and eight children. These were India, Mrs. Craycraft, of Mattoon; William L., of our sketch; Alice; Maie, who is clerking in the dry-goods store of George N. Bucks at Mattoon; John S. and Jennie, twins. The former married Miss Cora Hughes, and is a resident of Chicago, engaged as a messenger with the American Express Company; he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Jennie became the wife of George Gibler, of Mattoon. The two youngest children are Mattie and Grace. John Major was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, but the wife and mother belongs to the Congregational Church.

Mr. Major spent his early years on his father's

farm, receiving the advantages of a common-school education. After reaching his majority he went into Kansas and farmed one year, then returning to Mattoon, engaged in the corn-meal mill of I. & D. D. James, with whom he remained about five years. He then engaged on the railroad as car builder one year, and established his present business in 1881. He gives employment to from four to eight men.

While a resident of Moultrie County Mr. Major was married, in the spring of 1885, to Miss Allie McCaig, of Sullivan, that county. Mrs. Major is the daughter of William McCaig, a native of Ohio, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of one child, a daughter, Ruth. Their residence is pleasantly located on Wabash street, and is the resort of many friends. Mr. M. and his wife are worthy members of the Congregational Church, and politically, our subject is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He became connected with the Knights and Ladies of Honor in 1882.



J B. GRAY, whose name is well known among the leading citizens of Coles County, has retired from active business, and is spending the closing years of a long life of usefulness at his home in Charleston. He was born April 7, 1816, in Greene County Pa., and is the son of John and Rhoda (Bane) Gray, natives of Pennsylvania. His great-grandfather was a native of Ireland, who emigrated to this country at a very early day, and settled in Maryland. His grandfather, Judge David Gray, was born in that State. Early in life, David Gray removed to Pennsylvania, where he entered an extensive tract of land in Rich Hill Township, Greene County, and as soon as the land came into market, he purchased this claim, which made four large farms. In 1832, his son John removed to Athens County, Ohio, a leading agricultural State, and at that period considered the Far West. He passed the remaining years of his life there engaged in farming, and was a man of influence in the community, interested in promoting all measures calculated to benefit the county. He was a Republican in politics, and both himself

and his wife were prominent members of the Presbyterian Church. A family of nine children was born to them, five of whom are now living. Their record is as follows: Sarah, the wife of Francis Braddock, a Presbyterian clergyman; Jesse B., Isaac P., John and George.

Jesse B. Gray lived at the homestead until he was twenty-one years of age, where he acquired much practical experience in the details of systematic farming, and received a good common-school education. He remained on the homestead engaged in farming until 1865. He then disposed of his property there and came to Illinois, whose resources as an agricultural State were being rapidly developed. He bought a tract of land containing 240 acres in Seven Hickory Township, this county, and was successfully engaged in farming there until 1884, when he retired from business and purchased his present residence in Charleston.

In 1847, Mr. Gray was married to Miss Sarah Vorhees. Mrs. Gray was a native of Athens County, Ohio, and the daughter of Peter Vorhees. A family of six children was born to them, whose record is as follows: Frank, a resident of Homer, Champaign County, married Miss Mary Whaley, and has a family of four children—Eva, John, Fred and Queeney; Rhoda, Mrs. Kerr, of Nebraska, has a family of four children—Harry, Glen, Jesse and Elsie; Ruth, Mrs. McNutt, is a resident of Seven Hickory Township and has a family of three children—Fred, Clifford and Cleta; Almira, Mrs. J. Ashbrook, is a resident of Seven Hickory Township, and has two children—Earl and Claud; Sarah, Mrs. Martin McConnell, is a resident of Charleston, and George, single and at home.

In 1883 the family circle was broken by the death of Mrs. Gray. The beloved wife and devoted mother was removed from the companionship of those whose joys and sorrows she had shared for so many years, but only to await the home-coming of her loved ones, where parting shall be no more. Mrs. Gray was a sincere and earnest Christian, and had been for many years a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Gray is a Republican in politics. He served as School Director and Commissioner during his residence in Seven Hickory Township, discharging his

public duties faithfully, and to the satisfaction of the community. He became a member of the Presbyterian Church at the age of seventeen, and throughout a long life has honored and served the Master, winning what is of more value than the most brilliant earthly success, the Divine approval.



COL. R. H. McFADDEN, Justice of the Peace, and solicitor of military claims at No. 9 West Broadway, is one of the prominent citizens of Mattoon. He was born Sept. 13, 1833, in Zanesville, Ohio, and is the son of Robert and Nancy (Barrett) McFadden, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Culpeper County, Va. Their marriage took place in Ohio, where Mr. McFadden was occupied as a cabinet-maker until 1853, when he emigrated to Illinois, first locating in Shelby County. After remaining there eighteen months, he came to Paradise, Coles County, and in 1855 moved to Mattoon. He there carried on a successful business in cabinet-making, in which he was occupied most of the time until his death, which occurred in 1880 at Dayton, Ohio. His bereaved widow survived him only two years, and died in 1882 at Mattoon. They had a family of six children, five of whom are now living. Their names are as follows: William W., a resident of Mt. Victory, Ohio; Eliza, the wife of Mr. Clark, a resident of Fulton County, Ill.; Ann M., the wife of Mr. Rutherford, a resident of this county; R. H., the subject of this sketch, and David H., a resident of Larned.

Hugh McFadden, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of the North of Ireland, and came to America at an early day, settling in Carlisle, Pa. He was a skillful mechanic, and worked at his trade there until 1818, when he removed to Ohio, and there passed the remainder of his life. His wife, who was a native of Wales, died in 1846, and his own death occurred five years later, in 1851. They had a family of six children, of whom Robert was the youngest. Our subject's maternal grandparents were Thomas and Nancy (Thornton) Barrett, natives of Culpeper County, Va. Mr. Barrett was a farmer in that State, and

subsequently removed with his family to Belmont County, Ohio, where he was engaged in farming until his death, which resulted from an accident in 1833. While riding, his horse stumbled and fell upon him, crushing him so severely that he died in a few days. His widow survived him many years, and died in 1852. They had a family of fifteen children, of whom Nancy was the youngest.

Young McFadden attended school until he was thirteen years of age, when he began to work with his father in the shop at the trade of cabinet-making. He remained there until he was sixteen years of age, and then came to Shelby County, Ill., where he was engaged in cabinet-making about four years. In 1853 he moved to Paradise, Coles County, and after passing two years there, changed his location to Mattoon, where he worked at the carpenter's trade until 1860. He then made another change, and engaged in the livery business until the spring of 1861. He then responded to the call of his country, and enlisted as Second Lieutenant in Co. B, 7th Ill. Vol. Inf., for three months. At the expiration of that time, he re-enlisted in Co. D, 41st Ill. Vol. Inf., as First Lieutenant, and served in that position until Feb. 15, 1862, when he was promoted to the rank of Captain for his gallant conduct at the siege of Ft. Donelson, which was carried on during one of the wildest storms of a severe winter. The gunboats were ordered to shell the fort in front, while the command marched to the rear, through sleet and rain and cold of such intensity that the hands and feet of many of the soldiers were frozen. The sleet fell heavily day and night, throughout the siege, and the troops were entirely unprotected from the fury of the storm. They were so near the fortifications that no fires could be lighted to warm themselves by, and they had no food except the cold cooked rations in their haversacks.

July 12, 1863, Capt. McFadden was promoted to the rank of Major of the regiment, and served in that position until Dec. 23, 1864, when he was made Lieutenant Colonel of the 53d Illinois Infantry. July 14, 1865, he was promoted to the rank of Colonel of that regiment, and during the latter part of the same month they were mustered out of service at Louisville, Ky., and discharged at Chi-

ago, Ill. Col. McFadden was a brave and efficient officer throughout his entire military career, and passed through some of the hottest charges of the enemy, receiving only a slight wound at the siege of Ft. Donelson. After his return home, he took a position as clerk in a dry-goods house one year, and then worked at the trade of cabinet-making until 1872. He was then elected Police Magistrate and retained the position eight years, since which time he has been Justice of the Peace for the township. In 1871, he served one term as Mayor of the city. He has been a member of the Board of Education, Alderman, School Director, and served in several local offices.

In 1855, our subject was married to Miss Sarah A. Norvell. She is the daughter of Grief and Mary (Woods) Norvell, natives of Kentucky. Col. and Mrs. McFadden have a family of four children, whose record is as follows: Mae I., the wife of Mr. Godfry, a resident of Indianapolis, is the mother of two children—Ruth M. and Nora; John A. is a resident of Peoria, Ill.; Lizzie M. became the wife of Mr. Lawrence M. McNair, of this city, and is the mother of one child, Zillah; her husband died in September, 1886, while in Chicago; Eddie is engaged in the jewelry business in this city. Col. McFadden is a Republican in politics, a member of the G. A. R., and the K. of H.



JOSEPH H. WATKINS is a prosperous farmer residing on section 5, Seven Hickory Township, nine miles northwest of Charleston. He was born March 1, 1828, in County Wexford, Ireland. His father was also a native of the same county, although the family came from Wales. His mother, Margaretta Jackaberry, was likewise a native of Ireland, but of Danish descent, her family having come from Denmark to Ireland at the time of the Revolution. Their family consisted of eight children, six of whom are now living: Thomas and Willie, deceased; John W.; Rebecca, the widow of James Steele; Joseph H., the subject of this sketch; Edward; Essie, Mrs. William Powell, resides in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Hattie G., the wife of Andrew Porter, also resides in Cincin-

nati; all of the family were born in Ireland. His parents died in their native country, the father in 1840, and the mother in 1848.

Joseph Watkins' marriage took place in his native county, and soon after, in the winter of 1850, with his wife and his younger brother, Edward, he sailed for the United States, seeking to build a home and fortune for himself in this land of freedom, which offers so many privileges for advancement in life, to people of all nationalities. They landed at New Orleans, Jan 22, 1851, and from there went to Butler County, Ohio, where Mr. Watkins found employment during the summer on a farm, and in the winter operated an engine. In the autumn of 1854, before the cold weather came on, he removed to Coles County, Ill., and engaged in farming on rented land, near Charleston. He remained there until August, 1862, when he enlisted in Co. K, 123d Ill. Mtd. Inf. After he had been in the service a few months, he was stricken down with a malignant form of typhoid fever, and was sent to the hospital at Louisville, Ky. The disease made such serious inroads upon his health that he never recovered sufficiently to join his regiment, and in March, 1863, was mustered out of service at Gallatin, Tenn., on account of disability. For five years he was a cripple and for two years was confined to his bed by sciatic rheumatism, resulting from the attack of typhoid fever from which he had suffered while in the army, and which had settled in his hip. During his absence and long illness his wife and children bravely took up the burdens of life, and carried on the farm quite successfully.

Mrs. Joseph Watkins died April 11, 1864, leaving a family of five children. William, the eldest, was born in Ireland; he married Miss Marietta Weaver, of Coles County, Ill., and in December, 1863, left his home and business to engage in the service of his adopted country. Soon after his enlistment he was attacked with measles, which is always a serious malady when occurring in adult life, and especially so under the unfavorable environments of the camp. His health was never restored to its former vigor, but he remained with his regiment and took part in several battles. He was mustered out in June, 1865. After his return

home he resumed farming, and passed the remainder of his life in this county, his death occurring Feb. 14, 1881. Margaretta was born in Ireland, and became the wife of Daniel B. Miller, who resides in Clark County, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Miller have a family of six children. Robert E. was born in Butler County, Ohio, and is now living in Minnesota; John W., also born in Butler County, Ohio, is married and resides in this county, and is the father of one child; Allen J. was born in Coles County, where he now resides; he is married and has a family of two children.

In the autumn of 1864, Mr. Watkins was married to Mrs. Martha Downey, of Westfield, Clark Co., Ill. After a happy married life of ten years, Mrs. Watkins died in the spring of 1874. In June of the following year, Mr. Watkins married Miss Eliza M. Carr, of Coles County. Two children were born to them—Essie L. and Emma; the former born May 14, 1876, and the latter March 26, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Watkins has acquired his property by industry and enterprise. On coming to this county, his possessions consisted of \$300 in money and a team. In 1866 he purchased 120 acres of his present homestead, a view of which is given elsewhere in this volume, and as he was prospered in business, added to his estate. He now owns 240 acres of valuable land, all of which is under good cultivation. He is a patriotic citizen of his adopted country, and in politics, is a member of the Republican party.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, one of the pioneers of Coles County, is a retired farmer, residing on section 6 (11, 10), Hutton Township. He is the son of Norris and Elizabeth (Miller) Williams, and was born Feb. 21, 1815, in Breckinridge County, Ky. Norris Williams was a native of Pennsylvania. He passed his early life at the homestead there, and soon after his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Miller, who was also a native of that State, he removed with his young wife to Kentucky, and was one of the early settlers of Breck-

inridge County, where he purchased land and was successfully engaged in farming for many years, and where his death occurred March 21, 1847. Their family consisted of nine children: Delilah, born in 1809, is the wife of R. Harley, and resides in Breckinridge County, Ky.; Mahala was the wife of Enoch Waltrip, and both died leaving a family of four children; Susan was married to John Waltrip, and both are also deceased, leaving a family of three children; William, the subject of this sketch; Harrison, deceased, married Miss Lucinda Hall, and one child of their family is now living; Mealy, the widow of Hiram Nugent, has a family of nine children and resides in Kentucky; Annie, deceased; Finis married Delilah Tucker, and both died, leaving a family of seven children; John married Miss Hannah Scott, who died leaving two children.

William Williams remained at the homestead in Kentucky until the autumn of 1836, when he came to Coles County, Ill. Although the country was little more than a wilderness at that time, the successful close of the Black Hawk War was already attracting many settlers from the East, and there were many indications apparent of the future prosperity of the State. Mr. Williams entered forty acres in Hutton Township and purchased thirty-nine more, where he has since resided. He cleared and improved his land, and has brought it to a high state of cultivation; it is well tilled, and his residence and farm buildings are excellent and well appointed. June 8, 1837, the year following his settlement in this county, Mr. Williams was married to Miss Mary A. Waltrip. Mrs. Williams was the daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Waltrip, and was born Dec. 11, 1822. After sharing the trials and hardships of pioneer life with her husband for twenty years, assisting him in building up their home on the Western frontier by her housewifely skill and good judgment, her death occurred Dec. 26, 1857.

July 15 of the following year, Mr. William Williams married Miss Cassandra Baker. Mrs. Williams is the daughter of Abel and Isabelle (Endsley) Baker, and was born Sept. 5, 1837, in Coshocton County, Ohio. Abel Baker, a native of the same place as his daughter, was born Nov. 20, 1810.

After his marriage he remained there for several years engaged in farming, and in the autumn of 1848, he made the long and toilsome overland journey to Illinois with his family, and on his arrival, entered forty acres of land in Hutton Township, Coles County, three-quarters of a mile northeast of Salisbury. He subsequently purchased forty acres in the same locality, and made his home here about thirty years. Desiring to retire from active business, he then sold his property and purchased a home with two acres of land, in the village of Stringtown, Hutton Township, and here passed the closing years of his life. His wife died Feb. 16, 1879, and after surviving her a few years his death occurred Jan. 12, 1885. Both are buried in Giffin Cemetery. Mrs. Baker was a highly esteemed member of the Presbyterian Church, and their family consisted of nine children—Aaron, Cassandra, Basil, Andrew, Nancy J., Sarah E., James, Isabelle and Mary A. Aaron and James both died in childhood.

Mr. Williams, having had no children of his own, adopted a boy named Thomas N. Smith, whom he brought up and provided with the means to start in life for himself. Mr. Smith married Miss Dilly Garrison, and now rents the homestead of Mr. Williams and carries on the farm, the latter having desired to retire from the cares of active business. Mr. Williams, with his wife, is a member of the Baptist Church. In politics he is a Republican.

A lithographic view of Mr. Williams' handsome farm residence and out-buildings is given on another page.



WILLIAM A. PHILHOWER, general merchant of Mattoon, dealing in groceries, tinware and notions, and located in a commodious store building on South B street, enjoys the patronage of the best people of his township, and the respect and confidence of a host of friends.

The first representatives of the Philhower family in America, were Adam, the great-great-grandfather of our subject, and his brother, natives of Germany, who ran away from home in about 1745, and sailed for the United States. Adam settled in New Jersey, where he married, and subsequently with

his son John, then a youth of eighteen, served seven years in the Revolutionary War under the immediate command of Gen. Washington. During the entire period of his service he never received the slightest wound. After the independence of the Colonies was established Adam Philhower returned to New Jersey, where he spent the remainder of his life. His son Jacob emigrated to Clermont County, Ohio, in 1815, accompanied by his wife and eight children. He engaged in farming and died there. Among his sons was William, the grandfather of our subject, who made the journey to Ohio with his parents, and passed his early life on his father's farm, assisting in the labors around the homestead, and being fairly educated in the common schools. He was born April 16, 1811, and in 1830 was married in Ohio, where he continued to reside, owning 100 acres of land which he industriously cultivated, and also rented additional land upon which to operate. In 1854, he disposed of his possessions in the Buckeye State, and removing with his family to Richmond County, Ill., purchased 475 acres of land, and continued there until the spring of 1856, when he returned to Ohio on a visit and died at the old homestead among the friends of his youth. His widow survived him a number of years, her death occurring April 18, 1882.

Of the fourteen children included in the grandfather's household, ten lived to mature years, and eight are now living, recorded as follows: Paulina is the wife of a Mr. Finn, of Richmond County, Ill.; Eliza, Mrs. Hickey, lives in Gibson County, Ind.; Sarah J., Mrs. Baldwin, is a resident of Greene County, Mo.; A. W. is one of the prominent business men of Mattoon; Mary A., Mrs. Turney, of Clinton County, Ohio; Catherine, Mrs. Clark, of Gibson County, Ind.; Jacob W., residing in Shelby County, this State, and Dewey M. of Pekin, Ill.

Among the sons was Ira B., the father of our subject, who spent his childhood and youth in his native State, and after reaching manhood married Miss Adelina Smith, a native of Clermont County, Ohio, who became the mother of our subject. At an early day he came to Gallatin County, this State, and engaged in business as a dry-goods merchant. He remained one year, and then removed to Richland County, continuing the same business

until 1860, when he removed to Marion, and became Station Agent of the railroad four years. Afterward he returned to Richland County, and for four years engaged in operating a flouring-mill. Then selling out he engaged once more in merchandising, locating in the town of Noble, where he continued until his death, in 1885. The three children of the parental household were William A. of our sketch; Mary V., Mrs. C. Palmer, and Maggie, at home. Ira B. Phillower was a man of much force of character, and politically, a staunch Republican. He held the office of School Director, was a member of the Village Board, and for many years connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The subject of this biography was born in Richland County, Ill., Nov. 5, 1857. As soon as old enough he was placed in school, and when not occupied with his studies, spent his time mostly in his father's store, where he gained a good insight into the general methods of transacting business. He remained under the parental roof until after passing his twenty-fifth year, and then coming to Mattoon established his present business, in which he has since engaged with excellent results. He has been joined by his mother and sister, and the three live together in a snug home. Like his father before him he uniformly votes the Republican ticket, and takes an intelligent interest in current events, being especially interested in the movements of the Knights of Labor, with which he became identified soon after their organization.

THOMAS J. BULL is a prominent farmer of Ashmore Township, located on section 12, and one of the leading men of the county. He is the son of Henry and Jane (Simpson) Bull, and was born March 25, 1837, in Edgar County, Ill. His family is of English descent, his ancestors having been among the early settlers of Virginia. They located in the northeast part of Virginia, and the stream known as Bull Run derived its name from their family. The stream forms the boundary between Fairfax and Prince William Counties, until it enters the Occoquan River fourteen miles from its mouth. It has been made memorable in history

by the two disastrous battles which were fought there during the Civil War, the first on July 21, 1861, and the last Aug. 29 and 30, 1862.

This branch of the family had emigrated to Ohio in the early days, where Henry Bull was born in 1809. He is now living in this State. His wife was born in 1807, and her death occurred in November, 1855. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but her husband is a Presbyterian. The names of their children are as follows: Thomas J., William H., James M., Franklin R. and Mary E. Thomas J. and James are the only members of the family now living. Mr. Bull came to this county Jan. 16, 1866, soon after the close of the Civil War, in which he had an honorable career. In September, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Co. C, 5th Iowa Vol. Cav., and served four years. He was first promoted Seventh Corporal, and then First Duty Sergeant, and took part in the sieges of Atlanta and Nashville, passing through the entire war unscathed by either wounds or disease.

Thomas J. Bull was united in marriage with Miss Isabella Olmsted, Jan. 16, 1866. She was born in 1844, and is the daughter of John T. and Mary (Sutherland) Olmsted, natives of Virginia, and both now deceased. Her father was a man of great wealth, and before his death made a generous settlement upon each of his children. Mr. Olmsted had been twice married. The names of the children by his first marriage are as follows: Emily, Mrs. Brown, died in October, 1886; Harvey married Miss Graham, and Elizabeth married Dr. Steele. The following are the names of the children by the second marriage: Jane, deceased, formerly the wife of William Fisher; Melissa, Mrs. Thomas Stoddard; Charles married Miss Margaret Tuttle; Bird married Candasy Wilson; George married Mary Fleetwood; Ann married a Mr. Shoot; John died at the age of seventeen; William, deceased; and Isabella. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bull have a family of five children—Minnie R., Nellie M., Henry D., Molly L. and Blanche I.

Mr. Bull has a fine estate comprising 240 acres of valuable land, on which in 1875 he erected one of the most elegant and substantial brick residences in the township, a view of which appears on another page of this work. He has inherited the En-

glish love for fine blooded stock and has built a commodious barn, 34 x 60 feet, with eighteen-foot posts, with all the necessary appointments, especially for the accomodation of his horses and cattle. He owns a stallion of Clydesdale blood, and his breeds of cattle and sheep are among the finest in the county.

Thomas Bull's mother was a widow when she married Henry Bull. Her first husband was Mr. Jarvis, by whom she had five children, whose record is as follows: G. M. Jarvis is a resident of Chicago, where he has a wholesale store for the sale of California wines, at No. 39 North State street; John W. is a resident of California, where he has a large vineyard, and has been for a number of years successfully engaged in raising grapes for the market, and in the manufacture of wines; in the year 1886 he sold forty tons of grapes, and manufactuerd 41,000 gallons of wine, all of which was produced from a vineyard of thirty acres; Margaret, now Mrs. Moses, is also a resident of California, and there were two children who died in infancy.

Mr. Bull is a man whose business and social qualifications have gained for him a large circle of friends. He is a member of the Old-School Presbyterian Church, and for the last seven years has been one of its Elders. He is a member of the G. A. R. Post, at Charleston, and ardently sustains the Republican party in politics.



DAVID SANDERS, a prominent citizen of Hutton Township, is an extensive farmer and stock-dealer, residing on section 19 (11, 10). He is the son of David and Susana (Wakefield) Sanders, and was born Jan. 15, 1836, in Seneca County, N. Y. His grandfather, Henry Sanders, was a native of Holland, and left his native country when a boy to seek his home and fortune in the Western World. He made the voyage across the Atlantic in a sailing-vessel, and after a long and tempestuous voyage landed in New York. After passing through many adventures and vicissitudes, he made his permanent home in Oneida County, N. Y., where his marriage to Miss Farnsworth took place. With the thrift and

energy characteristic of his nationality, he engaged in farming and carried on a successful business. With his wife he reared a large family of children, and lived to a good old age.

David Sanders, Sr., was born Aug. 1, 1810, in Oneida County, N. Y. He received a good common-school education in his boyhood, and remained on the homestead with his parents until his marriage. He then began business for himself, and was for a number of years employed in public works. Subsequently he removed to Steuben County, N. Y., and was engaged in farming there for about twelve years. He then determined to emigrate West, and in the autumn of 1848 removed to Portage County, Wis., and entered 160 acres of wild land there. He cleared and improved his farm and built a comfortable house, which increased the value of his property, and when a good opportunity offered sold out and again purchased, and at one time owned 1,100 acres of land in that county. His prosperity in business, however, was clouded by the death of his wife who did not survive their removal to Wisconsin many years, dying in August, 1851.

The parental family consisted of eleven children: Washington, born Sept. 13, 1830, married Miss Mary A. St. Clair, who died leaving eight children; he subsequently married again, and is now living in Nebraska; Mary W., born June 28, 1833, became the wife of Oliver Richmond, and her husband dying, she afterward became the wife of Samuel Post, and resides in Wisconsin; Elizabeth, born Sept. 27, 1834, was the wife of R. M. Welsh, now deceased; he left a family of five children. David, the subject of this sketch; Susana, born Nov. 14, 1837, is the wife of Harrison Miller, and resides in Meeker County, Minn.; W. M., born Aug. 12, 1839, married Miss Mary Hutton, who died leaving a family of five children; for his second wife he married Milly Johnson, and resides in Kansas. Jackson, born June 28, 1841, married Miss Ruby Johnson, and both are deceased; Stephen, born March 25, 1843, married Miss Sarah Cutwright, and resides in Southern Kansas; Chauncy, born July 6, 1845, is married, and resides in Minnesota; Annie, born Aug. 6, 1847, is the wife of Stewart Warren, also a resident of Minnesota, and Emma,

deceased, born July 22, 1849; her death occurred soon after her marriage to Mr. Curtis. In July, 1856, Mr. Sanders married Miss Marinda Hart. Mrs. Sanders was born Sept. 19, 1806, in Oneida County, N. Y., and died Feb. 20, 1885, having survived her husband three years; Mr. Sanders died March 16, 1882. With his wife, he was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was also a member of the Masonic fraternity for forty years.

David Sanders lived with his parents until the death of his mother, which occurred when he was about sixteen years of age. Prior to this he had only opportunity for the acquisition of a very limited education, and he then passed a few years at the home of his married sister, and while there was engaged in assisting in the farm labor. With his brother-in-law, R. M. Welsh, he subsequently went to the pineries, where he was employed one year as a wage-worker by the month, and afterward worked two years at hauling and shipping lumber on the river. April 18, 1859, he started down the river in charge of a raft, and while tying up at Stevens' Point was caught in the cable, receiving severe injuries, which resulted in laying him up for about a month. After his recovery from this accident he returned to his post, and took charge of another fleet, and on this occasion landed safely with his lumber at Galena. Having had sufficient experience in that line of business he then left the river, came to Coles County, Ill., and engaged in farming in Hutton Township. Here he met his future wife, Miss Sarah Leming, and their marriage took place Aug. 12, 1860. Mrs. Sanders was the daughter of Nicholas and Judith (McGahan) Leming, and was born Sept. 14, 1841, on the homestead where she now lives. Nicholas Leming was born April 25, 1791, in New Jersey, near Long Branch, and his wife, June 25, 1806, in Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia. They were married Dec. 24, 1835, and had a family of three children: Elizabeth J., born Dec. 11, 1839; Sarah, and one who died in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Sanders had the management of his father-in-law's farm for about fifteen years. In the meantime he was prospered in business, and had purchased a large tract of land con-

taining 115 acres, in Cumberland County. He then moved to this place, and after spending three years there returned to his father-in-law's estate, which in 1879 was transferred to him by deed. A few years after this his father-in-law died, Feb. 3, 1883, at the homestead, having survived his wife many years. Her death occurred April 4, 1862.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanders had two sons—Nicholas C., born Aug. 23, 1861, and George C., Oct. 29, 1864. Nicholas was married, Jan. 10, 1886, to Miss Flora Lawyer; he is associated with his father in business, and resides at the homestead, where a beautiful grandchild is now the light of the house and general manager of the family. George was married, March 8, 1883, to Miss Lucretia Smith, and resides in Dickinson County, Kan.

Mr. Sanders' estate is all well improved, and half of it is supplied with tiling. In 1881 he erected a substantial brick residence, and in 1886 a commodious and well-appointed barn. He deals quite extensively in cattle, buying, feeding and selling them mostly at home. He is interested in educational affairs, and has served as School Director for a number of years. With his wife Mr. Sanders is a member of the Separate Baptist Church. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and belongs to Hutton Lodge No. 698, of Diona. In politics he is a Democrat. A lithographic view of Mr. Sanders' handsome residence appears on another page of this ALBUM.



A J. BRUNER, well known as a prominent builder and contractor of Mattoon, has retired from active business and resides at his home on Edgar street, in the enjoyment of the ease and prosperity won by years of toil and close application to business. He was born May 9, 1830, in Breckinridge County, Ky., and is the son of Abraham and Nancy (Penick) Bruner, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Virginia. His grandfather, John Bruner, was born in Germany, and emigrated to the United States when a young man. He was a farmer and distiller in Kentucky, and became one of the early settlers of Indiana, where he was successfully engaged in

farming. His wife was likewise a native of Germany, whose family had emigrated to this country at an early day. They had a family of seven children, all of whom are now deceased, with one exception, Samuel Bruner, a resident of Indiana.

Abraham Bruner passed his life in his native State, of which he was a substantial and worthy citizen. He was ever deeply interested in promoting the moral and religious welfare of the community where he resided. With his wife, he was a member of the Methodist Church, in which both were earnest workers. He was a strong advocate of the temperance cause, and took an active part in all measures tending to increase the educational advantages in his county. In politics he was a Jacksonian Democrat. Mr. and Mrs. Bruner had a family of ten children, eight of whom are now living—Jefferson, Henry, Andrew, Martha, Elizabeth, Lucinda, William and Abraham.

A. J. Bruner passed his childhood and youth on his father's farm in Kentucky, and his marriage to Miss Margaret E. Obannon took place there in 1851. Mrs. Bruner is the daughter of Rev. George and Jane (Lewis) Obannon, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Virginia. Rev. George Obannon came to Mattoon in 1858, where he received the pastorate of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He was of Scotch descent, and was born in Woodford County, Ky., Oct. 1, 1800. His wife was born Oct. 25, 1804, in Virginia, and is of English parentage. Mr. Obannon died July 10, 1887, and his widow still makes her home in Mattoon. The following are the names of their children now living—Margaret, Marion, William, Oscar, Daniel and Taylor.

Shortly after his marriage, Mr. Bruner leased a hotel in Custer, Breckinridge Co., Ky., of which he became the proprietor, and after a trial of four months purchased it, with the design of carrying on that business. He changed his plans, however, at the close of the year, sold out his property, and moved to Louisville. He commenced mercantile business there, but after a few months sold out again and returned to his former home. He then opened a dry-goods house, which he carried on about two years, and then sold out his stock and invested in a wharf-boat. Within a few months his

boat was lost in a severe storm, which disaster terminated that enterprise. In 1859 he went to Louisville, and thence in the same year, came to Illinois, where he settled in Mattoon and engaged in building and contracting in masonry. This enterprise proved successful. Many of the business blocks and brick residences in the city have been erected under his supervision. His business constantly increased, extending into Cumberland and Moultrie Counties. He kept a number of skilled hands in his employ and carried on a profitable business until 1880, when he retired. He purchased the property where he now resides in 1877, and is also the owner of other city property, having a house on Essex street, and also one on Marshall.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruner have a family of three children now living—George H., Millard F. and Maggie. The two sons have followed their father's line of business and are both successful contractors and builders. George H. married Miss Mattie E. Stevens, and they have one child, Mabel; Millard F. married Miss Ada Ross, and they also have one child, Esther; Maggie resides at home, the companion of her parents. Mr. Bruner, with his wife, is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and in politics is a Republican.

CHARLES E. LEITCH, a substantial farmer residing on section 17, Pleasant Grove Township, honorably represents one of the pioneer families of this county. He is the son of Robert and Jane (Erwin) Leitch, and was born April 16, 1836, in Chillicothe, Ross Co., Ohio, his parents removing to Illinois and settling in Pleasant Grove Township, in the autumn of that year.

Charles Leitch passed his early life on the homestead, where he acquired much practical knowledge in agriculture, and attended the subscription school of the pioneer days during the winter. But the educational advantages of the county soon began to improve, and during the last year of his school days he enjoyed the privilege of the public school.

March 18, 1858, Mr. Leitch was married to Miss Mahala Baker. Mrs. Leitch was the daughter of

Jacob and Mary (Edmond) Baker, and was born in Highland County, Va., Dec. 19, 1837. Her family came to Illinois and settled in Coles County in 1852. After his marriage, Mr. Leitch settled on a rented farm in the northeastern part of Pleasant Grove Township on the Embarras River, and the following year purchased the farm and resided there until 1886, when he changed his locality, and settled on the place where he now lives. His estate contains 247 acres of valuable, well-improved land, and is considered one of the best in the county. He has a fine brick residence, and his farm buildings are excellent and well appointed. He is chiefly engaged in stock-raising, making a specialty of French draft horses, Short-horn cattle, and Berkshire hogs.

His pleasant home has recently been darkened by the shadow of death. January 11, 1887, the beloved wife and mother, who was apparently in good health, died suddenly while standing in the doorway of her house. The sudden death of Mrs. Leitch was a crushing blow to her family, but she was a sincere Christian, and was doubtless prepared to go, when the Master summoned her without warning to her home beyond the river. She left a family of seven children: Elizabeth, the wife of Joseph Hackett; Grant, John, Edwin, Jacob, Samuel and Allen. Mrs. Leitch is buried in Mount Tabor Cemetery, and is deeply mourned by a large circle of friends.

Mr. Leitch has been a member of the Methodist Church since 1860, and is active in promoting the interests of that religious body. In politics he is a Republican, and has served in several local offices, having been School Director seventeen years, and Commissioner of Highways nine years. He possesses excellent business qualifications and has given general satisfaction to the people in the discharge of his public duties.

HENLEY ANDERSON occupies a snug farm of eighty acres on section 11, in Charleston Township, of which he has been in possession since the spring of 1872. He is a gentleman of good education, having attended Eureka College, and one who has seen considerable of

the world, having, when a younger man, traveled over a large part of the territory west of the Mississippi. He was variously occupied in his youth, but finally decided that there was nothing better or healthier than life in the rural regions, and which he has thoroughly enjoyed since becoming the possessor of his present farm. To this he has given his careful attention, and with his family is surrounded by all the comforts of life.

Our subject is a native of Indiana, born on the farm of his father near Frankfort, Oct. 20, 1845, and is the son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Stutsman) Anderson, natives of North Carolina and Indiana respectively. Jacob Anderson removed with his parents when a boy to Indiana, and was there married in the southern part of the State. He afterward removed to a point near Frankfort, where he became the owner of a flouring-mill, which he operated until the spring of 1849. He then came to Central Illinois and purchased about 3,000 acres of land in Charleston and Seven Hickory Townships, where he put up a substantial brick house, and instituted many other admirable improvements. Here the mother died in April, 1860.

Jacob Anderson survived his wife twelve years, dying in April, 1872, at the age of seventy-six years. Of their eight children, but four are now living, namely, Sarah, Mrs. Van Sickle; Bruce, Henley, and Samantha, Mrs. Calvert. The father of our subject was a man of many excellent qualities, honest and upright in his dealings, decided in his views, and an uncompromising supporter of the Democratic party. He also belonged to the I. O. O. F.

Henley Anderson remained a member of his father's household until the death of the latter. In the meantime he had been mostly engaged in acquiring a good education, and after leaving Eureka College, started in January, 1864, for the Pacific Slope. He employed that year in traveling, and then returning to this county, served three years at the jeweler's trade at Charleston, where he continued until about 1867. Then going to Lexington, Ky., he took a course of study in the Agricultural and Mechanical College, after which he followed farming until 1872. Two years later he established a jewelry store at Charleston, which he con-

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



J. B. Burdell

ducted until 1878, then determined to abandon all trades and occupations, for the independent life of a farmer. His labors in this direction have been amply rewarded, and he is ranked among the well-to-do and substantial agriculturists of Coles County.

The lady who has been the sharer of the home and fortunes of our subject since the spring of 1875, was formerly Miss Emma, daughter of William and Susan Ricketts, of Charleston. She was born in 1856, and remained under the parental roof until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. A. have no children.



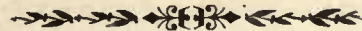
J B. BENEFIEL, one of the substantial citizens of Mattoon, is proprietor of one of the best meat-markets in the city, and also a dealer in coal and grain. He is the son of Dr. John S. and Eliza (Kackley) Benefiel, and was born April 22, 1847, in Knox County, Ind. His father was a native of Ohio, and his mother of Kentucky. In about 1843 Dr. Benefiel graduated from a Cleveland medical college, and commenced the practice of medicine in Davis County. After remaining there about five years, he removed to Green County, Ind., where he also remained five years, and then changed his location to Sullivan County, Ind., and after remaining there for five years, again decided to change his location, removing with his family to Mattoon, Ill. After remaining there six years, he removed in 1867 to Hope County, Mo., where he has since made his permanent residence, and is actively engaged in the duties of a large practice. His family consisted of five children, all of whom, with one exception, are now living. Their record is as follows: J. B., the subject of this sketch; Lucius K., a stock-dealer residing in Kansas; Mattie, the wife of J. S. Baker, who is the oldest conductor on the E. & T. H. R. R.; Jennie J., now Mrs. William Bradbury, a resident of Dodge City, Kan.

J. B. Benefiel received a practical education in his boyhood, and when about twenty years of age obtained employment in the Union Express Company at Mattoon. After remaining with them one year, he obtained a position with the American

Express Company at Terre Haute, where he passed another year, and then changing his employment, became foreman of a large farm in Coles County. At the expiration of twelve months, he again obtained employment with the American Express Company at Mattoon, where he also staid one year, and then acted as messenger fourteen months for the C. & I. S. R. R. His next business enterprise was the manufacture of soap, in which he was engaged three years, and after relinquishing this business was occupied as a butcher for six years. He then engaged in stock-dealing until 1884, and has since added coal and grain to the meat-market of which he is now the proprietor. Notwithstanding these business vicissitudes, he has acquired considerable property; besides a fine farm, containing 100 acres of land, located south of the city, he also owns some property in the town, and has been to some extent engaged in real-estate business. In 1879 he was Assessor, and subsequently was elected Mayor of the city on the Prohibition ticket. He had previously served as Deputy Collector in 1870, and in 1884 was again elected Assessor.

The marriage of Mr. Benefiel and Miss Ellen Aldridge, occurred in 1874. Mrs. B. is a native of Arkansas, and the daughter of Freeland Aldridge, of that State. Our subject and wife have two children living—Winnie E. and Eva M. Mrs. Benefiel is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and although her husband is not connected with the church, he affords material assistance in promoting its interests. Mr. Benefiel is a Democrat in politics, and a member of the Knights of Pythias.

In the pictorial department of this work the publishers present the portraits of leading and representative men, and among them may be found that of Mr. Benefiel.



WILLIAM STITES, a retired farmer, is a prominent resident of Morgan Township. He was born on Christmas Day, 1822, in Columbia Township, Hamilton Co., Ohio, and is the son of John F. and Fannie (Muchmore) Stites. His grandfather, Benjamin Stites, a native of Virginia, was one of a party of sixteen, of which his

father was the leader, who first landed at Columbia, Ohio, and he assisted in building the first block-house in that place. He was sixteen years of age when he accompanied his father on that expedition. The family settled in Ohio, and his father passed the remainder of his life in that State. Benjamin Stites was twice married, and a family of several children was born to him by each marriage. His death occurred near Lebanon, Ohio.

John Stites reared a family of ten children, of whom the following is the record: William, the subject of this sketch; Anna was the wife of David Gerard, a resident of Butler County, Ohio, and both are deceased; Sarah, deceased, was the wife of William Muchmore, a resident of Ohio; James, a resident of Kansas, was twice married; David died on Christmas, 1885, in Coles County, Ill.; his death occurred very suddenly; he was found lifeless sitting in his easy chair, as if he had fallen asleep. He left a wife and four children. John M. is married and resides in Missouri; he has a family of five children living. Hiram, deceased, was a resident of Butler County, Ohio, and left a family of three children; Emily, the wife of J. Gerard, resides in Morgan Township, and has a family of four children living; Phoebe died at the age of seventeen, and Franklin. John Stites was a successful farmer in Ohio, where his life was passed. His death occurred in Butler County, of that State.

William Stites was married, in March, 1845, to Miss Edith Stites. Mrs. Stites was the daughter of Joshua and Mary (Townsend) Stites. The families bear the same name, but are not related. Her parents were from Cape May County, N. J., and came to Ohio at an early day, making their permanent home there. After his marriage, which took place in Columbia Township, Butler County, Mr. Stites remained in Ohio until 1872. He then came to Coles County, and purchased a farm, which he cultivated and improved. He has since made his home here, and is retired from active business. He passes his time, however, in supervising his general business affairs, collecting rents, etc. He has only two children—Nathaniel S. and Thomas J. His wife died Aug. 29, 1884, of typhoid fever, at the age of sixty-three, and is buried in Greasy Point Cemetery. She had been for many years a mem-

ber of the Presbyterian Church, and in her daily life evinced the sincerity of her Christian faith. Her death was deeply mourned by her family and a large circle of friends. Mr. Stites has been a consistent member of the Methodist Church for more than thirty years. In politics, he is a Republican.



DR. V. R. BRIDGES, physician and surgeon at Mattoon, was born in Rockingham County, Va., Jan. 4, 1832. His parents, Thomas and Nancy (Wiltshire) Bridges, were natives of the same county and the father a miller by trade, which occupation he followed through life. He left the Old Dominion in 1836, and settled in Ross County, Ohio, where he lived five years, then migrated farther westward to Jasper County, Ill. From there, in 1859, he came to Mattoon, where he spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring in 1872. During the war he served as Overseer of the Poor and was a member of the Board of Education for several years. Upon first becoming a voter he had identified himself with the Democratic party, but in 1856 joined the Republicans, with whom he affiliated until his death. Both parents were worthy members of the Baptist Church. Their family included four children, three now living, namely, our subject, Mary and Roe.

The younger days of Dr. Bridges were spent mostly in school near Chillicothe, Ohio, and after coming to this State he continued his studies until seventeen years old, then commenced teaching in Jasper County. Afterward he worked for a time at the carpenter's trade and also was clerk in a store. In 1851 he began in earnest the study of medicine, at Lawrenceville, and officiated as drug clerk in order to pay his expenses, having his clothes laundered at home forty miles away. After completing his studies he began the practice of his profession in Hutton Township, being associated with Dr. Neal, and six years later came to Mattoon, which has since remained his abiding-place. During the late war he was Assistant Surgeon of the 62d Illinois, and was subsequently promoted Surgeon of the 126th, remaining with this regiment

until it was mustered out in August, 1865, after which he returned to Mattoon, and since then has practiced uninterruptedly, with excellent results.

Dr. Bridges was first married to Miss Mary E. Boyd, in 1856. They became the parents of four children, two of whom filled early graves, and the mother passed to her long home on the 15th of February, 1881. The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Oct. 19, 1883, was formerly Miss Jannie Cushman, of Mattoon. They have one child—Marion C. The Doctor has accumulated a comfortable property, including 100 acres of good land in Lafayette Township. He is a Republican, politically, and has filled the offices of Alderman, President of the School Board and Mayor of the city. Socially he belongs to the Knights of Honor.



JAMES H. McCLELLAND, Sheriff of Coles County, and one of the prominent citizens of Charleston Township, was born Jan. 13, 1834, in Fairfield County, Ohio, and is the son of Alexander and Minerva (Spangler) McClelland. His grandfather, James McClelland, was a native of Pennsylvania, and afterward removed to Fairfield County, Ohio, where he carried on an extensive farming business, and passed the closing years of his life. Alexander McClelland was born June 3, 1807, on the old homestead in Ohio, where he still lives, his farm containing 400 acres of valuable land. He was an active leading man in the community, and held the office of Justice of the Peace twenty-one years. The following are the names of his children, all of whom are residents of Ohio, with the exception of James H.: John A., James H., Samuel, Salem, Susanna, Enos and Charles.

The boyhood and youth of James McClelland were passed on his father's farm, where he acquired much experimental knowledge in the various branches of agricultural work, receiving at the same time a good common-school education. He remained at home until he was twenty-two years of age, and in the year 1857 resolved to seek his fortune in the West. Illinois was then advancing

on the road to that prosperity which has since been so signally attained, and accordingly he proceeded thither, and engaged in farming in Humbolt Township, Coles County.

After the Civil War broke out our subject relinquished his business and entered the service of his country, enlisting in 1862, as Sergeant in Co. C, 123d Ill. Mtd. Inf. He was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant and served three years, proving himself on every occasion a brave and efficient officer. He fought in the brilliantly contested siege of Atlanta, and was engaged in the battles of Perryville, Chickamauga, Murfreesboro, Farmington, Milton and Selma, besides taking part in numerous skirmishes. After the close of the war he returned to Illinois, and engaged in farming and stock-raising in Charleston Township. In 1876 he was elected to the office of Clerk and Recorder of the Circuit Court for a term of four years, and was also Assessor and City Marshal, serving one year in each office. In 1886 he was elected Sheriff for a term of four years.

His marriage to Miss Zelda A. Hedges, a native of Ohio, took place in 1858. She is the daughter of William Hedges, of this city. They have a family of five children—Salem W., Willis W. Jessie B., Mary E. and Bertha B. As a soldier and civilian, Mr. McClelland has been faithful in the discharge of his public duties, and possesses the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens. He is a Republican, a member of the Odd Fellows' Society, and also belongs to the G. A. R. and the Knights of Honor. His residence is on Mechanic street.



WILLIAM GRANT, a worthy descendant of one of the pioneer families of this county, resides on section 6, Seven Hickory Township. He was born April 27, 1843, in Fountain County, Ind., and is the son of John and Sophia (Lively) Grant. His grandfather, Patrick Grant, was a native of Ireland, born near Belfast, where his son, John, was also born, June 11, 1809. Sophia Grant was born June 28, 1817, in Virginia, and was the daughter of William and Mary (Martin) Lively, both of whom were born in Virginia,

the former in 1795, and the latter in about 1800.

Mr. and Mrs. John Grant had a family of eight children. The following is their record: William, born April 27, 1843; Arthur, born in July, 1845, and died in 1848; John F., born May 7, 1847, resides in Seven Hickory Township, and has a family of ten children, of whom six are girls and four boys; Mary J., born March 29, 1849, is the wife of Andrew Montz, a resident of Ashmore Township, and has a family of five children; Cynthia Ann, born Sept. 20, 1852, is the wife of I. W. Merritt, a resident of Hutton Township, and has two children now living, two having died in childhood; Thomas, born April 11, 1854, died Dec. 28, 1879, leaving a family of two children, one of whom is living; Robert, born June 29, 1856, died Aug. 11, 1866, and James, born April 22, 1859, lives in Hutton Township on the old homestead; he was twice married, and has one child by his first wife, and two (twins) by the second.

William Grant was an infant, not quite six months old, when his parents settled in Hutton Township, this county, in 1843. His father emigrated to America in 1832, landing at Montreal. He went thence to New York State, and obtained employment on the New York & Erie Railroad. After remaining there about one year, he went to Virginia, where his marriage took place. He lived there several years engaged in operating on public works, and also owned a boat on the James River Canal, and then came West, ultimately settling in Coles County. William remained on the homestead with his parents, assisting in cultivating the farm, until he was twenty-nine years of age. His marriage to Miss Elizabeth Wall took place Feb. 12, 1872. Mrs. Grant was born in Ireland, May 16, 1849, and is the daughter of John and Margaret (Kehoe) Wall. Her parents came to this country when she was an infant two years of age. They had but two children—Elizabeth and John; the latter resides in Humbolt Township. Mr. and Mrs. Grant have a family of seven children, five sons and two daughters, as follows: William, born Nov. 20, 1872; John F., March 26, 1874; Thomas A., May 29, 1875; Margaret M., Sept. 28, 1879; James A., Feb. 25, 1882; Joseph E., May 31, 1885, and Francis O., Oct. 20, 1886.

Mr. Grant purchased his farm in 1875, and it is well cultivated and improved. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, giving his attention in the latter exclusively to cattle and hogs. Mr. Grant has successfully filled several of the township offices. In 1872 he served as Collector, and in 1876 as Assessor; he was also a member of the Official Board at that time, both being Presidential years. In 1885 and 1886 he again served as Assessor and has been a member of the School Board for more than twelve years. He was a Trustee of the Roman Catholic Church at Humbolt, of which he is a member. In politics, he is a Democrat.

H. JOHNSTON. Men who have risen from the humbler walks of life, and by virtue of untiring industry and close application to business have become prominent amongst their fellows, present in their experience examples worthy of imitation. Of such is the subject of this sketch. Isaiah Hugh Johnston was born April 24, 1827, in Russell County, Va. His grandparents on the paternal side were Roderick and Elizabeth (Stewart) Johnston, who were, as the names indicate, originally from Scotland, although it is quite certain they came to this country from England: His grandparents on the maternal side were Stephen and Mary (Gibson) Fuller, who were of German descent. His father, Abner Johnston, a native of Virginia, was born Oct. 10, 1798. His mother, Polly (Fuller) Johnston, also a native of the Old Dominion, was born June 13, 1803.

Abner Johnston and Polly Fuller were married Feb. 10, 1820, and in 1830, with their five children, emigrated to Coles County, Ill. They began work in their new field of labor October 10, settling temporarily in the southwestern part of the county, in what was then called Muddy Point. In the early part of 1831 they moved to Charleston, remaining but a year, and then went to the northwestern part of the county, now known as the town of North Okaw. The mother died Oct. 10, 1835, leaving six children, the eldest being fifteen and the youngest two years of age. Abner Johnston, a carpenter by trade, thinking he could do better for the

helpless family, removed to Vandalia, Ill., then the capital of the State, where he held a position in the land-office. After remaining there four years he went again to Muddy Point, remaining there until his death, which occurred Sept. 18, 1848.

Abner and Polly Johnston were members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and their house was one of the headquarters of the circuit preachers of that day, among whom were Peter Cartwright, Barton Randel, Hiram Buck and John Adams. In politics he was a Whig, and a staunch supporter of Henry Clay. When the Black Hawk War broke out and troops were about starting from Charleston, a young man, Keithly by name, volunteered to go in Abner Johnston's place, provided that a horse and overcoat be furnished him. These he cheerfully gave, for circumstances rendered it necessary that he should remain at home. Of the six children born to Abner and Polly Johnston three are still living. Their record is as follows; Leah, the eldest, was born Nov. 29, 1820, and died Aug. 10, 1839; Matilda Jane, born Nov. 28, 1822; James Franklin, Feb. 10, 1825, died in September, 1856; Isaiah Hugh, born April 24, 1827; Mary Gibson, June 17, 1829, died Feb. 9, 1859; Elizabeth Stewart, born Sept. 29, 1833. Matilda J. was married to James Jeffris, Oct. 6, 1842; residents of Pleasant Grove, near the place where both were reared. Elizabeth S. was married to A. A. Walker; also residents of Pleasant Grove.

The subject of this biography passed his boyhood and youth in the pioneer fashion, pursuing his studies in the winter in the log school-house, and working at whatever he could in the spring and summer months. Three years of this time found him engaged in hauling lead to Galena and Milwaukee, with an ox-team, and receiving as a remuneration \$10 per month. This he could not follow continuously, the winter months being too severe for traveling to such an extent. Before the attainment of his majority he was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Jeffries, daughter of Thomas and Patsey Jeffries, the happy event taking place Feb. 10, 1848. Of this union there were born two children: Felix, born June 17, 1849, and Emily, June 15, 1851. Harriet Johnston, first wife of our subject, passed to her eternal home April 14, 1853.

This occasioned a change in his programme, leading him to leave the farm, upon which he had labored so faithfully, and embarked in merchandising in Springville, purchasing his stock of goods on credit. While thus engaged he was appointed Postmaster, under President Pierce's administration. Here he remained about eighteen months, then removed to Johnstown, Cumberland County, where he also served as Postmaster, this time under President Buchanan's administration. Here he also had charge of a steam saw and grist mill, which he operated successfully, and he now takes pleasure in looking back upon this page in his life's history as being a starting point in a prosperous business career.

In 1857 Mr. Johnston moved to Mattoon, where he engaged in a similar business, which he pursued three years. In 1858 he served as Alderman, and in 1860 was elected Sheriff of Coles County, necessitating his removal to the county seat (Charleston) during that year. To this office he was nominated by the Democratic party, July 27, 1860, and after serving out his term, owing to some political difficulty, continued in office part of his successor's term of office. Upon the expiration of his term of service, he re-engaged in merchandising, this time in Charleston. In this he continued but a short time, however, as he, in connection with John B. Hill, and Thomas E. Stoddart, under the firm name of Hill, Stoddart & Johnston, engaged in pork-packing. Unable to compete with heavy concerns in Chicago, the firm went out of business. Jan. 1, 1869, Thomas A. Marshall, John W. True and Mr. Johnston engaged in banking, opening a private bank under the firm name of T. A. Marshall & Co., which they continued until Aug. 1, 1871; at that time the Second National Bank of Charleston was organized, and bought the plant of T. A. Marshall & Co. The first officers of the Second National Bank were John W. True, President; Charles Clary, Cashier, and Felix Johnston, Teller. In 1872 Mr. True tendered his resignation as President of the bank, and George W. Parker was elected to fill the vacancy; he, however, only served about one year, and on July 16, 1873, just before the panic, Mr. Johnston was elected to the office, which he has continuously filled since. The Second National Bank, under the wise administration of its present

Executive, has become one of the leading and indispensable institutions of Charleston, and is fully appreciated by the business portion of the community.

Felix Johnston, the eldest son of our subject, went into the banking business upon the organization of the firm of T. A. Marshall & Co., serving first as book-keeper, then as teller, and is now cashier. O. E. Wilson, the husband of Mr. Johnston's eldest daughter, is President of the Mattoon National Bank. July 10, 1855, Mr. Johnston was a second time married, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah A. Gray, the daughter of Richard and Rachel Gray, and by this marriage he had six children, as follows: George D., born Nov. 24, 1856, died Feb. 20, 1864; Flora G., born Nov. 30, 1860, died Dec. 30, 1861; Charles, born July 14, 1862, died July 10, 1864; Martha, born Oct. 4, 1864; Bertha, May 21, 1868, and Isaiab H., Jr., May 3, 1871.

Since becoming a resident of Charleston Mr. Johnston has built quite a number of business houses and residences, and in every way possible has exerted his energies to build up the community morally as well as numerically, aiding in the establishment and maintenance of schools and churches. He has also studied to introduce those features which would add to the size and value of its population. He started in life with nothing but his strong will and willing hands, and by pluck and perseverance has become one of the chief factors in business circles of this and adjoining counties.

JUDGE JAMES F. HUGHES, who presides over the Circuit Court of this district, has been a resident of Mattoon since 1869. His native place is Wayne County, Ohio, where his birth took place Jan. 17, 1839, and he is the son of John and Susan (Cavenee) Hughes, natives respectively of Wayne and Harrison Counties, Ohio. The paternal great-grandfather of our subject, John Hughes, Sr., was a native of Ireland, born in the city of Dublin, and followed the occupation of a weaver. He married Miss Mary Hamilton, a native of Limerick, and they emigrated

to America, settling in Greene County, Pa., whence they afterward removed to Westmoreland County. His paternal grandfather, John Hughes, was a native of Franklin County, Pa., where he was born March 3, 1785. He emigrated to Wayne County, Ohio, in 1816, and opened up a farm from the wilderness, and established a good homestead upon which he remained until his death, which took place April 18, 1861, after he had reached the advanced age of seventy-six years. He married in early life Miss Jane Flenniken, a native of Greene County, Pa., and born Feb. 12, 1786. She only lived to be middle aged, her death occurring at the homestead in Ohio, July 23, 1835. The father of Grandmother Hughes was James Flenniken, a native of Chambersburg, Pa., who followed farming all his life, and died Aug. 25, 1823, aged seventy-six years. His wife was formerly Miss Jane Dunlap, also a native of Chambersburg, and who survived her husband about six years, dying April 10, 1829, when eighty-two years old.

The maternal grandfather of our subject, William Cavenee, was born May 17, 1781, in Sussex County, N. J. He was a boot and shoe maker by trade but was fond of rural life, and secured possession of a small farm where he carried on agriculture to a limited extent. He became a resident of Ohio at an early day and spent his later years in Holmes County, where his death took place after he was eighty-one years of age. He married Miss Sarah Force, who was born Sept. 13, 1793, in Huntingdon, N. J., and died in Holmes County, Ohio, Oct 9, 1868, when seventy-five years of age. William Force, the father of Mrs. Sarah Cavenee, was born in Huntingdon, N. J., and learned the trade of a millwright, which he followed all his life. His death took place March 12, 1831. His wife was Miss Sarah Anderson, also born at Huntingdon, N. J., and she died Dec. 5, 1842. The maternal great-grandfather of our subject, Joseph Cavinee by name, a native of Ireland, emigrated to America when a young man and located in Sussex County, N. J., where he married Miss Abigail Critchfield, a lady of Welsh birth and parentage. He lived to be eighty years of age and his wife died at the age of seventy-eight.

John Hughes, the father of our subject, was born

Aug. 20, 1816, and his wife, Susan, was born May 2, 1818. The latter, prior to her marriage, was engaged in teaching. They afterward settled upon a farm in Franklin Township, Wayne Co., Ohio, where the elder Hughes engaged quite extensively in stock-raising. During the late war he was in McGlaughlin's Squadron in Kentucky, under command of Gen. James A. Garfield, but was discharged in 1863, on account of disability. In early manhood he was a member of the old Whig party and later identified himself with the Republicans.

The parents of our subject were married in Wayne County, Ohio, March 1, 1838. The record of their nine children is as follows: James F. of our sketch was the eldest; Sarah became the wife of Charles Miller, of Ohio, and the mother of one child, a son, Alvah S., now of Akron, Ohio; she died in Millersburg, Ohio, in 1876. Cephas and Jane died in infancy; William was killed at the battle of Antietam, Sept. 19, 1862; Janet, Mrs. James Gibbon, lives on the battle-field of Seven Pines, seven miles east of Richmond, Va., and has four children—Grace, Ethel, Tobias and Hattie; John W., of Decatur, Ill., married Miss Flora Hill, of Charleston, Ill., and they have three sons—Victor, Leroy B. and Otto; Alford L. married Miss Mary Crawford, of Ohio, and they have one child, a daughter, Edith; he is an attorney of David City, Butler Co., Neb. Clara is the wife of Dr. Benjamin F. Lang, of Weeping Water, Neb., and has two children, daughters, Edith May and Grace.

Judge Hughes remained a member of his father's household until 1867. In the meantime he had served as a soldier in the Union army, enlisting first April 19, 1861, with the three-months' men in Co. G, 16th Ohio Vol. Inf. At the expiration of this term he re-enlisted, July 22, 1862, for three years, in Co. F, 102d Ohio Vol. Inf., going in as private and being promoted First Sergeant. He served with his comrades in the States of Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama, until the close of the war, when he received his honorable discharge.

After returning from the army our subject entered the law department of the Michigan University of Ann Arbor, in October, 1865, and was graduated in March, 1867. He then took up

his residence in Sullivan, Moultrie Co., Ill., where he commenced the practice of his chosen profession, and in company with Capt. A. P. Greene became the publisher of the *Okaw Republican*, under the firm name of Greene & Hughes. Capt. Greene was also a graduate of the Ann Arbor Law School. The two gentlemen operated together fifteen months, when Mr. Hughes turned over his interest in the business to his partner, and removed to Vandalia. Three months later he repaired to Shelbyville and spent one year with Judge William J. Henry, assisting the latter in the labors of his office, and becoming familiar with the modes of procedure and practice in the courts. In December, 1869, he came to Mattoon, and in company with Judge Henry, opened an office and the two continued together under the firm name of Henry & Hughes until the spring of 1873. The junior member of the firm then became associated in partnership with Judge Charles B. Steele, and the firm of Steele & Hughes continued until July 10, 1877, when it was dissolved by the death of Judge Steele, who fell in his dooryard with a paralytic stroke. After this Judge Hughes continued alone in the practice.

The career of Judge Hughes from this time on led steadily upward, and on the 1st of June, 1885, he was elected Circuit Judge for a term of six years, his field covering nine counties, namely, Macon, Moultrie, Piatt, Champaign, Douglas, Coles, Clark, Edgar and Vermilion. He cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and from the beginning of his public life has been a thorough Republican.

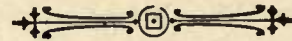
The law practice of Judge Hughes yielded him a fair income and he has interested himself largely in farming lands, being now the owner of 320 acres in Mattoon Township, all of which is under a good state of cultivation and comprises some of the best lands in the county. He also has three dwelling-houses in Mattoon. His own residence is a cottage home of convenience and comfort, and is located in a pleasant part of the city.

The marriage of James F. Hughes and Miss Julia Chrisman was celebrated at the Methodist Episcopal Church at Mattoon, on the 17th of September, 1874, the ceremony being conducted by

Bishop R. S. Foster, of the Methodist Church, assisted by Dr. W. R. Goodwin, in the presence of the Illinois Annual Conference, then in session in the city. Mrs. Hughes is the daughter of Edwin L. and Emily E. (Keyes) Chrisman. Mr. Chrisman was a native of Kentucky, and was married in Edgar County, Ill., March 6, 1845. Mr. Chrisman was born March 7, 1817, and his wife, Emily, Oct. 31, 1824. After marriage they located upon a farm. The record of their four children is as follows: Ingobo married Charles O. Stocklager, and they had two children—Roscoe and Ing. Mrs. S. died in December, 1880, at Galena, Cherokee Co., Kan. Julia, the wife of our subject, was the second child; Frances became the wife of W. I. Branin and the mother of four children. They are residents of Columbus, Kan. The youngest brother, Monroe, is also living at that place.

The children of Judge Hughes and his wife were born as follows: Columbia, July 3, 1875; Arlington, July 22, 1876; Florence, June 24, 1879. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Mattoon. Judge Hughes uses neither tea, coffee, tobacco nor intoxicating liquors. Born and raised upon the farm, his tastes and sympathies incline him to rural life. He is in robust health, is over six feet tall, and weighs 175 pounds. His career upon the bench has been marked by a vigorous enforcement of the laws against the prevailing crimes of the day, especially such as the illegal sales of intoxicating liquors, gambling, betting, lotteries, prize fighting and sparring matches, election bribery, carrying concealed weapons, rioting and rowdyisms of every kind. He has inaugurated many reforms in the practice of the bar, compelling respectful treatment of witnesses by attorneys; enjoining courtesy and repressing ill-natured sparring between opposing counsel; restricting and limiting the argument of attorneys to the evidence introduced; requiring the prompt attendance of jurors, parties and witnesses; convening court at half past eight in the morning, and closing at six in the evening; thus, and in many other ways, facilitating the dispatch of business, clearing the dockets and curtailing the expenses of the courts. His decisions are prompt and expressed in a few words. He seldom hears argument on

questions of the admissibility of testimony. His ruling "competent," "sustained," "overruled," follows in rapid succession the words, "I object," of counsel trying the case. The duties of his office require about nine months' labor in each year on the bench, and that he might give to the performance of those duties an undivided attention, he has laid aside all other business. His salary is \$3,500 per year. If the law and order-loving people of this circuit stand by him as they are likely to do, Judge Hughes has the promise of a long and useful life before him upon the bench.



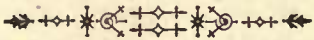
JOHN W. HANNA. Among the public-spirited men of Mattoon, the name of John W. Hanna is conspicuous for enterprise and energy. In connection with his business as bookseller, he has had charge of Dole's opera house for several years, and with his characteristic executive ability, has done more to gratify the taste of amusement-loving people than any other man in the city. He was born Dec. 2, 1848, in Freeport, Harrison Co., Ohio. His father, Rev. William Hanna, is a native of Pennsylvania, and his mother, Mary (Caldwell) Hanna, of Virginia.

Our subject, who was a boy of unusual intelligence, attended the common schools until he was thirteen years of age, when he began clerking in his father's general mercantile establishment at Deersville, Ohio. The best practical business education that can be acquired, is gained through an experimental knowledge of business at an early age. Many boys come from college with a vast amount of learning, but to their astonishment frequently find themselves incapable of dealing successfully with the world, and are often far outstripped in the race by some bright country lad who has had his eyes about him, and made a good use of limited advantages.

In the autumn of 1866 John Hanna came to Mattoon for the purpose of studying, his brother-in-law being Principal of the West Side school. A year later he accepted a position in a book-store, and has continued in that business until the present time. On July 25, 1870, he was married to Miss

Mary E. Henderson, who had been a teacher in the West Side schools for several years, and five children were born to them, all of whom with one exception, are living. Their names are, Gertrude, Ethel, William, Clara, and Charles, deceased.

Mr. Hanna is a hard worker, and thoroughly understands the details of every business enterprise in which he engages. He is a devoted adherent of the Republican party, and in 1884 was elected Alderman of the Fifth Ward, receiving 155 of the 200 votes cast, and is now serving his second term in that office. In his public duties he is watchful to promote the interests of the people, and is a close and apt student, not only of affairs of National importance, but also of municipal. The doors of his handsome residence are frequently thrown open to a large circle of friends, who enjoy partaking of Mr. and Mrs. Hanna's generous and courteous hospitality.



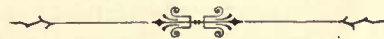
NATHANIEL S. STITES, familiarly known as "N. S. Stites," is a prosperous farmer residing on section 25, Seven Hickory Township. He was born April 28, 1850, in Hamilton County, Ohio, and is the son of William and Edith (Stites) Stites. William Stites was born Dec. 25, 1822, in Columbia Township, Hamilton Co., Ohio, and his wife Oct. 25, 1821, in Cape May County, N. J. In early life, John Stites, the father of William, served in the War of 1812, and soon after came to Ohio, where he entered a claim and engaged in farming, being one of the earliest settlers. (For further history of parents, see sketch of William Stites.)

There were but two children in the family of William Stites—Nathaniel S. and Thomas J.; the latter, born Dec. 19, 1845, lives in Bushton, where he is engaged in a general mercantile business, and deals in grain.

Nathaniel S. Stites lived with his parents at the homestead until he was twenty-one years of age. He received a good education at the common schools, and at the age of sixteen entered the High School. His marriage to Miss Martha E. Gerard took place April 23, 1871. Mrs. Stites was likewise a native of Hamilton County, Ohio. About

a year after their marriage Mr. Stites came to Illinois with his young wife, and settled in Coles County, on the place where he now lives. He remained here three years engaged in farming, and then removed to Morgan Township, where he remained about eight years, and then returned to his former place in Seven Hickory Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel S. Stites have a family of seven children: Bertha O., born Feb. 29, 1872, in Butler County, Ohio; Flora G., Nov. 22, 1873, in Coles County; Clinton B., Jan. 16, 1876; Albert R., April 16, 1878; Willis A., Dec. 2, 1880; Lulu H., Feb. 24, 1883, and Clara B., Jan. 14, 1885. Mr. Stites purchased his first tract of land in 1875, in Morgan Township, and in order to obtain well-located, valuable property, he paid \$200 per acre for ten acres; it was located about four miles from Hinesboro. (For further account, see sketch of William Stites.) Mr. Stites has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for about five years, in which he is also Class-Leader and Steward. Mrs. Stites is a member of the Presbyterian Church. In politics, Mr. S. belongs to the Republican party.



JAMES GRANT, located in Hutton Township, on section 20, is a worthy representative of the farming community, and generally respected by his friends and neighbors. During his residence here, he has thoroughly identified himself with the agricultural and business interests of his township. He occupies the old homestead of his father, which was willed to him by the latter, and which embraces a quarter section of land, sixty acres being under cultivation and the balance in timber, well watered.

Our subject is of Irish ancestry. His grandfather, Patrick Grant, was born in County Down, where he spent his entire life, was married, and reared a family of seven children, who were named respectively, Arthur, John, Rosa, Thomas, Catherine, William and Ann. Of these, Arthur, John, Thomas, Catherine and Ann, emigrated to America, and coming to this State, located in Coles County. John, the father of our subject, was the second

child, and was born June 9, 1809. His schooling in Ireland was very limited, but he took up the common branches after coming to this country and secured a practical education. This was after reaching manhood. After setting sail from Liverpool, the vessel was delayed in its journey several months by encountering a storm, and our subject finally landed at Montreal, Canada, where he remained nine months engaged on public works. From there he went to New York City, where he worked for a time on the railroad, and thence went to Nelson County, Va., also engaging on Government works there. He was married there, also, to Miss Sophia Lively, who was born in Virginia, June 18, 1817, and was the daughter of William and Cynthia Lively, natives of Virginia, where they spent their entire lives.

The father of our subject, after his marriage, came with his young wife to this county, making the journey overland, and conveying their household goods in two carts. They located in Hutton Township in October, 1841, and Mr. Grant traded a cart and \$5 in money for forty acres of timber land. Upon this was a small house into which the young people removed, and Mr. Grant entered upon the improvement of his property. He was successful in his labors, and in due time entered 120 acres of timber land, a part of which he cleared, and in 1858 built upon it the residence which is now occupied by his youngest son. They became the parents of seven children, and the mother departed this life at the homestead, Aug. 20, 1883. John Grant died not quite two years later, on the 24th of May, 1885, and the remains of both were laid to rest in the old family burying-ground on the homestead. The children of the parental family were Arthur, now deceased, William and John, residents of Hickory Township, Mary, now living in Ashmore Township, Cynthia, in Hutton Township, James, Thomas and Robert. The two latter are also deceased.

The subject of this history was born in Hutton Township, April 23, 1859. He remained with his parents until their death, receiving a common-school education and gaining a good insight into the best methods of conducting a farm. He was married, Dec. 14, 1881, to Miss Alice, the daugh-

ter of Robert and Luey Neal, who were natives of Missouri. This lady died not quite two years later, Nov. 16, 1883.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Feb. 2, 1886, was formerly Miss Sophronia Myers, a native of Boone County, Ind., born Oct. 22, 1866. Her parents were William and Ursula Myers, also natives of Indiana. Of this union there have been two children—Orlena and Orla (twins), born May 1, 1887. They were bright babes, and it was a great grief to the parents to be called upon to part with one of them, Orlena, who died August 6, when three months and five days old.

E A. JENKINS, proprietor of one of the oldest and most reliable houses for the sale of dry-goods, carpets and wall paper in Charleston, was born Aug. 30, 1834, in Putnam County, Ind., and is the son of John M. and Nancy (Martin) Jenkins. His grandfather, Elijah Jenkins, was a native of Pennsylvania, and when a young man became one of the early settlers in Kentucky. His maternal grandfather, William Martin, was of Scotch extraction and was likewise an early settler in Kentucky. His wife was of English descent, and her father, Captain Coot, was a sailor in the British service for many years.

John M. Jenkins was taught the trade of a brick and stone mason, and afterward rose to the position of builder and contractor. After his removal to Indiana, he engaged in farming, and passed the remainder of his life in that State. He died in 1884, having long survived his wife, whose death occurred in 1849. In early life he was an old-line Whig, but upon the organization of the Republican party became one of its warm supporters. He was actively interested in public affairs during his life, and served in several of the county and township offices. The family were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and were earnest workers in that religious denomination.

E. A. Jenkins was reared on his father's farm, where he attended school and assisted in the various branches of farm labor until he reached the age of twenty-one. From home he went to Greencastle,

and there engaged as clerk in a general store, retaining the position four years. His business qualifications were better adapted to mercantile pursuits than to agriculture, and in the autumn of 1859, in company with his brother, William M., he came to this county, and opened a dry-goods house in Charleston. They conducted the business successfully until July, 1886, when William M. sold out his interest to his brother and nephew, and the business is now carried on under the firm name of E. A. Jenkins & Son.

The marriage of Mr. Jenkins to Miss Amanda A. Jeffries took place May 30, 1861. She is the daughter of John and Martha Jeffries, who were among the early settlers of Charleston. Mr. Jeffries is one of the old business men of the city, and is engaged in manufacturing saddles and harness. Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins have a family of six children, namely: John E., a rising young physician of Charleston; William F., engaged in business with his father; Joseph, Gertrude, Fannie and Katie.

Mr. Jenkins is recognized as one of the leading men of the county, and his time and talents are not exclusively given to the advancement of his private interests. He served as School Director for three years, and is a Trustee in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which both himself and his wife are active members. Socially, he belongs to the I. O. O. F., the Knights of Honor and the society of Royal Templars, and in politics is a Republican.

JW. FARRAR, one of the prominent citizens of Humbolt, is the owner of a fine estate, containing 420 acres of valuable land, located on sections 20, 28 and 29, in this township. He was born March 4, 1827, near Charleston, S. C., and is the son of Franklin and Mary (Steele) Farrar. Franklin Farrar was a native of South Carolina, and was there engaged both at the carpenter's trade and farming. He moved to Perry County, Mo., in about the year 1830, where he purchased land and built a warehouse, at the point where the Iron Mountain Range crosses the river; his residence was situated nine miles from town. He carried on a successful business and

made his permanent home there. His death occurred at Lebanon, Ill., while on a business trip to that State. His wife was the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Crabtree) Steele, natives of Scotland, where Mrs. Farrar was born. The family emigrated to America and settled in South Carolina. Samuel Steele had been a State Physician in his native country, and was engaged in the practice of medicine in South Carolina.

J. W. Farrar had the misfortune to be deprived of his mother by death, when only a few weeks old. His maternal grandparents took him to their home and cared for him during his infancy and childhood, but when he was about twelve years of age his grandfather died, and he was then thrown upon the world to begin life for himself, when scarcely more than a child. It was difficult for so young a boy to procure employment, but he finally succeeded in obtaining a situation on a farm near Mt. Vernon, Ind., whither his grandmother had taken him. After remaining there two years, he passed three years with an uncle residing near New Harmony, and then went to Stewartsville, where he apprenticed himself to the tanner's trade. He applied himself to that occupation three years and a half, and was then summoned to Perry County, Mo., to assist in settling his father's estate, whose death had occurred a short time previous. Upon completing this business, he went to St. Louis and spent one winter working at his trade in that city. After passing four years in this desultory fashion, working at his trade in different localities, he engaged in buying fowls in the country along the river, and shipping them to the New Orleans market. Four years later he went to Posey County, Ind., near Poseyville, and was occupied in farming there until 1861.

This experience developing a taste for agriculture, our subject came to Coles County, Ill., taking charge of section 26, in this township, in the interest of Jaques & Walker, extensive land-owners of Evansville, Ind. The land was wholly unimproved, and the only neighbors were a few scattered families residing on the outskirts of Mattoon, seven miles distant. He immediately purchased a third interest in the land, and began the work of improvement with renewed courage and energy, be-

ing fairly successful in his first crops, which were of wheat. In 1862 he decided to enter the service of his country in the Civil War, and organized a company for that purpose, but his home interests compelled him to relinquish the plan. In 1864, together with his partners, he sold out his farm, and determined on returning either to Indiana or Missouri, but having to some extent already established himself in this State, and gained a favorable foothold in the community, he reconsidered the matter, and finally decided to make his permanent home here. With this aim in view, he purchased 240 acres of land located on section 28, in Humbolt Township, and erected a commodious residence. He has in the meantime added to his estate 120 acres located on section 29, and sixty on section 20, and also owns a tract of timber near by.

Mr. Farrar was married, Oct. 12, 1851, to Miss Ann M. Talbot. Mrs. Farrar is the daughter of Preston and Nancy (Sharpe) Talbot, natives of Shelby County, Ky., of which State her paternal grandfather, Ezekiel Talbot, was likewise a native. Her maternal grandfather, Benjamin Sharpe, was a native of Maryland. Mrs. Farrar's mother died when she was an infant, and she was cared for by her older brothers and sisters, with whom she made her home until her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Farrar had a family of eight children born to them, only two of whom are now living. Their first born, Mary Roxana, died at the age of one year and six days; five others also died in infancy; Joseph F. and Lizzie A. are living. Joseph married Miss Mary Grissom, and resides in this township; his farm is situated two miles from the homestead. Lizzie became the wife of Oscar Kinsel, a grain dealer and merchant, residing in Piatt County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Farrar have also given a place in their hearts and home to six of their brothers' children. Their names are as follows: Frederick Marstella, Chauncy E., Anna L., John P., Kitty T. and Emma L. Mr. Farrar and his wife have given both to their own and their adopted children, the best educational advantages attainable. It was Mr. Farrar's aim to fit his son for professional life, but his inclinations led him so strongly to prefer agricultural pursuits, that he decided not to interfere. Four of the children still

remain under the fostering care of their adopted parents.

Mr. Farrar has conducted his farm successfully and has given considerable attention to raising Short-horn cattle, Clydesdale and Norman horses, and Poland-China hogs, the latter being his heaviest product in stock. He does not take a very active interest in politics, but always votes with the Republican party. He has served as Road Commissioner, School Director and Trustee for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Farrar have always been active among the foremost workers in all the philanthropic movements of the neighborhood. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and were among the earliest supporters of the cause of Christ in this community, having organized the first successful measure toward building a church in the township. Their influence, both in public and private life, has ever been exerted to promote the best interests of society.

SAMUEL RARDIN. The essential facts in the history of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch, are mainly as follows: He is a native of Morgan Township, this county, his birth taking place on the farm of his father, John H. Rardin, Jan. 2, 1850. The mother before her marriage, was Miss Malinda Clark. The parents came to this State during the pioneer days, enduring bravely and cheerfully, with their compeers, the hardships and difficulties of life in a new country.

John H. Rardin was born in Rising Sun, Ind., whence he was conveyed by his parents when about three months old, to Campbell County, Ky. He was the son of Samuel and Catherine (Light) Rardin, natives of Campbell County, Ky., where the father followed farming until about 1842, then coming to this State, located in Morgan Township, where he established a permanent home. The parental household included twelve children, eight now living.

The father of our subject was thrice married, his second wife being Miss Rebecca Hurst, who became the mother of one child, a daughter Malinda,

now the wife of J. Calhoun, of Rardin. Mrs. Rebecca Rardin died in 1870. The third wife was Miss Nancy Campbell, who became the mother of one son, John H., Jr. The children of the first marriage were, Mary Ann, Benjamin, Samuel, James K., William W. and Robert B. The father is a retired farmer.

Samuel Rardin spent his childhood and youth mostly on the homestead, and in attendance at the district schools. His plans for the future included the establishment of a home and family ties of his own, and he was married in the spring of 1887, to Miss Lucy Ryan, of Clark County, Ill. She is the daughter of Louis and Polly (McCrory) Ryan, natives of Indiana, who became the parents of four children: Roscoe, still at home with his mother; Jennie, deceased; Lucy, the wife of our subject, and Mattie, the wife of John Carper, of Clark County.

Our subject was appointed Postmaster of Rardin in 1875, which office he held until 1887, and in the meantime also engaged in general merchandising, carrying a stock comprising nearly everything required in the household and on the farm. Upon withdrawing from this office he turned his attention principally to stock and grain raising, which he has conducted on the farm of his father with most satisfactory results. He is Democratic in politics, and has held the offices of Collector and Town Clerk. He received the advantages of a good education, completing his studies at Westfield, and has kept himself thoroughly posted upon current events.

Mrs. Rardin is finely educated, and was teacher in the school at Martinsville, Clark County, for three years. She is a great favorite, socially, and a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JAMES W. CRAIG, a farmer and stock-raiser of this county, resides on section 20, Morgan Township. He is the son of William Craig, who was born in October, 1804, in Kentucky. His paternal grandparents, Robert Craig and Elizabeth Nichol, were natives of Virginia.

Robert Craig's father, William, was a gunsmith by trade. He sold out his interest in his native State, and settled in Kentucky at an early day, where he built the third or fourth house that was erected in Lexington, and took the first sheep there. He was drafted for the War of 1812, and sent to Detroit. While on the way the regiment stopped on the Sandusky, and while there old Simon Kenton came to him and made his acquaintance. Kenton told him that his father had repaired his gun for him (Kenton) many a time.

William Craig remained in Kentucky until he was about twenty-four years of age, residing at the homestead until he was nineteen. His marriage took place on Christmas Day of 1823, an event which was attended by great festivities. The house was decorated for the occasion, and the young people for miles around assembled to congratulate their young friends and partake of the old-time Kentucky hospitality and cheer. The bride, Rosana Day, was born in 1809, in Greenbrier County, now West Virginia, and was the daughter of Peter Day. Her parents came to Kentucky at an early day, making their home in that State. James Day, a brother, was drowned in 1867, leaving a large family of children. Mr. and Mrs. Craig had a family of six children born to them: Lorenzo Dow, born in November, 1824, died at the age of sixteen; Clarinda, born in July, 1826, died in January, 1848; she became the wife of Thomas Davis, and left a family of three children. James W., born April 26, 1829, is the subject of this sketch; Isaac, born in January, 1831, resides in Edgar County, Ill., within a mile and a half of the place where he was born; he owns 300 acres, and also a large farm in Douglas County; he is married, and has a large family. Andrew Jackson, who has been for several years past a minister in the Baptist Church, resides in Meridian, Miss., where he owns some property; his eldest son is a successful physician in Louisiana. Peter, born in December, 1834, was an invalid for twenty-five years, and passed his life at the homestead, where his death occurred at the age of thirty-three.

After his marriage William Craig cleared and improved a tract of timber land, and engaged in farming and stock-raising. The arduous work in-

volved in this task proved too great a strain upon his immature physical strength, and nearly resulted in breaking down his health. After remaining on this farm five years he sold out his property in Kentucky and came to Illinois, where he purchased eighty acres of timber land in Edgar County, five miles south of Paris, at \$1.25 per acre. He cleared and improved this place, adding to his property as he was prospered in business, until he acquired an estate containing about 500 acres, and made his home there, carrying on a successful farming business until 1854. He then sold this property and moved to Donica Point. He met with an accident while moving to this place which came very near resulting fatally; he was thrown from his wagon, sacks of grain falling on him, and it was some time before he was extricated, almost exhausted with cold and suffering. He purchased a large farm, containing 460 acres, and made his permanent home there. His death occurred in February, 1874. His wife died March 3, 1848. She was a kind mother and loving wife. Mr. Craig was active and energetic in business throughout his life, although never strong physically. His health was injured by privation and exposure while serving in the Black Hawk War, and still further impaired by an attack of measles, and he was obliged to struggle against much physical suffering and infirmity. He was a leading member of the Old-School Baptist Church, and was always active in promoting the best interests of the community. In politics he was a Democrat. His last wife is living at the old home place, aged seventy-five.

James Craig passed his boyhood and youth on the homestead, assisting his father in the various farm duties, and attending the common schools, where he received a good practical education. At the age of twenty-two his marriage with Miss Maria L. Miller took place. Mrs. Craig was the daughter of James M. and Mary Ann (Wayne) Miller, the former born in 1791, in Scotland, and the latter in the same year in Virginia. Mr. Miller's family emigrated to this country, and settled in South Carolina at an early day, where James passed his early life. He subsequently removed to Kentucky, where his marriage took place, and thence to Illinois in 1830. He settled in Edgar County, just

below Paris. Mr. Miller was an intelligent, well-educated man, and taught school in the pioneer days, during the early part of his life, his future son-in-law, James Craig, being one of his pupils at the old log school-house. In later life he was engaged in official business, and was serving as County Clerk at the time of his death, which occurred in 1853. His widow, who possessed an unusually vigorous physique, survived him many years, and died in 1877, in Westfield, Ill. Their family comprised five children.

After his marriage Mr. Craig located on the farm where he now resides, which was a gift from his father, and contained 360 acres (now 700) of excellent land. He came to his new home in the autumn of 1850, and began business for himself, and has been successful, adding to his estate until he owned at one time over 1,400 acres. He now has the management of about 1,000 acres, and carries on his business of farming and stock-raising, all of which is under his supervision and direction. June 1, 1869, he met with an accident which has disabled him from physical exertion. He was at that time superintending the erection of his farm residence, and on a load of doors and window frames, was driving in the barn. The load being too high he was caught, receiving injuries to the spine, which have rendered him powerless to use his lower limbs. During the first two years he was under the care of skillful physicians, but all means for restoration have proved unavailing.

Mr. C. has been twice married; his first wife died in the spring of 1858. She was the mother of two children, one of whom died at the age of sixteen months; the other, Rosa C., is the wife of John McGregor, a farmer residing in Morgan Township. February 26, 1860, Mr. Craig was married to Mrs. Eliza J. Randolph, a resident of Edgar County. Mrs. Craig is the daughter of Simeon and Lucetta (Hearn) Stark, residents of Illinois. They were born in Indiana, and moved to Illinois in 1857. Mr. Stark was a successful business man, acquiring a good farm of 360 acres. His wife died in the fall of 1866, leaving a large family. She was an invalid for five years before her death. Mr. and Mrs. Stark were consistent members of the Old-School Baptist Church. She was a good mother

and loving wife. Mr. Stark now lives in Missouri. Mrs. Stark's parents came to Illinois while it was yet a Territory. His name was Dennis Hearn, hers, Elizabeth Smith. She was a native of North Carolina. Mr. Hearn, after his marriage, moved from Illinois to near Terre Haute, Ind., before the town was thought of. He died in 1867. His wife still survives him, being eighty-seven years old. She lives in Terre Haute with one of her daughters, and is very active for one of her age. Mr. and Mrs. Hearn were faithful members of the Old-School Baptist Church. Mrs. Craig was the mother of one son by her first husband, R. C. Randolph, a farmer residing in Seven Hickory Township. Mr. and Mrs. Craig had two children born to them: Maria L., born Sept. 10, 1865, died in her eighteenth year; William S., born May 1, 1867, resides at the homestead, and assists his father in business.

SAMUEL A. REEL, physician and surgeon, of Oakland, has been established there for the past twenty years, during which time he has built up a good practice and numbers among his friends and patrons the best residents of Coles County. Dr. Reel is a native of Gibson County, Ind., born May 3, 1829, and is the son of Henry and Catherine (Neely) Reel, natives of Kentucky, the former born forty miles south of Louisville, Feb. 14, 1793. The paternal grandparents of our subject were John and Catherine (Stooky) Reel, natives of New York State, where, after serving as a soldier in the Revolutionary War seven years, John Reel finally located, and carried on farming the balance of his life. The maternal grandfather, who was a native of Virginia, also served on the side of the Colonists during their struggle for liberty, as a commissioned officer. He was under the immediate command of Gens. Washington and Marion. Both grandfathers died in about 1808.

Henry Reel, the father of our subject, departed this life in Gibson County, Ind., March 25, 1871. The wife and mother, who was born Dec. 13, 1794, was the daughter of Joseph and Marietta (Johnson) Neely, natives of Virginia, who were numbered

among the most highly respected residents of the farming community of their section of the State. She was married to Henry Reel, May 7, 1815, and departed this life Nov. 10, 1874. She became the mother of fourteen children. Their eldest son, John, was born Feb. 13, 1816; Eliza A., Aug. 15, 1817; Elizabeth, Feb. 13, 1819; Joseph, Oct. 31, 1820; David L., Aug. 31, 1822; Margaret A., May 6, 1824; Eleanor, Dec. 25, 1825; Martha J., Sept. 3, 1827; Samuel A., of our sketch, is already given; Thomas J., Jan. 24, 1831; Henry C., Oct. 2, 1832; Franklin M., Aug. 11, 1834; Catherine N., Dec. 3, 1836; Nancy J., Sept. 17, 1838.

Samuel Reel was reared on his father's farm and attended school in the winter until 1851, although in the meantime having been employed as a teacher in Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois and Indiana. During the winter of 1850-51, he attended the medical school at Cincinnati, Ohio, and after completing his course of study proceeded westward, across the Mississippi into Iowa. He remained there, however, only about six months, and then returned to Cumberland County, Ill., thence to Gibson County, Ind., in 1858, where he employed his time in reading medicine until the outbreak of the late war. He then enlisted, in August, 1861, in the 58th Indiana Infantry, as private in Company K, and after two months was detailed as Hospital Steward. In crossing Barren River, near Bowling Green, Ky., he was wounded in the right side, and in September received his discharge on account of disability. From this he has never fully recovered, and on account of it receives a pension from the Government.

Upon returning from the army Dr. Reel located in Douglas County, where he followed his profession until 1866, and then took up his residence at Oakland. He is the only eclectic physician in the town, and his labors have been attended with great success, enabling him to accumulate a fine property. This includes 540 acres of valuable land, in a high state of cultivation, and the family residence in Oakland is an imposing structure, and a model of comfort and convenience.

The lady who has presided with grace and dignity over the domestic affairs of our subject, and was his earnest helper and sympathizer in his

efforts to secure a good position in life, was formerly Miss Eliza Adams, who became his wife May 19, 1853. Mrs. R. is a native of this county, to which her parents came in the pioneer days, and was born April 22, 1836, in Pleasant Grove Township. She is the daughter of John J. and Martha (Gammel) Adams, natives of Tennessee. Her father was a farmer by occupation, and during the progress of the Mexican War held the position of Second Lieutenant in the Federal ranks. Afterward he returned to his home in this county, where his death took place Dec. 27, 1878, after he had arrived at the advanced age of seventy-two years. He was also First Lieutenant in an Illinois cavalry regiment in the late war, serving three years, and by his bravery and attention to duty secured the approval of his superiors and the respect of his subordinates. The seven children of Mr. and Mrs. Reel were named respectively, Martha A., now deceased; John F., of the firm of Curtis & Reel, who are carrying on general merchandising at Oakland; Kate L., Lidie A.; Nancy C., who died when three months old; Lina M. and William E.

Dr. Reel from a youth was piously inclined, and was ordained a minister of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in October, 1867, and for four years occupied the pulpit in various places in this part of the State. He finally withdrew from the Presbytery, being fully occupied with his farming and his practice. He is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity, and also belongs to Oakland Lodge No. 545, I. O. O. F., in which he has been Treasurer and High Priest. He is also connected with the G. A. R. as Surgeon of the order. He occupies a high position among his professional brethren, and is a man whose judgment and integrity are unquestioned.



GUNTHER WEISS, senior member of the firm of Weiss & Son, is, with the latter, proprietor of the Charleston Woolen Mills, located at the intersection of Factory and West Washington streets. The history of this well-to-do, substantial resident and business man, is briefly as follows: Mr. Weiss was born in the little village

of Lentenberg, in the Province of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, Germany, July 6, 1823. His parents were Christopher and Phillipena Weiss, natives of the same locality. His father was a manufacturer of cotton goods, giving employment to many operators and carried on a large mercantile business.

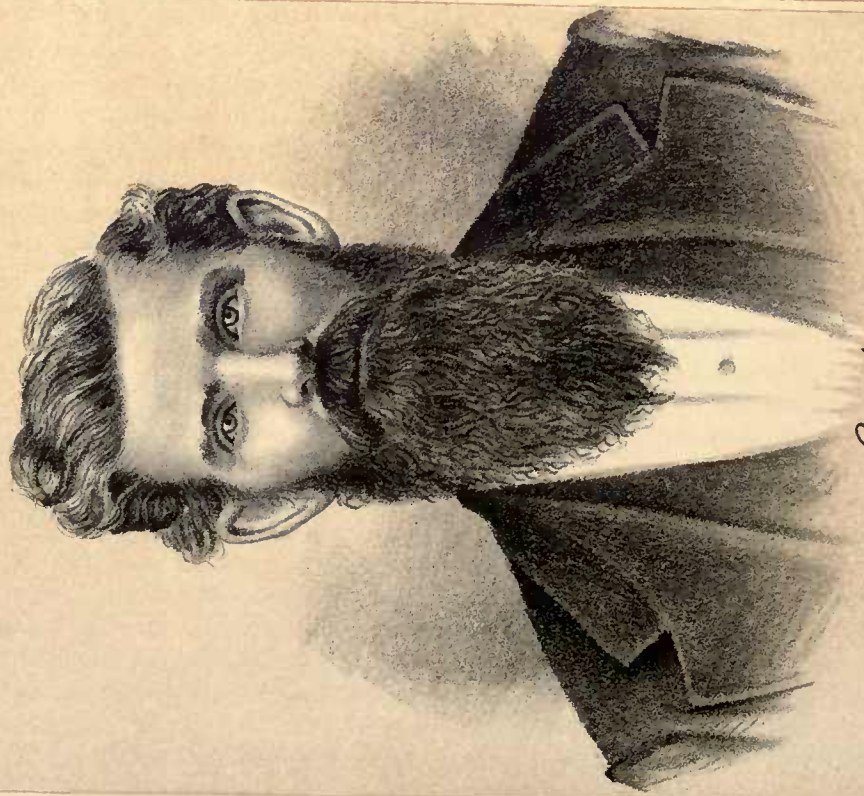
In accordance with the laws and customs of his native country, Gunther Weiss was placed in school at an early age, where he pursued his studies uninterruptedly until fourteen years old. He then employed himself in the mills and store of his father until after reaching his majority. He was always of a reflective and ambitious turn of mind, and determined to seek his fortune on the other side of the Atlantic. Embarking on a sailing-vessel at Liverpool, he landed at Galveston, Tex., and occupied his time in various ways until the year following, when the breaking out of the war with Mexico afforded a means of employment to many who were idle. Young Weiss, in common with many others, enlisted as a soldier at the first call for volunteers, becoming a member of the 1st Texas Infantry, and serving under the immediate command of Gen. Zachary Taylor. His army experience, however, only occupied him for about five months, when the struggle ended, and he received his honorable discharge. Then, in company with two other gentlemen, he proceeded to New Orleans, and engaged in the sugar trade, which proved a venture in no wise remunerative, as when they closed out their business some months later, our subject had but \$6 to show for his labor.

In the spring of 1848, Gunther Weiss took up his abode in the city of Cincinnati, where he remained until 1852, and then longing for a sight of the faces of his old friends, he embarked on a steamer for his native land, receiving his passport from the hand of Daniel Webster. He spent six months in his native Province, and then, encouraged and refreshed for the further labors of life, returned to the New World. Proceeding to Terre Haute, Ind., he was successfully engaged for a period of twenty-two years. In the meantime, however, he had in 1866 once more visited his native land, and made a specialty of informing himself in regard to the latest improvements in connection with machinery for the manufacture of

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



John H. Bardon



J. H. Ames

cottons and woolens. Thus armed he returned to the United States and prepared to follow the business of his father before him. The Charleston Woolen Mills had already been established, and of these Mr. Weiss assumed the management, in 1873, although he had been connected with the business as a partner since 1869. These mills have now become a leading feature in the industries of Coles County, and under the wise supervision of Mr. Weiss have made good progress each year, giving employment to twenty-five persons, and disposing of goods mostly at wholesale. His eldest son is employed as a traveling salesman, and gives indication of possessing the same business talent as his father, by whom he has been admitted as an equal partner.

The marriage of Mr. Weiss took place in 1850, the lady of his choice being Miss Caroline Newhart, a native of his own country, who emigrated to the United States with her parents. Of the eight children now included in the household circle, the record is as follows: Otto, the eldest, has been referred to heretofore; Emma is the wife of Alfred C. Ficklin, of Charleston, and the mother of three children—Orlando, Otto and Walter. Louise, Aurora, Helena, Harry and Mamie are at home with their parents; Adolph, the sixth child, is a lumber merchant at Los Angeles, Cal. Mr. Weiss, since assuming the rights of citizenship, has been a staunch supporter of Republican principles, and with his family, is a regular attendant of the Presbyterian Church.

OLIVER H. AMES, a gentleman of cultivated tastes and good education, owns and occupies a homestead on section 23, in North Okaw Township, his property including 160 acres of good land. His early advantages in life were somewhat limited, but he made the most of his opportunities, and by the perusal of good books, and associating with well-bred and educated people, he has attained to a high position in his community, and is numbered among the intelligent and progressive men of Coles County. His land is mainly devoted to general agriculture, although he raises thoroughbred stock.

Mr. Ames is a native of Wayne County, Pa., his birth taking place there Nov. 16, 1840. He is the eldest child of Nelson W. and Nancy (Hoadley) Ames, natives of the same county as their son. The father was born Feb. 9, 1817. His paternal grandparents were Joseph and Gertrude (Schenck) Ames, who were among the earliest settlers of the Keystone State, and upon first locating in Wayne County were obliged to go forty miles to mill. Both the parents and grandparents spent their lives in Pennsylvania, and their remains were laid to rest beneath its soil.

Our subject when a lad of nine years, was deprived by death of the affectionate care of his mother. His father afterward married Miss Susan A. Cramer, and Oliver H. remained at home until reaching his majority. Upon leaving the parental roof he was engaged by the month on a farm, and continued thus occupied for three years. He was married, May 4, 1864, to Miss Susanna S., daughter of James and Elizabeth (Morton) Whitney, the wedding taking place at Charleston, this county. Mrs. Ames was the second in a family of seven children born to her parents, and remained with them until her marriage. Her maternal grandfather, Charles Morton, was the original founder of the city of Charleston, and the court-house now stands on land which he deeded to the city for that purpose. Mrs. Ames received a good education, and for several years taught school in this county, being thus employed until a few months after her marriage. The second year the young people repaired to the farm of Mrs. Whitney, in Mattoon Township, and the third year our subject purchased eighty acres of land on section 36, in North Okaw Township. He occupied this but a short time, however, when he rented a quarter section adjacent, and operated upon that until prepared to purchase. In 1879 he bought 120 acres on section 23, to which he removed his family and where he has since resided. His first great affliction occurred on the 12th of August, 1886, when the affectionate wife and mother was called hence, leaving four children. As a lady she possessed many amiable and lovable qualities, and was deeply mourned by her family and numerous friends. Mrs. Ames was born in Charleston, Ill., Feb. 4,

1842, and was consequently a little over forty-four years of age. One child had passed away before the death of the mother. Those remaining are, Willie H., Foster C., Harry D., Nellie and Gertrude. The deceased child was a little daughter named Mary O. Mrs. Ames was never very strong, and finding herself afflicted with heart disease, went to Kansas to remain for a time with her sister, and there closed her eyes upon the scenes of earth. She had been educated by her stepfather, Rufus Pierce, and was a more than ordinary lady. She had been a great sufferer, but bore her afflictions uncomplainingly, and presented a beautiful example of patience and resignation. While a professed Christian, she had not formally identified herself with any religious denomination, although an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Ames is determined to keep his little family together, and give them all the advantages possible.

Our subject usually votes the Republican ticket, but has very little to do with politics, his farming and business interests absorbing the most of his time and attention. Whatever leisure he has is devoted to reading and study. He has added to his first purchase of land, and is now the owner of 300 acres, all under cultivation and yielding some of the finest products of the Prairie State. It is with pleasure that the publishers present the portrait of Mr. Ames in this volume, as that of one of the representative men of Coles County.



JOHN HALL RARDIN, a retired farmer of Morgan Township, and residing in the town which bears his name, is a prominent citizen of Coles County, and a descendant of one of the pioneer families of Illinois. He was born Feb. 24, 1818, and is the son of Samuel and Catherine (Light) Rardin. Samuel Rardin was born in Pennsylvania, Nov. 16, 1790, and was the son of John and M. (Hull) Rardin, the former a native of Pittsburgh, Pa.

The mother of our subject was the daughter of Jacob and Catherine Light, and was born in Clermont County, Ohio, Dec. 5, 1790. Of her union with Samuel Rardin there were born twelve chil-

dren, eight of whom are now living: Jacob, John, Frank and Nancy are residents of Morgan Township, this county, and the others have been attracted by business interests to different places in Missouri and Kansas.

While John Hall Rardin was still an infant, his father settled in Kentucky, remaining there with his family until their removal to Coles County in 1842. The death of his parents occurred soon after their arrival here; the father dying in July, 1843, while John was away from home in Kentucky, and the mother two years later, in 1845. Our subject in 1844 purchased forty-four acres of land and was married March 6, 1845, to Miss Melinda Clark, of Coles County. Mrs. Rardin was the daughter of Benjamin and Sarah (Hammonds) Clark, natives of Kentucky, whence they removed to Illinois in 1831, and were among the earliest settlers of this county. They located in what afterward became Morgan Township, and here passed the remainder of their lives. There were eight children in Mr. Clark's family at the time of his daughter's marriage, all of whom settled in Coles County, with the exception of his son, William, who is a resident of Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Rardin became the parents of six children, of whom the record is as follows: Mary Ann was born Feb. 13, 1846, became the wife of Porter Johnson, and is now deceased; Benjamin, born June 28, 1848, died Aug. 17, 1860; Samuel was born Jan. 2, 1850; James K., June 28, 1851; Willie W., born May 19, 1853, died Aug. 17, 1882; and Robert Bruce, born June 2, 1855, died Dec. 13, 1871. Mrs. Melinda (Clark) Rardin died March 13, 1857. The second wife of our subject was Mrs. Rebecca A. Hurst. She was born April 17, 1825, and died April 17, 1865. Of this marriage there was one child, Melinda Jane, born May 15, 1862; she is now the wife of John Calhoun, a resident of Morgan Township, and is the mother of two children. The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Dec. 18, 1873, was formerly Mrs. Nancy Campbell. By this marriage one son was born, Feb. 3, 1875, and was named John Hall, after his father.

Mr. Rardin added to his first purchase of land until he now owns a fine farm of 440 acres. He

has always been an active and influential citizen, and was the founder of the town which bears his name. Rardin has a population of 150 inhabitants, and contains a church, two stores, a doctor's office, a blacksmith and saddler's shop, and an elevator.

Mr. Rardin has rented his farm and retired from the cares of active business, and is passing the closing years of a busy and useful life in the ease and enjoyment justly his due. Miss Alma Callahan is a member of their family. She is the daughter of Frank and Mary Ellen Callahan, and was born May 9, 1875. She has received a home in Mr. Rardin's family since her father's death. Her widowed mother resides in Clark County, Ill. Mrs. Rardin is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and is actively interested in promoting its welfare. We place the portrait of Mr. Rardin in this volume, among those of other representative men of Coles County.

WP. ORLAND, master mechanic of the I. & St. L. R. R. at Mattoon, was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Nov. 18, 1843, and is the son of William and Eliza (Powers) Orland. His parents were of English birth and ancestry, and his father during his entire life engaged in merchandising. His death took place on his native soil in 1856. The mother survived her husband for twenty-eight years, her death taking place in 1884. They were the parents of three children only: Harry, engineer in the fire department in the city of Cleveland; Annie, Mrs. Middleton, also a resident of that city, and W. P., of our sketch.

Mr. Orland completed his education in the city schools of Cleveland, and when a youth of seventeen years commenced learning the machinist trade in the Globe Iron Works, where he served an apprenticeship of three years. He was then on the lakes as engineer a year, when he returned to terra firma and entered the employ of the C. C. R. R. Co. with whom he remained three years. Upon leaving Ohio he migrated to this State, but subsequently returned to Cleveland, in the meantime being employed at his chosen vocation, and then attained to the position of foreman. In 1884 he accepted his

present position, where he has since remained and acquitted himself with credit. He has the supervision of 200 men, and as may be supposed, understands fully all his duties.

The wife of our subject was formerly Miss Alice, the daughter of Addison and Mary (Goss) Hyde, and they were married in 1865. Mrs. Orland was born in Ohio in 1847, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of four children—Herbert, Fannie and Frank, twins, and Clarence. They occupy a neat residence on Wabash street, and enjoy the society of a large circle of friends. Mr. and Mrs. O. are members in good standing of the Christian Church. Our subject, politically, is a decided Republican, and socially, belongs to the Knights of Pythias.

JOHN W. BEAVERS, deceased. The history of this late and highly respected resident of Humbolt Township, is in its main points as follows: He was born in Hampshire County, Va., in 1814, and was the eldest of a family of eight children. He was educated in the common schools of his native county, and during his youth followed boating on the Potomac River, which he continued until 1836, and for two years thereafter occupied himself in teaming. He migrated westward in 1838, locating first at Bourbon, Douglas County, this State, where he resided two years, and then returned to the Old Dominion to fulfill the pledge which he had made to his betrothed wife, Miss Mary A. Madden. This lady was the daughter of Samuel and Ruth (Price) Madden, natives of Virginia, and the mother a sister of Gen. Sterling Price.

After his marriage Mr. Beavers located with his young wife two miles from Cumberland, Md., on the Virginia side of the Potomac River, where he followed farming two years, and whence he removed to another farm in that vicinity, where he remained six years. He came West in 1852, settling at once in Humbolt Township, where he purchased 160 acres of wild land, and entered industriously upon its improvement and cultivation. Four years later he crossed the Mississippi

into Washington County, Iowa, where, however, he remained but a short time, and returning to Humbolt Township, purchased 200 acres on section 35, where in due time he engaged extensively in farming and stock-raising, and where he established a comfortable home and spent his last days. His death occurred on the 13th of April, 1875, and he is remembered as a citizen who identified himself with the best interests of his adopted county, doing all in his power to further the welfare of the people around him. He was the second Supervisor representing the township on the County Board and served as Road Commissioner many years. In politics he was a staunch Democrat.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Beavers, six in number, were named respectively, Samuel M., John B., Richard R., George W., Marcellus S. and Mary E. These are all living with the exception of George W.

THOMAS W. GRIMES, a prosperous farmer and stock-grower, is a resident of Pleasant Grove Township, and represents one of the self-made men of Illinois, who have aided in making this State famous in the annals of history for the patriotism and the courage of its citizens in war, and for their enterprise and prosperity in peace. He is the son of Hezekiah and Frances (Wood) Grimes, and was born Nov. 24, 1839, in Elkhart County, Ind. His family is of Irish extraction. His grandfather, a native of Ireland, came to the United States when a boy and settled in Ohio.

Hezekiah Grimes was born near Chillicothe, Ohio, Dec. 15, 1816. He passed his boyhood and youth at home, and after his marriage to Miss Frances Wood, who was likewise a native of Ohio, he removed to Elkhart County, Ind. He remained there several years, and in 1849 came to Illinois, making his home in Cumberland County, near Coles. The year following their removal to Illinois, Mrs. Grimes died, leaving her husband with six motherless children, one child having died in infancy—John S., Mary, Thomas W., Sarah, Nancy E. and E. M. Mary is the wife of Jackson Gill; Sarah married Jonathau Brewer; Nancy was the wife of

Seneca Rariden, and is now deceased. Mr. Grimes subsequently married Miss Nancy Wells, of Terre Haute, Ind., and of this marriage there were born the following children: Martha Ellen, deceased; William Theodore and Levi. He is still living, and resides in Marshall County, Kan.

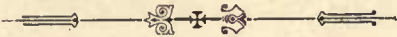
Thomas Grimes passed his boyhood on his father's farm until he was fourteen years of age. He was then apprenticed to the saddler's trade in Charleston, but that occupation proved so distasteful to him that he only served about four months, and then returned to the farm. At the age of sixteen he started out to begin the world for himself, with only \$2.50 in his pocket, having agreed to pay his father \$60 for the privilege of leaving home while a minor. He was first employed as a wage-worker on the farm of Col. Adams at Farmington, receiving \$15 a month for his services during the summer, and in the winter attended school and worked for his board. He was faithful and industrious and remained with Col. Adams three years, and at the expiration of that time was employed by Rev. John McDonald for two years, at \$16 per month. Thus, working hard and attending school he grew to manhood, and on Feb. 21, 1861, was married to Miss Mary J. Allison, the daughter of Joseph and Margaret Ann (Cathy) Allison, and born June 18, 1841, in Coles County.

After his marriage Mr. Grimes engaged in farming until the following year, and then left his business and home to serve in the Civil War. He enlisted and was mustered into service with Co. I, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf. He proved himself a brave and faithful soldier, taking part in all the battles in which his regiment was engaged except that of Perryville. He was in the field hospital one month at Lonisville, Ky., and at the battle near Milton, Tenn., received a gunshot wound over the right ear, which confined him in the hospital three months. After his return from the war he resumed farming, and in 1870 settled on his present estate, which contains 220 acres of valuable land. In conducting his farm Mr. Grimes gives special attention to stock-raising.

Mr. and Mrs. Grimes had a family of eight children born to them, and experienced a deep sense of loss in the death of two. William H., their first

born, died at the dawn of manhood, and the next child, a daughter, died in childhood. Those now living are—Loren K., John A., Andrew R., George F., Charles J., and an infant daughter.

Mr. Grimes is upright and honorable in all of his business dealings. He has never tasted a drop of intoxicating liquor in his life, and his energy and industry have met with the success which usually attends the exercise of such qualities, when accompanied with temperate habits, and integrity of character. He has been a member of the Presbyterian Church since 1860 and is a Ruling Elder in the same. In politics he is a staunch Republican, and has served six years as Justice of the Peace.



LOUIS W. M. PFEIFER, the owner of a fine stock farm, a view of which appears on another page, resides on section 20, Seven Hickory Township. He was born Dec. 14, 1833, in Saxony, Germany; and is the son of Bernhardt and Barbara (Bock) Pfeifer. Bernhardt Pfeifer was born April 5, 1801. There were but two children in his parents' family, himself and his brother William. The latter married and had five children. Bernhardt married Miss Barbara Bock in 1824. They lived in Germany until 1868, and then left their native land to visit their children, some of whom had come to the United States and settled in Coles County several years previous. Two years after their arrival in America, Mrs. Pfeifer died in Arcola at the home of her daughter, who accompanied them from Germany, and a few years after the death of his wife Mr. Pfeifer returned to Germany. After remaining there about a year he returned to Illinois, and passed the closing years of his life with his son, George M. Pfeifer. His death occurred in February, 1880.

The parental family consisted of twelve children, four of whom died in infancy. The record of those remaining is as follows: Casper, born Oct. 5, 1827, resides in Germany, and has a large family of children and grandchildren; Louis W. M. is the subject of this sketch; Mary K., born in 1836, is the wife of Carl Thein, a resident of this county, and the mother of a large family of children; Michael,

born in 1838, was twice married, and has a family of two children by his first wife; Edward, born in 1840, resides in Germany, and has a family of five children; Dorothea, born in 1843, was the wife of Julius Zehner, and had a family of three children—Barbara, Nina and William; Mrs. Zehner died in 1874, when her son was four years of age, and he was then adopted by his uncle, George Pfeifer; Barbara is married and lives in Mattoon, and Nina, since the death of her mother, has made her home in the family of John J. Chaney, in Humbolt Township. Mr. Zehner resides in Texas. Bernhardt came to Illinois, but after remaining two years, returned to Germany; he has a family of four children. George M. is a prosperous farmer residing in Seven Hickory Township.

Louis W. M. Pfeifer was a printer in Germany, and was engaged in a publishing office in which there were 800 employed at printing, forty at stereotyping and forty book-binders. He had also learned the carpenter's trade, and when he came to Illinois engaged in that occupation. On his arrival in the United States he spent some time in New Orleans, then traveled in Mississippi, and finally went to Ohio, where he remained about seven months. Desirous of thoroughly investigating the Western country, he extended his travels to California, spending six months there, stopping in Douglas and Coles Counties, Ill., on the return trip.

In 1857 our subject came to Arcola, and remained there until 1862, when he entered the army in the service of his adopted country, enlisting in Co. K, 79th Ill. Vol. Inf., in July, 1862. His regiment was with Gen. Sherman in the campaign against Hood, and he took part in the five engagements preceding the final brilliant siege of Atlanta, when Hood, surrounded by the masterly tactics of Sherman's army, was obliged to evacuate, after first blowing up his magazines. He was taken prisoner Nov. 30, 1864, at the battle of Franklin, Tenn., and confined at Andersonville, and gained his freedom after the assassination of President Lincoln, when all prisoners were released. While undergoing the horrors of imprisonment at Andersonville he contracted a disease which seriously impaired his health, and he now draws a pension on

account of disability resulting from that cause. He was mustered out of service June 6, 1865, and discharged at Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill., on the 24th of the same month.

On his return from the war Mr. Pfeifer came to Illinois and engaged in farming in Douglas County, remaining there one year. He then came to Coles County and in the following year, 1867, purchased his first land here. His entire estate contains 325 acres, 165 of which is located in Coles, and 160 in Douglas County. His land is all of excellent quality, well cultivated and improved. He gives some attention to raising graded stock, having about twenty head of cattle and seven head of horses. In 1873 he erected his pleasant farm residence, and in 1878 built a large and well-appointed barn.

Mr. Pfeifer's marriage to Miss Jennie R. Long took place Feb. 20, 1866, the year following his return from the war. Mrs. Pfeifer was born and educated in Ohio, and met her future husband while on a visit to her sister, residing in Arcola, Douglas County. There were three children in her father's family, two daughters and one son. Neither of her parents are living, her mother having died when she was an infant, and her father in 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Pfeifer have an interesting family of five children: Laura, born Oct. 5, 1868; John, May 25, 1871; Lawrence, March 30, 1873; Ida, Aug. 12, 1875; Elmore, Feb. 17, 1881. None of the family have yet left the home circle. Mr. Pfeifer belongs to the Lutheran Church at Arcola, and the children were baptized in that faith; his wife is a member of the Methodist Church. In politics he a strong Republican.

CORTEZ B. O'HAIR, an energetic young business man of Fair Grange, is of Irish descent, his great-grandfather, Michael O'Hair, being a native of County Down, Ireland, who emigrated to America in Colonial times, and served in the Revolutionary War. At the close of the war he settled in Virginia, and subsequently in Montgomery County, Ky., where Michael O'Hair, Jr., the grandfather of our subject, was born, July 10, 1801. At an early age the latter moved to Morgan County, Ky., and was married, Nov. 16, 1820,

to Miss Lucretia Boyles. In October, 1825, with his wife and two children, he made the long and wearisome journey to Illinois, riding 250 miles on horseback. Upon the 28th of the same month, with four horses, two of them heavily laden with pack-saddles, they reached their journey's end, locating five miles south of Paris, Edgar County, on a farm which he owned at the time of his death. By his energy, decision of character and benevolence, he soon became well known to the early settlers of this county. He was twice elected Sheriff of the county, and held offices voted him by the people for over thirty years. He aided in building churches, schools, and many other valuable improvements. His house was very appropriately styled the "Preacher's Tavern."

Jesse O'Hair, the father of our subject, was born March 28, 1828, and was married, Jan. 22, 1851, to Miss Ella Jane Swango, of Hazel Green, Ky. She was born Jan. 8, 1833, in Morgan County, Ky., and was the daughter of Abram Swango, and grand-daughter of Samuel Swango, of Virginia. Abram Swango was a prominent farmer and stock-raiser, and a veteran of the second war with England, in 1812. Jesse O'Hair is one of the oldest pioneers of Seven Hickory Township, having settled upon the farm where he now resides June 1, 1854. At that time the prairie was one vast wilderness, and the neighbors were few and many miles apart, but here, on the uncultivated prairie, he built his home. The household included seven children, whose record is as follows: Abram L., born Oct. 18, 1851, married Miss L. Sketon, of this county, and to them have been born three children—Arley, Stella and Elner; W. C., born Aug. 16, 1857, is at home with his parents; Cortez Boon, the subject of our sketch, was born Jan. 30, 1860; Callie, born May 24, 1863, was married to George W. Gaines, of Edgar County, Dec. 23, 1884, and departed this life, Aug. 9, 1885; Ron E. was born June 10, 1871; Stephen and Laura E. died in infancy.

Our subject is a native of this county, and spent his early years amidst the surroundings and disadvantages of a new country. Notwithstanding the limited advantages of the pioneer days he obtained a fair education at the district schools, and

completed his studies at Enfield Academy. He then began to prepare for the more serious duties of life. He remained under the home roof until he reached his majority, working on a farm in the summer time and teaching school during the winter. In the spring of 1882 he was elected Town Clerk of Seven Hickory Township, and has since been elected four times. May 24, 1883, he was appointed Postmaster, and besides his official duties, Mr. O'Hair is engaged in general merchandising and also deals in grain and stock.

February 26, 1884, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Craig, Rev. J. P. Tandy officiating. Miss Craig was born in this county June 20, 1860, and is the daughter of Robert and Angeline (Springer) Craig, natives of Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Craig were the parents of four children: Laura, wife of I. H. Patterson, was born Nov. 8, 1856; William R., born April 2, 1858, married Miss Gertie Neeld, of New Albany, Ind.; Joseph Edward, born Feb. 13, 1866. Mr. Craig departed this life in Coles County, Nov. 14, 1866, and Mrs. C. was subsequently married to Joseph M. Story, of St. Joseph, Mo., who died Feb. 26, 1882. By her second husband there were seven children—January, Lucy, Emma, John, Minnie, Erwin and Nellie.

The children of our subject and wife are: Grover, born Jan. 10, 1885, and Cleveland, March 18, 1886. Thus it will be seen that the boys of Mr. O'Hair serve to perpetuate the full name of the President, Grover Cleveland.



STEPHEN EMHUFF came to this county in the spring of 1861, with his family, with a small amount of money in his pocket, and purchased a tract of railroad land on time, in Seven Hickory Township. Since then he has labored industriously to build up a homestead, and when we contemplate the fact that he is now the possessor of 292 broad acres under a good state of improvement, well stocked, and furnished with a substantial set of farm buildings, we must admit that he has succeeded most admirably in his undertaking. He

has one of the finest dwellings on section 33, and the adjacent out-buildings correspond with the residence. The farm machinery is of that character employed by the modern and progressive agriculturist, and everything about the premises indicates the good management of its proprietor.

Our subject was born in Silver Creek Township, Clark Co., Ind., Oct. 18, 1826, and is the son of Elijah and Hila (Allen) Emhuff, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of New York State. They were married about 1820, in Clark County, Ind., where they had both moved with their parents while single, during the pioneer days. Our subject remained under the parental roof until reaching his majority, then going into Rock Island County, Ill., was there engaged five years in farming. He then returned to his native State, settling in Sullivan County, where he was similarly employed six years, then came to Coles County, of which he has since been a resident. He had received but a limited education, but made the most of his advantages and kept his eyes open to what was going on around him.

While a resident of Clark County, Ind., Mr. Emhuff was married, April 3, 1851, to Miss Martha Wilson, a native of his own county, and the daughter of John and Margaret (Jackson) Wilson. Her father was a farmer by occupation, and the parental household included twelve children, six now living and six deceased. The latter are Harvey, Thomas, William, John, and two who died in infancy. Those surviving are Rhoda Charlotte, Deliah, Ruth, Levi, Martha and Dorcas. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Emhuff were as follows: Emily, born in Rock Island County, Ill., 1853, became the wife of Albert McCallister, and is living in Madison County, Ind.; her two children were born in Coles County, and are still living. William, born in Crawford County, Ind., in 1855, married Miss Frances Jeffers, of the same State, and they are living on the old homestead with Mr. and Mrs. Emhuff; they have no children. Margaret, born in Sullivan County, Ind., in 1861, became the wife of James B. Toland, and lives in Coles County; she has become the mother of two children, one living. Leroy, born in Sullivan County, Ind., in 1858, is an invalid, and remains at home with his parents. With

the exception of this son the family are all members of the Christian Church. Mr. E. votes the straight Democratic ticket, and may in all respects be termed an honest man and a good citizen.

Elijah Emhuff, the father of our subject, departed this life at his home in Clark County, Ind., in the spring of 1865. The mother had preceded her husband to the other life, her death taking place from cholera in about 1851. The parental household included twelve children, of whom four only are supposed to be living. They were named respectively, Elizabeth, Andrew J., Stephen, Lametta, Manley, Amanda, Lucy, Winchester, Calista, Nancy, Archibald, and one who died in infancy.



JOHNS CHILDRESS, a retired farmer and resident of the village of Ashmore, is numbered among the honored pioneers of this State, to which he came from Alabama, in 1831, with his parents. They located on the State line between Indiana and Illinois, and a few years later came to this county, where our subject has since remained. He has watched with intense interest the development and progress of the Prairie State, and by his industry and enterprise has contributed his full quota toward the development of its agricultural resources.

Mr. Childress was born in Alabama, Nov. 10, 1821, and is the son of Richard and Rebecca (White) Childress, the father a native of Alabama and the mother born in Tennessee, in 1801. Richard Childress, who was a member of the Christian Church, departed this life at the homestead in Coles County, Ill., in 1867. The mother died in Ashmore, Sept. 2, 1887. Her second husband was James D. White, who died in Ashmore, Aug. 10, 1887.

John Childress was the eldest of his father's family, and was reared to farming pursuits, receiving a limited education. He remained under the home roof until reaching manhood, and was first married to Miss Catherine Hogue, a native of Edgar County, Ill., and born the same year as her husband, 1821. She departed this life at the home of her husband in Ashmore, this county, March 14,

1884, after having become the mother of a large family of children, five of whom are deceased. Their names are as follows: Newton, James M., Margaret, Isaac, Emma, William, Annie, Charles F., Martha, Addie, Mary, Catherine and John.

For his second wife, Mr. Childress married Mrs. Lucinda (Medley) Chisler, July 15, 1884. This lady was born in Knox County, Ind., Feb. 11, 1834, and is the daughter of Joseph and Rachel (Steward) Medley, natives of Kentucky. Joseph Medley was born in 1781, and died Sept. 14, 1872, or 1873. He followed farming the greater part of his life, and was a man of excellent education, holding a good position in his community, and being prominently connected with the Baptist Church. The wife and mother, a lady of much personal beauty, was born in 1783, and died of consumption, March 15, 1854, at her home in Vigo County, Ind. She also was a member of the Baptist Church. The seven children of the parental household were Cynthia A., Samuel, John, George W., Sarah, Martha and Lucinda. Mr. Medley was married the second time, to a widow by the name of Waldon, and they had one son, James. This lady died about twenty-nine years ago.

The first husband of Mrs. Childress, Frederick Chisler by name, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1824, and a prominent man in his township, where he held its various offices. He came to this State in 1860, taking up his residence in Clark County, where he remained until his death. They were the parents of two children—Joseph, who is farming in Clark County, and Charles N., pursuing the same occupation in this county. The latter married Miss Mary Morton, and they have three children. Mrs. Childress adopted three children, one at the age of seven years, one five years, and one she took when nine days old. The two boys are now married, and the girl, Minnie Berry, remains with her.

Mr. and Mrs. Childress are members of the Christian Church, in which our subject has served as an Elder for many years. He has held the various offices of his township, and in all respects has been one of its most enterprising and reliable citizens. He has been the encourager and supporter of every enterprise calculated to benefit his fellow-

citizens, and has been closely identified with the business and agricultural interests of this section since first coming here. His natural abilities qualified him early in life to assume grave responsibilities, and for seven years he was engaged as a stock-dealer in the interests of Jacob D. Early, of Terre Haute, Ind., handling large sums of money, and one year paid out \$80,000.

The property of Mr. Childress includes 700 acres of some of the finest land in Coles County. The farm buildings are of the best quality, and conveniently arranged for the storing of grain and the shelter of stock. The fences and machinery are kept in good repair, and the whole premises indicate the supervision of the intelligent and progressive agriculturist. Mr. Childress also owns his town residence, which is pleasantly located, and where he is surrounded by all the comforts of life, and enjoys in a marked degree the esteem of his fellow-townsmen.

CLARK ELKIN, farmer and carpenter, is pursuing the even tenor of his way as a thrifty and industrious citizen, making his headquarters at a snug homestead on section 4, in Humbolt Township. He has been a resident of Illinois for over twenty years, and with the exception of two years, has spent his time mostly in Coles County. He first opened his eyes to the light in Kanawha County, Va., on the 8th of May, 1832, and was the fifth in a family of seven children, the offspring of Edley and Frances (Toney) Elkin, also natives of the Old Dominion.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Richard Elkin by name, was a farmer by occupation and a native of the eastern part of Virginia. The mother of our subject, who in her girlhood was Miss Frances Toney, was the daughter of Poindexter and Frances Jane (Lilley) Toney, who were among the earliest settlers of the Old Dominion. Grandfather Toney was also a farmer, and served in the War of 1812. They settled in Kanawha County while it was a wilderness, reared a family, and built up a comfortable homestead.

The subject of this history learned the carpen-

ter's trade at an early age, and after reaching his majority, left the parental roof to care for himself. He first began farming on a portion of his father's land, and not long after his twenty-first birthday was married, Dec. 1, 1853, to Miss Elizabeth, the third child in a family of eleven, the offspring of James and Elizabeth (Kinder) Barker, natives of Virginia. Mr. B. engaged in farming in Kanawha, where he still resides, being about eighty-six years old. Mr. Elkin lived ten years on his father's farm, and after the outbreak of the late Civil War, enlisted Feb. 11, 1862, in Co. G, 11th W. Va. Vol. Inf., under command of Capt. Young. He was mustered in at Colesmouth, now St. Albans, and first detailed to detached duty in the Kanawha Valley, where he remained with his regiment nearly two years, but aside from a skirmish now and then with the enemy, saw little of the darker side of war. Afterward the regiment was assigned to Cook's command, and went southwest to capture the Tennessee & Virginia Railroad. During this raid our subject with his comrades was engaged in several important battles, and subsequently went to the Shenandoah Valley and remained with the command of Gen. Sheridan from June until September. In the meantime occurred the battle of Winchester, and other important engagements with the enemy.

Mr. Elkin, after the term of his first enlistment had expired, re-entered the ranks and was promoted from private through the intermediate grades to First Lieutenant. He served in this capacity until his honorable discharge in February, 1865, being compelled to leave the scene of conflict on account of ill-health, brought on by exposure and hardship. Returning to his home in West Virginia he remained until April following, then came North with his family, and located first at Tuscola, Douglas County, where he followed carpentering and building for two years. In 1867 he came to Humbolt Township, and purchased his home place in the village of Humbolt.

Mr. and Mrs. Elkin became the parents of eleven children, seven now living, namely, Dryden P., born July 4, 1855; Frances E., June 11, 1859; John C., Aug. 14, 1862; Mary J., Nov. 15, 1866; James E., Jan. 14, 1871; George T., Oct. 10, 1872, and Dora E., Oct. 20, 1875. Those deceased are

Edward I., who died in infancy; Charles, Benjamin, and Edward. Frances became the wife of R. B. Finch, a farmer, and a resident of Humbolt Township, but who is now deceased; she is living in Humbolt; Mary married John McWilliams, a farmer of Humbolt Township; the others are at home with their parents. Mr. Elkin has given his children the advantages of as good an education as his means would justify, and fitted them to take their rightful position in an intelligent community. With his estimable wife and children he is a member and regular attendant of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Humbolt, in which he officiates as Trustee. Politically he uniformly votes with the Republican party. He was elected Police Magistrate in 1885, the duties of which office he has since discharged with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.



ADOLF SUMERLIN, the accomplished editor and proprietor of the *Commercial*, is one of the leading citizens of Mattoon. He was born Aug. 24, 1851, in Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., Iowa, and is the son of Rufus and Isabell A. (McBride) Sumerlin, the former a native of North Carolina, and the latter of Kentucky. The parents of Rufus Sumerlin removed in 1836 to Van Buren County, Iowa, and on Nov. 16, 1850, his marriage took place in Keosauqua, his wife's family having likewise settled there, at nearly the same period. He was there taught the printer's trade and ultimately purchased the *Democratic Union*, the paper upon which he had worked as an apprentice. He continued the publication of that journal about three years, and in 1856 removed with his family to Scotland County, Mo. After remaining there until 1859, engaged in farming, he moved to Memphis, and resuming his former business, established a paper called the *Memphis Democrat*, subsequently edited under the name of the *Memphis Dispatch*. During the war, his printing-office was seized by the Union troops, who took possession of the materials, and took them into camp for the use of Col. Moore, for regimental work, but in 1864 they were

restored, and the business was purchased by a syndicate, and Mr. Sumerlin resumed the management of the paper, and continued its publication until 1865. He then removed to Shelbyville, Ill., and purchased the *Shelby County Leader*, of W. A. Trower, which he published until 1870, when it was repurchased by Mr. Trower, who has since retained its management. Mr. Sumerlin then changed his place of residence to Springfield, Mo., and there purchased an interest in the *Springfield Leader*. After remaining there two years he came to Mattoon, and finding that the only paper representing the Democratic party had been suspended for about two months, he purchased it, and assumed the editorial management, associated with his son, Adolf. The first issue of the *Commercial*, under the control of Sumerlin & Son, appeared Oct. 3, 1872.

As all previous efforts to establish a Democratic paper in Mattoon had failed, it was the general prediction that the *Commercial* could not possibly succeed. However, in the face of many discouraging obstacles, they undertook the hazardous enterprise, and after the first year of ceaseless toil, it became an acknowledged fact that, with economy and proper management, it was possible to maintain successfully a Democratic paper in a Republican stronghold. Mr. Sumerlin and his son continued the publication of the paper in partnership until 1876, when Mr. Sumerlin sold his interest in the business to his son. Feeling that a change of climate would prove beneficial to his health he moved to Florida, and there engaged in orange culture and farming. He remained there until 1883, and then came to Toledo, Ill., where, associated with his son, Leon, he purchased an interest in the *Cumberland Democrat*. In 1885 he sold his interest in the paper to his son, having been appointed Postmaster at Toledo by President Cleveland, which position he now holds. Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Sumerlin had a family of ten children, whose names are—Adolf, Eugene, Lelia, Leon, Carrie, Rufus, William D., Orville, Guy and Annie E. Eugene and Rufus are both dead.

Adolf Sumerlin commenced learning the printer's trade when nine years of age, and at the age of sixteen was intrusted by his father with the mechanical department of his publishing office.

The following year he assumed local and editorial control of the *Shelby County Leader*, and at the age of eighteen delivered his maiden speech at Roundy's Hall. The law was his chosen profession, which he then commenced reading with Messrs. Thornton & Hall. In 1870 he moved to Springfield, Mo., and finished his course of reading with Gov. John S. Phelps. He applied himself closely to study, and after passing an examination was admitted to the bar, and was licensed to practice law in the Supreme Courts of Illinois, Missouri and California. After engaging in the practice of law for some time, he came to Mattoon, Ill., arriving in August, 1872. Circumstances then led him to engage in the publication of the *Commercial*, associated with his father, and when he purchased his father's interest in the paper in 1876 it became necessary for him to borrow money for that purpose. The amount requisite was obtained on one year's time, with the positive promise of its renewal at the end of the year, but when the time for payment came, the note was sued and judgment obtained. All efforts to borrow the necessary amount were unsuccessful, although the best of security was offered. In the autumn of 1877 he went to California, in the hope of obtaining assistance from a relative residing in San Francisco, but failing to realize his anticipations in that respect, he remained there and engaged in the practice of law in Oakland, and was laying the foundation for future success in that profession, when word reached him that arrangements had been made whereby all the time necessary would be given to pay off the judgment and costs. In the meantime the office had been seized by the sheriff and was offered to G. E. Mason on condition that he would assume the obligations, which proffer he declined. On receiving this news, Mr. Sumerlin decided to relinquish his flattering prospects in California, and returned to Mattoon, again assuming the entire management of the *Commercial*. At the close of two years he had cancelled the judgment, interest and costs, and all claims against the office and himself personally were paid to the last cent. On Oct. 15, 1878, he was married to Miss Lucy Townley, a native of Moultrie County, Ill.

Mattoon Township is Republican by 200 majority, but in 1879 Mr. Sumerlin was elected Assistant

Supervisor by 250 majority. The following year he was defeated by W. H. Lewis by eleven votes. As candidate for the Legislature in 1882 he carried the county by 197 majority over Ewing. He was elected Supervisor over T. P. C. Lane by 170 majority in 1884, and the following year was re-elected by a majority of sixteen. In 1884 he was elected Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and re-elected the following year. As an impartial Chairman he gained the respect of every member of the respective Boards, and in discharging the duties of his various official positions won the esteem of all his colleagues. The only fault with which he was ever charged was that of showing too much liberality to the poor, yet in every instance where assistance was given, it was proved to have been judiciously done, and the relief afforded to have been an absolute necessity to the recipients. He never exercised generosity for display or political effect, and by his careful investigation of every applicant for aid, the county was protected from imposition, and the worthy, who were in distress, received the assistance necessary. June 28, 1886, he was a candidate for the office of County Judge, and was defeated by his opponent by a majority of 120, in a total vote of 6,180.

That Mr. Sumerlin has made a wise disposition of his time and talents may be judged by the amount and quality of the work performed. He is thoroughly acquainted with every branch of the mechanical department of a printing-office, and as an editor and business manager has met with approval and success. During a residence of fourteen years in this county, so universally honorable have been his dealings in all the relations of life, that he has won encouragement and appreciation in both business and social circles. Aside from what he has accomplished in the wide field of journalism and law, he has found time to take an active part in conventions and every political campaign. He is interested in all the social and political problems of the day, and in his newspaper and speeches has advocated the freedom of labor from the environments which have been woven around it by shrewd schemers, designing politicians, and soulless corporations. He abhors chicanery and detests intrigue. The lectures he has prepared upon various topics

have been highly commended by competent judges.

Mr. Sumerlin is a member of several secret orders. He has passed through the chairs of Harmony Lodge No. 551, I. O. O. F., and represented that body in the Grand Lodge; for three years he has been Master of Circle Lodge No. 707, A. F. & A. M., and is Eminent Commander of Godfrey de Bouillon Commandery No. 44, K. T., stationed at Mattoon, Ill.



JOHAN RANKIN, a farmer and stock-grower, residing on section 24, Seven Hickory Township, was born Nov. 25, 1832, in Floyd County, Ind., and is the son of Robert and Maria (Taylor) Rankin, the former a native of North Carolina, and the latter of Indiana. Mrs. Rankin died when John was about two years old, leaving a family of three children, all of whom are now living: Thomas, a farmer residing in Floyd County, Ind., where he was born, has a family of four children; John, the subject of this sketch, and Elizabeth Jane, the wife of A. J. Stephenson, a brickmolder, residing in Hendricks County, Ind. They have one child.

Robert Rankin was thrice married. His second wife was Miss Clarinda Matherly, and by this marriage three children were likewise born, two of whom are now living. Mr. Rankin's last marriage was with Miss Rachel Knight, who became the mother of one child. Mr. Rankin is still living in Floyd County, Ind., and is over fourscore years of age. In his younger life he possessed excellent business qualifications, and was one of the leading men in the community where he resided. He lived in the early days when educational privileges were very limited, and did not entertain a high opinion of book-learning, giving his time and strength to hard work, regarding that as the most important factor of life, and bringing his children up accordingly.

John Rankin left home when fifteen years of age, and found employment at teaming, assisting his father with his earnings until he was twenty-one, although he did not live at home. He had no school advantages whatever, and this privation has

been a source of keen regret to him throughout life. At the age of twenty-five he was married to Miss Elizabeth Roberts. Mrs. Rankin was born in Washington County, Ind., and is the daughter of John and Rachel (Kenoyer) Roberts, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Ohio. Mr. Roberts' family removed to Kentucky when he was a child, and after his marriage he went to Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts' family consisted of seven children, four of whom are living.

Mr. and Mrs. Rankin had a family of six children born to them, of whom Mary, Mintie and Emma died in infancy; Richard, a resident of Morgan Township, married Miss Mary E. Steff, and has one child; Arthur and Nettie reside at home. The three latter were born in this county. Mr. Rankin takes great interest in the education of his children, having felt so deeply his own lack of privileges in that respect. In his boyhood he always desired to study and acquire knowledge, but neither the time nor opportunity were afforded him for that purpose, and it is now his especial endeavor to give his children all the advantages within his reach.

Mr. Rankin came to Coles County in 1862, and settled in Seven Hickory Township, working on rented land until about 1882, when he bought forty acres of excellent well-improved land, where he now resides, and is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He has contended with, and successfully overcome, many obstacles in life, working his way steadily upward. In politics Mr. Rankin always votes with the Republican party.



JAMES M. HALL is the proprietor of 100 acres of good land on section 36, in Hutton Township, with a dwelling picturesquely located on the banks of the Embarras River about four miles southeast of Charleston. His early years were spent in Breckinridge County, Ky., where his birth took place Feb. 2, 1833, and he came to this county when a young man twenty-one years of age. He had remained with his parents during these years, working on the farm and receiving no schooling whatever. He may

thus be properly styled a self-made man, for he has taken advantage of every opportunity to improve his mind, and bears fair comparison with the intelligent and progressive men around him.

Sylvester Hall, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Virginia, whence he removed first to Nelson County, Ky., and afterward to Breckinridge County. In the latter he purchased a tract of land, where he built up a comfortable homestead and passed the remainder of his life. He had married Miss Mary Hall, a native of Virginia, and they became the parents of the following-named children: Preston, Michael, Frances, Betsey, Mary, Susan, Sarah, Margaret, Powell, William, Edward, Jane and James. The grandmother also died at the homestead in Breckinridge County, Ky.

Among the sons of Sylvester and Mary Hall was William, who became the father of our subject. He was born in Breckinridge County, Ky., and made his home with his parents until his marriage, receiving a common-school education. The maiden of his choice was Miss Frances, the daughter of William and Lucy (Stone) Gannaway, natives of the Old Dominion, who emigrated to Breckinridge County, Ky., during its early settlement. After his marriage William Hall entered a tract of land in his native county, where he followed farming about eighteen years and in the meantime studied medicine, becoming a successful practitioner. He followed his profession until his death, which took place in 1877. Both parents were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the mother departed this life in 1842. Their nine children were, Thomas J., Christian, William S.; James M., of our sketch; Christopher C., Mary, Henry H., Lucy V. and Martha G. Lucy and Christopher are the only ones living besides our subject. The former is the wife of George Allgood, and they are residents of Breckinridge County, Ky.

After coming to this county our subject worked as a farm laborer for about three years, and at the expiration of this time was married, Dec. 24, 1857, to Miss Nancy Hall, who was born in Coles County, June 4, 1842. Her parents, Michael and Milly (Glasscock) Hall, were natives respectively of Fairfax County, Va., and Breckinridge County,

Ky. Michael Hall was born April 5, 1799, and his wife, Milly, May 13, 1803. They were married Aug. 2, 1821, and became the parents of ten children, namely, John P., Eliza J., James, all deceased; Amanda M.; Cordelia A., Mary and Minerva, deceased; Lucinda, Wade and Nancy. Wade served as a Union soldier in the late war, belonging to the 123d Illinois Infantry. He enlisted for three years, or during the war, and died at Munfordville, Ky., in December, 1863.

After his marriage Mr. Hall carried on the farm of his father-in-law seven years. At the death of the latter Mrs. H. inherited sixty acres, and with the forty that Mr. Hall already owned they now have one of the most comfortable homesteads in the southeastern part of Coles County. Of their marriage there have been the following children: Lucinda E., born Oct. 14, 1858, and married Aug. 15, 1875, to Monroe Edwards, of Coles County; William W., who was born Dec. 7, 1860, and married Miss M. Bughers, now deceased; Mary Jane, born Sept. 30, 1862, and the wife of William E. Waltrip, of this county; Amanda M., born Aug. 26, 1864, and the wife of John Neese, also of this county; Milly F., who was born Jan. 1, 1867, married William Gillfinlen, and died at the home of her husband, March 11, 1883; Nancy A., born Jan. 1, 1869, died July 4, 1872; Emma E., born March 12, 1871, died the following September; Catherine R. B., born Nov. 23, 1872; Sarah L., Nov. 14, 1874; James S., Sept. 12, 1877; Alice E., July 17, 1880, and Daisy O. Z., Sept. 9, 1883.

Mr. Hall cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and since exercising the right of suffrage has uniformly supported the principles of the Republican party.



REV. GEORGE SANDOE, pastor of the Church of God at Charleston, is a native of Lancaster County, Pa., born Dec. 31, 1826, and the son of Adam and Nancy (Moore) Sandoe, also natives of the Keystone State, where the father followed milling all his life. The paternal grandfather of our subject, George Sandoe by name, was a native of France, and emigrated to

America in 1750, settling at the mouth of the Kaskaskia River, in this State, among the French colonists, a history of whom is closely interwoven with that of the southern part of Illinois. He finally returned East to Pennsylvania, where his death took place in about 1825.

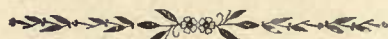
Of the nine children born to Adam and Nancy Sandoe, seven are now living, namely, Barbara, Mrs. C. Doble; George, of our sketch; Mary, Mrs. Buckwalter; Hannah, Mrs. Simons; Keziah; Elizabeth, Mrs. High, and Sarah. The wife and mother departed this life at the family residence, in 1845. Adam Sandoe survived until the spring of 1858, and then joined his life companion on the other shore. He never united with any religious denomination, although a believer in Christianity. The mother was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

The subject of this biography spent his boyhood days on a farm, and also worked in the mill about four years, becoming thoroughly acquainted with the business. He was a thoughtful and studious lad, and at an early age evinced the inclination of his mind for pious things. In the spring of 1851 he was sent to Clark County, this State, by the Board of Missions of the East Pennsylvania Eldership of the Church of God, of which he had become a member in 1848, to establish churches. This he successfully accomplished, and was placed in charge of the mission which extended into Macon County. He was thus employed until the outbreak of the late war, and in 1861 enlisted in Co. G, 123d Mtd. Inf., as Sergeant of the company, becoming Chaplain of the regiment in 1865. He was also on detached duty as Ordnance Sergeant, and after a faithful service of three years, retired from the army with a good record, the respect of his superior officers, and the good-will of his subordinates. He now took up his life work as a general evangelist throughout the State, and for two years traveled continuously. In 1883 he took up his residence at Charleston, and since that time has traveled mostly throughout Cumberland and Edgar Counties. He is now pastor of three churches, which keep him busily employed. In 1884 he was appointed as a delegate to attend the State Convention which nominated Richard G. Oglesby for Governor, and took an important part in the nom-

ination of the present State Executive. It is hardly necessary to say, in view of this fact, that he belongs to the Republican party. He is also connected with the G. A. R.

The marriage of Rev. George Sandoe and Miss Mary Rupp, of Clark County, Ill., took place in the spring of 1854, and they first located in their snug little home at Martinsville, Clark County, in the year 1860. Their living children are Emma, Mrs. H. Cunningham, of Martinsville; Effie, Mrs. B. Cook, of Kansas, who has two children—Verney A. and B. L.; Bertie and George B. The oldest child, Josie K. White, died on the 16th of December, 1886, and left three children—Zackey B., Emma and Effa White.

The property of Mr. Sandoe includes his fine little farm of thirty acres in Clark County, and his present home at Charleston. He purchased the four acres of land embraced in the latter in March, 1886, and put up a neat and substantial residence, with the other buildings necessary for comfort and convenience, and here lives respected by his friends and neighbors, doing good as he has opportunity, and making the most of a life inclined to industry and usefulness.



T A. BENSLEY is the owner of a fine estate containing 360 acres of valuable, well-improved land, located on section 21 (11, 10), Hutton Township, where he carries on an extensive business in farming and stock-growing. He was born Aug. 6, 1865, in Delaware County, Ohio, and is the son of John and Tirzah (Knapp) Bensley. His paternal grandfather, also named John, was a native of Germany, where he was born July 6, 1766. In 1776, when a boy only ten years of age, he accompanied his older brothers, William and Israel, to the United States. They settled on the North River in Delaware, and after remaining there about one year, removed to Tioga County, Pa., where they purchased land and resided for several years. John Bensley, Sr.'s, marriage to Miss Mary Wilson took place there, and soon after this event Mr. Bensley removed to Hamilton County, Ohio. After remaining there a few years, he removed to Dela-

ware County, making that place his permanent home. His death occurred Aug. 10, 1853, and his widow, who survived him but a short time, died in 1856.

John Bensley, Sr., reared a family of ten children, whose record is as follows: James, born Oct. 21, 1791, married Miss Kate Pope; both are deceased. William, born Dec. 10, 1792, served in the War of 1812, and was in Hull's surrender; he died soon after his return home. Anna, born Nov. 10, 1794, married Philip Place, and after his death was married to Daniel Carpenter, and both are now deceased; three children were born to the first marriage, and five to the second. Betsy, born Jan. 17, 1797, was the wife of Samuel Alexander, and both are deceased; Mary, born July 26, 1799, was the wife of Nathan Taylor; both are deceased. Catherine, born Aug. 3, 1802, was the wife of David Skeels, and after his death she married Caleb Brundidge; three children were born to the second marriage, and one to the first; she is now dead, and likewise both husbands. Rachel, born Aug. 22, 1804, married John Pint; both died, leaving seven children. John, the father of our subject, born Jan. 31, 1807; Israel, born Sept. 18, 1809, married Miss Effie Quinby, and died in the Indian Territory, where his widow is now living; Thomas, born Nov. 5, 1815, married Miss Rebecca Martin.

John Bensley, father of our subject, was born in Tioga County, Pa., and was six years of age when his parents removed to Ohio. The school privileges of that early day were very limited, and he received only a rudimentary education. He lived on the homestead with his parents until twenty-one years of age, and at twenty-three his marriage to Miss Tirzah Knapp took place, May 4, 1828, in Delaware County, Ohio. Mrs. Bensley was born May 3, 1808, in Tioga County, Pa., and is the daughter of Edward and Esther Knapp. Her parents were natives of Vermont, and her father served in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. After his marriage, Mr. Bensley rented land in Delaware County, Ohio, and was engaged in farming there about ten years. At the expiration of that time, in the autumn of 1838, he removed to Hutton Township, Coles Co., Ill. He made the journey, which occupied several days, by wagon, with his wife and four children.

On his arrival here he entered eighty acres of land in Hutton Township, which was covered with a growth of white oak timber. The country was almost a wilderness at that time; cold weather was approaching, and to provide shelter for his family, Mr. Bensley built a log house in the primitive fashion, which his wife endeavored to render as cheerful and comfortable as possible. The few settlers of that early day were separated from each other by wide stretches of desolate prairie and lonely woodland, but hearty good-will and generous feeling prevailed among them. Each was ready to lend a helping hand to his neighbor in raising a log cabin, lending a team, or some useful farming utensil, many times going five or six miles to render these kindly services.

Mr. Bensley cleared and improved his land, and purchased more until he acquired a fine estate containing 180 acres. The nearest grain markets at that time were Terre Haute, Chicago and St. Louis, and he frequently conveyed his produce to either one or the other of these points, purchasing groceries and provisions for his family and transporting goods thence for the merchants at Charleston. Sportsmen had ample opportunity to test their skill on the wild fowls, deer and wolves, with which the prairies abounded.

The family, which also included Grandmother Knapp, moved in the year 1850 by ox-team to Jo Daviess County, remaining there about one year. On their return home, in fording a creek, the waters of which were swollen by recent rains, the old family Bible received a baptism in the floods, which, however, did not injure its precious truths, the bulwarks of all that is grand and true and noble in the foundation of this great Western country. The book has been carefully preserved and is in Mr. Bensley's possession. He is now eighty years of age, and is still hale and hearty, although he has been a sufferer from asthma for the last forty years. With his wife, Mr. Bensley was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and both were interested in promoting the cause of religion on the Western frontier. Mrs. Bensley died Sept. 24, 1877, and is buried in Hutton Churchyard. Their family consisted of six children: Mary, born March 14, 1829, was married March 9, 1848, to

Russell McMorris, and died June 7, 1857, leaving two children; Stephen J., born Feb. 21, 1831, was married Feb. 20, 1851, to Miss Mary E. Stull, and resides in Cumberland County; Charles K., born June 28, 1833, was married Feb. 14, 1856, to Miss Drusilla Anderson, and likewise resides in Cumberland County; Thomas A., the subject of this sketch; Lavinia A., born June 15, 1841, was married in September, 1859, and died Dec. 12, 1860; and Tirza A., born Feb. 16, 1844, was married Dec. 22, 1867, to Bennet House, and resides in Cumberland County.

Thomas A. Bensley received the best common-school education which the pioneer days afforded, and assisted his father in cultivating the farm, remaining at the homestead until his marriage with Miss Eliza J. Black, which took place March 7, 1861. Mrs. Bensley was born Aug. 29, 1842, in this county, and is the daughter of David and Temperance (Stull) Black, the former born Feb. 20, 1823, in Alabama, and the latter Aug. 8, 1828, in Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Black are members of the Baptist Church and now reside in Hutton Township. Their family consisted of seven children; Eliza J.; Jonathan, deceased in childhood; Permelia, the wife of Leonard Wooleaver; William S. died at the age of twenty-one; Serilda, the wife of John W. Dunn, resides in Diona; John R. married Miss Lillias Vantassel, and Harriett L., the wife of Louis Hill. John R., Mrs. Wooleaver and Mrs. Hill are residents of Cumberland County.

After his marriage, Mr. Bensley removed, Aug. 21, 1864, to Union Township, Cumberland County, where he purchased eighty acres of improved land, and carried on a successful business nine years. At the expiration of that time his parents, who were advanced in years, desired rest from the cares of active business and he returned and purchased the homestead, which contained 100 acres, paying the other heirs their proportion of the estate. His parents made their home with him, and his mother's death occurred there a few years later. Mr. Bensley possesses excellent business qualifications, and now owns a large estate, where he is extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising. There are three excellent frame residences on his property, and he has recently built a commodious, well-ap-

pointed barn on the homestead, a view of which appears elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. and Mrs. Bensley have three sons: Erastus A., born Jan. 10, 1862, married Miss Miranda Johnson, Nov. 23, 1885, and resides in Hutton Township; George W., born March 14, 1861, married Miss Lovitha J. Stull, Nov. 21, 1866, and resides on a farm belonging to his father, and Daniel O., born June 20, 1867, resides on the homestead. Having no daughter in their family. Mr. and Mrs. Bensley reared in their household Miss Leota Schuyler. She was born Feb. 16, 1868, and is the daughter of William and Angelina Schuyler. Her father died during her childhood and she subsequently made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Bensley until her marriage with George McMorris, which occurred Nov. 21, 1886.

Mr. Bensley had always resided with his parents with the exception of the nine years passed in Cumberland County, and in 1876 he disposed of his property there. He is interested in educational affairs, and in all measures tending to promote the welfare of the community. In politics, he is a Democrat, casting his first vote for James Buchanan, and has been elected to the offices of Supervisor and School Director by that party. With his wife, he is a member of the Free Baptist Church.

hON. THOMAS L. McGRATH, of Mattoon, was born in Boston, Mass., June 6, 1852, and is the son of Michael and Margaret (Farrell) McGrath, natives of Ireland. The parents came to America in 1850, settling in Boston, where they spent three years or more, and after a brief residence at Lockport, N. Y., proceeded westward to this State, locating about six miles south of Lincoln, in Logan County, where they engaged in farming until the death of the father, which took place in 1863. The mother is still living and a resident of Lincoln.

The sons and daughters of Michael and Margaret McGrath, seven in number, were, Rebecca, now Mrs. P. M. Smith, of Peoria; Patrick L., of Mt. Pulaski; Thomas L., our subject; M. H. and D. E., physicians of Chicago; John J., a student at Rush

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Dennis F. Hawks.

Medical College, and Margaret, also a resident of the Garden City. Thomas L. attended the district school until fifteen years of age, and afterward pursued his studies in the State University at Normal. When sixteen years of age he commenced teaching in Logan County, reserving his wages for the purpose of continuing his studies in the Normal School and where, after another thorough course, he was graduated in 1872. He afterward taught in Montgomery County, and subsequently became Principal of the public school at Equality, Ill. In 1874 he occupied this position in connection with the High School at Butler, Ill.

In the meantime Mr. McGrath occupied his leisure hours in the study of law and was admitted to the bar at Springfield, in January, 1876. He began his practice at Sullivan; whence, in 1878, he removed to Mattoon, where he has since remained and acquitted himself in a most creditable manner as an attorney and counselor. In 1879 he was elected as City Attorney of Mattoon, serving two years, and was re-elected in 1883. In 1886 he was elected to represent the people of his district in the State Senate, becoming an efficient member of that body and introducing some valuable measures. Besides thus educating himself he has assisted his brothers and sisters in their pursuit of knowledge, and has thus, by his example, been the encourager of those elements of character most valued in an intelligent community. Mr. McGrath has uniformly voted the straight Republican ticket, and given his time mainly to his practice.

DENNIS HANKS. One of the well-known and familiar names of Coles County is that of Dennis Hanks. He is noted, like many other men are and have been, on account of his connections with the noblest character of his generation, Abraham Lincoln. The two passed their boyhood together, sleeping in the same bed and engaging in the same labors and sport. One arose from the humble position in which they both lived to the most exalted station in the Nation, while the other grew up only to be a respected farmer in the community in which he has lived for a half century, and to admire his companion and

to know that any trust reposed in him would never be betrayed.

The Hankses and Lincolns were considerably mixed up in their family relations. They came from Indiana together, lived in the same house, and Dennis Hanks married the daughter, Sallie Johnston, of the second wife of Thomas Lincoln. Dennis Hanks was born in Kentucky and lived, prior to his removal to Indiana, in Hardin County. In speaking of his removal to the latter-named State, he says, "At that time Indiana was a desperately sickly place. Miasma poisoned the atmosphere. There was no doctor near. We were there in the year 1825, when Jackson and Adams ran for President. I was then but nineteen years of age, yet I acted as Clerk of Election and actually voted for Jackson, therefore I have voted for him three times. There was a school in the neighborhood. Sallie and Abe went to school. I first taught him to spell and read and write. I made the first pen that he ever had. I killed a buzzard and took his wing feathers for pens, as there were no geese in the settlement. We either used buzzard or wild turkey feathers. Abe's first pen was made of a buzzard's quill. Afterward he went one quarter to a subscription school kept by Josiah Crawford, from Kentucky, who lived about a mile away and taught a school. He was a pretty good scholar."

Dennis Hanks became a pioneer of this county at an early day, and has been an honest, hard-working man for these many years, and now, in the sunset period of life, he looks back with the pleasantest recollections, and well he may, to the days when the man this Nation will always love to honor was his constant companion. We take pleasure in presenting the portrait of this friend of our martyred President in this volume. He is a worthy and highly respected citizen of the county and one whose features the generations to follow will be glad to look upon.

LUTHER J. NORTON, a farmer, and dealer in fine cattle and horses, has for many years been a prominent figure among the business and agricultural interests of East Oakland Township. He is a native of this State, born in Edgar

County, Feb. 16, 1858, and the son of John A. and Mary E. (Hanger) Norton, both natives of Ohio. John Norton was born in Madison County, March 21, 1826, and departed this life in August, 1859, meeting his death in a painful manner by being thrown from a horse in front of his own door, and dying three days later. The animal was young and spirited, and the saddle-girth broke, throwing the rider in such a manner that his neck was fractured and recovery impossible.

The mother was born in Fairfield County, March 30, 1829, and after the death of Mr. Norton became the wife of George W. Ashmore. The latter gentleman was killed by a runaway team, dying almost instantly from the injuries received. He was a stock trader, and had accumulated considerable property in Oakland, where he was a prominent business man. He was sixty-five years old at the time of his death. This lady became the mother of six children, three by Mr. Ashmore and three by Mr. Norton. The latter included Clara L., who married L. D. Carter, of this place; Laura A., who died in infancy, and Luther J., of our sketch.

In 1878 Mr. Norton engaged in business with his step-father, with whom he continued until 1885, and then commenced the breeding of fine stock, making a specialty of horses of different breeds, but principally Kentucky and Hambletonian. He is an excellent judge of horseflesh, and takes great pride in exhibiting his fine animals, which are second to none in this part of Illinois. His 300-acre farm provides ample facilities for the carrying on of his business in a first-class manner, and his excellent judgment uniformly insures him success in this department.

The marriage of Luther J. Norton and Miss Florence I. Zimmerman, a native of East Oakland Township, was celebrated at the home of the bride Oct. 25, 1882. Of this union there is one child, Clara, born March 22, 1887. The residence of our subject and his family is a handsome and convenient structure, pleasantly located, and forms a hospitable and attractive resort for their many friends.

The Norton family is of English origin. One of the early representatives in this country was Aaron C., the grandfather of our subject, who was born Sept. 21, 1798. He was the son of Solomon Nor-

ton, who was born in 1751, and lived to be one hundred and one years old. The family was quite prolific, and the sons and daughters became highly respected members of society. Mr. N. was reared in the doctrines of the Methodist Church, but Mrs. N. is connected with the Old-School Presbyterians. The Zimmerman family were probably originally Whigs, and the later members have been strong Republicans. Mr. Norton is one of the staunchest advocates of Democratic doctrines.

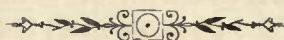
JAMES A. MARTIN, a worthy representative of the agricultural interests of Humbolt Township for the last fifteen years, has been successfully engaged in general agriculture and stock-raising on his finely cultivated farm of forty acres, occupying the northeast quarter of section 23. He is one of the most thorough tillers of the soil in the northern portion of Coles County, and every acre of his land is utilized to the best advantage, nothing being allowed to go to waste. His buildings, fences and machinery indicate the care and good judgment exercised in the management of the farm, and the general air of thrift and prosperity is all the recommendation required to establish the intelligence and industry of its proprietor.

Mr. Martin is a native of this county, and was born on his father's farm in Lafayette Township, Nov. 27, 1835. He is the son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Dates) Martin, the former a native of Kentucky, born Dec. 26, 1811. His death took place in this county in 1843. The mother, a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, was born Dec. 25, 1811, being just one day older than her husband. They were married in 1830, and became the parents of six children: Amanda E., who became the wife of Benjamin Bolen, and Seth B., are deceased; James A., of our sketch, was the third child; Eliza J. married Henry T. Miller, and is now deceased; Phebe died in childhood; Charles D. married Miss Sarah E. Whitney, and is farming in Lafayette Township.

Mrs. Martin, after the death of her first husband, was married Sept. 25, 1846, to Robert Miller, who

was a native of Dayton, Ohio, and born Sept. 4, 1801. Of this marriage there were four children, the record of whom is as follows: Thomas M. N. married Miss Sarah Jeffries, and Rachel became the wife of John G. Jeffries; both are deceased. Winfield Scott married in Douglas County, and is a resident of Nebraska., Belinda died in early childhood. Robert Miller died at his home in Lafayette Township, April 29, 1862. The mother of our subject is living on the old homestead.

James A. Martin in early life became well acquainted with the various employments of the farm, and when contemplating the establishment of a home of his own, decided to follow the occupation of his father. The first important step toward this end was his marriage with Miss Rachel Wells, which occurred at the home of her sister in Lafayette Township, March 19, 1863. Mrs. M. was born near Circleville, Ohio, Nov. 6, 1845, and is the daughter of Elisha and Martha (Williams) Wells, the former of whom died in Ohio in about 1857. The mother is still living there. The parental household included twelve children: Sarah A., a resident of Ohio; Elizabeth married Isaac Hite, of Perry County, Ohio; Reason married Miss Isabel McDill, and is farming in Kansas; Martha is deceased; Nancy is the wife of Samuel Herman, a farmer of Lafayette Township; Susanna; Rachel; Margaret married A. T. Martin, of Lafayette Township, and died in 1872; Isabel and Joseph are deceased; Caroline is the wife of Elijah Hite, and a resident of Perry County, Ohio; Louisa married Thomas Cooper, and also lives in the Buckeye State. Mr. and Mrs. Martin have no children. Mr. Martin is a Democrat in politics.



ELDER G. K. BERRY, pastor of the Christian Church, at Charleston, is the descendant of an old Virginian family of Scotch-Irish extraction. He was born Oct. 24, 1854, in Washington County, Va., and is the son of Nathaniel and Isabella (Keyes) Berry. The former passed his entire life in his native State, where he was a prosperous farmer. He belonged to the Democratic party in politics, but was opposed to the

system of slavery. His death occurred in August, 1856. His family consisted of six children, four of whom are now living, as follows: Martha, now Mrs. Buford, a resident of Winfield, Kan.; Sally, now Mrs. Jowney, a resident of the same place; Rev. William B., a resident of College City, Cal., and Elder G. K., the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Berry was brought up on the farm in Virginia until 1867, when his widowed mother left the old home with her family and came to Illinois, settling in McDonough County. They rented a farm in New Salem, which was conducted by her oldest son. Their beloved mother did not long survive her removal West, her death occurring March 3, 1870. Our subject assisted his brother on the farm, attending the district school for one year, until he was eighteen years of age, and then taught school during a term of four months in Hire Township. He then attended Abingdon College, Knox County, one term, after which he resumed teaching in Hire Township for nine months. The following summer he taught school in Scotland Township. He then attended the Normal school at Macomb for a few weeks, embracing every opportunity offered for mental improvement. He made the best use of his time, and then taught school again several months in that vicinity. He became a member of the Christian Church at Macomb, and was immersed by Elder G. W. Mapes. His religious convictions were deep rooted, and he then resolved to become a minister of the Gospel, and commenced the study of theology at Eureka College, Woodford County, Ill., where he applied himself closely to his work for one year, and then passed another year in teaching school and preaching informally in Marshall County.

Our subject then returned to Macomb and was ordained by Elder G. W. Mapes on the third Sunday in June, 1878. His first clerical charge was at Toulon, Stark Co., Ill., where he remained two years. The difficulties through which he had acquired his education were arduous, and feeling the need of rest and recreation he passed a month in visiting his old home in Virginia, and then entered Butler University at Indianapolis, to pursue his studies further. He remained there six months, preaching at the same time in the Olive

Branch Christian Church. After spending several months at Williamsville, Sangamon Co., Ill., he entered the Christian University at Canton, Mo., where he was graduated in June, 1882, and took charge of the church at Memphis, Mo., for one year. His next charge was at Youngstown, Ohio, where he spent about one year. He was then called to East Des Moines, Iowa, where he organized a church and built a parsonage. He remained at Des Moines thirteen months, and then went to California to visit his brother, and on his return took charge of the Christian Church in Charleston in 1886.

Elder Berry is a young man of unusual ability in his profession and has exhibited a degree of courage and energy in overcoming difficulties which can hardly fail to win success in the arduous calling he has chosen, which is one of self-sacrifice and toil. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and is a Republican in politics.



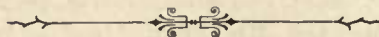
JR. TOBEY, a worthy representative of the enterprise and intelligence of the little city of Mattoon, during his younger years served first as a soldier in the Union army, and then coming to the West, engaged in the furniture business at Mattoon, where he has since remained and been closely identified with its mercantile and industrial interests. He is a native of West Alexandria, Preble Co., Ohio, where his birth took place in 1839, and is the son of Rev. Michael I. and Catherine (Rouher) Tobey, natives of Maryland.

The father of our subject commenced his ministry in connection with the United Brethren Church at Sharpsburg, Md., about 1836, and continued preaching thereafter for a period of fifteen years. In the meantime he had removed to Ohio, of which he was a resident until 1854, when he came to this county and settled at Mattoon in 1855. He finally became associated with his son, our subject, in the furniture business, and remained thus connected until his death, which took place in 1869. The mother is still living, making her home with our subject. The parental family included five

children, of whom only two are now living, our subject and his sister, Mrs. W. F. Miller, of Mattoon. Michael Tobey was the first Mayor of Mattoon, which was incorporated as a city about 1856. He served as Township Collector two terms and was otherwise identified with city and township affairs. Politically he was in earlier years an old-line Whig, and later identified himself with the Republicans.

Our subject received a good education, completing his studies in the college at Westerville, Ohio. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted in Co. B, 7th Ill. Vol. Inf., serving two and one-half years, and participating in many important battles and skirmishes. He fortunately escaped serious injury in his conflicts with the enemy, and his acquaintance with the hardships of a soldier's life, and after receiving his honorable discharge, located at Mattoon and engaged in the furniture business, in which he has continued now for a period of twenty-three years. He has been a member of the Board of Education eleven years and is Treasurer of the Masonic Lodge.

Mr. Tobey was married in 1869, to Miss Cynthia A. Woods, a native of this State, and the daughter of Rev. J. W. Woods, of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Their two children are Florence and Raymond P. They occupy a neat and comfortable home, and Mr. Tobey, true to his early principles, is a decided Republican, politically, and socially a member in good standing of the G. A. R.



WILLIAM G. WADDILL, of Mattoon Township, and the oldest living settler of Coles County, was born in Washington County, E. Tenn., Nov. 7, 1804, and was the eldest of eleven children included in the family of Jonathan and Hannah (Greenway) Waddill. The former, also a native of Tennessee, was the son of John and Rachel (Twec) Waddill, who were of Scotch and Irish ancestry. They were among the early settlers of East Tennessee, where they spent the last years of their life, the grandfather dying at the advanced age of ninety-seven years. The mother of our sub-

ject was the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Humphreys) Greenway, natives respectively of New Jersey and Tennessee. Both grandfathers served in the Revolutionary War. Jonathan Waddill was reared to farm pursuits, which he followed all his life, with the exception of the time he served as Captain in the War of 1812, being under the direct command of Gen. Jackson. Afterward he returned to his native State, where, with his worthy wife, he spent the remainder of his days.

Our subject continued under the home roof until nearly twenty-one years of age, and was married on the 29th of June, 1825, to Miss Elizabeth Burgner, a native of his own county, and the daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Cline) Burgner, of Rockingham County, Va. The young people located on a farm which Mr. W. had purchased, and where they remained eleven years. Mr. W. then sold out with the intention of migrating to the North, and coming to this county purchased eighty acres of wild land in Mattoon Township. This he sold not long afterward for a more desirable tract of the same extent, and which included both prairie and timber. Here in due time he established a comfortable home, which he still occupies. Besides general farming he has engaged considerably in stock-raising and has been fairly prosperous in his labors.

When Mr. Waddill first came to this section the nearest mill was twenty miles away. Neighbors were few and far between, and deer, wolves and other wild game were plentiful. The wolves robbed them of their fowls at night and frequently howled close to their cabin door. Our subject, however, was not dismayed by any of these things, but fought his way bravely through difficulty and hardship, and with very few changes of residence has spent a lifetime in the same community, and occupied his present dwelling for a period of forty-eight years. His first great affliction occurred on the 4th of September, 1854, when death deprived the home circle of the faithful and affectionate wife and mother, who departed hence and left a family of eight children. These were named respectively Jonathan, Hannah Pamela, John B., Elizabeth Caroline, Mary Sophia, William Henry, Elizabeth Ann and Thomas Chamberlin. Of these but four

are now living, namely, John B., William H., Sophia and Pamela.

Mr. Waddill after the death of the mother kept his family together as well as he could for the year following, and was then married, Aug. 26, 1855, to Miss Julia A., the eldest child of Andrew and Sarah (Moore) Bell, who were natives of East Tennessee, and the parents of twelve children. Of this union there were born four children, two now living—Charles T. and Andrew E. The eldest died unnamed, and Dora passed away when an interesting girl fourteen years of age. Andrew married Miss Louetta Morris, and remains upon the homestead, which he manages for his father. Mr. Waddill is a church member, and when a young man affiliated with the Whig party. He now takes no part in politics.



W S. MINTON, who is prominently identified with the business and trade interests of Charleston, is at present engaged as an active and enterprising lumber dealer, with transactions extending over the whole of Central Illinois and orders steadily increasing. His yards are located at the crossing of the I. & St. L. R. R., the T. & St. L., and K. C. Railroads, and for the six years in which it has been under the management of Mr. M., has been steadily growing in importance, until it is now one of the fixed and indispensable institutions of the thriving little city, within whose limits are many industries, which, like this, have been built up by its most enterprising men.

The subject of this biography is a native of Washington County, Pa., born Jan. 10, 1830, and the son of Thaddeus D. and Permelia (Squire) Minton, natives of the same county as their son. The elder Minton, a miller by trade, followed his calling the greater part of his life. His father, Philip Minton, a native of New Jersey, emigrated to Pennsylvania at an early day, and cleared a farm from the wilderness, opening up from the heavy timber a comfortable homestead, where he spent the remainder of his days. In this home the father of our subject was reared to manhood, and, marry-

ing a lady of his own county, established himself near his father's house, where he remained for many years, and reared a family of six children. These were Rachel; Warren S., of our sketch; Annie L., Ruth, Philip and Austin. The mother departed this life in Washington County in the summer of 1844, amid the mourning of her family and the regrets of a large circle of friends. Thaddeus Minton survived his wife until in May, 1885, when he too passed to his final rest, being well advanced in years. Both parents were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and reared their children to habits of industry and principles of honor.

Our subject remained on the farm until fourteen years old, and even at that early age had gained a good insight into business matters. He was an ambitious and wide-awake youth, and at the time his father purchased a large mill property, he became one of the night workmen and overseers, and continued thus employed for eight years. He then invested his surplus capital in a stock of general merchandise, locating in Washington County, and carried on business prosperously for a period of four years.

After disposing of his stock of merchandise, young Minton invested the proceeds in 1,000 Merino sheep, and hired them driven to Vermilion County, this State. Securing a large, rich tract of pasture, he kept his flock for two years following, which had increased in the meantime to the number of 1,700 head, and the wool from which he sold at forty cents per pound. The opportunity then presented itself for an advantageous trade, and parting with the sheep he became possessor of a tract of land in Bureau County, Iowa, which he lost, and then returning to Illinois secured possession of a valuable little farm, a part of which lay within the corporate limits of Charleston, and upon which he operated profitably for three years following. Thence he removed to Clark County, and for three more years followed agricultural pursuits near the town of Westfield. From there he removed to Kansas, in Edgar County, and resumed the business of a general merchant four years. Then selling out his stock, he came to Charleston, and, in company with his brother-in-law, W. G. Wright, purchased the first grocery store in town, which

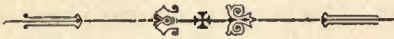
they conducted for twelve years following, with marked success. Mr. M. then disposed of his interest in the business to Mr. Wright, who has since continued it.

While engaged with his partner in the grocery business, Mr. Minton and the other members of the firm purchased the Linkey Mill, a gristmill run by steam. They fitted it up with four run of stone, and operated it two years, Mr. M. being mainly in charge. At the expiration of this time, they sold out to H. M. Ashmore for the consideration of 220 acres of land lying two and one-half miles north of the city. Soon afterward they traded the land for a stock of queensware, furniture, stoves and tinware, and in connection with Mr. W. A. Bain, operated in the same for two years. Mr. Minton then sold his interest to his former partner, Mr. Wright, and engaged with his son, Clarence H., in the boot and shoe trade at Charleston. Two years later they traded the store for an eighty-acre farm in Humbolt Township, and then, in company with Messrs. Albey & Van Meter, put up the City Mills at a cost of about \$17,000. After operating these successfully for two years, Mr. Minton sold out to his partner, and again engaged in the grocery business with his son for another two years. Then with his son, Clarence H., and a son-in-law, Samuel E. Grove, he purchased the lumber-yard of George N. Gage & Davis, which he has since conducted with such marked success.

The residence of Mr. Minton is a handsome structure, finely located, and with its surroundings is an attractive spot, the resort of many friends, and the admiration of the passer-by. The lady who has presided over his household affairs, and been the careful and affectionate mother to his children, was formerly Miss Matilda R. Wright, of Indiana, who became his wife in the spring of 1855. Mrs. Minton was born in Indiana, and is the daughter of Samuel and Ruth (Gordon) Wright, also natives of that State. Of her union with our subject there were born a son and daughter only—Evangeline and Clarence H. The former is now the wife of Samuel E. Groves, of Charleston, and has two children—Gordon and John W. Clarence married Miss Lilia Persils, who was born in Charleston, and is the daughter of John S. and Charlotte (Norfolk)

Persils, natives of the same place. They also have two children—Robert P. and Ruth.

Mr. Minton and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and our subject is a staunch Republican, who adheres to his political faith with all the tenacity which characterizes him in his other relations in life. Socially, he belongs to the Knights of Honor, and as a business man and citizen, exerts no little influence in shaping the affairs of his community.



SAMUEL R. DUNCAN. Among the successful men of Humbolt Township, Samuel R. Duncan takes a high rank, he having a record in his special line second to that of no one. He was born in Tennessee, Nov. 30, 1837, and was the son of Joseph and Snsan (Norwood) Duncan, of the same State. They were the parents of eleven children, five boys and six girls. Joseph Duncan came to Illinois in 1844, locating in Crawford County, where he lived the remainder of his life, his death taking place May 6, 1863. The date of his death is made memorable from the fact that, though late in the season, the snow fell steadily during the day. Mrs. Duncan still resides in Arcola, as do also her daughters, Mrs. Mary Todd and Mrs. Minerva Ritchey. Joseph and William are residents of Iowa; James, of Kansas; John is in Carmi, Ill., and Mrs. Mattie Burton resides in Danville, Ill.

Samuel R. Duncan was reared to farming pursuits, and is one of the numerous examples of prosperous men whose only education was obtained in the log cabin common schools which abounded in Southern Illinois forty years ago. Sept. 6, 1860, he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret, daughter of Jesse and Charity (McMichael) Kellam. This happy event took place at the home of the bride's parents in Richland County, this State. In the near vicinity Samuel commenced the real battle of life, renting land which he tilled for two years, then moved to Crawford County, where he again became a renter, and so continued five years. He next went to Arcola, whence after three years' residence, he rented land in Humbolt Township.

His leasehold continued eleven years, and at the expiration of that time he purchased the farm of 400 acres. In 1881 he raised 101 tons of broom corn, which he sold for \$1.50 per ton, and with the proceeds bought the farm and yet had money remaining. At the same time his proportion of corn from renters occupying part of the land added about twenty-four tons to his stock. This extraordinary success won for him the appellation of "Broom Corn King," which by perseverance, attended by success, he has since held. To his extensive farming, Mr. Duncan combines the work of dealing in broom corn, in which business he is an expert.

Mr. and Mrs. Duncan are the parents of twelve children, named as follows: Joseph; Harper married Miss Elizabeth Grissom, and resides in Humbolt Township; Charles married Miss Fannie Ashbrook, and they are residents of Kansas; William, Frank, Jennie, Minnie, Alice, Lavin, Nellie, Nettie, and Samuel, Jr. Politically Mr. Duncan is a pronounced and uncompromising Democrat.



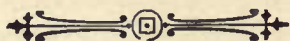
JOHN A. MAJOR, deceased, was born Dec. 28, 1823, in Davis County, Ind. He was the son of Robert D. and Susan (Allan) Major. The father of our subject was a successful farmer living near Cincinnati, where by dint of industry and energy he accumulated a large amount of property. They were the parents of eight children, five sons and three daughters.

John A. Major was reared on the farm, receiving a common-school education, and obtaining a practical knowledge of farming pursuits. May 8, 1845, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. McAdams, daughter of John and Sarah (McCoy) McAdams, who were of Scotch ancestry. Mrs. Major was born July 20, 1825, in Jefferson County, Ohio, and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of ten children, only eight of whom are now living. Their record is as follows: Anna, the wife of A. B. Craycroft; William L., Alice, May, John and Jennie (twins); the latter is the wife of George Gibler; Mattie and Grace.

In 1854, Mr. Major with his family, three

yoke of cattle and two horses, made the long journey from Indiana to Keokuk County, Iowa, where he purchased 160 acres of land near Sigourney, which he improved and cultivated until 1856, when tiring of farm life, he bought property in Sigourney, upon which he built a large hotel, and also dealt in real estate, which investment proved very successful, but in the depression of business which afterward followed, he suffered great financial loss. In 1860 he returned with his family to Indiana. The war then broke out, and he was obliged to dispose of his property at a great sacrifice. He then purchased a small, but pleasant and comfortable home in Indiana, where he resided until 1868. He then came to Illinois, locating upon a farm in Coles County, remaining there until 1871, at which time he removed into the city of Mattoon, where he remained until his death, which occurred April 7, 1875.

Mr. Major possessed an upright, Christian character, and for many years was a devoted member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and a faithful attendant of its prayer-meetings and Sabbath-school, endeavoring in every way to advance the cause of Christ. He was a kind husband, an affectionate father and loyal citizen.



DR. A. M. HENRY, a prominent member of the Academy of Medicine and Surgery of Coles County, is one of the most reliable practitioners of this section, and has been a resident of Mattoon since 1866. His birth took place in Henry County, Ky., Nov. 8, 1814, and he is the son of Joseph and Mary (White) Henry, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Virginia. The father of our subject was a brickmason by trade, and early in life removed from his native State to Kentucky, becoming a resident of the Blue Grass regions about 1808. Later he migrated to Illinois, and took up a tract of Government land six miles east of the present city of Charleston, where he improved eighty acres and established a comfortable home, which he occupied until his death, in 1833. The mother survived her husband nearly thirty-four years, and died in 1867.

The Henry family is of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and of the ten children born to the parents of our subject, only two are now living, himself and his brother, Judge John W. Henry, of Los Angeles, Cal. Joseph Henry was a man of much force of character, a decided Democrat, politically, and a devoted member of the Methodist Church, in which he officiated as Class-Leader and Exhorter. The mother was also a lady of deep piety, and a member of the same church as her husband.

The early years of Dr. Henry were spent on a farm, and he also worked with his father as a mason. He was thirty years of age when he commenced the study of medicine at Platteville, Wis., and afterward attended the old Botanic College at Cincinnati, Ohio. He commenced practice in Wisconsin, from which he removed, however, in 1849, to Jerseyville, this State, and after a short residence there, practiced for a time at Charleston, and in 1866 came to Mattoon, where he has since remained. While in Charleston he had patients in Edgar, Clark, Cumberland and Shelby Counties. He at one time owned considerable land in Coles County.

Dr. Henry was married, in 1839, to Miss Elizabeth Stoddard, at that time a resident of Charleston, but who was born in Kentucky in 1821. They became the parents of five children, who are located as follows: Mary A., Mrs. Hamilton, in Portland, Ore.; Ellen, Mrs. Tillison, in Mattoon; Sarah M., Mrs. Matlock, in Chicago; Blanche is married, and living in Portland, Ore.; Grace, Mrs. Richmond, lives in Mattoon. The Doctor and his estimable lady are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and occupy a pleasant residence at the corner of Charleston and Seventh streets. Dr. H., politically, is a Republican, and socially, belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the I. O. O. F.



Moses H. LUCE became a resident of this county in February, 1860, and is one of its most enterprising citizens. He is located in East Oakland Township on sec. 33, where he has seventy acres of valuable land, and all the improvements which indicate the intelligent and

progressive agriculturist. Although his life, perhaps, has not been distinguished by any thrilling experience, he is one of those men necessary to the well-being of any community, who form its bone and sinew, and without whom the fabric of society would become disjointed and lacking in its most essential points.

Our subject is a native of the Buckeye State, first opening his eyes to the light in Darke County, in September, 1819. His parents, Moses and Catherine (Perry) Luce, were natives respectively of Virginia and South Carolina. Moses Luce, Sr., was born in 1785, served as Captain in the War of 1812 for about three months, and afterward settled in Ohio at an early period in its history. He came to this county after his marriage, and to Oakland Township in 1837, where his death took place the following year. He was a man of deep piety, and occupied the pulpit of the Baptist Church as a preacher for about sixteen years, and was also an Elder in the same. His wife, Catherine, was born in 1788, and died in Indiana, Sept. 12, 1844. Their children were Elizabeth, Dorcas A., John, Sarah, Phebe, Silas, Catherine, Sophia, Moses H., William, Robert and Benjamin. They all lived to become men and women, and four at this date (July 19, 1887), are still surviving.

The subject of our sketch spent his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, receiving careful training from his excellent parents, and an ordinary education in the common schools. Upon starting out in life on his own account, he was married to Miss Sarah J., daughter of Thornton and Collie (Pace) Lansdown, their wedding taking place in Edgar County, Feb. 8, 1844. Mrs. Luce was born in Tennessee, May 23, 1823. Her parents were devoted members of the Missionary Baptist Church, and reared a large family of children.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Luce there was born but one child, a girl, who died in infancy. The parental feeling has been strong within them, and in the absence of children of their own, Mr. and Mrs. L. have performed the offices of protector and guardian to four orphan children whom they raised as their own, and gave all the advantages within their power.

Mr. L. has been connected with the Baptist

Church for a period of thirty-six years, during which he has officiated as Deacon, and occupied other prominent positions among the brethren. He is a gentleman of excellent judgment, and one whose opinions are generally respected. Politically he is a Jacksonian Democrat, and believes that the staunch old principles, strictly followed, are better than any modern ones which could be introduced. Mrs. Luce united with the Baptist Church at home in May, 1866, and in all respects is the worthy companion of her husband, encouraging him in his efforts, and proving a true helpmeet, as they journey along the changing pathway of life.

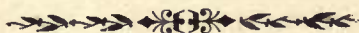


JOHN T. HUFFMAN is the senior member of Huffman & Bro., manufacturers of brick at Charleston. He is a native of Coles County, and the son of John and Catherine (Robinson) Huffman, who have been for years well-known citizens of Coles County. Mr. Huffman's educational advantages were limited to the common schools, and his life, until he attained to manhood, was devoted to work upon the farm. At the age of twenty-one years he associated himself with his brother, Napoleon B., in the business of manufacturing brick, which, on account of the rapid improvement of Charleston, and the great number of brick houses being erected throughout Coles County, has been for many years a staple article of trade. They continued in the brick business during a period of eleven years, and then sold out to W. S. Coon. During the following six years Mr. Huffman gave his attention to the duties of public office and farming, and then again engaged in the manufacture of brick, the firm being constituted of himself and brother George, and during the year 1887 the firm has manufactured 1,000,000 of brick, all of marketable quality, and which were disposed of to good advantage.

Mr. Huffman is a successful and reliable business man, and in addition to his manufacturing interests is the owner of fifty-seven acres of land, which was first purchased by his father, and which adjoins the city limits of Charleston on the west. On account of its close proximity to the city, and the

fact that not many years hence it will be occupied by buildings and streets, this land is considered very valuable. Like his father, Mr. Huffman is Democratic in his politics, and for sixteen consecutive years has held the office of Constable. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., both of the Subordinate Lodge and the Encampment, and also of the Patriarchal Circle.

On the 14th of August, 1871, Mr. Huffman was married to Amanda E. Redden, a native of Coles County. She was the daughter of James and Margaret L. Redden, who were pioneers in the settlement and development of the county. Their household has been blest with five children, whose names are Nora B., Frank A., Eva E., Clarence and Jessie. Mr. and Mrs. Huffman are the center of a large circle of friends, by whom they are highly esteemed and with whom they take pleasure in participating in social matters.



PROMETHEUS M. DUVALL, M. D., is a prominent surgeon of Pleasant Grove Township, residing in Campbell. He is the son of James W. and Melinda W. (Colvin) Duvall, and was born July 23, 1853, in Pendleton County, Ky. His family is of French extraction, although his grandparents and parents were born in Virginia. The family subsequently removed to Kentucky, and from boyhood James W. Duvall passed his life in that State. He was a bridge-builder, and continued to follow that occupation throughout the greater part of his life. Mrs. Duvall was a native of Kentucky, but her family was of English extraction; her marriage took place in that State. Their family comprised five children, only two of whom are now living: Prometheus M. and Daniel B. James Duvall died in Kentucky at the age of sixty-two, and his widow died in this county, in 1887, having also reached the age of sixty-two years.

Dr. Duvall passed his early life in Kentucky, where he received an excellent education at the public schools, and also attended the Wesleyan University at Millersburg. He was a remarkably ingenious and thoughtful boy, always desiring to

thoroughly investigate every subject of importance that came under his notice. He had been taught the carpenter's trade, but his inclination for scientific research led him in another direction, and at the age of eighteen he commenced the study of medicine, at the same time continuing to work at his trade for support. It is frequently from such minds that science develops her most worthy disciples. He applied himself closely to the study of his chosen profession, and in 1877 was graduated by the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville.

In 1875 Dr. D. became a resident of this county, and after his graduation was associated in practice with Dr. Freeman for two years. He then opened an office, and has since commanded a large and lucrative practice. He makes a specialty of surgery, and has met with marked success in that department of medical science, his practice extending over a large territory. He is also a genius in some other respects, and like Sir Humphrey Davy, sometimes manufactures his own tools. He owns some valuable real estate, and his commodious residence, barn and stables are all specimens of his own handiwork. He is exact and systematic in his habits, and everything he undertakes is well done; his surgical instruments are kept exquisitely clean and in perfect order, and his carpenter tools likewise. He is fond of horses, and is to some extent interested in raising them.

Dr. Duvall was married in 1880, to Miss Sarah E. Watson. Mrs. Duvall is the daughter of Joseph M. and Hannah W. Watson, and was born Aug. 15, 1854, in Pendleton County, Ky. Two children were born to them, both of whom died in infancy. Dr. Duvall belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and is a member of Charleston Lodge No. 35. In politics he is a Democrat.



DR. D. M. FALL, physician and surgeon, and President of the Coles County Medical Society, has been a resident of Mattoon for a period of twenty-five years, during which he has built up a successful practice and has become one of its most prominent citizens. He was born in Shelby County, Ind., July 1, 1835,

and is the son of Thomas P. and Nancy A. (Miller) Fall, natives of Botetourt County, Va., where the father engaged in farming and was married in 1822. Ten years later the parents removed to Shelby County, Ind., where they spent the remainder of their lives, Thomas P. Fall passing to his final rest in 1883. The mother had died many years before, in 1852. The father of our subject was a Democrat, politically, until within a short time before the organization of the Republican party, and then identified himself with the latter. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which the father served as Steward and Class-Leader. Their family included five sons and one daughter, and two sons only of the family are now living, namely, our subject, and his brother, Benjamin F., a lumber merchant of Paulding County, Ohio.

The Fall family is of Irish and German ancestry. Our subject was reared amid the scenes of farm life until a youth of eighteen years, in the meantime attending the district school during the winter terms. He then went to Morristown in his native county, and commenced the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. J. G. Wolf, with whom he remained three years. In the meantime he attended two courses of lectures at Rush Medical College, Chicago, and completed his studies in Jefferson Medical College, at Philadelphia, Pa., from which he was graduated as an M. D. Returning West he commenced the practice of his profession at Cumberland, Ind., whence he removed in the fall of 1862 to Mattoon, where he has since remained. He belongs to the State Medical Society, and by a steady course of reading keeps himself well informed upon the important matters pertaining to his profession.

The marriage of Dr. Fall and Miss Helen M. Morrison was celebrated in 1856, and they became the parents of three sons, the two eldest being also practicing physicians. James A. married Miss Mary F. Van Daren. The others are Howard M. and Leslie. Mrs. Fall was born in Shelby County, Ind., and is the daughter of George L. and Jane (Allison) Morrison. Her father for several years was engaged in the furniture business. In 1875 Dr. Fall purchased his present residence, which is

located at the corner of Charleston and East First streets. It forms a pleasant and attractive home, and is frequented by the cultivated residents of Mattoon. The Doctor and his estimable lady are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject, politically, is a decided Republican.



JOHN HOOTS, one of the earliest pioneers of North Okaw Township, came to this section of country when, as he says, "the principal productions were wolves, rattlesnakes and badgers." He purchased a tract of eighty acres, and in connection with this also carried on farming on land adjacent, which had been partially improved. In the meantime he put up a house on his own land, of which he and his young wife took possession, and commenced in earnest the struggle of life in a new country. This was long before the advent of railroads, and the nearest milling facilities were at Decatur and Terre Haute, Ind. Charleston was then but an embryo village, and Mr. H. was acquainted with every man in it. There was no market for corn, and they consequently fed it to their hogs. These were transported on foot to market, to Chicago, Terre Haute and St. Louis, and then they brought but \$1.25 per hundred.

Those were days which truly "tried men's souls," and the changes which Mr. Hoots, in common with his brother pioneers, has witnessed, might form the theme of a tale which would amply prove that truth is stranger than fiction. Our subject was made of the stern stuff common to the men of those days, and persevered through every difficulty until he had established a comfortable homestead where a blooming family grew up around him. He is now retired from active labor, living perhaps as much in the past as in the present, and many a time regales the present generation with stories of the olden days. He has lived worthily and enjoys the confidence and respect of all who know him.

Mr. Hoots was born in Stokes County, N. C., Dec. 12, 1816, and is the eldest in a family of eleven children, the offspring of David and Sarah (Wright) Hoots, also natives of that State. David Hoots was a farmer by occupation, and spent his

entire life in North Carolina. Our subject was reared there on a farm in a region of country which afforded very few facilities for learning, and his education was consequently sadly neglected. Upon reaching his majority he began farming for himself, which he sensibly pursued four years, unmarried, and laid the foundations for a future home. He was then united to Miss Sarah J. Fuller, Sept. 22, 1841. Mrs. Hoots is the daughter of Jesse and Catherine (Webb) Fuller, natives of Virginia, who emigrated to North Carolina at an early day.

Our subject removed from his native State to Indiana with his parents, settling in Montgomery County in 1824, where he remained three years, and in 1837 took up his abode in this county, one mile from his present homestead, and in this vicinity he met the lady who afterward became his wife. Of this union there were born thirteen children, nine still living. They were named respectively, William Augustus, Albert Henry, Sarah Catherine, Mary Ann, David F., John J. and Robert Jesse (twins), Rebecca J., Orlando B., Ida, Josiah, Sidney J. and Miranda.



FREEDOM E. HOBART, whose home is on section 21, Seven Hickory Township, has been engaged in the occupations of both farmer and school teacher. He was born on the 16th of September, 1847, in Nelson Township, Portage Co., Ohio, his parents being John Sullivan and Margaret (Moore) Hobart. John S. Hobart was the son of Benjamin and Mary (Wheeler) Hobart, and was born on the 25th of November, 1806, in New Hampshire, and with his father and grandfather, William, moved from New Hampshire to Ohio about 1814. He was a school teacher in his early days, but was afterward variously employed in farming and merchandising. He was married twice; the first time to Margaret Moore, on the 10th of December, 1834, and she had nine children: Thomas Moore, born Sept. 6, 1835; Benjamin Elmer, June 23, 1837; Mary Elizabeth, born June 7, 1839, married Monroe W.

Seibert, of Fremont, Ohio; Jefferson R., born Feb. 20, 1841, is a physician in Ashmore, Ill.; William Wallace, born April 20, 1843, is a resident of Miami County, Ohio; Marcene, born Aug. 10, 1845, resides in Pemberville, Ohio; Freedom E., our subject, born Sept. 16, 1847; Hannah, born Nov. 8, 1849, married James Thompson, and both are deceased; they left two children. Marcellus, born June 15, 1852, is a resident of Fremont, Ohio.

The first wife of John S. Hobart died on the 29th of October, 1856, and he was again married, this time to Mrs. A. C. Alton, on the 1st of March, 1858. By this marriage three children were born: Addison and Allison, who are twins, and John S., Jr. His children, twelve in number, were all fairly educated, and at some time in their life all taught school. One child, Mary E., is a graduate of Oberlin College, and three of the sons are graduates of commercial colleges, and three of medical institutions. One of the children, Thomas M., has been admitted to the bar as a lawyer, but does not engage in active practice. William Wallace Hobart, brother of the subject of this sketch, was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion for about three years and three months, and participated in several important engagements. Benjamin E. and Marcene, two other brothers, were also in the Union army.

Benjamin Hobart, the grandfather, was the son of William and Sallie (Taylor) Hobart, and was born on the 12th of March, 1777, at Thornton, N. H. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and is buried at the Hurd burying-ground, in Nelson, Portage Co., Ohio, where our subject's father, mother and grandmother are also buried. The paternal great-grandfather, William Hobart, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and his remains are buried in Windham, Portage Co., Ohio.

Freedom E. Hobart was raised on a farm, and availed himself of the opportunity to attend the district school during the winter months until he was eighteen years of age, when he went to Oberlin, Ohio, and attended school about three months; then he commenced teaching school, and followed that occupation in Ohio for two years, and in July, 1868, came to Illinois, where he taught a country school during the winter, and farmed in the summer months. In the spring of 1870 he went to

Kansas, where he homesteaded 160 acres of land, and returned to Illinois to teach school during the following winter. In the spring of 1871 he went back to Kansas, and turned the homestead into a pre-emption, receiving a deed from the Government, and in the fall of the same year returned to Illinois, where he again taught school during the winter. In the spring of 1873 he attended school at the Normal University at Normal, Ill., and the following winter again taught school and conducted a Teachers' Institute at Neoga, in the summer of 1874. In the fall of that year he again attended school at Normal, and remained until the following June, this being the only winter in which he omitted teaching from the fall of 1866 to the spring of 1887. In the summer of 1875 he again conducted a Teachers' Institute at Neoga, during which time he was married to Miss Sarah Finley McNutt, which event occurred on the 29th of July, 1875. She was the daughter of James and Susan (McCullough) McNutt, of Neoga.

James McNutt was born in Blount County, E. Tenn., in 1808; Susan McCullough was born in the same county, Aug. 20, 1814; they were married in 1833, and immediately moved to Edgar County, Ill. Here were born to them eight children: Narcissa E., born Aug. 27, 1834, was married to Jonathan B. Morrison in September, 1854, and is now living near Neoga, Cumberland Co., Ill.; Robert was born Feb. 1, 1837, married Eliza H. Gale, Dec. 24, 1868, and is now living in Neoga, Ill.; Frances M., born Feb. 8, 1840, was married to John T. Waller, June 8, 1865, and is now living in Louisville, Ky.; Asa was born Oct. 16, 1842, enlisted in the 66th Illinois Infantry in the fall of 1861, and died in March, 1862, from cold contracted by exposure at the battle of Ft. Donelson; Houston was born April 1, 1845, and died in the spring of 1847; Melinda was born Feb. 15, 1848, and was married to Philip Welshimer Nov. 26, 1872, and is now living in Neoga, Ill.; Florence was born Feb. 11, 1851, married to Louis A. Fairchilds Sept. 3, 1872, and died at Smith Centre, Smith Co., Kan., Oct. 7, 1881. Sarah F. was born Oct. 17, 1853, and was married to F. E. Hobart July 29, 1875. The family moved from Edgar County to near Neoga, Cumberland County, in the spring of 1854. James

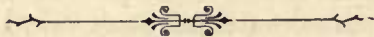
McNutt died there in the spring of 1857; his wife, Susan McNutt, is still living at Neoga, now aged seventy-three.

Mr. Hobart followed teaching in the winter and farmed at the McNutt homestead during the summer of 1876, when on account of the excessive rains he did not raise anything and lost all the money which he had. He again taught during the winter and farmed rented land in the years 1877 and 1878, these farming operations being losing ones. In the spring of 1879 Albert Wyeth, a friend of his, furnished the money to purchase fifty acres of land, where our subject's home is now located. From that time on he was moderately successful in his undertakings, and by means of the farm and the money earned by himself and wife, who was also a teacher, they succeeded in meeting the payments on their little farm. In 1882 he was employed as Principal of the High School at Charleston, where he remained one year, during which time he was chosen as Principal and Superintendent, and his wife as First Assistant of the public schools at Oakland, Ill. He remained there one year, and was then elected to a similar position in Casey, Clark County, and in this work he was also assisted by his wife. This position was retained for two years, and during that time he also carried on his farming operations. In the spring of 1883, while living at Charleston, he sold his Kansas land, and in company with his brother, Dr. J. R. Hobart, bought a stock of drugs at Ashmore, Ill., which was taken charge of by his brother, and our subject continued teaching. In 1886 he was elected Superintendent and Principal of the schools at Kansas, Edgar County, where he remained one year. In the summer of that year Mr. Hobart was instructor at the Annual Institution at Oakland, Coles County, and also at Marshall, Clark County. In the summer of 1883 he carried off a prize at a competitive examination in United States History at Fremont, Ohio. In 1886 he sold his interest in the drug store to his brother, Dr. J. R. Hobart. In August, 1887, he took a position with Chapman Brothers, of Chicago, as a biographical writer.

Mr. and Mrs. Hobart have had three children, one of whom died in infancy; the two living are Mary Florence, born the 1st of June, 1876, and at

the age of ten entered the High School at Kansas, Ill.; she has dark eyes and brown hair. Maude Finley, born May 24, 1880, has blue eyes and golden hair. Mrs. Hobart has black hair and brown eyes, and is of a pleasant disposition. She is an excellent scholar and writes a good hand.

Mr. Hobart has a good education, and in his conversation and writing shows that he is master of the English language. He was early imbued with the doctrines of the Congregational Church, but when he was about nineteen years of age he joined the Missionary Baptist Church; upon coming to Illinois he gave his letter from that denomination to the Christian Church, of which he has been a member ever since. He is about five feet and eight and one-half inches in height, rather heavily built, has auburn hair, gray eyes, and while naturally inclined to be social, yet on account of the firmness required in the school room has been termed reticent, and to a certain degree unsocial. He has always been a rigid temperance man, and although raised by a Republican father, and surrounded by Republican relatives, he has always been a Democrat. He has recently purchased the interest of half the heirs to his father's estate in Ohio, all of which indicates that his successes in later life are more nearly commensurate with his deserts than in earlier life.



WILLIAM MILLER, deceased, a former highly respected resident of North Okaw Township, is kindly remembered as one of its early pioneers. He came to this section of country during its first settlement, and taking up a tract of uncultivated land began its improvement and cultivation, and bravely endured the hardships and difficulties which were the common lot of those venturesome spirits who entered the wilderness and first opened a way for the advance of civilization.

Mr. Miller was born near Lexington, Ky., in 1822, and was the fifth child in a family of nine, the offspring of James and Sarah (O'Hara) Miller, also natives of the Blue Grass State. They came north when their son William was but a boy, locating first in Paris, Edgar County, where they spent the remainder of their days. William was educated in

the common schools, and at an early age was made acquainted with the various employments of farm life, remaining under the parental roof until about twenty-three years of age.

On the 25th of December, 1845, Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca G. Janes, who was the fourteenth in a family of sixteen children, born to William and Jane (Nichols) Janes, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. Mrs. Miller was born in Edgar County, Ky., December 25, 1829, and came with her parents to Coles County, where her marriage took place. For a time they resided in Edgar County on a small farm, and upon coming to Coles County, Mr. Miller entered 120 acres of wild land, which comprised forty acres on three sections. He put his residence on section 23, and the first field crop was three miles from his home. Around the dwelling a crop of sod corn flourished, and deer would come to the doorway and gaze at the unusual sight of human beings. This little diversion from their usual monotonous life was valued by the family accordingly, for their neighbors were few and far between, there being then not a single house between their home and Charleston, where they went twice a year to do their trading. Mattoon was not yet thought of, and when Mr. Miller went to mill his wife was obliged to set a candle in the window as a beacon light to guide him after dark.

The life of the father, however, was cut short in his prime, his death taking place on the 3d of March, 1855. He was a prodigious worker, and the exposure and hardships to which he was subjected brought on inflammatory rheumatism, which proved fatal not long afterward. The mother was thus left a widow with five children, whom she kept together, and struggled on until the dawn of brighter days. Two of these died in infancy. Those living are recorded as follows: Sarah was born Sept. 4, 1850, and married Martin Wagoner, and they live near the old homestead. Josephine was born Nov. 30, 1853, and became the wife of Craven E. Cole, who is now deceased; she resides in Shelby County. Joseph, who was born Jan. 10, 1855, was consequently but an infant of a few weeks old at the time of his father's death. He was reared to manhood and married Miss Nancy J. Crum. He re-

mains on the homestead with his widowed mother, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising.

On the 9th of January, 1886, the family residence, with all its contents, was destroyed by fire. In its place now stands a neat little cottage occupied by Mrs. Miller, her son Joseph and his family.



R M. SCHULHOFF, of the firm of Bower & Schulhoff, proprietors of the popular "Fair," formerly the Boston Variety Store, in Mattoon, is a native of the city of Nyireghyhaza, Hungary, and was born on the 24th of December, 1861. He is the son of Samuel and Fanny (Pavlovits) Schulhoff, who were natives of the same place. The father was engaged extensively in farming, and was one of the influential citizens of the place. He was a soldier and Captain in the Revolutionary War of 1848-49, and during that time was taken as a prisoner of war and held for a considerable time.

The subject of this sketch was raised in the city and received a good practical education. At the age of twelve years he accepted a position in a gentlemen and ladies' furnishing house, where he remained for seven years, and during that time received his first practical knowledge of business affairs. In 1880 he emigrated to America, and first settled in Nashville, Tenn., at which place he commenced selling goods by sample on the road, and in that business continued for two years. In 1883 he came to Mattoon, and in connection with the gentleman with whom he is now associated, began the business which has grown to such dimensions as to require the services of from five to ten salesmen. He is practically a self-made man, and his start in life was without assistance from others. In his business affairs he displays a vast amount of tact and energy, and leaves no stone unturned in his efforts for success. The firm of which he is a member is considered one of the most reliable and energetic in Coles County, and it has already taken its place in the front ranks of the mercantile firms in that section of Illinois.

The father of Mr. Schulhoff died in 1865, the supposed cause of his death being wounds which he received while in the army. The mother is still

living in Hungary. They were the parents of six sons, five of whom are now living: Jacob is engaged in hotel-keeping in his native land; Paul is a distiller in Hungary; Maurice was born in 1859, and died in 1865; Charles and Adolph came to America in 1881; the former is in the tin business in New York, and Adolph is engaged in railroading in that State; Francis M. is the subject of this sketch. The father and all the members of the family were brought up in the faith of the Hebrew Church, of which they were all devoted members. All the children who are alive have identified themselves with business affairs, and all of them have been successful in their undertakings.

Mr. Schulhoff is a Republican in politics. He takes great interest in the work of secret societies, and is a Mason in good standing and a member of the Knights and Ladies of Honor. In all his social relations he is pleasant and affable, and has already drawn to himself in Mattoon and Coles County a large circle of friends.



D AVID F. McMURTRIE, of the firm of McMurtrie & Goodman, contractors and builders, of Charleston, is a native of Lycoming County, Pa., and was born on the 20th of January, 1836. He is the son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Pensil) McMurtrie, who were natives of Union County, Pa., the father being born in 1796, and the mother in 1808. The name of the grandfather was John, who was born in Scotland, and came to America prior to the Declaration of Independence, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, in which he was wounded in the left leg by a sabre cut. The father of the mother of our subject was Joseph Pensil, a native of England, who came to America while it was yet a colony, and was engaged as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The paternal grandfather had a family of seven sons and three daughters, and the maternal grandfather had a family of three sons and four daughters. Samuel McMurtrie, the father, was a boot and shoe maker by trade, which occupation he followed all his life. He died in 1883, and the mother

in 1856; they were both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which denomination he was a Class-Leader. They were the parents of nine children, seven of whom lived to attain man and womanhood.

Until he was fourteen years of age, David F. McMurtrie attended school during the winter months, and at that age went to work in a woolen factory in Union County, Pa., where he remained for two years. He then served an apprenticeship of three years to the carpenter's trade in Milton, Northumberland County, and then worked in Union County, at his trade for two years. In 1861 he came to Attica, Ind., where he engaged at the occupation of a carpenter for seven years. In 1869 he moved to Charleston, Ill., where for two years he worked at carpentering, and since that time has been engaged as a contractor and builder.

In 1860 Mr. McMurtrie was married to Miss Elizabeth Shrader, of Union County, Pa., a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Minder) Shrader. After coming to Charleston, he purchased two lots in the southwestern part of the town, upon which he built a house, and in 1885 he purchased three lots upon Jackson street near the I. & St. L. R. R., on which he built the residence he now occupies. Since locating in Charleston, Mr. McMurtrie has been successful in his business. He employs from two to five men, and all the work he performs shows that he is a master in the business. He is a member of the Democratic party, the I. O. O. F., Masonic fraternity, and a stockholder in the Loan and Building Association of Charleston; and in all of these organizations he takes a lively interest. He is looked upon as one of the worthy and substantial citizens of Charleston.



JAMES A. GOODELL, one of the largest contractors and builders in the Northwest, has been located at Mattoon for some years, and gives employment to from fifty to 100 men. It will thus be seen at once that he is largely identified with the business and industrial interests of Coles County and is valued accordingly.

Mr. Goodell was born in Erie County, Pa., Aug. 3, 1835, and is the son of Layton B. and Mary (Goodell) Goodell, who were natives respectively of Washington County, Pa., and Saratoga Springs, N. Y. His father was born Aug. 8, 1808, and his mother Nov. 12, 1809. Layton B. Goodell, besides carrying on farming quite extensively, also conducted a large carriage manufacturing establishment in Erie County, where he had settled after his marriage, and where he accumulated a fine property. He retired from business when about sixty years of age. The mother departed this life at the homestead in Erie County, June 15, 1877. The parental household included five children, four now living, namely, John W., surveyor of Chautauqua County, Kan.; James A., our subject; Martha B., Mrs. Waters, of Erie County, Pa., and George S., a merchant of Pennsylvania.

The father of our subject assisted in the organization of the State Normal School at Edinboro, Pa., and was President of the Board for a number of years. He was deeply interested in educational matters and contributed a large amount of money for the establishment and maintenance of the school mentioned. He officiated as Justice of the Peace for many years, and both parents were members of the Presbyterian Church. Besides the larger educational institutions with which Mr. Goodell was connected he never suffered himself to forget the importance of the primary schools and the early education of the young, and in the absence of school funds, would often pay from his own pocket the salary of the teacher for three months or more.

Under such influences our subject attained to years of manhood and it is not surprising that he stands where he does to-day, socially and financially. He took kindly to his books at an early age, and when a lad of twelve years was admitted to Waterford Academy, where he pursued his studies two and one-half years and then entered Grand River Institute in Ashtabula County, Ohio. He remained there until nineteen years old, and after being graduated continued two more years at the institution as teacher. He came to Beardstown, this State, shortly afterward, and instituted the graded school system under which he taught in the city one term by subscription, before becoming connected with

the public schools. After a short visit at his old home in the East he returned to Illinois, and at the outbreak of the Rebellion enlisted as First Lieutenant in Co. B, 97th Ill. Vol. Inf. He was taken seriously ill and after nine months' service was obliged to resign. In the meantime, however, he had met the enemy in the battle of Port Gibson and participated in a number of minor engagements and skirmishes.

After his retirement from the army Mr. Goodell returned to Pennsylvania and engaged as a contractor in Erie County until 1879. Upon returning to the West he located in Cumberland County, Ill.; a year later he came to Mattoon, and continued his occupation as a builder and contractor until 1885. In the spring of that year he crossed the Mississippi into Missouri, spending one summer in Kansas City. A few years later he took up his residence in Louisville, Ky., and in company with McDowell Bros. carried on a large business as builder and architect, and in the meantime was employed to superintend the construction of the Insane Asylum at Marion, Va. He remained in the South until the earthquake at Charleston, S. C., and then secured the contracts as architect of the county buildings and churches which were to be rebuilt. He was within the city at the time of this great disaster and upon hearing the first rumblings bravely resolved to stay where he was, and not run from danger. When the women and children, however, ran screaming from the houses, he admits that he lost his head entirely and endeavored with the others to seek a place of safety. He says that the feelings of a person in the midst of an earthquake can be better imagined than described. He, however, escaped injury and went on with his work.

Our subject was married, in 1857, to Miss Corinda Webster, a native of Westfield, N. Y., and daughter of Horace Webster. This union resulted in the birth of four children—Elmer A., Edgar V., Mary D. and Dora. The family residence is pleasantly located on North First street, and is surrounded by every evidence of cultivated taste and ample means. Mr. and Mrs. G. are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject, politically, is a Republican, and socially, belongs to the A. F. & A. M.

JOHN T. HUFFMAN, senior member of the firm of Huffman & Bro., manufacturers of brick, at Charleston, was born where he now resides, the date of his birth being April 26, 1843. He is the son of John and Catherine (Robinson) Huffman, natives of Kentucky, who died within one week of each other, in January, 1870. Mrs. Huffman died Jan. 14, 1870, and her husband, who was in good health at the time of the funeral, expired one week from that day, and was buried by the side of his wife in Cassel Cemetery, near Charleston.

The educational advantages of our subject were limited to the common schools, and soon after reaching his majority he established himself as a brick manufacturer in partnership with his brother, Napoleon B. They continued together during a period of two years, then sold out and for six years following our subject was engaged in farming, and also served as Constable, to which office he was elected in 1871, and has served continuously since that time. In 1872 he resumed his former business in company with his brother, George W., and they now turn out about 1,000,000 annually. The yard and buildings are equipped with all modern improvements, and their transactions steadily increase in number and importance. Both members of the firm are reliable business men.

Besides his business and the interest above mentioned, Mr. Huffman owns fifty-seven acres of the land first purchased by his father, which adjoins the city of Charleston on the west and which is in a high state of cultivation. The buildings are convenient and substantial, and form a comfortable and enjoyable home. The lady who has for the last sixteen years presided over the household of our subject and been his closest friend and counselor, was formerly Miss Amanda E. Redden, a native of this county, born Sept. 14, 1853. Her parents, James and Margaret L. Redden, were among the pioneers and contributed their full quota toward developing the resources of Central Illinois. Mrs. H. remained a member of the parental household until her marriage with our subject, which took place Aug. 16, 1871. Of this union there are five children—Nora B., Frank A., Eva E., Clarence A. and Jessie F.

Mr. Huffman, like his father before him, is Democratic in politics, and for sixteen consecutive years has held the office of Constable, the duties of which he has discharged with excellent judgment and to the satisfaction of all concerned. Socially he is a worthy member of the I. O. O. F. in both Subordinate and Encampment Lodges, and also belongs to the Patriarchal Circle.

ROBERT N. LEITCH, M. D., was the first physician to locate at Lerna, where he has since practiced successfully and built up a good patronage. He has spent his entire life in this county, having been born in Pleasant Grove Township, Nov. 11, 1844. He is the son of Robert and Jane (Erwin) Leitch, and was reared on the farm, receiving such education as was furnished by the common school. Upon leaving school, however, he still applied himself closely to his books, and thus gained a fund of general information which has served him well. He was married in 1866, before taking up the study of medicine, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of William J. and Ellen Hughes, who was also a native of this county and born Aug. 24, 1844.

After his marriage Dr. Leitch purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1870. He then sold out and moved across the Mississippi into Dade County, Mo., where he invested a part of his capital in eighty acres of land, which he cultivated until 1878. He was not satisfied, however, with his condition, and the year following commenced the study of medicine, and subsequently removed to St. Louis, where he placed himself under the instruction of Dr. P. G. Valentine, and in September of that year entered the St. Louis College of Homeopathic Physicians and Surgeons, from which he was graduated in March, 1882. During the vacations in college he practiced in Paytonville, Ark. Afterward he returned to his native township, where he entered in earnest upon the duties of his profession, and where he has since remained.

Dr. Leitch, in the interval after leaving home and before his marriage, had been engaged as a soldier in the Union army, in which he enlisted

soon after the outbreak of the Rebellion. As a member of Co. C, 61st Ill. Inf., he participated in the battle of Selma, Ala., and met the enemy in other minor engagements and skirmishes. His regiment was afterward detailed to join the army of Sherman at Atlanta, and about this time our subject was taken ill and obliged to retire. He was the pioneer of homeopathy in this part of Coles County, and in addition to being a young practitioner, labored under the disadvantage of the prejudice which naturally attaches to a new system. He has fortunately overcome this prejudice, and is as popular as he is successful. He meddles very little with politics, but is decidedly Republican and uniformly casts his vote in support of that party. He has been identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, in which he officiates as Class-Leader, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the G. A. R. He was but a boy at the breaking out of the war, but until the failure of his health, performed his duties as a soldier among the bravest. He had some difficulty in obtaining permission to enter the ranks on account of his youth, but his persistence and patriotism finally won the day. As a citizen and physician no man is more highly esteemed.

JH. PARKER, a gentleman in the prime of life, and familiarly known in Charleston Township and vicinity, was born in this township Sept. 29, 1845. His parents, David and Dorcas (Heath) Parker, were natives respectively of Illinois and North Carolina. His paternal grandfather, Benjamin Parker, came to this State during its early settlement, in 1824, cut the first tree in Charleston Township, and put up the first log cabin in Coles County. He crossed the Mississippi into Texas, where he became owner of a large area of land, and was murdered there by the Comanche Indians while holding a conference with them at Ft. Parker, in about 1835.

David Parker, the father of our subject, was a small boy when he came to this county with his parents, and was reared on the farm in Charleston Township. He also learned carpentering and sur-

veying, and laid off into sections and town plats much of the land in this locality. He dealt largely in real estate, and engaged in the manufacture of furniture, sash, doors, etc., for this purpose conducting a lumber-yard. He was characterized by his energy and industry, and rounded up a long and useful life on the 26th of May, 1870, his death taking place at his home in Charleston Township. The parental household included three children—John H., our subject; Mary S., Mrs. Yeaver, and Martha, Mrs. Phillips.

Our subject spent his younger years on the farm, and attended school in the village. He remained under the home roof until twenty-five years of age, and then set about the establishment of a home for himself. One of the important steps toward this end was his marriage with Miss Martha D. Moore, which took place in 1870. Mr. Parker had already secured 100 acres of land, and in a modest dwelling the young people commenced life together, Mr. P. continuing farming until 1886. He then sold out and purchased a smaller tract of forty acres, of which he still retains possession, and which has been brought to a fine state of cultivation. He purchased his present residence in the city in 1879. It is pleasantly located on North street, where the family, surrounded by all the comforts, enjoy the society of many friends. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Parker are Daniel R., Nellie E. and Willie F.

Mr. Parker, although having very little to do with political affairs, uniformly votes the Democratic ticket, and with his estimable wife is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. He has served his township as Road Commissioner, and socially, belongs to the I. O. O. F.



JOHN HUFFMAN, deceased, who was numbered among the most honored and earliest pioneers of Coles County, first drew breath in Harrison County, Ky., Feb. 16, 1798, where he remained during his youth and childhood and until beginning to form his plans for a home and domestic ties of his own. He became a resident of this State in 1832, locating in Vermillion

County, whence he removed in the fall of 1833 to this county, and purchased eighty acres of land adjoining the city of Charleston. There the children were born, and there the parents passed the remaining years of their life. The death of Mrs. Huffman took place on the 14th of January, 1870, aged over sixty-four years, and her remains were laid to rest in Cassel Cemetery. Mr. Huffman was seemingly in good health at the time, but just one week from that day his funeral services were held, and all that was mortal of him laid beside the wife whom he had loved and honored in his lifetime. He was over seventy-two years old.

The wife of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Catherine Robinson, a native of Virginia, born Feb. 11, 1806. Her father removed from the Old Dominion with his family when she was about ten years of age, to Harrison County, Ky., where two daughters were born, and whence they removed as we have stated, in 1832, to this State. The parental household finally included eight sons and four daughters, eleven of whom lived to reach years of maturity. Joseph died when a lad of eight years; Catherine became the wife of John Heath, and Polly the wife of George Hunt; both are now deceased. William, James, Napoleon B., and Sarah J., the wife of Samuel Lowe, were the next in order of birth; Benjamin F. during the late Civil War served in Co. C, 54th Ill. Vol. Inf., and now fills a soldier's grave at Cairo, where his death occurred May 11, 1863; Henrietta is the wife of Benjamin I. White, of Charleston; John T., George W. and Daniel H. were the youngest sons. Daniel H. lives in Missouri, George in Charleston and John T. at the home place.

When Mr. Huffman began to exercise the right of suffrage the principles of the Whigs coincided most heartily with his views of political matters and he accordingly identified himself with them, being a great admirer of Henry Clay. In 1860, he cast his ballot for Stephen A. Douglas, and afterward supported the Democratic party. He was fairly successful in his business and farming operations and at his death, besides the homestead was the owner of 200 acres of land unincumbered. Both Mr. Huffman and wife identified themselves with the Close Communion Baptists, and were

greatly respected by the community where they lived so long on account of their excellent traits of character and uniform goodness of heart.



THOMAS W. TEMPLE, dealer in lumber and operating a sawmill on section 2, North Okaw Township, is one of the most useful and enterprising citizens of Coles County. He is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in Richland County, June 22, 1835. His father, David Temple, a native of Center County, Pa., was born in the same month and the same day of the month as his son, just forty years before, in 1795. David was left an orphan at an early age, and was deprived of the advantages of education, being permitted to spend but very little time in school. When old enough he was bound out to a farmer and continued occupied in agricultural pursuits the balance of his life. He was married at the age of twenty-seven years to Miss Eliza Packer, a native of Richland County, Ohio, and they located in Knox County, that State, whence, a few years later they removed to Delaware County, and from there, in the spring of 1832, to Jasper County, Ill.

David Temple, upon coming to this State, purchased forty acres of improved land, and entered forty more, having thus a snug farm of eighty acres, which he cultivated and from which he built up a good home, where he spent the remainder of his days. The mother had departed this life in 1845, and her remains were laid to rest in what was called the "Four-Corners burying-ground," in Delaware County, Ohio. She was a good woman and a devoted member of the Baptist Church. David Temple was afterward married to Mrs. Annie M. Gorman. Of this union there were no children. This lady lived about ten years, then passed away, and he was subsequently married to Mrs. Audrey Eaton, who only lived a few years. His death took place in 1863.

The twelve children of the parental household were named respectively, Louis, Mary, Solomon, Jonathan, Thomas W., Elmer M., Ruth, James S., Maria, Lynn M., Alexander and John W. Maria and Louis died in their youth. The others lived

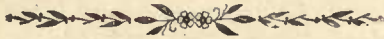
to mature years and with the exception of James M., were all married. The latter during the late war enlisted in Co. E, 25th Ill. Vol. Inf., and after participating in many of the important battles of that struggle, was killed at the battle of Stone River, Dec. 28, 1862. His remains were laid to rest in the National Cemetery near Murfreesboro, Tenn. Alexander served in the 54th Illinois Infantry three years, in the meantime being captured twice by the enemy, but was paroled and exchanged, living to return home; Lynn M. served first three months in the 8th Illinois Regiment, then re-enlisted for three years longer, and took part in many important battles, including the siege and capture of Vicksburg; John W. served in the 63d Regiment three years and was also in several battles.

Thomas W. Temple came West with his parents, and remained under the home roof until nineteen years of age. He then gave his father a note of \$225 for his freedom, and started out in life for himself. He commenced working on a farm at \$17 per month, and succeeded in taking up the note which his father held the first year. When twenty-one years of age he was married, Dec. 22, 1856, to Miss Mary Ann Plew, the wedding taking place in Charleston, Ill. Mrs. T. was the daughter of William and Rachel Plew, and after becoming the mother of six children, departed this life, Nov. 3, 1870. Her remains were buried in Atkins' graveyard south of Charleston. Their children were: Jonathan, Gregory; Mary E., now the wife of William White of this county; Norah B., Mrs. Walter McNight; Charlie, and one who died in infancy.

After his first marriage Mr. Temple rented land and carried on farming until the outbreak of the late war. He then enlisted in Co. E, 25th Ill. Vol. Inf., and participated in the battles at Pea Ridge, Perryville, Stone River and Chattanooga, and afterward joined Sherman's army on its march to the sea. At Stone River he was captured, the same day that his brother, James M., was killed, but was paroled the day following. He served three years and escaped without a wound, coming home well and hearty.

In 1871 Mr. Temple took for his second wife

Mrs. Amanda E. Strain, their marriage taking place on the 13th of April. Mrs. T. was born in this county June 22, 1839, and is the daughter of Charles G. and Nancy (Owens) Chowning, natives of Kentucky and early pioneers of this county. They have long since passed away. The household included eleven children, of whom Amanda E. was the ninth. Mr. Temple carried on farming until in April, 1884, then, in company with M. Taylor, purchased a half interest in the mill which he now owns, having bought his partner out in 1886. He is wide-awake and energetic, straightforward and upright, and is contributing his full quota toward the business and industrial interests of the county.



GOTTLIEB F. BIDLE, a prominent German citizen of Pleasant Grove Township, is a retired farmer residing at Campbell. He is the son of Albright and Elizabeth Bidle, and was born Jan. 21, 1835, in Essling, Austria. There were five children in his father's family, and the eldest son died in his native land at the age of eighteen. The names of the remaining four are, George, Louisa, Fredrica and Gottlieb, all of whom, after the death of their parents, emigrated to the United States. George is now a resident of Hutton Township, Coles County; Louisa was the wife of Gottlieb Bowes; she died in Louisville, Ky., in the spring of 1886, leaving several children. Fredrica is the wife of Jacob Weber, and resides in Shelby County, Ill.

Gottlieb Bidle was the youngest of the family, and at the time of his father's death was an infant. When a boy of eleven, his mother died also, leaving him an orphan, but he found friends, however, and was reared in a family by the name of Rice. In 1852, when he had reached the age of seventeen years, he accompanied his brother George to the United States. They came in a sailing-vessel from Bremen, and landed in New York after a passage of thirty-four days, during which they encountered some rough weather. They were young and inexperienced, and after remaining in New York City about ten days, strangers in a strange

land, unable to speak the language, or understand what was said to them when addressed, they found themselves with empty purses. The necessity of earning money was apparent, and they obtained employment for a time with the firm of Fisher & Co., who sent them to a farm near Brunswick, N. J.

After working at the latter place two months at \$10 and \$12 per month, they concluded that they had amassed enough capital to proceed further on their journey into the country. Accordingly they turned their faces Westward and went to Louisville, Ky., where some old acquaintances were living. They passed two years in that city, where Gottlieb learned the blacksmith's trade and his brother worked at wagon-making, having learned his trade in the old country. Gottlieb received \$40 per year while learning his trade, and the young men now felt rich enough to go in search of further experience. In July, 1854, they went to Terre Haute, Ind., where Gottlieb was engaged at his trade until January of the following year. In the meantime his sister had recently arrived from Germany, and settled in Westfield, Clark Co., Ill. George was taken very ill in Terre Haute, and needing care, left his brother there and went to his sister's in Illinois. In the winter of 1855 Gottlieb also came to this State, and was engaged at his trade in Decatur until June; he then came to Coles County and established his business at Campbell, thence went to Farmington, where he remained until 1862. At that time he threw down the anvil, and offered himself in the service of his adopted country.

Gottlieb Bidle was mustered in with Co. I, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf., and served three years. He was faithful in the discharge of his military duties, and was with his regiment throughout the entire time, with the exception of two months, when he was lying ill in the hospital at Nashville. In the spring of 1863 his regiment became a part of Wilder's Brigade, and took part in the battles of Perryville, Milton, Hoover's Gap, Chattanooga, Chickamunga, New Hope Church, Atlanta, Selma, and numerous minor skirmishes. After the close of the war, he returned home and resumed his trade, in which he was successful, and in 1867 he purchased 100 acres of land near Campbell. He then engaged in an

extensive farming business, at the same time continuing in his trade. He was successful in both enterprises, and now owns a fine estate containing 270 acres of land, nearly all of which is under cultivation. His residence and farm buildings are pleasant and commodious, and he also owns property in Camphell. In conducting his farm, he has given considerable attention to raising draft horses of Clyde blood.

Mr. Bidle was married, Oct. 30, 1856, to Miss Sophronia Walker. Mrs. Bidle is the daughter of Richard and Mary Ann (Starks) Walker, and was born Sept. 13, 1838, in Coles County, Ill. A family of ten children was born to them: John, deceased in childhood; Albert, James; Mary, deceased at the age of seventeen; David, George, Louisa C., Joseph, Julia and Richard.

Mr. Bidle has acquired his property by his own exertions. He is in independent circumstances, and desiring rest from the cares of active business, has rented his land, and is passing the closing years of his life in the enjoyment of ease and prosperity. In politics, Mr. Bidle is a Republican, and has served as Justice of the Peace, and also held other local offices, giving general satisfaction to the people in the discharge of his public duties. He is a member of the United Brethren Church, and of the G. A. R.



GEORGE W. HUFFMAN, junior member of the firm of Huffman Bros., brick manufacturers at Charleston, was born in this county March 6, 1846, and is consequently in the prime of life. During his boyhood and youth he attended the common schools and remained on the farm of his father until twenty years of age. He then rented a tract of land, to which he gave his attention for a period of four years, and in 1870 became associated with his brother in the manufacture of brick. This partnership continued about four years, and then our subject served a year on the Charleston police force. The following year he was variously employed, and subsequently was

City Marshal of Charleston, and for two years thereafter was assigned to night duty on the police force. He afterward joined his brother again in the manufacture of brick, in which he has since continued with fair success.

Mr. Huffman, on the 10th of October, 1833, was united in marriage with Miss Mary L., the daughter of George and Jane Hutchinson, and who was born in Cambridge, Ohio, Feb. 28, 1860. Her father was a native of the same town, and in the fall after the birth of his daughter Mary, came West, and located at Charleston, where his death took place in February, 1871. The mother is still living.

Mr. and Mrs. Huffman are the parents of one child, a daughter, Maude. They occupy a snug home, and enjoy the esteem and confidence of scores of friends. Mr. H., politically, is decidedly Democratic, and socially a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F.



RP. HACKETT, retired farmer and merchant of Charleston, is a native of Coles County, Ill., and was born Nov. 8, 1838. He is the son of Levi and Sarah (Adkins) Hackett, who were natives of Kentucky. The father was born on the 14th of November, 1812, and the mother Dec. 30, 1814. The grandfather was Peter Hackett, who was a farmer and a soldier in the early wars, and died in Kentucky. The father came to Coles County, Ill., in 1835, a single man. The mother's father was James Adkins, and he came to Coles County in 1835.

The father and mother were married in 1836, two and one-half miles south of Charleston, and had a family of twelve children, in which the number seven predominated in several ways; there were seven boys and seven girls; seven of them had black eyes, and seven had blue. They all lived to be men and women. Levi after marriage purchased a farm in Charleston Township, four miles southwest of the city, which consisted of forty acres; he was a

blacksmith by trade and followed that occupation in connection with his farming. He lived in Charleston Township until 1857, and then moved into Ashmore Township, purchasing 220 acres of land. He remained there four years and then removed to Douglas County in the fall of 1861, where he purchased a small farm of ninety acres, upon which he resided until his death on the 2d of March, 1886. He had a family of eight children, of whom five boys are now living: R. P.; Le Grand; Robert M.; Josephus, and Richard H.

For many years the father was a Henry Clay Whig, and at the dissolution of that party and the organization of the Republican party he joined his political fortunes with the latter. He was a member of the Church of God, and was a man of lovable traits of character, never speaking a wrong word of a neighbor, or never doing anything that would offend anyone. He was a happy man in his family relations, and loved all church organizations. His widow, the mother of our subject, is still living on the farm.

The subject of this biography was raised on a farm and obtained his early education in the school which was taught three miles from his father's house. He lived at home until nineteen years of age, at which time he was married to Miss Ann N. Waltrip, who was the daughter of John and Susan (Williams) Waltrip, natives of Breckinridge County, Ky., who came to Coles County in 1835, and settled in Hutton Township. They purchased 240 acres of land, and lived on the same for forty years. He then came to Charleston and engaged in the grocery business for two years, at the end of which time he retired from business and died in September, 1885. The mother died in 1886. They had a family of eight children, three of whom are now living: Mrs. Hackett, Alexander, and William S.

Mr. Hackett after marriage engaged in farming on a rented farm, and purchased seventy-five acres in Hutton Township, Coles Co., Ill., in 1861, and lived on this farm until 1862. On the 18th of August, that year, he enlisted in Co. K, 123d Ill. Vol. Inf., and was in the service for three years, during which time he participated in the battles of Perryville, Hoover's Gap, Chickamanga, Atlanta,

Milton, Tenn., Flat Sholes, Ga., Noonday Creek and Selma, Ala., and many skirmishes, being under fire altogether fifty-two times. He was on detached duty in the rebel lines, charged with the care of a wounded Lieutenant Colonel for four weeks. He was wounded at Milton, Tenn., in the right groin with an ounce ball, and was in the hospital about two months. He still carries the ball. He also received a flesh wound in the shoulder, from a bushwhacker.

After he returned from the war Mr. Hackett resumed farming on his farm, on which he remained until 1872, when he removed two and one-half miles east of Charleston, on 160 acres of land, for which he paid \$4,000, to which at various times he added 165 acres of land, and afterward sold eighty; he then repurchased eighty-five acres. In 1884 he left his farm and moved to Charleston where he engaged in mercantile business for three years. He purchased two blocks in the city in the Anderson Addition, on which were a house and barn, and paid therefor \$2,500, and also bought twelve acres southeast of the city, for which he paid \$1,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Hackett have a family of nine children: William J. married Miss Lizzie Lietch, and they have one child named Neta; Eliza E. is now Mrs. George Davis, and is the mother of three children—Carrie B., Orrin and Charles; Noah M. married Miss Elsie Kelley, and they have three children—Zeffie G., Nioma, Ida E.; Le Grand E. married Miss Liza Eastman; Henry M., Ida J., Lula J. F., Fay R., Reason A. Mr. Hackett is a member of the Republican party, and a comrade of the G. A. R. He and his wife are members of the Church of God. He was converted at the age of eighteen years, in what was known as the Separate Baptist Church, and was a member of the same for seventeen years, and filled the office of Deacon for four years. He then withdrew from that body and united with the Church of God, in which he held the office of Deacon for six years. This church was organized in 1877 at Mt. Pleasant on his farm, and at his house. In 1879 a church was built on his farm, to which he contributed half an acre of ground, worth \$50, and also \$75 in cash, and has always been a liberal supporter of the same.

INDEX.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

A

Adams, John	23
Adams, John Q.	39
Adams, Mrs. Olive A.	204
Allen, Wm Z.	194
Allison, J.	293
Ames, Oliver H.	537
Anderson, Bruce	487
Anderson, H.	516
Anderson, James	193
Armstrong, Joseph	200
Arterburn, Green	188
Arthur, Chester A.	99
Ashby, Phillip	215
Ashworth, L. A.	203
Ashworth, Mark S.	202
Avey, Richard	192

B

Baird, Z. J.	472
Baker, Basil	410
Barnes, R. C.	191
Barnsback, H. C.	206
Barr, Wm. M.	190
Beavers, John B.	189
Beavers, J. W.	539
Benefiel, J. B.	519
Bensley, T. A.	550
Berry, G. K.	557
Beveridge, John L.	171
Bidle, G. F.	575
Bidle, J. H.	402
Bissell, Wm. H.	151
Bitner, J. W.	422
Blevins, J. H.	204
Bond, Shadrach	111
Bower, O. C.	426
Boyd, Joseph E.	230
Bridges, Dr. V. R.	520
Brooks, A.	415
Brooks, Dr. J. C.	220

Brown, C. F.	433
Brown, E. W.	397
Brown, F. A.	425
Brown, Jerome A.	223
Brown, J. I.	472
Brown, J. T.	212
Bruner, A. J.	514
Buchanan, James	75
Buckler, Harriet	190
Bull, T. J.	512
Burgess, Wm.	227
Burgner, Conrad	257
Burgner, G. F.	205
Burgner, J. Morris	210
Busbey, William D.	384
Butler, Dr. A. C.	401

C

Campbell, Daniel	273
Candy, A. R.	317
Carlin, Thomas	135
Carter, Joseph	289
Cecil, H. H.	447
Chambers, H.	243
Chambers, Dr. W. M.	204
Chapman, S. E.	281
Chettle, Wm. M.	276
Childress, John	544
Clark, James H.	239
Clark, Wm.	282
Cleveland, S. Grover	121
Cochran, Wm. H.	304
Cofer, Col. John	305
Cofer, Thomas N.	285
Coles, Edward	115
Coley, Robert I.	334
Combs, W. A.	274
Combs, W. H.	279
Craig, A. J.	276
Craig, Isaac N.	466
Craig, James W.	285
Craig, James W.	531
Craig, Lafayette	492
Crawford, John G.	242
Cullom, Shelly M.	175
Cunningham, John	258

Cunningham, J. T.	440
Cunningham, Judge J. R.	492
Cunningham, Mrs. Sarah E.	280
Curtis, Charles	308
Curtis, S. P.	247

D

Davis, David C.	211
Davis, Joseph A.	341
Deckard, Dr. J. P.	406
Dodds, W. H.	295
Dole, C. M.	373
Dole, E.	258
Dole, S. D.	393
Dollar, Ralph	330
Doty, James	438
Doty, John M.	458
Doty, J. W.	364
Doty, Levi	476
Doty, Samuel	433
Drish, Wm. H.	218
Dunbar, Lucian	384
Duncan, Joseph	131
Duncan, S. R.	561
Duncan, Dr. W. S.	221
Dutro, Hannah	222
Duvall, P. M.	564

E

Easton, Ezekiel	233
Edman, Kenny	287
Edwards, Ninian	119
Elkin, Clark	545
Ellis, Jesse K.	240
Ellison, Johnson	231
Ellison, Moses	201
Emhuff, Stephen	543
Everhart, M.	232
Eversole, Henry	287
Ewing, Wm. L. D.	127

F

Fall, D. M.	564
Farrar, J. W.	529
Feagan, Andrew	219
Ferguson, J. M.	497
Ferguson, M. J.	292
Ferguson, Dr. O. W.	219
Ficklin, O. B.	187
Fillmore, Millard	67
Flenner, Martin	242
Florer, S.	254
Ford, Thomas	139
Foreman, John	252
Foster, Eli	238
Fowler, H.	214
Freeman, F. F.	331
Freeman, N. S.	328
French, Augustus C.	143
Fuller, R. R.	497
Funkhouser, A. J.	210
Funkhouser, W. L. R.	214
Furry, Peter	488

G

Galbreath, W. H.	253
Gannaway, J. J.	331
Gardner, S. D.	347
Garfield, James A.	95
Garner, Dr. J. S.	355
Garver, Philip	260
Geyer, George	314
Gibbs, I. N.	369
Gilbert, M. W.	336
Gilmer, Wm. A.	371
Glassco, E. T.	395
Glassco, M.	393
Gobert, Peter	437
Goodell, J. A.	570
Goodyear, John S.	249
Grant, James	527

INDEX.

Grant, Ulysses S.....77
 Grant, Wm.....521
 Gray Bros.....291
 Gray, George W.....497
 Gray, J. B.....507
 Green, C. D.....240
 Groen, Joseph F.....332
 Green, J. H.....411
 Green, N. R.....298
 Griffin, G. B.....498
 Grimes, Thomas W.....540
 Grove, J. W. B.....288
 Guest, Wm.....259
 Gwin, John W.....244

H

Hackett, R. P.....576
 Hall, James M.....548
 Hall, John J.....465
 Hallock, George R.....261
 Hamilton, James.....323
 Hamilton, John M.....179
 Hanks, Dennis.....555
 Hanley, J. T.....448
 Hanna, J. W.....526
 Harmon, A. F.....470
 Harriscn, Wm. H.....51
 Harwood, E.....353
 Hawkins, O. D.....261
 Hayes, R. B.....91
 Hendrix, John.....394
 Henry, Dr. A. M.....562
 Hildreth, John.....250
 Hobart, F. E.....566
 Honn, Andrew A.....347
 Honn, D. W.....199
 Honn, James R.....391
 Honn, P. K.....478
 Hood, James.....491
 Hoots, John.....565
 Hopper, Dudley.....456
 Horton, Wm. F.....395
 Huckaba, A. H.....370
 Hudson, Jesse.....224
 Huffman, George W.....576
 Huffman, John.....573
 Huffman, John T.....571
 Hughes, Judge J. F.....524
 Hunt, Madison.....327
 Hurst, John.....318

J

Jackson, Andrew.....43
 Jackson, Samuel J.....228
 Jefferson, Thomas.....27
 Jeffris, A.....338
 Jeffris, Ralph.....348
 Jenkins, E. A.....528
 Jenkins, W. M.....362
 Johnson, Andrew.....83
 Johnson, Frederick.....308
 Johnson, Irvin.....450
 Johnson, John.....307

Johnson, John.....353
 Johnson, Wm.....502
 Johnston, J. H.....522
 Jones, T. T.....358
 Jones, W. D.....352

K

Kane, James.....286
 Kelly, Larbia.....409
 Kerns, Mrs. M. P.....474
 King, John W.....396

L

Layton, H. C.....277
 Leitch, C. E.....515
 Leitch, J. W.....410
 Leitch, R. N.....572
 Lincoln, Abraham.....79
 Linder, Elisha.....494
 Lippincott, Samuel.....458
 Logan, S. F.....380
 Luce, Moses H.....562

M

Madison, James.....31
 Major, J. A.....561
 Major, W. L.....506
 Manroe, A. J.....251
 Martin, David.....488
 Martin, G. B.....389
 Martin, James A.....556
 McCallister, Robert J.....316
 McCarthy, Daniel.....379
 McCartney, F. M.....343
 McClelland, J. H.....521
 McConnell, John A.....382
 McCrory, James.....333
 McDonald, N. S.....368
 McFadden, R. H.....508
 McGrath, Hon. Thos. I.....552
 McMorris, J. N.....479
 McMurtrie, D. F.....569
 McNeel, J.....361
 Millar, G. V.....425
 Millar, Wm.....435
 Miller, George L.....451
 Miller, Wm.....568
 Mills, Rev. Samuel.....271
 Minor, Gideon.....342
 Minton, W. S.....559
 Moffett, J. N.....356
 Mohlenhoff, Henry.....375
 Monfort, J. J.....363
 Monfort, J. A.....365
 Monroe, Elias.....477
 Monroe, Col. James.....442
 Monroe, James.....35
 Montgomery, Alexander.....333

Montgomery, Dr. J. T.....434
 Moore, Isaac N.....316
 Morgan, Dr. W. D.....388
 Morgan, Wm.....381
 Mountjoy, W. D.....382
 Mozier, A. M.....468
 Murphy, J. W.....325
 Murphy, M. A.....326
 Myers, Wm.....391

N

Neal, A. D.....270
 Neal, H. A.....432
 Neff, John.....429
 Newman, M.....263
 Nicholson, A. B.....484
 Norton, L. J.....555

O

Oglesby, Richard J.....163
 O'Hair, C. B.....542
 O'Hair, M. F.....494
 O'Hair, Z.....365
 Orland, W. P.....539
 Owens, R. G.....480

P

Palmer, John M.....167
 Parker, J. H.....572
 Patterson, E. G.....402
 Peak, W. J.....412
 Peck, C. G.....398
 Pemberton, J. J.....403
 Pepper, T. J.....496
 Perisho, Isaac.....457
 Perisho, J. E.....329
 Pfeifer, George M.....485
 Pfeifer, L. W. M.....541
 Philhower, A. W.....351
 Philhower, W. A.....511
 Phillips, J. M.....439
 Pierce, Franklin.....71
 Pinnell, A. J.....345
 Polk, James K.....59
 Poorman, John.....387
 Prall, Cornelius.....313
 Puleston, W. H.....392
 Purtil, W. F.....390

R

Raines, George.....462
 Rankin, John.....548
 Rardin, J. H.....538
 Rardin, Samuel.....530
 Ray, S. E.....213

Reat, Mrs. Emma.....196
 Record, S. H.....371
 Redman, B. B.....374
 Reel, J. F.....191
 Reel, Dr. S. A.....533
 Reilly, Patrick.....565
 Replogle, David.....195
 Replogle, Matthias.....195
 Reynolds, C. C.....413
 Reynolds, John.....123
 Rice, Amos, Jr.....348
 Rice, Amos, Sr.....344
 Rice, J. C.....473
 Ricketts, Joshua.....486
 Ricketts, Oscar J.....376
 Riley, Nimrod.....234
 Roberts, Isaac N.....477
 Roberts, Wm. D.....430
 Roberts, W. H.....216
 Ruddell, Dr. C. B.....423
 Rutherford, Dr. H.....573
 Rutherford, John.....370

S

Sain, I. W.....593
 Sanders, David.....513
 Sandoe, George.....549
 Sargent, John S.....267
 Sawin, J. G.....291
 Scott, E. D.....483
 Schulhoff, F. M.....569
 Senteney, Thomas.....470
 Shafer, William.....505
 Shaver, Jonathan.....296
 Shields, W. J.....469
 Shinn, James.....449
 Shoemaker, T. T.....366
 Shoemaker, Wm.....383
 Silvers, J. O.....490
 Silverthorn, Dr. L. L.....237
 Slater, Johh G.....454
 Snapp, J. N.....360
 Snowden, J. F.....398
 Snowden, W. D.....379
 Spittler, John.....475
 Stites, N. S.....527
 Stites, Wm.....519
 Stokes, John.....268
 Suitt, A. D.....438
 Sumerlin, Adolf.....546
 Swisher, Lockard.....495

T

Taylor, Isaac.....416
 Taylor, Dr. Smith.....453
 Taylor, Zachary.....63
 Temple, Thomas W.....574
 Thornton, Wm. H.....269
 Tiley, S. G.....335
 Tinch, Alexander.....248
 Toby, J. R.....558
 Traver, Mrs. Mary S.....358

INDEX.

Trower, Mrs. P. A.452
Turney, B. D.309
Turney, J. B.344
Tyler, John.45

V

Van Buren, Martin.47
Vannatta, I. N.264

W

Waddill, W. G.558
Wallace, James.306
Wallace, W. H.425
Washington, George.19
Watkins, J. H.509
Weiss, Gunther.534
Whisenand, A. J.357

White, Silas.367
Wible, J. H.345
Wiley, James.415
Williams, J. H.274
Williams, R. E. Y.361
Williams, Wm.510
Wilson, John.319
Winkleblack, Daniel B.320
Winkleblack, Jacob.420
Woods, G. W.300
Wood, John.155
Woods, T. E.462
Woodson, James W.227

Wright, Henry.275
Wright, J. S.337
Wright, Robert W.421
Wyeth, Samuel.467
Wyeth, Thomas E.310

Y

Yates, Richard.158
Yeargin, James S.460
Yeargin, Lyman T.501
Young, Joshua.263

Z

Zimmerman, W. B.414

PORTRAITS

Adams, John.22
Adams, John Q.38
Ames, O. H.536
Arthur, Chester A.88
Benefiel, J. B.518
Beveridge, John L.170
Bissell, Wm. H.150
Bond, Shadrach.110
Buchanan, James.74
Burgner, Conrad.256
Bushey, W. D.386
Butler, Dr. A. C.400
Butler, Mrs. A. C.400
Cecil, H. H.446
Cecil, Mrs. H. H.446
Cleveland, S. Grover.102

Coles, Edward.114
Edwards, Ninian.118
Ewing, Wm. L. D.126
Ficklin, O. B.186
Fillmore, Millard.66
Ford, Thomas.138
French, Augustus.142
Garfield, James A.94
Geyer, George.312
Grant, U. S.68
Hall, J. J.464
Hall, Mrs. J. J.464
Hamilton, John M.178
Hanks, D. F.554
Harrison, Wm. Henry.50
Hayes, Rutherford B.90

Honn, D. W.198
Honn, Mrs. D. W.198
Jackson, Andrew.42
Jefferson, Thomas.26
Johnson, Andrew.82
Kelly, Larbia.408
Lincoln, Abraham.78
Madison, James.30
Matteson, Joel A.146
Monros, James.34
Neff, John.428
Neff, Mrs. John.428
Oglesby, Richard J.162
Palmer, John M.166
Philhower, A. W.350
Pierce, Franklin.70

Polk, James K.58
Poorman, John.386
Prall, Cornelius.312
Rardin, John H.536
Reynolds, John.122
Scott, Dr. E. D.482
Silverthorn, L. L.236
Silverthorn, Mrs. L. L.236
Taylor, Isaac.418
Taylor, Mrs. Isaac.418
Taylor, Zachary.62
Van Buren, Martin.46
Washington, George.18
Wood, John.154
Yeargin, L. T.500

Views.

Densley, T. A.284
Bull, T. J.340
Craig, Lafayette.266
Edman, Kenny.208
Gilmer, Wm. A.322
Hood, James.266

Huckaba, A. H.340
Hudson, Jesse.226
Miller, George L.284
Morgan, Dr. W. D.302
Morgan, Wm.340
O'Hair, M. E.322

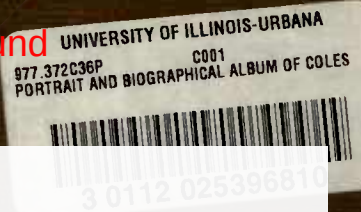
Pfeifer, Louis W. M.378
Rice, Amos.378
Rice, J. C.378
Roberts, I. N.322
Sain, I. W.360
Sanders, David.302

Taylor, Isaac.208
Vail, F.284
Watkins, J. H.302
Williams, Wm.360
Woodson, James.226

<http://stores.ebay.com/Ancestry-Found>

<http://stores.ebay.com/Ancestry-Found>

<http://stores.ebay.com/Ancestry-Found>



Thank you for your order !

This media compilation, our respective advertisements and marketing materials are protected under U.S. Copyright law. The Federal Digital Millennium Copyright Act and various International Copyright laws prohibit the unauthorized duplication and reselling of this media. Infringement of any of these written or electronic intellectual property rights can result in legal action in a U.S. court.

If you believe your disc is an unauthorized copy and not sold to you by **Rockyiguana** or **Ancestry Found** please let us know by emailing at

<mailto:dclark4811@gmail.com>

It takes everyone's help to make the market a fair and safe place to buy and sell.