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ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SURVEY

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PORTRAIT AND
BIOGRAPHICAL



—OF—

IROQUOIS COUNTY, ILLINOIS,

CONTAINING

Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens,

Together with Biographies of all the

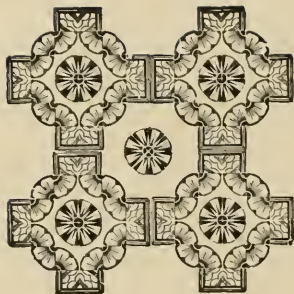
Governors of the State, and of the Presidents

OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO:

LAKE CITY PUBLISHING CO.

1893. 6



PREFACE.



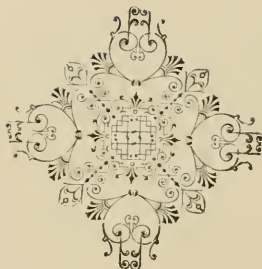
THE greatest of English historians, MACAULAY, and one of the most brilliant writers of the present century, has said: "The history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." In conformity with this idea the PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD of this county has been prepared. Instead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

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

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

January, 1893.

LAKE CITY PUBLISHING CO.



 PORTRAITS

 AND

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OF THE
GOVERNORS OF ILLINOIS,

AND OF THE

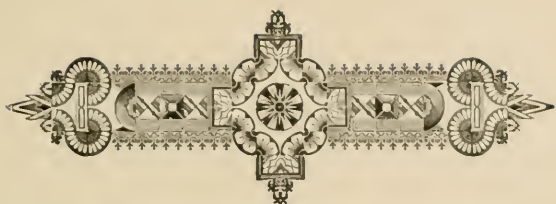
PRESIDENTS

OF THE

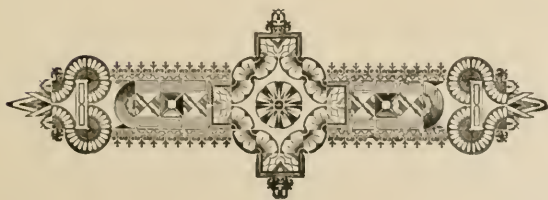


 UNITED STATES



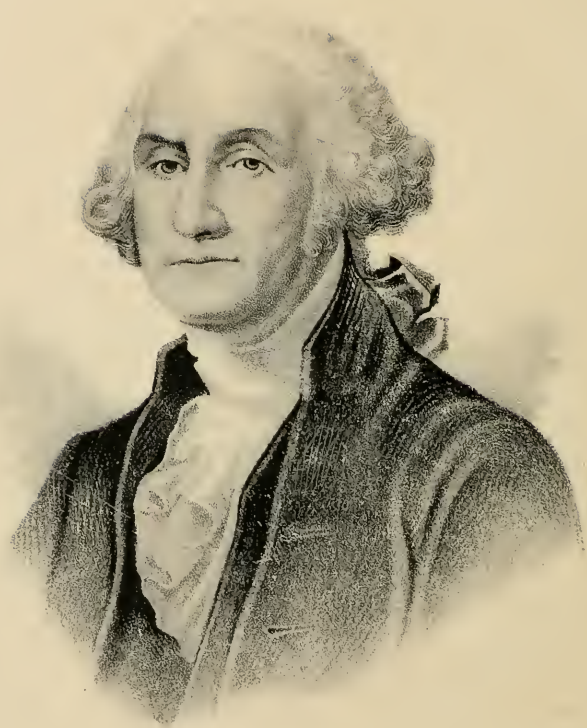


PRESIDENTS.





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Geo Washington



GEORGE WASHINGTON.



THE 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 tan, 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.

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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 comals, 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 by word by over forty different towns. He moved to Boston in 1768, and became one of the most courageous and prominent advocates of the popular cause, and was chosen a member of the General Court (the Legislature) in 1770.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

While Mr. Adams was Vice President the great

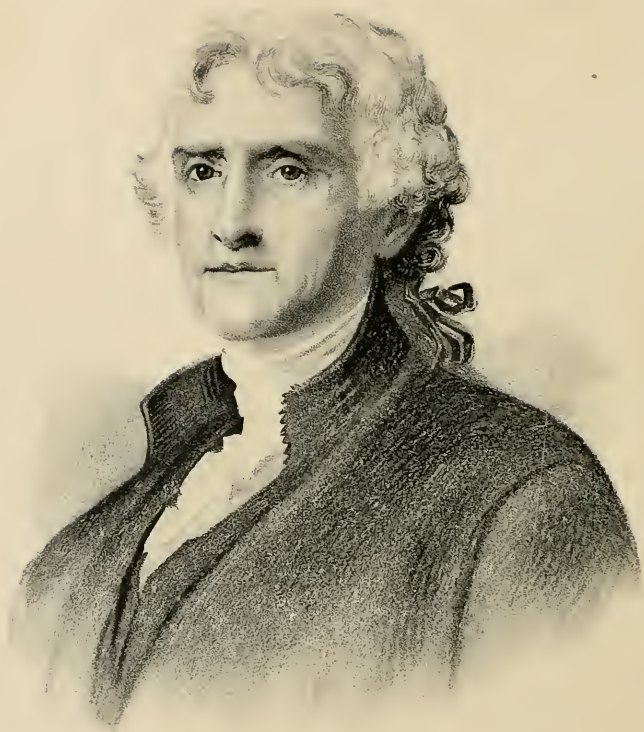
French Revolution shook the continent of Europe, and it was upon this point which he was at issue with the majority of his countrymen led by Mr. Jefferson. Mr. Adams felt no sympathy with the French people in their struggle, for he had no confidence in their power of self-government, and he utterly abhorred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

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

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

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

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Mr. Jefferson



THOMAS JEFFERSON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In 1809, at the expiration of the second term for which Mr. Jefferson had been elected, he determined to retire from political life. For a period of nearly fifty 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

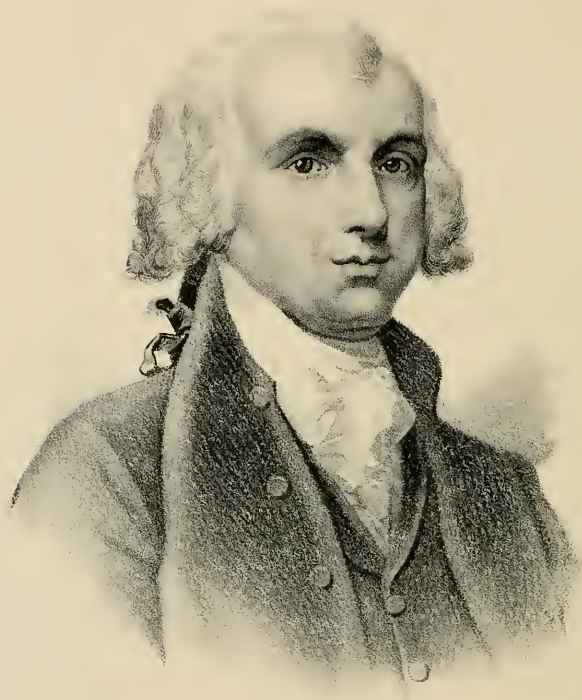
of the Declaration of American Independence, great preparations were made in every part of the Union for its celebration, as the nation's jubilee, and the citizens of Washington, to add to the solemnity of the occasion, invited Mr. Jefferson, as the framer, and one of the few surviving signers of the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

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James McNeill

JAMES MADISON.

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

The Madison family were among the early emigrants to the New World, landing upon the shores of the Chesapeake but 15 years after the settlement of Jamestown. The father of James Madison was an opulent planter, residing upon a very fine estate called "Montpelier," Orange Co., Va. The mansion was situated in the midst of scenery highly picturesque and romantic, on the west side of South-west Mountain, at the foot of

Blue Ridge. It was but 25 miles from the home of Jefferson at Monticello. The closest personal and political attachment existed between these illustrious men, from their early youth until death.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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James 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 afterward employed with unremitting energy for the public good,

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

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

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

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

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

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

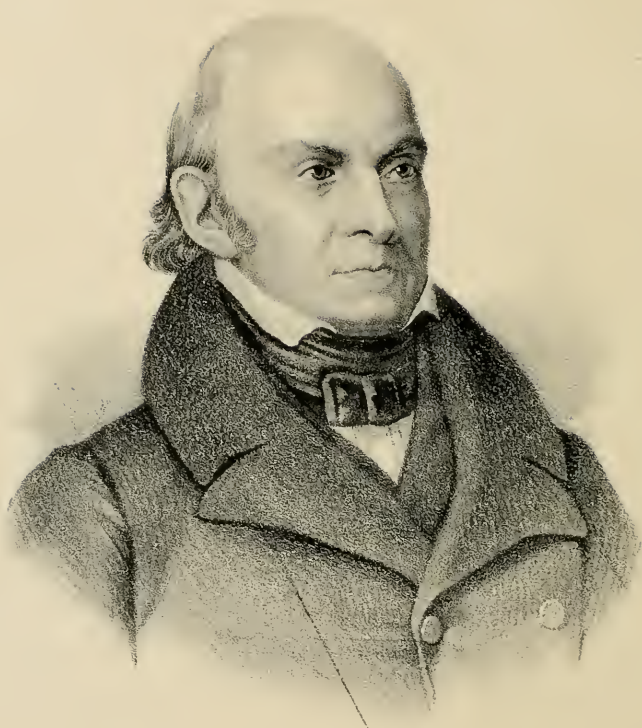
From France Mr. Monroe went to England to obtain from that country some recognition of our rights as neutrals, and to remonstrate against those odious impressments of our seamen. But England was unrelenting. He again returned to England on the same mission, but could receive no redress. He returned to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

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

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

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

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J. Q. Adams



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

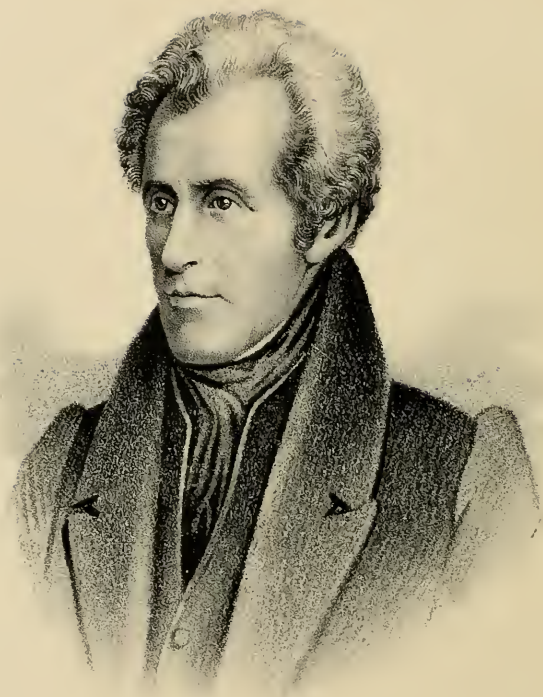
Mr. Adams was, to a very remarkable degree, abstemious and temperate in his habits; always rising early, and taking much exercise. When at his home in Quincy, he has been known to walk, before breakfast, seven miles to Boston. In Washington, it was said that he was the first man up in the city, lighting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

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

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

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

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Andrew Jackson

ANDREW JACKSON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

sessions;—a distance of about eight hundred miles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Mr. Van Buren



MARTIN VAN BUREN.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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W. H. Harrison

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

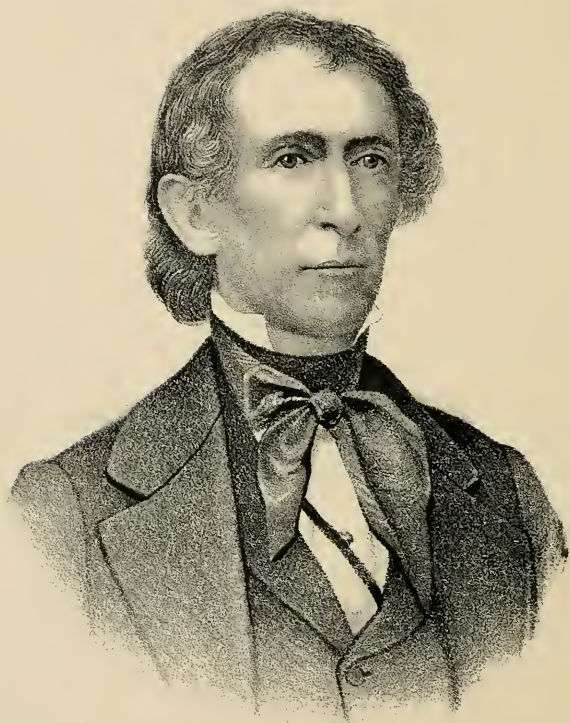
In 1816, Gen. Harrison was chosen a member of the National House of Representatives, to represent the District of Ohio. In Congress he proved an active member; and whenever he spoke, it was with force of reason and power of eloquence, which arrested the attention of all the members.

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

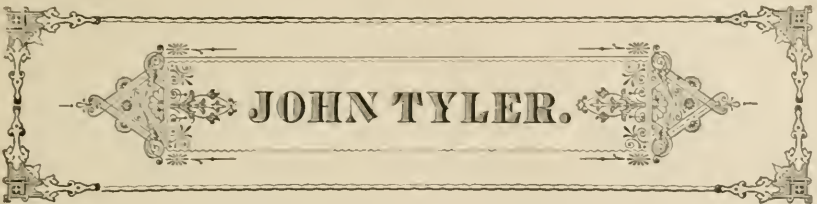
In 1836, the friends of Gen. Harrison brought him forward as a candidate for the Presidency against Van Buren, but he was defeated. At the close of Mr. Van Buren's term, he was re-nominated by his party, and Mr. Harrison was unanimously nominated by the Whigs, with John Tyler for the Vice Presidency.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

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

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John Tyler



JOHN TYLER.



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

At nineteen years of age, he commenced the practice of law. His success was rapid and astonishing. It is said that three months had not elapsed ere there was scarcely a case on the docket of the court in which he was

not retained. When but twenty-one years of age, he was almost unanimously elected to a seat in the State Legislature. He connected himself with the Democratic party, and warmly advocated the measures of Jefferson and Madison. For five successive years he was elected to the Legislature, receiving nearly the unanimous vote of his county.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

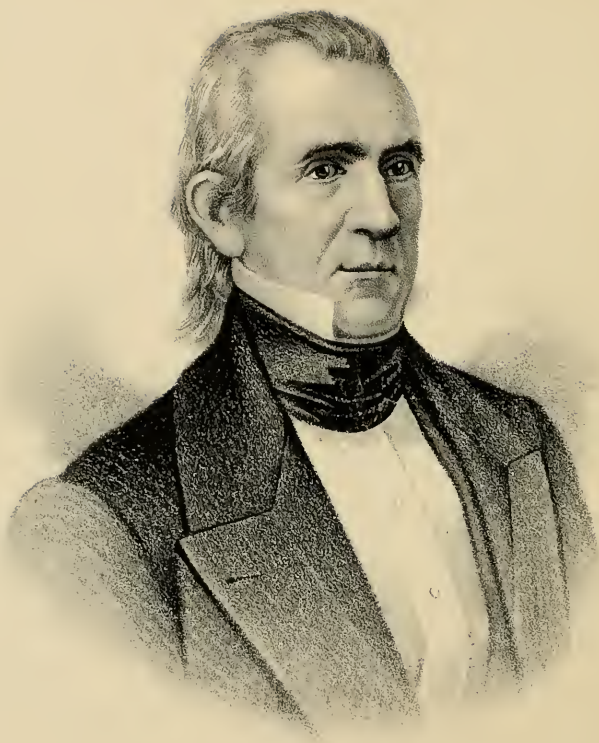
Still the President attempted to conciliate. He appointed a new cabinet of distinguished Whigs and Conservatives, carefully leaving out all strong party men. Mr. Webster soon found it necessary to resign, forced out by the pressure of his Whig friends. Thus the four years of Mr. Tyler's unfortunate administration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

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

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

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

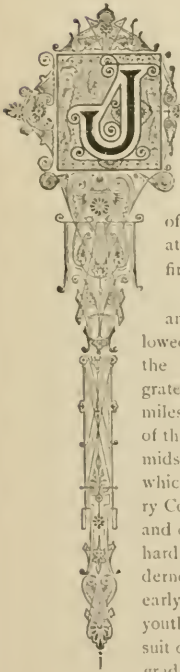
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James K. Polk



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.

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Zachary Taylor.



ZACHARY TAYLOR.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The tidings of the brilliant victory of Buena Vista spread the wildest enthusiasm over the country. The name of Gen. Taylor was on every one's lips. The Whig party decided to take advantage of this wonderful popularity in bringing forward the unpolished, untried, 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, honest, saving contempt for learning of every kind."

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Millard Fillmore



MILLARD FILLMORE.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Franklin Pierce



FRANKLIN PIERCE.



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

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

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

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

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

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James Buchanan



JAMES BUCHANAN.



JAMES BUCHANAN, the fifteenth President of the United States, was born in a small frontier town, at the foot of the eastern ridge of the Alleghenies, in Franklin Co., Penn., on the 23d of April, 1791. The place where the humble cabin of his father stood was called Stony Batter. It was a wild and romantic spot in a gorge of the mountains, with towering summits rising grandly all around. His father was a native of the north of Ireland; a poor man, who had emigrated in 1783, with little property save his

own strong arms. Five years afterwards he married Elizabeth Spear, the daughter of a respectable farmer, and, with his young bride, plunged into the wilderness, staked his claim, reared his log-hut, opened a clearing with his axe, and settled down there to perform his obscure part in the drama of life. In this secluded home, where James was born, he remained for eight years, enjoying but few social or intellectual advantages. When James was eight years of age, his father removed to the village of Mercersburg, where his son was placed at school, and commenced a course of study in English, Latin and Greek. His progress was rapid, and at the age of fourteen, he entered Dickinson College, at Carlisle. Here he developed remarkable talent, and took his stand among the first scholars in the institution. His application to study was intense, and yet his native powers en-

abled him to master the most abstruse subjects with facility.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In the year 1856, a national Democratic convention nominated Mr. Buchanan for the Presidency. The political conflict was one of the most severe in which our country has ever engaged. All the friends of slavery were on one side; all the advocates of its restriction and final abolition, on the other. Mr. Fremont, the candidate of the enemies of slavery, received 114 electoral votes. Mr. Buchanan received 174, and was elected. The popular vote stood 1,330,618, for Fremont, 1,224,750 for Buchanan. On March 4th, 1857, Mr. Buchanan was inaugurated.

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

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

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

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

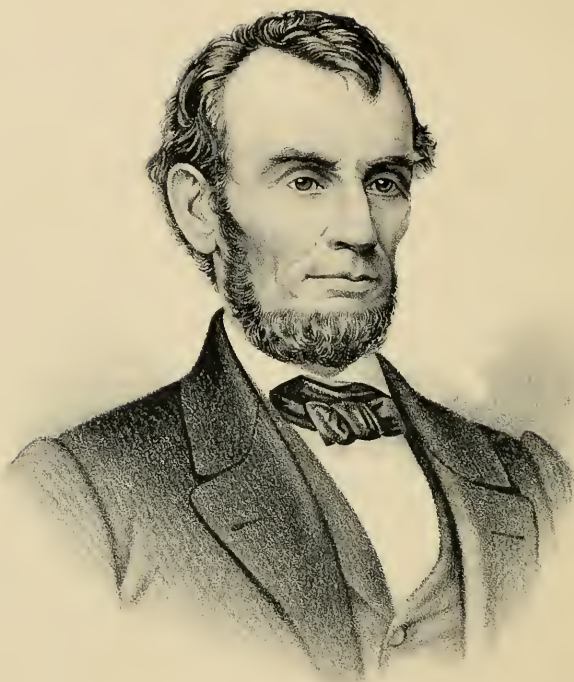
As the storm increased in violence, the slaveholders claiming the right to secede, and Mr. Buchanan avowing that Congress had no power to prevent it, one of the most pitiable exhibitions of governmental imbecility was exhibited the world has ever seen. He declared that Congress had no power to enforce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

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

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

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

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Your friend & comrade
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 advan

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

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

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

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

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

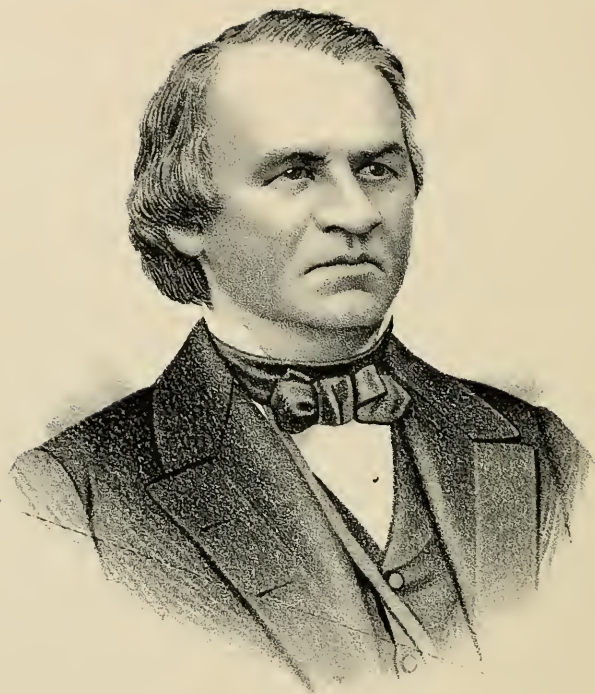
and merciful man, especially by the slaveholders, was greater than upon any other man ever elected to this high position. In February, 1861, Mr. Lincoln started for Washington, stopping in all the large cities on his way making speeches. The whole journey was fraught with much danger. Many of the Southern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

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

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

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

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Andrew Johnson



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

opposition to, the principles laid down in that speech.

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

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

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

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G. H. Grant

ULYSSES S. GRANT



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Sincerely
R. B. 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 over-taking 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.

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J. A. Garfield

JAMES A. GARFIELD.

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

The house in which James A. was born was not unlike the houses of poor Ohio farmers of that day. It

was about 20 x 30 feet, built of logs, with the spaces between the logs filled with clay. His father was a hard working farmer, and he soon had his fields cleared, an orchard planted, and a log barn built. The household comprised the father and mother and their four children—Mehetabel, Thomas, Mary and James. In May, 1823, the father, from a cold contracted in helping to put out a forest fire, died. At this time James was about eighteen months old, and Thomas about ten years old. No one, perhaps, can tell how much James was indebted to his brother's toil and self-sacrifice during the twenty years succeeding his father's death, but undoubtedly very much. He now lives in Michigan, and the two sisters live in Solon, O., near their birthplace.

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

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

The highest ambition of young Garfield until he was about sixteen years old was to be a captain of a vessel on Lake Erie. He was anxious to go aboard a vessel, which his mother strongly opposed. She finally consented to his going to Cleveland, with the understanding, however, that he should try to obtain some other kind of employment. He walked all the way to Cleveland. This was his first visit to the city. After making many applications for work, and trying to get aboard a lake vessel, and not meeting with success, he engaged as a driver for his cousin, Amos Letcher, on the Ohio & Pennsylvania Canal. Here 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 communities 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."

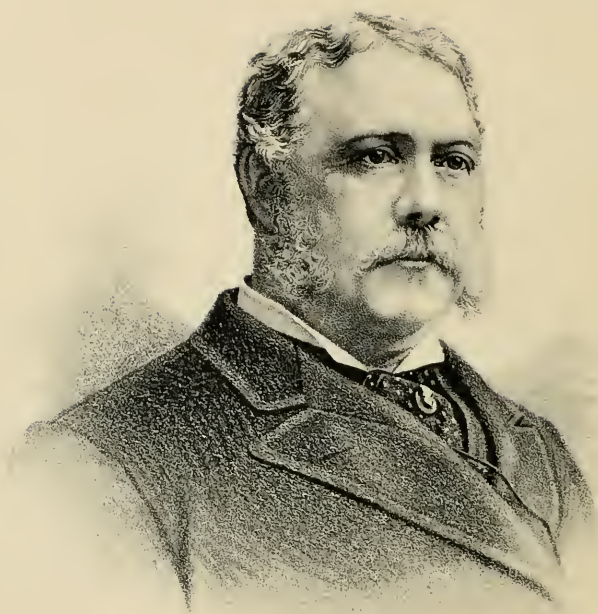
The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with

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.

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C. A. Astor,



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Grover Cleveland

S. Grover Cleveland.

STEPHEN GROVER CLEVEL-

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

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

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

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

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

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

After a long consultation, his uncle offered him a place temporarily as assistant herd-keeper, at \$30 a year, while he could "look around." One day soon afterward he boldly walked into the office of Rogers, Bowen & Rogers, of Buffalo, and told them what he wanted. A number of young men were already engaged in the office, but Grover's persistency won, and he was finally permitted to come as an office boy and have the use of the law library, for the nominal sum of \$3 or \$4 a week. Out of this he had to pay for his board and washing. The walk to and from his uncle's was a long and rugged one; and, although the first winter was a memorably severe one, his shoes were out of repair and his overcoat—he had none—yet he was nevertheless prompt and regular. On the first day of his service here, his senior employer threw down a copy of Blackstone before him with a bang that made the dust fly, saying "That's where they all begin." A titter ran around the little circle of clerks and students, as they thought that was enough to scare young Grover out of his plans; but in due time he mastered that cumbersome volume. Then, as ever afterward, however, Mr. Cleveland exhibited a talent for executiveness rather than for chasing principles through all their metaphysical possibilities. "Let us quit talking and go and do it," was practically his motto.

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

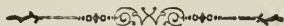
in the administration of the municipal affairs of that city. In this office as well as that of Sheriff, his performance of duty has generally been considered fair, with possibly a few exceptions which were ferreted out and magnified during the last Presidential campaign. As a specimen of his plain language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

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

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Benj. Harrison



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

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

Gen. William Henry Harrison, the son of the

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

President Harrison was born at North Bend, Hamilton Co., Ohio, Aug. 20, 1803. His life up to the time of his graduation by the Miami University, at Oxford, Ohio, was the uneventful one of a country lad of a family of small means. His father was able to give him a good education, and nothing more. He became engaged while at college to the daughter of Dr. Scott, Principal of a female school at Oxford. After graduating he determined to enter upon the study of the law. He went to Cincinnati and then read law for two years. At the expiration of that time young Harrison received the only inheritance of his life; his aunt dying left him a lot valued at \$800. He regarded this legacy as a fortune, and decided to get married at once, take this money and go to some Eastern town and begin the practice of law. He sold his lot, and with the money in his pocket, he started out with his young wife to fight for a place in the world. He

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



GOVERNORS.



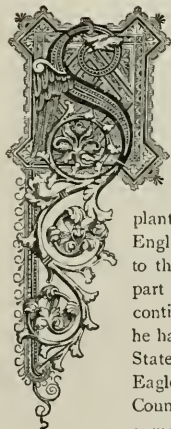


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Shadrach Bond.

SHADRACH BOND.



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

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

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

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

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

The principal points that excited the people in reference to political issues at this period were local or "internal improvements," as they were called, State banks, location of the capital, slavery and the personal characteristics of the proposed candidates. Mr. Bond represented the "Convention party," for introducing slavery into the State, supported by Elias Keitt 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 $36^{\circ} 30'$ 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 repeated under the leadership of Stephen A. Douglas, the issue as considered locally in this State was not decided until 1824, after a most furious campaign. (See sketch of Gov. Coles.) The ticket of 1818 was a compromise one, Bond representing (moderately) the pro-slavery sentiment and Menard the anti-slavery.

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

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

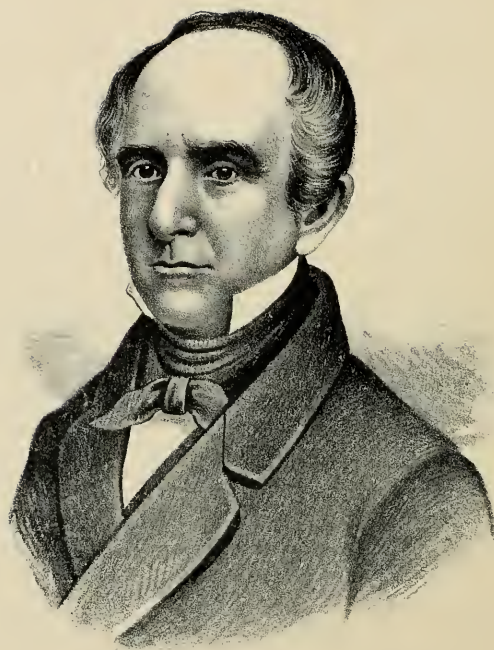
During Gov. Bond's administration a general law was passed for the incorporation of academies and towns, and one authorizing lotteries. The session of 1822 authorized the Governor to appoint commissioners, to act in conjunction with like commissioners appointed by the State of Indiana, to report on the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

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

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

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

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Edward Coles



Edward Coles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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John Reynolds

John Reynolds.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Wm. L. D. Ewing



WM. L. D. EWING.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

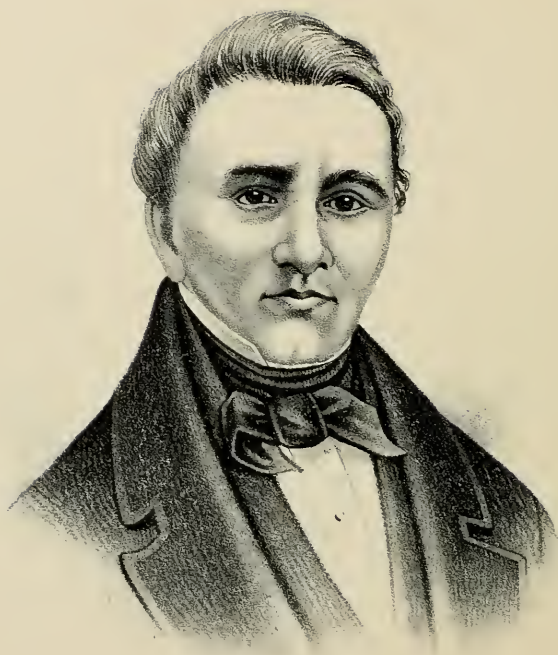
the responsible situation. This is the only time that such a juncture has happened in the history of Illinois.

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

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



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Joseph Duncan



Joseph Duncan.



JOSEPH DUNCAN, Governor 1834-8, was born at Paris, Ky., Feb. 23, 1794. At the tender age of 19 years he enlisted in the war against Great Britain, and as a soldier he acquitted himself with credit. He was an Ensign under the dauntless Croghan at Lower Sandusky, or Fort Stephenson. In Illinois he first appeared in a public capacity as Major-General of the Militia, a position which his military fame had procured him. Subsequently he became a State Senator from Jackson County, and is honorably

mentioned for introducing the first bill providing for a free-school system. In 1826, when the redoubtable John P. Cook, who had previously beaten such men as John McLean, Elias Kent Kane and ex-Gov. Bond, came up for the fourth time for Congress, Mr. Duncan was brought forward against him by his friends, greatly to the surprise of all the politicians. As yet he was but little known in the State. He was an original Jackson man at that time, being attached to his political fortune in admiration of the glory of his military achievements. His chances of success against Cook were generally regarded as hopeless, but he entered upon the campaign undaunted. His speeches, though short and devoid of ornament, were full of good sense. He made a diligent canvass of the State, Mr. Cook being hindered by the condition of his health. The most that was expected of Mr. Duncan, under the circumstances, was that he would

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

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

sincere in his opposition to the old hero, as the latter had vetoed several important western measures which were dear to Mr. Duncan. In his inaugural message he threw off the mask and took a bold stand against the course of the President. The measures 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 department he was well adapted to gain the admiration of the people. His intercourse with them was both affable and dignified. His portrait at the Governor's mansion, from which the accompanying was made, represents him as having a swarthy complexion, high cheek bones, broad forehead, piercing black eyes and straight black hair.

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

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Thos. Carlin

Thomas

Carlin.



THOMAS 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 Hult, and lived for four years on the bank of the Mississippi River, opposite the mouth of the Missouri, where he followed farming, and then removed to Greene County. He located the town site of 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 Money, and to fulfill the office

more conveniently he removed to the city of Quincy.

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

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

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

sage spoke in emphatic terms of the impolicy of the internal improvement system, presaging the evils threatened, and urged that body to do their utmost to correct the great error; yet, on the contrary, the Legislature not only decided to continue the policy but also added to its burden by voting more appropriations and ordering more improvements. Although the money market was still stringent, a further loan of \$4,000,000 was ordered for the Illinois & Michigan Canal alone. Chicago at that time began to loom up and promise to be an important city, even the great emporium of the West, as it has since indeed 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. McClernand, whom the Governor had nominated for the office. Thereupon that dignified body was denounced as a "Whig Court!" endeavoring to establish the principle of life-tenure of office.

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

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

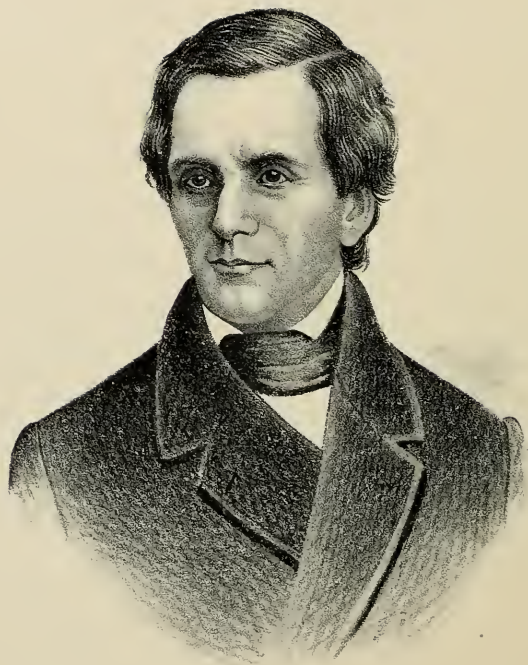
Another prominent event in the West during Gov. Carlin's term of office was the excitement caused by the Mormons and their removal from Independence, Mo., to Nauvoo, Ill., in 1840. At the same time they began to figure somewhat in State politics. On account of their believing—as they thought, according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

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

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

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

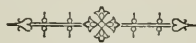
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Thomas Ford



Thomas Ford.

THOMAS FORD, Governor from 1842 to 1846, and author of a very interesting history of Illinois, was born at Uniontown, Pa., in the year 1800. His mother, after the death of her first husband

(Mr. Forquer), married Robert Ford, who was killed in 1802, by the Indians in the mountains of Pennsylvania. She was consequently left in indigent circumstances, with a large family, mostly girls. With a view to better her condition, she, in 1804, removed to Missouri, where it had been customary by the Spanish Govern-

ment 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.

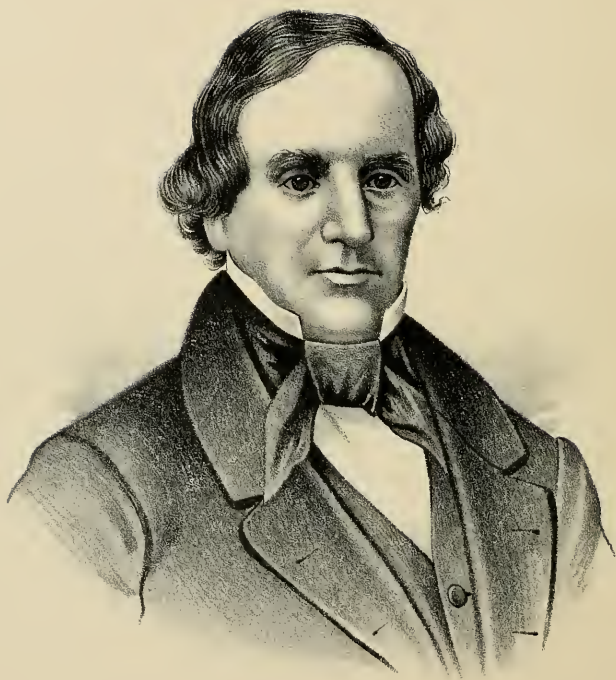
But perhaps the Governor is remembered more for his connection with the Mormon troubles than for anything else; for it was during his term of office that the "Latter-Day Saints" became so strong at Nauvoo, built their temple there, increased their numbers throughout the country, committed misdemeanors, 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 non-committal concerning Mormon affairs, and was therefore claimed by both parties and also accused by each of sympathizing too greatly with the other side. Mormonism claiming to be a system of religion, the Governor no doubt was "between two fires," and felt compelled to touch the matter rather "gingerly," and doubtless felt greatly relieved when that pestilential people left the State. Such complicated matters, especially when religion is mixed up with them, expose every person participating in them to criticism from all parties.

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

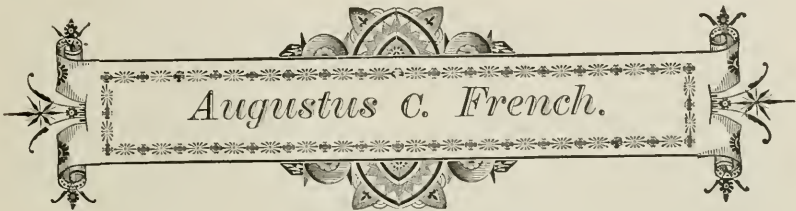
Ford's "History of Illinois" is a very readable and entertaining work, of 450 small octavo pages, and is destined to increase in value with the lapse of time. It exhibits a natural flow of compact and forcible thought, never failing to convey the nicest sense. In tracing with his trenchant pen the devious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

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

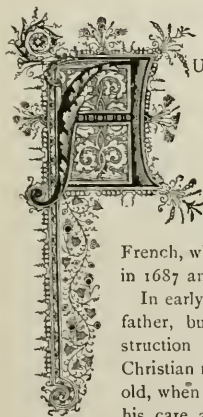
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Aug. French



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 58,706 votes, and Kilpatrick only 36,775. Richard Fells, 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 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 851,479.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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P. A. Matteson



JOEL A. MATTESON, Governor 1853-6, was born Aug. 8, 1808, in Jefferson County, New York, to which place his father had removed from Vermont three years before. His father was a farmer in fair circumstances, but a common English education was all that his only son received. Young Joel first tempted fortune as a small tradesman in Prescott, Canada, before he was of age. He returned from that place to his home, entered an academy, taught school, visited the principal Eastern cities, improved a farm his father had given him, made a tour in the South, worked there in building railroads, experienced a storm on the Gulf of Mexico, visited the gold diggings of Northern Georgia, and returned *via* Nashville to St. Louis and through Illinois to his father's home, when he married. In 1833, having sold his farm, he removed, with his wife and one child, to Illinois, and entered a claim on Government land near the head of Au Sable River, in what is now Kendall County. At that time there were not more than two neighbors within a range of ten miles of his place, and only three or four houses between him and Chicago. He opened a large farm. His family was boarded 12

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

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

In 1842 he was first elected a State Senator, but, by a bungling apportionment, 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 balloting in the Legislature (1855), these men were dropped, and Lyman Trumbull, an Anti-Nebraska Democrat, was brought up by the former, and Mr. Matteson, then Governor, by the latter. On the 11th ballot Mr. Trumbull obtained one majority, and was accordingly declared elected. Before Gov. Matteson's term expired, the Republicans were fully organized as a national party, and in 1856 put into the field a full national and State ticket, carrying the State, but not the nation.

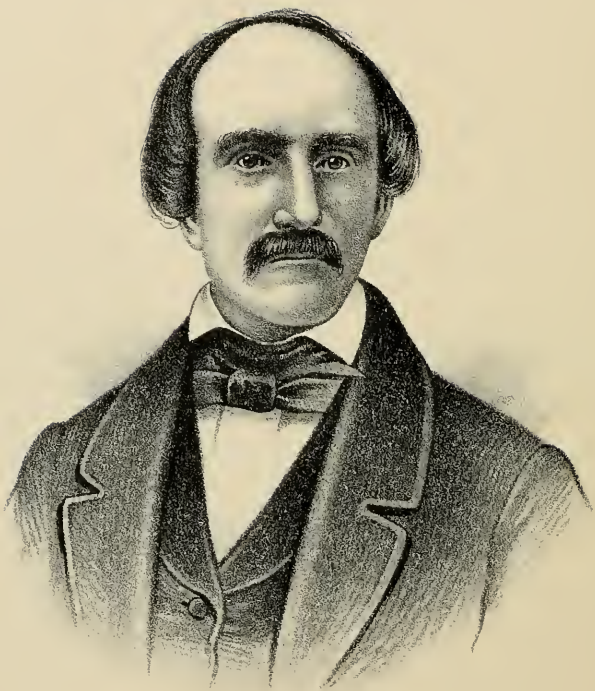
The Legislature of 1855 passed two very important measures,—the present free-school system and a submission of the Maine liquor law to a vote of the people. The latter was defeated by a small majority of the popular vote.

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

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

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

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James 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

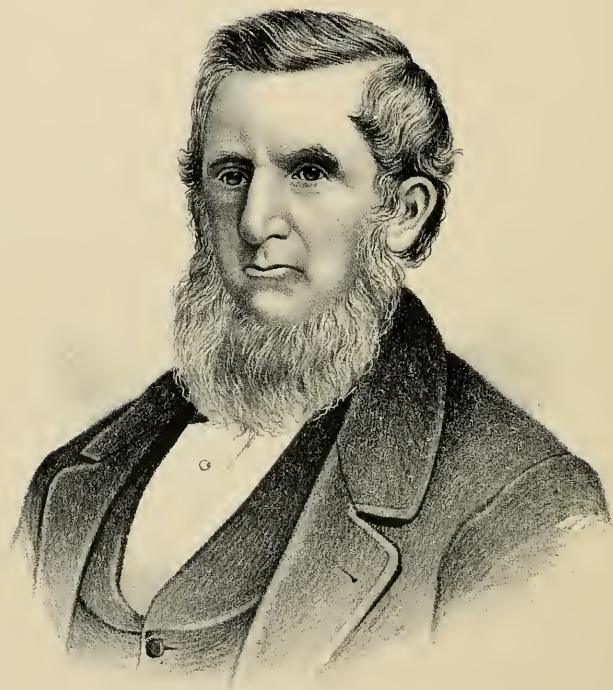
election was a plurality of 4,729 votes over Richardson. The American, or Know-Nothing, party had a ticket in the field. The Legislature was nearly balanced, but was politically opposed to the Governor. His message to the Legislature was short and rather ordinary, and was criticised for expressing the 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 interest, aggregating \$255,500, was all recovered by the State excepting \$27,500. (See sketch of Gov. Matteson.)

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

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

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John Wood



John Wood.



JOHN WOOD, Governor, 1860-1, and the first settler of Quincy, Ill., was born in the town of Sempromius (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 Revolu-

tionary 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

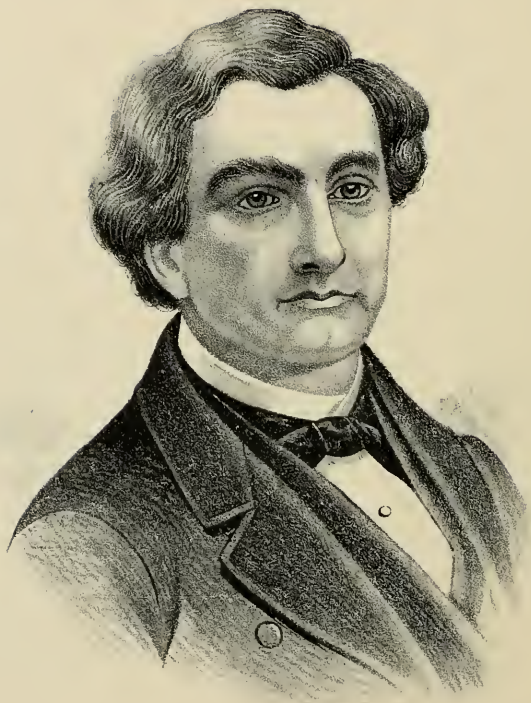
Quartermaster-General of the State, which position he held throughout the war. In 1864 he took command as Colonel of the 137th Ill. Vol. Inf., with whom he served until the period of enlistment expired.

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.



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Rich. Yates

Richard Yates.



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

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

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

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

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

Gov. Yates occupied the chair of State during the

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

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

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

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

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

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

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R. J. Oglesby

Richard J. Oglesby.

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

prenticeship 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, and was elected First Lieutenant of Co. C, Fourth Illinois Regiment of Volunteers, and participated in the battles of Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo.

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

pany of eight men, Henry Prather being the leader.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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John Peck



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 Farrington, where he skillfully extricated his command from a dangerous position; at Stone River, where his division for several hours, Dec. 31, 1862, held the advance and stood like a rock, and for his gallantry there he was made Major General; at Chickamauga, where his and Van Cleve's divisions for two hours maintained their position when they were cut off by overpowering numbers. Under Gen. Sherman, he was assigned to the 14th Army Corps and participated in the Atlanta campaign. At Peach-Tree Creek his prudence did much to avert disaster. In February, 1865, Gen. Palmer was assigned to the military administration of Kentucky, which was a delicate post. That State was about half rebel and half Union, and those of the latter element were daily fretted by the loss of their slaves. He, who had been bred to the rules of common law, trembled at the contemplation of his extraordinary power over the persons and property of his fellow men, with which he was vested in his capacity as military Governor; and he exhibited great caution in the execution of the duties of his post.

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

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

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

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

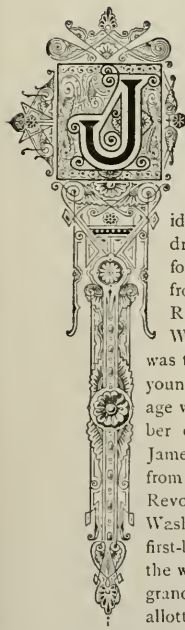
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John L. Beveridge



John L. Beveridge.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

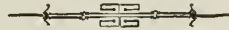
Since the close of his gubernatorial term ex-Gov. Beveridge has been a member of the firm of Beveridge & Dewey, bankers and dealers in commercial paper at 71 Dearborn Street (McCormick Block), Chicago, and since November, 1881, he has also been Assistant United States Treasurer's office in the Government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

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

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McCallum



SHELBY 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. 11, 1855, to Miss Hannah Fisher, by whom he had two daughters; and the second time May 5, 1863, to Julia Fisher. Mrs. C is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which religious body Mr. C. is also in sympathy.

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John M. Hamilton



John M. Hamilton.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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J. W. Fifer

Joseph W. Fifer.

JOSEPH WILSON FIFER. This distinguished gentleman was elected Governor of Illinois November 6, 1888. He was popularly known during the campaign as "Private Joe." He had served with great devotion to his country during the Rebellion, in the Thirty-third Illinois Infantry. A native of Virginia, he was born in 1840. His parents, John and Mary (Daniels) Fifer, were American born, though of German descent. His father was a brick and stone mason, and an old Henry Clay Whig in politics. John and Mary Fifer had nine children, of whom Joseph was the sixth, and naturally, with so large a family, it was all the father could do to keep the wolf from the door, to say nothing of giving his children anything like good educational advantages.

Joseph attended school for a while in Virginia, but it was not a good school, and when his father removed to the West, in 1857, Joseph had not advanced much further than the "First Reader." Our subject was sixteen then and suffered a great misfortune in the loss of his mother. After the

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

The opportunity to get out into the world was soon offered to young Joe. He traveled a dozen miles barefoot, in company with his brother George, and enlisted in Company C, Thirty-third Illinois Infantry, he being then twenty years old. In a few days, the regiment was sent to Camp Butler, and then over into Missouri, and saw some vigorous service there. After a second time helping to chase Price out of Missouri, the Thirty-third Regi-

ment went down to Milliken's Bend, and for several weeks "Private Joe" worked on Grant's famous ditch. The regiment then joined the forces operating against Port Gibson and Vicksburg. Joe was on guard duty in the front ditches when the flag of surrender was run up on the 4th of July, and stuck the bayonet of his gun into the embankment and went into the city with the vanguard of Union soldiers.

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

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

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

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

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

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John P. Alford



John P. Altgeld.



JOHN P. ALTGELD, the present Governor of Illinois, is a native of Prussia, born in 1848. Shortly after his birth his parents emigrated to America, locating on a farm near Mansfield, Ohio. When but a mere lad, young Altgeld had to walk from the farm to Mansfield with butter, eggs and garden produce, which he peddled from house to house. About 1856, his parents moved to the city of Mansfield, and for a time our subject was engaged morning and evening in driving cattle to and from the pasture, a distance of eight miles. When fourteen years of age he hired out as a farm hand, and continued in that avocation the greater part of his time until he was sixteen years of age, when he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Ohio Infantry, and served until the close of the war. On being mustered in, the regiment was sent to Washington and was actively engaged in the various campaigns in and around that city until the surrender of Lee. In the fall of 1864, young Altgeld was taken sick, while with his regiment in the front, and the surgeon desired to send him to a hospital in Washington; but he asked to

be allowed to remain with the regiment, and soon recovering from his sickness was actively engaged until the close of the war. He was mustered out at Columbus, Ohio, in the spring of 1865. The succeeding summer he worked with his father on a farm, during which time he became connected with the Sunday-school and was given charge of the Bible class. Before entering the army he had but very limited educational advantages, having attended school but a part of two summers and one winter. He had at home, however, studied the German language and had become familiar with some German authors. Determining to fit himself for a useful life, he resolved to attend a select school at Lexington, Ohio, and in a little eight-by-ten room, meagrely furnished, he kept "bachelor's hall," and in time was so far advanced that he secured a certificate as teacher, and for two years was engaged in that profession. At the end of that time he left home and traveled extensively over the country, working at odd jobs, until he finally reached Savannah, Mo., where he entered a law office, and in 1870 was admitted to the bar. In the fall of 1872, he ran as Prosecuting Attorney for Andrews County, Mo., and was defeated by four votes. He ran again in 1874 and was elected. But life in the small town of Savannah was a little too monotonous for him, and he determined to locate in Chicago. In October,

1875, he resigned the office of Prosecuting Attorney, moved to Chicago, and at once commenced the practice of law. For some years after he had but little to do with politics, confining himself to his practice and dealing in real estate. One year after his arrival in Chicago he found himself without a dollar, and in debt some \$400. By a streak of good luck, as it might be termed, he won a case in court, from which he received a fee of \$900, and after paying his debt he had \$500 left, which he invested in real estate. This venture proved a successful one, and from that time on the profits of one transaction were invested in others, and to-day he is numbered among the millionaire residents of the great metropolis of the West.

In 1884, Mr. Altgeld was nominated for Congress, but was defeated by three thousand votes. In 1886, he was nominated and elected Judge of the Superior Court of Cook County. His services as Judge were such as to commend him to the people. Early in the year 1892, by the solicitation of

many friends, he announced himself as a candidate for Governor. At the convention held April 27, he received the nomination and at once entered upon an active canvass. Alone, he traveled all over the entire State, and visited and consulted with the leading politicians of every section. He made few public speeches, however, until near the close of the campaign, but it was very evident that he was master of the situation at all times. When the votes were counted at the close of election day, it was found that he had a majority of the votes, and so became the first Democratic Governor of Illinois since 1856.

Born in poverty, alone, single-handed and unaided, he faced the world, and with a determination to succeed, he pressed forward, until to-day he has a National reputation, and is the envied of many. The lesson of his life is worthy of careful study by the young, and shows what can be done by one who has the desire in his heart to attain a front rank among the noted men of the country.





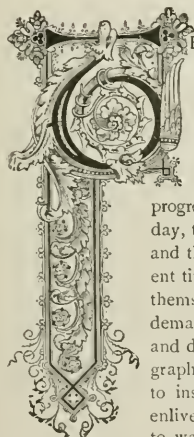
IROQUOIS COUNTY,

ILLINOIS.





INTRODUCTORY.



THE time has arrived when it becomes the duty of the people of this country to perpetuate the names of their pioneers, to furnish a record of their early settlement, and relate the story of their

progress. The civilization of our day, the enlightenment of the age and the duty that men of the present time owe to their ancestors, to themselves and to their posterity, demand that a record of their lives and deeds should be made. In biographical history is found a power to instruct man by precedent, to enliven the mental faculties, and to waft down the river of time a

safe vessel in which the names and actions of the people who contributed to raise this country from its primitive state may be preserved. Surely and rapidly the great and aged men, who in their prime entered the wilderness and claimed the virgin soil as their heritage, are passing to their graves. The number remaining who can relate the incidents of the first days of settlement is becoming small indeed, so that an actual necessity exists for the collection and preservation of events without delay, before all the early settlers are cut down by the scythe of Time.

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

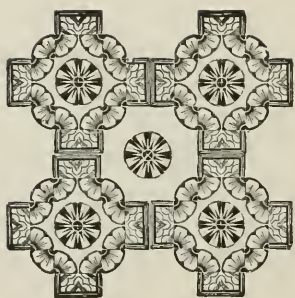
to perpetuate the memory of their achievements. The erection of the great obelisks were for the same purpose. Coming down to a later period, we find the Greeks and Romans erecting mausoleums and monuments, and carving out statues to chronicle their great achievements and carry them down the ages. It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

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

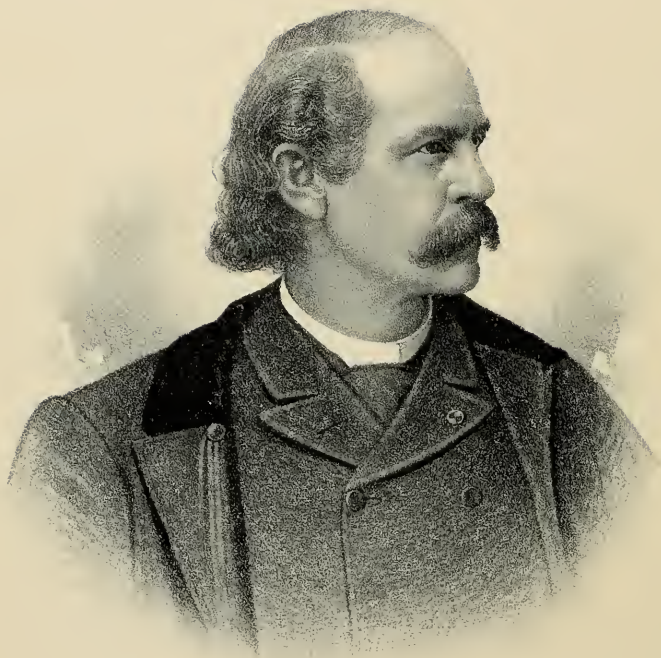
To the present generation, however, we are indebted for the introduction of the admirable system of local biography. By this system every man, though he has not achieved what the world calls greatness, has the means to perpetuate his life, his history, through the coming ages.

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

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



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Very Truly Yours,
W. A. Peters.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

HON. MATTHEW HENRY PETERS. It has been said that a history of a country is best told in the lives of its people. Especially is this true of a new country possessed of superior advantages for comfortable and happy homes and the rapid development of a permanent civilization of a high order. There the man of ability, energy and character finds scope for his individuality and encouragement for the exercise of those qualities that influence and direct and leave a distinctive impress upon society. In such a field the subject of this sketch, possessing the qualifications alluded to above, has labored as a journalist, merchant and legislator, and a leader in military and civic societies, with a zeal, energy and ability that have characterized his whole life whether as soldier or civilian.

Maj. Peters was born in Rhenish Bavaria, Germany, June 6, 1843, and is a son of George and Mary (Moock) Peters, who were also natives of that country. In the year of his birth, he was brought to America by his parents, who landed in New Orleans. The climate of that Southern city proved unhealthful, and within a year or two the mother and two sisters of our subject died, leaving the father with two small boys, a stranger in a strange land, unable to speak the language of the people among whom his lot had fallen. The expense of sickness and death soon exhausted the father's limited resources, and when in a brief time he fell a victim to that dread disease, yellow fever, the little orphans were left without means or

friends to fight the battles of life as best they might. Samuel, the younger brother, was cared for in an orphan asylum.

Matthew, then but ten years of age, was taken by an acquaintance to bring up. Instead of finding the comforts of a good home and the tender care of a humane and worthy guardian, the little orphan fell a victim to the grasping cupidity of a cruel and heartless monster. He was poorly clad, nearly starved, beaten, and instructed in criminal processes that would have done credit to the Jew Fagan, made famous by the pen of Dickens as the tutor of little Oliver Twist. This man kept a small tailoring shop, where the boy was compelled to work from early morn until ten or eleven o'clock at night. A small slice of bread three times a day constituted his entire rations, so that he never knew while there what it was not to be hungry. Becoming desperate, he resolved to make his escape, feeling that any change must be an improvement; so early one morning in the winter of 1853-56 he, without the traditional bundle that the small apprentice is supposed to carry when he runs away, made a start for liberty and fortune. The rags on his back and the welts and bruises under them were all he had to take except a half-dollar that had been entrusted to his care overnight for market purposes. Feeling that he could justly appropriate that amount of capital in consideration of his unrequited service and privation, he made the most of it by soon getting something substantial with which to

satisfy a much-abused stomach. With fear and trembling, he sought safety in a distant part of the city. His nights were spent sleeping among the cotton bales and sacks of coffee, or in other places where rest could be secured. In the daytime, he ran the streets, making a meal from anything he could find that was edible, the waste from partially decayed fruit and the refuse from hotel tables being his principal fare.

In the succeeding March, by good fortune, the little lad secured employment on a Mississippi River steamboat as assistant cook, and for once in many years he was well fed. This change marked an era of improvement in his fortune, for shortly afterward a traveling gentleman, Henry S. Roberts, attracted by the intelligent face of the boy and learning his sad story, took a fancy to him and offered him a home. This kind offer was gladly accepted, and in company with his new-found friend, Matthew went to Ohio. For a time everything went well; he made himself useful to his benefactor and was given school advantages; but misfortune again befell him with the death of Mr. Roberts, which happened only a few weeks after young Peters had found a home with him. He left the boy with his widowed mother, whose kindness and motherly love have found a full recompense in a life-long devotion and care on the part of the befriended boy. Since he has grown to manhood, Maj. Peters has given her a home in his family, where she is loved and revered as though indeed his real mother. Mrs. Roberts has now attained the remarkable age of one hundred and one years, and while she lives no change will be made in the Major's household that will cause her any discomfort.

For five or six years after going to Ohio, young Peters was employed in farm work and brick-making. With the limited advantage he had had in the way of schooling, he knew little of books, but he possessed a desire for education and the knowledge to be obtained by reading. He applied himself earnestly to study in his spare hours and often at night by the uncertain light from the burning kiln that he was watching. By persistent effort, having qualified himself for the position, he engaged in teaching school, in which vocation he

was eminently successful, and at the same time pursued his individual studies. He began teaching in 1860 and would no doubt have continued in that line of work several years had not the Civil War broken out the following spring. Patriotism prompted him to abandon his chosen occupation and to enter the military service of the Government in defense of the Union.

On the 23d of April, 1861, Mr. Peters enlisted as a private in the Jefferson Guards of Springfield, Company E, Sixteenth Ohio Infantry, for three months' service in response to the first call for troops. His command was assigned to duty in Virginia, and he participated in the battles of Philippi, Laurel Hill and Carrick's Ford, at which place the first Confederate general, Garnett, was killed. Having served out the term of his enlistment, our subject re-enlisted in December of the same year at Xenia, Ohio, as a private of Company F, Seventy-fourth Regiment, under Col. Granville Moody, the fighting parson; Walter Crook, brother of Gen. George Crook, of Indian notoriety, being his Captain. At this time, Mr. Peters was made Sergeant, soon afterward was chosen Lieutenant by the company and was commissioned by Gov. Todd of Ohio on the 7th of January, 1862. During that year, he was in active service and participated in all the battles and engagements in which his regiment took part.

At the battle of Stone River, Tenn., December 31, 1862, our subject was severely wounded and was thought to have been killed; indeed, was so reported, his comrades being obliged to desert him on the field. However, he received attention in time and was eventually able to resume his post of duty. He participated in Sherman's march to the sea, including the successive battles of a hundred days' duration before Atlanta. On the 9th of May, 1864, Lieut. Peters, who had been made Adjutant of the Seventy-fourth by his Colonel on the reorganization of the regiment as veterans, was again wounded, while charging a rebel battery on Buzzard Roost Mountain, being struck by a fragment of a shrapnel shot in the right leg. He was left lying on the field two days. On the 13th of July following, by the recommendation of his Colonel, he was commissioned Captain for "gallant

and meritorious services." During the greater part of that summer, he was confined to his hospital cot by the serious nature of his wound, but as soon as convalescent he rejoined his regiment in Savannah, Ga., though very feeble. During the remainder of the campaign, he was on active duty and participated in the closing battles of the war in the Carolinas under Sherman. He took part in the battles of Bentonville, Averysboro and Greenville, N. C., and the surrender of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, April 26, 1865. The proudest day of his military career was enjoyed at the Grand Review of the armies at Washington, May 21 and 25, 1865, when he was detailed by Gen. George P. Buell, commanding the brigade on his staff, as Assistant Inspector-General. Capt. Peters was retained on Gen. Buell's staff until notified that his regiment was about to be mustered out, when he asked to be relieved, rejoined his comrades in their march homeward, and was mustered out July 12, 1865. But just prior to that happy event he was complimented by being commissioned Major of his regiment, the regiment in which he had enlisted as a private in the first year of the war. The compliment was the more gratefully received as it was unsought and came as an appropriate recognition of merit and faithful and gallant service in the field.

In April, 1866, Maj. Peters came to Watseka and engaged in the hardware trade in company with Alexander Archibald, but not finding the business congenial to his taste he sold out to his partner in the course of the year. In the spring of 1867, he opened the first book and stationery store in Watseka, which business he carried on with marked success until November, 1879, when he sold out to his worthy clerk, Henry H. Alter, who had served him faithfully for more than ten years. While engaged in the book and stationery business, the Major, in December, 1872, assumed control of the *Iroquois Times*, which for eighteen months he conducted with ability and success, making it a very desirable property. He then sold the paper but repurchased it in June, 1878, and continued its editor and proprietor until January 1, 1891, when he sold out to its present proprietors. For fifteen years he published that paper and made its influence felt in Iroquois and adjoining coun-

ties as an enterprising and public-spirited journal, that was always to be relied on to fearlessly uphold and advocate what its editor felt to be the right, regardless of fear or favor.

The early political sentiments of Maj. Peters were formed during the trying scenes of the Civil War, when allegiance to the administration in power seemed the only logical idea for a patriotic soldier, and he became an earnest Republican. On his return from the war he worked in harmony with that party until the liberal movement of 1872 enlisted his sympathies and he followed the lead of Horace Greeley and other eminent Republicans in opposition to the leaders of the old party. In that year, he was nominated for Clerk of the Circuit Court of Iroquois County and received the indorsement of the Democrats, but was defeated, although by a largely reduced Republican majority. In 1875, he was elected Mayor of Watseka, serving two years very acceptably to its citizens, who again elected him to that office in October, 1877, to fill the unexpired term of the Hon. Franklin Blades, who had resigned to accept the Circuit Judgeship.

In August, 1878, Maj. Peters received the nomination for Representative to the Illinois Legislature at the hands of the Nationals, and in the following November was elected by a very flattering majority. His course as a Legislator of the session of the Thirty-first General Assembly was distinguished by an able and conscientious discharge of duty, whereby he won the respect and esteem of his fellow-members and the approbation of his constituents. In 1884, he was the Democratic candidate for State Senator, and in 1876 that party's candidate for Congress. The opposition's majority was too great to be overcome, although he received a complimentary vote.

Military matters always possessed a charm for the Major, and his interest in that direction led to his taking a foremost part in the organization of the first militia company of Iroquois County, in May, 1874. He was elected Captain. When under the military law of the State the various companies were organized into regiments and battalions, the Watseka Rifles were designated as Company A, Ninth Battalion, Illinois National Guards, and Capt. Peters was elected to command the battalion by

the line officers who met at Champaign October 10, 1877, for that purpose, hence the later title of Colonel.

On the 19th of June, 1867, Col. Peters was united in marriage at Sycamore, Ill., by the Rev. J. T. Cook, of the Congregational Church, to Miss Clara M. Lyon, a most estimable and accomplished young lady. She was born in Ontario County, N. Y., and is a daughter of Oliver and Matilda (Hills) Lyon. The Colonel fortunately drew a prize in the so-called lottery of marriage, Mrs. Peters being a lady possessed of many excellencies of character, refined, cultured and of an amiable disposition; generous and public-spirited, active and energetic, she exercises a strong influence for good in the community that is so fortunate as to enjoy her fellowship. They have one son, Arthur Van Lisle, who was born May 10, 1886. Being an only child the family naturally dote upon him as their future hope and support, their solace and comfort in declining years.

Col. Peters is an active and honored member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, holding membership with Iroquois Lodge No. 74, and Iroquois Encampment No. 81, of that order. He has filled the chairs in each and has served as Representative to the grand bodies of the fraternity. He is also a prominent member of Watseka Lodge No. 1086, K. of H., of which he is Past Dictator, and has represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge of the State, and in 1880 represented Illinois in the Supreme Lodge of the United States. He is the present Commander of Williams Post No. 25, G. A. R., with which he has been connected since August 28, 1868, having served as its Commander many terms and was its first Adjutant. The order of the Knights of Pythias recognizes him as a Past Chancellor Commander of Mon Ami Lodge No. 231. He is a member of the Illinois Commandery of the military order of Loyal Legion, a select and exclusive order of which to be a member is esteemed a great honor. Col. Peters has been a member of the society of the Army of the Cumberland since its organization. He also belongs to Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M.; and Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M. In addition to the above-named societies, he is a member of the Illinois Press Associa-

tion, with which he has been connected since 1874. During the exciting, and to his party successful, Presidential campaign of 1884, which resulted in the election of Cleveland and Hendricks, Col. Peters was Chairman of the Iroquois Democratic Central Committee and did good work for the party. In 1884, he erected the *Times* building in Watseka, one of the most imposing structures in that city. It is now occupied by the postoffice *Times* office and law offices. The building is very centrally located and is one of the substantial improvements of Watseka.

This sketch will serve to perpetuate the memory of a worthy, public-spirited citizen, who has won his way from the condition of a waif by his own unaided efforts and natural ability, through hardships and privation to positions of honor and trust, and to the assured respect and esteem of all who are familiar with his history.



DAVID ALVIN OREBAUGH, a practicing attorney of the Iroquois County Bar and an enterprising young citizen of Watseka, claims Ohio as the State of his nativity. He was born in Hamilton County, on the 8th of August, 1866, and is a son of Eli Orebaugh, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. He attended the common schools of his native State and afterwards pursued a course of study in the National Normal University, located in Lebanon, Ohio. In 1883, he came to Iroquois County, Ill., with his parents and was engaged in farming and teaching for several years. Determining to engage in the practice of law, he pursued a course of law study in the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill., and was graduated from that institution in the spring of 1890, and admitted to the Bar in February, 1891. Until June of the same year he was employed in the Sheriff's office, since which time he has been in the practice of his profession at Watseka, being a law partner of C. H. Payson, of that place.

On the 30th of June, 1891, Mr. Orebaugh was

married in Bloomington, Ill., to Miss Lillian E. Wiley, a daughter of John S. Wiley, Esq., formerly of that place, now deceased, and a native of McLean County, Ill. Our subject is a promising young lawyer, of good ability and studious habits, and is sure in the near future to win an honorable place in his chosen profession.

WALTER BRINCKERHOFF, who is now living a retired life in Onarga, was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., on the 23d of May, 1826. The family is of Dutch origin, and was founded in America in early Colonial days by Joris Brinckerhoff, who came from Holland to this country in 1638, and, history says, collected money to build the first church in Brooklyn, N. Y. The parents of our subject, Isaac and Jemima (Cromwell) Brinckerhoff, were both natives of the Empire State and are now deceased. They had a family of five children, four of whom are living at this writing, in the autumn of 1892, two sons and two daughters: Catherine E., Mary, Theodore and Walter.

In the county of his nativity. Mr. Brinckerhoff whose name heads this sketch was reared to manhood. One of the most important events in his life occurred on the 20th of February, 1847, when he led to the marriage altar Miss Adeline Washburn, daughter of John and Sarah (Bogardus) Washburn, who were natives of Dutchess County, N. Y. Two children were born to the subject of this sketch and his wife, but the daughter died in infancy. The son, Leslie Brinckerhoff, is now connected with the wholesale drug house of Morrison, Plummer & Co., of Chicago.

The year 1851 witnessed the emigration of Mr. Brinckerhoff to the West. Disposing of his business interests in the Empire State, he came to Illinois, accompanied by his family, and located on a farm near Newark, Ill., where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for four years. On the expiration of that period he went to Galesburg and became one of its leading and influential citizens. While there residing he represented his ward in

the City Council for a number of years. He afterward removed to Chicago and did business on the corner of Randolph and State Streets, where the Masonic Temple now stands. He ran the first steam sausage machine ever run in that city. In 1865, he received an appointment to take charge of Government transports on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers and held that position until after the close of the war. He then returned to Chicago and took charge of the Northwestern Glass Works, being connected with that manufactory until it closed.

It was in 1869 that Mr. Brinckerhoff came to Onarga, and since that time he has been one of its progressive and prominent citizens. He purchased four hundred acres of land seven miles southeast of Onarga, which he owned until 1891, when he disposed of a part of it. For more than seven years he has held the office of Village Trustee and is the present incumbent. His faithful and efficient service has led to his re-election and retention in office, and won him the high commendation of all concerned. Mr. Brinckerhoff is widely and favorably known throughout the community, and his sterling worth and many excellencies of character have won him an enviable position in the esteem of his fellow-townsmen.

JOHN M. DE PUY, one of the prominent citizens of Cissna Park, was born in Vermillion County, Ind., May 16, 1854, and is a worthy representative of one of the early families of this county. His father, John De Puy, was born in New Jersey, August 11, 1804, and is of French descent. The great-grandfather of our subject was a native of France, and the grandfather was a hero of the Revolution.

John De Puy, Sr., when eight years old removed with his parents from New Jersey to Ohio, and three years later went to Vermillion County, Ind., becoming one of its first settlers. That winter was spent in old Ft. Harrison. In that locality he resided for fifty years, or until 1869. Throughout the greater part of his life he has followed farming

and stock-raising. He drove cattle to Chicago in an early day, and improved a number of farms. In 1869, he brought his family to Iroquois County, where he has since lived. Soon after he sold his farm of two hundred and forty acres, and later bought a tract of three hundred and twenty acres of prairie land in Ash Grove Township at \$3.25 per acre and resided thereon until 1891, since which time he has lived at Cissna Park. He added to his lands until he owned eleven hundred and fifty acres, but has recently sold. His life has been a busy and useful one. He has acquired a handsome property and to each of his sons he has given good farms. He was married in Vermillion County, Ind., to Miss Scott, and unto them were born three children, one of whom died in infancy. Abraham is now a resident physician of Chicago, and Albert is a farmer of Vermillion County, Ind. For his second wife, Mr. De Puy chose Miss Jane McKee, who was born Kentucky in 1817, but came to Edgar County, Ill., about 1831. She is still living. Two children were born of this marriage, John M., and Oliver M., who resides with his father and mother.

Mr. De Puy has taken a very active part in church work. He united with the Baptist Church in Vermillion County, and aided in the organization of the Bloomfield Baptist Association. He built a church at Cissna Park, which formerly stood on his farm, and later donated it to the people of Cissna Park as a union church. He has often paid the ministers from his own pocket and has ever been liberal to missionary work. In manner, he is plain and unassuming and cares nothing for dress. It is said that on one occasion he went to Paxton in a homespun suit to the dedication of a church, but when pledges were called for the plainly dressed farmer gave \$500. In 1840, he voted for William Henry Harrison and supported the Whig party until the organization of the Republican party, with which he has since affiliated. He took great pride in having a fine farm and fine stock and is numbered among the highly respected and valued citizens of the community.

John M. De Puy, whose name heads this record, had very meagre educational advantages, as in early life his health was poor and he could not stand the confinement of a school room. At the

age of fifteen he came with his parents to Illinois and had to begin buying stock and taking charge of this part of the work. He used to herd cattle at an early age and was almost raised in the saddle. He afterward attended school for a year in Onarga. Throughout his entire life he has engaged almost exclusively in farming and stock-raising and has met with excellent success in his business dealings.

April 30, 1881, at the age of twenty-seven years, Mr. De Puy was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Fleming, and unto them have been born two children, Carl and Maud, aged ten and eight years respectively. The parents of Mrs. De Puy reside with them. Her father, William Fleming, was born in the North of Ireland, October 29, 1816, and in 1832 began teaching school, having acquired a good education previous to that time. His father died, and as he was the eldest child, he aided in the support of a large family. In 1841, he crossed the Atlantic to Pittsburgh, Pa., and became Assistant Cashier in a bank. He was there married in 1844, to Jane Cullen, also a native of the Emerald Isle, and the following year they emigrated to La Salle County, Ill., where Mr. Fleming entered a claim and developed a good farm. He was a civil engineer by profession and was County Surveyor of La Salle County much of the time. In 1870, he removed to Wheaton in order that his children might attend college, and in the fall of 1873 came to Iroquois County, locating on a farm in Pigeon Grove. He there resided until 1889, since which time he and his estimable wife have resided with their daughter, Mrs. De Puy. He has held a number of local offices and for sixteen years served as Supervisor in La Salle County and seven years in this county. To some extent, he still engages in surveying. He has been a great reader all his life and keeps well informed on all questions of interest. His business career has been one of success. In politics, he was an Abolitionist and afterward a Republican.

The Fleming family numbered eight children, but one died in infancy. The others are: Alice, wife of J. L. Westgate, of Cissna Park. James H., who was educated in Wheaton College and is now a lawyer of Hastings, Neb. He served as County

Judge for six years and is now serving as County Treasurer. Dora is the wife of Dr. Van Doren, of Saybrook, Ill. Albert is the next younger. Jennie is the wife of John M. De Puy. Jessie resides in Hastings, Neb.; and Will is employed in the Electric Railroad Company, in the State of Washington.

Mrs. De Puy was educated in Wheaton College and is a lady of culture and refinement. In 1891, our subject and his wife left the farm and removed to Cissna Park, where they now have a comfortable home, which is the abode of hospitality. In social circles, they rank high, and their friends throughout the community are many. Mr. De Puy engages to some extent in loaning on mortgages, but is practically living a retired life. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican and is a well-informed man, both politically and otherwise. He is a member of the Baptist Church and his wife of the United Brethren. He well deserves representation in this volume and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of his life.



JOSEPH VANDERPOORTEN, Treasurer of Iroquois County, and one of the earliest settlers of Chebanse Township, was born in Dendermonde, in the province of Flanders, Belgium, on the 16th of February, 1828, and is a son of John and Philippine (Heyvaert) Vanderpoorten, both of whom came of old Flemish families. Joseph was reared on a farm and was educated partially in select schools and at the college of the Holy Virgin in Dendermonde. His mother died in November, 1853, and in 1855 he emigrated from Flanders to America, making his first home in this country in Lewis County, N. Y., where he purchased a farm of eighty acres. Finding the land there too hilly and rough to suit him, he sold out and came to Iroquois County, Ill., the following year. He arrived in April, 1856, and settled in the town of Chebanse, where he bought an eighty-acre tract of land. By subsequent purchase he has increased his acreage until he now has a

fine farm of two hundred and forty acres of valuable land, well improved, on which he erected in 1877 a commodious and comfortable residence. His farm is situated about eighteen miles northwest of Watseka, and four miles east of Clifton, his nearest trading place.

On the 15th of January, 1861, Mr. Vanderpoorten was married in L'Erable to Miss Aurelia Bunker. The lady was born in the town of Chambly, on the Sorel River in the Province of Quebec, Canada, April 12, 1840, and is a daughter of Moses and Martine (Blaine) Bunker. Her father was born in the United States and her mother was a French-Canadian. She came with her parents to the United States in 1856, and located near Tipton, Cedar County, Iowa, and in Iroquois County in September, 1859. Nine children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Vanderpoorten, five of whom are yet living: Emily, the eldest, wife of Ferdinand Rivard, died July 15, 1891; Delphine is the wife of Joseph Dutour, and resides on the old home farm in Chebanse Township; Eugene C. married Jennie Franklin, of Chebanse, and resides in Watseka, holding the position of Deputy County Treasurer; Walter O. resides on the home farm with his sister; Norbert J. and Stephen I. are students in the Watseka schools. Edwin, Emma and Addie, all died in infancy.

Mr. Vanderpoorten and his family are members of the Roman Catholic Church. In politics, he is a Democrat and has held various offices of honor and trust. He served as Commissioner of Highways in his township and was School Director for twenty-four years successively. In the fall of 1890, he was elected on the Democratic ticket to the position he now holds, that of County Treasurer, and entered upon the duties of the office on the 1st of December following. Mr. Vanderpoorten makes an excellent officer, is prompt, correct and courteous, and is ably assisted by his son in the duties of the office. He came to this country in very moderate circumstances, but by industry, integrity and frugality has acquired a valuable property and, what is still more to be prized, a good name among his neighbors and fellow-citizens who have known him so many years. His father came to America the year following his

son's arrival here and brought with him his daughter Rosalia. They made their home in Chebanse Township, where the father died in the latter part of August, 1859. The sister became the wife of Francis Cnudde, who died a few years later. In due time she married again, her second husband being Anton Clements, and her death occurred in September, 1890.



JOHAN D. ROTHGEB, one of the leading general merchants of Wellington and a prominent citizen, is a native of Page County, Va. He was born August 29, 1848, and is the fifth in a family of six children whose parents were Isaac and Barbara (Kaufmann) Rothgeb. The family is of French origin, having been driven from that country along with the other French Huguenots during the supremacy of Richelieu. They settled in Rhenish Bavaria, Germany. The progenitor of the branch of the family to which our subject belongs emigrated to America about 1730, locating in Virginia. On the same vessel came his betrothed, and for seven years they worked to pay their passage to this country. Having entered land he made a farm from the woods, which was his home as long as he lived. Our subject's father was born in Virginia, about 1810, was reared to agricultural pursuits, and acquired his education in the common schools. He came to Illinois in 1832, and entered land in Iroquois County, after which he returned to his native State, where he spent his last days. In politics, he was a Democrat, but voted against secession at the time when Virginia withdrew from the Union. With the Baptist Church he held membership, and his death occurred in 1862. His widow is still living. She was born in Virginia in 1811, and though now eighty-one years old, her age rests lightly upon her. She makes her home with her children in Illinois and Virginia. Both the parents of our subject were well known for their generous character and had the respect of all with whom they came in contact. Of their four sons and two daughters, five are yet living: Alexander

is married and follows farming in Page County, Va.; Ambrose, a farmer, is married and resides in Frederick County, Va.; Anna is the wife of Joseph Brumback, an agriculturist of this county; Henry died at the age of sixteen years; John is the next younger; and Mary E. is the wife of William Rickard, a farmer residing in the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent in the Old Dominion, and he attended the subscription schools, but has been largely self-educated. Throughout the entire late war, he lived in the famous Shenandoah Valley, where occurred some of the most memorable scenes of that protracted struggle. He has seen that beautiful valley repeatedly devastated by both armies, and the events of those stirring times are indelibly stamped upon his memory. On the death of his father, the care and responsibility of the family fell upon his young shoulders. He was then but fourteen years of age. He was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads, but after attaining his majority engaged in teaching for a number of years and also worked at the carpenter's trade. He took a full commercial course of study in the Keokuk Commercial College, graduating from that institution in 1876, after which he located in Wellington, where he has since made his home. In August, 1887, he embarked in general merchandising and has since carried on business in that line.

Mr. Rothgeb was married on the 4th of May, 1879, to Miss Annie Austin, daughter of Potter and Rachel (Rothgeb) Austin, the former a native of New York and the latter of the Buckeye State. Her parents are still residents of this county, where Mrs. Rothgeb was born. Her education was acquired in the common schools and in Onarga Seminary. Unto our subject and his wife have been born three children: Wade H., who is now attending school; Austin R., who died in infancy; and Jessie B., the baby of the household.

Mr. Rothgeb is a stalwart Democrat and an ardent admirer of the true Jeffersonian principles. His first Presidential vote was cast for Hon. S. J. Tilden, of New York. He has frequently served as a delegate to the conventions of his party, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote



Yours Resp.
J. D. Rothgeb

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his time and attention to his business. However, he takes a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and is one of the building committee which erected the beautiful school building of Wellington. As a merchant, he carries a full and complete stock of goods in his line, and by his upright dealings and genial manner has secured a liberal patronage and gained the confidence and good-will of his many patrons. In 1882, he also began dealing in grain and has worked up an excellent business in that line. When he started out in life he had no capital but a pair of industrious hands and a determination to succeed, and his success is the result of his own well-directed efforts. Himself and wife are classed among the most prominent citizens of Wellington and are held in high esteem for their many excellencies of character.

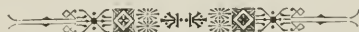


JOHIN C. KOEHN, a well-known and prominent business man of Buckley, who carries on general merchandising as a member of the firm of Koehn & Bowe, was born in Buetzow, Schwerin, Germany, on the 29th of July, 1863. His parents were Joachim and Sophia (Knoop) Koehn, both of whom were natives of Germany. Unto them were born three children, but our subject is the only one now living, his two older brothers, Frederick and Henry, being deceased.

The subject of this sketch remained in the land of his birth until he had attained his majority, when he emigrated to this country and became a resident of Peotone, Ill. He there engaged in clerking in a general store for six years, after which he came to Buckley and, forming a partnership with Philip S. Bowe, has since engaged in merchandising on his own account. They opened a general store, which they are now conducting. Mr. Koehn was educated in Buetzow College, of Germany, from which he was graduated in the Class of '78. Thus he was well fitted for a commercial career, and his enterprise and industry have won him success.

On the 23d of October, 1891, Mr. Koehn was married to Miss Rachel Minier, daughter of Hiram Minier, of Sheldon, Ill. Their home has been brightened by the birth of a daughter, Ida W., who was born August 30, 1892. The young couple are highly respected people of this community, who are well and favorably known in social circles. Mr. Koehn is a member of Buckley Lodge No. 634, A. F. & A. M., and in politics is a supporter of Democratic principles. At this writing, in the fall of 1892, he is one of the Trustees of the village of Buckley, and was Clerk of the Village Board of Peotone before coming to this place. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to the upbuilding and welfare of the community and is a public-spirited and progressive citizen.

In connection with their store, the firm of Koehn & Bowe are also owners and operators of a creamery in Buckley, called the Artesia Creamery, being named for the township. They manufacture from two hundred and seventy-five to four hundred pounds of butter per day, and as the product of their creamery is of the very best quality, it finds a ready sale in the New Orleans market. Mr. Koehn, during his residence in this community, has won a high rank in business circles. He is a young man, who is wide-awake, and is rapidly winning his way upward to prosperity.



MOSSES H. EUANS, County Judge of Iroquois County and a well-known resident of Watseka, was born on the 14th of July, 1848, in West Middleburg, Logan County, Ohio, and is a son of Joseph and Achsah (Sharp) Euans. With their family, the parents removed from Ohio to Watseka, Ill., in 1867. The mother was called to her final rest in 1888, but the father is still living.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the common schools and in the Ohio Wesleyan University, of Delaware, from which institution he was graduated in the Class of '67. On looking over the field in choice of some vocation, he decided to enter the legal profession, and to that

end began studying law with the firm of Blades & Kay. He was admitted to the Bar in 1874, after which he formed a partnership with his old preceptors, under the firm name of Blades, Kay & Euans. Mr. Blades withdrew in 1877, and the business was continued by Kay & Euans up to January 1, 1890, when the firm of Kay, Euans & Kay was formed. This co-partnership lasted until December 1, 1890, at which time he entered upon the duties of his present official position.

On the 5th of May, 1880, Judge Euans was married to Miss Eva Sherman, a native of Iroquois County and a daughter of Charles Sherman, whose sketch is given on another page of this work. Of this union have been born two children: Nellie B. and Joseph S. The family is well known throughout this community, and have many friends and acquaintances in Iroquois County.

In politics, Mr. Euans is a Democrat, and as the regular nominee of his party, was elected Judge of Iroquois County in 1890, entering upon the duties of that office in December of the same year.



HORACE RUSSELL, Cashier of the Donovan & Vennum Bank, of Milford, Iroquois County, Ill., has held his present position since the establishment of this bank in May, 1876. He was born in the town of Pendleton, Madison County, Ind., August 8, 1848, and is a son of Maj. Lanson E. and Caroline (Patrick) Russell. His father was born in Rochester, N. Y., January 3, 1817, and his mother in Portsmouth, Va., January 6, 1823. The death of the father occurred at Anderson, Ind., December 10, 1889. The Major served in the late war in Company A, Ninetieth Indiana Infantry, of which he was commissioned Second Lieutenant, and was afterward promoted to be Brigade Commissary, with the rank of Major. His service lasted three years. The mother survives and resides in Anderson. Maj. Russell and his family once lived in Watseka, but returned to Anderson, Ind.

Horace Russell was reared in his native town,

where he attended the public schools, and subsequently took a two years' course at Asbury (now DePauw) University, of Greencastle, Ind. In 1865, he engaged with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company as brakeman, and later served as baggage-man. For a year and a-half, he was Station Agent at Walton, Ind. He went to Watseka in 1868, where he sold goods for John L. Donovan until the spring of 1870, and from that time until October, 1871 was clerking for Daniel Frey, merchant. In October of the latter year, he was appointed as clerk in the railway mail service, running at first between Chicago and Centralia on the Illinois Central Railroad. Afterwards, he was on the steamer plying between Cairo, Ill., and Columbus, Ky. He began on the last-named run in 1873, and continued there until May 15, 1876. During this time, yellow fever and cholera prevailed in that region with great virulence. On quitting the mail service, he accepted the position which he now holds, that of Cashier of the Donovan & Vennum Bank. In 1882, he was appointed Postmaster at Milford, which position he filled for four years, at the same time performing his duties at the bank.

Mr. Russell was married to Miss Frances Brooks in North Adams, Mich., on the 15th of May, 1879. The lady was born in Watseka, Ill., and is a daughter of William and M. A. Brooks, who are living and now residents of St. Ignace, Mich. Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Russell: William C. and Anna C., both born in Milford. Mrs. Russell is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Russell is a Republican and has held various local official positions. He has been more or less active in local politics, and for several years has served as a member of the Iroquois County Central Republican Committee. He was the first President of the Milford Town Board and the first President of the Milford School Board, which last-named position he still holds. Mr. Russell is a member of Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M.; Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.; and of Athelstan Commandery No. 45, K. T., of Danville. He also belongs to Milford Lodge No. 253, I. O. O. F., and to Iroquois Encampment No. 81, of Watseka.

Mr. Russell has a fine, well-improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land, situated in Stockland Township, which he leases. The various positions of honor and trust, both public and private, held by Mr. Russell, and his long retention in the responsible position he holds in the Donovan & Vennum Bank, speak in no uncertain terms as to his high standing and the estimate placed upon his character by those best calculated to know his true worth.



WILLIAM SMITH, one of the early settlers of the county and a well-to-do farmer residing on section 35, Ash Grove Township, has here made his home since 1853, or for a period of thirty-nine consecutive years. His life record is as follows: He was born in Bellefontaine, Logan County, Ohio, September 7, 1834, and is a son of Joel R. Smith. The father was born in the Empire State and became one of the pioneers and the first Sheriff of Wabash County, Ind. In 1853, he came to Illinois and cast in his lot with the early settlers of Iroquois County, locating on section 35, Ash Grove Township. This was then a wild and almost unimproved region, the land was in its primitive condition, and the prairies were covered with thick grass as high as a man. Mr. Smith purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land at \$2.50 per acre and began the development of a farm. In 1863, he removed to Buckley and afterward went to Olney, Ill., where he died in 1885, at the age of eighty-four years. He was married in Ohio to Eliza Bunker, who died in Buckley, and after her death he wedded Mrs. Kimball. He served as Justice of the Peace and Police Justice for many years and was a prominent and influential citizen. He held membership with the Methodist Church, and was long connected with the Masonic fraternity. In politics, he was a Whig and afterward a Republican.

In the Smith family were the following children: Mrs. Mary Collins, who now resides in Chicago; William, whose name heads this sketch; Joel R., a resident of Kansas; Almer A., who makes his home

in Watseka; Eliza, wife of Dr. Horner, of Buckley; and Daniel, the youngest child, who is living in Decatur.

Our subject was only two years old when with his parents he removed to Indiana. He acquired a good education in the public schools and is a well-informed man. At the age of nineteen he came with his parents to Iroquois County and aided in the development of a new farm until 1859, when he built a log cabin upon a tract of land, moved into it and began life for himself. His labors were interrupted, however, when, in August, 1862, he donned the blue and became a member of Company E, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, under Capt. Irwin and Col. A. W. Mack. The regiment assembled at Kankakee and was then sent South. The troops participated in the engagement at Columbus, Ky., and in the siege of Vicksburg until its surrender on the 4th of July, 1863. They then participated in the battles of Jackson and Selma, Ala. Our subject was on detached duty at Cairo, Ill., with Gen. Sherman, and went with him to Atlanta and on to the sea. Later, he accompanied him into the Carolinas. He rejoined his regiment at Mobile, participated in the capture of Ft. Blakely, and then went to Galveston, Tex. The regiment lost many men in traveling over the hot sands of the Lone Star State. Mr. Smith received his discharge in Chicago exactly three years after his enlistment, and on the 11th of August, 1865, returned to his home.

January 3, 1859, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Caran H. Higgenson, a native of Owen County, Ind., born February 26, 1833. Unto them have been born the following children: Freeman L., who was educated in the public schools and took a commercial course, teaching penmanship to pay his tuition. He married Maria Butcher, of Paxton, and unto them were born two children. Having studied law he became an excellent and successful practitioner. His death occurred April 19, 1891, in his thirty-first year. William G. died at the age of twenty-three; Francis S. is at home; Joel R. married Dollie Leach, and is living on the old homestead; Clara died at the age of eleven months; Clarence died in his second year; Etta

and Albert B. are still under the parental roof. Mrs. Smith was born in Owen County, Ind., and at the age of ten years removed to Vigo County. Her father, Samuel Higgenson, was reared in the Empire State and in Ohio married Edith Chestnut. They came to Iroquois County in the spring of 1865, locating in Ash Grove Township. The Higgenson family is of English origin on the maternal side and of German descent on the paternal side. The grandfather served in the Revolutionary War.

Socially, Mr. Smith is a member of Williams Post No. 25, G. A. R., of Watseka, and of the Knights of Pythias Lodge of Cissna Park. He cast his first Presidential ballot for Fremont, also supported President Lincoln, and has since been a stalwart advocate of the principles of the Republican party. He has frequently served as a delegate to its conventions and is an influential man in its councils. For twelve years he served as Constable and is now Notary Public. Since his return from the war, Mr. Smith has devoted his entire energies to agricultural pursuits. His pleasant residence, neatly and tastefully furnished and supplemented by other good improvements, stands in the midst of a highly cultivated farm of two hundred and seventy-five acres of land, whose rich and fertile fields yield to him a golden tribute. He is also engaged in buying and selling cattle, and has been quite successful along that line. He is Secretary of the Goodwine Grain Company, which owns an elevator in Goodwine. Mr. Smith has a wide acquaintance throughout the community and is one of the valued and highly respected citizens of the township. He was also a brave soldier during the late war and is an honored pioneer of Iroquois County.



SAMUEL MALO, a wagon-maker and blacksmith residing in Milford, claims Moscow, Canada, as the place of his nativity. The date of his birth is May 1, 1843, and he is a son of Samuel and Mary (Fercia) Malo. In the family were five children, four sons and a daughter. Matilda, the eldest, and the only daughter,

died on the 21st of June, 1880. Samuel of this sketch is the next younger. Huzeb was married in 1871 to Mary A. Brady, of Chicago, and unto them have been born three children, Elizabeth, Huzeb and Lillie. Ferdinand was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary McKnight, daughter of Thomas McKnight, of Milford, and they have a family of seven living children: Huzeb, Samuel, Ferdinand, John, Frank, Alfred and Libbie. One daughter, Mary, is now deceased. James, the youngest of the Malo family, wedded Miss Maggie McKnight, and their union has been blessed with five children, but the eldest, James, died in infancy. Those living are Nora, Tommy, Willie and Lydia.

On leaving the land of his birth, Samuel Malo of this sketch came to Illinois and made a location in Malta, De Kalb County. When a young man he learned the trade of wagon-making and blacksmithing and followed the dual occupation in Malta until 1868, when he removed to Iroquois County, locating in Milford. Since that time he has operated a wagon-making and blacksmith shop, with the exception of four years, during which period he was engaged in the restaurant business. He then returned to the business in which he is now engaged. He is an expert workman, is industrious and fair and honest in all his dealings, and has acquired a liberal patronage. On the 15th of August, 1862, Mr. Malo enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Infantry, and served till honorably discharged June 7, 1865. He was a faithful soldier, ever found at the post of duty. He is a member of Vennum Post No. 471, G. A. R., of Milford.

July 28, 1869, Mr. Malo was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie Bunker, a native of Canada East, and a daughter of Moses and Mattie (Blaine) Bunker, the father a native of New Hampshire and the mother of Canada. Four children have been born unto our subject and his worthy wife, three sons and a daughter, namely: Samuel Edward, born June 21, 1870; Lizzie Matilda, October 17, 1873; Stephen C., February 9, 1880; and Ray B., on the 12th of September, 1886.

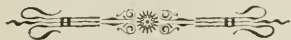
In his social relations, Mr. Malo is a Mason, holding membership with Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M. He exercises his right of franchise

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Yours Truly
C. H. Jones

in support of the Republican party, and, as every true American citizen should do, feels an interest in political affairs. He has served three terms in the office of Village Trustee and proved himself a capable and faithful official. He is regarded as an upright, honorable business man, and in the years of his residence here has won the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



HON. JOHN H. JONES, one of the prominent and influential citizens of Iroquois County, is one of its honored pioneers and one of its most extensive land-owners. He has long been identified with its history, its upbuilding and development, and this work would be incomplete without the record of his life. He was born in Brown County, near Georgetown, Ohio, October 30, 1823. His parents, John and Mary (Pitzer) Jones, were both natives of Kentucky. In the fall of 1829, when our subject was six years of age, they left the Buckeye State and removed to Warren County, Ind., where they spent the remainder of their lives. The death of the mother occurred in 1851, and the father, who survived her about twenty years, departed this life in 1871.

Mr. Jones' family numbered ten children, eight of whom grew to mature years, while two died in early childhood. Those who attained their majority are as follows: Ellen became the wife of Jesse Garland and both are now deceased; Louisa married George Statzell, and her death occurred many years ago, but the husband is living near Pine Village, Ind.; Nancy Ann is the widow of John B. Herriman, who died about three years ago, and she resides on a farm six miles from Milford; John H. is the next younger; Sarah, who died in 1890, was the wife of John Garland, a resident of Chariton, Iowa; Lewis married Miss Margaret Brown, by whom he has two children. Her death occurred about 1860, and he afterward married Mrs. Rebecca Dunshey, by whom he had

six children, five of whom are living; the family reside in Benton County, Ind. Mary became the wife of Hugh McDade, and both died in Missouri; and Tarpley married Mary Harper, and with their three children they make their home in California.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood in Indiana, and received a common-school education. After attaining to mature years he married Miss Nancy, daughter of William and Rebecca Hooker, of Warren County, Ind. After a short married life of two years she was called to her final rest. In November, 1845, Mr. Jones was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Hannah Mercer, daughter of Jesse and Sarah Pugh, of Warren County, Ind. By her first marriage she had one child, William Mercer. By the second union have been born nine children, and with one exception all are living: Stephen, born August 26, 1846, married Martha Gray, daughter of John and Rebecca Gray, and by their union four sons have been born, three of whom are yet living: John, Edgar and Guy. Russell is now deceased. They reside about four and one-half miles from Milford. Charles O., who was born April 9, 1848, married Miss Katie Holmes, and with their four children, Ruby, Homer, Earl and Charles Watson, they reside in Springfield, Ill.; John Milton, born May 25, 1850, died in February, 1860; Sarah M., born July 26, 1852, is the wife of O. P. Harman, of Milford, by whom she has one son, Leroy; Lewis, who was born May 5, 1854, and resides on the old homestead, married Miss Susan Wise, and their family numbers two children, Nellie and Ray; Alba M. and Edgar A., twins, were born May 23, 1856. The former was joined in wedlock with Miss Fannie Monette, daughter of John Monette, of Milford. The latter, who is a resident of Milford, married Miss Maggie Collins, of Shelby County, Ill., and one son, Harry, graces this union; Priscilla was born April 3, 1859; and Luther, who was born October 27, 1861, married Miss Jessie, daughter of Aaron Dazey, of Milford, and owns and operates a farm four miles east of that place. By his marriage he has two children, Gracie and Leroy.

Mr. Jones dates his residence in Iroquois County

from 1851. Removing from Indiana he located on a farm five miles east of Milford, in Stockland Township. He there owned and operated four hundred acres of land, and upon that farm, where he resided for twenty-nine years, he reared his family. He then traded two hundred and forty acres of that land to his son Lewis, and bought for himself a tract of fifteen hundred acres one mile nearer the village. Here he has resided for twelve years. He devotes his attention principally to stock-raising. He keeps on hand an excellent grade of horses, cattle and hogs, and has been very successful in his operations. By his own efforts he has worked his way steadily upward, and by his enterprise and good management has each year added to his capital until he is now one of the wealthy citizens of the county.

In politics, Mr. Jones is a stalwart supporter of Republican principles. For the long period of twenty years he has served as School Treasurer, for thirteen years has held the office of Supervisor, and in 1883 he was a member of the House of Representatives during the Thirty-third General Assembly. His long-continued service is a high testimonial of his ability as an officer and the faithfulness with which he discharged his duties. He is alike true to every public and private trust, and by his upright life he has won universal confidence. He is classed among the representative and leading citizens of Iroquois County, where he has made his home for forty-one years, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers the life record of this honored pioneer.



ROBERT MELL, Notary Public and insurance agent, is one of the leading and representative citizens of Cissna Park. He claims Kentucky as the State of his nativity. Born in Campbell County on the 17th of March, 1852, he is a son of John and Catherine (Wycoff) Mell. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and was of German descent. He removed to Ohio and afterward to Kentucky, and in 1871 came to Iroquois County, Ill., locating on

a farm in Ash Grove Township. Throughout his entire life he followed agricultural pursuits. His death occurred in Pigeon Grove Township about 1886. In politics, he was a supporter of Democratic principles. His wife makes her home with her son in Missouri. Of the family, William is now deceased; Mrs. Louisa Parker and Mrs. Alice Nelson both reside in Kentucky; Garrett served in a Kentucky regiment during the war; Rhoda died in childhood; John is living in Coles County, Ill.; Mrs. Margaret Spalding makes her home in Kentucky; Mrs. Mary Jane Higgins is living in Missouri; Robert is the next younger; Joseph is living in Union, Brown County, Minn.; Mrs. Sidney Newlin resides in Cissna Park; Thomas makes his home near Cissna Park; and La Fayette is living in Missouri. All but the eldest were born and reared in Kentucky.

Mr. Mell, whose name heads this record, spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm and was early inured to hard labor. When a young man, he made a trip to Ohio, and was there married on the 18th of September, 1871, to Miss Martha E. Anderson, who was born and reared in the same locality as her husband. She died in Iroquois County, September 18, 1877, on the sixth anniversary of her wedding day, leaving two children, Jessie B. and Lucy Hester. On the 6th of February, 1879, Mr. Mell was again married, his second union being with Miss Katie Schultz, a lady of German descent, whose parents now reside in Minnesota. Unto them have been born five children: Georgia (deceased), Anna Belle, Elsie, Myrtle (deceased), and Robert.

On his removal to this county, Mr. Mell embarked in farming in Ash Grove Township, and later carried on farming in Pigeon Grove Township. To that business he devoted his energies until December, 1891, when he left the farm and came to Cissna Park, where he purchased a lot and has erected a comfortable residence. He has since been engaged in business as an insurance and collection agent and as Notary Public. He has also read law for the past two years and has practiced to some extent. He does a good business and is a well-to-do citizen.

Mr. Mell takes an active interest in political af-

fairs and is a staunch Democrat. His first Presidential vote was cast for Gen. Hancock. He has served as Assessor for one term. Socially, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and is ever found in the front ranks in support of all enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit.

HARTMAN SCHWARTZ, one of the early settlers of this community, is numbered among the prominent and representative farmers of Prairie Green Township. He resides on section 24, where he owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land. This is one of the best-improved farms in the township. In all its appointments it seems complete, and its neat appearance indicates the enterprise and industry of the owner, which qualities are known to be among his chief characteristics. His home is a beautiful country residence, supplemented by good outbuildings, and these in turn are surrounded by waving fields of grain.

The owner of this desirable farm is of German birth. His parents were Thomas and Selma Schwartz, and they also were natives of Germany; a sketch of them is found with that of Philip Schwartz. Their family numbered five children, of whom our subject was the fourth in order of birth. He was born on the 30th of October, 1835, in Baden, and the days of his boyhood and youth were spent in his native land, where he acquired a good education in the common schools. It was at the age of twenty-three years that he bade adieu to home and friends, and in 1857 crossed the broad Atlantic to America. The vessel in which he sailed dropped anchor in the harbor of New York, and he landed in that city with only \$1 in his pocket, among a people whose language was strange to him. He remained in New York City for about a month, after which he came to Illinois, where he was first employed as a farm hand and served in that capacity for twelve years. He then came to Prairie Green Township, and with

the money he had acquired through his own hard labors, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of partially improved land, the same upon which he has since made his home.

August 22, 1861, Mr. Schwartz was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary M. Cook, of McLean County, Ill. Their union has been blessed with the following children, the eldest of whom, John T., was born June 15, 1863; Charles S., born September 15, 1866; William A. died in infancy; Edwin L., born February 21, 1870; Phoebe L., born November 11, 1873; one died unnamed and Hulda A., who also died in infancy; Benjamin F., born January 13, 1878. The surviving children are still under the parental roof. Their parents have provided them with good educational advantages, thus fitting them for the practical and responsible duties of life.

In politics, Mr. Schwartz is a stalwart supporter of Democratic principles, having been identified with that party since he became an American citizen. Himself and family, save one child, are all members of the Christian Church, and they are people of sterling worth, who are widely and favorably known throughout the community, and are held in high esteem by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

JOHAN W. MEIER, one of the efficient County Supervisors and well-to-do farmers of Ash Grove Township, residing on section 3, was born in Will County, Ill., June 22, 1849. His father, J. O. Meier, was born in Hesse, Germany. In the usual manner of farmer lads he was reared to manhood, and in his youth also learned the trade of a weaver. In 1844, he crossed the Atlantic to America, locating in Chicago. Four years later he went to Will County, Ill., and bought forty acres of land. Subsequently he made additional purchases until he became the owner of a large and valuable farm, but is now living retired in Crete. He has held a number of local offices, including Supervisor for some twenty years,

Road Commissioner for about twelve years, and Tax Collector, and is a prominent and honored citizen of the community where he makes his home. In politics, he is a Republican. He received a good education in his native land and was a well-informed man. Mr. Meier married Sophia Rme, and unto them were born eleven children, five of whom are yet living, namely: John; Sophia, who resides in Crete; William, who is living on the old homestead; Mary, a resident of Will County; and Louise, who resides with her father. The mother of this family died in 1869, and Mr. Meier afterward married Engel Scheiwe. Her death occurred two years ago. By that union were born two children, one of whom is yet living, Henry, who is now employed in the County Clerk's office in Joliet.

The subject of this sketch was born and reared on his father's farm and acquired a good education in both the German and English language. He remained at home until twenty-five years of age, and then started out in life for himself. His father had purchased three hundred and twenty acres of raw prairie land in Iroquois County, to which John W. removed in 1874 and began its development. He now has one of the finest farms of the county. Its many improvements and well-tilled fields attest his thrift and enterprise, and the neat appearance of the place indicates the supervision of a careful manager.

In 1871, Mr. Meier was married to Miss Sophia Scheiwe, of Will County, and by that union were born ten children, eight of whom are yet living, namely: John, William, Caroline, Herman, Martin, Henry, Emma and Otto. The two eldest children died in infancy. The mother was called to her final rest in 1888, and Mr. Meier was again married in 1890, his second union being with Miss Frieda Daus, a native of Germany, who, when three years of age, was brought by her parents to America, the family locating in Whiting, near Chicago.

Since casting his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant Mr. Meier has been a stalwart supporter of the Republican party and a warm advocate of its principles. He is now serving his seventh year in succession as a member of the County Board. The

prompt and faithful manner in which he has discharged his duties has led to his frequent re-election and has won for him the high commendation of all. Himself and wife are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Meier has a wide acquaintance throughout the county and is held in the highest regard by his large circle of friends and acquaintances. His life has been well and worthily spent, and by his good management, perseverance and business ability, he has won a handsome property, and now owns one of the finest farms in the township.



JAMES WARREN GREGORY, County Clerk of Iroquois County and a leading resident of Watseka, is a native of Indiana. He was born in Warren County, October 5, 1854, and is a son of Alford and Lucy (Templeton) Gregory. The parents were also natives of Indiana. A sketch of their lives is given on another page of this work.

In 1861, James W. Gregory accompanied his parents to Illinois, the family settling in Middleport Township, near Watseka. On coming to Iroquois County, Mr. Gregory was a lad of only seven years. He was reared to manhood on the farm and attended the country schools, completing his education in the city schools of Watseka. His occupation has been that of a farmer and stock-raiser from early manhood, and for several years he was also engaged in buying and selling live-stock. He has bred and dealt principally in Short-horn cattle and Norman horses, and is still interested in that line with his brother, George F. Together they own a well-improved farm of five hundred and twenty acres, situated in Middleport Township, in which our subject has a controlling interest.

In politics, Mr. Gregory is a Republican. He has served six years as Road Commissioner in Middleport Township, and in the autumn of 1890 was elected County Clerk of Iroquois County, entering upon the duties of the office on the 1st of December following. He has proved a very capable

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Rev. R. A. Finch.



Sarah A. Finch

and popular county officer, discharging his duties with a promptness and fidelity that have won him the commendation of all concerned. He has for his Deputy the old and experienced ex-County Clerk, H. A. Butzow.

Mr. Gregory was reared under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his mother and himself are both members. He is a member of the order of Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to Watseka Camp No. 339. He has long made his home in this county, in fact, almost his entire life has here been passed, and he has a wide acquaintance throughout its borders.



ROBERT FINCH, Sr., resides on section 26, Prairie Green Township. Almost half a century has passed away since this sterling old pioneer first came to Iroquois County. He has a wide acquaintance and his sketch will prove of interest to many of our readers who esteem him as a progressive and representative citizen. A native of Dearborn County, Ind., he was born September 25, 1819. His parents, Jubal and Philena (Earl) Finch, were parents of but two children, and Edwin, the eldest son, is now deceased. The father, a native of the Empire State, and a successful physician and surgeon, died during the infancy of our subject. The mother was also born in New York State, and died at the age of forty-five.

The boyhood days of Robert Finch were spent in Indiana. He remained in his native county until twelve years of age and then removed to Fountain County. After attending the common schools he entered the Baptist Manual Labor Training School, where he pursued his studies for nine months. During that time he was classmate of Congressman Holman, "the watch-dog of the Treasury." This school was located in Franklin, Ind. He afterward entered the college in Crawfordsville, Ind., and subsequently engaged in teaching, which profession he followed successfully for nine years through the fall and winter seasons, while in the summer months he engaged in farming. He started out in life with no capital but a

young man's bright hope of the future and a determination to succeed, and he has won success.

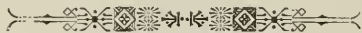
On the 3d of December, 1847, Mr. Finch married Miss Sarah Ann Crawford, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Cline) Crawford. Her father was a graduate of the Cincinnati Medical College, and was a physician and surgeon of prominence. He was a native of Ohio, but made his home near Attica, Ind., where he enjoyed an extensive practice. His wife was also born in the Buckeye State. In their family were two sons and four daughters, all yet living, namely: Mrs. Finch, Ruth, Josephine, Thomas, John and Elizabeth. The wife of our subject was educated in the common schools and is a kind and genial lady, who has proved a valuable helpmate to her husband. Eleven children have been born unto them, eight sons and three daughters, and the family circle yet remains unbroken: Edwin, the eldest, married Miss Sarah McDrew; John wedded Miss Delora Poiner; Cyrus married Miss Josephine Astor; Robert is engaged in farming; Theodore married Miss Loretta Handy; Fremont and Frederick are still at home; Leon married Miss Ida Wall; Genevra is the wife of Crumb McDonald; Elizabeth is the wife of John Lyons; Leonora is the wife of John Handy. There are also thirty-three grandchildren. The sons are all farmers and the daughters have married agriculturists, and both sons and sons-in-law are supporters of the Republican party. Edwin cast his first vote for Gen. Grant; John, for R. B. Hayes; Fremont, for Garfield; and Frederick, for Harrison.

Mr. Finch, our subject, was, in early life, a supporter of the Whig party and took an active part in the campaign of "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too," his first vote being cast for William Henry Harrison. For forty years he has been a reader of the *New York Tribune*, which was formerly published by Horace Greeley, and is a well-informed man, who keeps posted on all the issues and current events of the day. He has been honored with a number of offices of trust, having served as Road Commissioner some fifteen years, Collector about ten years, Assessor two terms and School Treasurer ten years. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and he has done effective service for

the schools, while serving as Director for many years.

In 1853, Mr. Finch came with his family to this county and purchased nine hundred and sixty acres in a body of Government land at \$1.25 per acre. He afterward became owner of thirteen hundred acres and still retains possession of eight hundred and sixty acres of valuable land. When he first came to the county, deer, wolves and all kinds of wild game were to be seen, and the work of civilization and progress seemed scarcely begun. His first home was a small cabin, 12x16 feet, with a floor so insecurely laid that the rattlesnakes could crawl through its cracks and crevices. He broke prairie with five yoke of oxen, so tough was the sod. There were no near markets or milling places. On one occasion he met a stranger near Lebanon, Ind., who asked him how far he lived from Watseka. "Twenty-five miles," was the answer. "How far from Loda?" "Twenty-five miles." "From Attica?" "Twenty-five miles." The stranger, thinking this too much, said: "My friend, don't you live about twenty-five miles from any place?" "I guess so," was the reply.

Mr. and Mrs. Finch experienced all the hardships and privations of pioneer life, but a handsome property has rewarded their industrious and persevering efforts, and in their declining years they are now surrounded with all the comforts that money can procure. Mr. Finch is a man of sterling worth and integrity, whose word is as readily accepted as his bond. Both he and his wife receive the high regard of all, and well deserve mention among the honored pioneers and valued citizens of the county.



WILLIAM H. WEAVER, the pioneer photographer of Iroquois County, who erected the first building for a photograph gallery in the county and occupied it as such in April, 1863; is a native of Pennsylvania. He was born in New Berlin, Union County, on Christmas Day of 1834. His parents, M. H. and Phæbe (Townsend) Weaver, were both natives of the Keystone

State. His father was a prominent lawyer of New Berlin, the county seat of Union County, and was also editor of the *Union Star*, a leading journal of that county. He was a prominent politician, and for several years held the offices of Clerk of the Circuit Court and Surveyor of that county. The parents are now deceased.

Our subject was educated in the public schools of his native town and when large enough to be of use helped his father in surveying various parts of Union County. Later, he served an apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade in Union County, Pa. In 1856, he came to La Fayette, Ind., and for a time was in charge of the machine shops of the Wabash Valley Railroad near that city. In the spring of 1858, he came to Illinois and began learning portrait work at Prospect City (now Paxton), the process then in use being principally ambrotyping on glass. After spending a few months in that place he returned to Indiana in the fall and was employed in the same line of work until 1861. He then returned to Illinois and settled in Milford, Iroquois County. Opening a gallery, he conducted it until April, 1863, when he removed to Watseka and opened the first gallery in this place, erecting a building for the purpose. Since that time he has been in active business here.

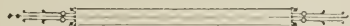
In the fall of 1858, near La Fayette, Ind., Mr. Weaver was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary Kerr, daughter of John Kerr, of Shawnee Prairie, Ind., where the lady was born. They have had three children, two of whom are yet living: Clara A., the eldest child, was the wife of Ross F. Bell, and died at the age of twenty-seven years, leaving one child, Roy W., now seven years old. William Grant, who married Dina Tibbins, by whom he has one child, Harry Don, a little lad of three years, is Superintendent of a railroad in Silverton, Colo. Adeline, the youngest, is at home.

In politics, Mr. Weaver is a Republican, and while in Indiana was elected Justice of the Peace, when twenty-three years of age. On coming to Watseka, he was a candidate for Police Magistrate at the first election held in that village, but was on the weaker side and was not elected. In 1879, he was elected Justice of the Peace in Watseka, was re-elected in 1889, and is now serving in that

office. He has been City Treasurer two terms and is the present City Clerk. He cast his first Republican vote in 1856 for Fremont and Dayton and walked several miles to the polling precinct. Himself and family are all members of the Methodist Church, in which he has been an officer since 1867. For several years he served as Class-leader, was active in Sunday-school work, and for some time held the position of Superintendent. For seventeen years he has been Treasurer of the County Bible Society. He helped to organize the Watseka Camp Meeting Association, of which he has been Secretary from the beginning, some eleven years since. The association's beautiful grounds comprise sixteen acres and lie adjacent to Watseka.

Mr. Weaver helped to organize the Watseka Building and Loan Association, of which he has been a Director continuously since, while for several years he served as Vice-president. He is well up with the times in his art and does the finest work in all branches of his business. Some years ago, in order to improve his skill, he spent some time in Chicago, taking lessons under the most eminent artist of the country, Prof. Hessler.

During his whole life, Mr. Weaver has been an active, busy and temperate man and is well preserved mentally and physically. Mr. Weaver makes an efficient City Clerk and is very popular in every public position he holds, for the reason that he discharges every duty devolving upon him with ability, promptness and fidelity.



HON. THOMAS VENNUM, a banker of the firm of Donovan & Vennum of Milford, is a pioneer of Iroquois County of 1835, now residing in Watseka but doing business in Milford. Mr. Vennum is a native of Pennsylvania. He was born in Washington County on Christmas Day of 1833, and is a son of Christopher C. and Rosanna (Paul) Vennum, whose sketch appears on another page of this work. In the spring of 1835, he came to Illinois with his parents, traveling by boat down the Ohio and up the Wabash Rivers.

His father entered Government land on section 1 of what is now Milford Township, Iroquois County, to which he added by subsequent purchase at private sale, and had at his death some seven hundred acres.

Our subject was a mere child when he came to Milford and has no recollection of his home in Pennsylvania or the journey to Illinois. As he became old enough, he was employed on his father's farm in the summer and attended school in the winter time. When seventeen years of age, he returned to Pennsylvania and for one year was a student at Washington College in his native county, after which he attended Asbury University, now De Pauw University, of Greencastle, Ind. Returning to Illinois, he resumed work on his father's farm until 1856, when, at the age of twenty-three, he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court and ex-officio Recorder of Iroquois County. He removed to Middleport, then the county seat, and entered upon the discharge of his duties. By his fidelity and promptness, he made many friends and was re-elected in 1860 and 1864, serving in all twelve years in that office. When the county seat was changed in 1865 to Watseka, he changed his place of residence to that city, which has since been his home.

In 1868, on the completion of his third term as Clerk of the Circuit Court and Recorder, Mr. Vennum joined Messrs. John L. Donovan and George A. Woodford in establishing the first bank in Watseka, under the firm name of Donovan, Woodford & Co. That connection continued until October, 1874, when Mr. Vennum went to Tennessee and for sixteen months was engaged in managing the mining and shipping of coal at Tracy City, on contract with the Tennessee Coal and Railway Company. This business was rather experimental. Not proving profitable, the contract was abandoned and he returned to Watseka. In 1876, in company with John L. Donovan, his former partner, he resumed the banking business, opening the first bank in Milford, where they have continued in business to the present time with marked success. Both have still maintained their residences in Watseka.

While a resident of Middleport, Mr. Vennum was a member of the firm of H. A. Tillinghast &

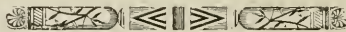
Co., druggists. The business was subsequently transferred to Watseka, and on Dr. Secrest becoming a partner the firm name was changed to Secrest, Tillinghast & Co. Our subject continued the silent partner for a number of years, when he withdrew.

On the 8th of April, 1862, Mr. Vennum was married in Detroit, Mich., to Miss Lucia A. Tullar, who was born in Brownsville, Lenawee County, Mich. They have four children living, three sons and a daughter: Ella Janet is now the wife of Otis W. Johnson, son of Otis R. Johnson, the well-known millionaire lumberman of Racine, Wis., and is the business manager of the Fish Bros. & Co. Wagon Works, of which he and his father are the principal stockholders; Irving T. is employed with his father in the bank at Milford; Fred D. is a clerk in the First National Bank of Chicago; and Thomas G., the youngest, is now taking a preparatory course in Racine College with the view of entering Yale; Mabel, who was the eldest of the family, died in infancy.

During his term of office as Clerk of the Circuit Court, Mr. Vennum studied law and in 1868 was admitted to the Bar, but, becoming interested in banking and other business, never actually engaged in practice as a profession. On coming of age, he joined the Republican party, of which he has since been a consistent member. In the fall of 1870, he was elected by that party a Representative to the Illinois Legislature and served as a member of the Twenty-seventh General Assembly in the sessions of 1871-72. He was appointed on the Committees on Finance, Congressional Appointment and Contingent Expenses, and proved an efficient and useful member. He was chosen Mayor of Watseka, a position he filled to the satisfaction of his fellow-citizens. Socially, he is a member of Iroquois Lodge No. 74, I. O. O. F., and his wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church and the daughter of the Christian Church.

For fifty-seven years, almost his entire lifetime, Mr. Vennum has been a resident of Iroquois County. His father and grandfather before him were worthy pioneers of the same county, and their remains lie interred near the site of their cabin home, which was erected when this region

was a wilderness. Mr. Vennum has lived to participate in the upbuilding and improvement of the county and to see it a well-settled, highly-improved and prosperous section of the State. His business and social relations with his fellow-citizens have been extended and intimate; and as county official, Legislator, merchant and banker have ever been such as to command the highest respect and confidence of all with whom he has come in contact. Possessing superior business ability, unquestioned integrity, temperate and industrious habits, he has been eminently successful in his business career. Broad in his views and possessing a generous fund of general information acquired by study and well-directed observation, united with urbanity of manner and evident candor, he is an agreeable and entertaining companion and a true and trusty friend.



THOMAS S. HARRY, an early settler of Illinois, who makes his home in Watseka, claims Kentucky as the State of his nativity. He was born in Christian County, on the 31st of August, 1823, and is a son of Samuel Harry. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, no event of special importance occurring during his childhood. After he had attained to mature years, he was married on the 2d of October, 1844, in the county of his nativity, to Miss Irena J., daughter of Ralph Compton, and a native of Christian County, who was born December 11, 1823.

In 1847, they came to Illinois and settled in McLean County, where Mr. Harry was engaged in farming for a time. He afterward removed to Woodford County, and in the spring of 1865 became a resident of Livingston County, locating on a farm near Chatsworth. By his union with Miss Compton eight children were born, six of whom are yet living at this writing: Eliza A. became the wife of M. B. Lewis and died in 1872; Mary R. is the wife of W. H. Vreeland and resides in Morris, Iowa; Jesse T. wedded Miss Minnie Miller, and makes his home in Montana, near White Sulphur Springs; Thomas Milton married Miss Flora

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B. J. Scott

Wright, and is living on a farm at Palisade, Hitchcock County, Neb.; Samuel R. wedded Miss Laura T. Vail, of Chatsworth, and is engaged in the law and abstract business in Watseka, with his brother, William H., who wedded Miss Mary A. Vail, and is the senior member of the firm of Harry Brothers; Jasper C. married Miss Lillie Bailey, of Fairbury, Livingston County, and resides in Lexington, McLean County, Ill.; Irene, the youngest, died at the age of two years.

Mr. Harry continued to carry on his farm, which is a valuable one of one hundred and sixty acres situated near Chatsworth, until the spring of 1883, when he leased it and removed to Watseka, which has since been the home of himself and wife. This worthy couple have been consistent members of the Christian Church for many years and are highly respected by all who know them. Mr. Harry was a very enthusiastic Republican in early life, and gave a patriotic support to the war for the Union. He was also a great admirer of Horace Greeley, and in 1872 joined the Greeley movement and has since voted with the Democratic party. His life has been an active and useful one and has been characterized by integrity and those qualities that command respect and esteem from the most worthy people of the community where he has resided.



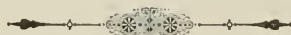
B LUFORD T. SCOTT, who for many years followed farming, but is now living retired in Milford, was born in Lawrence County, Ohio, on the 7th of March, 1830. His parents, Jehu and Martha (Templeton) Scott, were both natives of Virginia, and were reared to manhood and womanhood in the Old Dominion. By their marriage were born ten children, seven sons and three daughters, and of the family seven are yet living: Perry, the eldest, married Rachel Ann Morey, a daughter of Carpenter Morey, and resides in Boone County, Iowa. They have a family of eleven children. Elizabeth became the wife of John Keena, of Lawrence County, Ohio, and died in 1888, leaving three children. Margaret became

the wife of Cornelius Westfall Sights, a resident of Lawrence County, Ohio, and her death occurred in that county. Thomas married Miss Susan Anderson, and with their six children they make their home in Davenport, Iowa. Matilda is the widow of Andrew J. Eadsley, who was a prominent citizen of Milford, where he died about seven years ago, leaving three children. William T. was joined in wedlock with Miss Martha Rothgib, daughter of George Rothgib, a native of Germany. They reside on a farm five miles south of Milford with their four children, two sons and two daughters. Bluford T. is the next younger. David married Miss Hanks, and both are now deceased. Walter C. married Miss Frances Bumgardner, by whom he has six children, and resides near Smithland, in Shelby County, Ind. Theodore, the youngest of the family, married Jennie Hefner, by whom he has two children, a son and daughter. They are now living near Rossville, Vermilion County, Ill.

The subject of this sketch spent his early life in the State of his nativity, and after attaining to mature years was married, in December, 1854, the lady of his choice being Miss Eliza Bartlett. One child, a son, was born unto them, but died in infancy. The mother was called to her final home in January, 1856. Mr. Scott was again married, on the 2d of July, 1864, his second union being with Miss Elizabeth Cosby, a daughter of George and Mary E. (Stiles) Cosby. Four children were born of this union, of whom three are yet living: Rowena, born January 17, 1865; Florence, born in September, 1867; and Robert, born August 9, 1870. Otis, the third child, was born in October, 1868, and died on the 7th of March, 1882.

The year 1864 witnessed the arrival of Mr. Scott in Iroquois County. It was in the month of July, that he and Daniel C. Anderson purchased a farm of two hundred acres in Milford Township, but our subject soon sold, and in 1869 bought one hundred and twenty acres in Lovejoy Township, on which he lived fifteen years. There his wife died July 10, 1880. On the expiration of that period he sold out and purchased a farm of one hundred and seventy acres two miles west, and one-half mile south, of Milford. This was in 1884, and for seven years he

made his home thereon, successfully following agricultural pursuits. In December, 1891, he took up his residence in the village of Milford, where he is now living a retired life, enjoying a well-earned rest and the fruits of his former labor. When a young man, he worked long and earnestly, and thereby acquired a comfortable competence, which now supplies him with all the necessities and many of the luxuries of life. Socially, Mr. Scott is a member of Milford Lodge No. 253, I. O. O. F., and politically, is a Democrat. He is highly respected by all who know him, for during the thirty years of his residence in Iroquois County his life has ever been such as to win him universal confidence.



SANFORD K. MARSTON, who is now living a retired life, has long been a leading and influential citizen of Onarga. He was born the 24th of February, 1831, in Augusta, Me. His grandfather, John Marston, was born in Portland, Me., December 28, 1773, and married Peace Fry, of Cumberland, Me. Ebenezer Marston, father of our subject, was also born in the Pine Tree State, and wedded Sarah Sanborn Rideout, also a native of that State. They became the parents of four sons: Chester Wood, Brackett Nelson, Sanford K. and Ephraim. The death of the father occurred in 1862. His widow long survived him and was called to her final rest November 18, 1885.

Under the parental roof, our subject spent the days of his boyhood. A short time previous to his twenty-first birthday, he married Miss Sarah Field, a daughter of Benjamin and Harriet (Rideout) Field, their union being celebrated on the 11th of January, 1852. Four years later, in 1856, they emigrated Westward to Illinois, Mr. Marston hoping to benefit his financial condition thereby. The following spring, his father came West and together they settled on a farm in what is now Ford County, about six miles west of Onarga. They owned and operated about a half-section of land for seven years. Sanford also purchased forty acres of land on which Onarga is now situated, and of this

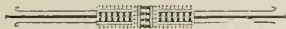
he still owns one-half. He continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until 1863, when he removed to the village of Onarga and for a time engaged in real-estate dealing. He then established a brick yard and built a number of brick business houses in this place. Later he sold out and began dealing in lumber and agricultural implements as a partner of William P. Pierson. After three years he bought out Mr. Pierson's interest and added a new department, that of handling grain. He was thus employed until 1884, when he sold out, selling the south elevator to Benjamin H. Durham. He is now living retired, enjoying a well-earned rest.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Marston have been born three children: Benjamin, born August 21, 1854, died at the age of twenty-one months; Mary Augusta, born July 8, 1855, is the wife of Robert F. Cummings, of Clifton, and they became the parents of six children, five living: Lenore; Marion Marston; Austin Benjamin, who died at the age of two years; Florence, Irene and Marston. Harriet Field, born April 16, 1858, is the wife of Milton Doolittle. They reside in Atkinson, Neb., with their three children: Mary Triphenia, Marston and Helen Augusta.

When Mr. Marston located in Ford County he was the prime mover in effecting the organization of the township for school purposes, and his wife taught the first school in Lyman Township in her own house. Mr. Marston informed himself concerning the school law, and his services proved of much benefit to the community. After the township was organized he was elected its first Treasurer and was also its first Supervisor. After removing to Onarga, he was elected a member of the first Board of Trustees of Grand Prairie Seminary, and is the only one of the original eighteen who is now holding the office.

Mr. Marston is now Secretary of the Illinois Grain Merchants' Association, intended for the protection of grain merchants against railroad and other large corporations, unjust legislation, etc. He was a member of the Good Templars' lodge for a period of six years, and largely through his instrumentality the saloons were driven from this place. The initiatory step was taken by a number of the most prominent ladies of Onarga, who pro-

ceeded with hatchets and other small instruments of warfare in a raid upon the saloons. That was thirty years ago, and since then no saloons have flourished in Onarga. Both Mr. and Mrs. Marston are faithful and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he holds the office of Trustee. He was one of the original members of the Republican party, but is now independent in politics, placing America and her institutions before any party. He votes for the man whom he thinks best qualified to fill the office. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen who takes a commendable interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community, and no man has done more for Onarga and its upbuilding than Mr. Marston. His life has been well and worthily spent and his example is worthy of emulation in many respects.



SEELY HETFIELD, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Watska, was born in Crawford County, Ill., October 28, 1821, being the son of Adam S. and Harriet (Miller) Hetfield, both of whom were natives of the Empire State. The father of our subject was a soldier in the War of 1812, and took part in the battle of Landy's Lane. He took a most active part in all the campaigns of that war, being in Ripley's command. After his discharge, in company with John Bartlett, a comrade in the service, he made a trip down the Monongahela and Ohio Rivers to Evansville, Ind., whence they went to Ft. Harrison on the Wabash River, and from there to Ft. Wayne, returning home from that place. Pleased with what he had seen of the West, he and his brother Aaron concluded to remove there and at first settled in Crawford County, Ill. The country was then very new and unoccupied, there being about as many Indians as white men in those parts. They made frequent trips during the next few years to New Orleans, where their market was. Adam Hetfield lived in Crawford County for nine years, enduring all the hardships and privations of pioneer life. He next re-

moved to Fountain County, Ind., and resided there during the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1839.

Our subject was the second child in a family of five children, and received such educational advantages as were afforded by the common schools of Fountain County. At that time, schools were far apart and there was only a three-month term during the year. He had to go a distance of from two to four miles, riding when he went the latter distance back and forth each day during the time of his school attendance. At the time of his father's death, he was but seventeen years of age and he succeeded to the management of the farm, taking entire charge of the same until his mother's death, in 1818. Two years later, he came to Iroquois County, and in 1851 purchased a farm. Since that time, his home has been in this county.

The same year, on the 11th of August, Mr. Hetfield was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca White, whose father, Amos White, was a native of New Jersey and an early settler of this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Hetfield have been born four children; the eldest, Carrie, now Mrs. B. L. Evans, resides at Colorado Springs, Colo., at which place her husband is physician in chief at the branch Keeley Institute. The other children are Ada, Mattie and Della.

In his early manhood, Mr. Hetfield was politically a Whig, his first Presidential vote being cast for Henry Clay. He continued in that party until Douglas was nominated for President, and since that time has been a supporter of the Democratic party. He is a public-spirited man, who endeavors to promote, with all his power, the best interests of the community in which he resides, and is a zealous worker in all directions pertaining to the advancement of its welfare. Recognizing this, his fellow-townsmen elected him Mayor of Watska, which position he occupied for two terms, discharging the duties of that office most acceptably. He has been very successful in business and now owns over five hundred acres of the finest farming lands in the county, besides various other business interests. His residence is one of the most comfortable and pleasant homes in the town of Watska, and its hospitality is ex-

tended to a wide circle of friends. Mr. Hetfield has followed the occupation of farming and stock-raising nearly all his life, and for years carried on an extensive business in shipping cattle from Texas to the northern markets.



JOSEPH M. KEATH, who is engaged in general farming on section 5, Milford Township, was born on the 11th of May, 1858, in Boone County, Ind., and is a son of Uriah Y. and Nancy (Carrington) Keath. His father was a native of Kentucky, and in an early day emigrated to Indiana, where he met and married Miss Carrington, a native of that State. In 1860, when our subject was only two years of age, they came to Illinois and settled on a farm in Ash Grove Township, Iroquois County, comprising eighty acres, to the cultivation and improvement of which Mr. Keath devoted his energies for a period of fifteen years. He then removed to Belmont Township, where he and his wife now reside. He is a leading agriculturist of the community, and both himself and wife are highly respected people.

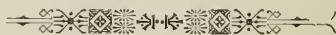
Our subject is one of nine children, but of the family Addison, Matilda, William and Nannie are deceased. Those living are Joseph, Edward, Aaron, Cornelius and Mary. Edward married Virginia Bodey, daughter of Frank Bodey, of Belmont Township; they have two little children, a son and a daughter. The other children are still at home.

The subject of this sketch has spent almost his entire life in Iroquois County. Upon his father's farm he was reared to manhood, and as soon as old enough to handle the plow, he began to aid in its cultivation. During the winter months, when the work upon the farm was over, he attended the public schools, where he acquired a good English education. Mr. Keath is a well-informed man, having become conversant with all topics of general interest by reading and observation.

A marriage ceremony performed on the 7th of October, 1880, united the destinies of Joseph M.

Keath and Miss Jennie Smith. Their union has been blessed with a family of five children, four of whom are yet living, namely: Mearle, born July 10, 1881; Ethel, December 4, 1883; Homer, June 4, 1886; and Clarence, March 13, 1890. Earl, born on the 15th of September, 1888, died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Keath began their domestic life upon a rented farm in Milford Township, where they resided for nine years, and then removed to their present place of residence. Both are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a thrifty and successful agriculturist, and his industry perseverance and good management have secured him a good income. He is a Republican, but has never taken a very prominent part in public affairs, having lived a quiet, unassuming and honorable life, which has won him universal regard. Those who have known him from boyhood are among his staunchest friends, a fact which indicates an honorable career.



FREDERICK W. MEYER is one of the prominent and enterprising business men of Woodworth. He has for many years served as its efficient and popular Postmaster, and is also engaged in general merchandising. He established business in this line about 1875. As his capital consisted of only about \$425, he started with a small stock, but as his trade has increased he has constantly enlarged his stock to meet the growing demand, and now occupies a store 24x73 feet. It is well supplied with everything in the line of general merchandise and he is doing a good business, having by his courteous treatment and fair dealing built up an excellent trade. His annual sales now amount to about \$18,000.

Mr. Meyer was born in Ripley County, Ind., April 25, 1853, and is a son of John D. and Elizabeth (Huffmeyer) Meyer. His father was born near Osnabruck, Germany, September 29, 1829, and his mother was born in Minden, Germany. At the age of nineteen, John Meyer emigrated to America, locating first in Cincinnati, where he

learned the trade of a mason, following that occupation two years. He then removed to Mt. Pleasant, Ohio, and subsequently to Batesville, Ind., where he engaged in farming. In 1857, he came to Will County, Ill., where from the wild prairie he developed a farm, on which he still makes his home. The mother of our subject died when he was fifteen years of age, leaving eight children, five of whom are now living: John F., a resident of Will County, Ill.; Frederick of this sketch; Mrs. Elizabeth Wagner, who is living in Englewood, Ill.; August F., a farmer of Ash Grove Township; and Anna, wife of W. H. Scheive, of Will County. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Meyer married Anna Salmon, and unto them were born nine children. He and his family are members of the Lutheran Church. He formerly supported the Republican party, but is now a Democrat. His father resides with him and is now ninety-two years of age, but his mental faculties are still unimpaired.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who was reared in Will County amid the wild scenes of frontier life. At the age of thirteen, he left home to attend school in Ft. Wayne, Ind., and for five years was a student in Concordia College, but was forced to abandon his studies on account of typhoid fever, which affected his eyesight. Reading in subsequent years, combined with his school privileges, has made him a well-informed man, and he always keeps posted on the current topics of the day.

On the 19th of December, 1875, Mr. Meyer was married to Miss Mary Lucke, daughter of August Lucke, one of the early settlers of this county. Eight children have been born unto them, as follows: Mary, born April 11, 1877; Fred, December 17, 1878; Anna, November 17, 1880; William, January 13, 1883; Freda, May 12, 1885; Clara, November 21, 1887; Helena, April 14, 1890; and the baby, October 1, 1892. The children were born in their present home and are being educated in the public and German parochial schools.

Mr. Meyer entered upon his business career at the age of twenty, being employed as clerk in a store in Crete. He afterward served in the same capacity in Chicago, and at the age of twenty-two

began business for himself in Woodworth. He is a man of good business ability, enterprising and progressive, and his career has been a successful one. Himself and family are members of the Lutheran Church, and he is Secretary of the congregation. He took a prominent part in the building of the house of worship, of which he has ever been a liberal supporter. He cast his first Presidential vote for Samuel J. Tilden, but has since been identified with the Republican party. He held the office of Township Clerk for two years, and since 1876 has been the efficient Postmaster of Woodworth. Mr. Meyer well deserves the high regard in which he is held, for he is a man of sterling worth and integrity.



HENRY W. NORTON. Among the wide-awake and enterprising business men of Wellington should be mentioned the gentleman whose name heads this sketch, who for many years has been connected with the leading interests of this place. He is the junior member of the well-known firm of Pate & Norton, grain dealers.

Mr. Norton was born on the 1st of March, 1852, in this State, and is a son of Charles and Ursula (Smith) Norton. On the maternal side he traces his ancestry back to Rev. Henry Dunster, who was the first President of Harvard College. From a memoir of that gentleman the following is quoted: "The name Dunster signifies a dweller upon a dun or down, and is of Saxon origin. There is a market town in Somersetshire, England, and a castle there by that name, hence the origin of the family crest: 'Dunster, out of the top of a tower, an arm emboss, vested gri, cuffed of the first, holding a tilting spear, sa.' Rev. Henry Dunster was born about 1610, and arrived in Boston toward the latter part of the summer of 1640. For a time he resided on his own estate, at what is now the northeast corner of Court and Washington Streets. His reputation as an eminent scholar had evidently preceded him, for immediately upon his arrival he

was waited on by the Governor, Magistrates, Elders and ministers and was asked to remove to Cambridge and assume the presidency of the college, a position which he filled through much of his life. He was a finished scholar in the Hebrew, Greek and Latin languages. Thus fitted by education and by several years' experience as a teacher, he entered upon the work of organizing and conducting the college affairs. Harvard had been established several years before but was little else than an advanced school. Quincy, Pierce and Elliott, the modern historians of Harvard College, have recorded their testimonials as to the purity and nobility of his character and his great success in both the executive and the teaching departments of the college. Rev. Shepherd, the pastor at Cambridge, calls him, 'a man, pious, faithful and fit to teach and very fit to lay the foundations of the domestical affairs of the college.' "

The grandmother of our subject, Eliza Bemis, was of the sixth generation in direct descent from Rev. Henry Dunster. She was born August 3, 1804, and on the 19th of December, 1822, became the wife of Lorin Smith, of Monkton, Vt. They removed to Illinois in 1848. They had six children, two sons and four daughters. Both sons died when young. Of the daughters, Ursula, the mother of our subject, was the third in order of birth. She married Charles Norton, a Vermont farmer. He was a native of the Green Mountain State and followed agricultural pursuits for some years, but has for many years been engaged in the grain business in Wataga, Knox County, Ill. Both parents are still living. They had three children, the eldest of whom is our subject. Jennie is now the wife of H. S. Magraw, a book-keeper of Helena, Mont. Herrick is a telegraph operator on the Santa Fe Railroad at Galesburg, Ill.

We now take up the personal history of H. W. Norton, whose boyhood days were spent in Knox County, Ill., he there residing until nineteen years of age. His educational advantages were those afforded by the common schools, and by subsequent reading, observation and experience he has become a well-informed man, and keeps posted on all the current events of the day. After starting out in life for himself, he worked for the Chicago, Bur-

lington & Quincy Railroad for about two years. In 1871, he left Knox County and removed to Stark County, where he was again in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, remaining with that company for a period of six years. His long continuance with that corporation shows that he was faithful to the duties reposed in him, and had the full confidence of his employers. It was the autumn of 1878 that witnessed Mr. Norton's arrival in Wellington. Here he entered into partnership with S. C. Jack & Co., in the grain business, remaining a member of that firm until he formed the present partnership with Alexander Pate, their association covering a period of ten consecutive years.

In political sentiment, Mr. Norton is a Democrat, and his first Presidential vote was cast for Gen. W. S. Hancock. During President Cleveland's administration he served as Postmaster of Wellington. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Star Lodge No. 709 A. F. & A. M.; Chapter No. 139, R. A. M.; and Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton. During his long residence in Wellington he has become widely and favorably known, and his many excellencies of character have won for him the warm regard of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. By strict business principles and fair dealing he has gained the confidence and goodwill of his many patrons, and has achieved a well-merited success. He is numbered among the substantial citizens of the community.



HENRY KORITZ, one of the self-made men of Iroquois County, is a well-known farmer and stock-raiser of Ridgeland Township. He claims Germany as the land of his birth, having been born near Hesse-Cassel June 16, 1838, and is a son of Christopher and Mary Koritz. The family of this worthy couple numbered five children, as follows: Conrad, who died in 1850; Christopher, who is still living in Germany; Catherine, the wife of Christopher Pinkenburg, also a resident of the Fatherland; Sophia, who

became the wife of Henry Pinkenburg, and died in 1882; and our subject.

The subject of this sketch is the youngest in the family. He was reared to manhood in his native land and his education was acquired in the public schools, which he attended until fourteen years of age. At the age of sixteen, he began earning his own livelihood. He learned the weaver's trade, which he followed for a number of years, or until his emigration to America, in 1858. Wishing to try his fortune in the New World, of whose advantages he had heard so much, he crossed the Atlantic in a sailing-vessel, and after a voyage of five weeks landed in New York City on the 4th of July, 1858. He did not remain long in the eastern metropolis, but at once journeyed Westward to Chicago, and thence went to Crete, Will County, Ill. He had borrowed money to bring him to America and had again to borrow in Chicago to bring him to Crete. He began work on a farm at \$8 per month, and was thus employed for a period of five years, after which he rented land for two years and engaged in farming on his own account.

In the meantime, Mr. Koritz was married, June 18, 1862, to Miss Anna Grod, daughter of John Henry and Elizabeth Grod. By their union has been born eight children, as follows: Henry, who is now engaged in Ridgeland Township; Elizabeth, wife of Russell Chaffey, a resident farmer of Ford County; John and Otto, both at home; Mary, wife of James Zee; Carl, Alfred and Amos, who complete the family.

It was in 1865 that Mr. Koritz removed to this county. He located in Ridgeland Township, and purchased eighty acres of railroad land at \$12 per acre. There were no improvements whatever upon the place, not a field having been planted or even a furrow turned. He at once began the development of this land, which he continued to operate until 1880, when he removed to the beautiful farm on which he now resides. Mr. Koritz is one of the extensive land-owners of the community, and in addition to the five hundred and sixty acres of land on which he makes his home, all situated in Ridgeland Township, he owns one hundred and sixty acres in Ford County. A

glance at his farm indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner. His fields are well tilled, and yield to him abundant harvests; there are good buildings and the place seems complete in all its appointments. In connection with the cultivation of his land, Mr. Koritz carries on stock-raising, making a specialty of the breeding of Polled-Angus cattle.

Mr. Koritz and his family are all members of the German Lutheran Church, and they are well-known people of this community, who rank high in social circles. In his political affiliations, our subject is a Democrat, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with excellent success, owing to his perseverance and well-directed energies. He is one of the leading and substantial farmers of the community, and well deserves representation in the history of his adopted county.



WILLIAM MISCH, who is engaged in general merchandising in Milford and is a prominent business man of that place, was born in Russo, Germany, September 20, 1852. His grandfather, Christian Misch, was ninety years of age at the time of his death. The parents of our subject, August and Frederica (Schultz) Misch, were both natives of Germany. Emigrating to America, they became residents of Iroquois County, where the father died in February, 1886. The mother is still living, and makes her home in Milford. Their family numbered seven children, as follows: August, born in Germany, in October, 1850, married Mrs. Aldret Gray, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Northrop, and lost his life while mining in Rico, Colo., May 21, 1892. William, of this sketch, is the next younger. Minnie, born in 1851, is the wife of Isaac N. Strickler, a resident of Anselmo, near Broken Bow, Custer County, Neb. They have five children: Cora, Willie, Minnie, Henry and a baby. Rachael, who was born in 1856, is the wife of Joseph Vessels, also a resident of Anselmo, Neb. Four children have been born

of their union. Augusta, born in 1858, is the wife of John C. Miller, by whom she has a daughter, Eva. Louis, who was born in 1863, married Disa McMillan, a sister of his brother William's wife, and they have a little son about eighteen months old. Dora, the youngest child, resides in Milford with her mother.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who with his mother, brothers and sisters came to America in childhood. The father had previously crossed the Atlantic, in 1859, and after a short residence in the Empire State, removed to Illinois in 1862, making a permanent settlement in Iroquois County. Here the children were all reared to years of maturity. William acquired his education in the common schools, and received his business training in the store of Joseph Flechman, where he was engaged in clerking for four years. He was afterward employed as a salesman in the store of Daniel Fay, of Watseka, for a period of six years. On the expiration of that time he returned to Milford and purchased the grocery store owned by John A. Holmes. With the assistance of his brother Louis, he carried on that store for a year, and then admitted to partnership F. W. Duryee, and put in a stock of general merchandise. After a year he bought out his partner's interest, and since that time has conducted the business alone.

An important event in the life of Mr. Misch occurred on the 28th of December, 1881, when he led to the marriage altar Miss Ruby McMillin, daughter of Reason H. and Martha McMillin, residents of Danville, Ill. One child graces their union, a daughter, Maud McMillin, who was born March 1, 1886.

Mr. Misch is numbered among the prominent and influential citizens of this community, as well as one of its leading business men. He was honored with the office of Alderman for two terms, was also Treasurer of Milford, and in 1890 was President of the School Board. The cause of education has ever found in him a warm friend, and during his connection with the School Board he did much for its advancement. Himself and wife are members of the Christian Church, in which he fills the office of Deacon and Trustee,

They both take an active interest in church work, and are earnest laborers in the Master's vineyard. In his social relations, Mr. Misch is an Odd Fellow, holding membership with Farmers' Lodge No. 253, I. O. O. F.

Our subject is an enterprising and sagacious man, and his business has grown from a small beginning until he now has one of the largest stores in the county. He carries a full and complete stock, and by his industrious efforts, courteous treatment of his customers, and fair and honest dealing, he has secured a good trade. His mercantile career he has conducted upon honest business principles, depending on his own energies, judgment and straightforward dealing for success, and the liberal patronage which he now receives is certainly well deserved.



FRANK L. HOOPER, the junior member of the well-known law firm of Morris & Hooper, of Watseka, and a rising young lawyer of that city, is a native of Iroquois County. He was born in Belmont Township on the 21st of April, 1864. His parents, John B. and Sarah M. (Harter) Hooper, were early settlers of Iroquois County, and a sketch of their lives is given elsewhere in this work.

In 1871, Frank L. removed with his parents to Danville, Ill., where he attended the Danville High School, and later read law with Tracy B. Harris, of Watseka. He subsequently took a full law course in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, from which he was graduated. He was admitted to the Bar when twenty-one years of age, and in that same year he formed a law partnership with T. B. Harris, and entered upon the practice of his profession at Watseka. That connection continued until broken by the death of Mr. Harris. In January, 1891, our subject formed the existing law partnership with the Hon. Free P. Morris, under the firm name of Morris & Hooper.

On the 29th of September, 1891, Mr. Hooper was united in marriage in Watseka with Miss

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Grace Willoughby. The lady was born in Watseka, and is a daughter of Aaron and Nancy Willoughby, who were among the early settlers of this place.

In politics, Mr. Hooper is a Democrat. He has never held a political office. For four years he was attorney for the city of Watseka, but accepted the position only for the reason that it was in the line of his chosen profession. He was a candidate for State's Attorney in 1888, and, although defeated, ran about four hundred votes ahead of his ticket. The firm of Morris & Hooper are proprietors of the Watseka Electric Light plant, and are interested in farm lands situated in Iroquois County. Mr. Hooper is a Master Mason, holding membership with Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M. He has made his home in Watseka since 1881, and has been in the active and successful practice of his profession for the past seven years. He is a thorough student, possesses superior natural legal talent, and is rapidly gaining prominence as a successful lawyer. The firm of which he is a member has an extensive practice and is classed among the more important law firms of Eastern Illinois.



FREDERICK S. FRAZEE, is a representative farmer of Ridgeland Township, residing on section 15, where he has made his home for the long period of twenty consecutive years. He there owns and operates two hundred and forty acres of arable land, which is under a high state of cultivation and well-improved. He carries on general farming and stock-raising and is recognized as a successful business man. He is methodical and systematic, practical and progressive and success has attended his well-directed efforts.

The life record of our subject is as follows: A native of New Jersey, he was born in Newark on the 1th of February, 1830. His parents were Turner and Martha (Meeker) Frazee. His father was also a native of New Jersey, and was of French descent. By trade he was a shoemaker. In 1838,

he removed to Warren County, Ohio, where he resided for nineteen years, when, in 1857, he came to Illinois. He took up his residence in Ridgeland Township, Iroquois County, upon a forty-acre tract of land on section 7, which he purchased from his son William, who pre-empted it from the Government. To the occupation of farming he devoted his energies throughout the remainder of his life. His death occurred in 1881, and his wife passed away the year previous. Both were members of the Baptist Church. The family of this worthy couple numbered ten children, as follows: Mary, who died in 1836; William, a valiant soldier of Company D, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, died in 1864 at Camp Butler, Springfield, from disease contracted in the Yazoo Bottoms near Vicksburg, Miss., having served over two years; Aaron, a farmer and blacksmith residing near Franklin, Warren County, Ohio; Frederick, who was a twin brother of Aaron and died in infancy; James, who enlisted for the late war in August, 1862, served over a year as a private of Company D, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, and is now engaged in farming in Michigan; Sarah E., who died in 1850; Julia, wife of John McMillan, a farmer residing near Chatsworth, Livingston County, Ill.; Lewis D., who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Ridgeland Township; and John T., also a farmer residing in Ridgeland Township.

Our subject spent the first eight years of his life in the city of Newark, N. J., and in Essex County, and then accompanied the family on their removal to Ohio, after which he was reared to manhood upon a farm. The common schools afforded him his educational privileges and he remained at home with his parents until he had attained his majority, when he started out to earn his own livelihood. This he did by working for a year as a farm hand at \$6 per month. He then operated a farm on shares until 1855, when he left the Buckeye State and came to Iroquois County, Ill. Here he purchased eighty acres of railroad land on section 18, Ridgeland Township, making his home thereon, until 1872, when he leased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 15, for eleven years. On the expiration of the lease he purchased

the same, and since that time he has extended the boundaries of his farm until now two hundred and forty acres of rich land yield to him a golden tribute in return for his care and cultivation.

On the 19th of November, 1868, Mr. Frazee married Miss Ellen, daughter of John and Mary (Bowron) Furby. Mrs. Frazee was born July 15, 1843, in Darlington, County of Durham, England. Her father was born at Reading, Berkshire, England, and her mother in Durham. In 1857, they sailed with their family of children to America. The first ten years were spent in Raysville, Henry County, Ind. In 1867, they came to Ridgeland Township, where the wife died in February, 1870, being fifty-seven years old. Since 1880, her husband has made his home in Atlanta, Ga. Should he live till February 3, 1893, he will be eighty years old. All his children, six girls and two boys, are living. In England Mr. Furby was a merchant, in Indiana he followed the nursery business, and after coming to Illinois he farmed. By this union have been born six children, three sons and three daughters: Arthur, Louise, Edith, Clara, John and Frederick. Edith is now engaged in teaching school. The family is well known in this community, and its members rank high in the social circles in which they move.

Mr. Frazee manifested his loyalty to the Government during the late war by responding to the call for troops. He enlisted on the 6th of August, 1862, as a private of Company D. One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Infantry, and was mustered into service at Chicago. He went from there to Cairo and thence down the Mississippi River to Memphis, Tenn., and on to Vicksburg, where he served as guard on a Government boat. He afterward was engaged in guarding prisoners which were sent to Springfield, Ill., and was camp guard in that city until 1861, when he went South to Memphis, Tenn., with the troops. He participated in the battle of Guntown, Miss., on the 10th of June, 1864, and was shot in the lower jaw on the right side by a minie-ball, which carried away two inches of the bone, then passed through his neck. He was taken to Overton Hospital, where he remained until 1865. Ere his discharge he was promoted to the rank of Corporal. When the war

was over and the country no longer needed his services, he was mustered out as one of the valiant soldiers who had faithfully defended the Union in its hour of peril. He is now a member of W. A. Babcock Post No. 416, G. A. R., of Onarga, and in politics is a staunch Republican, warmly advocating the principles of that party. He has held the offices of Road Commissioner and School Trustee. In religious belief he, his wife and three oldest children are Baptists, holding membership with the church in Gilman. He is alike true to every public and private trust and the county numbers him among its valued citizens.



HON. FREE P. MORRIS, senior member of the firm of Morris & Hooper, of Watseka, a leading law firm of Iroquois County, was born in the town of Bloom, Cook County, Ill., on the 19th of March, 1854, and is a son of Charles and Sarah (Thomas) Morris. His father was born in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1820. In his native State he married Miss Sarah Thomas, who was born in Wilkes Barre, Pa. He engaged in the coal business in the East, and in 1849 came with his family to Illinois, locating on a farm in Cook County. His death occurred in 1882. Mrs. Morris survives her husband, and is now residing in Chicago.

Free P. Morris attended school in Blue Island, and afterward was a student in the Chicago High School. Following this he entered the Union Law School of the Northwestern University, of Evanston, and was graduated in the Class of '71. He subsequently read law under the preceptorship of T. S. McClelland, a distinguished lawyer of Chicago, and in 1874 was admitted to the Bar before the Supreme Court of Illinois at Ottawa. He at once established himself in practice at Watseka, soon becoming a prominent member of the Iroquois County Bar. Not long afterward he formed a law partnership with Robert Doyle, of that place, which connection continued until 1888, when Mr. Doyle retired from practice.

On the 13th of June, 1881, Mr. Morris was mar-

ried in Saguache, Colo., to Miss Minnie Lott, who was born in Ottawa, Ill., and is a daughter of Andrew P. and Maria A. Lott. They have one child, a son, Eugene, who was born in Watseka in July, 1887.

In politics, Mr. Morris is a Democrat, and is prominent in the councils of his party, having served at various times as a delegate to State and congressional conventions. He has been a member of the Watseka Board of Education a number of years. In 1884 he was elected to the Illinois Legislature as a member of the Thirty-fourth General Assembly, and served on the Committees on Judiciary, Education and Railroads, and was Chairman of the Committee on Federal Relations. In 1888, he was elected to the Thirty-sixth General Assembly, and was appointed on the committee on Judiciary, Public Charities, Railroads, Education, Military Affairs and License, and was also a member of the Conference Committee of that session, and did good service on all. In 1891 he declined accepting the nomination of his party for Judge of the Circuit Court. In 1892 he was a prominent candidate before the Democratic State Convention for Attorney-General, and lost the nomination through a question of expediency, it being thought desirable to give the place on the ticket to a representative of a certain nationality. This condition, Mr. Morris, by an unfortunate circumstance of birth, was unable to fulfill, although it is said of him that on a certain memorable occasion in Judge Blade's court, he exhibited in his language such a marked accent of the required nationality, that he was reproved by the court, and barely escaped a fine for contempt of court. Had our subject addressed the late State convention in as broad an accent as he displayed on the occasion alluded to, no doubt he would have been nominated by acclamation. Mr. Morris was nominated by the Senatorial Convention of the Sixteenth District, in June, 1892, for Member of the Thirty-eighth General Assembly. The nomination was made without his knowledge, he not having been a candidate.

For eighteen years Mr. Morris has been in active practice in the local and State courts of Illinois, has met with marked success, and has built up an

extensive and lucrative business. He is attorney for two important railway corporations, that of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois and the "Big Four." The existing partnership with Mr. Hooper was formed in 1890. Mr. Morris is a member of Watseka Lodge No. 416, A. F. & A. M., and Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M. He is also a member of Watseka Lodge, K. of P., of which he is the District Deputy. He is interested in farming lands, owning two farms in Iroquois County. Mr. Morris has succeeded in building up an extensive practice, and the firm of which he is a member stands in the foremost ranks of the profession in Eastern Illinois, and gets a large share of legal business in the local courts, together with an important part of that before the Supreme Court of the State and that in the United States Courts. As a trial lawyer and an advocate, Mr. Morris is the peer of any of the Bar of Eastern Illinois. He is popular and is much esteemed by his fellow-citizens for his ability, industry and integrity.



EDWIN L. WHEELER, of Onarga, was numbered among the pioneer settlers of Eastern Illinois, having for many years been connected with the history of Livingston County, especially during its early days. He was born in Columbia County, N. Y., in the town of Hillsdale, on the 8th of September, 1815, and was a son of Lewis and Susan (Flint) Wheeler. They had but two children, Oscar and Edwin L. The father died in the Empire State when our subject was but four years old. The family afterward removed to Massachusetts, and for some time made their home in Barrington. On the 28th of April, 1838, Edwin Wheeler and his mother started for the West, traveling by way of the Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence by steamer to Cleveland and on by the Ohio Canal to Licking County, Ohio, where they spent the summer. In October following Mr. Wheeler purchased an ox-team, and with his family resumed the journey, their destination being Iowa, but on reaching Fountain County, Ind.,

they were obliged to remain there on account of the severe winter weather. Securing a winter school, Mr. Wheeler engaged in teaching until the following March, and in May he again started westward, expecting to locate at Rock River, in Illinois. However, circumstances changed his determination. On account of high water, he could get no further than Long Point in Livingston County, Ill., and he there spent thirty years of his life.

On reaching that place, Mr. Wheeler had only enough money to enter eighty acres of unimproved Government land. He did all his milling and marketing with an ox-team, driving to Ottawa, a distance of thirty miles. He marketed his stock in Chicago, and then could get only \$2 per hundred pounds, until the Chicago & Illinois Canal was finished, which gave then a nearer market. Mr. Wheeler experienced all the hardships and trials of frontier life, he and his brother being among the earliest settlers of Livingston County.

In January, 1845, Mr. Wheeler was united in marriage with Miss Martha, daughter of Rice and Nancy (Taylor) Donoho, and of the children born to them six are now living. Amelia, born February 29, 1848, became the wife of John R. Dimmitt, who died March 30, 1877. They had two children, one of whom is now living, Eva L. She and her mother now reside in Onarga. Sarah, born February 26, 1853, is the wife of Harvey J. Ludwig, a resident of McCook, Neb., by whom she has four children: Earl, Vergie, Harvey and Lewis. Martha, born March 2, 1859, is the wife of Charles A. Clark, of Salem, Ore., and their three children are Erma, Leon and Beulah. Edwin L., born April 26, 1860, married Miss Lora Morris, daughter of J. Ross Morris, of Chicago Heights, and they have two children: R. Morris and L. Louise. He now resides on the home farm, which he manages. Matilda, born November 27, 1864, is the wife of Isaac J. Owen, a resident of Onarga, and unto them was born a son, Ellsworth, who died September 10, 1892. Hattie, born October 27, 1870, is the wife of Henry Pratt, and they reside in Cropsey, Ill. On the 26th of September, 1872, Mr. Wheeler was again married, his second

union being with Rhue Jane McIntyre, daughter of Duncan McIntyre. Her death occurred March 30, 1884.

Since 1869, Mr. Wheeler had been a resident of Iroquois County. He first located on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres one mile north of Onarga, where he resided for twelve years, and it is yet the home of his son, Edwin L. He afterward bought a farm south of town and made it his home for two years, but retained ownership of the same until July, 1890, when he sold that tract of one hundred and sixty acres and purchased a half-section of land in Polk County, Ore., near the State capital. In 1883, he removed to Onarga, where he had a comfortable home, and enjoyed a well-earned rest during his declining years. Success crowned his business efforts, and by his perseverance and enterprise he acquired a handsome competence, which enabled him to live retired.

Mr. Wheeler was honored with some local offices, but was never an active politician, in the sense of office-seeking. He served as Justice of the Peace of Long Point for five years, and has filled the office of Postmaster for a period of seven years, discharging his duties with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. In his political affiliations, he was a Republican. He belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was a highly respected citizen, whose many excellencies of character won for him the high regard of all with whom business or pleasure brought him in contact. While on a visit in Salem, Ore., he died, October 9, 1892, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Martha A. Clark. His remains were brought back and interred in Onarga cemetery.



RANSOM B. PANGBORN, of Onarga, has prominently figured in the history of Iroquois County for fifty-five years, and with its upbuilding and development has been identified. He was born October 16, 1812, in Essex County, N. Y., and when only four years of age removed with his parents to Ohio, where his boyhood and youth were quietly passed. When a

young man he determined to seek his home on the prairies of Illinois with the hope of bettering his financial condition, and in 1837, at the age of twenty-five years, he came to Iroquois County in company with his brother, Judge Pangborn, and his family. Securing one hundred and sixty acres of raw land, three miles southeast of the present site of Onarga, he began the development of a farm.

The following year, on June 21, 1838, Mr. Pangborn married Miss Margaret K. Harper, daughter of Samuel H. Harper, an honored pioneer of this county. They became the parents of a family of seven children: Lorenzo, born December 9, 1839, was killed by lightning when only four years of age; Olive was born August 14, 1842; Lorenzo, March 5, 1844; Mary Jane, September 7, 1848; Maria Amanda and Margaret Louisa, twins, October 27, 1851; and Charles Albert, July 31, 1857. Mary Jane is now the wife of Henry J. Swim, who resides in the extreme northeastern part of the State of Washington. They have two children, a son and daughter, Arthur P. and Margaret Louise. The latter is now the wife of Matthew Paul Watson, and her daughter, Cecil Watson, is the great-granddaughter of our subject. Charles Albert, the youngest child of the Pangborn family, was married to Miss Lucy Haven, daughter of Henry Haven, and they have three children: Margaret, Harry R. and Olive. The mother of this family died about 1871, and her remains were interred in the Onarga cemetery. On September 24, 1874, Mr. Pangborn was a second time married, being united with Mrs. Cornelia E. Lash, daughter of Nicholas and Maria (Burst) Burnside, of Otsego, N. Y.

Mrs. Pangborn was the widow of David Lash, by whom she had four children, two yet living: Anna M. is the wife of Edwin J. Yeomans, a resident of Lamar, Mo., by whom she has three children, Bertha Louise, Grace and Jessie; Enos L. is married and resides in Ritzville, near Spokane Falls, Wash. They have a son and daughter, Freddie and Clara Bell.

Mr. Ransom engaged in the operation of his first farm from 1837 to 1868, when he removed to Onarga, but he still owns one hundred and thirty-seven and one-half acres of land, which is now

rented. He has always been a prominent character in the development and upbuilding of the village, and has been a friend to all educational, social and moral interests. He is a public-spirited and progressive man, and has given his support to all enterprises calculated to promote the general welfare. In politics, he is a stalwart Prohibitionist, and himself and wife are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They took a prominent part in wiping out the saloons in Onarga. In the community they are highly respected, and their circle of friends is extensive, for their many excellencies have won them the warm regard of all.



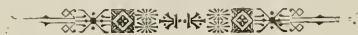
WILLIAM SCOTT, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 3, Lovejoy Township, has resided upon his present farm for the long period of thirty-eight consecutive years. He was born in Lawrence County, Ohio, November 22, 1827. He was one of ten children whose parents, Jehu and Martha (Templeton) Scott, were natives of Virginia. Further mention is made of the family in the sketch of Bluford T. Scott, on another page of this work.

When our subject was quite young his parents removed to Shelby County, Ind., and located on a farm near Shelbyville, where he was reared to manhood. His education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood. His training at farm labor, however, was not very limited, but during those early days he developed a self-reliance and enterprising spirit which have proved of incalculable benefit to him in his business career in later years. In January, 1853, he left Indiana and came to Iroquois County, where, with his brother-in-law, A. J. Endsley, he purchased four hundred acres of land, located four miles south of the present village of Milford. This farm was known to the early settlers as Red Pump Farm. These gentlemen conducted it together for some time and then Mr. Scott purchased Mr. Endsley's interest. It has been his home since 1851, and from a wild and uncultivated tract it has been

transformed into one of the most desirable places of the county. Many excellent improvements have been placed upon it, and the land is under a high state of cultivation, the rich and fertile fields yielding a golden tribute to the care and cultivation of the owner.

On September 21, 1856, Mr. Scott was united in marriage with Miss Martha Rothgeb, daughter of George and Anna Rothgeb, who came to this county in 1837, and were among its earliest settlers. Four children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Scott, as follows: Carlisle, who was born June 14, 1858, married Miss Anna Larned July 10, 1881. They now make their home in Colfax, McLean County, Ill., and their union has been blessed with one child, Shirley Cameron. Olive was born June 27, 1861; Winfield was born February 29, 1868; and Anna, who was born September 18, 1871, was married to Dr. J. S. Adsit, of Hoopeston, Ill., October 21, 1891.

Mr. Scott holds membership with Milford Lodge No. 253, I. O. O. F., and is also a member of the Milford Rangers, a horse protective association. He is classed among the practical and progressive farmers of the community, and is recognized as a prominent and influential citizen of Lovejoy Township. He has never taken a very prominent part in public affairs, but by his quiet, unassuming and honorable life has won the respect and esteem of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.



BENJAMIN F. SHANKLAND, editor of the *Watseka Republican* and President of that publishing company, was born in Warren County, Ind., on the banks of the Wabash, February 20, 1849, and is a son of Kendal and Amanda (Harris) Shankland. He was a lad of only five summers when he came with his parents to Illinois. He was reared on his father's farm, which was situated in Prairie Green Township, Iroquois County, near the Illinois and Indiana State line. His primary education was acquired in the country schools, after which he attended

the Danville High School and Grand Prairie Seminary, thus acquiring a good education. For four years in succession, he taught his home school in Prairie Green, and in 1872 entered the State University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he took a two-year law course and was graduated in the Class of '74.

The following year, Mr. Shankland located in Watseka and obtained the position of Deputy County Clerk of Iroquois County, under Henry A. Butzow, a Democrat. It speaks well for both the Clerk and his Deputy that the former, while a supporter of the Democracy, had the independence to appoint and retain as his assistant a pronounced Republican, and that the Deputy made his services so valuable that he was retained seven years in spite of the partisan influence brought to bear to accomplish his removal. After leaving the County Clerk's office, Mr. Shankland practiced law in Watseka. Not finding the legal profession to his taste, he, in 1884, bought the *Watseka Republican* and has been connected with it ever since as editor and publisher, except one year—the latter part of 1887 and the early part of 1888, when he was in California, connected with the *San Diego Union*. On his return to Watseka in 1888, he repurchased the *Republican* and has since been its editor. In the spring of 1892, the present *Watseka Republican* Company was incorporated and Mr. Shankland was chosen its President. A sketch of the paper is given elsewhere in this work.

On the 26th of December, 1877, our subject was united in marriage in Lovejoy Township, Iroquois County, with Miss Nancy R. Miskimen, who was born in Bridgeville, Ohio, September 17, 1855, and is a daughter of William and Emma Miskimen. They have one child, Ken M., who was born in Watseka, Ill., March 7, 1879. The parents and son are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Shankland conjointly have four hundred and sixty-five acres of fine farming land situated partly in each of the townships of Prairie Green and Lovejoy.

In politics, Mr. Shankland is a Republican and is influential in the councils of the local party managers, doing good work in the interest of his party, not only as a journalist but in general

campaign work. He is a member of Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M. He has made a success of his venture in journalism and has raised the *Republican* to a high standard of excellence. While the paper is thoroughly partisan, it is fair and courteous and is newsy and popular as a family paper. As a gentleman, Mr. Shankland has won a strong hold upon the regard of the best of his fellow-citizens through his straightforward, business-like methods and manly advocacy of what he feels is best and right for the public welfare.



JUDGE THOMAS M. PANGBORN, an honored citizen of Onarga, was numbered among the early settlers of the county, where he came with the family in 1837, more than half a century ago. A native of the Empire State, he was born in Essex County, June 1, 1806, and is a son of John and Miranda (Miller) Pangborn, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of New York. In 1836, they removed from the Empire State to Ohio, where they lived for some years. The family numbered five children, of whom the Judge is the eldest. The other are Triphena, Ransom B., Maria A. and Cyrus S. The two sons are still living.

Judge Pangborn was reared to manhood in New York and Ohio, and on the 15th of March, 1832, was united in marriage with Miss Jane Harper, daughter of Samuel H. and Mary (McCoy) Harper, of Pennsylvania. In the autumn of 1837, he emigrated with his family to Illinois, accompanied by his brother Ransom, and in 1845 the father, John Pangborn, and the other members of the family also emigrated Westward, locating near the brothers. Thomas Pangborn settled on a farm of two hundred and forty acres about a mile from the village of Onarga, where he made his home for almost a quarter of a century. He afterward removed to a forty-acre tract of land, which he purchased in addition to his first farm, and there made his home for nearly thirty years. He was a successful agriculturist, practical and progress-

ive, and won by his perseverance and well-directed efforts a handsome competency, which enabled him to live a retired life.

Unto Judge and Mrs. Pangborn were born six children: John, born December 29, 1832, died in early childhood. Triphena, born November 4, 1834, became the wife of Capt. Elkanah Doolittle, of Onarga, one of the civil engineers in the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad. They had four children, two of whom are yet living, Milton and Thomas E. Mrs. Doolittle died on the 22d of July, 1868. Johnson T., born November 28, 1836, died in childhood. Emily, born December 21, 1838, is the wife of Henry Haven, a native of Portsmouth, N. H., now residing in Oakland, Cal. Unto them were born five children, three of whom are yet living: Henry W., Lucy J. and Mary M. Mary Ann, born April 19, 1841, is the wife of Charles Haven, a native of Portsmouth, N. H., also a resident of Oakland, Cal., and they had seven children, four of whom yet survive: Charles E., Clarence, Mabel and Helen. Miranda, born November 19, 1813, is the wife of Capt. Elkanah Doolittle, and they make their home in Onarga.

On the 1st of February, 1892, Judge Pangborn left his farm and came to Onarga, where, in his comfortable home, he resided with his faithful wife, with whom he had traveled life's journey for more than sixty years. The Judge was in his eighty-seventh year, and his wife is eighty years of age, and on the 15th of March, 1892, they celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary. For almost half a century they have held membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for more than forty years Mr. Pangborn was Class-leader, occupying the position until recently, when his advanced age forced him to abandon that work. The cause of temperance found in him a warm friend, and he was a staunch Prohibitionist.

For many years Judge Pangborn held the office of Associate Judge of the county previous to the township organization, and was also Overseer of the Poor. He held the office of School Director for many years, and was prominently identified with public and benevolent work. He did much for the upbuilding of the county, aided greatly in its

development and progress, and witnessed its entire growth from an almost unbroken wilderness until now it stands in the front rank among the leading counties of the State. Judge Pangborn was a typical pioneer; large-hearted and hospitable to strangers as well as friends, his home became a general stopping-place. His first house was the pioneer log cabin, and it is said of him that he paid his first taxes with 'coon skins. However that may be, one thing is certain—in those early days, 'coon skins were more plentiful than money. His life was well and worthily spent, and in looking back over the past no regret need be felt for lost opportunities or duties unperformed. He was truly one of Nature's noblemen, and the respect and confidence of the entire community were his. On the 23d of October, 1892, Judge Pangborn was called to his final rest, and his remains were interred in the Onaga cemetery.



JAMES HAZLET, a retired farmer residing in Milford, was born in Harrison, Hamilton County, Ohio, September 7, 1824, and is a son of James and Amy (Caldwell) Hazlet, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. Their family numbered seven children, three sons and four daughters. Our subject, the youngest of the family, resided for a period of thirty years, from 1824 until 1854, upon a farm within five miles of his birthplace. In the usual manner of farmer lads his boyhood days were passed, no event of special importance occurring to vary the monotony.

At the age of twenty-three years, March 29, 1848, Mr. Hazlet was united in marriage with Miss Caroline McClure, daughter of James W. McClure. The lady was born in Dearborn County, Ind., and there spent her girlhood days. It was in 1854 that our subject came with his family to Iroquois County, Ill., locating on a farm six miles from Milford. The home was blessed by the presence of two children, Hugh D. and Amy Jane, but the latter died in infancy. The son was born in Dearborn County, Ind., May 20, 1851. After at-

tending the common schools he completed his education in Battle Ground Institute. Returning home he carried on farming until 1885, when he removed to Milford. In 1888 he engaged in fire insurance, which line of business he has carried on since, representing such well-known companies as the Forest City, of Rockford, Ill.; Manchester, of England; Orient, of Hartford, Conn., and Queen of America. Since 1889 he has also represented the Etna Life, of Hartford, Conn. He has worked up the business of the "Forest City" so thoroughly in this county that the company consider it the best of any of their territory, and have practically given Mr. Hazlet exclusive control of the county. So efficient and satisfactory have been his services, that he has received tempting offers to go on the road, but delicate health has caused him to decline. In both fire and life insurance he does an extensive business, and is recognized as a competent man.

March 10, 1875, Mr. H. D. Hazlet married Miss Rachel O., daughter of Christopher and Pernelia Slusher. The parents of Mr. Slusher emigrated from Virginia to Pennsylvania in 1785. Mr. and Mrs. Slusher were born in the latter State, where he spent his last days. But she subsequently married again, and came to Iroquois County about 1870. Mrs. Hazlet was born and reared in Washington County, Pa. In 1874 she came with her sister to Iroquois County, where she has since made her home. Mr. and Mrs. Hazlet are active members of the Christian Church, and socially, he belongs to Milford Lodge No. 211, K. P. In politics he is a Democrat, being now Central Committeeman of Iroquois County. He and his wife have but two children, viz: James H., who is being educated in the Butler University, of Indianapolis, Ind., preparatory to entering the legal profession; and Ruby V. Two children died when quite young.

During the greater part of his life Mr. Hazlet, Sr., has followed farming. However, during the late war he engaged in keeping hotel at Lawrenceburg, Ind., for three years, and at one time he was engaged in merchandising at Battle Ground, Ind., but with these exceptions he has always followed agricultural pursuits. He was recognized as one

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J. W. Dixon

of the leading farmers of this community, and his well-tiled and highly improved farm indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner. The place, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, lies six miles southeast of Milford. As the result of his good management and perseverance he acquired a comfortable competence, which now enables him to live retired in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest and the fruits of his former toil.

Mr. Hazlet has held a number of official positions, but never sought the honors or emoluments of public office, preferring to live the quiet life of a farmer and to attend strictly to the business connected with farm work. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democratic party, with which he has affiliated since attaining his majority. He belongs to Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M., and also the Eastern Star Lodge, and is a member of the Christian Church, as was also his wife, who died September 7, 1886. His life has been an honorable and upright one, consistent with his profession, and he has thereby secured the confidence and good-will of all with whom he has been brought in contact. To know Mr. Hazlet is to respect him.



JAMES W. DIXON, who owns and operates two hundred and eighty acres of excellent land, and resides on section 6, Prairie Green Township, has here made his home for seventeen years. He is one of the early settlers of the county who have watched its growth and development from an early day, and aided in its up-building and progress. He has the honor of being a native of this State, his birth having occurred on the 3d of June, 1838, in La Salle County, Ill. His father, Thomas Dixon, was a native of Ohio, born in 1809. He married Mary Northup, also a native of the Buckeye State, born in 1808, and in 1835 they emigrated to Illinois, locating in La Salle County. Mr. Dixon entered land from the Government and began the development of a farm, upon which he made his home until his death. He was one of the honored pioneers of

La Salle County, and was prominently identified with its history from an early day. He and his wife both died at Okaloosa, Iowa, while on a visiting tour, on the 8th of March, 1880. Mr. Dixon had reached the allotted age of three-score years and ten, and his wife was a year older. Their family numbered seven children, five sons and two daughters.

Our subject, who was the third in order of birth, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home, aiding in the labors of the farm during the summer months and attending the common district schools through the winter season. On attaining his majority, like many other young men, he started out to seek his fortune, and began by following the occupation to which he was reared. Indeed, it has been his life work, and he has carried it on successfully. He has found an able assistant in Miss Anna Mary Huber, whom he made his wife on the 8th of March, 1865. The lady is a native of the Keystone State, but at the age of seven years she came with her parents to Illinois, the family locating in Putnam County, where she was living at the time of her marriage. Her educational privileges were such as the common schools afforded. Her father, John Huber, died at the age of sixty-three years in Putnam County, but her mother is still living at the age of seventy-one, and now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Dixon.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dixon has been born a family of nine children, of whom two are now deceased: Luella, the second child, died at the age of seventeen years; and Charlotta died at the age of seven. Those still living are Thomas H., an enterprising and successful young business man, who is now manager of the Farmers' Elevator and President of the State Bank of Ambia, Ind.; John C. aids his father in the cultivation of the home farm; Willie also works upon the home farm; and the younger children are as follows: Frank, aged fourteen; Guy, twelve years of age; Ralph, a lad of eight summers; and Ira, the baby of two years.

In politics, Mr. Dixon is a supporter of the Republican party, and has been honored with a number of offices of public trust. For five years he has served as County Supervisor, has held the town-

ship offices of Road Commissioner and Collector, and for the long period of seventeen consecutive years has been School Director in his district. His public duties are ever discharged with promptness and fidelity and have won him the commendation of all concerned. He is alike true to every private trust, and is recognized as an honorable, upright citizen. Since the organization of the Farmers' Co-operative Grain Association of Ambia, he has been President. Himself and family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. On coming to Prairie Green Township seventeen years ago, Mr. Dixon purchased eighty acres of land, to which he has since added until within the boundaries of his farm are now comprised two hundred and eighty acres of arable land under a high state of cultivation and well improved. His business career has been a successful one, and his prosperity is certainly well deserved.



CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS VENNUM.

Among the earliest of the worthy pioneers of Iroquois County was the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He was born in Washington County, Pa., on the 5th of January, 1805, and was a son of Col. Thomas and Elizabeth (Kirkpatrick) Vennum. His father was a Colonel in the volunteer service of the United States in the War of 1812, and resided in Pennsylvania until the fall of 1834, when, with a part of his family, he emigrated to Illinois. After spending three years on Sugar Creek, in Iroquois County, Col. Vennum entered a large tract of prairie land in what subsequently became the town of Milford. He established his home on what was known as the "Mound," being lot 8 in the northwest quarter of section 2, where Hiram Vennum, his son, now resides. With the Colonel came his wife and three of his sons, George, Urias and Hiram. The two first-named sons had their wives and children, while the last-named was single. With the Vennums were several of the neighboring families from Pennsylvania, making a party numbering thirty-

two persons. They emigrated with teams, driving some fine Durham cattle with them. C. C. Vennum, another son and the subject of this sketch, emigrated with his family the next spring, coming by boat down the Ohio and up the Wabash River to Eugene, Ind., where they disembarked, continuing their journey by team to what is now Milford. The Vennums were people of means and bought land on sections 1, 2 and 3 of that township, a portion of the original purchase being still in the possession of the family. The little colony suffered severely for a few years after coming to Illinois from malarial and bilious fevers and fever and ague, an experience common to all new-comers in the level sections of the State. Much discomfort was endured, owing to the difficulties in getting the necessaries of life, but by patient industry all were eventually made comfortable. Col. Vennum is said to have put in the first glass window seen in what is now Milford Township. The more common way of getting light and air was by cutting a section of a log out of the side of the house. Mrs. Vennum lived to an advanced age, being ninety-three years old at her death. She and her husband and other members of the family are buried in what is known as the Vennum Burying^g ground in Milford, on lot No. 8 of the northwest quarter of section 2 of that township.

Christopher Columbus Vennum was educated in the common schools of his native State, and on reaching manhood was there married to Miss Rosanna Paul. The lady was born in Washington County, Pa., and was a daughter of William and Hannah Paul. In the spring of 1835, Mr. Vennum joined his father and relatives in Iroquois County, as before stated, where he engaged in farming. He took up some Government land and subsequently increased his acreage by purchasing from other settlers until at his death he left an estate of over one thousand acres.

Six children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Vennum: William, the eldest, married Mrs. Caroline Arhart, and after her decease was again married, and he is now residing in Grayson County, Tex.; Sarah is now Mrs. Lacock, a widow residing in Wyoming; Thomas, a banker of Milford, is represented elsewhere in this work; Hiram was a soldier

of the late war. He was a member of the Second Massachusetts Cavalry and died in Belle Isle Prison at Richmond, Va., on the 25th of December, 1863. Philo P. was also a soldier of the late war, and was killed on the 6th of April, 1862, at the battle of Shiloh. Columbus, Jr., died in infancy. On the 22d of March, 1846, Mrs. Vennum, while in the prime of life, was called to her final rest at the age of thirty-six years.

In the course of time Mr. Vennum married again. His second wife was a widow, Mrs. Mahala Slusher, by whom he had four children: John F., who married Sarah Garner, and is a resident of Jamestown, N. Dak.; George W. wedded Lucy Durlam and is living in St. Paul, Minn.; Frank B. is married and resides in Fisher, Champaign County; and Mary, the youngest, is the wife of William J. Lateer, of Hoopston, Vermilion County, Ill.

Mr. Vennum died in Onarga in September, 1868. His wife survived him several years and passed away in 1890. In early life he was a Whig in politics, and became a Republican on the organization of that party. He was not a politician in the sense of office-seeking but was earnest in his convictions. His life was a useful one and his record as a man and citizen above reproach.



JOEL W. BELT, who is engaged in the livery business in Cissna Park, is a native of the Buckeye State. He was born in Licking County, Ohio, September 6, 1835, and is a son of George W. and Margaret (Allen) Belt. His mother was a native of Virginia. His father, a shoemaker by trade, turned his attention to farming and made a good home in Ohio. In June, 1841, he emigrated to Illinois by team, their caravan consisting of three horses, two wagons, fourteen sheep, a dog and the family. They had intended going on to the Illinois River, but one of the children being ill, they stopped at the home of old Mr. Brock and the father purchased eighty acres of land in Ash Grove Township. A log cabin had been built upon the tract but it was

otherwise unimproved. Mr. Belt began farming and also worked at his trade to some extent. In early life he was a member of the Baptist Church, but on coming to this county he joined the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he was a Whig. He died at the age of fifty-two years and his remains were interred in Ash Grove Cemetery. In the family were eight children: James, now a farmer in Elk County, Kan.; Lydia became the wife of Hamilton Spain and died in this county; Joel is the next younger; Edward died in Kansas; Lucinda is also deceased; Will H. H. has passed away; Mrs. Ann Eliza Davis lives in Johnston County, Ill.; and George D. died at the age of nine years. All but the youngest child were natives of Ohio. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Belt kept the family together and labored earnestly for their support. She was a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Her death occurred at the home of her son Edward in Cherokee County, Kan., in 1866.

Our subject was a lad of only nine years when he came to Illinois. He is familiar with all the experiences and hardships of frontier life. He aided in the development of the wild land, and in the arduous labor of improving a new farm, and his early educational advantages were those afforded by the primitive subscription schools. He acquired the greater part of his education after he had attained his majority, and by subsequent reading and observation he has made himself a well-informed man. At the age of thirteen he began working as a farm hand at \$7 per month and was thus employed until his father's death, when he returned home and gave his mother the benefit of his labors.

In August, 1862, he responded to the call for troops and enlisted at Ash Grove, in Company E, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. The regiment was organized at Kankakee and sent to Cairo and afterward by boat to Columbus, Ky., where the troops did guard duty. They were afterward ordered to Jackson, later to Bolivar, Tenn., and subsequently to Holly Springs, Miss. While there their supplies were destroyed and the boys were obliged to live on cornmeal and what they could get by foraging. Returning to Moscow,

Tenn., they afterward went to Memphis, where his company was detailed to guard the Paymaster at Young's Point. Subsequently they entered the Vicksburg campaign under Gen. Grant. Later they went up the Yazoo River, and while Sherman made his attack marched back to Vicksburg and took their place on the extreme left. The first night the rebels took the Forty-sixth Regiment prisoners. The company to which our subject belonged stood guard and worked in ditches. Their line advanced, the rebels falling back before them, and they continued in the siege until after the surrender of the city, on the 4th of July, 1863. Subsequently they went to Natchez and afterward to Memphis, where they embarked on a boat, proceeding up the White River to Duvall's Bluff, where in two weeks they made fifty houses for winter quarters. They afterward went to New Orleans, on to Pensacola and later charged Ft. Blakely in the rear of the works, capturing the place. The Seventy-sixth Illinois there took five hundred prisoners, more than any other regiment. This work being accomplished, the troops went to Mobile and to Selma and later to Galveston, Tex., where they were mustered out on the 22d of July, 1865. They then went to New Orleans, by boat to Cairo and by rail to Chicago, where they were discharged.

Mr. Belt reached his home on the 5th of August, tired and completely exhausted. Throwing himself upon his bed he slept continuously for two nights and two days. He had experienced all the dangers of battle, shipwreck and privation, yet through all he had ever been found at his post, faithful to his duty. He was never absent from his regiment except in 1863, when he was ill in the hospital. During that time the troops engaged in the Meridian raid. He was wounded in the neck at Jackson, Miss., where the company lost seventeen out of about twenty-five. Of his army record he may well be proud, for he was a valiant defender of the Union in its hour of peril and when the Stars and Stripes again waved over a united nation he returned to his home with no stain upon his career.

When the war was over, Mr. Belt purchased forty acres of land and erected a dwelling and

began farming. He further completed his arrangements for a home by his marriage with Miss Samantha Ladd, of Oxford, Ind., their union being celebrated on the 18th of March, 1866. His farm was increased to one hundred and forty acres and he continued to engage in its development and cultivation until 1888, when he sold out and removed to Cissna Park. Here he has since engaged in the livery business and for two years carried on a lumber yard. He has a well-equipped livery stable and is a popular and leading business man of this community.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Belt were born four children: Samuel B., Della, Maud and J. W. The children were all born in this county and are still under the parental roof. Mr. Belt has served as Justice of the Peace and in politics is a staunch Republican, having been an ardent supporter of that party since he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. Socially he is a Knight of Pythias and is Adjutant of G. H. Neeld Post No. 576, G. A. R., of Cissna Park. For forty-eight years he has resided in this county and is one of its honored pioneers as well as representative citizens.



WILLIAM A. BOSWELL is now living a retired life in Onarga, enjoying a well-earned rest after many years of faithful toil and labor. He is a man of sterling character and is numbered among the best citizens of this community, so that he well deserves representation in the history of his adopted county.

Mr. Boswell was born in Mason County, Va., on the 29th of July, 1830, and is one of seven children whose parents were Creed and Irene (Fargo) Boswell, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of the Empire State. About 1838, they left the Old Dominion and emigrated to Indiana, locating in Vermillion County, where they made their home until 1850, when they removed to Tippecanoe County. Six years later they came to Illinois, settling in Iroquois County, about eight miles west of the present site of Onarga, where

Mr. Boswell purchased a half-section of land. Subsequently, he removed to Old Middleport, and in 1868 the death of his wife there occurred. Mr. Boswell survived her about eight years and was called to his final rest in August, 1876. They were highly respected people. Four sons and three daughters were born unto them, as follows: William A., Villetta, George, Charles and Marion, yet living; and Luma and Harriet, deceased.

The subject of this sketch spent the first eight years of his life in the State of his nativity, and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Indiana, where the days of his boyhood and youth were passed amid the wild scenes of frontier life. There were many hardships and privations to be borne. In 1844, he drove two hundred head of cattle to Chicago, and then to Racine, Wis., but could not make a sale, so had to butcher them and sell by distribution. A great change has since been wrought, for it is now hardly possible to supply the Chicago market. Mr. Boswell aided his father in the cultivation of the farm until he had attained to years of maturity.

An important event in the life of our subject occurred in 1852, when he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth P. Mick, daughter of McKendree and Maria (Boswell) Mick, of Tippecanoe County, Ind. Their union was blessed with seven children, but only three are now living: Eva, born September 15, 1853; Willie, March 14, 1856; and George F., April 28, 1866. Charles P., born March 12, 1858, died in infancy; Perry, born April 7, 1859, died at the age of four years; Annie Penecie, born September 22, 1862, died in 1872, at the age of ten years; and Tenna, born November 26, 1864, died the same year.

Mr. Boswell has been a resident of Iroquois County since 1867. In that year he came to Illinois and located on a farm of three hundred and twenty-five acres, about three and a-half miles south of Onarga. He afterward made additional purchases, until his farm comprised four hundred and seventy-five acres of arable land, which he placed under a high state of cultivation, making many improvements upon it, all of which stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. He was a successful farmer, and through his business ability

and well-directed efforts he has won a handsome competence.

Upon his farm, Mr. Boswell made his home until 1889, when he removed with his family to Onarga. He has since sold one hundred and forty-five acres of his land. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Boswell is a comfortable residence near Grand Prairie Seminary, and there their many friends delight to gather, for hospitality reigns supreme in that household. Both are faithful and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he is now serving as Steward. In politics, he is a supporter of Democratic principles, but has never sought or desired official preferment; however, he served as Road Commissioner for three years. He has been President of the County Fair Association, and ever takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its advancement. He is a valued citizen and is held in high esteem throughout the community.



JOHN B. HOOPER, an early settler of Belmont Township, Iroquois County, who, since his return from Danville, Ill., in 1881, has resided in Watska, was born in Seneca County, N. Y., in 1825. He is a son of Pontius and Lydia (Clark) Hooper, both natives of Saratoga County, N. Y. When a lad of seven summers our subject removed with his parents to Clinton, Lenawee County, Mich., where he received a common-school education and was reared to mercantile pursuits. In 1840, he removed to West Point, Ind., and after six years spent in that place went to Ohio, in 1846. He was there engaged in merchandising until 1849, when he removed to Dayton, Ohio, and a year later returned to Indiana, where he remained until 1861. In that year he came to Illinois, locating in Iroquois County. He was engaged in the cattle business in Watska until 1871, when he removed to Danville, Ill., where he spent the succeeding ten years. In 1881, he returned to Watska, where he has since made his home, and during the succeeding

period he has been agent for some parties in the land business.

On the 21st of April, 1852, Mr. Hooper was united in marriage in Tippecanoe County, Ind., to Sarah M. Harter, who was born in Fayette, Ind. Unto them have been born four children, who are yet living: Alice L. is the widow of Joseph Campbell and resides with her parents; Venning H. is employed by the Watseka Electric Light Company; Frank L., whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work, married Miss Grace Willoughby, and is a member of the law firm of Morris & Hooper; Sallie died at the age of four years; and Joseph, the youngest of the family, is at home.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Hooper is a Democrat, and socially, is a Royal Arch Mason, belonging to Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M., and Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.

 **S**ETH ELLISON, the popular and efficient station agent of Onarga, has occupied his present position with the Illinois Central Railroad Company since 1882, and for ten years has been one of its trusted and faithful employes. He is of English birth, but the community find in him one of its best citizens, and it was a fortunate day for him when he determined to seek a home in the New World.

Mr. Ellison was born in Barnsley, Yorkshire, England, December 11, 1845, and is the third in order of birth in a family of five children born to Thomas and Mary (Speight) Ellison, who were also natives of England. The mother died in 1849. The father, who survived her for many years, departed this life in 1878. Of their family of three sons and two daughters, Frederick, Alice, Seth, John and Mary Jane, all are yet living. Frederick Ellison, the eldest, was the first to cross the broad Atlantic to America, making a location in Chicago, where he secured a position as clerk in a dry-goods store. A few years later he was employed as Paymaster on the Indianapolis & St. Louis Railroad. He and Seth are the only ones of the family who have come to this country.

The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood and youth in the land of his nativity, and was educated in its public schools. At length he determined to emigrate to America, and in 1879, bidding good-bye to his old home and friends, he crossed the briny deep. Going to Chicago he secured a position as bill and entry clerk in a dry-goods store. He served in that capacity for a short time and then entered the employ of the railroad company, being appointed station agent at Ulin, Ill., near Cairo. As before stated, in 1883 he came to Onarga, where he has since made his home.

Ere leaving the land of his birth, Mr. Ellison was married, in 1877, the lady of his choice being Miss Alice Wheen, a daughter of John Wheen, of Mexboro, England. Four children were born of their union, Florence Edith, Alice Maud, William, and an infant. The mother and the children are now all deceased. April 25, 1883, Mr. Ellison was again married, his second union being with Miss Anna Eliza Hawk, daughter of James and Caroline (Newell) Hawk. Her father was for a number of years a grocer of Onarga, carrying on business in partnership with J. C. Culver. Two children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Ellison: James, born in 1884; and Onarga, born in 1886.

Mrs. Ellison is managing and carrying on the Hotel Roney, of Onarga, which has both a fine transient and home trade. The hotel is well located, being close to the depot and also to the business part of the town. Her guests are made to feel at home, and she is enjoying a liberal patronage which is well deserved.

 **J**OHIN B. CODY was one of the worthy citizens of Iroquois County, whose loss throughout the community in which he lived was deeply mourned. His life record is as follows: He was born in Oneida County, N. Y., on the 19th of August, 1822, and was a son of Rhodolphus and Ann (Barber) Cody. His father was a native of Connecticut, but his mother was

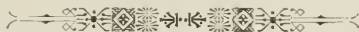
born in the Emerald Isle, and in an early day emigrated from Ireland to this country. The family of this worthy couple numbered seven children, five sons and two daughters, of whom our subject was the second in order of birth. He remained with his parents in New York until twenty years of age, and in the district schools of his neighborhood acquired his education. In 1845, the family, including our subject, emigrated to Illinois, locating in Kendall County.

Four years later, or May 25, 1849, Mr. Cody of this sketch was united in marriage with Miss Jane Knox, of Kendall County, and a daughter of Charles and Olive Knox, the former a native of New Jersey, and the latter of the Empire State. In the Knox family were eight children, five sons and three daughters, of whom Mrs. Cody is the fourth in order of birth. By her marriage she became the mother of five children, but two of them died in infancy. Those still living at this writing, in the winter of 1892, are Emory J., who is one of the leading farmers of Prairie Green Township; George H., also a prosperous farmer of the same township; and Olive A., wife of George A. St. John, a farmer of Prairie Green Township.

Upon his marriage Mr. Cody took up his residence and made Kendall County his home till he came with his family to Iroquois County, and located in Prairie Green Township. This was in 1876. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, and by his care and cultivation, his enterprise and energy, transformed it into one of the finest farms of the community. The home thereon is a beautiful residence, in the rear of which stand good barns and other necessary outbuildings, which in turn are surrounded by waving fields of grain. The place seems complete in all its appointments and its many improvements are as a monument to the thrift and enterprise of Mr. Cody, who made his home thereon until his death.

In early life our subject was a supporter of the Whig party and cast his first Presidential vote for the hero of Tippecanoe, Gen. William Henry Harrison. On the organization of the Republican party he joined its ranks and was ever afterward an enthusiastic supporter of its principles. In religious belief he was a Methodist and was a liberal

supporter of the church. He was recognized throughout the community as a prominent and influential citizen and his loss was deeply regretted. After only one day's illness he died of heart trouble on the 6th of August, 1885. Thus an honorable, upright life was ended, but his influence still lives on. Mrs. Cody is still living at the age of sixty-eight years. She is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is a lady possessed of many excellencies of character. With her children she yet occupies the beautiful home left her by her husband.

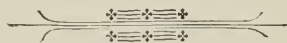


GEORGE W. SHANKLAND, a prominent farmer and early settler of Prairie Green Township, who resides on section 27, well deserves representation in this volume, and with pleasure we present to our readers this record of his life. A native of Indiana, he was born near Marshfield, on the 30th of May, 1853, and is the second in a family of five children, numbering three sons and two daughters. His parents were Kendal and Amanda (Harris) Shankland. His father was born in Kentucky in 1825, and in 1854 they came to this county and located in Prairie Green Township, where he spent the remainder of his life. He died on the old homestead at the age of fifty-seven years. His widow still survives him and is yet living in Indiana.

George W. Shankland, whose name heads this sketch, spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm, his time being quietly passed in the usual manner of farmer lads. When a young man, he left home and emigrated to Holt County, Neb., where he took up a tree claim, also a homestead and pre-emption claim. The county was then in its primitive condition, being very sparsely settled. There were only three houses between his claim and Atkinson, a distance of twenty miles, and these were made of sod. Mr. Shankland continued to engage in the operation of his claims in Nebraska until after his father's death,

when he sold out his interest in the West and returned to Iroquois County to take charge of the old homestead, which was left to him as his share of his father's estate. Since that time, he has carried on general farming and stock-raising in this community, and has an excellent farm, under a high state of cultivation and well improved with all modern accessories. Its neat appearance indicates his careful management. It comprises one hundred and eighty-five acres of arable land and is considered one of the best-improved farms in the township.

October 15, 1877, Mr. Shankland was united in marriage with Miss Susan R. Segear, who was then a resident of Vermilion County, Ill. Her parents are both living and now reside in Omaha, Neb. Unto our subject and his wife have been born two children, but the younger died in infancy. Clark G., the elder, is still under the parental roof and is now a lad of fourteen years. The parents and their son are members of the Christian Church and they take an active interest in church work. They are also prominent people in the community, being widely and favorably known. In his political views, Mr. Shankland is a Republican, having long supported the principles of that party. He has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking. He is numbered among the valued citizens of Prairie Green Township, who manifests a commendable interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community in which he has so long made his home.



CHARLES O. CLEAVER, a highly respected citizen of Milford, is a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred in La Fayette, Tippecanoe County, October 10, 1835. His grandparents, Joseph and Ann Cleaver, were natives of Pennsylvania, and were members of the Society of Friends. His parents, Charles and Ann (Madden) Cleaver, were from Baltimore, Md.

No event of special importance occurred during the boyhood and youth of our subject. When four years of age he lost his mother, and he was reared by a bachelor uncle, Mahlon Cleaver, and educated in the public schools. In April, 1857, he came to Milford, Iroquois County, and on October 17, 1858, was united in marriage with Miss Charlotte Davis, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Britton) Davis. In the spring of 1860, Mr. Cleaver and his wife removed to Indiana, and on November 7, 1861, he bade her good-bye and started for the war, enlisting as a member of the Tenth Battery, Indiana Light Artillery, under Capt. J. B. Cox. He served until January 10, 1865, when, his term having expired, he was honorably discharged in Indianapolis, Ind.

Rejoining his family at La Fayette, Ind., in the following February, Mr. Cleaver and his wife returned to Milford, Ill., and were residents of this place until 1868, when they returned to La Fayette, Ind. He was there engaged in farming for many years, making it his home until October 17, 1889. Once more he came to Milford, and is at present serving as Police Magistrate of the city. He has also filled the offices of Town Clerk, Constable, was Justice of the Peace two terms, and was Township Trustee in Washington Township, Tippecanoe County, Ind., for two terms. He has also filled the position of Postmaster three times, twice in Milford and once in Colburn, Ind.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cleaver have been born eight children, five of whom are yet living, four sons and a daughter, as follows: Charles Ernest, the eldest, married Miss Annie Royer, of Baltimore, Md., and unto them have been born three children, a son and two daughters, Nina Opal, Ruby and Oscar; Winnifred is the wife of Alexander Galey, of Battle Ground, Ind.; Archibald D., Henry Ward Beecher, and Barton R. The parents are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially, Mr. Cleaver is a member of Vennum Post No. 471, G. A. R., and of Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M. He has always affiliated with the Democratic party and is a staunch advocate of its principles, yet has many warm friends in the ranks of the Republican party. He is a public-spirited and progressive man, and has always taken an active

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Yours Respectfully
Frank M. Williamson

interest in the welfare of the community in which he resides. His sterling worth has won him high regard, and we take pleasure in presenting this record of his life to our readers.



FRANK M. WILLIAMSON, who is engaged in farming on section 23, Prairie Green Township, is one of the honored pioneers of this county. Few men have longer been residents of this part of Illinois than our subject, who has watched the growth and upbuilding of the community, has seen its progress and advancement and aided in its development. Certainly he deserves representation in this volume.

Mr. Williamson was born September 6, 1843, in Stockland Township, Iroquois County, and is a son of B. P. and Margaret (Williams) Williamson. The grandfather of our subject was a native of Virginia, and was of German descent, while his wife was born in Ireland. In 1832, they emigrated to Iroquois County, and here spent the rest of their lives. Their son B. P. was born in Ohio, April 7, 1816, and was therefore but sixteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to this county. On reaching man's estate, he crossed the line into Indiana, and married June 12, 1838, Miss Williams, who was born in that State December 20, 1820. The young couple began their married life in Iroquois County. Mr. Williamson entered land from the Government, situated at Crab Apple Grove in Stockland Township, on which he made his home until 1850, when he located near Milford, where he died February 3, 1890. Thus another of the pioneers passed away. He was a highly respected man, and a valued citizen. His wife had preceded him to the spirit world, dying at the age of thirty-two.

Our subject was the third in order of birth in their family of four sons and a daughter. He remained with his parents until nineteen years of age, and his boyhood days were spent in work upon the home farm or in attendance at the common district schools of the neighborhood. After the breaking out of the late war, he laid aside all

other considerations, and responded to the call of duty, and on the 9th of August, 1862, he offered his services to the Government. He was assigned to Company E, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, with which he did service for three years, or until his discharge on the 7th of August, 1865, after the close of the war. He was engaged in all of the battles from Columbus, Ky., through to Texas, the principal of which were the battles around Vicksburg, the siege of that city, and the battle near Jackson, Miss., where the Seventy-sixth lost about one-third of its men in killed and wounded. At Ft. Blakely the regiment lost heavily, thirty being killed. In May, 1892, the survivors of the regiment erected a fine monument to mark the resting-place and to perpetuate the memory of their comrades who fell in that bloody charge there. Before the close of the war he was made Sergeant. He was a faithful soldier, always found at his post, and of his army record he may well be proud.

In 1865, Mr. Williamson returned from the war, and engaged in farming in this county. On the 21st of March, 1869, he was united in marriage to Miss Dina Slaughter, of this county. Her parents, William L. and Isabel (McClain) Slaughter, natives of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively, emigrated to Illinois in 1864. Four sons and two daughters have graced the marriage of our subject and his wife, but two are now deceased: Glennie E., the eldest, is a young man of twenty-two years, now attending the Valparaiso Normal College, of Indiana; William B. is also a student in the same college; Leni L. died February 2, 1892, at the age of seventeen years, two months and four days; Harlan is at home; and Margaret Isabella. There was also another child, born September 12, 1872, which died on the 16th of October of the same year.

In 1870, Mr. Williamson purchased eighty acres of partially improved land in Prairie Green Township, on which he has made his home continuously since. He now owns a very fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, under a high state of cultivation, and well improved with all the accessories of a model farm. In connection with his agricultural pursuits he is also a stockholder and Director in the State Bank of Ambia, Ind. He is a man of

excellent business ability and by his perseverance, enterprise and well-directed efforts has achieved a success which has placed him among the substantial citizens of the community, and of which he is well deserving.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Williamson is a Republican, having been a warm supporter of that party since he cast his first Presidential vote for U. S. Grant. He has held a number of official positions, was Supervisor for eight years, and has been School Director of his district for the long period of eighteen years, Collector two years, and Census Enumerator of his township for 1880. The prompt and able manner in which he ever discharges his public duties has won him high commendation, and led to his frequent re-election. Socially, he is a member of the Wellington Lodge No. 785, I. O. O. F., and he and wife and son are members of the Christian Church. Mr. Williamson is not only recognized as an honored pioneer, but is also one of the valued and highly respected citizens of the community, whose worth and ability have won him the highest regard.



JAMES BELL, a member of the firm of Bell & Duckworth, and an enterprising business man of Watseka, located here in 1888, at which time, in company with H. C. Browne, he went into the planing-mill business, the firm being known as H. C. Browne & Co. In 1890, Mr. Browne sold out his interest, and the following year Mr. Bell associated with him Mr. Duckworth, founding the present firm.

The subject of this memoir is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Noble County, September 29, 1846. He is descended from Scotch-Irish ancestors on both sides. His paternal grandparents, William and Jane (Nugent) Bell, emigrated from Beloddy Mills, County Down, Ireland, to Philadelphia, Pa., in 1790. While Ohio was yet a part of the Northwest Territory they moved thither and located in the Red Stone Settlement, which was afterward included in Belmont County. In the year 1806, they removed to Noble County,

where the grandmother died in the year 1846 and the grandfather in 1857. The latter became a wealthy farmer. The maternal grandparents of Mr. Bell were natives of the same section in Ireland, but came to America in 1788. They, too, bore the same family name, being James and Jennie (Stewart) Bell. Upon arriving in this country, they crossed the mountains to what is now Ohio County, W. Va. There they passed the remaining years of their life, he dying in 1842, and she in 1865, at the age of ninety-three.

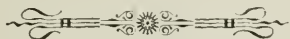
Mr. Bell's ancestors on both sides were Presbyterians, as loyal to the "kirk" as they were to the Government of their adopted country. The father of the gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in Noble County, Ohio, July 29, 1819. Before coming West, he married Miss Jane Bell, who was born in Ohio County, W. Va., January 14, 1818. In 1872, they moved to Iroquois County, Ill., and three years later located in Sheldon. He died August 12, 1878, and she November 9, 1891. They were highly respected and honored throughout the community where they lived. They had two sons. Joe Bell, who is a veteran of the late war and a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, resides at Pontiac, Ill.

Mr. James Bell received his education in his native county, and at the age of twenty-one he started in business for himself by engaging in farming in Ford County, Ill., and continued in that occupation until the year 1880. For the succeeding eight years he bought and sold horses, doing very well financially. As before stated, he came to Watseka in 1888, where he engaged in the planing-mill business, in which he has been blessed with success. In connection with their mill, the firm furnishes the power to the electric light plant, which supplies four hundred and eighty incandescent lamps to the city, and has the power of supplying eight hundred lights.

In 1867, our subject married Miss Mary Winstanley, a daughter of Thomas Winstanley, who was a native of Somersetshire, England. To Mr. and Mrs. Bell was born a family of five children, three of whom are now living: Harry, Homer and Jessie. The mother of these children died in 1880. Mr. Bell was again married, in 1885, this time to Miss

Ida Vennum, whose father is Andrew Vennum, a resident of this county. Their union has been blessed with two children: Eva and Florence.

Mr. Bell and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and take an active part in its work, to which they lend their liberal support. He is known throughout the county as a man of sterling worth, upright and honorable in all his dealings. His courteous treatment and efforts to please his customers have secured for him a liberal patronage, and the establishment of which he is the head ranks among the leading business interests of the community. He has won his present measure of success through his own industrious efforts, and well merits the comfortable competency which he has acquired.



WILLIAM F. PIERSON, a prominent lawyer, who is successfully engaged in practice in Onarga, where he located in 1890, was born on the 3rd of February, 1853, in Marion County, Ohio, and is one of five children who were born unto Thomas and Margaret (Fickle) Pierson, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Ohio. Their family numbered the following sons and daughters: John T., William F., Homer, Maggie and Eva. In 1868, the father emigrated with his family from Ohio to Illinois, and took up his residence at Buckley, this county, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising. He owned and operated two hundred and forty acres of land on section 36, Artesia Township, and there made his home until 1871, when he was elected Sheriff on the Greenback ticket. He faithfully discharged the duties of this office, and when his term had expired removed to Chicago, where he spent his remaining days, his death occurring February 16th, 1891.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of fifteen years when with his parents he came to Illinois. His early education, acquired in the common schools was supplemented by a course in Grand Prairie Seminary, and he also attended the Commercial

College of Onarga. When his literary education was completed, he made choice of the legal profession as a life work, and after studying law for some time in Watseka, was admitted to the Bar in 1883. On the 31st of the same month, he led to the marriage altar Miss Ella Brelsford, daughter of Dr. J. Brelsford. Their union has been blessed with one child, a son, Joseph, born on the 5th of January, 1885.

After being admitted to the Bar, Mr. Pierson removed to Chicago and entered upon the practice of his chosen profession, but close confinement to his work impaired his health, and, hoping to be benefited thereby, he went to the South. He made a location in Eastland, Eastland County, Tex., where he remained for a time, when, feeling much restored in health, he returned to the North, and this time took up his residence in Iroquois County. In December, 1890, he opened a law office in Onarga, and is already enjoying a lucrative practice, having the advantage of a twenty-five years' acquaintance in the county.

In the fall of 1878, John T. Pierson, a brother of our subject, was elected Sheriff of the county on the Democratic ticket, and the latter became Deputy, serving for the term of two years. Mr. Pierson of this sketch has spent much of his life in Iroquois County, and has gained many friends among its best citizens. He is a public-spirited and progressive man, who takes a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding. He is well versed in law, is a close student of his profession, and has already won a place in the front rank of the Bar of Iroquois County.



STEPHEN ADSIT, the efficient Postmaster of Wellington, is one of the honored early settlers of the county, where he has resided for more than thirty-five years. He has watched its growth and upbuilding, has aided in its development and advancement, has ever borne his part in the enterprises calculated to prove of

public benefit, and has faithfully discharged his duties of citizenship. His life record is as follows:

Mr. Adsit is a native of Clinton County, Ohio, born on the 28th of June, 1829, and is a son of Samuel and Sarah A. (Stowe) Adsit. His grandparents were of German and English extraction. His father was a native of New York, acquired his education in the old-time schools, and in his youth learned the trade of carpentering. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812. In politics, he was an old-line Whig and took an active part in the campaign of "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too." With the Christian Church he held membership, and his death occurred in Illinois, at the age of sixty-five years. His wife was born in the Green Mountain State and lived to the advanced age of eighty-seven years. The remains of both were interred in Sugar Creek Chapel Cemetery in Stockton Township, where a beautiful monument has been erected to their memory.

Unto this worthy couple was born a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters, of whom six are yet living and all make their home in Iroquois County. John P. and Silas are married and carry on farming; Stephen of this sketch is the next younger; DeWitt C. is married and follows farming in Lovejoy Township; Phoebe is the wife of Simpson Gallimore, a resident of Milford Township; and Mary is the wife of Stephen Ferand, who carries on agricultural pursuits in Lovejoy Township.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who spent the first twelve years of his life in his native State and then removed to Indiana, locating in Adams County, where he remained until twenty-five years of age. He was educated in Wilmington, but, not content with his privileges, after attaining his majority he entered the schools in Bluffton, Ind. When he started out in life for himself his possessions comprised only one hundred and twenty acres of land, and this was a raw and undeveloped tract, upon which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made. It was in 1853 that he came to Illinois and cast in his lot with the early settlers of Iroquois County, where he has since made his home. He secured employment, breaking prairie for sod corn. During those first

years, he experienced many of the hardships and trials of pioneer life. The country was almost entirely unimproved, the prairies were covered with wild grass, and the few settlements were widely scattered. There were no railroads in the vicinity and the trading-post was far distant.

During the winter of 1856, Mr. Adsit took charge of the first school of Lovejoy Township. His salary was \$40 per month and he boarded 'round. Those were the days when they followed the old rule, "Spare the rod and spoil the child," and close by the master was always a light twig which kept the unruly pupils in order. Mr. Adsit was the first schoolmaster in Prairie Green Township, and Mr. Shankland, editor of the Iroquois County *Republican*, was one of his pupils. Our subject was a teacher of pronounced ability. He taught altogether for twenty terms, and many of his old pupils are now filling important positions of trust and honor, being ministers, public officers, merchants, etc.

On the 27th of December, 1863, Mr. Adsit married Mrs. Rachel M. Prillaman, daughter of John and Melinda (Wilson) Markley. Unto them has been born a son, Bert W., who is now attending school and is his father's deputy in the postoffice. The parents are both members of the Christian Church and are among its prominent workers, Mr. Adsit serving as Elder. He helped erect what is known as the Antioch Church, one of the first churches in the county, and has been connected with the same for thirty-five years. He has frequently served as Superintendent of the Sunday-school, and his addresses in Sunday-school conventions are said to be among the best.

Mr. Adsit cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Winfield Scott, and on the organization of the Republican party espoused its cause and has since been one of its warm advocates. He has frequently served as a delegate to its conventions, where his opinions are always received with deference. He was elected Supervisor of Lovejoy Township for two terms, during which time he advocated a resolution which was for paying specified salaries to the county officers, including clerk hire, which was adopted. In public and private life, Mr. Adsit is alike true to every trust reposed in him. He has

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J. A. Pruitt



Barbara Pruitt

considerable talent as an orator, and his campaign speeches, both fluent and brilliant, have done much to benefit his party. He has served as School Director of his district and was a member of the first Board of Commissioners of Lovejoy Township, which laid out many of the principal roads and highways of the community. He is now serving as Postmaster of Wellington, to which position he was appointed by President Harrison, through the agency of Hon. L. E. Payson. He owns two hundred and fifty acres of fertile and valuable land in Lovejoy and Prairie Green Townships. A man of sterling worth and strict integrity, Mr. Adsit is widely and favorably known, and as a valued citizen and an honored pioneer deserves representation in the history of his adopted county.



JAMES A. PRUITT, a retired farmer now residing in Goodwine, well deserves representation in this volume, for he is numbered among its early pioneers, almost forty years having passed since he located in the county. He has experienced the hardships and privations of pioneer life, and has watched the growth of the county from the days of its early infancy almost, has seen its wild land transformed into beautiful homes and farms, while towns and villages have sprung up, indicating rapid progress and advancement.

Mr. Pruitt was born near La Fayette, in Tippecanoe County, Ind., August 21, 1832. His father, John R. Pruitt, was a native of Virginia, and during childhood went to Kentucky, where he was reared to manhood. He learned the trade of a shoe-maker with his father, and in 1820 emigrated to Washington County, Ind., where he was married five years later to Miss Barbara Becker. Her grandfather was a native of Germany. In an early day he emigrated to America, locating in North Carolina, and served in the Revolutionary War, under Gen. Washington. In 1820, he emigrated to Washington County, Ind., and seven years later went to Tippecanoe County, where his death oc-

curred. Mrs. Pruitt is still living with our subject at the age of eighty-three years. In 1827, the parents of James emigrated to Tippecanoe County, and located among the Indians. He there followed his trade and took up Government land, on which he developed a farm. The city of La Fayette was not yet founded.

In 1856, John Pruitt came with his family to Iroquois County, and carried on merchandising in Milford until his death on the 1st of May, 1858. He took quite a prominent part in public affairs, and was honored with a number of local offices. With the Christian Church he held membership, and his wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics, he was a Whig. Their children were as follows: Lucretia became the wife of Elias Laird, and died in this county; Simeon died in Indiana in 1850; James A. is the next younger; Daniel was in the Forty-second Illinois Infantry for three years, and is now a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, located in Ottawa, Iowa; William Henry Harrison, who served in the Twentieth Indiana Infantry for nearly four years, is now a farmer in Nebraska; John B., who wore the blue as a member of the Forty-second Illinois Infantry for three years, is now living in Watseka; Joseph, who was also in the war, owns a fine farm near Wellington; Randolph is a silversmith in Kansas; Mrs. Elizabeth Brownlee is living in Ellsworth, Wis.; Mrs. Jennie Crawford makes her home in Kansas; and Mrs. Margaret Davis completes the family.

Mr. Pruitt's earliest recollections are of a pioneer home upon a new farm, the Indians being numbered among their neighbors. His education was acquired in a school conducted on the subscription plan, which he attended for three months in the winter season, walking three miles to and from the place. When a lad of nine years, he went to live with his grandfather, and at that early age began work in the fields, following the plow. With him he remained until fourteen years of age, when he went to an uncle, for whom he worked for twenty-five cents per day. Throughout his entire life he has been connected with agriculture. In 1853, he left his uncle, and for a year was employed in a mill. In 1854, he came by

wagon to Illinois, and rented a farm until the fall of 1859, when he purchased a tract of eighty acres of land on section 3, Fountain Creek Township. In 1862, he removed to section 31, Milford Township, secured one hundred and five acres, and developed and improved a fine farm, which he made his home until quite recently. There was much hard work connected with this, however, but he labored on unceasingly, and success crowned his perseverance and well-directed efforts. He was not worth \$100 when he came to this county, but he now owns eight hundred acres of valuable land, besides other property. In connection with general farming he engaged in shipping cattle and hogs quite extensively.

On the 17th of March, 1857, in Carroll County, Ind., Mr. Pruitt married Miss Barbara, daughter of Henry and Magdalena Heiny. Her parents were from Pennsylvania, and were of German descent. Mrs. Pruitt was a native of Wayne County, Ind., born July 13, 1836. Four children were born of their union: Mary Magdalene, who is now the wife of Peter J. Hickman, of Nebraska; Elias, who owns a fine farm in Ash Grove Township; Annice, wife of J. M. Gillett, of Kankakee; and James H. in a railroad office of Kankakee. All of the children were born and reared in this county. They all attended the public schools, and the last-named was educated in Watseka, Hoopes-ton and Valparaiso, while the others attended Green Hill Seminary of Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Pruitt have been connected with the Christian Church since young, and are numbered among its faithful members and active workers. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 168, of Milford. He cast his first Presidential vote for Winfield Scott, supporting the Whig party until 1856, when he voted for Fremont. Since that time he has affiliated with the Republican party. During the late war he was a strong friend of the Union, and aided his country and its soldiers in various ways. In 1886, he left the farm, and after spending four years in Watseka, came to Goodwine, where he now owns a handsome and commodious residence and ten acres of ground. Mr. Pruitt is familiar with pioneer life in this region, and as an early settler and a

valued and representative citizen, well deserves representation in this volume. The history of his life is one of success, and his career is worthy of emulation, for it has been characterized by uprightness in all things.



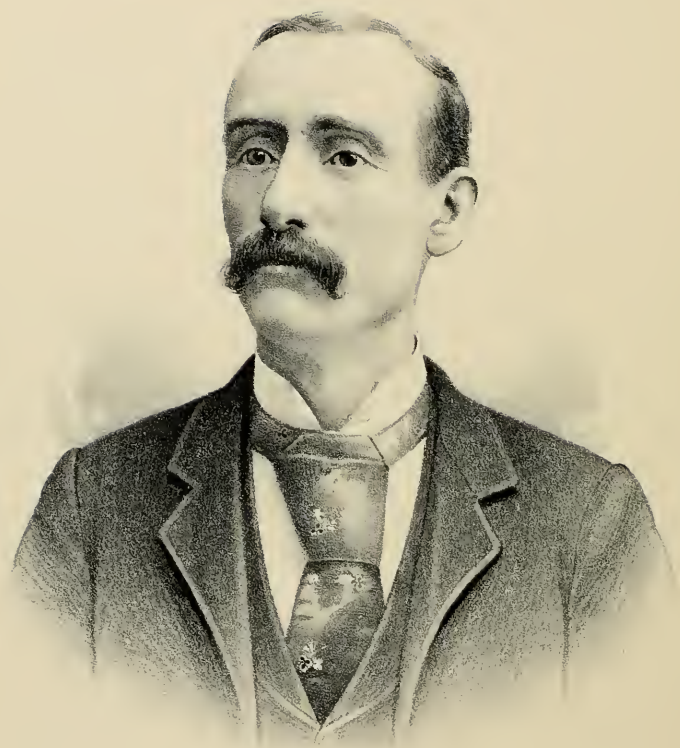
ELIAS PRUITT, a well known young farmer of Ash Grove Township, residing on section 28, is a representative of one of the pioneer families of this county. He was born in Fountain Creek Township on the 12th of February, 1860, and is one of four children whose parents were James A. and Barbara (Heiny) Pruitt. Their sketch is given on another page.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who, in the usual manner of farmer lads, was reared to manhood. He began his education in the district schools, later attended school in Hoopes-ton and Milford, and subsequently was a student in Green Hill Seminary. At the age of twenty, having completed his scholastic training, he started out in life for himself, and has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits. In December, 1883, he purchased his present farm, comprising two hundred and seventy-five acres of arable land under a high state of cultivation, and well improved. Many rods of tiling have been placed upon it, and a comfortable residence and good barns and out-buildings indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner. The farm is one of the valuable places of the community, and our subject is one of the leading agriculturists.

In March, 1882, in Fountain Creek Township, Mr. Pruitt was united in marriage with Miss Arabella, daughter of Jacob J. Wise, one of the early settlers of this county. She is a native of Fountain Creek Township, and there spent the days of her girlhood. By their union have been born five children: Forest; Earl, who died at the age of six weeks; Glenn, Flossie Mand and the baby.

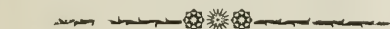
In 1884, Mr. Pruitt proudly cast his first vote, supporting James G. Blaine, and has since been a warm advocate of Republican principles. His wife

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Yours Very Truly
A. S. Brobeck M.D.

is a member of the United Brethren Church, and he contributes liberally to its support. His entire life has been passed in this county, and that it has been an honorable, upright one, is attested by his large circle of friends. He has the respect of all who know him, and is numbered among the progressive and substantial young farmers of the community.



A L. BROBECK, M. D., is a prominent representative of the medical profession in Iroquois County. He makes his home in Wellington and is recognized as one of its leading and influential citizens. Through business and social relations he has become widely known in this community and with pleasure we present this record of his life to our readers, many of whom are numbered among his warm friends.

The Doctor was born in Washington County, Tenn., January 10, 1853, and is a son of D. K. and Harriet T. (Miller) Brobeck. His father was born in Tennessee, August 7, 1827, and is still living. He is a blacksmith by trade and owns a farm, the same upon which our subject was reared. In his younger years he also engaged in teaching. Throughout life he has met with excellent success and is now in comfortable circumstances. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles. His wife was born in Tennessee, August 20, 1820. Both parents are members of the Presbyterian Church. Their family numbered twelve children, five of whom are yet living: Nannie is the wife of A. S. Stover, a farmer of Tennessee; the Doctor comes next; James is a carpenter and joiner, residing in Momence, Ill.; Addie resides with her father, and John, of Wellington, is studying dentistry.

Dr. Brobeck spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm in the State of his nativity. His education was acquired in the public schools of Brownsboro, after which he attended Laurel Hill Academy, and subsequently became a student in Washington College, one of the pioneer colleges of the country. It was founded in 1772, by Rev.

Samuel Doak, D. D., of Princeton College. He came to Tennessee, and preached his first sermon while sitting on a horse. This was in the early days, when the country was still an almost unbroken wilderness.

Our subject has in his possession a portrait, which was taken by the artist through the keyhole of the door, as the old Doctor was very averse to having his likeness taken. Dr. Brobeck remained in Washington College for about three years as a Latin student, and afterward studied in Greenville and Tusculum Colleges.

The Doctor began reading medicine under the eminent practitioner, Dr. Alex. Brabson, of Limestone, Tenn., who was an own cousin of his mother, and began to practice while under the direction of Dr. Brabson, continuing his connection with the gentleman for a period of four years. In the fall of 1883, Dr. Brobeck became a student in the medical department of the University of Louisville, Ky., from which he was graduated in 1885. He stood among the foremost in his class, which numbered seventy-six. On leaving school, he returned home and again took up practice, continuing until 1885, when he came to Illinois. October 28, 1886, the Doctor married Miss D. A. Pruitt, daughter of Joseph and Augusta (Hind) Pruitt. Two children have been born of this union, both daughters, Nellie E. and Hazel.

On coming to this State, Dr. Brobeck located at Wellington, where he has since resided. His skill and ability have won for him a high reputation and secured him a liberal patronage, which he well deserves. His neat and well-appointed office is supplied with the finest instruments used in surgery. He also has a compressed air apparatus used in catarrhal and respiratory diseases, and an excellent physician's microscope, manufactured in London. He has one of the finest medical libraries to be found in Central Illinois, and his table is always supplied with the leading medical journals and periodicals. He is a constant student of his profession, a tireless worker, and his skill is duly recognized by his professional brethren. The obstacles and difficulties in his path he has overcome by indefatigable labor and perseverance. In manner, the Doctor is a courteous and affable gentleman, who wins friends wherever he goes. In poli-

ties, he is a stalwart Republican, having supported that party since he cast his first Presidential vote for R. B. Hayes. When he came to Illinois he was one of the Trustees of Washington College. Himself and wife are both members of the Presbyterian Church, in which the Doctor serves as Elder. His honorable, upright life has won him universal esteem and he is numbered among the county's best citizens.



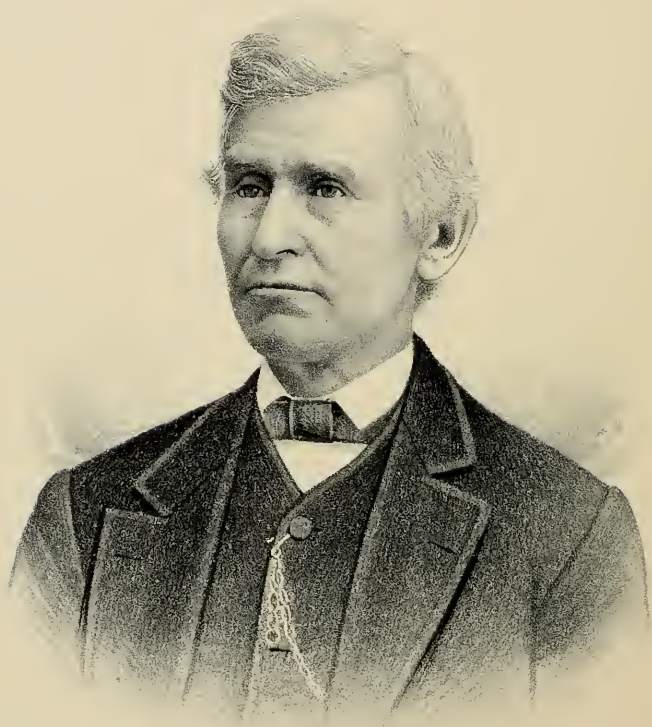
BENJAMIN F. THOMAS, a wealthy and influential citizen of Milford and a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families of the county, was born near La Fayette, Ind., May 20, 1830. In the sketch of his brother, Clement Thomas, on another page of this work, is given a record of the family and the account of their settlement here in an early day. Our subject was only eight months old when brought by his parents to Illinois. He remained on his father's farm, a mile and a-half south of Milford, until twenty-two years of age, and was early inured to the hard labors of developing and improving wild land. On leaving home, he began farming on his own account, following it for a number of years, but in the spring of 1853 he abandoned that occupation and went to Milford, where he engaged in general merchandizing as a partner of B. F. Whetsel. This connection continued about three years, when Mr. Thomas sold his interest to his partner, who failed shortly afterward, owing principally to the failure of local banks. On disposing of his own store, Mr. Thomas entered the store of John R. Pruitt, general merchant, in whose employ he remained as a salesman until 1858.

In the spring of that year our subject was united in marriage with Miss Amanda A., daughter of J. B. Hoover. Her death occurred December 5, 1874. Twelve children were born of their union, eight of whom are living: Madora Ellen, born April 5, 1859, is the wife of James E. Dawson. They had six children, five of whom are living: Arthur Ernest, Auda May, Asa Fred, Flossie Alice

and Thomas Clark. Mary Adeline, born May 29, 1860, is the wife of Henry Clay Frame, by whom she has two living children: Thomas Ray and Porter Samuel. Irvin Worth, born October 1, 1861, married Miss Martha, daughter of Samuel Rush, and they had five children, three yet living: Samuel Franklin, Clarence Ray and John Asa. Eliza Jane, born March 22, 1863, is the wife of Elijah Odel, and they have six children: Benjamin Franklin, Ernest Earl, Mae, Janet, Thomas Roe and Edna Fay. Rhoda Etna, born November 23, 1864, married Stanford Beebe, and they have a daughter, Alma. Jessie Lincoln, born January 1, 1866, is the wife of John Rush, and they also have a little daughter, Alta. Viola, born June 29, 1867, died November 13, 1868. Asa Nelson, born March 27, 1869, married Dollie Hamer, and they have one child, Louise. Maggie Annis, born November 11, 1870, is the wife of Milton Smiley, and they have one son, Earl. Minnie and Mina, twins, were born February 11, 1872. The former died on the 24th of September, and the latter on the 19th of October of that year. Christina, born September 16, 1873, died May 12, 1875.

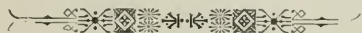
On his marriage, Mr. Thomas returned to the farm, having purchased a tract of land a mile and a half south of Milford. In the spring of 1863, he traded this farm for a tract of eighty acres northwest of Milford. Turning his attention to its development and improvement, he made it one of the best farms of the county, and from time to time extended its boundary lines, until it now comprises five hundred and sixty-five acres of valuable land, which yields to him a good income. He there reared his family and made his home until the spring of 1892, since which time he has lived retired in Milford. However, the greater part of his land has been rented for the past five years, and for the past decade he has bought and shipped stock, making a specialty of importing French horses. Politically, he has been a life-long Republican. For a term he served as Assessor of Milford Township. From a financial standpoint, his life has been extremely successful. In the earlier years, he was in very limited circumstances. He began farming without a dollar, and borrowed a team of his brother Clement in order to plow

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Gauss Truly
Samuel H. Volin

his land. He was oftentimes almost ready to give up, but, encouraged by his faithful wife to persevere, he labored on, and, by his industrious and well-directed efforts, worked his way upward to a position of wealth and affluence. Socially, he is a member of Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M. He is an honored pioneer of the county, and is recognized as one of its best and most valued citizens. His example may well serve to encourage others who like himself have to begin life empty-handed and depend upon their own exertions for all they gain in life. The first school he attended was in a round-log house, with a log cut out on each side and greased paper pasted over the openings to admit light. One end of the house was devoted to the fire-place, and both seats and floor were made of puncheons. Wooden pegs were used instead of nails, the door, which was made of clapboards, being on wooden hinges. From a piece of paper pasted on a shingle, on which his father had made the alphabet, he learned his letters. The blue-backed speller furnished him with reading and spelling for several years.



SAMUEL K. NOLIN, an extensive land-owner of Iroquois County, is an honored pioneer and one of the worthy citizens that the Buckeye State has furnished this community. His home is now on section 10, Stockland Township, where he has resided for a period of more than forty-three years. None are more worthy of representation in this volume than the gentleman whose name heads this record.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Richard Nolin, was a resident of Virginia, and removed from that State to Kentucky, where he became acquainted with the Kirkpatrick's, the maternal ancestors of Samuel K. They resided in a wild region, and together the families fled from the Indians, locating in Ross County, Ohio. At that time there were no houses but log cabins, and these settlements were widely scattered. Both the paternal and maternal grandparents died and were buried in Ohio. Thomas Nolin, the father of our

subject, was born in the Buckeye State and reared on the frontier. He married Jane Kirkpatrick, also a native of Ohio, and unto them were born eight children, six sons and two daughters: Ruth, Samuel K., John, Minerva, George W., Richard T., William J. and Austin W. In 1831, the parents removed to Indiana, stopping in Fountain County, and four years later locating in Benton County, where they reared their family. The father bought eighty acres of land and entered a tract of one hundred and twenty acres from the Government. He carried on farming until his death, which occurred in 1840. His wife survived him many years.

Samuel K. Nolin, of this sketch, was a lad of only ten summers when with his parents he went to Indiana. In Benton County he was reared to manhood, being early inured to the arduous labor of developing and improving wild land. In 1849, he came to Illinois, hoping to better his financial condition. Settling in Stockland Township, he located four hundred acres of Government land, and with characteristic energy began to cultivate the same. Acre after acre was placed under the plow, and in the course of time, where once was wild prairie, waving fields of grain delighted the eye, telling of bounteous harvests. Through his industrious and persevering efforts, his financial resources were increased and he was thus enabled from time to time to extend the boundaries of his farm by making additional purchases. His possessions now aggregate eight hundred and forty acres in Stockland Township, three hundred and sixty acres in Benton County, Ind., and one hundred and sixty-six acres in Prairie Green Township, Iroquois County, and he is extensively engaged in grain and stock-raising. He keeps on hand excellent grades of horses, cattle and hogs, and this pursuit is an important branch of his business.

We now turn from the public to the private life of Mr. Nolin. He has been twice married. His first union, celebrated in 1853, was with Miss Rachel Dawson, daughter of Elisha and Polly Dawson, but her death occurred in September, 1854. In August, 1857, he was again married, Miss Clarissa Coffelt becoming his wife. Four children were born unto them, but the second died in in-

fancy. Mary is now the wife of George Voliva, and they have three sons, Robert, Jesse and Leroy. They reside upon a farm in Benton County, Ind., which belongs to her father and was formerly owned by her grandfather. William, a resident farmer of Prairie Green Township, was married to Miss Hulda Peterson, by whom he has two children: Clarissa and a baby. Matilda is the wife of William Niele, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Stockland Township. The mother of this family departed this life in January, 1890, and her death was mourned by many friends as well as by her immediate family.

In politics, Mr. Nolin is a Democrat, and for two terms has held the office of Township Assessor. His life has been remarkably successful and he may truly be called a self-made man. Dependent upon his own resources, he started out in life for himself, overcoming the obstacles and difficulties in his path by perseverance and enterprise. Steadily he has worked his way upward, until now he occupies a position among the wealthy and influential citizens of his adopted county.



SYLVANUS CASS MUNHALL, Clerk of the Circuit Court and ex-officio Recorder of Iroquois County, was born in Coshocton, Ohio, January 26, 1843, and is a son of William and Dorothy F. (Jackson) Munhall. His father was a native of Harrisburg, Pa., born May 16, 1816. The mother was born in Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, in 1818, and came to America in childhood. The family, including our subject, removed from Coshocton, to Cambridge Ohio, and in October, 1854, to Urbana, Ill.

Mr. Munhall of this sketch was then about eleven years of age. Before leaving Ohio he had begun attending school, and enjoyed two years study in the common schools after coming to Illinois. In September, 1856, he hired out as an apprentice to Zimmerman & Richards, printers and publishers of *Our Constitution*, of Urbana. His compensation was limited to \$30 for the first year,

\$40 the second and \$60 the third, but he served with industry and fidelity and to the entire satisfaction of his employers and acquired a good knowledge of his trade. He was then employed as a journeyman, working in Urbana, Champaign, and finally on the *Prairie Farmer* and *Journal*, of Chicago. In 1861, Mr. Munhall, Sr., who was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, bought an interest in the Champaign County *Patriot*, to which office our subject came to assist his father.

About this time, the war having broken out, Mr. Munhall, actuated by purely patriotic impulses, sought to enlist in the country's service but was rejected, very much to his chagrin, on account of not being up to the standard size. He made a second and third effort with the same result as at first, but by persevering he was accepted on a fourth application, and on the 1st of August, 1862, became a member of Company B, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, under Capt. Busey, afterward Colonel. His service as private continued until January, 1864, when he was promoted to be Sergeant-Major, which position he held and faithfully and acceptably filled until mustered out with his regiment at Galveston, Tex., July 22, 1865, after the close of the war. He served in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Florida and Texas. The last engagement in which he participated was the assault on Ft. Blakely, Ala., on the evening of April 9, 1865, being the last battle of the war. The Seventy-sixth went into the charge with two hundred and sixty-two men, and in ten minutes lost one hundred and eighteen killed and wounded. While in the service, under the nom de plume of "Urchin," Mr. Munhall was war correspondent for the *Chicago Tribune*, *Champaign Democrat*, *Champaign Gazette* and *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, and his letters were received with great favor.

On his return from the war, Mr. Munhall found his mother a widow, his father having died in Cleveland, Ohio, March 8, 1864. He was a man of high rank in the ministry, was at one time Treasurer of Champaign County, and was much esteemed in his part of the State. Our subject resided with his mother in Urbana, serving as clerk in a clothing house until January 10, 1866. He then removed to Watseka, where he has since re-

sided. On coming to this city he at once engaged as Deputy County Clerk under his former comrade, James W. Kay, and was retained in that position until the expiration of the term of office of A. Honeywell, in December, 1873.

Mr. Munhall was married in Washington, Pa., October 7, 1864, to Miss Nancy Reese, who was born in that county, and is a daughter of Thomas J. and Adaline Reese. One child has been born of this union, a son, Will, who was born in Watseka, on the 4th of August, 1869. He is now employed in the Circuit Clerk's office under his father.

In 1869, Mr. Munhall was the candidate for County Clerk, but being defeated in the convention withdrew from the contest. He was, however, nominated in the Republican County Convention in 1873, for that office, but was defeated at the polls by Henry A. Butzow, the Granger candidate, who secured a small majority. On the 24th of February, 1874, he was commissioned Postmaster of Watseka and held that office until January 1, 1886, when he resigned, proving a capable and accommodating official. Mr. Munhall has always been a Republican and on that ticket was elected to his present position as Clerk of the Circuit Court and Recorder of Iroquois County in 1888. Socially, he is a member of Watseka Camp No. 339, M. W. A.; Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M., of which he was Secretary fourteen years; Watseka Chapter No. 111, R. A. M., in which he is serving his nineteenth year as Secretary; and of Kankakee Commandery No. 33, K. T. He is now serving his seventh year as Secretary of the Iroquois County Fair Association.

Mr. Munhall has made his home in Watseka since 1866, and is held in high esteem by his fellow-townsmen. His administration of the affairs of his office has been marked by strict attention to duty, kind and courteous treatment of the public having business there, and an evident desire not only to fulfill every official obligation with promptness and fidelity, but to aid and assist all who call upon him for information, whether connected with official duty or not. He has had the benefit of the services of Henry T. Skeels as Deputy, who is one of the oldest and most experienced men associated with Iroquois County's public

business, and of Miss Lura C. Streat, who has been in the recording department over ten years. Mr. Munhall also has the aid of his son Will, a bright and active clerk. During his residence of more than a quarter of a century in Watseka and Iroquois County, he has made many warm friends and stands deservedly high in the estimation of his fellow-citizens. At the Republican convention in April, 1892, he was renominated to the same position he has held for four years.



THE WATSEKA REPUBLICAN, an eight-column quarto, and the oldest paper in existence in Iroquois County, was founded by Hon. Thomas Vennum in 1856, and its first number bears the date of May 8, 1856. The paper was then known as the *Iroquois Republican*, and was printed in Middleport, now a part of the city of Watseka. J. A. Graham and D. T. Lindley were the publishers, and the paper was edited by Jesse Bennett and Franklin Blades, M. D. Various changes in ownership and editorial management occurred. In 1872, the name of the paper was changed to its present title, while it was owned and conducted by Alex L. Whitehall and Elmer Brimball, of Watseka, the office having been removed to the new town in the spring of 1863.

In 1884, B. F. Shankland purchased the paper and conducted it until 1887, when he sold out and went to California. On his return the following year he repurchased it. The present stock company, known as the Watseka Republican Company, was incorporated in the spring of 1892. B. F. Shankland was chosen President, W. R. Higgins Secretary and Superintendent of the mechanical department, and Dr. E. T. Brigham, Treasurer.

Mr. Shankland has been editor of the paper since his connection with it, and has made it an interesting and new sheet. The *Republican* is noted for its fine appearance and readable contents. It is recognized as the leading Republican paper in the county. It is always at the front in matters of news, and enjoys a liberal patronage, both in the subscription list and in advertising, and can boast a

large circulation among the best people in Eastern Illinois. The office is thoroughly equipped for general job work, as well as for first-class newspaper work. Mr. Higgins, who has charge of the mechanical department, is one of the best practical printers in the State, and has been identified with the *Republican* for many years.

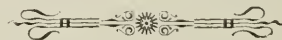


PETER EDWARD LARSON, resident partner and business manager of the firm of P. Larson & Co., merchant tailors and dealers in ready-made clothing and gents' furnishing goods, is one of the enterprising citizens of Watseka. The Watseka House is one of three large stores of the same kind owned and conducted by this company. The present store, which was founded in Paxton, Ford County, Ill., in 1864, by Peter Larson, the father of our subject, is conducted by the elder son, Charles Albert. The second store of the same character, situated in Gibson, Ford County, was established by our subject in March, 1887, and is conducted by the second son, Theodore. The store in Watseka was established by Peter, September 1, 1891, and has since been conducted under his management. All three are united under the firm name of P. Larson & Co. The business has grown from a small beginning to be one of the most important mercantile enterprises in Eastern Illinois, and their aggregate annual business amounts to \$100,000 and upwards. This house maintains a gilt-edged credit and is noted for its good work, fair dealing and conservative business methods.

The subject of our sketch was born in Attica, Ind., on the 25th of August, 1863, and is a son of Peter and Louisa (Gustafson) Larson. He came to Illinois with his parents in 1864, and the family located in Paxton, Ford County, where Peter Edward was reared to manhood. His education was acquired in the Paxton schools and the Collegiate Normal Institute of that place. As soon as he was old enough to do business, he was employed in his father's store as salesman when out of school and when his school-days were over. In March,

1887, he was made a partner in the business and established as manager of the branch house in Gibson, where he continued until the 1st of September, 1891. He then established the Watseka branch house, of which he has since been manager and resident partner. This store is the largest exclusive clothing store in the county and is doing a large and constantly increasing business.

Mr. Larson is a member of Drummer Camp No. 235, M. W. A., of Gibson. In politics, he is a Republican, but not an aggressive partisan. He is a genial gentleman, a good business man and a fair representative of so important a mercantile house as that of P. Larson & Co.



ELI OREBAUGH, Sheriff of Iroquois County, is a native of Highland County, Ohio. He was born on the 10th of June, 1834, and is a son of David and Sarah (Caley) Orebaugh. His father was born in Rockingham County, Va., in 1810, and died at the age of fifty years. His mother, a native of Highland County, Ohio, still survives her husband and is now a resident of Clermont County, Ohio.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood in his native State, and was educated in the public schools near his home. On the 26th of November, 1857, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah, a daughter of John and Julia Maxfield, and a native of Hamilton County, Ohio. They began their domestic life upon a farm in the Buckeye State, where they resided until October, 1883, when with his family he settled in Fountain Township, where he was engaged in farming until elected Sheriff, in the fall of 1890. He then removed to Watseka, and on the 1st of December of that year entered upon the duties of the office and has since resided in that city.

Nine children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Orebaugh, of whom four are living. David Alvin, the eldest, is a practicing lawyer of Watseka. The three daughters, Alice K., Emma C., and Bertha M., are still with their parents.

Our subject manifested his loyalty to the Government during the late war by enlisting on the 2d of May, 1864, as a member of Company B, One Hundred and Fifty-third Ohio Infantry, and served the term of his enlistment. He is now a member of G. H. Neele Post No. 576, G. A. R., of Cissna Park, Iroquois County, of which he has been Chaplain. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat.

In connection with his other interests, Mr. Orbaugh is connected with the Styles Automatic Hinge Company, which was recently organized in Watska. He was one of those interested in the establishment of the enterprise and is one of its stockholders. He is recognized as a leading farmer of the community and is a valued citizen. He has proved himself a most efficient and reliable officer and enjoys the respect and esteem of a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.



WILLIAM S. LARKIN, a retired farmer who makes his home in Onarga, claims Rhode Island as the State of his nativity. The place of his birth is in South Kingston, Washington County, and the date March 5, 1826. He comes of an old New England family. His grandparents, William and Bashba (Webster) Larkin, were both natives of Rhode Island, and the grandfather was a direct descendant of Edward Larkin, the friend and companion of Roger Williams. The parents of our subject, William and Lucy (Morey) Larkin, were also born, reared and married in Rhode Island. They became the parents of a family of nine children, but death has taken away the eldest daughter, Lucy A. The others are as follows: William S., Alford A., Ephraim, Albert, Elsie, Bradford, Welcome H. and Eliza. The father died in June, 1882, at the ripe old age of eighty-one years and four months, and the mother's death occurred in March of that year at the age of eighty-three years and eight months.

Under the parental roof, William Larkin was reared to manhood and his education was acquired in the public schools. As a companion and help-

mate on life's journey, he chose Miss Elizabeth Cook, daughter of Alford and Austress (Brehman) Cook, of Rhode Island. Their union was celebrated on the 16th of August, 1849, and unto them were born four children, one son and three daughters: Lucy A., born January 23, 1851, is now the wife of Edgar I. King, of Gibson, Ill., and they have three children, Edgar I., Lucy Belle and Gilva. May J., born August 30, 1852, is the wife of Irvin Rutledge, a resident of Arlington, Reno County, Kan., by whom she has four children, Roy, Loren, Lila and Will. Olive L., born May 20, 1856, was joined in wedlock with Walter Davis, who died in May, 1891. Four children were born unto them: Earl, Alice, Walter Mark, and one deceased. George S., the only son of the family, was born September 13, 1859. He married Miss Donella McKinzie, a Scotch lady, and they reside in Melvin, Ill.

In 1857, Mr. Larkin disposed of his business interests in Connecticut, where he had been living, and emigrated Westward to Illinois, locating on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in what is now Lyman Township, Ford County, but at that time was known as town 25, range 9 east in Vermilion County. He there made his home from 1857 until 1883, and his children were reared upon that farm. He was an industrious and enterprising farmer and by his perseverance and good management won a comfortable competence. At length he determined to lay aside business cares and live a retired life, and in 1883 he removed to the village of Roberts, but after a few months went to Melvin, where he spent the succeeding five years of his life. In 1889, he came to Onarga, where he has since made his home, but he still retains possession of his farm of two hundred acres, one hundred and sixty acres of it being the farm on which he first settled.

While living in Ford County, Mr. Larkin held the offices of School Director and School Trustee and also served for one term as Supervisor. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and he gives his support to every enterprise or interest calculated to prove of public benefit. His success in life has all been due to his own efforts and he is now enjoying a well-earned rest. Himself and

wife in early life were members of the Baptist Church; after coming West they joined the Congregational Church, but since 1889 have held membership with the Presbyterian Church. They have helped to build four churches. In politics, our subject votes with the Prohibition party, for it embodies his ideas on the temperance question.



HOMER TULLER, a highly respected citizen of Claytonville and an extensive dealer in stock, claims Ohio as the State of his nativity. Delaware County is the place of his birth, and the date September 18, 1837. He is a son of Roswell and Nancy (Thompson) Tuller. The father was born in Hartford, Conn., and when a lad of twelve years emigrated with his parents to Franklin County, Ohio. He helped to build the first log cabin in Columbus. He was in the War of 1812, and, like the remainder of his comrades, was forced to go barefooted all through one winter. After the war he emigrated to Delaware County, Ohio, and built the second log cabin in that county, while in the midst of the forest he developed a farm. He died in February, 1866, at the age of seventy-six years. His wife was a native of the Green Mountain State, and when a young maiden of ten summers came to Ohio. She died on the old homestead. Mr. Tuller was a successful business man and a prominent and progressive farmer. With the Presbyterian Church he and his wife held membership. In the family were the following children: Alvin, now a resident farmer of Franklin County, Ohio; Philander, who died at the age of eighteen years; Cynthia, who died in Ohio; Martha, deceased wife of John Standish; Mrs. Lydia Freshwater, who died in Ohio; Orrin, a bridge-builder who met his death by accident; Milo, who died at the age of nineteen years; Homer of this sketch; Edgar, who served in an Ohio regiment during the late war for one hundred days, now resides in Paoli, Kan. All of the children were born and reared on the old homestead in Ohio.

Our subject grew to manhood upon his father's

farm, no event of special importance occurring during his childhood days. He attended school, which was conducted on the subscription plan and was held first in one house and then another. He was ten years of age before he attended a regular school. At the age of sixteen he began devoting his entire attention to farm work, and experienced all the privations and hardships of pioneer life. On attaining his majority he started out in life for himself, and in the winter of 1857-58 we find him in Union County, Iowa, where he made a claim of Government land and began the development of a farm. The Indians were then very numerous in the settlement and the work of civilization and progress seemed scarcely begun. There were only three settlements, in the county. After a year his brother who was with him was taken ill and the father came and induced his sons to return. Our subject owned three hundred and twenty acres of land in which the county seat is now situated. After he went back to Ohio, he engaged in operating his father's farm for a time and then purchased land of his own.

During the late war, Mr. Tuller tried to enlist in both the Twentieth and Ninety-sixth Ohio Infantry, but his services were neither time accepted. He continued to engage in farming in Ohio until 1867, when he came to Iroquois County, and settled on section 3, Fountain Creek Township. The farm was then a tract of wild prairie, but acre after acre was placed under the plow and transformed into rich and fertile fields which yielded him abundant harvests. In connection with the cultivation of his land he also engaged in shipping stock and was very successful in that part of his undertakings. At length by his industry and enterprise he has acquired a comfortable competence and is now devoting his time and attention to buying and shipping stock, while his son operates his farm. He still owns two hundred and twenty-two acres of valuable land.

On the 17th of December, 1858, Mr. Tuller wedded Miss Louisa A. High, a native of Reading, Pa., who emigrated to Ohio at the age of twelve years. Unto them have been born four children. William Roswell was educated in the public schools of Watseka, married Emily Hammond, of Pennsyl-

vania, and resides on the old homestead; Charles A. is now engaged in the restaurant and grocery business in Claytonville; Blanche is deceased; and Nellie completes the family.

In 1860, Mr. Tuller cast his first Presidential vote, supporting Stephen A. Douglas, and has since been a supporter of the Democratic party. He often serves as a delegate to its conventions and is one of its influential and prominent members in this community. He does all in his power to promote its growth and insure its success, but has never been an office-seeker. Mr. Tuller began life empty-handed and has had many trials and difficulties to meet, but has overcome these by enterprise and determination, and by the assistance of his estimable wife, who has indeed proved a true helpmate to him, he has steadily worked his way upward to a position among the substantial and representative citizens of the county. His sterling worth and integrity have won him high regard and he has many warm friends throughout the community.



FREDERICK GREENBURG, one of the leading and influential farmers of Prairie Green Township, residing on section 24, is numbered among the earliest settlers of this community, where for thirty-six years he has made his home. He has watched its growth and progress, and has aided in its upbuilding and development, ever faithfully performing his duties of citizenship, and doing what he could for the best interests of all.

Mr. Greenburg claims Germany as the land of his birth, which occurred in the kingdom of Prussia, on the 24th of February, 1833. His parents were Frederick and Latta (Kruger) Greenburg. His father was born in Prussia, Germany, in 1800, and there remained until sixty-five years of age, being employed as a shepherd throughout the years of his active life in the Fatherland. The mother was also a native of Prussia, and died in that country at the age of sixty-four years. After her death,

Mr. Greenburg came to America to live with his children, all of whom had previously emigrated to this country. Here he spent the remainder of his life, dying in Prairie Green Township in 1874, at the age of seventy-four years.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who in his native land acquired a good common-school education. He remained in Germany until twenty-two years of age, when he determined to seek his fortune in America, and crossed the briny deep. When he landed in New York he did not have a cent of money. In truth, he began life in the New World penniless, but he possessed energy, perseverance and a determination to succeed.

Coming to Milwaukee, Wis., he at once began a search for work, and soon secured employment in a brick yard at \$15 a month, where he remained for about five months. The next five years he worked on the farm and in a saw-mill. On the expiration of that period he came to Prairie Green Township, Iroquois County, and with the capital he had acquired purchased eighty acres of raw prairie land. At once he began its development and improvement, and soon the wild prairie was transformed into rich and fertile fields, which yielded to him a golden tribute in return for his care and labor.

As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, Mr. Greenburg chose Miss Margaret Smith, a native of Bavaria, Germany, born June 10, 1843. She resided in the land of her birth until twenty years of age, when she emigrated to America. The marriage of our subject and his wife was celebrated in 1869, and by their union have been born eight children, as follows: John F., Frederick W., Louis A., Fannie C., William L., Florence N., James G. B. and Lester Grant. The family circle still remains unbroken, and the children are all under the parental roof.

In political sentiment, Mr. Greenburg is a Republican, and is a staunch supporter of the principles of that party. For a number of years he served his fellow-townsmen as School Director, and is still filling that office. He is a member of the German Lutheran Church, and his wife is a Catholic. Their home is upon one of the finest farms of Prairie Green Township. To his original purchase Mr. Greenburg has added from time to time,

as his financial resources were increased, until he now owns five hundred and sixty acres of valuable land. He may be truly called a self-made man, for his entire possessions have been acquired through his own industrious and well-directed efforts. It was a fortunate day for him when he determined to come to America, and also fortunate for the county, which numbers him among its valued citizens.



WL. RANTON, editor and proprietor of the *Cissna Park Review*, is one of the wide-awake and enterprising young business men of Cissna Park and is an honor to his adopted county. He was born near Belfast, Ireland, April 20, 1869. His father, Edward Ranton, was born and reared in the same locality and is of Scotch-Irish descent. He acquired an excellent education and became familiar with the occupation of farming and all its details. After he had attained to mature years he married Miss Annie Lockhart, whose parents were natives of Scotland, and after his marriage he embarked in agricultural pursuits for himself.

It was in 1870 that Edward Ranton determined to seek a home in the New World and crossed the Atlantic to America. He made his first location in Missouri, where he purchased a tract of wild land and began the development of a farm. In 1876 he removed to Western Illinois, and in 1880 came with his wife and children to Iroquois County, locating in Pigeon Grove Township. He now owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of good land adjoining the corporation limits of Cissna Park, and his farm is considered one of the desirable places of this locality. He has served as Supervisor of his township and is a valued citizen of the community. He holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church and also belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Pythias. In politics he has been a very strong Republican since he became an American citizen. He is a man of strong convictions and is ever true to his ideas of right.

Our subject is the eldest of four children, and,

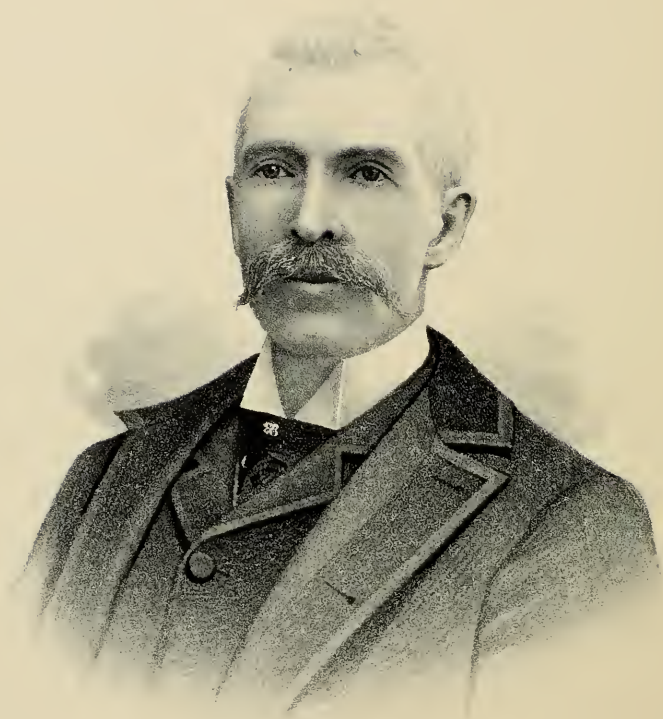
like himself, the others, Jennie, John and Edward are all at home. W. L. was a babe of a year when with his parents he crossed the briny deep, and when a lad of seven he came to Illinois. At the age of eleven he began farm work and followed it for some time. His early education was acquired in the common schools. He afterward entered upon his business career as an employe in the bank of Cissna Park, and then went to Quincy, Ill., where he pursued a commercial course of study in the Gem City Business College.

It was Mr. Ranton's intention on completing his education to go to Arizona, but Banker Young suggested that he purchase and publish the *Cissna Park Review*, saying that he could well do so. Our subject followed the banker's advice and in February, 1892, he left the farm and took charge of the paper which he has since conducted successfully. He has also on account of his father's illness managed the farm, but expects to devote much of his time and attention hereafter to journalism. He is a fluent writer and will no doubt win success in his chosen vocation. Mr. Ranton is independent and self-reliant and depends not upon luck but upon his own exertions. He is a Director in the Building and Loan Association and is a member of the Masonic lodge and Knights of Pythias fraternity. In the spring of 1892, he was made Supervisor of his township, an honor of which he may well be proud as he is the youngest Supervisor in the county. He is a young man of sterling worth, popular in both business and social circles.



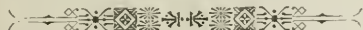
THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK of Watseka. This bank was organized in 1870, its organizers and active promoters being David McGill and George C. Harrington. Its first President was Samuel Williams, who took no part in the bank management, the Vice-president, David McGill, being the active officer. He is now President of the institution, and George C. Harrington has held the position of Cashier from its organization until the present time. The bank, at its organization, met with instant recognition from the pub-

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Alex Pate

lie, as its promoters and Directors were men who had long been citizens of the county, and were well known for their conservatism and stability. There was an opening for an institution of this character, and it has been successful from the date of its organization. Its capital was originally \$50,000. It has paid good dividends upon its stock, and now has a surplus of \$18,000. Its charter was renewed in 1890, and it carries the full amount of circulation allowed, securing the same by four per cent. bonds. The business of the bank is largely with the farmers of Iroquois County, its loans being chiefly made to them, the theory of the officers being that it is better policy for a bank to distribute its loans in small amounts to a large number of customers, than in large amounts to a few. The bank is now in its elegant new building, constructed in 1890, on the corner of Fourth and Walnut Streets. It has all the improvements in modern safe building, with large and roomy vaults and safe-deposit boxes. The interior is of hard-wood finish, while the light is excellent and the ventilation perfect.



ALEXANDER PATE is engaged in general merchandising in Wellington, and is one of the most prominent business men in this part of the county. More than a quarter of a century has passed since he came to this county and in the years that have come and gone he has formed a wide acquaintance and won the respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact. He has the honor of being a native of Illinois, and was born in Galena, September 20, 1844, being the fourth in order of birth in a family of six children, numbering three sons and three daughters. The father, Thomas Pate, was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1794.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Temperance Davey. Their union was celebrated July 23, 1837. Mr. Pate was reared as a landscape gardener. He emigrated to America about 1832, and about five years afterward returned to England, but in 1840 again came to this country, locating in Galena, Ill. His death there oc-

curred, September 1, 1856. The mother of our subject was born in Winkley, England, in 1804, and is still living, her home being at Niagara Falls. While the writer was in Wellington Mrs. Pate was visiting her son Alexander. She is a well-preserved old lady, her years resting lightly upon her. Three children of the family are yet living: Davey, a lumber merchant, is married and resides in Chicago; Alexander of this sketch; and Sarah, wife of G. D. Belden, a real-estate dealer of Niagara Falls, N. Y.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent in his native city, and his education was acquired in the common schools, being greatly supplemented by self-culture. When he started out in life for himself he had no capital except the talents with which nature had endowed him, but he determined to win success and has carried out his resolution. It was in the following way that he came to locate in this county: He left Galena and made his way to Onarga, hoping to secure employment with Uncle Billy Pearson, but when he reached his destination he found that Mr. Pearson was about to close his business at that place on account of the blasting of his crops by the early frosts, and seek a home elsewhere. This was in 1863. Although disappointed in this direction, Mr. Pate determined to make the best of his situation and seek employment of some kind. His knowledge of book-keeping was not very advanced, but his brother, who had pursued a course of study in Bryant & Stratton's Business College, gave him a few instructions and he secured the position of accountant with W. M. Coney, of Watseka, with whom he remained from 1863 to 1871, a fact which indicates his faithfulness to his employer. This was the beginning of what has proved a successful business career.

During the summer of 1871, the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad was under process of construction and the contractors working in this territory had been purchasing supplies of Mr. Coney. On one occasion when Mr. Coney was in Chicago, a contractor came in to the store and said to our subject: "Pate, why do you not establish a point of supplies south of Milford?" On the return of Mr. Coney, Mr. Pate suggested the idea and they resolved to put it into execution.

They drove to the present site of Wellington, upon which at that time not a habitation of any kind was to be seen. On Monday, the following day, Mr. Pate was on the ground with a load of lumber hauled from Watseka, and the next day with a load of goods. A small frame shanty, 16x32 feet, was at once erected and the first night spent there our subject slept in the unroofed building. He had his gun, and his only companion was his faithful dog. He was placed in charge of the new store as a partner of Mr. Coney and for about twelve years, or until 1883, the business connection was continued, when Mr. Pate purchased his partner's interest and assumed entire control at Wellington. For twenty years these two gentlemen had been connected in business and their relations were always the most pleasant. In the fall of 1871 they had erected a one-story frame store building, 50x20 feet, opposite the present site, and in the following summer built a two-story building, 100x25 feet. In February, 1888, they met with a heavy loss, their building being burned to ashes. The fire, however, was hardly quenched when plans were made for the erection of the beautiful brick store which Mr. Pate to-day occupies. This building is 46x110 and is filled with a full and complete line of both staple and fancy goods such as are to be found in a general merchandise store. This is one of the largest establishments in the county. The volume of business done by Mr. Pate in 1891 reached \$40,000. He is also the senior member of the firm of Pate & Norton, grain dealers, who, in 1891, handled two hundred and fifty thousand bushels of grain. He is also interested in land in Dakota and in Crawford and Ironquois Counties, Ill.

On the 11th of May, 1875, Mr. Pate wedded Miss Mary E. Wilson, daughter of J. B. and Eliza (Hickman) Wilson. Unto them have been born two daughters: Gertrude, who attended school in Wellington, is pursuing a classical course in Lake Forest Seminary. She possesses considerable musical talent. Lydia, the younger, is at home. The family is one of prominence in this community and its members rank high in social circles.

Mr. Pate cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. U. S. Grant, whom he had many times met in Ga-

lena, and has since been a stalwart supporter of Republican principles. For six years he was a member of the Board of School Directors and at this writing is Clerk. He has been a liberal donor to all benevolences and has contributed freely towards the erection of all the church edifices in Wellington. From no enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit does he withhold his aid, but gives freely to all. His success in life has been remarkable, yet it has been all won through his business ability, sagacity and well-directed efforts. His own labors have brought him the handsome competence which is to-day his, and he certainly deserves great credit for his prosperous and upright career.



IRWIN W. BAKER, one of the large land-owners of the county, now resides on section 28, Ash Grove Township. As he is widely and favorably known throughout the community, we feel assured that the record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers, and gladly give it a place in this history. A native of the Hoosier State, he was born in Parke County, Ind., October 14, 1831. The family is of German descent and was founded in America by the grandfather of our subject. The father, David Baker, was a life-long farmer. He married Nancy Levick. Her death occurred in 1846, and his death occurred in 1849, leaving our subject an orphan when about eighteen years of age. David Baker had served in the War of 1812 under Gen. William Henry Harrison and was a staunch Whig in political sentiment. The family numbered seven children, three of whom are yet living, but the eldest, George, is now deceased; John is a farmer on Silver Island, Ind.; Irwin is the next younger; David is an agriculturist of Fountain County, Ind.; Lewis, who served in the Thirty-first Indiana Infantry, died in the army; and Jacob and Margaret are now deceased.

Mr. Baker whose name heads this record was reared to manhood upon the home farm. At his

father's death he was thrown upon his own resources and started out in life for himself with his share of the estate, \$16. He began earning his own livelihood by chopping wood and making rails. All that he now possesses he has achieved through his own efforts and he may be truly called a self-made man. The autumn of 1862 witnessed his arrival in Illinois and for some years he worked as a farm hand. Previous to this he married Miss Elizabeth McConnell, born in Parke County, Ind., August 4, 1836, their union being celebrated in Indiana in 1858.

After coming to this county, Mr. Baker settled on section 16, Ash Grove Township, where he purchased eighty acres of prairie land and twenty acres of timber. He has since here made his home, but his landed possessions have not remained the same. As the years passed his financial resources were increased, as the result of his industry and perseverance, and he made additional purchases until he now owns three hundred and sixty-six acres in one body and four hundred and eighty acres elsewhere. For several years he has been engaged in general farming and stock-raising, but recently he has purchased a good home in Cisna Park, and will remove thither soon and retire from active business life. He was instrumental in establishing the Farmers' Elevator at Goodwine and is now one of its Directors. This has proved of incalculable benefit to the farmers of the community.

The Baker family numbers the following children: David, who is engaged in merchandising in California; John who operates the old home farm on section 23, Ash Grove Township, married Louisa Wood; Wallace, who wedded Lillie Geddes, resides near his brother; Nancy Jane is the wife of James Morris, of St. Louis; William died at the age of twenty-three; Isaac Clinton wedded Mollie Stump and is a resident farmer of Ash Grove Township; Fred and Clarence are still with their parents; James died in his third year.

As before stated, Mr. Baker started out in life for himself with a capital of only \$16, but good management and well-directed efforts have brought him prosperity. Whatever he undertakes he carries forward to completion, and to that quality of his nature his success may be attributed in

no small measure. He is now numbered among the wealthy citizens of this community. He cast his first Presidential vote for Scott, then supported Fremont and was a Republican until 1880, since which time he has affiliated with the Democratic party. He takes considerable interest in political affairs but has never been an office-seeker. The county finds in him a public-spirited and progressive citizen, and he has done much for its upbuilding in the thirty years of his residence here.



JAMES M. STREAN, who is engaged in farming on section 30, Milford Township, has the honor of being a native of this county, and his entire life has here been passed. He was born on his father's farm, about three miles north of Milford, on the 21st of October, 1847. His parents, David and Elizabeth V. (Axtell) Strean, were both natives of Pennsylvania. In 1834 they bade good-bye to their old home and started from the Keystone State to Illinois, making the journey by wagon. At length they reached this county and settled in Milford Township. They were among the earliest pioneers, having located here when almost all of the land was still in its primitive condition and when the settlements, which were few, were widely scattered.

In the Strean family were twelve children, as follows: Thomas Vennum, John Gilmore, Mary Margaret, James M., Nancy Jane, Caroline, Kirk, Enoch, Casper Campbell, Gilbert, Grace, and one who died in infancy. The two eldest sons were soldiers of the late war. Thomas Vennum served for one year among the boys in blue, and John Gilmore enlisted at the first call for troops, serving three months. On the expiration of that time he re-enlisted and was with his regiment at the front for a year.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who has spent his entire life in this county. He was reared to manhood under the parental roof, the days of his boyhood and youth being quietly passed. He followed the plow and

harrow through the summer months and in the winter season, when the farm work was over, he attended the public schools, acquiring a good English education.

It was on the 4th of September, 1870, that Mr. Streat led to the marriage altar Miss Ruth A. Mead, daughter of James R. and Huldah A. (Coffin) Mead. A family of six children has been born of their union and four are yet living, namely: Hattie Jane, born July 14, 1871, died in her fourth year; George Washington, born February 2, 1873; Eva May, April 20, 1875; Myrtle Ottalean, September 28, 1880; and Jessie, who completes the family, born November 12, 1885. The fifth child died in infancy.

Mr. Streat is now engaged in general farming. Since attaining his majority he has followed the occupation to which he was reared and is a well-known agriculturist of Milford Township. In politics he is a supporter of Republican principles and keeps well posted on the issues of the day, both political and otherwise. Reading, experience and observation have made him a well-informed man. He is a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family and throughout the community he is held in high regard.



JOHIN K. JUDY, a member of the firm of Judy & Ours, dealers in general merchandise of Goodwine, has carried on operations in this place about a year, but in that time has already built up an excellent trade, which is constantly increasing. He occupies a store 60x60 feet, and the rooms are well stocked with everything found in his line. He also keeps lumber and building material, and does a strictly cash business. He has the confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact, and his courteous treatment and fair dealing have won him high regard.

Mr. Judy was born in what is now Grant County, W. Va., November 22, 1850, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Kimball) Judy. Mrs. Judy's father was killed by a rebel during the late war, although only a private citizen. The father of our subject

died in 1852, after which his widow became the wife of John Ours. Her death occurred in 1877. Six children were born of the first marriage: Hiram, who now resides in Virginia; Henson, who served the Union cause in the army in West Virginia and is now a farmer of Iroquois County; Noah, who served in the Home Guards during the late war; John K., of this sketch; and Hannah and Mary, both deceased. Three children were born of the second marriage: Wellington, who is now in partnership with our subject; and Indiana and Rebecca, both deceased. Their father was also a member of the State Guards and was killed in a fight about nine miles from his home.

The subject of this sketch was reared in the midst of war scenes. His native county was crossed again and again by rebels and it was almost impossible for the family to keep anything to eat in the house. He could not attend school under these circumstances and so gave his time to farm work. In 1870, Mr. Judy came to Illinois and for some time worked as a farm hand. He then engaged in agricultural pursuits for himself with good success until about four years ago. He has twice visited his old home in Virginia since coming to Illinois, one of the trips being occasioned by the death of his mother. On leaving the farm, Mr. Judy embarked in merchandising in Claytonville, and carried on operations in that place for three years, after which he came to Goodwine, and has since been one of its leading business men.

A marriage ceremony performed in 1872 united the destinies of Mr. Judy and Miss Abigail Gilbert, who was born in Fountain County, Ind., and is a daughter of Monroe Gilbert, one of the early settlers. Unto them have been born five children, three sons and two daughters: Hannah E., Eva, Arthur, Franklin and Gertie. The eldest is a native of West Virginia, and the others were born in this county.

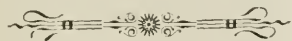
Both Mr. and Mrs. Judy are members of the United Brethren Church. They are people of sterling worth, whose many excellencies of character have won them the high respect of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. In politics, Mr. Judy is a Republican, having been a stalwart supporter of that party since he cast his first Presi-

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Respt-
O. J. Harman

dential vote for Gen. U. S. Grant. He has been a delegate to the county and senatorial conventions, and is now serving as Postmaster of Goodwine. He is a man of excellent business ability, progressive and enterprising, and is rapidly winning his way upward.



OP. HARMAN, a representative and influential citizen of Milford, dates his residence in Iroquois County from 1868. For more than twenty years he engaged in farming, but is now practically living retired. His life record is as follows: He was born near Moberly, Randolph County, Mo., on the 12th of June, 1849, and is a son of Anthony and Theodosia (Carver) Harman, the father born near Winchester, Va., and the mother at Lexington, Ky. Having emigrated to Missouri in an early day, they resided in Randolph County for many years. It was in 1865 that they removed to Warren County, Ind., where Mr. Harman purchased land, and engaged in farming and stock-raising. He and his wife are still residents of that community.

The first sixteen years of his life our subject spent in the State of his nativity, and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Indiana. Three years later, in 1868, he came to Illinois, locating on a farm in Stockland Township, Iroquois County, belonging to his uncle, Jacob Harman, who died on the 17th of February, 1885, and left to his nephew five hundred and sixty acres of land. Upon that farm our subject resided until 1890, and in connection with its cultivation and improvement he engaged in buying, selling and raising fine grades of cattle. At length he left the farm and went to Milford, where he now makes his home, but he still supervises his landed interests.

On the 29th of October, 1872, Mr. Harman was joined in wedlock with Miss Sarah M. Jones, daughter of John H. and Hannah Jones, prominent citizens of Stockland Township. Unto them has been born one child, a son, Leroy, born on the 12th of August, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Harman have a beau-

tiful home in Milford, which is supplied with all the comforts of life, and is the abode of hospitality, its doors being ever thrown open for the reception of their many friends.

In his political affiliations our subject is a Republican, having supported that party since he attained his majority, and socially is a member of Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, and takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, its upbuilding and its advancement. His aid is never sought in vain by any worthy enterprise, and Milford finds in him a valued resident. He is a popular gentleman, widely and favorably known throughout the community.



JOSEPH G. WALLACE, one of the prominent citizens of the county, who is now living a retired life in Buckley, was born on the 1st of June, 1841, in Downer's Grove, Du Page County, Ill., and is one of a family of ten children, whose parents were John and Melitable (Harrington) Wallace. It was in 1837 that John Wallace came to Illinois and purchased an eighty-acre tract of wild land in Du Page County, where he began the development of a farm. Having thus prepared a home, he was joined by his family three years later, and there the children were reared to manhood and womanhood. The parents are still living on the old homestead where they first located. They are highly respected people, whose excellencies of character have won them many friends. Of their family five are yet living, namely: J. Austin, Joseph G., James Richard, Emma and Alice.

Upon his father's farm the subject of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth. No event of special importance occurred until July, 1862, when, having attained his majority, he responded to the country's call for troops. Prompted by patriotic impulses, he joined Company B, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Infantry, and faithfully served as a valiant soldier for three

years, receiving his discharge on the 12th of June, 1865. The first battle in which he took part was Resaca, where the Brigade Commander, W. T. Ward, was wounded, and Gen. Benjamin Harrison took command of the same and continued on to Atlanta and to the sea. Mr. Wallace participated in all the battles of his regiment on the Atlanta Campaign and on the famous march to the sea. The march having been completed, he witnessed the Grand Review at Washington, D. C. Though in many engagements, he was never wounded or taken prisoner.

In 1865, Mr. Wallace went to Dwight, Ill., and resided upon a farm in that locality until 1874. March 25, of that year, he married Miss Jennie Potter, daughter of John and Lucinda (Blanchard) Potter, of Dwight, Ill. Their family numbered seven children, six of whom are yet living. Oscar died at the age of five years; Orson married Miss Rachel Porter; Caroline L. is the wife of William E. Fenn; Mary Louise is the wife of Frank Benjamin; Cynthia Jane wedded Joseph G. Wallace; Jerusha Violetta is the wife of Eugene Flagler; and John B. married Miss Grace Cone.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace spent a few months in Elliott, Ill., and then removed to a farm of two hundred acres, which he had purchased a short time previous, about two miles north-west of Buckley. During his residence thereon, he purchased and sold other land, but he still owns one hundred and sixty acres of his original farm and it yields to him a good income. In addition to the cultivation of his land, he paid considerable attention to stock-raising, making a specialty of the breeding of horses and hogs, but he never had occasion to ship, as his stock was so well known throughout this locality that when he was ready to sell he found a market at home. His horses were of the celebrated Norman breed and he raised the Poland-China hogs.

In his political sentiments, Mr. Wallace is a Republican. He keeps himself well informed on the issues of the day and on all current events, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with excellent success. Mrs. Wallace is a member of the Methodist

Church. In May, 1891, our subject left the farm and removed to Buckley, purchasing a fine residence, in which he and his wife, a most estimable lady, make their home. They are enjoying a well-earned rest amid friends who hold them in high esteem for their sterling worth. Socially, he belonged to Will Carter Post, G. A. R., of Buckley.



KENDAL SHANKLAND, deceased, an honored early settler of Iroquois County, was a native of the Buckeye State. He was born in Eaton, Ohio, on the 1st of July, 1825, his parents being David and Sarah (Crawford) Shankland. Both were natives of Kentucky, and were of Virginian stock. In 1829, they settled near what is now West Lebanon, Ind. Their son attended the public schools of those early days, where educational advantages were very limited, but by extensive reading and self-culture he became well informed. He was reared to agricultural pursuits.

On the 14th of February, 1848, Mr. Shankland was married in Boone County, Ind., to Miss Amanda Harris, a native of Marion County, Ind., born in 1827, and a daughter of Benjamin and Mahala Harris. Mr. Shankland continued to reside in Warren County, Ind., until 1854, when he removed to Illinois, and settled in what is now the township of Prairie Green, Iroquois County. There he invested his capital, amounting to \$1000, in land, and engaged in farming. In course of time he added by purchase to the original tract, until at his death he was the owner of one thousand acres of valuable land, having become quite wealthy.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Shankland, as follows: Benjamin F., the eldest, wedded Miss Nancy R. Miskimen, and is now the President of the Watseka Republican Company, and the editor of the paper; George W., the next younger, married Miss Susan Senger, and is a farmer residing on the old homestead; Florence is the wife of George L. Miller, and is engaged in agricultural pursuits in McPherson County, Kan.; David wed-

ded, Miss Mary Cox, and is a farmer residing near Fowler, Ind.; Laura is the wife of C. B. Smalley, of Benton County, Ind.

Early in life Mr. Shankland was a Whig, and when the Republican party sprang into existence he was one of its organizers in his county. He ever afterwards maintained his connection with it, and was recognized as an influential member. He helped to organize Iroquois County into townships, and for about twenty years represented Prairie Green Township on the County Board, of which he was several times Chairman, and one of its most influential working members. His death occurred at his home August 12, 1882. His wife survives him, and has since married Mr. Gill. She is a member of the Christian Church, and her home is in Anderson, Ind.



FRED H. LUECKE is a wide-awake and enterprising young farmer of Ash Grove Township, residing on section 17. He claims Will County, Ill., as the place of his birth, which occurred on the 11th of November, 1861. His father, Fred F. Luecke, was born in Germany, November 19, 1812, and is the son of Frederick Luecke, who was born and reared in Hesse and followed the carpenter's trade. He married Henrietta Meyer, and in 1847 sailed from Bremen to New Orleans, where he arrived after a voyage of eight weeks and three days. He then proceeded up the Mississippi River to Peru, Ill., where he hired teams, by which he made his way to Chicago. After two years spent in Wheeling, Cook County, he removed to Crete, Will County, where he died in 1851, at the age of fifty-one years. His widow is still living and makes her home with her son August, at the age of ninety-one.

Fred F. Luecke, the father of our subject, came with his parents to America when about six years of age, and in Washington, Ill., he learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed for a number of years in Will County. He was married in Will County to Mary Bahlman, who died in that county

in 1876, leaving six children, namely: Fred, whose name heads this record; Henry, who resides on a farm in Will County; Frank, who died in 1889, at the age of twenty-two years; Mary, wife of Charles Waterman, of Will County; Sophia, wife of John C. Wilkening, of Ash Grove Township; and Louisa at home. The children were all born and reared in Will County and acquired good educations. After the death of his first wife Mr. Luecke married Ellen Schreeck, and unto them have been born six children, of whom Emma, Mollie and Lena are now living. Millie, William and Albert are all deceased. Mr. Luecke and his family are all faithful members of the Lutheran Church. He takes a prominent part in church work, and is a charitable and benevolent man, who gives freely of his means to all enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit. In early life he was a Democrat, but is now a Republican. When he started out in life for himself he had only \$150, but by good business ability, perseverance and industry he has worked his way upward to a position among the substantial farmers of Will County, and is a highly respected citizen.

Under the parental roof Fred Luecke, whose name heads this record, spent his boyhood days and was educated in both the English and German languages. On leaving school he worked on the home farm and in the employ of others until 1880, when he came to Iroquois County, and for three years was in the employ of F. Breymeyer. He then spent the three succeeding years of his life on the old homestead, in Will County, and in 1887 located on his present farm, which has since been his home. There were then no buildings upon it except a shanty and a small stable, but it is now one of the valuable farms of the community. He has erected a substantial dwelling and good outbuildings, which stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. In addition to the cultivation of his land, he is also engaged in stock-raising, breeding fine Jersey cattle for dairy purposes.

On the 10th of February, 1887, in Will County, Mr. Luecke was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Wilkening, a native of Washington Township, that county, and a daughter of Conrad and Mary (Tegtmeier) Wilkening. Two children

have been born of their union: Arthur, born March 20, 1888; and Walter, on the 19th of June, 1890. The parents are both members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, of Woodworth, and take an active part in its growth and upbuilding.

In political sentiment, Mr. Luecke is a Republican, and has frequently served his party as a delegate to its conventions. He is now serving as Assessor of Ash Grove Township and as School Treasurer, and is a member of the Buckley Insurance Company. In every enterprise calculated to advance the best interests of the community, he is found in the front rank, and his aid is never withheld when solicited in behalf of any interest calculated to promote the general welfare. During his residence here he has won a large circle of friends and acquaintances, and has secured the high regard of all with whom business or pleasure has brought him in contact.



ALBERT P. HURD is one of the worthy citizens that Michigan has furnished to Lovejoy Township. He now owns and operates a fine farm of four hundred and thirty acres, his home being on section 3. He was born near Adrian, Lenawee County, Mich., on the 29th of December, 1833. His parents, Allen D. and Hannah (Hooper) Hurd, were both natives of the Empire State, where they spent their childhood days. About 1830 they emigrated to Michigan, and in that State made their home for more than twenty years, after which they came to Illinois, locating in Iroquois County, on the 1st of July, 1852. They settled on a farm four miles south of the village of Milford, in Lovejoy Township, Mr. Hurd having entered eighty acres of land. He also bought a tract of seventy acres of rich prairie and thirty acres of timber, making in all a farm of one hundred and fifty-seven acres. To its cultivation and improvement he devoted his energies.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hurd was born a family of six children: John Henry, the eldest, married Miss Amy Johns, daughter of William Johns, and they

reside in Crescent Township, near Woodland. They became the parents of six children, four of whom are living. Albert P. of this sketch, is the next younger. Lydia Augusta is the wife of Joseph Pruitt, a resident farmer of Lovejoy Township, by whom she has eight children, all living. Sarah Olivia is the wife of Ezekiel Probus, a resident farmer of Mitchell County, Kan. Eight children were born unto them, of whom seven are surviving. Frances was the next younger, but her death occurred in early childhood. Charles Leslie, the youngest, married Linda Armstrong, by whom he has five children, four sons and a daughter. With his family he resides in Cloud County, Kan.

In the State of his nativity, Albert Hurd quietly passed his boyhood and youth in the usual manner of farmer lads, and on his parents' removal to Illinois he accompanied them. Since that time he has made his home in Iroquois County. On the 2d of March, 1869, he led to the marriage altar Miss Esther Jemima Heffner, who was born near La Fayette, Ind., July 3, 1850, and is a daughter of Joseph and Esther Heffner, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of the Keystone State. Mr. and Mrs. Hurd began their domestic life upon the old homestead in Lovejoy Township where they have since resided. They have a pleasant home, are hospitable people, and their friends throughout the community are many. In his political affiliations, Mr. Hurd is a Republican, and has long supported that party. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and he has frequently served in the office of School Trustee.

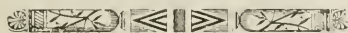
The beautiful and desirable farm which is the property of our subject comprises four hundred and thirty acres of arable land, which is under a high state of cultivation, and is well improved with good buildings. The rich and fertile fields yield to him a golden tribute, and everything about the place indicates the supervision of a careful and thrifty manager. He has all the latest improved machinery, the place is complete in all its appointments, and the Hurd homestead is known as a model farm throughout the county. Our subject formerly gave considerable attention to stock-raising, but now devotes his energies prin-

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R. Wilson

ipally to growing wheat and corn. He is a man of good business ability, and by his well-directed efforts, perseverance and good management has won a place among the substantial agriculturists of Iroquois County.



ROBERT NILSON, deceased, was one of the most honored pioneers of Iroquois County.

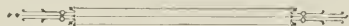
For forty-four years he was closely identified with the growth, development and business interests of the county. Born in Brown County, Ohio, September 20, 1817, taken to Fountain County, Ind., when ten years of age, and brought to Iroquois County at the age of seventeen, it will be seen that all his earlier life was passed in a new country, where educational and social advantages were very meagre. Being a man of superior mental powers, reading and observation largely compensated for the lack of scholastic training. Our subject's father, John Nilson, served under Gen. Harrison in the War of 1812. Subsequently he married and settled in Brown County, Ohio. In 1827 he moved to Fountain County, Ind., and seven years later came to Iroquois County, where he spent the remainder of his life. March 12, 1839, Robert Nilson was married in Milford Township to Miss Susan L. Wagner, who was born September 25, 1815, in Butler County, Ohio, and in 1837 became a resident of Iroquois County.

Mr. and Mrs. Nilson began their domestic life on a farm about four miles north of the village of Milford, where Mrs. Nilson still makes her home. The land was wild and destitute of improvements, but the young pair worked hard and judiciously invested their savings. Mr. Nilson became one of the most prosperous farmers of his community, owning at his death eleven hundred acres of valuable land. Aside from his own business interests he transacted a good deal of business for others, besides serving in public capacities for many years. For sixteen years he held the office of County Surveyor, and for four years that of County Treasurer, proving a capable and trusty official. Politically, he was a life-long Democrat. Unto Mr.

and Mrs. Nilson were born seven children, four sons and three daughters, as follows: Martha, Susan; Emma and Jacob, deceased; John, Eusebius and Sidney, who are represented elsewhere in this work.

After a well-spent life covering a period of sixty-three years, Mr. Robert Nilson was called to his final rest May 23, 1880. His death was deeply mourned, for he was tenderly beloved by his family, and held in the highest esteem by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Just and honorable in his dealings, kind and charitable to the needy, he might truly be called one of Nature's noblemen.

Mrs. Nilson, though seventy-seven years of age, is quite active in body and mind. For over fifty years she has been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and her influence for good has been impressed upon the community where she has lived for so many years.



JOHN W. CUNNINGHAM, who is successfully engaged in farming in Onarga Township, owns an excellent farm, pleasantly located about two miles from Onarga. He is widely and favorably known in this community, and with pleasure we present to our readers this record of his life. A native of Canada, he was born in Montreal, May 10, 1840. His parents were Patrick and Esther Cunningham, and their family numbered six children, five of whom are yet living, as follows: James, Ellen, John W., Mary and Esther. The father died when our subject was only three years old. His mother afterward married again, becoming the wife of William Hill, of Guelph, Canada, who died during the late war, having enlisted in the service as a member of a New York regiment. Three children were born unto them, George, Elizabeth and Jane. The mother died in Canada in June, 1890.

The subject of this sketch is also an honored veteran of the late war. On attaining his majority he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting in April, at the first call for volunteers,

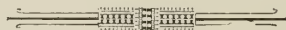
at Columbus, Ohio. He became a member of Company C, Twelfth Ohio Regiment, in which he served five months and six days.

After his return home Mr. Cunningham was united in marriage February 14, 1864, with Miss Rachel E. Shaw, daughter of Joseph S. and Eleanor G. (Beaty) Shaw. Five children have been born of the union of this worthy couple, three sons and two daughters, the eldest of whom, James O., was born November 30, 1864; Emory L., born September 6, 1866, married Miss Sadie McGraff, and now resides in Eureka, Ill.; Eva May, born March 3, 1868, is the wife of Clarence Hollister, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Onarga Township; Elma E., born May 8, 1870, is the wife of Sherman T. Wilcox, a resident of Eureka, Ill.; and John, born November 6, 1873, is still under the parental roof.

It was in 1868 that Mr. Cunningham made his first purchase of land in this county. He bought an eighty-acre tract on section 26, Onarga Township, and afterward purchased another eighty acres on the same section. Subsequently he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 27, and then selling his land on section 26 he bought land on sections 19, 20 and 29, amounting to two hundred and sixty-five acres. His landed possessions now aggregate about four hundred and twenty-five acres, the greater part of which is under a high state of cultivation. His well-tilled fields and the many improvements upon the place indicate his thrift and enterprise. His home is a beautiful and commodious residence, tastefully furnished and supplied with all the comforts of life. The farm is considered one of the finest in this locality, and Mr. Cunningham is regarded as one of the practical and progressive agriculturists.

Our subject, his wife and four children are members of the Christian Church, and in politics he is a supporter of the Prohibition party. The cause of temperance finds in him a staunch advocate and he is a warm friend to every interest calculated to upbuild and improve the community. The township finds in him a valued citizen. His possessions have been acquired through his own efforts, and by steadily working his way upward he

has attained a position of wealth and affluence. In the community he has formed a wide acquaintance, and is a highly respected citizen.



WILLIAM DIGGLE, a prominent citizen of Watseka, has the honor of being a native of Illinois, his birth occurring in Peoria County, October 16, 1862. He is a son of James and Sarah (Rigley) Diggle, both of whom were born in England. The mother departed this life in 1882. The father, who was born June 18, 1811, still survives, and makes his home with our subject. He has been a resident of this State since 1847, first settling in Peoria. He lived in Woodford County about twenty-one years.

In the family of four children, our subject was the third in order of birth. He received the advantages of the education afforded by the common schools, and passed his boyhood on the farm. At the age of twenty-one, starting in life for himself, he engaged in farming, which occupation he followed for a period of about eight years. He then removed to Watseka, where he bought an interest in the tile works in January, 1891. This business had been established in 1887 by Martin & Sweeney, the latter retiring when Mr. Diggle entered the firm, it since being known as Martin & Diggle. They do a large business and have a sale for all the tile and brick they can manufacture. Mr. Diggle is a man of fine business ability, as is evinced by the success of the factory since he has engaged in that business. He is upright and honorable in his commercial relations, and by this means has secured the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens.

Our subject was united in marriage to Miss Rebecca Moore, a daughter of James Moore, who is a native of England, but has resided in Illinois since about 1845. Their marriage was celebrated November 1, 1882. To this worthy couple have been born three children: Bert, Elva and William.

Mr. Diggle is a member of the Masonic order, belonging to Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A.

Mr. and also of the Patriotic Sons of America. Politically, his vote is cast for the Republican nominees, and he is a warm supporter of that party. His religious principles and opinions accord with those of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is a member and to which he gives his support. Though still a young man, Mr. Diggle has achieved a remarkable measure of success, and by his upright business methods and genial way has won for himself a host of friends. His pleasant home is the abode of hospitality, which is extended to a wide circle of acquaintances.



HARM FARDINAND, who is engaged in general farming on section 6, Milford Township, is one of the worthy German citizens of Iroquois County. He was born in Prussia March 19, 1845, and is the only surviving member of a family of ten children, whose parents, Christian and Tina (Loors) Fardinand, were natives of the same country as our subject. With his wife and two children, Harm, and Katie, now deceased, Christian Fardinand crossed the broad Atlantic in 1855, the voyage lasting thirteen weeks and some days, and located near Peoria, Ill., where he resided for about ten years. He engaged in farming near Secor and El Paso. Subsequently he removed to a farm near Minonk.

The subject of this sketch spent the days of his childhood under the parental roof, and was trained in all departments of farm labor. He was a lad of ten years, when, with his parents, he crossed the Atlantic. After attaining his majority he was united in marriage, February 5, 1868, at Pontiac, Ill., with Miss Johanna Leenerts, daughter of Ili and Emma Leenerts. The lady was born in the same neighborhood as her husband, June 2, 1845, and when ten years of age left the Fatherland with her parents, who came to America, locating in Adams County, Ill. The family numbered seven daughters, of whom two are now deceased, Emma and Engel. Those still living are Johanna, Tillie, Lena, Heika and Susan.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fardinand thirteen children have been born, of whom ten are yet living, viz: Tina, born October 19, 1868; Emma, February 19, 1870; Katie, November 3, 1872; Engel, April 3, 1874; Johanna, April 21, 1876; Christian, March 24, 1878; Ili, August 14, 1880; Harm, August 11, 1883; Johann, February 28, 1885; and Peter, June 13, 1887. Katie, who was born October 1, 1871, died on the 6th of the same month; and Harm and Johann, twins, born February 14, 1882, lived only a few days.

In 1871 Mr. Fardinand removed with his family to Livingston County, locating on a farm about five miles east of Minonk, where he made his home for ten years. He then returned to Woodford County, where he spent the succeeding year of his life, after which he came to Iroquois County. Settling in Ash Grove Township he there engaged in agricultural pursuits for six years, after which he moved across the boundary line into Milford Township, and now operates what is known as the Dankas Farm on section 6. He is a practical and progressive agriculturist, and by his enterprise, perseverance and good management, has secured a comfortable competence. In connection with general farming he raises considerable stock, owning two hundred and sixty acres of valuable land. For his success he deserves great credit, as it is due entirely to his own efforts. Himself and wife are both members of the Lutheran Church, and in politics he is a supporter of Democratic principles, but has never sought or desired the honors or emoluments of public office, preferring to devote his entire attention to his business interests.



REV. GEORGE BLANKEN, pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Buckley, was born in the kingdom of Hanover, Germany, December 7, 1850, and is a son of Henry and Margaret (Holsten) Blanken, both of whom were also natives of Germany. The mother died in that country in 1861, and twenty

years afterward Henry Blanken, in 1881, crossed the Atlantic to America, reaching Chicago, Ill., on the evening of the day on which President Garfield died. In the Blanken family were seven children, as follows: John, Margaret, Rebecca, George and Herman (twins), Henry and Anna. Herman died when three years of age, and Rebecca died in Sedalia, Mo.; but the others are all yet living. The father of this family died in Morgan County, Mo., in 1885, when about sixty-two years of age.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who is one of the prominent citizens of this community. His education was acquired in the common schools of Germany, which he attended for seven and one-half years. Wishing to try his fortune in the United States, he bade good-bye to the Fatherland in 1867 and sailed for America. He made his first location in Missouri, and worked as a farm hand in Morgan and La Fayette Counties. He also engaged in teaching school until the fall of 1872, when he began studying for the ministry, entering Concordia Seminary, an Evangelical Lutheran School in St. Louis, where he studied for two and one-half years. He then went to Springfield, Ill., and entered Concordia Seminary of that place, where he also studied about two and one-half years, graduating from that institution March 22, 1877. On the 2d of April following, he was ordained, Rev. G. A. Mueller, of Kankakee, officiating, assisted by Rev. F. Lindemann, of Campaign. He immediately accepted a charge in Buckley, Ill., and has since been the honored and efficient pastor at that place.

On February 27, 1878, Rev. Mr. Blanken was united in marriage with Miss Lydia Rabe, daughter of John F. and Dora (Oetting) Rabe. There were seven children born unto them, three sons and four daughters, six of whom are living, as follows: William, Matilda, Theodore, Clara, Walter and Lydia. Theodoza, the fourth in order of birth, died February 28, 1887, at the age of one year, nine months and twenty-five days.

After coming to Buckley Mr. Blanken engaged in teaching in a private German school for seven years in connection with his preaching, but now

devotes his entire time to the work of the ministry. He began with a congregation of sixteen members, but now has a membership of seventy-five, and a large attendance of strangers each Sunday. He is an able minister, and that he is esteemed and respected by his congregation is shown by his long-continued service in their midst. He is also held in high regard by the people of other denominations, and is one of the valued citizens of Buckley. In politics, he is independent.



CAPT. WILLIAM V. DOAN is one of the honored founders of Wellington, a man prominent in its history and in its upbuilding. He is now engaged in the hardware business as a member of the firm of Doan & Galloway. His life record, which we feel assured will prove of interest to many of our readers, is as follows: He was born in Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio, on the 11th of March, 1838, and is the third in order of birth in a family of eight children whose parents were Elisha and Mary Ann (Ward) Doan. The father was a native of the Buckeye State, born August 19, 1806. His death occurred November 27, 1882, and his remains were interred in Sugar Creek Chapel Cemetery. His wife was born in Virginia, March 25, 1814, and died September 11, 1892. Of the five sons and three daughters born unto this worthy couple, six are yet living, the eldest of whom is William; Absalom W. is married and is a farmer of Black Hills, S. Dak.; Rebecca is the wife of Joseph Galloway, a merchant of Wellington, who is also engaged in farming; Lydia J. is the wife of J. W. Babb, an agriculturist residing in Cissna Park; Isaac H. is married and makes his home in Watseka; Jesse E., who completes the family, is a telegraph operator residing in New Mexico.

Capt. Doan, whose name heads this record, spent his boyhood days in the State of his nativity, upon the banks of a little stream known as Lytle's Creek. In the usual manner of farmer lads he was reared to manhood. His education was acquired in the common schools, and he afterward learned the

trade of a carpenter and joiner. On attaining his majority he started out in life for himself with no capital save a pair of willing hands and an industrious disposition, but these essential qualities of success have brought him a well-deserved prosperity. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey he chose Miss Mary E. Rayburn, daughter of Samuel P. and Susanna (Stratton) Rayburn, their union being celebrated on the 20th of September, 1866. Her father, who was born March 2, 1811, in Murfreesboro, Tenn., is yet living. When a lad of fourteen years he came with his widowed mother to Ohio, locating in Greene County. The lady whom he married is a native of Clinton County, Ohio, and was born on the 5th of March, 1822. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rayburn are adherents of the faith of the Society of Friends. Their family numbered four children, a son and three daughters, all of whom are yet living; Ann Eliza is the wife of W. Osborn, a resident of Columbus, Ohio; Laura B. is the wife of Peter A. Young, a mechanic of Wellington; and James W. resides in Columbus, Ohio. He was reared as a farmer but is a natural artist. The parents of this family came to Illinois in 1882 and are prominent and highly respected citizens of Wellington.

Mrs. Doan, who was the eldest child in the Rayburn family, was born in Greene County, Ohio, August 6, 1813. Her childhood days were spent in Xenia, Ohio, until twelve years of age when she removed to Clinton County. For two years prior to her marriage she successfully engaged in teaching. She is a lady of culture and refinement, who presides with grace over her pleasant home.

Mr. Doan was one of the boys in blue during the late war and faithfully served his country for three years and seven months. He enlisted at Wilmington, Ohio, August 8, 1862, as a member of Company C, Seventy-ninth Ohio Infantry, under Capt. I. B. Allen and Col. Kennett. A. W. Doan was Lieutenant-Colonel and afterward became commanding officer of the regiment, which was organized at Camp Dennison, near Cincinnati, and from there sent to Covington, Ky., where the troops were concentrated to meet the rebels, who were expected to attack that city. At this point, Mr. Doan was afflicted with fever and forced to return home,

but as soon as he was convalescent he rejoined his regiment at Bowling Green, Ky. The troops went to Nashville, Tenn., to act on guard duty and Mr. Doan was there appointed First Lieutenant of Company A, Fifteenth United States Colored Infantry, by order of the War Department at Washington, D. C. On the 7th of March, 1865, he was promoted to the Captaincy. Two companies were organized at Columbia, Tenn., and Capt. Doan's command was there armed. He was ordered with his troops to Shelbyville to finish recruiting the regiment and soon afterward was sent back to Nashville to finish recruiting service there. The regiment did guard duty in Nashville and vicinity for a long time and while there Capt. Doan received a twenty-day furlough and returned to his home. On again joining his company he reported to the Quarter Master-General, and received orders to go up the Cumberland River one hundred miles to guard Government employes who were engaged in lumbering. He remained about two months and while there the sad intelligence that President Lincoln was assassinated reached him. He was ordered back to Nashville, where he remained, doing guard duty until after the close of the war. He bore many of the hardships and trials of a soldier's life and has in after years suffered from the effects of his service, but he was ever found at his post of duty, faithfully performing any task allotted to him. He was honorably discharged in Nashville, Tenn., April 7, 1866 with the following testimonial from Col. William Inness, of the Fifteenth United States Colored Infantry: "Capt W. V. Doan is an officer of great abilities and unexceptional character."

The Captain returned to his home, but after a short time went to Kansas, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw land. He then returned to Ohio, and in the winter of 1866 acted as United States Claim Agent. In the spring of 1867, after his marriage, he came to Illinois and located near Danville, and in the succeeding autumn came to Iroquois County. He erected the first dwelling in Wellington. The now flourishing towns in the southern part of Iroquois County had not then sprung into existence. Mr. Doan here located on the 11th of January, 1871, and began work at the carpenter's trade which he followed

until August, 1872. He then entered the employ of Alexander Pate as salesman and book-keeper and remained with him for eighteen years, a fact which indicates his fidelity to the interests of his employer and also the confidence which Mr. Pate had in him. During nine years of that time he owned an interest in the hardware store conducted under the firm name of Doan & Young. Recently a change has occurred in the firm, which is now Doan & Galloway.

As before stated, Capt. Doan is one of the founders of Wellington and has aided in all of the enterprises which are calculated to upbuild the town and advance its best interests. He is recognized as one of its leading and valued citizens. His first Presidential vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln; he has since been a stalwart Republican and takes quite an active interest in political affairs, having frequently served as a delegate to the county conventions. He is a Mason in good standing and is a member of Harmon Post No. 115, G. A. R., of Hoopeston. His wife holds membership with the Women's Relief Corps of Hoopeston and belongs to the First Presbyterian Church of Wellington and to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. They have contributed liberally to all worthy benevolences, their aid is never withheld from any enterprise calculated for the public good and among Wellington's best and most highly respected citizens they are numbered.



PHILIP SCHWARTZ, one of the extensive land-owners, and a prominent and representative citizen of this county, residing on section 24, Prairie Green Township, claims Germany as his native land. He was born in Baden on the 2d of May, 1824, and was the second in order of birth in a family of five children, whose parents were Thomas and Selma (Cox) Schwartz. The father was also born in Baden, and was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads. Himself and wife never left their native land. Of their two sons and three daughters, only three are now living: Anna, wife of Bal Berkley,

who is living retired in Hoopeston; Philip, of this sketch; and Hartman, a resident farmer of Prairie Green Township.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood in the Fatherland, and was educated in the public schools. At the age of twenty-seven he determined to leave Germany and seek a home on the other side of the Atlantic. So he bade adieu to friends and native land, and took passage on a sailing-vessel, which weighed anchor at Havre, France. After a pleasant voyage of thirty days, he landed at New York City with but two French dollars in his pocket, and these he had earned on board the vessel by cooking for some parties. He thus found himself in a strange land among a strange people, whose tongue he did not know, and almost penniless, but he determined to make the best of his situation. He went to Williamsburg, N. Y., and from there into the country, hunting for work. He failed at the first place he tried, but at the next he secured work as a farm hand at \$6 per month. He worked in the fields for three months, and his wages were raised to \$7. Every cent of this he saved, for he had learned the value of hard-earned money. He then started for the West, going from Philadelphia to Chicago, where he arrived in the spring of 1855. He then went to Freeport, Ill., and afterward worked for a carpenter and a mason in Wisconsin, carrying stones and mortar for \$1.25 per day. He afterward went to Freeport, where he engaged in farm labor for a time. Subsequently he went to Iowa, afterward returned to Chicago, from there to Indiana, and later to Bloomington, Ill. At that time the Chicago & Alton Railroad was just being built through the place. The now flourishing city was a mere hamlet. Mr. Schwartz there remained for eleven years, and worked as a brick-carrier. Subsequently he was employed upon a farm belonging to Mr. Ruggs.

It was in 1867 that our subject came to Iroquois County. Soon after his arrival he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of partially improved land, upon which was a small cabin about 14x20 feet. It had a common fence-board floor. There was also upon the place an old slab-roof stable. The prairie for miles around was in its primitive

condition, not a furrow having been turned or an improvement made thereon. The nearest markets were Sheldon and Wateka, for the flourishing villages to which he now takes his products were not yet in existence. Wild game of all kinds was plentiful, including geese, cranes, brant, ducks, and also deer. The Lake Erie & Western and the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroads were not yet built. Prairie fires were often a source of terror to the settlers, and on several different occasions Mr. Schwartz has gone forth to aid his neighbors in protecting themselves and their premises from this deadly enemy.

Mr. Schwartz was united in marriage with Miss Mary Hertzog, a native of Baden, Germany, born December 14, 1832, and by their union have been born six children, five sons and a daughter. The family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of Death, though some have left the parental roof. Charles, the eldest, is married and resides on his fine farm in Prairie Green Township; George is married and is a prosperous farmer of Iroquois County; Frank is also married, and is a well-to-do farmer of Iroquois County; Lena is the wife of John Metzinger, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Prairie Green Township; Albert attended the High School of Springfield, Ill., and St. Louis, and is a highly educated young man; William, who is still under the parental roof, completes the family. The grandfather of Mrs. Schwartz was a Frenchman, who, to keep from army service, emigrated to Baden, Germany, where he married a German lady. The father of Mrs. Schwartz, Scipion Hertzog, was born in Baden. After reaching mature years he served ten years in the army, taking part in the war against Napoleon. In the service at Strasburg they were so long in the weather without shelter that their clothes and shoes rotted off. After the war he married Mary Ann Kolbe, and followed the trade of a wood turner. He lived to be eighty-four and she eighty-five years of age. For thirty-four years he was Town Crier. Both died in the Old Country. Of their eight children four came to the United States. Mrs. Schwartz and three brothers, one of whom died and two live in Buffalo, N. Y.

Mr. Schwartz now owns six hundred and eighty

acres of valuable land, supplied with all modern improvements, and constituting one of the best farms in this locality. During his early residence in this county, he was on one occasion returning home from Sheldon, when he got lost upon the open prairie. Becoming bewildered, he had to remain all night where he was, waiting for the morning light to guide him. After this he had his wife hang a lighted lantern on the end of their cabin, and as he came past the crab-apple grove by Sugar Creek, he would see this light, shining as a guiding star. In politics, Mr. Schwartz has long been a supporter of the Democratic party, and his sons are of the same political views. Himself, wife and children are all faithful members of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church, of Dunnington, Ind., of which Father Lambert is pastor. Mr. Schwartz is a member of the building committee, under whose direction is now being erected a magnificent house of worship at a cost of \$30,000. It is to be completed by the 1st of January, 1893.

During his long residence in this community, Mr. Schwartz has lived an upright, honorable life, which has gained for him the confidence and goodwill of all with whom he has been brought in contact. He came to this country empty-handed, but he possessed energy and a strong determination to succeed, so that he has steadily worked his way upward to a position of wealth and affluence. He has also gained the respect of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.



JOSHUA W. GALLOWAY, deceased, was one of the prominent and highly respected citizens of this county for many years. A native of Union County, Ohio, he was born on the 16th of July, 1819, and died at his home on section 25, Lovejoy Township, October 23, 1883. He acquired his education in the common schools of his native State, but his advantages were meagre. From an early age he was dependent upon his own resources. When a lad of thirteen he began learn-

ing the tanner's trade and afterward learned the blacksmith's trade. He was always a hard-working man, industry and enterprise being numbered among his chief characteristics. He was reared in Shakertown, Montgomery County, Ohio.

After attaining his majority, Mr. Galloway led to the marriage altar Miss Sarah J. Martin, daughter of Joseph and Barbara (Hughey) Martin. Their union was celebrated on the 5th of August, 1850, and unto them were born two sons and two daughters, all of whom are yet living: Mary A. is now the widow of Josiah Moore and resides in Hoopes-ton, Ill.; Joshua J. Haines is living on the old homestead. He was born January 26, 1856, attended the common schools, and on the 28th of October, 1891, married Miss Anna A. McGill, daughter of George and Hanna (Smith) McGill. They have a little daughter, Sarah Jane. In politics, Joshua is a Republican. He is one of the wide-awake and enterprising young farmers of the community, and that his life is a busy and useful one is indicated by the neat appearance of his land. Hannibal Xenophen, the third child of the family, married Miss Eva Holmes and is engaged in farming in Nebraska. Lorinda A. is the wife of George Dann, proprietor of a hotel in Jackson, Minn. The children were all provided with good educational advantages and thus well fitted for the practical and responsible duties of life.

In early life, Mr. Galloway was a supporter of the Whig party, and on the organization of the Republican party joined its ranks, being a warm advocate of its principles. He was frequently called upon to fill public positions of honor and trust, and ever discharged his duties with promptness and fidelity, which won him the commendation of all concerned. He was Highway Commissioner in Prairie Green Township for many years and laid out many of its roads; he was Supervisor of Lovejoy Township several terms, was School Trustee for several years, also Collector, and was Justice of the Peace for nine years. He was a progressive and public-spirited citizen who gave his support to every enterprise calculated to benefit the community or advance its best interests. He aided in the erection of churches and a needy person was never turned from his door empty-handed. From a financial

standpoint also his life was certainly a success, for through his own efforts he won a well-deserved competence. He was a kind and loving husband and father, a faithful friend, and the respect and confidence of the entire community were his. He passed away on the 23d of October, 1883, his death being deeply regretted by all who knew him, and his remains were interred in Floral Hill Cemetery in Hoopes-ton, where a beautiful monument has been erected to his memory.

Mrs. Galloway, who traveled life's journey by his side for thirty-three years and shared with him in its joys and sorrows, and proved herself a faithful helpmate, still survives her husband and is yet living on the old homestead, which is now managed by her son Joshua.



LEWIS E. JONES, an enterprising agriculturist, has the honor of being a native of this county, having been born on the 5th of May, 1854, on section 21, Stockland Township, where he now resides. He is a son of Hon. John H. and Hannah (Pugh) Jones, both natives of Ohio. A sketch of his father is given elsewhere in this work. The early life of our subject was quietly passed in the usual manner of farmer lads upon the old homestead. His education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood, where he conned his lessons through the winter months, while in the summer season he worked at farm labor.

An important event in the life of Mr. Jones occurred on the 27th of April, 1879, when was celebrated his marriage with Miss Mary S. Wise, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Moore) Wise, residents of Fountain Creek Township. Two children have been born of their union, a son and daughter, who brighten the home with their presence. Nellie H., the eldest, was born September 27, 1883; and Ray J. was born on the 7th of June, 1885. Mr. Jones and his estimable wife are numbered among the leading citizens of this community. They rank high in social circles and hold an enviable position in the high regard of

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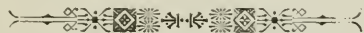
Thos. Loveless



Harriet Loveless

their many friends and acquaintances. Mrs. Jones is a member of the United Brethren Church.

Our subject now operates two hundred and thirty-two acres of arable land on sections 21 and 22, Stockland Township. He feeds nearly all of the grain which he raises to his stock. He engages quite extensively in stock dealing, and is very successful in his undertakings. He has one of the model farms of the county, its fertile land being highly cultivated, while its many improvements are well kept up. The neat and thrifty appearance of the place attests the supervision of a careful manager. In politics, Mr. Jones is a supporter of the Republican party, with which he has affiliated since attaining his majority.



THOMAS LOVELESS, an early settler and a prominent, self-made man of this county, who is now a resident of Milford, was born in Ross County, Ohio, on the 4th of May, 1839. His father, William Loveless, was a native of Tennessee, and was born April 15, 1815, of English and German descent. After attaining to mature years he married Margaret Kerney, who was born in Kings County, Ireland, July 12, 1816, and at the age of fourteen years, bidding good-bye to the Emerald Isle, emigrated to America. After a residence of some time in Ohio, they removed to Indiana, in 1840, settling on a farm near Prairieville, Tippecanoe County, where their children were reared. The mother died on the old homestead in the Hoosier State at the age of fifty-six years. Mr. Loveless survived his wife for about ten years, and died in the town of Clark's Hill, at the age of about sixty-six years. Of their family of eight children, seven are yet living, five sons and two daughters, as follows: Frances, Thomas, John E., William W., Edwin V., Sarah and Moses. All reside in the neighborhood of Clark's Hill, Ind., with the exception of our subject.

Thomas Loveless was reared to manhood in the usual manner of farmer lads, and ere leaving Indiana was married, on the 24d of July, 1858, to Miss Harriet Funk, daughter of Jacob and Eliza

Funk. Her parents are both now deceased, having departed this life when about seventy years of age. The year following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Loveless came to this county in the month of September, and took up their residence on the farm two miles southwest of Milford. He purchased fifty-one acres of land but afterward extended the boundaries of that farm until it now comprises one hundred and seventy acres on section 21, Milford Township. He also owns two hundred and thirty-seven acres of valuable land on sections 26 and 27, two miles south of the village, besides two hundred and ninety-two acres in Indiana. For a number of years he carried on general farming extensively and yet follows that pursuit in a more limited degree. However, he raises considerable stock, cattle, horses and hogs, to which he feeds nearly all his grain. From twenty to twenty-five years he has bought and shipped cattle and hogs quite extensively.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Loveless were born nine children, six of whom are now living: Elizabeth, who was born November 12, 1859, died August 30, 1860; Margaret, who was born November 24, 1860, died on the 29th of the same month; George R. B., who was born October 6, 1862, is a farmer near Clark's Hill, Ind., and was married May 4, 1885, to Miss Letitia Bryan, by whom he has had three children, Pearl, Claude and Hannah H.; William, who was born October 19, 1864, is a farmer of Alliance, Neb.; Lydia, born February 6, 1866, became the wife of Andrew Dallstream, October 27, 1887, and with their one child they reside in Hoopeston, Ill.; M. Oly, born February 29, 1868, became the wife of Wilber T. Caldwell, whose home is in Alliance, Neb., April 9, 1890; Oly M., born November 4, 1869, was married August 12, 1891, to Charles McMillen, a resident of Milford; Jacob, born June 29, 1872, died August 26, 1875; and Thomas T., born August 22, 1876, completes the family.

In politics, Mr. Loveless is a warm advocate of Republican principles. About 1870, he was elected Township Assessor, and for eleven years he served as School Trustee. Socially, he is a member of Milford Lodge No. 253, I. O. O. F., with which he has been identified since 1868, and is now serving

as Deputy. Mrs. Loveless is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1880, our subject left his farm and removed to Milford, where he has a comfortable home and other property. He now rents most of his farm; to the remainder he gives his personal supervision. He has never had a mortgage upon a piece of land except on the first he purchased, and this was released when it became due. Every acre of this land is to-day free from debt, and his farm now yields him a good income. His property has been accumulated through his own energy and industry and he may well be termed a self-made man, as he started out in life for himself dependent entirely upon his own resources. He has met with some difficulties, but these seemed only to give him a new impetus and have been used as stepping-stones to something higher. Steadily he has worked his way upward until he is now numbered among the wealthy citizens of Milford, and his fair and honest dealings in all the relations of life have won him universal confidence.



WILLIAM S. BROWNE, M. D., a widely-known and prominent physician of Watseka, claims Indiana as his native State. His birth occurred March 2, 1844, in Madison County. He is a son of Lorenzo and Nancy (Harland) Browne. His father was born March 3, 1822, in West Virginia, and at the age of six years went to Indiana, which was the native State of his wife. Throughout the greater part of his life, he followed farming, but in his last years lived retired. He removed to Illinois March 3, 1865, and spent his remaining days in this State, his death occurring on the 4th of March, 1888. The Doctor has in his possession a dictionary owned by his great-grandfather, to whom it was given by his great-great-grandfather. The family is of English descent and comes of a sturdy race of people, noted for longevity. The maternal grandfather of our subject was one of the first settlers near Connersville, Ind. In 1862, a re-union of the Harland family

occurred at the home of Stephen Harland, having been called by William Sparks. Twenty-six families were represented. There were thirteen of the children of William Sparks, seventy-six grandchildren, thirty-seven great-grandchildren and nine great-great-grandchildren. Several members of the family attained to very advanced ages. The great-grandmother of our subject was fatally injured by a cow which she was milking, and soon after died at the age of one hundred and two years, and several others reached the century milestone.

The Doctor is the eldest of eleven children, and with the exception of two deceased, all are living in Iroquois County. In the common schools, he acquired his primary education, and, with his parents, came to Illinois when twenty-one years of age. He afterward attended the State Normal School and later went to Ann Arbor, Mich., where he pursued a medical course of study. In 1868, he went to Cincinnati, where he attended a course of lectures in the Eclectic College, and in 1878 he was graduated from the Bennett Medical College. Subsequently, he took a course of study for the treatment of diseases of the eye and ear in the Chicago Medical College. During this time, he made his home in Madison County, Ind., with his uncle, who was engaged in the drug business. He began practice in Woodland in 1875 and has prosecuted his profession continuously since. On the 28th of March, 1892, he removed to Watseka, where he now resides.

November 1, 1870, Dr. Browne was united in marriage with Miss Kiziah E., daughter of A. D. France, a native of South Carolina. She was born in Mercer County, Ill., where her father engaged in merchandising. Five children have been born unto the Doctor and his wife, all of whom are yet living: Leonora, the wife of John A. Wilson, a resident of Watseka, by whom she has one daughter, Vera; Frankie N., Anson L., Homer Marvin and William A. L.

Socially, the Doctor is a Royal Arch Mason. He also belongs to the subordinate lodge and encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and holds membership with the Modern Woodmen of America. He and wife and daughter are members of the Christian Church of Wood-



Respectfully Yours
W. S. Browne M.D.

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land, in which he serves as Trustee. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles and has filled the office of Clerk and Justice of the Peace, succeeding his father in the latter position. He is also a member of the county and State medical societies.

In 1886, the Doctor suffered considerable loss by fire, which destroyed all his office furniture, his books, instruments and many valuable specimens. He also lost his diplomas and many other things of value, his loss amounting altogether to \$3,000. In connection with his profession, he is interested in farming, owning two farms in the county. The Doctor is a skillful physician and surgeon who reads extensively in the line of his profession and keeps well informed concerning everything pertaining to the medical science. He has an excellent patronage in Woodland, and although his residence in Watseka covers a very short period, he has secured a good patronage. Those who know him esteem him highly and he is popular as a citizen and friend, as well as a physician and surgeon.



HON. GEORGE B. WINTER, one of the prominent and influential citizens of Iroquois County residing in Onarga, where he has made his home for more than a quarter of a century, claims Massachusetts as the State of his nativity. He was born May 26, 1828, in Belchertown, Hampshire County, and is one of eighteen children who were born unto Alpheus and Prudence (Kenfield) Winter, the father a native of Connecticut and the mother of the Bay State. Of their nine sons and nine daughters, five sons and three daughters are yet living. Mr. Winter departed this life in Massachusetts in 1818, and his wife, who survived him almost thirty years, died in her native State in 1877.

No event of special importance occurred during the boyhood days of our subject, which were quietly passed under the parental roof. After attaining to years of maturity, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Kate M. Hawkes, daughter of Ichabod and Caroline (Porter) Hawkes, both of

whom were natives of Massachusetts. Their union was celebrated on the 10th of August, 1852, and unto them were born two children, a son and daughter: George B., born May 29, 1854; and Julia P., born on the 3d of February, 1856.

At length Mr. Winter determined to try his fortune in the West, believing that better opportunities were furnished in the young and rapidly growing States than in the old and more thickly-settled States of the East. In consequence, in 1854, accompanied by his wife and son, he started for Illinois, and made his first location in Princeton. After a year they removed to Malden, six miles east of Princeton, where they spent two years, and then went to Brenton Township, Ford County, Ill. For eight years Mr. Winter was there engaged in farming and stock-raising with good success, but at length he determined to turn his attention to other pursuits, and the spring of 1866 witnessed his arrival in Onarga, where he has since resided. On coming to this place, he opened a general merchandise store, and continued operations in that line for twenty-five years. He is a man of good business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, enterprising and progressive. He built up an excellent trade, and by his well-directed efforts secured a comfortable competency. In 1891, he sold out, and has since lived a retired life.

His fellow-townsmen, appreciating his worth and ability, have frequently called upon Mr. Winter to serve in public positions of honor and trust. He has served as Village Trustee for several terms, was Trustee of Grand Prairie Seminary, and has been Chairman of the Executive Board of that institution for a number of years. In 1880, he was nominated and elected Representative from the Sixteenth Senatorial District, comprised of Iroquois and Kankakee Counties, to the Illinois General Assembly. While a member of the House, he labored earnestly and untiringly in the behalf of temperance, but his active interest along that line proved unpopular, and he was afterward left to remain at home, as were all the members who worked for temperance in the Assembly of 1881. He is to-day a staunch Prohibitionist. While in Ford County, he also served as Supervisor several terms, being a member of the first board after

township organization. Mr. Winter is a public-spirited citizen, and has ever borne his part in the upbuilding and advancement of the community's best interests. For a quarter of a century, he was one of its leading business men, and formed a wide acquaintance. He is held in the highest regard by all with whom business or pleasure has brought him in contact, and his friends are many.



JACOB LYMAN, a representative farmer of Martinton Township, residing on section 25, was born on the 24th of January, 1832, in Stark County, Ohio. He comes of an old Pennsylvania family of Dutch descent. The great-grandfather was a native of Holland, and in an early day, braving the dangers of an ocean voyage, became one of the first settlers of the Keystone State. The grandfather, John Lyman, was a native of Pennsylvania, and the father of our subject, Samuel Lyman, was born in Buffalo Valley, Union County, Pa., in 1810. In 1819 he removed to Ohio with his parents, a lad of nine summers, and is numbered among the early settlers of that community. He grew to manhood in the Buckeye State, and there wedded Mary Schneider, a native of Germany, who came to America when a young lady of sixteen years. They began their domestic life upon a farm in Stark County, where they remained for some time.

In 1837, Samuel Lyman came with his family to Illinois, and was one of the first settlers of Iroquois County. Locating in what is now Iroquois Township, he entered and broke land, from which he developed a good farm. In 1850 he removed to Martinton Township, and entered a tract of one hundred and twenty acres of land, where the subject of our sketch now resides. He made an excellent farm, there reared his family, and at length departed this life on the old homestead, his death occurring in October, 1877. His wife died in February, 1868. Their family numbered only two sons, of whom Jacob is the elder. Jonathan, his brother, is now a farmer of Indiana.

The subject of this sketch came with his parents

to Illinois in 1837. He was then a lad of five years. Amid the wild scenes of frontier life he was reared to manhood, and with the family he bore many of the hardships and privations of pioneer life during the first few years of their residence here. They had to go long distances to market, and had to travel to Danville or La Fayette, Ind., to get their milling done. Their trip usually consumed about four days, and they camped out both going and coming. The educational advantages of our subject were very limited, for the schools in the new country are not generally noted for their excellence. Almost his entire boyhood and youth were spent on the farm. For four months he worked elsewhere in the neighborhood, but returned, and in connection with his brother took charge of the home farm. He cared for his parents until their death. Himself and brother succeeded to the estate, but Jacob bought out his brother's interest, and still resides upon the farm, which has been his home almost continuously since 1850.

In 1867, Mr. Lyman wedded Miss Catherine A. Gibson, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of John Gibson, who on coming to this country many years ago located in Crescent Township, but is now living in Douglas Township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lyman have been born four children: Mary E., the eldest, is the wife of Abraham Labounty, who aids in operating the home farm; Martha May, Rachel and Jessie Belle Blanche complete the family. They lost one daughter, Emma Bertha Snow, who died in infancy.

Since casting his first Presidential vote for James Buchanan, Mr. Lyman has been identified with the Democratic party, and has supported all its Presidential candidates. Himself and wife are both members of the Christian Church, and are highly respected people. For fifty-five years he has been a resident of the county, and has witnessed almost its entire growth from the days of its early infancy. He has seen its wild lands transformed into beautiful homes and farms, towns and villages have sprung into existence, churches and schools have been built, railroads have been introduced, and the work of active civilization and progress has been carried forward so

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Yours truly
D. W. Miller

rapidly that hardly a landmark of pioneer days yet remains, and the county has taken the front rank amid the sister-counties of this great commonwealth. Mr. Lyman has ever borne his part in this work of transformation, and well may be numbered among the honored pioneers.



DAVID WARREN MILLER, a prominent physician and surgeon of Gilman, was born on a farm six miles west of Springfield, Ohio. He is a son of Harrison and Sarah (Wise) Miller, and was born on the 1st of September, 1854. On the paternal side our subject is of Scotch ancestry. At an early day the family emigrated from Virginia and settled near Springfield. His father was born on the same farm as our subject. The Wise family came from Holland, and later emigrated from Pennsylvania to Ohio, when Mrs. Miller was a small girl. The parents of our subject removed to Tazewell County, Ill., at the close of the war, the father there carrying on agricultural pursuits. About seven years ago they removed to Stanford, McLean County, where they are still living. While in Ohio, Mr. Miller entered the United States service during the Civil War, and acted in guarding railroads for some four months. He has been a life-long Republican, and both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church. In their family were four sons and two daughters, five of whom are still living.

David Warren Miller is the second in order of birth of this family, and was reared on his father's farm, receiving such a limited education as could be gleaned at the common schools. When twenty years of age he secured a certificate, and for two years taught school. With the money which he had carefully saved, he went to the Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, where he attended seven terms. Desiring to engage in the practice of medicine as his life work, he then commenced study with Dr. Little, of Bloomington. In the summer of 1878, he entered Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, and was graduated there-

from in the spring of 1880. He then located at Gilman, and has practiced here since that time. He is a member of the Central Illinois Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the National Association of Railroad Surgeons. He is surgeon for the Illinois Central and for the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroad at Gilman.

A marriage ceremony performed on the 15th of May, 1884, united the destinies of Dr. Miller and Miss Clara Rancy. The lady is a native of Peoria County, Ill., born October 5, 1864, and is a daughter of Dr. H. A. Rancy, formerly of Gilman. Her father, a native of New York, was born in 1828, and is yet living, his home being in Danville, Ill. He was educated for the medical profession, and after pursuing a course of study was graduated from Rush Medical College. He then engaged in practice in Ford and Peoria Counties for a number of years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Susan Hunt, was born in North Carolina, in 1830, and is also living. The Doctor and Mrs. Rancy became the parents of four children, a son and three daughters, all of whom are living. The eldest, Mary, is now the wife of Charles H. Youmans, a leading attorney of Paxton, Ill.; Nellie is the wife of George T. Caldwell, a resident of Girard, Kan., who is engaged in the manufacture of brick; Ben H. is a druggist of Danville, Ill.; and Mrs. Miller completes the family. The latter was educated in the graded schools of Gibson City, and pursued a course of study in music and elocution in Evanston, Ill., and was afterward for some years a successful teacher of those arts in Ford and Iroquois Counties. Two children, Mabel and Jessie Fay, have gladdened the home of the Doctor and his wife. The elder was born June 22, 1886, and the younger on the 16th of November, 1890. The parents are both members of the Presbyterian Church.

In politics, Dr. Miller affiliates with the Republican party. He is one of the staunchest supporters of all educational interests and is now serving his third year as a member of the School Board. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity, and socially, holds a high position in the town, his home being noted for its hospitality and good cheer. Almost his entire time and attention are

devoted to his profession, in which his standing is high. As is every first-class member of his profession, he is still a student and keeps well informed concerning the medical discoveries. He is a liberal contributor to all worthy enterprises, aiding in the support of any interest calculated to advance the general welfare. He has won for himself many friends in this community, who esteem him highly for his strict integrity and genial kindness of heart.



JACOB E. DEEGANS, an honored pioneer of Iroquois County and a veteran of the late war, now engaged in farming on section 34, Ash Grove Township, is a native of the Buckeye State. He was born in Ross County, October 18, 1837. His father, William Deegans, was a native of the Emerald Isle, and during his boyhood emigrated to America, locating in Ohio. He there married Susan Peppers, a native of that State, and in 1838 they emigrated to Warren County, Ind., where Mr. Deegans cleared and developed a good farm. Ten years afterward, in 1848, he came by team to Illinois and settled in Milford Township, Iroquois County, a mile from the village of Milford. Later, he sold that farm and removed to section 25, Ash Grove Township, where he placed under a high state of cultivation a farm of one hundred and thirteen acres. His death there occurred in 1858, at the age of fifty-two years. His wife is still living at the age of seventy-four and makes her home with her children.

In the Deegans family were eleven children, eight of whom are yet living; Jacob E. is the eldest; Mrs. Sarah Davis resides near Milford; John, who served during the late war, makes his home in Kansas; Louisa and Debbie reside in Nebraska; Diana is living in Wellington, Iroquois County; Martha makes her home in Kansas; and Catherine is living near Wellington.

Our subject was only a year old when his parents removed to Warren County, Ind., and at the

age of eleven years he came to Illinois. He attended the subscription schools and afterward the district schools, but his educational privileges were limited. However, by subsequent reading and observation, he has become a well-informed man. At the age of eleven years, he started out in life for himself, working as a farm hand until he enlisted for the war.

Prompted by patriotic impulses, Mr. Deegans then responded to the call for troops, and, donning the blue August 6, 1862, became a member of Company K, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, at Milford. The regiment assembled at Kankakee, was then sent to Columbus, Ky., and later to La Grange, Tenn. The first battle in which they participated was at Jackson, Miss., and the regiment lost heavily. Our subject was struck by a spent ball but was not seriously injured. Nine men of his company were killed. He afterward participated in the siege of Vicksburg and the Meridian raid, during which the troops were engaged in tearing up the Mobile & Ohio Railroad. They then went back to Vicksburg and to the mouth of the Ohio River, and subsequently were sent to New Orleans. They participated in the siege and capture of Mobile and the battle of Ft. Blakely. In a hand-to-hand charge at that place, Mr. Deegans was wounded and for thirty-day was in the hospital. He then received a sixty-days furlough, after which he rejoined his regiment in Chicago, where he was honorably discharged after a service of three years.

When the war was over, our subject returned to his home in Ash Grove Township, where he has since engaged in farming. He was married, December 29, 1869, to Miss Elizabeth Carrington, who was born in Indiana and is a daughter of Milton and Elizabeth (Johnson) Carrington. Both are deceased. Two children have been born to our subject and his estimable wife: Susie B., who was educated in the public schools and in Onarga Seminary; and Nannie E., who is at home. The Deegans household is the abode of hospitality. Mrs. Deegans and her daughters are pleasant, entertaining ladies, and their many friends always delight to visit there as they are always sure of a warm welcome.

Mr. Deegans is a member of Cissna Park Post

No. 575, G. A. R., and his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a highly-respected citizen, his sterling worth and honorable upright life having won him the confidence and good-will of all with whom he has come in contact. He cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant but has since supported the Democratic party. His residence in the county covers a period of forty-four years and he well deserves a place among its pioneer settlers.



WILLIAM H. HARRY, of the firm of Harry Bros., lawyers and abstracters of title of Watseka, was born near Eureka, Woodford County, Ill., on the 28th of November, 1853, and is a son of Thomas S. and Irena J. (Compton) Harry. He removed with his parents to Livingston County in 1865, and was there reared on a farm and attended the district schools. On attaining manhood, he engaged in teaching school and at the same time entered upon the study of law during his leisure intervals, under the preceptorship of the Hon. Samuel T. Fosdick, a prominent lawyer of Chatsworth.

At the June term of the Illinois Supreme Court at Mount Vernon, in 1876, Mr. Harry, at the age of twenty-two years, was admitted to the Bar. He then entered upon the practice of his chosen profession in Sheldon, this State, where he continued business until the 2d of October, 1880. He then came to Watseka and embarked in practice in this place. His energies were devoted to his profession until the 3d of February, 1886, when he was appointed by President Cleveland to the position of Postmaster of this city, entering upon the duties of the office on the 13th of that month. He proved an efficient and capable officer and served in that capacity until superseded by the present incumbent on the 1st of May, 1889. Mr. Harry is a Democrat, as will be inferred from the foregoing. In the spring of 1885, he was appointed City Attorney of Watseka and filled that position until appointed Postmaster, when he resigned to enter upon his other duties.

Prior to leaving the postoffice, our subject had

arranged with his brother, J. C., to enter the abstract business, and had worked to that end, so that on the 1st of June, 1889, they opened an abstract and law office in Watseka. In November following they sold a one-third-interest in the business to their brother, Samuel R., and the business was conducted by the three until January 1, 1892, when J. C. sold out to his brother, W. H. Harry, and retired. Since that time the business has been conducted by our subject and Samuel R., under the original firm name of Harry Bros.

On the 4th of April, 1877, in Chatsworth, Ill., Mr. Harry of this sketch wedded Miss Mary A. Vail, a daughter of M. B. and Mary E. Vail, and a native of Henry, Marshall County, Ill. Three children, sons, have been born unto them: Edward S., who was born in Sheldon, April 22, 1878; William H., who was born in Sheldon, August 10, 1880; and Ben S., born in Watseka, December 3, 1882.

Mr. Harry and his wife are members of the Christian Church, with which they have been identified several years. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to Watseka Camp, No. 339. The Harry Bros. make abstracting their principal business, and by industry and close attention to the wants of their customers have built up a very satisfactory business. Their books are kept up to date and all work intrusted to their hands receives prompt and capable attention.



FRIEDRICH BREYMEYER, who is engaged in general farming on section 6, Ash Grove Township, claims Germany as the land of his birth. He was born May 18, 1817 in Lippe-Chaumburg. His father, Gottlieb Brey Meyer, was born and reared on the same farm which was the birthplace of our subject, and became an agriculturist and also owned an oil mill. He wedded Mary Schoenbeck and with his family came to America in 1862, sailing from Bremen to New York City, whence he made his way to Crete, Will County, Ill. Purchasing a farm, he there resided until 1871, and now resides about thirty-five miles west of Topeka, Kan. In politics he is a

Republican. In religious belief he is a Lutheran. In the Brey Meyer family were the following children: Friedrich of this sketch; Henry, a resident of Kansas; Gottlieb; Ernest, who died in Kansas; William; Caroline, wife of William Seggebruch, of Ash Grove; Engel in Kansas; and Sophia who died in that State.

Our subject spent the first fifteen years of his life in his native land and was educated in its public schools. He then crossed the broad Atlantic with his parents and under the parental roof he remained until 1871. The following year he came to Iroquois County and purchased one hundred and eleven acres of land, his present farm. It was then all raw prairie, not a furrow having been turned or an improvement made. He has since extended its boundaries until it now comprise two hundred and sixty-two acres and the entire amount is under a high state of cultivation, yielding a golden tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon it. The farm is one of the model homes of the community. Many improvements have been made thereon. In addition to the comfortable residence there are good barns and outbuildings, the latest improved machinery and fine grades of stock.

On the 9th of February, 1873, in Ash Grove Township, Mr. Brey Meyer wedded Miss Sophia Lucke, who was born near Crete, Will County, and is a daughter of August Lucke. Four children grace their union and they also lost one child, Fred, who died at the age of two years. Sophia, August, Johnnie and William are still under the parental roof. Mr. Brey Meyer and his family are all members of the Lutheran Church. He is one of its active workers and served as a member of the building committee during the erection of the present house of worship. He has served as Highway Commissioner, Township Assessor, Census Enumerator in 1890, and for sixteen years has been School Director. He is one of the prominent and influential members of the Republican party in this community. He cast his first Presidential vote for Greeley, but has since been a Republican. He has frequently been a delegate to the county and State conventions and is now the Central Committeeman of Ash Grove Township. Empty-handed, Mr. Brey Meyer started out in life for himself with no

capital or influential friends to aid him, but by industry and the exercise of correct business principles he has steadily worked his way upward and may truly be called a self-made man, deserving all the praise that term implies.



ALFRED GREGORY, an early settler and highly respected citizen of Iroquois County, now deceased, was born in Lawrence County, Ind., on the 14th of February, 1818, and was a son of James Gregory. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and was educated in the common schools. On the 24th of October, 1846, he was united in marriage with Miss Lucy Templeton, a daughter of James Templeton, and a native of Indiana, born in Shelby County on the 22d of February, 1827.

The following children were born of the union of this worthy couple, three sons and five daughters: Rachel A., the eldest, now the wife of Amos Melinger, a resident of Butler County, Kan.; Frances L., who died at the age of four years; George F., a farmer of Middleport Township, who is serving as Deputy County Clerk under his brother J. W.; James Warren, who is the present Clerk of Iroquois County, and is represented elsewhere in this work; Hannah M., who resides with her mother and family in Watseka; Oliver Cromwell, who died at the age of one and a-half years; and Lucy, the youngest, now the wife of Owen L. Gray, a resident farmer of Chebanse Township.

Mr. Gregory removed with his family from Indiana to Iroquois County, Ill., in 1861, and settled in Middleport Township, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising. He there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring on the 31st of August, 1873. His good wife survives her husband, and with three of her children resides in Watseka.

In politics, Mr. Gregory was a Republican, and held the office of School Director for a great many years. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and his wife and children are

identified with the same society. He was an upright and honorable man, whose course in life always commanded respect and confidence where he was best known.



GEORGE R. PALMER, now editor of the *Leader and Review*, published at Onarga, was born in Buckingham County, Va., October 1, 1835, and is a son of James Q. and Mary A. (Rutledge) Palmer, both natives of Virginia. His mother was a descendant of Edward Rutledge, who signed the Declaration of Independence, his father a descendant of the English poet Quarles. His grandfather Palmer had charge of the boats Gen. Washington used in crossing the Delaware in the attack on Trenton. In 1840, James Q. Palmer came to Illinois locating on a farm in Fulton County. He afterward engaged in the mercantile business, and was a resident of Fulton County for about twenty-two years. He then went to Jacksonville, Ill., where he engaged in the stock business until 1873. The following year his death occurred.

The subject of this sketch was brought by his parents to Illinois when quite a young lad. After attending the public schools, he entered the Wesleyan University, of Bloomington, pursuing a classical course, and was a classmate of Adlai E. Stevenson, Vice-president of the United States. Wishing to enter the ministry, he subsequently took a theological course in the Garrett Biblical Institute of Evanston. A number of years later, he received the degree of A. M. from the Northwestern University, and the degree of D. D. was conferred upon him by the Illinois Wesleyan University, of Bloomington. In 1857, he entered the ministry and continued his pastoral labors for a number of years.

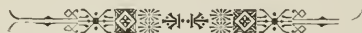
On the 2d of August, 1861, Rev. Mr. Palmer entered the army and shortly afterward was appointed Chaplain of the Tenth Missouri Infantry, in which he served for nearly three years. Previous to this time, he was married, on the 4th of September, 1860, to Miss Adeline Haney, daughter

of Rev. Richard Haney, of the Methodist Church, who has been connected with the Methodist ministry for about sixty years. Unto them were born seven children, five of whom are yet living: Edmund H., Carrie A., Mary A., Louise and George R. Spencer and Stacy are both deceased.

On his return from the war, Mr. Palmer resumed his ministerial work, which he continued until 1890. He was first stationed after the war in Lewistown, Fulton County, from where he came to Onarga in 1868. For three years he was pastor of the church in Onarga, and was then appointed Presiding Elder of the district, serving for four years. Subsequently he went to Normal, and after two years' service as pastor was appointed Presiding Elder of that district. Receiving a call from the church in Rock Island, he was for three years its pastor, and for three years he served as Financial Secretary of the Illinois Wesleyan University. He was then pastor in Abingdon, Monmouth and elsewhere, after which he came to Onarga, and in 1890 became editor of the *Leader and Review*.

During his ministry, Rev. Mr. Palmer was greatly honored by the church, having twice been elected as a delegate to the General Conference, which is the law-making body of the church. He was elected at the Baltimore General Conference as a member of the General Missionary Committee, having charge of all the missionary appropriations and all the legislation for the several missions in all parts of the world. He has been a close student of the social problems of the times and the legislation of his State and country. For a month each year, during four successive years, he studied Tammany in its home in New York, and for some years he has been present during a part of nearly every session of the Legislature in this State. Upon entering the ministry, he studied law for a year, and for a year was a student of medicine, thus obtaining a general knowledge of the two great professions with which he would come in contact during his work. He has very frequently been called to deliver public addresses on various subjects—Eulogies on Grant, Logan, Garfield, Sherman, Colfax, Sheridan and many other public men. He has delivered many orations on Decoration Day, and Fourth of July, and addresses before

colleges and literary societies. Rev. Mr. Palmer is a man of more than ordinary ability, is a logical thinker, a clear reasoner and was very successful in his ministerial work. He won many friends wherever he went, and is held in the highest regard in the community with which he is now identified.



THE BANK OF DONOVAN & VENNUM, of Milford, Ill., was established May 18, 1876, by John L. Donovan and Thomas Vennum with a capital of \$40,000. This is a private banking house and does a general banking business, loans money on long or short time, buys and sells exchange, and makes collections. Its responsibility is based on the large landed and personal property ownership of its proprietors and their good reputation throughout the financial circles of the State as safe and conservative bankers. The bank has prospered from the start; its deposits have grown from a nominal sum at the beginning to from \$125,000 to \$150,000 at the present time. This bank is the only one in Milford, which is a thrifty and growing town of a thousand inhabitants, situated in a rich agricultural region, and on the line of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, some eleven miles south of the county seat of Iroquois County.



ON. GEORGE C. HARRINGTON resides in Watseka. In preserving a record of the lives and deeds of representative people of Iroquois County, which will include many of its well-known early settlers and active and influential citizens, a double purpose will be served. In the first place, posterity will have something more comprehensive and enduring to remind it of an illustrious ancestry than tradition; and in the second place will be taught a practical and useful lesson of life and the value and permanency of

good character, the result of integrity, morality and usefulness—encouraging the struggling youth of coming generations to hope for ultimate success, notwithstanding a humble origin and the difficulty in overcoming almost seemingly insurmountable obstacles. Among the many worthy people whose sketches appear in this work, the one of whom we write takes rank among the foremost.

On the 30th of June, 1834, in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., was born to Benjamin O. and Harriet E. (Langdon) Harrington, a son, who in due course of time was christened George C. This child is now well known to the citizens of Iroquois County as the popular and reliable Cashier of the First National Bank of Watseka. His parents were natives of Vermont, and were descended from old New England families. In 1837, our subject accompanied his parents to Illinois, being then but three years of age. The family settled in Joliet, and in due course of time George C. began his education in the public schools of that city. At the age of thirteen he left school and entered upon an apprenticeship to the printer's trade in the office of the *True Democrat* (now the *Joliet Republican*) to learn "the art preservative of all arts." There by close application and earnest endeavor he became a full-fledged typo. Having arisen to the dignity of a journeyman printer, he decided to secure an education, and with that end in view went to Skowhegan Falls, Me., where he fitted himself for college, after which he entered Union College, of Schenectady, N. Y., of which the distinguished Dr. Eliphalet Nott was President. So well and industriously did he apply himself to his studies that he stood at the head of his class in the classics, and in point of literary ability took foremost rank among many able and talented classmates.

On leaving college he again sought the West and established himself in business at Davenport, Iowa, in connection with Franc B. Wilke (Poliuto), later of the *Chicago Times*, in the publication of the *Davenport Daily News*, which soon achieved prominence as one of the leading Democratic journals of Iowa. His connection with the *Daily News* continued until 1859. Mr. Harrington then came to Iroquois County, Ill., and became associated with

the *Iroquois Press*, a Democratic newspaper of Middleport. The following year he received the Democratic nomination for Clerk of the Circuit Court, and although defeated at the ensuing election, he ran far ahead of his ticket. He still continued his connection with the *Press*, which he conducted with ability and success until 1862. The second year of the War for the Union was in progress, and reverses to the Union forces had raised excitement in the public mind to a fever heat. Patriotism and a desire to aid in the great struggle induced Mr. Harrington to abandon the peaceful scenes of journalism for service on the tented field. Consequently he began recruiting for the army, and after taking the first company into Kankakee for the Seventy-sixth Illinois Regiment, he assisted in filling up two other companies for the One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry.

Mr. Harrington enlisted as a private soldier, but his superior ability being apparent, he was chosen by the members of his company to be their Captain. In January, 1863, he was promoted to be Major, but the following summer, being incapacitated for active service by disease contracted in the field, he was forced to resign, which he did while on duty near Vicksburg, Miss., on the surrender of that Confederate stronghold, July 4, 1863. On his return from the army he engaged in the hardware business at Watseka in the firm of Woodford & Co.

Soon afterward, Maj. Harrington was appointed Collector of Internal Revenue for Ford, Iroquois and Champaign Counties, and discharged the duties devolving upon him with ability and fidelity. In 1850, he was elected Mayor of Watseka, was re-elected the following year, elected again in 1885, and at the close of the third term, although urgently requested to serve again, refused a fourth term. In the year 1870, in connection with several other enterprising citizens, the Major organized the First National Bank of Watseka, of which he was chosen the first Cashier. This is one of the leading financial institutions of Eastern Illinois, and its success, which has been marked, reflects credit upon its worthy Cashier, who has held that position continuously since its organization.

On the 25th of May, 1864, Maj. Harrington was united in marriage in Crawfordsville, Ind., with Miss Mary L. Hutchinson. She was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Jonathan Hutchinson. They have two children who are yet living, namely: Howard W. Harrington and Jerome B. Harrington. The Major is very domestic in his habits and his home is a model of comfort and good taste.

Maj. Harrington has always taken considerable interest in politics, and although not an active politician in the common acceptation of the term, he is recognized throughout the State as a prominent Democrat, but has never been an aspirant for the honors or emoluments of public office. In 1876, without his consent, his name was mentioned by several papers and prominently spoken of by eminent Democrats as the candidate for the office of Secretary of State, but he induced his friends to withdraw his name from the State Convention. He has served as a member of the Democratic State Central Committee and presided over the Democratic Congressional Convention, held in Fairbury in 1878, and on the invitation of that body addressed them, making a masterly speech, which was published and scattered broadcast as a campaign document. The same convention would have nominated him for Congress but he emphatically declined the proffered honor. Later on his name was conspicuous in several Democratic journals as an available candidate for Lieutenant-Governor of Illinois. In June, 1880, he was a delegate from Illinois to the National Democratic Convention, and was a Presidential Elector in the campaign of 1884, when Cleveland and Hendricks were elected, that being the only occasion on which his party has been successful in electing a President since 1856.

Maj. Harrington is an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is much esteemed by his brethren of the fraternity. In the preparation of this sketch the writer acknowledges his indebtedness to a previously published work for the main facts set forth, and perhaps can do no better than to complete his labors by quoting the closing paragraph of the same.

"Hon. George C. Harrington is a self-made man,

ship. He is a friend to education, believing in good schools and teachers, and has served as a member of the School Board for three terms. Specially, Mr. Hickman is a member of the Modern Woodmen. He has been a resident of this county for eleven years and is well and favorably known in Watseka and adjoining townships.



SQUIRE H. LAIRD, a prominent and valued citizen of Milford Township, who carries on general farming on sections 29 and 30, was born near Battle Ground, Ind., on the 15th of February, 1854. His parents were John and Phebe (Burgett) Laird, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of Indiana. They had a family of four children, but our subject is the only one now living. The parents came to Illinois in 1858, when Squire was a lad of only four summers, and settled in Iroquois County. Mr. Laird secured a farm in Milford Township, about four and a-half miles southwest of the village of Milford. To its cultivation and improvement, with characteristic energy, he devoted his time and attention until his death, which occurred in 1873. He was a highly respected citizen and took an active interest in all public affairs, giving his support to every enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit. His wife still survives him, and for about sixteen years continued to reside on the old homestead. In 1889, however, she removed to Milford, where she is now living.

Squire Laird, whose name heads this record, is still living on the home farm, having known no other home since he was four years old. During his boyhood he aided his father in the cultivation of the land in the summer months, and in the winter season attended the common schools, where he acquired his education. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey he chose Miss Mary Jane Purget, daughter of Henry and Lydia (Mustard) Purget, of this county. Their union was celebrated November 2, 1876, and was blessed with a family of five children, but only three are now living. John Henry, the eldest, born December 5, 1877,

died on the 25th of August, 1889; Arthur Ernest, born December 21, 1879, died on the 30th of October, 1889; Aurora Floyd, born October 26, 1883; Vernal May, May 19, 1887; and Emma O., August 7, 1891, are still with their parents.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Laird is a Republican, but he has never been an office-seeker. However he, has held the office of School Director for the long period of eighteen years, doing efficient service for the cause of education, which finds in him a warm friend. He ever takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and is found in the front rank in support of its worthy enterprises. He is public-spirited and progressive, and is an honorable, upright man, who has the confidence and good-will of all with whom he has come in contact. Those who have known him from boyhood are numbered among his staunchest friends, which fact indicates the honorable, upright life he has lived. Himself and wife hold an enviable position in social circles, and are well worthy of representation in this volume.



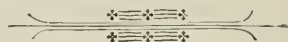
HIRAM H. HOTALING owns and operates a farm on section 24, Danforth Township. He is a native of Onondaga County, N. Y., where his birth occurred near Syracuse, September 22, 1856. He is a son of Garrett H. Hotaling, who was born in the same State and county. The grandfather, Conrad G. Hotaling, was also a native of the Empire State, where the family were among the first settlers and had come from Holland. The father grew to manhood and married Harriet Adell Wallace, a daughter of Benjamin F. Wallace, who was of Scotch parentage and was born in New York State. Mr. Hotaling was a miller by trade and followed that occupation at Baldwinsville, N. Y., where he engaged in the manufacture of flour. He has now retired from active life, while his son carried on the business. He was three times married, his first wife having died when our subject was a lad of eleven years.

Hiram H. passed his early days on his father's farm, receiving good school advantages in the common schools and further continuing his education in the Syracuse High School and Baldwinville Academy. When a young man of twenty he came West to Illinois, arriving in Chicago in 1876. There he spent about six months and then, on account of continued poor health, went to Denver, where he spent some time in the mountains. He returned to Illinois in 1872, going to Chicago, where he became acquainted with Mr. Chapman, to whom he hired, and was sent by him to Iroquois County, where he went to work on a farm for the above-named gentleman. He continued working for him by the month for about a year and a-half. At the end of that time he purchased a team and rented a farm in Danforth Township for about two years. His father then purchased eighty acres in Douglas Township, upon which our subject located and farmed the two years succeeding. He next traded that farm for the one where he now resides, locating on this place in the spring of 1883. He is now the possessor of three hundred and fifty-five acres of well-cultivated land, about two hundred and twenty-five acres of which are most fertile and well developed. The remainder is timber or pasture land. Mr. Hotaling has greatly improved his place, has built fences and farm buildings and has done considerable tiling, making of it a most valuable and desirable property.

In this county on the 28th of February, 1879, Mr. Hotaling was united in marriage with Frances Emma Hallam, who was born and reared to womanhood in Marshall County, Ill. She is a daughter of Salathiel Hallam, whose family came from Washington County, Pa., of which county they were among the most honored pioneers. To them have been born six children: Florence Harriet, Cornelia Grace, Garrett Hallam, George Edwin, Robert Homer and Warren Albert.

Mr. Hotaling is identified with the Republican party, having cast his first ballot for Hon. James A. Garfield. He has held several local positions to the satisfaction of all concerned. He is a firm believer in the efficacy of good public education and has always done all in his power to support

the best educational measures. Socially, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is Past Grand Master of his lodge. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen. During his long residence in this county he has made many friends, who honor him as a man of sterling character, strict integrity and merit.



WILLIAM M. WEST owns and operates an excellent farm of one hundred and fifty-six acres on section 24, Middleport Township, where he carries on general farming and stock-raising, and his highly cultivated land and the many improvements found thereon indicate his thrift and enterprise and attest his careful supervision and management.

Mr. West was born in Warren County, Ind., on the 14th of July, 1846, and is a son of John A. and Azubah (Wilson) West, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of the Keystone State. Their family of ten children included the following: George, who died in 1890; Samuel, a resident farmer of Middleport Township, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; Elizabeth, now deceased; Charlotte; Moses, who is engaged in farming in this county; Martha, Sylvia, William M. and one who died in infancy.

In the usual manner of farmer lads, the subject of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth and in the common schools he acquired his education, attending through the winter months, while in the summer he worked at home upon the farm. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. The year 1869 witnessed his emigration to Illinois and saw him located in Iroquois County, where he began working on a farm by the month in Belmont Township. For about seven years he was thus employed, after which he began farming for himself, renting land for three years. He then purchased the farm on which he now resides, and although it was then poorly improved he has made it one of the desirable places of the community.

On the 10th of January, 1877, Mr. West led to the marriage altar Miss Emma Moore, daughter of Foreman and Melissa (Fleming) Moore, both of whom were natives of Ohio, and were of Irish descent. Unto our subject and his wife have been born two children: Clyde and Porter.

In his political affiliations, Mr. West is a Republican, but his wife advocates the principles of the Prohibition party. For twelve successive years he has served his township as School Director, doing much for the advancement of the cause of education and the improvement of the schools in this community. Socially, he is a member of Lodge No. 74, I. O. O. F., of Watseka. He is a valued citizen, public-spirited and progressive, and is always ready to aid in public enterprises calculated to promote the general welfare. His possessions represent his own hard labor and by his well-directed efforts he has risen to a position among the substantial farmers of the community. Widely and favorably he is known, and himself and wife rank high in social circles.



HON. JOHN A. KOPLIN, the founder and father of the village of Buckley, and one of the leading and representative citizens of the county, has been identified with the history of this community for many years, and the growth and upbuilding of the community in which he now makes his home are due in a large measure to his untiring efforts in its behalf and his enterprising and progressive spirit.

Mr. Koplin was born in Chester County, Pa., November 7, 1825, and is a son of Isaac and Ann (Amole) Koplin, both of whom were natives of the Keystone State. They had but two children, and the sister, Mary, is now deceased. The father died in Pennsylvania when our subject was only eight years of age, and the mother spent her last days near the old homestead in the Keystone State, being called to her final rest in 1885, at the very advanced age of eighty-six years.

Our subject spent the days of his childhood under the parental roof and acquired his education

in the common schools, but he has improved his time and talents, and through observation and business experience has become a well-informed man, for he possesses an observing eye and retentive memory. When about twenty-five years of age he went to the city of Philadelphia, where he spent ten years, and thence came to Illinois in 1861, locating first on a farm upon which the village of Buckley now stands. He here purchased two hundred acres of land. He had previously bought a half-section of land two miles north from Buckley, and from time to time, as his financial resources were increased, he made judicious investments and added to his purchases until his possessions aggregated over four thousand acres. Where Buckley now stands there was only a section house belonging to the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and three other houses, when Mr. Koplin platted and laid out the town. The same year he opened a general merchandise store in connection with William G. Riggs, and carried on business in that line for two years. He also dealt in lumber and grain for about seven years and occupied the position of Station Agent. About 1868, he opened a bank and also dealt in real-estate for some time. He continued the banking business with good success until January 1, 1892, when he sold out to William L. R. Johnson, the present banker.

November 15, 1871, Mr. Koplin was united in marriage with Miss Fannie Riggs, daughter of William G. and Mary (Davis) Riggs, natives of Chester County, Pa., who came in 1856 to Buckley, which is their present home. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Koplin, both sons: Mark R., born June 7, 1873; and Vernon, born on the 15th of July, 1881.

Mr. Koplin is not now connected with any business in Buckley, but is still interested in Chicago real estate and the Lyford Coal Mines, owned by the Wabash Valley Coal Company. He also has large landed interests, and, as he expresses it, "manages to have just enough to do to keep him out of mischief." The truth of the matter, however, is, that indolence and idleness are utterly foreign to his nature, and he will always be busy with something. This untiring industry has been one

of the important elements in his prosperous career. He owns a farm of six hundred and forty acres in one body four miles west of Buckley, which is highly improved and yields to him a good income. His own beautiful and commodious home is situated on the southern edge of Buckley and his grounds comprise twenty acres.

Mrs. Koplin, who is a most estimable lady, holds membership with the Methodist Church, and Mr. Koplin, although not a member of the church, has taken a very active interest in the Sunday-school work for forty-five years and is at present one of its teachers. He has been a Trustee of Grand Prairie Seminary, of Onarga, for many years, and the cause of education ever finds in him a warm friend, he doing everything in his power for the advancement of the schools. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican, never swerving from the support which he gives its principles. He held the office of Supervisor for seven consecutive years and was Representative to the Thirty-first General Assembly of Illinois, discharging his duties with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents.

Mr. Koplin has led an honorable and upright life as well as a busy one, and the confidence and regard of the community are his in a high degree. Where he is known he has made friends, for his many excellencies of character and his sterling worth merit the esteem of all, yet he has never sought notoriety.



HON. ALBA M. JONES, a representative of one of the oldest and most highly respected families of Iroquois County, was born in the township of Stockton, this county, May 23, 1856, and is a son of John H. and Hannah (Pugh) Jones. His father is one of the oldest and most prominent citizens of this county, and a sketch of his life is given elsewhere in this work.

Alba M. was reared on a farm, attending the public schools, and in 1876 entered the North Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, one of the most successful educational institutions of the

country, where he took a three-year scientific course. On his return from the Normal, he entered into partnership with his twin brother, Edgar S., in the hardware business at Milford, under the firm name of Jones Bros. Their first location was in the building now known as the Van Tryon House, where they carried on business until 1883, when they erected the fine brick block on the northeast corner of Jones Street and Railroad Avenue, at which place they have since done business. This building is twenty-four feet front by sixty-six feet deep and two stories high; an L, 24 x 100, extends to the westward, opening into the main store, and is used as a carriage repository and storeroom. This firm has the largest and best appointed store in the hardware line in the county, and carries the largest stock of goods. Their stock comprises a full line of shelf and heavy hardware, farm implements, stoves and tinware. They are also extensive dealers in lumber, coal, carriages and wagons. The Jones Bros. have succeeded in building up a large and prosperous business, and are widely and favorably known throughout this and adjoining counties.

Mr. Jones, of this sketch, wedded Miss Fannie Monnett in Milford, December 13, 1881. Mrs. Jones is a daughter of John and Mary E. Monnett, and was born in Bucyrus, Ohio.

Mr. Jones is a staunch Republican, and has held various public offices of honor and trust. For seven years he has been a member of the County Board from Milford Township, serving two years as Chairman of that body. In addition to this, for five years he has acted as a member of the Milford School Board. On the 1st of May, 1892, he received the Republican nomination for Representative to the Illinois Legislature, and was elected by a safe majority at the ensuing election. He is the first native of Iroquois County ever thus honored. He is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M.; of Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.; and of Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton. He is also an Odd Fellow, belonging to the Farmers' Lodge No. 253, I. O. O. F., of Milford.

Mr. Jones is a good representative of the young, successful and ambitious Western business man.

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Respectfully
E. D. Hartshorn



Truly Yours
Mariette M. Hartshorn

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Possessed of good natural ability, enterprise and energy, he has prospered in business and has shown an aptitude for public affairs and evidence of executive ability which promise success in that direction. As a business man and citizen, his standing ranks high, his integrity being above question, while from childhood up his life has been an open book to his fellow-townsmen.



ERASMUS D. HARTSHORN, one of the extensive land-owners of Iroquois County, who is now living a retired life in Buckley, where for many years he was a prominent merchant, was born in Lebanon Township, Madison County, N. Y., on the 4th of June, 1821. His father, Ira Hartshorn, was born in Connecticut, June 13, 1793, and in 1818 married Joanna Burnham, who was born in the Nutmeg State on the 3d of June, 1796. Soon afterward they removed to New York, and unto them were born nine children, namely: Joshua P., Erasmus D., Alford L., Pliny, Calvert, Mary, Lucy, Lydia and Charles B. The last-named was born in June, 1838. He enlisted in the Fourth Illinois Cavalry during the late war, and died from sickness at Pittsburg Landing while in the service. The other children are all yet living and are heads of families. The family emigrated from the Empire State to Illinois in 1837, locating in La Salle County, where they resided until 1868. The father died in 1858, and the mother, who survived him a number of years, passed away in 1875.

Mr. Hartshorn, whose name heads this record, spent the first sixteen years of his life in the Empire State, and then came with the family to the West. He was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of the frontier, and was early inured to hard labor on the farm. The common schools afforded him his educational privileges. Having attained to man's estate, he was married on the 31st of March, 1852, the lady of his choice being Miss Mariette Meserve, daughter of Joseph and Abiah (Whicher) Meserve, Mrs. Hartshorn was

born in Gorham, N. H., October 5, 1835. Her parents were reared in Maine. When she was about a year and a-half old, her mother died. Her father principally merchandised in the East, and after coming to La Salle County, Ill., in 1850, farmed. He was a man of great ingenuity, and the finishings on his old home still stand as a monument to his skill and workmanship. Notwithstanding his busy life, he found time to keep himself posted on current events, and was especially well versed in the Scripture. He lived to be about seventy years of age. Five children graced their union: William Henry, born February 12, 1853, married Miss Cora Louise Luther, daughter of Eli-sha Luther, and they reside in Kearney, Neb., with their two children, Kenneth and Earle; Mary, born September 16, 1855, is the wife of Dr. S. C. Baleh, of Washington, D. C., who holds a position in the Pension Office. They had one daughter, Blanche Mariette, who died in May, 1890, in her sixteenth year. Horace H., born May 21, 1858, wedded Miss Jennie Morris, and their home is at Chicago Heights. Charles D., born April 19, 1860, married Miss Ella Wallace, daughter of John Wallace, of Forest, Ill., and they reside in Escondido, Cal., with their three children: Harold, Winfred and Edna Lillian. Alice Bertha, born July 25, 1870, is still under the parental roof and completes the family.

In the fall of 1868, Mr. Hartshorn, of this sketch, removed from La Salle County, where he had followed farming for many years, to Buckley, and engaged in the hardware and implement business for about sixteen years, when he sold out to J. G. Wallace. From 1870 until 1878 he had a partner, W. H. Meserve. The business prospered, and he enjoyed an excellent trade. He is industrious and energetic, and by his well-directed efforts he won a handsome competence, which is the just reward of his labors.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Hartshorn is a Republican. At one time he was a member of the Masonic Lodge of La Salle, but after his removal to this county he became a charter member of Buckley Lodge No. 631, A. F. & A. M., and is also a member of the Chapter of Utica. His son Charles is connected with the Masonic fraternity,

William Henry is a Knight Templar, and his son-in-law is also a prominent Mason, having taken the highest degree. Mr. Hartshorn and his wife are both faithful and consistent members of the Presbyterian Church, with which they have been connected since its organization, and during its existence he has held the office of Elder, covering a period of twenty-one years. They are charitable and benevolent people, and their many excellencies of character have won them warm regard. Mr. Hartshorn has retired from active business life. He owns about eight hundred and fifty acres of land near Buckley, all in Artesia Township, a valuable farm of three hundred and twenty acres in South Dakota, and considerable town property, including a beautiful home, which is the abode of hospitality. The members of the family rank high in social circles, where intelligence and true worth are received as the passport into good society.



CHARLES LAYER, a leading merchant of Gilman, is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in Strimpfelbach, Wurtemberg, January 28, 1836. He is a son of Jacob and Mary (Wolf) Layer, both natives of the same province. His father was quite an extensive farmer, and both he and his wife died in the Old Country. In their family of six children, consisting of five sons and one daughter, two decided to come to America; our subject came first; and David, who lives in Onarga, Ill., crossed the Atlantic some three years later.

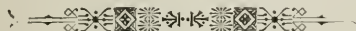
Our subject is the fourth child of his father's family, and passed his early years on his father's farm, receiving his education in the common schools. When fourteen years of age, he was apprenticed two years at the baker's trade, receiving his board, but having to pay \$75 to learn the business. After completing his trade, he worked at it for two years in Germany, and in 1856 he came over on a steamer, taking eighteen days to go from London to New York City. The cargo was for Quebec, and as that was the first trip the cap-

tain had made to that port, he ran into the wrong channel, and, as a consequence, the boat stuck on a sand bank. After some time, the passengers were taken to an island, and all the cargo, valued at \$80,000, was thrown overboard. After two days and three nights, the vessel was cleared and went on her way to New York City. Having worked at his trade in that city for two years, he came to Illinois, locating in Peoria, where he worked for the following eight years. Going to Washington, Tazewell County, he in the year 1859 opened a bakery, where he carried on business until 1864. At that time he came to Gilman and purchased a storehouse of D. L. Parker, but, as he could not at once get possession of the building, he bought a small restaurant, and ran it through the winter. In the spring of 1865, a company of men on their way to enlist in the one hundred days' service came to Gilman, entered Mr. Layer's restaurant, and bought what they wanted for a time; but, as they had been drinking, they increased in their boldness, and began to help themselves. One man carried out three boxes of cigars, giving them to the others outside. He then came back for the fourth box, but Mr. Layer struck him with a sling-shot, knocking him flat. A general fight ensued. Our subject had but few friends present, but they defended themselves as best they could. Missiles of all kinds were hurled, and many were cut and bruised. Finally, our subject and his friends got away, and, repairing to the hay-press of S. E. Sears, where eighteen men were employed, he related his trouble, and all, armed with clubs cut from the hickory poles used in baling, marched to the scene of the late encounter. The would-be soldiers retreated to the freight depot, followed by Mr. Layer and his friends. At this juncture, some of the leading citizens of Gilman counseled peace, and promised the injured man that he should be paid for the loss sustained, but they failed to make good the promise, and, as the men were not yet sworn into service, the Government could not be held responsible. When the men returned from the war, Mr. Layer employed lawyers to bring suit against them for damages, but, as the attorneys were paid more liberally by the other side, they allowed the

case to become outlawed, and no prosecution followed. As soon as he could get possession of the storehouse he bought of Mr. Parker, he opened a store, his being about the only one in town at the time. He started a general merchandise establishment, and some five years later added a bakery. Afterward, he sold the dry-goods department, retaining the grocery and bakery. In 1883, the entire block containing his store was consumed by fire. Soon after he opened a general stock of groceries, where he now carries on business.

In Washington, Tazewell County, he married Kate Ringeisen, a native of Bavaria, Germany. By this marriage they have four children: William F. and Charles are engaged in the news business in Mexico; Katie, who is the wife of Lewis Schwer, of this county; and Frank, the youngest.

In religious faith, both Mr. and Mrs. Layer are members of the German Lutheran Church. Politically, he is a Democrat, and has been a member of the Town Board for several years. He belonged to the Society of Druids, which is a benevolent organization. In 1872, he returned to his native land to visit his aged mother, brothers and sisters and the scenes of his childhood. He also extended his tour to Switzerland and Prussia. As the reward of years of industry and frugality, Mr. Layer has accumulated considerable wealth, and is widely known as one of the leading Germans of the county.



SPENCER S. CONE, a prominent attorney and for twenty-three years a resident of Gilman, was born in Farmington, Fulton County, Ill., on the 25th of June, 1813. He is a son of Spencer and Julia (Sloan) Cone. The Cone family is of English descent. The father of our subject was born in Connecticut and his mother is a native of the Empire State. About 1833, Mr. Cone moved to Farmington, where he was joined in wedlock with Miss Sloan. He studied law and was admitted to the Bar. Soon afterward, however, he took up the occupation of farming, at which he has continued since. He is now living at

Farmington and has reached the age of seventy-eight. His wife passed the age of eighty-four in 1891. They have both been life long members and supporters of the Congregational Church. Mr. Cone was formerly a Whig and has since been a Republican. He and his estimable wife had a family of three sons and one daughter.

Spencer S. Cone, whose name heads this sketch, is the only professional man of this family. He was reared under the moral and healthful influence of farm life and received his primary education in the common schools, which he supplemented by a year's course at the State Normal School and three years of study at Knox College. Like his father before him, his tastes were in the direction of the legal profession, and therefore he entered the Albany Law School in New York, from which he was graduated in 1868. He next read law for about a year with Judge S. P. Shope, now of the Supreme Bench. In 1869, he came to Gilman, where after practicing a short time he turned his attention to the real-estate business. In this line he continued for some nine years and was quite successful. He has since engaged in the practice of law almost exclusively.

In February, 1873, Mr. Cone was joined in wedlock at Gilman with Miss Araminta Bombaugh. This union has been blessed with two sons: William R. and Roy S. Mr. and Mrs. Cone are both members of the Presbyterian Church, of Gilman, of which he is a Trustee.

In all educational affairs, Mr. Cone takes an active interest and for some seven years he has been a member of the School Board. Politically, he is affiliated with the Republican party, and is much interested in political measures and conventions. He was the regular nominee of his party for County Judge in 1890, but the whole ticket was defeated on account of the McKinley Bill and school question. He has served as City Attorney for eight years and has been a member of the County Board for a period of two years, acceptably discharging the duties of those offices. He is a man well informed on all questions of general interest, whether political or otherwise, and is accounted one of the worthy and valued citizens of the community where he makes his home. He is extensively in-

interested in farming and has been quite successful in that direction. In his manner Mr. Cone is reserved and unassuming, his duties of citizenship being performed quietly and faithfully. By his upright life and honorable course he has won the respect of all with whom he has come in contact.



GEORGE W. SONGER is an honored veteran of the late war and one of the prominent citizens of Cissna Park, where he is engaged in the manufacture of tile and brick. This is one of the leading industries of the place, and he is one of the progressive and enterprising business men. The great-grandfathers of our subject, on both the paternal and maternal side, were natives of Germany, and in the same vessel emigrated to America in Colonial days, locating in Virginia. Peter Songer, the grandfather, became a pioneer of Ohio seventy-five years ago, and died upon the farm which he there developed. The father, Lewis Songer, was born in Virginia, October 19, 1812, and at the age of three years was taken by his parents to Ohio, where he remained until seventeen years of age. At that time he came with an older brother and his mother to Illinois, locating near Danville, then a small Indian trading-post. Indians were still numerous in the neighborhood, nearly all the land belonging to the Government, and few, indeed, were the improvements made. Mr. Songer secured a claim on the Vermilion River, built a log cabin, and began the development of a farm. In those early days he experienced many hardships and privations such as are incident to pioneer life. On one occasion he ran a flat-boat down to New Orleans, and while stopping in a hotel at Natchez, a cyclone demolished the building, and he was one of only two who escaped alive.

Lewis Songer married Catherine Daniel, of Warren County, Ind., and through her influence they returned to the Hoosier State, where they made their home for eighteen years. He then went back to Vermilion County. His wife died in 1855,

after which he married Matilda Houston, who is still living in Vermilion County, Ill., where the death of Mr. Songer occurred February 16, 1877. In connection with farming, he worked at his trade as a millwright throughout much of his life. He had educated himself by the fireplace, and by his own efforts became a well-informed man. He possessed excellent business ability, and was very successful in his undertakings.

Ten children were born of the first marriage: Perry died in 1863; Julian died January 2, 1870; Juliet, twin sister of Julian, is the wife of Wilkison Cane, of Fountain County, Ill.; Mrs. Martha Mawhor died in Kansas; Mary became the wife of J. T. Brady, and died in Vermilion County; George W. is the next younger; Rhoda Ann died at the age of three years; A. M. is a merchant of Vermilion County; Lewis Jefferson resides in Kansas; and Catherine died in La Salle County in 1887. The children born of the second marriage were Walter Scott, who makes his home in Albion, Ill.; and Harley, who died in infancy. The father of this family was a member of the Christian Church, and took a zealous interest in its work. In politics, he was a Democrat in early life, but voted for Abraham Lincoln, and from that time on affiliated with the Republican party.

We now take up the personal history of George W. Songer, who was born in Warren County, Ind., May 12, 1846. His father was crippled when our subject was only ten years of age, and the burden of the farm work fell upon the sons. George engaged in farming from ten until seventeen years of age, and then, running away from home, enlisted on the 18th of October, 1863, in La Fayette, Ind., as a member of Company G, Fifty-first Indiana Infantry. He joined the regiment at Chattanooga, Tenn., and soon after participated in the battle of Missionary Ridge. The next spring he participated in the battle of Catersville, and from that time on was in active service. In May, 1864, he started on the Atlanta campaign, and was in the battles of Peach Tree Creek, Kenesaw Mountain and Atlanta. He then returned to Nashville and Decatur, Ala., and then under Gen. Thomas met Hood's army. His regiment lost heavily in a hand-to-hand conflict at Franklin, and participated

in the siege of Nashville; it later followed Hood to Athens, Ala., and afterward went into winter quarters at Huntsville. At Nashville, Mr. Songer was taken with typhoid fever, and never rejoined the regiment, which went to Texas. He received his discharge in Indianapolis in September, 1865. He was then only nineteen years of age. He was wounded in the arm by a rebel bullet at Nashville, and several holes were shot through his clothes, but up to the time of his illness he was always ready to stack arms with his company. On entering the battle of Franklin, his company numbered sixty-three men, but after the fight at Nashville, fifteen days later, only thirty-two answered the roll-call, the rest having been killed, wounded or taken sick.

When the war was over, Mr. Songer returned to Warren County, Ind., and soon afterward went to Vermilion County, Ill., where he engaged in farming until 1875. He also took a contract with the railroad for supplying timber for bridges from Watscka to Danville in 1871 and 1872. In February, 1882, he began the manufacture of tile in Danville. In May of the following year, he came to Iroquois County and located at Cissna Park. Where now stands his present factory was then a frog pond. His factory is the finest and most thoroughly equipped in this part of the county, and is supplied with the latest improved machinery. The tile manufactured is of a superior quality, and during 1891 over one million one hundred thousand were manufactured. The business is constantly increasing, and has become one of the important concerns of this community, furnishing employment to some twenty-eight men.

In March, 1868, in Warren County, Ind., Mr. Songer wedded Samantha Murphy, and unto them have been born seven children: Frank C., who was born in Vermilion County, is now in business with his father; Ora P., Isaac Russell, Jesse E., Leroy, Mary N. and George L. are still under the parental roof. The children have received good educational advantages, and the family is an intelligent and interesting one, of which the parents may well be proud.

Socially, Mr. Songer is a member of G. H. Neeld Post No. 576, G. A. R., of Cissna Park, and has

been honored with all of its offices. His wife holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he contributes liberally to its support. Politically, he is a Democrat. He is the President of the Village Board, is President of the Building and Loan Association, and is a member of the School Board. He is also connected with the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Songer is well known throughout this county, and is held in the highest esteem by all who know him. His success has been achieved through his own efforts, and stands as a monument to his thrift and enterprise. For about a month each year Mr. Songer travels, and has visited almost all the places of interest in this country. He has visited the old battle-fields of the war, and has brought home many interesting relics, having a piece of shot fired by the British at Gen. Jackson, and pieces of shot, shell and bullets from fields where he fought. He is a pleasant, genial gentleman, and his travels and the interesting manner in which he recounts his reminiscences make him an entertaining and agreeable companion.



HARRISON MILLER, a prominent and well-known farmer and stock-raiser who resides on section 22, Ridgeland Township, claims Ohio as the State of his nativity. He was born in Warren County, on the 4th of August, 1822, and is a son of Samuel and Phæbe (Lincoln) Miller. The mother of our subject, who was an own cousin to President Lincoln, was called to her final rest in 1845. The father long survived her, passing away in 1880. Both were members of the Methodist Church, and were people of many excellencies of character which won them the love and confidence of all. The family of this worthy couple numbered five children, the eldest of whom is our subject; Emily is now the wife of John Monfort, a carpenter residing in Lebanon, Ohio; Eusebia is the widow of William Frazee and makes her home in California; and two sons died in infancy.

Harrison Miller, whose name heads this record,

was reared to manhood in the usual manner of farmer lads, aiding his father in the labors of the fields during the summer months, while in the winter season he attended the district schools of the neighborhood until nearly twenty years of age. On attaining his majority he started out in life for himself and has since been dependent upon his own resources. He first learned the trade of a cooper, which he followed in Ohio until 1850. In that year he went to Peru, Ind., where he remained until 1857, when he left there and came to Illinois, locating in Ridgeland Township, Iroquois County. He purchased eighty acres of land from the Government, and upon the farm which he there developed and improved made his home for seven years. On the expiration of that period he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 22 of the same township, constituting the farm on which he now resides and which has since been his home. In addition to general farming he raises stock, making a specialty of breeding fine Jersey cattle.

It was on the 10th of February, 1847, that Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Miss Sarah, daughter of James and Sarah (Pharaz) Kirby. Eight children were born of this union, but their first child died in infancy. James P., who follows farming, is a resident of Ridgeland Township; Frank M. is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Allen County, Kan.; Laura is the wife of Harvey Richard, who is engaged in farming in Ridgeland Township; Samuel C. follows the same vocation in Onarga Township; Charles L. is a baggage-man on the Illinois Central Railroad and makes his home in Chicago; William W. died in infancy; and Louis E. is at home.

Mr. Miller exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, and, as every true American citizen should do, manifests a commendable interest in political affairs, although he has never been an office-seeker. However, he has filled the position of Pathmaster and Road Commissioner, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity. Himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church. Industry and enterprise have been numbered among the chief characteristics of Mr. Miller and have brought him a

well-deserved success. His possessions have all been gained through his own labors and are as a monument to his thrift and energy.



ROBERT JACKSON GEDDES, one of the self-made men and practical and progressive farmers of Ash Grove Township, residing on section 36, claims Ohio as the State of his nativity. He was born in Troy Township, Tuscarawas County, on the 14th of March, 1841, and is of Scotch descent. His boyhood days were passed in the usual manner of farmer lads and he was early inured to the hard labors of the farm, but thereby developed a self-reliance and force of character which have proved of incalculable benefit to him in later years. He attended school only during the winter season, when the work upon the farm was over. Under the parental roof, he remained until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself, working by the month for \$12. This was in DeKalb County, Ind., whither his parents had removed when he was fourteen years of age.

After working for one man three years, Mr. Geddes came to Iroquois County, Ill., in July 1863, and four years later purchased land on section 35, Ash Grove Township, a tract of forty acres of wild prairie. With characteristic energy, he began its development, and in course of time the unimproved tract was transformed into rich and fertile fields. The boundaries of his farm have since been greatly extended, until now three hundred and twenty acres of rich land pay tribute to his care and cultivation and he follows general farming and stock-raising with good success.

Returning to DeKalb County, Ind., Mr. Geddes was married, on the 18th of November, 1865, to Miss Harriet Robinett, a native of Holmes County, Ohio, who with her parents removed to DeKalb County, where the days of her maidenhood were passed. Ten children graced their union, of whom nine are now living: Elva L., wife of Walter Baker, a farmer of Ash Grove Township; Letta D., wife of John Hawthorne, an agriculturist of the

same township; John Curtis and Arthur Wilson, at home; Mary E., wife of Sam Mayhew, of Fountain Creek; Hattie, who is keeping house for her father; Nancy Jane, Robert Nye and Annis. One child died in infancy. The mother of this family was called to her final rest on the 26th of November, 1882, and was interred in Amity Church Cemetery. She was a faithful member of the United Brethren Church, and her loss was mourned by many friends as well as by her immediate family.

In 1868, Mr. Geddes cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant and has since been a stalwart supporter of the Republican party. He often attends its conventions and in an early day he heard an address of Stephen A. Douglas. His residence in the county covers a period of twenty-nine years, during which time he has by good management, enterprise and well-directed efforts achieved success and won a comfortable competence. He gives liberally to church and charitable work and well merits the high esteem in which he is held as a citizen and neighbor.



HENRY J. CALKINS, a prominent business man, now resides on section 12, Prairie Green Township, where he owns and operates four hundred and forty acres of valuable land. This is under a high state of cultivation and yields to him a golden tribute in return for his care and labor. The many improvements upon the place indicate his thrift and enterprise, and its neat appearance denotes the supervision of a careful manager. His home is a beautiful country residence.

Mr. Calkins is a native of Litchfield County, Conn. He was born on the 6th of November, 1839, and is a son of Jeremiah and Judith (Maxfield) Calkins. His father was born in the Nutmeg State, January 15, 1807, and died November 3, 1850, at the age of forty-three years. He was reared to the occupation of farming, and was educated in a log schoolhouse of primitive construction. The seats were made of slabs, supported on wooden pins, and a long writing-desk in the back

of the room served for the large scholars. In 1845, when our subject was a lad of seven years, Jeremiah Calkins removed with his family to Ulster County, N. Y., and changed his avocation to that of an extensive collier. There through the intrigue and chicanery of a man in whom he reposed the utmost confidence, he lost his entire fortune and had to begin life anew. He was a man of indomitable will, of sterling integrity, and his word was as good as his bond. Of the Methodist Episcopal Church he was a faithful member, and in order to be present at Divine worship, he would often walk for six miles to the place of meeting. He was beloved by all who knew him, and his death was deeply mourned. His wife, a native of Connecticut, was born March 12, 1818, and died December 12, 1839, during the infancy of our subject. The family numbered four children, two sons and two daughters. The brother is now deceased. Caroline is the wife of Hiram St. John, who is now living retired in Watseka; and Lucinda M. is the widow of Nathan Chaffee. She now resides in Prairie Green Township. The Calkins family was founded in America by three brothers of English birth, who in Colonial days emigrated to this country. One of them was the grandfather of our subject.

Henry J. Calkins spent the first seven years of his life in the county of his nativity, and then resided in Ulster County, N. Y., until eighteen years of age. At that time he determined to try his fortune in the West, and in August, 1856, having bade good-bye to his old home and friends, started for Illinois. He made his first location in La Salle County, where he worked for a time at the blacksmith's trade, which he had learned in the East. On landing in Illinois he had only fifteen cents in his pocket, but he possessed energy and enterprise, and determined to win success. Like so many others, he went to Kansas about 1859, thinking it an Eldorado, but after two years was satisfied to return to this State, where he has since made his home. Once more he located in La Salle County, where he continued to reside until 1869, when he came to Iroquois County and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, of which about fifty acres had been broken. The only building upon

the place was a little board cabin, 12x20 feet. The surrounding land was all in its primitive condition, for there were few settlements in this locality. The now flourishing villages which afford accessible markets were then unknown.

On the 1st of January, 1863, Mr. Calkins was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary J. Lockwood, a native of Connecticut, March 27, 1842, who came to this State at the age of seven years, in 1849, with her parents, Alanson and Mary Lockwood. Nine children graced their union, six sons and three daughters, but only five are yet living: Julia, now the wife of Oliver Hamer, a farmer residing in Prairie Green; Nellie, wife of Miles Butterworth, who makes his home in Hoopeston; Stanley, Frank and Arthur at home; Lemme, William H., Wilbur, and an infant are deceased. Mr. Calkins has endeavored to give his children good educational advantages, and his daughters were educated in the Grand Prairie Seminary.

On attaining his majority, Mr. Calkins became identified with the Republican party, which he supported until 1884, when he espoused the cause of the Prohibition party. He is now one of its warm advocates, and does all in his power to aid in the temperance cause. No enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit seeks his aid in vain. With the interests of this community he has been prominently identified. For six years he served as Justice of the Peace, and has filled the office of School Director for the long term of fifteen years. Mr. Calkins was one of the organizers, and himself and wife are faithful and devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Pleasant Hill. They have also been interested in Sunday-school work, and have attended its institutes. He is a man of generous, noble impulses, charitable and benevolent, and the poor and needy find in him a warm friend.

In addition to his excellent farm, Mr. Calkins owns a good store in Ambia, Ind., only six and a-half miles from his home, and also the building in which it is located. It is a brick and stone structure, 44x100 feet, and two stories in height, the upper story being a well-arranged opera-hall. This was erected in 1891. It is furnished with a full and complete stock of general merchandise,

including dry goods, groceries, hats and caps, boots and shoes, queensware, and every commodity which goes to make up a first-class establishment of this kind. Mr. Calkins is also Secretary of the Farmers' Co-operative Grain Association, which has a large grain elevator in Ambia, erected at a cost of \$13,000. The volume of business done in 1891 amounted to over \$250,000. Mr. Calkins is a man of excellent business ability, sagacious and enterprising, and he has the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



ANTONI AND GEBHARD OLTMANN'S, importers and breeders of German coach horses of Watseka, are natives of Germany, and the sons of John W. Oltmanns, who died in his native country, Germany, in 1878. The family numbered eight children, five of whom are yet living: Oltman V., who is a partner in the business, was born February 18, 1851; Ottoline, December 28, 1854; Johann A., November 2, 1857; Antoni, August 8, 1861; and Gebhard, December 3, 1864. The three eldest children reside in or near Leer, Germany, having never crossed the Atlantic to America, and with the exception of Gebhard all of the children are married.

Both of the gentlemen whose names head this sketch were reared in the land of their birth. It was in 1882 that Antoni Oltmanns, then twenty-one years of age, bade good-bye to the Fatherland, and crossed the briny deep to the New World. He came at once to Iroquois County, and in 1885 embarked in the importation and breeding of German coach horses and Holstein cattle. Two years later he was joined by his brother Gebhard, and a partnership was formed between them. They soon found that the cattle business was unprofitable and abandoned it, since which time they have given their entire attention to importing and breeding horses. They now conduct the business on a large scale, and keep on hand the finest horses to be had. Their barns are located on the

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west side of the city of Watseka, and the Oltmanns Bros. are known far and near among the horse dealers of this country. Their business has constantly increased, and in 1891 they imported one hundred head of horses. They cross the ocean once or twice each year, both having made the voyage across the briny deep eleven different times.

These gentlemen are wide-awake and enterprising young business men who do not expect to win wealth easily, but hope to acquire in money a ready return for their industry and good management. They possess keen business sagacity, are methodical and systematic, and it is a pleasure to note their progress and success, for it is well deserved. They are self-made men, and have already gained for themselves a place among the substantial citizens of Watseka.



JUDGE SAMUEL WILLIAMS, who resides on section 30, Belmont Township, has for half a century made his home in this county and is one of the prominent and influential citizens. His name is inseparably connected with its history, as he has witnessed almost its entire growth and has aided largely in its upbuilding and development. To the honored pioneers who came here in an early day the county owes a debt of gratitude which can never be repaid. Among these is numbered the gentleman whose name heads this record; and this work would be incomplete without his sketch.

The Judge was born in Adams County, Ohio, July 11, 1820, and comes of an old family of Maryland. His grandfather, Capt. John Williams, removed from that State to Adams County, Ohio, being accompanied by his son Thomas, the father of our subject, who was then a lad of four years. The family numbered four sons and two daughters. Thomas, the eldest, was born in Maryland in 1797, and was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of frontier life in Ohio. Adams County was then an almost unimproved wilderness. His educational advantages were very meagre, but by study in his

leisure hours he acquired an excellent education and for twenty years engaged in teaching. While assisting in a house-raising he met with an accident which crippled him, and after thus losing the use of his limbs he took up the teacher's profession, in order to support himself and his family. Before he was thus disabled he was married in Adams County, the lady of his choice being Miss Elizabeth Swim. She was a native of Kentucky, born January 2, 1800. Her grandfather was a Revolutionary hero who valiantly aided the colonies in their struggle for independence. He went to Kentucky with Daniel Boone, the noted hunter and explorer. When a young girl of about six years, Mrs. Williams went to Champaign County, Ohio, and afterward accompanied her parents to Adams County. During her girlhood she met with quite an experience, herself and a younger brother and sister being carried off during a sudden freshet caused by a water-spout. The three children, seeing that the water was rising rapidly, fled for safety and took refuge upon the roof of a sheep stable. The water rose, and the building to which they were clinging was swept along by the current for a distance of eighty rods, when it struck a large sycamore tree and fell to pieces and the children came down in the debris. This occurred about sunset, and the two sisters and brother, together with their shepherd dog, had to remain upon the ruins of the old shed, there kept prisoners by the flood. During the night the water somewhat subsided and the next morning about daybreak they were rescued by the father. The mother of the Judge was the eldest of the children, and thus upon her devolved the task of caring for and comforting the younger ones.

It was in 1836 that the parents of our subject emigrated with their family to Illinois. They made the journey by ox-team and settled near Rockford, when that city contained but one cabin on either side of the river. Six years later they came to Iroquois County, locating east of Watseka on what is now the County Poor Farm. There were a few log cabins, but the county was sparsely settled and the Williams family are numbered among the pioneers. Mr. Williams entered land from the Government and himself and wife resided upon the

farm for some years. In Ohio he had served as Justice of the Peace for years and for three terms was County Assessor and on coming to Iroquois County served as County Superintendent. In politics he was a Jackson-Democrat. In early life he became identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church and was ever afterward one of its consistent members. His home was often a place of meeting in those early days and he labored long and earnestly in the Master's vineyard. He was one of Nature's noblemen and the high regard of all was his. During the last ten years of his life he was quite feeble and made his home with our subject. He passed away August 18, 1857, and his remains were laid to rest in Belmont Cemetery. His wife departed this life in 1880. She was a most estimable lady, a worthy helpmate of her husband, and her many excellencies of character won her the love of all.

The Williams family numbered the following children: Samuel of this sketch; John, who died in Iowa; William, a resident of Watseka; Josiah, who makes his home in Watseka; Thomas, a farmer of Belmont Township; Harvey F., a ranchman of Wyoming; Melissa, who died in 1846, at the age of eighteen years; Susanna, wife of Simeon Downing of Butler County, Iowa; Mary, who died in 1835, at the age of nineteen years; and Elizabeth Ann, wife of Justus Smith, of Milford.

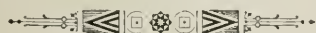
Judge Williams spent the first fifteen years of his life in his native State and then came with his parents to Illinois. From that time all of the family care and responsibility rested upon his shoulders. However, he was greatly assisted by his mother, a thoughtful woman of much ability and force of character, but he had entire charge of the outdoor work. He made a claim and developed a farm in Winnebago County before the land came into market. He acquired his education in the public schools and under his father's direction. At the age of twenty-five years, he desired to follow some other pursuit than that of agriculture, and learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for a short time. In 1844 he purchased his present homestead, then comprising one hundred and twenty acres of wild and unimproved land. His first home was a frame building, 14x22 feet. This is still standing and yet forms a part of his resi-

dence. As soon as possible however, he made substantial improvements upon the farm, which has now been his home for almost half a century. With characteristic energy he began the development of his land and where once was wild prairie, fertile fields soon yielded to him abundant harvests. He prospered in his undertakings and as his financial resources were increased he added to his land from time to time until he is now the owner of one thousand acres. He started out in life for himself with only \$62.50 and with that as a nucleus he has gathered together his present large fortune, which is a well-deserved reward of his industrious and persevering efforts.

On the 25th of March, 1846, near Woodland, Mr. Williams was united in marriage with Miss Catherine, daughter of Isaac Body, who removed from Mifflin County, Pa., to Indiana in 1830, living in Covington. About ten years later he came with his family to Iroquois County. His daughter was born in Pennsylvania, and was about four years old when they left the Keystone State. Four sons have been born unto Judge and Mrs. Williams, all born and reared on the home farm. Josiah G. is now Cashier of the Citizens' Bank of Watseka; George M., a resident of Woodland, manages the home farm; John S. resides in Belmont Township, but is now in California for his health; Frank L. is living near the old homestead. The children were all provided with good educational advantages, attending the Onarga Seminary after completing the course in the common schools.

In connection with his farming operations, Mr. Williams has been connected with several other business interests. He aided in the organization of the First National Bank in Watseka, and was made its first President. He is now a stockholder and Vice-president of the Citizens' Bank. He owns a store in Woodland, which is operated under the firm name of Williams & Goodyear. He also owns an elevator and creamery at that place, both of which receive a liberal patronage and are doing a good business. In 1876 he laid off the village of Woodland on a part of his farm, and at the same time built the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the support of which he has contributed liberally, himself and wife being among its active members.

In the early days of the county. Mr. Williams held a number of offices. He was elected Justice of the Peace about 1850, and held the position for about twelve years. He was also a member of the Board of Supervisors for ten years and in 1860 was elected Judge of the County Court, which position he held four years. Since then he has never held office, preferring to devote his time to other interests. He cast his first vote for James K. Polk, in support of the Democratic party, until the time of the slavery troubles in Nebraska. He was a member of the first committee that organized the Republican party in Iroquois County. He voted for Fremont, its first Presidential candidate, in 1856, and was one of its active workers for many years, but, on account of his temperance principles, now affiliates with the Prohibition party. The Judge is now practically living a retired life, having laid aside all business cares except that he supervises his interests. In a comfortable home on his farm, where he has lived for fifty years, he expects to spend his remaining days. No citizen of Iroquois County is more widely or favorably known than he. His upright, honorable life, the prominent part he has taken in public works, the aid he has given to enterprises calculated to promote the general welfare, have all won for him the high regard and confidence of his fellow-townsmen, and the respect and esteem he receives are justly his.



HENRY UPSALL, the pioneer jeweler, has engaged longer in his line of business in Watseka than any other of its residents. He is regarded as one of the enterprising and progressive citizens of the community, and a leading business man. As such, we are pleased to present this record of his life to our readers. He was born in the town of Bennington, near Boston, Lincolnshire, England, on the 25th of December, 1830, and is a son of Henry and Maria (Wallhead) Upsall. His parents were born, reared and died in Lincolnshire. Their family numbered eight children, as follows: Richard, the eldest, married Betsy Barton, and still resides in Lincolnshire;

Henry is the next younger; John, who came to America in 1856, was a soldier of the late war, serving as a member of the Twelfth Indiana Infantry for ninety days; he afterward enlisted as a substitute and died in Cairo, Ill., from disease contracted in the service; William went to Australia, where he was married, and still resides; Mary Ann died in England; Betsy resides in Australia; Susan died in England, in the spring of 1892; and Eliza, the youngest, also died in England when about eighteen years of age.

Henry Upsall learned the trade of a jeweler and watch-maker in his native country, and emigrated to America in 1856. On coming to the United States, he first worked in Ft. Wayne, Ind., with Messrs. Meyer & Graff. After the breaking out of the late war, he enlisted on the 24th of October, 1862, as a member of the Twenty-third Indiana Battery, but was discharged on the 23d of April, 1862, on account of physical disability caused by a fall from a caisson, while on duty. Returning to Indiana, he again worked at his trade in Warsaw of that State, being in the employ of John Lane for four years. He then bought some land, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1866, when, having satisfied himself that he was not cut out for a granger, he sold his farm, and resumed work with Mr. Lane.

On the 23d of February, 1858, Mr. Upsall was united in marriage in Swan Township, Noble County, Ind., with Miss Margaret Fulk, who was born in that township, and is a daughter of Solomon Fulk. She died in May, 1869, leaving three children, while Solomon, another child, had died in infancy. Eliza Jane became the wife of John Pittson, and is a resident of Iroquois. Joanna is the wife of Lewis Ballou, who resides in Chicago, and is employed as conductor on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. John W. is employed in his father's store in Watseka. On the 1st of May, 1870, Mr. Upsall was again married, in Bourbon, Ind. His present wife was Mrs. Mary Jane McCarron, and a daughter of Henry H. Baxter, of Bourbon. She was born in Greenfield, Ohio, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Soon after his second marriage, in 1870, Mr. Upsall removed to Watseka, Ill., and in July of

that year established business in that city in a small way. By industry and integrity, he gradually increased his business and acquired property, until at this writing he is one of the substantial business men of Watseka, and has probably the largest and best stock of goods in his line to be found in the county. He owns his business house and residence, and a second business building situated just east of the First National Bank. He also has forty acres of land in Lincoln Township, Newton County, Ind.

In 1874, Mr. Upsall made a visit to his parents at the old home in England, which was an event in his life and theirs. They were very much advanced in years and were made happy over the return of one son, while they mourned the loss of the other son who had accompanied his brother to America so many years before. Since then, both parents have passed away. The father died in 1883, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years, and the mother was called to her final rest in 1887, at the age of eighty-five years.



FREDERICK SCHROEDER. We wish to add to the old settlers' record and the history of the prominent citizens of Iroquois County the name of one of the enterprising and well-to-do farmers of Martinton Township, Mr. Schroeder, who resides on section 1. He is a native of Prussia, Germany, having been born May 8, 1842. His father, Joseph Schroeder, was a farmer of Prussia, and there spent his entire life, his death occurring in 1855. The family numbered ten children, four sons and six daughters. The brothers all came to this country, but two are now deceased. Joseph S., the eldest, is now a prominent farmer of this county; John became a farmer of Michigan and died in that State; Christian, who was a shoemaker by trade, died in Chicago.

Frederick Schroeder, the youngest son, spent the first fifteen years of his life in his native land. He attended the public schools and acquired a good education. In 1857 he bade good-bye to his

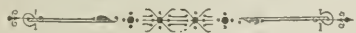
old home and sailed for America, taking passage on a vessel which left Hamburg and after about thirty days dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. This was about the 1st of May. Mr. Schroeder at once made his way to Chicago and joined his brother Joseph, who several years previous had located in Cook County. He then began working on a farm by the month, being thus employed during the summer season, while in the winter he attended the English schools. The spring of 1862 witnessed his arrival in Iroquois County, when he joined his brother Joseph, who had here purchased a farm, working for him eight years. In 1866 he bought a tract of land of forty acres adjoining that of his brother, and about two years later bought an additional eighty acres, all being wild prairie land. In 1870 he located thereon and began the development and improvement of a farm.

On April 16, 1870, at the home of his brother Mr. Schroeder was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Landsman, a native of Germany, who, came to this county with her parents when quite young. The young couple began their domestic life upon the farm which Mr. Schroeder had previously purchased. As the years passed he placed it under a high state of cultivation, and also extended its boundaries, until it now comprises two hundred and forty acres of richly improved land which yields to him a golden tribute in return for the care and cultivation he bestows upon it. His home is a substantial and commodious residence recently erected, and his large barn, granary and other outbuildings are models of convenience, and indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner. His is one of the best-improved farms in this township. The success of Mr. Schroeder is all due entirely to his own efforts, for he started out in life for himself a poor boy, his only capital being enterprise and industry, but by his labors he has accumulated a large and valuable property.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder have been born six children, four sons and two daughters: John W., the eldest, now assists his father in the cultivation of the home farm; Louisa is a resident of Chicago; Frank, Emma, William and Benjamin.

They also lost one child, Hulda, who died at the age of six years.

Mr. Schroeder is identified with the Democratic party. He cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and supported the Republican party until 1884, when he joined the Democracy. He takes quite an active part in local politics, has served as Road Commissioner, Drainage Commissioner, and in other official positions of honor and trust. He has been a member of the School Board, and is a warm friend to the public-school system. Himself and wife were both reared in the Lutheran Church, but of later years they have adhered to the faith of the Spiritualists. Mr. Schroeder has long been a resident of this county, and is widely and favorably known. His duties of citizenship are always faithfully performed, and he is a man of sterling character.



JULIUS C. ROSE was born in Oswego County, N. Y., May 14, 1828, and was a son of Sylvester M. Rose, a native of Massachusetts, born in 1794. When a young man of twenty-one, his father removed to New York, and there engaged in farming and school teaching until thirty-two years of age. He was a great reader, a life-long student, and after he had reached the age of three-score years and ten he made a study of chemistry. He was married in New York to Mary Earle, a native of the Empire State, and they made their home in Oswego County. His wife died at the age of forty-one years. Five sons were born of that union who grew to mature years, but all are now deceased. Carolan and Carlton both died in early manhood; Courtland died in Michigan; Julius died in this county; and Lyman M. spent his last days in Illinois. The father outlived all his family and died in Iroquois County in 1881, at the age of eighty-seven years.

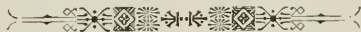
The subject of this sketch was educated in the public schools. At the age of sixteen, he broke his leg, and as this prevented his working on the farm, he began teaching at the age of seventeen,

and continued that occupation at intervals until twenty-five years of age. On attaining his majority, he went to Lyons, N. Y., and with a partner ran a book-store for some two years. When about twenty-four years of age, he came to Indiana, locating in La Fayette, Tippecanoe County, in 1852. He there engaged in teaching school for two terms, and among his students was Miss Rhoda K. Justice, born February 9, 1835, in Chillicothe, Ohio, whom he made his wife July 3, 1853. She had emigrated to Indiana when five years of age with her parents, who settled near La Fayette. They resided in La Fayette until March, 1860, when they started with teams to Iroquois County. During this journey the wagon stuck fast in a slough between this place and Loda, and had to be pulled out by ox-teams. For three years he rented land and then purchased a farm near Cissna Park, where he resided for two years. He then purchased the old farm on which his family yet resides, buying thirteen hundred acres of land, the greater part of which was still in its primitive condition. Only sixty acres had been placed under the plow and a log cabin constituted almost the entire improvements. The county was full of wild deer, ducks and geese. He gave his entire attention to farming and stock-raising, and did an extensive business in shipping stock.

Mr. Rose held a number of public offices and was Township Treasurer at the time of his death. He took a great interest in educational matters and the schools found in him a great friend. He was a man of excellent business ability, and by his fair dealing and well-directed efforts acquired a handsome property, leaving to his family a good home. He was a faithful member of the Christian Church, and his wife holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church. His death occurred February 23, 1877, when the community mourned the loss of one of its best citizens.

Mrs. Rose still resides on the home farm, and in her management of affairs displays excellent business and executive ability. In the family were the following children: Sarah, who was born in Indiana and died in that State in infancy; Sylvester, a prominent resident of Cissna Park, whose sketch is given below; Mary, who died in

her third year; Martha J., who was educated at Lebanon, Ohio, and in Onarga Seminary, and successfully engaged in teaching; Elizabeth, who was educated at Greer College, of Hoopeson, and has followed teaching for two years, is in the Southern Normal College at Bloomfield, Iowa; Bertha, who died at the age of four years; William, at home; Luella, who has engaged in teaching for four years; and Arthur, who is still with his mother.



MILTON M. MEACHAM, dealer in drugs, medicines, paints, oils, etc., of Buckley, has carried on business in this line for twenty years. He was born in Franklin County, Ohio, on the 11th of February, 1827, and is the third in order of birth in a family of four children whose parents were Riley and Hannah (Baldwin) Meacham. The father was a native of Massachusetts and the mother of New York. In an early day they emigrated Westward, locating in the midst of the wilderness of Ohio, and amidst the wild scenes of frontier life their children were reared. The two eldest, Aurelia A. and Lawrence L., are both now deceased, but our subject has one sister yet living, Roxanna R. The parents have both been deceased for many years.

Upon his father's farm in the Buckeye State, the subject of this sketch was reared to manhood. His education was acquired in the public schools, which he attended through the winter season, while in the summer months he worked in the fields. On the 6th of September, 1853, he led to the marriage altar Miss Emma A. Benton, daughter of Eliacum and Betsy (Meacham) Benton. Four children were born to their union, as follows: Frank B., born July 11, 1854, was married to Miss Lenora White, and with his family resides in Sioux Falls, S. Dak. They have three children: Charles M., Lulu and Grigsby. Riley, born December 8, 1856, died at the age of eight months. Angeline A., born August 30, 1858, is the wife of W. A. Haney, a resident of Buckley. Edwin M., born March 26, 1866, completes the family.

It was in April, 1864, that Mr. Meacham left Ohio, and came with his family to Illinois. He made his first location in Ash Grove Township, Iroquois County, where he resided for about two years. He then came to Buckley and was engaged in carpentering for two years, but afterward followed farming for a time. In 1872, he opened a drug store, and has continued in this line of business since. His stock consists of drugs, medicines, paints, oils, books, stationery and druggist's sundries. He has enjoyed a good trade from the beginning, and has a liberal patronage, which yields him a good income.

Mr. Meacham has frequently been called upon to serve in public positions of honor and trust. He filled the office of Justice of the Peace for eight years, was also Town Clerk, and for four years served as Supervisor. At this writing, in the fall of 1892, he is President of the Village Board of Trustees. The prompt and faithful manner in which he has ever discharged his official duties has led to his frequent re-election, and has won him the high commendation of all, whether opposed to him politically or not. Mr. Meacham exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democratic party. He is a man of sterling worth, a straightforward business man, and during the twenty-eight years of his residence in the county he has formed a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.



ARM SCHAUMBURG is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres, pleasantly located in Milford Township, about four miles from the village of Milford, on section 6. There he carries on general farming and stock-raising. He grows the cereals best adapted to this climate, and devotes much attention to the breeding of horses. He is a lover of the noble steed, and an excellent judge of stock. The greater part of his land is under a high state of cultivation, and many good improvements have been made thereon, so that the place is now one of the model farms of the community.

Mr. Schaumburg is a native of Prussia, Germany, born on the 19th of February, 1846. His parents, Wilhelm and Engel (Leuerts) Schaumburg, had a family of seven children, but two died in infancy. Of the remaining five, Leonard and Ludwig spent their entire lives in Germany, and are now deceased. The mother and the three remaining sons, Frantz, Harm and John, came to America about the year 1858. Crossing the Atlantic, they became residents of Peoria, Ill., and the brothers worked on a farm in that vicinity for a few years. Harm afterwards moved to Adams County, Ill., and a few months later, in 1861, enlisted in the service of his adopted country as a member of the One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry. He was assigned to Company B, and was with his commander for about four months, when he was mustered out. Frantz was also in the war. He became a member of the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, and served for more than three years. After being discharged, he returned to his home near Peoria, and married Miss Rosene, daughter of Ralph Damm. They have a family of six living children. John was married in Minonk, and has a family of five children.

After his return from the war, Mr. Schaumburg continued to engage in farm labor for some time. On the 27th of January, 1871, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Anna Lucht, daughter of Frank and Peterke (Myer) Lucht. Her father is an old sea-captain. Her mother, a native of Germany, is now deceased. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born twelve children, eight sons and four daughters, and with one exception all are yet living. William, born April 12, 1871; Peterke Emma, July 12, 1872; Engel, January 30, 1874; Frederick, October 17, 1875; Wirtje, December 31, 1876; Harm, March 26, 1878; Jonas, December 9, 1880; Frantz, June 26, 1882; Anna, August 17, 1881; Almrth Johanna, December 12, 1886, died on the 30th of April, 1888; Ludwig, born September 29, 1888; and Johannus Gerhard, November 29, 1891.

In the spring of 1874, Mr. Schaumburg came to Iroquois County from Livingston County, Ill., and settled on an eighty-acre farm in Milford Township, about five and a-half miles west of the

village. He there resided for nine years, on the expiration of which period he sold that tract, and bought his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 6, Milford Township, about a mile and a-half south of the old home. It has since been their place of residence. Our subject and his wife are both members of the Lutheran Church, and are people of sterling worth, known and honored throughout the community. In his social relations, he is a member of Vennum Post No. 471, G. A. R., and in his political affiliations he is a Democrat.



SYLVESTER M. ROSE, the eldest son of Julius Rose, was born on his father's farm near La Fayette, Ind., February 15, 1856, but at an early age came to this county with the family. He acquired a good education and is a well-informed man. He experienced all the hardships and trials of pioneer life, and was early inured to the hard labor of developing a new farm. At the age of twenty-six he left home. When eighteen years of age, his father had given him his time, but he continued to work on the old homestead. In 1881, he came to Cissna Park, and in February of that year began dealing in hardware and lumber as one of the pioneer merchants of this place. In 1885, he sold out his hardware and began dealing in grain and coal. Two years later he sold his lumber yard, but repurchased it in 1889, and now carries on business as a lumber, grain and coal dealer. He built the Rose elevator, one of the largest in the county, which has a capacity of one hundred thousand bushels, and does an extensive business, amounting in 1891 to \$100,000. He spends part of his time in Chicago and is connected with William H. Cowles, a commission merchant on the Board of Trade. He started in business with \$2,000, and has made the greater part of his possessions through his own efforts.

On the 13th of February, 1889, Mr. Rose was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary, daughter of E. G. Hickman, and a native of Fountain Creek

Township, this county. They have a pleasant home in Cissna Park and are numbered among its best citizens. Mr. Rose is a stalwart advocate of Republican principles and has served as a member of the Council since the organization of the town. In business circles he ranks high, and by his own industry and perseverance he has worked his way upward to a position of wealth. His life has been one of signal success, and he is now enjoying a well-deserved prosperity.



JOHN FERNALD, one of the prominent manufacturers of Lovejoy Township, is the proprietor of a large tile factory, and a leading business man, who has a wide acquaintance throughout Iroquois County. His life record is as follows: He was born in Carlisle, Cumberland County, Pa., January 18, 1837, and is descended from good old Revolutionary stock on the maternal side. His parents were Benjamin and Sarah B. (Wright) Fernald. His father, a native of Cape Cod, Mass., born May 28, 1792, was a boot and shoemaker by trade, and followed that business for sixty years. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and aided in the defense of Baltimore when the British undertook to burn that city. He died January 1, 1881. His wife, who was born in Pennsylvania, October 28, 1799, was the daughter of a Revolutionary soldier. Her father, Robert Wright, lived to the advanced age of eighty-nine years and six months, and died in Indiana. Mrs. Fernald died in Indiana, April 4, 1869. The parents of our subject were both members of the Presbyterian Church. Their family numbered ten children, seven sons and three daughters, of whom three are yet living.

John Fernald, whose name heads this record, spent the first nine years of his life in Carlisle, Pa., and then, in 1846, accompanied his parents to Clinton County, Ind., when, at the age of seventeen, he started out in life for himself, following agricultural pursuits. In 1870, he began the manufacture of tile in Indiana, continuing in that line of business for eleven years. In the meantime, he

had erected a factory in Hoopeston, investing a capital of \$6,000, and there remained for three years, doing a successful business. On the expiration of that time, he disposed of his factory and, in company with his brother-in-law, Frank Jenkins, built a factory in Templeton, Benton County, Ind. While there the brother-in-law died. Mr. Fernald was appointed administrator of his estate, and sold out the business. He then located his present large factory in Wellington, with a capital of \$8,000. The factory is supplied with the most modern improvements, and he does an excellent business. Lately, he has given over the general management of the large interest to his son, George Chester, a practical and enterprising business man, and Mr. Fernald devotes his entire attention to a new invention, the Columbia Tile and Brick Machine, which is now in the hands of the proper officers, and in a short time he expects to have a patent thereon. For twenty-two years, Mr. Fernald has studied along this line, and his thought and labor have at length resulted in this invention which will no doubt prove of the utmost importance and benefit to those engaged in the manufacture of tile. His large factory at Wellington has a capacity of five hundred thousand tile annually, and he has a large and constantly-increasing trade.

On the 9th of April, 1863, Mr. Fernald married Miss Martha Jenkins, daughter of William and Eliza (Lock) Jenkins. The lady is a native of Clinton County, Ind., born December 5, 1813. Her father was a farmer, but followed steamboating on the Ohio River. He died at about the age of seventy-four years. Her mother, who was born and reared in the Buckeye State, was called to her final rest at the early age of twenty-six years. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fernald have been born seven children, and the family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of Death. In order of birth they are as follows: William J., who was graduated from the Rush Medical College, of Chicago, in 1890, in a class of ninety, is now a practicing physician and surgeon of Rantoul, Ill.; Allen B., who was graduated from the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, is engaged in the prac-

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tice of dentistry at Galesburg, Ill.; George Chester is manager of the Wellington Tile Factory; Harry W. is attending a dental school in Chicago; Asa C., Mary B. and Mattie E. are all at home.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Fernald was a staunch Republican from the time when he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln until 1888, when he joined the ranks of the Prohibition party. He has long been a warm advocate of temperance principles, and, believing prohibition to be the most important issue now before the people, he joined the party which embodies his principles. He is a member of the Good Templars' Society, and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. Himself, wife and children are all members of the Presbyterian Church of Wellington, and take an active interest in all church and Sunday-school work. The family are classed among the best citizens of Iroquois County and in social circles rank high.

Mr. Fernald is a man of excellent business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, and his inventive genius is of a high order. Hand and brain have brought him the success which has crowned his efforts and made him one of the substantial citizens of the community.



JASPER PRUTSMAN, who is engaged in the manufacture of brick and tile, is one of the successful and progressive business men of Milford, and the business to which he devotes his attention is one of its leading industries.

As Mr. Prutsman is well and favorably known throughout Iroquois County, we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers. He was born near Attica, in Fountain County, Ind., on the 12th of February, 1836, and is one of twelve children. The parents were David and Maxey M. (McMullin) Prutsman, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Kentucky. Only two of the children are now living. The members of the family were Daniel, John, Elizabeth, Ellen, David, Mary, Jasper, Car-

oline and four who died in infancy. The father of this family died in Indiana in 1837, when our subject was little more than a year old. His mother continued to reside in that State until 1852, and there reared her family. She then came to Illinois and made her home with her son Jasper.

Our subject had no special advantages in his youth, in fact, from an early age he was dependent upon his own resources. Whatever success he has achieved in life is due to his own efforts and stands as a monument to his enterprise. On coming to Illinois, he entered eighty acres of land in Prairie Green Township and began the development of a farm, transforming the wild tract into rich and fertile fields. After nine years, he removed to Milford Township and engaged in furnishing timber for corporations and firms, who used great quantities of it. It was in 1872 that he embarked in his present line of business. He established a brick and tile factory, and is yet carrying on operations in that line. From the beginning success has attended his efforts and his trade has constantly increased. He furnished nearly all of the brick used in building in Milford and has had large sales elsewhere.

In 1856, Mr. Prutsman was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda Crow, daughter of David and Mary Crow. They had a family of eight children, six of whom are yet living: Alfred, born February 12, 1858; Mary M., April 29, 1860; Smilinda E., February 9, 1862; Orea, March 8, 1864; Martha E., April 26, 1865; Frank, July 6, 1867; Arata, April 11, 1870, and one who died in infancy. On the 15th of March, 1884, Mary became the wife of George Gibbs, whose death occurred about 1888, leaving three children, Walter G., George and Leila. By a second marriage she has one daughter, Angie.

Socially, Mr. Prutsman is a member of Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M., and both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically, he is a Republican, having cast his first vote for President Lincoln. In connection with his other property, he owns a desirable farm of one hundred and twelve acres, a half-mile west of Milford, on which he makes his home. His business has grown from a small beginning to one of excellent proportions, in fact, his tile and brick

yard is the largest in the county. The material which he uses is of a superior quality and no better tile is manufactured in this part of the country. Mr. Prutsman has now an excellent trade, which is well deserved. He is a self-made man who started out in life empty-handed, but by industry and enterprise overcame the obstacles in his path and worked his way upward to success. He has ever taken an active interest in the welfare of the community and is classed among its best citizens. During the late war, when many husbands and fathers were at the front, he aided in looking after their families and often gave them substantial assistance.



HERMAN SALMON, an enterprising farmer and valued citizen of Ash Grove Township, residing on section 9, claims Germany as the land of his birth. He was born in Westphalia, near the town of Enger, on the 4th of August, 1860. His father emigrated with his family to America and removed from Will County, Ill., to this county in 1875. Within a year he was called to his final rest, and his remains were interred in St. Paul's Churchyard, in Woodworth.

Mr. Salmon, whose name heads this sketch, was brought to America when six years of age. His education was acquired in the public and parochial schools, he studying both in German and English. With the family he came to Iroquois County in 1875, and after his father's death operated the home farm for a number of years, except for about one year, when, at the age of sixteen, he was employed as salesman in the store of Fred W. Meyer. About 1880, he purchased his present farm of eighty acres and in connection with it continued to operate the home farm until about six years ago.

The lady who is now Mrs. Salmon was in her maidenhood Miss Lizzie Munstermann, a daughter of Henry Munstermann, who came to this county about nineteen years ago. She was born in Hanover, Germany, on the 24th of April, 1860, and in the year 1873 came to America, sailing

from Hamburg to New York. On the 4th of March, 1886, she gave her hand in marriage to our subject. By their union have been born three children: Herman H., born July 7, 1887; Della, March 11, 1889; and Lydia, December 2, 1890. All were born on the home farm.

Mr. Salmon now owns eighty acres of land and operates forty acres in addition. His home, newly built, is a comfortable residence, surrounded with good improvements, including good barns and out-buildings, and these in turn are situated in the midst of waving fields of grain, whose rich fertility tells of abundant harvests. Mr. Salmon is engaged in general farming and success has attended his efforts. He is a sagacious and far-sighted business man, enterprising and progressive, and his labors have received their reward in a well-deserved prosperity. Religiously, he is a member of the Lutheran Church and has been President of the congregation for three years. He served as School Director for six years and has been Collector of the township. By his first Presidential vote, he supported James G. Blaine in 1884, and has since affiliated with the Republican party.



JAMES E. DOANE, who carries on general farming on section 26, Ridgeland Township, has the honor of being a native of this State, his birth having occurred near Earlville, La Salle County, on the 12th of January, 1845. His father, Corren Doane, was a native of Cape Cod, Mass., and the family is of Scotch descent. He was twice married, and by his first union had one child. He afterward married Hannah Stilson, the mother of our subject, and they became the parents of seven children: Samuel, who died in 1867; Robert, a retired farmer, residing in Plainfield, Ill.; Harriet, who is living in Plainfield, is the wife of William Austin; Carrie, wife of B. H. Dougherty, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Onarga Township; Mary, wife of Charles Austin, who is living in Piper City, Ford County, Ill.; Bernice, wife of P. H. Hogue, who is living in Plainfield; and James E., of this sketch. The

father died in 1875, and the mother, who survived him fifteen years, passed away in 1890.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm, and acquired a good common school education, attending school through the winter months until sixteen years of age, while in the summer season he worked in the fields. He remained at home until twenty years of age, when, in March, 1865, he responded to the call for troops, and enlisted as a private of Company I, One Hundred and Fifty sixth Illinois Infantry. He was mustered into service at Joliet, and thence was sent to Nashville, and on to Chattanooga and Memphis, remaining in the latter city on guard duty until September, 1865, when he was honorably discharged.

When the country no longer needed his service, Mr. Doane returned to his home, and worked for his father until he had attained his majority, and for a year afterward, being employed by the month. He then rented his father's farm, which he operated for a year, when he removed to Iroquois County. This was in 1867. He purchased eighty acres of land on section 26, Ridgeland Township, began its development, and has since made his home thereon.

In January of the same year in which he came to this county, Mr. Doane was united in marriage with Miss Susan Hogue, daughter of Jonathan and Lydia Hogue. By their union was born a daughter, Florence O., who was educated in the Onarga schools, and resides in Crete, Neb. The mother, after several years' illness, died of consumption on the 26th of March, 1890, and her remains were interred in Onarga cemetery. She was a lady of many excellencies of character and her loss was deeply lamented.

With characteristic energy, Mr. Doane began the cultivation of his land, and the well-tilled fields and the neat appearance of the place indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, and has met with excellent success in his undertakings. The boundaries of his farm he has extended by additional purchase, until now one hundred and sixty acres of arable land pay tribute to his care and cultivation. His life has been a busy one, but

aside from his farm duties he has found time to devote to his duties of citizenship. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, but has never been an office-seeker. He holds membership with the Methodist Church, and his upright and honorable career has won him high regard.



HALE BROS. is a well-known mercantile firm of Buckley, composed of Samuel T. and George B. Hale. The former was born in Pulaski, N. Y., on the 5th of July, 1845, and the latter was born in Oshkosh, Wis., on the 1st of June, 1848. Their father, Samuel Hale, Sr., was born March 26, 1804, in Hollis, N. H., and was one of five sons. The grandfather used to talk about his thirty feet of sons, they being on an average six feet tall.

In the East Samuel Hale, Sr. was united in marriage, November 3, 1842, with Miss Louisa Brown, who was born in Oswego County, N. Y., July 10, 1820. In 1843, he emigrated Westward with his family, locating in Wisconsin. He entered a tract of land near Oshkosh, and afterward kept an hotel in that city and in Fond du Lac. In 1853, he came with his family to Illinois, settling in Decatur, where he was engaged in the lumber business. He established the first planing-mill at that place and was engaged in the grain business there. In the winter of 1864, he removed to Loda, Ill., and in 1867 went to a farm of two hundred and eighty acres in Iroquois County, about five and a-half miles northeast of Buckley. There he resided with his family for about twenty years. In 1877, he sold the farm to his sons, Samuel and George, and ten years later removed to Buckley. The following year he lost his eyesight, and on the 6th of April, 1890, died from la grippe.

The mother of this family is still living at Buckley with her children at the age of seventy-two years. In the family were six children, four sons and two daughters, as follows: Flora, Samuel T., George B.; Frankie, who died when thir-

teen months old; Louise and William. They have a beautiful and comfortable home in Buckley, and all of the living children are still with their mother except William, who married Miss Flora Mell, daughter of William Mell. However, he resides in Buckley.

The two gentlemen comprising the firm of Hale Bros. both received good educational advantages in the public schools of Decatur, Ill. About 1877 they bought their father's farm, which remained in their possession until 1891, when they sold it to Mr. Saore. Forming a partnership, they embarked in the stock business, shipping horses, cattle and hogs, and to this enterprise still devote considerable attention. In November, 1890, they opened a general merchandise store in Buckley, and are carrying on business under the firm name of Hale Bros. In addition to their town property, they are quite extensively interested in farm lands. They are men of good business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, and by their well-directed efforts have achieved success. They are enjoying an excellent trade, which they well deserve. Throughout the community they are widely and favorably known, and have the confidence and good-will of all with whom they have been brought in contact. The members of the Hale family are all supporters of Republican principles.



DR. RICHARD TALIAFERRO, an honored pioneer of Iroquois County, was born in Virginia on the 11th of August, 1818, and was the eldest in a family of twelve children. The father, Jones Taliaferro, was also a native of the Old Dominion. When a mere lad, Richard left the State of his nativity and went to Ohio. He secured a good education while yet a young man, and, having determined to make the practice of medicine his life work, he studied that science for some time, after which he was graduated from the Medical School of Cincinnati, Ohio. He entered upon the prosecution of his chosen profession in the State of Indiana, but subsequently removed to Illinois.

It was in the year 1848 that Dr. Taliaferro located in old Middleport, where he opened an office and began practice. After residing there for about two years, he was married on the 22d of June, 1850, the lady of his choice being Miss Jennie Stanley, daughter of Micajah Stanley, well known as one of the first settlers and honored pioneers of Watseka. He was, no doubt, the most prominent of her citizens in securing the establishment of the town on the present site, and aided materially in the development which has since been made. A sketch of his life appears on another page of this work.

Unto Dr. and Mrs. Taliaferro were born five children, three sons and two daughters: Rebecca, born July 16, 1851, died on the 20th of October, 1876. Jones, born November 7, 1854, married Ella Thompson November 15, 1884, in White Oaks, N. M., where he now resides. They have two sons. James, born October 15, 1856, died on the 1st of December, 1860. M. Stanley was born September 15, 1860, and in Watseka, on the 7th of February, 1884, married Emma Louise Riggles. They have one daughter and have lost a son. Lida, born January 12, 1864, became the wife of Charles Buford, of Covington, Ky. They were married January 15, 1884, in White Oaks, N. M., where they resided until the death of Mr. Buford in 1889. On the 15th of May, 1890, Mrs. Buford returned to Watseka and is now living with her mother. She has two children: Kittie, who was born December 10, 1884; and Stanley, August 21, 1889.

In October, 1850, Dr. Taliaferro and his wife left Iroquois County and removed to Clay County, Ill., where he resided for several years, engaged in general merchandising. In 1861, he was elected Circuit Clerk of that county on the Democratic ticket. He also held the office of Justice of the Peace and other official positions. Of the principles of Democracy he was a staunch advocate and ever took an active part in promoting the interests of his party. Socially, he was a member of the Masonic fraternity. Wherever he lived he was an honored citizen, for his upright life and straightforward course won him the confidence and high esteem of all with whom he was brought

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S. G. Harper



Mary Harper

in contact. He died in October, 1872, of typhoid fever, and many warm friends mourned his loss. Mrs. Taliaferro, a most estimable lady, makes her home in Watseka, and will probably spend the remainder of her days in Iroquois County, where much of her life has been passed.



EDDY HARPER has spent his entire life in Onarga Township, and is a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families of the county. His parents were Samuel H. and Mary (Lehigh) Harper, the father a native of Cumberland County, Pa., born March 20, 1814, and the mother of Mason County, Va., born May 22, 1820. In 1839 Samuel Harper came to this State from Ohio, and his wife removed from Indiana to Illinois. Their marriage was celebrated April 16, 1839, in Onarga Township, after which Mr. Harper entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Government, and from the tract of raw prairie began the development of a farm. Not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made, but he converted it into rich and fertile fields. He afterward made additional purchases until he obtained three hundred and sixty-six acres of land in Onarga Township, about two miles from the village of Onarga. He was an industrious and enterprising farmer, who engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout his entire life. His pioneer round-log cabin gave way to a hewn-log house, which, in turn, was replaced by a substantial frame house, the present home of his family. Himself and wife have been pre eminently useful members of society and of the church. In 1840, they united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he took a leading part, serving as Steward and Trustee. He was also a member of the first Board of Trustees of Grand Prairie Seminary of Onarga, holding the position until a few years prior to his death. To this institution, as well as to the Church, he was a liberal contributor.

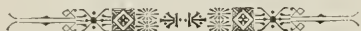
Mr. Harper was a man well informed, considering his advantages. When three years of age, he

accompanied his parents, Samuel and Mary (McCoy) Harper, from Pennsylvania to Ohio. His early life was therefore spent on the frontier, where educational and social advantages were meagre. Whether financially or otherwise considered, he was a self-made man. Politically, he was a Republican until the rise of the Prohibition party, when he became identified with it. His death occurred on the 21st of April, 1889. Thus another old pioneer passed away and his loss was felt throughout the community. The mother of our subject is still living and is one of the earliest settlers in the township. She has watched the entire growth and development of this county, has seen its progress and upbuilding and well deserves mention in its history. She is a most estimable lady and her many excellencies of character have won for her the high regard of all with whom she has been brought in contact.

The Harper family numbered the following children: Alexander, who married Miss May Miles, by whom he has three daughters, enlisted in 1861, as a member of Company C, One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Infantry, and served throughout the war as a faithful and valiant soldier. He now resides in the State of Washington. Harriet E. is the wife of Orin Hull, and resides in St. Louis, Mo.; Alvina is the wife of Charles David and to them have been born three sons and a daughter. Ella F. married William S. Barnes and they have two children, both daughters. John enlisted as one of the Boys in Blue of the same company to which his brother belonged and served for about four years. All traces of him were then lost and as he has not since been heard from it is supposed he was killed. The other members of the family were George W., and Margaret J.; Eddy and his twin sister, Eva, are still home. All except two of the children were educated in Grand Prairie Seminary.

Eddy Harper was born on his father's farm in Onarga Township on the 25th of March, 1857, and in the usual manner of farmer lads the days of his boyhood and youth were passed. His primary education was acquired in the common schools and supplemented by a course in Grand Prairie Seminary of Onarga. He still resides on the home farm and is managing the homestead for

his mother. In politics he is a supporter of Republican principles. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church of Onarga and is now serving as Trustee. His honorable, upright life has won him the high regard, the confidence and good-will of all with whom he has been brought in contact and he has many friends throughout the county, where his entire life has been passed.



CHARLES MEYER, dealer in furniture and an undertaker, is a leading German of Gilman. His birth occurred in Colberg, Prussia, Germany, on the 1st of November, 1839. He is a son of Carl and Willhemina (Ebert) Meyer, both natives of the same country. When sixteen years of age his father entered the Prussian army and served there a period of some six years. Afterward he became Assistant Warden of the penitentiary at Naugard. He continued in office until the labor became too arduous for his advancing years, and was then retired on a pension, which he drew as long as he lived. The mother is still living. In their family were nine children, of whom five sons and three daughters yet survive. All of the boys came to the United States. Otto resides in Gilman, while William, Paul and Ernest make their homes at Peoria.

Our subject is the third child of his father's family, and received such education as was afforded by the common schools of his native land. When about fourteen years of age he went into a store and clerked for four years for merely nominal wages, and the following two years at a very small salary. Being of age to go into the army at that time, he was once mustered into service, but being put off a year, he obtained a visitor's pass and came to America. In 1859 he sailed for Quebec from Hamburg, taking one hundred and fourteen days to reach his destination. While passing through the Irish Channel, a violent wind-storm stripped the rigging from the vessel, and they were obliged to run into port for repairs. They were further delayed for six days on Gross Island, on account of the presence of varioloid on

board. Landing in America in August, he first visited Quebec and Toronto, and then came on as far as Milwaukee. As he has never concluded his visit to the United States, doubtless his pass is still good. He next went to Manistee, Mich., and soon afterward started for Galveston, Tex., but only proceeded as far as Memphis, on account of the breaking out of the war. He then turned back to St. Louis, and finally came to Iroquois County, working on a farm near Loda.

That it was owing to no lack of bravery that our subject evaded the law of his Fatherland, subjecting all young men to military service and discipline, is shown by the fact that after coming to the United States he turned no deaf ear to the call of his adopted country for defenders of the Union, but donned the blue and started fearlessly to the rescue of the Flag. August 13, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, Illinois Infantry, but as that company's ranks were already full, was placed in Company K, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Infantry, which joined the Cumberland Army. For some time he was placed on guard duty, and the first battle in which he participated was Resaca. Afterward he took part in the battles of Dallas, Lost Mountain and Kenesaw Mountain. While carrying a log off a hill at Dallas, he received severe internal injuries, and after the battle of Kenesaw Mountain was sent to the rear. For some eight months he was in the hospital at Nashville, and when he was able he rejoined his command in Virginia, remaining in the service until discharged in Chicago, in June, 1865. Mr. Meyer made a good soldier, and has an army record of which no one need be ashamed. He was ever at his post of duty, and showed great courage on all occasions.

In February, 1866, Mr. Meyer came to Gilman, and embarked in the meat-market business. Subsequently he was in the grocery trade, and for the last seventeen years has been a dealer in furniture, and also carries on the undertaking business.

Mr. Meyer was married in September, 1870, at Watseka, to Miss Kate Gross, a native of Bavaria, Germany, who came in her childhood to the United States with her parents. To our worthy subject and his wife were born five children: Ed-

ward; Laura, who died when about nine years old; Lizzie, Arthur and Carl.

Mr. and Mrs. Meyer are both supporters of the Lutheran Church. Politically, our subject was a Republican until 1872, and since that time has been a staunch advocate of the Democracy. He is an influential man in political circles, and takes an active part in political meetings and conventions. The fellow-citizens of Mr. Meyer, appreciating his worth and ability, have frequently called upon him to serve in public positions. He is still a member of the Board of Aldermen of Gilman, and has served as such for a number of years. He is Town Clerk, and has served for some five years as Collector, and for sixteen years has been Justice of the Peace. The duties of these offices he has ever discharged in a prompt and faithful manner, thus winning the respect of even his political enemies. Socially, he is a Mason, Odd Fellow and Commander of Gilman Post No. 186, G. A. R. Mr. Meyer is in good circumstances, and has prospered in his business. During his long residence of over a quarter of a century in this locality he has made many friends by his upright and straightforward life.



DE WITT CLINTON ADSIT, who carries on general farming on section 12, Lovejoy Township, and is numbered among its early settlers, claims Ohio as the State of his nativity. He was born in Clinton County, on the 2d of October, 1831, and in a family of ten children, numbering five sons and five daughters, he is the fifth in order of birth. His parents, Samuel and Sarah Elizabeth (Stowe) Adsit, are mentioned in the sketch of Stephen Adsit, of Wellington, on another page of this work.

The subject of this record spent his boyhood days in Ohio until nine years of age, and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Adams County, Ind., where he remained until he had attained his majority. The family were among the early settlers of that locality and he aided his

father in the arduous task of clearing the land ready for the plow. His early education was quite primitive, but by his own exertions he has acquired an excellent fund of knowledge and is a well-informed man. When he went to Indiana, all kinds of wild game were plentiful and the Indians had not yet left for their Western reservations beyond the Mississippi. The family removed to the Hoosier State in a covered wagon, about eight days being consumed in making the journey of one hundred miles. They lived in true pioneer style and endured all the hardships of frontier life. The father entered three hundred and twenty acres of land and this was covered with timber. Their first habitation was a little shanty with a bark roof. They had no bedsteads, so they made their beds on the dirt floor; their cooking was all done out of doors, the large kettle being hung upon two crossed sticks over the fire. When it rained they had to abandon cooking until the shower was over. Church services were held in the homes of the neighborhood, and school convened in a log cabin with its puncheon floor and slab seats. The teacher was hired by subscription and boarded around among his pupils.

In 1854, Mr. Adsit came with his parents to Iroquois County, and his father entered over a section of raw land. His home was one of the first built in the township, and one could ride for thirty miles over the prairies without coming to any settlement to impede his progress. There were no railroads, and it seemed that the work of development and civilization was scarcely begun. Onarga was the market at that time. Mr. Adsit was one of the organizers of the first school in Lovejoy Township; his wife was the first teacher, and school convened in the home where they yet reside. He also aided in the erection of the churches of the community, and has been identified with the best interests of the county since a very early day. He hunted deer and earned much of his money by selling the skins. At that day, wild-cat currency was in circulation, and on retiring at night one could not tell whether his money would be of any value in the morning, or simply worthless paper.

On the 19th of March, 1862, Mr. Adsit was married to Miss Laura S. Galloway, daughter of

Samuel and Prudence (Manning) Galloway, who are mentioned in the sketch of Joseph Galloway on another page of this work. Mrs. Adsit was born in Warren County, Ohio, July 5, 1838, and was only four years old when her parents removed to Fountain County, Ind. When a maiden of nine summers the family went to Warren County, where she remained until twenty-three years of age. After attending the common schools, she completed her education in the graded schools of State Line City. As before stated, she taught the first school in Lovejoy Township, and was one of the successful teachers of the county for a number of years. She too has shared in the experiences of frontier life, and with others of the prominent ladies of the county she would ride to church in a big lumber wagon, a sun-bonnet adorning her head. Mrs. Adsit and the children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Wellington.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Adsit have been born five children, two sons and three daughters, of whom three are now living: Matilda R., who was educated in the common schools and at Wesleyan University, and for several years was a teacher of recognized ability in this county, is now the wife of Thomas Parish, a farmer of Lovejoy Township. They have a little son, Perry. She possesses considerable talent, both in music and painting. Sherman, who married Miss Anna Scott, daughter of William Scott, of Lovejoy Township, is a successful physician and surgeon of Hoopeston, Ill., who graduated from the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College in a class of seventy-nine students. Perry, who was educated in the Business College of Bloomington, is engaged in agricultural pursuits and controls his father's farm.

Mr. Adsit owns two hundred and forty acres of arable land, improved with a beautiful residence and other accessories, and to his children has given three hundred and twenty acres of land. He has followed agricultural pursuits throughout the greater part of his life, and by close attention to business and good management, has acquired a handsome competence. In politics, he is a Republican, having supported that party since he cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont. He has served as Commissioner of Highways and

School Director. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and his worth and ability make him one of the leading citizens of the township.



UPTON SCHAU, manager of the Watseka Clothing Store, which does merchant tailoring and deals in ready-made clothing and gents' furnishing goods, of Watseka, established business in that city in the fall of 1883, and has carried on operations in that line continuously since. Mr. Schaub was born in Franklin County, Pa., January 30, 1850, and is a son of David and Mary (McClelland) Schaub. The parents were both natives of the Keystone State. The father was of Swiss descent, and the mother was of Scotch-Irish lineage and a relative of Gen. George B. McClelland, who commanded the Union army in its first advance on Richmond, Va., in the late Civil War. She died in April, 1852. The father died in April, 1867.

When the subject of this sketch was seven years of age he removed with his father to Henry County, Ind., (his mother having died when he was two years old), and about two years later went to Newton County in the same State in 1861. He acquired his education in the common schools, and when seventeen years of age secured a position as clerk in a grocery store in Moroseo, Ind. In 1875, he became associated with a Mr. Kennedy in general merchandising in the same town, and carried on business successfully until 1881. In that year he sold out, and two years later came to Watseka, where he embarked in his present business in a small way, but his trade has since increased until his annual sales amount to from \$25,000 to \$30,000, they having a large country custom.

On the 10th of October, 1876, Mr. Schaub was united in marriage in Chicago with Miss Mary E. Dashiell, daughter of John Dashiell, formerly of Chebanse Township, Iroquois County. Mr. Schaub and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Watseka, in which

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Yours Truly
A. M. Eastburn

he holds the offices of Steward and Trustee, and is an active worker in the Sunday-school. In politics he is independent. In his social relations he is a Mason and an Odd Fellow, holding membership with Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M.; and Iroquois Lodge No. 74, I. O. O. F. He is an enterprising and public-spirited citizen of the community and one having a wide acquaintance.

Mr. Schaub is a popular merchant and has an elegant and well-assorted stock of goods in his store. He is an expert cutter and a skilled workman. His store front was designed by himself and is a gem of beauty. Nothing so fine as his window display is to be found in the county.



ALLEN MINER EASTBURN, proprietor of a grain elevator in Eastburn, in Sheldon Township, is also the owner of a valuable farm of three hundred acres of land. He well deserves representation in this volume, for he is one of the representative citizens of the community and is also an honored veteran of the late war, who for four years faithfully served his country in her hour of peril. He has the honor of being a native of Iroquois County. He was born August 29, 1842, and is a son of Joseph B. and Sarah (Truitt) Eastburn. He received the common-school advantages and was early trained to farm labors. At the age of eighteen he commenced life for himself, working as a farm hand.

After the late war broke out, however, Mr. Eastburn laid aside all business cares, and at the age of eighteen years, responding to the country's call for troops, enlisted in Company C, Fifty-first Illinois Infantry. After remaining in Camp Butler of Springfield for about six months, the troops were sent South to Cairo, Ill. The first duty in which Mr. Eastburn engaged was in the guarding of provisions at the battle of Ft. Donelson. He participated in the engagement at Island No. 10, and aided in cutting the canal through for transports. Subsequently the troops returned to New Madrid and afterward went to Ft. Pillow. From there they went to Pittsburg Landing, participating in the

battle at that place, where they went into camp. However, they also engaged in the battle of Corinth and there Mr. Eastburn was taken sick. Receiving a thirty-day furlough he returned home. On the expiration of the month he rejoined his regiment, but was soon ordered to the hospital in St. Louis. He afterward met his command in Nashville and then went to Stone River, participating in the three days' fight at that place. He engaged in the battle of Chickamauga, and during the second day of the engagement, on the 23d of September, 1863, was wounded in the right shoulder. He was then sent to the hospital in Nashville and his wound was not dressed until he arrived in that city two days later. His injuries proved of a serious nature, and he was confined in the hospital until the middle of February, 1864, when he rejoined his regiment in Chattanooga, Tenn. At this place he then re-enlisted as a veteran and received a thirty-day furlough. After a visit to his home he went back to Chattanooga, Tenn., and in April, 1864, started on the Atlanta campaign. He participated in the battles of Resaca and Buzzard's Roost and in all the engagements until the fall of Atlanta. Subsequently he was under fire at the battle of Jonesboro, in August, 1864, and from there returned to Nashville under Gen. Thomas, opposing Hood all of the way back. They followed the rebel leader across the Tennessee River and then went into camp. At this time Mr. Eastburn was granted a furlough in order to return home and vote, which he did, casting his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. Subsequently he rejoined the troops, which were sent to New Orleans and from there to Texas. Our subject received his discharge at Camp Irwing, Tex., in 1865, after four years of faithful service.

When the country no longer needed his aid, Mr. Eastburn returned home and began farming on a one hundred acre tract of land which he operated for two years. He now owns three hundred acres of rich farming land which yields to him a good income. He has also engaged extensively in raising stock, and in 1891 he built an elevator, since which time he has done a good business as a grain dealer. He is a practical and

progressive farmer, and by his industry, perseverance and good management of his business interests has acquired a handsome competence.

On the 5th of April, 1868, Mr. Eastburn was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Penico, daughter of George and Mary (Kennedy) Penico, both of whom were natives of Ohio. Nine children have been born of their union, but four are now deceased: Ida J., Gracie, May, and one who died in infancy. Those still living are: Nellie, Allen P., Dora, Harry R. and Fred L. They are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Eastburn has just established a town to be known as Eastburn, Ill. It is located four miles west of Sheldon and five miles east of Toledo, on the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroad, and is in the midst of one of the finest agricultural regions of Eastern Illinois. It will be one of the best points for shipping grain in the southeastern part of the county and will no doubt become a thriving village. Since casting his first vote, Mr. Eastburn has been a staunch supporter of Republican principles and has served as Commissioner of Highways and School Director for about nine years. Socially, he is a member of the Patriotic Order of Sons of America and is a friend to all social, educational and moral interests. He gives his support to every worthy enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit, and is as true to every duty of citizenship as when he wore the blue and fought in defense of the Old Flag which now so proudly floats over the united nation.



THOMAS Y. YATES, a prominent and well-known farmer of Iroquois Township, residing on section 10, has for more than half a century made his home in this county, and in presenting to our readers the history of his life we record the history of an honored pioneer, a self-made man and valued citizen. He was born in Clermont County, Ohio, February 14, 1818, and is of French descent. His great-grandfather Yates and four of his sons were killed by the Indians in the Wyoming Massacre during the Revolutionary

War, after which the two remaining sons joined the Colonial army and fought in the War for Independence.

The father of our subject, Artus Yates, was a native of New Jersey, and when a lad of sixteen years removed to Ohio with his father, Thomas Yates, one of the early settlers of Clermont County. He there married Lydia Stump, a native of Kentucky, who, when a maiden of seven summers, went to the Buckeye State. Her father, William Stump, was a German by birth and was an early settler both of Kentucky and Ohio. After his marriage, Mr. Yates engaged in farming in Ohio until the autumn of 1837, when he came to Illinois and east in his lot among the early settlers of Iroquois County. Here he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1848. His wife died about a week previous and they were buried side by side in the Spencer Cemetery, where a monument has been erected to their memory.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who spent the days of his boyhood and youth in Clermont County, Ohio. He is self-educated as well as self-made financially and through his own efforts has become a well-informed man. He came to this county with his father when nineteen years of age. At that time there was not a bridge between the Wabash River and Chicago, not a stream in Iroquois County was bridged and the place was almost an unbroken wilderness. He experienced all the hardships and privations incident to frontier life and has been prominently identified with the upbuilding and development of the county. To the early pioneers is due a debt of gratitude which can never be repaid for what they have done in behalf of the county, placing it in the front rank in this great commonwealth. Mr. Yates aided his father in developing and improving land until he had attained his majority.

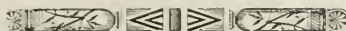
On the 2nd of February, 1843, the marriage of our subject and Miss Isabella H. Wilson was celebrated. The lady was born in Baltimore, Md., and acquired her education in that city. The young couple began their domestic life near L'Erable and afterwards removed to Martinton Township, where Mr. Yates cleared and improved land and engaged in agricultural pursuits and in

stock-raising for about a quarter of a century. He had a large stock farm and engaged in raising cattle extensively, shipping to Chicago. His landed possessions at one time aggregated more than fifteen hundred acres. He afterwards sold out and removed to Iroquois Township, locating on the Iroquois River. He has now opened up four farms in this county and his present home on section 10, Iroquois Township, comprises three hundred and forty acres of valuable land, which is under a high state of cultivation and improved with good buildings and all the accessories of a model farm.

In 1890, Mr. Yates was called upon to mourn the loss of his life partner, who passed away on the 17th of May. She had been a true and faithful helpmate to him for forty-one long years, and was a faithful Christian and a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church. Her remains were interred in Lima Cemetery, where a monument marks her last resting-place. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Yates were born four children: Mary Jane, wife of Leander Cadore, who resides in Iroquois County, and by him has six children; William, who is married and resides with his family in Iroquois Township; Scott, who is merchandising in Pittwood; and Florence, wife of Henry McKee, a farmer of Iroquois Township.

Of late years, Mr. Yates has been identified with the Democratic party. In early life he was an old-line Whig and cast his first Presidential ballot for Henry Clay. He has never been an aspirant for public office but has given his time and attention exclusively to his business; in which he has met with excellent success. For more than half a century he has been a resident of Iroquois County, having witnessed almost its entire growth and up-building. When he came here he had ample opportunity to indulge a taste for hunting and he has killed many deer, foxes and wolves. In the work of transforming its wild land into beautiful homes and farms he has borne an important part. He has seen its hamlets grow into thriving towns, while many of its leading villages had not yet sprung into existence on his arrival. Chicago itself consisted of only a few cabins. Mr. Yates has seen the introduction of the railroads, the tele-

graph and telephone, and of all those industries which mark the progress of civilization. He is a man of unblemished character and sterling worth and has the confidence and esteem of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



hON. WILLIAM LEROY JOHNSON, a prominent grain dealer of Buckley and President of the Buckley Bank, is a native of the old Granite State. He was born in Coos County, N. H., on the 7th of February, 1841. His father, David B. Johnson, was also a native of New Hampshire. After attaining to years of maturity, he married Miss Sallie D. Lane, a native of Maine. His death occurred in 1841, when he left three sons: James S., Edward H., and William Leroy, then an infant. All three were soldiers in the late Civil War. James, who became a member of Company C, Seventh Illinois Cavalry, was taken prisoner at Germantown, Tenn., in October, 1863, and confined in Belle Isle and afterward in Andersonville Prison, where in the spring of 1864 he died. The mother of this family after the death of Mr. Johnson was married, in 1845, to John H. Meserve, of Whitefield, N. H. They had one son, John B., who enlisted in Company C, Seventh Illinois Cavalry, during the late war and served until its close. Mr. Meserve died in 1858, and his wife, who survived him about thirty years, was called to her final rest in 1887.

The subject of this sketch spent the first nine years of his life in his native State, and in 1850 came with his mother and step-father to Illinois, the family locating in LaSalle County, where he was reared to manhood. His primary education was received in the district schools of the neighborhood and completed by two terms' attendance at Jennings' Seminary in Aurora. He, too, was one of the boys in blue during the late war, enlisting as a member of the same company to which his brother James belonged, on the 12th of August, 1862. For three years he was a faithful and valiant soldier, ever found at his post. He

saw much hard service and participated in the battles of Coldwater, Water Valley and Coffeyville. Falling back to La Grange, Tenn., they spent the winter guarding railroads. The following spring he was in the battles of Germantown and Colliersville, where his company lost heavily. He also took part in the battle of Plaine's Store, that being one of the actions in the investment of Port Hudson. There his regiment, with parts of two others, did the foraging for the entire army. After the fall of Port Hudson his command returned to Memphis, Tenn., and was soon sent on the Sturges Raid, which proved disastrous. Though in many engagements more or less severe, Mr. Johnson was never wounded nor taken prisoner. At length, when the war was over and the country no longer needed his services, he was mustered out, just three years after his enlistment, on the 12th of July, 1865.

After the war, Mr. Johnson went to the Sandwich Islands and spent five years as assistant on a large sugar plantation. In 1870, he returned to this State and has since made his home in Buckley, having now been numbered among its leading residents for twenty-two years. On the 6th of September, 1871, he was united in marriage with Miss Tamson E. Butters, daughter of John and Sallie (Meserve) Butters. Mrs. Johnson is a native of Lovell, Me. Two children were born of their union, both sons, but only one is now living. Ernest W., born August 9, 1875, died in September, 1876; Julian C., born November 26, 1880, is at home with his parents.

In his social relations, Mr. Johnson is a Knight Templar Mason, belonging to Buckley Lodge No. 634, A. F. & A. M.; Cement Chapter, of Utica, Ill.; and Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton. He also held membership with Will Carter Post No. 653, G. A. R., of Buckley, and in politics is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He has been honored with a number of public offices, having served as Town Clerk and Supervisor, and as a member of the Village Board of Trustees for many years; he was elected and served as Representative from Iroquois County to the Thirty-sixth General Assembly of Illinois.

On locating in Buckley in 1870, Mr. Johnson

embarked in business as a grain dealer, and has since carried on operations in this line with good success. He also owns the Buckley Bank, formerly the property of John A. Koplin, which he purchased on the 1st of January, 1892, and does a general banking business. He is a man of excellent business ability, methodical and systematic, and by his fair and upright dealing has gained the confidence and good-will of all with whom he has been brought in contact. He is alike true to every public and private trust, and the fidelity and promptness with which he discharged his duties as Representative characterizes his work in the smallest detail. He owns a quarter-section of land three and a-half miles east of Buckley, besides his residence property in Buckley, his home being one of the finest in the township. His success has been well merited.

Mr. Johnson is widely and favorably known not only in Iroquois but in adjoining counties. He has traveled considerably over this country and his experiences in this direction, together with his five years of life on the Sandwich Islands, have made him a pleasant and entertaining conversationalist. He is a prominent business man, an honored veteran and a valued citizen, and with pleasure we present to our readers this record of his life.



ROBERT CALDWELL, one of Sheldon's most highly respected citizens and a prominent grain dealer who has been in business in this place since 1878, was born near Circleville, Pickaway County, Ohio, February 22, 1831. His father, John Caldwell, was born in the Keystone State, February 5, 1800, and when eight years of age removed with his parents to Ohio, where they entered land from the Government and there resided the remainder of their lives. After attaining mature years, he was united in marriage in 1826 with Miss Elizabeth Monette, who was born in Ohio, of French parentage. Her father, Isaac Monette, was one of the pioneers of the Buckeye

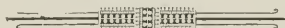
State, and served as Captain in the War of 1812. Mrs. Caldwell died June 22, 1838, and in 1839 Mr. Caldwell was again married, his second union uniting him with Rebecca McClelland, a native of Pennsylvania. By the first union were born the following children: Elizabeth Jape, who is now the wife of Dwight Calhoun, a resident of Kenton, Ohio; Isaac M., who gave his life in defense of his country, dying in the service at Memphis in 1863; William, who died on the old homestead; Amos B., who is a resident of Pomona, Cal.; and John W., who was graduated from the Wesleyan University of Ohio, and is now residing in Huntington, Ind. Of the second marriage was born a daughter, Annie Maria, who is now living with her mother on the old homestead. Mr. Caldwell, the father of this family, died in August, 1884. He was a very prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was a highly respected citizen. Prior to the war, he was a staunch Abolitionist, and was among the first to become interested in the Underground Railroad.

Robert Caldwell, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the common schools, and at the age of seventeen commenced life for himself by selling merchandise. Since that time he has been dependent upon his own resources, and his success is due entirely to his own efforts. When twenty-one years of age he came to Iroquois County, and in 1852 engaged in farming with his brother, whose land he soon afterward purchased. As an agriculturist, he was very successful, and after retiring from that business came to Sheldon in the fall of 1878 and began dealing in grain. To this venture he has since devoted his time and attention, with excellent success, and now has a fine trade. In connection with this, he owns an interest in three hundred and thirty-five acres in the old homestead, together with considerable real-estate in Kansas.

On the 12th of August, 1856, Mr. Caldwell was united in marriage with Miss Cynthia A., daughter of George and Katy (Barnette) Pinneo, both of whom were natives of Vermont. Four children were born to the union of our subject and his wife: Orlando Benton, who is now located in Chicago; John Leroy, who is engaged in the grain business in Crescent City, Ill.; Elmer A., deceased; and

Olive, now the wife of Dr. C. Warren, of Sheldon. The Caldwell home is a model one, and our subject attributes much of his success in life to the assistance and encouragement given him by his estimable wife.

In his social relations, Mr. Caldwell is a member of the Patriotic Order of Sons of America, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which his family also belong. His fellow-townsmen have given evidence of their appreciation of his worth and ability by repeatedly electing him to the office of Justice of the Peace, which he filled from 1860 to 1876. He has also been School Director for twenty-three years, and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. Mr. Caldwell cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Winfield S. Scott, the old Whig candidate, and at the birth of the Republican party cast his vote for Gen. John C. Fremont, and has voted for every Republican candidate since, strenuously upholding the banner of Republicanism at all times; but while greatly interested in political affairs, has never been an aspirant for the honors or emoluments of public office. He is an honored pioneer of the county, where for forty years he has made his home, and has witnessed almost its entire growth and upbuilding, and is numbered among its representative and leading citizens, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of his life.



HENRY PURGET owns and operates a fine farm of two hundred and forty-eight acres of arable land on section 11, Belmont Township, where he has resided for more than a quarter of a century. His life has been well and worthily spent and its record deserves a place in this volume. A native of Ohio, he was born in Twin Township, Ross County, March 17, 1817. His grandfather was Henry Purget and his father was Frederick Purget. The latter was born and reared in Hampshire County, Va. He served in the War of 1812, and in his native State married Mollie Shoemaker. Throughout his entire

life he followed farming. Emigrating to Ohio, he hewed out a farm in the midst of the forest and there spent the remainder of his life. His death occurred during the time of the late war. In politics he was a Whig and afterward a Republican, and in religious belief, himself and wife were both Presbyterians.

Henry Purget is one of a family of ten children and the only survivor. He was reared amid the hills of his native county, where he had limited educational privileges, but his training at farm labor was not meagre. At an early day he learned to swing the ax and scythe, and to his father he gave the benefit of his labors until he had attained his majority. He then began farming for himself in Ross County, Ohio. He married Margaret Stipp, who died a year later, leaving one child, who is now Mrs. Margaret Schultz, of this county.

In 1840, Mr. Purget removed to Madison County, Ind., and there married Lydia Mustard, a native of Pike County, Ohio. Securing a tract of land which was covered with beech trees, he cleared it of the timber, and there made his home until February, 1865, when he came to Iroquois County, and bought two hundred and seventy acres of land—his present farm. He now owns two hundred and forty acres, all in one body, and an eighty-acre tract near by. The home farm is under a high state of cultivation and supplied with good buildings and all necessary improvements. He has been very successful and now owns valuable property. On one occasion his stable was destroyed by fire and two horses were burned to death, but with characteristic energy he made good his loss.

The death of Mrs. Purget occurred November 28, 1891, and her remains were interred in Belmont Cemetery. At her death she left the following children: Frederick, who was born in Indiana, and now resides in Oklahoma, served throughout the war in the Eighth Indiana Infantry and was twice wounded; William is a farmer of Belmont Township; Henry Stipp is engaged in farming near Woodland; Jasper aids in the operation of the home farm; Newton, who with his brother carries on the old homestead, married Alice Williams, daughter of William Williams; Almira is the

wife of Charles Montgomery, a resident of Iowa; Orpha is the wife of Charles Crank, who is living in Chicago; Amanda is the wife of George Alhands, of Belmont Township; Jane is the wife of Squire Lard, who resides near Milford and is represented elsewhere in this volume; and Philip is married and resides on a part of his father's farm.

Mr. Purget is an adherent of the Methodist Episcopal Church and gives liberally of his means to aid in its support. He cast his first Presidential vote for William Henry Harrison and his last ballot for the grandson of the Tippecanoe hero, Hon. Benjamin Harrison. He first supported the Whig party and since the organization of the Republican party has been a stalwart advocate of its principles but has never been an office-seeker. He has led a busy and useful life. By his economy, industry and well-directed efforts he has acquired a handsome property, and by his integrity and fair dealing has won universal confidence.



AR. LA BOUNTY, an enterprising and well-known farmer who operates the Lyman homestead on section 25, Martinton Township, is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred in Clayton County, on the 24th of February, 1850. His father, Abraham La Bounty, was born in the same county, and the grandfather, Joseph La Bounty, was also a native of New York and of French descent. The father of our subject grew to manhood in the county of his nativity, and there married Sarah Raymond, also a native of New York. He followed farming for a number of years after his marriage and then came to the West with his family, locating in Iroquois County, Ill., where he developed a farm and reared his family. He met his death by accident, being drowned in Sugar Creek in May, 1871. His wife still survives him and resides with her son in Nuckolls County, Neb.

The subject of this sketch came to Illinois with his father and grew to manhood in this county. His educational advantages in early life were quite limited, but he attended school some after

attaining his majority and has a good business education. He remained with his mother until her second marriage and carried on the home farm, and also aided in rearing and educating the younger children.

August 29, 1888, Mr. La Bounty led to the marriage altar Miss Mary E., daughter of Jacob Lyman, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Their union has been blessed with two children, a son and a daughter: Lyman J. Calvin and Bertha Rachel Blanche. They reside with the Lyman's, and since his marriage Mr. La Bounty has operated and managed the home farm for his father-in-law. He is a man of sterling character and worth and is one of the enterprising and representative agriculturists of Martinton Township. In politics, he is a Democrat but has never been an officer-seeker. Himself and wife and all of the members of the household rank high in social circles and their home is the abode of hospitality.



AQUILLA C. CAST is now living a retired life in Crescent City. From the history of the pioneer settlers and the prominent citizens of Iroquois County, the name of our subject should not be omitted. He claims Ohio as the State of his nativity, having been born in Clinton County on the 13th of March, 1837. His grandfather, A. C. Cast, was of Scotch descent, and his family were among the pioneers of Kentucky, where he was born. Hiram V. Cast, the father of our subject, was born in Clinton County, Ohio, in 1818, and was there reared to manhood. He was married to Ruth Smith, a native of the Buckeye State, and they began their domestic life upon a farm in the county of his nativity, where they resided until 1840. In that year they removed to Vermilion County, Ill., locating land near Danville, where Mr. Cast developed and improved a farm, on which he made his home until his death in 1844. He was a prominent and influential citizen, and took quite an active part in local politics. He served as County Sheriff, and was one of the honored

pioneers of Vermilion County. His wife survived him about nineteen years and was a second time married, becoming the wife of Henry Alexander, an early settler of this county. Her death occurred in 1862.

The subject of this sketch is the eldest and only surviving member of a family of three sons. His educational advantages were quite limited, but since arriving at years of maturity he has by self-culture become well informed. When a young man he came to Iroquois County in 1851, and at the age of seventeen years rented land and began farming for himself. His preparations for a home were completed by his marriage with Miss Isabella Jane Robinson, their union being celebrated on the 1st of January, 1857. The lady was born near Crawfordsville, Ind., in 1836, and when a child of two years was brought to this county, her father, William D. Robinson, being one of its honored pioneers. After his marriage, Mr. Cast purchased a forty-acre tract of land, which he broke and fenced, and made many good improvements upon it. A part of this land had been entered by a soldier, Henry Alexander, his step-father, and he engaged in its cultivation and improvement for some time.

It was in 1862 that Mr. Cast purchased forty acres of land adjoining his first farm. Since that time he has bought and sold a number of tracts of land, and now owns one hundred and sixty acres in the old home farm. This is a well-improved and well-tilled place, upon which good buildings have been erected and many excellent improvements made. He engaged in the operation of his farm until 1882, when, in order to afford his children better educational advantages, he removed to Crescent City. He was a practical and progressive farmer, and the neat and thrifty appearance of the place was an index of his character. About 1874, he built a substantial residence in Crescent City, where he now resides.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cast were born eight children, three of whom are deceased: Nettie is now the wife of Theodore Gilchrist, a resident of Crescent Township; Alma Grace is the wife of Isaac Budd, a resident of Pemberton, N. J.; Carrie is a well-educated young lady and a successful teacher;

Elmer E., who is married and resides in Milford, is also engaged in teaching; and Alta E., who completes the family, also follows the same profession.

In his political views, Mr. Cast is a Democrat, having supported that party since he attained his majority. He has served as Assessor and in other local offices, and his public duties were ever discharged with promptness and fidelity. Mrs. Cast and all the children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Cast holds membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has filled all of its chairs. Almost his entire life has been passed in this county, and he is well known throughout its borders. His sterling worth and strict integrity have won him the confidence and good-will of all, and himself and wife are held in the highest regard throughout the community. He is now resting in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest, having by years of industry, enterprise and perseverance won a handsome competence. For the past four years he has spent considerable time in travel, visiting many points of interest in this country, especially in the South, and during the coming year contemplates a trip to California.



EDMUND GOULD, a prosperous farmer who makes his home on section 19, Ridgeland Township, is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred on the 17th of July, 1830, in Rensselaer County. He is a son of Newton and Elmira Gould. In their family were eight children, of whom our subject was the eldest. The others are as follows: William, Charlotte, Luther, Walter, James, Fannie, and one who died in infancy. The father of this family departed this life in 1886, and the mother passed away in 1891. Both were natives of New York State, where they spent their entire lives, he reaching eighty-four and she eighty-five years.

Our subject was born and reared upon a farm, and his early days were passed in the usual occu-

pations of farmer boys. He attended the district schools and acquired his primary education there, which he supplemented by further study, and then received a good business education. When about nineteen years of age he began teaching in the district schools during the winter season, and during the summer months worked upon the home farm. He continued teaching for a period of about five years and then decided to devote his attention exclusively to agricultural pursuits. He therefore rented land and farmed until 1855, at which time he came Westward and settled in Iroquois County, Ill., where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land in Ridgeland Township. This property was the one on which he still resides, and here he now carries on a general farming and stock-raising business.

January 1, 1853, Mr. Gould led to the marriage altar Miss Adeline, daughter of George W. and Eunice (Jones) Glass. By this union two children have been born: Carlton, who carries on agricultural pursuits in Ridgeland Township, and is a successful farmer; and Bertha, who is still under the parental roof. These children have both received the advantages of a good education and have always been very popular in the neighborhood.

Mr. Gould exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democratic party and is an ardent supporter of its principles. He takes an active and interested part in both politics and education, and is a public-spirited man, doing everything in his power to advance the community's welfare. Mr. and Mrs. Gould are consistent members of the Presbyterian Church, where they are zealous workers. For nearly forty years he has been a resident of this township and county and in that time he has witnessed much of its development and progress. At the time of his first location here much of the country was under water, but this difficulty has since been obviated almost entirely by the thorough system of tile drainage, now so extensively practiced. Mr. Gould was appointed by the County Court as one of the Commissioners of Union Drainage District No. 1, of Onarga and Ridgeland Townships. It is not too much to say that the work done by that board has

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J. W. Miller

done more to enhance the value of the land than anything else. On his arrival here the country was sparsely settled, but since this time thriving villages, pleasant homes and well-cultivated fields have sprung up in every direction. During his long residence here he has made many friends, who esteem him highly for his qualities of integrity, reliability and honor.



JOSEPH W. MILLER, Superintendent of the County Poor Farm and one of the influential and enterprising citizens of Iroquois County, was born on the 7th of January, 1817, in Madison County, Ind. His grandfather, Joseph Miller, was born in South Carolina, and became one of the pioneer settlers of Madison County, when there were only three families living on Pipe Creek for a distance of ten miles. He engaged in farming and blacksmithing and there spent the remainder of his life. He was a leading member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and served as Class-leader. In politics, he was a Democrat.

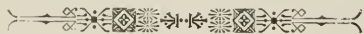
John C. Miller, the father of our subject, was born near Raleigh, N. C., and during his boyhood went to Indiana. He was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life and was educated under the instruction of a teacher, who was hired by three families and would board one week at each place and hold school there. On attaining his majority, he began life for himself and married Belinda Chamness, who came with Mr. Miller's father to Indiana in her girlhood. Their union was celebrated in 1845, and on the 10th of April, 1860, they emigrated to Iroquois County, Ill., locating in Crescent Township, where he bought eighty acres of land. He subsequently increased it to one hundred and sixty acres, and later removed to Watseka, where he engaged in grain dealing. His death there occurred January 24, 1881, and his wife died on the farm in 1865. Mr. Miller was a member of the Odd Fellows' society and was a Democrat and Greenbacker in politics. He held several local offices,

In the Miller family were ten children, the eldest of whom is our subject; Asa is the proprietor of an hotel at Crescent City; Sarah became the wife of Landus Romine and died in Kansas; John Franklin is engaged in carpentering in Kansas; Caroline, widow of Samuel West, resides in Missouri; Martha, widow of Oscar Short, is living in Crescent City; Thomas makes his home in Colorado; Mrs. Nettie East resides in Missouri; Miner and the tenth child died in infancy.

Our subject was a lad of fourteen years when with his parents he came to Iroquois County. He remained under the parental roof until twenty years of age and then went to Nebraska, where he engaged in wood-chopping on the Platte River, making ties for the Union Pacific Railroad. He spent nearly two years in the West and during the last season carried on a blacksmith shop. On his return to Illinois, he again resumed farming, and secured as a helpmate and companion on life's journey Miss Rebecca J. Fiddler. Her parents, George and Harriet Fiddler, are numbered among the pioneer settlers of this county and resided in Plato when it contained but three dwellings. Mrs. Miller was born in Indiana, in November, 1850. By the union of our subject and his wife four children have been born: Emma M., born August 18, 1870; John Franklin, April 16, 1875; George Curtis, September 16, 1881; and Ruth Anna, October 6, 1883.

On his marriage, Mr. Miller purchased a small farm, to which he has since added until he now owns one hundred and forty acres. He has spent one year in Southwest Missouri, and on the 24th of March, 1891, was appointed Superintendent of the County Poor Farm. On the expiration of that term, so acceptably had he filled the office, he was re-appointed at an increased salary. He now has charge of three hundred and ninety acres of land, which is operated under the direction of a good foreman. The farm has an average of forty-four inmates. No better person could have been chosen for the position than Mr. Miller, whose able administration of affairs has won him high commendation. Socially, he is a member of the Odd Fellows' society and the Modern Woodmen. His wife belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In politics, he is a Democrat and supported President Cleveland. He cast his first vote for Horace Greeley. He supports the man whom he thinks best qualified to fill the office. Mr. Miller is a man of sterling worth and integrity and has the confidence and good-will of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



JOHN P. PETERSON, who is engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 30, Prairie Green Township, is numbered among the early settlers of the county, dating his residence from 1855. He is of Swedish birth, having been born in Gottenburg, on the 12th of January, 1831, and is the second in order of birth in a family of eight children, numbering three sons and five daughters, of whom only three are now living. The parents were Jonas and Christina (Chrisander) Peterson. His father was also a native of Sweden. In the usual manner of farmer lads he was reared to manhood, but he learned the trade of carpenter and joiner. In 1849 he emigrated to America, crossing the Atlantic in a sailing-vessel, which dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. He continued his journey Westward overland until he reached Indiana, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying at the age of fifty years. He was a Democrat in politics, and in religious belief was a Lutheran. His wife is a member of the same church. She is still living at the advanced age of eighty-six years, and makes her home with her son John, where she is surrounded by every loving care and attention. The three children of the family yet living are Mr. Peterson, of this sketch; Ann Eliza, wife of L. B. Hastings, a journalist of Hamilton County, Neb., who is now editor and proprietor of the *Aurora Republican*; and Odell, who is married, and follows farming in Nebraska.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent in his parents' home in the land of his nativity. His education was acquired at his mother's knee and by his own exertions, until he is now a well-informed man. Wishing to try his fortune in

America, he bade good-bye to Sweden in 1848, when a young man of eighteen years, and sailed for the New World. He landed in New York, was there taken sick, and for four weeks lay in a hospital. On his recovery he shipped as a sailor on the high seas. The merchantman on which he sailed made trips to Spain and France, and he remained as one of its crew for twenty-three months, during which time they encountered many severe storms, in which he thought he would never again see land. When the time of his contract had expired, he returned to this country and went to the pineries of New York, where he hired out by the month at \$4. He was thus employed for four months, after which he filled a situation for eight months at \$6 per month. He had come to this country empty-handed, but scorned no labor whereby he could earn an honest dollar, and thus provide for his own support.

It was in 1855 that Mr. Peterson came to Iroquois County, where he has since made his home. The same year he was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Day, a native of West Virginia, born on the 26th of April, 1836. She is a daughter of Ambrose and Eve (Dolly) Day. Her father was born in West Virginia, in 1806, was reared as a farmer, followed that occupation throughout his entire life, and died in 1878. His wife was born in West Virginia in 1807, and died in 1891, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. They had a family of eight children, two sons and six daughters, of whom Mrs. Peterson was the third in order of birth. She was educated in the common schools, which were then very primitive. The building was constructed of logs and heated by an immense fire-place, the seats were made of slabs, and the writing-desk along one side of the room was a board laid upon two pegs inserted between the logs. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Peterson was celebrated August 31, 1855, and seven children graced the union, five sons and two daughters, but only two are now living. Alpheus is a successful farmer of Benton County, Ind., and in politics is a Democrat. He married Miss Jennie McPherson, by whom he has four children. Gustus is an enterprising farmer residing in Warren County, Ind. He raised twelve thousand bushels

of corn in 1891. His wife bore the maiden name of Lena Glaze, and their union has been blessed with a little son.

Mr. Peterson and his wife located upon their present farm on the 5th of March, 1877. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of partially improved land, upon which there was a little shanty but no other improvements. With characteristic energy he began the development of his land, and now has one of the desirable farms of this vicinity. His home is a neat and comfortable residence, situated in the midst of well-tilled fields, and the thrifty appearance of the place indicates the supervision and careful management of the owner. He has in his possession an old deed of his land signed by President Pierce. In politics, Mr. Peterson has been a supporter of the Democracy since he cast his first Presidential vote for Franklin Pierce. He is truly a self-made man, and his success in life is due entirely to his own efforts. Steadily has he worked his way upward, until he is now numbered among the wealthy and prominent citizens of the community.



ADDISON WHITESIDE, a well-known and prominent farmer of Ridgeland Township, makes his home on section 20, where he owns a tract of three hundred and twenty acres of valuable land. His birth occurred in the city of Cincinnati on the 10th of September, 1816. He is a son of Samuel H. and Anna (Stewart) Whiteside. The father was born in Rockbridge County, Va., January 16, 1780, and was of English extraction, while his mother was born December 22, 1793, in Pennsylvania and was of Scotch descent. They were the parents of six children, of whom our subject is now the only living child. Milton S. was called to the home beyond in 1876; our subject is next in order of birth; Amanda M. died in the year 1835 and was the wife of John Silsby; Washington died in 1844; and two children died in infancy. The father was a jeweler by trade and his death occurred October 20, 1861.

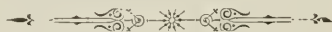
His wife passed away January 1, 1865. She was a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, and both were much loved and esteemed by their many friends and neighbors.

Mr. Whiteside, whose name heads this sketch, lived until eight years of age in the city of his birth, and at that time his father settled on a farm. The education of our subject was received in a log schoolhouse, where he attended until about seventeen years of age. When not in school his time was employed in the duties and labors of farm life, in which he assisted his father as much as possible. In 1833, he returned to Cincinnati and began working at the carpenter's trade, at which labor he continued until 1837, doing quite well financially. In the summer of 1837, he went south to Vicksburg, Miss., where he remained for some months, and then went to New Orleans for the winter. The following year, he went to St. Louis, where he remained for a year. He next went to Springfield, Ill., where he helped in the building of the old State Capitol. While engaged in its construction, he met with a serious accident, as he fell from the dome of the building to the basement, a distance of some thirty-six feet. His shoulder was dislocated and two ribs were broken, and his escape from death was considered quite marvellous. He continued in Springfield during the winter, attending the session of the Legislature in which Lincoln figured, and then returned to Cincinnati, where he lived until 1861. In that year he came to Illinois and located on the farm which he still makes his home. His property is known by the name of Long View Stock Farm, on account of the beautiful view which can be had for miles in all directions from his residence.

In 1845, Mr. Whiteside married Miss Mary, daughter of Harlow C. and Caroline (Hunt) Holabird, both natives of Litchfield County, Conn. Mr. Holabird was born September 24, 1798. His wife was born March 18, 1801. Having lived in Litchfield County, Conn., which had been the home of the family for generations, they removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1833. Mr. Holabird died December 11, 1859, and his wife, who was a member of the Presbyterian Church, died July 1, 1849. Mrs. Whiteside is one of five children, two sons and three

daughters, of whom two are living: Mrs. Caroline Dale, of Chicago; and Mrs. Whiteside. By the union of Mr. and Mrs. Whiteside four children have been born: Milton S. and his second younger brother, Samuel, now have charge of the home farm; Edward E. was murdered by cow boys in 1882, while working as night operator in Thordale, Tex., on the International & Great Northern Railroad; and the youngest, Harlow H., is Superintendent of the Zinc Works at Rich Hill, Mo.

Politically, Mr. Whiteside casts his ballot in favor of the Democratic party, having voted for fifteen Democratic Presidential candidates. He has been an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for the long period of fifty-four years, having been connected with that order longer than any man in the State save one. He has always assisted in public enterprises and has done much for the growth and development of this county. He has many friends in this section who esteem him as a man of high character, integrity and genuine worth. Mrs. Whiteside has been connected with the Presbyterian Church some fifty-five years.



WILLIAM CARY DUNN, who is engaged in the hotel business in Sheldon as proprietor of the Dunn Hotel, has the honor of being a native of Illinois. He was born in Elgin, Kane County, October 29, 1842, and is a son of George and Sarah (Welsb) Dunn, both of whom were natives of the Empire State. The paternal grandfather, Cary Dunn, was of Scotch descent, and his wife came of one of the Dutch families residing in the Mohawk Valley. The maternal grandfather, William Welsb, was a native of Ireland and when a young man emigrated to America. He became one of the pioneers of Ohio and was one of the first settlers of Kane County, Ill. His son Albert was the first white child born in that county.

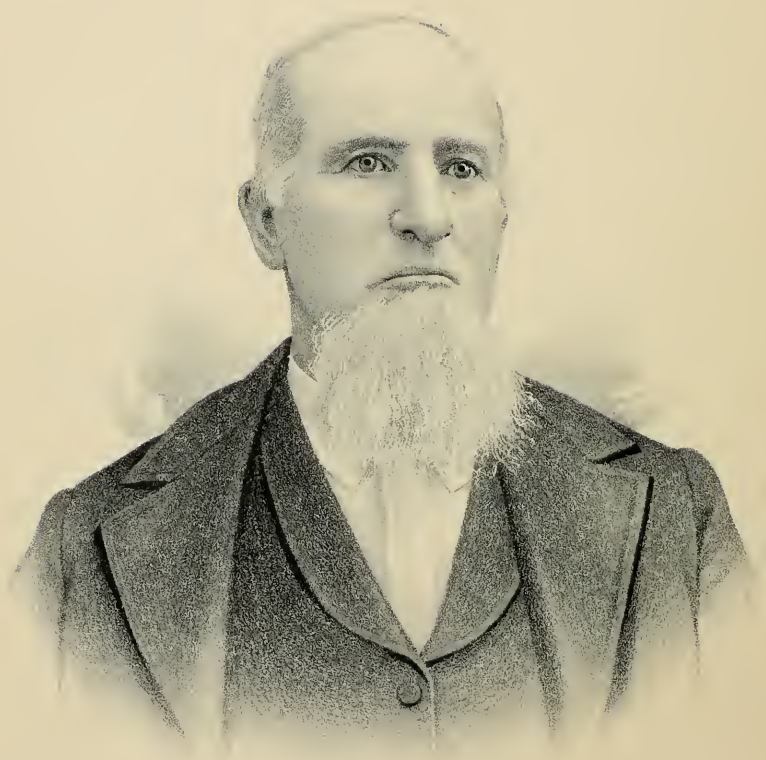
The father of our subject was born in 1813 and was a carpenter by occupation. He also followed farming. In 1838, he emigrated to Elgin, Ill., when the population of that place numbered only

four families. He afterward removed to McHenry County and is now living in Algonquin, that county. His wife departed this life in 1881. In the family were eleven children, ten of whom are yet living: William is the eldest; Mary Ann is the wife of Henry Tubbs, a resident of Fowler, Ind.; Lydia is the wife of Ed Dyke, who resides in Cary Station, Ill.; Melissa is the wife of Fred Hubbard, who is living in Richland, Kan.; Olive is the wife of Fred Baldwin, of Cary Station; Emma is the wife of Kirk Pherson, of St. Charles, Ill.; James T. is located in Denver, Colo.; George E. resides in Sheldon and is city drayman; David D. is living in Cherry County, Neb.; and Benjamin A. resides in Terre Haute, Ind.

In 1867, Mr. Dunn was united in marriage with Miss Agnes Moreland, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, and unto them have been born four children, three of whom are now living: Ada, wife of A. J. Klute; Ida and Leon C. The family is one of prominence in this community, and its members rank high in social circles.

Mr. Dunn whose name heads this record was educated in the public schools of McHenry County, Ill., and at the age of seventeen years left home to earn his own livelihood. He began working on a farm and was thus employed until 1860, when he went to Iowa, where he remained until he entered the service during the late war. On the 13th of August, 1862, he enlisted as a member of Company G, Twenty-first Iowa Infantry, under Col. Merrill. The regiment rendezvoused at Dubuque, Iowa, and thence was sent to Raleigh, Mo. Mr. Dunn remained in the service until the close of the war, and participated in the battles of Champion Hills, Port Gibson, Raymond, Black River, Vicksburg, Jackson, Spanish Fort and Mobile, after which he returned to New Orleans and went up the Red River. He also participated in the siege of Vicksburg and the battles of Jackson and Memphis, and when the war was over he received his discharge in Clinton, Iowa, July 25, 1865. He served as Orderly to Col. Merrill and with him returned home on a thirty-day furlough. He did some arduous service and experienced many of the hardships and privations of army life, but was ever found at his post of duty, faithful to his country,

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Richard Amerman

When the war was over, Mr. Dunn returned to his home in Illinois, but the following spring again went to Iowa with Yankee Robinson's Show and traveled one season; he then commenced staging from Ft. Des Moines to Council Bluffs, Iowa. In 1871, he came to Iroquois County and engaged in farming, and in 1873 engaged in the hotel business. The following year he engaged in the livery business, which he has carried on continuously since, with the exception of three years. In 1889, he became proprietor of the Smith House, of which he had charge a year, and in 1890 built the Dunn Hotel.

In his social relations, Mr. Dunn is a Knight of Pythias, belonging to Damon Lodge No. 72, of Kentland, Ind., and a charter member of L. B. Brown Post, G. A. R., of Sheldon, Ill. In politics, he is a Democrat. As a proprietor of the Dunn Hotel, he is enjoying a good trade. As he earnestly desires to please his customers, and as the place and all its appointments are complete, the hotel has found favor with the traveling public. Our subject is a pleasant and popular man, who wins friends wherever he goes, and in this community is regarded as a valued citizen.



RICHARD AMERMAN, one of the prominent citizens of the county, who is now living a retired life in Hoopeston, was born in Davis County, Ind., December 28, 1825, and is a son of Peter Amerman, a native of the Empire State. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a German by birth and in the Old Country was a sailor. Coming to America, he spent the remainder of his days in New York, and was captain of a boat on the Hudson River. The father of our subject, who was an invalid and cripple, came to the West for his health. He had acquired a good education in the State of his nativity, and taught school in Indiana for some years.

At the age of thirty-eight, Peter Amerman married Margaret McKnight, a native of Kentucky, and unto them was born a family of thir-

teen children. The father taught school in the winter months and in the summer engaged in farming. He died at his home in Vermillion County, Ind. Both he and his wife were members of the Presbyterian Church and were prominent and active workers. In his business dealing, he won success and acquired a handsome competence. In politics, he was a Whig. He was a great reader and had a large library of religious and other works. His death occurred at the advanced age of eighty-seven years.

Of the children in the Amerman family, Mrs. Mary Jane Mast resides in the town of Dana, Vermillion County, Ind.; Richard is the next younger; Mrs. Eliza Ralston makes her home in Dana, Vermillion County; Sarah is deceased; James is living near the old homestead; John died in infancy; John, the second of the name, is living a retired life in Clinton, Ind.; William, who was a soldier during the late war, is living retired in Hoopeston; Theopolis, who was also one of the boys in blue, is located in Dana, Ind.; Henry went to the war and was never again heard from; and Peter, who was also one of the defenders of the Old Flag, owns and operates the homestead farm.

The subject of this sketch remained at home until nineteen years of age, and then began to learn the wagon-maker's trade, but on account of ill health he was forced to abandon that occupation. As he was the eldest son, much of the care of his father's farm devolved upon him. On attaining his majority, he went South to oversee slaves in a woodyard at Boocoy's Landing, Tenn., on the Mississippi River. He was a Democrat when he went to that place, but on his return was a staunch Republican. He saw the slaves of which he had had charge all sold from the block and the families broken up. Their owner had intended to free his negroes, but his death suddenly occurred and the slaves were disposed of in the manner indicated. After a year our subject returned to the North and began working with his brother-in-law. He afterward went to Clinton, Ind., and was foreman of a pork-packing establishment and a grist and sawmill for several years.

It was while in Clinton that Mr. Amerman was married, October 22, 1848, to Miss Hannah Watson,

who was born in Ohio and reared in Vermillion County, Ind., and when six years old was taken by her parents to that county. In 1855, our subject sold out and came by team to Illinois. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land near Ash Grove, and until he could build a better home lived in a little shanty, 12x13 feet, not lathed or plastered. The snow sifted in through the cracks and covered the beds, and the cabin proved a poor protection from the elements. Having established himself in a home and having been blessed with a family of five children, he determined to secure a better education. Accordingly, with his three eldest children, he attended school a term, taught by George Binford. Mr. Amerman has been an active worker in the interests of public education. He has the distinction of having organized the first free school in his community, district No. 1, Ash Grove. Some years after quitting school he took up the study of law under Judge Woods and A. S. Palmer, of Onarga. After the necessary preparation he was examined by a committee appointed by Judge Woods, and was admitted to the Bar. Having practiced successfully for five years, he saw his educational attainments were so meagre that he could not hope to reach the top round in his profession, and, not willing to be a mediocre, he turned his attention to dealing in stock, a business for which he was especially adapted. The success with which he has met has proved his good judgment in selecting this occupation. In connection with dealing in stock he has been an extensive breeder of fine horses, cattle and hogs.

For thirty-four years Mr. Amerman made his home upon that farm, transforming it into one of the valuable places of the county, but at length he purchased sixteen acres of land in Cissna Park, built a beautiful residence and made his home in that place until 1892, when he purchased a better residence in Hoopeston, where he can have better educational privileges for his daughter. He still owns three hundred and sixty acres of fine land in Ash Grove Township. He has platted his land in Cissna Park and has made two additions to the town. Since the incorporation of Cissna Park, he has been its Police Magistrate.

In 1882, Mr. Amerman was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died of heart disease on the 7th of August. She was a lady who had the love and esteem of all, and her death proved a sorrow to the entire community, as well as to her immediate family. Mr. and Mrs. Amerman had a family of thirteen children: Sarah, who is now Mrs. Cheek, resides in Hoopeston. Isaac, who was born in Indiana but was reared in this county, attended the public schools and was graduated from Onarga Seminary. He then studied medicine in Louisville, Ky., and Cincinnati, and for two years has been professor in a medical institute of St. Louis. He carries on a large infirmary in Nevada, Mo., and now has an extensive practice, and is a physician of prominence and a man of more than ordinary ability. Joseph, who is a barber by trade, on account of ill health is at home. Robert, who acquired his education in Onarga, married Miss Alice Lank, was engaged in general merchandising at Hoopeston, but is interested in the Bi-Chloride of Gold Institute of that place. Alonzo operates the old homestead farm; Charles, who was graduated from the Keokuk Medical College and attended one term in Louisville, is now enjoying a good practice in Harrisonville, Mo. Richard, Jr., graduated from the business course in Onarga Seminary, was formerly engaged in merchandising in Hoopeston, and is now interested in the Bi-Chloride of Gold Institute with his brother. George W. graduated from the Dental College of Kansas City, and is now engaged in practice in Harrisonville, Mo. Annie Jane is at home. Four children are deceased, William, Peter, James E. and Nathaniel.

Mrs. Amerman was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is one of the prominent workers in the United Brethren Church, and has given liberally to its support. He cast his first Presidential vote for Henry Clay. We have before spoken of the influence slavery had upon him, and at the organization of the Republican party, to prevent the further extension of that institution, he joined its ranks and has since been one of its zealous advocates. He is one of the prominent and influential members of the party in this community, and is a witty and entertaining speaker. Dur-

ing the late war he was a staunch friend of the Union and did all in his power to raise troops and aid the soldiers. He was a member of the Home Guards and also of the Union League.

Mr. Amerman started out in life for himself at the age of nineteen. He first worked out a store bill of \$48 for his father, who then gave him his time. He has led a busy and useful life and by his well-directed efforts, industry and perseverance he has acquired a handsome property. He possesses good judgment and excellent executive ability, and in this way has won a well-deserved prosperity. He is a man of upright character, held in the highest esteem by all who know him, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of his life.



CLEMENT F. FLEMING is numbered among the pioneer settlers of Iroquois County, and now resides on section 11, Belmont Township, where he owns and operates two hundred and five acres of land, a highly improved and well-cultivated farm, which yields to him a golden tribute for the care and cultivation he bestows upon it. His life record is as follows: He was born near West Lebanon, Warren County, Ind., December 3, 1831. His paternal grandfather, Peter Fleming, served both in the Revolutionary War and in the War of 1812. He was born and reared in Kentucky, but afterwards emigrated to Preble County, Ohio, crossing the Wabash River in an Indian canoe. His death occurred in Warren County, Ind.

The father of our subject, Andrew Fleming, was born in Preble County, Ohio, and was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of frontier life. He emigrated to Warren County, Ind., in 1822, when there were only two other families in the entire county. He entered a tract of land and made a farm in the wilderness. For twenty years before his death he was the oldest settler in the county. He married Ann Mitchell, a native of New Jersey. Her father was murdered on the

Delaware River in his boat and his body was found floating down the stream. A part of his family then emigrated to Ohio, where Andrew and Ann Fleming were married. Immediately thereafter they went to Indiana, where they spent the remainder of their days. The mother died in 1883, and the father died July 9, 1890, at the age of eighty-six years. He was a Whig in politics and a Universalist in religious belief. In his younger years he was a teacher and fine writer. By his own efforts he acquired his education, and became a well-informed man. He also possessed good business ability, and was quite successful in his undertakings. The family numbered eight children: William, of Hutchinson, Reno County, Kan.; Juliet and Julian, twins, the former a resident of Kansas and the latter a resident of Williamsport; C. F. of this sketch; Christina who died in Warren County, Ind.; James A., who died at the age of twenty-three in Warren County, Ind.; Minerva, who is living in Williamsport, Ind.; and John J., a soldier of the late war, who is now living retired in Watsela.

Mr. Fleming whose name heads this record spent his boyhood days in attendance at the common schools during the winter season and in the summer months worked on the farm. He remained at home until the fall of 1852, when he entered two hundred acres of land in Iroquois County. About 1853, with his father and brothers, he entered twelve hundred acres of land in Stockland Township. It was all a wild, open prairie, infested by wolves. At the age of twenty-three, Mr. Fleming took up his residence upon his land, and began breaking prairie with four yoke of oxen. The first summer he broke one hundred and forty acres of land, and in course of time he placed the entire amount under cultivation. Since then he has bought and sold a number of farms, but for twenty-six years has been a resident of Belmont Township. He now owns his home farm of two hundred and five acres, bought of his wife's father, together with another farm of forty acres, and three hundred and twenty acres in the Platte Valley, in Dawson County, Neb., which is operated by his son.

Mr. Fleming was married on the farm which is now his home, October 4, 1860, to Miss Sarah A.

McConnell, a native of Benton County, Ind., and a daughter of John and Almira (Sargent) McConnell, pioneer settlers of this county, who now reside in Bates County, Mo. Seven children have been born unto our subject and his wife: Ida, the eldest, is now the wife of Andrew J. Gillfillan, a farmer of Belmont Township; John A. and Arthur Grant are engaged in the operation of their father's land in Nebraska, and John A. is married; Hattie is the wife of Dorn Harden, a printer of Ottawa, Ill.; Frank L., Philo Alvin, and Homer D. are still under the parental roof.

Mr. and Mrs. Fleming are members of the Christian Church and are charitable and benevolent people, who are highly respected in this community. Our subject cast his first vote for Fremont, and has since been a stalwart supporter of Republican principles. He is numbered among the earliest settlers of this county. When a boy of nine years, with his father and brother William, they drove three teams of oxen to Chicago, where they sold three wagon-loads of oats on what is now South Water Street; returning, they brought with them salt and bacon, for which they received a good price. Forty years passed before Mr. Fleming again saw Chicago and the change that had been made then seemed almost incredible. He has watched the entire growth and upbuilding of this county, and he is one of its self-made men who has worked his way upward to competency and ease.



JOHAN I. EVANS, who is engaged in general farming on section 29, Iroquois Township, where for twenty years he has made his home, was born on the 8th of March, 1848, in St. Joseph County, Ind. His father, Jacob Evans, was a native of Ohio, and about 1827, when a lad of eight years, removed with his mother, a widow, to Indiana, locating in Bartholomew County, then an almost unbroken wilderness. Amid the wild scenes of pioneer life he grew to manhood, and was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary Ann Richardson, who was born near Cincinnati, Ohio. About two years after his marriage he removed to St. Joseph County, Ind., locating

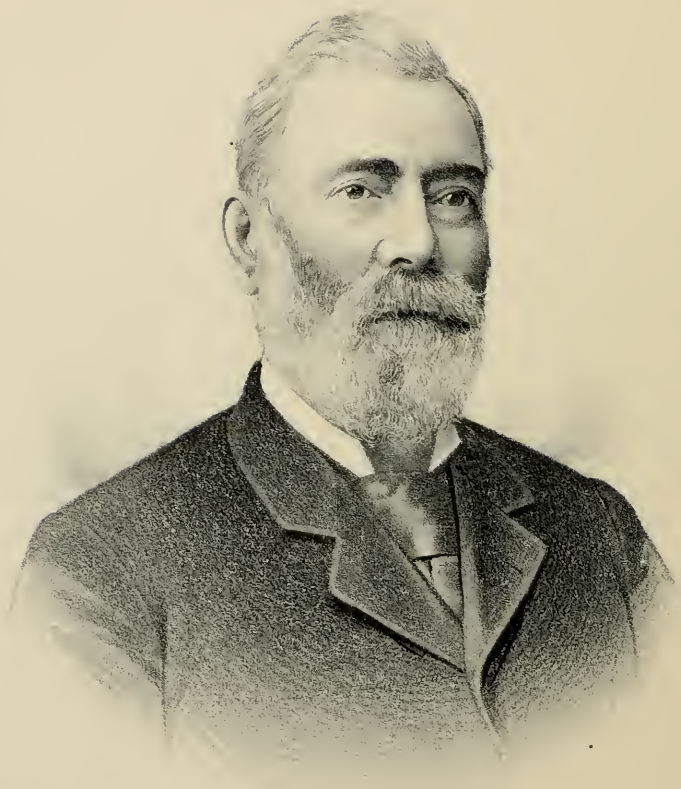
upon a farm. His death occurred about six years later, in 1854. His wife survived him for a number of years and was a second time married. She also spent the remainder of her life in St. Joseph County.

Mr. Evans, of whom we write, went to Southern Indiana after his father's death and lived with his grandparents until sixteen years of age. He attended the public schools and acquired a good English education. When a lad of sixteen he entered the service of his country, enlisting as a member of the Eleventh United States Infantry, on the 15th of April, 1864, for three years' service. With his regiment he participated in the battles in front of Petersburg and soon afterward was taken prisoner at Weldon Railroad. About twenty days later he was paroled, and remained at Annapolis, Md., until exchanged, when he rejoined his regiment and continued with that command until honorably discharged on the 13th of January, 1865.

Mr. Evans returned to the county of his nativity, where he remained one year. The spring of 1866 witnessed his arrival in Iroquois County, and he began work upon a farm by the month. In the spring of 1867, however, he returned to Indiana, but after a year again came to this county and engaged in farming with an uncle, John Evans, who was one of the early settlers of Iroquois Township, remaining with him for a period of four years. It was in 1872 that he purchased his present farm, a tract of raw prairie, and located thereon in 1873, and has since made it his home. He now owns eighty acres of highly improved and valuable land, pleasantly situated about six and a-half miles from Watseka, and one and a-half miles from Crescent City. The well-tilled fields and good improvements upon the place attest his thrift and enterprise.

On the 26th of February, 1880, in Champaign County, Ill., Mr. Evans was united in marriage with Miss Addie Munhall, a native of that county, and a daughter of James and Nancy (Webber) Munhall, who were pioneer settlers of Champaign County. Two children have been born unto our subject and his wife, a daughter and son, Edith and James M.

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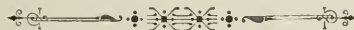
Yours Truly
J. W. Wilson



Sarah Wilson

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The parents are both members of the Congregational Church of Crescent City, in which Mr. Evans fills the office of Trustee. He is a member of Standard Lodge No. 607, I. O. O. F., of Crescent City, has filled all of its offices and is now Past Grand. He also holds membership with the Grand Army Post. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and he has done effective service in the interest of the schools. He believes that good schools make good citizens and that capable teachers should be employed. Mr. Evans is a wide-awake and enterprising citizen who has the best interests of the community at heart, and he and his wife well deserve representation in this volume.



ISAAC W. WILSON, one of the self-made men of the county, who started out in life empty-handed but now has a comfortable competence, is engaged in farming on section 22, Ridgeland Township. He was born in Warren County, N. J., on the 23rd of April, 1825, and is one of a family of nine children born of the union of William and Mary (Probascio) Wilson. His parents were both natives of New Jersey and were of Irish and English extraction, respectively. The father was a carpenter and joiner by trade and followed that occupation throughout his business career. He died at an early age in 1825, when Isaac was only eight months old. The mother of our subject long survived him and was called to her final rest in 1878. Of the family nearly all are now deceased. John died in 1832; Elizabeth died in 1884; William died in 1872; Sarah died in 1885; Catherine is still living; Thompson died in 1841; George W. is engaged in farming in New Jersey; Isaac W. is the next younger; and one other child died in infancy.

The subject of this sketch was born and reared upon a farm. As his father died during his infancy he received very limited educational privileges, for at an early age he had to begin to earn his own livelihood. He was a lad of only thirteen summers when his mother hired him out to

work on a farm, he receiving the munificent sum of \$4.50 per month for his services. He would attend school during the winter months and work upon the farm in the summer season. His time was thus passed until he was twenty years of age, when he apprenticed himself to learn the molder's trade at Auburn, N. Y., where he remained for a year. At the expiration of that period he spent a year and a-half in Geneva and Syracuse, N. Y., and then went to Seneca Falls, where he remained working at his trade until 1856.

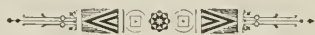
In the meantime Mr. Wilson was married. On December 1, 1847, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Sarah Gaylord, who died on the 22d of May, 1883, the union being celebrated in New Hartford, Oneida County, N. Y. She was a daughter of Benajah and Polly (Friend) Gaylord, both natives of Connecticut. Her remains were interred in Onarga Cemetery. In December, 1884, Mr. Wilson was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Julia A. Munson, widow of Ransom Munson, of Watseka, Ill. She is a native of Delaware County, N. Y., and in 1855 came to this State. Of her marriage to Mr. Munson two children are living, John F. and Mary.

In 1853, attracted by the discovery of gold in California, Mr. Wilson left home and journeyed to the Pacific Slope, making the trip by water. At length he landed in San Francisco. For eight months he remained in the West, working at his trade, prospecting and mining. He then returned to Seneca Falls, N. Y., where he resided until 1856. That year witnessed his arrival in Iroquois County, Ill. Casting his lot among the early settlers, he purchased eighty acres of land on section 22, Ridgeland Township, and began the development of a farm, upon which he has since resided. He now owns two hundred and forty acres of arable land, which is under a high state of cultivation and finely improved with all modern conveniences and the accessories of a model farm.

Mr. Wilson is a supporter of the Democracy and takes quite an active part in local politics, doing all in his power for the growth and up-building of his party. He has served his township as Supervisor for two terms and at present is Commissioner of Highways.

In 1889 he was appointed one of the Commissioners of Union Drainage District No. 1, of Onarga and Ridgeland Township, and for two years succeeding he served as Secretary. They dredged with steam dredge four and twenty nine-hundredths miles. Besides they laid thirteen and forty-five-hundredths miles of tile, ranging from nine to eighteen inches, at a total cost of \$21,000. Although greatly opposed, the work was pushed forward and as Mr. Wilson took an active part he received his full share of the epithets and opprobrium. But now the citizens of the district universally grant it to be the best investment of their lives and hold that it has done more to enhance the value of the land than anything else.

Socially, he is a member of the Masonic order and was connected with the old County Agricultural Society when the fairs were held at Onarga, in which he was honored with the office of President for four years. His property represents his own hard labor, for he began life empty-handed, working his way upward by industry and enterprise to a position among the enterprising citizens of the county. He is numbered among the early settlers of the community, having for thirty-six years here made his home. He has witnessed much of the growth and upbuilding of the county, has aided in its progress and development, and well deserves representation in its history.



I SAAC AMERMAN, Justice of the Peace of Onarga, was born in New York City, on the 23d day of February, 1822, and is a son of Peter and Charlotte P. (Knapp) Amerman, the former a native of New York and the latter of Connecticut. The father was married previous to his union to the mother of our subject, and had nine children by the first marriage. Two sons and two daughters were born to Peter and Charlotte Amerman: Helen, now the widow of Alexander E. Dodge; Frances A., widow of Samuel S. Doughty; Richard and Isaac.

When seven years old our subject went to live with his eldest brother in Johnstown, N. Y., making

the trip by steamboat and canal. He received his education in the academy of that place. In 1836, he returned to his home in New York City, where he remained till his removal Westward. After attaining to man's estate he married Miss Margaret B. Conklin, daughter of William and Susan (Farrington) Conklin, of New York City. In June, 1855, he emigrated with his family to the West, locating in St. Joseph, Mich., where he lived for three years. In July, 1858, he came to Illinois, locating in Onarga Township, Iroquois County, where he has since made his home. He has been prominently identified with its history and is widely and favorably known throughout the county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Amerman were born eleven children: William C., born January 1, 1844, enlisted for the late war in August, 1862, as a member of Company D, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, and remained in the service until the cessation of hostilities. He was wounded in the head at the battle of Arkansas Post. On the 7th of October, 1866, in Lake Mills, Wis., he married Miss Harriet E. Kilbourn, and their home is now in Howell County, Mo. They have four sons: Theodore, Isaac, Arba and Frank. Emeline S. was born September 22, 1845. Margaret A., born December 4, 1847, became the wife of Vincent Farrington, of Bloomington, Monroe County, Ind., December 25, 1866. They now reside in Onarga and have three children: Samuel M., Albert and Paul. Peter, born June 26, 1850, wedded Miss Maria J. Davies, daughter of Thomas Davies, of Onarga, October 21, 1878, and their home in Beatrice, Neb., is brightened by the presence of one son, Carl. Albert M., born February 19, 1852, wedded Miss Mary Alice Lowe, of Onarga, and one child, Charles L., graces their union, which was celebrated June 14, 1888. Richard M., born March 11, 1854, died January 10, 1867. Charlotte M. was born December 23, 1856, in Berrien County, Mich. Helen D. was born September 29, 1859. Frances G., born May 26, 1862, is the wife of John W. Millar, a Presbyterian minister. They were married May 12, 1891, and reside in Deer Lodge City, Mont. Philip M. was born March 1, 1866. Charles H., born March 15, 1867, died on the 23d of Au-

gust following. The first six children of the family were born in New York City and the four youngest in this county.

In January, 1866, Mr. Erman whose name heads this record was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace to fill a vacancy and has since held that position with the exception of one term, when he was absent from the State. His long-continued service attests the prompt and faithful manner in which he discharges his duties and his personal popularity. In politics he is a warm advocate of Republican principles and has held various offices of trust and responsibility for a long period of years. He and his entire family are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which he served as Elder for a number of years, when he resigned. Socially, he is a member of Onarga Lodge No. 305, A. F. & A. M., and for several years was honored with the office of Worshipful Master. He has been identified with the best interests of Onarga for many years and is numbered among its valued and leading citizens who well deserve representation in this volume.



CAPT. COLUMBI'S CROSS, who for four years gallantly defended the flag of our country during the late war, is a dealer in marble and monuments at Gilman. He was born in Utica, N. Y., May 17, 1825, and is a son of Erastus and Ann (Evans) Cross. His father was born in Great Barrington, Mass., though his ancestors came from England prior to the Revolutionary War. His grandfather Cross and his brother served in that war, while his father and several of his brothers served in the War of 1812. His mother was born at Great Barrington also, and her people were of Welsh descent. In 1792, the parents of our subject emigrated to Utica, where his father engaged in the monument and marble business as long as he lived. He had an extensive trade, and was widely and favorably known, both as a skillful workman and as a man of honor and integrity. Much of his work still remains. Pol-

itically, he was a Democrat, and both he and his worthy wife were members of the Methodist Church. In 1848 they were both called to the better land. They had a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters, none of whom survive save our subject and one brother, Erastus, of Oakley Station, Ill., who started the first marble works at La Fayette, Ind. Subsequently acquiring a section of land at Oakley, he has since made that place his home.

Mr. Cross received such an education as the common schools of that early time afforded. He spent much of his time when young in his father's marble shop, and by the time he was ten years old had acquired a liking for the business, so that at his request his father put him to work at smoothing up letters on tombstones, at which he soon became very expert. When only about eighteen, he was employed to carry on the marble business at Erie, Pa., by a firm that owned a quarry in Vermont. Two years later they sent him with a boat-load of marble to Zanesville, Ohio, where for some time he carried on the same line of trade for them. In company with A. C. Smith, he then established business at Cincinnati, under the firm name of the Great Western Marble Works. They continued a very extensive and successful trade until the cholera broke out in 1849, when he sold out and went down the river, opening a fine quarry of white stone at Newmarket, Ind., After five years he discovered that the stone would not stand the action of the weather. He therefore sold his interest and went on to St. Louis, where he continued at his trade until 1857, when he removed to Jacksonville, embarking in the same business.

On the breaking out of the war, Mr. Cross raised a company, of which he was elected Captain. They remained in camp near Springfield until November, 1861, when they were mustered into service as Company E, Tenth Illinois Cavalry. His company was called to Missouri and Arkansas, where after eighteen months' service he resigned, went to New York and raised Company E, Second New York Cavalry, which was assigned to Custer's Division. In the Shenandoah Valley he saw much hard service, and participated in the battles

of Cedar Creek and Winchester, where Sheridan made his famous ride. From that time until the close of the war he was in engagements almost daily. Near Newmarket, Va., he was kicked by a horse on the right knee, which disabled him for several months. He was mustered out at Ft. Niagara, on the 16th of August, 1865.

Soon afterward, Mr. Cross went to Onarga, where he established himself in his former occupation of tombstone and monument work. In 1869 he removed to Gilman, where he has had an extensive trade since. Among the best work he has done are the three O'Hare monuments at Amboy, Ill.; one for Goldsboro, Ore., which went on the first through freight train on the Northern Pacific; the Soldiers' Monument at Mobile, Ala., for the Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry; and Van Kirk's monument at Momence, Ill. The Matzenbaugh vault in Oak Hill Cemetery, at Watseka, and the Danforth vault in the Danforth Cemetery are also fine examples of his skill and art. His long experience in this line has taught him that Italian marble, owing to extremes in heat and cold in this climate, is not as durable as the American marbles.

At Rensselaer, Ind., he led to the marriage altar Miss Mattie Babb, on the 20th of May, 1866. She passed away March 9, 1886, leaving a wide circle of friends to mourn her loss. She was an earnest and consistent member of the Presbyterian Church. To Mr. and Mrs. Cross were born four children: Minnie, Lucy, Ella and Julia. The three first-named are graduates of the Gilman High School, Ella having had the honor of being the valedictorian of her class. The sisters are all members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Cross, though not a church member, contributes liberally to church work.

In politics his sympathies are with the Republican party. He was formerly a Whig, his first vote being cast for Taylor. In 1859, as is shown in the reports of the State Fair held at Jacksonville, he took the first premium for fine work in sculpture. He is a man widely known on account of his workmanship and his long residence in this section. He is a member of the Grand Army Post of Gilman. In the time of our country's

need he was among the first to come to her assistance, and bravely did he defend her rights. In a like manner he has always responded to the call of duty wherever it led him, and thus deserves the commendation of all true patriots and friends of the right.



HIRAM A. PERRY, who carries on general farming and stock-raising on section 8, Milford Township, has been a resident of Iroquois county for about thirty years. A native of Indiana, he was born in Switzerland County, that State, on the 1st of December, 1853, and is one of a family of nine children, whose parents, Hiram and Elizabeth (Dalton) Perry, were both natives of New York. Of their family, Eugene P. married Elizabeth Hammond, and unto them were born four children, two of whom and their father are deceased. Albert Wellington, who married Loretta Dalton, by whom he has five children, is a resident of Momence, Ill. Mertia Helen became the wife of Eber J. Gilbert; they and two of their four children are now deceased. Daniel Gilbert was joined in wedlock with Lucinda J. Penny, and, with their five children, they live in Sheldon Township, Iroquois County. Lewis McMillan married Miss Mary Empey. William Wallace married Kittie McCormick, who died in May, 1891, leaving three children. Emma Rebecca is the wife of Addison Morgan, and, with their family of two children, they reside in Onarga, Ill. Lucy Ann is the wife of Frank Morgan, and with their two children they also make their home in Onarga.

Our subject spent the first ten years of his life in the State of his nativity, and in February, 1863, came with his parents to Illinois, the family locating in Del Rey, where the children grew to manhood and womanhood. Hiram was educated in the public schools and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. He is now engaged in farming and stock-raising, operating a good farm on section 8, Milford Township. He is an enterprising agriculturist, practical and progressive, and is meeting with good success in

his undertakings. Politically, he is a staunch Democrat.

On Christmas Day of 1877, Mr. H. A. Perry was united in marriage with Miss Mary Jane Kiser, daughter of John C. and Sarah J. (Hutchinson) Kiser, of Waseka. They began their domestic life upon the farm and now have a pleasant home in Milford Township. They have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances throughout the community and are numbered among the highly respected citizens.

CHARLES LINCOLN DAZEY is one of the wide-awake and enterprising young business men of Milford, who is engaged as a grain dealer, a member of the firm of Wilcox & Dazey. His life record is as follows: He was born in Fountain County, Ind., December 22, 1861, and is a son of Aaron and Dorcas Ann (Smith) Dazey, both of whom were born and reared in Fountain County. By occupation his father was a farmer and followed that business throughout the greater part of his life. In 1869 he left the State of his nativity and emigrated with his family to Illinois, locating in Iroquois County, a mile and a-half southeast of Milford, where he still resides. The mother departed this life July 12, 1888. In the family were six children, five of whom are yet living: Charles L. of this sketch is the eldest. Jessie, born February 28, 1863, is the wife of Lucas Jones. They reside upon a farm about five miles east of Milford, and have two children. Alta, born May 5, 1865, is the wife of Samuel Sloane, who is engaged in farming about six miles southeast of Milford, where they are living with their two sons. Clinton Francis, born February 18, 1867, married Ida Curtis, by whom he has a little daughter, and he too is an agriculturist, residing five miles northeast of Milford. Cora, born April 21, 1870, is living with her father. Oka, born in September, 1872, died in infancy.

Our subject was a lad of about eight summers, when with his parents he came to Iroquois County, Ill. Under the parental roof he was reared to

manhood and the educational privileges of the common schools were his. On the 18th of July, 1883, he was united in marriage with Miss Annie Fitzgibbon, daughter of Patrick H. and Mary (Murray) Fitzgibbon. Her parents are natives of the Emerald Isle, but now reside in Beloit, Wis.

For some time after his marriage, Mr. Dazey engaged in farming, but for the past seven years he has been a resident of Milford, and is one of its leading and successful business men. He deals extensively in stock, which he buys, sells and raises. He is also interested in the elevator and grain business in Milford, which is carried on under the firm name of Wilcox & Dazey. This is one of the leading industries of the place and they do a large business each year. Mr. Dazey is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He owns considerable property in Milford besides his beautiful residence. This home is the abode of hospitality and our subject and his estimable wife rank high in social circles. He is regarded as one of the active and enterprising business men of Milford, who by his own efforts has acquired a handsome property. His sterling worth and strict integrity class him among the best citizens of the community, and it is with pleasure that we present this record of his life to our readers.

SAMUEL R. HARRY is a member of the firm of Harry Bros., who have an abstract office in Waseka and also engage in the practice of law. He was born on the 18th of March, 1852, in Woodford County, Ill., and is a son of Thomas S. and Irena (Compton) Harry, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this work. In the usual manner of farmer lads, he was reared to manhood and attended the public schools. Later he entered Bethany College of West Virginia, where after a two-year course he was graduated in civil engineering.

On his return from college, Mr. Harry engaged in farming, and afterward studied law in Chats-

worth under the preceptorship of the Hon. Samuel T. Fosdick, a leading lawyer of that place. He was admitted to the Bar in 1879, and the same year located in Milford, Iroquois County, where he embarked in the practice of his profession. He there continued to engage in business until the spring of 1884, when he removed to the farm in Livingston County, and from there came to Watseka in November, 1889, and engaged in the present business.

On the 16th of December, 1879, Mr. Harry led to the marriage altar, in Chatsworth, Miss Laura T. Vail, who was born in Henry, Marshall County, Ill., and is a daughter of Benjamin M. and Mary E. Vail. Two children have been born of their union: Lando C., who was born in Watseka, January 22, 1883; and Walter S., who was born near Chatsworth, Livingston County, on the 22d of April, 1886. The parents are both members of the Christian Church and are leading young people of this community who rank high in social circles.

In politics, Mr. Harry is a Prohibitionist and advocates free-trade principles. The firm of which he is a member is doing a prosperous business and is rapidly winning a foremost place in their line. They are highly regarded by the public.



HENRY W. WHITE, one of the honored pioneers of the county, who is now living retired in Cissna Park, was born in Morgan County, Ind., November 13, 1829. His father, Benjamin White, was a son of James White, a Scotchman, who early in the eighteenth century crossed the Atlantic and located in the southern part of North Carolina. At his death he left a wife and three children, two sons and a daughter, who were reared by a bachelor uncle.

Benjamin White with the others was reared in Guilford County, N. C. An old family Bible records that he was born in Scotland, August 8, 1790, and when a young child came with his parents to America. He was married September 6, 1812, in Guilford County, to Miss Mary Coffin, daughter

of Levi and Prudence Coffin, who was born March 10, 1791. The ancestry of her family can be traced back over eight hundred years. Her brother, Levi Coffin, was president of the Underground Railroad, prior to the late war. He lived at Cincinnati and was a prominent leader in the Abolition movement. All of the family were connected with the Friends' Society.

In an early day Benjamin White emigrated with his family to Indiana and spent three years in Richmond, after which he entered land in Morgan County. While journeying to that place he had to cut his way through the timber for his covered wagon. He then lived in the wagon until poles could be cut for a shanty, and then made his home in the shanty until a log cabin could be erected. He would often take a sack of corn and follow an Indian trail to mill. He made a good farm in the midst of the forest and spent the remainder of his life in Morgan County, dying on the 21st of February, 1863. He had many friends but no enemies. His educational advantages were very meagre but he became a fair scholar and business man by his own efforts. His wife died at the advanced age of ninety-six years on the old home farm. Both were faithful members of the Friends' Society. The family consisted of the following children: Elizabeth, who became the wife of Joseph Morris and died in Hendricks County, Ind.; Milton, who died in Iowa; John, who died in Indiana in childhood; Jesse and Mrs. Anna Anderson, who reside in Plainfield, Ind.; Rebecca Hadley, who resides in Westfield, Ind.; Elihu C., who died on the old homestead in 1855; Henry W. of this sketch, and Elwood, who resides on the old home farm.

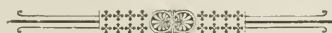
The earliest recollections of Henry White are of the timbered farm in Morgan County, Ind., where his boyhood days were passed. His early education was acquired in the subscription schools, and in 1852 he went to Earlham College, of Richmond, Ind., where he pursued his studies for a year. He then engaged in teaching for two terms near his old home, after which he removed to Amo, Hendricks County, Ind., with his brother Jesse. On the 19th of July, 1854, in that county, he married Lueinda Bales, who was born in Hendricks County, April 8, 1830. In 1856 he returned with his

young wife to the old farm, of which he had charge for two years, and in 1858 he bought land near Belleville, Ind. He sold that farm in 1865 and came to Iroquois County and settled in Ash Grove Township, where some sixty families of Friends from different sections located the same year or the year previous. Purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land, his family began life in a log cabin in true pioneer style. The prairie was wild and uncultivated and all kind of wilds game were plentiful. Mr. White developed a rich and fertile farm, upon which he made his home until his removal to Cisna Park in 1888, since which time he has lived retired.

June 28, 1892, Mr. White was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. She was a most estimable lady, an earnest Christian and faithful member of the Friends' Church. She died in Chicago at the home of her nephew, C. C. Wilson, and her remains were interred in the Friends' Graveyard, three miles North of Cisna Park. Her loss was felt throughout the community and was a heavy blow to her family and friends. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. White: Cory E., a native of Indiana, married Jennie Howard and resides in Cisna Park. He has been engaged in merchandising for several years. Edgar T. is a member of the mercantile firm of White & Lindsey; Susan Alice died in 1865, at the age of five years; and Mary Ann is the wife of Dr. J. A. Bundy, of Iroquois, this county. The children were educated in the common schools and Onarga Seminary, and have all engaged in teaching.

Mr. White is a member of the Friends' Church and has lived an upright, consistent Christian life which has won him the confidence and good-will of all with whom he has been brought in contact. He keeps well informed on all political affairs and has been a staunch Republican since the organization of the party. He cast his first Presidential vote in 1852 for the Whig candidate. He is a personal friend of Benjamin Harrison and his warm admirer. The cause of temperance has ever found in him a very warm adherent, and whatever is calculated to benefit or improve the community has always received his earnest support. For twenty-seven years he has resided in this

county and is one of its highly respected citizens. His life has been a prosperous one and he is now resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former labor.



JEREMIAH R. HARMAN, one of the extensive land-owners of Iroquois County, and a representative citizen of Milford, claims Missouri as the State of his nativity. The place of his birth is in Randolph County, near Moberly, and the date was April 13, 1851. He is a son of Anthony and Theodosia (Carver) Harman, who are mentioned elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of Jacob Harman. In March, 1865, they removed with their family to Warren County, Ind., and located upon the farm where they still make their home.

Our subject was a lad of fourteen years when he went with his parents to the Hoosier State. He began his education in Missouri and completed it in the public schools of Indiana. His residence in the latter State covered a period of nine years, at the expiration of which time he came to Illinois. This was in 1874. Locating in Stockland Township, Iroquois County, he settled on a farm of about eight hundred acres of land on sections 7, 18 and 19, where he carried on general farming and stock-raising on an extensive scale. He is an enterprising man, whose life has been characterized by thrift and industry, and these elements of character have been plainly manifest in his business career. His land has been placed under a high state of cultivation and the well-tilled fields yield to him a golden tribute. The improvements upon the place are such as are found on a model farm, and in every appointment the place seems complete.

On the 3d of February, 1876, Mr. Harman led to the marriage altar Miss Laura B., daughter of James and Susan Schoonover, who reside near Williamsport, Warren County, Ind., where the marriage of the young couple was celebrated. They have one son, an only child, William S., born October 24, 1878. Mrs. Harman is the owner of a

part of her father's homestead in Indiana, her portion comprising two hundred acres of well-improved land.

In political sentiment, Mr. Harman is a stalwart advocate of Republican principles and has held a number of local official positions. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and while serving for ten years as Director he did much for the improvement of the schools of Stockland Township. He and wife and son are all members of the Christian Church, to the support of which he contributes liberally. In the fall of 1887, he removed to Milford, where he owns a beautiful and commodious residence, tastefully furnished with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Mr. and Mrs. Harman hold an enviable position in social circles and their friends and acquaintances throughout the community are many, while by all who know them they are warmly esteemed. Mr. Harman is a man of excellent business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, and fair and honest in all his dealings. His word is as good as his bond, and he is classed among the best citizens of his adopted county.



CHARLES E. WILCOX, a member of the firm of Wilcox & Dazey, grain dealers of Milford, was born in Lowell, Mass., on the 6th of September, 1851, and is a son of Edwin and Maria A. (Tuthill) Wilcox. The father was born in New Hampshire, and the mother in Westminster, Vt. They had but two children, the other being Delyra, born March 17, 1840. In 1836, the parents emigrated Westward, locating in Adrian, Mich., but after two years returned to the Bay State on account of the mother's health. In 1851, they removed to New York, settling at Nunda. At the breaking out of the late war, the father entered the ranks and served for three years as Hospital Steward of the One Hundred and Fourth New York Infantry.

The subject of this sketch acquired his primary education in the district schools, and in 1870 en-

tered the Nunda Academy at Nunda, N. Y., from which he was graduated in June, 1871, having passed the State regent examination. He is the second one and the only student of that school who received a diploma on the first examination.

When his school life was ended, he entered a grocery and queensware store in Nunda, and for five years was employed as salesman. He then determined to try his fortune in the West, and in 1876 came to Chicago. He entered the employ of Charles L. Arnold & Co., wholesale provision merchants, and remained with that firm most of the time until his removal to Milford in 1884. On his arrival here he bought out John Fairman, a grain dealer, who had built an elevator east of the depot, and as a member of the firm of Wilcox & Wescott our subject embarked in business. He has continued in the grain business ever since that time, but a number of changes have occurred in the firm name. In July, 1891, he sold a half interest to C. M. and C. L. Dazey, and operations are now carried on under the title of Wilcox & Dazey.

A marriage, performed in Nunda, N. Y., in 1878, united the destinies of Mr. Wilson and Miss Carrie S. Hunt, daughter of Thomas C. and Fannie Hunt, who were natives of England and direct descendants of Earl Talbott. They have an only child, a daughter, Frances Delyra, born January 9, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox have a large circle of friends and acquaintances throughout this community and their social standing is high. Our subject is a member of Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M.; Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.; and Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton. Politically, he is a staunch Republican, and both he and his wife are of the Baptist faith. He is also a member of Camp No. 296, S. of V., and on the 3d of June, 1892, was appointed Mustering Officer for Iroquois County. He is now serving his second term as a member of the Village Board, and the prompt and efficient manner in which he discharges his duty wins him the commendation of all concerned. While living in Chicago he served as Deputy United States Marshal, and Deputy Assessor under William B. H. Gray. He was also an active member of the National Union League of Illinois. He is a public-spirited and progress-

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Henry E. Starn



Julia Starn

ive citizen who has the best interests of the community at heart and is ever ready to lend a helping hand for the advancement of those enterprises tending to promote the general welfare.

To no other business as to that of grain dealing does a town such as Milford owe its success. The facilities of Wilcox & Dazey are unexcelled. The elevator bears evidence of careful planning, and no expense has been spared to render the service first-class in every respect. All machinery is run by power and their shipping and loading facilities are faultless. The capacity of the elevator is sixty thousand bushels. The firm enjoys an excellent reputation, their name being synonymous with capital, business ability and integrity. To them belongs the credit of making this a leading center and shipping point, they having the best facilities and most convenient arrangements on this line of the road.

Mr. Wilcox is a self-made man, whatever success he has achieved being due to his own efforts.



HENRY E. STAM, who owns and operates two hundred and eighty acres of land on section 4, Concord Township, and is also engaged in stock-raising, was born in Centre County, Pa., on the 22d of August, 1835, and is a son of William and Lydia (Gentzel) Stam. His father died in 1844, leaving a family of six children, of whom our subject was the eldest, and he was then but nine years of age. Henry E. never attended school after thirteen years of age, for he had to aid in the support of the family. After his father's death he went from home for about two and a-half years, when, becoming large enough to aid his mother, he returned and gave her the benefit of his services until he had arrived at years of maturity.

At the age of twenty, Mr. Stam began learning the trade of wagon-making, serving a two-year apprenticeship, during which time he received his board and \$50. He followed that trade until 1867, becoming an expert workman. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey he chose Miss Ju-

lia Harter, whom he married when twenty-one years of age, their union being celebrated in 1856. The lady was born in Centre County, Pa., on the 5th of August, 1835, and is a daughter of Andrew and Catharine (Moyer) Harter, both of whom are natives of Pennsylvania. Seven children have been born of their union who are yet living, and three died in infancy. John, the eldest, is married and resides in Elsie, Neb., where he has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres; William, a resident farmer of Beaver Township, is married and has two children; Leah, of Chicago; Tirzah is the wife of Arthur Hamlin, who lives in Chicago, and they have one child; Henry H. is carrying on a restaurant in the same city; Alpheus and Minnie are both at home.

In 1862, Mr. Stam bade good-bye to the State of his nativity and with his family removed Westward, locating in Greene County, Ind., where he worked at his trade until 1867. He then came to Illinois, locating in Will County, and began farming on rented land. At length he purchased eighty acres at \$20 per acre, and in the fall of 1871 sold that farm for \$40 per acre. The following spring he came to this county and purchased his present home at \$26 per acre. All the improvements upon the place stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise, and the well-tilled fields yield to him a golden tribute in return for his care and cultivation. In connection with general farming he carries on stock-raising and his efforts have been successful. He is a man of good business ability, and by his industry and perseverance has acquired a handsome property which numbers him among the substantial farmers of the community.

Mr. Stam resolved that his own children should have better educational advantages than he received, and all have attended the home schools, while the two youngest have been students in Donovan. In politics he has been a supporter of the Democratic party on questions of National importance since he cast his first Presidential vote for James Buchanan in 1856. In local elections he votes for the man whom he thinks is best qualified for the position, regardless of party affiliations. He has frequently served as a delegate to the county conventions. While in Will County he

served as Road Commissioner. For many years he was School Director, and is now School Trustee. Public-spirited and progressive, he is a valued citizen of the community, and well deserves representation in the history of his adopted county.



JOHIN F. GEDDES, who is engaged in general farming and stock-raising on section 25, Ash Grove Township, owns and operates four hundred and fifteen acres of valuable land. Upon his farm he has made his home since 1868, and in the years which have since come and gone he has transformed what was once a wild prairie into rich and fertile fields. His land is now under a high state of cultivation, and upon the farm are excellent improvements, including a substantial residence and good barns and outbuildings. It is complete in all its appointments, and the neat and thrifty appearance of the place indicates the enterprise and progressive spirit of the owner.

Mr. Geddes was born in Virginia, June 27, 1835, and during his childhood emigrated with his parents to Ohio. His grandfather, John Geddes, was a native of Scotland, and, emigrating to America, he settled in Columbiana County, Ohio, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a farmer and weaver, and also operated a sawmill. His son Joseph, the father of our subject, went to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, where he cleared a small farm, and in 1845 removed to De Kalb County, Ind., there making his home until his death in 1866. He was a true pioneer farmer, and a highly respected citizen. He supported the Democratic party, and lived a quiet, unassuming life. In the Buckeye State he married Catherine Moore, who died in De Kalb County. Twelve children were born unto them, seven sons and five daughters. William, a farmer of Ash Grove Township; Elizabeth, who died at the age of eleven years; J. F., of this sketch; James M., who resides in Rossville, Ill.; Mrs. Mary Robinett, of De Kalb County; J. Robert, a farmer of Ash Grove Township, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; Mrs. Nancy Jane Clark, who is living in De Kalb County; Richard D., of Kan-

sas; David W., deceased, who made his home in La Grange County, Ind.; Mrs. Lucinda Rosenbury, of Ash Grove Township; Joseph, a wealthy citizen of Baker City, Ore.; and Mrs. Minerva Huss, of La Grange County, Ind.

We now take up the personal history of J. F. Geddes, who is well and favorably known in this community. His early boyhood days were spent on a new farm in Ohio, and he early learned to follow the plow and harrow. His educational advantages were very meagre. He first attended the subscription schools, and for a short time went to the district school. At the age of fifteen he left home and worked by the month. On attaining his majority, he began working for himself and did various kinds of labor until twenty-five years of age, when he embarked in farming. In the year 1858 he went to Momence, Ill., where he engaged in farming with his brother James for a year. In the year 1861 he started for Iroquois County, where he intended renting a farm. He had a team and \$100 in money, but paid \$22 of this for wagon and harness. During his journey the roads were covered with water, and his team ran off the grade. After three days he arrived at his destination, and for five years operated a rented farm, during which time he cleared about \$1,200. By raising cattle on shares for Mr. "Sumby" Venum, he got a start. In May, 1866, he went to Kansas and took a claim, but as his family were all ill he returned to Clay County, Mo., and then went to Livingston County, Mo., where he raised a crop. On selling in the fall, he returned to Illinois and purchased eighty acres of prairie land and ten acres of timber for \$1,000. Since 1868 he has made his home upon his present farm.

On the 14th of March, 1861, in Clay County, Ill., Mr. Geddes was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary Adkison, and unto them have been born five children: George W., a teacher of Iroquois County, is at home; Ervin, a farmer, who married Emma Breeding, of Milford; Allie, at home; John, who is engaged in teaching school; and J. Alvin completes the family. The children have been provided with good educational advantages, having attended the public schools, Onarga Seminary and Valparaiso Normal College. Mrs. Geddes was born in John-

son County, Ind., March 14, 1847, and when about seven years old came with her parents to Illinois.

Mr. Geddes was formerly a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but is now a member of the United Brethren Church, in which he serves as Class-leader; his wife is also a member. He takes a prominent part in church work, and does all he can for its advancement. He cast his first Presidential vote for Buchanan, then voted for Abraham Lincoln, and since that time has generally supported the Republican party. Mr. Geddes has passed through all the experiences and hardships of pioneer life, such as going long distances to market and mill. On one occasion, after hauling his grain to the Central Railroad across the prairie, he received only \$3 per load. He has witnessed almost the entire growth and development of the county, and has ever borne his part in its advancement and progress.



ELI HOAGLAND is a practical and progressive farmer of Concord Township, Iroquois County, who owns and operates a good farm of one hundred and ninety-five acres on section 33. He has his land under a high state of cultivation, and the well-tilled fields yield him a golden tribute in return for the care and labor he bestows upon them. His home is a pleasant and commodious residence, his barns and out-buildings are models of convenience, the place is well tilled, and the improvements upon it stand as monuments to his enterprise. In connection with general farming, he carries on stock-raising, and makes a specialty of Poland-China hogs.

The owner of this fine farm is a native of Coshocton County, Ohio. He was born November 8, 1837, and is the eldest of a family of ten children. His parents, James and Hannah (Fox) Hoagland, are represented elsewhere in this work. Eli was a lad of seven summers when, with his parents, he came to Iroquois County in 1845. His boyhood days were spent upon a farm in Concord Township, and he was educated in the common schools of the neighborhood. He made

his home with his father until his marriage, which was celebrated on the 16th of January, 1862, Miss Adela Mantor, of Concord Township, becoming his wife. She was a native of Hamilton County, Ohio, and survived her marriage but little more than a year. She died on the 19th of May, 1863, and her remains were interred in the cemetery of Sheldon.

In the meantime, the Civil War was in progress, and on the 11th of August, 1862, Mr. Hoagland entered the service, bidding good-bye to his young bride. He enlisted in Company E, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, under Col. A. W. Mack, and saw service in Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi under Gen. Hurlburt, but was in no battles, as their duty was in holding posts. On one occasion they started for Vicksburg, but their supplies were cut off and they had to return. Mr. Hoagland was taken sick on the 16th of October with the measles, and afterward had the jaundice and rheumatism. He was confined in the hospital at Memphis, Tenn., until honorably discharged, on the 25th of March, 1863, on account of physical disability.

For a year after his return home, Mr. Hoagland was unable to do any work, but as soon as his health was sufficiently recovered he turned his attention to farming, renting land of his father for about four years. During this time he was again married, his second union being with Miss Helen M. Barnes, of Concord Township, the marriage ceremony being performed on the 8th of November, 1866. The lady was born in Rochester, Fulton County, Ind., November 24, 1849, and is a daughter of Elijah and Sarah (Burnett) Barnes. Her parents died during her girlhood and Mrs. Hoagland came to this county with an uncle. She has three brothers yet living: Joel M., who is married and resides in Salt Lake City, Utah, where he is engaged in business as a carpenter and joiner; Willard F., a farmer, who is married and resides in Sheldon Township, this county; and William Foster, who is also married, and is now engaged in agricultural pursuits in Indian Territory.

Mrs. Hoagland's early girlhood days were spent in the State of her nativity until sixteen years of

age, and her education was acquired in the common schools of Indiana and Illinois. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born seven children, all sons, the four eldest of whom were born in Bates County, Mo.: Ira, born July 26, 1868; Edgar, September 1, 1870; Charles, March 12, 1872; James Oscar, February 23, 1874; Silas, born in Concord Township, November 30, 1876; Ernest and Earl, twins, born on the home farm, April 10, 1883.

About a year after his second marriage, Mr. Hoagland went to Bates County, Mo., where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, making it his home for eight years. During that time he transformed it into a good farm. It was in 1875 that he traded his Missouri farm for one hundred and fifty-four acres of his present home, and since that time he has been a prominent farmer of Concord Township. His first vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and since that time he has been a warm advocate of Republican principles, although he has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking. Himself and wife are faithful members of the United Brethren Church, and he is a teacher in the Sunday-school. Mr. Hoagland started out in life for himself with no capital, but he is an industrious and enterprising man, who has steadily worked his way upward and is now ranked among the prosperous agriculturists of the community. He is a prominent citizen of the county where almost his entire life has been passed, and is a worthy representative of one of its honored pioneer families.



ROBERT W. DANNER is a leading and progressive farmer residing on section 12, Belmont Township, Iroquois County. As he has a wide acquaintance throughout the community and is held in high regard, we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers. He was born in Clay County, Ind., August 3, 1837, and is of German descent. His paternal grandfather was a na-

tive of Germany, but was reared as a farmer lad near Dayton, Ohio.

The father of our subject, Tobias Danner, was born in the Buckeye State and, emigrating to Clay County, Ind., was there married. The year 1851 witnessed his arrival in Illinois, whither he journeyed by team. In Belmont Township he purchased forty acres of land, and afterward bought an additional forty-acre tract. The mother of our subject died in this county twenty-three years ago. In 1869, the father removed to Crescent, where he is now living with his third wife. In politics, he was first a Democrat, afterward became a Republican, and is now a Prohibitionist. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Church.

Our subject is the eldest of a family of six children, numbering three sons and three daughters. John, the second son, is living in Iowa; Catherine is now deceased; Samuel is a resident of Iroquois County; Ella is the wife of Lewis Harwood, of Crescent; and one child died in infancy.

Robert Danner, whose name heads this record, spent the first fourteen years of his life in his native State, and then came with his parents to Illinois. As soon as old enough to follow the plow, he began work on the home farm, and in the winter season he attended the common schools, where he acquired his education. At the age of twenty-two, he left the parental roof and started out in life for himself and rented a farm, which he operated for six years. He then bought land in Sheldon Township, and for sixteen years he has resided upon his present farm on section 12, Belmont Township. He here owns eighty acres of rich land, and the well-tilled fields indicate his thrift and enterprise. He makes them yield as much as most men would gain from twice that amount. He has erected many good buildings upon the place, including a neat residence, and the farm seems complete in all its appointments.

In 1862, Mr. Danner led to the marriage altar Miss Sarah A. Bailey, daughter of John L. Bailey, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. They have no children of their own. John Axtell has been an inmate of their home since four years of age and is an intelligent young man, who

was educated in Onarga. They also have with them Lulu B. Zumwalt, a daughter of Mrs. Danner's youngest sister, who has been with them since her third year. These children could have found no better homes for true parental care and attention than has been bestowed upon them.

Mr. and Mrs. Danner are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are among its leading workers. He has served as Steward for some years and as Superintendent of the Sunday-school. They are charitable and benevolent, and their lives are filled with good deeds. Mr. Danner cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln in 1860, and has since been a staunch Republican. He has held the office of Township Commissioner for six years and has proved himself a capable official, as his long service plainly indicates. His residence in the county covers a period of forty-one years, and he is one of its highly respected citizens. The work of his hands has brought him a comfortable competence, and he is now well-to-do.



ADAM WAMBA is one of the prominent and representative farmers of Martinton Township. He resides on section 16, and his farm adjoins the village of Martinton. There he has made his home since March, 1871. He now owns and operates three hundred acres of valuable land, all under a high state of cultivation and well improved. His home is a substantial and pleasant residence, and good barns, a granary and other outbuildings are numbered among the improvements, also an orchard. The place seems complete in all its appointments, and its appearance indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner.

The life record of Mr. Wamba is as follows: He was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, on the 30th of September, 1828, and is a son of Philip Wamba, also a native of Germany. The father wedded Mary Seftert and they resided upon a farm in the Fatherland for some years. Our subject was reared to manhood under the parental roof, and on attaining his majority he entered the German army, in 1849, serving for four years, and par-

ticipating in several important battles during the German War in Baden. After receiving his discharge he determined to emigrate to America, and in 1853 took passage on a vessel at Havre which sailed for New York. During the voyage, which lasted seven days, they experienced some severe weather, but at length safely arrived at their destination on the 8th of February, 1853. Mr. Wamba earned his first money in this country by working as a farm hand by the month for Joshua Beatty, near Allentown, N. J., with whom he remained for a year. In the meantime, he took lessons in English, learning both to read and write the language. He then worked for a time in the city of Trenton, after which he came West, reaching Chicago, Ill., in June, 1854. He then went to the Northern Peninsula of Michigan, engaging in lumbering in Sturgeon River County for four years.

Mr. Wamba was married in Chicago, in the fall of 1854, to Mary Colem, a native of Canada and of French descent. Her father was Benjamin Colem. Mr. Wamba took his bride to the lumber regions of Northern Michigan, where he remained until 1858, when he returned to Illinois and bought a tract of land in Chebanse Township, Iroquois County. The forty acres of raw prairie were entirely unimproved, but he broke and fenced it and engaged in its cultivation for several years. He then sold and purchased the farm on which he now resides in March, 1871, first buying one hundred and sixty acres of land. This he improved and cultivated, and in course of time he was the owner of a fine farm, which is to-day his.

A family of ten children has been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Wamba, the eldest of whom, Adam G., is now married and follows farming in Martinton Township; Philip is also a farmer; Peter is married and is on the police force of Chicago; Frank is engaged in agricultural pursuits; Libbie is the wife of Adolph Alexander, who is a salesman in Oneida, Kan.; Mary is the wife of A. White, a farmer of Martinton Township; Joe and Philipene are at home; one daughter died in infancy; and Henry was killed on the railroad near Martinton at the age of fifteen years.

Mr. Wamba has resided in this county for thirty-four years and has helped to make it what it is to-

from the Government, and this tract, which was his first landed property, is still a part of his home farm. His life has been a busy one, and by his industry and perseverance he has prospered. He now owns eleven hundred and ninety-one acres of valuable land, all in Concord Township, and owes no man a dollar. He has a beautiful home, and now in his declining years is surrounded with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

In 1892, Mr. Hoagland was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 9th of February, at the age of seventy-two years, her birth having occurred October 4, 1819. She was a faithful member of the United Brethren Church, and for fifty-five years she had been a loving wife and true helpmate to her husband. Through that long period they had traveled life's journey together, and on Christmas Day of 1886 had celebrated their golden wedding. Their union was blessed with ten children: Eli, who was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, November 8, 1837, and now follows farming in Concord Township, is married and has seven children. Mary, born in Coshocton County, May 31, 1839, became the wife of Lyman Mather, and died on the 2d of June, 1871, leaving four children. Isaac, born in Coshocton County, October 14, 1842, was a soldier of the late war from 1861 until 1862, serving under Fremont. He took sick on the forced march after Price, and died near Otterville, Mo., January 3, 1862. His remains were brought back by his father and interred in Sheldon cemetery. Lavina, born in Coshocton County, May 10, 1844, is the wife of James Asbury Clark, of Concord Township, and they have five children. Sarah, born in Concord Township, June 18, 1846, is the wife of Oscar Applegate, by whom she has four children. Ira, born November 15, 1848, resides in Concord Township with his wife and five children. James, who was born April 6, 1850, is married and has one child, and resides in Concord Township. Hannah, born August 20, 1853, died October 6, 1855. Nancy, born December 3, 1855, became the wife of George Shrimplin, and died April 25, 1889, leaving three children. Charles, born July 9, 1858, is married and has one child. He resides on the old homestead with our subject.

Mr. Hoagland did not follow in the political footsteps of his father, who was a Democrat, but became a Whig, and cast his first Presidential ballot for Gen. William Henry Harrison. In 1856, he joined the ranks of the new Republican party, and has since been one of its warm supporters. His life has been well and worthily spent. Devoting his time and attention to his business, his dealings have ever been characterized by uprightness, and he has not only won wealth, but has gained the respect and confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact, and is held in the highest regard throughout this community. Practically, he is now living a retired life, while his son operates the farm, and of late years has spent considerable time in traveling. During the late war, he made several visits to the army, for two of his sons were among the boys in blue. He also attended the Exposition in New Orleans.



JOHN WEBSTER is one of the representative and successful farmers and stock-raisers of this community. He owns and operates three hundred and seventy-two acres of farming land on section 33, Concord Township. He claims England as the land of his nativity, having been born in Yorkshire November 11, 1827, and is a son of William and Anna (Smith) Webster. His mother died when he was a lad of twelve years, and his father when he was fourteen years of age. They left seven sons, of whom our subject is the fifth in order of birth. One brother, William, next older than John, died in England at the age of fifteen years. Andrew, the eldest, is now living near the city of York, England, where he follows farming. He is married and has a large family. Edward died in Boston, England, and left one son. Robert crossed the Atlantic to this country and spent his last days in Iroquois County, leaving at his death a daughter, who has since died. Thomas located in York, England, where he died, leaving a family. Francis, the youngest, owns a farm near Sheldon.

John Webster was reared to manhood in his native country, but, when about twenty-three years of age, he determined to seek his fortune in the New World. He bade good-bye to his old home in 1850, and in company with his brother crossed the briny deep. They located in Clarke County, Ohio, where both secured work as farm hands. After three and a-half years, Mr. Webster returned to England, where he remained until 1856, when he again came to this country. In the spring of that year himself and his brother Robert located in this county, and, in connection with another party, purchased about five hundred acres of land. Our subject took one hundred and thirty-four acres of this as his share and began the development of a farm. It was a wild tract, upon which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made, but with characteristic energy he began its development, and in 1857 built a little log cabin, which is still standing, one of the few landmarks of pioneer days that yet remain.

In the spring of 1858, Mr. Webster completed his preparations for a home by his marriage with Miss Jane A. Hill, of Clarke County, Ohio. Unto them were born three children, of whom two sons are living. Both are married and now reside in Concord Township. The mother died in the fall of 1865, and in 1867 Mr. Webster was again married, his second union being with Miss Emily Murray, who was born in Concord Township, September 30, 1840, and is a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Whiteman) Murray. Twelve children graced this union, of whom eight are now living: Anna E. died in infancy; Sarah J. died at the age of fourteen years and eight months; Minnie F. and Clara M. are at home; Ora E. died in infancy; John S. died at the age of four years and two months; Edward E.; Mary M.; Ida P.; Margaret G.; Emma H. and Letta E. complete the family.

Mr. Webster has been prospered in life and now owns a valuable farm, whose three hundred and seventy-two acres are under a high state of cultivation. The place is improved with substantial buildings and good fences, and he has laid considerable tile. Its neat and thrifty appearance indicates his careful supervision, and gives evidence of his industry and good management, which are

numbered among his chief characteristics. His first Presidential vote was cast for John C. Fremont, in 1856, and for a number of years he supported the Republican party, but has twice voted for Cleveland. He has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking, but has served as School Director for many years, at one time filling the position for twelve consecutive years, and again for six years. He is a strong advocate of the public-school system, and is ever found in the front rank in support of any enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit. As a boy he received a good common-school education, has throughout life been an extensive reader, and is now a well-informed man. Himself and wife hold membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Sheldon, and are numbered among the best citizens of Concord Township. Mr. Webster has won success through his own efforts, and is now a well-to-do agriculturist.



SAMUEL WEST, one of the prominent and highly respected citizens of Iroquois County, residing on section 25, Middleport Township, well deserves representation in this volume, for he is one of the honored pioneers of this community. A native of the Buckeye State, he was born in Champaign County, on the 6th of January, 1821, and is a son of John West, who was born in Ohio, in 1792. His father was one of the early settlers of that State and served in the War of 1812. In Ohio he married Miss Azubah Wilson, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of George Wilson, one of the prominent pioneers of Ohio, in which State the daughter was reared to womanhood. John West was a millwright by trade and followed that occupation during his younger life. He afterward settled upon a farm, which he cleared and improved, in Champaign County, there making his home for a number of years. Subsequently he went to Indiana and upon a farm in that State spent the remainder of his life, being called to his final rest in 1855. He was a successful business man, and by his

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MICAJAH STANLEY.

well-directed efforts won a handsome competence. His wife survived him for a few years.

Unto this worthy couple were born ten children, of whom George, the eldest, died in 1890; Samuel is second in order of birth; Elizabeth is now deceased; Charlotte is the next younger; Moses is a resident farmer of Iroquois County; he was followed by Martha, Selina, William M., and one who died in infancy.

The grandfather, Basil West, was a hero for seven years in the Revolutionary War and was an eyewitness of Bunker Hill and many other battles of historic fame. The first man he saw killed was William Pollard, whose death was caused by a cannon ball taking his head off. Grandfather West was an eye-witness to the throwing of the tea overboard and he made a vow that he would never drink any tea again, and this vow he kept.

The subject of this sketch received only such educational advantages as the common schools afforded, but by self-culture he has made himself a well-informed man. He remained at home until after he had attained his majority, when, in 1843, he determined to seek his fortune in Illinois, and coming to this State joined his elder brother in Joliet, where he remained several years. They engaged in building sawmills. A few years later Mr. West came to Iroquois County and built a sawmill on Sugar Creek, and subsequently he erected a sawmill and gristmill on the Iroquois River, which he operated successfully for some time.

On the 20th of November, 1845, Mr. West married Miss Susie Rush, who is among the oldest residents of this county. By their union was born a family of four children, namely: Charlotte Ann, who is now the wife of Samuel Foust, a farmer residing in Indian Territory; Thomas, who died about 1860; Harvey, who is engaged in agriculture in this county and married; and Emma, the wife of Allison Moore, a resident of Brook, Ind.

Mr. West continued in the milling business until 1852, when, attracted by the discovery of gold on the Pacific Slope, he crossed the plains to California, making the journey with ox-teams. He arrived at his destination after about six months of travel and spent three years in the West, engaged in

prospecting and mining, but his trip was not a very successful one. Speaking of the high prices which then prevailed, he told how he had given as much as \$1 for a pie and a similar amount for the privilege of sleeping in a house overnight on his own blanket. He returned from San Francisco to New York by water and then, passing through Buffalo, Detroit and Chicago, reached his home in Iroquois County, Ill., in the winter of 1854.

After his return, Mr. West built a large flouring mill on the Iroquois River, where he carried on a successful business for a number of years, securing a liberal patronage from all the country round about. He now devotes his time and attention to agricultural pursuits and is engaged in farming two hundred acres of valuable land, which was cleared and broken by himself and placed under a high state of cultivation. Every improvement upon the farm stands as a monument to his thrift and enterprise. He is an energetic and industrious man, and by his perseverance and good business ability he has prospered and won a comfortable competence which is the just reward of his labors.



hON. MICAJAH STANLEY was one of the very earliest pioneers of what is now Iroquois County, and the original proprietor of the site of the city of Watsika. He was born in Highland County, Ohio, February 2, 1810, and was a son of Anthony and Hannah (Hobbs) Stanley. His father was a native of North Carolina, and removed to Highland County, about 1805. About 1813, the family removed from Highland to Clinton County, of the same State, and in 1830, our subject, in company with his parents and other members of the family, traveling with teams, removed from the Buckeye State to Illinois. They reached the Wabash River in Indiana, and spent three weeks on the Wea Prairie. The country was almost uninhabited except by Indians. Perhaps the white families in that region did not exceed a half-dozen. From that place they proceeded to what is now Iroquois, but was then Vermillion County, and settled near the pres-

ent town of Milford. The Stanley party consisted of Anthony Stanley and his wife; Micajah Stanley; his oldest brother, William, and his wife Judith; his second brother, John, and his wife Agnes; his youngest brother, Isaac, and his sisters, Rebecca and Elizabeth. With them from Wea also came William Pickerel, an old Quaker, who became the founder of Milford. He was a remarkable man, a blacksmith, a miller and farmer, a jack of all trades, especially adapted to pioneer life, and as honest as useful. He built a mill at their point of settlement, from which Milford derives its name.

The following extract, purporting to be Mr. Stanley's story, is quoted from the "Iroquois County History:" That winter we witnessed the hardest I ever experienced in my life. We were destitute of almost everything. We came here with eight head of horses, fifteen head of cattle and a flock of sheep, expecting to get hay from the people here, but the fire had destroyed it all. We had to haul our corn from the Wabash, and secured what we expected would do us. In the early part of the winter a snow fell ten inches deep, which increased through the season until it became eighteen inches deep on the level. Then there came a rain and formed a crust on that. The snow was drifted in places until it was six or seven feet deep. That fall we had plenty of wild turkeys, but in the winter they all froze; we had plenty of deer, but the dogs and wolves killed a good many of them and we could find plenty of deer carcasses afterwards. The deer were not all killed and we soon had plenty of them again, but we had no more wild turkeys after that. In 1831, we had a pretty hard time raising a crop. With the rains we had, our streams were filled up very high, I may say tremendously high. In the fall of 1830, Mr. Hubbard was living at Bunkum, and had his trading-post where Benjamin Fry lived. He moved that year to Danville and opened a store there. He employed me and some other men to go to Chicago for goods. He engaged four teams. I took four yoke of oxen. At that time there was nothing between here and Chicago in the shape of a white family. We staid all night at his trading-house, and the next morning started for Chicago.

This was in the spring of 1831. We went up and crossed the Kankakee River, where Robert Hill formerly kept hotel, above Mokena. When we got there the river was very high. We had to ride on the middle cattle, and drive the head ones, and the water ran into our wagon boxes. When we got to Chicago we found no goods there, and had to wait three weeks until the schooner got in. Inside of old Ft. Dearborn there were two or three persons doing business. Mr. Dole was there and another gentleman was keeping a boarding house there. Mark Beaubien was up the river in a little one-story house. We left Chicago and in three days got to the Calumet River. Sometimes we had to hitch ten yoke of cattle to one wagon to haul it through the quicksand. We were between three and four weeks getting home. We ran out of provisions on the way back, and Henry Hubbard met us at Beaver Creek with a basket of food. When we got home we rested about three weeks, and then took the goods on to Danville. This is my experience on that trip."

On the 1st of January, 1833, Mr. Stanley was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Moore, who was born in Adams County, Ohio, near the Sciota line, January 19, 1814. She is a daughter of John S. and Nancy Moore, and with her parents came to what is now Iroquois County in 1832. They were the first settlers in Belmont Township, and her marriage with Mr. Stanley was the first marriage of white people to be celebrated in that township. Eight children, five daughters and three sons, were born to this union; Louisa, the eldest, died at the age of twenty-two years; Jennie is the widow of Dr. Richard Taliaferro, of Watseka; Minerva was the wife of N. B. White and died in the spring of 1864; Joseph married Miss Levantia McWayne, and resides in St. Louis; Dicie is the wife of G. E. Warren, of Middleport Township; Mark A. married Miss Jennie Edinger, and resides in Watseka, his sketch being given elsewhere in this work; Lydia was the wife of A. L. Willoughby, and died in the spring of 1874; and John E., the youngest, wedded Miss Mary McKimpson, and lives on the old Stanley homestead.

In March, 1835, Mr. Stanley built a log house on the present site of Watseka, his nearest neighbor

being three miles distant. He improved his farm, and in 1846 built the then finest barn in the county. In the fall of 1860, he built an hotel, 44 x 72 feet, three stories in height with a one-story kitchen. The building was erected on the northwest corner of block No. 26, now the site of the Williams House. There was a hall in the second story, 30 x 50 feet, and the building was well finished, and furnished in first-class order. The hotel was called the Stanley House, and was run by Mr. Stanley for about five years, including the period of the war. The landlord was noted for his liberality and kind disposition toward all, especially toward the soldiers. On the 16th of February, 1866, the house was destroyed by fire, which broke out about three o'clock in the morning and many narrowly escaped from the burning building. Mr. Stanley did not rebuild the house but sold the lot, and the present Williams House was built by James McCurly in 1869, and on the 28th of March, 1877, became the property of William Williams, its present proprietor.

Within the corporate limits of Watseka have been sunk between one hundred and fifty and one hundred and seventy-five artesian wells, of which a large per cent. are flowing. The first well of this character was sunk by Mr. Stanley near his residence on elevated ground in 1857, but this well did not flow. He sank another on lower ground at his hotel in 1860, which also failed to flow. Several other attempts were unsuccessfully made before the City Council in 1860 secured a flowing well, since which time many others have been sunk, but to Mr. Stanley belongs the credit of initiating the movement. The first Masonic lodge in Iroquois County was instituted at old Middleport in 1850, and Mr. Stanley's name appears as one of its early members.

In course of time Mr. Stanley built a commodious and tasty brick residence on the site of his old log house (which had been supplanted by a large frame house that burned) where he made his home until his death, which occurred April 18, 1888. His widow and son John still occupy the old homestead.

Mr. Stanley was a Democrat in politics, and took an active part in public affairs as the county settled

up. He was elected Coroner at the first county election and served for two years, was constable two years, in 1836 and 1837, Justice of the Peace two years, Sheriff of the county for two years and afterwards again held that office, serving six years in all. In 1811 he was agent for the county in the construction of the first Court House on the public square in Middleport. In 1846, Mr. Stanley was elected to the Legislature from Iroquois County. The navigation of the Kankakee and Iroquois Rivers had excited much interest, and had been warmly discussed and advocated since any considerable settlement had been made in the county. The feeling had become so earnest that this question was the staple of thought and conversation, the single idea of the public mind. Mr. Stanley brought forward a bill chartering the Kankakee and Iroquois Navigation and Manufacturing Company, which was passed and approved February 15, 1847, granting this corporation full control of the improvement of the two rivers for navigation, and also of all the use of the water power thereon for the term of fifty years. The company was organized, and the Kankakee was made navigable to Wilmington, connecting that city with the Illinois and Michigan Canal; but it is not the design of this sketch to go into general history.

Watsaka was first known as South Middleport, Hon. Micajah Stanley proprietor. The plat covered the west one hundred and twenty-three acres of the southeast quarter of section 32, township 24 north, range 12 west, which tract had been entered by Mr. Stanley April 28, 1835, and in 1836 in separate parts, and the plat was made in 1859. On the suggestion of Mr. Stanley, the County Board changed the name of South Middleport to Watsaka, in honor of the Indian girl, wife of Gurdon Hubbard. The town of Watsaka was incorporated in February, 1867. Charles Sherman was the first Mayor, and Mr. Stanley was chosen for the second in March, 1868, and was again elected to that office April 15, 1879. When the Peoria and Oquawka Railroad, now the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw, was built through Iroquois County, Mr. Stanley was active and influential in securing bonds to aid in its construction. He gave the right of way through four miles of farm land and donated ten

acres for depot purposes to the company to secure the depot at Watseka. During the session of the Legislature in the winter of 1862-63, Mr. Stanley, with others, attended in the interest of Watseka to secure a transfer of the county seat from old Middleport to Watseka, and was influential in accomplishing that result. He also donated eight lots to the county, as a permanent public square on which to erect a Court House. He was also one of the accepted bondsmen for Contractor Manton on the construction of the new Court House. In November, 1856, Mr. Stanley was again the nominee of his party as a member of the Legislature, but was defeated by Judge Blades, the Republican candidate, by a small majority. This was about the time of the great political sensational era of Kansas and Nebraska fame, when Democracy was on the wane.

Micajah Stanley was the historic character of early days in South Middleport, now Watseka. His energy and liberality gave impetus to the growth of the town and county, and his influence had never been equalled in that direction by any of his fellow-citizens. He was a man of broad views, sagacious and possessed of wonderful energy and endurance, and he accumulated a large and valuable property. His liberality and generosity were large and always in advance of even his extensive resources. In fact, had he been of the selfish and grasping sort, while public and private enterprises might have languished for want of aid, he would no doubt have left a much more valuable estate for his family. While his virtues were many, his faults were such as benefited others to his own detriment. His memory deserves to be kept fresh in the minds and hearts of the people of Watseka and Iroquois County.



JAMES H. BURK, an honored veteran of the late war and a leading citizen of Sheldon, claims Indiana as the State of his nativity. He was born in Dearborn County, on Christmas Day of 1852, and is a son of James and Nancy

(Grubbs) Burk, both of whom were also natives of the Hoosier State. There they spent their entire lives. The father died when our subject was only about a year old, and the death of the mother occurred twenty years later. In the family were six children, but only two are now living. William, the brother of our subject, makes his home in Indiana.

James H. Burk is the youngest of the family. His early boyhood days were spent with his mother, and at the age of sixteen he commenced life for himself by working on the home farm, where he remained until after the breaking out of the late war. Prompted by patriotic impulses, he responded to the call for troops on the 6th of August, 1861, enlisting as a member of Company K, Twenty-sixth Indiana Infantry, under the command of Col. Wheelley. He participated in the battles of Lexington and Springfield, Mo., and Prairie Grove, Ark., and for about two years his army service was in Missouri. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg in 1863, and participated in the battle and capture of Mobile. On the expiration of his three-year term of service, he re-enlisted and remained in the army until after the close of the war. At the battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., December 7, 1862, he was wounded in the shoulder by a gunshot. He was a valiant soldier, ever found at his post of duty, and when the country no longer needed his services was honorably discharged and mustered out at Vicksburg, June 15, 1866.

After receiving his discharge, Mr. Burk returned to his home and again engaged in farming, which pursuit he has followed during the greater part of his life, and has achieved success in his undertakings, his industrious and well-directed efforts gaining him a comfortable competence. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey he chose Miss Jane H. Conner, a native of Indiana and a daughter of Cornelius Conner. Their union was celebrated in 1867, and this worthy couple are highly respected citizens, who hold an enviable position in social circles.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Burk is a Republican and a warm advocate of the principles of the party, which he has supported since attaining his majority. He has been called upon to serve in

public positions, and for twelve years has held the office of Justice of the Peace, while for two years he has served as City Alderman. The prompt and faithful manner in which he discharges his duties has led to his re-election and won him the commendation of all concerned. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community. A whole-souled, genial gentleman, he has won popularity and enjoys the respect of all who know him.



ROBERT ZEMPEL, a hardware merchant of Woodland and one of the prominent business men of that place, claims Germany as the land of his nativity. He was born in Prussia, on the 5th of May, 1855, and is a son of Frederick and Augustina (Timm) Zempel, both of whom were born and reared in Prussia. The father was a farmer by occupation and served in the War of 1848 against the Revolutionists. In 1866 some members of the family came to America. The mother died in Germany, and in 1867 the father and our subject crossed the Atlantic. The sailing-vessel on which they took passage weighed anchor at Hamburg and after a voyage of six weeks reached the harbor of New York. Frederick Zempel spent part of the succeeding winter in Berlin, Wis., and then went to Kankakee County, Ill., but afterward returned to the Badger State. Subsequently he was a resident of Chicago.

While his father was in Wisconsin, Robert Zempel, whose name heads this sketch, worked on a farm near Martinton. After his removal to Chicago he engaged in clerking in that city and at the same time attended an evening school. He was engaged as salesman until he had acquired by his industry, perseverance and economy enough capital with which to start in business. Going to Woodland in 1876, he embarked in the hardware and grain business as a partner of Mr. Rosenberger, under the firm name of Rosenberger & Zempel. This connection continued for four years, when

Mr. Zempel bought out his partner's interest in the hardware business and has since carried on business alone. He began in a small way, but his trade has constantly increased and he now does an annual business of upwards of \$18,000.

November 1, 1877, in Woodland, Mr. Zempel led to the marriage altar Miss Sophia Schwer, a native of Will County, Ill., and a daughter of William and Ellen Schwer, who with their family came to this county in 1873. By their union have been born five children, as follows: Edward, Robert, Clara, Lawrence and Olga. The family is well and favorably known in this community, its members ranking high in social circles.

Socially, Mr. Zempel is a member of the Odd Fellows' lodge of Woodland, No. 649, and has been honored with the office of Treasurer for the past seven years. He cast his first Presidential vote for Samuel J. Tilden, has since been a supporter of Democratic principles, is an influential man in the party, and has often served as a delegate to its conventions. Mr. Zempel now has a large, neat store, well lighted and stocked with everything found in a first-class hardware establishment. He is a cool, clear-headed business man, sagacious and far-sighted, enterprising and progressive, and the success which has crowned his efforts and the prosperity which has rewarded his labors are well deserved.



LLOYD EASTBURN has longer been a resident of Iroquois County than any other of its native citizens, for he was the first white child born within its borders. He was born on the 22d of February, 1836, in what is now Concord Township, and his present place of residence is on section 31, Sheldon Township. He is not only one of the pioneers of the county, but is one of its extensive land-owners and progressive farmers, and with pleasure we present this record of his life to our readers, many of whom are numbered among his strong friends.

Mr. Eastburn's parents, Joseph B. and Sarah (Truitt) Eastburn, were both natives of the Buck-

eye State. They had the following children: Jesse died about 1834; Lloyd is the next younger; Parker is engaged in farming in Sheldon Township; Allen Miner, a farmer residing in Sheldon Township; and a child who died in infancy. The father of this family followed farming throughout his entire life. In 1834, he came to Illinois, locating in Iroquois County, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of Government land in what is now Concord Township, for \$1.25 per acre. The trip Westward was made by team. He found the county an almost unbroken wilderness, where the Indians were far more numerous than the white settlers. The work of civilization and progress seemed scarcely begun. Mr. Eastburn erected a small log cabin upon his first claim and there resided for about three years, when he removed to Sheldon Township and purchased three hundred and twenty acres of Government land, making his home upon that farm until his death. He was prominently identified with the early history of the county, and in many ways his name is inseparably connected with its development. He aided in laying out the roads and organizing the townships and schools. He was Road Supervisor in an early day, also Justice of the Peace, and was a very prominent citizen. In politics, he was a supporter of the Democratic party, and himself and wife were both members of the United Brethren Church. His death occurred many years ago, and his wife passed away August 8, 1871.

The early recollections of our subject take him back to the pioneer days of his native county, when the Iroquois Indians were still in the neighborhood, when the greater part of the land was still wild and unimproved, and when the county gave little evidence of the progress which would place it in the rank which it to-day occupies among the leading counties of this great commonwealth. His education was mostly acquired in a log schoolhouse, and he attended school one term in what was once a hen-house. He was early inured to the hard labors of the farm, and on attaining his majority he started out in life for himself, renting a part of the old homestead of his mother for about nine years.

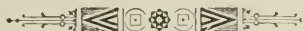
In 1856, Mr. Eastburn was married to Miss Mattie

Houglund, a daughter of Charles and Susie Houglund. Her father, a native of the Buckeye State, was born on the 8th of April, 1806. His educational privileges were very limited and he was mostly educated by his own exertions. He was reared to manhood in the State of his nativity in the usual manner of farmer lads, and after attaining to mature years was united in marriage with Miss Susan Clark, a native of Coshocton County, Ohio, and a daughter of Samuel and Rachel Clark. Eight children were born of their union, five sons and three daughters, of whom four are yet living at this writing, in the winter of 1892: Samuel, the eldest, is a stock dealer and resides in Iroquois County; Isaac is married and resides in Leadville, Colo.; Mrs. Eastburn is the next younger; and Cynthia is the wife of Absalom Warriek, of Sheldon, Ill., and is engaged in the grain business. Mr. Houglund, the father of this family, is still living at the very advanced age of eighty-six years and makes his home in Concord Township. Through his business industry and well-directed efforts, he has become a wealthy man and is one of the honored citizens of the county. Mrs. Houglund died when her daughter Mattie was a maiden of about eight years of age.

Mrs. Eastburn was educated in the common schools. She has proved a valuable helpmate to her husband, and is a kind and loving wife and mother, and is an agreeable hostess, her household being the abode of hospitality. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born ten children, as follows: Charles, Joseph, James, Minnie, Ella, Maggie, George, Cynthia, Parker, and Susie, who died at the age of six months. The Eastburn family is widely and favorably known in this community and its members hold an enviable position in social circles.

Mr. Eastburn exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democratic party and cast his first Presidential vote for James Buchanan. He has ably served as School Director for a number of years, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests. With the United Brethren Church he holds membership. About 1866, he removed to his present farm, purchasing one hun-

dred and sixty acres of land, which has been transformed by cultivation and improvement into one of the most desirable farms in the county. His landed possessions have also been increased until now he owns five hundred and twenty acres, and therefrom reaps a good income. Mr. Eastburn has had to make his own way in the world, but he has overcome the obstacles and difficulties in his path, and with determination and enterprise has steadily worked his way upward, accumulating a handsome competence. His duties of citizenship are faithfully performed, and he has ever borne his part in the work of progress and advancement. Those who have known him from boyhood are numbered among his staunchest friends, a fact which indicates the honorable and upright life which he has led.



JOHAN H. KARR, an extensive farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 4, Concord Township, and has the honor of being a native of Iroquois County. He was born in the township which is still his home, on the 5th of April, 1843, and is one of a family of four children born unto Robert and Caroline (Strickler) Karr. The Karrs are of Scotch-Irish descent. The grandfather of our subject, Adam Carr, crossed the broad Atlantic and located in Erie, Pa., where he was made Justice of the Peace. The Governor, in preparing his commission, spelled his name with a K instead of a C, and the mistake has never yet been corrected. In later years, Adam Karr emigrated to Brown County, Ohio, where he carried on a distillery. There Robert Karr, father of our subject, was born.

In 1833, the grandfather of our subject came with his family to Illinois, locating near Danville, Vermilion County, where he obtained land and engaged in agricultural pursuits for about three years. He then sold out and came to Concord Township, Iroquois County, purchasing a very large tract of land, so that he was able to give each of his seven children a farm, and the Karr neighborhood was known far and wide. Robert Karr was married in this county to Miss

Strickler, who was born in Page County, Va., and came to Illinois with her parents when about sixteen years of age. They began their domestic life upon a farm, and he successfully followed agriculture for many years. He was a prominent citizen in the community and held a number of local offices. In politics, he was a supporter of Republican principles. All of his children are yet residents of Concord Township. Two of his sons served in the army, our subject and Marion.

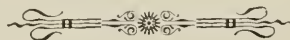
John H. Karr, whose name heads this record, was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life upon his father's farm, and was early inured to hard labor. He acquired a good common-school education, and it was his intention to attend college in Greencastle, Ind. At the age of eighteen, he started for that place, but on reaching Sheldon his patriotism asserted itself, and he enlisted in Company A, Seventy-sixth Illinois Regiment, which was assigned to the Department of the Mississippi and the Gulf. He saw service in eight Southern States and was in many battles, including Hatchie River, Jackson Cross Roads, the siege of Vicksburg, Champion Hill (where he received a slight flesh wound), and Ft. Blakely (Ala.). During the last year he served as Dispatch Orderly for Gen. Steele. At Jackson Roads his horse was shot and fell upon him, and again at Champion Hill, where he was severely injured. After more than three years of faithful service, he was mustered out in Galveston, Tex., August 22, 1865, and received his discharge in Chicago.

Mr. Karr's army life put an end to his school-days, and soon after he returned from the war he began farming on his own account. In 1866, he married Miss Jemima Britton, of Rensselaer, Ind., and unto them were born four children, but the two daughters are now deceased. The sons, Charles and Fred, still reside with their father. His wife died in June, 1878, and on the 17th of April, 1879, Mr. Karr was joined in wedlock with Miss Ellen Dygert, daughter of Henry and Laura (Peck) Dygert, who formerly resided in this county, but are now residents of Kane County, Ill. Four children grace this union: Earl, Mark, Kittie and Grace.

After his first marriage, Mr. Karr worked by

the month for a year, and then, purchasing a team, engaged in the operation of a rented farm until he had accumulated some capital, when he made his first purchase of land. This was in 1875, and he became the owner of one hundred and twenty acres, constituting a part of his home farm. He has since bought other land and, in connection with Mark Ayres, of Chicago, now owns seven hundred acres. He is extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising, and in his business dealings has met with excellent success, working his way upward from a humble position to one of wealth and affluence. His prosperity is well deserved.

In political sentiment, Mr. Karr is a stalwart Republican, and is now serving his eighth term as Supervisor of his township. For eight years he served as School Trustee, for a number of years has been School Director, and has done effective service in the interest of education. Socially, he is a Mason, having been connected with that fraternity since 1868, and has filled all the chairs except that of Master. He has also been a representative to the Grand Lodge several times, and is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His residence in this county covers almost half a century, and he has therefore witnessed the greater part of its growth and upbuilding, and has aided in its development and advancement, ever faithfully performing his duties of citizenship. In reviewing the life of Mr. Karr, we see that it has been well spent, and in presenting this sketch to our readers we record the life work of a valued citizen, a prosperous farmer and an honored pioneer.



PAUL HENRY WOLGAST, of the firm of Wolgast & Wolgast, is a merchant of Danforth, Ill. He is a native of Germany, and was born in Holstein, July 31, 1849. He is a son of Jochan H. Wolgast, a native of the same place. The father there was reared, and married Margaret Wilkin. Since arriving at mature years

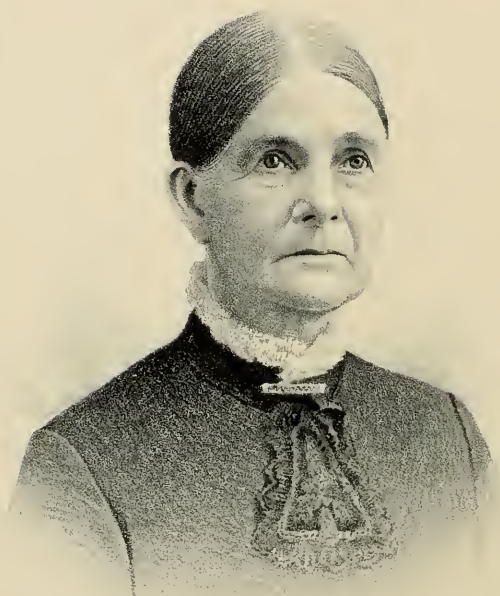
he has engaged in agricultural pursuits in Germany, where he still resides. Our subject is the eldest of a family consisting of two sons and four daughters.

Mr. Wolgast, of this sketch, received good school advantages in the German language, and since coming to this country has acquired a knowledge of English through his reading and observation. Determining to seek his fortune in the New World, he bade adieu to his friends and relatives and in 1871 started from Hamburg and crossed the Atlantic in thirteen days. He landed in New York on the 2d of September, 1871, and came immediately West to Chicago. For about two years he engaged in gardening near that city, and at the end of that time removed to Ashkum, where he engaged in business, remaining there for about two years. After he had been in the latter place about one year, he carried on farming for the same length of time. In 1875, he came to Danforth and engaged in merchandising. In addition to this business he has carried on a farm for about twelve years. He now has a good stock of general merchandise and drugs, and has built up an extensive trade. The firm well merits the large patronage they enjoy, as they keep the best goods and have a large selection of the same at moderate prices.

Mr. Wolgast was united in marriage at Ashkum, in April, 1875, with Miss Louisa Kryder, who was born in Illinois, the place of her birth being Naperville, Cook County, where she was reared and educated. She is a daughter of Charles Kryder, of that place. To our subject and his wife have been born eight children, of whom four sons and two daughters are now living: John, Frank, William, Mabel, Carrie and Orval. Amy, a child of four years, and an infant daughter, Gussie, are now deceased.

Since he has been a voter, Mr. Wolgast has been identified with the Democratic party, and his friends and acquaintances have many times called upon him to serve in official positions requiring such fidelity and ability as are among his chief characteristics. He is now one of the Danforth Trustees, and in that position has served to the satisfaction of his fellow-citizens. He is a member of the German Lutheran Church, in which he is

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Yours as ever
Charlotte E. Chapman



Respectfully
J M Chapman

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an active worker. He is a member of the Druids' lodge of Gilman. For about eighteen years, Mr. Wolgast has been a resident of Danforth, and is well known in Gilman and throughout the county as a man who well deserves the respect and esteem which his fellow-citizens and friends have for him. He has ever been active in all measures pertaining to the good and welfare of this community and State, and for his worth and noble character well deserves to be remembered in this brief sketch.



FOSTER M. CHAPMAN, a prominent and prosperous farmer, and a resident of Gilman, was born in Old Sodus, Wayne County, N. Y., September 19, 1819. He is a son of Henry D. and Maria (Arms) Chapman. His father was born in New Lebanon, N. Y., and his mother in Conway, Mass. His great-grandfather Chapman emigrated from Ireland, and the Arms family were early emigrants from England. Both the paternal and maternal grandfathers were natives of New England and followed farming. Our subject's father was a contractor and builder in the line of carpentry, and was a Whig in politics. In 1836, the mother with her four sons started with an ox-team, driving through Canada, and landed in Washtenaw County, Mich., in the dead of winter. Such a journey, with its accompanying privations and discomforts, can hardly be imagined in these days of steam and electricity, that provide means of rapid transit which would have been considered incredible in those early days. They opened up two farms in Michigan, and there they lived for several years, the mother spending her last days there. She was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, and her death was widely regretted.

Our subject is the second in a family of five children, consisting of four sons and one daughter. He received his education in the old-time school, which furnished such limited advantages. His first money was earned by digging potatoes for a neighbor, and that was credited to his father. In the winter of 1839, he taught school across the

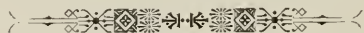
line in Livingston County, Ill., where the refractory pupils had the previous session of school driven the teacher away; but he was not so easily discouraged and overcome, and he promptly brought to terms the chief mischief-makers, and thereby won the confidence and obedience of all.

In Washtenaw County, Mich., on the 20th of March, 1845, Mr. Chapman was united in marriage with Charlotte E. Spafard, who is the daughter of Thomas L. Spafard. Her father is an old resident of Michigan, as he emigrated there in 1838. Mrs. Chapman was born in New York State, and, when sixteen years of age, came with her parents to Michigan. Our subject followed the occupation of agriculture for several years, and in 1851 began selling small farm implements, his headquarters being at Chicago. He handled the first John H. Manney reapers which were brought to that city. For a time he also ran a branch house at Detroit, and had quite an extensive trade in farm implements in the States of Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin. He continued in that business until 1866, when he took the agency for the Manney reaper for the territory of Southern Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee. In 1867, he turned his attention to the real-estate business in Chicago, which he carried on quite extensively until 1875. The following year, he came to Iroquois County and purchased six hundred and twenty acres in Danforth Township. The farm was in an unimproved condition, but by judicious tiling and ditching and the erection of good buildings, he has brought it to its present condition of being one of the best-kept and most fertile farms in the county. In 1878, our subject, in company with W. C. and C. G. McDougall and George W. Decker and others, started the enterprise of cutting a ditch from Prairie to Spring Creek, thus giving a short outlet for this entire flat country. That was the first extensive effort to furnish a system of drainage, and to this work Mr. Chapman gave time, effort and money. Contracts were let for ditches averaging from four to eight feet in depth and forty feet wide, surface measure. As soon as water would run, they put a riding-plow in the ditch and teams on each bank. Mr. Chapman managed the plow, and often rode in water up to his arm-

pits. Day after day, he worked in that soaked condition until the completion of the ditch. Nothing has done more to add to the value of land in this section, and the men who with such perseverance pushed the enterprise deserve much credit.

Politically, Mr. Chapman was a Whig in former times, later an Abolitionist, and since the war a Republican. His first vote was cast for William Henry Harrison of "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too" fame. He has never sought office, but has evinced ample ability to fill any local office, could he be induced to accept it. He is always in the front ranks concerning any question for the welfare of the community, and takes an active interest in political measures. He is a Unitarian in faith, while his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Our worthy subject and his wife have one son, Arms S., who is a reporter on the *Graphic*, of Chicago. Mr. Chapman removed from his farm to the town of Gilman in 1890, where he has a comfortable and pleasant home. He is a constant reader of the best literature, and is a man exceptionally well informed on all the leading questions of the day and able to express his ideas in a forcible and interesting manner. He believes a wife's property should remain in her own right and title, and that statutes should be made to protect the same. During his many years' residence in this county, he has made a wide circle of friends, who esteem him for his strict integrity and honorable career.



MARTIN BURNHAM, one of the enterprising farmers of Martinton Township, now makes his home on section 12, where he has carried on agricultural pursuits for several years. He is one of the early settlers of this township, and is one of the substantial and representative citizens of Iroquois County.

Mr. Burnham is a native of Vermont, having been born in Orange County, that State, on the 21st of February, 1828, and is a son of David

Burnham, who was also born in the same county, in 1802. The father was a son of Hon. Enoch Burnham, a native of Connecticut, born on the 17th of June, 1776. The Burnham family came to this country in an early day, settling in New England. There were three brothers who crossed the Atlantic in 1635, one locating in Massachusetts, and the others in New Hampshire and Connecticut. Their descendants became prominent citizens of the communities in which they resided, and several members served in the Revolutionary War. David Burnham was reared to manhood in the Green Mountain State, and there married Miss Betsy Olds, who was also born in Vermont. He remained on the old homestead where his father had settled when a boy of eleven years. He took quite an active part in local politics, and held several official positions of honor and trust. In June, 1875, he was called to his final rest, dying at the age of seventy-three. His wife departed this life in 1862, when fifty-nine years of age.

Our subject is the third in order of birth in a family of nine children, four sons and three daughters, who grew to mature years. They are as follows: Elisha K., a resident farmer of Vermont; Lora, wife of Dennison Kinsman, of Iowa; Martin; Marcus makes his home in Waupaca, Wis.; Emma resides in Vermont; Luthera is the wife of Henry B. Howard, of the same State; Rosetta, wife of Caleb P. Waldo, of Vermont; Martha E., deceased, was the wife of Winslow Avery, of Plymouth, Mass., and Henry P., the youngest, was a soldier in the late war, and was killed at the battle of Cedar Creek, in 1864.

Martin Burnham passed his boyhood days on the home farm, and in his native State received a good common-school education, which was supplemented by a course in the Thetford Academy. He afterward engaged in teaching for two winters, but in 1849 went to Wisconsin. In Chicago he engaged in carpentering for a few months, although he had never learned that trade, but was always very handy with tools. After six months, in 1850, he started for California, in company with Capt. M. Findley, an old associate of John C. Fremont. On his way to the Pacific Slope, he

went to Independence, Mo., where he purchased a lot of oxen, mules and horses. The trip across the plains consumed three and a-half months, they arriving at their destination on the 20th of August, 1850. Mr. Burnham engaged in mining for about two years, and was reasonably successful. While there he rode a mule to Portland, Ore., where he purchased a herd of cows, which he drove back to California. He returned home by way of the Nicaragua route and New York.

On the 2d of November, 1853, Mr. Burnham was united in marriage with Miss Martha Martin, a native of Orange County, Vt., and a daughter of Porter Martin, one of the pioneers of that State, who was from Connecticut. Our subject purchased the farm of his father-in-law, and there engaged in farming and dairying for ten years. He then sold his farm in 1864 and came to Illinois, settling in Iroquois County. Here he bought two hundred and twenty acres of slightly improved land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation. He has added to his original farm, and now has three hundred and twenty acres of fine land. On the home place are two good residences, barns, and other outbuildings.

With the Republican party Mr. Burnham has been identified many years, having cast his first vote for John C. Fremont, and is a staunch supporter of its principles. He has held a number of public offices, and takes a prominent part in politics. He has served as Supervisor, Road Commissioner, and as a member of the School Board. He is greatly interested in the common schools, and does all in his power to secure good teachers and promote educational interests.

Into our subject and his estimable wife have been born two sons. Frank H. received a good education, and on attaining his majority was united in marriage with Miss Sylvia Wilson, a daughter of Alexander Wilson, one of the honored pioneers of Watseka. She was born in this county, and received her education in the schools of Watseka. She afterward taught school. They have become the parents of three children: Clarence M., Henry C. and Grace. The father of these children still resides in Iroquois County, and is carrying on the home farm. The other son, Porter M., is

now deceased, having died on the 19th of March, 1888, and lies buried in Martin Cemetery, where a monument marks his last resting-place. He was married to a sister of his brother's wife, and unto them was born a daughter, Bertha A.

Mr. Burnham and his wife removed to Watseka in December, 1879, leaving their sons to carry on the home farm, but after two years they came back to the old homestead, which has since been their home. They have now lived in this community for twenty-eight years, and have taken a prominent part in its growth and upbuilding. Mr. Burnham is a man of sterling worth and upright character, and has the esteem of the entire community, and well deserves representation in his adopted county.



ABSALOM O. EDISON, a representative farmer and stock-raiser of Martinton Township, residing on section 24, is one of the early settlers of the county and well deserves representation in its history among its prominent citizens. His life record is as follows: He was born in Vienna, Canada, November 25, 1830, and is a son of David Edison, who was born in Nova Scotia in 1798, on the peninsula near St. Johns. When a child the latter went with his father, Samuel Edison, to Ontario, and became one of the early settlers of the locality in which he made his home. Samuel Edison was an officer in the British army and received a grant of land from the Government, which he located in Canada amidst a vast wilderness. He there opened up a farm and reared his family.

David Edison, the father of our subject, was there reared and married, the lady of his choice being Miss Fannie White, who was born in Lockport, N. Y., in 1801, and was a daughter of Henry White, who afterward removed to Canada. After his marriage, David Edison located on a farm in his native country, but in 1839 came to the United States, locating in Chicago when it was a mere hamlet. After a year he removed to McHenry

County, Ill., becoming one of the old and honored pioneers of that county. He there entered land from the Government and opened up a farm, upon which he made his home until 1862. In that year he sold his farm and removed to Kankakee, where he again bought land, making his home there for a few years, when he came to Iroquois County and was a resident of Martinton Township until his death, which occurred in 1886. His remains were interred in Martinton Cemetery, where a beautiful monument marks his last resting-place. His wife died two years later and was laid by the side of her husband. For many years Mr. Edison was a prominent member and exhorter in the Methodist Episcopal Church and was a man of many excellencies of character.

A. O. Edison, whose name heads this record, came to Illinois with his father when a lad of nine years and was reared to manhood in this State. When only fifteen years of age he began to earn his own livelihood, being employed in a flouring mill in Melleny County, where he remained for some time. He learned the business very thoroughly and afterward he entered the machine shops, where he spent three years, becoming an expert machinist. He afterward went to Wisconsin and later South to Mississippi, locating in Natchez, where he remained from December, 1852, until the following June, when he returned North to Illinois. He then secured work with the Illinois Central Railroad Company as a bridge-builder, and to that work devoted his time and attention for several months. It was in 1857 that he came to this county and embarked in carpentering. He followed contracting and building for several years, and a number of houses now stand as monuments to his skill and handiwork. After following that occupation for about ten years, he removed to his present location and for a time carried on carpentering in connection with farming.

On the 9th of November, 1862, Mr. Edison was joined in wedlock with Miss Emily Jane Holmes, a native of Westford, Otsego County, N. Y., and a daughter of Calvin Holmes, who died in the Empire State. She is highly educated, a lady of culture and refinement, and previous to her marriage engaged in teaching both in New York and

Illinois. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Edison have been born two children: Cyrus Holmes, who is now married and engages in the operation of the home farm; and Libbie, a teacher of recognized ability in this county. They also lost one child who died in infancy.

Mr. Edison cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont. He then affiliated with the Democratic party for a number of years, after which he withdrew his allegiance from political organizations and is now independent, voting for the man whom he thinks will best fill the office, regardless of party affiliations. His fellow-townsmen, appreciating his worth and ability, have called upon him to serve in various official positions. He was Commissioner of Highways, has served as Constable, was Justice of the Peace three terms, and for fifteen years has been Assessor, serving as such for twelve consecutive years. For about twenty years he has been a member of the School Board, and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. He does all in his power for its advancement and has done much for the excellence of the schools in this community. His wife is a member of the Baptist Church and is a most estimable lady. Mr. Edison holds membership with the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the Blue Lodge and Chapter. He is a valued citizen, public-spirited and progressive, and a man of sterling worth and integrity, and is an own cousin to the great inventor, Prof. Thomas A. Edison, who has a world-wide reputation. For thirty-six years he has made his home in the county and well deserves honorable mention in its history.



KLAAS KREMER, a farmer of Danforth Township, was one of the first settlers of the township. He is a native of Holland, where his birth occurred January 11, 1834. He is a son of Garsed and Outkje (Rasmus) Kremer, both of Dutch birth. The father was a farmer by occupation, and reared his family and spent his life in his native land.

Our subject grew to manhood in Holland and

received a good common-school education in his native tongue. In English he has been almost wholly self-educated since arriving in this country. In 1862, Mr. Kremer was united in marriage with Fannie Pater, also a Hollander by birth. For several years subsequent to his marriage he followed agricultural pursuits for a livelihood. In 1867, he emigrated to the New World, taking passage in a steam vessel at London which was bound for New York. He was about twenty-two days crossing the broad Atlantic and had a pleasant voyage. He arrived in New York May 3, and immediately went West to Chicago. From there he came to Gilman, and remained in the town for about two weeks. He then located at Danforth, then a village which contained but one store. For about two years he worked by the month, and with his carefully hoarded earnings bought a team and rented land, where he farmed for himself. For a number of years he rented a farm and was quite successful. He then purchased land near Gilman, located on that place and engaged in agricultural pursuits for several years. At the expiration of that period he sold his property and purchased the farm where he now resides. He now has about sixty-five acres which are situated in the corporation limits of Danforth. He has well improved his place and built a good residence, barns and other farm buildings. He also has a wind-pump and other modern farm machinery. He has a good orchard of select fruit and in every respect his is a well-ordered and well-conducted farm.

To our worthy subject and his wife four children have been born: Hattie is the wife of Herman Benzema, of Danforth; John is married and also resides here; Isaac is a young man still under the parental roof, as is the youngest, George. These children have all received the advantages of a good education and were thus fitted to participate in the active duties of life. Mr and Mrs. Kremer are members of the Dutch Reformed Church.

For twenty-five years, Mr. Kremer has lived in Iroquois County and is well known throughout this section as a man of honor and reliability. By his upright course and the fidelity with which he discharges his duties of citizenship he has won the

esteem and high regard of all with whom he has come in contact. In his political sentiments he is a supporter of the Republican party and cast his first ballot for President for Gen. U. S. Grant. He has never sought or held official positions but has given his entire time, energy and attention to business interests. He has ever been a hearty supporter of educational measures and is an advocate of good public schools. He served for six years as a member of the School Board in Gilman. He is liberal in support of those enterprises which tend to advance the best interests of the community and is ever ready to aid in the promotion of any undertaking which tends to elevate mankind.



GEORGE C. SMITH, who is extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising in Stockland Township, is the owner of a good farm of one hundred and twenty acres on sections 30 and 32. He was born in Washington County, Md., July 18, 1846, and on the paternal side is of German descent. His father, George Smith, was a native of Germany. In early life, he crossed the briny deep, and, locating in Maryland, there became acquainted with and married Miss Araminta Eigenbrode, a native of that State. Five children were born unto them but three are now deceased, Mary, Martin and Aaron. The two now living are our subject and his sister Sarah. The family having removed to Indiana, the mother died near Pleasant Hill, Montgomery County, that State, in 1853. The following year, George Smith, Sr., was again married, the lady of his choice being Julia Ann Moore, of Montgomery County. Of the five children born of that marriage, four are yet living: Philip, Leander, Araminta and Joel. Amanda, the third in order of birth, died in 1890, in Oklahoma. Mrs. Julia Ann Smith was called to her final rest in Sullivan County, Mo., in 1867. Mr. Smith afterward returned to Illinois with his family, and in 1868 married Mrs. South, of Ash Grove Township, Iroquois County. They then removed to Missouri,

where the father of our subject died in 1881. His widow is now a resident of the State of Washington.

George C. Smith, whose name heads this record, accompanied his parents on their removal to Indiana, when quite a young lad. He also went with the family to Missouri, and returned with them to this county, where he has since resided.

On the 26th of March, 1872, he married Miss Henrietta Crane, daughter of David B. and Catherine (Stewart) Crane, of Stockland Township. Ten children have been born of their union, namely: George D., born February 8, 1873; Cora E., June 18, 1874; Arthur E., August 27, 1875; Charles W., November 24, 1876; Carrie A., June 13, 1880; Mary G., April 30, 1881; Oscar W., December 10, 1882; Roy A., April 18, 1885; Nellie M., June 22, 1887; and Lester, November 1, 1891. Though the family is large, but one death has entered the home circle. On June 29, 1892, while going with a cultivator to the field, Arthur E. met with a fatal accident. By some means he was thrown from the plow, his head going between the fenders and his body falling across the left beam, breaking his neck and causing instant death.

In December, 1873, Mr. Smith removed to the farm owned by his father-in-law, seven miles southeast of Milford, and after operating it for three years purchased eighty acres of land of Mr. Crane, his present home, which is located on section 32, Stockland Township. Since then, he has purchased forty acres more on section 30. In addition to the cultivation of his own land, he has leased and operates one hundred and eighty acres in Stockland Township, and one hundred and fifty-five acres in Prairie Green Township. He is a practical and progressive farmer, and the large business which he carries on yields to him an excellent income. In addition to general farming, he engages quite extensively in stock-raising, making a specialty of the breeding of fine horses and hogs. He possesses good business ability, which, combined with well-directed efforts and perseverance, has won him a well-deserved success. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen and the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association.

The cause of temperance finds in Mr. Smith a

warm friend, and he votes with the Prohibition party, which embodies his views on that question. Himself, wife and three children are members of the Christian Church. He does all in his power for the advancement of educational and moral interests, and is found in the front rank of every worthy enterprise. He is not only classed among the substantial farmers of the community, but is recognized as one of the valued citizens of Stockland Township. April 24, 1864, he enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry, and served five months and ten days, when he was honorably discharged. He is a member of Vennum Post No. 471, G. A. R., of Milford.



JOHN LEMON BAILEY, who resides on section 12, Belmont Township, is one of the prominent early settlers of the county. He has here made his home for thirty-seven years, his residence dating from 1855. He was born in Scott County, Ky., February 14, 1819, and is of English descent. His grandfather was a native of England, but emigrated to America in the Colonial days, and aided the Colonies in their struggle for independence. Crossing the mountains with pack animals from Virginia, he settled in Kentucky, and there spent the remainder of his life.

George William Bailey, the father of our subject, was born in Virginia, and when a young man went with his parents to Kentucky. He served in the War of 1812, fought in the battle of Ft. Meigs, and participated in the battle of Tippecanoe under Gen. William Henry Harrison. He removed to Rush County, Ind., and afterward located near Anderson, Madison County, where his death occurred at the age of seventy-eight years. He was married in Kentucky to Sarah Lemon, a native of Pennsylvania, whose parents were born in Scotland. She departed this life prior to the death of her husband. By their union, two sons and seven daughters were born, but our subject is the

only one now living. The father was a second time married, and two daughters were born. In his later years George W. Bailey engaged in preaching. He was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was zealous in Sunday-school and temperance work. His influence was ever exerted in behalf of the right, and the world is better for his having lived. In politics, he was a Whig.

John L. Bailey, whose name heads this record, spent the first sixteen years of his life in his native State, and then accompanied his parents to Indiana. His education was acquired in the subscription and public schools. He was early inured to hard labor, and helped to clear a timbered farm in Indiana and make rails. Under the parental roof he remained until twenty-two years of age, when, in Madison County, Ind., he was united in marriage with Rebecca Kelley, who was born in Virginia. With their six children they came to Illinois in 1855, and Mr. Bailey purchased eighty acres of land, a part of his present farm. Their home was a log cabin, 14x16 feet, and for twelve miles east there was no settlement. All kinds of wild game were plentiful, and wolves made the night hideous with their howling. In connection with general farming, our subject engaged in raising sheep and horses, and won for himself a comfortable competence.

In 1869, Mr. Bailey was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 3d of December, at the age of forty-eight, and was buried in Belmont cemetery. In her fifteenth year she was united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was a faithful and devoted member. The children of the family are as follows: Ivan L., born in Indiana, is now a sewing-machine agent of Watseka. He is a prominent citizen, and twice served as Treasurer of the county. During the late war, he enlisted as a member of the Fifty-first Illinois Infantry, and was made First Lieutenant. At the battle of Franklin, the third in which he engaged, he was wounded, and as a result is a cripple for life. George W., who was also made a cripple during his service for the Union, is now engaged in carpentering in Missouri. Sarah is the wife of Robert Danner, who resides near the old home-

stead. John L., who married Maggie Romine, was formerly a farmer, but is now a real-estate dealer in Greenfield, Ind. Jennie is the wife of Henry S. Purgit, a resident farmer in Belmont Township. Mary Ellen, who was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, died December 12, 1877, at the age of twenty-three years. William is a carpenter of Kankakee. Mahlon J. is famous for his skill as a wrestler, and is now in the West. Minnie, born July 27, 1861, became the wife of Charles Zumwalt, and died May 30, 1891. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Bailey married Hannah Lyman, who was born in Stark County, Ohio, September 2, 1831, and at the age of five years came to Illinois with her parents, who were pioneer settlers of this county. She was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was called to her reward September 23, 1891.

In politics, Mr. Bailey was first a Whig and afterward a Republican. He cast his first vote for William Henry Harrison, and by his last ballot supported Hon. Benjamin Harrison. With the club of veterans who voted for the grandfather, he went to visit our present Chief Executive at his home in Indianapolis in 1888. He has served as School Director and Road Commissioner, but has never been an office-seeker. At the age of twenty-seven, he was united with the Methodist Church, and has served as its Class-leader; he gives liberally to its support, and ever takes an active part in Sunday-school and church work. The poor and needy find in him a friend, and he is ever ready to extend a helping hand. He is charitable and benevolent, and is one of Nature's noblemen.

 P. JOHNSON, M. D., a successful physician and surgeon of Iroquois and one of its prominent citizens, was born in Mazon, Grundy County, Ill., March 4, 1856, and is the fifth in order of birth in a family of nine children. His father, M. Johnson, is a native of Uniontown, Pa. He wedded Miss Mary Preston, who was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and on the 19th of April, 1892, they celebrated their golden wedding,

having traveled life's journey together as man and wife for a half-century. They are now residents of Mazon and are highly respected people. Mr. Johnson is a self-made man, who by his own well-directed efforts has accumulated considerable property. In politics, he is a staunch Republican and takes quite an active interest in political and public affairs, supporting all enterprises calculated to promote the general welfare.

The Doctor spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm and in the common schools acquired a good English education, which was supplemented by study in the Rock River Seminary and the public schools, and Normal and Scientific School, of Morris, Ill. At the age of nineteen years, he embarked in the profession of teaching, which he followed for about four years during the winter season. He was first employed in the country schools, but afterward secured a position in the villages. At the age of twenty-four years, he began reading medicine and studied at home until he was well versed in materia medica. He then entered the Chicago Medical College, and was graduated from Rush Medical College in Chicago in February, 1885, after which he located in Iroquois, but as there were already two physicians in this place he concluded to try some other locality. For three years he was located in Mazon, and in Benton County, Ind. On the expiration of that time, he returned to Iroquois and again opened an office, and has since enjoyed a large and lucrative practice. While in Mazon, he served as local physician for the Atchison & Santa Fe Railroad.

On the 6th of September, 1885, Dr. Johnson led to the marriage altar Miss Minnie, daughter of Dr. A. T. and Elizabeth (Wright) Crozier. By their union have been born two children, a son and a daughter: Maurice, born in Earl Park, Ind., December 15, 1886; and Nellie M., born in Iroquois, November 20, 1891. The Doctor and his wife rank high in social circles and throughout the community have many warm friends and acquaintances who hold them in high regard.

In his social relations, Dr. Johnson is a Mason and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen. He was reared as a Republican in politics but is now

identified with the Prohibition party. While in Benton County, Ind., he was elected Coroner on the Republican ticket but resigned his position on account of his removal from that place. He has served as Chairman of the Congressional Committee of the Prohibition party, is now a member of the County Central Committee, has frequently served as a delegate to the county and district conventions and was once a delegate to the State convention. The Doctor is a member of the Christian Church and is recognized as one of Iroquois' best citizens, taking an active and commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding. He is recognized as a skillful physician and a liberal patronage is his.



JOHN C. GILES, a leading farmer of section 2, Douglas Township, Iroquois County, was born in North Peoria, Ill., December 29, 1844. He is a son of William and Louisa Anna Giles. His grandfather, Thomas Giles, was an English soldier and was one of the British guards during the trip of the banished Napoleon to the island of St. Helena. His wife, Ann Giles, was also of English birth. On leaving the English service, he left his native land and sailed for America in 1827. After spending four years in Utica, N. Y., he removed to Richland, Oswego County, of the same State. In 1836, he with his family went to Peoria, where he purchased eighty acres now included in North Peoria. In order to fence his land, he placed a straw band on his pony's back, on which he balanced rails, thus transporting them to the desired place. With a mattock he dug up three acres for his first crop. Both he and his wife spent their last days on the farm which they had purchased many years before.

The father of our subject accompanied his parents to Peoria in 1836, and there he married his wife, who bore the name of Kaiser before marriage. She was a native of Louisiana and of German descent. Her parents died when she was quite young and with friends she came to Peoria. Our subject's

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Samuel Hazel



Elizabeth Hazel

father was a farmer and brick manufacturer. He has the distinction of making the first brick which was made in Peoria. Many of that city's best buildings were built of the brick of his manufacture. He has witnessed its growth from a few houses to its present thrifty dimensions. Politically, he is a Republican, and has held the office of Collector of Peoria and has also served as School Trustee. His wife's death occurred at the age of thirty-three years, leaving four sons and two daughters, of whom three are now living, as follows: our subject; Thomas, a merchant of North Peoria; and Nathan, a farmer of Champaign. In later life, the father married Ann Uphoff, a native of Germany, unto whom were born eight children, five sons and three daughters. In 1849, he went by ox-team to Lawson's Rancho, Cal., taking six months for the journey. He was gone for some two years and mined successfully. He crossed the Mississippi River on the ice. He is still living, at the age of seventy-four years, in North Peoria.

Mr. Giles, the subject of this sketch, spent his boyhood days on a farm and in his father's brickyard, receiving such education as was afforded by the common schools. When twenty-one years of age, he started in life for himself on a farm which he had rented. This he did for a time and then farmed for his father for a period of three years. He purchased eighty acres of farming land in Princeville Township, Peoria County, where he farmed until 1887, and then purchased and removed to his present farm of two hundred acres. There was not a tile on the place when he bought it and he now has the reputation of having one of the best-drained farms in Douglas Township, for he has placed in his land about forty-five thousand tiles, thus vastly improving and increasing its value.

Mr. Giles was united in wedlock with Miss Almyra Russell, a native of Peoria County, December 17, 1868. Her parents emigrated from Pennsylvania to that county in 1840. Her father, Ebenezer Russell, was born in Lawrence County, Pa., November 15, 1811. When eighteen years of age, he left the parental roof and went to Fredericksburg, Ohio. He was married in the year 1834, to Edith Emery, also a native of the Key-

stone State, and followed agricultural pursuits in Ohio until his removal to Illinois. He and his estimable wife are still living in Peoria County. Mrs. Giles is one of thirteen children, of whom three sons and four daughters are yet living. Unto our worthy subject and his wife have been born four children: Emery W., Hattie May, Arthur Ebenezer and John Ernest. Mrs. Giles is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of La Hogue. Mr. Giles is a supporter of the Republican party and has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his time and energy to matters of business. Socially, he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a successful farmer and has won for himself a fair measure of success and prosperity by his own well-directed efforts.



SAMUEL HAZEL, a retired farmer now residing on section 32, Prairie Green Township, is a native of the Buckeye State. He was born near Fredericksburg, Wayne County, Ohio, on the 5th of July, 1825. His father, Hugh Hazel, was a native of Delaware and was of Irish extraction. On attaining to years of maturity he wedded Miss Ruth Kerns, and unto them were born twelve children, as follows: James, Samuel, Sarah, George W., Isaac G., Hugh, William, John, Abram, Eli, Charles and Elizabeth. The father was a farmer and carpenter by occupation, following these two pursuits through much of his business career. He is still living in Medina County, Ohio, at the very advanced age of ninety-nine years. His wife was called to her final rest on the 30th of August, 1849.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood upon his father's farm. His school privileges were very limited, in fact he is self-educated. When he was a lad of thirteen years, he accompanied his parents on their removal to Ashland, Ashland County, Ohio, where he remained for about ten years. He left the parental roof at the age of twenty-two and started out in life to earn his own livelihood. He first hired out to work as a farm hand and was thus employed for a year, his wages

being only \$7 per month. He then made a purchase of fifty acres of land in Ashland County, Ohio, at \$7 per acre and began the development of a farm. This tract was covered with heavy timber and it was no easy task to clear and improve it. A year later he moved to Mercer County, where he lived a year. Until 1866 he farmed in Van Wert County, when he went to North Amherst, Lorain County, Ohio, and purchased a combined steam grist and saw mill. He there remained two years, carrying on business in that line, after which he left the State of his nativity and came to Illinois, in 1868.

Long previous to this, Mr. Hazel was married. On the 9th of November, 1847, he was joined in wedlock to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of John and Catherine Heiffner. The lady was born February 10, 1825, in Ashland, Ohio. By their union were born the following children: John B., now a practicing physician of Claypool, Ind.; Samuel E., who is engaged in farming in Lawrence County, Ill.; Tabitha C., wife of Henry Seamen, a farmer residing in Prairie Green Township; Edward, who died in infancy; Cornelius, who died in 1875, and Charles E., who completes the family. He resides at home and operates the farm for his father.

On coming to this State, Mr. Hazel located in Prairie Green Township, Iroquois County, where he purchased two hundred acres of unimproved land, on sections 27 and 31. With characteristic energy he began its development, transforming it into rich and fertile fields, and adding one hundred and sixty more to it, and there he made his home until 1883. In that year he purchased one hundred and twenty-five acres of land, his present home, making an aggregate of four hundred and eighty-five acres. It is all under a high state of cultivation and well supplied with all the improvements and accessories of a model farm. Of late years he has lived retired, while his son manages the business. His life has been a busy and useful one, and by his enterprise, good management and industry he has risen to a position of wealth and affluence and is now enjoying a well-earned rest. In politics he is a supporter of Democratic principles, having affiliated with that party since casting his first Presidential vote for Polk. For a time

he was the only Democrat in his township, so far as known. He has held the office of School Director in his district for fifteen years, was Road Commissioner one year and Justice of the Peace six years. His public duties are ever discharged with promptness and fidelity and he is one of the valued citizens of the community. Mrs. Hazel has been a member of the United Brethren Church from childhood.



ANDREW JACKSON LYMAN, a well-known and leading farmer of Martinton Township, residing on section 35, claims Stark County, Ohio, as the place of his birth, which occurred on the 7th of July, 1837. The paternal grandfather, John Lyman, was a native of Germany, and when a young man emigrated to America. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812. He was married and for some years resided in Pennsylvania, after which he emigrated to Ohio, locating in Stark County, where he reared his family. The father of our subject, John Lyman, Jr., was a native of the Keystone State and in Ohio grew to manhood. He married Sarah Baum, who was born in Pennsylvania, of German parentage, and in 1840 he emigrated with his family to Illinois, locating in old Middleport, being among its earliest settlers. The next year his death occurred. His wife afterward married Jonathan Lyman, a brother of her first husband, and her death occurred when our subject was a lad of thirteen years.

When the Lyman family came to this county Indians were still very numerous in the settlement, and all the hardships and privations of pioneer life were to be borne. There were few white people and these were widely scattered. Wheat and corn were ground in a coffee-mill, for Chicago was the nearest market and the farm products were drawn to that place with ox-teams, the journey consuming about a week's time. In the usual manner of farmer lads our subject passed his boyhood and youth. After his mother's death he remained with his stepfather until sixteen years of

age. Previous to this time he had had no educational privileges, but he now attended school through two winter terms. He also learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a few years, and afterward worked by the month as a farm hand for Thomas Y. Yates. He then purchased a half-interest in a breaking team and engaged in breaking prairie and threshing until, having accumulated some capital by his industry and economy, he purchased a forty-acre tract of land. This was in 1852. He at once broke and improved the land, the same upon which the village of Pittwood is now located, and engaged in farming until after the breaking out of the late war.

A marriage ceremony performed on the 21st of December, 1860, united the destinies of Mr. Lyman and Miss Elmira, daughter of Joel Brandenburg. In August, 1862, Mr. Lyman bade good-bye to his young wife and entered the service of his country as a member of the One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry. He served mostly on detached duty, and at length was discharged, in 1863, on account of physical disability. After receiving his discharge, he returned home and the following year resumed farming, but was soon afflicted by partial blindness, from which he suffered for twelve years. In the meantime, however, his farm was operated by others. At length, he sold that place and purchased the one on which he now resides in 1875. It then comprised one hundred and twenty acres of raw prairie, but it now comprises one hundred and twenty acres of well-tilled land, highly cultivated and improved with a good residence, barns and other accessories of a model farm.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lyman have been born seven children, but they lost their eldest, Frank, who died on the 22d of March, 1885; Cora is the wife of S. P. Shaw, of Colorado; Alta, Mary C., Kittie and Ida P. are at home; John T., a lad of ten years, completes the family.

Mr. Lyman cast his first Presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas, and has since supported every Presidential nominee of the Democratic party since that time. He has held a number of local offices and been honored with several positions of public trust. He is now serving as Road Commissioner, which position he has filled for sixteen consecu-

tive years to the credit of himself and the satisfaction of his constituents. He has been a member of the School Board for a quarter of a century and has done effective service for the advancement of the schools and their upbuilding and improvement. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who manifests an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community. Almost his entire life has here been passed and his friends throughout the county are many.



LYMAN A. BENJAMIN, a substantial farmer owning farms on sections 14 and 23, in Township 27, West Danforth Township, has been for twenty-eight years a resident of Iroquois County, and is well known throughout this section. He is a native of New York, his birth having occurred in Jefferson County, July 18, 1829. He is a son of William Benjamin, who was born July 8, 1800, in the same State and county. The grandfather of our subject, Jonas Benjamin, was born in Woodstock, Vt., and was a drummer boy and soldier in the War of the Revolution. This family was among the early settlers of New England. Jonas Benjamin removed from Vermont to New York and settled in Jefferson County, then a wilderness. There his son grew to manhood and married Charlotte Welsh, a native of Jefferson County. She was a daughter of Charles Welsh, one of the pioneers of that county. Her brother, Charles Welsh, Jr., was the first white child born in Jefferson County. After his marriage, Mr. Benjamin cleared and made a farm in New York, and there reared his family and spent the remainder of his life. He died at the age of sixty-seven years, in February, 1867. His wife survived him several years and died about the year 1877. They both found a last resting-place in the same cemetery, where beautiful monuments have been erected to their memory.

Of their family of four sons and two daughters who grew to mature years, Lyman A. is the eldest; Charles is a farmer and contractor of Cook County, Ill.; Anson is a farmer of Smith County, Kan.;

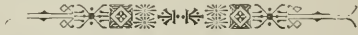
John served for three years in the late war and has since died from exposure and disease contracted in the army; Addie, now deceased, was the wife of Mr. Hart, of Chicago; and Libbie is the widow of Byron G. Penny, of Adams, Jefferson County, N. Y.

Lyman A. Benjamin passed his early years on his father's farm, receiving a good common-school education, supplemented by several terms in the Jefferson County Institute. After completing his studies, he engaged in teaching during the winter terms, and in the summer worked on a farm. In the fall of 1855, he came West, locating first in Du Page County, Ill., where he purchased a farm, which he operated until November, 1864, at which time he sold it and removed to Iroquois County. In Danforth Township, he bought a forty-acre tract of raw prairie land, which he improved and built thereon necessary farm buildings. To this he added an adjoining forty acres in the course of time, and afterward added another forty acres, making one hundred and twenty acres of valuable and well-improved farming land. He has a good, substantial residence, good barns and other out-buildings. On every hand are seen the evidences of thrift and neatness, and he is accounted one of the enterprising and progressive farmers of this section.

In Jefferson County, N. Y., on the 28th of January, 1854, Mr. Benjamin was united in marriage with Miss Phoebe A. Webb, a native of Washington County, N. Y., though reared and educated in the county where she was afterward married. She is a daughter of Darius Webb, a prominent man and a millwright by occupation, who is now living in Oswego County, N. Y., at the advanced age of eighty-six years. Our subject and his wife have reared to mature years a family of five children: the eldest, Fred, is married and operates a farm in this county; Rev. William D. is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Kempton, Ford County; Edwin N. is a farmer residing in Red Willow County, Neb.; Ida is a successful teacher of this county, and has for six years been a teacher of her home district; and Charles W. assists in carrying on the home farm.

Mr. Benjamin is identified with the Republican

party, which he has always supported since its organization. Previous to that, he was an old-line Whig. He takes quite an active part in local politics, and has held quite a number of official positions of honor and trust. He is now serving as Assessor, to which position he was first elected in 1878, and this he has held almost continuously since that time. When occupying these offices, he has always discharged the duties incident to them with fidelity and satisfaction to his fellow-citizens. To the cause of education he has always given his hearty support, believing that good public schools and instruction are of inestimable benefit to the country. For a number of years, he has served as a member of the School Board, and has also taught several terms since locating in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is Steward. Long residence in this section has made Mr. Benjamin widely known, and his strict integrity of character has won for him the confidence and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact.

EZE BOOI, who owns a farm on section 17 Danforth Township, is a native of Holland, where his birth occurred December 8, 1839. He is a son of Charles and Ellen (Driefspraw) Booi, both of whom were natives of the same country. The parents emigrated to the New World in 1847, sailing from Rotterdam on the 12th of May, and after a long voyage of about three months arrived in the United States. They went direct to Chicago by way of the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and from there by way of the Lakes. Mr. Booi located in Cook County, twenty miles south of the then village of Chicago and near the present site of the town of Pullman. There he opened up a farm and endured many privations and hardships. In 1852, his wife met her death by drowning in the Calumet River, when endeavoring to cross it upon the ice. He continued to reside on his farm at that place until his death in 1856. They had a family of four children: Zacke,

who now resides in Kalamazoo, Mich.; Agnes, now deceased; Eze, of this sketch; and Sophia, who is married and has a family.

The early days of our subject were passed on his father's farm in Cook County. After the death of his father, he was thrown on his own resources and worked by the month for neighboring farmers during the succeeding three years. He then rented a farm for a year, and next bought out the heirs of the old homestead and operated a portion of it for a number of years. This he sold in 1872 and three years later removed to Iroquois County, purchasing a farm in Danforth Township, where he now resides. He first bought one hundred and thirty-five acres and has since sold a number of lots from it, now having one hundred and fourteen acres, all of which are within the corporation limits of Danforth. He has improved and cultivated this property until it is one of the most valuable and desirable farms in this part of the State. He started in business for himself with nothing but a good constitution and ready hands, and by long years of industry and enterprise has achieved his present success, being accounted one of the most progressive and thrifty farmers of the township.

In 1859, Mr. Booi was united in marriage with Edith Margaret Coiper, who like him was born in Holland and reared there until the age of fifteen years, when she emigrated to Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Booi are the parents of seven children: Charles E., who is married and has five children, is a farmer of this township; Minnie is the wife of Henry Burnett, a carpenter of Danforth; Ellen is the wife of Henry Zeedik, a farmer; Edith, who is the wife of John Kramer, a clerk of this village; Daniel, a young man still under the parental roof; Vollert, also at home; and Ezie, who married in this county, March 14, 1883, Trintya Wagnum, a widow, who was born in Holland. To them have been born three children: John, Cornelius and Gertie.

Mr. Booi cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln and has supported every nominee of the Republican party for President since. In local politics, he is independent, voting for the man whom he considers best qualified for the position. Almost

his whole life has been spent in Illinois, and for seventeen long years he has been a resident of Danforth Township. He is a most honorable man and has the respect and friendship of all who know him.



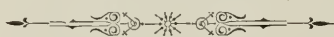
LUDOVICO LAMOREAUX, dealer in grain, coal and farming implements, is a respected citizen of Gilman, and was born in the Empire State, his birth having occurred in Westerlo Township, Albany County, July 11, 1842. He is a son of Peter and Emeline (Ferrington) Lamoreaux, who were also natives of New York State, where they were reared and married. The father died in the prime of manhood, at about thirty-three years of age, leaving his widow with three little children, the eldest of whom was only seven years of age. Heroically she struggled to keep her children together and carry on the work of the farm. She is still living in New York, at the advanced age of seventy-five years, and has been a woman of unusual ability, winning the love and respect of all who knew her. As soon as our subject was large enough to assist his mother, he lent a willing hand and soon became her main dependence. The cares of life fell heavily upon the shoulders of one so young, but the united efforts of mother and son provided for the necessities of the family and educated the younger members. Thus nobly did he perform the duties devolving upon him, and the same faithfulness and loyalty to right and duty have characterized his subsequent career. His brother Adelbert is employed in the Pullman Car Works, and his sister, Mrs. Mary Snyder, lives in Albany County, N. Y.

As may be inferred, our subject had very limited educational advantages, as the work and responsibility of the farm necessarily permitted of little time to be spent in school. He was early inclined to hard work, and the habit has never yet left him. His education has mainly been acquired by reading, and through observation and exper-

ience he has gained a practical knowledge which could have been gained in no other way.

Mr. Lamoreaux was united in marriage November 12, 1862, with Miss Mariette Bell, a native of Westerloo, Albany County, N. Y., where their marriage was celebrated. The year 1868 witnessed the removal of our subject to Iroquois County, and after spending some time in the lumber business in Gilman, he removed to a farm, but soon returned and has since made Gilman his home. He was employed in the grain office of D. B. Cook, of Bushnell & Co., for about one year, and in that of F. W. Hatch for the same period of time. In 1875 he became manager of the business in which he is now engaged. With the exception of about two years he has held the position continuously since.

Mr. Lamoreaux, his wife and only child, Gertrude, are active members in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is both Steward and Trustee. Politically, he was a Democrat from 1864 to 1884, casting his first vote for McClellan. Since the latter date he has been an uncompromising Prohibitionist. Socially, he is a member of White Holly Camp No. 521, M. W. A. Mr. Lamoreaux applies himself closely to business affairs, but amid the multiplicity of his duties finds ample time for church, Sunday-school and charitable work, to all of which he gives his hearty support. He is widely and favorably known, and this esteem is well deserved, for he has lived an upright, worthy life, and is a trusted friend, in whom one can place implicit confidence.



ROBERT WILKINSON, who has been prominently identified with the business interests of Sheldon, and is one of its leading and influential citizens, was born in Sturgis, Mich., March 14, 1851, and is a son of John and Mary Wilkinson, both of whom were natives of England. They crossed the Atlantic to America in the summer of 1850, and located in Michigan, whence they removed to Kendall County, Ill., in the summer of 1854. Mr. Wilkinson en-

gaged in farming, and was a very successful business man. At the time of his death he owned about six hundred acres of land. He died in Lisbon, Ill., in July, 1872, at the age of fifty-five years, and his wife died in December, 1882, at the age of sixty-seven years. Our subject was the sixth in order of birth in their family of eight children, five of whom are yet living. One son, George, died in 1864 of spotted fever.

Our subject was reared to manhood in Kendall County, Ill., and after acquiring his education in the public schools engaged in teaching for a time. On attaining his majority he commenced farming in Kendall County. He was married March 1, 1877, to Miss Emma, daughter of Isaac H. and Susannah (Fry) Eastburn, of Sheldon, Ill., and two years later he sold his farm, removing in the spring of 1879 to Iroquois County. Here he purchased land two miles north of Sheldon, but came to the village in September of 1881. By the union of our subject and his wife were born six children, but the four eldest died in childhood. Stanley E. and Mary Lois are still with their parents.

Mr. Wilkinson spent the winter of 1880-81 in Colorado on account of ill health, and returned somewhat improved to Sheldon in the following spring. In November, 1885, he embarked in business as a dealer in coal and agricultural implements. In the year 1887 he sustained a severe loss by fire, his entire stock of agricultural implements being burned, but his business tact had secured him by proper insurance, so, Phoenix-like, a new building was erected on the old site, which he had purchased, and he continued in business until 1890.

In May, 1891, Mr. Wilkinson embarked in the banking business, in company with his brother-in-law, George W. Eastburn, and as proprietors of the Citizens' Bank, which was opened on the 14th of May, they have since been doing a good business, which has far exceeded all their best expectations. Mr. Wilkinson is also a stockholder in and President of the Perfection Paper Bagholder Company, and aided in the organization of the tile works, but has since sold his interest in the organization. He is Treasurer of the Building

and Loan Association, of Sheldon, Ill. He also owns one hundred and sixty acres of fine farming land within two miles of Sheldon.

In politics, Mr. Wilkinson was first a Republican, but recently he joined the Prohibition party and has been one of its supporters. At the age of fifteen years he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and since that time has been one of its faithful workers. He holds membership with the Good Templars' society, and the cause of temperance finds in him a staunch advocate. His life has been an honorable and upright one, well worthy of emulation. He is a man of excellent business ability, is progressive, possesses good judgment, and has steadily worked his way upward to a position of wealth and affluence.



JOHN C. CONNER, a successful and well-known physician and surgeon of Crescent City, was born near Richmond, Wayne County, Ind., November 6, 1844, and is a son of Lewis and Mary (Jennings) Conner. His father was born and reared in North Carolina, and when a young man emigrated to Indiana, where he met and married Miss Jennings, who, however, was also a native of North Carolina. Mr. Conner engaged in farming in Wayne County, Ind., and there reared his family. He resided for a few years in Grant County, but returned to Wayne County, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a very prominent member of the United Brethren Church, and took quite an active part in church work, earnestly laboring in the Master's vineyard. He was called upon to fill a number of local offices, and was a highly respected citizen.

The Doctor was reared to manhood in the State of his nativity, and acquired his literary education in the public schools. When only seventeen years of age he entered the service of his country, and on August 11, 1862, donned the blue as a member of Company 1, One Hundred and First Indiana Infantry. He was mustered in as a private for three years' service, and acted as a drummer for a time. He was promoted to the rank of Corporal

at the battle of Perryville, Ky., the first engagement in which he participated. He also met the enemy in battle at Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Lookout Mountain, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, and went with Sherman on his memorable march to the sea. He marched to North Carolina with the troops that captured Johnson at Raleigh, and then went on to the Capitol City, where he participated in the Grand Review. He was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., June 24, 1865, after almost three years of service. Although a mere lad when he entered the army, he proved a faithful soldier, ever found at his post of duty. When the war was over the Doctor returned to his home in Indiana, and attended Jonesboro College for two years. He also engaged in teaching.

Wishing to engage in the practice of medicine, Dr. Conner began studying in Jalapa, Ind., in 1869, and took his first course of lectures in Cincinnati, in 1876. The following year he returned to that school and was graduated in the Class of '77. He then entered upon practice in Jalapa, where he engaged in the prosecution of his profession for nine years. He then changed his place of residence, removing to Stark County, Ind., in 1882. He afterward practiced for two years in Stark County, and subsequently opened an office in Clifton, Ill., where he remained for four years. He then located in Crescent City, and during the five years of his residence here he has built up a large and constantly increasing business.

Dr. Conner has twice been married. In Jalapa, Ind., February 28, 1872, he married Miss Alma Jackson, who died in Knox County, in 1880. In 1884 he was again united in marriage, this time with Mrs. Ella (McAllister) Malaney, a native of Indiana. By her former marriage Mrs. Conner had two sons, but one met death by accident, Cecil, who died at the age of ten years. The other son, Walter, is still with the Doctor.

Since attaining his majority, Dr. Conner has been identified with the Democratic party, having been one of its supporters since he cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Hancock. He has been honored with several local offices, and is now the Supervisor of Crescent Township. Socially he is a

member of the Masonic order belonging to Lodge No. 688, Clifton, A. F. & A. M.; of Post No. 717, G. A. R., and of Camp No. 1425, M. W. A. Among his professional brethren he ranks high. He keeps abreast with his profession by the study of medical journals, and his excellent skill and ability are acknowledged by the liberal patronage he receives. He is considered a successful physician and is also popular as a citizen.



ALONZO P. GOODYEAR, a member of the firm of Williams & Goodyear, general merchants of Woodland, was born near Bennington Center, Wyoming County, N. Y., twenty-two miles from Buffalo. The family traces its line of ancestry back to England. The founders of the family in America were banished from the Mother Country on account of their love of liberty, and crossing the broad Atlantic settled in Hamden, Conn. At one time they owned three townships in New Haven, and the farm deeded them by King George was in possession of the family until about three years ago. The grandfather of our subject was a Captain in the State militia, and was ordered to New Orleans under Gen. Jackson during the War of 1812, but was crippled and could not go.

The father of our subject, Marks Goodyear, was born in Hamden, Conn., June 30, 1809, was there reared and educated, and for three years was a student in Yale College. He was married in the Nutmeg State to Eliza Hodges, a native of Londonderry, Somersetshire, England, who emigrated to America when about five years of age. In 1834 Mr. Goodyear removed with his family to the Empire State, where he developed a new farm. In 1837 he came with a team and sleigh to Cincinnati, Ohio, a distance of three hundred and fifty miles, and then shipped his goods to Pekin, Ill., while he continued on with his teams across the country, reaching his destination on the 8th of March. In the spring of 1841 he commenced transforming a tract of wild prairie land into a

fine farm, upon which he made his home for half a century. His death occurred March 15, 1891. His widow still survives him and is yet living on the old homestead. Mr. Goodyear was a man of sterling worth. Honorable and upright in all his dealings, his word was as good as his bond. In politics, he was a Democrat, and all of his sons are supporters of the same party. At his death he left a good property.

The members of the family were Alonzo P., whose name heads this sketch; Mrs. Mary Hayward, who is living in Chicago; Dudley M., a resident of Washington, Tazewell County; James S., a resident farmer of Tazewell County; Mrs. Harriet E. Eaton, who is living in the same county; Alfred W., who resides near the old homestead; and Robert H., who is engaged in farming in McLean County.

A. P. Goodyear was born October 23, 1836, and has spent almost his entire life in this State. He was reared on a farm in Tazewell County, and during his youth he worked for his board while attending school. At the age of twenty-three he began earning his own livelihood by working as a farm hand, and was employed in the vicinity of his childhood home until 1868, when he removed to Washington. He there embarked in the grocery business, which he followed until 1871, when he again resumed farming. In 1874 he came to Iroquois County, and purchasing land near Woodland carried on agricultural pursuits until 1892, since which time he has been engaged in business in Woodland, as a partner of Judge Williams. They have a general merchandise establishment, and are now enjoying an excellent trade, their liberal patronage being secured by their courteous treatment and fair dealing.

On December 22, 1859, in Tazewell County, Mr. Goodyear married Miss Mary Humphrey, a native of Tompkins County, N. Y. Her father was born in Hartford, Conn., and her mother was a native of Pennsylvania; they came to Illinois in 1834. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Goodyear have been born four children: Alonzo F., who was born in Tazewell County, acquired his primary education in the common schools, and afterward was a student in the Normal College of Valparaiso, Ind. He then

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Wesley Harvey

became a successful teacher, and was Assistant School Superintendent under E. J. Blake. Wishing to enter the legal profession, he became a student in the Union Law School, of Chicago. He is now engaged in practice in Watseka, and is serving as State's Attorney. Mary E. is the wife of John Webster, of Milford Township; Olive E. is at home; and Charles S., a wide-awake and enterprising young business man, assists his father in the store. The children have all been provided with excellent educational advantages, and all have engaged in teaching school.

Mr. Goodyear cast his first Presidential vote in 1860, for Stephen A. Douglas, and has since been a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. He is a good business man, highly respected throughout the community, and the success that he has achieved in life is due to his own efforts. The firm of Williams & Goodyear have one of the leading mercantile establishments in Woodland.



WESLEY HARVEY, who is now living a retired life in Cissna Park, certainly deserves representation in this volume, for no other resident has so long made his home in this community. He has been an eye-witness of its growth for more than half a century, and his name is inseparably connected with its history. He was born on New Year's Day of 1821, in a log cabin in Washington County, Ind., his parents being Robert H. and Sarah (Richards) Harvey. His father was born in North Carolina, but in an early day removed to Tennessee, where their marriage occurred. About 1810, they emigrated to Indiana, where he cleared and developed a farm. The mother died leaving four children: Elizabeth became the wife of George A. Brock and died at the home of her son in Jacksonville; G. R. is a resident of Vincennes, Ind., where he follows merchandising; Wesley is the third in order of birth; and Mrs. Sarah Strain resides in Milford. After the death of his first wife Robert Harvey was again married. His death occurred in the Hoosier State.

The subject of this sketch had very meagre edu-

cational privileges. He conned his lessons in a subscription school held in a log cabin furnished with slab seats and supplied with greased-paper windows. Upon his father's second marriage Wesley came to Illinois, at the age of sixteen years. The journey was made with an ox-team and he landed in Ash Grove Township. At that time there were only five families in the territory included in Ash Grove, Lovejoy, Pigeon Grove, Artesia and Loda Townships. He made his home with George A. and Lewis Brock until twenty years of age, and was then joined in wedlock with Mary Henry, a native of Indiana and a daughter of John Henry, one of the settlers who came to this county in 1836.

Entering a claim, Mr. Harvey began farming, purchasing his land of the Government at a land office in Danville. Three years later he sold that claim and bought a farm of Lewis Brock at the head of the Grove. After operating it for five years he then sold to Mr. Devore and made a farm on section 24, Ash Grove Township. When he disposed of that land he removed to the village of Ash Grove and embarked in mercantile pursuits, engaging in business as a dealer in dry goods and groceries for twenty-two years. He also carried on farming at the same time, but in 1890 he sold his farm and, having disposed of his store, removed to Cissna Park, where he is now enjoying a well-earned rest.

August 27, 1859, Mr. Harvey lost his first wife. They had but one child, which died at the age of two years. He married February 10, 1860, Mrs. Brock, widow of Lewis R. Brock, and unto them were born two children: George William, who died at the age of three years; and Henry Bishop, who was born March 21, 1865. The latter is now his father's partner in merchandising in Cissna Park and has the control of the business. He acquired a good literary education in the public schools and afterward pursued a course in the Chicago Commercial College. For two years he has carried on operations in his present line and is one of the wide-awake, enterprising and successful young business men of the community.

Of the original sixteen voters who in 1840 cast votes in Ash Grove Township Mr. Harvey is the

only one yet living. In that year, although not yet of age, he supported William Henry Harrison, and was a Whig until the organization of the Republican party, when he cast his ballot for John C. Fremont and has since been one of its staunch supporters. He has held a number of offices, was the second Supervisor of the township, and has served as Assessor for four terms.

Mr. Harvey is truly a self-made man. At an early age he began life for himself and worked in Indiana as a farm hand for \$3.50 per month. He had no capital when he came to this county, but in truly pioneer style he began life here and has steadily worked his way upward. He formerly went to La Fayette, Ind., and to Chicago to market. A trip made with ox-teams to the latter place consumed ten days and he would sell his wheat for \$9 per load. He took his grain to mill at Wilmington near Joliet. His farming was done with primitive machinery and he passed through all the privations and hardships of pioneer life, but his industry and perseverance at length overcame all obstacles and he made of his life a success, acquiring a handsome competence by his diligence, energy and good management. He is truly an honored pioneer and throughout the community he is held in the highest regard by many warm friends.



JOSEPH W. ROBINSON, Sheldon's oldest practicing physician, and one of prominence in the community, is a native of the Empire State. He was born in Saratoga, N. Y., November 3, 1836, and is the third in order of birth in a family of four children. The parents were William and Maria (Wright) Robinson, both of whom were natives of New York, and came of hardy, long-lived ancestry. His father was the first proprietor of the Empire Springs, of New York, and for a number of years conducted business along that line. In 1851 he removed with his family to Bloomington, Ill., and soon afterward went to Washington, this State, where he continued to reside until his death, in January, 1866.

Of the Robinson family, James H., the eldest, is now a resident of Saratoga Springs, N. Y.; William H. is living in Yates City, Ill.; Joseph W. is the next younger; and Benjamin S. makes his home in Saratoga.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the public schools of Saratoga, N. Y., and Washington, Ill. As he looked about him in choice of some profession which he wished to follow through life, he determined to become a physician, and in 1858-59 entered the St. Louis Medical College. In 1862, following the completion of his studies, he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting in Company G, Eighty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war. The regiment was always at the front and did much arduous service for the Union. The first active engagement in which the Eighty-sixth regiment took part was at Perryville, when Bragg was threatening an attack on Louisville. The Doctor participated in Sherman's memorable march to the sea, and all of the battles of the Atlanta campaign, and arrived at the National Capital May 18, 1865. Soon after his enlistment he was appointed Hospital Surgeon, and near the close of the war was promoted to Assistant Surgeon. He received his discharge and was mustered out May 18, 1865.

When the country no longer needed his services Dr. Robinson returned to his home in Washington, Ill., and established a drug store, which he carried on in connection with the practice of medicine. He was married October 16, 1866, in that place, to Miss Maggie Hughes, daughter of George Hughes, a native of England. By their union has been born a daughter, Effie, now the wife of C. W. Richards, who is railway agent at Graneros, Colo.

The year 1873 witnessed the arrival of Dr. Robinson in Sheldon, and he has here since made his home. He has been President of the Town Board, and is a member of the Board of Pension Examiners. Socially, he is a member of the L. B. Brown Post No. 151, G. A. R., of Sheldon, and for the first five years of its existence was its honored Commander. He cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln, and supported the Republican party until 1872, since which time he has been a

stanch advocate of the Democracy. He is one of the leading and influential citizens of Sheldon, and, as before stated, is its oldest practitioner. In regard to his profession the Doctor is well read, and his skill and ability have won him a liberal patronage. From the beginning his practice has constantly increased, and he is now doing a fine business. Throughout the community he has a wide acquaintance, and is held in the highest regard by all with whom he has been brought in contact either in professional or social life.



GEORGE BURGER, who owns and operates a farm located on section 5, in Douglas Township, is a native of Baden, Germany. His birth having occurred at Lausheim, on the 23d of April, 1831. He is a son of Anton and Mary A. (Kech) Burger, both natives of the same country. The father was there engaged in agricultural pursuits, and when the Revolution of 1848 broke out his sympathies were with the Revolutionary party. This made it best for him to leave Germany, and in 1849 he crossed the ocean, landing in America and locating in New London County, Conn. Two years later his family joined him at that place. Both he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives in Connecticut. His death occurred at the age of sixty-seven, and Mrs. Burger attained the age of sixty-two. Their family consisted of seven children, four sons and three daughters, five of whom now survive. George; Joseph, a prominent farmer of Ford County, Ill.; Elizabeth, wife of John Phillips, of the same county; Mary A., wife of August Haubach, a farmer of Douglas Township; and Johanna, wife of Robert Messinger, who resides in Connecticut.

The subject of this sketch is the third child of their family. He was reared to farm life and received a common-school education in his native land. After coming to this country he was not permitted to go to school, but by reading and contact with English-speaking people he has become a good scholar, well informed on all the leading questions of the day. It was in 1850 that he de-

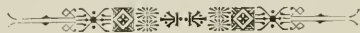
cided to come to the United States, but as he was then about military age he knew there was no chance of getting a passport; he therefore managed to provide himself with a bogus pass and, making his way to Havre, France, he boarded a sailing-vessel, which made the trip to New York in thirty-one days. For some nine years he worked as a farm hand in Connecticut. Since that time he has carried on farming on his own account.

At Norwich, Conn., Mr. Burger was united in marriage, January 9, 1853, with Catherine Miller, who was born in Dunningen, Wurtemberg, Germany, November 25, 1835. She is the daughter of Mathias and Elizabeth (Baumann) Miller, both natives of the same place. Their lives were spent on a farm in Wurtemberg. Of their family six children lived to maturity and three of them emigrated to the United States: Isador crossed the ocean the same time as Mrs. Burger, and died in Fulton County, Ill.; John came to the United States about the year 1854, and died at the home of our subject. Mrs. Burger received her education in Germany, and came to the United States in 1851. Unto our subject and his wife have been born two children, one of whom died in infancy, and Eliza J. died when six years and three months old.

Having followed agricultural pursuits in the East until 1865, Mr. Burger removed to Fulton County, Ill., where he operated a rented farm until 1869. In that year he came to the farm where he still resides, having purchased it the year previous. In company with August Haubach, he bought a quarter-section, which two years later they divided. That was a very wet year and as at that time there had been no ditching or drainage done in the locality, about nine-tenths of the land lay under water. By industry and hard labor he improved his property and now owns a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which is considered one of the best tracts in Douglas Township.

For some twelve years Mr. Burger has served as Road Commissioner and has always been a strong advocate of systematic drainage. While he was Commissioner he did all in his power to forward that enterprise, and was one of the prominent men

in organizing the La Hogue Drainage District. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees since the organization of the district, and is a public-spirited man, being always active in forwarding all measures for the advancement of the local and general interests of the community. In financial matters he has been quite successful, the perseverance and energy with which he has conducted his affairs being crowned with success. At the time of his marriage he had but \$50 and his wife \$20. By their combined efforts they have a comfortable home and income. He is well and favorably known throughout this section as a man of honor and correct business principles. Politically he is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party.



JOHNN WILLIAM ZEA, dealer in grain, hay and coal at La Hogue, is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred in Cazenovia, Madison County, October 18, 1835. He is a son of William and Laura (Blackman) Zea. Three brothers by the name of Zea went to Manhattan Island from Germany prior to the Revolutionary War. Two of them returned to the Fatherland, but one, the great-grandfather of our subject, remained in Manhattan Island. The father was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., but removed to Madison County, where he married Miss Blackman, a native of Connecticut and of Puritan stock. He was a farmer, as were his ancestors. In 1846, he emigrated to La Salle County, Ill., coming by water as far as Chicago and making the remainder of the journey by wagon. He was a Whig and later a Republican in politics. His death occurred some ten years ago, he having reached the allotted three-score and ten years. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Church. She is now living at the advanced age of eighty years and is passing her declining days with her son at Remington, Ind.

Our subject is the second child in order of birth in his father's family, in which there were six sons and three daughters. He was reared to farm life,

and after ten years of age was never able to attend school more than three months. Since he was eleven years old he has made his own way in the world. He commenced working on a farm at \$5 per month, where he staid until nineteen years of age.

On the 17th of March, 1855, Mr. Zea wedded Mary E. Arris, at Ottawa, La Salle County. She is a native of Maine and a daughter of James and Hannah Arris, who emigrated to Illinois in 1850. Mrs. Zea has one brother and a sister. Mr. and Mrs. Zea are the parents of nine children: John C. is a merchant at Manchester, Kan.; Clara E. is the wife of Adam Laub, of La Hogue; Charles E. is a farmer of Ford County; Mary Alice is the wife of George Hill, of La Hogue; Frank E. and Harry E. reside at home; James A. is a farmer of Ridgeland Township, this county; Sherman L., a graduate of the Onarga Commercial College, is a grain clerk for his father; and the youngest, Lester M., is at home.

The first land ever owned by Mr. Zea was twenty acres in La Salle County, which he sold, and in 1868 went to Piper City, Ford County, where he purchased eighty acres, which he improved and made his home until 1872. He then came to what is now La Hogue, which at that time was only a railroad switch. He had the honor of building the first dwelling at that point, which has since been remodeled and converted into a store. In the fall of the same year, he began in the grain and hay business and has continued in that line since. For the first five years, he was in partnership with James O. Barnard, and for the last fifteen years has been connected with the firm of P. B. & C. C. Miles, of Peoria. He handles from two hundred thousand to three hundred thousand bushels of grain and about one thousand tons of hay per annum. He has been station agent at La Hogue for twenty years, being with one exception the agent longest in the service of the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroad. He also carries on a farm of five hundred and twenty acres. In 1886, he built a good elevator at La Hogue, having a capacity of eighteen thousand bushels of grain.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Zea is a Republican, his first Presidential vote having been cast for

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Jane A. Washburne



Saml Washburne

J. C. Fremont. He has always taken an active part in politics and conventions, but has never in any sense of the term been an aspirant for office. In his social relations, he is an Odd Fellow and is a Royal Arch Mason. Both he and his estimable wife are members of the Methodist Church, of which he has been Steward and Trustee for the past five years. For twenty years, Mr. Zea has been in business at Lalloque, and is a man well known throughout the county for his fair dealing and business enterprise. He has achieved success through his own efforts and industry.



SAMUEL WASHBURNE ranks among the prominent and highly respected citizens of Ash Grove Township. He follows farming on section 14. The Washburne family is of English origin. The great-grandfather of our subject, with two brothers, left his native land and, braving the dangers of an ocean voyage in those early days, came to the American Colonies. He settled in New York, and when the Revolutionary War broke out aided in the struggle for independence. The grandfather of our subject, Samuel Washburne, was born and reared in Westchester County, N. Y., and there followed farming throughout his entire life.

The father of our subject, Willett Washburne, was born in the same county about 1798. He became a farmer, lumberman and contractor. He removed to Oswego County, traveling through the wilderness with ox-teams, and there spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring in 1887. He married Sarah Bashford, a native of Westchester County, N. Y., who died in Oswego County. He took a very active part in political affairs and was a strong supporter of the Whig party. The Washburne family numbered seven sons and five daughters, of whom three sons and three daughters are yet living. One brother, J. M., is now a farmer of Whiteside County, Ill. The youngest brother, W. L., was the originator of the emblematic sign business. At the time President Lincoln was murdered, he was making clocks as signs for jewelers

in New York City and placed the hands of these to mark the hour of Lincoln's assassination. All such signs have since been made the same.

The subject of this sketch was born August 9, 1838, on a farm in Oswego County, N. Y., and when old enough commenced lumbering. He remained at home until twenty-one years of age and then started out in life for himself. The year 1864 witnessed his emigration to Kendall County, Ill., where he rented land for four years. In 1868 he came to Iroquois County and purchased a farm on section 14, Ash Grove Township. This was then in its primitive condition, being entirely destitute of improvements. He turned the first furrow and placed the entire amount under a high state of cultivation. His landed possessions now aggregate three hundred and twenty acres and he operates an additional quarter-section. In connection with the cultivation of his land, he is also engaged in stock-raising, having for the past fifteen years made a specialty of breeding Clydesdale horses.

Ere leaving the Empire State, Mr. Washburne married Miss Jane A. Lee, who was born December 5, 1839. Their union was celebrated in Oswego County, December 30, 1860. Unto them were born the following children: Flora, who is now the wife of Frank Flutro, of Milford, was born in New York; J. Lee, born in Kendall County, is on the home farm; May is the wife of T. N. Sinderson, and they reside with her father; Charlotte E. is the wife of T. N. Willoughby, a resident of Ash Grove; Eddie is still under the parental roof, and three children are now deceased.

Mr. Washburne is a leading and honored member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. In 1860, he proudly cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln and has since supported the Republican party, which he does from a matter of principle. He is not bound by party ties and should he deem it best to vote otherwise would not hesitate to do so. He has often attended the conventions of his party and is influential in its councils. He has held a number of local offices and his duties were ever promptly and faithfully discharged. He has witnessed much of the development of the county and has done much for its upbuilding and advance-

ment. He made the first road with a road grader and introduced the use of that machine into his township. He also started the tile system for draining the sides of the road, and has ever manifested a commendable interest in public improvements and all that tends to promote the general welfare. Mr. Washburne may truly be called a self-made man, for he started out in life empty-handed. The obstacles and difficulties in his path he overcame by determination and perseverance, and by industry, enterprise and good business ability he has acquired a comfortable competence and is ranked among the well-to-do farmers of Ash Grove Township.



WILLIAM B. FLEAGER, President of the Perfection Bag Holder Company, one of the leading industries of Sheldon, was born in Carlisle, Pa., September 20, 1830, and is a son of Charles and Mary Ann (Wetzel) Fleager, both of whom were natives of the Keystone State, and there spent their entire lives, dying at the age of seventy-five years. The grandparents were also born in Pennsylvania.

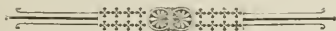
Our subject was the eldest of a family of thirteen children, and only himself and the youngest child, Mrs. Anderson, are now living. He entered upon his business career at the age of fourteen years as a clerk in a general merchandise store, where he remained until twenty years of age. He then entered the shop of his father, who was a wagon-maker, and became familiar with the use of tools. In 1851, he went to Peoria, Ill., and became clerk for John H. Floyd. He at first received only \$8 per month, but his employer soon found that his services were valuable and his wages were gradually increased to \$40. With that employer he remained for four years and then returned to his father's home with \$400 in gold, which he had saved from his earnings while in the West. After a visit of two weeks in Pennsylvania, he returned to Peoria and embarked in the confectionery business, but it did not prove to be a prof-

itable investment and he lost all of his capital and moved to Cruger, Ill. In the interests of others he carried on a store and the grain business, and was made railroad agent for the Toledo Peoria & Wabash Railroad, and moved to Gilman at the request of that road in the year 1857, being the pioneer of both places. At Gilman he was the first railroad agent for the Illinois Central Railroad and the Toledo, Peoria & Wabash Railroad.

In December, 1858, Mr. Fleager was united in marriage with Miss Maria Brubaker, daughter of Henry Brubaker, of Lancaster, Pa. Unto them were born four children, two of whom are living: George, twenty-five years of age, is now employed in the First National Bank of Chicago; Arthur B. graduated from the Northwestern University June 16, 1892. Mr. Fleager lost his wife in 1875, and in 1877 he married Frances M. Milliman, and unto them were born four children: Clarence E., thirteen years of age; Harry, ten years; Eva, five years; and Sam, two years.

In March, 1860, Mr. Fleager came to Sheldon, being the first one to come, and cast his lot among the earliest settlers; since that time he has been very prominently identified with its history and its upbuilding. Going to Chicago, he purchased one hundred thousand feet of lumber and established a lumber yard. He erected the first building in the town and engaged in the grocery business, which he continued for some time. He also carried on general merchandising and became a dealer in coal and grain. In 1873, he sold his general merchandise establishment and embarked in the banking business as proprietor of the Sheldon Bank, with which he was connected until the 10th of May, 1891, when he sold out and the bank has since been known as the Citizens' Bank. He was instrumental in establishing the Perfection Bag Holder Company in 1891, which was organized as a stock company with Mr. Fleager as President, Mr. Wilkinson as Treasurer, and Mr. Whitson as Secretary. They occupy a building 30x80 feet, and from the beginning their trade has constantly increased until they are now doing an excellent business. The industry is one of the leading enterprises of the city. Mr. Fleager is an industrious and persevering man who possesses

good business ability, and success has crowned his well-directed efforts. From an early age he has made his own way in the world and has achieved success as the reward of earnest labor.



JAMES A. CLARKE, a well-known farmer and stock-raiser now residing on section 8, Concord Township, was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, November 26, 1842, and is a son of John and Elizabeth N. (Skillman) Clarke. The family is of Irish origin, and was founded in America by the grandfather of our subject, Samuel Clarke, a native of the Emerald Isle, who crossed the Atlantic when eighteen years of age, locating in Coshocton County. He was there married to a lady whose people came from New Jersey, being of English ancestry, and were among the pioneers of Coshocton County. Mr. Clarke was a successful business man, and became a well-to-do farmer of that county.

The father of our subject, John Clarke, was born in Coshocton County, and inherited about one hundred and twenty acres of the old homestead, which still belongs to the heirs. Upon that farm our subject was born and reared. He received his education in the common schools, and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself. He worked for one summer as a farm-hand, and then began farming for himself, but made his home with his parents until about thirty years of age, when he concluded to come West. Having disposed of his possessions in Ohio, in February, 1872, he came to Iroquois County with a capital of \$600, and located in Concord Township. After a short residence here he married Miss Lavina Hoagland, daughter of James and Hannah (Fox) Hoagland, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. Clarke had met his wife while on a visit to Illinois, and her people and his had been neighbors in the Buckeye State. The lady was born May 10, 1844, in Coshocton County, Ohio, and their union was celebrated February 15, 1872.

Immediately after his marriage Mr. Clarke began farming on land belonging to his father-in-law, and in 1878 purchased a tract of sixty acres, which he afterward sold. At length he bought seventy acres on section 28, Concord Township, and now resides on section 29, on land belonging to Mr. Hoagland. He is an enterprising and progressive farmer, and the neat appearance of the place indicates his thrift.

The Clarke home has been blessed by the presence of five children, and the family circle yet remains unbroken. Bertha, born in Concord Township, December 15, 1872; John, October 25, 1874; Bernard, April 19, 1876; Hannah E., February 16, 1878; and James W., July 13, 1880, constitute the family.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Clarke is a Democrat, having supported that party since he cast his first Presidential ballot for Gen. George B. McClellan. He has never been an office-seeker, but has served as School Director and as Clerk for fifteen years. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and he has done effective service for the upbuilding and advancement of the schools. Mr. Clarke and his wife both hold membership with the United Brethren Church, and are highly respected people, whose many excellencies of character have won them a large circle of friends. They are numbered among the best citizens of the community, and with pleasure we present to our readers this brief history of their lives.



EDWARD GAGNON, a prosperous farmer residing on section 10, Martinton Township, Iroquois County, is a native of Canada, his birth having occurred in Montreal November 1, 1840. He is a son of Charles Gagnon, of the same country, and is of French parentage. The early days of the father were passed in his native land, where he was married to Cecil Barggon. In Canada he was occupied in farming during his life, and his death occurred about the year 1847, he being then in the prime of life. Mrs. Gagnon was again married, this time to Simon Frigon, who re-

moved to the United States in 1856, settling in Iroquois County, Ill. the following year. He purchased a farm in Beaver Township, engaging in farming, and there reared his family. He is now retired and is enjoying a well-earned rest in the town of St. Mary's.

Edward Gagnon came with his parents to this county in 1856, being then a youth of sixteen. He had but limited school advantages in his native land, and until about seventeen his life was mostly spent on a farm, where he was occupied in the usual manner of farmer boys. He then started for himself, working by the month for several years for neighboring farmers. In this county, in November, 1861, he led to the marriage altar Monique Cote, who came to the United States from Canada when a child of ten years, and was reared to womanhood in Illinois. She is one of a family consisting of three sons and nine daughters, all of whom survive, seven being residents of Iroquois County.

To Mr. and Mrs. Gagnon have been born the following children: James, the eldest, who was a young man of good education and was a teacher in this county, and died September 30, 1892. He had lately entered the Rush Medical College in Chicago, and expected to make the medical profession his business in life. Florent, who occupies a responsible position in Chicago. Prim, now learning the blacksmith's trade in St. Mary's. Eddie and Ezra, who reside at home. Zea Mary and Vitaline are also under the parental roof. A daughter, Emma, died in November, 1880, in her fifteenth year, and three others died in infancy.

After his marriage, Mr. Gagnon removed to Indiana, locating on a farm which he rented in Tippecanoe County, near La Fayette. In the fall of 1865, he returned to Illinois and purchased a farm of forty acres in Beaver Township. This he cultivated for seven years, then, selling his property, he purchased eighty acres where he now resides. At the time of his purchase this was a piece of wild prairie land, which he has broken and fenced and brought under a high state of cultivation. To his original purchase he has from time to time made additions until he is now the owner of two hundred and twenty acres of valu-

able land. He has also erected a good house and other farm buildings. Commencing in life empty-handed, he has achieved success, and prosperity has crowned his years of labor and industry.

Mr. Gagnon is identified with the Democratic party and, with the exception of voting for Abraham Lincoln in 1864, he has always supported the Democratic nominees and principles. Though never an aspirant for office, he has held several local positions of trust and honor to the satisfaction of his friends and neighbors. He is a friend to all measures for the public good and education, and has served for several years as a member of the School Board. Mr. Gagnon and his family are members of the Catholic Church. For thirty-six years he has been identified with the interests of this county, which he has done all in his power to advance. He is recognized as one of the best farmers of the county and, with his estimable wife, is much esteemed and honored throughout this section.

LUKE M. GERDES, who has for a quarter of a century made his home in Illinois, and has for the past twenty-two years been a resident of Iroquois County, is a prosperous farmer living on section 14, Danforth Township. He was born in Hanover, Germany, on the 26th of September, 1844, and is a son of George Gerdes, of Hanover, who grew to manhood, married, reared his family, and spent his whole life there. Our subject is the youngest of three sons, of whom the eldest is Arend, who was a farmer and resided until his death in Germany. The other brother, Alt, emigrated to this country and is now a commission merchant of Peoria.

The youthful days of Luke Gerdes were spent in his native land, where he received fair school advantages in the German language. Since coming to America he has become proficient in English, mainly through his study and observation. He enlisted in the German army in 1866, and served in the German Civil War. He participated

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in the battle of Langensalza, which took place on the 27th of June, 1866. After a service of about a year and a-half he received his discharge. As soon as he was released from military service, he determined to seek a home in the Western Hemisphere. Accordingly, in 1868, he sailed from Bremen in a steam-vessel. The voyage across the broad Atlantic was made in fourteen days, and he arrived at New York in April of 1868. He immediately turned his face Westward, and went first to Chicago and from there to Peoria, where he located for a time. He afterward went to Washington, where he engaged in farm labor for a year. In 1870, he removed to Danforth Township and engaged in farming on rented land for about five years. At the end of that time he purchased a tract of eighty acres of unimproved and unbroken prairie land, near the farm where he now resides. Here he made his home for nine years, and was very successful in his efforts to improve and develop the property, and at the same time made a very comfortable income. In his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres he has a very valuable and desirable piece of property. He has a good and substantial two-story residence, barns and other outbuildings. His home is located about three and a-half miles west of Danforth, and Mr. Gerdes has well tiled and in many other ways added to its value since his purchase. He is considered one of the well-to-do and enterprising farmers of the township, and has accumulated a great estate through years of industry and labor. He is pre-eminently a self-made man, as he commenced his business life without capital.

At Peoria, in 1869, Mr. Gerdes was married to Susanna Crutzenberg, who was also born in the Fatherland, and came to the United States in September, 1868. By this union seven children have been born: George, Herman, Frederick, Theodore, Alwina, Henry and Louisa. The parents of these children are members of the German Lutheran Church, in which they are much esteemed for their zeal and activity. During his long residence in this locality, Mr. Gerdes has been a witness of much of the growth and development of the county, in whose advancement he has materially aided. He has seen it change from a country of swamps to

one of the best and most fertile farming districts of the State. He is considered one of the representative citizens, and is one of the most honored farmers of Iroquois County. Enterprise, industry and perseverance are among his chief characteristics, and his business ability and wise investments have brought to him a good competence.



JOHN E. LEATHERMAN, an honored veteran of the late war, now residing at Watseka, was born at Greencastle, Ind., January 7, 1833, and is descended from good old Revolutionary stock, his paternal grandfather having been one of the heroes in the War of Independence. The father of our subject, Abram Leatherman, was born in Pennsylvania in 1801, and, after attaining to mature years, wedded Mary Duwese, daughter of Thomas Duwese. Unto them were born nine children, six sons and three daughters. Four served in the war. William, the eldest, died in the army after about a year's service; Evan D. served a short time toward the close of the war; Abram served three years in the same company and regiment as our subject. The parents of the above family were quiet, unassuming farmers, and consistent members of the Baptist Church. As early as 1835, they settled near Elgin, Ill., and spent their last days in that city, he dying at the age of eighty-six, and she at eighty-five. Politically, he was a staunch Democrat, but only one of his sons has followed his example.

The subject of this sketch, John E. Leatherman, was reared on his father's farm near Elgin, when a young man came to Illinois, and in Elgin was married July 3, 1856, to Miss Lucy Rogers Hatch, daughter of Elijah and Phoebe Hatch, the former a native of Broome County, N. Y., and the latter of Connecticut. Both the paternal and maternal grandfather of Mrs. Leatherman were Revolutionary soldiers. The one on the mother's side attained the advanced age of ninety-six years, but during the war in which he served as Captain came very near losing his life. Upon one of the battlefields of that struggle, the Americans were de-

feated with heavy loss and utterly routed. The few that escaped with their lives became scattered, and many of the soldiers wandered about in the woods and starved to death. Mr. Hatch wandered through the heavy timber for many days, subsisting on the roots of trees, etc. When almost starved he happened to find a cow with a bell tied to her neck. This he took off and, milking the cow, drank from the bell the beverage which saved his life. This bell is now in possession of one of the children, and is highly prized as a memento of the Revolutionary War and the grandfather's service therein.

Mr. and Mrs. Leatherman had one child, a daughter, Katie Estella, who was born April 10, 1858, but she died on the 24th of April, 1863, at the age of five years and fourteen days. They have given a home to three children, namely: Lois Stroud, who is now married and lives in Oklahoma; Morton Wollen, and Jessie Estella, who is now twelve years of age.

In politics, our subject is a supporter of Republican principles. He maintains an active and commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and the promotion of its best interests. Himself and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Leatherman cast her first vote in the spring of 1892, supporting Miss Lawrence and Mrs. Tucker for School Directors, and these ladies won the election over two opposing gentlemen. During the late war Mr. Leatherman manifested his loyalty to the Government by marching to the front. He joined, August 1, 1862, Company F, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, and served for three years. For nine months during his service he was held as a prisoner, being incarcerated at Andersonville about eight months of that time. When he went to that infamous pen he was a strong, hearty man, but when he came out he was almost dead from starvation and exposure.

Mr. Leatherman participated in three severe engagements, besides numerous skirmishes: siege of Vicksburg, Arkansas Post and the battle of Guntown, or, as Mr. Leatherman calls it, "Sturges sell out." It was at the last-named battle that our subject was taken prisoner.

Meritorious conduct won Mr. Leatherman promotion and he was mustered out Second Lieutenant. Returning home he engaged in farming in Iroquois County, where he had located in 1856. Having farmed until 1882 he removed to Watseka. He owns eighty acres of valuable land adjoining the city on the north, besides one hundred and twenty acres a short distance from town, all of which has been made by the combined efforts of himself and wife. To all the duties of a citizen he is now as faithful as when he wore the blue.



SAAC M. SPROULE, the agent for the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw and the Illinois Central Railroad Companies at Gilman, was born in Montour County, Pa. His birth occurred on the 10th of February, 1834, and he is a son of James C. Sproule, who was a native of Ireland, being of Scotch ancestry. In the Old Country his father learned the trade of harness-making. About 1812, he came to the United States and settled in Baltimore, Md. He afterward became a prominent politician, and for many years was United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania. There he married Euphemia Marshall, a native of the Keystone State. Her parents came from Scotland, and her father served in the War of 1812. The father and mother of our subject died in Pennsylvania. Mr. Sproule was a member of the Methodist Church, while his wife held membership with the Presbyterian Church. He was a Jackson-Democrat, and lived to be sixty-eight years of age; his wife passed away at the age of fifty-four. In their family of seven sons and six daughters, seven are living, the youngest of whom is fifty-six years of age.

Our subject is the seventh son and twelfth child in his father's family. He received his education in the common schools, supplemented by a course in Dickinson Seminary. As he was the seventh son, his father desired him to study medicine, but after a month or two spent in that direction, he went into the store of the Montaur Iron Works at Danville, and was there for about two years. He

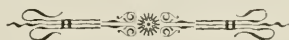
then spent a year in the store at Union Furnace, Lewisburg, Pa. He afterward returned to the Montaur Iron Works, and there remained until March, 1857, when he went to Mendota, Ill., for Hastings, Adams & Co., grain dealers.

In September of that year, Mr. Sproule returned to Pennsylvania, and on the 21st of September was united in matrimony with Sophia A., daughter of Col. Samuel A. Brady, who was of Scotch descent. Mrs. Sproule's mother, who before her marriage bore the name of Jane Hartman, is of German descent, and is now living with her daughter at the age of seventy-eight. Col. Brady died August 30, 1873. Mrs. Sproule was born in Lycoming, Pa., July 16, 1836, and is one of four children, two sons and two daughters. Three children have come to the home of our worthy subject and his wife. Charles M. died when ten years of age; Carrie is the wife of George W. Miller, an attorney of Chicago; and Willie L. died in his fifteenth year.

After his marriage Mr. Sproule returned to Mendota, and in 1858 engaged in the hotel business with his father-in-law, at Ft. Wayne, Ind. The following year he went to Mendota, and was train-master and cashier for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. Returning to Ft. Wayne, Ind., he ran freight and passenger trains until 1864, and was then appointed train-master by the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad. He occupied that position until the spring of 1867, and for the following three years ran a train on the Illinois Central. In 1870, he was appointed agent at Monee, Will County, Ill., where he staid for seven and a-half years, and was then transferred to Effingham. In March, 1881, he was again transferred, this time locating in Gilman, where he remained for a number of years. On the 16th of January, 1888, he went to California as agent for the California Central and California Southern at San Bernardino. Returning to Gilman in February, 1889, he had charge of the station until 1891, when he spent two months in Florida. He then took charge of the station at Burnside's Crossing for the Illinois Central and Chicago & Western Indiana Belt Railroad. On the 11th of January, 1892, he returned to Gilman, and has been station agent since.

The family of Mr. Sproule resides at Dauphin

Park, Chicago, where he has a pleasant and commodious home. Mr. Sproule has been a lifelong Democrat, and socially belongs to the Knights of Honor and is one of the original members of the Railway Conductors' Insurance Association. He has also been a Mason for thirty-seven years. He is largely interested in Chicago property, and deals extensively in real estate. Assisted by his estimable wife, he has made a competence and is very well off. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church, to which they give their interest and support.



WILLIAM J. ALLHANDS, who is widely and favorably known throughout this county, is now successfully engaged in farming on section 12, Belmont Township. A native of the Buckeye State, he was born in Butler County, December 22, 1821. His father, Daniel Allhands, was a native of Virginia. Emigrating to Kentucky, he there married Patience Sadler, a native of that State. In an early day they removed to Ohio, and in 1833 went to Indiana. Mr. Allhands hewed out a farm in the midst of the forest, and there made his home until his death in 1848. His wife died at the home of her son in Champaign County, Ill. He had served as Justice of the Peace and as constable, and in politics was a Jackson-Democrat. During the War of 1812, he aided in the service under Gen. Harrison. Throughout his entire life he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Allhands family numbered eleven children, and, with the exception of one, all grew to mature years. John is now living in Ohio; Nancy, Andrew, Betsy and Thomas are all deceased; Katie resides in Marion County, Iowa; Patsy and Daniel are also deceased; George enlisted in an Indiana regiment and died in the service; and William completes the family.

The subject of this sketch left Ohio at the age of eleven years, and was reared amid pioneer scenes in Indiana. His education was acquired in

the common schools, which he attended in the winter season, for in the summer months his labors were needed at home upon the farm, where he early learned to swing the ax and seythe. At the age of eighteen he began working as a farm hand by the month, and the following year commenced farming for himself in Montgomery County. In 1852 he came to Illinois on a prospecting tour, and in the autumn of 1854 made a permanent location. At that time there were scarcely any settlements in the neighborhood, and the land was all wild and unimproved.

Mr. Allhands was married in Indiana, in 1842, to Miss Catherine Hixson, a native of Butler County, Ohio. She died in 1848. Four children were born of that union. Erastus J., who was a member of Company A, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, is now deceased; Seth is a traveling salesman; Catherine is the wife of Isaac Peddycoart, of Iroquois County; and one child died in infancy. Mr. Allhands was again married, in 1849, in Indiana, his second union being with Miss Martha A. Moore, a native of Adams County, Ohio, and a daughter of Jacob and Rachel (Van Pelt) Moore. Her father was born in the Buckeye State and died in Indiana. Her mother was a native of Tennessee, and died in Montgomery County, Ind.

By this second marriage have been born eleven children, namely: Horace Quinn, who died in childhood; Daniel, a resident farmer of Belmont Township; Jacob, of this county; Sarah, now deceased; Esther Ann, wife of George Bradrick, of this county; George, an agriculturist of Belmont Township; John, of Sheldon Township; Nancy and Ida May, now deceased; Blanche, at home; and Minerva, wife of Lincoln Saylor, of Belmont Township. The children were educated in the public schools, and some of the family have successfully engaged in teaching.

Mr. Allhands cast his first vote for James K. Polk, and has since been a supporter of the Democratic party. Himself and wife are members of the United Brethren Church, and are numbered among its active workers. His business career has been a successful one. He started out in life with no capital save a young man's bright hope of the future and a determination to succeed, but has

steadily worked his way upward to a position of affluence, and is now the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred and eighty acres. He has made his home in the county for thirty-eight years, and has ever borne his part in its development. In its upbuilding he has aided, and is numbered among its prominent and influential citizens.

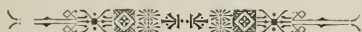
THOMAS SHRIMPLIN, who is engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 33, Concord Township, where he owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of arable land, is a native of the Buckeye State. He was born in Knox County on the 18th of October, 1842, and is a son of Abraham and Susanna (Carpenter) Shrimplin, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The paternal grandfather, Abraham Shrimplin, was born in New Jersey and was one of the early settlers of Knox County, having built the first gristmill within its borders. At the time of his arrival there the Indians had not yet left for their Western reservation. He experienced all the hardships and privations of frontier life and engaged both in farming and milling. His death occurred in Knox County.

The father of our subject, who was born and reared in Knox County, was also a farmer by occupation and followed that business throughout his entire life. When Thomas was a young lad, he removed with his family to Defiance County, Ohio, and purchased land, about six miles north of Ft. Defiance, where he spent the remainder of his life, engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was born in 1818 and died on the 20th of January, 1891, at the age of seventy-three.

Thomas Shrimplin was the second in order of birth in a family of ten children who grew to mature years. He remained on the home farm and gave his father the benefit of his services until about twenty-eight years of age, when, in 1870, he came to Iroquois County and began farming. Ere leaving the State of his nativity, he was united in marriage, December 12, 1867, with Miss Anna

Eastburn, daughter of Jesse R. and Tabitha (Critchfield) Eastburn. The lady was born in Concord Township, this county, December 20, 1850, and three children grace their union: Abram J., born in Williams County, Ohio, September 29, 1868, is a member of Paragon Lodge, K. of P., of Sheldon, Ill. George W. was born in Defiance County, September 30, 1870, and is a member of the same order. Ellen was born on the home farm in this county September 6, 1876.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Shrimplin is a Democrat, having been identified with that party since he cast his first vote for George B. McClellan. He has resided upon his present farm since 1873, when he purchased eighty acres of land, to which he has since added an additional tract of eighty acres. His farm is now under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He has laid many rods of tiling upon it; well-kept fences separate it into fields of convenient size, and good buildings are numbered among its substantial improvements. Mr. Shrimplin is an enterprising and progressive farmer and now ranks among the well-to-do citizens of the community. He is held in high regard by all who know him, and during his twenty years' residence in the county he has formed a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.



GARRISON BROWN, M. D., who is engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery at Crescent City, and is also proprietor of a drug store at that place, was born in Wayne County, N. Y., on the 5th of January, 1817. The family is of English descent and is among the oldest families of New Jersey. The grandfather of our subject, Samuel Brown, was a native of that State, and Elisha Brown, the father of the Doctor, was there born on the 8th of October, 1807. He grew to manhood in the State of his nativity and emigrated to Wayne County, N. Y., with his father, locating in the town of Williamson. He was twice married, his second wife being the mother of our subject. She bore the maiden name of Mary Durfee and was the daughter of Stephen

Durfee, one of the early settlers of Wayne County, who came from Rhode Island and located near Palmyra. Elisha Brown still resides in the Empire State and has reached the advanced age of eighty-five years.

The Doctor is the eldest in a family of two sons and two daughters; he has a half-brother and sister, children of his father's first marriage. He grew to manhood in Palmyra and acquired a good education in the public schools and academy. He afterward engaged in teaching school for one term, and when a young man emigrated Westward, locating in Tama County, Iowa, in 1868. He there purchased raw land and began the development of a farm, which he operated for two years. On the expiration of that period, he purchased a drug and grocery store in Waltham, and also took up the study of medicine. He attended his first course of lectures in 1877, in Keokuk, Iowa, and was graduated in the Class of '78 with the degree of M. D. He then returned to Waltham, where he engaged in practice until the following spring, when he sold out and came to Iroquois County. Since that time he has been a resident of Crescent City, and to medical practice has devoted his time and attention with excellent success. In the fall of 1891, he also established a drug store, which he carries on in connection with his son Fay.

Ere leaving Waltham, Dr. Brown was married, on the 22d of December, 1869, to Miss Elizabeth A. Hagerman, a native of Leeds County, Ontario, Canada, and a daughter of Richard Hagerman. Eight children have been born of their union, the eldest of whom is Fay, a well-educated young man possessed of good business ability, who is now in business with his father; Mary and De Witt G. are at home; H. T. Cleaver died in October, 1881, at the age of four years. The younger members of the family are B. F., Eva T., Ida E. and Harold T.

The Doctor is a stalwart Republican in politics, having supported that party since he cast his first ballot for Gen. U. S. Grant, but he has never been an aspirant for office. In his social relations, he is an Odd Fellow and has filled all the chairs of the local lodge, now serving as Past Grand. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In business and social circles Dr. Brown

ranks high. Thorough preparation fitted him for his profession, and the experience he has gained by practice, combined with his skill and natural ability, has made him one of the successful practitioners of this county. During his thirteen years' residence in Crescent City, he has gained a liberal patronage, which he well deserves.



SAMUEL W. MONTGOMERY, one of the early settlers of the county, follows farming on section 27, Belmont Township, where he has made his home for a third of a century. A native of Russell County, Va., he was born April 30, 1816. His grandfather, John Montgomery, aided the Colonies in their struggle for independence, serving as a scout against the Indians. He was also Sheriff of his county.

Alex Montgomery, father of our subject, was born and reared in the Old Dominion, and throughout his life followed the occupation of farming. He married Barbara Harris, and in 1817 they removed to Kentucky, settling on the Licking River, among the mountains. In 1822, they became residents of Franklin County, Ind., and in that fall the father died. The mother reared her family, keeping them all together. At length she came to Illinois and during her last days found a pleasant home with our subject. Her death occurred about 1861. Mr. Montgomery was a prominent member of the Methodist Church and was always well informed in regard to church news, reading extensively the publications of his denomination. In politics he was a Democrat. In the family of this worthy couple were the following children: Susan, now deceased; Lincoln, who resides in Alabama; John, who died in Illinois; Samuel, of this sketch; William, who was killed by falling from a tree when a lad; Jane, now deceased; and Margaret, who resides in Coles County, Ill.

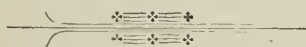
We now take up the personal history of our subject, who is one of the county's leading citizens. He was a lad of only six years when with his parents he moved to Indiana, where he was reared to manhood upon a farm. He aided in clearing land

and performed the arduous task of developing a new farm, while for recreation he engaged in hunting deer and other wild game, which were plentiful and which furnished many a meal to the family. He remained at home until his marriage, which was celebrated in Fountain County, Ind., in 1836, the lady of his choice being Miss Charity Devore, who was born in Kentucky, but was reared in Monroe County, Ind. For ten years Mr. Montgomery resided on the border line of Grant Prairie, in Warren County, Ind., and in 1849 he came to Iroquois County, Ill. Purchasing a farm of ninety acres in Concord Township, near Bunkum, he there made his home until 1860, when he removed to his present place of residence. The year previous he had purchased two hundred and forty acres of land, and afterward extended the boundaries of his farm until it comprised four hundred acres, but has since disposed of an eighty-acre tract. He has been a successful agriculturist, has placed his land under a high state of cultivation, and as the result of his industry and good management he has acquired a handsome property. The many improvements, both useful and ornamental, which he has placed upon his land have made it one of the valuable and desirable farms of the township.

The death of Mrs. Montgomery occurred in August, 1840. Two children were born of that union. Susan died in childhood; Elizabeth died after her marriage. Mr. Montgomery was again married, in Warren County, Ind., January 13, 1842, his second union being with Sarah Herriman, who was born in Clarke County, Ohio, and who when a young lady went to Warren County, Ind. Her parents were Stephen and Abigail (Buckland) Herriman, both natives of Vermont. The mother died in Ohio, when Mrs. Montgomery was a small child. Of the second marriage have been born the following children: Charity L., a native of Warren County, Ind., is now the wife of John Gaffield, who resides near Sheldon, Ill.; Mary, born in Warren County, is the wife of J. M. Barnes, of Hoopeston; Henry Clay, who was born in Warren County, enlisted in the Seventy-sixth Illinois Regiment, was wounded in a charge at Ft. Chadburn, Ala., and died November 8, 1877, in Missouri; William was born in

Iroquois County, and is a farmer of Belmont Township; John D. died at the age of two years; Stephen H. died at the age of seventeen; Margaret is the wife of John Fanning, of Woodland; Alonzo D. is a farmer of Belmont Township; Olive is now deceased; and Charlie operates a farm near the old homestead.

Mr. Montgomery is truly a self-made man. He had not even good educational advantages to aid him. He has had both to educate himself and to make his own way in the world financially. With a young man's bright hope of the future and a strong determination to succeed, he started out in life, and has worked his way steadily upward, overcoming the obstacles in his path by his perseverance and enterprise. He now has a comfortable competence. His farm and pleasant residence are valuable property. He was the first of the family to vote the Whig ticket, supporting William Henry Harrison in 1840. He voted for Fremont in 1856, and has since been a stalwart Republican. He served as Justice of the Peace for about ten years and for one term as Supervisor. His wife belongs to the United Brethren Church, and Mr. Montgomery is a faithful member of the Christian Church of Woodland. His life has been well and worthily spent, and his upright career has won him universal confidence. For forty-three years he has made his home in Iroquois County, and has ever borne his part in its upbuilding and development. Such is the record of a valued citizen, the honored pioneer and self-made man, Samuel W. Montgomery.



JONATHAN WRIGHT, one of the oldest settlers of Iroquois County, was born at Terre Haute, Ind., December 27, 1831. He is a son of David C. and Ede (McKown) Wright. His grandfather Wright came from England, and served in the War of the Revolution. He was an Elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was much honored in the Colonies. His grandfather McKown emigrated from Ireland to

the United States, served in the same war, and was wounded in the thigh, for which he received a pension. The grandmothers of our subject were sisters, bearing the name of Kerl, and were of Swedish ancestry. The father of our subject was born in Jackson County, Va., and his mother in Pennsylvania, but when a girl she removed to Jackson County with her parents. His father served in the War of 1812, and after his death his widow received a pension. About the year 1828 they came by flat-boat down the Ohio River, and by steamboat they were pulled up the Wabash River as far as Terre Haute. Mr. Wright was a miller and millwright by trade, following that for a time in Virginia, although farming was his chief occupation, and this he followed at Terre Haute. In 1835 he came to the eastern part of what is now Douglas Township. There were but few settlers and they were scattered along Spring Creek. He entered one hundred and twenty acres of land, on which he spent the rest of his life, dying in his sixty-third year. He was a life-long Democrat and of his eight sons all save one were of the same political faith. The mother spent her last days with our subject and passed away at the age of eighty-four years. In their family were ten children, eight sons and two daughters, of whom seven survive.

Mr. Wright, of this sketch, is the seventh child in his father's family, and was reared on the farm, having very poor advantages in the way of an education, there being no schools in the community at that early day. His father, who was a smart man and well educated, taught one of the first district schools in this part of the county. Our subject worked at a hotel in Middleport for his board, and went to school one winter. Another winter he did likewise, and that comprised all the schooling he had until after he was grown, but throughout life he has been a student and close observer, and has acquired a valuable fund of knowledge which many who have superior educational advantages might well envy. At nineteen years of age he lost his father, and thus the care of his mother and the younger members of the family fell upon his youthful shoulders. From boyhood he had worked at carpentering,

but on coming to Gilman he engaged in the butchering business for a time and then he with his brother took a contract to build the bridges from Gilman to the State line. As the county was insolvent, he lost about \$1,000 in this enterprise. He has the distinction of having built the first residence in Gilman, the house which C. Cross now lives in. Prior to that there had been but a few huts and shanties erected.

In May, 1870, occurred the marriage of Mr. Wright to Maria Place, a native of the Empire State, who came to Grundy County, Ill., with her parents when young. Mr. and Mrs. Wright have two children: Camilla, who is a graduate of the Gilman High School; and Elmo, who, like his father, is a carpenter, and is his father's assistant. The wife and daughter are members of the Methodist Church.

In August, 1862, Mr. Wright enlisted in Company A, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, and was mustered into service at Kankakee. His company was called to the Mississippi River and Gulf Department. The first engagement of importance in which they took part was the siege of Vicksburg; then followed the second battle of Jackson, Miss., Sabine Cross Roads, and the capture of Ft. Blakely. At the last-named battle the Seventy-sixth Regiment numbered less than three hundred, but in twenty minutes ninety-eight of that number were either killed or wounded. Their regimental flag was the first to be hoisted over the fort. Our subject was never wounded or taken prisoner, but at Blakely, while pursuing a rebel, he ran clear into the rebel lines and at that time and several others had very narrow escapes. He was mustered out at Galveston, Tex., and received his discharge at Chicago in 1865, having served three years and three months as a faithful supporter of the Union.

Returning to Gilman he worked at carpentering, also following that occupation at Watseka, Chicago and Chatsworth. Shortly after the close of the war he purchased a farm in Douglas Township, which he ran for about a year and then sold it. He has since made his home in Gilman. He is a Democrat in his political opinions, but has not been an office-seeker. He has served as con-

stable, however, most acceptably for a period of ten years. He is a member of the Gilman Post No. 186, G. A. R. Mr. Wright owns considerable town property as the reward of his industry and frugality. He may truly be called a self-made man, for it is entirely owing to his own efforts that he has acquired the property which ranks him among the substantial citizens and successful business men of the county.



WILLIAM Y. CLARK, proprietor of the planing mill of Sheldon, was born in England, April 10, 1852. He is the eldest of a family of five children who were born unto William and Ann (Yardy) Clark, also natives of England. When our subject was an infant his parents bade good-bye to their old home and crossed the broad Atlantic to America, settling first near Lockport, N. Y., where they resided for five years. On the expiration of that period, they removed to Benton County, Ind., where the mother's death occurred in 1859. The father was afterward again married and by that union had seven children. He resided in Benton County for about thirty years, and in 1890 came to Sheldon, where he has since resided. He is now a hale and hearty man of sixty-four years and is a valued citizen of the community.

The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm and in the winter season attended the common school, while in the summer months he worked in the fields. He gave his father the benefit of his services until he had attained his majority, when he started out to earn his own livelihood. Ere leaving home, he had learned the carpenter's trade, and in 1873 he came to Sheldon, where he followed that occupation successfully for a number of years. He was an expert workman and always enjoyed a good trade, his services being much in demand. In 1881, he embarked in his present business, purchasing the planing mill of C. Corlette. The mill, however, had for some time been operated by the Light Bros.

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Yours Respectfully
James L. Watkins



Yours Truly

Martha A. Watkins

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In January, 1876, Mr. Clark was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Applegate, of Indiana. The family circle now numbers four children, two sons and two daughters: Delbert, Charlie, Grace and Anna, and the circle has never been broken by the hand of Death.

Success has attended the industrious and persevering efforts of our subject, who is a man of good business ability, enterprising and progressive. By his fair and honest dealing and excellent work he has secured a liberal patronage and is now doing a prosperous business, which is but the just reward of his labors. Socially, Mr. Clark is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and he exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party. He is a well-known business man of the community and is a prominent citizen. During the twenty years of his residence here, he has made many friends and won the high regard of all by his sterling worth.



JAMES T. WATKINS, a representative farmer residing on section 26, Middleport Township, where he owns three hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, was born near Winchester, Va., on the 14th of November, 1836, and is a son of Henry and Ann (Powelson) Watkins. His parents were both natives of the Old Dominion, and unto them were born six children, the eldest of whom, John W., now resides with our subject. Francis is a farmer living in Kansas; Elizabeth is now a resident of Virginia; Henry M. died in 1863; and Benjamin M. is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Bates County, Mo. The father of this family met his death by drowning, while crossing the Potomac River, on the 2d of February, 1850. His wife died the following year. They were both members of the Baptist Church and were people of sterling worth, whose upright lives won for them many friends.

Mr. Watkins, our subject, was born and reared upon his father's farm and acquired a good English education, attending school during the winter season through the greater part of his boyhood

and youth. He began to earn his own livelihood when twenty-one years of age, and whatever he now possesses has been acquired through his own efforts. When a young man, accompanied by a friend, he made a trip over the mountains on horseback to Licking County, Ohio. That winter he attended school, and the following spring he hired out to a farmer for two seasons. He then rented land and engaged in farming for himself for one summer. The succeeding autumn he returned to Virginia alone on horseback, and when he again came to Ohio brought a drove of horses with him. This business of bringing horses over the mountains to the Western States he followed until 1862.

In that year, he responded to the country's call for troops. Joining the boys in blue of Company A, Ninety-sixth Ohio Infantry, he went to the front and participated in the battles of Vicksburg and Arkansas Post. In the latter Mr. Watkins was wounded in the left leg by a shell, and was then taken to Memphis, Tenn., where he was soon afterward discharged on account of disability. When mustered out he returned at once to Ohio, and afterward purchased a herd of young cattle, which he drove through to Iroquois County, Ill., pasturing them upon the prairies of Sheldon Township. In 1865, he purchased eighty acres of land in Sheldon Township, upon which he made his home for a year. He then bought another eighty-acre tract of land on section 26, Middleport Township, the nucleus of his present fine farm, to which he has added from time to time until now three hundred and sixty acres of arable land pay a golden tribute to the care and cultivation he bestows upon it. He cleared and improved the place himself and his farm is as a monument to his thrift and enterprise. He now carries on general farming and stock-raising and is regarded as one of the prosperous citizens of the community.

On the 13th of September, 1861, Mr. Watkins was married to Miss Martha, daughter of Putnam and Lucy (Herriman) Gatliff. Her father is a native of Vermont, born May 25, 1811, but at an early day he left the Green Mountain State and went to Ohio, where he was reared to manhood in the usual manner of farmer lads. He is a man of

much natural ability, and in the common schools he acquired a good English education. He now resides in Concord Township, Iroquois County. He came to Illinois in 1855, and has since been an honored citizen of this community. He married Miss Lucy Herriman, a native of Ohio, and their union, which was celebrated in 1832, was blessed with a family of nine children, two sons and seven daughters, of whom five are yet living. Mary, the eldest, is the wife of R. P. Case, who resides in Iroquois village; Elmira is the wife of George R. Dunning, a resident of Englewood, Ill., who is employed as watchman on the crossing of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad; Nancy was joined in wedlock with Isaac C. Denney, a successful and enterprising farmer residing in Indiana; Mrs. Watkins is the next younger; and William completes the family. He married Miss Lizzie Flerh, and makes his home in Englewood, being employed as a salesman in the stock yards at Chicago. The mother of this family was called to her final rest in 1887.

Mrs. Watkins is a native of the Buckeye State. She was born on the 9th of October, 1847, and resided in Ohio until eight years of age, when she came with her parents to Illinois. She is a lady of many pleasant and excellent qualities, held in high esteem by her large circle of friends, and to her husband she has proved a valuable helpmate. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born six children, as follows: Dicie A., who died in 1869; Bertha M., wife of Nelson Fanyo, a farmer residing in Middleport Township; Henry M., Zedock P., James T. and Hattie V., who are still under the parental roof. The family has long been connected with this community and its interests, and in social circles its members rank high.

In politics, Mr. Watkins is a supporter of Democratic principles and has held the office of Road Commissioner and School Director, discharging the duties with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. Socially, he is a member of the Odd Fellows' society and he also belongs to the Baptist Church. Himself and wife are respecters of everything tending to the moral improvement of the community, and their lives have been to their children an example worthy of emulation. We see in Mr. Watkins a self-made man,

whose excellent success is due entirely to his own well-directed and untiring efforts. Prosperity has not come to him unsought, for he has labored long and earnestly, and his perseverance, enterprise and good management have won for him the comfortable competence which is to-day his.



HUGH A. McGAUGHY, a leading farmer and influential citizen of Douglas Township, was born in Licking County, Ohio, September 4, 1835. His great-grandfather was a Scotch emigrant who came to America and served in the War of the Revolution. His grandfather, a blacksmith by trade, served in the War of 1812, and was one of the citizens who went to Baltimore to prevent the British troops from landing there. His father was born in Gettysburg, Pa., in 1807, and there he married Lucinda White, who was also born in the same locality, in 1814. Soon after their marriage they emigrated to Lima, Ohio, where he secured one hundred and sixty acres of land, now in the productive oil regions. After living there seven years and having cleared forty acres of land, he sold the same for less than he originally gave on account of sickness. Going to Licking County, he made that his home until 1853, when he removed to Illinois, he and part of the family coming by rail and the rest by wagon. They first located at Ottawa, La Salle County. The country was then decidedly new and wild. He improved a farm there, where he lived many years. Late in his life he moved to Washington County, Iowa, where he died in 1890, his wife having died in 1873. They were both earnest members of the Presbyterian Church. Politically, he was a Whig and later a Republican. In their family were eight children, of whom one son and four daughters are yet living.

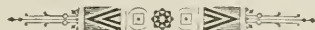
The subject of this sketch was reared to farm life and received such an education as the common schools of that early day afforded. He attended a log schoolhouse in Ohio, and as the country was heavily timbered his father blazed trees in

order that he could find the way to and from school. When the family removed to Illinois it fell to his lot to drive the wagon; when some distance out from Crawfordsville, Ind., their wagon was mired and they were obliged to return and take a different road. They then came on to Iroquois County, making their way to the Elk Horn House, but getting lost they camped out in the neighborhood of Bunkum. Duck, geese and prairie chickens were very plentiful at that time.

In La Salle County, on the 26th of February, 1863, Mr. McGaughy led to the marriage altar Miss Jennette G. Howard, daughter of Clark and Serepta (Haskin) Howard. Mrs. McGaughy was born in Knox County, Ill., October 17, 1841. Her grandfather Howard was of English descent. He married Mary Briggs, and late in life they came to Illinois, spending their remaining years in Gilman. Her father was a native of the Empire State, Dutchess County being the place of his birth, and there he grew to maturity. Her mother was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., and on her mother's side was of German descent. They were married in Perrysburg, Ohio, in 1834. Mrs. McGaughy's parents emigrated to Ohio and lived near Perrysburg, where her father followed his occupation of carpentering. Her mother was a member of the Methodist Church, and her father was a Whig and later a Republican. In 1836, they came to Illinois in wagons, coming by way of Chicago. At that early day the country was wild and Indians and game were plentiful. They first settled in Knox County, where Mr. Howard followed the occupations of farming and carpentering. In 1868, they removed to Iroquois County, where they lived until the death of Mrs. Howard in 1889, at the age of seventy-seven years. Mr. Howard still survives and lives in Onarga, at the age of eighty-one years. Of their family of six children four are still living, one son and three daughters.

Mr. McGaughy, having improved eighty acres of land in La Salle County, where he first located on coming to Illinois, sold his possessions and came to Iroquois County in March, 1869. He purchased two hundred acres one and a-half miles southeast of Gilman, which he has finely improved and tilled. For over twenty years he made his

home on his farm, and in 1891 moved to Gilman. Politically, his sympathies are with the Republican party. Mrs. McGaughy is a member of the Methodist Church, of which she is one of its earnest workers. To them were born three children: Estella, who died in 1871, at the age of seven years; Grace E., who resides at the home of her parents; and one little one who died in infancy. Mr. McGaughy has been a successful business man and is favorably known and much respected throughout this section.



JOHN FISCHER, who is engaged in general merchandising in Loda, was born in Ottersheim, Bavaria, Germany, on the 28th of April, 1835. His father, Mathias Fischer, was also a native of Bavaria. After attaining to mature years, he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Reno, who was born in the same locality as her husband, and they became the parents of a family of six children, three sons and three daughters, as follows: John, Madeline, Frank, Frances, Mary and Mathias. In 1847 the father of this family bade good-bye to home and friends, and with his wife and two oldest children sailed from the Fatherland to America. Landing in New York, he there made his home for about fifteen months, after which he removed to Ulster County, N. Y., locating in the village of Rosendale, where he spent three years. He then went to Wellsville, Allegany County, where he remained until he left the Empire State to emigrate to Springfield, Ohio. The mother of our subject died in that city in 1865. The father survived her ten years, passing away in 1875.

The subject of this sketch, as above stated, accompanied his parents to the United States. At St. Mary's, Elk County, Pa., he was united in marriage on the 10th of September, 1860, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary A. Meyer, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Biehl) Meyer. Six children have been born unto them, and the family circle is still unbroken by the hand of Death. Joseph Matthew, the eldest, was born November 15, 1861;

Frances, October 20, 1863; Mary Anna, April 22, 1865; Louisa, September 8, 1866; Elizabeth, November 8, 1868; and Katrina, September 17, 1870.

In 1864 Mr. Fischer removed with his family to this State, locating in Kankakee, but after a short residence there he came to Loda, on the 28th of July, 1865, and has made his home continuously since in this place. For the past thirteen years he has engaged in general merchandising. He carries a full and complete stock of goods, and by his enterprise and industry, his courteous treatment and fair dealing, has worked up an excellent trade, and is now enjoying a liberal patronage. As a citizen, he is public-spirited and progressive, and manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding. In politics he supports the Democratic party by his ballot, but has never been an office-seeker. Himself and family are members of the Catholic Church. Those who know Mr. Fischer have for him a high regard, which he merits by the upright life he has lived.



BENTON BISHOPP, a well-known and leading business man in Sheldon, who is connected with the Bishopp Hominy Company, deserves representation in this volume, for he has long been identified with the history of the county, being numbered among its honored pioneers. He was born in Kent County, England, November 28, 1838, and is a son of Edward B. and Matilda Elizabeth Bishopp. His father was born in 1811 and in 1853 emigrated with his family to America. The year after his arrival in this country, he settled in Iroquois County, where he spent the remainder of his life. His death occurred in February, 1883, and the community thereby lost one of its best citizens.

Our subject is the eldest of a family of nine children. The first fifteen years of his life were spent in the land of his birth, and he then crossed the briny deep with his parents. Since a lad of sixteen he has resided in this community and has witnessed almost the entire growth and develop-

ment of the county. He has aided in the progress and advancement of the county's best interests. On the 4th of September, 1867, he led to the marriage altar Miss Martha A. Moore, daughter of John B. Moore, a native of Ohio. Unto them have been born eight children, and the family circle yet remains unbroken. All are still under the parental roof, namely: Edward Burton, Frank, Virginia Minerva, Henry B., John D., Arthur A., Martha and Benjamin. The eldest son is now one of the firm of the Bishopp Hominy Company.

For a number of years, Mr. Bishopp was engaged in the lumber business in Sheldon, but at length sold out and embarked in the grain trade, which he has since conducted. In 1891, he organized the Bishopp Hominy Company of Sheldon, which was established, and he is now manager. The company is doing a large business and enjoys an excellent trade.

The life of Mr. Bishopp has been a busy one, yet he has found time to devote to public interests. In 1878, he was elected Supervisor of Sheldon Township and held the office until 1886. He has been a member of the Town Council for a number of years and was a member of the Board of Education from 1882 until 1890, doing effective service in the interests of the schools. In the year 1888, he was made President of the Building and Loan Association of Sheldon. In politics, he is thoroughly Republican and manifests considerable interest in political affairs. Mr. Bishopp has been actively and successfully engaged in business since attaining to man's estate, and now, surrounded by a very pleasant and interesting family in a comfortable home, he lives in the full enjoyment of the reward of his life labors.



MATTHEW HOLZ, one of the extensive land-owners of the county, who now resides on section 12, Artesia Township, is a native of Germany. He was born in Steinheim on the 11th of June, 1828, and is a son of George and Mary Holz. There were four children in this family, of whom the eldest, George,

died in 1889. Matthew is the second in order of birth. Elizabeth is the wife of John Kelly and still resides in Germany. John is engaged in farming in Warren County, Ind.

Mr. Holz whose name heads this record was educated in the schools of his native land, which he attended until fourteen years of age. His father died when Matthew was a lad of eight summers. He learned the weaver's trade, and when about fifteen years of age left home to earn his own livelihood. He began work in a dye factory, where he was employed until he came to America in 1854. Having heard much of the advantages and privileges afforded young men in the New World, he decided to try his fortune in this country, and, bidding good-bye to the Fatherland, crossed the Atlantic in a sailing-vessel, which after a stormy passage of sixty-four days dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. Landing in that city, Mr. Holz at once went to Berks County, Pa., where he began work by the day, following any occupation whereby he might earn an honest dollar and thus provide for his own maintenance, for he was almost penniless when he reached America. He continued to reside in the Keystone State until 1856, when he emigrated Westward, locating in Warren County, Ind. He first worked by the month for a short time, but afterward rented land, upon which he resided until the spring of 1864, when he came to Illinois.

In the meantime, Mr. Holz was married. In 1859, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Caroline Knauer, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in February, 1830. Six children have been born of this union, five sons and a daughter, as follows: John, Lewis, Jackson, William, Charlie and Emma. The daughter is the wife of Robert McClave.

On coming to Illinois, Mr. Holz located in Iroquois County, renting a farm in Artesia Township. He rented one farm for eleven years and then purchased the same, having acquired the capital through his own industry, enterprise and perseverance. This tract consisted of one hundred and twenty-four acres on section 12, Artesia Township, and it has since been his home. He now carries on general farming and stock-raising and is numbered among the leading agriculturists of the

county. As his financial resources have increased he has made additional purchases, until his landed possessions now aggregate between eight and nine hundred acres.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Holz is a Democrat, who warmly advocates the principles of his party. For nine years he has served as School Director and for the same period filled the office of School Trustee. In religious belief he is a Lutheran. We see in Mr. Holz a self-made man, and one who deserves great credit for his success in life. Starting out empty-handed, he has overcome the difficulties and obstacles in his path by an indomitable will and energy, and has steadily worked his way upward to a position of wealth and affluence.

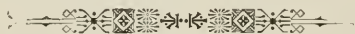


MARK A. STANLEY was born on the site of the present city of Watseka, on the 23d of November, 1848, and is a son of Micajah Stanley, deceased, an honored pioneer of Iroquois County, and the founder of Watseka. A sketch of this worthy gentleman is given on another page of this volume. Our subject was reared and educated in his native town, and aided his father in the management of the Stanley House. It was the first hotel of Watseka, and stood on the site of the present Williams House.

On the 25th of January, 1871, Mr. Stanley was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Edinger. The lady is a native of the Empire State, and is a daughter of Gideon and Lena Edinger. Their union was blessed with two children, a son and daughter, but Roy died at the age of nine months. Kittie is still with her parents.

For three years succeeding his marriage, Mr. Stanley was engaged in farming. He then abandoned that occupation and turned his attention to other pursuits. Embarking in the livery business, he has carried it on continuously since, and has been engaged in this line longer than any other livery man of Watseka. In politics, Mr. Stanley

is a Democrat, but has never sought or desired public office. He is a member of Watseka Lodge No. 1086, K. of H., and his wife holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has witnessed the entire growth of Watseka, and the greater part of the upbuilding of the county, and has ever borne his share in its development.



ANDREW TASCHER, who makes his home on a farm situated on section 2, Danforth Township, was born in Germany, in the Province of Baden, February 27, 1834. He is a son of Andrew and Kate (Gansbert) Taseher, both of whom were born in the same country. The father followed the occupation of farming, reared his family and spent his entire life in the Fatherland. Andrew Tascher, Jr., is the second in order of birth of a family of seven children, four sons and three daughters. The father was twice married and by his first wife had a family of five children.

Our subject grew to manhood and received good common-school advantages in Baden. He has almost entirely educated himself in English since coming to the United States. In 1852, he took passage in a sailing-vessel at Havre de Grace, France, and was forty days on the briny deep. He landed in New York on the 29th of August, 1852, and immediately started for the West, first locating in Missouri, about eighty miles south of St. Louis. There he remained until the spring of 1853, when he came to Peoria, Ill., and worked for a few months in the county.

In 1861, responsive to the call of his adopted country for volunteers, Mr. Tascher enlisted on the 6th of November, in Company F, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry. He entered the service for a term of three years, and received his discharge December 24, 1864, at Memphis, Tenn. He participated in the battles of Shiloh and Pittsburg Landing, and also in many engagements in which his regiment took part, including that of Lexington, Tenn., and a number of skirmishes. During the last year of his service he suffered much from

disability and was obliged to be in the hospital for some time. After leaving the service he returned to Peoria, purchased a team, and engaged in teaming in that city until 1866.

In the spring of 1867, Mr. Taseher removed to Iroquois County and settled at Danforth, where he rented land and engaged in farming. At the end of a year he broke prairie land for the same length of time, after which he again rented land, which he operated for several years. In 1873 he bought eighty acres of but partially improved property, where he still resides. This by long years of patient labor he has developed into a valuable and desirable farm, on which he has erected a substantial house, barns and other out-buildings.

In Iroquois County, in July, 1873, Mr. Taseher led to the marriage altar Eliza Morti, who was born in Switzerland. She departed this life in January, 1875, and in December of that year he married Miss Isabella F. Sims, a native of Virginia. She was born and reared to womanhood in Augusta County, and is a daughter of Miles and Martha (Blair) Sims. Her father was likewise born in the Old Dominion and is of French parentage, while his wife is of Scotch descent. Mrs. Taseher came with her mother to Iroquois County in 1868. Her mother died in Gilman, September 23, 1872, and her remains are interred in the Gilman Cemetery, where a stone marks her last resting-place. Mr. and Mrs. Taseher have no children of their own but have an adopted daughter, May B. Nichols Tascher, who was a daughter of William and Sarah Nichols, and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norville, old pioneers of Gilman, Ill., both of English descent, and natives of Northern Virginia. In 1884, Mr. Tascher made a trip to Europe and visited the scenes and friends of his youth. He spent about two months in Baden and had a very enjoyable visit. The voyage on the Atlantic, in contrast to the forty days which it required when he first made the trip, took him less than ten days.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Taseher is a Republican and cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. Though much interested in political affairs and conventions, he has never asked for

or accepted any official position. He has ever given his earnest support to the cause of education and public schools and has been a member of the School Board for years. He is a consistent member of the Evangelical Church. For over a quarter of a century he has been a resident of Iroquois County and has aided very materially in its advancement and welfare. He commenced life in this State a poor man and by his own labor and perseverance and the assistance of his wife has accumulated a valuable farm and now ranks as one of the thrifty and well-to-do farmers of this township. By his honorable course in life and his upright character he has won the high regard of his friends and neighbors.



CHRISTIAN MERKLE, a pioneer farmer and resident of this county for thirty years, resides on section 3, Danforth Township. He is a native of Germany, where his birth occurred the 21st of December, 1826. He is one of a family of five sons and three daughters, who grew to mature years. The eldest, Frank, still lives in Germany, and resides on the old homestead; George has also remained in his native land, as has the next younger brother, Joseph; Christian, our subject; John, who emigrated to the United States, and settled in Peoria, where he died in 1888; Barbara; Philana; Catherina and Mary, who died when quite young.

Christian passed his boyhood days on a farm, engaged in the usual pursuits of farmer lads, and received a good education in the German language. He has been almost wholly self-educated in the English tongue since coming to this country. In compliance with the laws of Germany, he entered the army at the age of twenty-one, and there served for a period of three years. He participated in several small engagements of the rebellion of 1848, and distinguished himself by his bravery and fidelity. In 1854, he took passage in a steam-vessel at Liverpool, which was bound for America. He arrived in Philadelphia in May of that year, and at once went West, where for four

months he lived in Cincinnati, Ohio. He then went to Wabash, Ind., and worked on the railroad for about one month, after which he removed to St. Louis. From there he proceeded to Peoria, where he was employed in a brewery for three years, a part of which time was spent in learning the business. He next decided to turn his attention to farming, and accordingly engaged in agricultural pursuits for about one year.

In June, 1859, Mr. Merkle led to the marriage altar Helena Tascher, a native of Baden, Germany, who there spent her early years. She emigrated to the United States when about sixteen years of age, and lived with her brothers up to the time of her marriage. To our subject and his wife nine children have been born, eight of whom are still living; John makes his home in Kansas, where he has a fine farm; Louisa is the wife of Henry Stevens; Andrew resides at home; George, who received a good education, is a teacher in this country; Charles, who assists on the home farm; Christian, Emma Helena and Carrie are still at home.

After his marriage, Mr. Merkle took the contract for carrying the mail from Morton to Havana. He was awarded a five-year contract, and placed a stage-driver on the line, which was to be daily traversed for the allotted period of time. At the end of four years, the railroad being completed to Havana, he was obliged to give up the contract, and received for the unexpired time but one month's pay. In 1862, our subject removed to Iroquois County, and settled in Danforth Township, where the village is now located. The following year he purchased a tract of eighty acres, where he now makes his home. This was unbroken prairie land, and of it he has made a valuable and well-improved property, which yields to him a golden tribute for his care and cultivation. He afterward purchased an adjoining farm of forty acres, thus making in all one hundred and twenty acres of property, which is considered among the best land in the county. On this he has built a substantial and pleasant residence, good barns and other farm buildings. He commenced his business career as a poor man, empty-handed, and has, by his own labor, enterprise and industry and by the

assistance of his estimable wife, accumulated a fine estate and a good competence. In addition to his farm in this township, he also possesses one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land in Ashkum Township.

In his political sentiments, Mr. Merkle is an advocate of the Democracy, his first vote having been cast for Stephen A. Douglas. He has ever given hearty support and earnest co-operation to all local and educational measures, and has served for some time as a School Director. For thirty years Mr. Merkle has been a resident of Iroquois County, and is well and favorably known throughout this section as a man in whom one can rely and place the fullest confidence. Among his chief characteristics are industry, enterprise and perseverance, which qualities have brought him success and prominence.



JAMES A. LAIRD, a retired farmer residing in Milford, is a native of Ohio. He was born on the 30th of May, 1830, in Guernsey County, and is one of a family of nine children, whose parents were Samuel and Delilah (Albin) Laird, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of the Buckeye State. When a child, James removed with his father's family from Findlay, Ohio, to Ft. Wayne, Ind., where they resided for a few months, and then removed to a farm near La Fayette, and the old Tippecanoe battle-ground. The father afterward traded for a large tract of land in Milford Township, Iroquois County, Ill., and removed hither in 1855. Dividing this land with his children, he gave to each one hundred and sixty acres. He was a prominent and influential citizen of this community, and his death occurred in 1871, at the age of sixty-six years. His wife survived him a few years and passed away on the 25th of January, 1877, at the age of seventy-two years. Of their six sons and three daughters only two are now living: James, of this sketch, who was the third son; and Mary Jane, who was married in the autumn of 1855 to

Louis Burgett, a farmer who resides about four miles southwest of Milford, and is represented elsewhere in this work.

When a lad of ten years, our subject removed to a farm, and in the usual manner of farmer lads, he was there reared to manhood. His education was acquired in the common schools. After attaining to years of maturity, he was united in marriage with Miss Permelia Long, daughter of William and Phoebe Long, of Ohio. By their union, which was celebrated March 4, 1852, ten children were born, of whom five are yet living: Marion W., born December 26, 1852, married Matilda Coats, on the 8th of March, 1873; Albert R., born February 7, 1860, wedded Tena Hoskins; Clara, born January 1, 1854, became the wife of James C. Harrison February 24, 1876, and they now reside in Kansas; Phoebe was born August 20, 1858; Nora, born February 5, 1866, is the wife of William Smith, a resident of Peoria, Ill.

About three years after his marriage, Mr. Laird removed with his family to this county, where he has now made his home for thirty-seven years. Locating on the farm which his father gave him, he engaged in agricultural pursuits until October, 1878, when he came to Milford, where he has since lived a retired life although he has filled some public offices. During the first four years of his residence here he served as Deputy Postmaster. He was also Police Magistrate for eight years, and served as Coroner for four years. He discharged the duties of his position with promptness and fidelity, which fact insured his long-continued service, and won him the commendation of all concerned.

Mr. Laird, his wife and daughter Phoebe, are members of the Methodist Church, and he is active in several civic societies. He belongs to Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M.; Watscka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.; and Athelstan Commandery No. 45, K. T., of Danville. He also belongs to the Good Templars and the Royal Templars, both being organizations for the promotion of temperance principles. Mr. Laird is a friend to all social, educational and moral interests, and does all in his power to aid in the promotion of those enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit. He is a pub-

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Chas. Hickman



Amos E. Hickman

lic-spirited and progressive man, and is recognized as one of the valued citizens of the community. He is now serving as Justice of the Peace and Notary Public, and is also doing business as a real-estate, insurance and collection agent.



CHARLES HICKMAN is one of the county's prominent citizens and leading agriculturists. He resides on section 33, Ash Grove Township, where he owns a fine and valuable farm of three hundred and sixty acres. He was born near Danville, Ill., but across the line in Indiana, May 20, 1845, when his parents were removing from Missouri to Indiana. His grandfather, John Hickman, spent his entire life in Maryland, where he followed the occupation of farming. He was also a soldier in the War of 1812.

Peter J. Hickman, the father of our subject, was born in Sussex, Del., March 14, 1808, and when fourteen years of age was left an orphan. His father died some years before the mother, and he began working as a farm hand for \$5 per month, giving the money for the support of his mother and the other children. His educational privileges were very meagre, but by experience and observation he became well informed. He was married in Delaware, January 13, 1831, to Mary Gullett, a native of Kent County, Del., born February 8, 1814. In 1832 they emigrated Westward, landing in Fountain County, Ind., on the 6th of November. Mr. Hickman cleared a timbered farm in Warren County, and there resided until 1838. On his arrival he had only \$125, and with this purchased eighty acres of land from the Government. In those early days he bore all the experiences and hardships of pioneer life. The river overflowed his farm, and he waded through the water to turn its course. His home was a log cabin, and for some time it had only a dirt floor, but he afterwards put in a slab floor. At length he sold his farm for \$1,000, and in 1838 went to Missouri, locating near Springfield. He there became well acquainted with the relatives of the notorious James boys, sitting several times on the

jury with their uncle, who afterward became Associate Judge. Entering two hundred and eighty acres of land near Marshfield, he made his home upon that farm for about seven years.

Selling his claim, Mr. Hickman started for Indiana in 1845, and in the Hoosier State he spent his remaining days, his death occurring November 12, 1891. His business career was a successful one, and he left to his children an estate of \$80,000. His widow is still living in her seventy-ninth year, and makes her home with her children. In politics, Mr. Hickman was a life-long Democrat. At the age of fourteen he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was ever afterwards one of its faithful and consistent members. Honored and respected by all, he was one of Nature's noblemen, and left the world better for his having lived in it.

In the Hickman family were eleven children, and all grew to mature years. J. S. is now residing in Lovejoy Township; E. G. is one of the pioneer settlers of Ash Grove Township; Ann E. is the wife of L. B. Russell, of Ash Grove Township; Mrs. Eliza Wilson died in this county in September, 1874; J. W. died in Warren County, Ind., January 17, 1875; Mrs. Martha Smalley resides in Sheldon; Charles is the next younger; Peter J. is located in Red Willow County, Neb.; Mrs. Sarah Smalley makes her home in Hoopston, Vermillion County; William R. resides on the old homestead in Indiana; and Mary C. is the wife of Newton Little, cashier of the bank in Attica, Ind.

Charles Hickman, whose name heads this record, remained on his father's farm until seventeen years of age, when he came to Iroquois County, and for two years was engaged in herding cattle. His father owned a large tract of land in this county. During the late war he enlisted in the Home Guards, and in 1867 entered the army, serving for three years and fourteen days in the Twenty-Second United States Infantry. For three months he was a scout on the Western frontier among the Blackfeet and Sioux Indians, and participated in some sharp engagements with the red men.

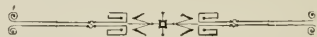
In 1870, Mr. Hickman returned to Indiana, and on the 6th of September of that year, in Warren

County, was united in marriage with Miss Ann E. Smalley, a native of that county, born August 29, 1850, and a daughter of William and Sarah (Sargent) Smalley. She was left an orphan at the age of seven months. In February, 1871, they came to Iroquois County, locating upon their present farm, which Mr. Hickman had purchased the preceding January of Robert Chess, one of the early pioneers. He bought three hundred and twenty acres, and has one of the finest farms in this part of the State. His home is an elegant and commodious residence, the barns and outbuildings are models of convenience, and there are many other excellent improvements, both useful and ornamental, which stand as monuments to the thrift and enterprise of the owner. The farm now comprises three hundred and sixty acres, and in addition to this Mr. Hickman operates another tract of two hundred and twenty acres. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, and has met with excellent success in his undertakings. Since 1871, he has resided upon this farm, with the exception of the year 1888, when he returned to Indiana to care for his father and mother.

Unto our subject and his estimable wife were born seven children: Peter William died at the age of one year; Anna M. is the wife of S. A. Wise, of Ash Grove Township; Eliza J. is at home; James Elbert died at the age of eight months; Ella P. is the next younger; Charles N. died at the age of two years; and Opal, two years old, is the pet of the household.

Mr. Hickman is a progressive and public-spirited citizen, who manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community. While serving as Commissioner of Highways he helped to introduce the tiling and grading of roads by machines, which met with great opposition at the time, but has since grown into universal favor. A few enterprising men at their own expense had the work done, thus giving practical evidence of the benefit to be derived therefrom. Socially, he is a member of the Grand Army post of Cissna Park, and of a Masonic lodge in Warren County, Ind. He has frequently served as a delegate to the Grand Army encampments. His wife is a member of the Christian Church of Attica,

Ind. He cast his first Presidential vote for Seymour, and has since been a supporter of the Democracy, but has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking. Industry and enterprise are numbered among Mr. Hickman's chief characteristics, and through good management and good business ability he has steadily worked his way upward to a position of wealth and affluence. He has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in this county, and none are held in higher regard.



EDWIN BEARD, editor and general manager of the *Iroquois County Times*, was born in Winnesheik County, Iowa, on the 22d of February, 1861. His parents were David and Cynthia A. (Davis) Beard, the former a native of Washington County, Va., and the latter of White County, Ind. The father died November 29, 1875, but the mother is still living and makes her home near La Fayette, Ind.

The subject of this sketch, when a child, removed from Iowa to White County, Ind., where he began his education in the public schools, and later became a student in Perdue University. In 1878, he went to Kansas, where he spent a few years, and on his return was employed on the staff of the *La Fayette Home Journal*, and later was with the *La Fayette Daily Journal* for a period of three years.

In November, 1889, Mr. Beard came to Iroquois County with very limited capital and founded the *Milford Independent*. By energy and good business tact, he placed the paper on a good business footing, and on the 1st of January, 1891, organized the *Times* Printing and Publishing Company, a stock company, which has a capital stock of \$6,500 and owns both the *Iroquois County Times* and the *Milford Independent*, Mr. Beard being editor and general manager of both papers. He took quite an active part in the campaign of 1890. His establishment of the *Milford Independent* was the stepping-stone to his control of the *Times* and subsequent success, which has been almost phenomenal. The *Iroquois County Times*, which was al-

ways a popular and strong paper in the county under Maj. Peters' management, at once, after the organization of its present company, took rapid strides in its business career. The circulation, which at the time of purchase by the present company was of fair proportions, has since been nearly quadrupled in the short space of less than two years, and its patronage in other departments has increased greatly.

On the 27th of December, 1887, Mr. Beard was united in marriage with Miss Ada Barnhouse, their union being celebrated in Ironton, Mo. She is the daughter of Henry Barnhouse and a native of Paxton, Ill. With the Methodist Church she holds membership. One child, a daughter, Jessie, has been born of their union.

Socially, Mr. Beard is a member of the Watseka Camp No. 339, M. W. A. He has been connected with newspaper work continually since 1885, and is well up in the business as his success in his present venture attests. Enterprise and push characterize his efforts and he has demonstrated his ability to carry through his undertakings and give his patrons all he promises them. A sketch of the *Times* is given elsewhere in this volume.



THE IROQUOIS COUNTY TIMES was started in Onarga by Louis M. Babcock and Jacob Keiser, the first issue bearing the date December 1, 1870, and it was then called the *Onarga Times*. Not long afterwards Mr. Keiser withdrew from the firm and Charles Drumm purchased an interest in the paper. Mr. Babcock being editor and Mr. Drumm foreman. On March 16, 1871, the paper was enlarged to an eight-column folio, and in May of the same year it was removed to Watseka. The name of the paper was then changed to the *Iroquois Times*, and the first issue was dated May 27, 1871. In December, 1872, Maj. M. H. Peters purchased the office and conducted the paper until June 5, 1874, when he sold out to Otto H. Wangelin, of Belleville, Ill., who on the 26th of February increased it to a seven-column quarto, and in August,

1875, sold it to August Langellier. After a year its proprietor reduced it to a six-column paper. During his administration the old Washington press, formerly in use, was superseded by an Acme Power press, the largest country size, and at the same time the name was changed to the *Iroquois County Times*.

On the 1st of July, 1878, Maj. Peters again purchased the office, enlarging the paper to a seven-column quarto, it being the largest-sized country paper in the State. Under the able management of Maj. Peters, the paper grew in popularity with the best people of the county. In his efforts to furnish a live, readable and reliable paper, the Major was materially aided by bright and interesting articles from the pen of his talented wife. Among her most valuable and spicy contributions were her reports of editorial excursions. The general tone of the paper was always calculated to elevate and improve the minds of its readers, making it a popular home journal. On the 1st of January, 1891, Maj. Peters sold the office to the *Times* Printing and Publishing Company, a stock company embracing the *Times* and *Iroquois Independent* of Milford, with a capital stock of \$6,500. W. W. Gilbert, of Danforth, is President; H. A. Butzow, Secretary; and Edwin Beard, editor and general manager and the largest stockholder in the company.

On assuming control, Mr. Beard reduced the subscription price of the paper from \$2 to \$1.50 for advance payment, changed its publication day from Saturday to Friday, and gave the business an impetus that has placed the *Times* away in the front rank of country papers. On the 3d of July, 1891, the form was changed from a seven-column quarto to a twelve-page six-column paper, eight pages of which are home print. On July 1, 1892, ready prints were abolished and the entire twelve pages are now printed at home. On October 1, 1892, a line folding machine was added to the equipment of the *Times*. It now appears in magazine form, cut, pasted and folded by rapid machinery. This is the most important improvement made in the office since the introduction of power presses. It is the first plant in this section of Illinois to introduce machinery for folding. Its circulation has

been increased since Mr. Beard assumed control to nearly quadruple its original size when he took it. The office is equipped in the best possible manner for all kinds of job and newspaper work, and the property has increased largely in value. In politics, the *Times* was originally independent Republican, supporting Greeley for President in 1872. It is now distinctly Democratic and is doing excellent service for the party in every campaign.



NELS PETERSON, an enterprising business man of Loda, is a dealer in hardware, furniture and harness, and also does undertaking. He is of Swedish birth, born on the 19th of November, 1858. His parents, Peter and Carrie (Thompson) Peterson, were also natives of Sweden, and in that country there were born unto them five children: Peter, John, Bertie, Nels and Anna. In 1879, Peter Anderson came with his family to America, and, on locating in this country, at once made his way to Illinois, settled in Paxton, Ford County, where he resided for about two years, and then removed to a farm in the same county. He carried on agricultural pursuits successfully in that county until 1888, when he came to this county, and located on a farm near Loda, where he and his wife still make their home.

Under the parental roof the subject of this sketch was reared to manhood. He came to America with his parents during the year in which he attained his majority. He remained at home until 1882, when, on the 28th of December, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Betsy Peterson, daughter of Peter and Elsie (Rasmus) Peterson. Three children were born unto them, but two died in infancy. The only one now living is Marna Elizabeth. Mrs. Peterson was born in Monmouth, Ill., in 1861. Her parents came to America in 1853, locating near Monmouth, where they resided for about ten years. They then removed to Ford County, settling on a farm near Henderson Station, where the succeeding twenty-two years of their lives were passed. On the expiration of that period, they removed to Chicago, where the father

died in 1885. The mother still makes her home in that city.

When Mr. Peterson of this sketch started out in life for himself, he followed the occupation to which he was reared, that of farming, and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until 1891, when he came to the village of Loda and opened a hardware, furniture and harness store. He carries all kinds of heavy and shelf hardware, tinware, agricultural implements and machinery. He has also a full and complete stock of furniture and harness, and also does business as an undertaker. He is enterprising, and by good management and well-directed efforts has won prosperity. Those who know him esteem him highly for his sterling worth and the many excellencies of character which are always sure to win warm regard. Himself and wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and he holds membership with the Modern Woodmen of America. In political sentiment, Mr. Peterson is a Republican, but has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests.



EMANUEL EVERSOLE has followed farming throughout his entire life, and is now engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 35, Ridgeland Township, where he owns and operates eighty-one acres of land. A native of the Buckeye State, he was born in Fairfield County, near Lancaster, on the 28th of December, 1842, and is a son of David Eversole. His father was a native of Virginia and was of German descent. He also was a farmer by occupation and followed that business throughout his entire life. He married Elizabeth Miller, and unto them was born a family of ten children, as follows: Maria, Henry, Jacob, Elizabeth, who died in 1856; David, Lydia, Emanuel, John, Nancy and Martha. Both died in Fairfield County; having reached the age of about seventy-six years.

We now take up the personal history of Emanuel Eversole, who in the usual manner of farmer lads

passed the days of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm. He attended school at intervals until twenty-four years of age and thus acquired his education. Until after the breaking out of the late war, he remained at home with his parents, but in January, 1864, donned the blue, becoming a private of Company B, Seventeenth Ohio Infantry. He was mustered into service at Chillicothe, Ohio, and the first engagement in which he participated was at Resaca, Ga. He took part in many of the important battles of the war, being under fire in the engagements at Resaca, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Waynesboro and Black River. He also took part in the battles of Savannah, Fayetteville, Bentonville, Goldsboro and Smithfield, and his last engagement was at Raleigh. He was very fortunate, in that he escaped all injury, nor was he ever captured. He was ever found at his post of duty and proved himself a loyal and valiant soldier.

When the war was over Mr. Eversole received his discharge and returned to his home in Ohio, where he remained with his parents for about six years. He then rented land and engaged in farming for himself in the State of his nativity for two years, when he came to Illinois, locating in Ridgeland Township. In the same year, 1876, he made a purchase of forty acres of land on section 35, Ridgeland Township, and this farm has since been his home, although it now comprises eighty-one acres of valuable land, under a high state of cultivation and well improved. In connection with general farming, he also carries on stock-raising, and as he possesses good business ability and enterprise he has won success.

An important event in the life of Mr. Eversole occurred on the 16th of September, 1869, when was celebrated his marriage with Miss Sarah Elizabeth Artz, daughter of John and Elizabeth Artz, who still live in Fairfield County, Ohio, the birthplace of Mrs. Eversole. Six children grace this union and the family circle yet remains unbroken. In order of birth they are as follows: Hardy A., George A., Mary G., Clara E., Hazel A. and John A. Logan.

Socially, Mr. Eversole is a member of Babcock Post No. 116, G. A. R., of Onarga, and holds membership with the Methodist Church, as does also

his wife. He has always given his support to those enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit and has ever borne his part in the upbuilding and development of the county. The community recognizes in him a valued citizen and a self-made man, for whatever success Mr. Eversole has achieved in life is due entirely to his own efforts. He started out empty-handed, but by industry and perseverance has steadily worked his way upward, and his efforts have been crowned with a prosperity which is certainly well deserved.



JOHN W. BROOKE, who carried on farming on section 4, Douglas Township, has been for twenty-nine years a resident of this county and has helped to develop it from a system of ponds to fine agricultural land. He is a son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Wickizer) Brooke, and his birth occurred in Fairfield County, Ohio, on the 24th of January, 1848. The founder of the Brooke family in the United States came from England with Payne's Fleet and settled in Pennsylvania. The grandfather of our subject, James Brooke, emigrated to Fairfield County, where his son Benjamin was born December 12, 1812. James Brooke served in the War of 1812. The mother of our subject was born in Pennsylvania and was of German extraction. In early life she went to Fairfield County, Ohio, where she married Mr. Brooke. In 1852, they removed to Marshall County, Ind., and opened several farms in the forest. In September, 1863, they came to Iroquois County and located two miles west of the village of Iroquois, then commonly called Bunkum. In the following spring Mr. Brooke purchased land three miles east of Gilman. His death occurred in that place on the 3d of September, 1885. His wife survives him and makes her home in Gilman, having reached the age of seventy-seven years. Both were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

John Brooke is the seventh child of his father's family, which consisted of eight sons and three

daughters, seven of whom are now living. When his parents removed to this county he was a lad of fifteen years. The country during the wet season would be almost wholly flooded, so that one could go for miles in a boat. He has fished where now lie the best farms. His boyhood days were spent on the home farm and in the common schools. Until thirty-two years of age he remained under the parental roof, doing business with his father. In 1879, he bought eighty acres in Douglas Township, but, selling it in 1885, he purchased eighty acres where he now lives. He is now tiling it thoroughly. A portion of his farm was formerly a swamp, but by his tiling he has made it the best land on his farm.

Mr. Brooke was united in matrimony February 18, 1880, with Harriet A. Buff, a native of Indiana, who only survived her marriage some eight months. Mr. Brooke was again married, March 8, 1885, to Miss Laura A. Loehrke, who was born near Berlin, Germany, on the 4th of July, 1864, and when three years old emigrated to the United States with her parents, Frederick and Amelia (Heise) Loehrke, who settled at Winamac, where they still live. Mrs. Brooke is one of ten children, three sons and seven daughters. Unto our subject and his estimable wife have been born two children, Frank L. and Edward.

Mr. Brooke is of the Methodist faith and his wife belongs to the Baptist Church. In his political sentiment, he is an advocate of the Democratic party. For years he has been connected with school work, having served as Director for a long time. By hard work and good management he has accumulated a competency, and is well known and much respected throughout this section.



DAVID W. KNOWLTON is a leading farmer residing on section 4, Douglas Township. He was born in the county of Leeds, near the city of Newboro, on the 1st of May, 1849, and is a son of Samuel Knowlton, who was born in Canada. The grandfather of our subject came from Georgia and was de-

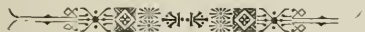
scended from one of the earliest families of that State. The father grew to manhood upon a farm and received a common-school education. He married Miss Grace Warren, also a native of Canada. In 1873, he emigrated to Illinois, where he settled on the place where our subject now lives. It was new prairie land, with little improvement upon it. In 1884, he went to Joliet, where he has since lived a retired life. He and his wife are active workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has held membership with that church since a young man and has been a Class-leader and Trustee. As a business man he has been quite successful and has stood high in the estimation of all. He has been a Republican for many years, and has now reached the age of seventy years. In his family were seven children: Henry now makes his home in Joliet, where he is living a retired life; our subject is second in order of birth; Stephen is an invalid at home; Mary is the wife of Richard Moore, of Chicago; Ezra died at the age of twenty-eight years; Sarah, Mrs. Sherwood, makes her home in Kansas; and Ada is the wife of Mr. Hamer, of Onarga. These children were all born in Canada, and received good educations.

David W. Knowlton passed his early life upon his father's farm and was inured to the labors pertaining to its development. He learned to swing the scythe and sow and cradle by hand. For this was before the time of the introduction of labor-saving farm machinery. He received his education in the public schools, which he left when about sixteen years of age. In 1869, he came to Illinois with his eldest brother, and for fourteen years worked at his trade of carriage-making, at which he had previously served an apprenticeship of three years. Eight years ago, he came to Iroquois County and took charge of his father's farm and home.

On the 4th of March, 1873, Mr. Knowlton wedded Miss Rena Powers in Joliet. Mrs. Knowlton was born in Michigan, and is a daughter of Gerald Powers, who is still living. Her mother died when she was a child. She was educated in the public schools and afterward attended Hillsdale College. To Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton eight children have been born: Arthur Dwight was born in

Joliet and is now his father's assistant; Kittie, Wellington, Benjamin F., Leonard Daniel, Charles Henry, Nettie I. and Gertie are all receiving good educations and are still under the parental roof.

Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church of La Hogue, of which he is a Trustee. He gives liberally of his means to church and benevolent purposes and all worthy objects receive his support. He is Chairman of the Board of Drainage Commissioners and has been a school officer in the La Hogue District No. 1 from the time of its organization. He has done much to improve the county and is a highly-esteemed and respected citizen. Politically, he is a Republican and cast his first ballot in the Presidential election of 1876 for Rutherford B. Hayes. He has been successful as an agriculturist and is a man of good business ability. He has made many friends in this section by his integrity, honor and other good qualities.



ENOCH H. LONG, Sr., was one of the honored pioneers and most prominent citizens of the county. He died on the 29th of July, 1892, and no death has been more sincerely mourned than his, as he was held in the highest respect by all who knew him. He was one of the substantial farmers of Iroquois Township, and for many years here made his home. This work would be incomplete without this sketch, which well deserves a prominent place in this volume.

Mr. Long was born in Long's Bend, Hawkins County, Tenn., April 16, 1826. His paternal grandfather was a native of Scotland, and, crossing the Atlantic Ocean to America, settled, in a very early day, in East Tennessee, in what is now Hawkins County. He aided the Colonists in their struggle for independence, and his wound-scarred body attested his valiant and faithful service. He reared a family of six children, John Long, the grandfather of our subject, being the third in order of birth. He was a farmer by occupation, and with his family resided in Hawkins County, Tenn.

William Long, the father of Enoch Long, was born and reared in that county and there wedded Mary Barnett, also a native of Hawkins County, and a daughter of William Barnett, who was born in Germany, and who was one of the pioneer settlers of Eastern Tennessee. He died when Mrs. Long was an infant, and she was reared and educated by her maternal grandfather, Mr. Ball. William Long engaged in farming for many years in the county of his nativity, and then, accompanied by his family and a number of friends, he removed to Indiana in 1842, locating in Daviess County, near Washington, where he resided until his death, which occurred in November, 1857. His wife departed this life in about 1854, and both lie buried in Washington Cemetery, where a marble slab marks their last resting-place. They were both active members of the Washington Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Long was an Elder for many years. Their family numbered four sons and two daughters, who grew to mature years: Sarah, the eldest, was the wife of Samuel Koons, who resides near Rossville, Vermilion County; Enoch H. is the next younger; Andrew is now deceased; Thomas was educated at Hanover College, Ind., and is a local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is now residing on a farm in Daviess County, Ind.; George met death by the accidental discharge of a gun at the age of sixteen years, and is buried in Ash Grove Cemetery; and Mary Matilda is the wife of W. Harvey Donaldson, and resides in Daviess County, Ind.

Enoch H. Long spent the first sixteen years of his life in Hawkins County, Tenn., and then removed with his parents to Indiana, where he was reared to manhood. His school privileges in early life were limited, but by self-culture he obtained a fair business education after arriving at mature years. When a young man he came with his father to Illinois in 1853, and purchased a tract of two hundred and forty acres of land in Ash Grove Township, Iroquois County. Locating thereon, he cleared and developed a farm, which he made his home for a number of years. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, he chose Miss Almira Sturdevant, their marriage occurring in Iroquois County, on the 1st of July, 1855. She was

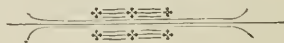
born near Salem, Clark County, Ind., where her father, J. Clark Sturdevant, was a pioneer settler. He also became one of the early settlers of this community, locating at Sturdevant's Bend, on the Iroquois River.

After his marriage, Mr. Long returned to Daviess County, Ind., where he spent the summer, and in January, 1856, he again located on his farm in Ash Grove Township, where he resided until 1860, when he removed to the farm on section 23, Iroquois Township, where his family are yet living. He there cleared a farm and took an active part in the development and upbuilding of the community, and in placing Iroquois County in the front rank among its sister counties of the State. His business efforts were successful, his industry and enterprise winning him a comfortable competence, and the old home farm which he leaves to his family comprises four hundred and sixty acres of valuable and highly improved land.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Long were born the following children: Sarah Lucina, widow of Edward Bennings, who with her daughter, Nellie, the only grandchild, resides in Rawlins County, Kan.; William Clark, a resident farmer of this county, married Miss Ida Young, of Watseka, daughter of Riffley and Margaret Young, and a highly educated lady, who, previous to her marriage, was engaged in teaching; James Andrew is a substantial agriculturist of this community; Thomas Lincoln resides with his sister in Rawlins County, Kan.; George Fletcher operates the home farm; Laura Jane and Lucy May are with their mother; and Mary E. died in infancy.

In politics, Mr. Long was originally a Jackson-Democrat, but voted for Abraham Lincoln and for each Presidential nominee of the Republican party up to the time of his death. He was a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and served as Steward and Class-leader for a number of years. His wife and all of his children except Clark are also members of the same church. For thirty-six years he was a resident of Iroquois County, and was widely and favorably known in this and adjoining counties. His strict integrity and sterling worth won him the highest regard of all, and his honorable, up-

right life is well worthy of emulation. On Tuesday afternoon of July 27, 1892, Mr. Long, who had been to Watseka, started for home, but his horses became frightened at an engine which was standing on the track a little north of the street, became unmanageable and, after running a short distance, the tongue coming down, Mr. Long was thrown to the ground. For a time he was wholly unconscious, but finally revived, his injuries, however proving fatal, and he passed away at four o'clock on Thursday morning, lamented by all who knew him. In his death the community lost one of its best citizens and the county an honored pioneer. Mrs. Long, a most estimable lady, resides on the home farm with her children.

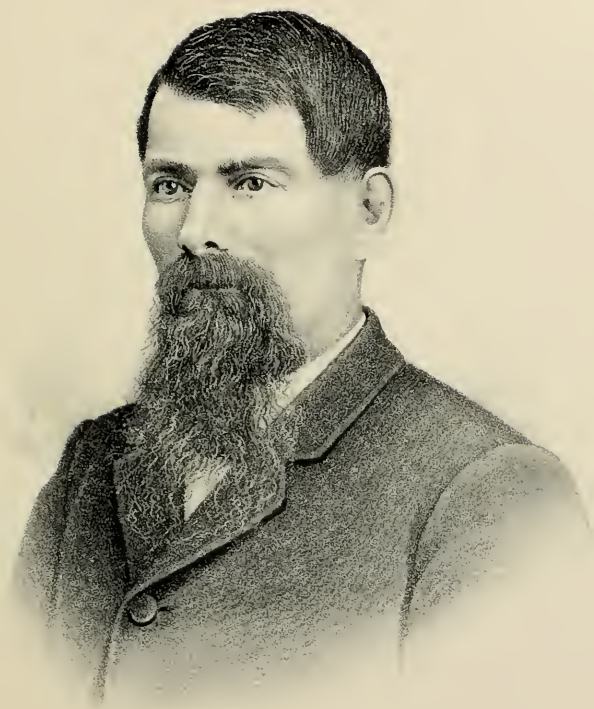


DAVID McFADDEN, a farmer and auctioneer residing in Stockland Township, is a popular and well-known citizen of this community, and we take pleasure in presenting to our readers this record of his life, knowing that it will prove of interest to many. Mr. McFadden was born in Shelby County, Ill., on his father's farm, about eight miles west of Shelbyville, February 2, 1842. His parents, John and Sarah (Ruley) McFadden, were both natives of the Buckeye State. On leaving Ohio, they emigrated to Shelby County, Ill., where they made their home for a few years, when, in 1846, they went to Peoria County, locating upon a farm two and one-half miles west of the city of Peoria. The father there engaged in farming and coal-mining and the family were reared in that locality. In 1862, he removed to Monroe County, Iowa, where he devoted his time and attention to agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1873. Mr. McFadden was three times married. His first wife died in Peoria County in 1851. Eight children were born to that union, of whom five are yet living, as follows: Joseph, John G., Bryce, Amanda and David. Those deceased are James, Lloyd and Mary Jane. After the death of his first wife, Mr.

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Respectfully
Susanna Eastburn



Yours truly
Isaac H. Eastburn

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McFadden married Mrs. Annie Greening, and in 1862 he was called upon to mourn her loss. She left two children, Ruth and Charles. His third wife, prior to her second marriage, was Mrs. Jane Moore, and she became Mrs. McFadden in 1861.

The subject of this sketch was only four years of age when his parents removed to Peoria County, Ill., and was but a lad of nine summers when he lost his mother. He remained with his father until he had attained to mature years. On the 5th of January, 1865, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E., daughter of William and Celia (Ricketts) Holmes. Five children graced this union, as follows: Walter, who was born February 7, 1866; Stanley, October 6, 1867; David Raymond, November 24, 1873; Carless Sherl, November 29, 1880; and one who died in infancy.

Mr. McFadden resides upon the farm of John Girard, known as the John Nolin Farm, where he operates two hundred acres of land. He owns an eighty acre tract on section 7, Scotland Township, and this he has under a high state of cultivation. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, and by his industrious and well-directed efforts secures a good income. As stated in the beginning of this sketch, he is also an auctioneer, prominent and popular, being called all over this and adjoining counties. He seems well fitted for that business and his services are much in demand. He cries most of the sales for the farmers in his neighborhood. His pleasant, genial manner has won him friends throughout the community and gained him the high regard of many.

Mr. McFadden holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics is a supporter of the principles of the Democratic party. He takes considerable interest in civic societies and is an honored member of the Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M.; Milford Lodge, I. O. O. F.; the Knights of Pythias Society of Milford; and the Farmers' Lodge of Modern Woodmen. Whatever success Mr. McFadden has achieved in life is due entirely to his enterprise and perseverance, for when he began to earn his own livelihood he had no capital. He may truly be called a self-made man and he deserves all the praise that term conveys.

ISAAC H. EASTBURN is one of the honored pioneers of Iroquois County. No other citizen of Concord Township has so long been numbered among its residents as our subject, who is now living on section 31. For fifty-seven years he has watched the growth and upbuilding of the county, has been identified with its progress, and has aided in its advancement and development. Few men are more widely and none more favorably known in the community than our subject.

Mr. Eastburn well deserves representation in this volume, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of his life. He was born in Lawrence County, Ohio, December 5, 1833, and is a son of Jesse and Jane (Smedley) Eastburn. His grandfather, Jesse Eastburn, was a native of Maryland, and his father emigrated to this country from England. The grandfather was a soldier in the War of 1812, and on that account his descendants were given a land warrant. The father of our subject, Jesse Eastburn, Jr., was born in Adams County, Ohio, in 1809, and in 1835 emigrated Westward to Illinois, locating in Concord Township, Iroquois County, on the 25th of March. He was among the first settlers in the township, though others came the same year. He was both a mechanic and farmer, and in connection with the cultivation of his land carried on a wagon shop in the early days of the settlement. He was reared as a Democrat and cast his first Presidential vote for Andrew Jackson. He became a staunch Abolitionist and in 1856 voted for John C. Fremont, supporting his party from that time until his death. He was the first Supervisor of Concord Township and served for a number of terms. A leading and influential citizen, he was quite prominent in public affairs. In 1840, he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church and served in all its offices. His house was the recognized home of the circuit-rider, and he was never so happy as when entertaining a half-dozen ministers. Before his death, he removed to Sheldon and aided in building the Methodist Church in that place. His educational advantages were limited, but by extensive reading he made himself a well-informed man, and while serving as School Director for a number of years he did effective service for the

cause of education in this community. He did much to aid in the growth of the county and lived to see it take a front rank among the counties of the State. His death occurred September 13, 1873. One of Nature's noblemen, his loss was deeply mourned by many friends.

Isaac Eastburn was only seventeen months old when his parents came to Illinois, and amid the wild scenes of frontier life he was reared to manhood. His boyhood days were spent in his father's shop and at work in the fields. His early school privileges were meagre, but at the age of twenty years he entered Asbury University, where he pursued a three-year scientific course. He then engaged in teaching in country schools for three years, mostly in Concord and Martinton Townships. During this time, he was united in marriage with Miss Susanna Fry, of Concord Township, the marriage ceremony being performed at the home of the bride on the 1st of February, 1857, by the Rev. William Stubbles. The lady was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, May 6, 1838, and is a daughter of Abraham and Catherine (Deamude) Fry. Her mother died when Mrs. Eastburn was only three years old and when a little girl of five she came to this county with her father and soon acted as housekeeper for him, as he did not again marry. Mr. Fry was married previous to his union with Miss Deamude and had eight children by each marriage. With one exception, Mrs. Eastburn is the youngest. Fourteen of the children grew to mature years and ten are yet living.

After the marriage of our subject his father gave him one hundred and sixty acres of land and he concluded to turn his attention to farming. In 1859, he removed to the farm which has since been his home, and in that year built the house which is yet his residence. It was a wild and unimproved tract, but he at once began its development and continued its cultivation until, feeling his duty called him to the front, he enlisted on the 8th of August, 1862, for the late war as a member of Company E, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, being appointed Corporal. The troops went into camp at Kankakee and after two weeks went to Columbus, Ky. Later, they were sent to Bolivar, Tenn., thence to La Grange and on to Coffeerville,

Holly Springs, Moscow, La Fayette and Vicksburg. He was first under fire at the siege of Vicksburg and there remained until after the surrender of the city, when he took part in the siege of Jackson. He was made Sergeant immediately after the siege of Vicksburg. Having returned to that place, he was then sent to Natchez and went on an expedition to Western Louisiana. He afterward participated in the Meridian campaign under Sherman and later, receiving a thirty-days furlough, returned home on a visit. On the 1st of July, 1864, he again reached Vicksburg and participated in the expedition to Jackson, Miss. The troops had a severe battle at Jackson Cross Roads, where Mr. Eastburn was twice slightly wounded, once in the right arm and once in the right hand. A bullet shot through his hat cut out some of his hair, and another pierced his blouse. The command was afterward sent to Morganza Bend and participated in the battles at Washington, La., White River, Duvall's Bluff, and then went to Memphis, Tenn. Subsequently they went to New Orleans and thence started by boat to Pensacola, Fla. A storm arising, the vessel was shipwrecked and they had to throw overboard two hundred and twenty-five head of horses and mules in order to save themselves. They besieged and captured Ft. Blakely, and the Seventy-sixth Illinois lost over one hundred men in the assault. They then went to Selma, Ala., took part in the battle of Mobile and thence went to Galveston, Tex., in 1865. From that place, Mr. Eastburn wrote home that he expected to be sent to Mexico, but instead was mustered out and went to Chicago, where he received his discharge.

Mr. Eastburn reached home on the 8th of August, 1865, just three years after his departure. He spent only two weeks in a regiment hospital, being always found at his post of duty as a faithful defender of the Union. During his absence, Mrs. Eastburn had been living on the home farm with her three children, and he again began farm work. At the death of his father, he received eighty acres additional from the estate and afterward purchased a one hundred and twenty acre tract. Since that time, he has sold some and given to each of his children eighty acres. George W.,

the eldest, was born in Concord Township on the 20th of March, 1858, was graduated from the public schools of Sheldon, and is an extensive reader. He is now engaged in banking in Sheldon. He was married November 1, 1883, to Miss Dora McGill, of Watseka, and they have four children. Emma Florence, born in Concord Township, October 14, 1859, was married on the 1st of March, 1878, to Robert Wilkinson, of Sheldon, by whom she has two children. Frank P., born on the home farm, October 12, 1861, was married in California, January 2, 1886, to Miss Lillie Arbuckle, but now makes his home in Washington; he is an artist and travels. Jesse L., the youngest, born on the old homestead, September 10, 1867, was graduated from the Sheldon schools, after which he engaged in teaching for two years. His health failing, he went to California with his mother in 1889, and while there met and married Miss May K. Taylor, the union being celebrated September 18, 1890. He is a close student and is especially fond of the study of geology, having a fine collection of geological and other specimens correctly classified. He makes his home in Yreka, Cal.

From the time he began to be interested in politics, Isaac Eastburn was an Abolitionist, and when the Republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery, he joined its ranks and has since fought under its banner. He cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont. He and his wife have long been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he has filled all of its offices. Both are active workers in the Sunday-school and he has been Superintendent for many years. Charitable and benevolent people, the poor and needy find in them a friend and those in distress never seek their aid in vain. Their lives are filled with good deeds, and their many excellencies of character have won them the high regard of all. Socially, Mr. Eastburn is a member of the Odd Fellows' society and has occupied all its offices. In 1883, he made a trip to California, intending to locate on the Pacific Slope, and during that trip he visited Oregon, Washington, and traveled all through Nevada. He went to the West by the Southern Pacific and returned by way of the Rio Grande Railroad. After eight months

spent beyond the Rockies, he concluded to return to Illinois and is yet one of the valued and honored citizens of Concord Township, where he has so long resided.



JONATHAN HANFORD is engaged in general farming on section 31, Ridgeland Township, where he has made his home for almost a quarter of a century. His life record is as follows: He is a native of New Jersey, his birth having occurred in Newark, on the 8th of June, 1821. The Hanford family is of French descent. The father of our subject, Simeon Hanford, was a native of Connecticut, and after attaining to years of maturity he married Miss Rachel Simpson. By their union were born three children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest. His two sisters were Melibita, now the wife of Samuel Badgley, a resident of New Jersey; and Henrietta, who died in 1888.

Jonathan Hanford grew to manhood in the State of his nativity. His educational advantages were very limited, but experience and observation have made him a well-informed man. His father died when he was only nine years of age, and his mother was left in very limited circumstances. Soon after his father's death, he began working on a farm at eighteen cents per day, and during haying season he received twenty-five cents per day. Up to the time when he was fifteen years of age, his wages were never higher than \$6 per month. Mr. Hanford remained in the vicinity of Newark until 1838, when, at the age of seventeen years, he left the State of his nativity, and went to New York City, where he learned the ship-builder's trade, at which he was there employed for many years. He continued to make his home in New York until 1867, when, having determined to seek a home in the West, he came to Illinois and took up his residence in Iroquois County.

Mr. Hanford has been twice married. In the year 1843, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Catherine Griffin, daughter of William and Elizabeth Griffin. By their union were born five chil-

dren, of whom the eldest, Wesley, died in 1844; Sherman died in infancy; William, the only one living, is a grain dealer, residing in Tazewell County, Ill., in Green Valley; Emma died at the age of two years; and the fifth child died in infancy. The mother of this family was called to her final rest in 1856, dying in New York. Mr. Hanford was again married, in 1863, his second union being with Eleanor Drower, by whom he had two children, but Garrett died in 1868. Harry, the younger, is living in Savanna, Ill.

In politics, Mr. Hanford is a supporter of the Greenback party, but has never been an office-seeker. The winter after coming to this county, he resided in Loda, and the following spring removed to Ridgeland Township, purchasing eighty acres of land upon section 31. It was entirely destitute of improvement, but in the years which have since passed a great transformation has been wrought in the appearance of the place, which is now considered one of the best farms in this locality, while the owner is recognized as a prominent agriculturist. He carries on both general farming and stock-raising, and that he has won success is due entirely to his well-directed efforts. He is a man of sterling worth, and his excellencies of character have gained him the high regard of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.



AMOS M. PECK is engaged in the grocery business in Onarga. For twenty years, he has been connected with the store of which he is now proprietor, having first been an employe and afterward becoming owner. He is now one of the leading merchants of the place and a man of good business ability, who by his well-directed efforts is winning success.

Mr. Peck is a native of Connecticut, his birth having occurred on the 23d of September, 1843. His parents, Lyman and Lucretia (Mallory) Peck, were also natives of the Nutmeg State, and their family numbered seven children, three of whom are yet living, Amos, Charles and Abbie. Lucretia,

Lyman, Flora and Ella are deceased. It was in 1858 that Lyman Peck, Sr., bade good-bye to his home in the East and, accompanied by his family, came to Illinois, locating in Ford County on a farm of eighty acres near what is now the village of Thawville. He there made his home for eight years, when, in 1866, he sold that farm and purchased another about a mile distant, containing one hundred and forty acres of good land.

Under the parental roof, our subject spent his boyhood days, and on attaining his majority in 1864 he left Ford County to complete his education as a student in Grand Prairie Seminary. However, he soon laid aside text-books and entered the service of his country, becoming a member of Company B, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry, in which he served for a little more than six months, when he was mustered out. He then returned home and again entered Grand Prairie Seminary, from which institution he was graduated, after completing the regular course of study, in the summer of 1868.

On the 21st of April, 1870, Mr. Peck was united in marriage with Miss Kate E. Devor, daughter of Arthur and Susanna Devor, residents of Onarga. Their union has been blessed with two children, a daughter and son: Lucretia, born July 6, 1872, is now the wife of John L. Tyler, of Chebanse, and they have a little daughter, Inez Irene; A. Earl, the son, was born July 24, 1881, and is still with his parents.

In the spring of 1871, Mr. Peck secured a position as salesman with C. H. Briggs, of Onarga, remaining in his employ until 1873, when he entered the employ of Knight & Culver, proprietors of a grocery store in this place—the same which is now the property of our subject. He served in the position of Clerk until 1882, when he bought out Mr. Culver and has continued the business ever since. He has been connected with the grocery trade in this store building for a period of twenty years. He is enterprising, possesses good judgment, and by his fair dealing and courteous treatment has secured a liberal patronage. He is recognized as one of Onarga's leading citizens, and socially is a member of Onarga Lodge No. 208, I. O. O. F., with which he has been connected since 1869. He

also belongs to W. A. Babcock Post No. 416, G. A. R., of Onarga. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles, has held the office of Town Clerk for five years, is at present a member of the Board of Trustees of the village, and is also a member of the Executive Board of Grand Prairie Seminary. During his residence in this community, Mr. Peck has formed a wide acquaintance and is held in high esteem by all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.



HENRY C. MOSHER, a prominent business man of Gilman, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in LaSalle County, on the 15th of February, 1836. He is a son of Ira and Louisa (Pease) Mosher. His father's family is of English, and his mother's of German, descent. Family tradition says that two brothers came to America from England some time previous to the Revolutionary War, and established a factory in this country, where they remained some years. One of the brothers then returned to England, locating a factory on the River Thames. He had but one son, who died, leaving no children. This has furnished the foundation facts for his relatives, who have expended a great deal of money in endeavoring to hunt up the estate. The other brother remained in America, but was so unfortunate as to lose all of his property during the Revolutionary War. Ira Mosher was one of eight brothers, and when but eight years old he lost his father, and had thus early to make his own way in the world. He was a native of Saratoga County, N. Y., and his wife of Monroe County, the same State, where they were married about 1832. After their marriage they started by wagon for Illinois, where, when they reached a point about four miles south of LaSalle, they decided to locate. Having taken up Government land and partially developed it, he spent some time as a traveling Methodist preacher. Returning to the farm, he followed agricultural pursuits for some years. In the meantime he studied law, and was admitted to the Bar during the war, practicing that profession until his death. He

left the church because it was pro-slavery at that time, and became a pronounced Liberal. Politically he was a Whig, then a strong Abolitionist, and later a Republican, always taking great interest in political affairs. When admitted to the Bar he removed to Tonica, and there lived until his death, on the 1st of March, 1871, aged sixty-five. He was widely and favorably known, and was among the first pioneers in this county. The mother died at the home of our subject in 1881, at the age of seventy-one years. Their family consisted of twelve children, eleven of whom, five sons and six daughters, lived to adult age. Only seven are now living. Four of the boys served the Union cause during the late war. E. W. was about four years in the service, enlisting in 1862 in the One Hundredth and Fourth Illinois Infantry. He was captured by John Morgan, but was soon afterward paroled and took part in Sherman's march to the sea, and on to Washington. George I. enlisted in the Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, and was in the service four years. He is now a practicing lawyer of Oskaloosa, Kan. Charles enlisted in 1861, in Company A, Eighth Illinois Infantry, in which he served over five years, and is now engaged in the mercantile business at Salina, Kan. Sheridan L. is a farmer near Pinckneyville, Ill.; Mrs. M. C. Miller resides in Nickerson, Kan.; Mrs. Barass resides in Tonica, Ill.; Martha died during the war, and Mary died soon afterward, leaving two children; Mrs. M. Foster died in Tonica, Ill., leaving one daughter; and Mrs. Clara J. Gray died in Emporia, Kan.

Our subject was reared on a farm and attended the district schools in his earlier days, completing his education in an academy, which he attended for several winters. In 1856, he went to Kansas to give his help toward making it a free State. He located at Valley Falls, made claims, sold them, and when the Delaware Indians sold their lands he purchased extensively. Returning the following year to LaSalle County, Ill., he bought land of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and improved it.

On the 15th of August, 1862, Mr. Mosher enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Seventh Illinois Infantry. First going to Kentucky, from

there they were ordered to Tennessee, where he took part in the engagement at Salina, his company being detailed to destroy a rebel supply depot at that place. After serving a year with the One Hundred and Seventh, he was transferred to Battery K, First Illinois Light Artillery. Crossing the mountains, his service was in East Tennessee, and helped to fortify Knoxville. He was on the Stoneman raid into Virginia and North Carolina, the chief business of his command being to raid and destroy supplies. He was never wounded or taken prisoner. Having served faithfully until June, 1865, he was honorably discharged at Springfield, Ill. From the effects of his artillery service he has lost the hearing of his right ear, and partially that of the left.

After leaving the army, Mr. Mosher engaged in merchandising at Venona, Ill., and in the fall of 1866 came to Gilman, where he engaged in the lumber business with Hiram Baker for about two years. In the meantime he started in the real-estate line, helping to lay out the Dent & Mosher Addition to Gilman. At that time all south of the railroad was prairie land, but now it has been transformed until it is the most beautiful part of the city, adorned with shade trees and supplied with the best of flowing water. He has since followed the real-estate business, in connection with other enterprises. In 1874, in company with A. Powell, he embarked in general merchandising, and it is safe to say they carry the largest stock in the county. In addition to his city property, our subject owns about one thousand acres of farm land.

In La Salle County, the destiny of Mr. Mosher was united with that of Miss Elizabeth S. Baker, their marriage being celebrated December 20, 1860. She was the daughter of Hiram and Angeline (Shoulder) Baker, both natives of Washington County, N. Y. In 1854, Mr. Baker emigrated to Hermann, Mo., where he had a contract to grade a part of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. Two years later he removed to La Salle County, where he engaged in farming. He came to Gilman in August, 1866, and here he died in 1871, at the age of fifty nine years. His widow makes her home with Mrs. Mosher, and has attained the age of eighty years.

Mrs. Mosher is one of four children, having two brothers and one sister: Kenneth, the eldest; Mrs. Florence James, of Onkama, Mich.; and George, who is station agent at La Harpe, Ill. The latter served over three years in the Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry. Mr. and Mrs. Mosher have a family of four children: Frank and Guy are partners in their father's store; Charles W., who also assists in the business; and Angie L. All of the children have received good educational advantages.

Mr. Mosher is recognized as one of the leading business men of the county. In manner he is decidedly outspoken, and all of his affairs are conducted strictly on business principles. As a man of honor and integrity he is highly esteemed.



ALMET POWELL, of the firm of A. Powell & Co., leading merchants of Gilman, was born in the town of New Baltimore, Albany County, N. Y., March 20, 1846, and is a son of Leander and Esther C. (Smith) Powell. The Powell family springs from Welsh ancestors who settled in New York. The family has mainly followed agricultural pursuits. Both his father and mother were natives of Albany County. In 1855, they came to Illinois and settled in Peoria County, where the father followed farming until the breaking out of the war, when he moved across the line into Lawn Ridge, Marshall County, where he engaged in merchandising, and there spent his last years. Politically he was first a Whig, then a Republican until Greeley's race for the Presidency, and afterwards a Democrat. He was reared as a member of the Society of Friends, but at the time of his death was a member of the Congregational Church, as is his wife. He passed away January 3, 1892, at the age of seventy-one years and five months, and his wife still survives him, living in Peoria, and having attained the age of sixty-nine years. Unto them were born five children, the eldest being our subject; Marsden, who is engaged in the milling business at Montgomery, Minn.; Miss Anna A., a well-known teacher of elo-

ution in the Chautauqua Circles; Mina, wife of O. C. Slame, a hardware merchant of Peoria; and Cassius N., who resides on the old homestead in Marshall County.

Mr. Powell, whose name heads this sketch, lived on his father's farm until fifteen years of age, following the usual pursuits of farmer lads, and receiving a district-school education. Having merchandised with his father in Marshall County for a time, they then established a store in Gilman, March 20, 1871, carrying a general line of merchandise. Soon after Mr. H. C. Mosher and John O. Dent purchased his father's interest, and later Mr. Dent purchased Mr. Mosher's interest, and thus the business was continued until 1874, at which time Mr. Mosher purchased Mr. Dent's interest. The business was first carried on under the title of H. C. Mosher & Co., then Dent & Powell, and since 1880 has been done under the firm name of A. Powell & Company, the firm consisting of A. Powell, H. C. Frank and Guy Mosher. They carry the largest stock in the county. In 1883 they built their fine brick store, which is a model of convenience and a credit to Gilman. Mr. Powell owns three hundred and twenty acres of improved land in Nobles County, Minn., beside a half-interest in four hundred and eighty acres in Iroquois County.

In Kewanee, Ill., he was united in marriage with Jennie E. Smith, who lived about nine years after their marriage. To them was born one daughter, Estella, who died when about two years old. In Gilman, he was married to Mrs. Cordelia E. Teale, *nee* Borthwick, on the 18th of October, 1881. She was born in the Empire State, in Albany County, and is a lady of Scotch descent. She has a son by her former marriage, who now bears the name of Bruce B. Powell, and is at present a student of the Northwestern University, at Evanston, Ill.

Politically, Mr. Powell is a Republican, though not an office-seeker, preferring to devote his entire attention to his business interests, though careful to never neglect the duties of citizenship. He has been a member of the Masonic order since twenty-one years of age. He is a successful business man, well and favorably known throughout the com-

munity. He started in life a poor boy, but by industry and good business methods has become financially one of the substantial citizens of Gilman. From the lowest round of the ladder of life, he has mounted step by step until he has reached his present position of affluence and success.



ANTHONY MILLER, a hardware merchant of Loda, claims Germany as the land of his birth, which occurred in the kingdom of Bavaria in the month of March, 1840. He is a son of Dominick and Elizabeth (Wolf) Miller, both of whom were also natives of Germany. Seven children were born unto them, six sons and one daughter, as follows: John, George, Joseph, Michael, Anthony, Kate, and a son who died in infancy. The parents spent their entire lives in the Fatherland, and both died about the year 1860.

Our subject was the fifth in order of birth in the Miller family. The days of his boyhood were spent in the land of his nativity, and his education was acquired in the public schools. About 1856, when a youth of sixteen years, he crossed the broad Atlantic to America and made his first location in Pennsylvania, working as a farm hand by the month in the Keystone State for about five years. On the expiration of that period, he started Westward, and in 1863 came to Illinois, locating in Iroquois County. He purchased a farm of eighty acres in Loda Township, about three miles from the village of Loda, and for some time successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits, but at length abandoned that occupation in order to turn his attention to mercantile interests.

It was in 1868 that Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Helmuth. By their union have been born five children, four sons and a daughter, all of whom save one are still under the parental roof. They are: George S., a practicing physician of Cissna Park, Ill.; Charles A., Anthony, John A. and Elizabeth, who complete the family. The parents are both members

of the Catholic Church and are well-known citizens of this community, who have gained a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

It was in 1880 that Mr. Miller left his farm and removed to the village of Loda and purchased the hardware stock of Charles Harwood. Since that time he has been engaged in his present line of business continually. He carries a full and complete stock, consisting of hardware, stoves, tinware, etc. In connection with this, he also owns a lumber yard. By his fair and honest dealing and courteous treatment he has secured a liberal patronage, which he well deserves, and is now reaping a good income therefrom. He possesses good business ability, is systematic and methodical, and has won prosperity through his own well-directed efforts. Mr. Miller may truly be called a self-made man, for he came to this country empty-handed and has steadily worked his way upward, overcoming the obstacles and difficulties in his path, until we now find him one of Loda's well-to-do citizens.



THOMAS H. GRAY, for twenty-three years a farmer of Iroquois County, was born in Ashland County, Ohio, his birth occurring February 8, 1832. He is a son of Henry and Margaretta (Brown) Gray. The father was born in the northern part of Ireland, and was one of five children, four sons and one daughter, of whom three came to America. William located in Canada; Hugh came to the United States in the interest of a large estate left for the family in the Old Country, and which is due the descendants. Their grandfather Gray went from Scotland to Ireland, and there acquired the right to a large tract of land for a long term of years, which on his death should have fallen to his children. When sixteen years of age, the father of our subject came to the United States, and located at Lyonstown, N. Y. He was a farmer and speculator. He there married Miss Brown, a native of the Empire State, and of Irish descent. Soon after his marriage, Mr. Gray removed to Pennsylvania, and later to Ashland

County, Ohio. In 1836, he went by ox-team to Peoria County, Ill., where he was among the first pioneers. He broke much of the prairie, using nine yoke of oxen, receiving \$9 per acre for his services. At that time the idea prevailed that the raw prairie land must be plowed very deep. He was quite an extensive farmer in that county. Politically he was a Democrat. His death occurred from the effects of a fall from a horse, when he was but forty-six years of age. His wife still survives him, and lives in California, at the ripe old age of ninety-two. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Our subject is the seventh child of his father's family, which consisted of eight sons and one daughter, six of whom survive. He received his education in the pioneer schools and suffered the privations incident to the opening up of a new country. Since sixteen years of age he has made his own way in the world. At that time he commenced learning the miller's trade, two years later going to St. Louis, where he completed his apprenticeship. For twenty-one years he followed that occupation in St. Louis and in Peoria. He was a first-class miller, and though getting \$1,800 per year and his house, failing health caused him to leave the business. In 1869 he came to Iroquois County, where he had purchased one hundred and six acres of land near Ashkum. There he farmed for several years, and then returned for two years to the milling trade. In 1880, he came to his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres. The land was nearly all under water at the time of his purchase. He is a firm believer in the efficacy of tiling, and has placed about twenty-eight thousand tiles upon his farm, and has also added many other improvements.

Mr. Gray was united in marriage at Pekin, Ill., with Miss Sarah J. Williams, a native of Ohio. The ceremony was performed September 23, 1863. Mrs. Gray came with her parents to Tazewell County, Ill., when young. The union of our subject was blessed with four children, Clara, Mary, Nina and Ollie. Mrs. Gray passed to the home beyond November 23, 1889, her death being much regretted by all who knew her.

Mr. Gray has never been an office-seeker, though he has ample ability to fill any local position. He

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Yours Truly
J. W. Hutchison

has served as Highway Commissioner. Politically he has affiliated with the Democratic party. He is a Thirty-first Degree Mason in the Scottish Rite. As a farmer, he is practical, enterprising and progressive, and by his upright dealings with his fellow-citizens he has commanded the respect and esteem of all who know him.



JOHAN W. HUTCHISON, who for ten years has been connected with the business interests of Donovan as one of its leading merchants, and a well-known citizen of the county, was born in Switzerland County, Ind., October 7, 1811, and is a son of R. D. and Elizabeth (Mountz) Hutchison, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Indiana. The Hutchison family is of English descent. The father of our subject was only three years of age when with his parents he went to Indiana. He grew to manhood upon a farm in that State, and after his marriage disposed of his property and removed with his family to Adair County, Mo., in 1865. He there purchased land, and upon that farm made his home until his death, which occurred in 1889, at the age of eighty-seven years. He started in life in limited circumstances, but by perseverance and industry became well-to-do, and at his death his possessions were valued at \$30,000. In politics he was originally a Whig, and cast his first vote for John Quincy Adams. He became a strong Abolitionist, and on the organization of the Republican party, formed to prevent the further extension of slavery, he joined its ranks, and from 1856 until his death supported that party. He was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he served as Class-leader, and his home was always open for the reception of the pioneer preacher.

In early life Mr. Hutchison manifested a love for study, displaying special aptitude in school, and at the age of sixteen he began teaching in the public schools of Switzerland County, Ind. He afterward attended school in Battle Ground, Ind.,

for a few months; then began teaching in Howard County, and for nearly two years afterward was a student in Kokomo (Ind.) Normal School. While teaching in Northern Indiana, he organized the first Union League in Clinton County, procuring a charter from Oliver P. Morton, with whom he was personally acquainted. In 1864 he enlisted in Company F, Fifty-first Indiana Infantry, and served for thirteen months during the late war. He participated in the battles of Franklin and Nashville, Tenn., and at the battle of Nashville was taken sick, being confined in the hospital for about five weeks. With the exception of that time, he was always ready for duty, and proved a faithful soldier. On the 11th of July, 1865, he was honorably discharged.

After the close of the war, Mr. Hutchison removed with his father's family to Missouri, where he spent a short time in 1862. During that trip he had purchased two hundred acres of land, which he still owns. In connection with Prof. Baldwin, he organized the Normal School in Kirksville, Mo., in 1866, and for eleven weeks school convened in the Christian Church, until suitable quarters could be obtained. Mr. Hutchison was connected with the school as teacher for nearly two years. He then turned his attention to farming and shipping stock in the summer season, while he taught somewhat longer in the winter months. He followed that profession altogether for sixteen years.

While living in Missouri, Mr. Hutchison returned to Clinton County, Ind., and the object of his journey was seen when he brought back with him a bride. On the 16th of September, 1866, he wedded Miss Hannah Campbell, who was born in Clinton County, December 18, 1846. Unto them have been born two children: Florence, born in Adair County, Mo., January 1, 1874, became the wife of William Wallace on the 17th of August, 1892; Myrtle was born in Adair County, October 8, 1879.

Mr. Hutchison continued to make his home in Missouri until 1883. He made additional purchases of land while there, so that he now owns four hundred and thirty acres, all under a high state of cultivation. To agricultural pursuits he

devoted his energies until failing health caused him to seek a change of location and work, and in 1883 he removed his family to Donovan, where he opened up a general merchandise store. He carries a full and complete stock, and from the beginning his trade has constantly increased, until he now enjoys a liberal patronage and is doing a thriving business. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison are members of the Presbyterian Church, and their daughter Florence belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. He cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. U. S. Grant, in 1868, and has since been a stalwart Republican. For three years he has served as Supervisor. He ranks high in business circles, and has the confidence of all with whom he has come in contact. The Hutchison family is one of prominence in this community, their home is the abode of hospitality, and their friends are many.



GEORGE MARTIN is numbered among the leading farmers of Belmont Township. He resides on section 10, where he has made his home since 1888. He was born in Washington County, Pa., July 22, 1833, and is a son of Ephraim and Catharine (Featherling) Martin. His father, a native of Virginia, was there reared to manhood and when a young man he removed to Washington County, Pa., where he met and married Miss Featherling, a native of that State. In 1840, they left the East and in an old-fashioned wagon drawn by four horses started for Iroquois County, Ill. On reaching their destination, Mr. Martin settled in Belmont Township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, and increasing the farm to two hundred and forty acres, there made his home until his death, which occurred in 1852, at the age of fifty years. His wife passed away the year previous, and both were buried in Vennum Cemetery. In politics he was a Democrat.

The Martin family numbered six children, who came with the parents to this county; Anna, the widow of Ferman Moore, resides with her

brother John, in Belmont Township; Nancy, widow of Samuel Rush, is living in Milford; George is the next younger; Eliza is now deceased; John owns and operates the old homestead; and Andrew J., who completes the family, died in childhood.

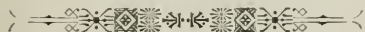
The subject of this sketch was only seven years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois. This county was then an almost unimproved wilderness. The prairies were covered with rosin weeds, which grew to the height of several feet. There were few cleared spaces, and the county gave little promise of the progress which was so soon to transform it from a wild, undeveloped region to a tract of rich fertility. Mr. Martin during the summer months aided in breaking the wild land and developing a farm, and in the winter season he attended school, which met in an old log building, the floor and ceiling of which were made of puncheon. The seats were of slabs set up on pins, and to furnish light a log had been taken out and a long row of glass put in. The desks were ranged around the wall on pins inserted between the logs. The smoke from the huge fire place made its way upward through a mud and stick chimney.

At the age of twenty, on his father's death, Mr. Martin left school, for the management of the farm fell upon him. His mother was also deceased, but for some time afterward the family remained together. In 1884, our subject was married and left the home farm. On the 1st of May, in Belmont Township, he wedded Adelia Zumwalt, who was born in Tazewell County, and is a daughter of Christian and Selinda (Oder) Zumwalt; the latter came to this State in 1835, and are residents of Sheldon Township. By their union have been born three children: Ernest, who died in infancy; Virgie M., born June 23, 1887; and Nellie, born April 18, 1889.

Mr. Martin has affiliated with the Republican party since attaining his majority. He cast his first Presidential vote in 1856 for Gen. John C. Fremont. In local elections, however, he supports the man whom he thinks best qualified for the office, regardless of party affiliations. He has often attended the conventions of his party, and

has filled a number of minor offices, but has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking.

Mr. Martin's first purchase of land consisted of one hundred and twenty acres in Belmont Township, which he bought previous to his marriage. Himself and wife there began their domestic life, making it their home for four years, when he sold and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Crescent Township, which he afterward sold, and bought two hundred acres on sections 10 and 11, where he resided four years. He now owns his home farm of two hundred acres, two hundred and ten acres of the old Martin homestead on section 33, and one hundred and twenty acres on section 35, also ten acres on section 21, making in all five hundred and forty acres in Belmont Township. He has recently purchased forty acres in Middleport Township, giving him a grand total of five hundred and eighty acres. Throughout his entire life he has followed farming, and has met with excellent success in his undertakings. During the thirty-two years of his residence here he has witnessed almost the entire growth and development of the county, has seen the introduction of the railroads, and has seen its wild prairie transformed into beautiful homes and farms, while towns and villages, have sprung up. He has ever borne his part in the work of advancement, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers the sketch of this honored pioneer, George Martin.



WILLIAM L. KINSMAN, who is engaged in general merchandising in Loda, and also deals in grain and coal, has been connected with the mercantile interests of this place for many years, and for the past ten years has carried on business in his present line. A native of Canada, he was born on the 18th of November, 1857, and is of English descent. His father, Thomas Kinsman, was born in England, and after attaining to mature years was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Cotton, also a native of that country, and a daughter of John Cotton, who emigrated to Canada in 1840, and there died at the

ripe old age of eighty-three years. In 1868, Thomas Kinsman emigrated with his family to the United States, locating in Loda, where he has since made his home. He is a blacksmith by trade, and during much of his life followed that occupation, but for the past four years he has been engaged in buying and shipping hay. In the Kinsman family were eleven children, eight of whom are now living, namely: Sarah, Thomas J., William L., George W., Silas Henry, Charles C., Gertrude F., and Minnie. Louisa, the eldest; Frankie, and Frederick, the youngest, are now deceased.

William Kinsman, whose name heads this record, spent the first ten years of his life in Canada, and then came with his parents to Illinois. He acquired a good English education in the public schools, and entered upon his business career as clerk for John Weinandt, a general merchant of Loda, in whose employ he remained for about four years. Having by his industry and perseverance acquired some capital in that time, he then purchased the grocery stock of C. Livingston, but two years later sold out his store to J. A. Hill, and purchased the general store of his old employer, John Weinandt, in 1882. He has since carried on business in the line of general merchandising, and is now enjoying a liberal patronage.

A marriage ceremony performed on the 24th of April, 1879, united the destinies of Mr. William Kinsman and Miss Laura J. Stroup, daughter of Emanuel and Mary Ann (Ohl) Stroup, of Loda, Ill. Two children grace their union: Louisa M., who was born September 11, 1883; and Nora L., who was born September 24, 1892. The parents are both members of the Congregational Church. They are prominent and highly respected people throughout the community, who hold an enviable position in social circles, while their own home is the abode of hospitality.

Mr. William Kinsman exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, and is a warm advocate of its principles. He is at present Village Magistrate, which office he has held for the long period of twelve years, and for eight years he has served as Town Clerk, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity, which has led to his frequent re-election, and won him the commendation

tion of all concerned. Socially, he is a member of Abraham Jonas Lodge No. 316, A. F. & A. M. He started out in life empty-handed, but has steadily worked his way upward to a position among the substantial citizens of the community, and in addition to his business as a general merchant, he does a good business as a dealer in coal and grain.



MICHAEL DRINAN, one of the earliest settlers of Douglas Township, owns a farm on section 28. He was born in the parish of Glenville, County Cork, Ireland, his birth having occurred on the 29th of September, 1826. He is a son of Eugene and Catherine (Hagerty) Drinan, and is the youngest in his father's family which numbered eleven children. He passed his early years in a manner usual to farmer lads—work, recreation and education each receiving a portion of his time and attention. He was the only member of the household who, leaving the parental roof, said good-bye to the friends and scenes of his youth. Turning his face Westward, he set sail upon the broad Atlantic for America, starting from Queenstown on the 8th of April, 1853. On account of adverse winds, the voyage was not completed until the 19th of May, at which time he finally arrived in New York.

On the 16th of September, 1855, he took for his helpmate in life Miss Catherine Donahue, a native of the parish of Water Grass Hill, County Cork, Ireland. She was born in December, 1832, and is a daughter of Patrick and Catherine (Berry) Donahue, both of whom spent their lives in Ireland. Mrs. Drinan is the ninth child in order of birth of a family of eleven children. She crossed the ocean on the same vessel as did her future husband. Mr. and Mrs. Drinan have ten children: Thomas, at home; Katie, the wife of Thomas Greely, a farmer of Douglas Township; Patrick, a farmer; Mary, at home; Eugene, a farmer; Nellie, also at home; Michael W., a harness-maker of Danforth; Timothy J., John and Cornelius.

In 1867, Mr. Drinan purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, on which he removed his

family the following year. After his arrival in this country, he found that he was in the possession of but very little money. For ten years he worked at whatever promised him an honest dollar. A few months of that time he worked on the railroad, and in 1865 commenced farming on forty acres of rented land in La Salle County, which he continued at for three years. In 1867, Mr. Drinan, as before stated, bought his farm of one hundred and twenty acres in this county, and came here in March, 1868. At that time no improvements had been made upon the land, but he has since erected good buildings, and has his farm under a high state of cultivation. Aided by his family, he has made what he has to-day—a fine property of three hundred and twenty acres, all of which is under cultivation.

Mr. Drinan and his family are all Catholics. He is a Democrat, in political sentiment, but has never sought office. He is one of the numerous examples which America affords of self-made men, who, starting in life among strangers, and almost without a dollar, have steadily pressed onward, never daunted by discouragement or failure, until success has crowned their effort. He has reared his family comfortably and well, and given them good educational advantages, with which they are prepared to meet life's battles. His wife and family have all put a shoulder to the wheel, and have done all that ready hands and willing hearts could do to assist them, and, as the result of their united efforts, prosperity has blessed them. For twenty-four years Mr. Drinan has been a resident of this county, and has witnessed much of the growth and development thereof.



THOMAS GATES MORRIS, the leading merchant of Lafligue, was born in Bloom Township, Cook County, Ill., October 28, 1850. His parents, Charles and Sarah (Thomas) Morris, are represented in the sketch of Free P. Morris on another page of this work. Our subject spent the days of his boyhood on a farm and

in the district schools. Subsequently, he was graduated from the Chicago High School. He also spent a year there as a teacher. Having become a stockholder in the Danville (Ill.) Wrought Iron Works, he was chosen a member of the Board of Directors and also elected Cashier, in which capacity he served for some two years. The following year he spent traveling in the West.

Returning to Danville, our subject led to the marriage altar Miss Emma, daughter of Judge E. S. Terry, who at the time of his death was legal adviser to the Adjutant-General at Washington, D. C. This was during Garfield's administration. The wedding ceremony was performed on the 23d of October, 1878. Three children have blessed this union: Bernice, Ross Terry and Elizabeth Cora.

The year succeeding his marriage, Mr. Morris came to La Hogue, where he has since engaged in general merchandising. He built the first store in town, and since coming to this place has carried on business with marked success and enterprise, and now has the best store in the town. In addition to his merchandising interests, he owns the lumber business and carries on farming, having a fertile and well-improved farm one-fourth of a mile west of La Hogue, on which he makes his home.

Politically, our subject is a Republican, having cast his first Presidential vote for Rutherford B. Hayes. Socially, he is a Mason, belonging to Piper City Lodge No. 608, A. F. & A. M.; Fairbury Chapter No. 99, R. A. M.; and Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T. Both Mr. and Mrs. Morris take an active part in the work of the Methodist Episcopal Church of La Hogue, of which he is Steward and Trustee. For five years he has also been Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He has served his fellow-citizens as Postmaster to their satisfaction. Through the efforts of Mr. Morris and others the La Hogue Drainage District was organized in May, 1891, and he was chosen a member of the Board of Commissioners. The ditch is seven and one-half miles long and gives ample draining to twelve thousand acres of as fine land as the State affords. An estimate of the value of this ditch to

the district can scarcely be made. Mr. Morris has proved himself a competent business man of enterprise and integrity. When he commenced in business in La Hogue he had but \$275 capital, and by close attention to his interests and by the exercise of good judgment has acquired a handsome property. He is a public-spirited man, always ready to take an active part in whatever tends to the advancement of the people's best interests.



WILLIAM T. HOOVER, for thirty years a resident of this county and one of its first pioneers, owns a farm on section 24, Danforth Township. His birth occurred on the 3d of March, 1830, in Muskingum County, Ohio. He is the son of Cornelius A. Hoover, a native of Allegany County, Md., who grew to maturity, and there married Rebecca Thomas, who was born in the same State. The grandfather of our subject was born in Germany and was one of the pioneer settlers of the State of Maryland. Cornelius Hoover was drafted into the service of the War of 1812, but peace was declared before his services were demanded. Mr. Hoover removed to Ohio at an early day and settled in the wilderness, where he opened up a farm and there resided for several years. In 1840 he removed to Indiana and located in the wilderness of Tippecanoe County. He also cleared and developed a farm there. After rearing his family to mature years he went to White County, Ind. Near the close of his life he lost his eye-sight, and spent about two years with his son, the subject of this sketch, in his Illinois home. Later, he went to Missouri and located a farm near Pleasant Hill, Cass County, where he lived until his death, which occurred in 1872. His wife died about two years later.

William T. Hoover grew to manhood in Indiana, and received such a limited education as could be obtained in the district schools of that early day. He is the eldest son and the fourth in order of birth in his parents' family. The eldest, Catherine, grew to mature years and died in

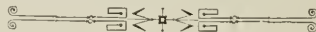
Missouri, as did her sister Elizabeth, who was the wife of James McKinney; Martha, now deceased; Wilmina is the wife of William Foster, of Pleasant Hill, Mo.; Sevilleia is the wife of Joseph Denton, of the above-named place; William T., our subject; Andrew J. is a native of Bates County, Mo.; and Calvin S., also a farmer in Western Missouri. The brothers were in the army and served through the war.

Our subject remained with his father on the farm until he had reached his majority and then farmed for himself. For some time he carried on a farm in Benton County, Ind., and then sold his property there and removed to Illinois. He purchased a farm without improvements in Douglas Township, Iroquois County, in 1862. He first bought one hundred and three acres, on which he built fences and farm buildings and in many other ways improved. He now has one hundred and eighty-one acres of arable and well-developed land, on which he has a fine large residence. The place is well tiled and is considered a most desirable and valuable piece of property.

In Benton County, Ind., on March 22, 1860, Mr. Hoover led to the marriage altar Almira Hunt, who was born in Indiana, in Randolph County. She is a daughter of Lewis Hunt, one of the honored pioneers of that county, to which place he came from Kentucky. To Mr. and Mrs. Hoover were born three children: Lewis, who is married and carries on the home farm. He has three children: May, Elmira and William. Lydia Jane is the wife of John Cox, a farmer of this county. In their family are two children, Elmira and Nora. Andrew Jackson died at the age of three years and ten months.

Mr. Hoover is in sympathy with the Republican party and has always cast his ballot for the nominees of that party. He has never asked for or accepted official positions, preferring to give his time and attention to his farm and business interests; nevertheless, he is a man who faithfully discharges the duties of citizenship and ever does all in his power to uphold right measures and to advance the welfare of the community. He and his worthy wife are ever ready to lend a helping hand to the needy and have reared and educated

a number of orphan children. At present they have with them two orphans: William Anderson, who was born in New York; and Mamie Parks, whose parents are likewise deceased and who is a native of this county. Mrs. Hoover is a member of the United Brethren Church and is accounted one of its most beloved and respected members.



GEORGE W. LANEY, one of the earliest settlers of Iroquois County, is a native of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred on the 10th of December, 1830, in Greene County. He is a son of John and Margaret (Huffman) Laney. His father was of Irish descent, and his grandfather came to America direct from Ireland. On the maternal side the family is of German extraction, but the mother's birth occurred in Pennsylvania. About the year 1837, the parents of our subject removed to Clarke County, Ohio, and purchased a farm near Springfield. In 1852, they went to Ogle County, Ill., where, after residing some three years, they removed to McLean County. In Ohio, Mr. Laney had carried on farming, and in addition to that kept a grocery, but after coming to McLean County he followed agricultural pursuits until the village of Towanda was started, when he again embarked in the grocery trade. Both he and his wife lived at that place until their deaths. He died when he had reached the age of sixty-two years. In politics, he was a Democrat, and his wife was a member of the Baptist Church. The family consisted of five sons and one daughter.

The subject of this sketch was the second child of his father's family, and his early days were spent upon the farm. He had very poor chances of obtaining an education, as his father was a poor man, not able to pay for his schooling. However, as soon as he was old enough to run errands, he was hired out, receiving for his service \$1 per month. Until twenty-one years of age, he faithfully turned over to his father his small earn-

ings. After coming to Ogle County, he, in company with his father and brothers, purchased a piece of land, which he tilled for three years.

On the 5th of April, 1856, Mr. Laney was married to Mrs. Alvina Alford, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hunt) Ferrel. Mr. Ferrel was a native of Kentucky and of Irish extraction. His wife was born near Jamestown, Va., and, when eight years of age, accompanied her parents to Kentucky, where she was afterward married. She was of Welsh descent. Mr. and Mrs. Ferrel were among the pioneers of Lawrence County, Ky., and about 1830 they removed to Green County, and opened up a farm in the woods. In 1843, they emigrated to Ogle County, Ill., where their remaining days were spent. Mr. Ferrel followed farming for a livelihood, and was a strong supporter of the Democracy. While living in Lawrence County, Ind., he served as Sheriff, and also held a number of minor offices, such as Magistrate and Constable. Both he and his wife were members of the Episcopal Church. He lived to be fifty-five and she sixty-eight years of age, and at their deaths they left a wide circle of friends and relatives to mourn their loss. Of their family of eleven children but four are now living: Mrs. Laney, the wife of our subject; Mrs. Martha Gilbert, of Oregon, Ill.; Mrs. Sarah Jenkins, residing near Masonville, Iowa; and Daniel, who gallantly served in the Union cause during the late war, and now lives at Oregon, Ill.

The birth of Mrs. Laney occurred in Lawrence County, Ind., on the 1st of September, 1820. Before leaving Indiana, she was married, on the 10th of September, 1840, to Thomas Alford, a native of Tennessee. In 1842, Mr. Alford moved to Ogle County, where he engaged in farming. Subsequently, he removed to Galena, where he died of the cholera during the prevalence of that scourge. Of this marriage were born six children, of whom two, Erva, wife of Harrison Nichols, of Nebraska; and Harriet, wife of Benjamin F. Heller, living near Bloomington, Ill., now survive. Unto Mr. Laney and his wife were born two children: John, who died when two years old; and George D., a talented young man, possessed of wonderful mechanical genius, married Nettie Vorys, who died,

leaving four children. He died November 13, 1892, and is buried in the Gilman cemetery.

In 1857, our subject moved to McLean County, where he farmed until 1868. That year witnessed his arrival in Iroquois County, where he had purchased eighty acres in what is now Danforth Township, and on which he proceeded to make some improvements. Two years later, he purchased eighty acres of his present farm, and has since added to this original tract, until he now owns two hundred and one and a-half acres, on which he has erected first-class buildings. He has brought his property under a high state of cultivation, and is numbered among the thrifty and prosperous farmers of Douglas Township. Mr. Laney helped to make the switch at La Hogue. The land on which the village was started belonged to T. J. Laney, a brother, and a Mr. Hogue. The name of the village was formed by adding one syllable of Mr. Laney's name to that of Mr. Hogue. Mr. Laney started in life as a hired farm hand, and by good business investment and careful industry is now one of the most successful and well-to-do farmers of his township. He is one of the earliest settlers of this region, and has seen the deer and wolves in all parts of this now fertile farming section. At that time it was almost wholly covered with water. In politics, Mr. Laney is a supporter of the Democratic party and principles, and has held many minor offices, such as School Director and Postmaster. Mrs. Laney is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



ELWIN HULL, who is extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising in Artesia Township, is numbered among the early settlers of the county, dating his residence from 1853. He has lived in this township longer than any other now residing in it. He was born in Delaware County, Ohio, on the 27th of March, 1843. His father, Japheth Hull, was a native of Crawford County, Ohio, born March 3, 1821, and after attaining to mature years married, March 3, 1842, Betsy Lusk, a native of Genesee County, of

N. Y., born November 1, 1822. In 1853, they emigrated to Iroquois County, Ill., locating in what is now Onarga Township, although the township was not then organized. A year later they removed to what is now Artesia Township, settling on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres near Buckley, where they resided for twenty-one years, and where the children grew to manhood and womanhood. Japheth Hull engaged in farming, and by his industry and enterprise won success. At the time of his death he owned six hundred and thirteen acres of well-improved land. He died on the 25th of October, 1876, at the age of fifty-five years. Japheth Hull was a prominent man in political affairs. In an early day he was a strong Abolitionist, being a conductor on the Underground Railroad. On the rise of the Free Soil party, he joined its ranks, and then the Republican party, continuing in the last as long as he lived. He had held a number of official positions; for several terms he was a member of the Board of Supervisors, and for sixteen years was Justice of the Peace, besides holding minor offices. Socially he was a Master Mason. In 1850, he went overland to California, where he worked by the month and mined; he met with good success, but lost \$8,000 by loaning it to a man in whom he had such confidence that he took his individual note. In 1853, he returned by Cape Horn and New York City. The same year he came on horseback to Iroquois County, and located the farm he owned at the time of his death. Returning to Ohio, he moved his family out by teams. When he located here his nearest neighbor on the north was four miles away; on the east five miles; west, eighteen; and on the south thirty-five miles. Their post-office was old Middleport, at a distance of twenty-five miles. His widow is still living, and although seventy years of age is hale and hearty, and superintends the management of her farm. Unto this worthy couple were born five children, two sons and three daughters, of whom four are yet living: Elwin, Elmer, Alice and Alwilda. Alma, the third in order of birth, died March 3, 1872.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of ten years when with his parents he came to Iroquois County,

where he has since made his home. He has witnessed much of the growth and upbuilding of the county, has aided in its development, and has ever borne his part in its onward progress. He was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life, and his educational advantages were those afforded by the old-time subscription and labor district schools of the neighborhood. On the 12th of November, 1873, he was united in marriage with Sadie R. Kerns, daughter of Jacob and Hannah (Entrekin) Kerns. Mrs. Hull was born in Chester County, Pa., September 7, 1852, and is one of eight children, of whom seven are still living. Her father was born in the same county, February 12, 1815, being of German parentage. Her mother was also born there January 7, 1819. In an early day they moved to LaSalle County, Ill., and in 1868 moved to Iroquois County, where she died December 21, 1889, and he December 1, 1892. He became quite an extensive farmer. Both he and his wife were active workers in the Methodist Church. Seven children graced the union of our subject and his wife, of whom five are yet living, namely: George J. born September 21, 1876; Frank E., September 20, 1878; Cora Belle, November 4, 1880; Leo R., March 19, 1885; and Jay L., August 23, 1889. Two died in infancy.

For a number of years after his marriage, Mr. Hull resided on a part of the old home farm. On the death of his father he received his share of the estate. He continued to reside on the old homestead until the spring of 1888, when with his family he removed to the farm on which he now resides, on section 13, Artesia Township. He owns three hundred and twenty acres of land, but also operates seven hundred and thirty-nine acres additional, belonging to the estate of E. R. Searles. He engages principally in stock-raising, breeding horses, cattle and hogs, but makes a specialty of thorough-bred cattle. He is one of the largest stock farmers in this section, and in his business he is meeting with excellent success, being now numbered among Artesia Township's substantial residents.

In his social relations, Mr. Hull is a member of Buckley Lodge No. 634, A. F. & A. M.; and of Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton.

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Robert W. Foster



Huldah D. Foster

In politics he is a Republican, and a stalwart advocate of the principles of that party. He has held the office of School Director and School Treasurer for many years, and does all in his power for the advancement of the cause of education. He is now serving his thirteenth year as Highway Commissioner, and has been Treasurer of the Board of Commissioners for twelve years, the prompt and faithful manner in which he performs his duties having led to his frequent re-election. He is a man of sterling worth, a valued citizen of the community, and well deserves representation in the history of his adopted county. Mrs. Hull is a member of the Methodist Church, and a most estimable lady.



ROBERT WOODARD FOSTER, a prominent merchant of Sheldon, who for eleven years has engaged in the furniture business in that place, claims North Carolina as the State of his nativity. His birth occurred in Northampton County on the 3d of April, 1829, and he is one of a family of ten children. The parents, James and Sarah (Hicks) Foster, were natives of North Carolina. The ancestors of our subject were a long-lived people, and his paternal grandfather reached the very advanced age of one hundred and eight years. James Foster was a farmer by occupation, and in 1830 removed with his family to Ohio, settling in Logan County, near Zanesfield, where he spent the greater part of his life. Of the family only four children are yet living. The elder brother resides in Battle Creek, Mich., and the two sisters are living in Middleburgh, Ohio.

At the age of sixteen years, the subject of this sketch started out in life for himself and earned his livelihood by working as a farm hand. In 1856, he came to Iroquois County, but ere his removal West he was married in Ohio to Miss Hulda Inskeep, daughter of Job and Sarah Inskeep. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and were among the early pioneers of Ohio. Her father was born in Virginia, and in the usual man-

ner of farmer lads was reared to manhood. The common schools afforded him his educational privileges. After arriving at man's estate, he led to the marriage altar Miss Sarah Sharp, a native of Ohio, and by their union they became the parents of nine children. Of this family six are yet living, namely: Levi, who is now living a retired life in the Buckeye State; John and Isaac, who also make their homes in Ohio; Amos, who resides in Iroquois County, Ill.; Eliza, now the widow of Mr. Stakes, and also a resident of Iroquois County; Hulda, wife of our subject; and Sarah Ann, wife of Ab Morton, a resident of Ohio.

Mrs. Foster was also born in the Buckeye State, and in the days of her maidenhood attended its public schools. The marriage of our subject and his wife was celebrated on the 20th of March, 1851, and unto them were born three children, but only one is now living, Annetta, wife of Mahlon Inskeep, a resident of Iroquois County. For forty-one years Mr. and Mrs. Foster have traveled life's journey together, sharing its adversity and prosperity, its sorrows and joys.

On his removal to this county, Mr. Foster embarked in farming, which he followed successfully until 1862. The Civil War was then in progress and, feeling that the country needed his services, he responded to the call for troops on the 7th of August, joining the boys in blue of Company E, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. He was with Grant on his march to Vicksburg, and was at Holly Springs at the time of Van Dorn's raid upon that place. From there he went to Memphis, where he remained until the siege of Vicksburg. In August, 1863, he returned home on a furlough. His leave of absence was granted him on account of illness, which developed into a severe attack of typhoid fever. After remaining at home for about six months, he rejoined his regiment at Black River Bridge, east of Vicksburg, where he remained during the siege, after which he was sent to Mound City Hospital, in the fall of 1864. Three weeks later he was sent home on account of disability. He received his discharge and was mustered out of service in Galveston on the 2d of August, 1865, and was paid off in Chicago on the 25th of the same month. He still feels the

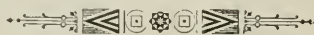
effects of his army service and has never been quite the man physically that he was before he experienced the privations and exposures of army life.

When the war was over, Mr. Foster returned home and resumed farming, but in 1875 abandoned that pursuit and removed to Sheldon, where he was employed by W. Sherman in the lumber business for a short time. Soon afterward he formed a partnership with Richard Carroll and bought out his employer, remaining in the business for about a year, when he sold out and engaged in the flour and feed business. He afterwards added a stock of groceries and carried on operations in that line until 1881, when he sold out and opened a furniture store. He carries a full and complete stock of goods in this line and has built up an excellent trade, which has constantly increased from the beginning. His liberal patronage is well deserved, and his success is but the just reward of his efforts.

Mr. Foster is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Sheldon Lodge No. 609, A. F. & A. M. He also holds membership with A. B. Brown Post No. 151, G. A. R., and the Patriotic Order of Sons of America. In religious belief, he is a Methodist, and he votes the Republican ticket. He has long supported the men and measures of the Republican party and takes quite an interest in political affairs. His first Presidential vote was cast for Gen. Winfield Scott. He has been honored with a number of public offices, having served as Justice of the Peace in Stockland Township and as Commissioner of Highways. He was also Supervisor for a number of years.

Mr. Foster's career has been a prosperous one, owing to his well-directed efforts, his industry and enterprise. He also attributes much of his success to the aid of his faithful wife, whose counsel and advice have been of much benefit to him. She has ever been ready to do her part, and has worked nobly and faithfully by his side. Mr. Foster is a man of great generosity and benevolence, and the poor and needy are never turned from his door empty-handed. They have found in him a friend, and many poor widows and little children have reason to remember him with gratitude for

his kindly assistance. Instead of hoarding up his possessions, he has considered them a trust placed in his care and has given liberally of his means to aid others. The public duties of Mr. Foster were ever promptly and faithfully performed, and he is one of Sheldon's most highly respected citizens. His pleasant, genial disposition endears him to all who know him, and he has won many friends.



PROF. JOHN RILEY FREEBERN, Principal of the Onarga public schools, and one of the prominent and influential citizens, is a native of the State which is yet his home. He was born in Granville, Ill., on the 17th of October, 1858, and is of Scotch and Irish descent. His father, Archibald Freebern, was a native of Scotland, and his mother, who bore the maiden name of Mary Riley, was born on the Emerald Isle. When quite young, they were brought by their respective families to this country, and were reared to manhood and womanhood in the State of New York, where their marriage was celebrated. At length they determined to try their fortune in the West, and in 1854 emigrated to Illinois, locating upon a farm near Granville, where they resided for about twelve years, and then removed to the village. The mother died on the 17th of July, 1879, and the father November 19, 1892. Their family numbered eight children, six sons and two daughters: George J., John Riley, William T., Elmer E., Annie E., Jeannie, Archie W., and Roscoe H. The children are all living except Jeannie, who died in infancy.

Our subject has spent his entire life in this State, and was reared to manhood under the parental roof. After attending the common schools, he entered the Granville High School, from which he was graduated. In early life he displayed special aptitude in his studies, and, not content with the educational advantages he had already received, after completing the course in Granville, he attended Wheaton College, and subsequently was a student in the Normal University, of Normal, Ill.

On leaving school, he embarked in the profession of teaching, which he has since followed. Forten years he was employed as a teacher in Putnam County, being for the last two years of that time Principal of the schools in Hemepin. He then came to Iroquois County, and was Principal of the Ashkum schools for about a year. He then received an appointment as Principal of the Onarga public schools, and in September, 1890, entered upon the duties of that position, which he has since filled. He is now serving his third year, and gives excellent satisfaction.

On the 7th of July, 1883, Prof. Freebern was joined in wedlock with Miss Lola A. Holsburg, daughter of Dr. D. B. and Rebecca (Adams) Holsburg, of Graunville. One child has been born of their union, a son, Walter H., born September 18, 1884. The Professor and his wife are leading citizens of this community, widely and favorably known, and in social circles where true worth is received as the passport into good society, they rank high. Mr. Freebern holds membership with Onarga Lodge No. 208, I. O. O. F., and in politics, is a supporter of Republican principles. Highly educated himself, he has the ability to impart knowledge to others, and is an able instructor. He has won the commendation of the community in which he is now employed, and the schools of Onarga are in a prosperous and thriving condition under his leadership.



L EVI O. LOCKWOOD, a physician of La Hogue, was born at Denmark, Lee County, Iowa, May 7, 1819. He is a son of Hiram L. and Hannah (Smith) Lockwood. The progenitors of the Lockwood family came from Scotland and settled in Massachusetts. The grandfather, Timothy Lockwood, was a Vermont farmer, and in that State the father was born. When a young man he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he married Miss Smith, who was born in Clermont County, Ohio. He was a builder by trade and also a millwright, which occupations he followed

for many years. In 1847 they came by way of the rivers to Ft. Madison, Iowa, locating in Lee County, where Mr. Lockwood built mills and carried on farming. In 1877 the family removed to Hollyrood, Ellsworth County, Kan., where the parents still live. The father has now reached the age of seventy-nine years and the mother seventy-eight. Politically, the father was an Abolitionist, and later a Republican. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Congregational Church. They had a family of six children, of whom two sons and two daughters are now living.

Our subject is the fifth child in his father's family, and was reared on a farm. Since fifteen years of age he has been working for himself. Having attended the district schools of his native county until thirteen years of age, he entered Denmark Academy, working his way to pay his tuition. When about sixteen he began teaching school, at which he engaged for some eight years, using the means thus acquired to obtain a higher education. After graduating from the academy he spent a year at Beloit College, at Beloit, Wis., and a year at Hillsdale, Mich., having read medicine with Prof. J. M. Angear, the professor of the Keokuk Medical College, now practicing in Chicago. He also studied with Dr. R. W. Barr, of Ferris, Ill. He entered the Keokuk Medical College in 1874, taking two courses of lectures, and in 1875 began practicing with Dr. Barr, at Ferris. In 1876 he removed to Hollyrood, Kan., and four years later was graduated from the Keokuk Medical College, but continued to practice in Kansas until 1882. The following February he located at La Hogue, where he has an extensive practice and is accounted a physician of good ability and experience.

In Burlington, Iowa, Dr. Lockwood led to the marriage altar Mrs. Susan Maynard, the ceremony being performed August 17, 1880. She is a daughter of Daniel and Eliza J. (Logan) Edmonds, natives of New York and Indiana respectively. In early life they emigrated to Henderson County, Ill., where they became acquainted. Mr. Edmonds in former days used to go to Wisconsin, get out lumber and shingles, raft them down the river, and sell them at the river towns. He furnished

much of the lumber used in building the Mormon Temple at Nauvoo, Ill. His accumulations he invested in land and became an extensive landowner. He was a Republican in politics, and for a term held the office of County Judge. About 1858 his wife died, and subsequently he married again. By his first wife he had three sons and a daughter, and by his second marriage a daughter. Mrs. Lockwood is a native of Henderson County, Ill. Of her first marriage she had two children, Luey and Hattie. Unto Dr. Lockwood and his wife have been born three children: Ella M., Edmond and Winnifred.

Politically, the Doctor affiliates with the Republican party. For three years he held the position of Postmaster at Hollyrood, Kan. While there he belonged to the Central Kansas Medical Association. He has extensive landed interests, with his wife owning five hundred and thirteen acres in Iroquois County, and three hundred and twenty acres in Kansas. They are both active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is both Steward and Trustee. Dr. Lockwood is a successful physician and an enterprising citizen, and is very extensively known and much respected throughout the county.



JOHAN HALL BISHOP, undertaker and dealer in furniture, is the pioneer representative in his line of business in the county. He established business in Watseka in 1862. His life record is as follows: He was born in Westminster, Windham County, Vt., March 5, 1818, and is a son of Timothy and Ruth (Hall) Bishop. His father was a soldier of the War of 1812, and was descended from an old New England family of English origin. His death occurred in Rockingham, Windham County, Vt., in 1840. The mother of our subject was born in Walpole, N. H., and died in Saxon River, Vt.

John H. Bishop was reared at that place and was educated in its public schools. After attaining to mature years, he was married, on the 14th of February, 1842, in Grafton, Vt., to Miss Eliza-

beth M. Colby, who was born in that place and was a daughter of James Colby. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop have one son, Frank, and an adopted daughter, Gertie M., now the wife of Charles Edinger, of Watseka. Frank married Miss Tude Reese, and is connected with the Chicago stock yards.

In 1813, Mr. Bishop removed with his family to Worcester, Mass., where he was employed in agricultural shops, having previously served a regular apprenticeship in Rockingham, Vt., to the cabinet-maker's trade. In September, 1856, he removed from Worcester to Middleport, Iroquois County, Ill., where he worked at the trade of carpentering and house-building until 1862, when he bought out Mr. S. M. Hogle, who had started in the furniture business there in 1854. Mr. Bishop carried on business in Middleport until 1864, when he removed to Watseka, where he has carried on business continuously since. In Middleport, he was associated with H. P. Laroche and the partnership was continued after the removal to Watseka and up to the time of Mr. Laroche's going to California. Recently, Mr. Laroche has rejoined his old partner and is manager and foreman of the shops. In 1889, Mr. Bishop was burned out and suffered much loss, but resumed business at once, and since the completion of the Herschler Block has occupied one of the stores on the ground floor for a salesroom and has built up a good trade.

On the 14th of February, 1882, Mrs. Bishop was called to her final rest. She was a member of the Baptist Church, was a consistent Christian and an exemplary wife and mother. On Thanksgiving Day of 1884, Mr. Bishop was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Marian M. Blue, widow of John Blue, and a daughter of Benjamin Hill. She is a native of Lockport, N. Y. She belongs to the Methodist Church and is a highly esteemed member of the society.

Mr. Bishop is also a member of the Methodist Church. Socially, he belongs to Iroquois Lodge No. 74, I. O. O. F., of which he has been Treasurer for twenty-six years; and to Iroquois Encampment No. 81. He is also a member of Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M., of which he has been Tyler for twenty-four years, and is a member of Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M., and Kankakee Com-

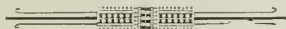
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Isaac Whitted

mandery No. 33, K. T. In politics, he is a staunch Republican and has been an Alderman of the Watseka Common Council for twelve years and City Treasurer for two years.

Mr. Bishop has now been a resident of Watseka and Middleport for thirty years and is esteemed by its citizens as an upright and honorable man. Modest and unassuming in manner, but always reliable, he has never sought distinction, but his brethren of the three links and those of the square and compass have shown their regard for him by keeping him continuously in office for upwards of a quarter of a century.



ISAAC WHITTED, a self-made man and well-to-do farmer residing on section 26, Artesia Township, claims North Carolina as the State of his nativity. He was born in Chatham County on the 24th of August, 1822, and is a son of Jonathan and Nancy (Clark) Whitted, both of whom were natives of North Carolina. Their family numbered thirteen children, including Isaac, Elbridge, Mary Ann, Enceh, Sarah Jane, Andrew Jackson, William, Caroline, Rosella, Hezekiah, who died when about seven years of age; John Thomas, who died in the prime of life; and two who died in infancy. Seven of the family are yet living. It was in 1834 that Jonathan Whitted removed with his family to Indiana, and took up eighty acres of Government land. He soon afterward went to Annapolis, Ind., and in Parke County followed his trade of coopering, which he had learned in early life. He there resided for many years, but died in Vermillion County, Ind., in 1867. His wife passed away ten years previous, her death occurring in Iowa.

In the State of his nativity, Isaac Whitted spent the first twelve years of his life, and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Indiana, where he was reared to manhood. Farming has ever been his principal occupation. On the 16th of January, 1845, he was first married, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Pierson, daughter of William and Mary (Anderson) Pierson, of In-

diana. Five children were born of this union: Andrew J., born October 25, 1845; Rebecca Ann., August 14, 1849; Lydia Ellen, December 24, 1852; Charles Sumner, February 11, 1857; and William Allen, June 26, 1860. These are all now deceased. Rebecca Ann grew to womanhood, and became the wife of Allen Nulin, of Artesia Township, by whom she had two children, Andrew M. and Clara A., who are still living. Our subject's first wife died on the 23d of May, 1862, and Isaac Whitted was again married, on the 21st of May, 1863, his second union being with Miss Emily Stafford, daughter of Thomas and Edith Stafford, who were then residents of Indiana, but came originally from North Carolina.

Unto our subject and his second wife were born seven children: Nancy Estella, born June 3, 1864, is the wife of William Baker, a resident of Buckley, by whom she has two children, Arta and George; Edith Adella, born September 12, 1866; Mary Effie, March 22, 1868; Perly G., November 18, 1869; Fred Elbridge, August 21, 1871; Cora Avis, April 13, 1873; and Birdie L., April 20, 1875. Perly died in infancy, and Edith A. died March 31, 1889. She was the wife of Joseph Stevens, and at her death left a son, Isaac Leroy. The other five children are all yet living, but the mother of this family was called to her final rest on the 4th of August, 1875.

Mr. Whitted left Indiana in 1865 and came to Illinois, purchasing a farm of two hundred acres of land on section 15, Artesia Township, where he made his home for seventeen years. He was industrious and enterprising, and as the time passed and his financial resources were increased, he added to his possessions until he owned five hundred and twenty acres of well-improved land, which yielded to him a golden tribute in return for his care and cultivation. In 1882, he removed to his farm on section 26, where he purchased one hundred and twenty-seven acres of land adjoining the corporation limits of Buckley on the east, and he here now makes his home. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles, his first Presidential vote being cast for Henry Clay. Mr. Whitted started out in life empty-handed, with nothing but a young man's bright hope of the

future and a determination to succeed, but relying upon his own energies, he has worked his way upward by his ability and good management, and has now a comfortable competence as the reward of his own labors. His example is worthy of emulation, and may well serve to encourage others who, like himself, have to depend merely upon their own resources.



HYPOLITI P. LAROCHE, one of the early settlers of Middleport and Watseka, who has been prominently identified with the undertaking and furniture business of those places for many years, is now associated with J. H. Bishop in that line of trade in Watseka. Mr. Laroche was born in Montreal, Canada, on the 12th of December, 1837, and is a son of Hypoliti and Sophia (Favralu) Laroche, both of whom were natives of Montreal.

In 1855, our subject came to Illinois with his parents and the family settled in Kankakee, where they spent a year. They then removed to Middleport, Iroquois County, but three years later, in 1869, the parents returned to Kankakee. The mother died in 1879, and the father, who survived her, passed away in Watseka in 1882. From the time when he came with his parents our subject has been a resident of this county. On locating in Middleport, he worked with Henry Hogle, a wagon-maker, until the death of his employer in 1858, after which he engaged with Mr. Barnham, a cabinet-maker, under Leander Hogle as foreman. In 1860, he bought out his employer and conducted the business until 1861, when he sold out and formed a partnership with Mr. Hogle in the same line of trade. In 1864, John H. Bishop bought out the interest of Leander Hogle and the business was continued by the firm of Bishop & Laroche until 1868, when our subject sold out and went to California. He spent two years on the Pacific Coast in California and Oregon and then returned to Watseka. His next venture was to buy an interest in the furniture store of his former

partner, Mr. Bishop, with whom he was associated until 1880, when he again sold out and went to Colorado. He then spent two years in mining speculation in that State, returning to Watseka in 1882. Once more he engaged in business, and through giving too much credit lost heavily and closed out. Afterward he once more formed a connection with J. H. Bishop in the old line, that of furniture and undertaking, acting as foreman, which connection has continued until the present time. Their relations have always been of the pleasantest kind and are characterized by mutual confidence.

On the 1st of January, 1861, in Middleport, Mr. Laroche was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Celanier La Bonty, who died on the 6th of March, 1868. In his social relations, he is a member of Watseka Lodge No. 146, A. F. & A. M.; Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M., Iroquois Lodge No. 74, I. O. O. F.; and Iroquois Encampment No. 81, of the same order, all of Watseka. In politics, Mr. Laroche is a Republican and has served two years as Alderman in the City Council. It is no flattery to say of him that he enjoys the confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens in a marked degree, for they esteem him highly as an upright and honorable man.



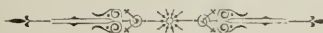
WILLIAMS BARNES, junior member of the firm of Doolittle & Barnes, who operates a large creamery and is a successful business man of Onarga Township, has the honor of being a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Du Page County on the 20th of August, 1849. His parents, Horace and Louisa (Seeley) Barnes, were both natives of the Green Mountain State, and a sketch of their lives appears elsewhere in this work. They were numbered among the early settlers of Du Page County, and our subject spent the greater part of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm in that locality. During the winter months he attended the public schools and in the summer season worked in the fields. With the family he came to Iroquois County in 1867,

and has here since made his home. Though not sixteen years of age, he enlisted in April, 1865, in Company H. One Hundred and Forty-first Illinois Infantry, and served about six months.

Mr. Barnes was united in marriage December 16, 1871, with Miss Ella Harper, daughter of Samuel H. and Mary (Lehigh) Harper, of this county. Their union has been blessed with two children, both daughters, Louisa J. and Florence.

In 1884, Mr. Barnes formed a partnership with Elkanah Doolittle, who is a resident of Onarga. Our subject manages the business and is the resident partner. They own a large creamery with a capacity of one thousand pounds of butter per day. This is located on the farm of Mr. Doolittle, which comprises three hundred acres of land in Onarga Township. The farm, however, is controlled by Mr. Barnes, who has had charge of it for fifteen years. The firm owns about fifty head of milch cows, and an excellent quality of butter is manufactured, the product of their creamery being shipped to the New Orleans market, where it finds a ready sale. Socially, he is a member of W. A. Babcock Post No. 116, G. A. R., of Onarga.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Barnes is a supporter of Republican principles, and in religious belief he is a Presbyterian, holding membership with the church in Onarga. He possesses good business ability, is enterprising and industrious, and as the result of his well-directed efforts has met success in his undertakings.



JOHN McCafferty, who owns and operates three hundred and twenty-five acres of valuable land in Artesia Township, pleasantly situated about a mile from Buckley, was born near Crawfordsville, in Montgomery County, Ind., May 16, 1843, and is one of seven children, whose parents were David and Martha (Canine) McCafferty, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Kentucky. Grandfather McCafferty emigrated from the Highlands of Scotland. In 1855, David McCafferty removed with his family to this State, locating in Gridley Township,

McLean County, near the present site of Gridley. The farm which he purchased contained two hundred and fifty-five acres of land, and to its cultivation and improvement he devoted his energies until his death, which occurred in 1871. His wife had died previously. The children of their family were Richard, Sarah Ellen, John, Mary Melissa, Anna, James K. and William S.

Mr. McCafferty, whose name heads this record, spent the first twelve years of his life in his native State, and then came with his parents to Illinois, where he was reared to manhood in the usual manner of farmer lads. He was well trained in the labors of the field, and his educational privileges were those which the common schools afforded. After attaining his majority he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Snyder, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Schultz) Snyder, their union being celebrated on Christmas Eve of 1868. Mrs. McCafferty was born in Brown County, Ohio, on the 1st of August, 1845. Her parents had two children who were born in Germany. Coming to America, they spent most of their lives in Ohio, where her father carried on farming and dairying. Both died in Ohio. Mrs. McCafferty is one of a family of nine children, of whom eight are still living. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McCafferty have been born four children, three daughters and a son, as follows: Carrie Ann is now the wife of Wesley Lock, a farmer residing about two miles from Gridley, Ill.; Mary Josephine, a graduate of the State Normal School, of Normal, Ill., is a teacher by profession; Florence E. and John Albert are still at home.

It was about the year 1865 that Mr. McCafferty began farming for himself on an eighty-acre tract of land in McLean County, where he resided from that time until the spring of 1892. He then came to Iroquois County, Ill. In the meantime he had added to his original farm and extended its boundaries by additional purchase until he owned two hundred acres of valuable land, which he sold on coming to this county. For several years he engaged extensively in the breeding of hogs, but now devotes his time and attention principally to farming. In the winter of 1891-92, he purchased his present farm, to

which he removed in the spring. It is a well-improved place and already shows the impress of the owner's industry and enterprise, which are numbered among his chief characteristics. Viewed from a financial standpoint, Mr. McCafferty's life has been a successful one. He is a man of good business ability, and by well-directed efforts he has acquired a handsome competence, which classes him among the successful farmers of the community. His life has been well and worthily spent, and his upright character has won him high regard. All the family are members of the Christian Church, and are numbered among the best citizens of the community. In politics, he is a supporter of Democratic principles. Socially, he is a Mason.



THOMAS JOHN has the honor of being a native of Iroquois County and is a representative of one of the early families. His father, Lemuel John, was born in Adams County, Ohio, May 8, 1807, and was a son of Thomas and Nancy John. He grew to manhood upon a farm and acquired his education in the common schools, but his advantages were limited. When a young man of twenty-four years he emigrated to Illinois, in 1831, and cast in his lot with the early settlers of Milford Township, Iroquois County, where he entered land from the Government. Subsequently, he sold that claim to Mr. Vennum and removed to Belmont Township. He was married in that township about 1836 to Miss Catherine Williamson, a native of Adams County, Ohio, and unto them were born the following children: William, who died in childhood; Sarah, wife of George Wilson, of Nebraska; Nancy, wife of Robert Clifton, a resident farmer of Ash Grove Township; Thomas, of this sketch; and Samuel, who is living retired in Woodland. When Lemuel John came to this county he was in limited circumstances, but by industry and enterprise he worked his way upward and gained a comfortable home. His death occurred in Belmont Township, November 30,

1847, at the age of forty-one years. His wife survived him twenty years, passing away on the 10th of May, 1867. They had experienced all the privations and hardships of pioneer life, and at the time of the Black Hawk War were forced to leave their home and flee to the fort in Danville for protection.

The subject of this sketch was born on the old homestead in Belmont Township, October 29, 1841, and was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life. As soon as old enough to handle the plow, he began farming, and at a very early age the management of the homestead fell upon his young shoulders. With the assistance of his mother, he carried on the home farm and attended to all of the business interests. Throughout his entire life, he was engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising. The old homestead is now in his possession and he owns four hundred and fifty-five acres of arable land. His home is a handsome and commodious residence which is supplemented by good barns and all other necessary outbuildings, and these are surrounded by waving fields of grain which yield abundant harvests as the reward for the care and cultivation bestowed upon them. The farm is one of the desirable places in Belmont Township.

On the 23d of October, 1867, Mr. John was married in Milford Township to Elizabeth V. Webster, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Robert and Mary J. Webster, with whom she came to Illinois from Indiana. Her parents are now residents of Milford. Unto Mr. and Mrs. John have been born the following children: Catherine Edith, wife of Isaac W. Kirby, a farmer of Belmont Township; Lillian and Elizabeth V., both of whom are engaged in teaching school; Eloise, who was educated in Hoopeston and is now keeping house for her father; Sarah M. and Lemuel, at home. The children were all born and reared on the home farm. The mother of this family died March 30, 1891, and her loss was mourned by many friends as well as her immediate family, for she was a lady of many excellencies of character and won the love of all who knew her. She died in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church, her membership being in Woodland.

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H. S. Dixon



Carrie V. Dixon

Although not a member of the church, Mr. John has contributed liberally to its support; neither is his aid withheld from any enterprise calculated to prove of public good. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Odd Fellows' society. In 1860, he cast his first Presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas and has since been a supporter of the Democratic party on questions of State and National importance, but at local elections he supports the man whom he thinks best qualified for the office, regardless of party affiliations. Mr. John has had to make his own way in the world, but by his perseverance, enterprise and good business ability he has secured a handsome competence and become a successful and leading farmer of the community. He is numbered among the leading and influential citizens of Belmont Township, where he has made his home for the long period of fifty-one years and is held in universal respect.



HAMPTON S. DIXON, a representative citizen and leading farmer of Douglas Township, carries on a farm on section 6. His birth occurred in Chester Township, Meigs County, Ohio, January 23, 1831. He is a son of Thomas and Mary (Northrup) Dixon. His paternal grandfather emigrated from Virginia to Meigs County, Ohio, where the father was born and reared. The mother's father, when thirteen years old, while playing at Point Pleasant, on the Ohio River, was captured by the Indians, who still frequented that part of the country, and was held captive by them for eight years. He learned their language and habits during that time, and it was with difficulty that he was induced to leave them. The mother of our subject was born in Gallia County, Ohio.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Dixon, they lived for some five years in Meigs County, but in 1835 emigrated by way of the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to La Salle County, Ill. By trade Mr. Dixon was a boat-builder until coming to Illinois, after which he carried on farming. Politically, he was a Whig and later a Republican.

Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their deaths occurred within twenty-four hours of each other in Oskaloosa, Iowa, in March, 1880, and they were buried in the same grave in La Salle County, Ill. They were much respected and esteemed throughout the section in which they dwelt. Of their family of five sons and three daughters, only three are now living: Francis Marion, a member of Company H, Twentieth Illinois Infantry, was killed in the battle of Shiloh. Charles H., who was in the same company and regiment, served thirty-eight months and then re-enlisted in Hancock's Veteran Corps. He died of smallpox at Washington, D. C. The living members of the family are Hampton S.; James W., a farmer of Iroquois County; and George W., a farmer of North Dakota.

Our subject is the eldest of the family. He was only four years of age when with his parents he came to La Salle County. He was reared on his father's farm and received a very limited education in the old-time schools. When twenty years of age, he taught for one term, boarding around, as was the custom in those days.

Mr. Dixon remained at home until his marriage, on the 5th of November, 1852, his bride being Nancy J. Tullis, a native of Ohio, who emigrated with her parents to La Salle County in 1835. Of their union, seven children were born: Hannah died when seventeen years of age; Mary died at the age of eighteen; Essie, wife of A. S. Sherwood, Jr., resides at Filley, Neb.; Alice, wife of J. C. Howe, Jr., resides in Denver, Colo. Charles H., bass singer in the Du Pauw Quartet, he entered the University of Chicago at its grand opening October 1, 1892, to remain until his graduation in the classical course. He expects to take up the profession of a minister. He led to the marriage altar, July 26, 1892, Miss Mary David, daughter of the Rev. Charles David, of Onarga, Ill., and they reside in Chicago. George, a farmer of Beatrice, Neb.; and Jennie, a teacher of Filley, Neb. All of the children, with the exception of George and Mary, have been teachers, and nearly all of them attended the Onarga Seminary.

On the 26th of July, 1881, Mr. Dixon was again

married, the lady of his choice being Mrs. Carrie V. Jayne, *nee* Wright, who was born near La Porte, Ind., December 21, 1841. She is a daughter of Joseph Y. and Tabitha (Evans) Wright. Her paternal grandfather, Benjamin Wright, came from England to Pennsylvania, where he married a German lady, and later emigrated to Meigs County, Ohio. There Mrs. Dixon's father was born. Her mother was born across the line in West Virginia, though of Welsh extraction, her father being a native of Wales. At an early day Mrs. Dixon's parents removed to Indiana, living for a time at Terre Haute, then in Porter County, and later in La Porte County, where the father died at the age of sixty. The mother lived to be ninety-one years old. They were both members of the Methodist Church until after the father's death, when the mother joined the Christian Church. Mr. Wright was a well-to-do farmer, and was politically a Whig.

Mrs. Dixon is the youngest of twelve children, of whom nine are still living. She was reared on a farm and her early education was such as the district afforded. She received instructions from C. P. Snow, brother of Col. Snow, at present Congressman. She supplemented her education by a course of fifteen months' schooling at the Valparaiso Normal School, then under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church. When sixteen years of age, she taught her first school. In 1861, she came to Livingston County, Ill., and began her successful career as a teacher. In 1865, she entered Eureka College, from which she was graduated the following year. For some twenty-five years she followed teaching in Livingston County. A year of that time she taught in Major College, at Bloomington, also a year in the Gibson schools and a year in Gilman. She was first married in Livingston County, December 25, 1868, to Milton O. Jayne, of Ohio, and a teacher by profession. That calling he followed for a number of years, and died July 18, 1876, in Ford County. Mrs. Dixon still owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in that county. Mr. and Mrs. Dixon have one child, Carrie Maud.

Until thirty-eight years of age, our subject followed farming as an occupation, and at that time

again turned his attention to teaching. He began his school without a certificate, with the understanding that he would teach without remuneration if he was not able to get the same. It is needless to say that he did not teach for nothing, for after the first term he received a first-grade certificate and continued to hold one as long as he taught. In March, 1875, he came to his present home. The place was unimproved, only fourteen acres of it having been broken. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres, which are thoroughly tiled. For several years he has assisted J. W. Zea in his grain office. He has been doing a real-estate business, renting and looking after farms for their owners. Mr. Dixon was a teacher for over twenty years in La Salle, Ford and Iroquois Counties.

Politically, Mr. Dixon is a Republican, his first Presidential vote having been cast for Gen. Scott, and his succeeding ballots have been given in support of the Republican nominees. He is a member of the Central Committee from his district. In La Salle County he was Deputy Sheriff for four years, Constable sixteen years, and Township Clerk for a year. He is now a member of the Board of Commissioners for La Hogue Drainage District. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of La Hogue, he having been a Steward and Trustee since the organization of the church. He has also been the Sunday-school Superintendent for many years. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic fraternity. Since coming to this county, Mr. Dixon has written considerable for the local papers of the county.

On the anniversary of the eleventh wedding day of Mr. and Mrs. Dixon, their friends gave them a pleasant surprise. Coming en masse, they spent the day and remembered them with a fine dinner set. Messrs. Tullis and Mae presented them with silver knives and forks, and his children gave to Mr. Dixon a gold-headed cane. He has seen all the phases of pioneer life. When his father brought his family to La Salle County, there were nine in the family to care for, and on his arrival there he had but \$5 in money. Until a log house could be erected, they were obliged to live in a tent. In those days shoes and clothing

were made at home. The father would often work a whole day for a bushel of corn, afterward carrying it a distance of three miles on his back to the mill in order to have it ground. He owned no team at first, but later had an ox-team. At one time for nearly four months the family had to live on pork and hominy as they were not able to get any corn ground. Mr. Dixon has been Vice President and Superintendent of the agricultural department of the Ford County Agricultural Association since its organization.



A C. JOHNSON, a prominent citizen and honored pioneer of Iroquois County, who is now living retired in Woodland, well deserves representation in this volume, for during almost half a century he has been connected with the history of this community. A native of Ohio, he was born in Columbus, January 12, 1822. His father, Isaac Johnson, was a native of Virginia, but during his boyhood emigrated with his parents to the Buckeye State. His father was a Revolutionary hero, and died in Ohio. Isaac served in the War of 1812 under Gen. William Henry Harrison, and participated in the battles of Ft. Meigs and Themes. In Columbus he married Nancy Tucker, a native of Virginia. Her father, a native of Delaware, also wore the blue and buff, and served throughout the War for Independence. The family also had its representatives in the Mexican War. James and Edward, brothers of our subject, enlisted in the Fourth Ohio Regiment under Col. Bruff; the former died in Vera Cruz, but Edward served throughout the entire struggle.

We now take up the personal history of A. C. Johnson, who is the only surviving member of the family of seven children. He was reared in an old log cabin, and was educated by the light of the fire-place in the subscription school. His advantages were very limited, and, as he was the eldest son in the family, at the age of twelve years he took charge of the home farm, which he operated until the death of his mother, which occurred

on the 1st of March, 1846. In 1843 Mr. Johnson made a trip to Illinois, where he spent the winter and located land, but did not make a permanent settlement until 1847. He secured forty acres of unimproved land from the Government on section 19, Belmont Township, and upon the farm which he there developed made his home until November, 1891. In connection with general farming, he also engaged in teaching school for some years in this county, and followed the carpenter's trade for some time.

On the 14th of September, 1849, Mr. Johnson was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary M. Body, a native of Fountain County, Ind., who at the age of ten years came to this county with her parents. Her father and mother were both natives of Pennsylvania, and were of German descent. Ten children were born unto our subject and his wife: Laura, now the wife of Joseph Stevens, a farmer of Kansas; Susan, wife of Frank Hillis, of Ash Grove; Emory, who is engaged in farming in Kansas; Serelda, wife of E. S. Sperry, of Vermilion County; Josie, deceased, wife of Jonas M. Rush; Chase A., an attorney at law, of Albuquerque, N. M.; Mahlon, a real-estate dealer of Winfield, Kan.; Serena, now Mrs. Fairchild, of Danville, Vermilion County; Frank, who graduated from the State University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor; and Rosa, at home. The children were all provided with good educational advantages, attending the public schools and the Normal College of Valparaiso, Ind.

Mr. Johnson and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church. He has ever taken quite a prominent part in public affairs. He cast his first Presidential vote for J. P. Hale, and was one of the original Abolitionists. He was a warm friend of Lovejoy, and his home was a station on the famous Underground Railroad. When the Republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery, he at once espoused the cause and aided in its organization in this county. He has often served as delegate to its conventions, and has ever been a prominent worker in its interests. He held a number of offices of honor and trust. For sixteen years he served as Justice of the Peace, was also Assessor

and Township Clerk, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity which won him the commendation of all.

In his business career Mr. Johnson won success, and he has now a handsome property as the result of his own well-directed efforts. He owns three hundred and twenty acres of land, which was transformed from a tract of wild prairie into a valuable and fertile farm by his own industry. In the early pioneer days he raised all his grain by hand and harvested with a sickle. He is familiar with the pioneer history of this county, having located here before the introduction of the railroad, and when many of the now flourishing towns and villages had not sprung into existence. His market in those days was Chicago. He aided in the organization of the township, and no man has done more for its upbuilding than our subject. He is now living retired in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest, and in his declining years is surrounded by many warm friends who hold him in the highest esteem.



JOSEPH GALLOWAY is a member of the hardware firm of Galloway & Doan, of Wellington, and is one of the leading farmers of the township, his residence being on section 1, Lovejoy Township. He is also an honored veteran of the late war. More than a quarter of a century has elapsed since he came to Iroquois County, and as a pioneer and valued citizen he has become so widely known, that he needs no special introduction to our readers.

Our subject was born in Fountain County, Ind., October 19, 1840, and is the third in a family which numbered three sons and five daughters. The parents were Samuel and Prudence (Manning) Galloway. The father was born in the Empire State, about 1813, and died in 1883. He was reared amid the Shakers of Ohio, and was an agriculturist. He was also a mechanic and cabinet-maker. In early life he exercised his right of franchise in support of the Whig party, and took an active

part in the campaign of "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too." At the organization of the Republican party he joined its ranks. His wife was born in Pennsylvania in 1817, and is still living on the old homestead in Warren County, Ind. Of their children seven are yet living: Lorinda, wife of D. W. C. Adsit, a farmer of Lovejoy Township; Joseph of this sketch; Matilda, the wife of Charles Jinks, a farmer of Lovejoy; Martha, wife of William McCoy, an agriculturist of Canada East; Samuel, who is married and follows farming in Vermilion County; David E. J., who is married and resides on the old homestead in Indiana; and Frances, who is the wife of Fremont Messmore, of Vermilion County.

Our subject spent the greater part of his boyhood days upon his father's farm in Warren County, Ind., and was educated in the common schools, by private instruction, and by self-culture. Ere attaining his majority, he offered his services to the Government, enlisting as a member of Company K, Thirty-third Indiana Infantry, under Capt. Niederauer and Col. Coburn, of Indianapolis. He was mustered in September 12, 1861, responding to the first call for three hundred thousand volunteers. The company joined the regiment at Camp Dick Robinson, Ky., and orders soon afterward came to proceed to the battle of Wild Cat, Ky. This was the first engagement fought in Kentucky. Subsequently the Thirty-third Indiana went to London, Ky., in pursuit of the rebels, and there was stationed for a time, the troops all being ill with the measles. They then retreated to Crab Orchard Hospital, and thence went to Lexington. Mr. Galloway was taken sick with typhoid fever, resulting from cold contracted when he had the measles, and was confined in the hospital for six long months. He there endured the hardships of illness away from home, but through the kindness of the Ladies' Aid Society, he received competent medical aid, and at length recovered. He owes his life to those "Angels of Mercy." Afterward the regiment went to Cumberland Ford, Ky. In April, 1862, it was ordered to take Cumberland Gap. About the 20th of May they removed across the Cumberland Mountains to Rogers Gap, and, finding the rebels had evacuated, took possession.

The enemy then came up in the rear, surrounded our troops, and after about two months they were forced by a failure of supplies to cut their way out, which took seventeen days.

In February, 1863, the command to which Mr. Galloway belonged was ordered to Louisville, and embarked on a transport bound for Ft. Donelson, on the Cumberland River. They participated in the second battle at that place, and from there went to Nashville, Tenn., and later to Franklin, where the brigade was sent out on a reconnoitering tour against Gen. Van Dorn. They met the enemy in battle on the 4th of March, and the following day moved on to Thompson's Station, where the battle was fought. The Union army was led into ambush, and, valiantly fighting for six hours, were finally captured, for their ammunition gave out, and they were only eleven hundred against eighteen thousand. They were sent to Libby Prison at Richmond, where Mr. Galloway remained for about a month, when he was paroled. He then went to City Point, and afterward to Fortress Monroe on a flag-of-truce boat, and later to Annapolis, Baltimore, Columbus (Ohio), and on home, where he remained until he was exchanged on the 1st of July, 1863. He rejoined the forces at Nashville, and did guard duty from Chattanooga to Christiana, where he remained until January 26, 1864, when he was veteranized and returned home on a thirty-day furlough. On the expiration of that period he rejoined his regiment at Chattanooga, Tenn., and entered upon the famous Atlanta campaign. His regiment was a part of the Third Division, Second Brigade, Twentieth Army Corps, commanded by Gen. Joe Hooker, and the second engagement was at Resaca, Ga. They were under almost constant fire for one hundred and four days, participating in the battles of Dallas Wood, Kenesaw Mountain, Marietta, and in all the engagements in that campaign. He was actively engaged in the battle of Peach Tree Creek, where for two hours they met the enemy in a hand-to-hand conflict, many of the boys on both sides fighting for the last time. On this occasion Samuel Williams, a comrade of our subject, and an honorable, brave soldier was killed. The mess had just made their coffee and passed in their canteens, and as the com-

pany was entering the battle, Williams remarked to his cousin that he was going to be killed or badly wounded, and gave him his pocket-book and day-book. His comrades asked him to keep back, but he bravely replied that he might as well go as any, and marched on. In a half-hour his body was found, pierced through both shoulders, and through the head from the front. Mr. Galloway was by his side when the poor fellow was killed.

On the 22d and 28th of July occurred two hard battles at Atlanta, and the Thirty-third Indiana Regiment carried the first flag into the city after its surrender. A month later they started on the celebrated march to the sea, and Mr. Galloway was always with his command. At Savannah a slight skirmish occurred, and for two weeks the troops lived upon rice from the shock. After remaining there for about a month, the regiment reached Columbia, S. C., on the 17th of February, 1865. The town was burned by the rebels. History contradicts this, but the facts are fully substantiated by the soldiers who were present. From that place the troops made their way through North Carolina to Averbysboro, where a battle was fought, March 16, 1865, and the Thirty-third lost heavily. They then went to Bentonville, N. C., where another battle occurred on the 19th of March, the rebels trying to cut off the troops who were acting as guards to the wagon trains, but they failed. They then went to Goldsboro, and afterward to Raleigh, where Gen. Joseph E. Johnston surrendered his forces, April 17, 1865. Later they marched to Richmond, and on to Washington, D. C., where the Thirty-third Indiana participated in the Grand Review, the most brilliant military pageant ever beheld in America. After about a month, Mr. Galloway went to Louisville, Ky., by way of Harper's Ferry, and on the 21st of July, 1865, was mustered out in Indianapolis, after almost four years of service. He was always found at his post of duty, valiantly defending the Old Flag, and of his army record he may well be proud. All honor is due to the noble men who wore the blue and saved their country from destruction. Our subject was promoted to the rank of Corporal and afterward made Sergeant.

Mr. Galloway returned home in poor health. He

began herding cattle in Lovejoy Township, and after two years purchased his farm of one hundred and sixty acres, upon which he has since resided. The same year he married Miss Louisa Haines, daughter of Harvey Haines. Their union was celebrated April 28, 1867, and unto them have been born two sons and three daughters, all yet living: Ella, wife of Frank Johnson, a salesman in Pate's store, of Wellington; Wilbur U., who was graduated from the Commercial College of Terre Haute, Ind., is in the hardware business in Wellington; Hettie L., wife of William Lockhart, who resides in Prairie Green Township; Maggie E., wife of Henry Evans, of Lovejoy Township; and David A., at home. The mother of this family was called to her final rest, January 16, 1875, and on the 28th of March, 1877, Mr. Galloway married Miss Rebecca Doan, sister of Capt. W. V. Doan, of Wellington, and a daughter of Elisha and Mary Ann (Ward) Doan. They have two children, a son and daughter, John D. and Fannie.

In politics, Mr. Galloway is a staunch Republican, having supported that party since he cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant. He has frequently been a delegate to the county conventions, and has held various public offices. He helped organize his township, and has been in some official position since. For ten years he has been the efficient Supervisor of Lovejoy Township, and is now Chairman of the Board. For eight years he was Town Clerk, for three years was Assessor, was Collector for one year, Highway Commissioner for twelve years, School Trustee for five years, and School Director for two terms. The promptness and fidelity with which he has discharged his duties have led to his frequent re-elections. Socially, he is a member of the Odd Fellows' society, of Wellington. He belongs to Harmon Post No. 115, G. A. R., of Hoopston, and is Senior Grand Commander of the Eastern Illinois Department. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he has given liberally to its support, and to all enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit.

The farm of Mr. Galloway comprises two hundred and eighty acres of valuable land. It is supplied with all modern improvements, and a

beautiful country residence, which is the abode of hospitality. Mr. and Mrs. Galloway are prominent citizens of his community, and in social circles rank high. In summing up the life of our subject, we see that he was a valiant soldier, and an honored early settler, that he is a valued citizen, and that his excellencies of character and his sterling worth have brought him the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has come in contact.



LEMUUEL B. RUSSELL, one of the well-to-do citizens of Ash Grove Township, who is now living retired at his pleasant residence on section 35, was born in Warren County, Ind., November 30, 1829, and is a son of William Russell. His father was a native of Virginia. In Ohio, he married Miss Fannie Hall, a native of the Buckeye State, and in 1828 they removed to Warren County, Ind., where, in the midst of the forest, he hewed out a farm. The mother died in Warren County, Ind., and the father also spent his last days there. Their family numbered eleven children, four of whom are yet living: Lawrence, a resident farmer of Wessington Springs, S. Dak.; Mrs. Nancy Jones, who is living in Attica, Ind.; Lemuel, whose name heads this sketch; and Mrs. Jane Rhodes, who resides in Warren County, near the old homestead.

The subject of this sketch was reared in the county of his nativity. His mother died when he was a lad of ten summers. His privileges, educational and otherwise, were very limited. He conned his lessons in a log schoolhouse with slab seats and a huge fireplace, and windows only on one side, but his training in farm work was not meagre. As soon as he was old enough to handle the plow, he began work in the fields, and at the age of sixteen he started out to earn his own livelihood, since which time he has been dependent upon his own resources. He worked as a farm hand at \$12 per month, and when by his industry and perseverance he had acquired some capital, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land and made his

home upon that farm for three years. In 1862, he came to Iroquois County and in Fountain Creek Township purchased two hundred acres of land, making his home upon that farm for twenty years. During the present decade, he has resided upon his present farm, and to general farming and stock-raising has devoted his time and attention until quite recently.

On the 29th of December, 1859, in Warren County, Ind., Mr. Russell wedded Miss Ann E. Hickman, who was born and reared in that county and is a daughter of Peter J. and Mary (Gullett) Hickman. Her parents were married over sixty years ago, and for forty years they resided upon one farm. In their family there was never a death until the father was called to his final rest. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Russell have been born four children, but Peter W., who was born in Indiana, died at the age of six years, and Lawrence died in infancy. The living are Charles E., whom we will mention later on; and Lemuel B., who is now attending Rush Medical College, of Chicago. The mother of this family is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Goodwine. Mr. Russell is liberal in his religious views, but his life has been one of honor and upright dealing in all business relations and has won him confidence and high regard. He cast his first Presidential vote for Franklin Pierce in 1852, and has since been a stalwart supporter of the Democratic party. He takes great interest in political affairs and has often been a delegate to his party's conventions. He is now living a retired life, enjoying a well-earned rest and the fruits of his former labor. His business career has been a remarkably successful one and by his well-directed efforts he has arisen to a position of wealth.

Charles Elbert Russell, who now operates the old home farm, was born on the homestead on section 36, Ash Grove Township, April 4, 1865, in a log cabin which still stands, one of the few landmarks of pioneer days that yet remain. His boyhood days were spent under the parental roof, and his early education, acquired in the public schools, was supplemented by study in the Wesleyan University, of Bloomington, and a course in the Onarga Seminary. He left school at the age of twenty-one

and engaged in teaching for about five years during the winter season, while in the summer months he worked upon the farm. He was a successful instructor. On the 5th of April, 1887, near Pine Village, Ind., he led to the marriage altar Miss Anna M. Blind, who was born and reared in Warren County. Their union has been blessed with one son, Baxley B., born on the 28th of June, 1891.

For the past five years, Mr. Russell has been operating the old homestead. It comprises two hundred and sixty-five acres of valuable land, under a high state of cultivation and well improved. The place is complete in all its appointments and is considered one of the model farms in the community. Mr. Russell is a Democrat in politics and has served as a delegate to the county and congressional conventions. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Goodwine. They are numbered among the leading young people of the community and rank high in social circles. Their home is a hospitable one. Mr. Russell is a worthy representative of a pioneer family and is a wide-awake and enterprising business man, who has proved himself a valued citizen of the community.


 CLEMENT THOMAS is a representative of one of the first families to locate in Iroquois County, and for sixty-one years he has here resided. He was born in Adams County, Ohio, June 22, 1820, and is a son of Asa and Eleanor (Freeman) Thomas, both of whom were natives of Maryland. When quite a young boy, Asa Thomas lost his father, and a few years afterward removed with his mother to the Buckeye State. At the age of twenty-six he married Miss Freeman, and shortly afterward left home to enter the service of his country in the War of 1812. While in the war their eldest son, William, was born. After his return home, Mr. Thomas continued to reside in Ohio until 1829, when he moved to Tippecanoe County, Ind. In March, 1831, he emigrated to Illinois and pre-empted a tract of land three-quarters of a mile northeast of Milford.

About three years later he sold this and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres a mile south of Milford. There he reared his large family.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were born twelve children, six sons and six daughters, of whom the sons and one daughter are yet living: William married Mary J. Harness, and had eight children: America, Asa, George, Van Ransselaer, John, Sedessa, Madama and Frank. Allie is the wife of Elijah Sapp, of Iroquois County, and unto them were born nine children: William, Nellie, Benjamin, Mary, Sallie, Allie, Elijah, Joseph and Samuel. Nancy married Foster Moore, and they had seven children: Lucinda, George, John Asa, William Aaron, Sarah, Nancy and Jackson. Sarah, the fourth child in the father's family, became the wife of Michael Harness, by whom she had seven children: Sophira, Katie, Asa John, Phoebe, Benjamin, Ella and Nancy. Clement of this sketch is the next younger. Aaron married Barbara Jane Pancake, but has no living children. Asa wedded Jane Bragg, and unto them were born eleven children, eight of whom are yet living: Rue, Carrie, Benjamin, Rosie, Leroy, Lavina, Pearl and Ollie. Samuel, the next younger of the Thomas family, married Catherine Pancake, by whom he had two children: Willard and Elmore. The mother died and he then wedded Mrs. Maria Wilson, and unto them have been born the following children, who are yet living: Ella, Flora, Belle, Leota, Eliza, Emanuel, Eddie and George. Benjamin F. married Miss Amanda A. Hoover, and is represented on another page of this work. Mary Jane, the tenth child, died when about twelve years old. Alonzo, the youngest of the Thomas family, died when a small boy; and one died in infancy.

The mother of this family died in 1835, and Asa Thomas was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Margaret (Robinson) Johnson. They had two children: Leroy and Delilah. His third wife was Mrs. (Tatman) Wilson, and unto them was born three children, but Josephine is the only one that reached maturity.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, Clement Thomas, who is widely known

throughout Iroquois County. Upon his father's farm he was reared to manhood, experiencing many of the hardships and trials of pioneer life. In the winter of 1837-38, the most terrible winter known to the inhabitants of this State, two gentlemen by the names of Frame and Hildreth tried to cross a fork of Fountain Creek, but finding the stream so greatly swollen they concluded to return to Bicknel's Point. Night, however, overtook them, and as it was impossible to find their way they made such preparations as they could to spend the night in the snow. Fearing that they would freeze to death before morning, they determined to kill a horse belonging to Mr. Frame and warm their hands and feet in the blood, and when that should become cold they would take the life of the other horse. They killed the first but not the second. Mr. Frame froze to death with his hands and feet in the blood of the animal. Mr. Hildreth, however, was only badly frozen, and in the morning he mounted the remaining horse and forcing him across two dangerous ice gorges reached the house of Benjamin Burson. He received kind care and attention from Mr. Burson, and our subject and these gentlemen also helped to recover the frozen body of Mr. Frame. Mr. Hildreth at length recovered, but suffered the loss of his toes and fingers. Many other reminiscences of pioneer days can Mr. Thomas relate. He has been an eye-witness of the entire growth and development of the county, and its history is familiar to him from the days of its early infancy.

April 22, 1842, Mr. Thomas was first married, his union being with Mary Lewis, daughter of Benjamin and Mary Lewis. Unto them were born three children: Samuel, Lavina and Mary, but the last-named is now deceased. The mother died in 1848, and the following year Mr. Thomas married Martha Lewis, a sister of his first wife, by whom he had seven children, but Nancy, Sarah, Martha, Alice and Jesse are now deceased. Marcus and Emma yet survive. Mrs. Thomas was called to her final rest in 1870. For his third wife Mr. Thomas chose Mrs. Rosella Berket, daughter of Benjamin Raymond. They had two children but both are now deceased and the mother died in 1873. The lady who now bears the name of Mrs.

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Lizzie Warrick

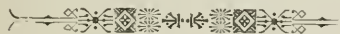


Samuel Warrick

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Thomas was formerly Mrs. Nancy Peyton. Their wedding was celebrated in June, 1875.

Our subject has spent the greater part of his life in farming, but from 1852 until 1858 he engaged in the milling business in Milford. He then returned to the old homestead and engaged in agricultural pursuits for some time longer, but is now quietly living a retired life in Milford, resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles, and has held several public offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity. Socially, he is a member of Milford Lodge No. 158, A. F. & A. M. As before stated, few have longer been residents of Iroquois County than Mr. Thomas. He is alike held in high regard by young and old, rich and poor, and we take pleasure in presenting to our readers the life record of this honored pioneer.



SAMUEL WARRICK, Sr., one of the most extensive land-owners of this county and a prominent and representative citizen, is now engaged in farming on section 17, Concord Township. He is also one of the earliest settlers of this community and for many years has been prominently identified with its history and upbuilding. As he is widely and favorably known, his sketch will prove of interest to many of our readers.

Mr. Warrick was born in Warren County, Ohio, on the 17th of June, 1811. His father, Samuel Warrick, was a native of New Jersey and was of English descent. His mother was born in the Keystone State and came of an old Pennsylvania-Dutch family. Samuel was reared to manhood upon his father's farm and was early inured to labor in the field. His educational advantages were very meagre, for the schools near his home were very primitive. On attaining his majority, he began learning the carpenter's trade, and after serving an apprenticeship of a year and a-half began to take contracts. For twenty years he fol-

lowed that trade in Ohio and after coming to Illinois.

At the age of twenty-six, Mr. Warrick married Miss Delilah Jenkins, and unto them were born five children, but only one is now living, Absalom, who was born in 1840 and resides in Sheldon. The mother of this family died in 1816. In 1839, Mr. Warrick removed to Indiana and settled near Covington, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. There, in connection with work at his trade, he carried on farming for a period of seven years, or until 1846. That year witnessed his removal to Attica, Ind. While there he took stock in a railroad and by so doing lost about \$1,000, which at that time was a great drawback to him. During his residence in Attica he was again married, his second union being with Miss Eleanor Clauson. They were married in 1848, and unto them were born ten children, the following of whom are living: John is now a resident of Center City, Neb., where he carries on farming; Mrs. Alice Fairman resides near La Fayette, Ind.; Daniel is a farmer of Concord Township; George is also an agriculturist of the same township; Samuel follows farming in Concord Township; and Mrs. Ella Cobb makes her home in St. Johns, Kan.

The year 1853 witnessed the arrival of our subject and his family in Iroquois County. He purchased two hundred and twenty acres of land and afterward entered some from the Government. With characteristic energy he began the development of a farm, and, as his financial resources have increased, has extended its boundaries until it now comprises eight hundred and forty acres in a body. He also owns an additional tract of one hundred and sixty acres. His first home was replaced in 1869 by his palatial residence of to-day. Many other excellent improvements have been made, and the place seems complete in all its appointments, being one of the model farms of the community.

In 1869, Mr. Warrick was called upon to mourn the loss of his second wife, and on the 18th of March, 1873, he married Mrs. Lizzie Short, of La Fayette, Ind. She was born in New York City, March 27, 1832. Her father was Judge William Jenner, of Paterson, N. J., and her grandfather,

William Jenner, was also a professional man. He was a son of Dr. Edward Jenner, who discovered the process of vaccination. He was born in Berkeley, Gloucestershire, England, in 1749, and died in 1823. On the erection of his statue in England, all his descendants had half-fare tickets to attend, but Mrs. Warrick did not go. Her mother, who bore the maiden name of Sophia Deamies, was born in New York City, of Pennsylvania-Dutch ancestry. She came of a famous family of the Baptist Church. Her death occurred in De Soto, Wis., in 1880. Mrs. Warrick was first married to John Short, in La Fayette, Ind., whither she had removed at the age of seventeen years. The death of her husband occurred in 1861. She continued to reside in La Fayette until her marriage to Mr. Warrick in 1873, and since that time they have resided in Concord Township. Unto them have been born three children: Pearl, born in this township, June 25, 1874, has attended St. Jo Seminary, at Kankakee, for five years, giving special attention to the study of music; Nita Lee, born March 13, 1876, also possesses considerable musical talent and for five years has been a student in St. Jo Seminary, from which she expects to graduate; James Jenner, the only son, was born October 23, 1879, and displays special aptitude in his studies, especially in mathematics.

Mr. Warrick has had eighteen children, ten of whom are yet living; thirty-one grandchildren, twenty-four yet living; and five great-grandchildren. The family is one of prominence in this community, and the Warrick household is the abode of hospitality. Its members rank high in social circles and their friends are many.

Mr. Warrick is a valued citizen of this community and has ever labored for the best interests of the town and county in which he resides. One act which he performed is especially worthy of mention. It was in 1872 that the township of Concord issued \$25,000 worth of bonds, payable in ten years, at ten per cent. interest. Our subject claimed the issue of those bonds to be unconstitutional, and as the result of his action in the matter there arose a strong case of litigation, which was carried through the county courts and then into the United States Circuit and the Supreme Courts.

The case was at last decided as Mr. Warrick had declared. The attorneys of the county seat (Watseka) informed Mr. Warrick that he was wrong in his decision, but, being thoroughly convinced that he was not, he pushed the matter to the end and the decision was given which saved the township a total of \$50,000. The men who defended the case in favor of the township were Samuel Warrick, John B. Hill and George Wright, and they certainly deserve great credit for their labors along this line.

Mr. Warrick is a well-informed man, having acquired an excellent knowledge through extensive reading and observation. He cast his first vote in 1832 for the Whig candidate and in 1856 he voted for John C. Fremont, the first candidate of the Republican party. Four years later, he supported Abraham Lincoln and since that time he has affiliated with the Democracy. He has long been a faithful member of the Christian Church, to which his wife and two youngest daughters also belong. We see in Mr. Warrick a self-made man. He has met with some obstacles and difficulties but has overcome these by industry, perseverance and a strong determination to succeed, and has steadily worked his way upward to a position of wealth and affluence. Fair and honorable in all his dealings, he has won the confidence of those with whom he has been brought in contact, and his life is well worthy of emulation.



EDWIN D. McNEAL, a wealthy farmer who makes his home on section 21, is one of the early settlers of Danforth Township. At the time of his locating here, this portion of the county was almost a wilderness; but little of it was improved, and only a few families lived in this community. He is a native of the Green Mountain State, his birth having occurred October 21, 1843, in Caledonia County. He is a son of Daniel McNeal of the same county, as was also his grandfather, John McNeal. The family is of Scotch descent and came with a colony who were among the

first settlers in that portion of the State. The county was called by them Caledonia, after the name which is given to their native country.

The great-grandfather of our subject served in the War of the Revolution, and his grandfather participated in the War of 1812. The father of our subject grew to man's estate in Vermont, and then married Lydia J. Smith, of English descent, and who was also born in the same State. Mr. McNeal was a mechanic and after his marriage worked at his trade. In 1855, he moved to Illinois, locating in La Salle County, at Ottawa. There he worked as a wheelwright and also as a wagon and carriage maker and did business in that place for a number of years. In 1862, he went to Seneca, where he also followed his occupation for several successive years. At the present time, he has retired from active life and in Seneca is enjoying a well-earned rest after his years of toil.

Our subject is the second in order of birth in a family of four sons, who came to Illinois with their parents in 1851. The eldest, Charles W., resides in California. He was a soldier in the late war and enlisted in the One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Infantry. While in the army he lost his health, and was discharged on account of disability. William W. is a merchant in Seneca, Ill., and was also a soldier of the late war, belonging to the Sixty-third Infantry. The youngest of the family, Milo P., is a painter by trade and makes his home in Florida.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in Ottawa, La Salle County, where he received good common and High School privileges. In 1861, responding to the call of his country for assistance, he enlisted in the Seventy-second Illinois Infantry and became a member of Company B. He entered the service for three years and served until his discharge at the close of the war. Starting as a private, he was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant, but was not mustered in as such, but served as Orderly Sergeant. He participated in numerous battles, engagements and skirmishes, and never received serious injury. Among the battles in which he took part were those of Champion Hill, Big Black River, and the assault on Vicksburg, May 19 and 22, 1863, and the taking of that city

on the 4th of July of that year. He was also in the battles of Spring Hill (Tenn.), Columbia, Franklin, Nashville, siege of Mobile and Spanish Fort. During one of the engagements Mr. McNeal lost the hearing of one ear by the discharge of a cannon within about six feet of where he was standing. He was knocked over by the shock and was unconscious for about three hours. He was honorably discharged at Vicksburg, August 14, 1865, and returned at once to his home in La Salle County.

In his earlier life, Mr. McNeal had learned the wagon-maker's trade, and in this business he engaged for six years in Seneca, and also farmed for two years near that village. He came to Iroquois County in 1872 and purchased property, which he partly improved. Here he lived for about two years and brought his farm under a fair state of cultivation, but in 1871 again returned to Seneca, where he engaged in the wagon manufactory for a period of four years. In the spring of 1877, he came back to the farm and built on it a large and substantial residence, good barns and other buildings, and has so improved and developed his property that he now has a valuable and desirable farm. At the time of his first settlement here the country was very wild and but little improved. He first purchased a tract of eighty acres, to which he has since added an adjoining forty acres. His farm is situated six miles west of Gilman.

In Seneca, on the 2d of June, 1867, occurred the marriage of Mr. McNeal and Miss Margery E. Rodgers, who was born in Cass County, Mich. She is a daughter of Samuel Rodgers, of Scotch descent and a native of Virginia. Mrs. McNeal came to Illinois when a child of twelve years and was reared and educated in La Salle County, where she was afterward a successful teacher. The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed with five children: Frank, Mildred, Estella and Jessie are now living, while one child died at the age of two months. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal Church at La Hogue, and with it Mr. and Mrs. McNeal hold membership.

Our subject has been a supporter of the Republican party since he attained his majority. His first ballot was cast for Gen. U. S. Grant in 1868, and he has voted for every nominee of the party

since that time. Mr. McNeal has never aspired to political or official positions, but has ever discharged his duties of citizenship in a faithful manner. He is a friend to education and a hearty supporter of the public-school system. He has served for several years as a member of the School Board, in fact, since the organization of his school district. Nearly his whole life has been spent in Illinois and over twenty years of this time in Iroquois County. He has won the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has come in contact, for his course has always been marked with honor to himself and credit to his friends.



JAMES H. ALLEN, of the firm of Parker & Allen, bankers, of Gilman, is one of the early pioneers of Iroquois County, and is well known to most of its citizens. He was born in Preble County, Ohio, on the 24th of January, 1832. His grandfather, James Allen, when about twelve years of age emigrated from Ireland to America with his parents, who settled in South Carolina. After his marriage, he removed to Ohio, among the early pioneer settlers. In that State, Andrew Allen, the father of our subject, was born February 9, 1808. On reaching maturity, he married Miss Sophia Bennett, who was a native of Pennsylvania. She died when our subject was a lad of about eight years old, leaving three children, only two of whom are now living: James H., and S. S., who is a merchant of Frankfort, Ind. After the death of his first wife, the father married Elizabeth Morton, who had three daughters. In 1841, Mr. Allen emigrated to Clinton County, Ind., where he devoted himself to clearing and developing a farm. He died in 1855, with typhoid fever. In politics, he was a Whig. In earlier life, he belonged to the Associate Reformed Church, but later became identified with the Methodist Church.

James H. Allen, like most of the boys who grew up in the State of Indiana at an early day, enjoyed such limited educational advantages as were afforded by the old-time schools.

Being the eldest child, he was early inured to hard labor. Until his father's death, in 1855, he remained on the farm. At that time, leaving the old home, he and his brother engaged in the dry-goods business at Williamsport, Ind. There, on the 12th of April, 1859, Mr. Allen was joined in the bonds of matrimony with Laura C., daughter of Robert Chandler, who emigrated from New Jersey to Williamsport in the early history of that locality and became a prominent lawyer at that place. Mrs. Allen was born in Williamsport, April 5, 1840. Unto our subject and his wife have been born four children, of whom two are living: Robert C., editor and proprietor of the *Gilman Star*, mentioned elsewhere in this beautiful volume; and Elsie.

In 1861, Mr. Allen and his brother disposed of their interest in the store in Indiana and came to Middleport, Iroquois County. Here they entered into partnership with George B. Joiner and carried on business a short time. Then our subject, with Mr. Joiner, purchased the brother's interest, he locating in Terre Haute, Ind. About six years later, they moved their store up the railroad, where the young town of Watseka was starting, though it had not yet assumed that name. Having purchased his partner's interest, Mr. Allen continued merchandising in Watseka until 1868, when he started in the dry-goods business in Climax. In this line he continued successfully for five years. In July, 1873, he joined D. L. Parker in the banking business, they buying out the interest of Wilson & Son, who had been running a bank there for some time. The title of the new firm was Parker & Allen, which firm name has never been changed.

Until 1884, Mr. Allen was a staunch Republican, having cast his first vote for John C. Fremont. Since the date named he has affiliated with the Prohibition party. He and his worthy wife are active workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, where he holds the offices of Steward and Trustee. In addition to his banking business, Mr. Allen is interested in farming land and town property. He began life near the bottom round of the ladder, financially considered, and his accumulations have been the result of close application to busi-

ness and judicious investments. Mr. and Mrs. Allen rank high in the regard of the people of this county, and their pleasant home is the abode of hospitality and happiness. He bears the reputation of being a man of strict integrity, whose word is as good as his bond.



HOWARD LYON, one of the representative and progressive farmers of Onarga Township, who owns and operates four hundred and ten acres of land, is one of the early settlers of the county. He was born in Stockbridge, Windsor County, Vt., on the 1st of March, 1831, and is a son of Amasa and Polly (Barnes) Lyon, both of whom were natives of the Green Mountain State. Four children were born unto them, three of whom are yet living.

In the State of his nativity, our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth, and after attaining to mature years he was married on the 22d of April, 1856, to Miss Betsy Brown, daughter of Robert Brown. In the fall of the same year, they removed to Illinois, settling in Iroquois County, west of Onarga. In December, 1857, while returning on a visit to her old home, Mrs. Lyon was drowned while crossing the river at Detroit, Mich. After the death of his wife, Mr. Lyon remained for eighteen months in Vermont, and then returned to this State, in the spring of 1859, locating on a farm four miles south of Onarga, where he has since resided. He had at first rented a farm in connection with his brother.

On the 14th of February, 1864, Mr. Lyon was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Caroline Sanders, widow of Richard Sanders. There were five children born of that union, all sons: James, born March 29, 1865; Edward, October 17, 1867; William, November 22, 1868; Perry, December 15, 1869, and Robert, July 17, 1871. One is married, Edward, who wedded Miss Sadie Miller, daughter of George and Mary Miller, and they have a little child, Howard. The mother of this family was called to her final rest on the 12th of May, 1879. Mr. Lyon was again married, March

3, 1880, the lady of his choice being Mrs. Evelyn Libhart, widow of P. T. B. Libhart. The lady was born in Bainbridge, Chenango County, N. Y., December 22, 1833. Her parents, Isaac and Eliza (Miller) Dalton, were both natives of Pennsylvania. In childhood, they emigrated to New York. In 1845, they moved to Wisconsin and a few years later returned to New York. In 1861, they moved to Iroquois County, and there the father spent his last days, dying in 1877, aged about sixty-three years. His widow lives near Gilman, aged seventy-eight years. After thirteen years of age, Mrs. Lyon lived with her relatives in Michigan, where she married October 23, 1853, Mr. Libhart. In the fall of the same year, Mr. Libhart moved to Del Rey, where he ran a sawmill. He died in Buckley in 1873. By her former marriage Mrs. Lyon had five children, as follows: Hubert C., born September 18, 1854, married Miss Dora Hayhurst, and resides in Mokena, Ill., with his wife and daughter Leo. Julietta, born August 6, 1856, is the wife of Andrew Camp, a resident of Monona County, Iowa, and they have six children, namely: Helen D., Hosea, Fred, Annie, Agnes and Josie. Mary Alice, born April 20, 1858, is the wife of Alfred Vanordstrand, by whom she has three children: Mabel E., Hubert R. and Mildred, and they reside near Mokena, Ill. William R., born April 8, 1859, wedded Miss Mary Beatie, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Beatie, and resides in Sycamore, Ill., with their four children: Conla, Frank, Myrtle and Marx. Estella B., born January 3, 1861, is the wife of James Nichols and their home is near Lake Village, Ind. They have four children; Floyd, Fay, Beulah and Eunice.

As before stated, Mr. Lyon has resided upon his present farm since 1859, and now owns and operates four hundred and ten acres of land, which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. In connection with general farming, he has also paid considerable attention to stock-raising, and by his industry, perseverance and good management has acquired a handsome competence. Mr. Lyon is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and his wife holds membership with the Presbyterian Church. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles and is a valued

citizen of the community. For more than a third of a century, he has here made his home, has watched the growth and development of the county, has aided in its upbuilding, and well deserves mention among its pioneers.



WILLIAM McCLAVE, a successful and enterprising farmer of Artesia Township, was born on the 24th of July, 1834, in Clermont County, Ohio, near Cincinnati, and is descended from an old New England family. His father, Stevenson McClave, was born in the town of Lyme, N. H., and after arriving at years of maturity he married Miss Sarah Banghart, a native of New Jersey. They became the parents of eight children: John, William, Susan, Sarah, Michael and Robert are yet living, and Martha and David are deceased. The father of this family died on the 4th of November, 1888, at the ripe old age of eighty-two years. His wife was called to her final rest in March, 1878, more than ten years previous to the death of her husband.

No event of special importance occurred during the boyhood of our subject, which was quietly passed in the State of his nativity. On the 6th of October, 1856, he was married to Miss Sarah E. Muchmore, daughter of Garrett and Elizabeth (Hickson) Muchmore, of Hamilton County, Ohio, where Mrs. McClave was born October 6, 1838. Seven children were born unto them, as follows: Lee, who was born August 19, 1857; May, born May 1, 1859, is now the wife of Jesse T. McClave, a farmer residing about three miles northwest of Buckley; Amer T., born April 8, 1861; Mattie, born December 22, 1863, became the wife of George Baker, who was killed by lightning April 26, 1888, in Minnesota, leaving two children: Lela and William, who reside with their mother, in Onarga, Ill.; Robert, born January 29, 1866, married Miss Emma Holz, daughter of Matthew Holz, and unto them has been born a son, Stanley Lee; Sybil, born October 14, 1868, is at home; and Zoe, born February 2, 1871, is the wife of Walter Birch-

enough. The first child died when about a year old, but the others are all yet living.

About two years after his marriage, Mr. McClave came to Illinois, in 1858, emigrating from Ohio. He settled on a farm in Iroquois County, about a mile and a-half northwest of the present site of Buckley, and has since there made his home, devoting his time and attention to agricultural pursuits. His home farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of land under a high state of cultivation and well improved, and he also owns another farm of one hundred and sixty acres three miles east of Buckley. He has given considerable attention to stock-raising, but now devotes the greater part of his time to the improvement of his land. He is recognized as a practical and progressive farmer, and the neat appearance of his place indicates his thrift and enterprise.

Mr. McClave has been called upon to serve in several official positions of honor and trust in the township, having for five years held the office of Supervisor of Artesia Township. Socially, he is a member of Buckley Lodge No. 634, A. F. & A. M., and in politics is a supporter of Republican principles. His duties of citizenship are ever faithfully performed, and he takes a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding. Mrs. McClave is a member of the Methodist Church.



CHARLES H. COMSTOCK, one of the enterprising and substantial business men and influential citizens of Ashkum, is a dealer in grain, lumber, live stock and farm implements at that place. He is a native of Massachusetts, and was born in Berkshire County, his birth occurring in the town of Adams, on the 22d of April, 1839, in the same house in which his mother was born. He is a son of Amos Comstock, a native of the Empire State, and who grew to maturity there. The grandfather of our subject was born in New England. Charles H. Comstock is of the seventh generation of the Comstock family who have lived in the United States. Two brothers of that name

settled in New England in the early days of Rhode Island. They were of English descent, and our subject's grandmother and his relatives belonged to the Society of Friends, and originally settled in Rhode Island.

Amos Comstock, after reaching man's estate, married in the town of Adams, Berkshire County, Hannah Upton, daughter of Isaac Upton, who was also a member of the Society of Friends. After his marriage he located in Eastern New York, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for a number of years. Later, he returned to Massachusetts, settling near Adams, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising. He carried on business for a number of years successfully, but later met with reverses and then went to Michigan, where he located in Lapeer County. This was about the year 1850, and in what was almost a wilderness he opened up a farm, on which he lived until death claimed him in 1855. His wife survived him for several years, and after her husband's death she returned to the East, where she resided for a few years, and then made her home with a son at Grand Rapids, Mich. She departed this life in 1865, leaving many to mourn her loss. She was an active member of the Society of Friends.

Of a family of nine children, eight of whom grew to mature years. Upton, who died at the age of fifteen years, was the eldest; Anna died in 1841; Julietta died in 1889, at the age of seventy years; Rev. William resides at Allendale, Mich., and is a minister of the Wesleyan Methodist Church; David B. was a prominent merchant of Grand Rapids, Mich., for a number of years, and died there in 1871; Phoebe Jane and Hannah Maria, twins, the former of whom died in infancy, and the latter of whom is married and makes her home in Adams Township, Berkshire County, Mass.; Isaac U. lives in Michigan and is a natural mechanic and jeweler by trade; and our subject is the youngest of the family.

Mr. Comstock whose name heads this record removed to Michigan with his parents when a lad of fourteen. He received good common-school advantages and worked on a farm during the summer season. Since arriving at man's estate he has received a good business education and is well-read

and informed, and keeps posted in general literature, science, and the affairs of the Government. After his father's death he removed to Vermont and assisted his brother-in-law, who was a millwright and carpenter. In Massachusetts, he learned the carriage-maker's trade, and in November, 1859, came to Illinois. He located at Manteno and started a carriage manufactory, in which business he was quite successful. He next engaged as manager of a grain elevator and took charge of that business for a cousin, G. P. Comstock. In the spring of 1865, our subject went to Peotone and there engaged for himself in the grain business for a period of about three years; he later removed to Chebanse, where he built the first elevator in that town. After two years of business in that place, he sold out to F. J. Taylor, after which he continued in business for about one year. During that time he introduced a patent end gate of his own invention. In 1871, Mr. Comstock located in Ashkum and there built an elevator and extensively engaged in the grain business in partnership with his cousin, G. P. Comstock, of Chicago, who remained a member of the firm for several years, but has since died. Our subject for twenty-one years has been actively engaged in the grain business in this village and has had several other lines of business in addition to this. Since 1872, he has handled wagons and farm implements. Mr. Comstock's patent has been a source of great revenue to him, and from it for many years he has received about \$4,000 per annum, and all of the wagons which he handles he has received in partial payment for the use of his patent gate.

In Peotone, Ill., Mr. Comstock was united in marriage with Adelia Kellogg, November 13, 1866. The lady was born at Lyons, Ill., and is a daughter of Solomon Kellogg. Mr. and Mrs. Comstock are the parents of seven children: Louise A., Alice S., Carrie A., Mae R., Clinton C., William H., and George K. They also had two daughters who died in infancy.

During his life, Mr. Comstock has met with a number of narrow escapes from death. Three times falling timbers fairly grazed his head in their descent. Politically, he is identified with the Republican party. He has never aspired to official

positions but has given his attention to his extensive business interests. He ships from four to five hundred ears of grain per year and also has an extensive lumber trade. During his long residence in this and adjoining counties, Mr. Comstock has made many friends both in a business and in a social way. He is a man of superior inventive talent and has shown enterprise and industry excelled by few.



FRANK M. CRANGLE, County Superintendent of Schools for Iroquois County, has held the position since December 1, 1891. He is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Grundy County, January 3, 1861. His father, James Crangle, was born in County Down, Ireland, March 17, 1837, and with his parents emigrated to America when nine years of age, the family settling near Morris, Grundy County, Ill., where he engaged in farming.

Mr. Crangle, Sr., was married in Brookfield, La Salle County, Ill., November 29, 1855, to Miss Bridget Farrel, who was born in Ottawa, Ill., of Irish parentage. Unto them were born six sons and seven daughters, ten of whom are yet living: Peter W., a farmer at home; John, also at home; Frank M., of this sketch; James, who died in infancy in Rock Island; Mary A., who is teaching school in Buckley; Ellen, who died September 17, 1889; Sarah; Alice Cary, who is teaching at Danforth, Ill.; Jessie, at home; Lucy, who is attending school in Crescent City; Charles, who died November 24, 1889; James P. and Edna, who complete the family.

Mr. Crangle, Sr., enlisted for the late war on the 10th of August, 1862, as a member of the Seventy-second Illinois Infantry, under Col. Fred Staring, that being the first regiment fitted out by the Board of Trade in Chicago. He participated in the battle of Champion Hill and in the charges on Vicksburg, May 19 and 22. He also engaged in the battle of Franklin and in several skirmishes, making a good record as a brave and gallant soldier. He is a Democrat and has been chosen to

various public positions of honor and trust. He was first elected Justice of the Peace in Grundy County and held the office for eight years. On the 4th of March, 1869, he removed from Grundy to Iroquois County, and settled in Ash Grove Township, where he has since resided. He purchased a fine quarter-section of land, which he now has under a high state of cultivation. In the spring of 1878, he was elected Supervisor for Ash Grove Township, and has been re-elected to the same office several times since. His first majority was one hundred and two, the largest ever cast in his town; the issue being the enjoining of the payment of the railroad bonds and to him is due the honor of settling the railroad bonds so satisfactorily to a majority of the citizens of his town. The parents of Mr. Crangle both returned to Ireland to spend their remaining days, where the father died in 1850, and the mother in 1856.

Frank M. Crangle was reared on his father's farm. During the summers of 1874-75 he was his father's cow-boy, herding cattle on the prairies. His horse and book were his sole companions, and while the cattle grazed quietly he was storing his mind with useful knowledge. He attended the district schools and subsequently took a course of study at Grand Prairie Seminary. In the spring of 1876, having passed a satisfactory examination, he was awarded a teacher's certificate and taught his first school the following autumn in the Search Underwood District, although not then seventeen years of age. During the succeeding six years he attended the Grand Prairie Seminary and taught in his home and adjoining schools: Pleasant Hill, Fairview and Schwer. A notable thing is that he taught for eight years in the four districts in the vicinity of his home, which attests his popularity and success as a teacher where he was best known. In 1886, he was employed by the School Board of Crescent City, and successfully taught its graded school for four years. He then engaged as teacher of the Buckley school, but resigned that position after three months to accept the office of County Superintendent of Schools, to which he was elected in the fall of 1891. While the usual Republican majority in this county had previously been seven hundred and fifty-eight, he, as a Democrat, re-

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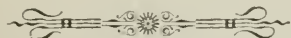
Stephen Eyrich



Emily D. Eyrich

ceived five hundred and ninety-one majority, making a change of thirteen hundred and forty-nine votes.

Socially, Mr. Crangle is a member of Standard Lodge No. 607, I. O. O. F., of Crescent City; Crescent Camp, M. W. A.; Mon Ami Lodge, K. P.; and Watseka Camp, Sons of Veterans. Since his election to the office of County Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Crangle has made his home in Watseka. He has an interest in a farm in Hayes County, Neb., but does not anticipate a removal from Iroquois County, which has so long been his home. An experienced and practical teacher himself, Mr. Crangle possesses a thorough education in all branches taught in the public schools, and has proven a most successful officer, having performed the arduous duties of his position with ability and fidelity. Some idea of the responsibility attached to the office of Superintendent of Schools in Iroquois County may be formed when it is known that the county maintains two hundred and thirty-four schools, employs three hundred and six teachers, and the school records show an enrollment of sixteen thousand seven hundred and eighty scholars. Mr. Crangle is a young man possessed of superior ability, unquestioned integrity, and is blessed with a genial, cordial manner and whole-souled good-fellowship that have won him hosts of friends.



STEPHEN EYRICH, who is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 39, Beaver Township, Iroquois County, is a native of Germany. He was born in Saxe-Coburg, in the town of White Hausen, February 14, 1841, and is a son of Joseph and Marguerite (Genther) Eyrich. The first sixteen years of his life were spent in his native land, and he then determined to make his home in America. Crossing the broad Atlantic, he came at once to Will County, Ill., where his elder brother, Nicholas Eyrich, was then living. He

there began to work by the month, and was thus employed until his marriage.

On the 1st of November, 1866, Mr. Eyrich was joined in wedlock with Miss Emily Deiningner, of Will County, who was born in Wurtemberg, in the town of Saxon Hausen, Germany, on the 10th of March, 1849. When four years of age, she was brought by her parents to this country, and her education was acquired in the public schools. Previous to his marriage, Mr. Eyrich purchased forty acres of land, and the young couple began their domestic life upon that farm. At length, he sold out in Will County and came to Iroquois County, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land at \$12.50 per acre. This was a raw tract, but he at once began placing it under the plow and soon abundant harvests rewarded his labors. He has since purchased an additional eighty-acre tract and now has a fine farm. In fact, it is considered one of the model farms of the county, being complete in all its appointments. His home, a pleasant, commodious residence, is supplied with water furnished by a force pump and windmill. His well is one hundred and seventy-nine feet deep and furnishes a never-failing supply of pure water. His large barn, with a basement, is built in modern style, and his outbuildings are all models of convenience.

The Eyrich family numbers six children, and they lost three who died in infancy. In order of birth they are as follows: Nicholas, born August 20, 1867; John, July 18, 1869; Minnie, June 23, 1871; Philip, September 30, 1873; Joseph, August 30, 1875; and Maggie, June 28, 1879. The children have all received good educational advantages, and Miss Minnie has successfully engaged in teaching for about two years, beginning at the age of seventeen.

Mr. Eyrich exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democratic party, and his first vote was cast for Horace Greeley in 1872. Himself and wife were reared in the faith of the Lutheran Church, but are now members of the Christian Church, to which their children also belong. They are highly respected people, and the Eyrich household is the abode of hospitality and the members of the family rank high in social circles. Mr.

Eyrich has erected a beautiful two-story residence on his eighty acres on section 31, which is a model residence. On the premises is a superb well, one hundred and forty-two feet deep, which has a never-failing supply of water. Our subject is a worthy and valued citizen, and his success in life is due to his own efforts. We take pleasure in presenting to our readers this record of his life work.



JOHAN NELSON, the efficient Postmaster of Donovan, is of Swedish birth, born in the southern part of Sweden, on the 5th of August, 1844. His parents were Swan and Christina (Johnson) Nelson. His father was a farmer, and in the usual manner of farmer lads the days of his boyhood and youth were passed. His education was acquired in the public schools, and at the age of seventeen he left the fields to accept a position as clerk in a mercantile establishment.

When a young man of nineteen years, Mr. Nelson determined to seek a home in the New World, of whose advantages and privileges he had heard so much. On crossing the Atlantic he at once went to Chicago and from there took a trip to the South, but eventually returned to Illinois and made a location in Beaver Township, Iroquois County, where he began to work as a farm hand. He worked by the month and for himself until 1872, when he again began clerking, this time being employed in Iroquois. He afterward secured a position as salesman in Sheldon. Later, he removed to Donovan, where he embarked in business. He has since been closely connected with the welfare of the place and is recognized as one of its prominent and influential citizens.

On the 10th of August, 1874, Mr. Nelson led to the marriage altar Miss Anna Sophia Jansen, of Watseka. The lady was born in Central Sweden and came to America with her grandfather, who died in Buffalo, N. Y. Her father is still living in the land of his nativity. Unto our subject and his wife have been born four children: Charles August Ernest, John Walter, Oscar Lyle and Neva Josie.

On becoming an American citizen, Mr. Nelson

joined the ranks of the Republican party, and has since been one of its stalwart supporters and a warm advocate of its principles. His fellow-citizens, appreciating his worth and ability, have called upon him to serve in various positions of honor and trust. He has filled the office of Township Clerk and Collector, was Assessor for eight terms and Supervisor for two terms, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity, showing that the confidence reposed in him was not by any means misplaced. He was appointed Postmaster of Donovan by President Arthur, and during President Harrison's administration he was re-appointed. He is a popular officer who fills the position with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. He has served his party as a delegate to the county and State conventions. Mr. Nelson is an active member of and faithful worker in the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church of Beaver Township, and belongs to the Masonic lodge of Donovan, in which he has held the position of Secretary. He has a wide acquaintance throughout the community and is held in the highest regard by all who know him for his sterling worth and straightforward business dealings.



HUGO ROUGK is proprietor of a machine shop in Sheldon and deals in all kinds of machinery. He is doing an excellent business at this place, where he has carried on operations for about three years. His life record is as follows: He was born in Saxony, Germany, December 17, 1856, and with one exception is the youngest in a family of four children. His parents, William and Wilhelmina (Froman) Rougk, are also natives of Germany. His father has been an engine-builder and a large manufacturer, and by good business ability, industry and perseverance, has accumulated a large property. He is now a well-preserved old gentleman of seventy. For the past fifteen years he has lived retired, and is now resting in the enjoyment of a good fortune acquired through his own efforts.

When a lad of eleven years, our subject left home and sailed for America, locating in Hartford, Conn., where he served an apprenticeship to the trade of a machinist in the Woodruff & Beech Iron Works. On the expiration of his four years' term of service, he was employed as oiler and water-tender on an ocean steamer and to that work devoted his energies for the succeeding three years. After leaving the ocean steamer, he entered Brat's Institute, of Brooklyn, N. Y., a school of mechanics, from which he was graduated. Subsequent to this he served for a period in the United States Navy. Later he passed an examination given by the United States Inspector of Steamboats and received a license from the Government to run tug boats on the river at New York City. Subsequently we find him in Galveston, Tex., and in other points in the South. In 1879, Mr. Rougk went to South America, and there remained for nine months, being located in Rio Janeiro, Brazil, after which he returned to Hartford, Conn. He worked in the machine shops in that city for a time, and then going to Aspinwall, Panama, he there held the position of master mechanic for a few months, after which he went to the Cape of Good Hope on what proved a fruitless attempt to secure a fortune in the diamond fields of Africa.

Mr. Rougk returned by a Goodrich steamer, and after a short time spent at home started on a trip to the Friendly Islands, where he spent five months. He next went to San Francisco, Cal., and was there engaged as engineer on some of the largest boats that put into that port. On the "City of Sidney" he sailed from the Golden Gate to Sidney and Melbourne, Australia, a distance of seven thousand miles. He made this trip fourteen times, serving as second engineer. Afterward, he sailed to Yokohama, Japan, where he was employed for nine months under the Japanese Government. While at that place, he became thoroughly conversant with the Chinese language. Ere his return to San Francisco, Mr. Rougk went to San Jose and entered the employ of Joseph Er-night & Son, as a builder of engines. Ten months later, we find him in Los Angeles, where he was sent to put in the electric-light plant. Afterward he returned to San Francisco and entered the

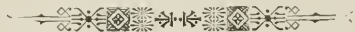
steamboat business, but this venture did not prove a success by reason of strong competition, and Mr. Rougk lost several thousand dollars. In company with his brother, he next went to Mexico, riding mules to that place, and thence to Ft. Worth, Tex., where he and his brother separated and Ilugo made his way to Galveston, the same State. A few months afterward, he arranged to meet his brother in Chicago, where he expected to find employment. On reaching that city, he had only twenty-five cents. His brother secured a position at once, but it was three months before our subject was as fortunate. He then obtained work with the Knickerbocker Ice Company in setting up engines.

It was in 1887 that Mr. Rougk left Chicago and came to Iroquois County, locating in Watseka, where he went into the machine business. He afterward sold out and engaged in the work of repairing engines, etc., which he followed for a few months, when he entered the employ of A. B. Roub & Co., with whom he remained five years. He then embarked in business for himself. His capital was small and he had but few tools but his business rapidly increased and in order to meet the growing demand he constantly enlarged his facilities and built a new shop. In 1891, he removed his business to Sheldon, where he built a large factory and filled it with the best machinery and every facility for attending to the extensive trade which is his.

In 1890, Mr. Rougk was joined in wedlock with Miss Maggie Milhouser, and unto them has been born a son, Charlie. Although they have been residents of this community but a short time, they are widely and favorably known and are held in high regard by their many friends. Few if any residents of Iroquois County have traveled more extensively than our subject, who has been from the Orient to the Occident and has visited many points of note and interest. In his travels, he has learned many tongues and can fluently speak the German, English, Spanish and Chinese languages.

Mr. Rougk votes the Democratic ticket but takes no active part in political affairs, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests. He is recognized as one of the busiest men of the county. We have seen that in his

life he has met with some reverses and obstacles, but has overcome these by perseverance and industry, and since eleven years of age has made his own way in the world. Working his way steadily upward, he has secured an excellent business and his labors have brought to him a comfortable competence. He is truly a self-made man and his example in many respects is well worthy of emulation.



D H. CHAPMAN, who resides on section 33, Lovejoy Township, has for almost a quarter of a century made his home in this county, and is recognized as a citizen of sterling worth and strict integrity and one of the leading agriculturists of the community. As he is widely and favorably known, we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers. A native of Connecticut, he was born in New Haven County, March 25, 1836, and was the eighth in order of birth in a family of fourteen children, numbering five sons and nine daughters. The parents were Peter and Eliza (Harding) Chapman. His father was also a native of the Nutmeg State, born in New London County, December 31, 1803. His education was acquired in the common schools, and throughout the greater part of his life he followed agricultural pursuits. For many years he supported the Democratic party, but his last ballot was cast for Gen. U. S. Grant. With the Baptist Church he held membership. His death occurred in Iroquois June 7, 1880, at the age of seventy-seven years. The mother of our subject was born in Linn, Conn., October 4, 1805, and was called to her final rest August 20, 1879.

D. H. Chapman, the subject of this sketch, remained in Connecticut until seventeen years of age, and for a time earned his own livelihood by working in a lock factory. He started out in life empty-handed, with no capital save a pair of willing hands and a determination to win success. He is truly a self-made man, both financially and from an educational point of view. Perseverance

and enterprise buoyed him up when discouragement or difficulties threatened to engulf him. He now occupies an enviable position among the substantial citizens of the community. Hoping to be benefited by a removal to the West, he bade good-bye to his old home in 1855 and emigrated to Winnebago County, Ill. Here he began work as a farm hand at \$15 per month. Although his wages were then low he kept steadily at his work, was faithful to his duty, and fortune at length crowned his efforts.

Mr. Chapman has been twice married. On December 4, 1863, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Lucy S. White, and by their union were born three children, two sons and a daughter: Frank L., who was educated in the Paxton Collegiate Institute and Greer College, of Hoopeston, is one of the leading young men of the community; Howard R., who still makes his home under the parental roof, is now a student in Shurtleff College, where he has pursued his studies for four years. He is taking a classical course, preparatory to entering the work of the ministry. He expects also to take a two-year theological course. He is an intelligent young man, well fitted for the calling he has chosen. Lena E., who has successfully engaged in teaching in Iroquois and Vermilion Counties, and was a student in the Paxton Collegiate Institute, is now the wife of E. S. Wakefield, a resident farmer of Bolivar, Polk County, Mo. In 1871, Mr. Chapman was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 7th of January, and was laid to rest in the Hoopeston cemetery. She was a member of the Baptist Church, and an estimable lady who had many warm friends throughout the community. On May 5, 1875, Mr. Chapman was again married, his second union being with Miss Jennie M. Patterson, a native of Rockford, Ill., born March 22, 1840, and a daughter of Alex and Helen (Gordon) Patterson. Three children, two sons and a daughter, have been born unto them, but all are now deceased. Mrs. Chapman spent her girlhood days in Rockford, was educated in the common schools, and became a teacher of recognized ability in Winnebago County.

In 1870, Mr. Chapman came to Iroquois County,

purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of raw land on section 33, Lovejoy Township, and began the development of a farm. The county then was not far advanced in the way of progress, and he purchased all of his supplies in Watseka. His first home was a boarded-up shanty, which still stands upon his farm, although it has long since given way to the present residence. Mr. Chapman can remember the days when wild game was plentiful in this county. He can also remember the prairie fires, which caused much loss and were a source of terror to the settlers. At the time he located here, Hoopeston, Wellington and Cissna Park had not yet sprung into existence. In the work of upbuilding and progress in the county he has ever borne his part, faithfully performing his duties of citizenship. He now owns one of the fine farms of the community, well improved and under a high state of cultivation. His land was purchased at \$9 per acre, but is now worth many times that amount. Over four miles of tiling have been laid upon it, and other improvements have been made until it is now a valuable and desirable place.

Mr. Chapman cast his first Presidential vote for the honored and lamented Lincoln, of whom he was an ardent admirer. He continued to support the Republican party for a number of years, but now exercises his right of franchise in support of the Prohibition party. The cause of temperance finds in him a warm friend, and he does all in his power to promote its growth. No man in this community has done more for the educational interests than our subject, who for a long period has been officially connected with the schools, having served as Director for twenty-one years. He believes that good schools make good citizens, and that to secure the former competent teachers should be hired. He has in his possession the record of the first school meeting held in his district. This convened at his own residence, June 5, 1871, and seven legal voters were present. The following Board of Directors were duly elected: D. H. Chapman, Clerk; Cyrus Sellers, Sr., and Cyrus Sellers, Jr. The schoolhouse was located on the southwest corner of section 28, but afterward changed to the northwest corner of section 33 on

Mr. Chapman's land, where it now stands. The school was opened September 1, 1873, with an enrollment of six pupils, and Miss Mollie Skidmore was engaged as teacher at a salary of \$25 per month. There are now two schoolhouses in the district, the government, however, being under one Board of Directors. The second was built during the summer of 1877, and James Stephenson was employed as the first teacher, at a salary of \$50 per month. Certainly the community owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Chapman for his untiring labors in behalf of education.

Our subject is also an ardent member of the Baptist Church of Hoopeston, and has served as one of its officers since its organization. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church. From the beginning he has filled the position of Church Clerk, and has also been Trustee and Deacon. In the work of the Sunday-school he takes a very active part, was its first Superintendent, in 1879, and has served in that capacity for a number of years. The school enrolls one hundred pupils, and has an average attendance of between seventy-five and eighty. Mr. Chapman has lived an upright, honorable life well worthy of emulation, is held in the highest confidence by all who know him, and well deserves representation in this volume.



GEORGE M. BIRELINE, one of the early settlers of Iroquois County, who now carries on general farming and stock-raising on section 17, Artesia Township, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, on the 11th of November, 1832, and is one of a family of eight children, whose parents were Thomas and Catherine Bireline. Three of the children are still living, as follows: Louis, George M. and Regina.

The subject of this sketch acquired a good common education in his native land, where, in accordance with the laws of the country, he attended school until fourteen years of age. He then learned the weaver's trade, which he followed con-

tinuously until his emigration to America. It was in 1851, when a young man of nineteen years, that Mr. Bireline bade adieu to the scenes of his boyhood and took passage for America in a sailing-vessel which, after a voyage of forty-nine days, reached the harbor of New York. Our subject did not tarry long in the Eastern metropolis, but went at once to Ohio, locating in Circleville. He secured employment in a woolen factory, and there remained for about nine months, after which he began working on a farm by the month. He was thus employed in the Buckeye State for six months, when he left Ohio and removed to Warren County, Ind., where two succeeding years of his life were passed. He there engaged in farming and in carrying on a butcher's shop.

The year 1856 witnessed the arrival of Mr. Bireline in Illinois. He pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 17, Artesia Township, Iroquois County, and upon this farm has since made his home, with the exception of three years spent at West Lebanon, Ind. He broke prairie during the summer and worked out by the month during the winter season. His own land he placed under a high state of cultivation, and the once unbroken prairie soon yielded to him a golden tribute in return for the care and cultivation he bestowed upon it. In 1872, Mr. Bireline removed to West Lebanon, Ind., where he spent three years, being engaged in business as a partner in a flouring-mill for about ten months, when the mill burned down. He then returned to his farm, where he has since continued to reside. He now owns three hundred and twenty-three acres of good land, which represents his own hard labor. His fields are now well tilled, and he raises a good grade of stock. The many improvements upon the place and its neat appearance all indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner.

April 27, 1863, Mr. Bireline was united in marriage with Miss Louise Harnock. She was born in Prussia, Germany, May 15, 1845, and, when twelve years old, came to this country with her parents, J. and Dorothy (Dryer) Harnock. Her father still lives near Loda, but her mother died years ago. By the union of our subject and wife have born eight children, three sons and five daughters, namely:

George F., Emma L., Carrie S., Ella D., Lula E., Frank L., Loretta J. and Adolph P. The family is widely and favorably known in this community, and its members rank high in the social circles in which they move.

In politics, Mr. Bireline is a supporter of Republican principles. For the long period of thirteen years he has held the office of School Director and is the present incumbent. With the Methodist Church all the family hold membership. Public-spirited and progressive, he takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and does all in his power for the up-building of those enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit.



CLARENCE H. DAWSON, a prominent merchant of Milford, dealing in drugs, medicines, books, stationery, wall paper, paints, oils, etc., was born in Warren County, Ind., on the 8th of June, 1861, and is the eldest of a family of five children. The parents, James E. and Mary J. (Borders) Dawson, were both natives of Ohio. They removed to Indiana, and after some years' residence in Warren County, came to Iroquois County, Ill. Their two sons and three daughters are Clarence H., Alva M., Nora B., Florence M. and Cora E.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of nine summers when his parents came to this State, and since that time he has been a resident of Iroquois County. His education was acquired in the public schools. After attaining to years of maturity, he was united in marriage with Miss Frances Wilson, daughter of John B. and Eliza (Hickman) Wilson, whose sketch is given on another page. Their union was celebrated on the 14th of February, 1883. In his political affiliations, Mr. Dawson is a Republican, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business and other interests, rather than to enter the political arena. He holds membership with Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M.; Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.; and Mt. Olivet Comman-

dery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton. He is Secretary of the Milford Agricultural Society.

After a residence of some five years in Wellington, Ill., Mr. Dawson came to Milford, and in March, 1881, embarked in his present line of business. He carries a full stock of goods, and his patronage has constantly increased. Those who have known Mr. Dawson from boyhood, and have witnessed the honorable upright life which he has always led, hold him in high regard, and are numbered among his staunchest friends. He also ranks high in business circles, and is classed among the prominent and progressive citizens of the community. He is public-spirited and takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the town and county, and is ever ready to aid in the promotion of those enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit.



REMMER EDEN, who owns and operates a farm on section 9, Danforth Township, was born in Hanover, Germany, September 26, 1826. His parents were both natives of the same country and bore the names of John and Emma (Andrews) Eden. The father emigrated to the United States in 1876, and located in Iroquois County, where he lived until his death in 1883.

Remmer Eden passed his early days in the Fatherland and received good school advantages. He came to the New World in 1852, when a young man, sailing from Bremen and arriving in New Orleans after a long and tedious voyage. He arrived at his destination May 22, 1852, and went by way of the Mississippi River, first to St. Louis then to Peru, Dixon and Freeport, Ill. Tazewell County was at that time almost a wilderness and there he located and spent two and a-half years working by the month on a farm. He afterward rented a farm which he tilled for many years, suffering the hardships and privations of pioneer life, and in addition to these had much sickness in his family.

In Tazewell County, Mr. Eden was joined in

wedlock on March 1, 1856, with Geske Klattenburg, who was born in Hanover November 5, 1831, and is a daughter of John Klattenburg. To this worthy couple have been born ten children, seven of whom are still living: John, a merchant in Danforth; Emma, the wife of Herman Simons, a blacksmith of Danforth; Reiner, a clerk for his brother John; Lena, wife of Herman Claymon, of Nebraska; Oliver, a farmer of the same State; Herman, who is at home, and Sena. They lost three children: George, who died at the age of nineteen years; Henry, who died when about eleven years of age, and one child who died in infancy.

Mr. Eden commenced life in Illinois a poor man, and by careful industry, enterprise and good business ability has achieved a competence. He owns some of the finest farming land in the county and in addition to his property here, owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Platte County, Neb. He is also the owner of a vacant lot in the town of Danforth. He is a supporter of the Democratic party and principles. Mr. and Mrs. Eden are members of the Lutheran Church and are much respected and esteemed throughout this section. For nearly a quarter of a century our subject has resided in this county, and by his manly and honorable course in life has won the confidence and friendship of his neighbors and acquaintances.



FERDINAND SCHMID, who carries on general farming on section 2, Douglas Township, is one of the worthy citizens Germany has given Iroquois County, and we take pleasure in presenting to our readers this record of his life. He was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, on the 29th of November, 1850, and is one of three children whose parents were Carl and Caroline (Rahn) Schmid. His father was born in the same locality as our subject, and there owned and operated a farm, being in comfortable circumstances. He was a well-educated man and a prominent citizen. For twenty years he was honored with the office of Town Mayor and was an Elder in the Lutheran

Church. He died in 1881, at the age of fifty-eight years. His wife was born in Rossbach, and her father was a minister of the Lutheran Church. She died just four weeks after the death of her husband. Mina, their eldest daughter, is living in Germany; Bertha, twin sister of our subject, is the wife of Heinrich Zimmer.

Our subject spent the first ten years of his life in his native town and then went to Wiessen, where he entered the High School. He graduated just at the beginning of the Franco-Prussian War, and immediately afterward enlisted as a private, but meritorious conduct won him promotion to the rank of Lieutenant. The first battle in which he participated was at Metz, on the 16th, 17th and 18th of August, 1870. On the first of January, 1871, he participated in the capture of Orleans, and on the 11th of March took part in the battle of Tours. Three months later he received his discharge.

In 1871, Mr. Schmid returned to his home and the same year emigrated to America. He crossed the briny deep from Hamburg to New York, and went to live with a cousin, Dr. Weber, of New York City. Later, he went to Michigan and for three months engaged in clerking in Roger City, after which we find him in Chicago. Subsequently he removed to Gilman, and since that time has been a resident of Iroquois County. For two years he worked for David Risser as a farm hand. He was afterward in the employ of Addison Harper for two years, and later spent one year with John C. Holtzner. He then returned to the employ of Mr. Harper, and on the 23d of February, 1879, wedded his youngest daughter, Miss Mary C. Harper, a native of this county. Her father died about four years ago, but her mother is still living and is one of the oldest settlers of the county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Schmid have been born two children: Emory, born March 21, 1881; and Almet Lee, who was born June 26, 1890.

Mr. Schmid has resided upon his present farm since 1882. He owns one hundred acres of well-tilled land and his farm is improved with good buildings and all modern accessories. He cast his first Presidential vote for Hayes and Wheeler, but has since affiliated with the Democracy. In relig-

ious belief he is a Lutheran. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart friend. He is himself a highly educated man. He is not only familiar with his native tongue, but is a French, Latin and Greek scholar, and since coming to this country has educated himself in the English language. He is a popular citizen, and is held in high regard by all with whom he has come in contact, whether in business or social circles.



JOSEPH NELSON McNEIL, a self-made man, who is now living a retired life in Thawville, has led a life well worthy of emulation, and his example may serve to encourage others who, like himself, have to depend only on their own resources from early manhood. Mr. McNeil was born in Highland County, Ohio, on the 21st of April, 1830, and his parents, Joseph and Susan (Morrow) McNeil, were also natives of the Buckeye State. The parents are both now deceased. The father was called to his final rest in 1880, and the mother, who survived him about six years, departed this life in 1886. Unto this worthy couple were born eight children, of whom five are yet living: Sarah, William, Joseph N., Mary and Amanda. Nancy, Susan and Martha are deceased.

No event of special importance occurred during the boyhood days of our subject, which were quietly passed under the parental roof. He was reared to the occupation of farming, which he has followed through his entire business life. May 29, 1851, he was married, Miss Lemira Rogers becoming his wife. Her parents were William and Hannah Rogers, and she was a native of the Buckeye State. Eleven children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. McNeil, as follows: Susan M., the eldest, is the wife of Albert Montague, a furniture dealer of Kankakee, by whom she has four children living, two sons and two daughters. William C. married Miss Mabel Carter, by whom he has two children, Allie and Ruth. He is a Methodist minister, and is now in charge of a church in Peoria. Joseph, who married Hattie Conniff, by whom he has one

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JOHN SHRUM.

son, Lloyd Chapin, is a horse-dealer of Roberts, Ill.; John E. is the next younger; Sarah is the wife of George Reynolds, a farmer residing near Knoxville, Knox County, Ill., and they have three children: Clarence, Alice and Fay; Mary T. is the wife of Sheridan Devore, a resident of Onarga. Emma married James Walker, who is running a butcher's shop and confectionery store in Thawville. They have four daughters: Lemira, Una, Cleo and Mabel. Una Edith died in October, 1885; Lee A. is married and is engaged in the grocery business in Vancouver, Wash.; Charlie died when about eighteen months old; and Birch completes the family.

In 1866, Mr. McNeil came to this State and made a location in McLean County, upon a farm of one hundred acres near Bloomington. The succeeding five years of his life were there passed, after which he sold that farm and removed to Ford County, buying one hundred and sixty acres of land in Lyman Township, upon which he made his home for seventeen years, from 1872 until 1889, when he retired from farm life, rented his land and removed to Thawville, where he now makes his home. He has since purchased another farm, adjoining the town of Thawville on the east. This he laid out in town lots and has already sold about half of the amount. He also owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Brown County, Neb.

Mr. McNeil and his wife are members of the United Presbyterian Church and all the children hold membership with the Methodist Church. In politics, he is a Democrat, and while residing in Ford County held various public offices of honor and trust, the duties of which were ever discharged with promptness and fidelity. Mr. McNeil started out in life for himself empty-handed, with only a young man's bright hope of the future and a determination to succeed, but by his industry and good management, his business ability and perseverance, he has steadily worked his way upward, and the assistance of his wife has been no unimportant factor in his success. They have worked together and their labors have at length been crowned with a just reward, until now they are numbered among the well-to-do citizens of the community in which they make their home,

JOHN SHRUM, a prominent citizen of Iroquois, and one of the pioneer settlers of the county, claims New Jersey as the State of his nativity. He was born in Paterson, on Christmas Day of 1828, and is a son of William and Susan (Morehouse) Shrum. Both parents were born in this country, but were of German lineage. About 1831, they removed with their family to Muskingum County, Ohio. The father died in Coshocton County, Ohio, and the mother spent her last days in Marion County, Iowa.

The first recollections of our subject are of life in the Buckeye State. He resided in the little town of Mt. Sterling, near Zanesville, and afterward removed to the latter place. Subsequently the family went to Coshocton County. John acquired a good education in the common schools, and in 1849, when about twenty-one years of age, he came to Iroquois County, Ill., with his brother-in-law, and worked by the month until his marriage. In September, 1851, he formed a matrimonial alliance with Miss Ruth Lambert, who was born in Brown County, Ohio, on the 25th of March, 1825, and was then a resident of Iroquois. Five children graced this marriage, but two died in infancy. The eldest now living is William, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; Elias, a resident farmer of Concord Township; and Sarah, who makes her home with her parents.

After his marriage, Mr. Shrum purchased forty acres of land in Concord Township, and broke prairie with an ox-team to pay for it. It was a wild tract, but with characteristic energy he began its development, and soon transformed it into rich and fertile fields. He devoted his energies to farming until after the breaking out of the late war, when, in 1862, he responded to the call for troops, enlisting as a member of Company I, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, as a teamster. He served three years in that capacity, and as a guard for prisoners. During his service his hearing was impaired, and he now receives a pension of \$22 per month. He was a faithful soldier, and when the war was over was honorably discharged.

Being opposed to slavery, on the organization of the Republican party, which was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery, Mr. Shrum

joined its ranks, voting for John C. Fremont in 1856. He has served as Constable a few years, but resigned his position, as his entire time was needed in the sawmill. He now owns one hundred and forty-two acres of rich land near Iroquois, which yields to him a good income. By his perseverance, industry, enterprise and good management, Mr. Shrum has acquired a good property, and is now living retired, enjoying a well-earned rest. The family is one of prominence in the community, and well deserves representation in this volume.



WILLIAM SHRUM, who is engaged in general merchandising in Iroquois, has spent his entire life in this county. He was born in Concord Township, on the 20th of October, 1854, and is a son of John and Ruth (Lambert) Shrum, who are residents of Iroquois, and are represented in this work. William is the eldest in a family of five children, three of whom are still living. In the usual manner of farmer lads the days of his boyhood and youth were passed, and in the district schools of the neighborhood he acquired a practical English education, supplemented by a business knowledge acquired by study and attention to the details of his business. When about twenty years of age he engaged in the sawmill business, and was thus employed for about six years, when he sold out and opened up a general merchandise store, having had to take his stock of goods in payment of a security debt.

On the 25th of September, 1879, Mr. Shrum was united in marriage with Miss Bell Barr, of Iroquois, and unto them were born two children, but both died in infancy. The lady is a native of Adams County, Ohio. She was born September 22, 1857, and is a daughter of John and Martha (Walter) Barr. Her parents were both natives of the Keystone State, and were of German origin. Her father was a farmer by occupation, and followed that pursuit in Livingston County, Ill., until his death, which occurred about twenty years ago. His widow still survives him, and is now living in Iroquois.

For about a year it was all that Mr. Shrum could

do to meet expenses in the mercantile trade, and he once sold out, but after a few months he bought the building in which he is now located, and put in another stock of goods. Since that time he has enjoyed an excellent trade, and by fair and honest dealing has won the confidence of his patrons. His courteous treatment has secured to him a liberal patronage, and he has now a well-stocked store and is doing an excellent business. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, has filled its various offices, and is now serving his second term as Master. He is the only Mason in Eastern Illinois who can repeat the burial ceremony from memory. In politics, Mr. Shrum has been a Republican since he cast his first Presidential vote for R. B. Hayes in 1876. For two years he has served as Trustee of the village and is now serving his second term as Treasurer. Prompt and faithful in the discharge of his duties, he has proved a capable and efficient officer, winning the commendation of all concerned. He is a valued citizen and leading business man of Iroquois, who ranks high both in business and social circles.



WILSON S. KAY is the oldest member of the Iroquois County Bar in years of practice now in business in the county, as well as one of the foremost in ability. Mr. Kay was born near Greencastle, Putnam County, Ind., on the 31st of October, 1831, and is a son of William and Ruth (Wright) Kay. His father was born in Maryland and his mother near what is now known as Little's Mills, W. Va. Having lived alternately in West Virginia and Ohio, they removed to Terre Haute, Ind., and on to Greencastle. Remaining there but a few months, they returned to Virginia and soon afterward went to Cincinnati, Ohio. Subsequently we find them on a farm in Clermont County, in the same State.

In 1837, Mr. Kay sold out, and at the solicitation of a friend invested his money in a steam-mill outfit and came to Iroquois County, Ill. Not finding the outlook very promising, there being scarcely any white people in the county, and the

Indians having no particular use for a mill, he started East again with his milling outfit. Stopping at Perryssville, Ind., he erected a sawmill in company with another person, but died from milk-sickness about the time the mill was ready to begin operations. The closing up of the estate was so badly or dishonestly managed that his widow and children had little or nothing left. Soon after her husband's death, Mrs. Kay went with her children to live with her father, Jonathan Wright, on Spring Creek, Iroquois County. About 1845, she married again, her second husband being Isaac Courtright, a prominent pioneer settler of this county. Her death occurred at Texas, a small town in Middleport Township, of this county, in July, 1854. She died of cholera during the scourge of that year, and her husband died of the same disease the day following.

Wilson S. Kay returned to Iroquois County in the summer of 1838, when seven years old, with his mother and her five fatherless children. The two older ones, a sister and our subject, found homes with strangers. Wilson S. staid with Samuel Harper, near Onarga, for a few months, after which he spent four years with Thomas Vennum, Sr., near Milford-on-the-Mound, so called. He attended the country school a while and had one year's training in the Milford school. When fourteen years old, he went to his sister near Milford, and worked for his board and schooling.

Having acquired sufficient learning to qualify him for teaching, he engaged to teach the school at Bunkum, and taught there one year, and with his savings paid his tuition and expenses for fourteen months at Mt. Morris Seminary, Ogle County, Ill. He then taught school for a few years, which enabled him to pursue one term of study in the Asbury (now De Pauw) University, of Greencastle, Ind.

On the 18th of July, 1852, Mr. Kay was married in Iroquois County to Miss Susannah Critchfield, who died in September, 1855. One son was born of this union, William, who died in infancy. Mr. Kay was married again, March 6, 1858, this time to Miss Livonia M. Burlingame, of Onarga, a daughter of Abner and Livonia (Turner) Burlingame. She was born in Chautauqua County,

N. Y., and came to this county with her widowed mother in 1855. Five children were born of the second marriage: William, the eldest, died at the age of eighteen months; McClellan, an attorney, now his father's partner, married Ellen Martin, of Watseka. He was educated in Onarga High School, Onarga Seminary, Michigan State University, and at the Northwestern University, of Evanston, and was admitted to the Bar in 1884, entering into partnership with his father and Judge Eunans. The firm is now known as Kay & Kay. The third son, Wilson, died at the age of seven years; Livonia Ruth was graduated from the Northwestern University, of Evanston, in June, 1891, after a five year-course; Donald, the youngest, died in infancy.

When first married, Mr. Kay lived in a cabin near Bunkum and taught school in that village. Later, he moved to Middleport, then the county seat, and in 1872 made his home about midway between the old and new town, now Watseka. He studied law in Middleport with James Fletcher and was admitted to the Bar in 1857, having been in active practice at the Iroquois county seat since, being now the oldest representative of the Iroquois County Bar in active practice. In respect to politics, Mr. Kay is a Democrat, and has served as Deputy Sheriff and City Attorney of Watseka. He is now a member of the Committee of the Court of Claims, a State officer for the adjustment of claims against the State. The committee is composed of three members, and Mr. Kay is now serving his fourth year as one of them.

Our subject is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of Watseka Lodge No. 116, A. F. & A. M.; Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.; and of Ivanhoe Commandery, K. T., of Kankakee; and he is also an Odd Fellow. Mr. Kay is one of the oldest Masons in the county. He is the owner of five hundred acres of farming land, three hundred of which lie adjacent to Watseka on the southwest, thirty acres are inside the corporation limits and one hundred and seventy acres are in other tracts.

It is now thirty-five years since Mr. Kay began the practice of law in Iroquois County. Several active members of the Bar have been born

since then, and many memorable changes of judgeship have occurred, and many a prominent lawyer against whom he has been pitted in cases has long since taken his own to a higher court. Mr. Kay has always been an industrious, hard-working and successful lawyer. He possesses certain elements of disposition without which success in the legal profession is hardly attainable—industry, energy, ability, tact, and last, but not least, combativeness and true courage. He trusts nothing to chance that his sagacity deems necessary to his case when care and work will insure success; consequently, he has won the reputation of being a conservative and safe man to entrust with important cases, and his success in court fully justifies the general popular opinion of him.



JAMES H. CARPENTER, a successful farmer of Douglas Township, was born in Sussex County, N. J., on the 28th of September, 1835. He is a son of James T. and Eleanor (Denn) Carpenter, both natives of New England. When our subject was a mere child, his parents removed across the line to Orange County, N. Y., but a few years later they returned to Sussex County. The father followed his trade of mason during his life time. He was born January 29, 1792, and died in 1845. His wife, who was born on the 22d of March, 1793, died on the 10th of December, 1851. Politically, he was a member of the Democratic party, and his wife was a member of the Baptist Church. They had a family of nine children, five of whom were sons and four daughters, and of these our subject is the only survivor.

Mr. Carpenter of this sketch, as soon as he was old enough to earn his own living, began working on a farm at small wages. Since fourteen years of age, he has had to make his own way in the world. He went to Wyoming County, Pa., where he worked for a number of years. In 1862, he removed to Rock County, Wis., two years later going to Lee County, Ill. In 1865, he went to La Salle County, and three years later removed to

Livingston County, where he purchased forty acres of land three miles from Chatsworth, that being the first real estate he had ever owned. Having farmed in Livingston County until 1876, he came to Iroquois County and lived in Ashkum Township, superintending the large estate of R. B. M. Wilson, in which position he remained for twelve years. In 1877, he had purchased one hundred and sixty acres, where he removed in 1878. He has erected good buildings and a comfortable residence, and has otherwise improved his property, which includes considerable tiling.

On the 17th of September, 1878, Mr. Carpenter and Maria E. Williams were joined in wedlock at Watseka. Mrs. Carpenter is a daughter of Leonard and Margaretta Williams. Our worthy subject and his wife have two children, Harry C. and Grace A. Mr. Carpenter has never been an office-seeker, though he has always endeavored to discharge the duties of citizenship to the best of his ability. Politically, his sympathies are with the Democratic party. He is socially a member of the Odd Fellows' fraternity. He has been a successful farmer, having reached his present measure of success entirely through his own efforts and good business management. For sixteen years he has lived in Douglas and Ashkum Townships, and in that time has seen the county advance from a swampy, unproductive section, to one of the finest farming districts of the State. His property bears evidence of the careful thriftiness and industry of its owner, and is one of the most productive in this section. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter are well and favorably known, and have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances who esteem them highly for their sterling worth and hospitality.



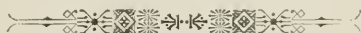
ROBERT EZRA GREENLEES, who carries on general merchandising in Thawville, is a native of the Empire State. He was born in Champaign County, near Plattsburg, N. Y., on the 23d of December, 1844. On the paternal side he is of Scotch descent. His father, Andrew Greenlees, was a native of Scotland, was born

October 13, 1799, and crossed the briny deep to this country about 1832. He was married, May 23, 1833, to Miss Rebecca Downing, whose ancestry dates back to the settlement of Long Island. She was born May 16, 1809. In the family of this worthy couple were eight children, namely: Helen Rhoda, Amy Isabel, Sarah Belinda, Margaret Elizabeth, Phoebe Rebecca, Mary Jane, Robert Ezra and William Andrew. It was in the spring of 1848, that Andrew Greenlees, accompanied by his family, bade good-bye to his home in New York and came to Illinois. He located in La Salle County, upon a farm near the village of Dayton, and the children, who were all born in the Empire State, were reared to manhood and womanhood upon that farm. The father was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death occurring May 2, 1858. Mrs. Greenlees still survives her husband, and is yet living on the old homestead in La Salle County.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who was a lad of only four years when he came with his parents to Illinois. In the usual manner of farmer lads, the days of his boyhood and youth were passed, and the common schools afforded him his educational privileges. After attaining his majority, he was married on the 12th of August, 1869, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah M. Lawrence, daughter of Daniel and Lucinda Lawrence, of Pennsylvania. Four children have been born to them: William Ezra, born September 9, 1870; Walter Andrew, born May 4, 1874, died October 23, 1878; Wallace Robert, born August 13, 1878; and Murba May, on the 29th of October, 1880. The living children are all under the parental roof.

Mr. and Mrs. Greenlees began their domestic life upon a farm in La Salle County, where they continued to reside until 1875. That year witnessed their removal to Iroquois County, and saw them located upon a farm of eighty acres in Artesia Township. Our subject was a successful agriculturist, and the appearance of his farm ever indicated his thrift and enterprise. His industrious labors at length won him a handsome competence, and he is now numbered among the well-to-do citizens of the community. On the 20th of Jan-

uary, 1892, he came to Thawville, having sold his farm and purchased the general merchandise establishment of Ortman Brothers. He has been in business in this line but a short time, but he has a bright outlook, and the future will no doubt bring him the prosperity which has crowned his efforts in former years. In politics, he is a Republican. He has the confidence and good-will of all with whom business or pleasure has brought him in contact, and among the leading and influential citizens of this locality is numbered Robert Ezra Greenlees.



THOMAS WARD, who is engaged in the occupation of farming on section 30, Douglas Township, was born in Devonshire, England, on the 25th of February, 1832. He is a son of William and Ann (Hoarden) Ward, both natives of that shire. His father was a blacksmith by trade. In 1855, with their three children, one having preceded them, they crossed the Atlantic and located in Stafford, Genesee County, N. Y. There the father and mother spent their last days, each attaining seventy-five years. In their family were eleven children, of whom six emigrated to the United States and but three of whom are now living.

Our subject is the youngest of his father's family. After he had reached thirteen years of age, he never received any educational advantages, but has supplemented his early schooling by habits of observation and research, which have made him a well-informed man. Since fifteen years of age, he has made his own way in the world, and at that age was apprenticed to the wagon-maker's trade for seven years. However, at the end of four years, his employer not treating him fairly, making him work very hard and keeping him on short rations, he left him and worked for nearly three years for another man. During that seven years of apprenticeship, he received nothing save his board, which was oftentimes very scanty. In Witheridge, England, he earned his first money at his trade, getting \$25 and his board for a whole year's

work. The second year he received \$40 in addition to his living, and out of that small sum he saved enough to bring him to the United States. Accordingly, in April, 1853, he set sail for America, landing in Quebec. The voyage took a little over nine weeks. He first located at Stafford, N. Y., where he worked for about fourteen years at his trade.

In Leroy, Genesee County, Mr. Ward wedded Miss Eliza, daughter of James and Ann (Nott) Edworthy, both natives of Devonshire, England, where the father died at the age of fifty-five years. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Ward was celebrated October 14, 1854. The lady was born in Devonshire, September 16, 1835, and when nineteen years of age she left her home, mother and friends and came to the United States to marry Mr. Ward, as she had promised to do before he left his native land. Ten years later, her mother joined her at Stafford, where she died two years afterward. Mrs. Ward is one of five children, but she is the only one that has crossed the ocean.

In 1866, the subject of this sketch removed to Ottawa, Ill., where he worked at his trade for a couple of years, when he came to Iroquois County in the spring of 1869. He first purchased eighty acres of land in Danforth Township, which he developed and improved and then sold. He next bought eighty acres in Douglas Township. This he kept until 1876, when he disposed of it and bought the farm where he now lives. This is a property of about one hundred acres and has the reputation of being the most neatly kept place in the township. The lawn about the house is nicely trimmed, and flowers and shrubbery are seen on every hand.

Mr. and Mrs. Ward have been blessed with a family of eight children: Ellen, the eldest, is the wife of William Green, a farmer of Douglas Township; Sarah died in infancy; Francis is a butcher of Gilman; Wilbert T. follows agricultural pursuits in Douglas Township; Bessie R. died in 1890, at the age of twenty-seven years; Charles H. is a partner of his brother Francis; Edgar E. also carries on farming in Douglas Township; and Winfield S. is still under the parental roof.

Mr. and Mrs. Ward are both members of the

Presbyterian Church, of which he is a Trustee. Politically, he is a Democrat, having cast his first vote for Stephen A. Douglas. He is a public-spirited man, always doing all in his power to advance the best interests of his community. He is now serving his eighth year as Commissioner of Highways. When Mr. Ward came to the United States, he had but \$2, but by industry and hard work has made a competence. In June, 1863, he was drafted, went to the rendezvous at Lockport, N. Y., and after staying five days obtained a furlough in order to attend a law suit, remaining sixteen days. He then paid \$300 exemption fees and was thereby released from further service. In addition to rearing their own family, our subject and his estimable wife have brought up an orphan, Albert Huliek, whom they took when he was a lad of twelve years. Now he is a young man of twenty. They have ever been charitable and kind to the homeless and friendless and have won for themselves the high regard of all who know them.



MOSES BOUDREAU, senior partner of the firm of Boudreau & Son, general merchants of Beaverville, Ill., was born in Montreal, Canada, on the 1st of September, 1839, and is the son of Nelson and Rose (Colewalt) Boudreau, both of whom were natives of Canada and of French descent. The father was a farmer and owned land in Canada. When our subject was a lad of nine years, he removed with his family to Aurora, where he spent two years upon a rented farm, and then went to Kankakee County, where he rented land for a year. On the expiration of that period he took up his residence in Papineau Township, this county, where he purchased eighty acres of land, but was badly beaten out of half that amount.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the French schools of Canada, but after coming to this State attended the English schools. He was the eldest in a family of eight children. His father died when he was only fifteen years of age, and

he had to aid in the support of the family, which was left in limited circumstances. He worked upon their own farm, and also in the employ of others whenever he could spare the time from his home duties. He was married August 5, 1859, at the age of nineteen years, to Miss Marie Cote, of Papineau Township, who was born in Quebec, Canada, March 16, 1839, and came with her parents, Benny and Tiet (Martin) Cote, to this State when about thirteen years of age. For two years after their marriage they resided with Mr. Boudreau's mother, he operating the home farm. He also improved and cultivated forty acres of land, which he had previously purchased in Beaver Township. This was his first purchase, and it is still in his possession. He has met with success in his business career and, as his financial resources have increased, has added to his possessions until he now owns four hundred acres of valuable land, all in Beaver Township.

Mr. Boudreau has his farm under a high state of cultivation, and it yields to him a good income. In connection with general farming, he also engages in stock-raising, handling about one hundred head of cattle annually. In 1882, he established the store and placed his son in charge. Two years later he left the farm and removed to Beaver-ville, since which time he has given his personal attention to mercantile pursuits. The firm of Boudreau & Son has a well-stocked store and is enjoying an excellent trade, which has been secured by fair and honest dealing and courteous treatment of their patrons. They also deal in agricultural implements.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Boudreau were born thirteen children, three of whom died in infancy, but ten are yet living. Cleophas, the eldest, was born June 1, 1860. He attended St. Viateur's College in Kankakee County for about three years, becoming a student at the age of fifteen. When his education was completed, he entered upon his business career as a clerk in a mercantile establishment at Kankakee, where he remained for two years. He was then employed in a similar capacity in this place for two years, after which he took charge of the store as junior partner of the firm. He is a wide-awake and enterprising busi-

ness man and possesses excellent ability. On attaining his majority, he was married October 18, 1881, to Miss Mary Ellen Theresa Gernon, who was born in Canada in 1865, and is of Irish and French descent. Unto them have been born five children yet living: Hayda, Gernon, Theresa, Eveline and Amanda. Mr. Boudreau, Jr., is now Postmaster of the Beaver-ville Postoffice. In politics, he is a Republican and cast his first Presidential vote for James G. Blaine. He has served as Township Treasurer for about eight years, was Township Clerk in 1889, Assessor in 1890, and again in 1892.

Clarence, the second son of the Boudreau family, is now deceased. Sylvanus, born May 4, 1866, became a student in Viateur's College at the age of sixteen years, and there studied for a year. When a young man of twenty-five, he was married December 29, 1891, to Miss Nelda Naurie, who was born in Beaver Township, in December, 1869. They have one child, Rosella. Sylvanus is now in partnership with his father. In politics, he is a Democrat, and his first vote was cast for Cleveland in 1888. Salina, the next younger of the family, is the wife of William Barron, a farmer of Martinton Township, by whom she has one child. Belzemer is the wife of Joseph Fortin, of Beaver Township, and they have two children. Amanda married Levi Franoveur, of Chicago, and unto them has been born one child. Henry is married and resides in Beaver Township. Dennis and Nelda are at home. Camille and Emile, twins, born November 11, 1889, complete the family.

Mr. Boudreau, our subject, is a stalwart advocate of the Democracy, and cast his first Presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas. He was confirmed when only nine years of age and has since been a member of the Catholic Church, to the support of which he contributes liberally. He has paid over \$500 for the building of the church and parsonage in this place, and has given substantial aid for the building of the new convent which is now being erected. He served as Highway Commissioner for three years, was School Trustee for many years, and School Director for several years. He is a prominent and influential citizen, a lead-

ing business man and has a wide acquaintance throughout this community. He started out in life a mere boy with no capital, but overcoming the obstacles and difficulties in his path, he has steadily worked his way upward to a position of wealth and affluence.



EDWARD W. BISHOP is the proprietor of the Watseka Roller Mills, the only flouring mills in that city, and has been engaged in milling in Iroquois County since 1868. Mr. Bishop was born in the town of Lenham, Kent County, England, on the 13th of April, 1841, and is a son of Edward B. and Elizabeth W. (David) Bishop, both of English birth. In 1853, our subject with his parents emigrated from England to America, and settled in the town of South Greece, on the Erie Canal, some eight miles west of Rochester, N. Y. They came to Iroquois County, Ill., in 1854, and located in that part of the township of Concord which is now Sheldon. His father was engaged in farming in Concord until within a few years of his death, which occurred in the town of Papineau, Iroquois County, in 1884, he then being seventy-two years of age. The mother is still living, and resides near Kentland, Ind. In the family were six sons and two daughters, all of whom are living except one daughter.

Edward W. was reared on his father's farm, and received a common-school education. At the age of nineteen, he began to learn the carpenter's trade, in which he was interrupted by the breaking out of the late war and his enlistment on the first call by President Lincoln for troops. He was enrolled in April under the three months' call, but was not mustered in until August 4, 1861. For three years he served as a member of Company F, Twenty-fifth Illinois Regiment, and was mustered out in September, 1864. On the 23d of September, 1861, his regiment went to Jefferson City, Mo., by way of the Pacific Railroad. It went into camp at Rolla, Mo., where it remained until February, 1862, when it started for Springfield,

that State, arriving there February 13. The following day the troops left that place and proceeded to Arkansas, where they participated in the battle of Pea Ridge, March 6, 7 and 8. Marching to Cape Girardeau, they went down the river to re-enforce the army at Shiloh, but arriving after the battle they went on to Corinth, Miss., and took part in the siege, forcing the rebel evacuation of that place. His regiment took part in the battle of Stone River, or Murfreesboro, Tenn., December 31, 1862, where Mr. Bishop received a gunshot wound through the right leg, which unfitted him for active duty until the following November, when he joined his regiment soon after the battle of Mission Ridge, which was fought on the 23d, 24th and 25th of that month. On the 28th of November, 1863, he joined the regiment on its way to Knoxville, Tenn., where it arrived about the 3d of December. The command was engaged in skirmishing and foraging all of this time, and finally returned to Cleveland, Tenn., where it remained from April 16th to the 31st of May, 1864. At this time it was ordered to join the army under Gen. Sherman en route for Atlanta, Ga. The regiment joined the brigade June 7, 1864, and remained with the army on its way to Atlanta, being under fire nearly every day until the 1st of the following August. Then the order came for the troops to start for Springfield, Ill., to be mustered out. They accordingly were mustered out September 5, 1864, having served three years and one month in the army, having marched on foot thirty-three hundred and fifty-two miles, and traveled by rail and boat seventeen hundred and ten miles, the total number of miles traveled being forty-nine hundred and sixty-two. It participated in the following-named battles and heavy skirmishes: Pea Ridge, Ark.; Siege of Corinth; Stone River; Mission Ridge; Chickamauga; Kennesaw Mountain, Ga.; Peach Tree Creek; and Atlanta. The regiment made an honorable record throughout its term of service, and especially distinguished itself at the battle of Stone River, where it lost heavily in killed and wounded. In the Atlanta campaign, the Twenty-fifth reached within twelve miles of Atlanta, when it was ordered to Springfield.

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S. M. Mason

Soon after being mustered out, in September, 1864, Mr. Bishop returned to the front, and was assigned a position in the Quartermaster's Department at Chattanooga, and was so employed for more than a year, or until after the close of the war.

The following winter, 1865, Mr. Bishop was married to Miss Caroline E. Groff, who died some twelve years later. For two years after the war our subject worked at his trade as carpenter, and then built a flouring-mill at a place called Texas, in Middleport Township, about five miles east of Watseka. He continued milling there until 1882, when he moved the mill to a point on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, where he operated it until it was destroyed by an incendiary fire in November, 1885. The following year he built his present mill at Watseka, which he has carried on successfully since. This mill is fitted up for roller-process work, and is equipped with the best modern machinery for all sorts of work in its line, and is doing a good business.

On the 10th of February, 1881, Mr. Bishop was united in marriage with Miss Ida M. Steely, a daughter of Mr. L. Steely. Mrs. Bishop was born in Iroquois County, where her family were among the early settlers. Her father is still living, and makes his home with his daughter, Mrs. Bishop. Our subject and his wife have two children: Arthur S., who was born in August, 1883; and Sidney E., who was born in September, 1885. Mrs. Bishop is a member of the Society of Friends. Mr. Bishop is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M.; and of Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M. He also belongs to the Mon Ami Lodge No. 231, K. P.; and to William Post No. 25, G. A. R.

In addition to his milling interests, Mr. Bishop is a part owner in the Bishopp Hominy Company, of Sheldon, and has an improved farm of one hundred and thirteen acres, situated on section 36, Middleport Township. On the question of politics, he is a Republican, and has held various public offices. He is at this writing one of the Road Commissioners of Middleport Township, and has served in that capacity for eleven years. He has also acted as Alderman in the Common Council of

Watscka for six years, and has held various minor offices. Mr. Bishop has now been a resident of Iroquois County for thirty-eight years, and for twenty-nine years has been identified with its manufacturing and business interests. During all this period his intercourse with his fellow-citizens has been distinguished by strict integrity and an upright and straightforward manner, which has won for him the esteem and respect of all.



SAMUEL M. MAJOR, an honored veteran of the late war, and formerly a leading farmer of Artesia Township, but now a resident of Onarga, is a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families of the county. He was born near La Fayette, in Tippecanoe County, Ind., April 21, 1830, and is a son of J. H. and Mary (Hardpence) Major, natives of the Hoosier State. The Major family is of Welsh origin. The father of our subject located in Tippecanoe County, Ind., in 1829, and from the Government entered a tract of heavily timbered land, from which he cleared and developed a farm, making his home thereon until 1853, when he sold out and with his family came to Illinois. The trip Westward was made by team. Mr. Major first located in Artesia Township, Iroquois County, purchasing one hundred and nine acres of land, constituting a part of the farm which our subject now owns. He also entered one hundred and sixty acres from the Government and bought an additional tract of eighty acres, on which he resided until his death. Throughout his business career he followed farming and met with good success in his undertakings. He was a prominent citizen of this community and took a leading part in the upbuilding and development of the county. He aided in the organization of the township, helped to lay out the roads, and was the efficient Road Supervisor of Artesia Township for a number of years from an early day. He died on the 12th of January, 1882, and his remains were interred in the Del Rey Cemetery. He was a Republican and in his religious belief was a Baptist.

His wife passed away several years previous to the death of her husband, being called to her final rest in 1874. She, too, was buried in the same cemetery and was a member of the same church as Mr. Major.

Unto this worthy couple were born a family of children, as follows: Robert D., who is now a retired farmer of Springfield, Mo.; Catherine, deceased; Katurah, who died in 1854; Samuel of this sketch; Mary, wife of J. F. Felker, a resident of Chicago; Syren, who died in 1850; Martha, who died in 1852; Olive, wife of B. F. Price, ex-County Treasurer and a resident of Watseka; and Ann, who died in 1851.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who was born and reared upon his father's farm, spending his boyhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads. His education was mostly acquired in the subscription school, which he attended at intervals until nineteen years of age. The schoolhouse was built of logs and furnished with slab seats and other primitive furniture. He started out in life for himself when twenty-two years of age, or on his arrival in Illinois. This was in 1853. His father gave him eighty acres of partially improved land, which he still owns, and there he began the development of a farm.

In April of the same year, Mr. Major was united in marriage with Miss Amy F. Lee, daughter of Nathan and Jerusha Lee. Unto them was born a daughter, Flora A., who is now the wife of George P. Stephens, a farmer. The mother died in 1856, and her remains were interred in Del Rey Cemetery. Mr. Major was again married, October 14, 1875, his second union being with Miss Kate, a native of Coshocton County, Ohio, daughter of John and Susan (McMurphy) Stevens. Mr. Stevens was born in England, and when nineteen years old came to the United States. In Coshocton County, Ohio, he married Miss McMurphy, a native of Delaware, and of Scotch-Irish descent. During the late war he served about a year in Company II, Seventy-sixth Ohio Infantry, when he was discharged on account of ill health. Both he and his wife live in Buckley, Ill.

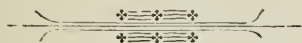
Mr. Major resided upon his first farm for two years and then returned to the old home, taking

charge of the farm and business, which he has since successfully managed. He still owns the old homestead, which came into the possession of his father almost forty years ago. He now owns one hundred and seventy-two acres of arable land on section 6, Artesia Township, where he carries on general farming and stock-raising. His land is under a high state of cultivation, and the good buildings and other excellent improvements make this one of the finest farms in the community.

When the late war was in progress, Mr. Major abandoned his business, for he felt that his duty called him to the front. He enlisted in the service of his country as a private of Company M, Ninth Illinois Cavalry. He was mustered in at Chicago, and the first active engagement in which he participated was at Crookum Cross Roads, Ark. They went from St. Louis over the Iron Mountains on horseback to Jacksonport, from there to Helena, and afterward up the Mississippi River by boat to Memphis, Tenn. For a time Mr. Major was stationed at Corinth, where he did duty as a scout. He afterward participated in the battles of Tupelo, Salem, Hurricane Creek, Franklin, Nashville, and many other engagements of lesser importance. He had enlisted for three years' service, and in the spring of 1864 he was granted a thirty-day furlough. He then re-enlisted as a veteran and served until the close of the war. He was promoted to be Sergeant at Chicago, where he first entered the camp, and when mustered out held the rank of Second Lieutenant. He was very fortunate, in that he was neither wounded nor taken prisoner. On the contrary, he was ever found at his post of duty, proving himself a valiant soldier and a loyal defender of the Old Flag.

After receiving his discharge, Mr. Major returned to his home and resumed the occupation of farming, which he has followed continuously since with good success, and has thereby acquired a competence which numbers him among the substantial citizens of the community. In political sentiment, Mr. Major is a stalwart Republican. The cause of education has found in him a warm friend and he has done efficient service in its interest, while serving as School Director for a number of years and as School Trustee for six years.

In his social relations he is an Odd Fellow, and is a member of the Baptist Church. Mrs. Major is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His life has been an upright and honorable one, and during the long years of his residence in Iroquois County, he has won a large circle of friends and acquaintances who hold him in high esteem.



GARRETT B. BROWNE, who is engaged in the jewelry business in Milford, claims Indiana as the State of his nativity. He was born on the 7th of March, 1861, in Madison County and is one of a family of eleven children, who with two exceptions all are yet living. The parents, Lorenzo D. and Nancy (Harlin) Browne, were both natives of Virginia, but for many years were residents of Indiana. Of their family, William S. married Kizzie Frame, daughter of Abner Frame, by whom he has five children, and engages in the practice of medicine in Watseka; Sarah J., wife of Iven Bailey, of Watseka, died in 1872; John L. died in infancy; George N. married Linda Ford and now makes his home in Watseka; Robert W., who is engaged in farming near Watseka, was joined in wedlock with Jennie Gillfillan, daughter of Alexander Gillfillan, and they have four children; Lorenzo D., who wedded Irene G. McCurtain, by whom he has two children, resides in Watseka, where he is engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery; Susan A. is the next younger; Mary N. is the wife of Frank L. Williams, a resident of Woodland, and they have one child; Garrett of this sketch is the next younger; Owen E. wedded Miss Lizzie Bernard, who resided near Mitchell, S. Dak., and their home is now in Sheldon, Ill.; and Della H. completes the family.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who spent the first five years of his life in the State of his nativity and was then brought by his parents to Watseka, where he was reared to manhood. Having worked in the jewelry business for ten years, he entered the Chicago Horological Institute and six months later the Chicago Watch-

makers' Institute, from which he graduated in October, 1891. In the meantime he took up optical work, and graduated at the same time from Dr. Fowler's Optical Institute. September 3, 1891, he graduated from the West Ophthalmic College of Chicago. In February, 1890, he came to Milford and the following year engaged in the jewelry business, which he yet carries on.

On the 10th of March, 1887, Mr. Browne was united in marriage with Miss Minnie M. Gerard, a daughter of John and Emeline (Moorey) Gerard, of Milford. Two children grace the union of the young couple, both daughters: Olga G., born April 2, 1888, and Eva J., born March 29, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Browne are numbered among the leading young people of Milford. They are held in high regard throughout the community, and in social circles hold an enviable place.

In religious belief, Mr. Browne is a member of the Christian Church. He takes considerable interests in civic societies and is a member of the Odd Fellows' lodge of Hoopeston, and Milford Camp No. 91, M. W. A. He is also a Royal Arch Mason, holding membership with the Blue Lodge and Chapter of Hoopeston. He has a good jewelry store in Milford and although he has not yet been engaged in business for two years he has already won an excellent patronage and his trade is constantly increasing. He is a young and energetic business man destined to have a successful career.



HENRY TROUP, an honored and influential pioneer of Middleport, Iroquois County, Ill., was born in Baltimore, Md., April 25, 1800. In early life he removed with his parents to Canton, Stark County, Ohio, and afterward to Manchester, of the same county. After attaining to mature years, he was there united in marriage, in 1834, with Miss Mary Ann Little, who was born in Columbus County, Ohio, on the 11th of October, 1814, and is a daughter of John Little.

Mr. Troup engaged in merchandising in Manchester, which he continued until his removal to Illinois in August, 1838. He had come to this

State in 1837, and selected a site for a home and business at what has since been known as Middleport, also hired a man to build a house for him. To his new home he brought the family the following August, accompanied by his father-in-law, John Little. When they arrived, the house for which he had contracted was not completed, and the whole party had to camp under a large tree on the bank of the river for about six weeks. The Troup dwelling was a two-story frame, the first building erected in the place. It was built on lot 7, block 4, and his store, which was subsequently completed just across the street from the dwelling, was 16x24 feet. The first building was used by him for a hotel for about two years, after which he erected another dwelling close to his store and removed to it. He was a man of means, possessed of great energy and good business ability, and soon became the leading spirit of the place. He prospered in business and accumulated a large property. At one time he owned sixteen farms and between twelve hundred and fifteen hundred acres of timber-land besides.

Mr. and Mrs. Troup were blessed with a large family numbering seven sons and three daughters, of whom three sons and two daughters are now living. Henry, the eldest, died in infancy; Theodore married Anna Mason, of Wisconsin, and resides in Deuel County, S. Dak.; Louis married Sabra V. Thomas, and died January 12, 1863; David married Harriet Hawn, of Ohio, and died November 16, 1862; Melvina died at the age of eleven years; Edward was a soldier of the late war, a member of Company A, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, and died July 11, 1863, from disease contracted in the trenches in the siege of Vicksburg; Elenora is the widow of Joseph Horton, of Middleport, Iroquois County; Caroline married Capt. Abraham Andrew, Postmaster of Watseka, who is represented on another page; Alfred married Isabel Lindsey, and resides in Dover Centre, Minn.; Charles wedded Eva Vivian, and resides at the old home in Middleport.

On the 29th of December, 1869, Troup's Addition to Watseka was recorded. The plat, covering a large portion of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 32, Middleport Town-

ship, was laid off by Theodore and Anna F. Troup. In politics, Mr. Troup was a Democrat, and for several years was Postmaster of Middleport, and held various local offices. His death occurred April 8, 1859. He was a man of unusual size, being six feet two inches in height, and weighing three hundred and forty pounds. Both he and his worthy wife were noted for their indefatigable energy and industry, upright and honorable lives and broad-handed benevolence. In addition to their arduous duty of rearing and providing for a family of ten children of their own, they brought up, clothed and educated five others who had been left at a tender age to make their own way in the world. In addition to this they cared at times for other children who were in want. Mr. Troup, his wife and family were Presbyterians, and the first religious services held in Middleport were held in their house. They were active in effecting the organization and in the support of the Presbyterian Church of Middleport. In his intercourse with the world, Mr. Troup was affable and courteous, and his integrity was above question. Domestic by habit, he was attached to his family, and enjoyed the high esteem and respect of all who knew him.



FRANK E. MEENTS, a well-known farmer of Ashkum Township, makes his home on section 27. He was born in Hanover, Germany, on the 19th of May, 1857, and is a son of Remmer H. and Maria (Ulbers) Meents, both of whom were also born in Hanover. The father was a farmer in his native land, and there reared his family and spent his entire life.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in the usual manner of farmer lads, and he received a good education in his native language. After coming to this country he attended school for two winters, until he had learned to speak fairly well the English tongue. He emigrated to the New World in 1872, taking passage in a ship which sailed from Bremen, and made the voyage in about twelve days. Arriving in New York in March,

our subject at once went to Chicago, and from there to Ashkum, where he joined his brother, M. R. Meents. He worked on a farm during the summer, attending school during the winter months. He was also employed some of the time by Mr. Comstock in his grain elevator. He was afterward in the employ of that gentleman for four years, both in his warehouse and grain office. At the expiration of that time, Mr. Meents rented a farm, bought a team, and engaged in agricultural pursuits for several years. By good management and carefully-kept earnings, he was enabled to purchase a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in 1883, and here he still resides. Since he has come into the possession of this property, he has greatly improved the place. He has a good and substantial residence, commodious barns and other buildings. This farm is located one and a-fourth miles from Ashkum, and is a most valuable and well-cultivated place. Our subject purchased an additional eighty acres adjoining his home and situated on the opposite side of the road, thus making two hundred acres in his home farm. Though comparatively a young man, Mr. Meents has achieved a fair measure of success and prosperity, which he has deserved by his industry, labor and perseverance. On every hand his farm bears the evidence of the thrift and enterprise of the owner, and is one of the best pieces of property in the township.

On the 14th of April, 1880, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Meents and Miss Cevia Rieken, who was born, reared and educated in Livingston County, Ill., and is a daughter of George A. Rieken, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. The wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Meents was celebrated in Danforth, and unto them seven children have been born: Remmer E., George A., Maria, Cassie Margaret and Tressie (twins), Cevia and Carl F.

Mr. Meents and his wife were reared in the Lutheran faith, but are not members of any church organization. In 1882, he returned on a visit to the land of his birth, and spent about two months at his old home and amid the scenes of his youth. He had a most enjoyable trip, and has brought back many pleasant recollections of the Father-

land. Since casting his first ballot for James G. Blaine, Mr. Meents has been identified with the Republican party. He has never sought for official positions, though he undoubtedly has the ability to perform the duties incident to them, could he be induced to accept the same. He is an honored and respected citizen of this community, where he has lived for nearly nineteen years, and is a man of integrity and uprightness.



ISAAC VAN DORN, who for thirty-four years has made his home in this county and is widely and favorably known throughout its borders, resides on section 15, Fountain Creek Township, where he is engaged in general farming. The Van Dorn family was founded in America by four brothers, who left their native land, Holland, came to America in Colonial days and settled in Pennsylvania. All four served in the Revolutionary War. Isaac Van Dorn lived for some time in the Keystone State and then emigrated to Ohio, when its Indian settlers far outnumbered the white population.

His son, Hezekiah Van Dorn, the father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, and was only four years of age when his parents emigrated Westward. He enlisted in the War of 1812, serving as a scout, and was present at Howe's surrender. He had learned the trade of carpentering and cabinet-making, and returned to his native State in order to engage in that line of business. While there he married Hester Irvin, and resided in Washington County until 1834, when he built a boat and floated down the Ohio River to Evansville, Ind., from where he made his way with ox-teams to Fountain County. In that then wild and unimproved region he purchased eighty acres of land and began the development of a farm, upon which he made his home until his death, about 1882, at the age of ninety-four years. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and in politics, was a supporter of Democratic principles. His wife also died on the old home farm. Unto them

was born a family of thirteen children, of whom the following are yet living: Mrs. Lydia Hunt, of Indiana; Mrs. Hester Shaft, of Missouri; Isaac, of this sketch; Jonathan, who resides on the old homestead in Indiana; and Hezekiah, who resides in Montana.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who was born in Washington County, Pa., March 5, 1819. His educational privileges were very meagre. When he did attend school, which was held in a log cabin, he had to walk three miles to and from the place. He has always been a hard-working man, and in his boyhood he used to work for \$2.50 and \$3 per month. He remained at home until twenty-five years of age and then began working as a farm hand for \$9 per month. When a young man, he and his father hauled twelve barrels of flour by ox-team to Chicago, taking nineteen days to make the round trip. On the way one of the oxen took sick. From Hiram Vennum they borrowed a single harness, and, making a single yoke, hitched in the mate of the sick ox ahead of the other team, and proceeded on their journey. At length he determined to try his fortune in the West, believing that better opportunities were afforded in the new and less thickly-settled States. In 1858, he located in this county, and with the capital that he had acquired by his economy, perseverance and industry he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 15, Fountain Creek Township. Not a house was then in sight and all was wild and unimproved, but with characteristic energy he began the development of a farm, and every improvement upon the place stands as a monument to his thrift and enterprise.

In May, 1862, Mr. Van Dorn was married to Miss Mary Ann Francis, a native of Ohio, and unto them have been born seven children, namely: Mrs. Ida Miller, who resides in Missouri; Hezekiah, at home; Hester, his twin sister, who is the wife of Ed Crimmott, of Iowa; Dora and Isaac, at home; Charles, who married Miss Elizabeth Collins and resides in Hoopeston; and William, who completes the family.

Mr. Van Dorn exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democratic party, with which he

has affiliated since casting his first Presidential vote for James K. Polk. Like every true American citizen should do, he feels an interest in political affairs, yet has never been an office-seeker. He started out in life with no special advantages to aid him. His education was acquired largely through his own efforts, but by reading, experience and observation he has become a well-informed man. Success has crowned his business dealings, and a well-earned competence is now his. Mr. Van Dorn has a wide acquaintance throughout this community, and the honorable, upright life which he has lived has won for him the confidence and good-will of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.



JOHN H. DIRKS is a prominent farmer who owns a farm on section 32, Douglas Township. He was born in Hanover, Germany, on the 30th of January, 1847, and is a son of Lewis and Annie (Miller) Dirks, who were natives of the same province. The father was a farmer by occupation and died in 1854. In their family were four sons and two daughters: Matilda is the wife of Mr. Behrends, of Kansas; Edo resides at Fairbury, Livingston County; George came to the United States but afterward returned to Germany, where he now makes his home; John H. is next in order of birth; Mary is the wife of Morgan Fieldt and lives in Kansas; and Antony is a resident of McLean County, Ill. After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Dirks became the wife of Henry Hanken. The family emigrated to America in 1873, with the exception of Edo, who had crossed the Atlantic three years before. They settled in Kansas and there occurred the death of the mother and Mr. Hanken.

The early years of our subject were passed upon a farm and in the district schools. He received but limited educational advantages, and when about fourteen years of age he was obliged to hire out by the month to farmers. At the age of twenty he entered the army, joining the Thirteenth Hanover Cavalry Regiment as a private soldier.

He was in the service for four years and was always found at his post of duty. He was stationed at Burgdorf during the first year, the second year in Hanover, and in June, 1870, was first engaged in the war with France at the battle of Swabruken. Altogether, he was in thirty-two battles and skirmishes. He participated in the battle of Gravelotte, which raged for three days. During that time, he suffered many hardships and for three days and two nights was without food. During that war, at one time he did not take off his clothes or boots or enter shelter for seven weeks. He was in the service for four years and was discharged as a non-commissioned officer. During the last year, he was stationed in the city of Hanover. He spent one winter at home after leaving the army, and in 1873 sailed from Hamburg to New York. From there he came to Illinois and went to work upon a farm near Washington, where he continued for about nine months. December 27, 1873, Mr. Dirks was united in wedlock with Miss Margaret Wilts, who was born May 17, 1849, in the same part of Germany as her husband and crossed the ocean in company with our subject's brother, three years previous to his arrival in the United States. Her parents died in the Fatherland. Mr. and Mrs. Dirks became the parents of the following children, Annie, who has received an excellent education in the public schools; Maggie, Lillie and Katie, all of whom were born in Tazewell County. One child died in infancy. After the marriage of our subject, he rented land in Tazewell County until 1889, where he followed agricultural pursuits, and then removed to Livingston County, near Chatsworth, where he purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres. In the spring of 1892, he sold his property and came to Iroquois County, where he bought a fine farm, well tiled and otherwise improved. This farm contains one hundred and sixty acres and has upon it a good house, barns and other buildings.

Mr. Dirks started in life a poor boy and has secured a competence by his energy and well-directed efforts. He has educated himself in English since coming to this country and is a man of intelligence. He and his family hold membership with the Lutheran Church of Gilman, of which he is a

Trustee and liberal supporter. His sympathies are given to the Republican party and his first vote was cast for the Hon. James A. Garfield. He is a leading German citizen and has won the respect and regard of all with whom he has come in contact.



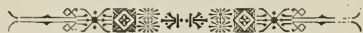
JOHN REEDER was born in Cambridgeshire, England, May 27, 1819, and was a son of Samuel Reeder, a brickmason and contractor. At the age of fifteen years, our subject emigrated to America, locating in Rochester, N. Y., where he learned the trade of shoemaker. In 1844, he went to Chicago, Ill., and six months afterward came to Milford, Iroquois County, where for a time he worked at his trade. However, he soon began dealing in live stock and, removing to Watseka, engaged in the stock business exclusively. In 1857, he went to Texas, where he resided for three years, or until 1860, when he removed to the North, driving a herd of cattle. He made his home near Watseka and engaged in stock dealing until 1871, when he confined himself to local trade in the line of his chosen occupation.

Mr. Reeder was married in Rochester, N. Y., to Miss Ann La Veil, a native of the Emerald Isle, who came to America in childhood. Unto them were born seven children, three sons and four daughters: Robert H., James William and Margaret died in childhood; Mary became the wife of James Fleming and after his death wedded William Coward, with whom she resides on the old homestead; Rosella is the wife of Harvey West, a resident of Martinton Township; Lavina is the wife of John Coward, who makes his home in Middleport Township; John O. was married March 21, 1880, to Belle Hazlett and makes his home in Watseka, where for two years he has served as Deputy County Clerk.

The father of this family continued to reside in Iroquois County until his death, which occurred in October, 1885. He was killed by being thrown from a bridge. He was quite a prominent and influential citizen of the community and did much

for its upbuilding and the promotion of its best interests. He built many buildings in Watseka, including the opera house. When he came to this county, he had only about \$5 in money, but possessed a determination to succeed, and was energetic and enterprising and as the result of his industrious efforts met with excellent success. He prospered and at the time of his death owned about eight hundred acres of land.

John O. Reeder was born in Collin County, Tex., December 22, 1858, and was brought by his parents to Iroquois County when about a year and a-half old. After he had attained to mature years, he went South, spending three and a-half years in Texas and Missouri engaged in sheep-raising. After his father's death, he bought the old homestead of two hundred acres which he still owns. He engaged in agricultural pursuits until securing his present official position, since which time he has rented his farm. In politics, he is a Democrat and while in Mitchell County, Tex., served as County Commissioner. Unto Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Reeder have been born three children: Worth L., Della M. and Claude H. The eldest and youngest were born in Iroquois County, and Della M. is a native of Texas.



SAMUEL BROOKE, who owns and operates a farm on section 34, Douglas Township, was born near Plymouth, Ind., on the 26th of September, 1858. He is a son of Benjamin Brooke, who was born in Ohio, December 12, 1812. He was a farmer and bridge-builder by occupation and was married in Fairfield County, Ohio, to Elizabeth Wickizer, who was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and was of German descent. In 1863, they emigrated to Marshall County, Ind., where they remained for about twelve years, in which time Mr. Brooke was employed at his regular business, that of contracting for building bridges and other carpenter work. They then removed to a farm in Iroquois County, near Gilman, where he turned his attention entirely to agriculture and stock-raising. Old age coming on, he re-

moved to Gilman, retiring from the active cares of farm life, and there his death occurred on the 3d of September, 1885. His wife is still living and has reached the ripe old age of seventy-seven years. When Mr. Brooke came to Illinois, he was possessed of but little means and was also in poor health; nevertheless, by good management and industry he secured a good home and acquired considerable property. He also assisted his sons in acquiring a start in business life and was a much honored citizen and early settler in this community. He was well educated and posted on all of the leading topics of the day. He was for many years a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but in later life withdrew from that denomination and preferred to take the Bible and Christ as his sole creed. He gave liberally to churches and benevolent societies and was strongly opposed to secret societies. Politically, he was always a supporter of the Democracy and was zealous in its interests.

The subject of this sketch was the youngest child in a family of eleven, and came with his parents to Illinois when but five years of age. His school advantages were but limited, the nearest schoolhouse being two miles away from his home. He assisted his father in his farm duties and cares until 1882, when he purchased one-half of the old homestead. Five years later, he bought the remainder of S. W. Brooke, administrator of his father's estate. The farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of well-tiled and improved land. The pleasant home, neat buildings and carefully kept farm bespeak the thrifty and enterprising owner.

In March, 1887, Mr. Brooke married Miss Matilda Heise, the ceremony being performed in Douglas Township. The lady is a native of Indiana, and grew to womanhood in this county. One child graces the union: Lindsey, who is now two years old.

Politically, Mr. Brooke uses his right of franchise in favor of the Democratic party and cast his first Presidential vote for Hancock. He is strong and self-reliant and discharges his duties of citizenship as a man who holds the welfare of the community paramount to all personal interests. He gives his undivided attention to his agricul-

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tural pursuits and business affairs and is in no sense of the term a seeker for official positions. For nearly thirty years he has been a resident of this county and has helped largely in the success and development of the township in which he makes his home. Like his father, he is not a believer in secret societies, preferring to stand alone and unassisted by any such organization.



AUGUSTUS J. DE LONG, a real-estate and loan agent of Gilman, was born in New Lexington, Perry County, Ohio, February 18, 1845. He is a son of Edward and Ruth (Lackey) DeLong. The De Long family is of French ancestry, while on the maternal side the ancestors were of German origin. The father of our subject, who was also born in Ohio, was a cousin of the great arctic explorer, De Long. He married in Perry County Miss Lackey, who was a native of the Keystone State. He was a tanner and saddler by trade, but after spending several years in that line he purchased a tract of timber-land and developed a farm within eight miles of where Gen. Sheridan's father lived. Mrs. De Long died on the old homestead at about sixty-nine years of age.

After the death of his wife, Mr. De Long came West and lived until his death at the home of his daughter in Chatsworth. In religious faith, he was a Catholic, and his wife a member of the Methodist Church. In politics, he was a strong Whig, and later a Republican. Of their family, two sons and three daughters survive.

In the order of birth, the subject of this sketch is the fourth child of the family. He received his education in the common schools of the county and at New Lexington. He began clerking at Zanesville, Ohio, when about fifteen years of age, and there he remained a year. After the war, with his brother Joseph, he started in the mercantile business at Lancaster, Ohio, where they carried on business for some two years under the title of De Long Bros. Having sold out, our subject went

to Peoria and several other towns to obtain a clerkship. Being unsuccessful in this attempt, he hired out as a harvest hand, but soon found he could not succeed in the rather difficult operation of binding sheaves. While he and his employer were talking about the matter, a School Director rode by and stopped to say that their teacher was sick. The farmer said: "Here is a man that cannot work, maybe he can teach school." Mr. De Long at that time knew as little about teaching as harvesting, but, undaunted, he took the position and made a grand success. For seven years following, he taught in the schools of Marshall County. In 1869, he came to Gilman, purchased some lots, and then returned to finish his school.

On the 20th of September, 1871, Mr. De Long was united in marriage with Isabel Pool, a native of Putnam County, Ill., the marriage ceremony being celebrated at the old homestead near Henry, Marshall County. The lady is a daughter of Guy W. Pool, a native of Ohio. He was born in 1800, was reared to agricultural pursuits, and spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads. His educational privileges were limited. He proved a valiant soldier in the Black Hawk War in 1832. His wife bore the maiden name of Sophronia Bascom and was a native of the Empire State. In the Pool family were ten children, seven sons and three daughters. Mrs. De Long was born in Putnam County, Ill., September 30, 1845, and her primary education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by study in the Model Department of the Normal University.

Mr. and Mrs. De Long are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Gilman, and Mrs. De Long belongs to the Ladies' Foreign Missionary Society. Our subject socially is connected with White Holly Camp, M. W. of A. After their marriage, Mr. De Long took his bride to Gilman, where they have since resided. Six children have blessed their union, but two, Jessie May and Guy Pool, are deceased. Minnie, Frank, Charles and Augustus are at home. The De Long household is the abode of hospitality, its doors ever being open for the reception of the many friends of the family.

Mr. De Long's first work in Gilman was in the

position of book-keeper in the employ of Capt. W. H. Mann, who then carried on an extensive nursery business. After a time, he purchased an interest with him, and remained in that business for five years. Succeeding that, for a year he engaged in the real-estate business with Edward Rumley. At the expiration of that time, the firm dissolved partnership, Mr. De Long since conducting the business alone. He has perhaps handled more land than any other man in this part of the county, and has settled many large estates. Besides having an office in Gilman, he has one at Danforth. He is the possessor of some fine farm property, one hundred and fifty-five acres adjoining the city limits of Gilman on the south, and one hundred and twenty acres adjoining on the north. All he now possesses he has made by his own industry and good business ability.

As is every good citizen, Mr. De Long is much interested in the advancement of educational interests, and is now President of the School Board. For many years he has been a member of the City Council. He is President of the Gilman Building and Loan Association. He takes a great interest in conventions and in political questions, and is an active member of the Republican party. He is one of the prominent and successful citizens of Gilman, and is held in high regard by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. He is a man of great generosity and benevolence, and always has a good word and helping hand for everybody.



BENJAMIN BURT, who is now living retired in Milford, is numbered among the honored pioneers of this county, having been identified with its history for the long period of forty-two years. His life record is as follows: He was born in Scioto County, Ohio, about seven miles from Portsmouth, October 31, 1814. His father, Joseph Burt, was born December 3, 1787, in Pennsylvania, and married Margaret Munn, also a native of the Keystone State, who was born in 1786. About 1829 they removed from Ohio to Indiana, and in 1837 came

to Iroquois County, locating in Milford, where Mr. Burt followed the blacksmith's trade for about three years. He was then taken ill with lung fever and died December 13, 1838. After the father's death Mrs. Burt made her home with her son Solomon, who lived on a farm about three miles southeast of Milford. She was called to her final home April 27, 1847. Unto this worthy couple were born six children, as follows: James M., born on Christmas Day of 1812; Benjamin, of this sketch; Solomon, born February 23, 1816; Eleanor, February 11, 1821; Ruhama, August 16, 1824; and Joseph, May 10, 1827. Of the family, James and Solomon are now deceased.

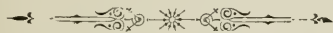
The subject of this sketch spent the first fifteen years of his life in the State of his nativity, and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Indiana, the family locating in Tippecanoe County, about five miles from La Fayette. In 1837 his parents came to Milford, but Benjamin remained in the Hoosier State until the autumn of 1848, when he also came to Milford to make him a home. He first purchased forty acres of land, and a year later bought forty acres of timberland. A short time afterward he bought one hundred and sixty acres on a United States land warrant, and then sold to his brother Solomon eighty acres, retaining possession of a hundred and sixty acre tract, a square quarter-section.

On July 27, 1851, Mr. Burt was united in marriage with Miss Annie Jane Hoskins, daughter of Joseph Hoskins, a farmer residing near Milford. Two children were born unto them, one of whom is yet living, Eliza Margaret, born September 18, 1852. She became the wife of Daniel P. Good November 30, 1873, with whom Mr. Burt now makes his home. They had two children: Vara Mae; and Pearl Bernice, who died August 10, 1891, in her sixth year.

After he had engaged in farming for some years Mr. Burt turned his attention to commercial pursuits and for a time engaged in general merchandising, but afterward returned to his farm. A few years ago, however, he removed to Milford, where he has since lived retired. In connection with his land he also owned the property where he yet lives until quite recently, when he deeded

it to his daughter, Mrs. Good, together with forty acres of timber-land. He met with success in his business career and accumulated a comfortable competence.

Mr. Burt is a member of the Christian Church, and, in politics, was a Whig until Stephen A. Douglas ran for the Presidency, when he voted for him. Since that time he has supported the Democratic party. For two terms he held the office of Assessor in Milford Township, and twice in Stockland Township, being also Collector one term in the latter. The cause of education has ever found in him a warm friend, and he served as School Trustee for many years. Progressive and public-spirited, he ever manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding. He is numbered among the early settlers of the county, and has witnessed almost its entire growth and development.



HENRY CASSIUS LOVETT, the proprietor of a livery, feed and sale stable of Watseka, Ill., was born in Providence, R. I., on the 19th of June, 1845, being a son of George W. and Abbie (Reynolds) Lovett. His father was born in Cumberland, Mass., on the 29th of December, 1819, and his mother in Vermont; they are now both deceased. He died January 19, 1881, and his wife January 20, 1877, aged sixty-three. Both were members of the Baptist Church.

Our subject accompanied his parents to Boston, Mass., in early childhood, where they resided until 1852, when they removed to a farm in Suffolk County, N. Y. From there, in 1860, they came to Iroquois County, Ill., settling in Crescent Township about five miles west of Watseka on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres which his father had purchased. George W. Lovett continued his residence there until 1879, when he removed to Watseka, where his death occurred in 1881. In the family were four children, two sons and two daughters, of whom all are now living with the exception of one daughter, Mary, the eldest, who was the wife of Ezra A. Peck and died August 7, 1865, aged

twenty-nine years. Harriet Frances, the second child, became the wife of Enoch Wilson and after his death married John Bulson; she now resides in San Francisco, Cal. George Otis, the next younger, was a soldier four years in the late war, a member of Company A, Seventy-sixth Illinois Regiment. He has been twice married, his first wife being Amanda Fidler, and his present wife was Abbie Kelley. He lives in Eureka, Kan., where he is now serving his second term as Circuit Clerk of Greenwood County.

Henry C., the subject of this sketch, is the youngest of the family. He was reared on the home farm and was educated in the district schools. On the 20th of January, 1870, he was married in Chillicothe, Ohio, to Miss Mary M. Kelso. Mrs. Lovett was born in Burlington, W. Va., and is a daughter of John and Susannah Kelso. Mr. and Mrs. Lovett have no children of their own, but have raised from early childhood a nephew of his, J. C. Lovett, and a niece of hers, Harriet Beard. The best of educational advantages have been given them, and Miss Harriet, who graduated from the Watseka High School, is a teacher by profession.

Mr. Lovett was engaged in farming in Crescent Township until the spring of 1879, when he came to Watseka and embarked in the livery business in company with George W. James. This partnership was continued about a year, when Mr. James sold his interest to Robert Hayes. Six months later Mr. Lovett bought his partner's interest and has since continued the business alone. His main building was the old schoolhouse and church of Middleport, which was moved to Watseka. His stables are situated a little east of the Court House and two blocks south of Main Street, at the corner of Fourth and Locust. They are commodious and well-furnished stables. Mr. Lovett has probably the finest set of carriages of various styles and as fine horses as can be found in any livery in the county. In addition to his livery business, he is engaged in buying and shipping horses, in which he does an extensive business.

Mr. Lovett is a Republican in politics, and while a resident of Crescent Township served as Township Collector and School Trustee for a number of years. He was also elected Road Commissioner

for Belmont Township in the spring of 1892. He is a member of Iroquois Lodge No. 74, I. O. O. F.; and of Iroquois Encampment No. 81, of that order in Watseka. Mr. Lovett also belongs to the Patriotic Order of Sons of America and is one of the State officers. He is a practical business man, whose integrity, courteous manner and correct business methods command the respect and confidence of his fellow-townsmen and acquaintances.



JOHN N. HOFFMAN is one of the extensive land-owners of the county, and was formerly a prominent merchant and business man of Goodwine. His life record is as follows: He was born in Bavaria, Germany, on the River Rhine, October 3, 1832, and is a son of John M. and Catherine (Doll) Hoffman, who spent their entire lives in Germany. The father followed farming for a livelihood. He served under Napoleon in the war with Russia when only nineteen years of age, and was in many battles with the great commander. He died at the age of fifty-six. He was a member of the Catholic Church, and his wife held membership in the Lutheran Church. They had four children who grew to mature years, as follows: Catherine, Margaret, Philip J. and John N.

The subject of this sketch, in accordance with the custom of his native land, attended the public schools until fourteen years of age, and during the next seven years of his life served an apprenticeship to a ropemaker. He was then called upon to serve in the German army, but not wishing to do so, he ran away from home, and, boarding a vessel from Havre, sailed for New York. Going to Brooklyn, he worked at his trade for a few months and then removed to Danville, Pa., where he secured employment in a rolling-mill and learned the puddling trade. After six months, he began work on a railroad. At length, he determined to try his fortune in the West, and on the 10th of August, 1854, landed in Chicago with only \$10 in gold in his pocket. The succeed-

ing winter he worked on the Illinois Central Railroad, and in 1855 hired to a farmer in LaSalle County being thus employed until 1858, when he went South to St. Louis. As he could find nothing to do in that city, he went on a steamboat which ran between New Orleans and St. Paul, and thus his time was passed until 1860. On the breaking out of the late war, he went to Ottawa, Ill., and enlisted at the call for seventy-five thousand troops, but his services were not accepted.

Mr. Hoffman was married in 1861 to Otila Gleim, who was born in LaSalle County, of German parentage. He then rented a farm, which he operated until 1868, when he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of railroad land on section 8, Fountain Creek Township, Iroquois County. The following year he located thereon. His wife was not long permitted to enjoy her new home, her death occurring in 1870, leaving five children; George died at fourteen years of age; and Frederick, at the age of eleven. Those still living are: Anna, who makes her home in Nebraska; Katie, wife of George Christ, who resides on her father's farm; and Jacob, who is living on the old homestead with his father. In 1872, Mr. Hoffman wedded Anna Gleim, who bore the same name as his first wife but was not a relative. By this marriage were born five children: Lizzie; Louisa, deceased; Mary; William; and John, deceased.

When Mr. Hoffman came to this county, his land was all wild and unimproved, but acre after acre was placed under the plow, and soon rich and fertile fields were yielding to him abundant harvests. He made his home upon his first farm until 1882, when he removed to Ash Grove Township, purchased a farm, and entered into partnership with Sylvester Rose in the lumber and hardware business in Cissna Park. After a year he went to Claytonville, erected a building, and established business as a dealer in lumber, hardware and agricultural implements; but after three years he traded for property in Goodwine, where he still resides. He built a neat and substantial residence, and his finely-improved place is supplied with various kinds of small fruits and grapes. He now owns five hundred and forty acres of valuable land in one body, and has a good store

building and other improvements in Goodwine. He also owns real estate in Chicago and in other parts of Illinois, and was instrumental in establishing the Farmers' Elevator in Goodwine. He is a man of excellent business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, methodical and systematic, and has acquired a valuable property through his own industry and economy.

In the early days before the war, Mr. Hoffman heard a debate between Lincoln and Douglas at Ottawa, and at the succeeding election voted for Douglas. He has since been a stalwart Democrat and has held several road and school offices, also served as Justice of the Peace. His public duties were ever discharged with promptness and fidelity, winning him the commendation of all concerned. Mr. Hoffman experienced all the hardships and privations of pioneer life, and in the early years of his residence in this county had many obstacles and difficulties to overcome, but he steadily worked his way upward. No better American citizen can be found. He loves this country and its institutions, and is true to every duty of citizenship. It was a fortunate day for him when he determined to come to the United States, for here he has found a pleasant home, many friends and prosperity.



M. MARSHALL is engaged in general farming on section 9, Pigeon Grove Township. He is one of the widely-known agriculturists of the community, and is an honored veteran of the late war. A native of the Empire State, he was born in Greene County, on the Hudson River, November 6, 1846, and is descended from one of the heroes of the Revolution. His grandfather served in the War for Independence, in the navy, and, being taken prisoner, was placed in an old hulk in New York Harbor, but made his escape by swimming three miles to the shore. He became one of the pioneer settlers of Vermont, and in that State Marvin Marshall, the father of our subject, was born and reared. He afterward engaged in making brick in New York and at length

emigrated to the West. The year 1850 witnessed his arrival in Peoria, Ill., and in that locality he engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in Brimfield, in June, 1883, at the age of seventy-two years. He was married in the Green Mountain State to Lois Bruce, who died in 1885, near Peoria. In politics, Mr. Marshall was a Whig and afterward a Republican. In his social relations he was an Odd Fellow, and in religious belief a Baptist. In the family were ten children, six of whom grew to mature years, namely: Albert, who now resides in Brimfield, Peoria County; Reuben, who enlisted for the late war as a member of the Eighty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain; Mrs. Helen Hottenberg, who resides in Nebraska; J. M. of this notice; Charles, who is living in Nebraska; and Cassius, who makes his home in Lincoln, that State.

Our subject was only four years old when with his parents he came to Illinois. He was reared upon the home farm near Peoria and acquired his education in the district schools of Brimfield Township. No event of special importance occurred during his boyhood and youth until the 1st of February, 1864, when, at the age of seventeen years, he enlisted in the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, under Col. Robert Ingersoll. He joined the regiment at Vicksburg and spent his time in Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and Tennessee, scouting and on picket duty. He participated in the battle of Jackson, on the 7th of July, 1864, and took part in many skirmishes. After the war was over he received his discharge, September 30, 1865, in Springfield, after which he returned home.

Mr. Marshall then resumed farming, which he has since followed. January 2, 1873, in Woodford County, Ill., he married Miss Elizabeth De Mott, who was born in that county and is of French descent. Four children grace their union: Clarence D., Winfred M., Bertha E. and Ray Elmer. The two elder were born in Peoria County, the younger in this county. Clarence completed his education in Onarga Seminary.

In the spring of 1873, Mr. Marshall came to this county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land, which had been ploughed but not an improvement made. With the excep-

tion of six years' time, it has since been his home and is one of the most desirable farms of the community, being under a high state of cultivation and well improved. Although he started in life empty-handed, Mr. Marshall has met with success in his undertakings and has acquired a comfortable competence. The Republican party has no stancher advocate than our subject, who cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant. He has never sought for political preferment, but has held some school offices and the cause of education finds in him a friend. Since the organization of the Grand Army he has been a member and is now serving as Quartermaster of G. H. Neeld Post No. 576, of Cissna Park. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen of the community and is held in high regard for his sterling worth and integrity.



HORACE BARNES, who is prominent in business circles in Onarga, has since 1882 been connected with the tile manufactory of this place. In that year, in connection with J. E. Owen and John W. Cunningham, he established a factory and began the manufacture of tile, carrying on business in partnership for three years. New machinery was purchased, facilities enlarged and a good trade built up. After three years, Mr. Owen bought out his partners and continued alone in business for a year. In October, 1891, Mr. Barnes bought the interest of Mr. Owen and is now sole proprietor. He has both a blue and a yellow clay, and with the improved machinery manufactures a superior article of tile. He also makes an excellent quality of brick and is doing a thriving business.

Mr. Barnes is a native of the Green Mountain State. He was born in Rutland, Rutland County, January 14, 1822, and is one of three sons, whose parents were William and Sarah (Buck) Barnes. The father was a native of Rutland County, Vt., and the mother of Berkshire County, Mass. The children are all yet living, Charles E. and Lorin both being older than our subject.

We now take up the personal history of our sub-

ject, who is widely and favorably known throughout this community. In the spring of 1846, when a young man of twenty-four years, he came to Illinois to try his fortune on its broad prairies, and purchased two hundred acres of Government land in Du Page County. He also there engaged in teaching school for a number of years and was elected Superintendent of the schools of the county, and also served as Supervisor of the township, while living in Du Page County.

On the same year of his emigration Westward, Mr. Barnes was married, on the 1st of July, to Miss Louisa Seeley, of Middlebury, Vt., a daughter of Jonathan and Rhoda (Kelley) Seeley. Her death occurred on the 8th of March, 1851, she leaving one son, William S., who was born August 20, 1848. He married Miss Ella Harper, daughter of Samuel H. Harper, of Onarga, and they have two daughters, Lulu and Florence. He now owns and operates a large creamery on a farm about two miles southeast of Onarga. Mr. Barnes was again married, on the 22d of January, 1852, his second union being with Miss T. Lorette Taylor, daughter of Rev. P. Taylor, of Bloomington, Ill. Two children graced this union: Linnie L., born August 8, 1854, is now the wife of E. H. Wood, of Omaha, Neb., who is First Assistant General Freight Agent of the Union Pacific Railroad. They have one child, a son, James Ralph. Frank H., born September 17, 1855, is clerk in the general ticket-office of the Rock Island Railroad at Chicago, which position he has held for a number of years. He married Louisa Newell and they have two children, a son and daughter: Newell H. and Edith.

Mr. Barnes continued to reside in Du Page County until 1867, when he sold his farm and removed to Onarga Township, Iroquois County, where he purchased two hundred acres of land, and for a number of years successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1882, he determined to tile his farm, and this suggested the idea which led to his present business—that of manufacturing tile. Since coming to Onarga, he has also taught in the schools, being Principal for two years of the Onarga public schools. He is a man of excellent education, who keeps himself well informed on all current events of the day.

In politics, Mr. Barnes is a Republican, having supported that party since he voted for Abraham Lincoln. He has held a number of public offices, and in connection with those which he filled in Du Page County, he has served two terms as Supervisor since coming to Onarga, was Road Commissioner for a number of years, has been a member of the Board of Trustees of Grand Prairie Seminary for over twenty years and is still connected with the board. He is true to every public and private trust and his honorable, upright life is well worthy of emulation. He is a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, in which he has served as Elder for a number of years. Mrs. Barnes is of the Baptist faith.



FREDERICK H. AYRES, a practical and progressive farmer, residing on section 20, Prairie Green Township, has the honor of being a native of Illinois. He was born in Morris, Grundy County, July 25, 1850. His father, W. H. Ayres, was born in Connecticut, June 17, 1811. In his youth he learned the trade of tanner and currier. At length he determined to try his fortune in Illinois, and in 1846 he went to Chicago, from which place he made his way to Grundy County, locating on a farm. From the Government he secured land, which he improved and developed, and thereon made his home for thirty-seven years. In the State of his nativity he married Miss Eliza J. Benedict, a native of New Canaan, Fairfield County, Conn., born October 12, 1813. Their union was celebrated January 7, 1831. They resided in Grundy County for many years, but are now living with the subject of this sketch. Mr. Ayres cast his first Presidential vote for William Henry Harrison. For more than sixty years he has been a member of the Congregational Church. Since the organization of the Republican party he has been one of its staunch supporters, and has held a number of offices of honor and trust. In the family were six children, but only two are living. Henry G. and James S. both died in

childhood; William H. died in Illinois, at the age of seven; Rebecca Ann became the wife of C. C. Vreeland, and died in Kendall County, Ill., leaving a family; Lovicea, a native of Connecticut, is the wife of Rev. Dana Sherrill, a Congregational minister, who resides in Marshall, Clark County, Ill.

The Ayres family is of English origin, and was founded in America by three brothers, who emigrated to this country in the Colonial days. One of these, the great-grandfather of our subject, was in the Home Guards during the Revolution. The grandfather of our subject, Frederick Ayres, was born in Connecticut and there spent his entire life. By trade he was a currier and shoemaker.

Frederick H. Ayres, whose name heads this record, spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm in Grundy County, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of farm life. His early education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood, and at the age of eighteen years he went to Bryant and Stratton's Business College in Morris, Ill., conducted by William A. Drew, where he pursued a commercial course of study. At the age of twenty he returned home, and for some time operated and managed the home farm of one hundred and sixty acres. In 1883 he came to Iroquois County and purchased two hundred and forty acres of land in Prairie Green Township. He is a competent farmer who thoroughly understands his business, and the well-tilled fields and the many improvements upon his place indicate his thrift and enterprise. In connection with the cultivation of his land, he also engages in stock-raising, making a specialty of fine cattle and hogs. He raises Poland-China hogs, and introduced into this county the Polled-Angus cattle, of which he has a herd of forty head.

On the 15th of January, 1873, Mr. Ayres was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary E. Leach, their union being celebrated in Grundy County. The lady was born near Wheeling, W. Va., and is a daughter of Morgan Leach, one of the early settlers of Grundy County. Mr. and Mrs. Ayres attended the same school as children, and she afterward engaged in teaching successfully for

some years. Unto them have been born three children, but only one is now living, Mary Lovicea, who was born in Grundy County, in 1878.

Mr. Ayres is a member of Hoopston Lodge No. 195, K. P. In his political affiliations he has been a Republican since he cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant in 1872, and is an influential member of the party. He has served as a delegate to its conventions, but has never been an office-seeker. However, he has served as Township Supervisor in Grundy County for two terms. Mr. Ayres reads much and is an intelligent farmer, who keeps well informed on all questions of the day. He is also a self-made man, for his success is due entirely to his own efforts, and he is a solid and substantial citizen of the county, respected by all.



FRANCIS CASSIDY, who makes his home on his farm situated on section 21, is a prominent and representative farmer of Danforth Township. He was born in Ireland, in March, 1839, in County Roscommon, and is a son of Frank and Bridget (Flannagin) Cassidy, both of whom spent their entire lives on the Emerald Isle.

The subject of this sketch passed his boyhood days under the parental roof and received but limited school advantages. He is almost wholly self-educated, but through reading and his wide experience has become a well-informed man, who is conversant with the leading scientific and national questions and other subjects of importance and interest. In July, 1862, he went to Liverpool and started in a sailing-vessel for America. They were on the Atlantic for seven weeks and a-half and encountered no storms during the voyage. He arrived in New York in the fall of that year, and immediately went to Providence, R. I., where he remained for about one month. He then started Westward and located first in La Salle County, Ill. For three years he hired out as a farm-hand and then with his earnings, which he had carefully saved, he purchased a team and engaged in farming on rented land for a year. He then went to

Livingston County, where he also farmed for about one year, when he returned to La Salle County and rented land for the same length of time. At the end of that time, he purchased a place in that county on which he made several payments, but, being unable to make the fourth payment, he was so unfortunate as to lose the property. In March, 1870, Mr. Cassidy came to Iroquois County, renting a farm in Douglas Township for a year, after which he located in Artesia Township, where he rented farm land and engaged in agricultural pursuits for the five years succeeding. Returning, our subject purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved prairie, where he located and still resides. This farm he cleared, tiled and improved and has now under a high state of cultivation. As his financial resources were increased, he constantly added improvements and the latest modern machinery to carry on the work of the farm, and has since added another tract of eighty acres to his original purchase. He owns besides eighty acres which are situated two miles from his other property. This is all cultivated and valuable land. He has a comfortable and substantial home and good farm buildings.

Mr. Cassidy was united in marriage in the city of Toledo, Ohio, to Miss Mary Fallon, who is also a native of County Roscommon, Ireland. The wedding ceremony was performed on Christmas Day of 1865. Mrs. Cassidy is a daughter of John Fallon, who grew to maturity on the Emerald Isle. By the marriage of our subject and his wife fourteen children have been born, as follows: Anna, a young lady, who received a good education and is a successful teacher of this county; Catherine, who is at home; John, who assists in the care of the farm; Frank, who also assists in the care of the home farm; Mary; Eliza, also a teacher of this county; Clara; Tera and Thomas, twins; Timothy, Alice, Sylvester, Gertrude and Agnes. The parents and children are alike members of the Roman Catholic Church.

In his political sentiments, Mr. Cassidy gives his hearty support to the Democratic party, and his first Presidential vote was cast for Grover Cleveland. He has never been an aspirant for public or official positions and has ever devoted his entire

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Wm. C. Knibloe



Mary A. Knibloe

energies and attention to his home and farm duties. He is a hearty supporter of public schools and an advocate of good teachers and educational measures. For six years he has served as a member of the School Board. He has lived in Illinois for twenty-eight years and has made his home in Iroquois County for twenty-two years of that time. He has helped to make this county what it is today, one of the best in the State. He landed in the New World without friends or other capital than a good constitution, and has won a fair measure of success through his own unassisted efforts. He is considered one of the thrifty, influential and well-to-do farmers of the township, and has won many friends since coming to this community.



WILLIAM KNIBLOE, an early settler of Douglas Township, was born in Sharon Township, Litchfield County, Conn., his birth having occurred February 17, 1820. He is a son of Thompson and Keziah (Wing) Knibloe. His great-grandfather Knibloe was a Scotch-Presbyterian minister, who emigrated from Edinburg prior to the Revolutionary War. He followed his profession in this country during his entire life. The grandfather of our subject followed agricultural pursuits chiefly. His father was born in Litchfield County, Conn., while his mother was born on Cape Cod and with her parents emigrated to Litchfield County, where she married Thompson Knibloe, a farmer. His death occurred when our subject was a lad of about twelve years. His mother afterward married Benjamin Myers, and moved to Allegany County, N. Y., where she spent her last days. By her first marriage she had four children, of whom William is the only one living.

Our subject is the oldest of the family. Having remained on the farm until sixteen years of age, he was apprenticed to the cabinet-maker's trade, serving five years, working in the summer from sunrise to sunset, and from September until March working until nine o'clock at night. On the 7th of April, 1842, he married Mary A. Dakin,

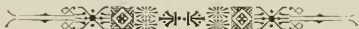
who was born December 22, 1821, in Dutchess County, N. Y., and is a daughter of Talmai and Clarissa (Yerrington) Dakin, both of whom were natives of the Empire State. Her grandfather Dakin was a Baptist minister of English descent. Mrs. Knibloe's parents spent their entire lives in the State of their nativity. She is the second in a family of seven children, and she and a sister, Mrs. Lucy Vanness, who lives in Lamont, Cook County, Ill., are the only ones who survive.

To Mr. and Mrs. Knibloe has been born a family of three children: Anna, who died in the prime of womanhood; Harriet, who is the wife of N. J. Henry and resides in Chicago; and the youngest, Walter, who married Addie Clark, is a graduate of the State University at Champaign and has been for six years Principal of the schools of St. Augustine, Fla.

In 1843, the subject of this sketch started for the West, going first to Chicago. He remained there for a year and then sent for his wife. At that time Chicago contained about seven thousand inhabitants and was a veritable swamp. For seven years, he worked in a shop, of which he was foreman part of the time. He then started in business for himself and, with a partner, carried on a shop in that city. In 1858, he came to Iroquois County and, in company with Edward Silver, purchased a half-section of land in Douglas Township. This he improved and in time made of it a good farm. Having sold his property, he ran the Sturgis Farm for twenty-five or twenty-six years. He is the owner of one hundred and seventy-two acres of good land, and his present prosperity is the result of the united efforts of himself and wife. In 1891, with his family he removed to Gilman, where he has a pleasant and hospitable home.

In his political sympathies, Mr. Knibloe was formerly an advocate of the Democracy, but since the rise of the Republican party he has been identified with its interests. He has served as Highway and Ditch Commissioner, helping to cut many of the ditches that have so much improved this county. He was a member of the first Odd Fellows' society of Chicago, called the Union Lodge, and Mrs. Knibloe helped to make the first carpet that covered that lodge room. No people in the county are

held in higher regard than Mr. Knibloe and his estimable wife. He has made farming his chief life occupation and has devoted himself to that pursuit in a quiet, unassuming manner, at the same time faithfully discharging his duties of citizenship.



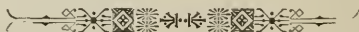
JOHAN RUCKRIGEL is a prominent merchant and well-known citizen of Ashkum. He is a native of Germany, his birth occurring in Bavaria, on the 25th of July, 1836. He is a son of John and Margaret (Nitzle) Ruckrigel, both of Bavaria, where the father died. John Ruckrigel, Jr., grew to the age of sixteen years in the Fatherland, and then determined to seek his fortune in the New World. Accordingly, in 1852, he took passage on a sailing-vessel at Bremen, and was forty-two days on the bosom of the Atlantic. He arrived at New Orleans in November of that year, and embarked in a Mississippi steamer running to Louisville, Ky. He joined an uncle who was a dairyman, living about six miles from Louisville, and with him he remained for about eight years, and until he had passed his majority. In his native land, Mr. Ruckrigel had received a good German education, and after coming to America educated himself in English by reading and intercourse with the people. After leaving his uncle, he rented land and engaged in farming for himself, his farm being situated near Louisville, and there he remained for about ten years.

In the fall of 1870, our subject removed to Illinois, settling first at Gilman, Iroquois County, where he engaged in the mercantile business with Joseph Reidhaar. He continued in that occupation for about two years, and then sold his interest. On account of much sickness in his family, he returned to Kentucky, and engaged in agricultural pursuits in the same neighborhood as he had previously made his home. In 1874, he returned to Illinois, and located on a farm in Danforth Township, where he lived until 1888, farming very successfully. He then sold his farm property and engaged in merchandising at Ashkum, and here he

has since remained. He carries an extensive stock of general merchandise, and has a well-established trade.

On the 12th of February, 1863, Mr. Ruckrigel was joined in marriage to Mary E. Reidhaar, a native of Switzerland, born October 28, 1840, who came to the United States with her father, Joseph Reidhaar, when she was a child. Mr. Reidhaar settled in Mercer County, Ohio, where he made his home until his death. Our subject and his wife are the parents of five children: Henry is a partner in his father's store, and for many years has held responsible business positions in Ashkum; Emma is the wife of Morell Fowler, and was the former Postmistress of Danforth, Mr. Fowler being now the station agent at Kappa, Ill.; Mary is the present Postmistress of Danforth; John, who is a clerk in his father's store, and a graduate of the Grand Prairie Seminary; and Lizzie, who resides at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ruckrigel were reared in the Catholic faith, in which they still believe, though they are not identified with any church organization. He was formerly an advocate of the Democracy, his first vote having been cast for James Buchanan, but for a number of years he has been identified with the Republican party. He has been elected to fill several official local positions, the duties of which he has discharged with promptness and fidelity. Educational measures find in him a hearty supporter, and he has served both on the School and Town Boards. As a citizen, he is highly esteemed as a public-spirited and progressive man, who has been liberal in his support of those enterprises tending to the advancement and upbuilding of the town and county.



AUGUST HAUBACH is numbered among the early settlers of Douglas Township, residing on section 5. He was born fifty-nine years ago in Giessen, Hessen, Germany, his birth having occurred August 3, 1833. He was the youngest of the family of six children, whose parents were George and Margaret (Kempf) Haubach, both of whom spent their entire lives in

the Fatherland. The father was a carpenter by trade. Our subject is the youngest in his father's family of six children, five sons and one daughter, of whom only two crossed the Atlantic. Charles F. came to the United States in 1850, and died in Quincy, Ill., on the 7th of March, 1885, leaving a wife, one son and two daughters to mourn his loss.

Our subject until fourteen years of age attended the schools of his native land and then served for three years as an apprentice at the painter's trade. He worked faithfully at his chosen occupation, commencing at the small salary of \$2.40 per week. In 1853, determining to secure his fortune in the New World, he went to Liverpool and there took passage for New York. This trip in the slow sailing-vessel of those days took five weeks. Upon landing in New York, he found that his financial resources amounted to but \$5. He decided to go to Norwich, Conn., and when he reached that point he had but \$3.40. In the latter place, he worked at his trade for twelve years and by perseverance and industry was soon on the road to fortune. In Norwich, he met the lady who afterward became his wife.

The wedding ceremony was performed on the 3d of November, 1858, and thereby Miss Mary A. Burger became the wife of our subject. She is the daughter of Anton and Mary A. (Kech) Burger, and is a native of Germany, where she was born on the 26th of November, 1838, in Lausheim, Baden. She came with her family to Connecticut in 1851. To Mr. Haubach and his wife have been born five children: George C., A. Frederick, John B., Eliza J. and William A.

In the year 1865, Mr. Haubach went to New Albany, Ind., where he ran a grocery for about one year. He then sold out, moved to Fulton County, Ill., and followed the occupation of a farmer. Though he had not been brought up to farm life, he soon learned and became a practical farmer. He worked a rented farm until 1869, when he moved his family to the farm where he now lives. The previous year, in company with George Burger, he had purchased one hundred and sixty acres. This they improved and cultivated and divided in 1871. Mr. Haubach has added to his eighty acres

until he now has a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres of well-improved and drained land. By years of industry and toil, supplemented by good business ability and fair dealing, he has acquired a snug little fortune. Starting as he did in early life with nothing but willing hands, his success has been truly wonderful and well deserved. In his political affiliations, he is a supporter of the Democratic party. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and he has done effective service for her interests. For eighteen years he has been School Director and has discharged the duties of that office with faithfulness and zeal. For nearly a quarter of a century he has been a resident of this township and both he and his wife are much respected and well esteemed. He is a wide-awake business man, and his dealings with his fellow-citizens have ever been characterized by a spirit of justice and honor.



JACOB C. SHEAR, an honored veteran of the late war, who for many years has resided upon his farm on section 5, Ridgeland Township, was born in Albany County, N. Y., near Coeymans, November 19, 1827, and is a son of Stephen Shear, who was a native of the Empire State and was of German descent. His mother bore the maiden name of Gertrude Teneyck, and she too was of German lineage. During the boyhood of our subject, his parents removed to Junius, Seneca County, N. Y. The death of the father occurred in November, 1884. The mother had passed away some years previous, being called to her final rest in 1878. The family numbered seven children, namely: Peter, who was a stock buyer and farmer and died in 1890; Garritia, wife of Anson Lisk, who is living in California; Conrad, who is engaged in farming in Fairfax County, Va.; Mary, who became the wife of Levi Lisk and died in 1887; John, who departed this life in 1881; Jacob, whose name heads this sketch; and Catherine, who married Ralph Hanson and died in 1892.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who is a prominent and influential citizen

of Iroquois County. He was reared to manhood under the parental roof, no event of special importance occurring during his boyhood days, which were quietly passed upon his father's farm. His education was such as the common schools afforded, he attending school at intervals until about nineteen years of age. He then remained at home until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself, and whatever success he has since achieved is due entirely to his own efforts. As he had no capital, he began by renting ground. He continued his agricultural pursuits in the Empire State until the autumn of 1858, when he emigrated Westward, locating in Elkhart, Ind., where he spent the succeeding winter.

Previous to this time Mr. Shear was married, his first union being celebrated in 1849, Miss Harriet Stewart becoming his wife. One child was born of this union, Frances, who died in 1890. The mother died in 1863. Mr. Shear was again married, in 1867, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah Brown. Three children grace this marriage, as follows: Thomas, Gertrude and Teneyck.

After one winter spent in the Hoosier State, Mr. Shear came with his family to Iroquois County, Ill., settling in Ridgeland Township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 5. The place was entirely destitute of improvement, but with characteristic energy he began its development and has carried forward the work of cultivation until now one of the best farms in the community yields to him a good income in return for the care and labor he bestows upon it. Its boundaries he also extended as his financial resources increased and he now has three hundred and twenty acres of rich, fertile land. In addition to general farming, he carries on stock-raising, and his good business ability, combined with enterprise and perseverance, have brought him a well-deserved prosperity.

During the late war, Mr. Shear gave evidence of his loyalty to the Government by responding to the call for troops in the fall of 1861, and enlisting as a private of Company M, Ninth Illinois Cavalry. He was mustered into service at Chicago and the first important engagement in which he participated was at Jacksonport. He then took part

in several lesser engagements, and in March, 1863, went to Memphis and did duty as a scout through the surrounding country. He participated in many minor engagements and also met the enemy in the battles of West Point, Aberdeen and Okahama. He had enlisted for three years' service and filled out the entire time. In the winter of 1861-62, he had been promoted to be First Lieutenant, and in that capacity served until the expiration of his term, when he was honorably discharged. He was never wounded or taken prisoner, but was ever found at his post, faithfully performing every duty, and he may well be proud of the fact that he was one of the honored boys in blue that saved their country when destruction threatened it. He is now a member of W. A. Babcock Post No. 416, G. A. R., also belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and is a supporter of the Republican party, whose principles he warmly advocates. In 1876, he was elected Sheriff of the county, serving a term of two years. Mr. Shear has a wide acquaintance throughout the community and is held in high esteem by many friends and acquaintances. As an honored veteran, an early settler and a leading citizen, he well deserves representation in this volume.



JOHN HEANEY is one of the leading business men of Buckley, where he owns and operates a mill for the manufacture of hemp fiber. As he is widely and favorably known throughout the county, we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers, and we gladly insert his sketch in the record of the county.

Mr. Heaney is a native of the Emerald Isle. He was born in County Antrim, December 5, 1848, and is one of ten children whose parents were James and Nancy (Huey) Heaney, also natives of Ireland. Six of their children are yet living, namely: William, Hugh, Sallie, Robert, Elizabeth and John. Those deceased are Jane, Ann Jane, Nancy and Thomas.

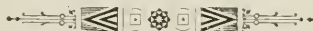
The father of our subject died when John was

only about a year old, and at the age of nine he was left an orphan by the death of his mother. His education was acquired in the land of his birth in an academy. When a youth of sixteen summers, he bade good-bye to home and friends and sailed for America, locating in Madrid, N. Y., where he operated a flax-mill on his own account until 1870, when he came to Loda, Ill. Having been so long employed in that work, he was well fitted for the business which he took up on coming West. In Loda he superintended a tow-mill, manufacturing flax-bagging until 1876, when he came to Buckley and took charge of the mill at this place. After being Superintendent for ten years, in the fall of 1886 he purchased the mill, which he has operated in his own interests continuously since. He is engaged in raising hemp on five hundred acres of land, and manufactures fiber from which binding twine is made. Besides, he farms about one hundred and sixty acres. This business is one of the leading industries of Buckley, and the proprietor is one of its most prominent business men.

On the 9th of May, 1872, Mr. Heaney was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary Louise Kippenberg, daughter of Richard F. and Amanda (Herdon) Kippenberg, of Beardstown, Ill. A daughter graces their union, Mabel. They have a comfortable and pleasant home in Buckley, which is the abode of hospitality, and in social circles they rank high. Mrs. Heaney was born in Beardstown, Ill., January 5, 1850. Her father was born in Charleston, S. C., December 13, 1821, and his father came from Germany, while his mother, who was of Spanish descent, was born in St. Augustine, Fla. Mrs. Heaney's mother was born in Russellville, Ky., January 8, 1830. Both parents were pioneers of Beardstown, where they were married. Her father died years ago, and her mother makes her home with Mrs. Heaney, who is one of two children. Her brother William is a railroad conductor.

In political sentiment, Mr. Heaney is a supporter of Republican principles. For about ten years he has filled the office of School Director, and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend, who does much for its upbuilding. He was also a member of the Village Board of Trustees for ten

years, and during eight years of that time was its President, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity which led to his frequent re-election and won him the commendation of all concerned. In his social relations, he is a Mason, belonging to Buckley Lodge No. 634, A. F. & A. M. He is a successful business man, whose well-directed efforts, thrift and enterprise have won him a comfortable competence and a well-deserved prosperity. Although quite young when he determined to come to America, subsequent years have shown the wisdom of his resolve, and he has here found a pleasant home, happiness and success.



OLIVER AUSTIN DERROUGH, who is engaged in the manufacture of tile in Buckley, is the junior member of the firm of Derrough & Co., which established business in this place in the early part of 1891. Theirs is one of the leading industries of the community, and they are now doing an excellent business, which is constantly increasing until their capacity is almost too small to supply the demand. They manufacture a superior article, and turn out about ten thousand four-inch tile per day. The partners of this firm are numbered among the leading business men of Buckley, and we gladly make mention of them in this volume.

Oliver A. Derrough was born in Danville, Ill., on the 27th of August, 1859. His parents, Asher D. and Saloma J. (Hoover) Derrough, were both natives of Ohio. In 1868, having resided in Ohio during the period of the late war, they returned to Illinois, where they have since resided. They located in Champaign County, and are now residents of Urbana. In their family were six children: Oliver A., Anna, Cordelia E., Edward E., Jessie Mand and Ora, all of whom are yet living.

When an infant, Mr. Derrough, whose name heads this sketch, was taken by his parents to Ohio, where about nine years of his life were passed, and in 1868 he went with them to Champaign County, Ill. At Philo, about ten miles from Champaign, he was reared to manhood, and ac-

quired a good education in the common schools. In 1885, in connection with his father, he embarked in the manufacture of tile in Philo, following that business until the winter of 1890-91, when they sold their first factory. They then established a new factory in Buckley, Ill., under the firm name of Derrough & Co., and the success that has already come to them is certainly very encouraging.

An important event in the life of Mr. Derrough occurred on the 30th of May, 1883, when he led to the marriage altar Miss Rosa M. Challacombe, daughter of Nicholas and Mary (Fletcher) Challacombe, residents of Alton, Ill. Four children have been born unto them, three sons and a daughter, and the family circle, which yet remains unbroken, is composed of Harry O., born March 19, 1884; Nicholas Asher, born October 4, 1885; Blanche, born September 27, 1887; and Joseph Fifer, born December 13, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Derrough are highly respected people of Buckley, who hold an enviable position in social circles, and are widely and favorably known for their many excellencies of character. Mr. Derrough is a wide-awake and enterprising man, public-spirited and progressive, and manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community.



JOHN GOETZ, a retired farmer, was born in Baden, Germany, November 1, 1820. He is a son of Jacob and Bridget (Irion) Goetz. His father owned a small farm which he tilled for a livelihood. For nearly eight years he served in Napoleon's army. He accompanied that conqueror to Moscow, and from cold, hunger and privation his health was so impaired that he never fully recovered, though he lived to be over eighty years of age. The mother also lived to about four-score years. In their family of five children three were sons and two daughters, but two of whom came to America. Conrad crossed the ocean in 1815, and is a farmer in Canada.

Our subject is the third child of the family and

was reared on a farm, receiving but limited educational advantages. When about eighteen years old, he commenced working in a foundry, at which he continued for some four years, giving all his earnings to his father. In 1842, he sailed from Havre de Grace to New York City, being thirty-six days on the voyage. Going to Canada, he worked three years on a farm and in a saw mill. In 1845, he returned to his parents, friends and native land, making them a visit of six weeks. On his return to Canada, his brother accompanied him. In 1848, he went to Marshall County, Ill. Having worked by the month for a time, he purchased forty acres of Government land, which he soon afterward sold and farmed rented land. In 1857 he bought one hundred and twenty acres, which he improved, and afterward added thereto sixty acres.

On his first voyage to America Mr. Goetz formed the acquaintance of Miss Agatha Fries, a native of Bavaria, Germany. On her arrival in the United States, Miss Fries went to Buffalo, N. Y. In 1846 our subject went to that city, and on the 5th of February was united in wedlock with Miss Fries. By this union were born eight children, three of whom died in childhood, and Mary, who became the wife of Mathias Baumann, died May 6, 1890. The living children are Caroline, widow of Nicholas Shawback, who resides in La Salle County; Jacob married Amanda Fisher and is a substantial farmer of Artesia Township, Iroquois County; Elizabeth F., who has had charge of the household affairs for nearly twenty years, is still with her father; and John, who married Lillian Moore, purchased the old home farm, which he carries on successfully.

Having carried on farming in Marshall County until 1878, Mr. Goetz came to Iroquois County and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Douglas Township, which he improved by tiling and ditching. His farm is now a very valuable and well-cultivated piece of property and is a model of thrift and neatness.

In Marshall County occurred the death of Mrs. Goetz, who passed away on the 6th of December, 1875. She was an estimable lady and a consistent member of the Evangelical Association, of which

Mr. Goetz and four of his children are likewise members. In politics he is a Republican, though he votes for the man rather than the party. When he came to Illinois his worldly possessions, outside of his family, were limited, but by hard work and industry he has climbed steadily upward until he now has a comfortable income. In 1892, he sold the farm to his son John and removed to Gilman, where he is enjoying a well-earned rest after so many years of struggle and toil.



WILLIAM R. VEATCH has engaged in buying and shipping stock in Thawville since 1890, and prior to that time was connected with the agricultural interests of the county for about twenty-one years. During his long residence in the community he has formed a wide acquaintance, and is recognized as a highly respected citizen. The Buckeye State gave him to Iroquois County. He was born in Ross County, Ohio, November 6, 1830, and is one of eleven children, whose parents were Thomas J. and Catherine (Johnson) Veatch. The father and mother were both natives of Hardy County, W. Va., but in an early day removed to Ohio, where the death of the former occurred October 6, 1849. Mrs. Veatch afterward came to Illinois, and with her children resided upon a farm in Livingston County until called to her final rest, November 23, 1858. Of their eleven children only four are now living, namely: William R., John, Henry and Harrison. Those deceased are Johnson, Elizabeth, Thomas, Catherine, Rufus, Ira and Sarah.

In the State of his nativity, Mr. Veatch, our subject, was reared to manhood, and when a young man of twenty-five years came Westward to Illinois, with the hope of bettering his financial condition thereby. He first settled upon a farm of eighty acres in Livingston County, near Wing, and about four miles north of Forest. He improved and developed that farm, making it his home from 1857 until 1869. In the latter year he removed to a farm of two hundred acres of land near Thaw-

ville, in Iroquois County. As his financial resources increased, he added to his landed possessions, and in connection with his home farm he now owns four eighty-acre farms, two in Ford County and two in Iroquois County. He was a practical and progressive agriculturist, never behind the times in anything pertaining to his chosen occupation, and by his well-directed efforts he acquired a handsome property. On the 23d of September, 1855, Mr. Veatch was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Margaret, a daughter of Selby and Mary (Samuels) Pearl, who resided near Circleville, in Pickaway County, Ohio. Mr. Pearl was born in Maryland, and his wife in Delaware, where they were married. In 1840 they moved to Ohio, where the wife died in 1846. He came to Piatt County, Ill., in 1857, where he died in 1888. Mrs. Veatch was born in Delaware, July 5, 1835, and came with her father to Ohio. Mr. Veatch at once brought his bride to Illinois, where they have since resided. Five children have been born of their union, the eldest of whom is Henry F. He married Miss Alice Walker, daughter of Samuel Walker, and they became the parents of two children, Charles E. and Roy. His wife having died, he was again married, his second union being with Miss Kate Davis, of Indiana. They have a daughter, Edna, and their home is about three miles south of Thawville. George H. married Miss Ella Comm, and resides on a farm in Ford County, near Thawville. Della is the wife of Judson Shear, who is living on a farm just west of Thawville. Unto them were born six children, but two died in infancy. Those yet living are Maud, Edwin, Frankie and Irwin. Uretta M. is the wife of Siegel Rutledge, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Artesia Township, upon a farm two and a-half miles southeast of Thawville. Their eldest child died in infancy, but the two younger ones, Pearl and Pansy, are yet living. Thomas S. married Miss Minnie Reed, daughter of William Reed, of Livingston County, and resides on the home farm, two miles east of Thawville. They have two children, Nellie and William Albert.

Mr. Veatch has made his home continuously in this county since 1869. He carried on agricultural pursuits until 1890, when he retired from farming

and removed to Thawville, where he is now engaged in buying and shipping stock. In politics he is a supporter of Republican principles. While residing in Livingston County, he was Justice of the Peace for eight years, also Town Clerk and Highway Commissioner, and in this county he has served as Assessor one term and Commissioner of Highways for three years. At the present time he is Treasurer and one of the Directors of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company, of Iroquois County, discharging the duties of both positions for the past sixteen years. In all this time there has only been one assessment made by the company. The regular two-mill annual assessment has proved sufficient to pay all former losses. The success of this company is due in no little degree to the well-directed efforts of Mr. Veatch. Himself, wife and three children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has served as Trustee and Steward. His life has been an honorable and upright one, well and worthily spent, and he is held in the highest esteem throughout the community, where his sterling worth is widely known.



AMOS BISHOP, one of the early settlers of Ash Grove Township, now residing on section 19, is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Ross County on the 26th of October, 1826. His father, John Bishop, was a native of the Keystone State, and in an early day removed to Ohio, where his father improved a new farm. He afterward removed with the family to Fountain County, Ind., where the grandfather of our subject purchased a mill. The management of this business was given over to John Bishop, who, however, was a hatter by trade. His death occurred shortly afterward in Indiana. He had served in the War of 1812. In Ohio, he married Hannah Myracle, who died in La Fayette, Ind. After her death he wedded Susan Dunbar. He was one of the pioneer settlers of Fountain County, Ind., and held a number of local offices, serving as Justice of the Peace in La Fayette. In politics, he was a Democrat. By his first marriage

were born the following children: Henry, who makes his home with Amos, having been a resident of Iroquois County for forty years; Silas, who has resided in this community since 1872; Mary Ann, wife of Wesley Harvey, of Cissna Park; George, who served in the Mexican War and in the Rebellion, was a member of the One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, and now resides in Custer County, Neb.; Amos of this sketch; and two children who died in infancy. By the second marriage were born a son and daughter, Elizabeth and John, who reside in Iowa. Their mother makes her home with them.

The subject of this sketch was about two years of age when the family removed to the Hoosier State, and was a lad of only seven when his mother died. He then went to live with his uncle, John Nebeker, in Fountain County, with whom he remained until twenty-one years of age. His educational privileges were very meagre. He could attend school only two months in the year, and during that time half of each day was taken up with feeding cattle. His training at farm labor was not so meagre. He was early inured to hard labor, and after he had attained to man's estate he worked at fifty cents per day.

In September, 1848, Mr. Bishop was united in marriage with Miss Jane Stidham, a native of Maryland, and in the following spring they came to Illinois by team, locating near Ash Grove. Mr. Bishop engaged in farming for Mr. Willoughby for a year and then purchased eighty acres of land from the Government. It was all wild prairie, upon which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made. Wolves were still numerous in the neighborhood and wild deer supplied the table with meat, while lesser game was very plentiful. After operating his first farm for some time, Mr. Bishop sold and purchased elsewhere. Since 1862 he has resided upon his present farm of eighty-three acres and for some years engaged exclusively in its cultivation; however, he now gives much of his attention to boring artesian wells. He is a man of good business ability, enterprising and progressive, and has secured a comfortable competence.

By his first marriage Mr. Bishop had three chil-

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dren: Mrs. Hannah Hauck, who is now a widow and resides in Onarga Township; John S., who married Carrie Neeld, and is a carpenter of Cissna Park; and Ida, who died in infancy. By his second marriage, with Phebe Aye, he has one child, Mrs. Julia Neeld, who also resides in Cissna Park. By his marriage to Emily Hussey, he had two children: Henry, who married Rose Broek and is a farmer of Ash Grove Township; and Mrs. Alice Carter, who resides on the old homestead. The lady who now bears the name of Mrs. Bishop was in her maidenhood Mary Lamar.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Bishop hold membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Ash Grove, and are numbered among its active and faithful workers, doing all in their power for its upbuilding and advancement. He has served as Steward and Trustee. His first vote was cast for James K. Polk, and he has since supported the Democracy, except when Lincoln was the Presidential candidate. In minor elections, he votes for the man whom he thinks best qualified to fill the office, regardless of party affiliations. Socially, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, of Cissna Park. His residence in this county covers a period of forty-three years, and he is not only numbered among its honored pioneers but is classed among its best citizens.



DR. T. NEWTON BOUE, who has been engaged in the practice of medicine in Loda since 1864, is a prominent medical practitioner of the county, and during the long years of his residence here has formed a wide acquaintance and gained an extensive practice. He is a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Fountain County, on the 18th of May, 1837. His father, Lorenzo Dowe Boue, was born in North Carolina and was of French descent. His mother, who bore the maiden name of Eleanor Moffett, was born in Indiana and is of Scotch lineage. By their union this worthy couple became the parents of seven children, and, with the exception of one who died in infancy, all are yet living at this

writing, in the autumn of 1892, as follows: Josephine, James M., T. Newton, John Austin, Simpson M. and Eluis Scott. The mother of this family is still living on the old homestead in Fountain County, Ind., six miles south of Veedersburg, with her youngest son. Mr. Boue died in May, 1880.

Under the parental roof the Doctor was reared to manhood. He attended the public schools in his youth and his literary education was completed in an academy in Ladoga, Ind. In looking about him in choice of some profession or occupation which he wished to make his life work, he chose the practice of medicine, and for three years read medicine, after which he attended lectures at Rush Medical College of Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1866. In April, 1864, he located in Rantoul, Ill., where he spent about three months, and in July he came to Loda, opened an office and has since engaged in the practice of his chosen profession in this place. His skill and ability have won him a liberal patronage and a recognized position in the ranks of his professional brethren.

On the 3d of June, 1867, Dr. Boue married Miss Ellie L. Burnette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Burnette, of Galva, Ill. Her death occurred on the 23d of October, 1875, and a number of years later, on the 13th of November, 1879, he was again married, his second union being with Miss Emma Kelsey, a daughter of Barnabus and Susan Kelsey, of Byron, Ill. There were two children born unto them, daughters, June and May. The death of Mrs. Boue occurred on the 23d of December, 1887, and on the 6th of March, 1889, the Doctor married Miss Minnie Carrington, daughter of Milton and Nancy (Sears) Carrington, of Loda, Ill.

In his political affiliations, Dr. Boue is a Democrat, and socially is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Abraham Jonas Lodge No. 316, A. F. & A. M., of Loda, and has been its Worthy Master for twenty years; Ford Chapter No. 138, R. A. M.; and Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton. He has held various offices of honor and trust. He is a member of the Christian Church and his wife holds membership with the Congregational Church. Both are highly

respected people whose friends and acquaintances throughout the community are many. In the long years of his residence here the Doctor has gained a high reputation as a practitioner and his liberal patronage is well deserved.



LORENZO L. MARSH, one of the early settlers of this county, who is now engaged in plastering and brick-laying in Buckley, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 11th of February, 1827. His parents, Isaac and Mary (Flowers) Marsh, were natives of New Jersey and New York respectively. Their family numbered thirteen children, but only two are now living, John F. and Lorenzo L. The parents removed to Cincinnati at an early day, and the father there followed his trade of plastering and brick-laying until sixty-nine years of age, when he retired from business. He reached the very advanced age of ninety years and his wife died at the age of seventy-eight years. Their son Isaac lived to be about eighty-three years of age and had accumulated about \$60,000 worth of property.

In the city of his birth Lorenzo Marsh spent his early life and with his brother Isaac learned the trade which he to-day follows. After attaining to years of maturity he was married on the 9th of August, 1858, to Miss Mary Shoemaker, daughter of Levi and Katie (Rine) Shoemaker, the former a native of the Buckeye State and the latter of Maryland. Five children were born of their union: Mary Louisa, who became the wife of William Kerns and resides in Buckley, Ill.; Margaret, wife of James Melvin Carter, a resident of Forest, Livingston County, Ill.; William Scott, who married Miss Clara Belle Ireland, daughter of Thomas Ireland, of Buckley, who resides two miles north of the village with his wife and three children, Vernon, Jessie and Lawrence; Francis Leroy died on the 2d of October, 1888; and Ernest Jesse completes the family.

In 1865, Mr. Marsh removed with his family from Warren County, Ohio, to Iroquois County,

Ill., and settled on a farm two miles north of Buckley, where he resided for about six years. This farm contains about one hundred acres of land and is still in his possession. He carried on agricultural pursuits until 1871, when he left the farm and came to Buckley, where he has since followed his trade of plastering and brick-laying. He owns a comfortable home and has acquired a good competence. Although sixty-five years of age he is well preserved.

Mr. Marsh is a valued and prominent citizen of this community, who takes an active interest in all that pertains to the upbuilding of town and county. He is at present serving as a member of the Village Board of Trustees. He has also served as Marshal and Constable, which last office he filled for five years with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He is all the true to every public and private trust, and whether in discharging some official duty or in carrying out a private promise, his honorable, upright spirit is ever recognized. He was one of the first members of the Odd Fellows' lodge of Buckley, and in politics is a Republican, warmly advocating the principles of that party. Mrs. Marsh and her two daughters are active workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church.



PATRICK REYNOLDS, one of the pioneer farmers of Ashkum Township, makes his home on section 19. His birth occurred on the 15th of November, 1832, in County Meath, Ireland. He is a son of Lawrence and Catherine (Cunningham) Reynolds, both natives of the same country. The father was a farmer, and reared his family and spent his entire life in his native land. Both parents died in that country.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in his native land, no event of importance occurring during his boyhood. He had but limited school advantages, but he has largely supplemented his early training by well-directed study and extensive reading. In 1852, bidding adieu to the scenes



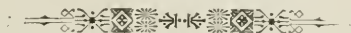
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and friends of his youth, he went to Liverpool, where he took passage in a sailing-vessel, the "Southampton," of the Black Star Company, with Capt. Snow, which was bound for New York City. During the voyage, which occupied six weeks, much severe weather was experienced. One night some of the masts were broken and the sails torn to pieces and carried away by the storm. They anchored in New York Harbor on the 27th of August, 1852, and from there Mr. Reynolds went to New Jersey, where he secured employment on a farm, and remained at farm labor for about two years and a half. In 1855, believing that the West afforded better opportunities, he emigrated to Chicago, and after staying there a short time, went to Iroquois County. For the succeeding nine years, he was employed by different farmers. In the meantime, and soon after locating in this county, Mr. Reynolds pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land, and on this located in 1858. His property he improved, cultivated and fenced until he had a valuable tract. He has since sold a part of his original farm, but has purchased other land in its place. He now owns four hundred and thirty acres in one body of good and desirable land. He has a comfortable residence, barns and outbuildings, a thrifty orchard and other accessories of a model farm. Mr. Reynolds is pre-eminently a self-made man, having started in the New World without a dollar, and has by his well-directed enterprise, industry and perseverance succeeded beyond his anticipations, but has truly merited his prosperity.

On Christmas Day of 1858, Mr. Reynolds was united in wedlock in this township, to Miss Johanna O'Neill, who was born in County Limerick, Ireland, and is a daughter of Lawrence O'Neill. When a child of twelve years, she came to the United States, and was reared to womanhood in Iroquois County. There are six living children by this union, five sons and one daughter: Thomas is married and makes his home in Chicago, but will return to Iroquois County for his future home; Lawrence assists his father in the work of the home farm; Henry, Katie, Edward and Peter are at home. Four children died in early childhood and two in infancy.

Since casting his first ballot for James Buchanan, Mr. Reynolds has been a supporter of the Democratic party, and has voted for every nominee for President. He has never asked for or accepted official positions, but has devoted his time and attention exclusively to his large business interests. He is known throughout this region as one of the honored and respected pioneers, and his many friends will be pleased to read this brief sketch of his life.



IRA F. PALMER, a prominent practitioner of Onarga, whose wide acquaintance and sterling worth have made him a valued citizen, well deserves to be represented in this work. He was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., May 23, 1845. His paternal grandfather, Moses Palmer, was a native of Connecticut, but his parents, Gordon and Betsey (Kelley) Palmer, were both born in the Empire State.

The Doctor is the eldest of eight children, two brothers and five sisters. The father of this family came to Illinois in 1852, locating first in Newark, Kendall County, but afterward removed to Hollenbacks Grove, where he purchased a farm of two hundred acres, which he continued to improve for thirteen years. He afterward moved to the town of Bristol, Kendall County, where the family now reside. Dr. Palmer's early education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by a course in Fowler Institute, of Newark, Kendall County. In January, 1864, he enlisted, and was transferred soon after to the medical service of the United States army, which he served during the campaign of that year, after which he was a member of Company C, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and at the close of the war was in the United States mail service with headquarters at Macon, Ga. He was mustered out of service in February, 1866, and soon after became a student of the Chicago University. Subsequently he took a course in Bennett Medical College, and afterward went to Cincinnati, where he attended the Eclectic Medical College, from which he was graduated in

the spring of 1872. He first located in Milwaukee, but in August following came to Onarga.

On the 17th of November, 1872, Dr. Palmer was united in marriage with Miss Emma A. Wood, daughter of Charles R. and Mary A. (Gilbert) Wood. They have two children, Paul J., born December 27, 1874, and Clifford Gordon, born March 7, 1880. The Doctor and his wife are highly esteemed citizens of the community. Mrs. Palmer is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and an active worker in the Sunday-school. She is interested in temperance and literary work, being a graduate of the Class of '88, C. L. S. C., having received her diploma at Chautauqua from the hands of Dr. Vincent. She is also a charter member and President of the Woman's Relief Corps. Their home has always been the abode of hospitality, rich and poor alike receiving a hearty welcome. They have just completed a beautiful and commodious residence, which abounds in all the modern conveniences. Dr. Palmer is a staunch Republican, casting his first vote for President for Gen. Grant in 1868. He was elected to the office of Supervisor in 1877, and continued to hold that office for five years. He was Chairman of the Board in 1879, was re-elected in 1888, and still continues in office. He is a charter member of Post 416, and ever since has held the office of Surgeon. He owns several fine farms and also raises and sells considerable stock.

Dr. Palmer is one of the Palmer Family Reunion at Stonington, Conn., of which there are over five thousand members.



JOHN H. BRAYTON, a retired farmer residing in Watseka, is one of the honored old settlers of the county, who well deserves representation in this history for the prominent part he has taken in the development and up-building of the community in which he resides. He is a native of the Green Mountain State, born February 17, 1834. His father, Joseph Brayton, was born and reared in Quebec, Canada, and, after attaining to years of maturity, married Clarissa

Hubbard, a native of the same country. They removed to Vermont, but afterward returned to Canada. Mr. Brayton was a wheelwright and carpenter by trade, and followed the dual occupation for some years. In about 1843, he removed with his family to New York, locating in Franklin County, where he built a sawmill and engaged in the manufacture of lumber. He also carried on a gristmill, and there resided until called to his final rest. He died in 1854, when in the prime of life. His wife survived him for about twenty years, and came to Illinois, whence she afterward went to Iowa, spending her last days in Waterloo, that State.

The Brayton family numbered beside our subject the following children: Lucy was married and reared a family, and died at the age of sixty years; Henry, a mechanic, made his home in Pennsylvania; Rev. William, a minister of the Second Adventist Church, resided in Illinois for a number of years, and now makes his home in Floyd County, Iowa; Comfort is married and resides with his family in Ashkum, where he follows the trade of a carpenter; Rhoda is the wife of Stephen Washburn, a resident of the Empire State; Joseph laid down his life on the altar of his country, while serving in the late war; Ezekiel is a carpenter by trade, but is now engaged in business as a barber of Ashkum; Mrs. Maria Royce is living in California; Amos, a painter by trade, makes his home in Ashkum; Mary died in Waterloo, Iowa; Peggy is living in Pierre, S. Dak.; Alonzo, who was married, reared a family and resided in Iowa, was killed by lightning in 1891.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood in Franklin County, N. Y., and acquired his education in the common schools. When a young man, he came to the West with the hope of bettering his financial condition, and located in La Salle County, Ill., where he remained one year. In 1856, he came to Iroquois County, purchasing land in Ashkum Township in the autumn of that year. It was a wild, unimproved tract, which he bought of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, but he located thereon and made that his home until his removal to Watseka. Industry and enterprise are numbered among his chief characteristics, so that

his land was soon broken and fenced, and the raw prairie was transformed into rich and fertile fields. He had purchased the one hundred and sixty acres in connection with his brother, but after a few years he bought the other's interest, and has since again extended the boundaries of his farm by the purchase of an additional tract of one hundred and sixty acres adjoining. He now owns a half-section of valuable and highly improved land which yields to him a golden tribute.

On the 2d of December, 1860, in this county, Mr. Brayton wedded Miss Mary Waters, a native of England, who spent the first sixteen years of her life in Liverpool, and then came to this country with her father, John Waters, who located in Ashkum Township. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brayton, and the two oldest sons, Joseph and Daniel, now operate the home farm for their father; William is married and is engaged in farming; Clarissa is the wife of William Wilson, an agriculturist of this county; Maggie, Hubbard, Harvey, Alice and Ezekiel are still at home. Mr. Brayton purchased a residence property in Watseka, and with his wife and five children removed to the city in February, 1891. The following year he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 28th of August, and was buried in Fletcher Cemetery, in Iroquois County. She was a member of the Adventist Church, and a true Christian woman, whose lovable character won her the high regard of all. Her death was deeply mourned throughout the community, her loss being regretted by many friends as well as by her immediate family.

Mr. Brayton has led a busy and useful life. He began earning his own livelihood when a young man, and has since been dependent upon his own resources. Whatever success he has achieved is due to his own efforts. By his enterprise, business ability and good management, and the helpful assistance of his wife, he has acquired a handsome property, and his straightforward dealings have secured him the confidence of all. In politics, he was a Republican for a number of years, but is now identified with the Democratic party. The cause of education has ever found in him a warm friend, and while serving as a member of the

School Board for twenty years, he has done effective service in its interests by securing competent teachers, and thereby insuring good schools. Mr. Brayton has been a resident of this county for thirty-six long years, and is known throughout its borders. He has witnessed much of its growth, and aided in its upbuilding. He is a man of unblemished character and sterling worth, who well merits the high respect in which he is held. For about two years he has now resided in Watseka, living a retired life in the enjoyment of that rest which he has so well earned and richly deserves. In December, 1891, he received a paralytic stroke, almost disabling his left side.



HAMILTON A. DEAN, who for almost a quarter of a century has resided in this county, now makes his home on section 14, Prairie Green Township. He is a native of Franklin County, Vt., born August 19, 1822, and is the youngest in a family of four children, three sons and a daughter. He has only one brother now living, Joseph D., a stone and brick mason, who resides in Muscatine, Iowa. The parents were Asa and Marie (Hazelton) Dean. The father was born in the Green Mountain State in 1794, and for some time engaged in harness-making in Burlington, Vt. He possessed special aptitude for mathematics and was known far and wide for his proficiency in that science. For many years he was a faithful member of the Congregational Church. His wife, who was also a native of Vermont and a member of the Congregational Church, died when our subject was six years of age. After the death of his first wife he married Mary Shattuck, by whom he had five children, two sons and three daughters. He died at the ripe old age of ninety-one.

Hamilton Dean spent his boyhood days in the State of his nativity, where he was reared as a farmer lad. His early education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by a course in the academy of Bakersfield, Vt. For a time he

engaged in teaching, and after his emigration to Illinois was thus employed in Spring Creek, his salary being \$18 per month. He was a successful instructor, becoming a teacher of recognized ability. After attaining his majority he worked for his father for one year, receiving \$100 in compensation for his services. About 1845, he came to Illinois to visit his brother and sister in Spring Creek, and while here aided in the erection of the old Court House, which was burned down. He also purchased forty acres of raw prairie land at \$1.25 per acre, and ten acres of timber-land for \$10 per acre. This was located in Crete, Will County. He afterward sold that farm and at length purchased four hundred and forty acres of unimproved land in Iroquois County. There was no house upon it and not an acre had been placed under the plow. He transformed the barren prairie into rich and fertile fields which yielded to him abundant harvests. He bore all the experiences and hardships of pioneer life, and has witnessed the entire development of the county. At the time of his arrival here, Hoopeston, Wellington and Cissna Park were not yet established, and Milford and Watseka were the trading-posts.

Mr. Dean has been twice married. Miss Harriet Strong, a native of Vermont, became his wife October 12, 1849, and unto them were born two children: Ellen, wife of Herman Adams, a farmer and fruit-grower, of Traverse City, Mich.; and Mary, who is employed as a teacher in the city schools of Chicago. The mother of this family died March 12, 1854, and Mr. Dean was again married, on the 5th of December of that year, his second union being with Mrs. Mary Jane (Brown) Scofield. On the 10th of May, 1842, she had become the wife of Williston Scofield, a native of the Empire State, and unto them were born two sons, but both are now deceased. Mr. Scofield was called to his final rest February 10, 1853. Mr. and Mrs. Dean have one daughter, Jennie, who was educated in Hoopeston and is now the wife of James M. Homan, a resident farmer of Prairie Green Township.

Mrs. Dean was born in Chenango County, N. Y., and her girlhood days were spent in Tompkins County, that State. Her father was a native of

Rhode Island and died at the age of seventy-eight years. Her mother was born in New York and died at the age of seventy-seven. Both parents were strict adherents of the Congregational Church, in which her father served as Deacon for many years. In the family were six children, two sons and four daughters, of whom three are now living: Mrs. Dean is the eldest; Richard is a wealthy retired farmer, residing in Aurora, Ill.; Adelme E. is the widow of William Hughes.

In politics, Mr. Dean was an old-line Whig and cast his first vote for "Rough and Ready" Gen. Taylor. On the organization of the Republican party he espoused its principles, and has since been one of its warm advocates. He has held the office of Road Commissioner, Supervisor, School Director, and has proved himself a useful and valued citizen. Himself and wife are faithful and consistent members of the Presbyterian Church of Wellington, and aided in the erection of the house of worship in Crete. They give liberally to charitable and benevolent interests, and their lives are well worthy of emulation. Mr. Dean now owns two hundred and eighty acres of fine land in Prairie Green Township, besides property in Hoopeston. He well deserves representation in this volume, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of his life.



CHRISTIAN TASCHER, a well-known agriculturist who owns and operates a farm on section 3, Danforth Township, is one of the many good citizens whom Germany has furnished to America. He was born in Baden on the 19th of November, 1835, and is the son of Andrew and Catherina (Ganchet) Tascher. Both parents were natives of Baden, where they spent their entire lives.

The subject of this sketch grew to the age of seventeen in his native land, attending the public schools up to the age of fourteen years. He then began learning the blacksmith's trade and worked at that while in Germany. In 1854, he emigrated to the United States, taking passage in a sailing-

vessel called the "Isabella," which left Havre. They were fifty-four days in making the voyage, and arrived in New Orleans in April. From there he proceeded up the Mississippi to St. Louis, and from there went to Peoria, where he joined an older brother. He first obtained work in a brewery, but soon resumed his trade of blacksmithing, at which he worked for over a year. He decided to follow agricultural pursuits, and at that time hired out as a farm laborer for about two years. In 1862, he came to Iroquois County, in company with a Mr. Merkle, and rented land, which he farmed for a year. He had purchased a team in Peoria, and to that city he returned, where he carried on teaming for the next two years. He again came to Iroquois County and bought forty acres of land on section 3, where he now resides. This he has much improved and has erected a substantial residence, good barns and other buildings upon it. To his original purchase, which was made about the year 1868, he has added an adjoining forty acres, making eighty acres in one body. As his resources increased, he again purchased more real estate, buying an eighty-acre tract on section 34, Ashkum Township, one and a-half miles from his home farm. This is also fertile and well-improved land and has upon it good and substantial buildings. Commencing in the New World without any means, Mr. Tascher has by his own labor, enterprise and industry accumulated a valuable property and is to-day one of the most thrifty and prosperous farmers of this township. He has seen this county developed from a wilderness and a swamp to its present high state of cultivation and prosperity.

An important event in the life of Mr. Tascher occurred in Peoria, when his destiny was united with that of Miss Mary Hammerly, on the 18th of February, 1867. Mrs. Tascher was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and was a daughter of Matthew Hammerly, who died in the Fatherland. She came to the United States with her mother when she was a child of eleven years, in company with her eight brothers and sisters. By the marriage of our subject and his wife eleven children have been born: Mary is the wife of Charles Bolz, of Chicago; Fred is a farmer residing near home;

Louisa is the wife of Jacob Gasser and lives in Chicago; George, Lena, Anna, Grace, Matilda, Caroline, Carl and Frances.

Politically, Mr. Tascher affiliates with the Democratic party. He is a friend to the cause of education and has served as a member of the School Board for three years. He is widely and favorably known for his many qualities of worth, and during his long residence in this county has won the respect of all with whom he has come in contact.



AUGUST MUEHLENPFORDT, a prominent physician, surgeon and druggist of Ashkum, has been for nearly a quarter of a century a resident of this village. He was born in Brunswick, Germany, on the 16th of September, 1839. He received a thorough literary education in Greek, Hebrew, French, German and English. After completing his literary and scientific course, he decided to pursue the profession of medicine, and accordingly studied for that profession. For seven years he devoted himself to obtaining a thorough knowledge of the healing art, and took in addition a number of courses of supplementary lectures. Completing his most thorough course of study, he received his diploma in 1865. For about one year he engaged in practice in his native land, and at the expiration of that time decided that the New World afforded better opportunities to one of his profession, and therefore he emigrated to New York, and from there came to Illinois. As he had some friends and acquaintances in Peotone, he joined them, and there started in practice. In 1868, Dr. Muehlenpfordt came to Ashkum, where he was the first doctor of the place. He soon built up an extensive practice, and as he was the only physician in this section he was often obliged to drive many miles to his patients. He has often driven seventy-five miles in one day. His patients were scattered far and wide for miles in different directions. Soon after locating in Ashkum, our subject engaged in the drug business, and both this and his practice has been most successful. He was one

of the most popular and most widely-known doctors in the county. Having commenced at the bottom round of the ladder, both financially and professionally, he has now attained both fame and fortune. He has accumulated a nice property, a fine business and a good home.

On the 18th of November, 1868, Dr. Muchlenpfordt was married to Miss Henrietta Kruse, who was born in Germany, and came to this country when a child of eleven years. Her father died in the Fatherland when she was but four years of age, and she emigrated to the United States with her mother and stepfather. To the Doctor and his wife five children have been born: August, who is a clerk in Ashkum; Emma, Adele, Frieda, and Carl, who are still at home.

The Doctor and Mrs. Muchlenpfordt are consistent members of the Congregational Church, of Ashkum. He is a staunch supporter of the Democracy, and casts his ballot in favor of the nominees of that party. He has held several local official positions of trust and honor, discharging the duties of the offices to the satisfaction of his constituents. He is a very intelligent and well-read man, and in addition to his extensive knowledge of the languages he keeps well posted on all the scientific, political and moral subjects before the people. He has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances whom he delights to entertain in his pleasant and hospitable home.



HENRY HERR, a representative farmer of Danforth Township, lives on section 13. His birth occurred on the 27th of January, 1853, in Woodford County, Ill. The father, John Herr, was a native of Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood and married Mary Kindig, also of Pennsylvanian birth. After his marriage he removed West to Illinois, and settled in Woodford County when it was a wilderness. There he cleared a farm and reared his family. He afterward removed to Iroquois County, residing with some of his children during the latter years

of his life. He passed away at the residence of his two sons, who were in partnership, in February, 1891, at the age of sixty-eight years. He was twice married, his first wife having died while he was in the army, and when our subject was a lad of nine years. He was a patriot and soldier, and served four years for the Union cause. Henry Herr is the fourth in order of birth in a family of five sons and three daughters, all living but one daughter, who died in August, 1892, and who was an invalid for fifteen years. He has two brothers who are farmers of Danforth Township, Joseph and Christian.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood on his father's farm, and in early life had limited school advantages, but after arriving at mature years, he received a good business education. He early started to make his own way in the world, and, when a lad of fifteen, came to Iroquois County, and worked at farm labor for a number of years. In 1880 he bought a farm of eighty acres, which was but slightly improved. On this he has built fences, and has thoroughly tilled and well cultivated the property. He is now completing a good and substantial residence, and has good barns and farm buildings. On his place may be found the latest improved machinery, a windmill, and all appliances for carrying on a model farm and dairy. His property is located about three miles from Danforth and four miles from Gilman, and is considered a valuable and desirable farm. On every hand are seen the care and cultivation of the owner, ornamental trees and shrubs lending their beauty to the scene. He has a large orchard, which produces a variety of fruit.

On the 25th of January, 1882, Mr. Herr led to the marriage altar Miss Emma Oster, a native of Tazewell County, this State. When a child of eight years she came with her parents to Iroquois County, and was here reared to womanhood. Her father, Louis Oster, is one of the substantial farmers of this county; he is of French descent, and one of the oldest settlers of Danforth Township.

For nearly a quarter of a century Mr. Herr has been identified with the interests of this section, and has always been considered a man of integrity

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William Henry



Caroline S. Frey

well-deserving of confidence. He is a self-made man, having commenced life without a dollar, and has accumulated a large and valuable property by his own labor and well-directed efforts, and by the help and energy of his wife. His pleasant home is the abode of hospitality, and the many friends he has made during his long residence in the county delight to congregate there. His estimable wife makes a charming hostess, and, like her husband, has a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Herr is a man of wide reading and information, and is posted on all the leading questions of the day. He has shown himself a man of marked business enterprise and ability, and his wise investments have been rewarded with success. No worthy person was ever turned from his door who asked for a night's lodging.



MATTHIAS FREY was one of the many good citizens whom Germany has furnished Iroquois County. He was born in Meszkirch, Baden, on the 29th of October, 1842. He grew up as a farmer boy, and received his education in his native land. In 1866, he came with his parents to the United States and located at Lacon, Marshall County, Ill. He was the second of thirteen children, and as he was the eldest son it fell to his lot to work hard from childhood. His father was a poor man when he came to this country, but, with the help of his son, acquired considerable land. Among the tracts he owned was an eighty-acre piece of property near Gilman. To this his son Matthias came in 1871 for the purpose of improving it and converting it into a farm. Having purchased his father's interest in the land, he put it under a good state of cultivation, erected comfortable buildings, and in course of time added to it one hundred and sixty acres. He was a strong advocate of tiling, and had worked very hard to get his farm thoroughly drained. It seemed that he was just prepared to enjoy the fruits of his many years of toil when he was called to his final rest.

In Gilman Mr. Frey had married on the 7th of

October, 1871, Caroline, daughter of David and Christina (Belgert) Melis. Mr. Melis emigrated with his family from Germany about the year 1855, and died in New York soon after his arrival. His widow married John Ossman, and subsequently removed to Marshall County, Ill., but in 1871 came to Iroquois County. Mr. and Mrs. Ossman now live in Onarga. Mrs. Frey was born in Prussia, Germany, and is one of two children. Her brother, Oscar, is a farmer of Onarga Township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Frey were born seven children: Lottie R., Hattie M., Mary A., William H., Oscar M., Henry J. and Carl F.

Politically, Mr. Frey was a member of the Democratic party, and in religious faith was a Catholic. He died April 5, 1890, a man well respected in this community. At the death of her husband, Mrs. Frey was left with her large family and with \$5,000 of indebtedness on the farm, for, as before stated, Mr. Frey put everything he could make into tiling the land. With rare business ability and the faithful assistance of her children, she is meeting every obligation. She is a member of the Evangelical Church, and is a lady who richly merits the esteem in which she is held.



JOHAN GRAY was numbered among the honored pioneers of Iroquois County, and with the history of this community he was prominently identified in an early day. His life record is as follows: He was born in Warren County, Ohio, near Waynesville, October 10, 1816. His father, William Gray, was a native of Virginia. His mother, who bore the maiden name of Mary Cleaver, was born in Pennsylvania. Their marriage was celebrated in Ohio and they became the parents of a large family of children. In 1835, they emigrated to Iroquois County, Ill., locating in Milford Township, in the northern part of the present site of Milford village.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof and at the age of twenty years came with his parents to this county. He resided with them upon the home

farm and aided his father in its cultivation until 1838, when he was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Stanley, who was born November 11, 1817, and is a daughter of Anthony and Hannah Stanley, who came to this county in 1830 and are numbered among its earliest settlers. Her father was born in North Carolina and her mother was a native of the Keystone State. He entered a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Government, on which the present town of Milford stands.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gray was born a family of thirteen children, five of whom are yet living: Ann, born April 11, 1839; Louisa, November 3, 1840; Mary H., December 30, 1841; Elizabeth and Sarah (twins), October 10, 1843; Martha G., October 14, 1845; Rebecca Jane, April 16, 1847; Florence, April 30, 1849; William, September 12, 1851; John Chalmer, September 19, 1855; Walter M., February 14, 1856; Alice, July 20, 1861; and Olive April 3, 1865. Mary became the wife of George Roberts on the 30th of March, 1868. They had four children, two of whom are now living, and her death occurred August 26, 1891. Elizabeth was married, March 3, 1865, to James R. Caldwell. Unto them were born five children, three of whom are yet living, and their home is now in Hoopeston. Martha D. became the wife of Stephen Jones, September 16, 1872, and by their union have been born four sons, three yet living. They reside on a farm four miles east of Milford. William A. was married, January 14, 1873, to Clara Jolly, by whom he has had four children, two yet living. Their home is in Los Angeles, Cal. Walter H. was married, October 18, 1882, to Alderet Northrup, and died September 5, 1885. Alice became the wife of Willard Axtell, April 14, 1885, and with their two children, a son and daughter, they reside in Lincoln, Neb.

As before stated, Mr. and Mrs. Gray were numbered among the earliest settlers of Iroquois County. When they located here the Indians were far more numerous than the white settlers, the country was almost an undeveloped wilderness and the work of progress and civilization seemed scarcely begun. Mr. Gray aided largely in the upbuilding and advancement of the community

and was ever one of its honored and prominent pioneers. In politics, he was a supporter of Republican principles. He passed away in 1876 and the entire community mourned the loss of this valued citizen. His wife is now the oldest settler in the township. She is a most estimable lady and by her excellencies of character has won many friends.



ALBERT W. NEWLIN, the popular proprietor of the Park House, of Cissna Park, and one of the representative citizens of that place, comes of a family of Irish origin, but for eight generations his ancestors have resided in this country. It was in 1682 that they braved the dangers of an ocean voyage and settled near Philadelphia, not far from where William Penn had located.

The grandfather of our subject, Joshua Newlin, removed from North Carolina to Indiana in 1828, locating in Park County, which was then a wild and almost unsettled region. He built a rude shanty underneath a tree and made it his home until he could erect a log cabin. He there cleared the land of timber and developed a farm, upon which he and his wife spent their remaining days. The family were adherents of the faith of the Society of Friends. The father of our subject, Calvin Newlin, was born in North Carolina, and was about twelve years of age when his parents removed to Indiana. He there engaged in farming and also learned the trade of a tanner, at which he worked for some years. In 1864, he came to Iroquois County, locating in Artesia Township, where he secured a tract of raw prairie land, comprising one hundred and sixty acres. Upon it was a little home and a rude shed for the stock. He there improved a good farm, upon which he resided for some time, but before his death he sold and removed to Gilman, and later lived on a farm in Ash Grove Township. Subsequently he purchased a part of the old homestead, where himself and wife spent their last days. His death occurred at the

age of sixty-five years. Mrs. Newlin, who bore the maiden name of Rebecca Hadley, was a native of North Carolina, but her people were pioneer settlers of Indiana and her marriage was celebrated in Parke County.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Newlin were born the following children: Emily, wife of Levi Carter, of Howard County, Ind.; Samuel H., who during the late war was a member of the Twenty-first Indiana Regiment, died in this county; Mrs. Virena Rogers resides in Kansas; Aelsah, widow of J. T. Whitted, resides in Gilman; Allen is a resident farmer of Artesia Township; Alfred, twin brother of our subject, resides in Howard County, Ind.; Eli is living in Cissna Park; Phoebe is the wife of J. W. Michaels, of Crawford County, Kan.; Ira is deceased; and Orlando is living in Kokomo, Ind., employed in a plate-glass factory. The father of this family was a staunch Republican in politics and was strongly opposed to the institution of slavery. Himself and wife were both prominent members of the Friends' Church and were highly respected people.

Albert W. Newlin, our subject, was born in Park County, Ind., May 27, 1849, and was a lad of fourteen years when his parents came to this county. He was early inured to the hard labors of the farm, for as soon as old enough to handle the plow he began work in the fields. Under the parental roof he remained until twenty-two years of age, when his marriage with Miss Mary Neeld was celebrated. The lady was a daughter of G. H. Neeld, for whom the Grand Army Post of Cissna Park was named. Their union was celebrated April 6, 1871. The wife died of consumption March 19, 1876, leaving one son, Harley, an intelligent and well-educated young man, who was born September 1, 1873, and resides with our subject. On the 9th of March, 1882, Mr. Newlin was again married, Miss Ella Betts, of Shelby County, Ill., becoming his wife. They have one daughter, Myrtle Edna, born December 18, 1883.

Mr. Newlin is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge, and in his political affiliations has been a stalwart Republican, having cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant. He successfully carried on farming for a number of years after

coming to this county, but in 1888 abandoned the occupation to which he was reared and removed to Cissna Park. For two years he engaged in boring wells, and since 1890 has been the owner and proprietor of the Park House. It is a good hotel, well fitted up and tastefully furnished, and the landlord is a genial, pleasant man who makes friends of all his guests. The hotel is supplied with all modern conveniences, and the courteous treatment of Mr. Newlin to his patrons has won him favor with the traveling public and secured him an excellent patronage. He also owns and runs the Central Livery Barn. He is regarded as one of the leading citizens of this community.



JAMES E. GREEN, a retired farmer residing in Ashkum, dates his residence in this county from 1866. He was born in Oxfordshire, England, on the 21st of December, 1835, and is a son of Thomas and Sarah (Elkington) Green, who were both born in the same shire. The father spent his entire life in England, and died there in 1869. His wife is still living, at the advanced age of eighty-two years.

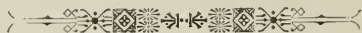
The subject of this sketch is the only son of their family of four children who grew to mature years. His boyhood days were passed upon a farm, and he received school advantages only until ten years of age. His education has been almost wholly achieved since he arrived at man's estate. He left his home at the age of seventeen and went to the large manufacturing city of Birmingham, where he continued to live for about three and a-half years. Up to the time when he left the parental roof he had contributed of his earnings to the support of his father's family. Believing that the Western world afforded greater advantages for the advancement of a young man of enterprise, he accordingly, in the spring of 1856, bade adieu to his native country and took passage at Liverpool in an American vessel, the "William Tapscott." The voyage was of six weeks and three days' duration, the ship coming to anchor in New York Bay June 20th of that year. Our subject still con-

tinued Westward, going up the Hudson River to Albany, and thence by railroad and boat to Toledo. From there he went to Chicago and then to Woodford County, Ill., where he joined a brother-in-law. For the first season he worked at day labor on a farm, and continued in that way for several years. In 1863, he bought a team and rented land near Panola, Woodford County, which he farmed for two years. After that he purchased a small farm, which he carried on for about four years, when he sold out and removed to Iroquois County, purchasing land in Ashkum Township. This tract originally consisted of eighty acres of entirely uncultivated prairie land, and on this he settled and proceeded to develop his farm. At the end of twelve years he purchased a piece of land adjoining it, which consisted of forty acres, thus making in all a tract of one hundred and twenty acres, which is now well improved and yields abundant harvests. On this he erected good buildings and continued to live until the spring of 1891, when he rented the farm and removed to the village of Ashkum. In that place he purchased residence property and has now retired from the active labors of farm life, enjoying the rest he has earned by his years of toil.

In Warwickshire, England, Mr. Green was united in marriage to Miss Ann Maria Graves, a daughter of Samuel Graves. The wedding ceremony was performed in April, 1856. Both Mrs. Green and her father were natives of England. By her marriage, Mrs. Green became the mother of eight children: Loretta E. is the wife of L. H. Hull, of this county; William E. is a farmer of Iroquois County; Albert Henry is a resident of Ashkum; Thomas E. is a farmer of Holt County, Mo.; Walter W. is still at home; Arthur E. carries on farming; Lucy Viola and Charles Alvin are still at home. Mrs. Green was called home in June, 1884.

In 1886, Mr. Green returned to England and visited the scenes of his youth, spending about three months with his friends and relatives. He had a most enjoyable trip and a pleasant voyage both going and coming. He commenced life in this State with no capital, but on the contrary was about \$35 in debt. He has, through his

own well-directed efforts and business ability, become one of the influential, prominent and prosperous farmers of this region, and has accumulated a valuable property and a good competence. Since he has become a voter, Mr. Green has been a supporter of the Republican party, his first ballot having been cast for Hon. James A. Garfield. He has never asked for or accepted official position, but has attended strictly to his business affairs. He is known far and wide as a man of upright character and sterling worth, and it is a pleasure to add this brief sketch of an honored citizen and early settler to this volume.



POTTER AUSTIN, a well-known agriculturist residing on section 2, Lovejoy Township, has for about half a century made his home in Iroquois County. He is numbered among its honored pioneers and valued citizens, for he has been prominently identified with its upbuilding and advancement. A native of Seneca County, N. Y., he was born on the 22d of November, 1829. His father, Silas Austin, was born in the Empire State, followed farming, and died many years ago. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Deborah Lewis, died when Potter was a mere child. Their family numbered three children, but the two daughters are now deceased.

The subject of this sketch when only six years of age was taken to Michigan by Sidney Reynolds, with whom he made his home until the age of twenty-one years. He was educated in the common schools, but the course was very limited and after attaining his majority he attended school for three months. He commenced at the bottom round of the ladder of life and worked his way upward, and by honest toil and determined effort he has achieved success. In early life, he was employed as a farm hand at \$12 per month. In the fall of 1849, he went to the lead mines of Wisconsin, where he sought and obtained employment, there remaining until the autumn of 1850, when he went to the pineries in the northwestern part of the State. In that locality, he spent the winter of

1851, after which he returned to Michigan and then went to New York to visit his friends, remaining away for eighteen months. It was in March, 1853, that Mr. Austin came to Illinois and cast his lot with the early settlers of Iroquois County. He purchased a small and unbroken tract of one hundred and sixty acres at \$6.75 per acre, and a small house thereon constituted the only improvement. He then turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he has since followed.

Mr. Austin wedded Miss Rachel Rothgeb, daughter of George and Anna (Hizen) Rothgeb. Their union was celebrated March 18, 1855, and unto them has been born a family of six children, three sons and three daughters, of whom three are yet living: George is connected with the gas and electric supply house at No. 32 Market Street, Chicago; Annie is the wife of J. D. Rothgeb, a general merchant of Wellington, and Lloyd is yet at home. Those deceased are: Frank, who died at the age of twenty-two years; he was a young man of great business enterprise and ability, and at the time of his death was one of the leading farmers and stock buyers of the county. An honor to his parents, he is sadly missed in the family circle, and many friends also mourn his death. Mary died at the age of six summers, and Martha Lee died at the age of one year and eight months. The mother of this family was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, December 28, 1833, and was only five years old when she became a resident of Illinois. Her parents had emigrated from Virginia to Ohio, but returned to the former State before coming to Illinois. Her education was acquired in the common schools. She is a kind and genial lady, who is ever ready to extend a warm welcome to her many friends, and her home is the abode of hospitality. She holds membership with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Austin is a beautiful country residence situated in the midst of a fine farm of three hundred acres of valuable land. Mr. Austin is recognized as one of the leading and representative farmers of the community. His first Presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison, but he is now a staunch supporter of the Democracy. He has held the office of Supervisor

for three terms, was Assessor for six years and Clerk and Treasurer of the Board of Highway Commissioners for about the same period. He has been School Trustee, is now School Treasurer of Lovejoy Township, and has held this office for the long period of thirty-one consecutive years, from 1861 until 1892. He may well be proud of this record, for it is doubtful if any in the State have so long served as School Treasurer. He is alike true to every public and private trust and has the entire confidence of his friends and those with whom he has been brought in contact. He is a self-made man and his prosperity is the well-deserved reward of his own labors.



EUSEBIUS NILSON, who is engaged in general farming on section 3, is one of the leading citizens of Milford Township, being prominently connected with several lines of business. He was born on the 10th of August, 1850, on his father's farm in this township and is a representative of one of the early families. His parents, Robert and Susan L. (Wagner) Nilson, are represented in the sketch of Sidney Nilson.

A glance backward at the boyhood of Eusebius shows him a farmer lad working in the fields during the summer months, while in the winter seasons he conned his lessons in the district schools of the neighborhood. When he had attained to mature years he was united in marriage with Miss Catherine B. Monnett, daughter of John and Mary (Saylor) Monnett, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The union of the young couple was celebrated on the 4th of May, 1887, and two children have come to brighten their home, both boys: Frederick William, the elder, was born February 2, 1889; and Dean Sidney opened his eyes to the light of day August 9, 1891. Mrs. Nilson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Milford.

Mr. Nilson is the owner of a fine farm comprising two hundred and thirty acres of arable land which he has placed under a high state of cultivation. It is also improved with good buildings;

the land is divided into fields of convenient size by well-kept fences and all modern appointments go to make this one of the model farms of Milford Township. The highly cultivated land yields to him a golden tribute in return for his care and labor. In connection with farming, Mr. Nilson owns and operates a sawmill and a tile factory. His factory is located about two and a-half miles north of Milford, on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. The finest quality of clay is used and a smooth tile is manufactured. From the beginning his sales have constantly increased and he is now doing a good business, the excellent quality of the tile securing him a liberal patronage. This is a leading industry of the township.

Mr. Nilson exercises his right of franchise in support of Democratic principles, but he has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking, preferring to devote his entire time to his business interests, which are proving to him a profitable investment. He is a man of good business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, and by his systematic and methodical habits and fair and honest dealing he has acquired a competence which classes him among Milford Township's substantial citizens. He is recognized as a man of sterling worth, and during his long residence in the community his fellow-townsmen have had ample proof of his straightforwardness in all things.



JOHN MCGILVRAY, a retired farmer now residing in Ashkum, is a native of Canada. His birth occurred on the 28th of April, 1837, in Vaughn, York County. He is a son of John and Catherine (McNevin) McGilvray. Both parents are natives of Scotland. The father emigrated to the New World about the year 1830 and settled in Canada, then a vast wilderness, full of Indians and wild animals. He settled in the village of Richmond Hill, and engaged at his trade of shoemaking. He afterward moved to a farm in King Towaship, but still kept up his trade. He reared his family and spent his life

there, dying when quite a young man in 1841. The mother survived her husband about twenty-three years.

John McGilvray is the second of a family of four children, three of whom grew to mature years: Isabella is the wife of Rev. Josiah Brown, a minister of the Baptist Church, now located at Chenoa, Ill.; and Alexander, who has lived in California for twenty years is an extensive contractor and builder.

Our subject grew to manhood in Canada, receiving ordinary school privileges. He has largely educated himself and is a man of wide reading and information. His early life was passed on a farm, where he engaged in the usual pursuits of farmer boys. Mr. McGilvray led to the marriage altar Miss Margaret McGilvray, on the 23d of September, 1863. She is a daughter of Laughlin McGilvray, of Vaughn Township, York County, Canada, who was a native of Scotland. Six children have been born to our subject and his wife: John A. is engaged in the hardware business at Ashkum; Daniel II., a graduate of the Valparaiso Normal School of Indiana, is a prosperous business man at Harvey, Ill.; Sarah, a successful teacher in literature and music, lives at home; Archie is now taking a course at the Valparaiso Normal School; Josiah Benjamin is at home; and Maggie May is also under the parental roof. The children have all received the best educational advantages and the two younger are now attending the Ashkum schools.

After his marriage, Mr. McGilvray removed to Michigan and located at Marquette, on Lake Superior. He was engaged in contract work at that point for about one year. In 1864, coming to Illinois he settled on a farm in La Salle County, which he rented for about three years. He came to Iroquois County, where he purchased a tract of eighty acres of wild prairie land. On this he located and opened up a farm. From time to time he added adjoining land to his original purchase until he was in the possession of over five hundred acres of well-cultivated and valuable land. He has a good residence, barns and outbuildings, a wind-pump and the latest improved machinery for carrying on the work of the farm. Mr. Mc-

Gilvray commenced life in Illinois a poor man, and has by his own labor and industry accumulated a fortune. He has a valuable farm and a good home and is to-day one of the enterprising, thrifty and progressive farmers. In 1888, he removed to the village of Ashkum, where he now resides, and where he is now erecting a fine large residence.

Our subject is in sympathy with the Democratic party and cast his first ballot at a Presidential election for Hon. Samuel J. Tilden. Mr. McGilvray has never aspired to official positions, but has chosen to devote his time and energy to his business. In all educational and local affairs he takes an active part, and is ever a supporter of measures tending to advance the interests of the community in which he dwells. Mrs. McGilvray, one son and a daughter are consistent members of the Baptist Church. Our subject has done much in the up-building and development of the county and has won the esteem and confidence of all his fellow-citizens by his life of integrity and honor. He is numbered among the leading and influential citizens and his family is one of prominence and is well received in social circles.



CHARLES C. DONNELLY, a leading farmer of Ashkum Township, makes his home on section 15. He is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred in Ontario County, on the 27th of June, 1850. He is a son of Robert and Sarah (Clark) Donnelly, both natives of the Emerald Isle and who resided there until their marriage. In 1848, the father decided to make his home in the New World and accordingly emigrated in that year, settling in Ontario County, N. Y., where he resided for a number of years. In 1867, he removed westward to Illinois and settled on land where his son now resides, situated in Iroquois County. Mr. Donnelly was one of the first to locate on this broad prairie, where he purchased one hundred and seventy-four acres of good arable land, which was entirely unimproved. At first he built a small house for his

family and started to work in earnest to open up his farm. By years of industry and perseverance he succeeded in his endeavor and made of his property one of the finest of the county. He was one of the honored pioneers of this section, and his death occurred October 9, 1892. His remains were interred in the Ashkum cemetery. His wife departed this life in May, 1880, and her loss was deeply felt by her many friends. She was a faithful wife and mother, and by her lovable and pleasant ways made many friends. Mr. Donnelly is a man of upright character and integrity and is held in the highest esteem by all who have had the good fortune to come in contact with him either in a social or business way.

Charles Donnelly is the elder of two brothers. Frank is married and lives in Chicago, where he is a contractor and builder. Our subject passed his boyhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads and had good school advantages, supplementing his course in the district schools by several terms' attendance at the Chicago High School. After completing his studies he learned the carpenter's trade in that city, and soon after went into the service of the Chicago Fire Department. He remained with the fire company for about twelve years, trying heroically, as did all in the service, to extinguish flames and save property in the great fire of 1871 and also in that of 1874.

On the 24th of December, 1873, Mr. Donnelly was united in marriage in Chicago to Miss Jennie Simpson, who was born in Canada and was reared and educated in Chicago. Her father, James Simpson, was a native of England. By her marriage, Mrs. Donnelly has become the mother of six children, three sons and three daughters: Robert, Charles, Frank, Agnes, Elizabeth and Sarah. These children are all receiving good educational advantages.

In 1883, Mr. Donnelly returned to this county and took charge of the farm and business, buying out his brother's interest in the homestead. He has greatly improved the property, built a commodious barn and has done considerable tiling. This is considered to be a most valuable piece of farm land, and is situated about half way between Clifton and Ashkum. Since becoming a voter,

Mr. Donnelly has given his support to the Republican party, his first ballot being cast for Gen. U. S. Grant. He has never been an office-seeker in any sense of the term, but has always given his entire attention to his business affairs. Public schools and other institutions of learning, as well as all measures for the advancement of the people both intellectually, socially and morally, find in him a staunch friend and supporter. Mrs. Donnelly is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Clifton. Socially, he holds membership with the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the Knight Templar Order. He is a member of Hesperia Lodge No. 411, and Chicago Commandery No. 19, K. T., of Chicago. He is widely and favorably known throughout this section, and is held in high regard for his many qualities of worth. He is a man of varied reading and extensive information, and keeps well posted on all subjects of national and general importance.



ADOLPHUS J. CARTER, a prominent farmer of Ashkum Township, resides on section 22. He was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in the town of Champion, on the 9th of August, 1833. He is a son of Samuel O. and Lorana (Thornton) Carter. The father was a native of one of the New England States, and his father, Joel Carter, was a native of Connecticut. Three brothers of the Carter family came from England in the "Mayflower" in 1620. The father of our subject was reared and educated in the Empire State and was there married. His wife was a native of Vermont and a daughter of John Thornton, who was born in Rhode Island and was a soldier in the War of 1812. After his marriage, Mr. Carter engaged in agricultural pursuits in St. Lawrence County for a number of years. He removed to Illinois in 1836, at which time the whole State was a wilderness and had few inhabitants. He made a settlement in La Salle County, where he pre-empted land and opened up a farm. He afterward added to his original tract by purchase. In 1849, Mr. Carter went overland to California and

spent about nine years on the Pacific Slope, engaged in mining, in which he was quite successful. In February, 1858, he returned to Illinois and again resumed agricultural pursuits. The remaining years of his life were spent at that homestead, and there he was called to his final rest about the 21st of November, 1887. His estimable wife did not long survive him and died ten weeks later. There is still in the possession of the family a Bible, which was brought over in the "Mayflower."

Adolphus Carter is the eldest of four brothers who grew to mature years; the next younger, Herman, is a farmer of La Salle County; Joel resides on the old homestead; and the youngest, John, was a soldier of the late war, and died of typhoid fever at Corinth, when in the service of his country. His death occurred in May, 1862, when he was in his twenty-second year. Our subject brought his remains home for interment.

The early years of Adolphus were spent in the usual farm routine—work, play and school alternating. He received such educational advantages as the schools of that early day afforded, and he continued working for his father until his majority. He then started out for himself, rented a farm, and engaged in agricultural pursuits for several years. After his father had retired from active life, he and a brother rented the old homestead and ran it for seven years. In 1868, Mr. Carter came to Iroquois County, and in April of that year purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved prairie land from the Illinois Central Railroad Company. On this property he located and cleared and opened up a farm. His place is well cultivated and developed, and on it he has erected a substantial and pleasant residence, good stables and other farm buildings. It is located only a mile and a half from Ashkum and is a valuable piece of property.

In La Salle County, on the 17th of December, 1867, were united the destinies of Mr. Carter and Mrs. Mary Ann Doan, a widow, and a daughter of Highland Jacobs, who died when Mrs. Carter was an infant. Her mother survives, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Carter had two children: Arthur Wells, who was called to the better world at the age of nineteen years,

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Alice S. Peckens

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on the 8th of July, 1889; and Jennie Belle, who is taking a literary course of study at the Grand Prairie Seminary at Onarga. She was a teacher for four terms, and has always been a very close student. She received a free tuition for the year on account of superior scholarship, and is a young lady of superior attainments and ability.

Mr. Carter uses his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, but for many years was an advocate of the Democracy, his first ballot having been cast for James Buchanan. Mr. Carter unquestionably possesses the ability to fill local official positions, but has ever declined to serve in such, as he wished to give his whole and exclusive attention to his business affairs. He is widely and favorably known as a man possessing the best of qualities, and during his long residence in this State and county has made a host of friends.



EDWIN D. PECKENS, conductor on the Springfield Division of the Illinois Central Railroad, was born in Naperville, Ill., on the 9th of August, 1853. He is a son of Samuel N. and Sarah A. (Snyder) Peckens. On both sides the family have lived in Pennsylvania for generations. In 1829, the father, desiring to try his fortune in the new West, started for Illinois, driving an ox-team. No adequate idea can be formed of what such a journey meant in those early days, long before the railroads, and even before the Western wilderness had been opened up by roads. Only from the accounts of a few survivors of that period can we picture the hardships of cutting roads through forests, fording rivers, crossing swamps, and plowing through sand and mud, often to the hub on the wheels; and when, after weeks and sometimes months of traveling, their destination was reached, a log cabin had to be erected, and the land had to be cleared. Then commenced a series of privations and hardships, of which the journey thither had been but a prelude. Means of communication with the outside world were very inefficient, and as traveling was so difficult, they were

thus forced to struggle along unaided, save by such assistance as they could render one another. After arriving in Illinois, Mr. Peckens located in Du Page County. For a time he followed the occupation of farming, and later became a veterinary surgeon. It was in Will County that he met and married Miss Snyder. In 1867, he removed to Gilman, but spent his last days in Springfield, where he died at the age of seventy-three. His wife is still living at Springfield.

Our subject is the eldest of six children, of whom five, two sons and three daughters, are still living. Samuel Nelson, one of the sons, is a conductor on the Illinois Central Railroad. Since eleven years of age, Mr. Peckens, the subject of this sketch, has made his own way in the world. For some four years he served in clerkships at Gilman. He had advanced rapidly while in school, and after he commenced clerking acquired a good business education. He then began cleaning engines in the round house at Gilman, but after a few weeks, took a position as fireman on the old Gilman, Clinton & Springfield Railroad. Continuing a short time at that occupation, he was next employed at hostler work making up and putting away trains, in which he was engaged for four years. Subsequently he was similarly employed on the Chicago, Paducah & Southwestern for eight months, and then went as fireman on the Rock Island Railroad. Soon a strike came on among the firemen, and, preferring not to take part in it, he left his position and became book-keeper, city salesman and traveling agent for L. E. Newman & Co., commission men of Chicago, in whose employ he remained for two years. Again he returned to the railroad, working for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, for the Iron Mountain, and the Chicago Division of the Illinois Central. June 29, 1879, he came to the Springfield Division of the Illinois Central as brakeman, and on the 12th of September of that year took charge of a freight train, which position he has since held. Altogether he has been in the railroad service for a period of about twenty years, and, like most railroad men, he has accumulated considerable property. As his long connection with one company would indicate, he is thoroughly acquainted with his

business, and is reliable and prompt in the discharge of duty.

On the 24th of November, 1880, occurred Mr. Peckens' marriage with Miss A. S. Castles, a native of La Salle County. The ceremony was performed at Mendota, Ill. They have had a family of three children: Josie E., Sadie A. and Edwin D. Sadie, who was born April 3, 1886, died November 11, 1892; and Edwin, born on the 17th of February, 1890, died on the 2d of December, 1892. But three weeks elapsed between the deaths of these beautiful little ones, and in their sad bereavement the parents have the hearty sympathy of their many friends and fellow-citizens.

Mr. Peckens belongs to the Order of Railway Conductors, and takes great interest in civic societies. He is a Knight Templar Mason, belonging to Gilman Lodge No. 591, A. F. & A. M.; Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.; Gibson Council No. 72; Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen and to the Knights of the Maccabees. Mr. Peckens is a Democrat, but not an office-seeker.



LOUIS C. MISCH is numbered among the wide-awake and enterprising young business men of Milford, where he is engaged in general merchandising. He began operations in October, 1887, forming a partnership with John C. Miller. This connection was continued for three years, or until 1890, when Mr. Misch bought out his partner's interest, and has since been alone. He began business with a small stock, which he has steadily increased to meet the growing demands of his trade. He has now a well-equipped store, and is enjoying a liberal patronage, being regarded as one of the most successful merchants of Milford.

As our subject is widely and favorably known in this community, we feel assured that a record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers. He was born in Milford, Ill., on the 17th of March, 1863, and is a son of August and Fredericka (Schultz) Misch, both of whom were na-

tives of Germany. Having emigrated to this country, they located in Iroquois County, and the mother still makes her home in Milford. The father was called to his final rest in February, 1886. Unto that worthy couple were born seven children, of whom further mention is made in the sketch of William Misch, on another page of this work.

He of whom we write has spent almost his entire life in Iroquois County. The days of his boyhood and youth were here passed, and the public schools afforded him his educational advantages. He entered upon his business career, and received his business training, in the store of his brother William, there occupying a position as salesman for several years. During this time he became familiar with business customs and with the wants and wishes of the people, so that when he embarked in merchandising for himself he had a good fund of experience to aid him in his operations. He is now meeting with excellent success, and is enjoying a well-deserved prosperity. He possesses energy and perseverance, and, by the exercise of correct business principles, has already gained a comfortable competence.

It was in 1889 that Mr. Misch led to the marriage altar Miss Disa McMillin, a sister of his brother William's wife. They have a little son about eighteen months old named Fred. In his political affiliations, Mr. Misch is a Republican, and socially is a member of Farmers' Lodge No. 253, I. O. O. F.



SAMUEL SHANNON, who is a representative farmer of Milford Township, was born in Ross County, Ohio, on the 12th of June, 1818, and is one of thirteen children. His parents, Thomas and Catherine (Witter) Shannon, were both natives of Pennsylvania, and in the Keystone State were reared and married. Shortly after their marriage, they left the East and emigrated to Ohio, where Mr. Shannon embarked in agricultural pursuits. Their children were all born in the Buckeye State, and in order of birth were as follows: John Joseph, Catherine, Sarah, Susan,

Mary, Hester Ann, Sophira, Elizabeth, Nancy, Reuben, Wesley and Samuel. On the 4th of November, 1841, the parents removed to Indiana, where they resided for a number of years. The father was a soldier in the War of 1812. Both died in May, 1848.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who was reared in the State of his nativity, and on the 16th of November, 1837, in Ohio, was married to Miss Mary N. Gallop, of Clermont County. After a short wedded life of a year, the lady was called to her final home on the 20th of November, 1838, at the age of twenty years, six months and twenty days. On the 4th of November, 1841, Mr. Shannon was joined in wedlock with Miss Sarah Ann Washburn, daughter of Cornelius and Elizabeth (Martin) Washburn, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Kentucky.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born thirteen children, ten of whom are yet living: Reuben P. was born August 22, 1842. Mary Ann, born March 20, 1844, became the wife of Absolen Scott, July 28, 1865, and unto them were born two children, William and Samuel, but the latter died when about two years of age; Mr. Scott died in 1886, and his widow is now the wife of Elder L. M. Shinkle, a Christian preacher. William J., born March 19, 1846, enlisted in Company G, Forty-eighth Ohio Infantry, during the late war, and served for four years and nine months. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Pittsburg Landing, the Red River expedition, and many other engagements, but escaped without a wound. He was married February 12, 1873, to Ruth Joseph, by whom he has the following children, all living: Sarah, Mary, Inez, Winfield Scott, Edward, Samuel Bruff and Benjamin. Margaret E., born August 4, 1849, became the wife of Joseph Phillips, February 22, 1870, and they have two children, Hattie and George. Nancy J., born January 9, 1852, is the wife of Abraham L. Crampton, and by their union, which was celebrated January 11, 1871, they have four children: Nettie, Charles, Anna and Frank. Silas P. was born November 29, 1854; Thomas S. January 7, 1857; John W., January 15, 1859; Abraham Lincoln, July 24, 1861; Lear L., who was born

December 16, 1863, is the wife of Elmer E. Shaw, and by their marriage, which occurred September 1, 1883, they have one daughter, Bertha; Benjamin F. was born September 8, 1866; Lydia C., July 18, 1871; and Edward Washburn December 9, 1873.

In May, 1887, Mr. Shannon, whose name heads this sketch, left his native State for the first time for a change of residence, and came to Iroquois County, Ill. He located on a farm in Stockland Township, but soon afterward removed to Prairie Green Township. He is now a resident of Milford Township, living on what is known as the C. C. Vennum Farm, pleasantly located about two and one-half miles north of Milford. He and his wife are both members of the Christian Church, and in politics, he is a Republican.



ROBERT WEST carries on farming on section 30, Douglas Township. He was born in Lincolnshire, England, on the 11th of December, 1832, and is a son of Robert and Ann West, both of whom died in England. The father was a farmer by occupation and lived to the age of fifty-three. His wife died at the age of eighty. In their family were nine children, of whom but two are now living, our subject and a sister who resides in Yorkshire, England. George W. came to the United States in 1852, lived in La Salle and Iroquois Counties, and in 1883 went to Nebraska, where he died some four years later.

Mr. West of this sketch is the seventh child in order of birth. He was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools until about fifteen years of age, when he began working. In 1856, he came to the United States, taking thirty-five days to make the voyage from Liverpool to New York. He went from there to Lowell, La Salle County, Ill. He, with his brother, purchased some coal land and for seven winters engaged in mining coal, and in the summer carried on farming.

In La Salle County, February 17, 1869, Mr. West married Miss Emma Campbell, who was born in Chester County, Pa., June 8, 1844. She is the

daughter of Benjamin and Margaret (Wilson) Campbell. Her father was born in Delaware, and her grandfather Campbell, though of Scotch descent, was born in the North of Ireland. He with his young wife came to the United States, settling in Delaware. Mrs. West's mother was born in the Keystone State, at Philadelphia. In 1855, Benjamin Campbell came West and settled near Ottawa, LaSalle County, where he and his wife spent their remaining days. He lived to be eighty-two years of age, while she reached her seventy-ninth year. Both were members of the Methodist Church. They had a family of eleven children, one dying in infancy and one when twenty years of age. Mrs. West is the fifth in order of birth of this family. Unto our subject and his wife were born three children: Charlie T. and Roy, who are at home, and one who died in childhood.

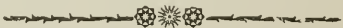
In 1867, Mr. West came to Irroquois County and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land. It had then no improvements worth mentioning, and he has laid some ten thousand tile and also erected good buildings and otherwise improved the property. In 1882, he moved to Foster County, N. Dak., and took up a homestead, on which he lived for four years and then returned to his present home.

Responding to his patriotic impulses, our subject enlisted in August, 1862, in the army, and became a member of Company B, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Infantry. The first engagement in which he took part was at Hartsville, Tenn., where he was taken prisoner but afterward paroled. He also participated in the battles of Chickamauga, Buzzard's Roost, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek and the siege and capture of Atlanta. He was a guard at Lookout Mountain and took part in the battles of Chattanooga and Mission Ridge. While his regiment was supporting Gen. Hooker at Peach Tree Creek, the soldiers had erected a barricade for protection. They received orders to cease building further defenses and the retreat was sounded. Mr. West started around the corner of the embankment and ran directly into the rebel ranks. He was called upon to surrender at once, but did not stop to comply with their demands. Continuing at a rapid pace, he

soon reached his companions, escaping the shower of bullets which were sent after him. During this encounter his bunk companion was taken prisoner and a young lieutenant was instantly killed.

On the 7th of August, 1864, while at the right of Atlanta, he was wounded in the right hip, the bullet cutting a deep groove. As it was summer, gangrene set in and for six months he was confined to his bed in the hospital at Nashville, Tenn. Four times he came near bleeding to death. His record as a soldier is one of which he may well be proud, for he was always found at his post of duty and his service was distinguished by marked bravery and fidelity. Altogether he took part in twenty battles. He was discharged at Benton Barracks, St. Louis, in February, 1865.

Mr. West returned to this county, but for two years was unable to engage in active work on account of disability. In politics, he is a Republican and is much interested in all local affairs. He is a friend to the best educational measures, which he does all in his power to further. He is Chaplain of Gilman Post No. 186, G. A. R. Both Mr. and Mrs. West are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is both Steward and Trustee.

JOHN CONVEY, now retired from active business, was one of the pioneers and first settlers of Ashkum Township and now makes his home in the village of Ashkum, where he is numbered among its most respected and honored citizens. He is a native of Ireland, and was born in County Mayo, in August, 1829. He is a son of Patrick and Sibbie (Fillben) Convey, both of whom were also natives of the Emerald Isle. Our subject is the eldest of a family consisting of seven sons and one daughter. He received very limited school advantages and decided to emigrate to the New World when about sixteen years of age.

In 1846, with his father, brothers and sisters, Mr. Convey accordingly set sail for America. The ship carried five hundred passengers and soon after leaving port the dread disease, typhoid fever,

was discovered on board. The fever raged to such an extent that out of the five hundred passengers only fifty survived when they arrived at their destination, which was Montreal, Canada. Among the stricken ones were the family of Patrick Convey. Four sons only lived until they reached quarantine and then two more passed away. Our subject and one brother were the only survivors. The brother afterward went to Boston, since which time our subject has received no tidings of him.

John Convey resided in Canada for eight years and attended St. Teresa Academy at North Montreal for three years. While there, he studied Latin and the English and French languages. After completing his studies, he learned the carpenter's trade and then emigrated to Chicago, where he engaged in carpenter work for five years. For a portion of that time, he was a contractor and builder and was quite successful. He received a contract from the Illinois Central Railroad to build tanks and freight houses along that line, and for them he worked for two years. He then went to New Orleans and worked for six months at his trade, after which he obtained a contract from the Mobile & Ohio Railroad to build cars. Soon after the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln, he returned to the North, settling on a farm in Ashkum, Iroquois County. This was a piece of raw prairie land, and of this tract, which contained eighty acres, he made a valuable piece of property. He carried on agricultural pursuits upon that farm for about seven years, and as his financial resources increased added to his original tract from time to time until he was the owner of a whole section. In addition to this, he afterward purchased some land near the village which he held for a few years and then exchanged for Chicago improved real estate. He also traded for land in Kansas. Concluding that Chicago real estate was rapidly rising in the market, he sold his section of land and invested the proceeds in that city. He owns considerable property on Madison Street, and most of the land which he now possesses is situated in the Garden City.

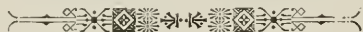
October 8, 1861. Mr. Convey was united in marriage with Miss Uellie Bossett, a native of Canada and a daughter of Benjamin Bossett, also of that country and of French parentage. Mr.

Bossett had a brother, Judge Bossett, who was a very learned and prominent man and a celebrated judge of Canada. Mrs. Convey's father married Margaret La Belle, a French lady of Canada. A brother of Mrs. Bossett, Father La Belle, was the parish priest at Kalamazoo, Mich., where his death occurred. The wife of our subject has two nephews who are priests, one of whom, Father Bergeron, is the priest of Notre Dame Catholic Church of Chicago. Mrs. Convey received her education in a convent at South Bend, Ind.

By the union of our subject and wife twelve children have been born, nine of whom are living: Mary is in a religious order in Chicago and is one of the Sisters of Mercy; Sibbie received a good education and was graduated at the Chicago Academy of Sisters of Mercy and is now the wife of Frank Makeel, of Chicago; William, after attending college six years at St. Viateur's College, of Bourbonnais Grove, is now in the Government employ in Chicago; Caroline is also a Sister of Mercy in a Chicago convent; John and David, the next younger, are under the parental roof and students of St. Viateur's College; Eugenia attends the High School in Chicago; Loretta and Thomas are the remaining members of the family. Two children died in infancy, and a daughter, Melinda, died in 1890, aged seventeen years. The parents of these children are members of the Catholic Church.

Commencing in the New World a poor man, Mr. Convey has by his own labor, industry and enterprise and the help of his estimable wife, accumulated a large estate and is to-day recognized as one of the substantial men of this county, where for a third of a century he has been a resident. He has helped in the development and progress of this county, which now stands to-day among the foremost in the State. He has given his active support and assistance to all public movements tending to advance the best interests of this section, and has aided liberally in the building of churches, schoolhouses, the town hall and other institutions for the benefit of his fellow-citizens. He has ever been a friend to education and our grand free public-school system. Politically, Mr. Convey is identified with the Democratic party, casting his

first vote for Gen. George B. McClellan. He takes quite an active part in local politics and has been a Commissioner for six years and Supervisor for eight years. He is well known throughout the community as a man of worth, and he well deserves a place among the sketches of the pioneers of this county.



EDWARD R. BEEBE, one of the extensive land-owners of Iroquois County and a leading stock-raiser, resides on section 10, Fountain Creek Township. He has also been connected with the mercantile interests of Claytonville, and his business and social relations have made him widely and favorably known. His life record is as follows:

A native of the Nutmeg State, Mr. Beebe was born in Litchfield County, May 21, 1860, and is one of five children who were born of the union of Charles and Almira (Lockwood) Beebe. His father was a native of the same locality as our subject, and his death occurred when Edward was only two years old. The children were Charles, who is now a farmer of Prairie Grove Township; Edward R., whose name heads this record; and Stanley, who is engaged in merchandising in Claytonville.

Since ten years of age Edward Beebe has resided upon a farm. The family emigrated to Ottawa, LaSalle County, Ill., in 1862, and, locating on his grandfather's farm, he there worked in the fields for some time. In 1875, at the age of sixteen, he came to Iroquois County, and has since made this his home. He at first rented land, but by his industry and enterprise, he added to his possessions, and from time to time made additional purchases, until he now owns seven hundred acres of valuable land. He is also engaged in handling stock, of which he is an excellent judge, and has made a specialty of breeding Norman horses. He is a lover of the noble steed, and has owned some fine animals. In connection with his brother Stanley, he is also engaged in general merchandising in Claytonville, and by fair dealing and cour-

teous treatment, they have secured a liberal patronage, which they well deserve, and their stock has been proportionately enlarged to meet the growing demand. Our subject also bought grain for one year in Claytonville.

In his social relations, Mr. Beebe is a Mason, holding membership with the lodge in Rankin. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, and is a warm advocate of its principles. He has often served as a delegate to its conventions, but has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking.

We see in Mr. Beebe a self-made man. At a very early age he was thrown upon his own resources, and has since made his way in the world unaided. He has met with adversity and with many hardships, but by well-directed efforts and perseverance, he has steadily worked his way upward. The difficulties and obstacles in his path he overcame by industry, and his life has been one of signal success. He is now numbered among the wealthy citizens of the county, and his career, characterized by honesty and fair dealing, has won for him the high regard and confidence of all. With his mother he now resides on the homestead farm.



ADOLPH MEINHARD is a well-known citizen and farmer of Douglas Township, residing in a comfortable home on section 33, township 27, range 14. He was born in Siegen, Westphalia, Germany, on the 10th of December, 1847. From records in the possession of the family we learn that the great-grandfather of our subject was Simon Meinhard. His youngest son, Jacob, was born in Siegen, Westphalia, in April, 1780, and died at Troy Grove, Ill., in August, 1854. He was a baker by trade, and married Agnes Graef in 1806. Her death occurred in the Fatherland. Adam Graef, her father, was born in Eisen, near Siegen, and married there a Miss Luetz. The son of Jacob and Agnes Meinhard was born December 15th, 1808, and was named Michael. The latter on arriving at mature years

married Maria Margaret Thielman, the marriage ceremony being performed August 12, 1831. Her birth occurred in Izenfeld, in 1800, and she departed this life on the 20th of February, 1872, at Troy Grove, Ill. Her father, Jacob Thielman, of Zzyenfeld, married Maria M. Ginsberg, of Struthette. She was a daughter of Johann Jacob Ginsberg, of the same place, who was a brother of Admiral Ginsberg, or Kinsberger, who was in the service of Holland. To Michael and Maria Meinhard were born the following children: Henry, born on the 15th of December, 1833, is a resident of Peoria, Ill. Frederick, born August 26, 1841, is manager of the Troy Grove Water Mills, of Troy Grove, Ill. He was a soldier, being a member of the Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and was in the service for three years. Anna Catharina died at Gilman, Ill. She was a twin sister of Wilhelmina, the date of their births being September 3, 1843. The latter resides in Mendota, Ill. Charles, born May 9, 1845, died in Philadelphia, on the 12th of June, 1863, as the result of wounds received in the charge at the battle of Ft. McAllister. He accompanied Sherman on his march to the sea and was a member of the Sixty-fifth Illinois Regiment, being a member of Cushman's Brigade from Ottawa. He was buried in the National Cemetery at Philadelphia with thousands of our Nation's brave defenders. Eberhart, born October 3, 1850, lives near Gilman. Jacob, who was born on the 11th of August, 1852, died at Ottawa, Ill., in 1861. These children were all born in Siegen, Westphalia, and came with their parents to America in the fall of 1853.

Michael Meinhard was a baker by trade, and received a good education in the common and High Schools of his native land. He was much interested in studying American history, and because of his love for the liberties of the United States, he learned the English language and determined to make his home in the New World. He remained in his native land, however, until his sons were to be drafted into the army, at which time he carried the resolution of his early days into effect. The family accordingly went to Rotterdam, where they took passage in a sailing-vessel bound for New York. They had a stormy voyage, were wrecked,

and were obliged to return to Belfast, Ireland, for repairs upon the vessel. After a long and tiresome voyage of nine weeks they arrived in New York Harbor. They spent one winter in Wheeling, W. Va., and in the spring of 1854 came to Illinois, settling in Troy Grove, LaSalle County. There the father purchased land at \$10 an acre. The country was new and unimproved and the family endured many hardships incident to pioneer life. Upon his farm he erected a mill, which was known as the Troy Grove Water Mills, to which farmers came from all portions of that and adjoining counties. This mill is now operated by a son. The father is living a retired life, at the age of eighty-four years. He frequently writes for papers on Free Thought, having been a Free-thinker and strong Democrat all his life. He has never accepted office in this country, though he was an Alderman in his native town and a man of consequence. He served three years in the Prussian War.

Adolph Meinhard, the subject of this sketch, was six years old when he came with his parents to America. He was educated in the public schools of Troy Grove and was early inured to farm work. His brothers were in the army, and much of the labors of the farm fell upon his shoulders. He has largely educated himself since arriving at manhood and inherits his father's talents. He is a good debater and an intelligent and well-informed man. He has followed agricultural pursuits since his boyhood and has been quite successful in that line of business. He remained with his father until about twenty years of age and then came to Iroquois County, where with a brother he purchased half a section of unimproved land, located on section 2. The succeeding five years he spent in improving and developing his property, and then purchased eighty acres where he now makes his home. This he has brought under a high state of cultivation, and has tiled and erected good buildings upon it. He is a successful farmer and a man of good business ability.

In Gilman, on the 29th of November, 1869, Mr. Meinhard led to the marriage altar Miss Anna Brooke. Her father, Benjamin Brooke, emigrated in 1861 to this county from Marshall County,

Ind. Her mother, who was in her maidenhood Elizabeth Wickheizer, is still living. Mrs. Meinhard was born at Lancaster, Ohio. To our subject and his wife three children have been born: Ralph was born January 14, 1880, in La Salle County; Charles and Arnold both died when about two years of age.

Our subject is a Free-thinker like his father and is independent of any society. He has been Road Commissioner and has also served as a Commissioner of Drainage District No. 1 for about three years. He takes an active part in measures tending to the welfare and development of this county, and was influential in getting the ditch put through this section. He has often been a representative to conventions and is influential in senatorial and county assemblies. His first ballot was cast for Horace Greeley and he has ever since been a supporter of Democracy. He is a man of wide reading and information, and keeps well posted on all the important questions of the day. He has proved a good citizen and a man of progressive ideas and has done his share in the development of this county.



ELBERT G. HICKMAN, who is numbered among the early settlers of the county, now follows farming on section 30, Ash Grove Township. A native of Warren County, Ind., he was born January 21, 1834. His father, Peter J. Hickman, emigrated from Delaware in an early day and cast in his lot with the early settlers of Warren County. His home was a log cabin. When our subject was four years of age he removed with the family to Missouri, where they improved a new farm near Springfield. In 1842, the family returned to Indiana and located within two miles of their former home, where Peter Hickman engaged in agricultural pursuits and in operating a mill.

From his twelfth year our subject was there reared to manhood. His education was acquired in a log schoolhouse, with its slab seats, desks of split puncheon, huge fireplace and mud and stick

chimney. Under the parental roof he remained until twenty-four years of age, when he started out in life for himself. He was married, November 29, 1857, in the county of his nativity to Miss Charlotte Blind, who was born in Ohio, October 29, 1832, and came with her parents to Indiana during girlhood. The wedding journey of the young couple consisted of a trip to Iroquois County. They traveled by team and settled in Fountain Creek Township, where Mr. Hickman purchased one hundred and sixty acres of partially improved land. Much of the prairie was still in its primitive condition and the few settlements were widely scattered. In 1878, Mrs. Hickman departed this life and her remains were interred in the Friends' Cemetery, of Ash Grove Township.

Seven children were born of this union: Mary, who was born December 2, 1858, in Iroquois County, is the wife of S. M. Rose, a grain dealer of Cissna Park; Arcelia Ann, born February 11, 1861, died at the age of seven years; Elizabeth Jane, born July 29, 1863, is deceased; Flora Belle, whose birth occurred November 5, 1865, is the wife of Cal Saylor, and they reside on the home farm; Frank, born April 26, 1868, is at home; Dora Alice, born March 4, 1871, keeps house for her father; and Charles E., born July 25, 1874, completes the family. The children were all educated in the public schools.

Upon his first farm in this county, Mr. Hickman made his home for six years and then removed to his present farm. For a time he lived in a log cabin, but it has long since been replaced by his present comfortable and commodious residence. Good barns and outbuildings have also been erected and stand in the midst of waving fields of grain. The farm comprises nine hundred acres of valuable land. In connection with its cultivation, Mr. Hickman also engages in stock-raising and is engaged quite extensively in shipping cattle and hogs to Chicago. He received some aid when he started out in life, but by his own industry, perseverance and good management most of his large property has been acquired. He is now one of the most extensive land-owners of the community. His success is well deserved, for it is the

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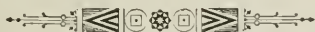


William W. Coburn



Irene Coburn

just reward of his own labors. Mr. Hickman is a staunch advocate of the Democracy and has supported that party since he cast his first Presidential vote for James Buchanan. Those who know him esteem him highly for his sterling worth and integrity and he has a large circle of friends and acquaintances in this community.



WILLIAM W. COBURN, a leading farmer of Douglas Township, who operates a farm on section 7, was born in Princeville, Peoria County, Ill., November 4, 1813. He is a son of William and Rachel (Eltzroth) Coburn. His father was born in Ohio and with his parents early removed to Indiana. His wife, though a native of Ohio, is of German descent. The parents of our subject came to Peoria County among the early settlers. The father kept a tavern in the pioneer days and also carried on a store for a time. Later he removed to a farm and followed agricultural pursuits until his death. He was a staunch Whig and afterward a Republican. In 1863, feeling that the country needed the services of all loyal citizens, he enlisted in the Second Illinois Battery, though over the prescribed age, and after serving for about a year died of small-pox at New Orleans, aged fifty-two years. His widow, now in her seventy-eighth year, still lives at Princeville, Ill. Both were honored members of the Christian Church. By their marriage were born twelve children, five of whom were sons, and three of whom served in the late war. Elijah served in the Eighty-sixth Illinois Infantry for three years, and Samuel served over four years in the Second Illinois Battery.

Our subject is the sixth child in order of birth and was reared on his father's farm, being educated in the district schools. In September, 1861, though not quite eighteen years of age, he enlisted in Company D, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, and after being in the State service three months the young patriot was mustered into the United States service December 20, 1861. His command was called to participate in the battle of Shiloh, that being their

first engagement. He was also in the second battle of Corinth and Iuka. Being in the cavalry service he took part in scores of skirmishes. On the 20th of December, 1861, he received an honorable discharge and returned home. However, he again enlisted, on the 15th of March, 1865, for one year's service in Company G, Fourth United States Volunteer Corps, which was known as Hancock's Corps. One year later, in 1866, he received his final discharge from the army, having served four years, three months and twenty-one days. During that time he was never wounded or taken prisoner. His war record was one of marked bravery and fidelity, remarkable in one of his youthful age.

When his country no longer stood in need of his services, he returned to Peoria County. After a time he went to Hickory County, Mo., where he farmed for three years. In the meantime he returned to Illinois, and at LaFayette, Stark County, he was united in wedlock August 25, 1867, to Irene Ridgway, who was born at Danville, Pa., November 20, 1846. She is a daughter of Thomas and Maria (Beam) Ridgway, natives of New York and New Jersey respectively. The father was born in 1809, and was a carpenter and joiner by trade. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was much beloved and respected by all. Soon after his marriage he removed to Pennsylvania, and in 1849 went to Stark County, Ill., where his death occurred in the following year, he being at that time forty-four years of age. His wife, who long survived him, afterward married Jonas Eltzroth, a native of Ohio. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and departed this life in 1866, at LaFayette, Ind. Mrs. Eltzroth died at the home of our subject January 20, 1892, having nearly reached her eighty-first birthday. Mrs. Coburn is one of seven children, four sons and three daughters, of whom one, Lewis B., served for some three years during the late war. She was educated in the common schools and has been a valuable helpmate to her husband in the journey of life. She is of a kindly and sociable disposition and is much loved by all.

After his marriage, our subject took his young wife in a wagon to their Missouri home, an unus-

ual and delightful wedding tour. Their union has been blessed with three children: Wilbur W.; Guy R., a carpenter of Henry County; and Grace I. In 1869, Mr. Coburn went to Ford County, Ill., and two years later removed to his present farm in Iroquois County. He now owns a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres, well tiled and improved with good buildings, though at the time of his purchase there was nothing on it but water. He has laid upwards of twenty thousand tiles upon his farm and it is therefore one of the most arable and well-drained farms of the township.

Mr. Coburn is a Republican in politics, his first Presidential vote being cast for Grant when he ran for his second term. Socially, he is a Mason and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic of Piper City. He is a practical and progressive farmer, ready to accept any of the best methods of improvement, and about his home is found all the accessories necessary to a model farm of this period. He is a valued citizen of this county and well merits a representation in this volume.



ROBERT DOYLE. The Bar of Eastern Illinois can boast among its members many brilliant and able men—men whose successes are matters of record in the judicial history of the State, and whose professional contests, although extending over many terms of court and a wide area of territory, are still fresh in the minds of the people. Conspicuous among this class stands the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. In 1863, he became identified with the Iroquois County Bar, having formed a law partnership with Asa B. Roff, under the firm name of Roff & Doyle, which connection existed for nine years and resulted in an extensive and successful practice. Soon after the dissolution of their partnership, Mr. Doyle was joined by James McCullough, with whom he was associated for two years, when Mr. McCullough retired, and for a year or two our subject was alone in his practice. He next formed a law partnership with Edward King, which

lasted for a period of three years. About 1874, Mr. Doyle became associated in practice with his wife's brother, the Hon. Free P. Morris. This partnership lasted until 1889, when our subject, on account of failing health, went South for a year or two, where he engaged in the practice of his profession in Chattanooga, Tenn., and also in special business in Charleston, S. C. Since his return to Watseka, he has devoted his attention to farming and stock-raising, accepting only the more important cases offered him.

Mr. Doyle was born in Albany, N. Y., on the 21st of April, 1837, and is a son of Barnard and Isabella (Grey) Doyle. His parents were born in the North of Ireland and emigrated to America in childhood. His father, who was a brilliant scholar, died in New York in 1846, aged forty-six years, and the mother in Chicago in May, 1891, at the age of eighty years.

In 1847, the subject of this sketch came to Illinois with his mother, and their home was first made in the town of Thornton, Cook County. Robert attended the public schools, and after due preparation entered the Chicago University, where after a regular course of study he graduated from the law department in the Class of June, 1863. In August of that year, he came to Watseka and established practice in company with A. B. Roff, as previously stated.

On the 19th of April, 1859, Mr. Doyle was united in marriage with Miss Francis J. Morris, in Cook County. The lady was born in Plymouth, Luzerne County, Pa., and educated at Wyoming Seminary. She is the daughter of Charles and Sarah Morris, Hon. Free P. Morris, of Watseka, being her youngest brother. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Doyle: Minerva, now the wife of Samuel E. Vermilyea, a rising lawyer, resides in Chicago. The second daughter, Grace, is still under the parental roof; while the only son, Guy, is at present studying medicine in the State University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Mr. Doyle is retiring in disposition; he has been many times approached for Circuit Judge but has no ambition in that direction, preferring the Bar to the Bench. He has always been a loyal and consistent supporter of the Republican party. He is

a member of Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M., and is a charter member of Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M. Mr. Doyle resides in a tasty brick residence, situated just beyond the north limits of Watseka, on his fine farm of eight hundred and eighty acres, which is located in the township of Middleport, adjacent to the city on the north. As a lawyer, Mr. Doyle is conspicuous for his well-grounded knowledge of his profession, his remarkably good memory and ability to cite authorities correctly and to conduct to a successful issue important and complicated suits.



MORTIMER D. WILBER, who is engaged in the drug business in Milford, is a native of the State which is still his home. He was born in Pecatonica, Winnebago County, on the 22d of April, 1858, and is one of nine children whose parents were Mortimer D. and Mary Jane (Swezey) Wilber, both natives of New York. Of their family seven are yet living: Mary Jane became the wife of Austin James, of Maries County, Mo. They reside near Vichy Springs with their family of five children. Ida Miranda is the wife of John H. Griggs, a merchant of Potomac, Vermilion County, Ill.; Emma Gertrude is the wife of John McMillan, a fruit-grower of Eddytown, N. Y.; Charles Gilbert, an agriculturist of Vermilion County, Ill., wedded May Green, daughter of Clark Green, of Rossville, Ill., and they have four children; Lewis W. married Miss Ettie Courtney, daughter of J. B. Courtney, of Potomac, Ill.; Alice is the wife of Alonzo Henry, a farmer residing near Potomac, and their family numbers two children.

Mr. Wilber whose name heads this record acquired an English education in the public schools of Rossville, Ill., from which place he removed to Iroquois County in 1879. Locating in Milford he was employed as salesman for three years with Dr. L. P. Woodworth, physician and druggist. On the expiration of that period he purchased the store of his employer and is still carrying on busi-

ness in that line. He deals in drugs, medicines, paints, oils, wall paper, books, stationery, etc., and has built up an excellent trade. He started with little capital, depending not upon good luck for success, but relying solely upon energy, enterprise and good management, thus winning a prosperity which is certainly well deserved. His store is well stocked and would be a credit to a much larger place than Milford. His fair and honest dealing and courteous treatment of his patrons have won him the confidence and good-will of all.

On the 21st of December, 1881, Mr. Wilber was united in marriage with Miss Maggie Gruber, daughter of Rev. S. S. Gruber, a Methodist minister. They are well-known and prominent people in the best circles of society in Milford. Our subject is a member of Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M.; Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M., and Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton. He has occupied the chair of Worshipful Master in the Masonic Lodge. He has also been Treasurer of the Milford Agricultural Society and is a member of its Board of Directors. Of the Milford Building and Loan Association he is a Director and he has held the office of Village Treasurer. He is true to every public and private duty, and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow-townsmen has never been misplaced. Mr. Wilber is a man of good business ability, sagacious and far-sighted and is now numbered among the substantial citizens of the community.



GEORGE SINDERSON, a retired farmer and a prominent citizen of Onarga, is of English birth, and one of a family of seven children born unto Charles and Louisa (Knapp) Sinderson. In 1853, they emigrated to America, accompanied by all of their children with the exception of William and George. A location was made in Atlanta, Logan County, Ill., and afterward they removed onto a farm, where Charles Sinderson made his home until his death, which occurred on the 13th of September, 1876, at the age of seventy-two years. His wife died November

2, 1873, aged seventy years and six months. Of their four sons and three daughters, all are yet living.

The subject of this sketch was born in Alkborough, Lincolnshire, England, January 12, 1830, and was reared to manhood in the land of his nativity. After attaining to mature years, he was married on the 18th of May, 1853, the lady of his choice being Miss Ann Wright, daughter of William and Mary (Moffett) Wright. Mrs. Sinderson is a native of the same shire born October 6, 1827. One son was born unto them in England, and in 1856, with their little child, they came to America. Bidding good-bye to their old home, they crossed the broad Atlantic and made their way to Illinois. The family circle has since been increased by the birth of seven children. There were four sons and four daughters, but one died in infancy: Charles Edward, who was born in England October 15, 1855, married Sarah Ann Hare, daughter of John Hare, of Iroquois County, and unto them have been born four children, three of whom are yet living, namely: Anna, George and the baby. William H., born April 21, 1858, was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Swank, of Milford, and a daughter graces their union, Elizabeth. Jane E., born March 9, 1861, became the wife of William Amerman, of Ash Grove, who died in August, 1882, leaving one child, Minnie Belle, and after his death she became the wife of James West, who resides near Decatur, Brown County, Ohio, and they had the following children: Edgar and Harlan. George W., born January 29, 1863, wedded Anna Perkins, and with their two sons they reside in Sherman County, Neb.; Thomas N., born February 27, 1865, married Miss May Washburn, daughter of Samuel and Ann Washburn. Mollie A., born September 17, 1868, is the wife of John Martin, of Iroquois County, and unto them has been born a daughter, Pearl. Kate, born July 3, 1871, married Samuel Harper, of Onarga.

In 1870, Mr. Sinderson of this sketch removed from Atlanta to Onarga, Ill., locating on a farm ten miles southeast of the village, where he reared his family and carried on agricultural pursuits. In 1888, he sold that farm and came to Onarga, where he and his wife have a comfortable home,

his family having all married and made homes for themselves. While in the country, he held the offices of School Director and Road Commissioner for a number of years. In politics, he is a Republican, and is a valued citizen of the community where he makes his home. Prosperity has attended his efforts since he came to America and it was a fortunate day for him when he determined to leave his native land, for here he has met with success, and has made a comfortable home and many friends.



CAPT. ABRAHAM ANDREW, a veteran of the late war, has held the office of Postmaster of Watseka since May, 1889. He was born in Jacksonborough, Butler County, Ohio, December 20, 1835, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Neihart) Andrew. His father was a native of Rockingham County, Va., and his mother of Lehigh County, Pa. Both are now deceased.

The subject of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native State and attended the public schools until he was fifteen years old, when he removed to Indianapolis, and later to Dayton, Ind. There he learned the harness-maker's trade, at which he was working in Williamsport when the late war broke out. When the President made his call for three months' volunteers, young Andrew was the second man to enlist in defense of the Union from Warren County, that State. He entered the service in 1861, having been mustered in as a member of Company B, Tenth Indiana Infantry. Having served the term of his enlistment, he came to Middleport, Iroquois County, Ill., in the fall of 1861. Later, he joined Maj. George C. Harrington in raising a company, which was mustered in as Company A, of the Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. Mr. Andrew was commissioned First Lieutenant August 24, 1862, and was promoted to be Captain on the 14th of January following. He participated in the battle of Rich Mountain, Va., while a member of the Tenth Indiana, and while in the Seventy-sixth Illinois Regiment he took part in the siege of Vicksburg, and was

on duty with his company there when the Confederates surrendered July 4, 1863.

Immediately after the capture of Vicksburg, our subject was sent with his regiment in pursuit of Joe Johnston through Mississippi. He participated in the battle of Jackson, Miss., after which he was sent to Natchez, and thence into Louisiana, where they had a hard battle on Trinity River. Then they returned to Natchez and went to Morganza Bend and to Port Hudson and Berton, Miss., having had a lively skirmish at that place. From Berton they returned to Morganza Bend, where orders were received to proceed to the mouth of the White River, where they went into camp and outfitted for an expedition to Duvall's Bluff, where Capt. Andrew was assigned to the charge of a camp for winter quarters. Just as that task was completed and the Captain had taken possession of a comfortable cabin that his men had prepared for him with special pains, he was detailed to go to New Orleans, and from there to Kennerville, La., just above the city, and went into camp below the surface of the river level. Later, he was detailed to lead the right wing of his regiment to sail for Ft. Morgan, Ala. He embarked the troops in very good shape, but instead of sailing to Ft. Morgan, went to Pensacola Bay and Ft. Barancus. Before reaching their destination, they were caught in a severe storm eleven miles off the coast and were forced to ride out the storm at anchor. They were knocked about there all night and did not make port until 3 o'clock p. m. the next day. After spending six weeks in camp at Ft. Barancus, they went to Pensacola and joined the expedition to Ft. Blakely. Subsequently, they went to Galveston, Tex., where they were mustered out in July, 1865.

On his return from the war, Capt. Andrew engaged in the grocery business at Watseka, and continued in that line about four years, when he sold out and embarked in the harness business. After three years spent in that line, he was employed as merchant's clerk by Daniel Frey for a while, and subsequently bought into the livery business, and was thus engaged for five years. On selling out, he again resumed clerking. He was

afterward employed by Mr. March in the agricultural implement trade, and continued that connection until appointed Postmaster at Watseka in May, 1889. This position he still holds, and has proved a popular officer.

On the 24th of January, 1867, Capt. Andrew was married, in Middleport, to Miss Caroline Troup, a native of that place, and a daughter of Henry and Mary A. Troup. Her parents are pioneers of Middleport, and are represented elsewhere in this work. Two children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Andrew: Marjetta, who died at the age of three years; and Fred, who was born April 30, 1873, is Assistant Postmaster of Watseka.

In politics, Mr. Andrew is a Republican and has efficiently served four terms as Alderman and two years as Mayor of Watseka. He is a member of Iroquois Lodge No. 71, I. O. O. F.; Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M.; and also Williams Post No. 25, G. A. R., of Watseka. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church. The Captain has made a faithful and capable Government officer, and has discharged with ability and fidelity all public duties devolving upon him. He is recognized as a most worthy citizen, whose patriotic record during the late war and his private and official life are deserving of high repute.



JOHIN WESLEY HICKMAN, a rising young farmer, widely and favorably known in Ash Grove Township, resides on section 29. He was born in Lovejoy Township, this county, October 2, 1861, and is a son of James and Cornelia (Melharry) Hickman. His father was a native of Delaware, and when a young man emigrated to Indiana, his marriage taking place in Warren County. His wife was born and reared near Attica, Tippecanoe County. Just after their marriage, they emigrated to Illinois and settled on what is now the old Hickman homestead, in Lovejoy Township. The settlements in this community were then widely scattered and it was an unimproved frontier region. Mr. Hickman secured one

hundred and sixty acres of land from his father, purchasing it at the usual price, and has since there made his home, devoting his time and attention to agricultural pursuits. He now owns one thousand acres of good land and is numbered among the wealthy citizens of the community. His life has been a success, and by his enterprising and well-directed efforts he has secured a handsome property. Himself and wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which they have been connected for years. He takes a very active part in church and Sunday-school work and has served as Superintendent of the Sunday-school. In the Master's vineyard he is an earnest laborer and is one of Nature's noblemen. In politics, he was formerly a Republican and is now a stalwart Prohibitionist.

In the Hickman family are seven children yet living, and two now deceased. Mrs. Margaret Mitchell resides near Boswell, Ind.; John W. is the next younger; Lillie is the wife of Volentine Randolph, of this county; Eva, Lucy, Wilber and Luman are all at home.

John Wesley Hickman, whose name heads this record, spent his boyhood days on the old homestead. His early education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by study in Onarga Seminary, where he pursued a business course. On attaining his majority, he bade good-bye to home and started out for himself to earn his own livelihood. Going to Champaign County, he there engaged in farming on land given him by his father, and after three years he removed to his present farm, which has been his home continuously since 1886. It comprises two hundred and forty acres of arable land, and the entire amount is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He also owns eighty acres in Champaign County.

In 1885, in Warren County, Ind., Mr. Hickman married Miss Hope Burr, a native of that county. She comes from the same family to which Aaron Burr belonged. Unto them have been born three children: Pearl, Shirley and an infant, who are the light of their parents' home.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Hickman is a Republican and his first Presidential vote was cast

in 1884 for James G. Blaine. Almost his entire life has been passed in the county of his nativity, and his staunchest friends are among those who have known him from boyhood. He is held in the highest respect and this esteem is well merited by his many excellencies of character.

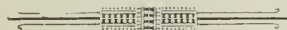


AUSTIN F. PIERCE, a jeweler of Milford, has the honor of being a native of Illinois. The place of his birth was Ford County, and the date March 31, 1863. His father, Charles Sanford Pierce, was born in Rehoboth, Mass., September 14, 1827, and after attaining to mature years wedded Mary Lucinda Fowler, whose birth occurred March 16, 1825, in New York City. Mr. Pierce is now engaged in farming near Milford and is one of the highly respected citizens of the community. Of the Pierce family of seven children, Mary, the eldest, was born January 1, 1849, in Pawtucket, R. I.; Marian W., born October 16, 1851, in Marshall County, Ill., is the wife of W. W. Dale, a jeweler of Terre Haute, Ind., and they have eight sons, all living; Emma died in childhood; William F., born February 7, 1854, in Marshall County, Ill., died at the age of seven years; George H., born December 12, 1856, in Livingston County, Ill., married Miss Laura Mahoney, daughter of John Mahoney, of Kirks Station, Ill., and they reside on a farm near Milford and have a family of seven children, three sons and four daughters; Austin of this sketch is the next younger, and Charles H., who was born December 4, 1868, in Ford County, completes the family. He married Anna Boyd, of Terre Haute, Ind.

Austin Pierce, whose name heads this record, remained on the home farm until about fifteen years of age. At the age of eighteen he began serving an apprenticeship to the jeweler's trade, working with his brother-in-law, W. W. Dale, then of Milford. After serving an apprenticeship of about four years, Mr. Dale removed to Terre Haute, Ind., Mr. Pierce succeeding him in business. Since that time, or for a period of seven years, he has been engaged in business for himself in this place.

He began with a small stock, but as his financial resources increased and his trade demanded it, he enlarged his facilities and now has a well-appointed store and is doing a good business.

On the 13th of April, 1885, Mr. Pierce married Miss Mary Brock, of Ash Grove, Ill., where their union was celebrated. The lady is a daughter of Silas and Maria (Ayers) Brock, residents of Ash Grove. Two children grace the union of our subject and his wife: Homer F. and Silas E. The parents are both members of the Christian Church, in which they take quite an active interest. He is also connected with some civic societies, holding membership with Milford Lodge No. 211, K. P., and with the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he votes with the Republican party but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his time and attention exclusively to his business, in which he is meeting with good success. Mr. Pierce is a young man, wide-awake and enterprising, and his career will no doubt be a prosperous one.



JACOB DIETER is a prominent farmer of Ashkum Township, and has made his home for twenty-two years on section 13. He was born on the 16th of January, 1841, in Kleinhauser, Hesse-Damstadt, Germany. He is a son of Valentine and Elizabeth (Hebener) Dieter. The former was a farmer by occupation, and in 1846, taking passage at Havre, they made the voyage to America. They were forty-five days upon the broad Atlantic and cast anchor in New York Harbor. From there they came Westward, first to Chicago, and from there they went to Du Page County, Ill., where they settled on a farm. Their original purchase consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, which tract was slightly improved, and had upon it a log cabin. Later the father purchased seventy acres additional, and spent the rest of his life upon his place, engaged in agricultural pursuits. His death occurred in 1868, at the age of fifty-five, but his wife is still living, residing upon the old homestead. He was a member of the Catholic Church, as have been all his family. Politically

he affiliated with the Democratic party. In their family were seven sons, two of whom are now deceased. Philip is in Chicago; Michael and Adam are carrying on the home farm; Valentine is the Mayor of Naperville. The three youngest of the family were born in America.

Jacob Dieter is the fourth in order of birth of his father's family, and came with him to America when he was a child of five years. He received his education in both the English and German schools of Du Page County. His primary training was acquired in one of the first schoolhouses erected in the neighborhood where he lived. When about sixteen years of age he left school, and remained on the home farm until about thirty years of age, engaged in helping his father in the duties of the farm.

In Iroquois County, on the 26th of September, 1871, Mr. Dieter was united in marriage with Elizabeth Spitz. She was the daughter of Martin and Elizabeth Spitz, and was born, reared and educated in Du Page County, where her father is living at eighty-three years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Dieter were in Chicago upon their wedding trip at the time of the great fire. To them these children have been born: Emma, who is at home, and was educated in St. Peter's School of Chicago; Matilda, who is also at home, and is being educated at Kankakee; Jacob, William, Elizabeth and Rose. The children were all born upon the farm where they now reside, and were educated in the common schools. The family are members of the Catholic Church of Ashkum, and are liberal in its support.

After his marriage, Mr. Dieter settled upon his farm, which he had purchased four years previous. At that time there were but few settlers, and the prairie was wild and little improved. He commenced farming for himself on a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, and has since increased it to two hundred and fifty acres in a body, which is well tiled and improved. He has upon it a good home and other farm buildings, and has reached independence and prosperity through his own efforts and industry. He is a good agriculturist, and uses enterprising and modern ideas in carrying on his farm work.

Our subject's first Presidential ballot was cast for

McClellan in 1864, and ever since that time he has been a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. He has never sought or accepted official positions. For ten years he has been identified with the schools of the township as a Director, and takes a prominent part in educational work. He has seen and assisted in the development of this county, and this brief sketch will be read by hundreds of his fellow-citizens, who are all interested in his success.



SAMUEL F. EVERETT, who resides on section 22, Ridgeland Township, owns and operates a beautiful farm of one hundred and thirty acres, which yields to him a good income in return for the care and labor he bestows upon it. He has many excellent improvements upon the place, such as are found on a model farm and which in connection with the well-tilled fields attest the progressive spirit and the enterprise of the owner, who is recognized as one of the leading agriculturists of the community. He also engages in importing and breeding horses.

The life record of Mr. Everett is as follows: He was born in Windham County, Vt., on the 18th of December, 1822, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Fish) Everett, whose family numbered ten children: The eldest died in infancy; Warren died in 1852; Mary A. became the wife of Jesse Brown, and died in 1854; Jeremiah departed this life in 1891; Joel S., who was a Congregational minister, engaged in missionary work in foreign fields, and died in 1860 at Constantinople; Eunice M., wife of Dexter Marsh, a geologist, is living in Greenfield, Mass.; Elizabeth is the wife of Simeon Blodgett, a resident farmer of Deerfield, Mass.; Susan is the wife of Obid Hall, a farmer living in the Green Mountain State; Samuel F. is the next in order of birth; and John D. is engaged in farming near Deerfield. The mother of this family died in

1832, and the death of the father occurred in 1850, having survived his wife about eighteen years.

The subject of this sketch received a common-school education, and by reading and observation has become a well-informed man. He remained under the parental roof until twenty years of age, when he left home and hired out to work on a farm at \$10 per month. He was thus employed for three years, after which he went to Worcester, Mass., where he learned the trade of machinist and spent the succeeding three years of his life. We next find him a resident of Lawrence, Mass., where he remained some seven years. In 1854, he moved to Rochester, N. Y., and there worked at his trade till he came to Illinois. Emigrating Westward in 1856, he stopped in Elgin, Ill., where he worked at his trade for a year. Upon coming to this State, he purchased eighty acres of land, his present home, to which he moved March 4, 1857. Since that time, or for over a third of a century, he has resided upon that farm. He first purchased eighty acres of railroad land on section 22, Ridgeland Township, but extended the boundaries of his farm, as his financial resources were increased, by the additional purchase of fifty acres.

On the 1st of December, 1850, Mr. Everett was married to Miss Harriet C. Sweet, daughter of Edward and Sylvia (Crane) Sweet. Mrs. Everett was born in Bristol, Vt., March 27, 1825. Her father was born in Pownel, and her mother in Bethel, Vt., in which State both spent their lives. Of their twelve children, only four live: Mrs. Everett, Mrs. Jane S. Sutliff, of Lawrence, Kan.; Mrs. Adeline M. Brooks, of Denver, Colo.; and John C., a farmer of Arlington, Ore. Five children have been born of this union: Jennie, who died in 1857; Carrie P., wife of John Hobbs, a farmer residing in North Dakota; Edward S., who graduated from the commercial and scientific departments of the Grand Prairie Seminary, is living at home; Charles W., who takes a prominent part in the Methodist Episcopal Church work, graduated from Onarga Seminary, also DePauw University, of Greencastle, Ind. After finishing his education he was Principal of the public schools of Onarga for two years, and then went to Denver, Colo.,

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*Yours truly
Henry Bush*

and after studying law in the office of Patterson & Edsall, was admitted into the firm as a partner. Hattie C., who is an active worker in the Presbyterian Church, is at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett attend the Methodist Church, and in political sentiments, he is a Republican. A public-spirited and progressive citizen, he takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, where for thirty-five years he has made his home and is held in high regard.

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HENRY BUSH, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits on his farm, which is located on section 29, Douglas Township, is a native of the Buckeye State, his birth having occurred in Muskingum County, on the 25th day of February, 1835. He is a son of William and Sarah Bush. The latter in her maidenhood bore the name of McClarey. The father was born in Harrison County, Ohio, while the mother was a native of Maryland. The former followed the occupation of farming. In 1860, he moved by teams to Illinois and located in Putnam, where he became well-to-do. He was a Democrat in politics, and his wife was a member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Bush sprang from Quakerstock. He died when he had attained his seventy-seventh year, and his wife passed away at the age of sixty-five. They had a family of eight children. Deborah married William P. Spencer, who was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, April 8, 1832, and in 1866 came to La Salle County, where he followed farming for a livelihood. He was a Republican in politics and was an honored member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows' fraternities. On the 24th of March, 1869, he was called to his final rest, leaving two children, Mary L. and William I. Mrs. Spencer now makes her home with our subject, and is therefore identified with the interests and history of Iroquois County.

In order of birth Henry Bush is the second child in his father's family. A sister, Sarah A., who is the wife of Joseph Bush, also lives in Douglas

Township. John is a farmer of Putnam County, Ill., and Lizzie makes her home in the same county. Catherine married Mark Purviance and died in Iowa. Mary died when a young lady, and Jane lives in Putnam County.

Our subject was reared to the usual hard labor of farm life, receiving such education as could be obtained in the district schools of that period. When twenty-two years of age, starting in the active business of life for himself, he began farming on a rented place. The first land he owned was a tract of eighty acres of wild land, which he broke and improved and then sold. Having purchased his present farm in company with his brother John, he located on it in 1880. He has erected many outbuildings and has otherwise improved the place. He is tiling it throughout in a systematic manner and has made of his farm one of the best in the township.

In politics, Mr. Bush's sympathies are with the Democratic party, but he has never been a man to push himself forward for official recognition. He is a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of La Hogue, being a Trustee of the same. By his business dealings with his fellow-citizens he has won the reputation of being a man of strict integrity and honor and is well and favorably known throughout this section.

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WILLIAM LONG, an enterprising and highly respected farmer, who resides on section 27, Lovejoy Township, is of English birth. He was born on the 27th of October, 1827, in Devonshire, England, and is a son of William and Jane (Lockyer) Long. His father was also born in the same locality as our subject, and throughout his entire life followed agricultural pursuits. On crossing the Atlantic he first located in Canada, where he remained from 1832 until 1845, when he took up his residence in Kendall County, Ill. He died at the age of sixty-nine years. His wife was also born in Devonshire, and was called to her final rest at the age of sixty-three years. He was a member of the Latter Day Saints, and

she held membership with the Methodist Church. Unto them were born six children, four sons and two daughters, but all are now deceased with the exception of our subject and his sister Ann, wife of John Godwin, a resident farmer of LaSalle County, Ill.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who was only four years of age when his parents left their native land and emigrated to Canada, where his boyhood days were passed and his education was acquired. He was a young man of seventeen years when he became a resident of Kendall County, Ill. Subsequently he removed to LaSalle County, where he engaged in farming for eighteen years. He commenced life with a capital of only \$200, but by his industry, enterprise and good management and the assistance of his estimable wife he has worked his way upward to a position of affluence.

Mr. Long was married on the 27th of September, 1849, to Miss Margaret Stewart, a native of Canada, who resided in that country until seventeen years of age. Her father, Charles Stewart, is a native of Pennsylvania, and farming has been his chief occupation through life. He is now living, at the advanced age of ninety years. His wife, who was born in Canada, is now deceased. There were thirteen children in their family, three sons and ten daughters, of whom seven are yet living. Mrs. Long is the eldest; Clarissa is the wife of Wells Morey, a farmer of Indiana; Charles resides in Canada; Melinda is the wife of George Jeffery, of Canada; Eliza Ann is the wife of John Thompson, who is living in Canada; Thomas resides in the same country; and Nellie is the wife of John Bruner, of Canada. Seven children graced the union of our subject and his wife, four sons and three daughters, of whom five are living: Mary Jane is the wife of Aaron B. Fry, a farmer of LaSalle County; Harriet is the wife of William Linfoot, a farmer of Prairie Green Township; Newton is married and follows farming in Lovejoy Township; Harry is married and operates the home farm; and Maggie is still under the parental roof.

Mr. Long has always been a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He has served as School

Director, but has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking. Himself and wife are members of the Church of Latter Day Saints in LaSalle County. Their farm comprises three hundred and twenty acres of rich land under a high state of cultivation and well improved, and its neat appearance indicates his thrift and enterprise. He is a man of strict integrity; his word is as good as his bond, and his friends are many.



ANDREW L. CARTER, who is now living in Cissna Park, was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, July 25, 1835. His father, James Carter, was also a native of the Buckeye State and was reared upon a farm; he also learned the blacksmith's trade in his youth. He married Miss Nancy Haskett, a native of Alexandria, Va., who when a child went with her parents to Ohio. Her father served in the War of 1812 and her grandfather served in the Revolution under Gen. Putnam. In 1853, the parents of our subject removed to Benton County, Ind., and in February, 1856, came to Iroquois County by team. The members of the family settled on different farms in Artesia and Pigeon Grove Townships. The county was wild and unimproved, the settlements were few, and one could ride for miles over the prairies without fences or buildings to impede progress. Mr. Carter improved several farms in this locality and also engaged in blacksmithing. His death occurred at Forest, Livingston County, and his wife died at the home of her son. In politics, he was a Whig and afterward a Republican, and he and his wife were both active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In the Carter family were three sons and a daughter, of whom our subject is the eldest. William S., who was born in Ohio and for three years during the late war served in the Twenty-sixth Indiana Infantry, was wounded in the ankle at Vicksburg and died as the result of his injuries in Buckley, Ill.; Elizabeth died in Ross County, Ohio, at the age of fifteen years; James M. is engaged in merchandising in Forest, Ill.

Andrew Carter spent his early boyhood days in Ohio. His advantages were indeed meagre; he probably never attended school more than seventeen days in his life, but educated himself through his own efforts and also taught his father to read. In 1853 he went to Indiana, driving a herd of cattle to Benton County. He had previously been there and had earned his first money by splitting rails at thirty-seven and one-half cents per hundred. In the spring of 1854, he returned to Ohio and brought his parents to the Hoosier State, and two years later they all came together to Iroquois County. Mr. Carter was married in Benton County September 20, 1855, to Lucinda Ladd, who was born September 13, 1835, and reared in Pike County, Ohio.

On the 22d of July, 1862, Mr. Carter enlisted at Ash Grove, in Company K, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, under Capt. Joseph Davis and Col. A. W. Mack, of Kankakee. He bade good-bye to his family, and at Kankakee joined the regiment, which was the first in the field after the call for troops in 1862. They went to Columbus, Ky., thence to Bolivar and afterward to La Grange, Tenn. Subsequently, they went to Vicksburg, Miss., and for forty days and nights our subject participated in the siege of that city, being present at its surrender on the 4th of July. He now has in his possession a piece of the tree under which the surrender took place. The Seventy-sixth Regiment next participated in the battle of Jackson under Gen. Sherman, then made a forced march back to Vicksburg, and thence went to Natchez. With Sherman they participated in the Meridian campaign from the 3d of February until the 4th of March, and Mr. Carter was made First Sergeant of the company. The regiment was afterward transferred from Sherman's army to Gen. Smith's command to aid in the Red River Expedition. Subsequently, they went up the Yazoo River and participated in the battles of Burton, Danville and Yazoo City. On the 1st of July, 1864, they started for Jacksonville under Gen. Slocum. A sharp fight occurred on the 7th and the regiment was cut off from the command, but it cut its way through the rebel lines again, losing, however, one hundred and one men. They went up the Mississippi to the mouth

of the White River and then to Memphis to drive off Forrest. On the 31st of December, 1864, the troops boarded a steamer for New Orleans and from there went to Mobile Bay and Pensacola. They participated in the capture of Ft. Blakely, having marched through the swamps and endured many hardships. The Seventy-sixth Regiment charged the works, captured the garrison and planted the first flag, but the company to which Mr. Carter belonged lost one-half of its number. He had his clothes pierced four times, thus narrowly escaping. This was the last important battle in which he participated. He was a valiant and faithful soldier, ever found at his post of duty, and for meritorious conduct was commissioned Second Lieutenant.

Since the war, Mr. Carter has made his home continuously in this community, with the exception of four years spent in the West, from 1880 until 1884. He has traveled extensively in the West and for two years engaged in mining in Colorado, he and three others going into the Grand River country in the midst of the Indians. Of late years, he has resided in Cissna Park, where he has a comfortable home.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Carter have been born seven children: Arthur E., a railroad engineer residing in St. Louis; Margaret J., deceased, wife of Thomas Mell; Andrew M., a photographer of Cissna Park; Mary E., wife of Andrew Poleson, a farmer of Hastings, Neb.; Wadsworth, who is living in Argentine, Ark.; Edward, who lives in Hastings; and Leroy at home.

Mr. Carter is Past Post Commander of G. H. Neeld Post No. 576, G. A. R., and has filled all the offices in the Knights of Pythias Lodge to which he belongs. He cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, whom he saw in La Fayette, Ind., and has since been a stalwart Republican. He was a great admirer of John A. Logan, whom he thinks was the most brilliant military character of the late war. For a time, he was under his command, knew the General personally, and warned him about crossing a hill at Vicksburg. For thirty-six years, Mr. Carter has resided in this county and is numbered among its honored pioneers. He has experienced all the hardships and trials of

frontier life, has ever borne his part in the up-building and development of the county, and is a leading citizen of the community, highly respected for his sterling worth.



ASA BERRY ROFF, an honored pioneer of Iroquois County, now Police Magistrate and ex-officio Justice of the Peace of Watseka, was born in Morris County, N. J., September 13, 1818, and is a son of Joseph and Mary (Conger) Roff. When our subject was but a child of three years, he accompanied his parents to Newark, N. Y., where his father died three years later, leaving his widow and children in dependent circumstances. After the father's death, the mother returned with her family to New Jersey, where Asa was taken by an uncle to be reared.

When he was thirteen years of age, our subject was apprenticed by an uncle to a shoemaker and learned that trade, his term of service expiring at the age of nineteen years. He started out for himself with a cash capital of \$2.25. His first stopping place was Albany, N. Y., where he worked for a time, and then started to Michigan, locating in Washtenaw County, that State. On the 2d of March, 1839, he set out for Indiana, traveling on foot to Ft. Wayne. Not finding employment there, he went to Logansport of the same State, where he worked that summer. In August, with his brother, he went down the river in canoes which they had themselves manufactured, to Independence, where he made a settlement. He was there married, January 3, 1841, to Miss Ann Fenton, a native of Virginia, and a daughter of Eleaser Fenton.

Mr. Roff continued to reside in Warren County, Ind., where he was engaged in the boot and shoe business until the fall of 1847. He then came to Iroquois County, Ill., arriving in Middleport, then the county seat, on the 3d of September. He opened a shoe-shop in that place and continued business there until 1852, when he bought an interest in a sawmill, in what is now Watseka, and was engaged in the manufacture of lumber for

eighteen months. In early life, he was a Whig in politics, and was appointed Postmaster of Middleport in 1849, serving in that capacity four years. In 1854, he was elected Sheriff and was ex-officio Collector for Iroquois County for two years. The county was not then under township organization. He read law and was admitted to the Bar in the spring of 1857, entering upon the practice of his profession as a partner of Robert Doyle, with whom he was connected for several years.

Mr. and Mrs. Roff were blessed with a family of ten children, but only four are now living: William A., the eldest, died at the age of two years; George W. died in infancy; Minerva R. became the wife of Dr. H. H. Alter, who is Assistant Cashier of the First National Bank of Watseka, and the lady herself is proprietor of a well-stocked book and stationery store, which she conducts in a successful and business like manner; Mary E. died at the age of nineteen years. A remarkable cure of an alleged insane girl of Watseka is credited to the latter's spiritual influence some twelve years after her death, a full account of which is published in pamphlet form, under the title of "The Watseka Wonder." Frances L. died in infancy. Joseph A. married Ella Edginger and is the present General Freight Agent at Council Bluffs, Iowa, for the Chicago & Rock Island Railroad. Fenton E. is book-keeper in the Citizens' State Bank of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Gaylord A. died at the age of one and a-half years. Frank J. resides in Kansas City. Charles C. died May 29, 1885, when nearly twenty-four years of age.

In the spring of 1857, Mr. Roff, on account of the ill health of his son Joseph, took his family to Texas, hoping for benefit for the invalid from a change of climate, and was gone about a year. On his return to Middleport, he engaged in the practice of law. When the South Middleport, or Watseka, postoffice was established in 1863, he was appointed its first Postmaster and served until 1866. He was elected Justice of the Peace, but resigned the office in June, 1879, removing to Garden City, Kan., near where his sons had made claims and invested considerable money. He was disappointed, however, in finding the climate too dry for profitable farming, and removed to Emporia of the same

State, where he spent a year. He next went to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he resided two years, and subsequently located in Kansas City, where he made his home until 1885. He then returned to Watseka, where he has since resided.

In the spring of 1889, Mr. Roff was elected Police Magistrate for a term of four years, and is ex-officio Justice of the Peace. A year or two before the death of the late Hon. Micajah Stanley, Mr. Roff was, at that gentleman's request, appointed conservator of his estate. The duties of the position were intricate and delicate, owing to the extent and variety of property interests involved and the complicated condition of Mr. Stanley's business affairs. Mr. Roff proved equal to the responsible duties of the position and settled up the business justly and fairly, and greatly to the advantage of the estate.

In politics, our subject was a Republican until 1872, since which time he has voted independently, but generally supports the Democratic candidates. He was the first Odd Fellow to settle in Iroquois County, and was a charter member of Iroquois Lodge No. 74, of which he was the first Noble Grand. He joined the Masonic order in Onarga in 1858, and is now a member of Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M., and Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.

Mr. Roff erected the first frame house on the site of Watseka, built the first fine brick residence in the town, and was at one time a large property owner. In an early day, believing that farming lands in Eastern Illinois were bound to advance rapidly in value, he invested extensively in raw land, on which he paid only part down. Much of this land he sold at a good advance to actual settlers, but on small payments down and subject, of course, to the first mortgage, securing himself by a second. Ordinarily, this arrangement would be perfectly safe, but a succession of wet seasons prevented the settlers from securing crops and consequently from paying their interest. In the meantime, in order to protect himself, Mr. Roff, while receiving no interest, was obliged to pay interest on the first mortgage. This condition of things continued four years. About this time, the financial troubles of 1873, 1874 and 1875 came on,

depreciating values and making sales of realty difficult. Under the circumstances, Mr. Roff had to submit to foreclosure and loss of the property, while holding some \$20,000 worth of paper against the property which was made worthless. In this manner he has sustained the loss of a large and valuable property which caused his financial ruin, from which he has never recovered. In spite of his business misfortunes, Mr. Roff has maintained his usual cheerfulness, and has made the best of life, as has his worthy wife, never allowing their troubles to sour them or to change their happy family relations or friendships. Probably no man to-day is more highly esteemed in the community or enjoys the confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens in a fuller degree than the subject of this sketch. He is generous to a fault, just, considerate and independent. He practices what he teaches, as his neighbors know, and lets the broad mantle of charity cover a multitude of faults, rather than condemn too severely the erring.



JOHN C. FOWLER is a prominent contractor and builder, and also occupies the position of Police Magistrate, and is the present Postmaster of Ashkum. His birth occurred in Monongalia County, W. Va., on the 6th of October, 1838. He is a son of John and Sarah B. (Costello) Fowler, both natives of Virginia. The grandfather of our subject, Nehemiah Fowler, was born in the United States, but was of English descent. A family of this name settled in Virginia at an early day.

John Fowler, Sr., was a wagon-maker by trade, and was also a carpenter. He removed to Jackson County, Ohio, about 1850, where he was one of the pioneers, and where his brother had settled some years previous. He followed his trade there for over twenty years, and was highly honored and beloved in that section of the country. He departed this life in 1872. His wife, who was of Irish parentage, died several years before his removal to Ohio.

Our subject is the only son of a family of six children, who grew to mature years and are still living. He reached man's estate in Jackson County and had the advantage of a good common-school and higher education at the Ohio University at Athens. After completing his studies, he engaged in teaching in the Ohio schools for about a year, and then turned his attention to carpentering, which trade he had learned with his father in early life. At that occupation he continued until the breaking out of the Civil War.

In February, 1863, Mr. Fowler enlisted in the One Hundred and Ninety-first Ohio Infantry, becoming a member of Company B. He was with his regiment in the Shenandoah Valley and participated in several skirmishes, but was in no regular battle. He served until the close of the war, receiving his discharge in December, 1865, at Columbus, Ohio, after which he returned home and joined his family in Gallia County.

On the 25th of August, 1859, Mr. Fowler had married Miss Amanda R. Badgeley, who was born and grew to womanhood in Gallia County, Ohio. She was a daughter of George Badgeley, an esteemed resident of that section. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fowler five children have been born: George N. is married and resides in Kappa, Ill., where he is a railroad agent. He is a young man of good education and business ability. Lillie E. is a successful teacher; Sarah is the efficient Deputy Postmistress of Ashkum; Ella, who resides at home, is an artist and does both fine needle-work and painting; Willie is still under the parental roof.

Until 1868, Mr. Fowler engaged in contracting and building in Ohio, but in the spring of that year emigrated to Illinois, arriving in Iroquois County in March. He located first on a farm one mile west of Ashkum, where he built a residence and opened up and improved his land, still continuing his business of contracting and building. About the year 1873, he removed to the village of Ashkum and built a residence here. He has been a contractor and builder in this county for many years, and many residences, business houses and other structures in this locality show his architectural skill and handiwork.

Mr. Fowler, though formerly a Democrat, is

now a supporter of the Republican party. He has held a number of official positions of trust and honor, and has proved himself admirably qualified to discharge the duties of such. He was first elected to serve as Collector, and was then made Assessor. He has served as Police Magistrate for sixteen consecutive years with fidelity and zeal. He was also appointed Census Enumerator in both 1880 and 1890. He was appointed Postmaster of Ashkum in February, 1891, and still occupies that position. He takes an active interest in political and local affairs, and has served as a delegate to numerous county conventions. Mrs. Fowler and her daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are among its best workers. Mr. Fowler is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Ashkum, of which he is Past Grand. He is now serving as the Secretary of the lodge. He is a representative citizen of the community, and has won the confidence and respect of all with whom he has come in contact by his upright and sterling qualities.



DAVID MCGILL, President of the First National Bank of Watseka, and an honored pioneer of Iroquois County, was born in the city of Newport, R. I., March 2, 1831, and with his parents emigrated to Illinois in 1838. After a short time spent in Chicago they settled on Government land in what was then known as Hawkins' Settlement, near Bourbonnais Grove, at that time a part of Iroquois County. The father of our subject had bought a claim, the land not then being in the market, and began to improve it. The summer of 1839 proved to be very hot and dry and the most unhealthy season ever known in the Kankakee Valley, almost entire families being carried off by bilious or miasmatic fevers. The father, mother and one brother of our subject died within a short time, leaving four small children, too young to care for themselves, to be cast upon the charity of a stricken and demoralized community. David and his sister were cared for by Squire Hill, who kept a tavern up the river near

the old Hubbard trail leading from Chicago to Danville and on the site of the present city of Mokence. Over this trail all the produce of the country was hauled by wagon to Chicago. It so happened that John Streat, a pioneer of Belmont Township, Iroquois County, was returning from market and stopped with Mr. Hill. Learning the story of David's misfortune, and liking his appearance, he asked the boy to go home with him to live, arrangements to that effect being made.

Our subject continued to live with his benefactor until twenty-one years of age and by his fidelity and industry fully justified the good impression Mr. Streat had formed of him. His intelligence, honesty of purpose and prudent care for the interests of his kind patron, entirely won the confidence of Mr. Streat, who made David the manager of his large farm and all the stock it contained. Mrs. Streat, or "Aunt Jane" as she was familiarly called, doted on the boy, for he was not only industrious, but was kind and considerate to the members of the family. In his early years, owing to the sparsely settled condition of the county and poverty of the new settlers, David found little advantage of education, but when of age, with his limited savings he determined to do what he could to remedy the loss which he had sustained. He became a student of Asbury, now De Pauw, University, of Greencastle, Ind. He studied hard and made the best use of his time, and when forced to discontinue his studies for the want of means to complete the course, he engaged actively in farming in Belmont Township and soon accumulated sufficient means to make the first payment on a farm of his own. He pushed his farm work with energy, raised stock and cleared himself of debt.

On the 15th of November, 1855, Mr. McGill was married in Belmont Township to Miss Jane Wagner. She was born in that township and is a daughter of Jacob and Charlotte Wagner, both now deceased. Having established a reputation for industry and integrity, Mr. McGill was offered the use of capital to invest as he saw fit. He accepted the offer and purchased land, then selling at a low figure. As he could dispose of his property to advantage and good profit, he did so and

paid off his obligations or bought more land until he owned in his own right a large number of acres. His possessions now aggregate eleven hundred and sixty acres, all in Iroquois County. In 1870, he removed to Watseka and became associated with Maj. George C. Harrington in the establishment of the First National Bank of that place, of which he was chosen Vice-president, and since 1890 he has been its President. A history of the bank is given elsewhere in this work.

Mr. McGill and his wife have been blessed with a family of eight children, three sons and five daughters, of whom all are living except one son. Clara, the eldest, is the wife of R. W. Hilscher, a prominent lawyer of Watseka, and lately State's Attorney for Iroquois County; Thurston married Miss Hettie Martin and is a grain and coal merchant of Watseka; Dora is the wife of George W. Eastburn, a banker of Sheldon, Ill.; Lida married Porter Martin, a merchant of Watseka; Minnie is a student in DePauw University; Fred is employed in the bank with his father; Bertie, twin brother of Fred, died when eight months old; and Asenath, the youngest is attending the Watseka High School.

Mr. McGill was chosen Assessor at the first election under township organization. He represented Belmont Township for two years in the County Board and was a recognized leader in that body. For four years he held the office of Assistant United States Assessor for his district under President Lincoln, but was removed under Johnson's administration, he being a Republican up to the time of the Independent movement in 1872, and was reappointed under Grant's first administration. Mr. McGill is a member of Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M. His family are members of the Methodist Church, to which he has contributed very liberally.

The history of the life of this worthy man teaches a moral and should serve to encourage the young who are left in want of friends and fortune. In the tender years of childhood he was left to fight the battle of life as best he could, friendless and penniless. To be sure he was fortunate in falling into good hands, but had he not possessed the elements of character that won the confidence

and trust of those worthy friends, it would have served him but little. His success in life was won by the sterling qualities of integrity, industry and a conscientious regard for the faithful discharge of all trusts reposed in him and for the duty of the hour, however distasteful or arduous it may have been. He possesses great energy and earnestness of purpose, sagacious and reliable judgment, combined with forethought. With such elements of character, backed by strict integrity and love of justice, he could not fail of success.



CHARLES F. RAPP, a well-known and prominent farmer residing on section 1, Ash Grove Township, claims Missouri as the State of his nativity. He was born near St. Louis on the 11th of September, 1846. His father was born in Germany in 1819, and in his youth learned the mason's trade. In 1841, he crossed the Atlantic to New Orleans, made his way up the Mississippi and located in St. Louis, where he was married, in 1845, to Caroline Schwartz, who came to America during her girlhood. Jacob Rapp worked at the mason's trade until 1848, and in 1850 he embarked in farming in Marshall County. He was afterward a resident of Bureau County, Ill., for eleven years, and then purchased a farm in Woodford County. He is now living retired in Minonk, Ill. He has been an industrious and hard-working man, but his enterprising efforts have been at length successful. In religious belief, he is a Lutheran, and in his political affiliations he is a Democrat. His wife died July 7, 1872, at the age of forty-eight years.

In the Rapp family were four sons and three daughters, of whom Charles F. is the eldest; Mary is a resident of this State; John is a farmer of Livingston County; Sophia is the wife of Peter Walter, of Nebraska; Edward is a farmer of Livingston County; Emma is the wife of Philip Walter, of Nebraska; and George resides on the old homestead in Woodford County.

Mr. Rapp, whose name heads this record, spent his boyhood days in his native State and acquired

his education in its public schools. He was early inured to hard labor. He remained at home until twenty-three years of age, and then began farming for himself, purchasing forty acres of land from his father. He afterward bought another forty-acre tract, and operated his farm in Livingston County until 1882, when he sold out and came to Iroquois County. He here purchased one hundred and seventy-five acres of good land, and now has one of the desirable farms of the community. His home is a pleasant residence; his barns and out-buildings are models of convenience; he has the latest improved machinery; many rods of tiling have been laid, and the well-tilled fields yield to him a golden tribute. In connection with the cultivation of his land, he is also engaged in stock-raising.

On the 15th of July, 1869, Mr. Rapp was united in marriage, in Woodford County, with Miss Lena Miller, a native of Hanover, Germany, born November 6, 1848. She is a daughter of Simon Miller, who was born in Hanover in 1819. He married Gertrude Ostenburg, and emigrated to America in 1874. He first located in Livingston County, Ill., but is now residing in Champaign County. The family numbered the following children: Folke, who now resides in Germany; Gertie, wife of Gerhardt Lennes, of Milford Township; Frank, of Champaign County; Barbara, who is living in Nebraska; Mrs. Rapp; Grace, who resides in Champaign County; and Gete, who lives with her parents. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rapp have been born twelve children: Jacob, born June 11, 1870, died in January, 1888, aged eighteen years; Lizzie, born October 19, 1871, is the wife of William Schaumburg, of Milford Township; Mina, born January 11, 1873, is the wife of A. Smith, a farmer of Crescent Township; Henry, born April 1, 1874, died in infancy; Mary, born July 24, 1876; Annie, October 24, 1879; Gertrude, August 24, 1880; Henry, February 7, 1882; Frank, October 20, 1884; Sophia, May 18, 1886; Lena, March 5, 1888; and Emma, February 15, 1890.

During the late war Mr. Rapp wished to enter the service, but as he was not of age his father prevented him. He cast his first vote for Seymour, and has since been a supporter of the Demo-

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Geor McCann



Elizabeth McCann

cratic party, but has never been an office-seeker. He has lived the quiet, unassuming life of a farmer, and by his sterling worth has won the high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact. His success in life is the reward of his own efforts. He started out to earn his own livelihood with no capital, but by perseverance, energy and well-directed efforts he has achieved a comfortable competence, which numbers him among the substantial citizens of the community.



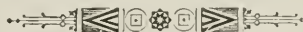
GEORGE McCANN, a well-known contractor and builder of Gilman, is a native of the Keystone State, his birth having occurred July 15, 1846, in Dauphin County. He is a son of John and Rachel (Martin) McCann. His father was born in Dauphin County and was of Scotch descent, while his mother was a native of Lancaster County. Their marriage was celebrated at Elizabethtown, Pa. For a livelihood, the father followed the milling business, and died when about thirty-six years of age, leaving one son, our subject. Mrs. McCann afterward married a Mr. Sweigert and had one daughter. After his death, she was joined in wedlock with Daniel Sanders, by whom she had six children, two sons and four daughters. She is still living at Marysville, Pa.

Our subject was reared on a farm and received very limited educational advantages in his early life, attending school but a few weeks each year. Until about fifteen years old, he lived with his grandfather Martin. At that time, he worked for wages on a farm. When seventeen years of age, he apprenticed himself to learn the carpenter's and joiner's trade, serving three years. From the first he received \$1 per day, and during harvest time had four weeks to work for himself. Having completed his apprenticeship, he still worked a year and a-half under instruction. In 1871, he came to Illinois, and in June of that year arrived in Gilman, where for over twenty years he has made his home.

On the 28th of September, 1871, he married Miss

Elizabeth Ulrich, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Scheier) Ulrich, both of whom are natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. Mrs. McCann is one of eleven children, of whom four were sons and seven daughters. She was born in Dauphin County, Pa., November 28, 1849, and came to Gilman in 1871. To them have been born four children: John assists his father; George A. is learning the carpenter's trade; Frank and Fannie A.

Both Mr. McCann and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, where they are earnest workers and of which he is an Elder. Politically, he was a Republican until 1886, since which time he has been a Prohibitionist. Socially, he is a member of the Odd Fellows' fraternity. For twenty-nine years, he has worked at his trade and is accounted a skillful mechanic and a reliable contractor. Among the best buildings he has erected are those belonging to Holch, West, Knibloe and Ashman, residents of Gilman, besides some of the best residences in the county. He has erected the Lutheran, Baptist and Presbyterian Churches, and completed the Methodist Church. He is recognized as the leading contractor of Gilman, and his business abilities are such as have won him success and have made him one of the honored and substantial citizens of this community.



JOHAN B. WILSON, who resides on section 7, Lovejoy Township, has long been one of the prominent and influential citizens of Iroquois County, and is widely known throughout the State as well. He needs no special introduction to the people of this locality, for he has been so prominent in public affairs and has aided so materially in the upbuilding and development of the county and the promotion of its best interests, that he is known personally or by reputation to all.

Mr. Wilson was born in Warren County, Ind., April 7, 1836. His father, Lewis Wilson, a native of Cabell County, W. Va., was born in 1811. He was reared near Bismarek, Ill., and was educated in

the primitive schools of the frontier. In June, 1836, he went to the lead mines near Galena, Ill., and Dodgeville, Wis. In 1838, he removed with his family to Lee County, in the Territory of Iowa, becoming one of its pioneers. The red men were still numerous in that locality and the work of civilization and progress seemed scarcely begun. The father died in 1844, at the early age of thirty-three years, when our subject was a lad of seven summers. John still has in his possession a copy-book which was used by his father in school in January, 1833, and it is a much-prized relic. Mr. Wilson was a generous and benevolent man, of noble Christian character, highly respected by all who knew him. In politics he was a Democrat, being a native of the locality where lived "the sage of Monticello," who was the founder of old-time Democracy.

The mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Sarah McConnell, was born in the Buckeye State, December 15, 1814, and is yet living at the advanced age of seventy-eight years, her home being in Harper County, Kan. She acquired her education in the common schools and is yet a great reader, delighting in good books. She also keeps herself well informed on the current events of the day, possessing a remarkable memory for one of her years. When her husband died, with her family of four children she removed to Mahaska County, Iowa, in July, 1844, and built one of the first pioneer homes in Oskaloosa. Prior to this she can well remember when the Winnebago Indians of Wisconsin used to go past her home on their way to Prairie du Chien to receive their pay from the Government and then back to their wigwams. When residing in Lee County, Iowa, the Indians would often come to her home and ask her to cook their food. Mr. Wilson, our subject, tells how on one occasion two big Indians came to his mother and asked her to let them cook a turkey. She acquiesced, and after preparing it they ate the whole fowl. In the Wilson family were four children, two sons and two daughters, of whom our subject is the eldest. He has one sister living, Mary E., the wife of William Stroup, a resident farmer of Harper County, Kan. The two other children are deceased.

The family from which Mr. Wilson is descended on his mother's side, the McConnells, was founded in America during early Colonial days and is noted for longevity. The maternal grandmother of our subject reached the advanced age of eighty-seven years. Her cousins, a family by the name of Jolly, resided near Chillicothe, Ohio, during the War of 1812, and all were murdered by the Indians, except one child, William Jolly, whom the savages held in captivity for several years. He was afterwards liberated, and our subject well remembers the stories told by "Uncle" William Jolly about his life with the Indians. Another cousin of Mr. Wilson's mother was Judge Cradlebaugh, who was prominent in the history of Utah as an opponent of polygamy.

We now take up the personal history of the gentleman whose name heads this record. The first two years of his life were spent in Wisconsin, after which he was taken to the Territory of Iowa, where he remained for seven years, and from that time was a resident of Indiana until eighteen years of age. His school privileges were very meagre. He could attend only in the winter season, but by self-culture, study, observation and experience, in later years he has made himself not only a well-informed but a highly educated man. He attended the first school ever held in Mahaska County, Iowa. Until eighteen years of age his life was spent upon a farm. He then left home, on the 21st of February, 1854, journeyed Westward, and on the 4th of March sailed from New York for California, as a passenger on the "Northern Light" of the Nicaragua Line. He stopped for a time on the Island of Jamaica, and from there went to the San Juan River, where he changed steamers. At the Rapids they struck Lake Nicaragua, which it took twelve hours to cross. Crossing Central America to the Pacific Ocean, he sailed on the "Sierra Nevada" for San Francisco, where he landed April 2, 1854. After spending the night there, he started for Sacramento, and from there went to the Placer Diggings, where gold was first discovered. He reached his destination with only \$3 in his pocket, but after a year's mining started for home with \$2,000 in gold dust. He sailed from San Francisco, January

16, 1855, on the steamer "Sonora," bound for Panama, crossed the Isthmus on the first through train which ever made the trip, and sailed at once from Aspinwall on the "Star of the West" for New York, where he arrived on the 8th of February. In company with his comrade, Thomas Howard, for whom he had formed a deep attachment, he made his way to Philadelphia, where he had his gold dust coined.

On the 16th of February, 1855, Mr. Wilson was again in Warren County, but immediately afterwards came to Iroquois County and purchased two hundred acres of raw prairie land, upon which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made. No settlements were near him, and in Lovejoy Township there were few inhabitants. John Crawford resided upon what is now the farm of Charles Dawson. On the "Red Pump Farm" were Andrew Endsley and William Scott. John Finney made his home on the farm now owned by J. L. Hamilton, and John Robinson and Charles Hildreth also lived in the neighborhood. Mr. Wilson gave \$1,000 for his land. During the summer of 1855, he broke prairie with oxen and kept "bachelor's hall." He shared in all the experiences and hardships of pioneer life and has witnessed almost the entire growth of the county. When coming across the country he saw, about three miles from where William Scott now resides, a herd of over eighty deer. There were also many wolves and much wild game, and as Mr. Wilson was very fond of hunting he always kept his table supplied with meat. The first building which he erected was 16x26 feet and contained only two rooms. It is still standing in a fair state of preservation, one of the few landmarks of pioneer days that yet remain.

On the 28th of February, 1856, Mr. Wilson married Miss Eliza Jane Hickman, a native of Missouri, and unto them were born three sons and four daughters, of whom six are yet living. Mary E. is the wife of A. Pate, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this work; William Clayton is now deceased; Sadie A. is the wife of Alonzo Hall, a farmer of Milford. Thomas Newton, who is married and resides in Bern, Ark., possesses considerable inventive genius and has invented an auger which

bore a square hole; Martha F. is the wife of C. A. Dawson, a druggist of Milford, who is represented elsewhere in this work; Eliza Jane is the wife of Walter Braddon, a merchant of Watseka; Lewis resides with his father and is his partner in the grain business in Hickman, Ill. The children were all provided with good educational advantages, which fitted them for the practical duties of life, and have become useful and respected members of society. The mother of this family died September 12, 1874, and was interred in Amity Cemetery, which was laid out in 1859, by Mr. Wilson, and Richard and Levin H. Hickman. A beautiful and costly monument has been erected to her memory. She was a faithful helpmeet to her husband, a loving mother, and a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Wilson was again married, June 1, 1876, his second union being with Mrs. Rachel (Baird) Mills, a native of Indiana. Unto them has been born a daughter, Hattie, who is the light of her parents' home. She possesses considerable musical talent. By her former marriage Mrs. Wilson had two children: Lora, who is now in Colorado Springs, Colo.; and William, who resides in Muscatine, Iowa. The children were both well educated and the daughter attended school in Terre Haute, Ind.

Mr. Wilson organized the first school district in this community in 1859, and through his efforts the first schoolhouse was built. The cause of education has ever found in him a warm friend, and he has filled the office of School Director for the long period of twenty-one years, of which fact he may well feel proud. He cast his first Presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas, then supported Abraham Lincoln, and has since been identified with the Republican party as one of its stalwart advocates. He has filled the offices of Justice of the Peace and Supervisor, also Assessor of what was then Milford Township. He did much towards securing the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad through the county. He has frequently been a delegate to the conventions of his party, has been a member of the Republican County Central Committee for many years and is now a member of the Ninth District State Central Committee of Illinois. He was chosen one of the delegates to

the National Republican Convention at Chicago in 1880, and supported Gen. U. S. Grant for the Presidency. He has a bronze medal in his possession which was given to him on that occasion as one of the famous "Old Guard" who cast their ballot thirty-six times for Grant. The medal is three inches in diameter. On one side in bas relief is the profile of Gen. Grant, and on the other is the proper inscription of the balloting. In 1892, Mr. Wilson was one of the State Central Committee who had the honor of receiving at Springfield, Ill., Whitelaw Reid, candidate for Vice-president.

Mr. Wilson was chosen by the State Live Stock Commission of Illinois as one of the three to appraise the pleuro-pneumonia cattle in 1887. Socially he is a Mason, belonging to Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M.; Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.; and Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton. In 1868, with two others, he gave \$750 for the erection of the Amity Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a liberal supporter of all worthy enterprises calculated to upbuild and benefit the community and is one of the valued as well as honored citizens of his adopted county. He now resides upon his home farm, comprising two hundred acres of valuable land, under a high state of cultivation. His residence is built in the most approved style of modern architecture and is one of the most beautiful and pleasant homes of the locality.



CHARLES W. DAWSON, one of the extensive land-owners and a prominent stock dealer of Iroquois County, resides in Wellington, and is well deserving of representation in the history of his adopted county. He is a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Warren County, on the 14th of December, 1839. In a family of eleven children, he was the fourth in order of birth. The parents were C. W. and Mary J. (Hooker) Dawson. They now reside in Milford. The father was born in Ross County, Ohio, May 15, 1814, and comes from an old family of

Virginia. His boyhood days were spent in the Buckeye State and his education was acquired in the common schools. In politics, he was formerly an old-line Whig, and is now an ardent admirer and staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party. Mrs. Dawson was also born in Ross County, January 30, 1813, and she is a faithful member of the United Brethren Church. They emigrated to Iroquois County in 1854, and Mr. Dawson purchased one hundred and sixty acres of partially improved land, from which he developed a fine farm. He has witnessed much of the growth and progress of the county and has done all in his power to aid in its upbuilding.

Of the Dawson family the following are still living: Silas, a farmer, who is married and resides in this county; John, who is married and engaged in the livery business in Indiana; Charles W., of this sketch; Lewis, who is married and follows agricultural pursuits in Iroquois County; George, who is married and is a farmer of Iroquois County; and Sarah, wife of Peter Garner, a farmer of this county.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who is widely and favorably known in this community. He spent the days of his boyhood and youth until the age of sixteen years in Warren County, Ind., and attended its common schools, acquiring a good knowledge of the common English branches. The cause of education has ever found in him a warm friend, and he does all in his power for its advancement and to support any measure calculated for its upbuilding. He entered upon his business career at the age of twenty-one as a farmer and stock-buyer, and to this line of work has since devoted his energies. He has been an indefatigable worker, and as his financial resources were increased he added to his landed possessions until he now owns six hundred acres of valuable land under a high state of cultivation. It is well tiled, has good hedge fences and all the improvements of a model farm. He still carries on stock-raising and shipping, and is an excellent judge of all kinds of stock. This branch of his business has in a large measure brought him his success.

November 21, 1861, Mr. Dawson married Miss Julia Cadore, daughter of Joseph and Mary Arde-

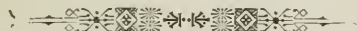


Charles W. Dawson

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lia (White) Cadore. She is a native of Canada, and is of French descent. Two children grace their union: Mary A., now the wife of A. J. Hume, of Chicago, an employe on the Wabash Railroad, and Priscilla, wife of A. M. Dawson, who is engaged in the boot and shoe business in Chicago.

Mr. Dawson cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln and has since supported every candidate of the Republican party. He has held the office of School Director for sixteen consecutive years, a fact which indicates his personal popularity and the confidence and trust reposed in him. Enterprise and energy have been numbered among his chief characteristics throughout life and have won for him wealth and affluence. By his earnest efforts and perseverance, he has acquired a fortune of which he may be justly proud, and his example is well worthy of emulation. His home is a beautiful and commodious brick residence, situated in the eastern part of Wellington and built in the most approved style of modern architecture.



JOHN C. RAMSEY, one of the well-known farmers and stock-dealers of Onarga Township, is numbered among the early settlers of the county, his residence here covering a period of almost forty years, dating from 1853. In the days which have since come and gone he has watched the progress and development of the county, has seen its wild lands transformed into beautiful homes and farms, its hamlets grow into thriving towns, schoolhouses and churches built, and the work of civilization and progress rapidly carried forward. He too has always borne his part in this improvement and well deserves representation in the history of the county.

Mr. Ramsey was born in Preble County, Ohio, at Morning Sun, September 23, 1824, and is one of five children whose parents were George and Nancy (Shephard) Ramsey. The father was a native of the Buckeye State, but the mother was born in Ireland, and when fifteen years old accompanied her mother to America, her father having been

killed by the Catholics in the war between them and the Protestants. The children were Eliza Jane, John C., Margaret, Mary Ann and Hannah. The mother came to America when about fifteen years of age, and in 1829 the family removed from Ohio to Indiana, locating in Clinton County, where Mr. Ramsey died when our subject was a lad of seven years. The mother died about four years later.

John Ramsey, whose name heads this record, was thus left an orphan at the age of eleven. He remained on the farm until fifteen years of age, when he began learning the blacksmith's trade, which he followed until the spring of 1853. That year witnessed his arrival in Illinois and he located on a farm on section 15, in what is now Onarga Township, about four and a-half miles east of the present site of the village of Onarga, where he has made his home continuously since, with the exception of about three years when he was in the army. The tract of raw land which he purchased was entirely destitute of improvements, but it was soon placed under the plow, and in course of time the well-tilled fields were yielding to him a golden harvest. The country was almost an unbroken wilderness and the few settlements were widely scattered. Many hardships and privations were to be borne, such as are incident to life on the frontier.

On the 9th of December, 1847, Mr. Ramsey was united in marriage with Miss Caturah Major, daughter of James H. and Mary (Hardpenee) Major. Three children were born of their union: Barbara Ann, born February 8, 1849; William Major, born April 11, 1852; and Martha, born December 21, 1854. None of the children are now living, and the mother died August 5, 1855. On the 13th of August, 1856, Mr. Ramsey was again married, his second union being with Miss Eliza A., daughter of George and Martha M. (Ramsey) Ramsey, of Preble County, Ohio, the former a native of Rockbridge County, Va., and the latter of Hamilton County, Ohio. They became the parents of three children: George, who was born November 16, 1859, died on the 14th of December, 1875; Lucy A., born January 21, 1862, is the wife of Henry Knoche, of Ridgeville, and they have two

children, a son and daughter: Percy R. and Grace A.; Grace M., born March 7, 1866, is the wife of R. W. Harper, a grain merchant of Des Moines, Iowa, and unto them have been born two children, sons: John T. and Robert R.

During the late war, Mr. Ramsey, prompted by patriotic impulses, responded to the call for troops, and in August, 1862, became one of the boys in blue of Company D, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, in which he served for almost three years. For ten months he was held a prisoner and was confined in Andersonville and other loathsome Southern prisons, being captured the day following the battle of Guntown. There were thirteen of his company sent to Andersonville, but only seven lived to get out. After three months an exchange had been arranged, unknown to the prisoners. They were called out at night by name. As they feared it was for retaliatory purposes, many did not respond. Becoming convinced that it was all right, Mr. Ramsey responded to another's name. When they reached the place of exchange, so weak and emaciated were the men that Sherman refused to make the exchange, so the men were ordered to be remanded to prison at Salisbury, S. C. While waiting on the side track at Milledgeville, he and two companions cut a hole in the bottom of the ear, and just as the engine backed up to pull them away, they dropped out and scrambled from under the ear. It being dark, they easily made their escape and started for the Union lines at Atlanta. Almost too weak to walk, they proceeded for nine days, living on stock peas, cane, and whatever faithful negroes brought them. Recaptured, they were kept in jail at Augusta for eighteen days and in Lawton prison three months. To keep them from falling into Sherman's hands, they were sent by rail to Thomasville and marched across the country to Albany, whence most of the men were returned to Andersonville. Mr. Ramsey was not sent back. The rebels had stock to butcher at Albany but had no knives for that purpose, and as Mr. Ramsey was a good blacksmith he was selected to make them knives. Through the influence of Capt. Blackshear, Capt. Salter and Col. Jones, he was permitted to remain at Albany till paroled. He was a faithful soldier, ever found at

his post, and continued in the service until after the close of the war, when, the country no longer needing his aid, he was honorably discharged and returned home.

In 1868, in connection with farming, Mr. Ramsey began raising and feeding stock. He paid considerable attention to the breeding of Short-horn cattle and Percheron horses, and also raised a large number of hogs. He did an extensive business in this line, feeding all the grain that he raised to his stock. He was thus engaged until 1884, when he discontinued breeding, but he still buys, feeds and sells cattle. His land is under a high state of cultivation and he is a prosperous and progressive farmer, and success has attended his well-directed efforts. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ramsey are members of the Congregational Church, in which he has held the office of Deacon for many years, and takes quite a prominent part in its work, being earnest laborers in the Master's vineyard. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles. Thus we have recorded the life sketch of one of the county's valued citizens, a leading farmer, a veteran of the late war, and an honored pioneer.



JAMES CLOKE, an agent for the McCormick Machine Company at Ashkum, is one of the most honored pioneers of the county, and is numbered among the respected and influential citizens of Ashkum. He is of English birth and was born in Kent, on the 22d of September, 1824. His father, William Cloke, was a native of England, and after arriving at manhood married Philadelphia Snelling. Their lives were spent in the land of their birth, and there they were called to their final rest.

Our subject is the eighth in order of birth in a family consisting of six sons and six daughters, all of whom grew to mature years, married and had families. They are as follows: John, William, Eleanor, Anna, Thomas, Joseph, Richard, James, Mary Jane, Sarah E., Philadelphia and Harriet.

Mr. Cloke, whose name heads this sketch, passed his youth on the farm, and received good com-

mon-school advantages. He was first married in Kent, on the 1st of January, 1843, when he was but eighteen years of age, his bride being Miss Sarah Smith, who was born in India, and was a daughter of Capt. Thomas Francis Smith, who followed the high seas, and was the captain of a vessel. He was of English birth, and in England Mrs. Cloke was reared and educated. After his marriage our subject engaged in the baker's and confectioner's business in Kent for some three years.

About the year 1846, Mr. Cloke sailed from London in a sailing-vessel, called the "New London," which was bound for the United States. For about two months they were tossed about on the Atlantic, meeting with several severe storms on the voyage. Some of the masts were broken and the sails carried away. On board the ship there were about twelve hundred passengers, a number of whom sickened and died on the trip. They arrived in the harbor of New York, where they cast anchor in the fall of that year. Mr. Cloke soon after his arrival started in the baker's and confectioner's business in New York City, and there continued to live for about three years. He removed to Monmouth County, N. J., where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for about four years. He next started Westward, and located in Iroquois County, Ill., where he was one of the first settlers. At that time the county was a vast wilderness and a swamp. The traveler could cross the prairie in any direction without coming to a fence or building of any description. Deer and other wild game were in great abundance, and the settlements were almost wholly in the timber near the streams. Mr. Cloke was one of the first to locate on the broad prairie, and made his first settlement two miles from the present town of Ashkum. This was before Clinton, Ashkum, or Danforth had been founded, and the Illinois Central Railroad was just completed through here. Mr. Cloke first purchased three hundred and twenty acres of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and opened up a farm, which yielded a bountiful harvest the first year. This place he operated for a number of years, or until 1865, when he sold his property and removed to Virginia, and settled in Alexandria,

where he was in the Government employ for about two years. He returned to Illinois in 1868, and engaged in stock-raising for a period of two years in Ford County. In 1870 he again came to Iroquois County, purchasing a farm of five hundred acres in Danforth Township. He has been most successful as an agriculturist and a stock-raiser for a number of years. He bought a tract of fifty acres adjoining the village of Ashkum, and located his family there, where they still make their home. While living on his farm, Mr. Cloke was appointed an agent for the McCormick Machine Company, and has been one of their most successful and trusted employes for years. He established headquarters in Ashkum in 1884, and has built up a large trade here and in the surrounding country. He has been most successful both as a salesman and collecting agent.

The first wife of our subject died in the East, and, after coming to Illinois, he was united in marriage to Miss Jane Loyall, who departed this life in 1865. He was again married, in 1870, this union being with Maria Annetta Ayers, a widow, who died in 1888. One son of the first marriage, Talbert, is a farmer, who makes his home at Monee, Will County, Ill. His brother and sister grew to maturity, but have passed away. The brother, James, was a conductor on the railroad for a few years and died in Chicago; and the sister, Elizabeth, died in New Jersey. By the second marriage there were also three children: Jennie is the wife of Joseph Addison, a farmer of Iroquois County; one child died at the age of twelve years; and the other, who was run over by the cars in Monmouth County, N. J., died at the age of nine. There are five living children by the last marriage: Philadelphia received an education in music, and has been an efficient teacher of instrumental music for three years; Grace M. is the wife of E. Harding, a real-estate dealer of Chicago; May, William and Jessie are attending the home schools at present.

In his political sympathies, Mr. Cloke is a supporter of the Democratic party. He has never been an aspirant for official positions, but has held several local ones of trust and honor. To whatever position he has been elected, he has

made a faithful and efficient officer. He has assisted very materially in the development and advancement of this portion of the State, and has witnessed its change from a swamp and wilderness to its present condition of fine farms and thriving villages. He is well known far and wide as a man of honorable character and upright life, and during the long years of his residence in this community he has made a large circle of friends, by whom he is held in the highest regard.



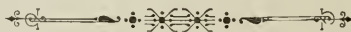
ISAAC MARLOW, who carries on general farming on sections 27 and 34, Stockland Township, is a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Warren County, on the 13th of February, 1850. He comes of a long-lived family. His grandfather, George Marlow, attained the remarkable age of one hundred and four years. He was a native of Virginia, and died in Warren County, Ind. The parents of our subject were Isaac and Isabel (Smiley) Marlow. They had only two children: Isaac of this sketch, and Eunice, who was born September 17, 1848. The father died March 6, 1850, and the mother survived him only about a year, being called to her final rest July 7, 1851, in her twentieth year.

As our subject was left an orphan at an early age, he was reared by his maternal grandparents, James and Lovica Smiley, with whom he made his home until he had attained to mature years. They came to Illinois in March, 1853, and located a farm in Stockland Township, this county, about seven and a-half miles southeast of Milford. Isaac aided in the cultivation of the land and the development of the farm.

It was on the 25th of January, 1872, that Mr. Marlow led to the marriage altar Miss Mary E. Decker, daughter of Chrisley and Mary A. (Rosenberger) Decker, both of whom were natives of Virginia. They had located in this county about 1849. Two children grace the union of Mr. and Mrs. Marlow, namely: Musette, who was born April 23, 1876; and Lessie Hazel, born on the 8th of June, 1888.

The farm which Mr. Marlow now owns and operates is an arable tract of land of one hundred and twenty acres, situated on sections 27 and 34, Stockland Township. The well-tilled fields are now highly cultivated and abundant harvests reward his efforts. There are many useful improvements upon the place, and the whole in its neat appearance indicates the careful management and thorough supervision of the owner.

In political sentiments, Mr. Marlow is independent. He holds himself free to support whoever he pleases, regardless of party ties, and always votes for the man whom he thinks best qualified to fill the position. He has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his attention exclusively to his business interests. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and while serving as School Director for six years he did effective service in its interests. Himself and wife are faithful members of the Christian Church, and throughout the community they have a wide circle of warm friends. Mr. Marlow has led an honorable, upright life, in harmony with his professions, and is classed among the leading agriculturists of Stockland Township.



SIDNEY NILSON, an enterprising young farmer of this county who resides on section 3, Milford Township, was born on the farm which is still his home, on the 6th of August, 1858. He is a son of Robert and Susan L. (Wagner) Nilson, both of whom were natives of Ohio, and are represented on another page of this book.

Sidney Nilson, the subject of this sketch, was the fifth child in order of birth. His boyhood days were passed quietly under the parental roof. The early life of almost any farmer lad would show us a fac-simile of his boyhood. The common schools of the neighborhood afforded him his educational privileges and since leaving the school room he has added not a little to his fund of knowledge, for he possesses a retentive memory and an observing eye. Since his father's death

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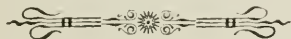
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he has had charge of the home farm, and a glance at the place indicates the supervision of a careful manager. The land is under a high state of cultivation. Many improvements have been made and the place seems complete in all its appointments. Well may Mr. Nilson be ranked among the practical and progressive farmers of the township. In politics he is a supporter of the Democracy.



MR. MEENTS is a prominent merchant and dealer in grain, coal, lumber, farm implements and live stock at Ashkum, Iroquois County. He does an extensive business, and is considered one of the enterprising and energetic business men of this locality. His birth occurred in Hanover, Germany, on the 15th of June, 1851. He is a son of R. H. and Maria (Ulfers) Meents, both of whom were also natives of Hanover. Our subject grew to the age of seventeen in his native land, and received good school privileges.

In 1869, Mr. Meents determined to seek fame and fortune in the New World, and starting from Bremen in a steamer, he crossed the Atlantic in twelve days. On the voyage, several days of severe weather were experienced. Arriving in New York City in May of that year, he immediately started Westward, going first to Chicago, and thence to Danforth, where he had several acquaintances. For three summers he worked on a farm, and attended school in the winter months, in order to become proficient in the English language. In the summer of 1873, he purchased a team and rented a farm, which he carried on with good success for about a year. He then engaged with C. H. Comstock to work in his elevator at Ashkum, and in his service he remained for thirteen years, proving a most valuable and faithful assistant. During his long term in that business he learned much of the trade and was gradually advanced, and during the last years was book-keeper, giving his attention exclusively to that portion of the business. He was afterward taken into partnership, but in October, 1885, withdrew from the firm and engaged in bus-

iness for himself. He bought two elevators, the first one being purchased in 1882. These he moved near to each other, and rebuilt them, and largely increased his trade. He purchased the established business of James Capin & Co., and in 1891 bought the lumber trade of John McCurdy. The first year he dealt solely in grain, but has since added several other lines of business. Among these, he has a large trade in coal and farm implements. He has also shipped stock quite extensively.

At the Williams House in Watseka, Mr. Meents led to the marriage altar Miss Philadelphia Cloke, of Danforth Township, and a native of New Jersey. The wedding was celebrated November 11, 1874. Mrs. Meents' father, Richard Cloke, was one of the honored pioneers of this county, and here his daughter was educated and grew to womanhood. To our subject and his wife nine children have been born: Richard, who is a young man of good business education, and a graduate of the Onarga Commercial Seminary, is now book-keeper for his father; Frank, Anna, Grace, Walter and Arthur are all attending school near home; while the younger members of the family are Delphia, Mildred and Lester.

Mr. Meents has been a supporter of the Republican party, casting his first ballot for Rutherford B. Hayes, and has since voted for every Presidential nominee of that party. Recognizing his worth and ability, the fellow-citizens of our subject have several times elected him to positions requiring ability and fidelity. He was elected Township Trustee and Clerk, and has also served as Treasurer of the schools. He has ever given his hearty support to the cause of public-school education, and served for years as a member of the School Board. He was recently appointed Treasurer of the drainage district of Ashkum and Danforth Townships, a responsible position. His family are members of the Ashkum Methodist Episcopal Church, which numbers them among its most esteemed supporters. Mr. Meents is one of the Church Trustees. He commenced his business career in the New World with little means, and has by his own industry and wise business investment accumulated a fortune and has an extensive business. He owns an elegant home, and to-day is recognized as one of the most substantial and progressive business men of this

county. He is widely and favorably known, and has won the friendship and respect of all, both in his business and social relations.



CHARLES M. DAZEY is numbered among the prominent business men of Milford, and to his enterprising and progressive spirit this place owes not a little of its growth and prosperity. He was born in Stockland Township, Iroquois County, on the 15th of December, 1859, and is a son of Jacob and Larinda (Wilkinson) Dazey, both of whom were natives of Indiana. His father was twice married, his first wife being Miss Whitlash. By this union was born a daughter, Elizabeth, who died at the age of twenty-seven. The mother was called to her final rest about 1852. Mr. Dazey was again married, in 1854, his second union being with Miss Larinda, daughter of Abraham and Harriet Wilkinson. Ten children were born of the second union, seven of whom are yet living: James Henry, who married Emma Richards, of Kankakee, by whom he has three children, and is now a resident of Stockland Township; Charles M., whose name heads this sketch; John W., who wedded Maggie Williamson, daughter of Joseph Williamson, of Stockland Township. They have four children. Joseph William married Ella Smith, of Indiana, who died in December, 1891, leaving three children. Frank L. was joined in wedlock with Miss Eva Dove, daughter of G. W. Dove, of Hoopston, where they reside. They had two daughters, but one died in infancy. Mary M. and George complete the family.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood upon his father's farm. As soon as old enough to handle the plow, he began aiding in the labors of the farm, and to that work devoted his energies during the summer months, while in the winter season he conned his lessons in the public schools. When twenty years of age, he left home and started out in life for himself, since which time he has been dependent upon his own resources. Industry and enterprise have ever been numbered among his chief characteristics, and a

well-deserved success is his. In addition to general farming, he has carried on stock-dealing on an extensive scale, buying, selling and shipping. He is now associated with his cousin Charles L. Dazey in farming, stock-dealing and the grain business, this connection having been continued uninterruptedly for about seven years. He owns a valuable tract of eighty acres of land about three and a-half miles south of Milford and six miles east in Prairie Green Township. He also owns some excellent town property, including his magnificent home.

On the 5th of October, 1882, Mr. Dazey was married to Miss Mary E. Fitzgibbon, daughter of Patrick and Mary Fitzgibbon, who are natives of the Green Isle of Erin, but now make their home in Beloit, Wis. Three children grace the union of our subject and his worthy wife, all sons: Edward M., born on the 5th of August, 1886; Alba William, January 11, 1890; and Charles, who was born November 7, 1891, died on the 11th of the same month. The elegant home of the Dazey family is the abode of hospitality, and Mr. and Mrs. Dazey rank high in social circles. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

As before stated, Milford finds in our subject one of its best citizens. He is now efficiently serving as Mayor, and his administration of affairs has won high commendation. He is a thrifty and successful business man, and his prosperity is all the reward of his own efforts. Success comes to those who labor for it, and the well-directed efforts, good management and business ability of our subject have won him prosperity.



JOHN SMETHURST, a well-known farmer of Ash Grove Township, residing on section 2, is of English birth. He was born in Lancashire, December 1, 1824, and is a son of Ellis Smethurst. His father was born in the West Riding of Yorkshire. He was a mason by trade, but through much of his life followed the occupation of farming. He married Nannie Peel, who comes of the same family as Sir Robert Peel, the great

English statesman. Mr. Smethurst was a man of fine physique. He was six feet two inches tall, and in his native land was solicited to enter the Life Guards, but refused. In 1843, he emigrated with his family to America, locating in Lisbon, Kendall County, Ill. He died at the home of our subject, in February, 1865, at the age of eighty-four years, and was laid to rest in Onarga Cemetery. His wife died in Chicago. They had but two children, our subject and Mrs. Ellen Shaw, a widow, residing in Kendall County, Ill.

At the age of fifteen, John Smethurst was apprenticed to a shoe-maker, but after serving some time he ran away, and in 1844 sailed for New York. He has crossed the ocean three times, and has never slept in a house in this country except in Illinois. He first located in Chicago, where he worked at his trade for some time, and while there took two premiums, in 1846 and 1847, on cork boots.

On the 6th of November of the latter year, he returned to England, there residing until 1851. During that time he was married, May 14, 1848, to Elizabeth Smethurst, a distant relative. Their marriage was celebrated in Disbren, in the same church where his parents were married. Unto our subject and his wife have been born the following children: Ellis, who married Hattie Davis, and is engaged in farming in Onarga Township on his father's land; Ann Harriet, wife of Oliver Shepherd, of Gilman; Elizabeth Jane, John Peel and Emeline, who were all born, and still reside, on the old homestead.

On his return to America, Mr. Smethurst engaged in farming in Kendall County until 1858, when he came to Iroquois County, purchasing one hundred and six acres of wild prairie land. With characteristic energy he began its development, and the once wild tract has now been transformed into rich and fertile fields, which yield to him a golden tribute. The boundaries of his farm have also been extended until it now comprises three hundred and twenty acres of valuable land.

Mr. Smethurst is Vice-president of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association, and a warm advocate of the principles of that organization. He cast his first vote in 1848 for Cass, and has since supported

the Democratic party except in 1860 and 1864, when he voted for Lincoln, but he does not consider himself bound by any party ties. Mr. Smethurst intends to exhibit some of his work in the line of his trade at the World's Fair at Chicago in 1893. His wife has taken many premiums on her knitting work at fairs all over the country, and carried off a premium at the New Orleans Exposition on a knitted quilt. She makes much beautiful fancy work, which adorns her home. The Smethurst household is the abode of hospitality, and its members rank high in social circles. Our subject need never regret his emigration to America, for although he began life empty-handed in this country, he has here met with success, acquiring a handsome property, and has also found a pleasant home and made many friends.



SILAS BROCK, who resides on section 19, has longer been a resident of Ash Grove Township than any other of its citizens, and this work would be incomplete if his life record were omitted. He has watched the growth of the county from the days of its earliest infancy, has seen its progress and advancement, and has aided in its upbuilding and development. He was born December 12, 1841, on the old homestead of the Brock family.

Lewis Brock, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Knox County, Tenn., and there wedded Mary Richards. In 1810, he emigrated to Washington County, Ind., becoming one of its pioneer settlers, and in the midst of a forest he hewed out a farm. In 1837, he came with his family to Illinois, and cast in his lot with the earliest settlers of Ash Grove Township. His home was a log cabin, and he there spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring in 1817. His wife survived him about six years. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are numbered among the pioneers of the county. At the time of their arrival here, deer, wolves and wild hogs roamed at will, and the prairies were covered with high grass,

Few were the settlements, and there were many privations and hardships to be endured. The family of Lewis and Mary Brock numbered nine children: George A. came to Illinois, married Elizabeth Harvey, and died in this county; Gabriel also came to this State, but spent his last days in Indiana; Nancy died in this county; Polly, deceased, was the wife of John Willoughby; Rachel died in Indiana; and Minerva became the wife of Aaron Moore, but is now deceased. The other children never came to Illinois.

Lewis R. Brock, father of Silas, was born in Indiana, in 1823, and when a lad of thirteen years came with his parents to this county. Amid the wild scenes of frontier life he was reared to manhood. In 1840 he wedded Mary Ann Bishop, a native of Ohio, and then improved a farm on section 23, Ash Grove Township. At length he sold, and developed land on section 25, there making his home until his death, which occurred on the 8th of November, 1855, at the age of thirty-two years. His remains were interred in Ash Grove Cemetery. His privileges in youth were very limited, but he made the most of his opportunities, and became a substantial and highly respected citizen of this community. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and in politics was a Whig. After his death Mrs. Brock became the wife of Wesley Harvey, and they now reside in Cissna Park. The Brock family numbered four children: Silas, of this sketch; Charles, who resides in Chicago; Hannah Mary, wife of John S. Gilbert, of Onarga; and Mrs. Sarah A. Rutley, of Cissna Park.

The history of the early life of our subject is that of pioneer days in this county. The township was but sparsely settled, and wild game was plentiful. The nearest markets were Middleport and Milford, and all grain was hauled to Chicago or La Fayette. Oxen were used in farming and in marketing, and the farm implements were very crude. The schools which our subject attended were conducted on the subscription plan. At the age of sixteen, however, he went to Greencastle, Ind., and for eighteen months was a student in Asbury (now De Pauw) University. The first year after his father's death he operated the home farm, but as his health was not good, he again returned to

school in Indiana, his mother removing to Greencastle. Later he returned to the farm, and August 7th, 1860, he married Maria L. Aye, a native of Vermilion County, Ind., who came here to teach school. She was one of the first public school teachers in this community, and for three months' service received only \$50.

On the 8th of August, 1862, Mr. Brock enlisted for the late war as a member of Company E, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, under Capt. Irvin. The troops were then sent to Cairo and Columbus, and afterward were attached to Grant's army, participating in the siege of Vicksburg. They then marched into Mississippi, below the Tallahatchie River. Their supplies were cut off at Holly Springs, and they had to retreat, during which time they lived for twenty days on cornmeal without salt. Subsequently they returned to Memphis and went down the river. Later, they went to Jackson, Miss., after Johnston, and after the battle returned to Vicksburg. In February they went with Sherman to Meridian, and after that raid were again in Jackson, where a severe fight occurred, the Seventy-sixth Illinois losing heavily. Mr. Brock was grazed by a bullet, but the injury was slight. He did duty in Mississippi for some time longer, and in February, 1865, went to New Orleans, from where the troops went to Florida and engaged in the siege and capture of Ft. Blakely. They then went to Mobile and on to Galveston, Tex., where they were mustered out July 22, 1865. The regiment was disbanded at Chicago on the 1st of August, and after three years' service, Mr. Brock returned home. With his regiment he marched twelve hundred miles. He was always found at his post of duty, and proved himself a valiant soldier.

On his return from the war, Mr. Brock engaged in farming for about twelve years, and in 1877 removed to Ash Grove. Five years ago he established a drug store, which he has since operated. He is a registered pharmacist, and has a well-kept store. Two years ago he opened a general merchandise establishment, and is now carrying on a successful business in that line. He is a man of excellent business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, and by perseverance and good management he has won prosperity. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brock were born

four children: Mary L., wife of Austin Pierce, of Milford; Bertha A., who assists her father in the store; Rose E., wife of Henry Bishop, a farmer of Ash Grove Township; and Marcus A., at home. The children were all educated in the public schools and in Onarga Seminary.

For twelve years, Mr. Brock acceptably filled the office of Justice of the Peace, for four years was Township Collector and for four years was Assessor; he has held some school offices, and for five years has been the efficient Postmaster of Ash Grove. Socially, he is a member of G. H. Neel Post No. 576, G. A. R., at Cissna Park, and in religious belief he is a Methodist. The church finds in him a faithful member, and he does all in his power to advance any worthy enterprise and to promote those interests calculated to prove of public benefit. His residence in the county covers a period of fifty-one years. He has been a valued citizen, a leading and enterprising business man, a faithful soldier and an honored pioneer.



GEORGE W. ROBERTS, who owns and operates two hundred and ninety-five acres of valuable land, resides on section 35, Milford Township. He was born on the 26th of March, 1831, in Fountain County, Ind., and is descended from good old Revolutionary stock. His paternal grandfather served in the War for Independence, and his Grandfather Taylor was in the War of 1812. His Grandmother Roberts reached the advanced age of ninety-seven years. The parents of our subject, Archibald and Anna (Taylor) Roberts, were both natives of Virginia, and in 1829 they emigrated to Fountain County, Ind., where Mr. Roberts entered land and began the development of a farm. The mother died in 1839. Our subject was her only child. In 1840, Archibald Roberts was again married, his second union being with Phebe Allenduff, a native of Ohio. They became the parents of six children, five sons and a daughter, the eldest of whom, William, a resident of Fountain County, Ind., married Lizzie Canfield, by whom he has three children. Frederick was twice

married. He wedded Miss Margaretta Duncan, who died a year later. His second wife, who is also deceased, was in her maidenhood Miss Josie Stanley, and unto them were born a son and daughter. Mary died in the fall of 1864. Joseph H. married Miss Mary Driscoll, by whom he had two daughters, but one died when only a year old. Jasper J. married Miss Mattie Pearson, and their family numbers a son and daughter. Charles A., the youngest of the family, resides on the old homestead in Indiana, where his father first located.

George W. Roberts, of this sketch, was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of frontier life, and was early inured to the hard labors of improving and developing a farm on the frontier; here he developed habits of self-reliance and industry which have proven of incalculable benefit to him in later years. He continued to make his home in the State of his nativity until twenty-four years of age, when, in 1855, he came to Illinois, settling in Iroquois County, about three and a-half miles south of Milford. He purchased a farm of one hundred and seventy-five acres and has since made it his home, devoting his attention exclusively to agricultural pursuits, with the exception of a period which he spent in the army. August 9, 1862, he responded to the country's call, enlisting in Company E, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, and for three years was one of its faithful defenders. When his term of service had expired and the war was over, he was honorably discharged, and reached home August 7, 1865. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg, the battles of Jackson, of Jackson Cross Roads, and of Ft. Blakely. They traveled over twelve thousand miles and did duty in eight of the Confederate States. Our subject was in every engagement of his regiment.

On the 30th of March, 1868, Mr. Roberts and Miss Mary H. Gray were united in marriage. Their family numbered six children, but their first-born died in infancy; Florence, Archibald, Rebecca, Nellie and Kittie were the other members of the family, but Florence and Nellie are the only ones yet living. The family have a pleasant home upon one of the fine farms of the county. Mr. Roberts has added to his first purchase and now

owns a valuable tract of two hundred and ninety-five acres, all under a high state of cultivation and well improved. For many years he has engaged in stock-raising on an extensive scale.

Mr. Roberts cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont in 1856, and has since continued to support the Republican party, of whose principles he is a warm advocate. He has never been an officer-seeker, yet was elected and twice served as Assessor of his township. Socially, he is a member of Vennum Post No. 471, G. A. R., of Milford. Mr. Roberts is numbered among the early settlers of the county, and during his long residence his upright life, straightforward business dealings and sterling worth have won for him many friends. To every duty of citizenship he is as faithful as when he wore the "blue." On the 26th of August, 1891, his wife was called to her final rest. She was a member of the Universalist Church.



JOSEPH PRUITT has for thirty-seven years been an honored and respected citizen of Iroquois County. He now resides on section 23, Lovejoy Township, and is recognized as one of the progressive and public-spirited citizens of the community. He was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., on the 16th of March, 1843, and is the eighth in order of birth in a family of eleven children, born of the union of John R. and Barbara (Baker) Pruitt. His parents are mentioned more fully in the sketch of J. A. Pruitt, of Ash Grove Township, on another page of this work. Of their seven sons and four daughters, nine are yet living.

Our subject was a lad of twelve summers when he came to Iroquois County. He is largely a self-educated and self-made man. His advantages in youth were limited, except in the line of farm labor. His father purchased four hundred and eighty acres of raw land, and Joseph aided in its development and cultivation, transforming the tract into rich and fertile fields. His parents afterward met with reverses, and when he started

out in life for himself he had no capital save a pair of willing hands and a strong determination to succeed. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey he chose Miss Augusta Hurd, their union being celebrated on the 25th of January, 1865. Mrs. Pruitt claims Michigan as the State of her nativity. She was born January 26, 1843, and when ten years of age came to Illinois. She has three brothers and a sister yet living, who are mentioned in the sketch of A. P. Hurd, on another page of this work.

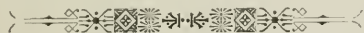
During the late war, Mr. Pruitt responded to the country's call for troops and joined the boys in blue of Company E. One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Indiana Infantry, under Capt. W. D. Lee and Col. Billy Wilson. He enlisted in May, 1864, and was mustered into the United States service at Indianapolis, whence he was sent to Nashville, Tenn., and on to Bridgeport, Ala., to re-enforce the troops at that place. He was mostly on guard and detail duty. Subsequently, the command was sent back to Nashville, Tenn., to intercept Gen. Forrest, and in that city remained until after the close of the war.

Mr. Pruitt was mustered out October 16, 1865. He was never in guard-house or hospital, and was never taken prisoner, but was always found at his post, faithfully discharging his duties. All honor is due to the boys in blue, who preserved the Union, and valiantly defended the Old Flag, which now floats so proudly over the United Nation.

When the war was over, Mr. Pruitt returned to his home, and resumed his farming operations, which he has since followed. His landed possessions, comprising five hundred and sixty acres, pay to him a golden tribute in return for his care and labor. All the improvements of a model farm are there found, and their comfortable and commodious residence is pleasantly and conveniently situated about a mile and a-quarter from Wellington. The home has been blessed by the presence of five sons and three daughters: Charles L., who was educated in Wellington, Milford and in the Onarga Business College, from which he graduated, now resides in Lovejoy Township; Dolly is the wife of Dr. A. L. Brobeck, a rising young phy-

sician and surgeon, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; Hiram Dodge, Frank, Kittie, Nellie, Jodie and Allie are still under the parental roof.

Probably no man in the community has done more for the public schools than Mr. Pruitt. The schools indeed find in him a warm friend, and for thirteen years he has been connected with the Board of Education of Wellington. He believes in securing good schools by hiring competent teachers. For a number of years he served as President of the Board, and the officers at this writing are: W. M. Prillaman, President; Alex Pate, Clerk; and Joseph Pruitt, Director. There are three departments in the school under E. J. Blake, Principal; Miss Maude Tomlinson, who has charge of the intermediate department, and Miss Mollie E. Shean, who is in charge of the primary. Mr. Pruitt also gives his support to every enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit, or advance the interests of the community, and is regarded as one of the valued and representative citizens of Lovejoy Township.



JOHAN C. BRUNER, a well-known breeder of Percheron horses residing in Buckley, was born in Licking County, Ohio, on the 5th of September, 1841. His father, Franklin G. Bruner, was a native of Virginia and in an early day removed to the Buckeye State, where he met and married Miss Ellen Conard, who was born in Licking County, Ohio. They became the parents of two children, who are yet living, namely: John C. and Nelson J. They have also lost two children: George W., the second in order of birth, was killed by a falling tree, on the 25th of January, 1867; and Emma Louisa, the next younger, died about 1868.

In the autumn of 1842, Franklin G. Bruner removed with his family from Ohio to Illinois, locating on a rented farm in LaSalle County near Ottawa. He afterward purchased an eighty-acre tract of land from the Government, to which he added by additional purchase until at the time of his

death, in 1871, he had about six hundred acres of valuable land. His children were reared in LaSalle County. In connection with farming, he gave considerable attention to stock-raising, dealing in horses, cattle and hogs, and was a successful agriculturist. In fact, he was a self-made man, who by his own efforts worked his way upward from a humble position to one of affluence. His first wife died in 1852, and he afterward married Elizabeth Brumback, who was the first white child born in Rutland Township, LaSalle County, and a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Pitzer) Brumback. There was one child born unto Mr. and Mrs. Bruner, a daughter, Ida May, who is now the wife of John Thompson, by whom she has two children. They now reside on the second farm owned by her father in LaSalle County. Our subject was only about a year old when brought by his parents to this State, and amid the wild scenes of frontier life he was reared to manhood, his education being acquired in the common schools of the neighborhood. At length he attained to mature years, and on the 8th of February, 1866, married Miss Louisa J. Deenis, daughter of David G. and Lydia (Funk) Deenis. Two children were born of their union, Lydia E. and Cora May. The elder daughter married J. K. Love, a native of Ireland, and they reside in Peotone; Cora May is the wife of B. N. Sloan, a native of New York, and they reside in Chatsworth, where Mr. Sloan runs a hardware store. They have one child, a daughter, Mabel Bruner. Mrs. Bruner died on the 2d of June, 1872.

On his father's death, John C. Bruner of this sketch came into possession of a farm in LaSalle County and, in connection with the cultivation and development of his land, he engaged in breeding horses. While there he owned some celebrated horses, including "Baffle," a thoroughbred running horse who was never beaten on the race track but once, although displayed at a number of State fairs. He also owned "Cruiskeen," also a thoroughbred Kentucky running horse, a very speedy animal, whose reputation is well known in LaSalle County. In 1878, he sold his stock farm in LaSalle County and removed to Buckley, where he has since continuously made his home. He is now

engaged in the breeding of Percheron draft and trotting horses. He is an excellent judge of horses and is an ardent lover of the noble steed.

In 1881, Mr. Bruner sold his La Salle County farm and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land four miles east of Buckley, which he disposed of in 1891. In politics, he is a Democrat and served as Assessor of Artesia Township in 1880 and again in 1881. He is Director of the Iroquois County Agricultural Society and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Bruner has a wide acquaintance throughout this community, is recognized as a straightforward business man and is a highly respected citizen. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Modern Woodmen.



ADAM JACOB, an honored veteran of the late war and a merchant tailor of Watseka, is a native of Germany, and was born September 14, 1828. His father, George Jacob, was a farmer by occupation, living near Baden. Adam was the youngest of five children and is the only one now living. When about twenty years of age, on the 29th of April, 1849, he set sail for America. He had received a good common-school education and served an apprenticeship at the tailor's trade in his native country. The thorough knowledge of tailoring he had gained enabled him to secure employment immediately upon his arrival in New York City, where he remained for about two years. At the end of that time, he was employed in Newark, N. J., where he continued for four years. By his industry and steady habits, he had succeeded during this time in getting quite a start in life, and, having a desire to see more of this country, he set his face Westward. He went as far as Peoria, Ill., arriving there May 21, 1855. Here he remained, engaged at his trade, until the spring of 1861, when he removed to New Middleport, now Watseka. With the exception of his service in the army, he has resided here up to the present date.

Responding to the call of his adopted country for volunteers, he enlisted at Watseka on the 14th of August, 1862, in Company F, One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Infantry. On the Tallahatchie march, he was taken sick and was sent to the hospital at Holly Springs, Miss., where he arrived December 1, 1862. He remained there until Van Dorn's raid upon that place, when he was captured, but was immediately paroled. About a week later, he was sent to Memphis and on to St. Louis, where he was exchanged as a prisoner of war at Benton Barracks, remaining there until June 16, 1863, at which time he went to Camp Butler and was on guard duty until the 4th of March, 1864, when he again joined his regiment at Memphis, Tenn. On the 10th and 11th of June, he took part in the engagement at Guntown. From there he was sent to Memphis, and was stationed on picket duty until late in the fall, when he was sent on the raid to Eastport, Miss. After some unimportant services, the regiment returned to Memphis, where he was discharged June 19, 1865, and was paid in Chicago. As a soldier he was prompt and faithful in the discharge of his duties and with true courage earnestly defended the Flag of his adopted country.

Mr. Jacob returned home after his discharge from the service and engaged in his former occupation. He has been fairly successful in all his business undertakings, and such a measure of success has rewarded his perseverance and industry that for the past few years he has been able to live a retired life, doing but little at his trade.

Mr. Jacob was united in marriage with Miss Yohannah Mastik at Peoria, Ill., on the 16th of June, 1857. The lady passed away on the 3d of March, 1873. He was again married, January 13, 1874, at La Fayette, Ind., to Christina Wurster. Two children have blessed this union: Emma D. and Mina, both of whom are still living under the parental roof.

In political sentiment, Mr. Jacob affiliates with the Republican party, having cast his ballot for its support since coming to this country. He was elected Alderman of this city, which position he filled very acceptably for two years. He is a member of Iroquois Lodge No. 74, I. O. O. F. In

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Yours Truly
J. S. Near M. C.

the discharge of his duties, the performance of his labors, and in all his intercourse with his fellow-men his life has ever been such that the people have accorded him their regard and friendship.



JEFFERSON SHUMAN NEAR, M. D., Mayor of Watseka, has been a resident of Illinois since 1865. He was born in Chambersburg, Pa., on the 16th of March, 1818, and is a son of Robert E. and Sarah (Shuman) Near. His parents were born and reared in the Keystone State. The mother died when our subject was but three years of age, and the father subsequently came to Illinois and is now a resident of Paw Paw. At the time of his mother's death the son was taken to Akron, Ohio, by her people, by whom he was reared and educated. The greater part of his school days were spent in Akron Seminary. In the fall of 1865, Dr. Near came to Illinois and located in Joliet, where he engaged in teaching country schools. He began the study of medicine under a preceptor, Dr. C. W. Williams, a leading physician of Joliet, and in the fall of 1874 became a student in Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago, the leading homeopathic medical school of the West, from which he was graduated in the Class of '76. He at once established practice in Frankfort Station, Ill., where he remained until the 1st of August, 1878, when he removed to Watseka, and has since been engaged in constant and successful practice in this city. His office, which is situated over the Citizens' Bank, is the finest doctor's office in the county. It is well furnished and supplied with a fine library and fitted out in a superior manner with surgical instruments and appliances.

In May, 1882, Dr. Near was united in marriage in Chicago with Miss Minnie Dewey, who was born in Western Illinois, and is a daughter of John Dewey and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

In politics, the Doctor is a Democrat. In May, 1887, he was elected Mayor of Watseka and filled that office for two years. In the spring of 1892, he was again elected to that office and is the present incumbent. For four years he represented the

town of Middleport as Supervisor on the County Board, serving from 1883 until 1887, inclusive. He is the present Chairman of the Iroquois Democratic Central Committee and has held that position for four years. Under President Cleveland's administration he served as a member of the local board of United States Pension Commissioners at Watseka. For five years he has served as local surgeon for the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroad Company. In his social relations he is an active member of Mon Ami Lodge No. 231, K. of P. He is also a member of the Iroquois Medical Association and is the only physician of his school of practice residing in the county.

Since sixteen years of age, Dr. Near has made his own way in the world, acquiring his education largely through his own unaided efforts, as he did his medical education. By persevering industry, integrity and good habits, he won the respect and esteem of all with whom he had to do, while as a physician, his ability and uniform success in practice have secured for him an extensive and lucrative business and placed him in the foremost rank of the profession in his county. As a public officer, his career has been distinguished by prompt and capable discharge of duty and conscientious regard for the best interests of the community. Genial, affable and courteous to all, Dr. Near has made hosts of friends among his associates wherever he has resided.



CARL DRUMM is the mechanical superintendent of the Iroquois County *Times*. The following is quoted from the *Times* published on January 1, 1892: "To-day begins the twenty-second year of the *Times*' history. That same period numbers the days and years that have rolled by since Carl Drumm, its present foreman, became connected with the paper. He was with it when it was born and has stood by it through storm and struggle. He laid its first font of type, set its first line, put its first issue together, and without intermission or holiday, has kept pace with its career. No one is more gratified than he

because of its great strides during the year past, through which it approached its majority."

Carl Drumm was born in Rhenish Bavaria, near the river Rhine, in the year 1848. His parents were Michael and Catherine (Simon) Drumm. Our subject came to America when a small child with his father and mother, who settled in New York City, from which place they removed to Ontario, Canada, where they still reside. In the year 1863, Carl became an apprentice on the *Berlin Journal*, and there remained until November, 1867. Having mastered the trade of type-setting, he went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he worked on cases several years in the office of a religious newspaper.

Desiring to gain a thorough knowledge of job printing, Mr. Drumm journeyed to Chicago, in 1870, and was employed in job offices of that city. While there a telegram was received from Onarga, Ill., making inquiries for a printer. In response to this, he left the great city and cast his lot with the *Times*, then being founded. In a short time, he purchased an interest in the paper, which was enlarged in March, 1871, and moved to Watseka in May of the same year.

Soon after its removal to this city, Mr. Drumm was wedded to Miss Louise Hett, of Berlin, Canada, a lady he had learned to love while serving his apprenticeship at the printer's trade. They were married October 2, 1873, and the union has proved a happy one, and prosperity has attended them. Three sons were born, the eldest of whom, John Launcelot, was born March 5, 1875. He is doing excellent work and earning a good salary as an employe of the *Times*. Henry Clair was born November 28, 1876; and Harold Alter, May 9, 1881.

Mr. and Mrs. Drumm are members of the German Lutheran Church. In politics, Mr. Drumm is a Democrat. He belongs to the Watseka Lodge No. 1086, K. H., and Camp No. 339, M. W. A. By strict application to business and good management, the subject of our sketch paid for a neat cottage on Oak Street, owns considerable stock in the Iroquois Building and Loan Association and is second largest share-holder in the *Times* Company.

Through all the changes in the ownership of the

Times, Mr. Drumm has been a safe barometer for its guidance and always directed the departments under his charge with unvarying success. Many an anxious observer in years past has approached him, regarding him as a faithful sentinel at the outpost to answer the lines of the poet—

"Watchman, tell us of the night—
What its signs of promise are?"

His long and faithful career is worthy of the best commendation.



ALBEN L. BROUGHER is the owner of a model farm located on section 21, Prairie Green Township. He there owns and operates three hundred and twenty acres of land, which yields to him a golden tribute in return for his care and cultivation, and Mrs. Brougher owns one hundred and sixty acres. Not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made when he became owner of this tract, but it is now transformed into rich and fertile fields, and good buildings stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

Mr. Brougher is a native of the Keystone State. He was born in Cumberland County, near Harrisburg, August 6, 1846, and is a son of John and Eleanor Ann (Gregory) Brougher. The family is of Irish descent, having been founded in America by the great-grandfather of our subject. He crossed the Atlantic from Ireland to this country in Colonial days. John Brougher was born in Cumberland County, Pa., and learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed in connection with farming. He died in his native State in 1876, at the age of sixty-four years. His wife died at the age of sixty-five, on a farm which had been in the family for one hundred and forty-one years, on which she and all her children were born. Mr. Brougher had served as County Commissioner and was a prominent and influential citizen. Socially, he was connected with the Odd Fellows' Society, and in politics he was a Democrat. His business life was one of success and he became well-to-do.

Himself and wife were members of the Presbyterian Church and were zealous workers. She had been twice married before and had two children by each marriage. In their family were eight children: Oliver, who served as Sergeant in a Pennsylvania regiment in the late war, now resides in Des Moines, Iowa; Jane is living in Michigan; Elizabeth resides near the old homestead in Pennsylvania; Miles, who was in the employ of the Government during the late war, is a farmer of the Keystone State; Emeline is living near the old homestead; A. L. is the next younger; Elias, who was one of the boys in blue during the late war, is now an agriculturist of Stockland Township; and Delilah is living in Pennsylvania. All of the children were born and reared in the Keystone State and are yet living.

The boyhood days of our subject were quietly passed in Pennsylvania. His education, acquired in the common schools, was completed at the age of seventeen, after which he gave his entire time and attention to farm work, with which he has been familiar since he was ten years of age. At the age of eighteen he began to earn his own livelihood, and for nine months drove a team for the Government during the late war. He was then employed in a flouring-mill. While in Pennsylvania he wedded Mary Messenger, but she died three years later, leaving one son, Miles, who is living with his grandmother in Pennsylvania, at the age of twenty-three years.

After his marriage, Mr. Brougher engaged in farming for five years in Pennsylvania, and in the spring of 1872 he removed to Iroquois County and located upon the farm which has since been his home. He may well be called a self-made man, for he started out in life empty-handed and by his perseverance, industry and good management has acquired a handsome property and achieved success. When he came here he could see nothing but wild prairie in any direction.

Mr. Brougher was the second time married on the 29th of January, 1872, in Benton County, Ind., the lady of his choice being Miss Nancy E. Brown, who was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., a daughter of John and Catherine (Mater) Brown, both natives of Pennsylvania and pioneers of Tip-

pecanoe County, Ind., where the father farmed most of his life. The mother passed away in Indiana at the age of sixty-two years. The father died in Hoopeston, Ill., aged eighty-five years. Unto our subject have been born six children: Velena Ann, Velona Leah, John Roy and Mervin Ray (twins) Mary Anice and Alben J. Mrs. Brougher is one of twelve children, of whom seven live.

Mr. and Mrs. Brougher are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Wellington, to the support of which they contribute liberally and are among its active workers. He cast his first Presidential vote for Seymour in 1868, and has since been a supporter of the Democracy. He takes an active interest in political affairs, but the honors or emoluments of public office have never allured him. In his social relations, he is an Odd Fellow and a Mason, belonging to Star Lodge No. 709, A. F. & A. M.; the Chapter of Hoopeston; and Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton. Mr. Brougher is recognized as a leading citizen of the community. Public-spirited and progressive, he takes an active interest in all that pertains to its welfare, its promotion and advancement.



JOHAN WHITE, a successful and prosperous farmer, resides just on the outskirts of Milford, where for many years he has carried on agricultural pursuits. He now owns and operates four hundred acres of valuable land which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He follows general farming, and the well-tilled fields and neat appearance of the place indicate the supervision of a thrifty and careful manager.

Mr. White well deserves representation in the history of his adopted county, and with pleasure we record his sketch. He was born near Oxford, Butler County, Ohio, June 1, 1836, and is a son of Amos and Rebecca (Kennedy) White, who were also natives of the Buckeye State. Their family numbered seven children, but two died in infancy. Those who grew to manhood and womanhood are

as follows: Susan, who became the wife of Charles Axtell, died in June, 1864, leaving a daughter, Eva, who is now the wife of Julius Wheeler; John of this sketch; Priscilla, wife of Daniel Fry, by whom she has three children, one son and two daughters; Sarah, who resides with her mother in Watseka; and Harriet, wife of William James, a resident of Frankfort, Ind. In 1849, the parents emigrated with their family from Ohio to Iroquois County, Ill., and entered land in what is now Milford Township. The father died in 1862, but the mother is now a resident of Watseka.

Mr. White, whose name heads this sketch, made his home in the Buckeye State until he came with the family to this county. Since 1849 he has been a resident of Milford Township, and during the forty-three years which have since passed has resided only upon his present farm, which was entered from the Government by his father and adjoins the corporation limits of Milford on the east.

Mr. White has led a busy and useful life, and has devoted the greater part of his attention to agricultural pursuits, yet has found time to serve his fellow-townsmen in several official positions, and his duties were ever faithfully performed. He is alike true to every public and private trust, and the confidence reposed in him is never misplaced. He takes considerable interest in the Masonic order, holding membership with Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M.; Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.; and Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton.

On the 15th of September, 1863, Mr. White led to the marriage altar Miss Hannah Brown, daughter of Barnabas and Martha (Wiley) Brown, of Ontario, Canada. One child has been born of this union, a son, Amos, on the 29th of February, 1868. He married Miss Louise Belle Berry, daughter of Oliver and Melinda (Hold) Berry. They have a little daughter, Harriet Rebecca, born on the 24th of November, 1891. Mr. White and his wife are well and favorably known throughout this community where they have so long made their home, and their friends are many. He has witnessed much of the growth and development of the county, having seen it when the greater part of

the land was still in its primitive condition, when the settlements were widely scattered, and when many of the now flourishing towns were not in existence. The rapid changes he has seen, and in the work of development and progress he has ever borne his part.



ELDON T. BRIGHAM, dental surgeon, and the oldest established dentist of Watseka in years of practice, opened his office in this city in January, 1885. The Doctor was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., on the 6th of November, 1853, and is a son of Nelson and Charlotte (Stoddard) Brigham. His parents were born in the same county as their son. They emigrated to Illinois in 1857, and settled in Fairbury, Livingston County, where the father engaged in agricultural pursuits until the year 1887, when they moved to Chicago. They are still residing in that city.

Eldon T. came to this State with his parents, was reared on his father's farm, and received a common-school education. In 1878, he began the study of dentistry in Sheldon, Iroquois County, Ill., and opened an office in that place the same year. After practicing there until January 1, 1885, he removed to Watseka, where he opened an office, and has since done a successful and increasing business. In order to better perfect himself in his profession, he took a course of study at the Northwestern College of Dental Surgery of Chicago, from which he graduated in the Class of '88.

In May, 1889, Dr. Brigham admitted Dr. George R. Lee to partnership with him, under the firm name of Brigham & Lee. These gentlemen are fully abreast of the times in all new discoveries and inventions pertaining to their business, and have the most complete facilities for doing all kinds of work in their line, including the most intricate jobs of crowning and bridge-work, and are recognized as the leading dentists of the county. Dr. Brigham is a member of the Illinois State Dental Society.

The Doctor was married at Saybrook, Ill., De-

ember 27, 1876, to Miss Maggie E. Rayborn. She was born in McLean County, Ill., and is a daughter of Henry R. Rayborn, Esq. Two children were born to Dr. and Mrs. Brigham, Edith E. and Roy E. The little son died at the age of three years.

In politics, Mr. Brigham is a Republican. Socially, he is a member of Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M.; and of Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.; also of Mon Ami Lodge No. 231, K. of P. Dr. Brigham is a member of the Watseka Republican Publishing Company, of which he is treasurer. He and his partner have the finest suite of dental rooms in Iroquois County, which are located over the Citizens' Bank in the new brick building, and are well lighted and elegantly furnished and complete in all their appointments. Dr. and Mrs. Brigham are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



GARRETT CASPERS, one of the leading German farmers of Iroquois County, makes his home on section 11, Ash Grove Township. He was born in Ilanover, Friesland, Germany, on the 27th of September, 1821, and is a son of Jacob H. and Antze (Garretts) Caspers, both natives of that country. The father was born January 3, 1777, and spent his entire life in the Fatherland, where he was engaged as a carpenter and bricklayer. In 1818, he was united in marriage with Miss Garretts, who was born on the 20th of April, 1797, and unto them were born three children, of whom our subject is the only one now living. John and Annie died after coming to the United States. The mother accompanied Garrett to this country, the father having died when our subject was but sixteen years of age, and with him remained until her death, which occurred in Woodford County, Ill. The family left Bremen in 1854, and after a nine-week voyage landed at New Orleans. They then proceeded up the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Peoria, where the other two children died.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in

his native land, and there learned the carpenter's trade, which he carried on for many years. In Peoria he worked at his trade for four years, when, in 1858, he went to Woodford County, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres. This he improved and cultivated until his removal to Iroquois County in 1877. Here he became the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 11, Ash Grove Township, which he still makes his home. He is one of the prosperous and well-to-do farmers of this community, having been very successful in his business affairs.

In Woodford County, Mr. Caspers married Tada Conrad, a native of Germany, the wedding ceremony being performed on the 22d of October, 1859. The lady came with her parents to this country when about four years of age and made her home in this State. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Caspers was born a family of ten children, two of whom are now deceased: Jacob H., born January 6, 1861, is now a farmer of Nebraska; Emma, the wife of Fritz Trapp, of Nebraska, was born on the 23d of February, 1862; Annie, born January 28, 1864, is the wife of Jonas List, a farmer of Milford Township; Richard, deceased, was born December 17, 1865; Richard, (2d) born June 25, 1867, is a farmer of Nebraska; Katie, deceased, was born on the 12th of May, 1869; Herman, born July 18, 1871, aids his father in the operation of the home farm; Frederick, born October 29, 1873, resides in Dakota; Gracie, born December 8, 1875, and John, born February 25, 1878, are still under the parental roof. The children all had good educational privileges, studying both the German and English languages.

Religiously, Mr. Caspers and family are members of the Lutheran Church, of which he has been Secretary. He is a liberal supporter of the church and helped to build the present house of worship. He cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, whom he had the pleasure of seeing. He now exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democratic party as a general rule, but is not strictly partisan, preferring to vote for the man whom he thinks will best fill the office. Mr. Caspers is one of the self-made men of the county, having started out in life with only \$20, but has worked his way upward to

success and has now a comfortable competency. He is highly respected throughout the community, and Germany has furnished no better citizen to Illinois. He has gained all he now possesses by his own industry and enterprise.



JAMES F. HEREFORD, a prominent druggist of Watseka, was born in Clark County, Ill., on the 21st of January, 1845. He is a son of L. P. and Louisa (Powell) Hereford, both natives of Virginia. They went to Peoria, Ill., in 1833, but soon afterward removed to Clark County, where they remained until 1845. They then went to Tazewell County, where they lived until 1853, at which time they settled in Woodford County, Ill. Here the father of our subject entered and improved eighty acres of land, on which he erected a fine home, where he resided during the remainder of a life of usefulness and industry. In connection with farming he did quite an extensive business in stock-raising, and in addition to these employments, carried on a real-estate business and was engaged in other occupations.

Of a family of eight children, our subject was the fourth in order of birth, and seven still survive. Mrs. Hereford's ancestors were a long-lived race of people, being strong and healthy until they had attained a good old age. His maternal grandmother, Mrs. Louisa Powell, lived to the ripe old age of ninety-six.

Mr. James F. Hereford received the advantages of a common-school education, which was supplemented by a course of study at Eurcka College. At the age of twenty-six he commenced farming, which pursuit he followed for about six years with good success. He then entered the drug business, locating in Secor, Ill. In 1887, he removed to Watseka, and has continued in the drug trade since that time. From the time when he established business here, he has been recognized as one of the leading druggists of the town, and by the liberal patronage which he receives, it is evident that he has won the confidence and respect of his

customers as the result of his courteous treatment, fair dealing and prompt attention to their wants.

On the 10th of June, 1865, Mr. Hereford was united in wedlock with Miss Elizabeth Dickinson, a daughter of John R. Dickinson, a resident of this county. Our subject is a member of the Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M. He served his fellow-citizens during three years as County Supervisor. He is a very public-spirited, enterprising man and is highly respected throughout this community. He is well informed on all subjects of general interest and able to express his ideas faithfully and well. By strict attention to business he has built up a good trade and enjoys the esteem of all the citizens of this town.



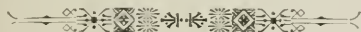
GEORGE HOWARD PIERCE, who is engaged in general farming and stock-raising on section 17, Milford Township, has the honor of being a native of this State. The place of his birth is Belle Flower Township, Marshall County, and the date December 12, 1856. He is a son of Charles S. and Mary Lucinda (Fowler) Pierce, natives of Massachusetts. On leaving the East, his parents emigrated to Illinois, settling on a farm in Marshall County about 1850. There they resided for many years, after which they went to Ford County, Ill. In that county they made their home until 1877, when they went to Iowa, but the following year they returned to Illinois, and have since been residents of Iroquois County. A fuller account of the family is given in the account of A. F. Pierce.

Mr. Pierce of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof in the usual manner of farmer lads, working in the fields during the summer months, while in the winter season he attended the common schools, where he acquired his education. After attaining to years of maturity he was united in marriage with Miss Lauretta Jane Mahoney, daughter of John Mahoney. Their wedding was celebrated in Ford County, on the 25th of October, 1875, and upon a

farm in that county they began their domestic life, making it their home until 1886. In that year they came to Iroquois County, and located on a farm in Milford Township, two miles west of the village of Milford, where they have since resided. Throughout his entire life Mr. Pierce has engaged in farming and stock-raising, and now operates three hundred and ten acres of land. His fields are well tilled, and the neat appearance of the place indicates his thrift and enterprise.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pierce have been born a family of seven children, three sons and four daughters, as follows: William Howard, born May 1, 1880; Thomas Henry, July 27, 1881; Mary, December 21, 1882; Alice and Charlie, twins, born May 31, 1885; Martha Arwinnie, February 20, 1887; and Lillie, April 2, 1890.

Mr. Pierce holds membership with the Milford Lodge of Modern Woodmen, and is also a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. Politically, he is a Republican. He and his wife are highly respected people, who have a large circle of friends and acquaintances throughout the community.



JOHN EBY is a representative agriculturist of this county and the owner of a valuable farm on the Iroquois River, consisting of two hundred and thirty acres on section 23, Iroquois Township. He is practical and progressive, and by his own industrious efforts has won a position among the substantial citizens of the community.

Mr. Eby is a native of Indiana. He was born in Wabash County, September 3, 1848. His father, Michael Eby, died when our subject was a lad of three years. His mother in after years married again, and John spent his early youth with a guardian. His educational privileges were limited, he being permitted to attend the public schools only for a few months each year, but he was early trained to farm labor. About 1860, he accompanied his mother and stepfather to Illinois, the family making a location in this county. Our

subject worked on a farm by the month for several years, being thus employed until his marriage. In March, 1873, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Sarah Sturdevant, a native of this county. Her father, Jonathan Clark Sturdevant, is one of the honored pioneers of this locality. He located on the Iroquois River at the place known as Sturdevant's Bend, where he opened up a farm and reared his family.

After his marriage, Mr. Eby located on a small farm on the south side of Iroquois River and engaged in its operation for several years. During this time, he purchased a small piece of timberland on the north side of the river, but as his financial resources were increased, the boundaries of his farm were enlarged, until he is now the owner of two hundred and thirty acres of rich and valuable land. He now has in his home farm one hundred and fifty acres, which are under a high state of cultivation. The place is well improved with a neat and substantial residence, a large barn, and all the other accessories of a model farm. Mr. Eby commenced life a poor boy, saving to make his own way in the world from an early age. On attaining his majority, he came into possession of \$500 from his father's estate, and with this exception his entire possessions have been acquired by his own enterprise and industry. He has thus accumulated a large and valuable property and is considered one of the thrifty and well-to-do farmers of Iroquois Township.

Six children grace the union of our subject and his wife, two sons and three daughters. Charles, the eldest, now aids his father in the operation of the home farm; Eva, George, Lucinda and Ida are still under the parental roof. They lost one child, Frances, who died at the age of two years.

Mr. Eby has been identified with the Republican party since he became a voter. The cause of education finds in him a friend, and he is a firm believer in the public-school system. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church and give liberally to church, charitable and benevolent purposes. Their home is the abode of hospitality and in social circles they rank high. Their friends throughout the community are many and they are held in warm esteem by all who know them.

Thirty-two years have passed since Mr. Eby came to the county, and with its upbuilding and development during this period he has been prominently identified. As a valued and representative citizen of the community, he certainly deserves representation in this volume.



LEANDER M. HOGLE, who resides in Watseka, is one of the honored pioneer settlers of Iroquois County. He was born in the Province of Quebec, Canada, on the 9th of August, 1836, and is a son of Henry W. and Charlotta (Wells) Hogle. His father was a native of Hoosic, N. Y., and was of German descent. In Keene, N. H., he married Miss Wells, who was a native of that place. They removed to Canada, where the father died in 1848, at the age of fifty years. The mother died in Watseka, in 1874.

The subject of this sketch came with his mother to Illinois on the 11th of August, 1849, and settled in Middleport, where his boyhood days were passed. His education was acquired in the common schools, and he learned the harness-maker's trade in Middleport, but followed it only a short time. He afterward engaged in wagon-making and ran a shop in Milford for three years. He also carried on harness-making and also engaged in cabinet-making for a time, but at length sold out to Mr. Bishop. His next venture was as the proprietor of a meat market, which he carried on for two years. Since that time he has been engaged in the insurance business.

In 1857, in Milford, Mr. Hogle was united in marriage with Miss Caroline M. Davis, daughter of Jonathan Davis, and a native of Ohio. Five children have been born of their union: H. Clarence, who married Miss Emma Beckett, and is living in Peoria; Walter H., who married Miss Nellie Hutchinson, and makes his home in Milford; Ina, wife of A. W. Lewis, of Plattsmouth, Neb.; Wilda, wife of Ichabod White, a resident of Omaha, Neb.; and Maud.

Mr. Hogle has taken quite a prominent part in public affairs. He served as Assessor for six terms

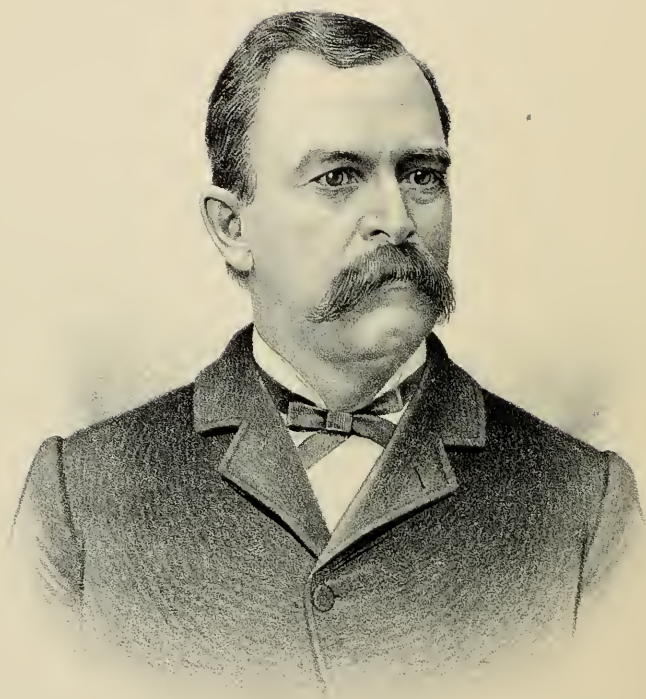
in Middleport Township; filled the office of Constable for about thirteen years, and was Deputy Sheriff for eight years. In political sentiment, he is a staunch Democrat. The educational interests of the community have ever found in him a friend and he has served as a member of the School Board, as School Trustee and as Director. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Hogle has a wide acquaintance throughout this community and is held in high esteem by many friends. He has made his home in the county since 1849, and has been prominently identified with its upbuilding and advancement. He well deserves representation in this volume and with pleasure we present this record of his life to our readers.



WILLIAM A. B. TATE, the popular and efficient Postmaster of Buckley, who is also serving as Justice of the Peace, ranks among the most prominent citizens of this town. He was born in Harrison County, Ind., on the 18th of January, 1839, and is one of a family of eight children. His parents were Zachariah W. and Jane Ramey (Gillispie) Tate, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of the Keystone State. Of their four sons and four daughters, four are yet living, namely: Mrs. Louisa Caroline Gay; W. A. B. of this sketch; Mrs. Elizabeth J. Billings and E. W. With the exception of our subject all are residents of Kansas. The mother died in Indiana in 1862, and in 1864 the father removed to Illinois, where he made his home for nine years. In 1873, he removed to Greenleaf, Washington County, Kan., where he made his home until 1882, when he was called to the home beyond.

In the common schools of his native State the subject of this record acquired his education. He afterward learned the mason's trade, and it was his intention to pursue a collegiate course of study, but after the breaking out of the late war he abandoned that idea, and on the 9th of July, 1861, faithful to his duty and true to his patriotic impulses, he entered the service as a member of Company B, Twenty-fourth Indiana Infantry, Gov. A.

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Yours Truly
Ida S. Burt Ashman

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P. Hovey's regiment. He valiantly served for four years and five months, participating in many important engagements and enduring much arduous service. At Mobile, Ala., he was wounded in the head by a piece of shell, and from the effect of this wound he still suffers with the headache. When hostilities had ceased and the Union had been preserved through the efforts of such men as our subject, he was mustered out, December 6, 1865.

After the war, Mr. Tate returned to French Lick Springs, Ind., where he followed the mason's trade until 1868. In the meantime, he formed a matrimonial alliance with Miss Salina E. Plummer, a daughter of George and Elvira (Bratton) Plummer, of French Lick Springs, Ind. Their union was celebrated on the 8th of September, 1867. The following year they removed to La Salle County, Ill., where Mr. Tate engaged in farming for a time. In March, 1870, he came to Buckley and for a number of years was engaged in business as a brick and stone mason and a plasterer. He then engaged in clerking in the general store of C. Quesse for two years. On the 23d of April, 1889, he was appointed by President Harrison as Postmaster of Buckley, which office he still holds.

Into Mr. and Mrs. Tate were born two children, but they lost their son, William G., who was born on the 8th of August, 1868, and died on the 8th of October, 1888, at the age of twenty years. Lillie E., born January 15, 1870, is now the wife of Rev. A. A. Waters, formerly of Buckley. He is now teaching in Hedding College, in Abingdon, Ill., occupying the chair of science. They have three children, a son and two daughters: Gilbert, Inez and Mabel.

Mr. Tate is a stalwart Republican, who warmly advocates the principles of the party with which he has been connected since attaining his majority. He has been honored with several local offices, the duties of which he ever discharges with promptness and fidelity. He was at one time President of the Village Board and for many years served as a member of the Village Council. Himself and wife are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are highly respected people, whose friends throughout the community are many.

GEORGE R. ASHMAN, Mayor of Gilman, and dealer in grain, coal and agricultural implements, was born near Buffalo, Erie County, N. Y., on the 3d of August, 1849. He is a son of John H. and Sallie (Turner) Ashman. The Turner family is of German descent, as is also the Ashman family. The paternal great-grandfather of our subject was a soldier of the Revolutionary War, and his grandfather was a Captain under Gen. Scott at the battle of Lundy's Lane, in the War of 1812. His father was born near Buffalo and his mother was also a native of Erie County and there their marriage was celebrated. In 1854, they came to McHenry County, Ill., where Mr. Ashman followed his trade of building. He was quite an extensive contractor and architect and a man who was thoroughly acquainted with his line of trade. He took an active interest in the Republican party and in all local affairs. His death occurred in 1878, and that of the wife in 1892. Both were of the Universalist faith. Six of the children of their family of eight are now living.

The subject of this sketch is the fifth in order of birth. He was reared to manhood in McHenry County and received his education in the common schools, supplemented by a course in Marengo College. He learned the carpenter's trade with his father and became a first-class workman. In 1870 he went to Ford County, where he spent two years on a farm. He then went to Roberts and clerked until 1878 for William Flora. After that he went on the road as traveling salesman and collector for the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, at which he continued until 1885. He next began buying grain and handling farm implements on his own account, in which business he has succeeded beyond his expectations, at present doing a business of about \$100,000 per year.

Near Roberts, Mr. Ashman was joined in wedlock, February 29, 1880, with Ida S., daughter of S. C. Burt, one of the pioneers of Ford County. The father was born in the old Bay State, February 10, 1820, and died on the 27th of July, 1887. In Massachusetts, during his younger years, he learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner. His primary education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by one year's study of higher

branches. At the age of seventeen he left his old home and, starting Westward, traveled five hundred miles on foot into the wilds of New York. He became one of the early settlers of Cattaraugus County and there built a pioneer cabin and cleared a farm, making a home in the "land of the five great waters." During the infancy of Mrs. Ashman he removed with his family to Illinois, locating in Iroquois County. He was also one of the pioneers of this locality and was a prominent and leading citizen during its early days. Mr. Burt and his wife were charter members of the first Congregational Church which was organized in Ford County, it being located in Lyman Township, and they took a prominent part in all that would advance the best interests of the community. Mr. Burt passed away at the age of sixty-seven years, but his wife is still living and enjoys good health for one of her years. She was born in Massachusetts, September 8, 1811, and makes her home in Gilman. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church of that place and is a life member of the Bible Society. In politics, Mr. Burt was an old-line Whig until the dissolution of that party, and at the organization of the new Republican party he joined its ranks and continued one of its staunch supporters until his death.

Mrs. Ashman, wife of our subject, was born February 29, 1856. She was educated in the common schools of her adopted county and in Grand Prairie Seminary of Onarga. She also took a full course of musical instruction in the Conservatory of Music in the same place and became a teacher of recognized ability in Ford and Iroquois Counties, following that profession for a period of five years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ashman have been born five children: Jessie L., Elma O., Ogilbie B., Luella (deceased), and Merrill, who was accidentally drowned in a well when twenty-two months of age.

Mrs. Ashman is a member of the Presbyterian Church, to which her husband gives his support. She also holds membership with the Ladies' Foreign and Home Missionary Societies and with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Gilman, of which she is Corresponding Secretary. Mr. Ashman is greatly interested in civic societies and is a Knight Templar Mason. He belongs to Gilman,

Lodge No. 591, A. F. & A. M.; Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.; and Mt. Olive Commandery No. 38, K. T., of Paxton. Politically, he exercises his right of franchise by casting his ballot for the nominees of the Republican party. Recognizing his merit and believing in his ability, his fellow-townsmen have frequently called upon him to fill positions of trust and honor. While in Ford County he acted as Deputy Sheriff. He has been Alderman of the Second Ward of Gilman for one term, and in the spring of 1891 was chosen Mayor on the Anti-license ticket and still occupies that office. He is a very popular Mayor and the city has materially improved financially and otherwise since his administration. In regard to matters of education he is always very active and is now serving his third year as a member of the School Board. He has been Secretary of the Gilman Building and Loan Association since its organization. He is also President of the Gilman Hall Association. Whatever success he has met with in life is due to his own efforts, industry, good management and exercise of correct business principles. His pleasant home is the abode of hospitality and comfort and with his estimable wife he entertains a large circle of friends who esteem them most highly for their sterling worth and many good qualities.



JAMES CRANGLE, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits, on section 6, Ash Grove Township was born in County Down, Ireland, March 17, 1832, on the farm where his father, James Crangle, was born and reared. His mother bore the maiden name of Mary Brennan. In 1840, the family sailed for America. The vessel in which they took passage weighed anchor at Warren Point on the 23d of April, and on the 28th of May reached the harbor of New York. The father of our subject then came on with his wife and children to Grundy County, Ill., and worked on the canal. His death occurred about 1843, after which his widow returned to the Emerald Isle. Both were members of the Catholic Church. Their family numbered four children: Sarah, who is now

married and resides in Ireland; Patrick, in Cherokee County, Iowa; James, of this sketch; and Peter, now deceased.

Our subject was a lad of only eight summers when he crossed the briny deep. At the age of ten he began working on a farm and was in the employ of one man seven years. During that period, by perseverance and economy he acquired a small capital and purchased eighty acres of land in Grundy County, where he engaged in farming until 1869, except that his duties were interrupted by his service in the late war. He enlisted on the 10th of August, 1862, as a member of Company D, Seventy-second Illinois Infantry, which was assembled at Chicago, Col. Fred Starving in command. Thence the troops were sent to Cairo, later to Columbus, Ky., then to Oxford, Miss., and afterward to Memphis, where they spent the winter. In the spring they started from Milliken's Bend for Vicksburg, by way of Grand Gulf, participating in the battle of Champion Hill under Gen. Grant. They then made a charge on Vicksburg, in which Company D lost half its number, and participated in the siege until the surrender of the city on the 4th of July. With his regiment, Mr. Crangle went to Natchez, then spent the following winter in Vicksburg, on provost duty. His health suffered much and he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps. He spent two or three months at Ft. Lincoln in Washington and the remainder of his service was in guarding prisoners at Rock Island, where he was honorably discharged July 17, 1865.

Mr. Crangle then returned to his farm, and in 1869 came to Iroquois County, purchasing his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, whereon he has since made his home. He was married, November 29, 1855, in Brookfield, La Salle County, to Miss Bridget O'Farrell, a native of Ottawa and a daughter of Frank and Mary (Carey) O'Farrell. Unto them have been born the following children: Peter, who went to Nebraska in 1886, but returned after six years and is now on the home farm; John, who aids his father in farming; Frank, County Superintendent of Schools, whose sketch appears elsewhere; James, who died in infancy; Anna, who was educated at

Onarga and is now a teacher of recognized ability. Ella, who died August 17, 1888, at the age of twenty years; Sadie, at home; Alice, who was educated at Onarga and is now engaged in teaching; Jesse; Lucy; Charles, who died in 1888, at the age of nine years; James and Edna. The seven youngest children are natives of this county and the others were born in Grundy County.

Mr. Crangle and his family are all members of the Catholic Church and he is the President of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. Socially, he is a member of Crescent Post No. 717, G. A. R., being Senior Vice-commander, having been transferred from Williams Post No. 25, of Waukegan. He cast his first vote for James Buchanan and has since supported the Democratic party, except in 1864, when he voted for Lincoln. In the exciting times prior to the war, he heard a debate between Lincoln and Douglas in Ottawa. He is usually found in the conventions of his party and has held some local offices, having served as Supervisor for five years. In Grundy County, he served ten years as Justice of the Peace. His residence in the county covers a period of almost a quarter of a century, and during these years he has established a reputation as a good citizen, an honorable business man and a progressive farmer. He has made his own way in life and his success has been achieved through his own efforts.



H. HOLLENBACK is one of the early settlers and honored citizens of this county, now residing in Cissna Park. He was born in Cable County, W. Va., December 19, 1813, on the banks of the Ohio River. His grandfather, Martin Hollenback, was a native of Germany, who came to this country in Colonial days, located in Virginia, and afterwards removed to South Carolina. He served in the Revolutionary War under Gen. Washington. By trade he was a cooper. His death occurred in Virginia. The father of our subject, Martin Hollenback, Jr., was born in South Carolina, and spent his last days in West Virginia.

Throughout his life he followed the occupation of farming. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ellen Hampton, was a daughter of Dr. Hampton, a native of England and a prominent physician. She was born in North Carolina and was reared in West Virginia. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hollenback were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics he was a Whig. Their family numbered nine children: William, now deceased, was employed on a steamboat on the Ohio River; H. H. is the next younger; Daniel, who served in a Pennsylvania regiment during the late war, died in Andersonville prison; Mathias died at the age of nineteen; John was also employed on the river; Sarah, Mary, Catherine and Eliza were the daughters of the family.

Our subject was reared on the banks of the Ohio, and as soon as old enough to handle the plow, he began work in the fields and was inured to farm labor. His education was quite limited. He went to school three months during the winter season, and his books consisted of a speller and Testament, in which he learned to read. The school was conducted on the subscription plan. Mr. Hollenback remained at home until 1865, and was in the midst of the war difficulties, the country around his home being traversed by both armies. On the 9th of March, 1865, he came to Illinois, locating at Loda, where he rented a farm. He afterward operated another rented farm for three years, and then bought an eighty-acre tract of wild prairie land in Pigeon Grove Township, which he transformed into rich and fertile fields. In 1884, he sold his farm and removed to Cissna Park, where he has since lived retired. He here built four residences, three of which he yet owns.

On the 3d of May, 1832, Mr. Hollenback married Miss Margaret Ann Ricketts, who came of an old family of Eastern Virginia, of English descent. Unto them have been born eleven children, five of whom are still living: Leonidas, who served in the First Virginia Cavalry for three years and four months, is now engaged in the dairy business near Kansas City, Mo.; John, who served in the Fifth Virginia Infantry, also resides near Leonidas, but since the war has been in poor health; William, who was in the First Virginia Cavalry, was

taken prisoner, sent to Belle Isle and afterward to Andersonville, where he died; Oliver is living in North Nebraska; James is the next younger; Mrs. Fannie Weddington died in Texas in 1892; and Mrs. Nannie Thornton resides at home. With the exception of the youngest, all were born in West Virginia.

Mr. Hollenback cast his first Presidential vote for William Henry Harrison in 1836, and supported the Whig party until the rise of the Republican party. He voted for Lincoln. Since that time he has been a Republican, and he advocated that party in its early days, when it required courage to support those principles, for men were shot down for advocating such opinions.

Mr. and Mrs. Hollenback have traveled life's journey together for sixty years as man and wife, and the years have but served to strengthen their mutual love and confidence. Their lives have been checkered with sorrow and pain, but the husband has upheld and supported the wife and she has sustained and encouraged him. Together they pass down the hill, but their last years are made pleasant by many friends who join with their children in showing them love, attention and respect.



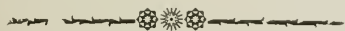
CHARLES H. PAYSON, attorney-at-law, senior partner of the law firm of Payson & Orebaugh, of Watseka, is a native of Illinois and was born in Bureau County, November 27, 1855. He is a son of H. L. and Maria E. (Briggs) Payson, and came to Iroquois County in 1867. His education was obtained in the public school and also at Lombard University, of Galesburg, Ill. He studied law in Pontiac, in the office of his brother, the Hon. L. E. Payson, late Member of Congress from that district. He was admitted to the bar in 1876, and subsequently to all the Federal Courts, with the exception of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Mr. Payson began practice in Pontiac and continued there until 1878, when he went to Southern Kansas. Later, he spent three years in the silver mines of Colorado, and in 1884 located in Wat-

seka, where he resumed the practice of his profession. For a year and a-half he was in partnership with C. W. Raymond. The existing partnership with D. A. Orebaugh was formed in September, 1891.

On the 3d of January, 1881, Mr. Payson was married in Ft. Collins, Colo., to Miss Clara Martin, a daughter of Moses M. Martin. Mrs. Payson was born in Burlington, Iowa. She is a member of the Episcopal Church. One child, a son, was born to our subject and his wife, October 3, 1881, to which they gave the name of Charles Victor.

The subject of this sketch is a Republican in politics and has served as Alderman from the Second Ward of Watseka. He is a member of the following named societies: the Knights of Pythias, Patriotic Order of Sons of America and Modern Woodmen of America. He is a stockholder in the Stiles Automatic Hinge Company. Mr. Payson is a man of superior ability and is well grounded in the law. He has built up a good practice and is esteemed an able and successful lawyer. He is a genial, whole-souled man, who makes friends readily, and has an extended acquaintance throughout the State among his brethren of the legal profession and leading business men.



ANDREW J. DECKER, one of the honored veterans of the late war and a pioneer settler of this county, who for almost half a century has made his home in this community, was born on the 1st of November, 1843, in Page County, Va. His parents were Chrisley and Mary Decker. His father was also born in the Old Dominion and was reared to the occupation of farming. In 1847, he emigrated Westward and located in Iroquois County, Ill. The settlements in this locality were then widely scattered and the work of progress and civilization was scarcely begun. Hoopeston, Cissna Park and Wellington had not yet sprung into existence. There were few roads, and the land was almost unbroken prairie. Mr. Decker continued to follow farming throughout his entire life. In politics,

he was a Republican. His death occurred in 1880. Mrs. Decker, a native of Virginia, is still living, and her seventy-two years rest lightly upon her. The family of this worthy couple numbered nine children, of whom six are yet living.

Our subject, who is third in order of birth, was brought to this State when only about four years of age, and was reared upon his father's farm, amid the wild scenes of frontier life. His educational advantages were limited, but by his own exertions, experience and observation he has become well informed. His training in farm labor was not so meagre. He aided his father until after he had attained his majority and then started out in life for himself.

On the 18th of August, 1862, Mr. Decker, although then not twenty years of age, responded to his country's call for troops, and joined the boys in blue of Company I, One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Infantry, under Capt. West, who was afterward succeeded by Capt. Aaron Kane. The regiment convened at Camp Douglas, and was commanded by Col. George D. Hogue. Going to Memphis, Tenn., they participated in the battle of Bolivar, where the One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois suffered greatly. They also participated in the battle at La Fayette, Tenn., where the regiment lost three hundred men. Mr. Decker was in the thickest of the fight. He bore all the hardships and privations of army life, being often forced to go without food. At the battle of Holly Springs, Miss., he met the enemy, and afterward on an expedition down the Yazoo River, and again at Vicksburg. At Walnut Hill they met the enemy in a hard battle, in which they were defeated and ordered to the transports. Mr. Decker participated in the three-day engagement at Arkansas Post, in February, 1863, and here the Union troops were successful. Five companies, including that to which our subject belonged, were then detailed to guard the fifteen thousand prisoners who were to be taken to Springfield, Ill. He was ill during that time, but he would not allow himself to give up until he had reached his destination, where he was discharged for disability.

After partially recovering, Mr. Decker re-enlisted in October, 1863, for the remainder of the war,

joining his company at Springfield, and from there proceeded to Memphis, Tenn., where they started after the rebel General, Forrest, whom they defeated in battle. On the 10th of June occurred another engagement with Gen. Forrest, in which the Union troops were defeated and Mr. Decker, who was captured, was taken to Andersonville prison, where he underwent all the tortures and hardships of that foul den for ten months. During the entire time they were never given any meat, and each soldier was allowed only a half-pint of corn-meal, corn and cob both being ground up, from which they made mush. If any of the soldiers tried to escape, the scanty rations were shut off from the rest, and three or four days would elapse before they were again given food. Mr. Decker kept as far as possible from the "dead line" but he saw many a poor fellow shot down like a dog when he ventured too near that line, and has seen others cut their own throats to end their miseries. During the winter of 1864-65 he was almost naked, having only a ragged shirt and pair of drawers, for his other clothes had been stolen by the rebels. His release came on the 18th of March, 1865, and found him almost a skeleton. It seemed almost impossible for him to reach home. With many others he went in cattle cars to Jackson, Miss., where the ambulance train was to meet them, but it failed. Those who could walk did so, and the others crawled. Mr. Decker was twelve days going twelve miles to Black River. With his comrades he then went to Vicksburg, on to Memphis and to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., where he remained three weeks, when an order came to send every soldier to his own State, and he was sent to Quincy, Ill. He could not walk any from the time he left Andersonville until he reached Quincy on the 16th of May. He was honorably discharged on the 2d of July, 1865, and returned to his home, broken down in health but with the record of a brave and honorable soldier.

September 6, 1868, Mr. Decker was united in marriage with Miss Adeline Stanton, and unto them have been born a son and two daughters: Eva, wife of Lee Rothgeb, who is employed in a wholesale establishment in Chicago; and Alice and William at home. The family resides in a neat

and comfortable home, pleasantly situated upon a good farm of one hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, under a high state of cultivation and well improved.

In politics, Mr. Decker has been a staunch Republican since he cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. U. S. Grant. For six years he has filled the office of School Director. Socially, he is a member of the Grand Army Post of Milford, and himself and wife hold membership in the Presbyterian Church of Wellington. Mr. Decker is true to every public and private trust, displaying the same loyalty that he manifested in his country's hour of peril. He knows what war means, for he has suffered all its hardships. He was ever found at his post of duty, a faithful soldier, valiantly defending the Old Flag which now floats over the united Nation.



JOHN WESLEY GRUBBS, one of the honored pioneers of the county, who is now living a retired life in Onarga, claims Ohio as the State of his birth, which occurred in Montgomery County on the 18th of October, 1827. He is the sixth in order of birth in a family of twelve children whose parents were John and Margaret (Riner) Grubbs, both natives of Berkeley County, Va. The father died in 1850, but the mother long survived him and passed away in 1881. Of their children only six are now living, namely: Peter, Thomas, Mary, Martha, Eliza and John W. Samuel, George, Catherine, Jacob and Sarah are now deceased.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who is very widely and favorably known throughout the community and well deserves representation in the history of his adopted county. His boyhood days were spent in the Buckeye State and his educational advantages were those which the common schools afforded. After attaining his majority he was joined in wedlock on the 15th of August, 1850, with Miss Lorinda Allen, daughter of Phineas and Keziah (Kelley) Allen. Five chil-

dren were born unto them, three sons and two daughters: Keziah J., born May 10, 1851, is the wife of George S. Ramsey, a resident of Onarga Township, and two children were born unto them, one of whom is living, Martha Lorinda. Phineas W., born March 7, 1853, wedded Miss Anna, daughter of William Kinnison, and they became the parents of two children, Lora Leota and Lizzie. Leroy, born July 24, 1856, married Sarah Elgin, of Kansas, and they reside in Onarga Township. Unto them were born four children, three of whom are yet living: Charles, Frank and Bertha. Harvey J., born March 3, 1861, wedded Miss Mary, daughter of Robert Skeels, and is a resident of Jewell County, Kan. Unto them were born three children, but Harley is the only one living, Eva Melissa and Harry having died in early childhood. Melissa J., born March 5, 1865, died in her nineteenth year.

In 1857, Mr. Grubbs, father of this family, emigrated from Ohio to Illinois, locating first in Peoria County, where he remained for about a year. He then came to Iroquois County and settled on a farm of two hundred acres, four miles east of Onarga, where he spent the succeeding thirteen years. He then removed to the village in order to better educate his children, but after about two years purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land two and one-half miles east of Onarga. Removing to that farm in 1870, he made it his home for fifteen years, and in the meantime extended its boundaries by the purchase of an additional seventy-four acres, making a farm of two hundred and thirty-four acres. The two farms, comprising four hundred and thirty-four acres, are still owned by our subject and his sons. In 1885, Mr. Grubbs abandoned agricultural pursuits and again went to Onarga, where, with his wife, he still resides in a comfortable home near Grand Prairie Seminary. He has led a busy and useful life, and by his perseverance and energy has acquired a comfortable competence.

Mr. Grubbs has held the office of Road Commissioner for several years, and was also School Director for several terms. He is true to every public and private trust, and his duties of citizenship are ever faithfully performed. Those who know

him, and his circle of acquaintances is extensive, hold him in the highest esteem for his sterling worth and many excellencies of character. In politics, he is a supporter of the Democracy. For thirty-two years he has been a member of the Masonic order.



THOMAS HAMER, who owns and operates an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 16, Ridgeland Township, is one of the worthy citizens that England has furnished Iroquois County. He was born near Manchester, on the 27th of January, 1831, and is a son of James and Mary (Collings) Hamer. His father was a spinner by trade and worked in a cotton factory. He met his death by accident in 1853, being killed by the machinery of the mills. His wife survived him about two years, passing away in 1855. Their family numbered nine children, of whom our subject is the second in order of birth; John and James are both now deceased; Elizabeth is married and resides in England; Hannah and Betty have both departed this life; William and Samuel died when about sixteen years old; and one child died in infancy.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent in his native town Heywood, near Manchester, England. His education was acquired by attendance at night schools and largely by self-culture, for his privileges were quite limited, as he commenced work in the mills when only ten years of age. He learned the spinner's trade, and to that employment devoted his energies for some time. Under the parental roof he remained until twenty-three years of age, when, on the 11th of July, 1853, he was married in the Episcopal Church of Bury, the lady of his choice being Miss Alice Ashton, daughter of David and Alice (Wild) Ashton. They began their domestic life in their native land and there resided until 1857. Mrs. Hamer was born near Bury, Lancashire, England, April 10, 1835. Her parents were natives of the same shire, where they spent the rest of their lives. The father worked in a paper mill. Both died aged sixty-six

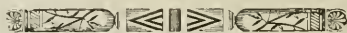
years. Of their eleven children, five sons and six daughters, five are now living. Mrs. Hamer is the only one of the family that crossed the ocean.

The year 1857 witnessed the emigration of our subject and his wife to America. Bidding good-bye to their old home they took passage on a sailing-vessel, which weighed anchor at Liverpool and after seven weeks and three days reached the harbor of New York. During the voyage they encountered a storm which lasted twelve days and twelve nights. The passage was terribly rough, and it was with great relief that they reached their destination. Mr. Hamer made his first location in White Rock, R. I., but after a few weeks went to Willimantic, Conn., where he again remained but a few weeks. He then made his way to New York City, with the expectation of returning to England, but changed his mind, and in the winter of 1857 came to the West, locating in McLean County, Ill. There he secured work as a farm hand by the month and was thus employed for a year, after which he operated land on shares for a year. He next secured a position with the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company and was in its employ for about nine months, when, having accumulated through his industry and economy a small capital, he purchased forty acres of land near Normal, Ill., where he spent two years. On the expiration of that period he sold his farm and came to Iroquois County, locating in Douglas Township, where he purchased eighty acres of land at \$8 per acre. Later, he again sold, and bought eighty acres on section 16, his present farm.

Eight children have been born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hamer, but one died in infancy. Those living are: David Thomas, who married Ada Knowlton and resides in Onarga; William H., who married Roena Spellman and resides in Chicago; Mary, who is the wife of Ralph Spellman, a teacher in Greer College, of Hoopeston; Frederick A., who married Clara A. Layer, and lives in Ridgeland Township; Emma L., at home; Elizabeth L., a teacher of their county; and Nellie B., at home. The family has a pleasant home on the farm in Ridgeland Township. Mr. Hamer owns one hundred and sixty acres of arable land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and im-

proved with all the accessories of a model farm. In addition to the cultivation of his fields, whose neat appearance indicates his thrift and enterprise, he engages in stock-raising.

In political sentiments, Mr. Hamer is a Democrat, and at the ballot supports the principles which he warmly advocates. He has held the office of School Director and is a friend to the cause of education. Socially, he is a member of the Odd Fellows' society. Mrs. Hamer and all the children except one are Presbyterians, holding membership with the church in Onarga. Public-spirited and progressive, he manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and ever bears his part in its up-building. It was a fortunate day for him when he determined not to return to his native land but to still continue his residence in this country, for here he has gained a comfortable competence, found a pleasant home and won many warm friends,



JOHN WIENRANK, one of the prominent and representative farmers of Ash Grove Township, now makes his home on section 1, where he owns a fine farm. He is a native of Germany, born in Hanover, on the 1st of December, 1840, and is a son of Jacob Wienrank, who was born and reared in the same place. The father was a leading farmer of his native land, and there was united in marriage with Miss Luke Johnson, who was also born in the same neighborhood as her husband. In 1852 he started for America, accompanied by his wife and four children. They sailed from Bremen, and after a voyage of thirteen weeks landed in New Orleans. They then proceeded up the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Peoria, and settled on a farm near that place. The father there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1871, when he was called to his final rest, at the age of fifty-six. His wife is still living, and makes her home with her children, being now an inmate of the home of our subject. In religious belief, Mr. Wienrank was a Lutheran, and politically,

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J. J. Gardner



Mrs. J. J. Gardner

gave his support to the Democratic party. In the family were four children, of whom our subject is the eldest; Mrs. Gretje Van Hovel now resides on a farm adjoining her brother's; Tina is the wife of John Stover, who makes his home in Kansas; and Christof is a resident of Tazewell County, Ill.

Mr. Wienrank, of this sketch, began his literary education in Germany, but it was completed in this country. He attended the English schools of Peoria, and there pursued his studies until the age of seventeen years. He remained at home, aiding in the labors of the farm, until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself. For several years he made his home in Woodford County, engaging in agricultural pursuits, and in 1876 removed to Iroquois County, where he purchased his present farm of one hundred and fifty-two acres; but he now owns one hundred and sixty acres additional. He is one of the enterprising farmers of Ash Grove Township, and in his business relations has been very successful; his farm is one of the best in the community, and on it he has placed many good improvements.

On the 17th of February, 1870, Mr. Wienrank was married, in Woodford County, to Miss Antje Duitsmann, a native of Germany. The lady was born in Hanover, and came to this country in 1868. By her marriage she has become the mother of six children: Jacob J., born November 8, 1870, in Woodford County; Folke B., born in the same county, January 19, 1872, is now the wife of Jacob Van Hovel, a farmer of Ash Grove Township; Kao J., born February 6, 1873, in the same county, is still under the parental roof; John B., born in Woodford County, February 3, 1876; Christof J., born February 21, 1879; and Albert, born May 6, 1881, are still at home. The children have received good educational advantages, attending both the English and German schools.

Mr. Wienrank is one of the popular men of this community, and has served his township one term as Collector, and is now holding the office of Justice of the Peace. He and his family hold membership with the Lutheran Church of the neighborhood and to it he gives his liberal support and aid. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party, and is an earnest advocate of its principles.

He cast his first vote for Gen. George B. McClellan in 1864. To the conventions of his party he has often served as delegate, and takes an active interest in political affairs.



ISAAC J. GARDNER, for thirty-five years a resident of this county, is engaged in agricultural pursuits on his farm in Douglas Township. He was born in the Keystone State, his birth having occurred in Susquehanna County, on the 12th of May, 1837. He is a son of William P. and Sarah (James) Gardner. The first of the Gardner family of whom we have any record was Stephen Gardner, a resident of Connecticut. The first white child born in Connecticut in 1636 was a Gardner. The family is said to have come to America in the "Mayflower." Stephen Gardner had a family of twelve children, of whom the eleventh, David, became the father of five children, the youngest of whom, Isaac Gardner, was born in Connecticut, November 30, 1761. He was a soldier in the War of the Revolution, and his second wife drew a pension on account of his services in that war. His first wife was Martha Rogers, by whom he had five children. After her death he married Esther Palmer, and unto them were born nine children. The father of our subject was the seventh child of the second marriage, his birth having occurred December 27, 1812, in New London County, Conn. He was wedded July 5, 1835, to Miss Sarah F. James, who was born in Connecticut, September 30, 1815. After their marriage he moved to Gibson Township, Susquehanna County, Pa., where he followed the occupation of farming. In 1857, the father, with his son, the subject of this sketch, came to Illinois, and thinking a good town would spring up where Gilman is now located, they erected a house, the lumber of which was the first car-load of lumber unloaded at Gilman. This was in August, 1857. In February following, he returned, and brought his family to their new home in the West. The country was wild and much of it under water. At the close of the war, the father moved to a

farm near Chebanse, but five years later he returned to Gilman, which he has since made his home. Politically, he was formerly a Whig, and has since been a Republican. The death of his wife occurred in September, 1873. In their family were five children, of whom three are still living. Isaac J., of this sketch. E. B., a resident of Nuckolls County, Neb., is an agriculturist. He married Miss Maggie Francis, and they have two children, a son and daughter. William D. is a resident of Seattle, Wash. He married Miss Fannie Gilpin, of Gilman, Ill., who died, leaving one child, a son. He graduated from the University of Chicago, and followed the profession of a teacher for many years very successfully and is now engaged in the real-estate business. Afterwards the father married Mrs. Lydia Hunt. He, as were both of his wives, was a member of the Baptist Church.

Mr. Gardner, whose name heads this sketch, was reared in a timbered and stony country, and amid the hardships incident to that kind of farm land he early learned habits of industry and economy. His chances for an education were confined to the district schools, which at that early day afforded the means of education. December 21, 1862, he led to the marriage altar Inverno, daughter of Lewis J. and Hannah (Green) Bennett, a sketch of whom is given in connection with that of Mrs. Belva Lockwood on another page of this work. Soon after his marriage our subject removed to his present home. He purchased eighty acres of land at \$12 per acre, and five years later bought forty acres more at the same price. When he purchased, much of the land was under water. Now he has about eleven hundred rods of tile on his farm, which he has otherwise improved and cultivated. Besides farming, he ran a threshing and corn shelling machine for many years, and therefore got widely acquainted throughout the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Gardner have been blessed with a family of four children: Frank D., a graduate of the State University of the Class of '91, is assistant professor of agriculture in his Alma Mater, and also assistant agriculturist at the Experiment Station at Champaign; William L. graduated from the Metropolitan Business College of Chicago, and is a book-keeper in a wholesale rubber house

of that city; Mary E. is a graduate of the Gilman High School, and a stenographer, and has a position as pension clerk in Washington, D. C.; and Carrie E. resides at home.

Mr. Gardner is in sympathy with the principles of the Republican party, and has always voted for its candidates, casting his first ballot for Lincoln. For the last five years he has been engaged in the dairy business, in which he has been quite successful. During a long residence here he has made many friends by his strict integrity and straightforward business dealings.



MRS. BELVA A. LOCKWOOD, Washington, D. C. As a distinguished daughter of one of the pioneer settlers of Iroquois County, it is fitting that more than a passing mention be made of Mrs. Lockwood, who bore the maiden name of Bennett. Her grandfather, Ezekiel Bennett, emigrated from Vermont to New York State at an early day. He married Mary High, and of this union was born Lewis J. Bennett, the father of Mrs. Lockwood. On arriving at years of maturity, Lewis Bennett wedded Miss Hannah Green, who was also a native of the Empire State. In 1856, Mr. Bennett came to Iroquois County, locating near Onarga, where he spent the remainder of his days in agricultural pursuits. He died on the 26th of June, 1877, at the advanced age of seventy years. His widow now lives in Onarga, and has attained the age of seventy years. To the above worthy couple was born a family of five children, of whom four are still living: Rachel, who is the wife of James Robinson, of Onarga; Mrs. Belva Lockwood; Warren G., a resident of Ridgeville, this county; and Inverno, who is the wife of Isaac J. Gardner, represented elsewhere in this work.

We now take up the personal record of Mrs. Lockwood, which, if we mistake not, has few parallels in history. She was born on the 30th of October, 1830, at Royalton, Niagara County, N. Y. Her early education was acquired in the district schools of her native county. Naturally possessed

of good mental powers and with a strong bent for thought and study, she always stood at the head of her class and was a recognized leader. At twelve years of age, in addition to the common branches, she studied algebra, physiology and philosophy. A close observer, her thoughts and conclusions were often recorded in a notebook. Such were her accomplishments that before she was fifteen years of age she was selected to teach school in her home district, conducting the same school four successive terms. During the first term, she received the munificent salary of \$5 per month. At the age of eighteen, she married Uriah H. McNall, a thrifty young farmer in the neighborhood, who was accidentally hurt while operating a sawmill, and after a lingering illness of two years died, leaving a daughter to the care of his wife, who was not yet twenty-two years old. Trials oftentimes bring out the sterling traits of character, and so it was with Mrs. McNall; every detail indoors and out was looked after by her—she buying and selling stock, measuring lumber, weighing grain, writing orders and receipts, making and mending. After conducting the business a year, she decided to sell out and complete her education. Entering an academy, she not only carried on the prescribed studies but kept her own house and at the same time boarded five other students.

Having completed the academic course, she received a pressing invitation to teach in her old neighborhood at a salary of \$12 per month, with board for herself and little girl. After teaching, two years, she entered Genesee College, at Lima, N. Y., the second college to admit ladies on equal terms with men. She had early shown an aptitude for writing, both in prose and poetry. During her first years of teaching she had written for the "Wesleyan Literary Messenger," Boston *Olive Branch*, "Ladies' Repository," and others, and while in college was a contributor to Moore's *Rural New Yorker*. By professors and students she was recognized as a young woman of remarkable ability, and on the 27th of June, 1857, she was graduated with honor from Genesee College.

Without her knowledge, our subject was elected Preceptress of Lockport Union School, which position she filled four years, educating her sister and

daughter at the same time. Mrs. McNall was also active in mission and Sunday-school work, keeping up a Bible class, an infant class and a "ragged school." Until 1868, she was engaged chiefly in educational work, either conducting a school of her own or teaching in some institution. During the "Kansas troubles" she was president of a relief society, spending much time and money in the cause. During the war, she was president of the aid society that equipped the Eighth Regiment, New York Volunteers, and throughout the entire struggle her aid and sympathy were extended to the boys in blue.

On the 11th of March, 1868, Mrs. McNall married the Rev. Ezekiel Lockwood, who has since departed this life. A daughter born of this marriage lived until two years old. The University of Syracuse, N. Y., with which Genesee College was afterward combined, conferred upon her the degree of A. M. In 1870, she began the study of law. Being refused admission to the Law School of Columbian College, Mrs. Lockwood with fourteen other ladies entered the National University Law School, at Washington, D. C., but only two completed the course. In the last quarter the faculty of that university denied the ladies the privilege of attending lectures and finally refused to grant diplomas, an injustice born of prejudice. Indignant at such treatment, Mrs. Lockwood addressed a brief but pointed letter to President Grant, who was then an ex-officio President of the National University Law School, as follows:

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 3, 1873.

TO THE PRESIDENT,

DEAR SIR:—You are ostensibly President of the National University Law School of this district. If you are its President, I desire to say that I have passed through the curriculum of study of this school and am entitled to and demand my diploma. If you are not the President, then I demand that you take your name from its papers and cease to be what you are not.

Very respectfully,
BELVA A. LOCKWOOD.

Within three weeks, she received her diploma and on motion of W. D. Wedgewood was admitted to practice in the District Court. In 1878, she was called upon to defend a client before the Circuit

Court in Prince George County, Md. Judge McGruder refused to let her practice in his court. The opinion on which the Judge based his rejection of her is a marvel of profound nonsense. The people of that district saw it in that light, and he was relegated to private life, and Mrs. Lockwood became a recognized practitioner in that court.

Denied recognition at the Bar of the Supreme Court, Mrs. Lockwood determined to rend the veil from top to bottom that shut out women from the highest possibilities in the legal profession. A bill prepared by her for the admission of women to practice before that court was presented to the House by the Hon. J. M. Glover, of Missouri. The bill was finally passed February 15, 1879, by a majority of twenty-one votes. March 3, 1879, the Hon. A. G. Riddle made a motion before the Supreme Court for Mrs. Lockwood's admission to practice in that court and it was granted. Three days later, by a motion of the Hon. Thomas J. Durant, she was admitted to the Bar of the United States Court of Claims. Thus by persistent effort and rare courage, she achieved one of the greatest triumphs of the age. In 1868, Mrs. Lockwood became interested in the "woman's rights" movement, and since that has done all in her power to broaden the sphere of woman. In nearly all the great cities of the United States she has spoken on "Woman's right to the ballot." The enfranchisement of woman and the temperance cause find in her a powerful advocate, and it is devoutly to be wished that she may live to see those two great causes triumph. Mrs. Lockwood has enjoyed extensive practice both in civil and criminal courts and has been a practitioner for eighteen years. She has also an extensive practice before the departments of the Government, the Court of Claims and the Supreme Court of the United States.

Mrs. Lockwood was nominated for the Presidency of the United States by the Equal Rights party at San Francisco, Cal., in August, 1884, and again by the same party in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1888, making in both cases a very creditable campaign. She is a prominent member and General Secretary of the Universal Peace Union, and has three times represented that association as its dele-

gate on the continent of Europe, attending the International Peace Congress at its session in Paris in 1889, where she was one of the Committee of Honor, and where the American delegates received the gold medal; and the second time in London in 1890, where she found time later to take a University Extension Course at that oldest of English Universities, Oxford; in 1892 she attended the Congress at Berne, Switzerland, at which time she induced the International Congress to meet in Chicago in 1893. She is associate editor of the *Peacemaker*, and one of the most popular speakers on the lecture platform.

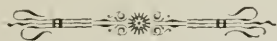


WARREN G. BENNETT, formerly engaged in general farming and stock-raising on section 16, Ridgeland Township, but now a resident of Kankakee, is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred near Lockport, on the 6th of October, 1832. His parents, Lewis J. and Hannah (Green) Bennett, are represented in the sketch of Mrs. Belya Lockwood.

We now take up the personal history of Mr. Bennett, who is widely and favorably known in this community as one of the prominent citizens of Iroquois County. Upon his father's farm he was reared to manhood, and in his early youth he attended the district schools of the neighborhood. His primary education was supplemented by a course in Gasport Academy, which he entered at the age of sixteen years. After graduating from that institution, he soon obtained a good position as civil engineer, being employed to enlarge the Erie Canal between Rochester and Lockport, N. Y. Thus he was employed for two years. It was in the autumn of 1854 that he first came to Illinois, making a location first in Onarga, where he remained till the following spring, when he returned to the Empire State and worked on the canal through the succeeding summer and winter. In 1855, we again find him in this county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Government in Douglas Township, at \$2.50 per acre. Upon this farm he resided until 1860, placing it under a high state of cultivation.

In the meantime Mr. Bennett was married. In August, 1859, he led to the marriage altar Miss Sarah Hibbard, and by their union were born two children, both daughters: Clara, widow of William H. Harrison, and a resident of Washington, D. C.; and Helen, who is living with her father. The mother was called to her final rest on the 2d of June, 1877, and her remains were interred in Onarga Cemetery. In December, 1879, Mr. Bennett was again married, his second union being with Miss Finette Beman. One child graces this union, Lewis James.

In 1860, Mr. Bennett returned to Oswego, N. Y., where he remained for two years in the employ of the York & Erie Railroad Company as ticket and transfer agent. The succeeding year of his life was spent in traveling in Ohio, after which he again came to Iroquois County and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 14, Onarga Township, where he made his home until 1868. He then purchased the farm on which he now resides, comprising eighty acres on section 16, Ridgeland Township. In connection with general farming he carries on stock-raising, and that he does his business thoroughly is indicated by the neat appearance of his place and all pertaining to his farm. In his political affiliations he is a stalwart Democrat—an inflexible adherent of the principles of his party. He has held the office of Assessor two terms and for eleven years discharged the duties of School Director with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. He is a man of sterling worth and many excellencies of character, and the success of his life is well deserved.



HARBERT DUIS, a well-known and representative farmer residing on section 2, Ash Grove Township, was born October 20, 1847, in Friesland, Germany, upon his father's farm. He is a son of John H. Duis, who was born and reared in the same locality, and followed agricultural pursuits. About 1830, he mar-

ried Catherine Kaiser, and in 1851, with his wife and six children, started for America, crossing the Atlantic from Bremen to New Orleans in a sailing-vessel, which, after a voyage of nine weeks, dropped anchor in the harbor of the Crescent City. He then went up the river to Quincy, Ill., and in Adams County purchased forty acres of land, upon which he made his home for fourteen years. The succeeding five years of his life were spent in Livingston County, after which he came to Iroquois County. His death occurred a year later at his home in Ash Grove Township, and his was the first burial in the cemetery at Schwer. He was a supporter of the Republican party, and was a member of the Lutheran Church. His wife is still living, and makes her home with our subject.

The children of the Duis family are Jeska, who resides in Livingston County; Webki and Christina, who died in Adams County; Harbert, of this sketch; Carson, who is living in Nebraska; Johanna, who makes her home in Ash Grove Township; Jurden, a resident of Tyler County, Neb.; and Frank, who completes the family.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of only seven summers, when with his parents he came to America. He was educated in the public schools of Adams County, which he attended only through the winter season, for in the summer months he was forced to aid his father in the development of the new farm. At the age of sixteen, he began to earn his own livelihood, and has since been dependent upon his own resources. At the age of eighteen he was married, Miss Elsa Jerreals becoming his wife. Their union was celebrated January 10, 1865. The lady was born in Friesland, and, when a maiden of twelve years, came to America. To Mr. and Mrs. Duis have been born nine children: Johanna, born in Adams County, Ill., is now the wife of Henry Siems, of Ash Grove Township; Fredka is the wife of Elbert Weichman; Catherine, born in Livingston County, is the wife of August Longled; John and Gretja are also natives of Livingston County; and Carson, Carl, Jurden and Christina, who were all born in Iroquois County.

Mr. Duis' first purchase of land consisted of an eighty-acre tract in Nebraska Township, Livingston County, where he made his home until 1875. He

then came to Iroquois County, and purchased two hundred and forty acres of land, an unimproved tract of wild prairie, but his care and labor have transformed it into one of the finest farms of the community. In connection with its cultivation, he also engages in stock-raising. His home is a fine new residence, and is the abode of hospitality. The many improvements upon the place stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise, and the neat appearance indicates the supervision of a careful manager. Mr. Duis and his family are all members of the Lutheran Church, and contribute liberally to its support. His first Presidential vote was cast for Gen. Grant in 1868, and he has since been a stalwart Republican. He is often found in the conventions of his party, and his opinions are received with respect. He is held in high regard throughout the community, and his worth and ability entitle him to the warm esteem of his many friends.



PHINEAS W. GRUBBS owns and operates two hundred and twenty-four acres of land in Onarga Township, within a mile of the farm on which he was reared. His home is pleasantly situated about two and one-half miles from Onarga, and thus all the advantages of the village are easily attainable. He has for many years, in connection with general farming, extensively carried on stock-raising. He feeds all of his grain to his stock, and for some time he has raised, bought and sold horses and cattle on an extensive scale. This year he is handling horses and sheep. He is a prominent business man, well known throughout the county, and is an excellent judge of stock of all kinds.

The life record of Mr. Grubbs is as follows: He was born in Eaton, Preble County, Ohio, March 7, 1853, and is a son of John and Lorinda Grubbs, both of whom are natives of the Empire State. Their family numbered five children: Keziah J., Phineas W., Leroy, Harvey and Melissa.

Our subject was only about four years old when with his parents he came to this county, and upon

his father's farm near his present home he was reared to manhood. He began his education in the district schools of the community, and afterward attended Grand Prairie Seminary. He continued to engage in farming with his father until the 30th of September, 1875, when he was joined in wedlock with Miss Anna Kinnison, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Riner) Kinnison. Two daughters were born of their union, but both are now deceased: Lora L., born July 10, 1876, died April 5, 1888; and Lizzie L., born on the 1st of September, 1885, died March 11, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Grubbs began their domestic life upon a farm, and he carried on agricultural pursuits in this county until 1881, when he removed to Kansas and spent eight years in Burr Oak, Jewell County, returning to this county in 1889. He has witnessed much of the growth and development of Iroquois County, for he is numbered among its early settlers, more than a third of a century having passed since he located here. His duties of citizenship have ever been faithfully performed, and he is a leading and influential farmer of the community.

Socially, Mr. Grubbs is connected with the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias society, and the Modern Woodmen of America. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, and has held the office of Road Commissioner, but has never sought or desired the honors or emoluments of public office, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with signal success.



JOHN SMITH, one of the extensive land-owners of the county, who now resides in Onarga Township, where he owns a beautiful home adjoining the corporation limits of the village, may truly be called a self-made man, and his example in many respects is well worthy of emulation. His life record is as follows: A native of Indiana, he was born in Hendricks County, on the 26th of December, 1830, and is a son of Abel and Sarah (Bales) Smith, the father a native

of South Carolina, and the mother of Kentucky. In an early day Abel Smith emigrated to Kentucky and thence to Indiana, where he married Miss Bales. He settled in Hendricks County, where he engaged in farming until 1849, when he removed to Warren County, Iowa, becoming one of its early settlers. He there devoted his time and attention to agricultural pursuits for many years, and made his home upon the farm until 1891, when he died at the ripe age of eighty-five. His wife had passed away about twenty years previous. Of their nine children, three sons and six daughters, eight are still living: John, James M., Elizabeth, Mary, Susan, Louisa Jane, Emeline and Amanda.

The boyhood days of John Smith were spent in the State of his nativity, where, on the 18th of November, 1853, he chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Hannah Starry, daughter of Nicholas and Margaret (Cashman) Starry, of Warren County, Ind. In the fall of 1856, they left the Hoosier State and removed to Hamilton County, Iowa, where Mr. Smith purchased four hundred acres of land and carried on farming and stock-raising until 1865. That year witnessed his arrival in Iroquois County. Accompanied by his family, he returned to this State and located on a farm of one hundred and eighty-three acres in Artesia Township. Subsequently, he purchased two hundred and forty acres on section 26, Onarga Township, which he still owns. He also owns a farm of seven hundred acres on sections 31 and 32 of the same township, and a beautiful home on section 19, adjacent to the village of Onarga. In connection with farming, Mr. Smith has carried on stock-raising quite extensively, making a specialty of the breeding of horses and cattle, and at the present time he owns about seventy head of horses, principally Percherons.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith was born a family of five children: Sarah Elizabeth, the eldest, became the wife of Samuel A. Cannady and died April 15, 1877, leaving a daughter, Sadie, who is now living with her grandparents. James married Jennie Taylor, who is now deceased; he lives in Warren County, Ind. Oscar married Miss Belle Pitcher and resides in Clay County, Iowa, with his three children, Pearl, Ralph and Mildred. Margaret is the

wife of John Nichols and unto them has been born a son, William. Finley is still at home. The Smith family is one of prominence in the community and its members rank high in social circles.

Mr. Smith is a man of excellent business ability, and his straightforward, upright dealings have won him the confidence of all, while by perseverance, industry and good management he has secured a handsome competency, working his way upward to a position of wealth and affluence. In politics, he is a supporter of the Democracy.



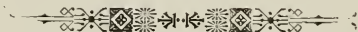
JOHN T. FRAZEE, who carries on general farming on section 18, Ridgeland Township, is a worthy representative of one of the early families of the county, having for more than a third of a century made his home within its borders. He is a native of the Buckeye State. Warren County was the place of his birth, which occurred February 22, 1848. He is a son of Turner and Martha (Mecker) Frazee, and is one of a family of ten children, who are mentioned in the sketch of Frederick S. Frazee, on another page of this work.

In the usual manner of farmer lads, our subject was reared to manhood, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of farm life. Until fourteen years of age, he attended the common schools, and acquired a good knowledge of the rudimentary branches. He then started out in life for himself to earn his own livelihood, working by the month as a farm hand. He received the munificent sum of \$10 per month in compensation for his services. With the family he came to Illinois in 1857, and continued to work at farm labor until after the breaking out of the late war, when, in September, 1861, he went to the front to aid his country in her efforts to preserve the Union. He enlisted for three years, joining Company C, Fifty-seventh Illinois Regiment, and was mustered into service at Chicago. The first battle of note in which he participated was at Ft. Donelson. He also took part in the battle of Shiloh, which

proved his last, for he was there taken sick and sent to the field hospital, where he remained for about three months, ill with typhoid fever. Having partially recovered, he was honorably discharged July 26, 1862, on account of physical disability, and returned to his home.

In 1870, Mr. Frazee was united in marriage with Miss Mary Nickerson, daughter of Oliver and Eliza Ann Nickerson. Five children graced their union, of whom four are yet living, as follows: Jessie, Russell, and Edith and Effie, twins. Lewis, the third in order of birth, died in infancy.

For a year after his return from the war, Mr. Frazee was unable to perform any labor. He then worked a portion of the time until 1868, when he secured employment as a farm hand, and worked by the month in that capacity for two years. In 1870, he purchased forty acres of land on section 18, Ridgeland Township, where he has since resided. The boundaries of his farm however have since been extended, and he now owns seventy acres of well-improved land, the rich and fertile fields yielding him a good return for his care and cultivation. He is recognized as one of the substantial farmers and stock-raisers of the community, and the reputation is well deserved, for he is industrious and energetic. In his political affiliations, Mr. Frazee is a Republican, and socially is connected with W. A. Babcock Post No. 416, G. A. R., of Onarga. He gives his support to all worthy enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit or promote the general welfare, and is held in high esteem throughout the community where he has so long made his home.



WILLIAM P. GILBERT, junior partner of the firm of Palmer & Gilbert, publishers of the *Leader and Review* of Onarga, is a wide-awake and enterprising young man whom the county may well be proud to number among its native citizens. He was born in Ash Grove Township, on the 21st of November, 1869, and is the only child of John S. and Hannah M. (Brock) Gilbert. His father was a native of Indiana, but

his mother was born in Ash Grove Township, this county.

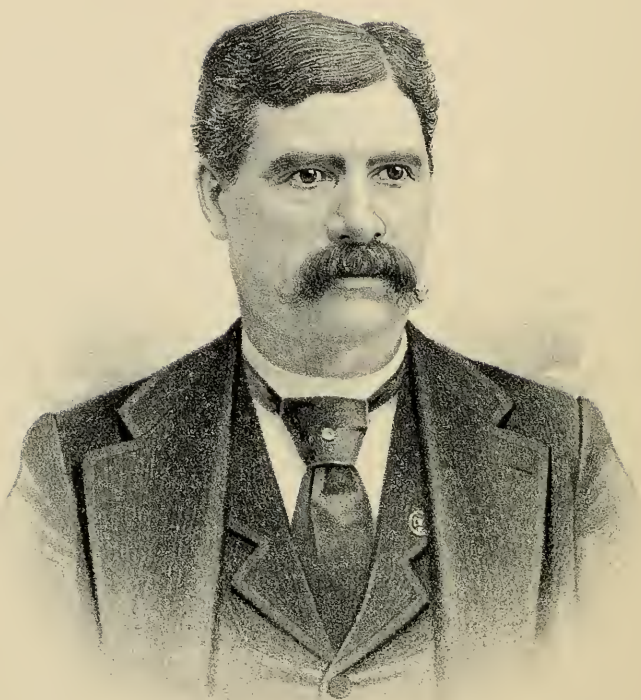
The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the common schools of Onarga and on the 11th of August, 1885, he began learning the printer's trade, working at the business in the *Leader* office, where he rose from the position of apprentice to foreman. The present partnership was formed in February, 1892, Mr. Palmer having formerly been a prominent Methodist minister. Together they bought the *Onarga Leader* and the *Central Illinois Review*, both published in Onarga, and consolidated the two papers under the name of the *Leader and Review*, which they at once enlarged from an eight-column folio to a seven-column quarto. It is a neat, newsy and influential paper and is well supported by the people of Onarga and vicinity. It deserves a liberal patronage, for it supports all that tends to improve and upbuild the community and advance its best interests.

Mr. Gilbert is a young man of good business ability. His entire life has been passed in this county, and his sterling worth has won for him many friends.



HUME L. SAMMONS, the managing editor of the *Milford Independent*, and one of the leading young business men of the county, claims Indiana as the State of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Morocco on the 2d of April, 1871. His parents, Nicholas D. and Margaret M. (Woolnough) Sammons, were both natives of Ontario, Canada. About 1860, they came to the United States and located on a farm in Newton County, Ind., where they resided for about fifteen years, or until 1875, when they became residents of Donovan, Ill. Mr. Sammons there engaged in general merchandising and in the drug business until 1884. That year witnessed his arrival in Milford, where he has since made his home. Here he opened a restaurant, and at this writing, in 1892, he is engaged in the hotel business. He is a genial and pleasant gentleman, very popular, and is favorably known throughout the community.

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Respy Yours
Joseph T. Frechette

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sammons were born four children. The eldest, James B., belonged to the regular army, and was drowned in Puget Sound in 1880, his canoe being capsized during a storm; Emma V. is now the wife of William Darroch, an attorney-at-law of Kentland, Ind.; George M. is the next younger; and Hume L. completes the family.

The subject of this sketch acquired a good English education in the public schools of Milford, and is a well-informed young man, who reads extensively, and is conversant with all the questions and issues of the day. He learned the printer's trade in the office of the Milford *Herald*, serving a regular apprenticeship, and in 1890 he accepted the position of foreman of the Milford *Independent*, of which he is now managing editor. This paper is an independent Democratic journal, not being governed by any rings or cliques. Its editor is a live, wide-awake young man, and he has made the *Independent* a prosperous paper. Its subscription list has been greatly increased, which fact testifies to its high standard. It is owned by the Times Printing and Publishing Company, of Watseka, Ill.

Mr. Sammons is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. A young man just starting out in life, he has already given evidence of many promising traits of character, being enterprising, public-spirited and progressive. He will no doubt win prosperity, for he possesses good business ability. He is a popular young man, and in social circles ranks high.

JOSEPH T. FRECHETTE, a merchant of Martinton, was born in Canada, near St. Johns, December 10, 1846. His father, Alexis Frechette, was also a native of that country. The Frechette family are of French descent and were among the early pioneers of Canada. The father grew to manhood at his birthplace, and resided a number of years later in Troy and Albany, N. Y. He returned to Canada, and there married Onezime Masse, of French parentage, but

a native of Canada. After marriage, Mr. Frechette settled on a farm in that country, and engaged in agricultural pursuits for about ten years. At the expiration of that time, he removed to Illinois, settling in Kankakee County. He there purchased a farm, and engaged in cultivating it for a number of years, or until the time of his death, which occurred July 5, 1886. He was a man of good business capacity, and at the time of his death had a good farm and home, which still belong to the heirs. He and his family were members of the Catholic Church. Mrs. Frechette survives her husband, and resides with her daughter in Kankakee.

Joseph T. Frechette is the eldest son and second in order of birth of a family of eleven children, ten of whom are now living. The eldest is Josephine, wife of H. Lambert, of St. Mary's; our subject; Damas A., who resides on and operates the home farm; Ozilda, wife of Samuel Pilote, a mechanic of St. Mary's; Rosalie, who married E. Leriger, who carries on the occupations of a farmer in Manteno, Kankakee County; Matilda, wife of Isaac Senesack, a farmer of Kankakee County; Dosite E., a merchant of Momence; Ephraim D., a business man of Kankakee; Albina, residing with her mother in Kankakee; and Charles H., who holds a responsible position in Chicago.

The subject of this sketch came with his father to Illinois in 1864. His early days were spent in Canada, where he had good school advantages. Until eighteen years of age much of his time was passed upon a farm, and he was thus early inured to the duties and labors of farm life. He resided with his parents until his marriage in Kankakee with Miss Zenaide Alexander, the ceremony being performed February 8, 1869. For about two years he was occupied in a planing-mill, and then, going to Papineau, he worked for some time for his uncle in a lumber yard. He next went to St. Mary's, where he started a lumber yard, and there he continued for two years. He then came to Martinton, engaging in the same business. This he carried on for about four years, and in 1877 left his business connections here, and, purchasing a lot, built a business house in partnership with his father, and has carried on the business until the present day.

Mr. Frechette has added to his building and also to his stock, and has built up a large trade and a fine business in general merchandise.

Mr. and Mrs. Frechette have ten children; the eldest, Leontine, resides at home; Philip assists his father in the business; Hilaire, Rosanna, Matilda, Florence, Arthur, Josephine, Angelina and Emma. Four died in infancy.

Mr. Frechette is interested in politics, being independent, casting his ballot for the man whom he considers best fitted to fill the position. He has held several local posts of trust and honor. He is a member of the Order of Foresters, Kankakee Lodge No. 56. Mr. Frechette and his family are identified with the Catholic Church. For twenty-eight years he has been a resident of Iroquois County, and has done much for its upbuilding and prosperity. He is widely known and much respected as an honest and industrious citizen.

Mr. Frechette was chosen as executor of his father's estate in the settling up of the entire interests. This was faithfully performed without the aid of an attorney, which speaks highly for the executive ability of Mr. Frechette.



JOHAN C. CULVER is one of the prominent merchants of Onarga. For many years he has dealt in groceries and is now engaged in business in that line on the corner of First South and Chestnut Streets. A liberal patronage is his, he having built up an excellent trade as the result of his fair dealing and courteous treatment.

Mr. Culver is a native of the Empire State. He was born in Cayuga County, December 10, 1819, and is a son of Asa and Lydia (Conger) Culver, both of whom were natives of New York. Their family numbered four children: Andrew Jackson, William Henry, John C. and one who died when about three years old. When only four years old, John Culver was taken to the home of relatives and when six years old his mother died. At the age of twelve he left the State of New York with

Silas Conger and settled in Ohio, ten miles south of Sandusky City, on a farm in what was then known as Huron County but is now a part of Erie County. He there grew to manhood and afterwards removed to Richland County, where he remained until twenty-seven years of age.

On Christmas Day of 1849, Mr. Culver was united in marriage with Miss Clarissa Shafer, daughter of Charles Shafer, of Plymouth, Ohio. Her death occurred in Onarga, Ill., in 1860, and on the 1st of January, 1861, Mr. Culver was again married, his second union being with Miss Harriet M. Messer, daughter of Matthew and Ruth Messer. Four children graced this union, two sons and two daughters, of whom three are yet living: Clara Gertrude, born October 17, 1862; Nettie, who was born July 18, 1864, died on the 12th of February, 1881, when about fifteen years of age; Warren M., born September 26, 1866; and Bertram W., born January 10, 1869.

In 1846, Mr. Culver removed to Michigan, where he resided for a few years. He then became a resident of Porter County, Ind., where the two succeeding years of his life were passed. The year 1851 witnessed his arrival in Iroquois County. He located on Spring Creek, in Onarga Township, and aided in the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad, and since that time his home has been in the same township. In 1854 he removed to the village of Onarga, and in partnership with Dr. Boyd engaged in the lumber business, which he followed for a few years. He then embarked in the flour and feed business, after which he turned his attention to the grocery business and has since followed that line of trade. He carries a full and complete stock of goods and from the beginning success has attended his efforts in this direction. He also carries on an undertaking establishment and does embalming.

Socially, Mr. Culver is connected with the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Onarga Lodge No. 305, A. F. & A. M.; Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M.; Ford Council No. 41, and Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T., of Kankakee. He is Past Master of Onarga Lodge. In politics he is a Democrat, but has never been an active politician in the sense of office-seeking. He is a man of good busi-

ness ability, sagacious and far-sighted and has won prosperity by his well-directed efforts. The county numbers him among its early settlers and he has been especially prominent in the upbuilding and development of Onarga, aiding in all interests calculated to prove of public benefit. Mrs. Culver is a Baptist in religious faith, but as there is no church in Onarga of that sect she has united with the Methodist Episcopal Church.



DR. HENRY H. ALTER, Assistant Cashier of the First National Bank of Watseka, was born in Beaver County, Pa., December 20, 1840, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Weirich) Alter. His father was born in Lebanon County, Pa., and the mother in Washington County, that State. She died when our subject was an infant, and his father was killed by a fall from a horse in 1887.

The Doctor was educated in Washington College, but left that institution before completing the prescribed course of study to enlist for the late war. He enlisted on the 19th of April, 1861, on President Lincoln's first call for troops. He was mustered in as a private of Company E, Twelfth Pennsylvania Infantry, for three months. He served the term of his enlistment and was mustered out while on the sick list. On recovering his health he became a student in the University of Pennsylvania, where he took a medical course. In the spring of 1864 he again entered the army, but that time as Assistant Surgeon of the Fifty-second Kentucky Infantry, and served until February, 1865.

In the fall of that year, Dr. Alter came West and in February, 1866, settled in Watseka, where he practiced his profession for two years. He then engaged with Maj. M. H. Peters as clerk in his book and stationery store, and several years later succeeded to the business, which he conducted successfully until 1889, when he accepted the position he now holds, that of Assistant Cashier of the First National Bank of Watseka.

On the 8th of November, 1866, our subject

was married in Watseka, to Miss Minerva Roff, a native of Warren County, Ind., and a daughter of Asa B. and Ann (Fenton) Roff, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. She came to Iroquois County with her parents in the autumn of 1847. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Alter has been born one child, a daughter, Alice Margaret, who was born in Watseka, is a graduate of the High School of that place and is now a student in Bryant & Stratton's Business College, of Chicago. Mrs. Alter succeeded to her husband's book and stationery business in 1889, since which time she has conducted the business with marked success, displaying excellent ability in this line.

In his political affiliations the Doctor is a Democrat, and has served as City Clerk of Watseka for some twelve or fourteen years, and as School Treasurer nearly the same period. He has proved a faithful and competent officer and is popular in his present position in the bank, enjoying the utmost confidence of its management and the goodwill of its patrons.



WILLIAM WILLIAMS, proprietor of the Williams House of Watseka, is an honored pioneer of Iroquois County, having settled here in the fall of 1842. He was born in Adams County, Ohio, November 23, 1825, and is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Swim) Williams. His father was born in Maryland, on the 15th of January, 1797, and when four years of age removed with his parents to Ohio, the family settling in Adams County, where the son was reared to agricultural pursuits. He was married in that county, when a young man, to Miss Elizabeth Swim, and there engaged in farming. In 1828, he met with a bad accident, being crushed by a falling timber at a barn-raising in which he was participating. This injury made him a cripple for life and unfitted him for physical labor. In 1836, he removed with his young family to Winnebago County, Ill., and entered Government land. At that time, what is now the flourishing city of Rockford contained but two houses. He remained in Winnebago

County until the fall of 1842, when he removed with his family to Iroquois County, and settled in the township of Belmont, where he spent the remainder of his days. His death occurred August 7, 1857. His estimable wife, who was born in Ohio, January 2, 1800, survived her husband and died in Watseka in 1880. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Williams: Samuel, known as Judge Williams, of Woodland, is the eldest, and is represented elsewhere in this work; John died in Iowa; William is the next younger; Melissa died in 1846, at the age of eighteen years; Josiah, who resides in Watseka, married Elizabeth Egbert, and for his second wife wedded Mrs. Martha Hall; Susanna is the wife of Simeon Downing, of Butler County, Iowa; Thomas married Charlotte Hoel, and is a farmer of Belmont Township; Mary died about 1855, at the age of nineteen; Elizabeth A. is the wife of Chester Smith, of Milton; Harvey is single and is ranching in Wyoming.

William Williams came to Illinois with his parents, in the fall of 1836, and spent six years with them in Winnebago County, after which he came to Iroquois County, in the fall of 1842, and settled in Belmont Township. He was reared on a farm and received the limited educational advantages of the public schools in the frontier region. On reaching man's estate, he engaged in farming in Belmont Township, and was married there to Miss Elizabeth Fry, who was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, April 7, 1830, and is a daughter of John and Sarah (Doran) Fry. Her people were among the early pioneer settlers of Iroquois County. They were natives of Virginia, and came to Illinois in 1837, from Ohio. Both are now deceased.

Three children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Williams, of whom two are now living, a son and daughter, one having died in infancy, Alice M., the elder; George O., the only son, who is now twenty-three years of age, is a graduate of the Class of '92, Michigan State University, of Ann Arbor. He is studying with the view of entering the legal profession.

Mr. Williams was engaged in farming in Belmont Township until 1857, when he sold out and removed to Moniteau County, Mo., where he was engaged in the mercantile business until the break-

ing out of the late war, when the unsettled condition of affairs on the Southern border made a residence there very undesirable, and he returned to Illinois, but had to greatly sacrifice his property. He then located in Watseka, where he was engaged in teaming and in the transfer business until March 28, 1877. He then purchased the Williams House, which he has since conducted and which has always been the leading hotel in the city.

Mr. Williams is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows' societies. He was made an Odd Fellow in Missouri, in 1858, and is now a member of Iroquois Lodge No. 74, I. O. O. F., of Watseka. He is a Royal Arch Mason, holding membership with Watseka Lodge No. 446, A. F. & A. M., and Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M. In politics, he has always been a consistent Democrat and an earnest and enthusiastic supporter of the party, but he could never be induced to accept public office. Once he was elected Justice of the Peace but refused to qualify. He is a man of broad and liberal views on the subject of religion, and relies more on good principles and on honest and upright life than on creeds or dogmas. Nearly a-half century of his life has been passed among his fellow-citizens of Iroquois County, and in such a manner as to command the esteem and respect of the best people, and all are assured of his strict integrity, whole-heartedness and manly independence. His good wife has been to him a helpmate in reality, and has devoted her best energies for the welfare of her husband and children with such an earnest fidelity that she has won and enjoys not only the devotion of her family, but the esteem of a wide circle of friends.



AARON C. BADGLEY, a retired physician, makes his home in Ashkum. He is a native of the Empire State and his birth occurred on the 18th of April, 1815, in Ontario County. He is a son of Aaron and Johanna (Hedges) Badgley, both of whom were natives of New Jersey. The grandfather of our

subject, George Badgley, was born in England and emigrated to the New World with a cousin, Anthony Badgley, who settled in the South, while the former located in New Jersey and there reared his family of five sons. Three of this number were soldiers in the Revolutionary War. The father afterward removed to Ontario County, where for a number of years he engaged in agricultural pursuits. He then removed to Ohio and settled in Gallia County in 1817, which was then a wilderness. At that time the Indians had not left for their Western reservation, and many wild animals still roamed through the forests. There he cleared and opened up a farm and spent a number of years at the hard labor of pioneer life. From Gallia County, Mr. Badgley went to Mercer County, Ohio, where he remained for a time, after which he removed to Illinois. He settled in La Salle County in 1850, where he lived a retired life during his remaining years. The death of his wife occurred in 1854. Though Mr. Badgley was never called upon for much military duty, he enlisted in the War of 1812, in which service he was called out but once.

Aaron C. Badgley, Jr., is the youngest of a family of three sons and four daughters who grew to mature years. The eldest, Ruth, married and reared a family; Mary is now deceased; George was a farmer in Ohio and there departed this life; Sallie was married but is now deceased; Anthony settled in Kendall County, Ill., in 1850, where he died; Lucinda died soon after her marriage; and our subject, who is the only survivor of the family.

The early years of the Doctor were passed in the State of Ohio, his time being spent in the cares and duties pertaining to farm life and in obtaining an education in the district schools. He has been largely self-educated since arriving at man's estate, for the ungraded district schools of that early day offered but limited educational privileges. When a young man, he took up the study of medicine under Drs. Houston & Stewart, of Miami County, Ohio. He afterward engaged in practice near his preceptors for a short time, and then located in St. Mary's, Mercer County, now called Auglaize, and there continued in his profes-

sion until 1850. He was one of the pioneer physicians of the county, and soon after locating there the Doctor took a contract on the Cincinnati & Toledo Canal for the building of the locks. He employed a good many men and teams and gave much of his time to the supervision of the work, while he also continued in his profession. At that time he removed to Illinois and settled in La Salle County, where for about eighteen years he continued building up an extensive practice. In 1868, he sold out in La Salle and came to Iroquois County, where he purchased a tract of land, comprising three hundred and twenty acres in Ashkum Township. He had intended to give up the practice of medicine and devote himself exclusively to farming interests, but as there were so few physicians in this section he was obliged to resume it, and has continued more or less since that time in practice. In 1875, Dr. Badgley removed to the village of Ashkum and has bought a good residence property. He has never established an office here, intending to live a retired life, but he still professionally attends a few of his former patients and friends. For several years, he has been in poor health and is enjoying the rest which his many years of active work have made necessary and desirable.

In Auglaize County, Ohio, Dr. Badgley was united in marriage with Margaret Haney, who was born in Ohio, July 24, 1820, and there grew to womanhood. On the 4th of November, 1838, the wedding ceremony was performed. Mrs. Badgley is a daughter of Jonas and Sarah (Vail) Haney, who were numbered among the honored pioneers of Miami County. The Doctor and his wife have no children but have taken several orphans to rear and educate, who are now among the honored members of society and look upon Dr. and Mrs. Badgley as a beloved father and mother.

For many years, Dr. Badgley was identified with the Republican party, and previous to its organization was an old-line Whig and Abolitionist. Of late years, he has advocated the cause of Prohibition and is now a supporter of that party. The Doctor and his wife held membership with the Baptist Church at Earlville, La Salle County, and when they removed to Ashkum brought their letters

with them, but as there was no Baptist Church located here they have not united with any church organization, but still hold to the Baptist faith. Socially, he is an Odd Fellow, which order he joined before coming to this county. He has held many local positions, the duties of which he has discharged in a very able and trustworthy manner. During his long residence of forty-two years in this State, and nearly a quarter of a century in Iroquois County, he has made a host of friends who esteem him most highly for his qualities of manliness, honor and nobility of character, and he well deserves to be remembered as one of the pioneers of the county.



WILLIAM LYMAN, one of the early settlers of Iroquois County, who now resides on section 6, Middleport Township, is a native of the Keystone State. He was born on the 27th of July, 1812, and is one of a family of four children whose parents were John and Hannah (Nutt) Lyman. The father was a blacksmith by trade. When our subject was a young lad he removed with his family to the Buckeye State, where he purchased a large tract of Government land in the midst of the forest, and hewed out a farm. The journey Westward was made by team. He remained in Ohio until 1834, when he came to Iroquois County, Ill., and there made his home until his death, which occurred in 1840. In politics, he was a Democrat, and while in Ohio served as County Judge for a number of years. He held membership with the German Lutheran Church and was a highly respected citizen. His wife survived him about ten years, passing away in 1850. Their family numbered the following children: George, Hannah, Peggy, Jacob, Samuel, Catherine, Polly, Daniel, Annie, John, Sallie, William, Jonathan and Susan.

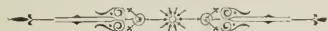
We now take up the personal history of William Lyman, one of the county's honored pioneers. He was a lad of six summers at the time of the removal of the family from Pennsylvania to Ohio. His education was acquired in a log schoolhouse,

and school was conducted on the subscription plan. He is familiar with frontier life, having experienced the hardships and trials of the pioneer both in Ohio and Illinois. In 1834, six families came by team to Iroquois County. Mr. Lyman, who formed one of the party, purchased eighty acres of Government land on section 13, Middleport Township, at \$1.25 per acre. This was all covered with timber, but he at once began its improvement, clearing acre after acre during six years, when he left his first claim and removed to the farm on section 6, Middleport Township, which has since been his home. He owns eighty-eight acres of valuable land. His landed possessions in Iroquois County comprise two hundred and ten acres, the fruits of his own labor.

Mr. Lyman was married in 1832, the lady of his choice being Miss Elizabeth Shipman, daughter of Macon and Catherine Shipman. By their union were born four children, a daughter and three sons: Hannah, who became the wife of John L. Bailey, died in 1891; John died in 1865; Jonathan died during the war; and Andrew is engaged in farming in Kansas. The mother of this family was called to her final rest in 1882. Together Mr. and Mrs. Lyman traveled life's journey as man and wife for half a century, and she had been his faithful companion and helpmate through all the long years. Her death was deeply regretted throughout the community, for she had many friends.

In politics, Mr. Lyman is a Republican, having long supported that party. His first Presidential vote was cast for Andrew Jackson. He has held the office of Commissioner of Highways, Path Master, School Director and Overseer of the Poor, and his public duties were ever discharged with a promptness and fidelity which won him the commendation of even his political enemies. He holds membership with the United Brethren Church. Few have as long been residents of Iroquois County as Mr. Lyman, who for nearly sixty years has made his home in Middleport Township. He has watched the growth and progress of the county, has seen its wild land transformed into beautiful homes and farms, its villages grow into thriving towns and the work of development and

upbuilding carried forward to such an extent that one could hardly recognize the county of to-day as the one of even a third of a century ago. Mr. Lyman has ever borne his part in the work of progress. He is an honored pioneer, a prosperous farmer and a valued citizen.



JOHIN NILSON, who owns and operates an excellent farm of four hundred and five acres in Milford Township, was born February 20, 1840, on the farm which is still his home. He was one of the seven children of Robert and Susan L. (Wagner) Nilson, whose sketch is given in connection with that of Sidney Nilson.

Mr. Nilson of this sketch is living on the farm which was his birthplace and was the home of both his father and grandfather, the latter having purchased it of Hill at a very early day. In the common schools of the neighborhood, he acquired his education. No event of special importance occurred during his youth. He was early inured to the labors of the farm, for as soon as old enough to handle the plow he began working in the fields. When twenty-five years of age, he started out in life for himself and embarked in farming and stock-raising, which pursuits he followed quite extensively for a number of years. Of late years, however, he has given but little attention to the raising of stock, devoting his entire energies to the growing of such cereals as are adapted to this climate. Standing before his home, the eye can glance around over broad fields of waving grain which tell of golden harvests. The highly cultivated land indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner, and many of the improvements upon the place stand as monuments to his progressive spirit.

On the 12th of February, 1883, Mr. Nilson was united in marriage with Miss Emeline Snyder, daughter of Nelson and Mary Jane (Obert) Snyder, natives of Tompkins County, N. Y., as is Mrs. Nilson. The young couple began their domestic life upon the farm which is yet their home. The Nilson household is the abode of hospitality, and our sub-

ject and his estimable wife rank high in social circles. In his political affiliations, he is a Democrat, but has never sought or desired the honors or emoluments of public office, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with signal success. His prosperity is due entirely to his own industry and perseverance, whereby he has overcome the obstacles in his path and worked his way steadily upward. He is a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family, and, like his ancestors, manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding.

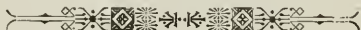


PHILIP S. BOWE, the junior partner of the firm of Koehn & Bowe, general merchants of Buckley, has the honor of being a native of this State. He was born on the 26th of December, 1866, in Monce, Will County, and is of Irish descent. His parents, Moses and Honora (Hurley) Bowe, were both natives of the Emerald Isle and came to this country in early life. The father crossed the Atlantic when a youth of fourteen years, and the mother came to America when a young lady of twenty summers. Their marriage was celebrated in Chicago, where they long made their home. Mr. Bowe was in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad for thirty-five years, but at this writing, in the fall of 1892, is engaged in farming near Peotone, Ill. He is the present Supervisor of Will Township, where he resides. In the Bowe family were eight children, four sons and four daughters, but only four are now living, as follows: John, Philip S., Michael and Agnes. The daughters, except Agnes, are deceased, including Mary, Katie and Julia; and William, the youngest son, also has passed away.

Philip S. Bowe, whose name heads this record, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home. His education was acquired in the public schools of Monce and in the State Normal School, of Normal, Ill., where his school life was ended. In 1890, he came to Buckley, where he has

since made his home and formed a partnership with John C. Koehn. They opened a general merchandise store and now carry a full and complete stock of goods, consisting of dry-goods, clothing, hats, caps, boots, shoes, groceries, notions, etc. They are doing a flourishing business and their trade, which has constantly increased from the beginning, has now assumed excellent proportions. Mr. Bowe is a prominent young business man of Buckley, progressive and enterprising, and has the esteem of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact. He is a member of the Catholic Church, and is a supporter of Democratic principles. In 1891, he filled the office of Village Treasurer.

In September, 1892, Mr. Bowe led to the marriage altar Miss Lucy, daughter of John Fisher, of Loda, Ill. The young couple as they start out on life's journey together have the high regard and best wishes of a large circle of friends.



W H. BUSS, a leading farmer residing on section 12, Ash Grove Township, is one of the enterprising citizens of Iroquois County. A native of Germany, he was born on the 8th of January, 1835, in Hanover, and is a son of Henry Buss, who was born and reared in the same place. His father was the owner of a ship, to which he gave most of his attention, but also carried on farming to some extent. He served in the German army for five years. His wife was in her maidenhood Miss Gretja Teolon, and accompanied by her and their six children he came to America in 1850. They boarded a vessel at Bremen, and after a successful voyage landed at New Orleans, being seven weeks and three days on the journey. They were afterwards on a Mississippi steamer for nine days, when they arrived at Quincy, and settled on a farm thirty-one miles northeast of that place, in Adams County. The farm was still in its primitive state, the land being wild prairie, and deer and other wild game were quite plentiful. He rented land for a while, but afterwards purchased a small farm which he

carried on until his death in September, 1862, at the age of fifty-six years. His wife had been called to her final home five years previous, dying at the age of fifty-three years. He came to the United States a poor man, but by his industry and untiring energy he became well-to-do. In political sentiment he affiliated with the Democratic party, and in religious faith he and his family were Lutherans. The children are as follows: Catherine is the wife of John Jopman, of Nebraska; George H. is a wealthy farmer of Adams County, Ill.; W. H. is next in order of birth; Mahelle, widow of Henry Flesner, of Adams County, and Trenka, wife of Nelson Pile, make their home in California; and Henry is a farmer of Kansas.

Our subject was fifteen years of age when he crossed the water to this country. His education had been acquired in Germany, but he soon learned the English language on his arrival here, although unable to attend school. Remaining under the parental roof, he aided in the management of the home farm until his marriage on the 13th of March, 1857, in Clayton Township, Adams County, when Miss Margaret Schmidt became his wife. Mrs. Buss is a daughter of Ahrend and Lena Schmidt, both of whom were natives of Friesland, Germany. Her father departed this life when she was but eight years old, but Mrs. Schmidt survived until February 26, 1869, dying in Livingston County, Ill. Mrs. Buss was born June 25, 1836, in Germany, and came to this country when twenty years of age. She landed at New Orleans, but settled in Adams County, this State.

Of the family of our subject and his estimable wife, the first five children were born in Adams County, the younger in Iroquois County, and the remainder in Livingston County, Ill. Henry, born November 21, 1857, was married, but has now separated from his wife, and is a farmer of this county; Ahrend, who is a farmer residing on the same section as his father, was born on the 20th of November, 1858; Catherine, born March 23, 1859, is the wife of Dick Duis of Nebraska; Oltman, born December 17, 1861, is a farmer of section 11, Ash Grove Township; John, born August 29, 1863, died in Nebraska on the 25th of September, 1891, leaving a wife; Talka, wife of Jordan Rosendall,

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F. H. Ireland



Amelia Ireland

of Nebraska, was born July 24, 1865; Angeline, born April 29, 1867, is the wife of Ben Johnson, of Milford Township; William W., born April 23, 1869, is a farmer; Harmon, born March 17, 1871, aids in the work of the farm; George, born on February 11, 1873, and Margaret, November 21, 1874, are at home. The children have all received good educations, and with their parents are all members of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Buss is one of the popular men of Ash Grove Township, and has held the office of Road Supervisor. He is now the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and ten acres, which at the time of his removal here was wild and uncultivated, but he has now placed it under a high state of cultivation. On coming to Iroquois County, Mr. Buss began the improvement of his land, and is now one of the well-to-do agriculturists of the locality. He has made his home here since 1877. Our subject cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and the man of whom he rented his farm at the time hearing this made him leave. He has ever since been a stalwart advocate of the Republican party, and to it gives his earnest support. He often attends the conventions of his party, and takes a deep interest in its welfare.



THOMAS A. IRELAND, one of the prominent and influential farmers and stock-raisers of Artesia Township, residing on section 27, where he owns and operates three hundred and twenty acres of land, is a native of West Virginia. He was born in Harrison County, on the 23d of May, 1824, and is a son of Jonathan and Eliza (Boring) Ireland, both of whom were natives of Maryland. Of their family of five sons and six daughters, six are yet living, as follows: Sarah, Thomas A., William W., Elizabeth R., Juliet and Theodore F. Those now deceased are Theophilus, Selina, Mary A., Jonathan G. and Eliza Jane.

The parents of this family, emigrating Westward, took up their residence in Ohio about 1828, locating in Clinton County, near Wilmington, where they resided for about six years. In 1834

they came to Illinois, settling in what is now Bureau County, but was then a part of Putnam County. Their farm of three hundred acres was located near Princeton, and continued to be the home of Mr. Ireland until 1871, with the exception of three years, from 1841 until 1844, which he passed in Putnam County. In 1861 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, and ten years later he went to De Kalb County to live with his youngest son, Theodore F., where he died on the 20th of December, 1872, at an advanced age.

Thomas A. Ireland, whose name heads this record, spent the first thirteen years of his life in West Virginia and Ohio, and then came with his parents to Illinois. Amid the wild scenes of pioneer life he was reared to manhood. In 1850 he removed to Lee County, where he resided for seventeen years. In the meantime he was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Amelia Lyons, daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth (Darnes) Lyons, of Lamoille, Ill. Their union was celebrated on the 6th of March, 1862, and unto them were born a family of ten children: Claribel, born June 30, 1864, is the wife of W. S. Marsh, a farmer of Artesia Township; Frances Elizabeth, born September 19, 1866, is the wife of F. P. Temple, a carpenter of Buckley; George W., who was born October 18, 1867, died January 12, 1869; Theodore Leslie, born April 18, 1870; William Bruce, born on the 6th of May, 1872; Remembrance Franklin, born July 15, 1874; Byron T., born March 10, 1878; Leonidas J., born February 15, 1881; Earl Walden, born August 8, 1884; and Amelia L., born on the 9th of March, 1890. Seven of the children are at home.

In the spring of 1867 Mr. Ireland removed to Ford County, locating on a farm in Lyman Township, about ten miles from Paxton, the county seat, where with his family he resided until the spring of 1876. That year witnessed his arrival in Iroquois County, and he located on a half-section of land in Artesia Township, adjoining the corporation limits of Buckley on the west. Here he still makes his home, and in connection with the development of his land, which is now under a high state of cultivation, he engages quite exten-

sively in stock-raising, breeding horses, cattle and hogs, to which he feeds the greater part of his grain. He is a man of good business ability, and an industrious and thrifty farmer. He has a beautiful home, and his large barn, 50x70 feet, which he has recently erected, is one of the best in the county. In Ford County Mr. Ireland held various offices of trust, and was Justice of the Peace for four years. In politics he is a supporter of the Republican principles, but is not a politician in the sense of office-seeking, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with excellent success.



I SAAC L. BODY, who resides on section 25, Crescent Township, is a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families of the county. His father, John Body, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume, being one of the early settlers of the community. He was born on the 19th of January, 1852, on the old homestead in Belmont Township, and his boyhood days were quietly passed upon his father's farm in the usual manner of pioneer lads. He acquired his education in the common schools, which he attended through the winter season, while in the summer months he aided in the labors of the fields.

After attaining his majority, Mr. Body chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Sarah J. John, a daughter of William and Margaret (Cobbler) John. She was one of fourteen children, nine of whom are yet living, three sons and three daughters, viz.: David; Mary Ann, wife of Patrick Sullivan; Elizabeth, wife of John Martin; Amy, wife of John Hurd; Nancy Ann, wife of George Featherling; William; Francis Marion; Sarah J., wife of our subject; and Isabel, wife of William McElhany. The father of this family is a native of Ohio. He was born in 1806, and is still living at the advanced age of eighty-six years. Farming has been his principal occupation through life. He came to Iroquois County when there were only

twelve white families on Sugar Creek, but the Indians were far more numerous. Mrs. John was also born in the Buckeye State, the date of her birth being 1812. She died in 1890, at the age of seventy-eight years.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Body, which was celebrated on the 8th of December, 1874, has been blessed with a family of four children, all daughters, as follows: Clara Belle, Minnie May, Neva Frances and Bertha L. J. The family circle yet remains unbroken.

Mr. Body is one of the enterprising young farmers of this community. He owns one hundred and eighty acres of arable land and eighty acres of timber. The former is under a high state of cultivation and yields a golden harvest in return for the care and labor bestowed upon it. The neat appearance of the place indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner, who is recognized as one of the representative agriculturists of the community. In politics, he is a supporter of Democratic principles, having affiliated with that party since he cast his first Presidential vote for Hon. S. J. Tilden. For six years he has ably served as School Director. Public-spirited and progressive, he takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and does all in his power for its upbuilding.



CHRIST MUNSTERMANN, who owns and operates a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 3, Ash Grove Township, is one of the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to Iroquois County. He was born in Hanover, on the 5th of August, 1838, and is a son of Peter Munstermann, a farmer, who died when our subject was two and a-half years old. The mother bore the maiden name of Dorothy Blome. On the death of Mr. Munstermann she became the wife of Christ Schulenburg, who was also an agriculturist, and spent her entire life in Germany. The members of the family were Henry, a farmer of Ash Grove Township; John, who died in Cook County; Mary, who is yet living in Germany;

Dorothy, who is a resident of Cook County; and Christ of this sketch. There was also a daughter born of the second marriage, Sophia, who still lives in her native land.

Mr. Munstermann whose name heads this record acquired his education in the public schools, which he attended between the ages of seven and fifteen years. He was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads, and after attaining his majority was united in marriage with Miss Mina Haben, who was born in the same locality as her husband. Wishing to try his fortune in the New World, in 1869 he bade good-bye to the Fatherland and with his family crossed the briny deep from Hamburg to New York. He was eleven days on the water. On reaching this country he went to Chicago and made a location in Homewood, Cook County, where he and his wife both worked on a farm. He witnessed the famous Chicago fire in 1871.

In 1873, Mr. Munstermann came to Iroquois County, and with the capital he had acquired through his industry and perseverance he purchased forty acres of land in Crescent Township. Subsequently he sold that farm, and on section 3, Ash Grove Township, bought eighty acres of wild prairie, upon which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made. His industrious efforts, and his well-directed labors have transformed it into one of the finest farms of the community. He has paid out \$1,500 for draining and has made many other excellent improvements, both useful and ornamental. Since his first purchase he has extended the boundaries of his farm until he now has two hundred and forty acres.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Munstermann have been born two children: Matilda, who was born in Cook County, January 28, 1872, is now the wife of Henry Salmon, of Ash Grove Township. The younger child, Henry, born November 1, 1877, still aids his father in the operation of the home farm. The parents are both members of the Lutheran Church and Mr. Munstermann has contributed liberally to its support and aided largely in its upbuilding. He is now Treasurer of the Church of St. Paul. The Republican party finds in him a stalwart supporter, he having been identified with

that body since he cast his first Presidential vote for R. B. Hayes. His success in life is all due to his own efforts, and he may well serve to encourage others who like himself have to begin life at the bottom of the ladder and work their way upward. He now has a comfortable competence and is ranked among the highly respected and substantial citizens of the community.



ORVILLE E. DIX, a well-to-do farmer and stock-raiser, who resides on section 32, Iroquois Township, owns and operates a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, pleasantly situated about a half-mile from Crescent City. Upon the place are good improvements. There are many rods of tiling, and the well-drained fields have been placed under a high state of cultivation and yield a golden tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon them. The home is a pleasant residence, and altogether the farm is one of the valuable and desirable pieces of property in this locality.

Mr. Dix, who has a wide acquaintance throughout this community and ranks as an enterprising farmer, certainly deserves representation in the history of his adopted country. He has the honor of being a native of Illinois. He was born in Grundy County, December 27, 1852, and is a son of Oliver Dix, who was born in Oneida County, N. Y., on the 5th of January, 1821. The grandfather of our subject, Richard Dix, was also born in the Empire State and the family are among the pioneers of New York. The grandfather died when Oliver was a small boy, after which his mother was again married and removed with her family to Illinois about 1833, making the journey from New York with teams and wagons. At that time there was not even a trading-post at Chicago. They made a settlement in Kendall County, and upon that pioneer farm Oliver Dix grew to manhood. He was twice married. In Kendall County, he wedded Lydia Wing, an aunt of Judge Wing, the prominent attorney of Chicago. She was a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., and her

death occurred when our subject was only four years old. In an early day, Mr. Dix removed to Grundy County, becoming one of its early settlers. He located on wild land, and from the raw prairie developed a good farm, which he yet makes his home. He is now seventy-one years of age. For many years he has been identified with the Republican party, has taken quite an active part in political affairs and has held a number of public positions of honor and trust. He is one of the founders of the Methodist Episcopal Church near his home and has ever been one of its active and faithful members. The honorable, upright life which he has lived has won him many friends, and he has the confidence and esteem of all.

Orville Dix, whose name heads this record, is the younger of two sons. His brother, Asa W., is an enterprising and progressive farmer of Grundy County, residing in Nettle Township, and takes quite an active part in local politics. Our subject was reared to manhood upon the old homestead and remained with his father until after he had attained his majority. He acquired a good education in the public schools, the academy, and in the Newark High School. After completing his studies he engaged in teaching for a time, and later rented a farm, which he operated until 1882. That year witnessed his arrival in Iroquois County, when he purchased the farm upon which he now resides in Iroquois County.

Ere leaving the county of his nativity, Mr. Dix was united in marriage in October, 1874, with Miss Elizabeth Riggs, a native of West Virginia, who when a child came to Illinois with her father and was reared and educated in Grundy County. Three children have been born of their union, Lettie, Ida and Eugene, all of whom are living with their father. The mother of this family was called to her final rest in 1884, and in October, 1887, Mr. Dix was joined in wedlock with Mrs. Matilda (Anderson) Harvey, a widow, who is a native of Sweden, but was reared and educated in this country. A son and daughter grace this union, Oliver and Mildred Pearl.

Mr. Dix has been identified with the Republican party since he became a voter and is a staunch advocate of its principles. He takes quite an active

part in local politics, and, as every true American citizen should do, feels an interest in the success of his party. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend. He believes in good schools and competent teachers, and while serving for six years as a member of the School Board in this community he did effective service for its schools. Himself and wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, give liberally to its support and are earnest laborers in the Master's vineyard. Socially, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen. We see in him a self-mademan, whose possessions have all been acquired through his own efforts. By his industry, enterprise and perseverance he has steadily worked his way upward until he now ranks among the county's substantial agriculturists.



JOHN B. TAYLOR, a worthy and respected citizen of Gilman, now living a retired life, was born near Macclesfield, England, on the 27th of February, 1826. He is a son of Robert and Frances (Bewlex) Taylor, both of whom were natives of the same country. His father was a carpenter and joiner by occupation, and came to the United States at about the year 1826. The following year his wife, our subject and his twin sister, joined the father in the New World. They first settled in Mars County, N. J., and both parents there died, the father's death occurring in the prime of his manhood, about the year 1838, while his wife survived him nearly a quarter of a century, her death occurring in 1862, at the age of sixty-six years. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church. In their family were four children, of whom the eldest are our subject and his twin sister Mary, who is the wife of Robert Beatty, and resides in New Jersey. The third child, Sarah, married William Beatty, and died leaving a family of eight children to mourn her loss. The youngest of the family, Andrew, still resides in New Jersey.

In early life our subject began to work on a farm, which he continued until of age. His edu-

educational advantages were very meagre. When twenty-one years old he started to learn the carpenter's and joiner's trade, and the first year worked for \$6 per month. On the 7th of August, 1847, though getting but \$6 per month, he married Miss Sarah A., daughter of Robert and Sarah (Gardner) Blackwell, who were married in New Jersey, and later moved to Newport, Pa., where they spent their last days. Her father was a cooper by trade, but for many years followed the occupation of farming. The mother was a Presbyterian in faith, and died when Mrs. Taylor was only five years old. Her father, who was born the 17th of August, 1789, died on the 18th of May, 1867. Mrs. Taylor is one of two living children, several brothers and sisters having died in their early years. Her brother, Lewis, resides at Hazelton, Pa. Mrs. Taylor was born in Newport, Pa., August 16, 1828. When our subject and his wife married she had a few dollars, which she had earned by working for a neighbor, and he borrowed \$25 from a friend.

Unto this worthy couple have been born five children: Almenah V., who is at home; Alvin G. is foreman of the passenger yard of the Chicago & Alton Railroad at Bloomington, he having gone on the road as brakeman sixteen years ago, and has worked his way up to his present position, never having been laid off by the company; George E. is a fruit-grower at South Pasadena, Cal.; Robert W. resides at Ashkum; and Emma A. is the wife of George F. Benedict, and resides in Chicago.

Having lived in New Jersey until 1856, Mr. Taylor came to Illinois and located at Princeton, Bureau County, and soon afterward removed to Dover, in the same county. On the 12th of August, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Ninety-third Illinois Infantry. The regiment was first sent to Memphis, Tenn., and the first real duty was an expedition into Mississippi. He was engaged with his company in the battle at Jackson, Miss. Other important engagements in which he took part were Champion Hill, the siege of Vicksburg, Mission Ridge, Dalton, Altoona Pass, Savannah, Columbia, Bentonville (the last battle of the war), and he also went with Sherman on his march to the sea. Near Dalton, Ga., June 28, 1864, he

with others was riding on top of a freight car, which was loaded with shot and shell. Seeing that the train on which they were riding would shortly collide with another, he jumped from the car, and in so doing fractured his ankle and also injured his back; nevertheless, he hobbled along with his regiment, never spending a day in the hospital. His career as a soldier was marked by commendable bravery and fortitude, and he was always found where the battle was hottest.

Returning home from the war, he worked at his trade in Dover until 1870, when he removed to a farm in Danforth Township. Though he lived on the farm, he still spent most of his time at his trade. For some three months he worked on the Redfield House, also on the residence of D. L. Parter and others. In 1878 he removed to Gilman, and since then he has done considerable at his trade, especially in Danforth, where he worked on the fine elevator at that place, and the residences of W. W. Gilbert, Dr. Smith, R. O. Pennewill, and others. He is now practically retired from business, having a comfortable competency, which he has earned by years of industry and frugality. He still owns his farm of eighty acres in Danforth Township, and four dwellings in Gilman.



WILLIAM HOLLINGSWORTH, who carries on general farming in Onarga Township, is one of the extensive land-owners of this community and also one of the early settlers of the county, who for twenty-eight years has resided in this community. As he is widely and favorably known, we feel assured that the record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers. He claims Ohio as the State of his nativity, his birth occurring near Hamilton, Butler County, on the 29th of April, 1817. Little is known concerning the early history of the family. His father, Joseph Hollingsworth, was a native of South Carolina and married Hannah Hawkins. In 1810, when our subject was about nine years of age, the parents removed with their family to Ind-

iana, locating in Tippecanoe County, where the father purchased land of the Government, paying \$100 for eighty acres. This he at once began to develop and improve, making his home thereon until his death, which occurred in 1852. His wife survived him for about fourteen years and came to Illinois, where her death occurred in 1866. The family of this worthy couple numbered seven children, as follows: Amos, who died in 1872; Martha, who departed this life in 1892; William, whose name heads this record; Benjamin, a resident of California; Joseph, who is now engaged in farming near Wichita, Kan.; Seth, a resident farmer of Arkansas; and James, a retired farmer who now makes his home in Kansas City.

The subject of this sketch spent the first nine years of his life in the State of his nativity and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Indiana, where he was reared to manhood. The days of his boyhood and youth were quietly passed upon his father's farm. He worked in the fields during the summer months and became inured to the hard labor of developing new land. In the winter, or for about three months each year, he would attend the common district schools of the neighborhood, and thus acquired a good education. He gave his father the benefit of his labors and remained upon the home farm until thirty years of age, when he began farming for himself. He continued to reside in Indiana until the spring of 1864, when he removed to Illinois, and since that time has been a resident of Iroquois County. Soon after his arrival, he purchased four hundred and twenty acres of land on section 1, Onarga Township, and has since carried on general farming. His home is on one of the excellent farms of the community, and the well-tilled fields and neat appearance of the place indicate the supervision of a careful manager. A marriage ceremony performed on the 26th of March, 1857, united the destinies of Mr. Hollingsworth and Miss Sarah Meeks, a native of Chester County, Pa., and a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Hill) Meeks. Four children have been born of this union, two sons and two daughters, of whom three are yet living, as follows: Joseph, the eldest, makes his home in Onarga; Alice is the wife of Dr. M. E. Mosher, a

practicing physician now residing in Havana, Mason County, Ill.; Harvey aids his father in the cultivation of the home farm; and Grace died in 1876.

The parents are both Friends in religious belief, having been reared under the auspices of that society. They are people of sterling worth, highly respected throughout the community, and in social circles they hold an enviable position. In his political affiliations, Mr. Hollingsworth is a Republican, a warm advocate of the principles of that party, and for a number of years he has held the office of School Director.



HENRY CLAY FRAME, who owns and operates two hundred and eighteen acres of land on sections 16 and 17, Milford Township, was born in Warren County, Ind., February 23, 1845, and is one of a family of nine children, whose parents were Samuel M. and Vitriah (Ammerman) Frame. The father was a native of Ohio, and the mother was born in Kentucky. The members of their family were as follows: Eliza J., born June 16, 1840, is the wife of Alexander Shaw, a resident of Huntington County, Ind.; Celia, born November 25, 1841, is the wife of James Curtis, by whom she has five children, and their home is in Milford; Rachel C., who was born October 23, 1843, and is the widow of Allen Simpson, resides in Warren County, Ind.; Henry Clay is next younger; Mary M., born June 28, 1847, died in October, 1890; Minerva A., born December 3, 1849, is the wife of Dr. Columbus C. Cronkhite, a resident physician of Marion, Ind., by whom she has six children, four yet living; John M., born June 21, 1851, died in infancy; Caroline, born February 17, 1854, resides with her mother in Warren County, Ind. Samuel M., Jr., who was born February 23, 1856, and resides in West Lebanon, Ind., married Miss Martha French, and unto them were born four children, two of whom are yet living. Samuel M. Frame, Sr., was called to his final rest September 17, 1892.

The early life of our subject was quietly passed in his native State, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of farm life until August, 1863, when, at the age of eighteen years, he responded to the country's call for troops. He enlisted among the boys in blue of Company H, One Hundred and Sixteenth Indiana Infantry, and served for six months, being mustered out on the 4th of March, 1864. He then returned to his home, and for some time longer was a resident of his native State.

Mr. Frame has been twice married. On the 20th of October, 1870, he wedded Miss Ellen J. Siddens, daughter of William Siddens, of Warren County, Ind. Unto them were born five children: Frank L., born August 14, 1871; Eva V., November 21, 1873; Edward M., May 11, 1876; Lydia A., December 17, 1878; and Ada E., February 12, 1883. The mother of this family was called to her final rest August 1, 1888. The lady who now bears the name of Mrs. Frame was in her maidenhood Miss Mary Thomas, daughter of Benjamin F. and Amanda (Hoover) Thomas, of Milford. Their wedding was celebrated on the 6th of March, 1889, and their union has been blessed with two children: Thomas Ray, born June 7, 1890; and Samuel Porter, December 24, 1891.

In 1875, Mr. Frame severed all business connections in Warren County, Ind., and with his family removed to this county. He embarked in farming in Stockland Township, where he purchased an eighty-acre tract of land, making it his home for a period of eight years. He also carried on stock-raising on an extensive scale. For about ten years he has resided upon his present farm in Milford Township, where two hundred and eighteen acres of highly cultivated land yield to him a golden tribute in return for the care and cultivation he bestows upon them.

Mr. Frame exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, and for two terms, 1885 and 1886, was the efficient Supervisor of his township. He takes a considerable interest in civic societies and holds membership with Milford Lodge No. 168, A. F. & A. M.; Farmers' Lodge No. 152, I. O. O. F.; and Vennum Post No. 471, G. A. R. Mrs. Frame is a member of the

Methodist Episcopal Church. The same fidelity and faithfulness which led him to enter the service of his country when a mere lad characterized his life, and is that which prompts him now to always be found in the front rank of any worthy enterprise calculated to improve and upbuild the community.



HENRY C. WOLGAST, a member of the firm of Wolgast & Wolgast, dealers in general merchandise, resides in Danforth. This firm has an extensive business and well-established patronage and carries a fine stock of goods. They have been located here for three years and are considered one of the most reliable and enterprising business firms in the town. Our subject was born in Holstein, Germany, December 31, 1861, and is the son of Christian Wolgast. The father was also a native of Holstein and was there reared to manhood. When he arrived at man's estate he married Dora Wolgast, of the same country. He was a tailor by trade and spent his life engaged in that occupation. He reared his family in Germany, and there the death of both himself and wife occurred.

The early years of Henry C. Wolgast were passed in the land of his birth and he was blessed with good common-school advantages. In 1881, starting from Bremen, he took passage on a steamer bound for New York City and on the 2d of June, that year, first set foot upon the shores of America. He went directly West and located in Danforth, Ill. For the first year he engaged in farming, which was his first experience in that line of business. He had learned the carpenter's trade in the Fatherland and had worked at it for five years previous to coming to America. He now engaged for two years at his trade, and spent about six months in Kankakee in the same business. Next he went to Chicago, working at carpentering for about a year and a-half and then returned to New York City where he made his home for about five months.

While Mr. Wolgast was in New York, he mar-

ried Miss Pauline Reimer, the date of the ceremony being August 29, 1886. Mrs. Wolgast is a daughter of Martin Reimer, a mechanic of New York, and her birth occurred in Hamburg, Germany, where she grew to womanhood and received a good education. Three children grace the union of our worthy subject and his wife: Dora, Freddie and Walter.

After his marriage, in 1886, Mr. Wolgast returned to Danforth and engaged in the furniture business for about two years, in which he was very successful. He then sold out and worked at his trade during the following year. In May, 1889, the present partnership of Wolgast & Wolgast was formed, and in this undertaking he has been most successful. By their fair dealing and progressive spirit this firm have won well-deserved popularity and they rank high among the business men of Danforth. Mr. Wolgast has held several local official positions and has been Village Treasurer for the past three years. He has always given complete satisfaction to his constituents and has ever shown in his discharge of the duties incident to such positions that he has the welfare and interests of the people at heart. He is a public-spirited man and is ever in the front rank of those who endeavor to promote the welfare of city, county and State. Mr. and Mrs. Wolgast are esteemed members of the German Lutheran Church of Danforth, and are ever ready to lend a helping hand to the poor and depressed.



LOUIS D. FRAZEE, an honored veteran of the late war and one of the early settlers of the county, who now follows farming on section 18, Ridgeland Township, was born on the 5th of March, 1837, in Newark, N. J., and is one of ten children, whose parents were Turner and Martha (Meeker) Frazee. Of the family a more complete sketch is given in connection with that of Frederick S. Frazee.

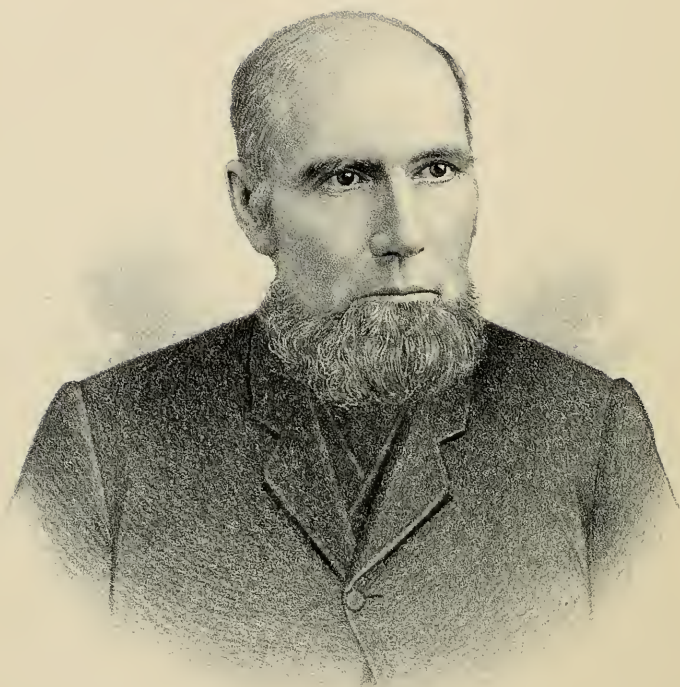
The subject of this sketch was less than two years of age when his parents left New Jersey and

removed to Ohio, where he was reared to manhood. He attended the common schools until nearly eighteen years of age, receiving a good business education, which well fitted him for the practical duties of life. In 1857 the family came to Illinois, and since that time he has been a resident of Iroquois County. He worked for his brother, Frederick S., for three years and then purchased an interest in the farm which he had been cultivating. His present farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres, and has been his home since 1880.

Mr. Frazee was one of the boys in blue of the late war. Prompted by patriotic impulses, he responded to the call for troops September 24, 1861, and was assigned to Company C, Fifty-seventh Illinois Infantry. The first important battle in which he participated was at Ft. Donelson. He was afterward engaged in the battle of Shiloh, took part in the siege of Corinth, was under fire at the battles of Town Creek, Resaca, Kingston, Rome, Altoona Pass, Savannah, Columbus and Bentonville, being in all in over thirty engagements. He was also with Sherman's army on its celebrated march to the sea. At the battle of Shiloh he was wounded in the left arm at the elbow by a minie-ball and was forced to remain in the hospital from the 6th of April to the 28th of May. After the battle of Corinth, he was promoted to be Corporal, and on the 1st of June, 1865, he was honorably discharged, having served for three and a-half years. With the exception of the time when he was confined by his wound, he was always found at his post, faithfully discharging the duties allotted to him.

An important event in the life of Mr. Frazee occurred on the 2d of January, 1871, when was celebrated his marriage with Miss Eliza Robinson, daughter of Thomas and Charlotte (McNeen) Robinson. Mrs. Frazee is one of nine children. James, the eldest of the family, who was one of the boys in blue of Company D, Eighty-eighth, Illinois Infantry, died in 1862, giving his life in defense of his country; Margaret died September 9, 1870; Eliza is the next younger; Emma and Carleton are both deceased; Harriet died in 1852; Sarah went to Oregon; Thomas engaged in farm-

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yours Truly
P. T. Eastburn

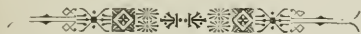


Yours Truly
Julia A. Eastburn

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ing in Nobles County, Minn.; and Mary is the wife of Elmer Koon, a resident farmer of this county. The father of this family died in 1869, but the mother is still living.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Frazee have been born eight children, but Floda, the third in order of birth, died in infancy. Those still living are Herbert B., Irene E.; Mattie E., a student of Onarga Seminary; Charles D., Sadie L., Nellie C. and Louis L. The family is widely and favorably known in the community. The parents are both members of the Baptist Church. In politics, Mr. Frazee is a staunch Republican, and, socially, is a member of W. A. Babcock Post No. 416, G. A. R., of Onarga. The years of his manhood have all been passed in this locality, and that his life has been an honorable, upright one is attested by the fact that he has so many warm friends in this community.



PARKER T. EASTBURN, now residing in Sheldon, has an honor which few of his years can claim, that of being a native of Iroquois County. He was born on the old Eastburn homestead on the 20th of November, 1837, and is a representative of one of the most prominent pioneer families of the county. His parents, Joseph B. and Sarah (Truitt) Eastburn, were both natives of Adams County, Ohio. The father of our subject was a farmer by occupation and followed that business through the greater part of his life. The year 1831 witnessed his emigration to Iroquois County, which was then an almost unbroken wilderness, the improvements which had been made being few indeed. Here he spent the remainder of his life and bore the usual experiences and hardships of the frontier, but he was a man of excellent business abilities and a very successful farmer, who at the time of his death was the owner of over five hundred acres of farming land in this county, besides other property interests. He passed away in 1849.

The subject of this sketch is the third in order of birth in a family of nine children, four of whom

are now living. Two brothers, W. L. and Allen M., still reside in this county, and David C. is now a resident of Nobles County, Minn.

Parker Eastburn has known no other home than this community. He was reared to manhood upon his father's farm and with the family shared all the trials of pioneer life. He was early inured to the arduous task of developing new land, and when a young boy became familiar with farm work in all its details. His early education, acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood, was supplemented by a college course, and he was thus well fitted for the practical duties of life and its responsibilities. At the age of twenty years he commenced farming and stock-raising for himself, and to this labor devoted his energies successfully for some years. He always kept his farm under a high state of cultivation and the well-tilled fields yielded to him a golden tribute in return for the care and cultivation which he bestowed upon them.

On the 9th of August, 1871, Mr. Eastburn was united in marriage with Miss Julia A. Moore, daughter of Philip and Margaret (Smith) Moore. She was born July 25, 1843, in Scioto County, Ohio. By their union has been born a family of four children, three of whom are yet living, as follows: Luther F., Clara and James. The Eastburn household is the abode of hospitality, and the members of the family rank high in the social circles in which they move.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Eastburn is a Republican, having supported that party since he attained his majority. He has been honored with several public offices of trust, having served as Assessor for five years, Supervisor for two terms, and is now School Trustee of his township. He discharges his duties in an able manner, with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. For a period of fifty-five years, Mr. Eastburn has resided in this county and has witnessed almost its entire growth and upbuilding. He has seen its wild lands transformed into beautiful homes and farms, its hamlets converted into thriving towns, while churches and schools have been built and the work of progress and civilization has been carried forward so rapidly that scarcely a landmark of

pioneer days yet remains. He has ever borne his part in the work of advancement, and has proved a valued citizen, who has the high regard of all who know him.



ELIAS JULIAN, one of the enterprising and progressive farmers of Sheldon Township, residing on section 9, owns and operates one hundred and forty acres of arable land, and the well-tilled fields yield to him a golden tribute in return for his care and cultivation. A native of the Buckeye State, he was born on the 27th of February, 1846, and is the eldest child of Absalom and Nancy (Planagan) Julian. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and at an early day emigrated Westward to Ohio, locating in Pickaway County, where he long made his home. He was twice married, the mother of our subject being his second wife. Four children were born of the first union, and Elias is the eldest of a family of three. In 1875, the father left Ohio and came to Iroquois County, Ill., where he spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring December 23, 1880.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who in his youth attended the district schools in the neighborhood in which he resided and concluded his literary education by several terms' attendance in the graded schools of Tarlton, Ohio. At the age of nineteen, he started out in life for himself, and from 1865 until 1870 was engaged in trading speculations in the State of Missouri. On the expiration of that period he disposed of his business interests in Missouri and came to Iroquois County, Ill., where he has since resided. His energies he has devoted to farming and stock-raising, and he now owns one of the valuable and desirable farms of this locality. The land is under a high state of cultivation and he has made many substantial improvements. The stock which he raises is of good grades and the place is complete in all its appointments.

On the 25th of January, 1872, Mr. Julian was united in marriage with Miss Hattie Dressback,

daughter of William Dressback, a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, and their union has been blessed with eight children, four sons and four daughters, namely: Milton, Milo, Guy, Arthur L., Cynthia, Amanda, Nancy, and Ruth. The family circle yet remains unbroken and the children are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Julian votes the Republican ticket and is a member of the Patriotic Order of Sons of America. He has never been an aspirant for office, but his popularity in the county would secure him almost any local position had he any desires in that direction. The only public position that he has filled is that of Road Commissioner, in which he has served for many years. He is a man of positive convictions and is always ready to encourage any enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit. He holds an interest in the Farmers' Elevator at Sheldon, which is doing a good business and has proved of much benefit to the agriculturists of the community. Mr. Julian is classed among the prosperous farmers of the township and is numbered among its best citizens.



HENRY AUGUSTUS BUTZOW, who is Deputy County Clerk, and a leading citizen of Watseka, was born in Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, on the 9th of July, 1834. His parents, Ludwig and Sophia (Wille) Butzow, were also natives of that country, and there spent their entire lives, his father being a teacher for forty-five years.

Our subject was born and reared in a rural village, and at an early age was trained in the labors connected with the development of the land. His education was acquired in the common schools and under the instruction of private tutors. When a young man of twenty years, he determined to try his fortune in America. Bidding good-bye to home and friends, he crossed the broad Atlantic in a sailing-vessel, which at length dropped anchor in New York Harbor. Landing on the shores of the New World, he went to Oneida County, N.Y., where he worked by the month for some time. He then

came to Illinois, and locating in Chebanse Township engaged in farming. His first purchase of land consisted of a tract in the town of Iroquois, and in 1857 he bought a part of his present farm in the same township, which he has increased to a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he now makes his home.

In 1860, however, Mr. Butzow abandoned farming and went to St. Louis Mo., where he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed in that city and in St. Clair County, Ill., until his enlistment for the late war. Donning the blue on the 2d of March, 1862, he joined Company G, Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served for three years, being mustered out on the 6th of March, 1865. He was wounded in the battle of Peach Tree Creek before Atlanta; while the Twenty-fifth was advancing as a skirmish line on the rebel fortifications, a bullet struck his watch and made a glancing shot, cutting him quite badly. He also participated in the battle of Perryville, Ky., and in numerous other engagements in which his regiment was engaged, being always found at his post of duty, ready to defend the Old Flag under which he enlisted.

In the fall of 1865, Mr. Butzow returned to his native land, and on the 24th of March, 1866, married Miss Sophia Pfudel, a native of Berlin, Prussia. With his bride he immediately returned to America, and their home has since been in Iroquois County. Their union has been blessed with seven children, and the family circle yet remains unbroken. Frank F., the eldest, married Katy Eno and resides in Loda, Iroquois County, being employed in the bank; Martha J. is engaged in teaching in Watseka; Mary L., Emma S., Otto L., Rudolph and Bertha are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Butzow exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democratic party, and has been honored with a number of official positions, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity, thus winning the commendation of all concerned. For seven years he filled the office of Township Clerk, for three years was Road Supervisor, and in 1873 was elected County Clerk. So well did he fill the office that he was re-elected in 1877, and again in 1882, holding the position

altogether for thirteen years, the longest period one man has ever held it. Socially, Mr. Butzow is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the Lodge, Chapter of Watseka, and Commandery of Kankakee. He also belongs to the Lodge and Encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and to Williams Post No. 25, G. A. R. He and his family are members of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Butzow is a leading and influential citizen of Iroquois County, which fact is well indicated by his long continued service in the office of County Clerk, which also attests his personal popularity.



JOHN EDEN, a successful and well-known merchant of Danforth, has the honor of being a native of Illinois. He was born at Pekin, Tazewell County, on the 8th of December, 1856, and is a son of Remmer Eden, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Our subject came with his parents to this county in 1868, and grew to manhood here. He received the advantages of the common schools, but is almost self-educated. By his powers of observation and by reading he has accumulated a valuable fund of information, and is one of the most intelligent men of the community. He remained on the home farm, engaged in assisting his father in the labors thereof, until he had reached his majority. He then decided to devote his energies to another line of business, and, coming to Danforth, engaged in clerking for about two years, thoroughly learning the details of mercantile life. He then formed a partnership with Fred Kohl, and together they purchased the store where they had been employed as clerks, and embarked in business for themselves. They first started business on a limited scale, as they had but a small stock and capital, which was mostly borrowed money. From year to year they added to their original stock, and have built up a most extensive and lucrative trade. In February, 1892, Mr. Eden purchased his partner's interest and succeeded to the whole business. He has a

large double store, and carries an extensive stock of general merchandise, comprising the latest novelties, which are well selected.

In Danforth, Mr. Eden married Miss Elizabeth Johnson, who was born in Fairbury, Ill., and came to this county with her father, John O. Johnson, when a child of but two years of age. Her father is now retired, and makes his home in Danforth. The ceremony which united the destinies of Mr. and Mrs. Eden was performed on the 4th of May, 1884, and they have become the parents of two daughters, Cassie Aline and Cecelia E.

Mr. Eden has never aspired to official positions, but has been elected to several local positions by his friends who well knew his ability and fidelity. He is a member of the Township Board and also of the School Board. His right of franchise is used in favor of the Democratic party, in whose success he is much interested. By his business enterprise and thrift he has accumulated a comfortable fortune, and owns a well-established business. His elegant home is the abode of hospitality, and he and his estimable wife delight to entertain their many friends. He is a man of superior business capacity, and is known far and wide throughout this section of the State as a successful and enterprising business man.



JOHAN FAGAN, of Watseka, the pioneer harness-maker of Iroquois County, settled in Middleport, in the spring of 1849, and removed to South Middleport, now Watseka, when the railroad was being built through this place. He was the first of his trade in old Middleport, and at Watseka, and has carried on business continuously since at the last-named point, which, in fact, now includes the former town in its corporation limits. Mr. Fagan was born in Xenia, Ohio, March 29, 1822, and is a son of William and Elizabeth (Dowell) Fagan. His parents were born in what is now West Virginia, and removed at an early day to Highland County, Ohio, and later to Greene County, near Xenia, in the same State. They subsequently came to Champaign County, Ill.,

where they spent their last days. The mother died in 1867, and the father the following year.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native State, received a common-school education, and learned his trade in his native town. He began his apprenticeship there and served six years, after which he engaged in business for himself. In 1847, he removed to La Fayette, Ind., where he worked as a journeyman for a year, and in 1840 came to Illinois. He spent a year working at his trade in Danville, and in the spring of 1849 came to Iroquois County, where he opened the first harness shop in the county at Middleport, as previously stated.

In the fall of 1852, Mr. Fagan was united in marriage in Middleport with Miss Caroline Hogle, a daughter of Capt. Henry W. and Charlotte (Wells) Hogle. Mrs. Fagan was born in Henrysville, Province of Quebec, Canada, and came to Middleport, Ill., with her mother, August 11, 1849. She died in 1856, leaving two children: a son, who died in childhood; and a daughter, Charlotte H., who is now the wife of Robert Hayes, of Lake View, Chicago. In the spring of 1859, Mr. Fagan was again married, his second wife being Mrs. Julia A. Fenton, whose maiden name was Crawford. She has one child, Dora, by her former marriage. Mrs. Fagan was born in Coshocton County, Ohio. Five children blessed their union, but three are now deceased. Arthur died aged twenty-three years; Wilda is the wife of J. T. Ford, of Drummond, Wis.; Albert died in childhood; Asa B. married and lives in Chicago; and one died in infancy.

In his political affiliation, Mr. Fagan was a Whig in early life, but on the dissolution of that party, became a Democrat. He has never sought or desired public office. Mrs. Fagan owns a well-improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres, situated in Belmont Township. Mr. Fagan is an Odd Fellow and was a charter member of the old lodge of Middleport; and was also the second Odd Fellow in the place. He is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of Watseka Lodge No. 146, A. F. & A. M., and of Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M.

Mr. Fagan is one of the very few remaining

pioneers of the deserted village of Middleport, the ancient capital of Iroquois County. He has witnessed the coming and going of many, and the rise and fall of the fortunes of others. The country, which was little better than a wilderness when he first saw it, is now well settled by a prosperous and thrifty people. During all these years and changes he has maintained acquaintance and friendship with many and enjoys, as he deserves, the kindly regard and esteem of his old neighbors and friends, and also of the newer comers who have learned to know him.



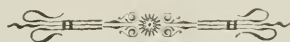
O D. NOBLE, photographic artist of Watseka, was born in Kankakee, Ill., September 21, 1855, and is a son of Solomon and Susan D. (Williamson) Noble. His parents were natives of Philadelphia, and came to Illinois in 1847. His father died in June, 1882, and his mother is still living, residing in Kankakee.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native county, receiving his education in the common schools. In 1878, he began learning photography in Kankakee, and the following year went to Chicago, where he was employed in that line of work at intervals for several years. In 1884, he opened a gallery in Paxton, Ford County, where he carried on business during the three years following. From there he went to Denver, Colo., and was there employed in a large gallery for two years. Then he returned East for a year and afterward again went to Colorado. After spending another year in the West, he returned to Illinois and opened his present gallery in Watseka, June 20, 1891.

Mr. Noble was married in Paxton, Ill., February 19, 1875, to Miss Theresa Palmer. The lady was born on the banks of Lake Champlain in New York, and is a daughter of Isaac H. Palmer, of Paxton. Mr. and Mrs. Noble have one child, a son, Lesley Denver, who was born in Denver, Colo., April 5, 1888.

In politics, Mr. Noble is a Democrat. Socially, he is a member of Watseka Camp No. 339, M. W.

A. On coming to Watseka, the subject of this sketch determined to have the finest photographic gallery in Eastern Illinois, and to that end erected a one-story brick building, especially adapted to the business, the size being twenty-five feet front by eighty deep. The operating room is twenty-five by thirty-five feet, while the facilities for light are scientifically planned and complete in arrangement. The front reception room is lighted by large French plate-glass and is elegantly furnished and decorated. Taken as a whole, the Noble gallery is unsurpassed in any city in the State, outside of Chicago, in its appointments and most approved facilities for artistic work. Mr. Noble does all kinds of work in his art in the most modern style, including oil, pastel, crayon, and work in water-colors, together with a new and novel feature of photography on silk and linen, hatbands, etc., wherein the picture comes out strong and sharp. He does fine work in enlarging from small and old pictures, and is recognized as an expert in his line.



NELSON CAVITT is now engaged in general farming and stock-raising on section 11, Belmont Township. The history of his life is the record of a self-made man, who has been dependent upon his own resources since he attained his majority, and by his own labors has achieved success and gathered together a comfortable competence. He was born in Pike County, Ohio, January 19, 1819. His paternal grandparents were both natives of Ireland, and during youth emigrated to this country. They became early settlers of Ohio, and in the Buckeye State Robert Cavitt, father of our subject, was born and reared. After attaining to years of maturity he was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary Daugherty, also a native of Ohio, and they spent their entire lives upon the old homestead. With the Methodist Church they held membership and were highly respected citizens. In politics, Mr. Cavitt was a supporter of the Democratic party.

During his boyhood Nelson Cavitt acquired his education in a school which was conducted on the subscription plan and convened in a little log cabin with greased-paper windows, slab seats and huge fireplace. He afterward attended a select school for nine months, but though his educational privileges were limited, he has become a well-informed man through reading, experience and observation. He earned his first money by working as a farm hand at \$9 and \$11 per month, and even in his younger years there was little that he did not know about farm labor, for he early began work in the fields. At the age of twenty-two he removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., locating near La Fayette. This was in the spring of 1841. He began work as a farm hand, but afterward engaged in farming in Fountain County, Ind., where he made his home until 1864.

In that county Mr. Cavitt was married to Miss Hester A. Brown, their union being celebrated March 16, 1849. Unto them have been born the following children: Mary, at home; Anna, who is living in Watseka; Henrietta, wife of D. L. Greenman, of Watseka; George, who is married and follows farming near Watseka; John F., an agriculturist of Belmont Township; William T., at home; Charles O., who has lately entered the Normal College at Valparaiso, Ind.; and Frank O., who completes the family, is also at the Valparaiso Normal College. The children were all provided with good educational advantages, such as would fit them for the practical duties of life and its responsibilities. Frank, who expects to become a physician, was formerly a student in Hoopston.

Mr. Cavitt cast his first Presidential vote for William Henry Harrison, and was a Whig until the dissolution of that party, when he joined the ranks of the new Republican party and has since fought under its banner, supporting each Presidential candidate since Fremont. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and to church and charitable work he contributes liberally. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and is one of its representative and influential citizens. On coming to this county in 1864, he purchased one hundred and two acres of land and now owns a

fine farm of one hundred and eighty acres, while, in connection with his sons, he also operates three hundred acres additional. The boys also run a threshing-machine in season. Mr. Cavitt carries on general farming and stock-raising, and prosperity has rewarded his industrious efforts. He is now one of the substantial citizens of the community, having a fine farm. Upon it is a good house and large and well-built barns and out-buildings, while its neat appearance indicates his careful supervision.



EUGENE P. L'HOTE, editor and proprietor of the *Milford Herald*, was born in Marshall, Ill., on the 7th of May, 1862, and is a son of Edward L'Hote. His father was born on the island of Guadeloupe, in Point-a-Pitre, West Indies, March 3, 1819, and his parents were Edward and Sophie (Maumay) L'Hote, the former a native of Paris, and the latter of Bourdeaux, France. Their family numbered three sons: Edward, Eugene and Archille. In 1826, Edward L'Hote, Sr., emigrated to America, locating in New Orleans. He died at Mobile, Ala., in 1835. His wife departed this life in the Crescent City, in 1837.

The year after his mother's death, Edward L'Hote, Jr., began to learn the printer's trade, which he followed for fifty-one years, or until his retirement from business in 1889. He began work in the office of the *Chronicle*, which was published in what is now known as the Fourth District of New Orleans. He was living in that city at the time of the first issue of the *Picayune*, which was established in 1835. He worked on that paper when tallow candles were used for lighting the office, and dry-goods boxes were used for news stands, and when the proprietors cooked their own meals. The *Picayune* was published as a daily, and the forms were inked with rubber balls, which were dexterously distributed by bumping them together and causing them to turn in every direction until the ink was over every part.

Our subject was a veteran of the Mexican War.

During that struggle he enlisted as a member of the Second Louisiana Regiment, and served for six months. After his return he came to Marshall, Ill., in 1849, and was married on the 29th of November to Miss Charlotte Whaley, daughter of William and Charlotte Whaley. There he worked at his trade for some time in the employ of others. He afterward published a paper called the *Hornet*, one of the first journals in the country to advocate Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency. After residing in Clark County for nearly thirty years, Mr. L'Hote removed to Milford, and purchased the Milford *Herald*, then published by J. R. Fox. He continued its editor and proprietor from 1878 until 1889, putting it on a good paying basis. He then sold out to his son, Eugene P.

Edward L'Hote is a member of Marshall Lodge No. 133, A. F. & A. M., and of Chapter No. 70, R. A. M., of Marshall. In politics he is a supporter of the Republican principles, and his paper was ever edited in the interests of that party. Since selling his paper in 1889, he has lived a retired life, enjoying a well-earned rest. Mr. L'Hote is an intelligent and well-informed man, and is held in the highest esteem by all who know him for his sterling worth and integrity.

Eugene P. L'Hote, whose name heads this record, came with his parents to Froquois County, and has since been a resident of Milford. From boyhood he has been connected with the printing business, which he learned in his father's office. In 1886 he leased the Milford *Herald*, and after publishing it for two years purchased it of his father, and has since conducted it alone. The *Herald* is a bright, newsy sheet, published in the interest of the Republican party. Our subject is a ready and fluent writer, and keeps his paper up to the high standard to which his father brought it. The *Herald* is now well patronized, has a large subscription list, and he is doing a profitable business.

On the 24th of September, 1885, Mr. L'Hote wedded Miss Elda Fairman, daughter of John F. and Mary E. (Park) Fairman, of Milford. Three children grace their union: Lulu, born in April, 1886; Ray, born in December, 1887; and Elda, born in September, 1889. Our subject holds

membership with the Odd Fellows' lodge and the Knights of Pythias Society, both of Milford. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who does much for the advancement and upbuilding of the town and county, and by his fellow-townsmen he is regarded as a man of sterling worth. He is quite popular, has a wide acquaintance, and his friends are many.



ABRAM COUGHENOUR, a retired farmer residing on section 27, Concord Township, is a well-known citizen of this community, and certainly deserves representation in the history of his adopted county. for he is numbered among its earliest settlers, having for more than half a century been connected with its history. A native of Gallia County, Ohio, he was born September 15, 1810, and is a son of John and Susan (Darst) Coughenour, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Virginia. When John Coughenour was quite small his parents removed to the Old Dominion. The paternal grandfather of our subject was of German descent, and died in Augusta County, Va. On attaining to mature years his children all left that State. The family numbered five sons and a daughter. Some of them returned to Pennsylvania, and Christian and John removed to Ohio. The sister started on horseback from Virginia to the Buckeye State and was never heard from again.

John Coughenour was twenty-one years of age when he went to Gallia County, Ohio. He was then in limited circumstances, but became a well-to-do farmer. His wife died when our subject was about ten years of age. Abram is the eldest of a family of three sons and three daughters, but is now the only surviving member. The father was afterward again married and had several children by the second union.

Abram Coughenour remained under the parental roof until he obtained his majority, and acquired his education in the subscription schools. On leaving home he went to La Fayette, Ind., and from there to Huntington, where he worked on

the Wabash & Erie Canal, helping to build the second lock. In September, 1834, he went to Chicago, where he worked on the piers at the mouth of the river until the following December. He saw the first house burn at that place and helped to put out the fire. Subsequently he returned to La Fayette, Ind., where he began learning the carpenter's trade, receiving a journeyman's wages from the beginning, as he was always handy with tools. Having made a short visit to his old home, he came to Iroquois County, Ill., in 1836, and for several years afterward followed carpentering.

On May 31, 1837, Mr. Coughenour married Miss Elizabeth Ann Williams, of Milford Township, who was born in Ohio, March 1, 1821, and came to this county with her parents during childhood. Her father, Robert L. Williams, was a large land-owner in Milford Township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Coughenour were born thirteen children, eleven of whom grew to mature years: nine were married and seven are yet living. Marion, the eldest, died in infancy; Celina J. is the wife of George W. Enslin, of Sheldon; Franklin is represented elsewhere in this work; Rosanna is the wife of Nelson Waity, of Sheldon Township; Anna is the wife of Jefferson Crozier, a resident of Sheldon, and unto them have been born three children, two living and one deceased; Nancy became the wife of Irvin E. Crozier, and died in Clay County, Iowa, leaving one child; Celestine is the wife of Luanan Sherman; Allen, who is married and lives with our subject, has one child; Aurelius is living in Clay County, Iowa; and Joseph R. completes the family.

The farm on which Mr. Coughenour resides was a claim which he purchased from his brother, who had entered the land from the Government. He built his residence and barn with his own hands, and has here made his home since 1844. Every improvement upon the place stands as a monument to his thrift and enterprise. His possessions have all been acquired through his own efforts, and he may truly be called a self-made man. He followed in the political footsteps of his father, and in 1832 cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Jackson. Since that time he has been a warm advocate of the Democracy, and his sons

support the same party. He has filled the office of Justice of the Peace, was School Director for about twenty years, and School Trustee for nine years. The cause of education has ever found in him a warm friend, and he has done much for the advancement of the schools in this community. Mr. Coughenour has been a great reader throughout life, and has thus become well informed.

Mrs. Coughenour was called to her final rest June 19, 1890, and her remains were interred in the Garfield Cemetery. Mr. Coughenour is now eighty-two years old, and is an active old gentleman, physically and mentally. Throughout the county he has a wide acquaintance, and an honored, upright life has won him the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. His name is inseparably connected with the history of the county, where for fifty-six years he has found a home. He has aided in its development, borne his part in its upbuilding, and ever faithfully performed his duties of citizenship.



HON. CONRAD SECREST, M.D., of Watseka, the present State Senator from Iroquois County, was born near Lexington, in Davidson County, N. C., May 3, 1829. His parents, Daniel and Elizabeth (Fountz) Secrest, were also natives of that State. The father's family were from Pennsylvania, and were of German origin. Their settlement in the old Keystone State antedates the War of the Revolution, and members of the family were participants in that memorable struggle under Gen. Green. Daniel Secrest removed with his family to Morgan County, Ind., in 1832, and there engaged in farming. His death occurred in 1841, when Conrad was but twelve years old. The mother died two years later.

Left an orphan at fourteen, our subject received his primary education in a frontier log school-house, with its traditional puncheon floor, and slab seats and desks, and where, instead of glass, oiled paper was used to admit the light through an open-

ing where a section of logs had been removed. He was reared on a farm, and subsequently, having the advantage of better schools, fitted himself for the position of teacher. In March, 1852, he came to Iroquois County, Ill., and began the study of medicine under the direction of Drs. Fowler & Blades, of Iroquois, soon afterward accompanying those gentlemen to Middleport. There he engaged as a clerk in a store, and pursued his studies at night. In the fall of 1853, he entered Rush Medical College, of Chicago, where he took a course of lectures the following winter. In the summer of 1854, he began practice in Milford, and pursued his profession at that place until the fall of 1858, when he returned to Rush Medical College, and nearly completed another course of lectures when sickness called him home. Subsequently he returned, and received his degree of M. D. from the same institution.

Dr. Secrest then returned to Milford, and was engaged in practice and in the drug business in that place until the fall of 1859, when he removed to South Middleport, now Watseka, and erected the first business house in that place, although it was not the first finished and occupied. In 1860, the Doctor became regularly established in the drug business at South Middleport, and also pursued the practice of his profession. About 1875, he purchased a tract of land near Watseka, to which he has added by subsequent purchases until he now has a well-improved farm of four hundred and fifty acres, lying adjacent to the city on the southeast. Of this, one hundred and sixty acres are situated in the township of Middleport and the remainder in Belmont Township. The Doctor's residence is on the street that forms the dividing line between the farm and the city.

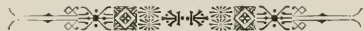
On the 20th of May, 1855, Dr. Secrest was united in marriage in Milford, Ill., with Miss Martha A. Cleaver. The lady was born in this county in 1837, and is a daughter of David and Louisa Cleaver. Her parents were Quakers, and were natives of Pennsylvania. They emigrated first to Warren County, Ohio, and came to Iroquois County in 1833, settling near what is now Milford. In the family were two sons and two daughters. Mrs. Secrest and her sister Mary, now

the wife of S. B. Hamilton, of Monroe County, Wis., are the only ones living. Joseph W., the eldest son, died in the army. The mother of this family died in November, 1851, and the father in January, 1856. The Doctor and his wife have one child living, a son, Daniel C., who was born June 10, 1860, and is now engaged in the United States Revenue Service; he resides in Pekin, Ill. A daughter, Louisa, died in infancy.

In politics, Dr. Secrest is a Republican. At various times he has filled local offices, and in 1876 was elected Representative to the Sixteenth General Assembly from Iroquois and Kankakee Counties, and was re-elected in 1878. In 1880, he was elected to the Illinois Senate from the same district. In 1884, he was succeeded by H. K. Wheeler, of Kankakee, by a tacitly understood rule in the party that the office of State Senator should alternate between the two counties composing the district. In 1888, Dr. Secrest was again elected to the Senate, and is the present member. He has served four years as Representative, and at the close of the present term will have been eight years in the Senate. He has been a faithful and useful member in each of those bodies and has served in several important committees. In the four regular sessions of the Senate, he has been Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, which has the consideration and recommendation of appropriations aggregating between seven and a-half and eight and a-half millions of dollars annually. The position to which he was appointed was one of great responsibility and importance, and his faithful and able discharge of the duties devolving upon him justified the compliment paid him in the selection.

Dr. Secrest is a member of Iroquois Lodge No. 74, I. O. O. F., and of Iroquois Encampment No. 81. The family attend the Methodist Church. For forty years, the Doctor has been a resident of Iroquois County. He has taken a more or less prominent part in its business and political history, aiding materially in its growth and development. By his upright and honorable course in all the relations of life, he has won a strong hold upon the respect, good-will and confidence of his fellow-citizens. He is a plain, unassuming man, entirely devoid of ostentation, but possessed of an earnest,

rugged strength of character and honesty of purpose that have led to a permanent popularity among the solid, candid men of his district, regardless of political preferences.



JAMES PHILLIPS, who owns and operates a farm on section 17, Crescent Township, is a native of Ireland, his birth having occurred in County Kildare, April 13, 1834. He is a son of George and Martha (Charles) Phillips, both natives of Ireland. The father was a farmer and spent his entire life in his native country. James is the youngest of the family, which consisted of three sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to mature years, and with the exception of one son, are all still living. One sister is a resident of La Salle County, Ill.

Our subject grew to manhood, receiving good school advantages, on the Emerald Isle. Deciding to seek his fortune in the New World, in 1853 he took passage at Liverpool in a sailing-vessel, and for five weeks was on the bosom of the Atlantic Ocean, during that time experiencing some very severe weather. He arrived in the United States in May and went direct to Illinois, joining his brother-in-law, James Hall, in La Salle County. He worked for him and others during the succeeding four years in that neighborhood.

At the breaking out of the late war, Mr. Phillips entered the service of his adopted country, joining Col. Morrell's regiment, which was drilled at home, in 1861. He was soon, however, discharged on account of disability. On account of his health, he next decided to return for a visit to the land of his birth and the scenes of his youth. He there spent three years, and at the end of this time again started from Liverpool, this time in a steam-vessel, going to Portland, Me. He arrived in La Salle County about the 1st of May, 1865, and during the remainder of that year worked by the month.

Mr. Phillips was united in marriage in that county to Sarah Patterson, who, though of Scotch parentage, was like him born and reared in Ire-

land. Their marriage was celebrated November 6, 1865. To this worthy couple were born four children: George A. Phillips, a farmer of Iroquois County; two daughters, Lizzie and Evalen, who both reside at home; and an infant deceased.

The year after his marriage Mr. Phillips rented a farm in La Salle County for a term of six years. This he ran until the spring of 1874, when, coming to Iroquois County, he purchased a quarter-section of raw prairie land. This he broke and fenced and otherwise cultivated and improved. He now has his place well tiled and in every way it shows the care and labor he has expended upon it. He and his estimable lady have passed through the hardships incident to the early pioneers. The latter has been an invalid much of the time.

Politically, Mr. Phillips was identified with the Democratic party and cast his first vote for Stephen A. Douglas. Later he affiliated with the Prohibition party, supporting their nominees and principles. He is a friend of education and is in favor of good public schools. Anything which he can do to forward the cause of education is done by him, and for several years he has served as a member of the School Board. He and his wife and daughters are members of the Congregational Church at Crescent City. Mr. Phillips has been a resident of Illinois for about thirty-six years, eighteen years of which time he has been a resident of Iroquois County, and during that period he has helped to make the county what it is to-day, one of the best in the State. He is well and favorably known throughout this section, and is a man of honor, integrity and enterprise.



WILLIAM R. BURKITT, a dealer and shipper of hay and straw in Pittwood, also one of the leading farmers of Martinton Township, is a native of Virginia. He was born in Washington County on the 12th of March, 1845, and is a son of Simeon Burkitt. His father was born and reared in North Carolina, and in the State of his nativity married Axy Miller, also a native of North Carolina. The father was a

blacksmith by trade and followed that occupation for a number of years prior to his removal to Virginia. In 1846, when our subject was a babe of a year, he removed with his family to Miami County, Ohio, where he engaged in blacksmithing until 1855. That year witnessed his emigration to Illinois. Locating in Middleport, Iroquois County, he established a smithy and carried on business in the line of his chosen trade for a number of years. He is now living a retired life and makes his home with his children in Watseka. His wife was called to her final rest in August, 1885.

The subject of this sketch is the sixth in order of birth in a family of eleven children, nine of whom are yet living: Esther, wife of Abraham Mann, a resident of Darke County, Ohio; W. Troy, who enlisted in the late war as a member of the Ninety-third Ohio Infantry, and died in the service of his country; James, a resident farmer of Miami County, Ohio; America, wife of I. B. Dickerson, a resident of Pennsylvania; W. R., whose name heads this sketch; Andrew, who is living in Iroquois County; John, who makes his home in Watseka; Mary, wife of William Burdick; Loroma, wife of Lott Mote; and Jennie, wife of Dennis Myers, of Kansas.

Mr. Burkitt, whose name heads this record, spent about nine years of his boyhood in Ohio, and when a lad of ten summers came with his parents to this county, where he was reared to manhood. His school privileges were quite limited and since he has attained to years of maturity the greater part of his education has been acquired. In early life he learned the blacksmith's trade in his father's shop and after arriving at his majority he followed farming and various other employments. In 1881, he located in Pittwood and established a blacksmith shop, carrying on business in that line for a period of five years. In the meantime he traded his farm for a stock of goods and embarked in merchandising, to which business he devoted his energies for two years, when he sold out. He then purchased a hay-press and since that time has been engaged quite extensively in baling and shipping hay and straw, shipping on an average about two hundred car-loads annually. During the past three years he has also been engaged in

farming. He owns two hundred and forty acres of land three miles west of Pittwood, a valuable farm which yields to him a good income.

On the 29th of April, 1874, in Watseka, Mr. Burkitt was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. McIntyre. The lady is a native of Ohio, but was reared and educated in Watseka. Prior to her marriage she successfully engaged in teaching. She is a daughter of Robert McIntyre, who was born in the Buckeye State on the 12th of June, 1823, and died November 24, 1873. He was liberally educated and in early life took up the study of law, becoming an eminent member of and a successful practitioner at the Iroquois County Bar. A man of pronounced ability and upright character, his influence was felt far and wide. He was charitable and benevolent almost to a fault, and was universally esteemed, being truly called one of Nature's noblemen. About 1859 he emigrated to Illinois from Mt. Vernon, Ohio, where he had previously resided. This county was then just being opened for settlement. Mr. McIntyre located in what was then known as Middleport, now known as "Old Town," and served as Postmaster at that place during Lincoln's administration. Mr. McIntyre was a great admirer of Lincoln and was a staunch advocate of Republican principles and did all in his power for the promotion and success of that party. The mother of Mrs. Burkitt bore the maiden name of Sarah J. Winterringer. She was a native of Knox County, Ohio, born January 10, 1830. Her death occurred September 2, 1872. Of the Presbyterian Church she was a faithful member. In the McIntyre family were nine children, five sons and four daughters, of whom five are living at this writing, in the winter of 1892-93, namely: John, a professor of music residing in Kansas; Mary J., wife of our subject; Nanie, wife of Taylor Channel, who resides in this county; George, who is living in Pittwood, Ill., and carries on business in connection with Mr. Burkitt; and Fannie, wife of C. Reynolds, a resident farmer of Iroquois County.

Mrs. Burkitt's maidenhood days were spent in Watseka. She acquired an excellent education in the graded schools of "Old Town," and became one of the county's brightest and most successful

teachers. She is a lady of pleasing address, possesses many excellencies of character, and to her husband has proved a valuable helpmate. Her home is the abode of hospitality. By the union of Mr. and Mrs. Burkitt have been born two children, Winnefred and Lolo, but the latter died at the age of two years and seven months. The former is now a student in Battle Creek College, Battle Creek, Mich., where she is pursuing a classical course. She is an excellent musician, has been educated both in vocal and instrumental music, and is a young lady of pronounced literary taste.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Burkitt are members of the Seventh Day Adventist Church of Pittwood and are highly respected citizens who hold an enviable position in social circles. In politics, Mr. Burkitt is a Republican, but has never been an aspirant for political preferment, desiring rather to devote his entire time to his business interests, in which he has met with excellent success. He commenced life a poor man, empty-handed, but by his own labor, enterprise and industry has accumulated a valuable farm and good home. He is now recognized as one of the substantial citizens of the county. Almost his entire life has been passed in this locality, and his honorable, upright career has won him the confidence and esteem of all.



WILLIAM FLESHER, a representative farmer residing on section 20, Iroquois Township, is one of the honored pioneers of the county, who for many years has witnessed the growth and development of this part of the State and aided in the upbuilding and progress of the community in which he makes his home. A native of Ohio, he was born in Meigs County, on the Ohio River, July 11, 1829. His father, a Virginian by birth, was born in 1782, and his grandfather, Henry Flesher, was a native of Germany. Crossing the Atlantic, he became one of the early settlers of Virginia. The Indians were still numerous in the neighborhood of his home, and on

one occasion he was shot by an Indian, his arm being shattered in the attack.

John Flesher, the father of our subject, was then a lad of fourteen years. He grew to manhood in the State of his nativity, and there married Sarah Jackson, who was born in Virginia, but her father was a native of New Jersey. After their marriage they emigrated to the Buckeye State, settling in Meigs County then an almost unbroken wilderness. They located at the mouth of Oldtown Creek, about ten miles above Pomeroy, where Mr. Flesher improved and developed a farm and reared his family. He there made his home until 1835, when he came to Illinois and took up his residence on Spring Creek, Iroquois Township. He was one of the first settlers of that locality, the date of his arrival being November 3, 1835. The work of civilization and progress seemed scarcely begun in this community, the land was in its primitive condition, and few improvements or settlements had been made. The family suffered all the hardships and privations of life on the frontier. They had a long distance to go to market, and had to go about fifty miles to mill. There were no roads and they had to follow Indian trails, or trust to their own memory to guide them on the return journey. Mr. Flesher entered from the Government about a-half section of land and opened up a farm, upon which he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1866. His wife departed this life in 1855, and both were buried in Flesher Cemetery, where a marble monument marks their last resting-place. He was an old Jackson-Democrat in political sentiment, but was never an aspirant for office. Mrs. Flesher was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a consistent Christian lady.

Unto this worthy couple were born ten children, the following of whom grew to maturity: Phoebe, now deceased. Stephen was married and died in this county. He was a blacksmith by trade and one of the pioneer workmen in that line in this community. John, who was also married and reared a family, is now deceased; Jacob has also passed away; Jefferson resides in Watseka; Henry died in January, 1847, leaving a widow to mourn his loss. The deceased members of the family are all

buried in Flesher Cemetery with the exception of Henry, whose remains were interred about three miles from this place.

William Flesher, whose name heads this record, was a lad of seven summers when he came with his parents to this county, where he has since resided. Amid the wild scenes of frontier life he was reared to manhood, and he was early inured to the hard labors of developing and improving a new farm. He remained with his father until his death, and then took charge of the old homestead, a part of which became his through a deed given him by his father in 1852. He has followed farming throughout his entire life, and has been very successful. He owns two hundred and eighty-seven acres of valuable land, under a high state of cultivation and well improved, with a good residence and substantial outbuildings. He also owns two fine flowing wells, both near his home.

On the 26th of November, 1857, Mr. Flesher was joined in wedlock with Mrs. Susanna Kepner, a native of Tippecanoe County, Ind., and a daughter of Benjamin Parker. She was reared and first married in Indiana. By her first marriage he had one child, Alice, who is now the wife of George Stup, of Iroquois County. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Flesher has been born a son, Allen, who married Miss Sarah Curtis, and is now carrying on the home farm. He and his wife have two children. Mr. and Mrs. Flesher also lost three children: Emma became the wife of J. C. Pickens and died in 1890, leaving three children, who are yet living; Maggie is also deceased; and Bennie died at the age of twenty years.

Since becoming a voter, Mr. Flesher has been identified with the Democratic party, and is a stalwart advocate of its principles. He cast his first Presidential vote for Lewis Cass, and has always taken an interest in political affairs, but has never been an aspirant for the honors or emoluments of public office. However, he filled the office of Justice of the Peace for ten consecutive years and then resigned. For the long period of fifty-five years he has known no other home than Iroquois County. As a public-spirited and progressive citizen he has ever borne his part in the development of the county, and has seen the

transformation which the rapid strides of progress have made, until few landmarks of pioneer days yet remain. He is a man of unblemished character, and his upright life has won him the confidence and respect of all, in which his estimable wife also shares.



CHRISTIAN ZUMWALT, a self-made man who is engaged in general farming on section 21, Sheldon Township, was born on the 8th of September, 1824, in Lexington Ky., and is the youngest in a family of eight children whose parents were Philip and Leah (Powell) Zumwalt, also natives of Kentucky. In 1833, when our subject was a lad of nine years, the father removed with his family to Indiana, locating in Fountain County, where he spent his last days, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death occurring in 1837.

No event of special importance occurred during the boyhood of our subject, which was quietly passed in the usual manner of farmer lads. He remained at home until twenty-one years of age and then started out in life for himself, following the occupation to which he was reared. Securing land in Vermillion County, Ind., he engaged in its cultivation for ten years, after which he came to Illinois, in 1855, and east in his lot with the early settlers of Iroquois County. For more than a third of a century he has now made his home in this community. He began farming and prosperity has crowned his efforts until he is now the owner of more than two hundred and forty acres of finely improved farming land. All is under a high state of cultivation and the improvements upon the place stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

Turning from the business to the home life of Mr. Zumwalt, we learn that he was married, on the 18th of February, 1846, to Miss Salinda Oder, who has been his faithful companion and helpmate for forty-six years. The lady is a native of Illinois and a daughter of Joseph Oder. Eight children grace this union, of whom seven are now living,

namely: Mary Jane, wife of J. R. Fox, a resident of Chicago; Martha Elizabeth, wife of L. Mitchell, a resident farmer of Stockland Township; Sarah Jane, wife of Dan Meeker, who is living in McLean County; Adelia, who married George Martin, a resident of Belmont Township; Charles, who is living in McLean County; George, a resident of Sheldon; and Frank at home.

Mr. Zumwalt is a supporter of the Republican party but has never been an office-seeker. The only official positions he has held are in connection with the schools and roads. Himself and wife are faithful members of the Christian Church and are highly respected citizens of the community, who well deserve representation among the prominent residents of Sheldon Township.



JESSE R. EASTBURN, one of the representative farmers and stock-raisers of the county, now owns and operates two hundred and seventy acres of land on section 31, Concord Township. As he is widely and favorably known throughout this community, we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers. He was born in Adams County, Ohio, on the 4th of November, 1824, and is a son of Hezekiah and Ann (Black) Eastburn. His grandfather, Jesse Eastburn, removed with his family from Maryland to Adams County, Ohio, when Hezekiah was a mere lad, and became one of its pioneer settlers. He there entered land and made his home among the Indians for a number of years. He was born about 1770, and his death occurred at the ripe old age of seventy-seven in this county. He came to Illinois about 1836 and was a pioneer of both Adams County, Ohio, and of Iroquois County.

Hezekiah Eastburn was born in Maryland in 1800, and died in 1832, at the early age of thirty-two years, leaving five children, of whom our subject is second in order of birth. On the death of his father, Jesse went to live with an uncle near La Fayette, Ind., and there resided from eight until twenty-one years of age. The common schools

afforded him his educational privileges. On attaining his majority he received forty acres of land from his father's estate, and in after years he purchased the interest of the other heirs in the home farm, so that he now owns all of the land which his father originally purchased.

About three years after taking possession of this farm, Mr. Eastburn was married, on the 6th of September, 1846, to Miss Tabitha Critchfield, of Concord Township, who was born in Coshocton County, Ohio. Two daughters graced the union: Anna, now the wife of Thomas Shrimplin, a resident farmer of Concord Township, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work, and Ellen, wife of Frank Coughenour, of the same township. The mother of this family died on the 9th of November, 1854, and on the 1st of May, 1856, Mr. Eastburn was again married, his second union being with Miss Margaret Howry. The lady is a native of Indiana, her birth having occurred near Rangeville. Her father, Abraham Howry, was born in the year 1800. By trade he was a tailor and followed that business for some time. When the discovery of gold occurred in California, he determined to seek his fortune in that far Western country and made a trip to the Pacific Slope. Soon after his return to his home his death occurred. In his political faith he was a Democrat. The mother of Mrs. Eastburn died when her daughter was quite a small child. The Howry family numbered six children, but Mrs. Eastburn is the only one now living. She was educated in the public schools, and the days of her maidenhood were spent in Illinois, where she was married. She is a member of the United Brethren Church, which is located near her home. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born four children, but one is now deceased, Hezekiah, who died when a babe of a year; Sarah Jane, the eldest living child, is now the wife of John Johnson, a resident of Oklahoma, and they have a family of two children; Mattie became the wife of Albert Rosenberger and their union has also been blessed with two children; Jessie R., the youngest of the family, is still under the parental roof.

Mr. Eastburn votes the Democratic ticket. His father and grandfather supported the same party and his son is also an advocate of the Democracy,

making four generations of Democrats. Our subject has never been an office-seeker, but by his friends was once compelled to accept the position of Supervisor. For twenty-five years he has been connected with the Masonic fraternity, holding membership with Lodge No. 506 in Iroquois. Although he inherited a small farm from his father, he is virtually a self-made man; by his industry, perseverance and good management, he has added to his original farm and has become one of the prosperous and substantial agriculturists of the community. His farm is well tiled and fenced and improved with good buildings and the neat appearance of the place indicates his thrift and attests the supervision of a careful manager. Mr. Eastburn is a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families of the county, and he himself has been prominently identified with the history of this community for many years, doing all in his power to aid in its upbuilding and to promote those enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit.



JACOB MADISON HARMAN, a highly respected farmer of Stockland Township, residing in Sheldon, was born in Randolph County, Mo., on the 31st of December, 1841. His parents, Anthony and Sarah Ann (Turner) Harman, were natives of Virginia and Kentucky respectively. By their union were born two children, our subject and Benjamin T., who died in childhood. The mother was called to her final rest September 10, 1844, passing away at their home in Missouri. After the death of his first wife, Anthony Harman married Mrs. Theodosia Newton, daughter of James Carver, and unto them were born six children: Virginia E., who in the fall of 1865 became the wife of Benjamin T. Lee, a resident of Benton County, by whom she has three children. Oscar P. married Lina Jones, daughter of John H. Jones, of Iroquois County, and with their only child, Leroy, make their home in Milford. Jeremiah R. married Laura Schoon-

over, of Warren County, Ind., by whom he has one son, William, and they reside in Milford, Ill. Emma is the wife of John Hamilton, a resident of Attica, Ind., and unto them have been born two children, a daughter and son, Bessie and Harman. Waldo L. was joined in wedlock with Ellen, daughter of Wilson Coghill, and their home is now in Warren County, Ind. John J. wedded Frances Wagner, daughter of Michael Wagner. They too are residents of Warren County, Ind., and their family numbers four children, one son and three daughters, Pearl, Anna, Docia and Oscar P.

It was about 1839 that Anthony Harman went to Missouri to try his fortune. He resided in that State for about a quarter of a century, and on the 1st of March, 1865, removed to Warren County, Ind., where he still makes his home, engaged in farming and stock-raising. He has followed agricultural pursuits throughout nearly his entire life, and is a highly respected citizen of his adopted county.

Under the parental roof the subject of this sketch was reared to manhood, but when a young man he left home, and in January, 1862, went to Warren County, Ind., where he lived with his uncle, Jacob Harman, until 1864. He then returned to Randolph County, Mo., and was a resident of that locality until April, 1870, when he removed to Benton County, Ind. A year was spent in that place, and in 1871 he came to Iroquois County, where he has since made his home. He located upon the farm that has since been his place of abode, and turning his attention to agricultural pursuits, has since been numbered among the representative and progressive farmers of the community. His landed possessions aggregate six hundred and forty acres. He carries on general farming, and engages quite extensively in stock-dealing, making a specialty of the breeding of Shorthorn cattle. He possesses excellent business ability, and has won a well-deserved prosperity.

On the 27th of April, 1865, Mr. Harman was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Emma Cox, daughter of Jacob and Casandria Cox, of Paris, Monroe County, Mo. Four children have been born of their union, and the family circle yet remains unbroken. Jacob A., born

March 7, 1866, married Miss Emma Flagg, daughter of Rufus Flagg, of Milford, and they have a little son, Harrison. They are now residents of Peoria, Ill., where Jacob is engaged in civil engineering. Charles A., born July 30, 1871, aids his father in the cultivation of the home farm. Ira C., born on the 6th of August, 1879, and John J., born November 23, 1880, are attending school, and are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Harman has led a busy and useful life, yet aside from the attention he has given his business, he has found time to devote to public interests. He has held the office of Commissioner of Highways in Stockland Township for the long period of sixteen years, a fact which indicates his fidelity to duty; and for one term served as Supervisor. In politics he is a stalwart Republican, having supported that party since casting his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. He is a strong adherent of its principles, and takes an active interest in its success. He is ever found in the front of all public enterprises calculated to promote the general welfare and advance the best interests of the community. Mr. and Mrs. Harman and their children are all members of the Christian Church of Milford, in which he has held the office of Deacon for a number of years. He is a prominent and popular man, having many warm friends throughout the community, who esteem him highly for his sterling worth and strict integrity. Socially, Mr. Harman is a member of Lodge No. 153, I. O. O. F., of Milford.



WILLIAM CROUCH, who is now living a retired life in Iroquois, was born near Cadiz, the county seat of Harrison County, Ohio, December 21, 1810, and is the fifth in order of birth in a family of six children, and the only one yet living. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of New Jersey. His father, Robert Crouch, was born in Washington County, Pa., and, after attaining to mature years, was married on the 10th of September, 1799, to Miss Sarah Johnson, also a native of the Keystone State. Her

death occurred in Harrison County, Ohio, in 1813, and our subject consequently remembers her but slightly. Mr. Crouch was again married, and by the second union had six children. He was a farmer by occupation. On selling his land in Harrison County, he removed to Jefferson County, Ohio, where he purchased a farm and made his home for a number of years. In the fall of 1836, he removed to Coshocton County, where his death occurred ten years later, in 1846.

Our subject accompanied his father on his removal to Jefferson County, and with him went to Coshocton County, where he became acquainted with and married Miss Sarah Lyons, who was born in Belmont County on the 8th of May, 1819. When only six years of age, she was taken to Coshocton County by her parents, John and Nancy (Tiggart) Lyons. Her father died in that county July 12, 1853, and his wife passed away on the 10th of July, 1851. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Crouch were born ten children, six of whom are yet living. The eldest, John, is represented elsewhere in this work; Mrs. Jane Karr still resides in Coshocton County; Robert is living in Sheldon, Ill.; William L., who resides with his parents, is a widower, and has one child; Mrs. Eveline Darling makes her home in Concord Township; and Hugh is also living in Concord Township.

After his marriage Mr. Crouch purchased eighty acres of land, but a few years later sold that farm and bought ninety-two acres in the same county, which he owned upon his removal to Iroquois County in 1878, where his children had all previously settled except his eldest daughter. He owns good residence property in the village and also a farm of ninety-two acres under a high state of cultivation and well improved with substantial buildings, good orchard, etc.

Mr. Crouch cast his first Presidential vote for the Whig candidate in 1832, and voted for William Henry Harrison in 1840. In 1856, he supported John C. Fremont, in 1860 cast his ballot for Lincoln and in 1864 for George B. McClellan. Since that time he has been a Democrat. In Ohio he served as Trustee of his township, but has never been an office-seeker. For more than half a century himself and wife have been mem-

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John G. Sheldon

bers of the Presbyterian Church, and for many years he served as Elder in Ohio. They are benevolent people, whose lives have been full of good deeds, and their many excellencies of character have won them the esteem and confidence of all. We feel assured that their many friends will receive this record of their lives with interest.



JOHNS S. SHELTON, who is engaged in the banking business in Loda, and is also a dealer in real estate and farm loans, well deserves representation in this volume, for he is one of the honored pioneers of the county. The Sheldon family located in the county more than a third of a century ago, and our subject has experienced many of the hardships and trials incident to life on the frontier. He was born in Ash-tabula County, near Trumbull, Ohio, September 15, 1848, and is a son of John Austin and Esther M. (Rogers) Sheldon. The parents were both natives of New York, the father born near Cooperstown, and the mother near Malone, in Franklin County. They became the parents of a family of eight children, as follows: George Edward, John S., Fidelia E., Laura H., Clara R., Ruth A., Fannie A., and James H.

In January, 1858, John Austin Sheldon, accompanied by his family, left Ohio and came to Illinois, locating about seven miles west of Chebanse, in Iroquois County, on a farm of four hundred and eighty acres, where he resided for about four years. He then removed to Clifton in 1862, and purchased a farm, but sold it the same season. The following year he purchased a tract of one hundred and forty acres of land, a mile and a-half west of Plato, where he made his home until called to his final rest on Thanksgiving Day of 1866. His death resulted from injuries sustained by falling from a scaffold. Mrs. Sheldon is still living, and makes her home among her children, spending a considerable portion of her time with her son, John S., in Loda.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of nine years when he came with his parents to this

county. The summer of 1858 he herded cattle on the prairies west of Chebanse, near Milks Grove, and for many years continued to be thus employed. The family lived in true pioneer style. Mr. Sheldon has seen his father shoot wolves from his bed-room window. The early educational advantages of our subject were very limited. He would study his lessons while herding cattle, and if he could drive the herd near enough to the schoolhouse, he would go in and recite. In this way he became familiar with the common English branches, but by subsequent reading, observation and business experience, he has become a well-informed man. In 1862, when his father removed to Clifton, he took a herd of over three hundred cattle, of which he had charge for five months. The pen into which the cattle were yarded at night was about a mile and a-half west of the depot, and they were herded over a territory extending west seventeen miles, which was entirely destitute of improvement. We thus see that the boyhood days of our subject were not devoted to play, but by his early labors he developed a self-reliance and force of character which have proved of incalculable benefit to him in later years.

On the 15th of October, 1885, Mr. Sheldon wedded Miss Phebe R. Hathaway, daughter of Paul S. and Mary (Benson) Hathaway, residents of New Bedford, Mass. Three children grace their union, two sons and a daughter: Phebe H., John S., Jr., and Paul S. They have a pleasant and comfortable home in Loda, which is the abode of hospitality.

On the 22d of August, 1878, Mr. Sheldon came to Loda. The five preceding years had been spent in Watseka, in the abstract office of C. F. McNeill. When he came to Loda he entered the employ of Hon. A. Goodell, who was engaged in the banking, real-estate and loan business, and remained in his employ until the 1st of January, 1887, when he established business for himself in the same line. He has been successful, and has won a well-deserved competence. He owns some good business blocks in Loda, in addition to the building in which he is now doing business. He built the first brick building in Loda, in company with E. E. Slocum, one of the old settlers. It was

erected in 1887, and on the 28th of October, 1891, was completely destroyed by fire, except the walls and vault, but this did not cause Mr. Sheldon to suspend business operations, except for about two hours, as he found his vault intact and his papers and money in a good condition. He is a man of indomitable will and perseverance, and whatever he undertakes he carries forward to a successful completion. In addition to his other property he also owns a one hundred and sixty acre farm in Indiana.

In politics, Mr. Sheldon is a Republican, an inflexible adherent of the principles of that party. He has served as Village Trustee and in other public offices of trust, and is now School Treasurer. His public duties are ever discharged with promptness and fidelity, and he is alike true to every private trust. With the Congregational Church he holds membership. Socially, he belongs to Onarga Lodge No. 208, I. O. O. F., having been a member for twenty-two years.



ALVAN L. PEARCE, who owns one of the model farms of Concord Township, situated on section 6, is one of the worthy citizens that Indiana has furnished this county. He was born in Warren County, on the 9th of September, 1835. His grandfather, Thomas Pearce, was a native of Fleming County, Ky., and was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary War. Andrew Pearce, the father of our subject, was a native of Champaign County, Ohio, born in 1794. He served in the War of 1812, and in recognition of his services drew a pension and received a land warrant, which he located in Prairie Green Township, this county. He married Miss Mehnda Lewis, who was born and reared in the same locality as her husband. Soon after their marriage they removed to Indiana, where Mr. Pearce engaged in farming. His death occurred in Warren County, at the ripe old age of eighty-nine years. Nine children were born of the first marriage, seven of whom are still living. After the mother's

death, Mr. Pearce was again married, and of the second family there is one surviving child.

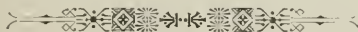
Our subject was the fifth in order of birth. He was reared to manhood in the county of his nativity, and in the district schools of the neighborhood was educated. His mother died when he was a lad of twelve years. On attaining his majority, he started out in life for himself, operating a rented farm. He was married soon afterward near Attica, Ind., to Miss Esther Armstrong, who was born in Arkansas, but when she was a year old, her parents returned to Indiana, and she grew to womanhood in Warren County, on a farm adjoining that on which Mr. Pearce spent his boyhood and youth. Their wedding was celebrated on the 27th of August, 1857.

In 1859 Mr. Pearce emigrated with his family to this county, renting land near Milford, where he resided until 1865, when he removed to his present home, having purchased forty acres of wild land at \$15 per acre. Upon it was a small cabin, but in 1872 it was replaced by the present substantial residence. His next purchase of land was made in 1866, and consisted of forty acres at \$3.50 per acre. In 1869 he bought a similar tract for \$700; in 1871 he purchased forty acres at \$20 per acre; in 1873 he bought sixty acres at \$10; in 1875, sixty acres at \$25 per acre; and in 1877 a tract of eighty acres at \$27. At his low estimate his land is now worth \$50 per acre, and his extensive farm is one of the finest in the county. Upon it are good fences, a fine bearing orchard, well-trimmed hedges, a windmill, the latest improved machinery, all necessary buildings and all modern accessories. The place seems complete in all its appointments, and the owner is regarded as one of the progressive and prosperous agriculturists of the community.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pearce have been born five children, three of whom are now living. Fannie died in this county at the age of fourteen, and lies buried in Prairie Dell Cemetery; N. S., born in Milford Township, September 8, 1862, was married in Kensington, Ill., February 10, 1892, to Miss Etta Barriball, and resides on the home farm; Rosalie, born in Milford Township, February 5, 1865, became the wife of Charles Shaw, a farmer

of Martinton Township, December 17, 1890; Dee died March 3, 1892, at the age of twenty years, and her remains were interred in Prairie Dell Cemetery; Arthur, born November 30, 1872, is yet at home. Mr. Pearce has given his children good educational advantages, thus fitting them for the practical and responsible duties of life. Two have been students in the Normal College of Valparaiso, Ind.; and Arthur, who was there graduated in music, is now a teacher of that art.

Mr. Pearce attained his majority a few days before the Presidential election of 1856, and cast his first vote for James Buchanan. He has since supported the Democratic party, except on one or two occasions when he voted the Prohibition ticket. With the exception of three years, he has been School Director since coming to this county, and was Supervisor for four terms. In 1888 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 15th of April, and was laid to rest in Prairie Dell Cemetery. She was a consistent member of the Christian Church, to which Mr. Pearce and his children also belong. He has been a member since 1872, is now serving as Elder, and for three years has served as Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He is a charitable and benevolent man, and a friend to all educational, social and moral interests. The community finds in him a valued citizen, public-spirited and progressive, and his sterling worth has won him a large circle of friends.



CHARLES SHERMAN, an honored pioneer of Iroquois County, now residing in Watseka, located in Bunkum on the 10th of May, 1813, and has since made his home in this locality. He has been prominently identified with the early history of the county in many ways. He was born in Weathersfield, Windsor County, Vt., February 21, 1816, and comes of an old New England family. His paternal grandfather, Samuel Sherman, was a native of Connecticut. His father, Samuel Sherman, Jr., was born in Windsor County, and throughout the greater part of his life fol-

lowed the occupation of farming. He married Abigail Squires, a native of the same county. Her death occurred in Vermont in December, 1856. Mr. Sherman long survived his wife and died while visiting in Wisconsin, at the age of seventy-five years.

The subject of this sketch was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads, and the common schools afforded him his educational privileges. When twenty years of age he bade good-bye to the Green Mountain State and emigrated Westward, locating in Milwaukee, Wis., on the 26th of October, 1836. After a year spent at that place he removed to Chicago and was foreman on the Canal for a year. He then engaged in the grocery business at that place, and in 1839 he entered from the Government half a section of land, upon which the city of Evanston is now built. On leaving Chicago, he removed to Bunkum, and, as before stated, arrived in that place on the 10th of May, 1843. Opening a general store, he embarked in merchandising, and to that business devoted his energies for some time.

Mr. Sherman was there married on the 7th of December, 1844, to Miss Nancy Hoyt, a native of Butler County, Ohio, and a daughter of Amos Hoyt. In 1837, she came to Iroquois County with her parents, who are numbered among its earliest settlers. They located near Bunkum and kept the first hotel in that place. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sherman were born six children, three of whom are yet living: Eva, wife of Judge Moses Euans, of Watseka; Charles, who married Miss Eva Blue, and resides on his father's farm of four hundred acres in Belmont Township, this county; and Nellie, who is at home. The other three died in childhood.

In politics, Mr. Sherman is identified with the Democratic party. He continued to reside in Bunkum until 1861, when he removed to Watseka and became its first Mayor. He has also held other official positions. He came to Iroquois County a young man in very limited circumstances, but by good business ability, perseverance, enterprise and good management, he has acquired a handsome competence, which now enables him to live a retired life and rest in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. He owns

considerable land, including four hundred acres in Belmont Township and a valuable tract of sixty-five acres within the corporation limits of Watseka. He is one of the honored pioneers of the county, has witnessed its entire growth and has aided in its development and upbuilding. His friends throughout the community are many and he is held in the highest esteem by all.



JOHN L. CAENEY, who is now living a retired life on section 30, Iroquois Township, is one of the extensive land-owners of the county. It is with pleasure that we present to our readers the life record of the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He is one of the pioneers of Illinois, and for nearly twenty years has been one of the enterprising and substantial farmers of this community. A native of the Empire State, he was born in the city of Auburn November 24, 1820, and is the third in order of birth in a family of three sons and two daughters. His father, Lawrence Caenev, was a native of Ireland, and when a young man emigrated to the New World. He married Hopy Treat, who was born in Connecticut and came of one of the prominent early families of that State.

After his marriage, Lawrence Caenev resided four years in Auburn, and then removed to Monroe County, N. Y., where he was engaged in farming. He there reared his family and spent the remainder of his life. Both parents died in that county. Of their children, Mary Ann grew to mature years, but is now deceased; Charles T. died in infancy; John L. is the next younger; Charles is a resident farmer of Monroe County, N. Y.; and Celia is the widow of Reuben Mather and resides in Michigan.

The subject of this sketch grew to man's estate in Monroe County, N. Y., spending his youth upon a farm. He had the advantage of a very good common-school education, supplemented by about a year's study at the Brockport Institute. He then learned the carpenter's trade, and for a few years followed that occupation in the East;

but believing the rapidly growing West furnished better opportunities for young men, he emigrated to Illinois in 1846, locating in Kendall County, where he engaged in carpenter work, which he carried on for about twenty years. During this time, however, he purchased a tract of raw land and opened up a farm, which he continued to operate for some time. In 1858, he sold the farm, and, removing to Iowa, purchased a tract of five hundred acres of land in Marshall County, where he spent two years. He then returned to Kendall County, bought back the old farm, and there carried on agricultural pursuits until 1874. That year witnessed his arrival in Iroquois County and saw him located on his present farm, where he now resides. This place he had purchased, however, in 1869.

In Kendall County, Ill., in 1849, Mr. Caenev was united in marriage with Miss Esther C. Lincoln, a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., who in her girlhood came with her father, Jedediah Lincoln, one of the honored pioneers of Kendall County. Four children were born of this union, but the eldest, Charles A., died in his third year; Celia is the wife of Edward Haroun, who is engaged in business in Watseka, and they have a family of five children; Mary is the wife of William Leonard, a resident of Washington; and Frank is an enterprising farmer, who operates the old homestead. He married Sophia Muller, of this county. He is a man of good education and business ability, and he and his estimable wife are held in high esteem by their many friends throughout the community. The mother of this family was called to her final rest in 1885. For thirty-six years she was a true and faithful wife and helpmate to her husband. She possessed many noble traits of character, and her death was deeply regretted by all who knew her.

On coming to this county, Mr. Caenev, in connection with the home farm, purchased a half-section of land on section 10, Ash Grove Township. He has both farms well tiled and improved and under a high state of cultivation. His possessions aggregate five hundred acres of valuable land, which yields to him a golden tribute in return for his care and cultivation. Upon the home

farm is the residence, a pleasant and substantial dwelling; the barns and outbuildings are models of convenience, and he also has a good bearing orchard. He commenced life for himself a poor man, but has by his own industry, enterprise and labor accumulated a large property, including two valuable farms and a good home, and is now one of the thrifty and substantial agriculturists of the county.

Mr. Caveney cast his first Presidential vote for James K. Polk, and in early life was a Jacksonian Democrat, but has long been connected with the Republican party, with which he now affiliates. He has never been an aspirant for office, but has held a number of official positions of honor and trust. He is a friend to education and a firm believer in the public-school system, and does all in his power for the advancement of schools in the community. For almost half a century he has been a resident of Illinois, and is widely and favorably known in this and adjoining counties. He has helped to make Iroquois County what it is to-day, and ever bears his part in all public works. He is a man of upright character and sterling worth, who has won the confidence and respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



SPOTSWOOD AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON, a lineal descendant of the great Washington family that gave to America the greatest historic character in its annals, was a pioneer lawyer of Iroquois County and a resident of Old Middleport in 1846, then the county seat. The subject of this sketch was born in Jefferson County, Va., on the 17th of July, 1811, and was a son of Bushrod, Jr., and Henrietta (Spotswood) Washington, who were also natives of the Old Dominion. He was a grandson of Col. William Augustine Washington. The last-named was the son of Lawrence, a half-brother of Gen. George Washington.

Our subject was reared in his native State and received a thorough classical education. At thir-

teen years of age, he entered the United States Navy, where he served three years, and then returned home, completing his education under private tutors. He took up surveying, and followed it for several years. In 1837, he went to the then Territory of Michigan, and in Kalamazoo, on the 15th of April, 1837, was united in marriage with Miss Evaline Fletcher, daughter of Benjamin Fletcher. The lady was born in Romney, Hampshire County, Va. Mr. Washington remained in Michigan until 1843, engaged in surveying and teaching school. He then removed to Kankakee County, Ill., to Bourbonnais Grove, where he spent two years, and then came to Iroquois County, settling at Middleport, then the county seat. He had studied law while in Kankakee County under James Fletcher, and was admitted to the bar in 1848. He at once entered upon the practice of this profession at Middleport, which he continued up to the time of the breaking out of the late war.

True to the patriotic instincts of his family, Mr. Washington enlisted in the War for the Union. He is said to have been the first enlisted soldier from Iroquois County. At that time, he was nearly fifty years of age, and his hair was already turning gray. In order to avoid being rejected on account of age, he dyed his hair and whiskers black. He entered the volunteer service of the United States as a private of Company I, Twentieth Illinois Infantry, and after eighteen months of active service he was discharged on account of physical disability. On his return from the war, he went to Baltimore, where he recovered his health, and then went back to Illinois and helped to recruit the One Hundred and Thirteenth Regiment, in which he enlisted as a private, but was assigned to duty as Company Clerk. At the expiration of thirteen months, he received a final discharge on account of ill-health. His death occurred August 26, 1865, resulting from the exposure and hardships of army life.

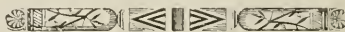
Mr. Washington was a Democrat in politics, and organized the Democratic party in Iroquois County. In early life he was Superintendent of Schools. He was a member of the Episcopal

Church, the church to which his illustrious ancestors belonged in Colonial times. The private official seal of Gen. George Washington, the one that sealed the fate of Maj. Andre, was devised in the will of Gen. Washington to the eldest male heir bearing the family name. It accordingly became the property of Lawrence, half-brother of the General, and by direct line of inheritance fell to Col. William A., then to Bushrod, Jr., later to Spotswood A., and is now the property of Bushrod D., of Chicago. On the face is inscribed the motto, "Exitus acta proba" (the event justifies the deed), encircled by a wreath, also a dove resting on a coronet cut in white agate. During the war Spotswood A. Washington, of this sketch, made five thousand impressions of the seal in wax, and presented them to the Ladies' Aid Society of Chicago, to be sold for the benefit of sick and wounded soldiers in hospitals.

Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Washington. Two died at birth, and four lived to mature years. Bushrod W., the eldest surviving child, who was born September 20, 1841, married Miss Martha McRae, of Macon, Ga., and resides in Chicago, where he is a painter and decorator; James P., who was born in Will County, Ill., July 4, 1846, married Miss Caroline McRae, daughter of Daniel M. McRae. The lady was born in Newton County, Mo. They have one child, a daughter, Ellen. James is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a painter by trade. William, the youngest son, was born July 26, 1849, and married Louisa Hooker and they live in Watseka. Estella, the youngest of the family, was born September 27, 1852, became the wife of Delbert Kice and died February 18, 1892. The two elder sons served in the war. Bushrod enlisted in April, 1861, and served in the First Illinois Light Artillery. He was in the service four years and nineteen days, and was First Sergeant when mustered out. James was a member of Company B, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry. He enlisted in May, 1863, and served one year.

Mrs. Washington, who was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, died December 28,

1877. Spotswood A. Washington was a Royal Arch Mason, and joined that order in 1852. He was a man of fine mental attainments, a great linguist and a thorough scholar.



JAMES COLMAN, one of the highly respected citizens of Ridgeland Township, residing on section 23, is a native of the Pine Tree State. He was born in York County on the 26th of April, 1815, in the same house where his mother and grandmother were born. He is a son of Enoch and Susan (Patton) Colman, whose family numbered the following children: Sarah; Mary; Lucy, twin sister of Mary, now deceased; Anna, also deceased; James, whose name heads this sketch; Susan, and Enoch, who is living on the old homestead in Maine. The father of this family was a carpenter by trade and followed that occupation during the greater part of his life. He died on the 12th of November, 1830. His wife died in 1882, having reached the advanced age of eighty-six years. Both were members of the Methodist Church and were highly respected citizens.

James Colman was reared to manhood on his father's farm in the State of his nativity and was early inured to hard labor, in the days when farming was mostly done with the hoe. His educational privileges were quite limited, but by subsequent reading, experience and observation, he has become a well-informed man. His library is an extensive one, containing works on history and the leading theological works of the Baptist, Presbyterian, Congregational and Methodist Churches. After his father's death, he took charge of the farm and engaged in its operation until 1835, when he left Maine and went to Lowell, Mass. He there worked at the carpenter's trade during his residence of about ten months. He then returned home, where he remained until the following spring, when he went to Boston, Mass., where he was located during the greater part of three years. Again he worked at the carpenter's trade, and by his industry, perseverance and economy accumu-

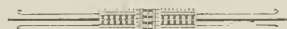
lated a small capital. This was in 1839. He then determined to attend the Maine Wesleyan Seminary, located at Kent's Hill, Me., the first institution of learning of the Methodist Episcopal Church in that State. He there pursued his studies two years, preparing himself for the ministry, after which he became a local preacher. In 1841, he left the Pine Tree State and started Westward, traveling until he arrived at Greencastle, Ind., where he made a location. His worldly possessions at that time consisted of \$16. He there began working at his trade of carpentering, which he followed for a time, and afterward attended Asbury, now De Pauw, University for two terms. He then joined the Conference, traveling up and down the Wabash River from Eugene to Clinton until 1847.

It was in that year that Mr. Colman came to Illinois. He made his first location in Georgetown, near Danville, where he remained for one and one-half years, working at his trade and preaching. In 1850, he came to Iroquois County, locating in Pigeon Grove Township, where he purchased forty acres of land upon the present site of Cissna Park. He also entered a tract of forty acres from the Government. A short time afterward, he bought two hundred acres of Government land in Ash Grove Township and made his home thereon until the year 1855, when he joined again the traveling connection under John Flowers, continuing with the same for about six years. Having to foreclose a mortgage on his farm in Ash Grove Township, which he had sold on re-entering the ministry, he returned to the farm and engaged in its cultivation and development until 1872, when he removed to Ridgeland Township, having purchased one hundred and thirty acres of land on section 23. Upon this farm he has since made his home, and its neat appearance indicates his careful supervision.

November 16, 1850, Mr. Colman was married to Miss Deborah Ann Keath, who was born in Bourbon County, Ky., April 17, 1826. She is a daughter of the Rev. Joseph Keath, a native of Kentucky. He married Delilah Case, of the same State. In 1828, they emigrated to Indiana, where his wife died in early life. He spent his last days in Iroquois County, where he died in his eightieth

year. For more than fifty years he was a local minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church. The following children graced their union, but Joseph, their first-born, died in infancy; Hannah E. and Mary L. are also deceased; Martha A. is the wife of T. E. McQueen; Sarah E. is successfully engaged in school teaching; Susan is the wife of William Hadley; James E. and Emily J. are both deceased.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Colman was a Free-soiler and an ultra-Abolitionist and is now a Prohibitionist. He has long been an ardent advocate of temperance principles and now supports that party which embodies his views on the subject. He was the organizer of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Del Rey, and has ever been prominent in church work, earnestly laboring in the Master's vineyard for the upbuilding of His cause. His honorable, upright life is well worthy of emulation and has won him the confidence and the high esteem of many friends and acquaintances throughout the community.



CHARLES SHERMAN, JR., a prominent farmer of Belmont Township, residing on section 25, has the honor of being a native of this county. He was born in Bunkum on the 13th of July, 1855, and is a son of Charles and Nancy (White) Sherman, whose sketch will be found on another page.

Our subject spent the first six years of his life in Bunkum, and then removed to Wateka with his parents, where he was reared to manhood. His education was acquired in the public schools and in Woodstock County, Ontario, and he also took a commercial course in Hamilton. His first business venture was as a lumber dealer. He carried on operations in that line in Sheldon for about three years, after which he went to Kansas, in 1878, purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land and began farming. The year 1880 witnessed his return to Illinois, when he settled upon his present farm, comprising four hundred acres of valuable land. It has now been his home for twelve years, and in this period he has made it one of the model farms

of the community. The land is under a high state of cultivation, and it is supplied with all necessary improvements.

Mr. Sherman was married in Kansas, in 1879, to Miss Eva Blue, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of William and Clara Blue. Her father is now deceased, but her mother yet resides in Kansas. One child has been born to their union, Earl, born July 11, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Sherman are prominent citizens of the community, and in social circles they rank high.

Socially, our subject is a member of the Odd Fellows' Society of Woodland, and has filled all of its offices. He cast his first Presidential vote for Samuel J. Tilden, and has since been a stalwart supporter of the principles of the Democratic party. He takes an active part in all that tends to uphold Democracy and insure its success, and has many times been a delegate to the county, Congressional and State conventions. With the exception of the two years spent in Kansas, Mr. Sherman has known no other home than Iroquois County. He is a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family, and is himself numbered among the early settlers. He is recognized as an intelligent, progressive and enterprising young man, and with pleasure we present to our readers his life record.



MILTON ANDERSON is a prominent and influential citizen of Sheldon. A noted historian has said that the history of a country is best told in the lives of its citizens, and this is true, for they have been its builders. Mr. Anderson of this sketch was born in Jefferson County, Ind., March 23, 1838. His grandfather, William G. Anderson, was born near Carlisle, Pa., in June, 1788, and married Anna Whittaker, who was born at Ft. Du Quesne, now Pittsburgh, January 30, 1787. The parents of our subject were Elijah W. and Lucinda (Lott) Anderson. The father was born in Shelby County, Ky., in 1812, but was mostly reared in Indiana and his education was acquired in the common schools. He is a miller by trade but has followed farming throughout much

of his life. He now resides in Bloomington, Ill. In politics, he was an old-line Whig until the organization of the Republican party, when he joined its ranks and has since upheld its banner. With the Christian Church he holds membership. The mother of our subject was a native of Kentucky and died when her son was only three years of age. She was a member of the Baptist Church.

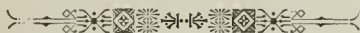
Milton Anderson is the only survivor of a family of four children, three sons and a daughter. In his early youth he attended the common schools but is mostly self-educated. He remained in his native State until fourteen years of age, when alone he came to Illinois, locating in Bloomington in 1850. Since that time he has been dependent upon his own resources, and whatever success he has achieved in life is due entirely to his own efforts. For a time he worked on the grades for the Chicago & Alton and Illinois Central Railroads, and remained in Bloomington until after the breaking out of the late war. Responding to the call for troops, he enlisted in 1861 in a company under Capt. McNulta, but as the quota was full his company was not accepted.

As he could not go to the front, Mr. Anderson went to Indianapolis and entered the employ of the Bee Line Railroad Company as conductor, being thus employed for a period of eight years. His run was between Indianapolis and Crestline. After eight years' connection with that road, he was changed to the Pan Handle, with which he remained for the long period of sixteen years one of the faithful and trusted employes of the road, as his long-continued service plainly indicates.

On the 1st of May, 1872, Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Armina J. Fleager, daughter of Charles and Mary (Wetzell) Fleager. Her father, a native of Pennsylvania, was born August 9, 1800, and died March 5, 1875. The mother was born in the Keystone State, November 11, 1807, and died March 15, 1866. Both were faithful and consistent members of the Lutheran Church and Mr. Fleager was one of its officers for the long period of twenty-eight years. Unto this worthy couple were born thirteen children, but only two are now living: W. B. Fleager, who is represented elsewhere in this volume; and Mrs.

Anderson, who was born in Carlisle, Pa., September 28, 1851. Unto our subject and his wife have been born four children: Mary L., who is now pursuing a classical course of study in the Northwestern University of Evanston, Ill., from which she expects to graduate in the Class of '95. She is also quite proficient in instrumental music and possesses considerable artistic talent. Helen is a graduate of the Sheldon High School; Harry is a member of the Sophomore Class in Sheldon; and Bertha completes the family.

In politics Mr. Anderson is a stalwart supporter of the Republican party, with which he has been identified since he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln; however, he has never been an office-seeker. Socially, he is a member of Davy Crockett Camp No. 502, M. W. A., and of the Patriotic Order of Sons of America of Sheldon. He was instrumental in successfully establishing, in 1888, the Farmers' Co-operation Grain Association of Sheldon. An elevator was built and prosperity has since attended the enterprise. Mr. Anderson is a large land-owner, his possessions aggregating one hundred and sixty-six acres of good land near Colfax, Ill., five hundred and sixteen acres near Kentland, Ind., and two hundred and forty-seven in Humboldt County, Iowa, besides his beautiful residence in Sheldon. Himself and wife are classed among the prominent citizens of this community and in social circles they hold an enviable position. He is a self-made man whose example is well worthy of emulation.



ROBERT GOODFELLOW is engaged in farming on section 25, Papineau Township. He is a native of Scotland, his birth having occurred on the 8th of May, 1812, near the city of Glasgow. He is a son of John Goodfellow, who grew up and married in Scotland Mary Gilchrist, who was reared in that country, though a native of Ireland. The father emigrated to Canada in 1843 and settled in Ontario. He was one of the pioneers of the section in which he located and had to clear and improve a farm in

what was practically a wilderness. There he lived and reared his family and made his home until 1868. His widow is still living, residing with a daughter in Canada.

In their family were three sons and three daughters, all of whom lived to mature years. The eldest, David, is a prosperous farmer in Canada; Robert is next in order of birth; John also carries on agricultural pursuits in Canada; Susanna is the wife of Norman Curl, of Northern Michigan; Mary is the wife of Andrew House, of Canada; and Ellen Jane is the youngest of the family.

Robert Goodfellow passed his early years on his father's farm in the usual manner of farmer boys. He received limited school advantages and is mostly self-educated since arriving at manhood. He came to this county in 1860, arriving here in March of that year. He first started to work on a farm, being employed for several years by the month.

In 1859, Mr. Goodfellow was married in New York and came here with his young wife in 1860. Four children grace their union: Estella is the wife of Mr. Addas, of Denver, Colo.; Clara is the wife of Charles Pierce, of this county; William is married and resides in Northern Michigan; and Lloyd also lives in Michigan. The mother of these children died in February, 1871. On the 13th of November, 1871, he was united in marriage with Jane H. Bertram, who was born and reared in Canada, a daughter of William Bertram. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Goodfellow have been born four children: Ida Jane, the wife of A. Passom, of Nebraska; Libbie E., who resides at home; Grace, who died at the age of four years; and one who died in infancy. The father of Mrs. Goodfellow has been for many years a prominent farmer in Canada. He reared a family of eight children, as follows: Wesley, of Harrowsmith, who conducts a carriage manufactory in Ontario; George Henry, who also conducts a carriage manufactory; Jane H.; Emily, wife of James Brown, of Keath, Ontario; Ada, wife of Nelson Tatro, of Clifton, Ill.; William D., a carriage manufacturer of Parham, Ontario; Elizabeth, wife of Claton Wager, a Postmaster of Parham; and Maggie, wife of Carson Barr, who also lives in Parham. The mother of the family is deceased.

The subject of this sketch after coming to this county rented a farm, which he operated for a few years, and in 1867 purchased the land where he now resides. This he has placed under a high state of cultivation, and the marks of care and thrift are evident on every hand. Mr. Goodfellow is identified with the Republican party, his first ballot having been cast for Gen. Grant. He takes an active part in all local affairs and has held a number of official positions to the satisfaction of all concerned. He has served for twenty consecutive years as Constable and proved most efficient and trustworthy, as the fact of his being so often re-elected to the position shows. He has also served as a member of the County Board. Mr. Goodfellow has always given his hearty support to all measures tending to the advancement of the best interests of the public, and has always been a friend to education. He has served as a member of the School Board. He and his estimable wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which they give their interest and support. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is the Noble Grand of Papineau Lodge. He is well known in this community and is much respected as a man of strict integrity and honor. Mr. and Mrs. Goodfellow are charitable and benevolent people and have opened their home to Owen Stanley, a child of three and one-half years, whom they adopted at the age of three months.



CHESTER L. HART, proprietor of the Union House, the leading hotel of Crescent City, and one of the active and enterprising business men of this place, is a native of Vermont. He was born in the Green Mountain State on the 15th of November, 1838. His father was also a native of Vermont and there grew to manhood and married Margaret Spears, who was born in Pennsylvania. In 1843, when our subject was a lad of only five summers, John Hart removed with his family to Canada, settling near Belleville. He was a shoe-maker by trade, but after locating in

Canada, he engaged in the mercantile business in the Sixth Concession of Tyendinaga, where he reared his family and spent the remainder of his life. He passed away May 21, 1829, and his wife had passed away ere her husband's death.

We now take up the personal history of the gentleman whose name heads this record. The days of his boyhood and youth were mostly passed upon the farm, and in the common schools he acquired his education. After attaining to years of maturity, he married on the 29th of June, 1857, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Jane Rutan, a native of Canada, and a daughter of George H. Rutan, a substantial farmer. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born two children, a son and daughter: Harvey W. is now station agent and telegraph operator in Texas. The daughter, Mrs. Allie Peters, resides at home. She has one son, Charles D.

After his marriage, Mr. Hart engaged in agricultural pursuits in Canada, being thus employed until 1869, when he came to the United States, locating in Kankakee, Ill. He there engaged in farming for about six years, after which he sold his land and came to Iroquois County, making a settlement in Iroquois Township. To the operation and development of his farm he successfully devoted his energies until 1884, when he sold out and purchased the hotel property in Crescent City. Removing to this place, he has since been engaged in the hotel business. He has greatly improved his building, has erected an addition, and is prepared to entertain the traveling public in first-class style. The comfort of his guests receives due attention, and by the excellent manner in which he treats his customers and the facilities and conveniences he affords, he has won a liberal patronage.

Politically, Mr. Hart is identified with the Republican party, with which he has voted since he cast his first Presidential ballot for Gen. U. S. Grant. He takes quite a prominent part in political affairs, feels a warm interest in the success of his party and in its growth, but has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to devote his time exclusively to his business interests. Himself and wife are faithful members and prominent workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he

has been connected since eighteen years of age. He is one of its Trustees and Stewards and is a liberal contributor to its support. Socially, he is connected with the Odd Fellows and is Past Grand of Crescent City Lodge. Mine host of the Union House is a pleasant, genial gentleman, and since their residence in Iroquois County, both Mr. and Mrs. Hart have made many warm friends by their many sterling qualities.



JAMES M. CALKIN, a retired farmer, who resides on section 20, Iroquois Township, is one of the honored pioneers and enterprising and substantial agriculturists of the county, whose name we wish to add to the list of leading citizens herein given. A native of the Empire State, he was born in Sullivan County, on the 18th of January, 1813. The Calkin family is of Welsh descent, and its members were among the early and prominent settlers of New York.

The grandfather of our subject, who was a native of Orange County, N. Y., became a large land-owner and possessed several thousand acres. He met death by accident, being drowned when his son Moses, the father of our subject, was about two years of age. The latter was born in Sullivan County, N. Y., May 8, 1785. Oliver Calkin was a soldier and served throughout the Revolutionary War, participating in the battle of Lackawaxen, on the Delaware River, where two of his brothers-in-law were killed. Moses Calkin served his country in the War of 1812. He was a man of good education, and in his younger years followed the profession of teaching. In the county of his nativity he married Elizabeth Mitchell, who was born and reared in Woodbury, Conn., and was also a teacher in early life. Mr. Calkin succeeded to the old family homestead, and there reared his family and spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring on the old farm February 12, 1865. His wife passed away several years previous, being called to her final rest April 20, 1846. Both parents were buried in the Presby-

terian Cemetery near the old home, where a monument has been erected to their memory. They were both active members of the Presbyterian Church and were highly respected citizens.

The subject of this sketch is the oldest of a family of eight children, six of whom were teachers in early life. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent on his father's farm, where he remained until after he had attained his majority. The year 1836 witnessed his emigration to Illinois. On the 11th of June he arrived in Chicago, which was then a mere hamlet, and soon afterward located in Will County, settling on raw land in Du Page Township, where he opened up a farm. There he engaged in agricultural pursuits for twenty-nine long years, with the exception of a short time spent in the Far West. Attracted by the discovery of gold in California, he went to the Pacific Slope in the hope of making his fortune. He left his wife and four children, including Ruth, who was then a baby in the cradle, and on the 20th of March, 1850, started for the Eldorado of the West. He arrived in Hangtown, a mining place, on the 26th of July following, after a long, tedious and perilous journey, during which starvation threatened. There was also much danger of being scalped by the Indians. Mr. Calkin walked at least six hundred miles of the way in order to lighten the load, which his team often found difficult to haul. He engaged in mining for about two years, and was fairly successful.

During the last year of his stay in California, Mr. Calkin was President of a large mining company at Rosa's Bar, on the Yuba River, where there were about two thousand miners employed. During that year \$3,000,000 of gold dust was taken from the mines. Mr. Calkins left Rosa's Bar on the 26th of July, 1852, and about three weeks afterward the cholera broke out among the miners at that place. Making his way to San Francisco, he there took a steamer to Panama, and rode twenty miles across the Isthmus by rail, walking the remainder of the distance. At that time fifty mules were used in carrying the gold dust of the miners across the Isthmus, and fifty more to carry the mail. At Aspinwall, Mr. Calkin boarded a steamer bound for New York. The vessel stopped

at the island of Jamaica to take on coal and at length dropped anchor in the harbor of New York on the last day of August. Our subject arrived home on the 27th of September, 1852, but found that death had entered the household in his absence and taken from it the fairest flower, his daughter Julia.

After his return, Mr. Calkin turned his attention to farming, which he carried on in Will County for some years longer, but in 1865 he came to Iroquois County, purchasing the farm upon which he has since resided. It is one of the oldest farms of the county—a valuable and well-improved tract of land of two hundred acres. Many rods of tilth have been placed upon it. The home is a substantial and commodious residence, good barns and outbuildings have been erected, a fine orchard is numbered among the other extensive improvements, and everything about the place denotes thrift and prosperity.

On the 13th of May, 1838, in Cook County, Ill., Mr. Calkin was joined in wedlock with Miss Persis Fidelia Harris, a native of Massachusetts. Her father, Shadrach Harris, was also a native of the Bay State, and removed to New York when the daughter was a child of four years. Unto our subject and his wife have been born six children: Mary is the wife of Robert C. Jarvis, a resident of Texas; S. N., who for a number of years was a prominent farmer of Iroquois County, is now Superintendent of the Insane Asylum Farm and resides in Kankakee; Ruth is the wife of Sanford Oldham, who is living in Blaine County, Neb. Charles A. was married in Crescent City March 12, 1883, to Miss Jennie Stier, a native of Illinois. Four children have been born unto them, a son and three daughters. Charles A. has charge of the home farm and the business connected with it. He possesses excellent business ability, and the neat appearance of the place indicates his careful supervision. Mr. Jarvis, the son-in-law, and S. N. Calkin were both boys in blue during the late war. The family numbers twenty grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Calkin was formerly a Jackson-Democrat, and in 1860 he joined the ranks of the Republican party, supporting

Lincoln. He was then identified with that party for a number of years, but now affiliates with the Prohibition party, being a warm advocate of the cause of temperance and believing that that question is of the most importance. His son, C. A., also votes the Prohibition ticket. Mr. Calkin was elected and served for five years as Assessor of his township, and also held other local offices. Himself, wife and family are all active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has held a number of offices, and in which his younger son is now serving as an official.

Viewed from a financial standpoint, the life of Mr. Calkin has been successful. Industry and enterprise are numbered among his chief characteristics, and, as they are necessary qualifications to success, they have brought him a well-deserved prosperity. Upright and honorable in his dealings, he has gained the confidence and good-will of all with whom he has been brought in contact. His life has indeed been well and worthily spent, and after years of faithful service and labor he is now enjoying a well-earned rest.



OTTO EMIL ROSENBERGER, one of the self-made men and enterprising citizens of Iroquois County, is now doing business as a grain and coal dealer in Woodland, and also carries on farming. He was born in Saxony, Germany, on the 28th of November, 1840, and is a son of Frederick and Dorothy (Seel) Rosenberger. His father was born in the same locality as our subject, and was a tile and brick maker. In 1864, he came with his family to America and located in Blue Island, Cook County, Ill., whence he afterward came to Iroquois County. After residing upon a farm for a time, he went to Old Middleport, where he built a brewery in 1866, operating it for some time. With his wife, he afterward returned to his native land, and his death occurred in 1870. His wife, who was born in 1798, died at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. Both were members of the Lutheran Church. They had a family of five children: William, who crossed

the Atlantic in 1854, and now resides in this county; August, who came to the United States in 1856, and is now living retired in Papineau; Guenther, who came to this country in 1858, is a farmer in Papineau; Mrs. Emma Treischel, of Martinton, Iroquois County; and Otto Emil, who completes the family.

In accordance with the laws of his native land, our subject attended school between the ages of six and fourteen years, after which he learned the butcher's trade, and at the age of twenty went into the army as a member of the Eighth Infantry Regiment, serving on garrison duty for two years in the city of Weimar. He then embarked in business for himself. In 1864, he bade good-bye to home and friends and sailed for the New World, and since that time has been identified with the history of this community. He spent one year in the grain business in Papineau and one upon a farm. In 1877, he came to Woodland, where he has since made his home, and for about fifteen years has engaged in the grain and coal business. He is now in partnership with Judge Williams, and the firm is now enjoying a large and constantly increasing patronage. In connection with this business, our subject also owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, which yields to him a good income.

In July, 1864, in Martinton Township, Mr. Rosenberger married Miss Amanda Roth, a native of Germany. She came to this country in the same vessel in which her husband sailed. Unto them have been born six children, four sons and two daughters, as follows: Agnes, now the wife of Frank Wilson, of Woodland; Mattie, George, Otto, William and Emil, all of whom are still under the parental roof. All were born and reared in this county and have been educated in both English and German.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Rosenberger are members of the German Lutheran Church, and in his social relations he is a member of the Modern Woodmen and the Odd Fellows' society, in which he now holds the office of Secretary. His first Presidential vote was cast for Horace Greley, and since that time he has supported the Democratic party. He has never sought office, but has served as School

Director and Collector. Mr. Rosenberger is a man of good business ability, and by enterprise, energy and good business management he has won success and is numbered among the substantial business men of the community. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, and to him is due in a large measure the erection of the fine Town Hall in Woodland. It was a fortunate day for him when he determined to seek a home in this country. He need never have occasion to regret carrying out that resolution, for he has here met with prosperity and his efforts have been blessed.



AARON GARRISON. Among the leading and well-known farmers of Prairie Green Township should be mentioned the gentleman whose name heads this record. He now resides on section 10. A native of the Empire State, he was born in Greene County, on the 13th of March, 1838, and is the fourth in order of birth in a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters, of whom eight are yet living. His parents were George W. and Mary (Hallowell) Garrison. The father was born in New York, July 11, 1811, and is still living in the State of his nativity, at the advanced age of four-score and one years. He is a farmer by occupation, and has followed that business throughout his entire life. In political sentiment he was formerly an old-line Whig, and took an active part in the campaign of "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too." On the organization of the Republican party he joined its ranks, and has since been a stalwart advocate of its principles. He was a warm admirer of Abraham Lincoln. For over a quarter of a century he has held the office of Justice of the Peace, and has proved himself a competent official and a valued citizen. His wife was a native of the Keystone State. She was born in 1813, and died in October, 1853, when our subject was a lad of fifteen years. She was a devout Christian, who had the love and respect of all who knew her.

The members of the Garrison family are Caro-

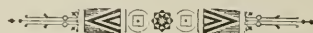
lina, wife of Demas Judd, a farmer residing in Minnesota; James, a horticulturist residing near Red Lands, Cal.; Aaron of this sketch; Morgan, who follows farming in New York; Monroe, who is now living a retired life in Watseka; Julia, wife of Solomon Brown, who is engaged in quarrying stone in New York; Henry, a successful physician and surgeon resides in New York City; and Hettie, wife of Angelo Cole, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in New York.

We now take up the personal history of Mr. Garrison, whose boyhood days were quietly passed in the State of his nativity. His early education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by study in Roxbury Academy of Roxbury, N. Y., where he prepared himself for teaching. He afterward followed that profession for five years in his native State, throughout the winter season. As a companion and helpmeet on life's journey he chose Miss Rosanna Kelly, daughter of Ezekiel C. and Jane (Brown) Kelly. Their union was celebrated on the 18th of October, 1862, and unto them were born five children, four sons and a daughter, of whom three are yet living. Herman, the eldest, is a young man of superior ability. He was a student in the Wesleyan University of Bloomington, and after pursuing a classical course in De Pauw University, of Greencastle, Ind., was graduated from that institution in the Class of '92. He has thus fitted himself for teaching, which profession he has already followed successfully in this county: Elbert aids his father in the labors of the farm; W. Lloyd is the youngest. The two children now deceased are Bertha, who died at the age of fourteen years; and Wilson, who died at the age of six years. Mrs. Garrison's girlhood days were passed in New York, her native State, where she was born March 4, 1843. She was the only child of her parents that grew to mature years. Her education was acquired in the public schools, and she became a successful teacher.

In 1880, Mr. Garrison purchased eighty acres of partially improved land, which he now has under a high state of cultivation. It is one of the best developed farms in the community, and in all its appointments seems complete. In 1892, Mr. Garrison erected a large barn, 28 x 38 feet, with an L,

24 x 26 feet. His present home also has been erected since he located on the farm. He is a careful and methodical business man, whose enterprise and industry have won for him a comfortable competence.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Garrison was formerly a Republican, but in 1884 he joined the ranks of the Prohibition party, which he has since supported. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and for four years he has served as School Treasurer, being the present incumbent. He does all in his power for the upbuilding of temperance principles, and his aid is never withheld from any worthy enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit. Himself and wife are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and earnest workers in the Master's vineyard. He has served as Steward and Trustee of his church, has been Superintendent of the Sunday school for four years, and while in New York served in the same capacity for about six successive years. His life has been a busy and useful one, and he is recognized as a valued citizen of the community, having the high respect of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.



JOHN BODY, a prominent farmer residing on section 19, Belmont Township, is one of the extensive land-owners of the county. He is also one of its representative citizens, and is widely and favorably known throughout its borders. His life record is as follows: He was born March 11, 1826, in Fountain County, Ind., and is a son of Isaac Body. His father was born in Mifflin County, Pa., and was in the war roll for the War of 1812. He wedded Miss Mary Meyers, who was born in the same county, and their union was there celebrated. About 1820 they emigrated to Indiana, and in the midst of the forest Mr. Body hewed out a farm near Covington. In 1836 he came to Illinois in wagons drawn by oxen, and after renting land for a time, purchased a farm of forty acres on section 19, Belmont Township. In-

dians were still in the neighborhood, all kinds of wild game was plentiful, the land was in a primitive condition, and the work of civilization and progress seemed scarcely begun. He continued to make his home in this county until his death, which occurred in Milford Township at the advanced age of ninety-five years. His wife passed away previously, and both were buried in Body Cemetery. They were among the honored pioneers of the county, and were highly respected citizens.

In the Body family were nine children: Elizabeth, now deceased; Mrs. Susan Ross, who resides in Milford; Catherine, wife of Judge S. Williams, of Belmont; John, whose name heads this sketch; George, who died in this county; Isaac, a resident of Whiteside County, who was killed in the Chatsworth wreck; Mary Ann, wife of A. C. Johnson, of Woodland; Sarah, widow of Jediah Cobb, and a resident of Belmont; and Louisa, wife of Isaac Dixon, of Nebraska.

Our subject was a lad of ten years when with his parents he came to this county. His educational advantages were limited, for the schools in a pioneer settlement are generally very primitive. School was held in a log cabin with slab seats, and was conducted on the subscription plan, while the teacher boarded around. His training at farm work, however, was not meagre, for he early began work in the fields, and was inured to the labors of the farm. At the age of twenty-two, he began life for himself by selling wheat at fifty cents per bushel. He then entered forty acres of land at the land office in Danville, for which he paid the Government price of \$1.25 per acre, and upon that farm he has since made his home, although its boundaries have been greatly enlarged. He now owns seven hundred and eighty acres of good land, and the care and cultivation he bestows upon it yield him a ready return in bounteous harvests.

Just before his removal to this farm, Mr. Body was married, in September, 1848, in Old Middleport to Sarelda Phillips, a native of Ohio, who with her parents came to Illinois. Unto them have been born five children: Francis M., who died at the age of twenty-three years; Isaac Leonard and William II., both of whom are engaged

in farming in Crescent Township; Mary, deceased wife of William Utter; and John, also an agriculturist of Crescent Township. All of the children were born and reared on the homestead farm, and were educated in the public schools. Frank also attended school in Onarga and Ypsilanti and was a successful teacher.

Mr. Body has been a supporter of the Democratic party since he attained his majority. His residence in this county covers a period of fifty-six consecutive years, and few indeed are they who have so long resided within its borders. He has witnessed its entire growth and development, has seen its wild lands transformed into beautiful homes and farms, while towns and villages have sprung up, and the work of progress has been carried forward until hardly a landmark of pioneer days yet remains. Mr. Body has ever borne his part in the upbuilding of the county, and his name is inseparably connected with its history. He is one of its prominent citizens, and well deserves the high regard in which he is held.



JOHN WILLIAM ANDERSON, who is interested in the Woodland Tile Works, was born on the 9th of February, 1859, on a new farm in Vermilion County, and is descended from a family which was founded in this country at an early day. His grandfather, William Anderson, removed from the North of Maryland to Kentucky. He was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary War. The father of our subject, J. C. Anderson, was born in Kentucky in 1818, and at the age of twelve years removed to Warren County, Ind., where he was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of frontier life. In Attica, that State, he married Miss Charlotte Steele, a native of Ohio, reared in Indiana. Mr. Anderson was a cabinet-maker by trade, and followed that business in Attica. In 1854, he removed with his family to Norfolk, Vermilion County, Ill., where he engaged in farming for ten years, and in 1864 came to Iroquois County. He settled in Belmont Township, and purchased a farm of three hundred and twenty

acres, which he placed under a high state of cultivation, making it his home until 1874. The following year he came to Woodland. In company with Judge S. Williams he laid out this village, donating the land for that purpose, and secured a side-track to the place. With its business industries he has since been prominently identified. In 1877, a saw and grist mill which he had built was burned, and later he established a tile factory.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were born the following children: Milton S., born in Indiana in 1842, is a Methodist Episcopal minister who was educated in Onarga, and is now Presiding Elder in Spokane Falls, Wash.; Laura, who graduated from Onarga Seminary and successfully engaged in teaching in the public schools of Watseka, died in 1873; Albert R. and Ira B. both engaged in farming near Spokane Falls, Wash.; Mary C. is the wife of Jacob Cobb, a resident of Lorain, Ohio, employed on the railroad; Arthur is at home; Orrin, his twin brother, was killed in 1874; John William, whose name heads this record, completes the family.

Our subject was only about five years old when his parents came to this county. His early boyhood days were spent upon the home farm, and at the age of sixteen he came to Woodland. He first worked in a saw and grist mill, and is now interested in the tile factory which was established in 1882 by himself and father. They began operations on a small scale, but have increased their facilities to meet the growing demand, and now have a large factory, the capacity of which is about two million bricks and eight hundred thousand tiles annually. They have a large trade, and well deserve their liberal patronage. Mr. Anderson also owns and operates six hundred acres of fine farming land adjoining Woodland.

It was in 1883, in Woodland, that Mr. Anderson led to the marriage altar Miss Mary Belle Warren, a native of this county, and a daughter of William Warren, one of the early settlers. Four children grace their union, three sons and a daughter: John W., Albert, Bessie and James.

The father of our subject was in early life an Abolitionist. He was for some years identified with the Whig party, and his first Presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison. He is now a

stalwart Republican, and in this respect J. W. Anderson has followed in his footsteps. He has been one of the prominent and influential workers of the party, has served as delegate to the county and senatorial conventions, and is a member of the County Central Committee. He labors earnestly to promote the growth and insure the success of the party, but has never been an office-seeker. Socially, he is connected with the Masonic fraternity of Watseka. During his youth he received no special educational advantages, but he possesses an observing eye and retentive memory, and has made himself a well-informed man. Keen and intelligent, he is a great reader, and in addition to the study of general literature has for the past two years been reading law and history. He is one of the prominent citizens of the community, and himself and father, who is now seventy-five years of age, are classed among the leading and progressive business men.



JACOB YEAGLEY, a prosperous farmer, who resides on section 11, Concord Township, is a native of the Keystone State. He was born on the 29th of October, 1827, in Lebanon County, Pa., and is a son of George and Elizabeth (Shram) Yeagley. His parents were both natives of Pennsylvania and were of Pennsylvania-Dutch ancestry, but the origin of the family is lost. The father of our subject was a weaver by trade and owned a small piece of land. He never left the State of his nativity. His death occurred in 1872.

Our subject acquired his education in the subscription schools, but his advantages were very limited. He was the third in a family of seven children and at an early age began to earn his own livelihood. At the age of seventeen years, he commenced to serve an apprenticeship to his uncle, Adam Yeagley, serving for a term of two and a-half years. The first year he received only his board, but afterward got small wages. Hoping to better his financial condition by a removal to the West, he

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R. F. Hartman



Emma B. Hartman

started for Crawford County, Ohio, in 1817, traveling on foot and canal a distance of over five hundred miles. On reaching his destination, he had only thirty cents in his pocket, and for a time he lived on about ten cents per day. Securing a position as a farm-hand, he worked for two months for \$22, and then rented a farm, which he operated on shares for two years. Afterward he again worked as a farm-hand for \$15 per month, and subsequently rented one hundred and sixty acres of land for \$100 per year. This he operated for four years, but he lost about \$1,600 through feeding hogs, and thus had to keep on renting land for about ten years longer.

Mr. Yeagley has been three times married. On the 2d of November, 1854, he wedded Miss Catharine Miller, of Whetstone Township, Crawford County, Ohio. She died February 23, 1859, leaving two children who are yet living: La Fayette, a farmer and school teacher, now of Crawford County, Ohio, is married and has three daughters. He is a finely educated man and has completed the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Course, receiving his diploma. Alfred C. is married and follows farming in Benton County, Ind. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Yeagley was married in March, 1860, to Miss Elizabeth Starnor, who died August 22, 1885. Unto them was born one son, Edwin, who is now a farmer. He married, but his wife died in 1888, leaving one child. The lady who now bears the name of Mrs. Yeagley was formerly Mrs. Mary (Strickler) Moore. She was born in Kingsport, Sullivan County, E. Tenn., and is a daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Gott) Strickler. Her father was a native of Shenandoah County, Va., and her mother of Washington County, E. Tenn. At the age of seventeen years, she came to Iroquois County. Having acquired a good education, she began teaching at the age of twenty years and followed that profession for some seven years. On the 28th of October, 1866, she became the wife of Thomas Moore, who died in February, 1877. Two children were born unto them but both died in infancy. The marriage of our subject and his wife was celebrated June 10, 1886.

In 1881, Mr. Yeagley sold his Ohio farm of one hundred and sixty acres at \$72 per acre and

bought his present farm of two hundred and sixty-seven acres at \$35 per acre. It is now worth \$65 per acre. This sale and purchase proved a profitable investment, for land in Ohio has since decreased in value, while in Illinois it has increased. Thus Mr. Yeagley has made several thousand dollars. He now owns an excellent farm, upon which are three residences, two barns, and other necessary outbuildings. The farm is well tiled and its many improvements and its neat appearance indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner and his careful supervision. Although he started out in life a poor boy, he has steadily worked his way upward until he is now numbered among the substantial agriculturists of the county.

Mrs. Yeagley became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at the early age of thirteen years and has long been a faithful worker in Sunday-school and church societies. Her kindly, benevolent spirit has won her the love and esteem of all. In early life, Mr. Yeagley was an old-line Whig and cast his first Presidential vote for Zachary Taylor. He voted for Gen. Fremont in 1856, and has since been an inflexible adherent of the Republican party and a warm advocate of its principles.



BENJAMIN F. HARTMAN, one of the leading business men of Iroquois, embarked in the manufacture of tile and brick in 1888, and has since carried on business in this line. He bought out an old factory, but soon rebuilt and put in more extensive works, making improvements to the value of \$10,000. The annual production of the tile factory will amount to four hundred thousand tile ranging from the four to fifteen-inch tile. He furnishes employment to about eighteen men and the products of his manufactory, being of the best quality, find a ready sale in the market. He receives a liberal patronage from the farmers of the surrounding community, who find this business of great convenience to them.

Mr. Hartman is a gentleman who does much for

his employes, and has their entire confidence and respect. His life record is as follows: A native of Indiana, he was born in Jasper County on the 12th of May, 1855, and is a son of Charles G. and Sarah E. (Haddox) Hartman. The Hartman family is of German origin and are a long-lived people. The paternal grandfather of our subject reached the advanced age of ninety-nine years, and died in Greene County, Ohio, where he entered land in an early day, being among its first settlers. Charles Hartman is a native of Harrisburg, Pa. He married Miss Haddox, who was born in Greene County, Ohio, and comes of an old Virginian family. For thirty-five years he successfully engaged in the practice of medicine, and now resides in Perkins County, Neb., where he is extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is a well-educated man and speaks the German language.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood under the parental roof. Between the ages of ten and seventeen years he resided upon a farm, and then started out in life for himself, working as a farm hand. He soon afterward began studying telegraphy in Francesville, Ind., and at the age of nineteen came to Iroquois and took charge of the railroad station at this place, filling the position of agent and telegraph operator from 1874 until 1886. He then severed his connection with the railroad company and began dealing in agricultural implements, but after two years sold out that business and began the manufacture of tile and brick. He is a man of good business ability and by his own efforts has won a well-deserved success, which has brought him a comfortable competence.

On the 7th of January, 1877, Mr. Hartman wedded Miss Emma B. Frownfelter, one of Iroquois' fair daughters. She was born November 13, 1856, and her parents were Peter V. and Mary E. (Peck) Frownfelter. Unto them have been born five children, namely: Erma Vera, Clyde, Vaughn C., Mearl E. and Mary Blanche.

Mr. Hartman proudly cast his first Presidential vote for R. B. Hayes in 1876, and has since been a Republican. Although not an office-seeker, by the solicitation of friends he has served as Alderman

and upon the School Board. He is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of the Odd Fellows' society and the Modern Woodmen, and has filled various offices in those fraternities. Himself and wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church and are numbered among Iroquois' best citizens, being widely and favorably known throughout the community. In connection with his manufactory, Mr. Hartman owns and operates a one hundred and twenty acre farm.

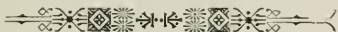


TEBBE H. EIMEN, one of the successful and prosperous business men of Danforth, was born in Germany on the 10th of March, 1862. His father, Hei Eimen, and his mother, Luke Eimen, were also natives of Germany, and died there when our subject was a child. Tebbe emigrated to the New World with his paternal grandparents when a child of but five years. They settled in Iroquois County, locating first in Danforth Township. After the death of his grandparents, our subject went to live with a neighbor, George Klottenberg, and was reared to manhood under his roof. He received fair school advantages and spent the most of his time in farm work.

When he had arrived at mature years, Mr. Eimen engaged in agricultural pursuits for himself, and was thus engaged for several years. In 1881, he located in the village of Danforth, and there engaged in the saloon business. He has been one of the active business men of the village for the past eleven years. Mr. Eimen also owns a valuable and well-improved farm not far from Danforth.

Our subject was joined in wedlock in this township on the 9th of June, 1884, to Miss Minnie Schroeder, a native of Germany, who came to the United States when a child and was educated and grew to womanhood in Iroquois County. She is a daughter of Tobe Schroeder. By this marriage have been born four children: Hei, Tobe, Luke and Florence. These children are all receiving the advantages of a good education, as their parents are much interested in all educational matters.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Eimen is a supporter of the Democratic party, but has never been an aspirant for official positions. He is well and favorably known in this community and all speak of his many good qualities and kind actions. His many friends will be pleased to read this brief sketch of his life.



JAMES F. MAGGS, the efficient and popular Postmaster of Iroquois, was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, on the 14th of March, 1833, and is a son of Joseph and Ellen (Stewart) Maggs. The father was born in Bristol, England, and with his parents crossed the broad Atlantic to America when about eight years of age, the family settling in Lycoming County, Pa. He was there reared to manhood and married Miss Ellen Stewart, a native of that county. Subsequently, they removed to Coshocton County, Ohio. The father had learned the shoemaker's trade in his youth but followed it very little after his emigration to the Buckeye State. He there turned his attention to farming, buying military land. He went there in a very early day and experienced all the hardships and privations of frontier life. He had to go thirty miles to market and to mill. In politics, he was an old-line Whig and was a strong anti-slavery man. He lived to vote with the Republican party and saw the beginning of the war that was to wipe out slavery in this country. He served his township as Assessor for many years and was a prominent and influential citizen. He was a zealous worker and Class-leader of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years and his life was nobly spent. His death occurred in Coshocton County, in February, 1862.

The subject of this sketch is one of a family of twelve children, eleven of whom grew to mature years. They became widely scattered and he has lost all knowledge of some of them. Mr. Maggs, who was the seventh in order of birth, acquired but a limited education as his services were needed upon the farm. He worked in the fields from an early age until seventeen, when he began to learn

the baker's trade in the town of Roscoe, Ohio. He served an apprenticeship of three years and was to have his board, clothing and \$50, but as his employer became bankrupt he never received the money. Going to Columbus, Ohio, he there worked as a journeyman baker for some time, and in 1858 he went to Union County, where he was employed until 1861.

On the first call for seventy-five thousand troops to aid in crushing out the rebellion, Mr. Maggs offered his services to his country. He was mustered in on the 20th of April, 1861, as a member of Company F, Thirteenth Ohio Infantry, and was at Camp Dennison until his time had expired. He then returned home and again enlisted February 11, 1862, as one of the boys in blue in Company F, Sixty-sixth Ohio Infantry, in which he served until the 22d of July, 1865. The first battle in which he participated was at Ft. Republic June 9, and he says it was the most severe in which he took part, nineteen men of his company being killed. He was wounded in the left hand at that battle but was not disabled for service. He participated in the engagement at Cedar Mountain, was in the second battle of Bull Run, and was in the hospital at Harwood, Washington City, D. C., when his regiment was fighting at Antietam. He there remained from August until December, 1862, when he rejoined his regiment at Harper's Ferry, Va., and participated in the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He was then sent to Chattanooga under Gen. Hooker and took part in the engagements at Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, and was in every battle from that time until after the fall of Atlanta. He was with Gen. Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea and from there went to Washington City, taking part in the Grand Review at that place, after which he returned to Louisville, Ky., where he was honorably discharged on the 22d of July, 1861.

On the 18th of March, 1855, Mr. Maggs was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Nosker, a native of Ohio, born April 13, 1833. Unto them were born six children: John, born in Coshocton County, Ohio; Ellen, born in Columbus, Ohio; Ida, wife of William Lowe, of Kent, Ind.; Katie, wife of E. G. Hamer, of Pullman, Ill., who is a stationary

engineer in the great Pullman works; Annie, wife of Frank Darling, of Concord Township, who is an agriculturist; and Lizzie, who died at about the age of fifteen months. After his return from the South, our subject began working as a journeyman baker in Union County, Ohio, where he remained until 1871. He then removed to Newton County, Ind., where he resided until 1878, working at his trade. That year witnessed his arrival in Iroquois County and he located in Concord Township, just south of Iroquois River and near the village of Iroquois, where he has a nice little farm of about eighteen acres. In August, 1890, he was appointed Postmaster and is now faithfully discharging the duties of the office.

In politics, Mr. Maggs is a zealous and stalwart Republican. He cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont in 1856, and has since supported the Republican party. Socially, he is a member of the Odd Fellows' society and of the Grand Army of the Republic, and attended the National Reunion in Columbus, Ohio. He now receives a pension of \$12 per month. He was a faithful and valiant soldier during the late war, participated in many of the most important engagements, and was ever found at his post of duty, defending the Old Flag which now so proudly floats over the united Nation.



CHARLES CLASSEN, a prominent merchant of Danforth, and one of the substantial citizens of the township, was born in Tazewell County, Ill. His birth occurred in the town of Pekin, October 15, 1858. His father, Herman Classen, is a native of Germany, and was born in Hanover, about the year 1827. He grew to manhood there, and was married to Talka Smith, of the same place. In 1852, with his family, he emigrated to the United States, and settled in Pekin, Ill., where he engaged in teaming. After a time he also carried on a farm near that city. Later, he embarked in the mercantile business, and in 1870 removed to Iroquois County. Here he purchased a farm and devoted himself to agricultural

pursuits for many years. By his industry and wise business investments, he accumulated a large and valuable property, and now that he has retired from active business, he has sufficient means to enable him to pass his remaining days surrounded by the comforts of life. He possesses a number of valuable farms, and has a good residence in Danforth. For about ten or twelve years he has rested from the arduous duties of life.

Charles Classen came with his parents to this county in 1870. He received such an education as could be obtained in the common schools, and much of his youth was spent in his father's store and on his farm, engaged in the usual pursuits, toils and pleasures of farmer boys. Before reaching mature years, he had acquired a good practical knowledge of business, which has been of inestimable value to him in later life. For several years he occupied a clerkship in a store, where he learned the practical details of the business. He first engaged in the mercantile line in Danforth. This was in 1882, and he commenced business in a limited way, as he had but small means and was not able to purchase an extensive stock of goods. He has built up a large trade, and has an established business on a substantial basis. He carries a large and well-selected assortment of general merchandise, and has built a large and commodious storeroom.

Mr. Classen was united in marriage in October, 1884, with Miss Anna Lotmann, of Danforth. She was born in Woodford County, Ill., and received her education in Iroquois County. She is a daughter of Henry Lotmann, who is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Classen are the parents of six children, four sons and two daughters, as follows: Herman, Henry, Carl and William (twins). Anna and Tillie.

Since casting his first ballot, Mr. Classen has been a supporter of the Democratic party. He has never been an aspirant for office in any sense of the term, and has always given his whole time, interest and attention to his business affairs. Mr. Classen and his wife were reared in the belief of the Lutheran Church, but are not members of any church organization. He is considered one of the leading and substantial citizens of Danforth, and has ever shown his interest in the prosperity and

development of the town and surrounding county. His voice is ever to be heard on the side of law and order, and in whatever is calculated to promote the community's welfare he always takes a prominent and leading part. By his straightforward and manly course in life he has won the respect and friendship of all who know him, and is considered to be a man in whom his friends can place the fullest confidence.



JAMES H. ALDRICH, who carries on general farming and stock-raising on section 16, Middleport Township, claims New York as the State of his nativity. The place of his birth is New Berlin, Chenango County, and the date March 2, 1831. His father, Adonn Aldrich, was a native of Rhode Island. He was twice married, his first union being with Miss Rebecca Millard, who was born in New York. They became parents of two children, Alpheus and Rebecca. The mother died, and later Mr. Aldrich married Hannah Strickland, a native of Connecticut. They became parents of five children: Sarah, Mason, Almira, James H. and Mary, four of whom are yet living. In an early day the family removed to the Empire State. The father was a Free-will Baptist minister, and was a highly-respected citizen, whose many excellencies of character won for him warm regard. He was called to the home beyond in 1853, and his wife, who survived him about twenty years, passed away in 1873.

Mr. Aldrich, whose name heads this record, was reared to manhood upon his father's farm, and acquired a good English education in the district schools of the neighborhood, which he attended during the winter season until nineteen years of age. The following year he started out in life for himself, earning his own livelihood for two years by working as a farm hand by the month. On the expiration of that period, having accumulated a small capital by his industry, perseverance and economy, he began farming for himself, and some years later he purchased a tract of land, upon

which he made his home until his emigration to the West.

Ere leaving his native State, Mr. Aldrich was united in marriage with Miss Clarissa J. Smith. The lady is a daughter of Phineas and Sarah (Halstead) Smith. Her father, a native of Vermont, was born in 1804. To a limited extent, he attended the primitive schools of the Green Mountain State, but was mostly self-educated. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and long followed the occupation of farming. His death occurred in 1873. His wife was a native of New York, born in Onondaga County on the 2d of October, 1810. Their marriage was celebrated in 1829, and unto them were born two children, a son and a daughter, but Aurora B., the elder, died in infancy. Mrs. Smith is still living, and is a well-preserved old lady, whose eighty-two years rest lightly upon her. She became a resident of Illinois in 1866, and now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Aldrich. She is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was an earnest worker in the Sunday-school until increasing years caused her to abandon that field of labor.

Mrs. Aldrich acquired her early education in the common schools, and was afterward a student in the academy at Fayetteville, N. Y. Among the pupils of that institution was President Cleveland. Mr. and Mrs. Aldrich have now traveled life's journey together for the long period of forty-two years, and she has proved a faithful companion and helpmate to her husband. She is a member of the Methodist Church, and the poor and needy find in her a friend. Their home has ever been the abode of hospitality, and its doors are ever open for the reception of their many friends, who are there sure to receive a hearty welcome and cordial greeting. Four children have been born of the union of our subject and his wife, a son and three daughters: Alice, who is now the wife of George Kennedy, a resident of Texas; Maria, who was married to George Burgess, of Kansas; Phineas, who was the only son, died in 1880; and Lillian is the wife of Frank Gates, a farmer living in Middleport Township.

Mr. Aldrich continued to make his home in New York until the spring of 1866, when, having

severed all business relations in the East, he came to Iroquois County, Ill., and purchased eighty acres of improved land on section 16, Middleport Township, the farm upon which he now resides. He there made his home until 1870, when he rented his land, and removed to Benton County, Ind. He was there engaged in the dairy business for a period of three years, after which he returned to Iroquois County in 1873, and for almost twenty consecutive years he has made his home continuously upon his present farm. He is recognized as one of the leading agriculturists of the community, and the neat appearance of his place is the cause of this well-deserved reputation.

Mr. Aldrich proudly cast his first Presidential vote in 1856, supporting Gen. John C. Fremont, and since that time has been a stalwart Republican, but has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and is a man of sterling worth who, by his honorable, upright life, has won the high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



WILLIAM WALLACE GRAY is a successful and enterprising farmer residing on section 32, Chebanse Township. He was born on the Isle of Wight on the 13th of December, 1824, and is a son of Isaac and Sarah (Hawkins) Gray, the former a native of the Isle of Wight, and the latter of Portsmouth, England. The father was a farmer by occupation, and with his family emigrated to the New World in 1828. He settled first in New York City, where he resided for about two years, and in 1830 went to Ohio, joining a sister at Cadiz. In the spring of 1831 he went to Rush County, Ind., where he leased a large farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits for some six years. He came to Illinois in the fall of 1837 and settled in Adams County, which was then a wilderness. He bought property and improved it and afterward added to his original purchase until he had one hundred and

sixty acres. He made of the farm one of the most fertile and improved in that section and there reared his family. He is numbered among the hardy and honored pioneers of Adams County, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred in December, 1855. His wife survived him several years and passed away at the advanced age of ninety-four years. Husband and wife are buried side by side in Coatsburg Cemetery, where a suitable monument marks their last resting-place. Mrs. Gray was a member of the Presbyterian Church, but after the death of her husband she united with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

William Gray is the fourth in order of birth in a family of four sons and three daughters, who grew to mature years: Richard is a farmer of Adams County, where he is highly esteemed as an enterprising and substantial agriculturist; Lavinia, wife of Stephen Booth, a farmer of Adams County, is now deceased; Caroline, widow of Bernard Lynch, is a resident of Dubuque, Iowa; Maria was married to Joseph Elliott, and they are now both deceased; Isaac N. is a resident of Oregon; and George H., the youngest of the family, went to California in 1849, in which State he has since resided. He is now a farmer and stock-raiser in Hydesville, Humboldt County.

The subject of this sketch came to Illinois when a lad of thirteen years, and grew to manhood in Adams County. He had but limited school advantages and is largely self-educated since arriving at mature years. He remained with his father until reaching his majority, and in 1844 went to Wisconsin, where he was engaged as the foreman of a smelting works. He was occupied in mining there for three years.

On October 24, 1847, Mr. Gray led to the marriage altar Electa M. Slayton, a native of the Empire State, who was born in Genesee County, near Cuba, March 24, 1824, where she was reared and educated. She also lived in Chicago, where she completed her education. She is a daughter of John L. Slayton, of Utica, N. Y. Their family numbers eight children: Isaac N. is the eldest; Sarah M. is the wife of P. S. De Witt, of Martin, Ill.; George H.; Anna C. is the wife of Alonzo Hammond, of Kempton, Ill.; William; Owen L. is

married and resides on the homestead with his father; Alice C. is the wife of Charles Riley, a railroad agent at Decatur, Iowa; Ira L., who is engaged in business in Kankakee, is the youngest. Three of the sons are married, have good residences and live upon the home farm. Mr. and Mrs. Gray and also all of their sons are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Gray has been connected with that organization since 1848, and has always given liberally of his means to the support of churches and other charitable and benevolent purposes.

After his marriage, our subject returned to Adams County, Ill., where he engaged in farming for about two years upon a rented place. He then purchased a piece of wild prairie land, where he commenced to improve a farm. His first farm consisted of an eighty-acre tract, and as his financial resources increased and success blessed his efforts, he added to his original purchase an adjoining eighty acres and afterward forty acres more, making in all two hundred acres, all good land, which was located fourteen miles east of Quincy. Mr. Gray farmed upon that place for a number of years, built good substantial buildings and greatly improved his property. In 1870, he sold out and removed to Iroquois County, buying land in Chebanse Township. He purchased seven hundred and twenty acres of improved and valuable land, and has since erected a good residence, barns and other buildings. He has done considerable tiling and ditching and has one of the best improved farms in the county.

Since the organization of the Republican party, Mr. Gray has been a supporter of its principles and nominees. He voted for John C. Fremont in 1856, and was formerly an old-line Whig. He has served in several official positions to the credit of himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. He is a believer in and supporter of our present system of education and public schools, and for forty years has been an efficient and trusted member of the School Board. Nearly his entire life has been spent in this State and he has aided in every way possible in the development and progress of this section. He is well known in this county as one of the enterprising, thorough and

successful farmers of this county, and is a man of unblemished record and upright character and worth. He has been Steward and Class-leader in the Methodist Episcopal Church forty-five years, and has been a Delegate to the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church several times. His son Ira is married to Miss Estella Rosenerans, of Kankakee; Isaac N. married Miss Ella Kinney; George H. married Miss Nellie Lamb; William married Miss Ada More; Owen L., married Miss Lucy Gregory.



CORNELIUS WILMORE STICKNEY is editor and proprietor of the *Sheldon Journal*, a weekly newspaper, Republican in politics, and devoted to the interests of Sheldon and vicinity. In size it is a seven-column quarto, and in appearance it is typographically neat. Mr. Stickney is a man of excellent newspaper ability, and practically experienced in the business. As a writer he is easy and graceful, and in the expression of opinions is fair and impartial. He has done much to popularize his paper with the people of Iroquois County, especially in that part of the county in which Sheldon is located. The *Journal* has reached a large circulation and the families into whose homes it goes number many hundreds. Its growth has been phenomenal under Mr. Stickney's energetic management. It has obtained its position in the newspaper world by shutting out all objectionable advertising, or reading matter of a questionable character, by attention to local matters, and by taking high moral grounds on all public questions. While the *Journal* is Republican in politics, it treats all with fairness, and thus holds the esteem and respect of all political parties. Thus it is at all times fit to enter the family, and its patrons have no fear of anything being admitted to its columns that cannot be read aloud in the family circle. The *Journal* is doing much to elevate the standard of country journalism, and will receive its reward by a liberal patronage of the intelligent people of Iroquois County.

Cornelius W. Stickney was the first male child born in the village of East Bradford, Mass., which is now known as Groveland. His birth occurred on March 9, 1850. He is a direct descendant of Samuel Stickney, who emigrated from England to America in Colonial days and settled in Massachusetts. On the maternal side he also comes of an old American family.

The father of our subject, Leonard W. Stickney, was born in the old Bay State in 1821. In early manhood he was married to Miss Susan J. Streeter, a native of Portland, Me. When their son Cornelius was a lad of five summers they emigrated to Illinois, locating in Freeport, where Mr. Stickney engaged in the shoe business, carrying on both a wholesale and retail trade. In 1860 he removed his stock to Denver, Colo., where he continued in the same business for about four years. Then selling, he went to Virginia City, and afterward to Helena, Mont., where he purchased a stock of books and stationery, carried on a very lucrative trade, and accumulated a fine property. He was quite prominent as a citizen, and was identified with many important enterprises of that young and rapidly growing metropolis. However, misfortune finally overtook him, and one night his store and its contents were totally destroyed by fire. All the money which he could gain was used to pay his creditors, with whom he settled satisfactorily, paying one hundred cents on the dollar. This, however, left him nothing. He had been carrying an insurance of \$26,000, but the great Chicago fire occurred eight days later, and before he could prove his loss to the companies of that city in which he held policies, they were broken up and he received only \$1,600. When his business was finally settled in Montana, Mr. Stickney returned with his family to Illinois, locating near Normal. Soon afterward he was stricken with paralysis, but this disabled him for only a short time, and produced no effect upon his bright and vigorous mind. He then engaged in keeping hotel. His death occurred of apoplexy in Bloomington, December 1, 1874, at the age of fifty-two years. Mr. Stickney was a well-educated and cultured man, and, possessing genial qualities of heart and mind, drew around him a

large circle of friends, by whom he is held in kindly remembrance. He was strictly honorable and upright in all his dealings, and looked with contempt upon a mean action.

Mrs. Stickney is still living and makes her home in Bloomington, Ill. Her family numbered three children, but Elias V. died in early manhood, when twenty-one years of age; Susie C. now resides with her mother.

The subject of this sketch acquired a good education in his youth, and at the age of sixteen years went to Montana, where he joined his father, assisting him in carrying on the business which he followed in Helena. He has always been fond of books, has ever been an extensive reader, and in early life gave evidence of literary ability. His first newspaper work was on the *Helena Daily Herald*. He here evinced his fitness for newspaper work, acquitting himself creditably. In 1871, after his father's failure, he returned to Illinois and engaged in various pursuits to assist himself and his family.

Mr. Stickney was connected with the hotel which his father had established in Bloomington, and while there made the acquaintance of Miss Juliet Frances Winsor, with whom he was united in marriage October 28, 1875. The lady was born near Atlanta, this State, June 9, 1853, and died at Sheldon, this State, March 3, 1892. She was the daughter of Daniel and Annie R. (Brown) Winsor, both of whom were natives of Rhode Island. Her love of the Word of God, and her exemplary Christian life, gave witness to the grace of God upon her heart. An active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, she evidenced her undoubted piety. She was truly a home-maker; there her character shone with every womanly charm and virtue. She was also an excellent pianist and fond of literature, and found much enjoyment in her music and books. The funeral was held at the Sheldon Methodist Episcopal Church March 5, 1892, after which the remains were conveyed to the Sheldon cemetery and laid to rest until for her the rosy dawn shall break over the tranquil waves that caress the distant but beautiful shore.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Stickney began their domestic life in Bloomington, where they remained for a year, and then removed to Olney, Ill. Mr. Stickney secured employment on the Olney *Daily Ledger*, but after a year returned to Bloomington and accepted the management of the St. Nicholas hotel.

It was Mr. Stickney's desire, however, to return to newspaper work, and in 1878 he purchased the Chenoa (Ill.) *Gazette*, conducting its publication until the fall of 1883. He then removed to Livingston County and established the *Forrest Rambler*, which speedily became one of the leading Republican papers of that county. Since August 1, 1891, he has engaged in the publication of the *Sheldon Journal*. He became identified with the Masonic fraternity in 1871, in which he has made considerable advance, being in the Royal and Select Master degree. He is an enthusiastic member of the Republican party, to which he gives willing and ready allegiance on all occasions, defending its principles and voting for its nominees. He and his family are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which they are worthy communicants.

Mr. Stickney's family now includes but two daughters: May Frances, born at Olney, Ill., May 31, 1876; and Lilian Estelle, born at Chenoa, Ill., September 16, 1880. His only son, Merl, died at the age of eleven months.



WILLIAM H. CASSIDY, who carries on an insurance business and also runs a livery in Gilman, is a native of Ireland, where he was born March 17, 1837, in County Donegal. He is a son of John and Jane (Chestnut) Cassidy, both of whom were natives of the same county. They had a family of nine sons, of whom eight lived to be grown, and all of whom came to the United States. The father followed the occupation of farming. Of the children, Samuel, a graduate of Dublin College, was the first to leave his home and cross the broad Atlantic. He came

about 1846, and is now engaged in merchandising on Staten Island. Some two years later his brother John followed his example, coming to the United States, and was yardmaster at Olney, Ill., where he was killed by the cars in the year 1859. Richard and Thomas emigrated about 1852, the former residing at Crescent City, Iroquois County, while the latter was in the mercantile business with his eldest brother and died in New York City. Our subject next left his native land, and his brother Moses in 1862 did likewise, and is an extensive farmer in Winnebago County, Ill. At the close of the war, James and Henry, the remaining sons, came with their parents to the New World. James engaged in the mercantile business in New York until the time of his death, while Henry lived quite a number of years in Gilman, following the insurance business, and has but lately removed to Chicago. The parents later removed to Winnebago County, where they both died at the age of eighty-five. They were members of the Episcopal Church and among the worthy citizens that Ireland has furnished to America.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm and his education was received in the common schools of Ireland. He made the voyage across the Atlantic in 1856, and in pursuit of fortune he first sold Irish liquors and notions from house to house for a year. He then followed farming until 1860, when he entered his brother's store at Detroit, Mich.

In the fall of the same year, when Mr. Cassidy went to Belvidere, Ill., he there married Sarah M. Dawson, their marriage being celebrated on the 1st of December, 1860. She was born in Summit County, Ohio, and reared to womanhood in Illinois. Her parents came from England. After their marriage, our subject and his wife settled in Winnebago County, on a farm, where they lived until 1866, at which time he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in what is now Danforth Township. This he greatly improved and drained. In 1875 he removed to Gilman and has since been in the insurance business. He purchased the livery barn, which he still runs, in 1887. To Mr. and Mrs. Cassidy were born four children: Jennie T., who carries on a stationery and book store, is the

Assistant Postmaster at Gilman; Elmer married Rosa Keller, and is engaged in the livery business with his father; Alice C., a teacher of recognized ability; and Minnie May, who died at the age of six and a-half years.

Politically, Mr. Cassidy was a member of the Republican party until 1884, since which time he has been a Prohibitionist. He and his wife are members of the Free-will Baptist Church, to which they give their hearty co-operation. Socially, he is a Mason and Modern Woodman. By industry and saving he has made a comfortable competence, having commenced life without a dollar. During his seventeen years of residence here he and his estimable wife have made many friends and to them their home is, most hospitably open. It is with pleasure that we present this brief sketch of one of Gilman's most worthy citizens, who though a native of another land has always been most loyal to his adopted country.



AUGUST WOCKENER, who carries on general farming and stock-raising on section 1, Middleport Township, is one of the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to this county. He was born in the Fatherland in December, 1840, and is the eldest child of August and Plondena Wockener. The death of his mother occurred in 1868, but his father lived to a ripe old age, passing away in 1886. Both were members of the German Lutheran Church. In their family our subject was followed by Carl, who is still living in the Old Country; Lena, wife of August Kirkman, a resident of Germany; and Frederick, who crossed the Atlantic to America and now makes his home in this country.

The boyhood days of our subject were quietly passed under the parental roof. In accordance with the laws of his native land, he attended school between the ages of six and fourteen years, after which he learned the wagonmakers' trade, following that occupation until he came to America. When a young man, he determined to seek a home in the New World, hoping thereby to improve his

financial condition. In 1868, he crossed the briny deep, and landing in this country made his way to De Kalb County, Ill., where he first located. There he rented land and engaged in farming for two years, after which he came to Iroquois County, and for four years operated a rented farm in Ashkum Township. On the expiration of that period, he came to Middleport Township and purchased eighty acres of partially improved land, on section 20, and to the further development and cultivation of that tract he devoted his energies until 1885, when he purchased his present farm of two hundred acres on section 1. He now engages in general farming and stock-raising and his business efforts are crowned with success.

In 1885, Mr. Wockener was joined in wedlock with Miss Minnie Willett, and unto them has been born a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters, as follows: Ernest, Minnie, Lena, August, Robert, Anna, Hattie and Herman. The family circle has never been broken by the hand of Death. Ernest and Minnie are married, the latter having become the wife of Erick Swartz.

Mr. Wockener is a member of the German Lutheran Church, and in political sentiment is a Democrat, having supported that party since he became an American citizen. It was a fortunate day for our subject when he determined to seek a home in the United States, for here he has not only gained prosperity, but has made many warm friends, and his life has been a pleasant, although busy one. Industry and energy are numbered among his chief characteristics, and as these are essential qualities in success, he has acquired a comfortable competence.



CHRISTOPHER S. GUTHRIE, a farmer residing on section 30, Papineau Township, has for twenty-seven years resided in this county. He was born in Ohio, December 22, 1838, his birth having occurred at Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson County. He is a son of Capt. Henry P. Guthrie, a native of Virginia, who was born in King

and Queen County, February 23, 1793. He married in Richmond, Va., Catherine Stedman, who was also born in the same State. Mr Guthrie was a merchant and manufacturer of carriages. About the year 1828, leaving Virginia, he removed to Ohio, settling in Jefferson County. There he engaged in the manufacture of carriages at Mt. Pleasant for a number of years. He then removed to Martin's Ferry, in Belmont County, and for some years carried on his trade at that place. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and served throughout the war, holding a Captain's commission. His father, James Guthrie, was also a patriot and soldier in the Revolutionary War, as were two of his brothers. The latter died during their service. The Guthrie family are of Scotch decent, and were among the first settlers of Yorktown, Va. The great-grandfather of our subject was given a grant of land in Virginia and settled there previous to the Revolutionary War. Capt. Henry P. Guthrie held numerous positions of trust and honor and was a prominent man of that State.

Our subject is one of a family of eight children, three sons and five daughters: Sarah Francis, widow of Dr. Pratt, of Belmont County, Ohio; Mary A. lives on the old homestead; Elizabeth, wife of John Robb, lives in Hancock County, W. Va.; Catherine, whose death occurred in 1878; Isabella, wife of Marion Cullen, of Hancock County; Henry P., of Martin's Ferry, Belmont County, Ohio; Christopher S.; and Robert L., deceased.

Mr. Guthrie whose name heads this sketch grew to manhood in Ohio, having such education as was afforded by the public schools of the county and a course of study at Wheeling, W. Va. In 1857, he came to Illinois and settled in Kankakee County. In company with another young man, he operated a steam thresher and engaged in its operation during the season. During the winter he ran a stationary engine, and for such of his time as was unoccupied he worked on a farm.

Following the patriotic example of his ancestors, he responded to the call of his country, enlisting in 1862 in the Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, in January of that year. He became a member of Company E. of the regiment organized at Ottawa, Ill., which had for its Captain Charles M. Vaughn.

He enlisted as a private but was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, and had charge of the company a number of times during his service. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Hatchie, the siege and surrender of Vicksburg (which lasted forty-two days), and was afterward taken prisoner at Jackson, Miss., in Lorman's charge of July 12, 1863. He was held as a prisoner of war for about seventy-two days, and he was a prisoner at all the principal cities of the South, and finally rounded up at Libby Prison, Richmond, Va. He was then paroled and rejoined his regiment, taking part in the Atlanta campaign, and later joined Sherman in his march to the sea. He received an honorable discharge at Goldsboro, N. C., March 26, 1865. He was a faithful soldier, ever present at his post of duty.

Mr. Guthrie was united in marriage in this county on Christmas day, 1865, his bride being Mary J. Warden, who was born and reared in Putnam County, Ind. She is a daughter of John Warden, a native of Kentucky and one of the early settlers of Putnam County. Mr. and Mrs. Guthrie are the parents of six children: Francis Isabel is the wife of John Garber, a mechanic in Denison, Tex.; Henry W., a farmer of this county; James B., who resides at home; George C., Catherine, and Laura, deceased.

On returning from the war, Mr. Guthrie went to Ohio and the same year came to Illinois, settling in this county. He engaged in farming and stock-raising with good success. At the time of his purchase, his farm was raw, unbroken prairie, and he has since brought it under a fine state of cultivation, making of it one of the best farms in the county. It is located three miles west of Papineau. In 1876, he rented his farm and moved to Newton County, Ind., where for two years he engaged in stock-raising. In 1878, he returned to his home and has resided here continuously since.

Mr. Guthrie cast his first ballot for Stephen A. Douglas, but since that time has identified himself with the Republican party. He takes an active interest in all local and educational affairs, doing all in his power to further the interests of each. He has served as a member of the School Board for a number of years. For twenty-seven

years he has resided in this county and is known to be a man of integrity, enterprise and public spirit.

Mr. Guthrie had a severe stroke of paralysis in 1891, which was caused by his hardships and exposure during his service as a soldier. He receives a small pension and he now has affidavits from his family physicians as well as his comrades corroborating the fact of his great disability, occasioned by his hardships in defense of his country.



EDWARD W. GUILD, an enterprising and prominent farmer who resides on section 22, Belmont Township, has one of the fine farms of this community. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of arable land, which has been divided into fields of convenient size and placed under a high state of cultivation, yielding to him a golden tribute in return for his care and labor. He has a pleasant home, and his barns and out-buildings are models of convenience. His farming implements are of the latest improved kinds and in all its appointments the place seems complete. It may well be termed a model farm, and the owner deserves to rank among the representative farmers of the township.

Mr. Guild was born in Lowell, Mass., October 10, 1830. The family, of English origin, was founded in America by the great-grandfather of our subject, Moses Guild, who came to this country in Colonial days. Willard Guild, the father of Edward, was born in Brattleboro, Vt., in 1797, and spent his boyhood days upon a farm. In his youth, he learned the cabinet-maker's trade and pattern-making. Ere leaving the Green Mountain State, he married Abigail Wood, a native of Vermont. They removed to Massachusetts, and when our subject was only six months old they emigrated to Michigan, locating in Romeo, Macomb County, which was then an unimproved wilderness, still inhabited by the Indians. Mr. Guild engaged in farming for a year and then followed his trade of cabinet-making until 1837, when he removed to Pike County, Ill., locating in Griggsville.

He there carried on cabinet-making until his death, which occurred in February, 1865. His wife died at the home of her son in Ironton, Mo. Mr. Guild was a prominent and influential citizen in every community where he resided. While in Massachusetts, he served in the State Legislature. He took a great interest in church and Sunday-school work and for many years served as Deacon in the Congregational Church. He would give his last cent to aid in the upbuilding of the church and counted no sacrifice too great. He was a man of much genius and invented several different machines. In politics, he was a Whig and afterward an Abolitionist.

In the Guild family were five children, but Willard and a sister died in childhood. Albert B. served in the Home Guards during the late war and was engaged in the fight at Pilot Knob. His death occurred in Missouri about eight years ago. Emily W. became the wife of Judge Russell and died about three years ago.

Our subject is now the only surviving member of the family. He was a lad of seven summers when with his parents he came to Illinois. His education was acquired in the public schools of Griggsville and in Arcadia College, of Missouri, which he entered at the age of sixteen, pursuing a three-year course. Previous to this time, when a lad of twelve, he began clerking in a store and was thus employed for three years. On leaving school, he again began clerking, and was thus employed until twenty-two years of age, when he went to Henry, Marshall County, Ill. He there secured a position with George W. Battles, acting as salesman for two years, and for ten years carried on a general merchandise establishment for himself. Later, he did business in Ox Bow, Putnam County, Ill., for four years and then returned to Henry County, where he remained until 1863, when he came to Iroquois County. During the twelve succeeding years of his life, he was connected with the mercantile interests of Watseka, and for two years in Henry County, Ill., was engaged in the forwarding and commission business. In 1876, he bought his present farm, then a poorly improved place.

On the 4th of May, 1853, in Henry, Marshall

County, Mr. Guild was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Foster, a native of Columbus, Ohio, and a daughter of John and Ruth (Cone) Foster, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Connecticut. When their daughter was only four years old, they came by team to Illinois. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Guild have been born four children. Flora, who was born in Marshall County, is now at home; William E., who was also born in that county, has taught school but is now engaged in carpentering in Watseka; Albert M., born in Watseka, lives on the home farm; and Cliff was graduated in the commercial course from the college in Onarga and was graduated from Heddling College, of Abingdon, Ill., in June, 1892, in a class of six in the classical course. He is Secretary of the college, and in connection with his work as a student, he is engaged in teaching mathematics. All the children possess musical ability.

Mr. and Mrs. Guild are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Watseka. For forty years, he has been connected with the Odd Fellows' society of that place and has held all of its offices. He has been School Director for many years, and is now Secretary of the Iroquois County Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company. He cast his first Presidential vote in 1856 for Bell and Everett and then voted for Stephen A. Douglas, and has since been a stalwart Democrat. In the exciting times before the late war, he heard many prominent speakers, including Owen Lovejoy and Tom Corwin. He has been prominent in the conventions of his party and is recognized as a representative citizen of this community. The success which attended his merchandising has also followed his business career, and his well-directed efforts have brought him a handsome competence. He has the confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact and is held in high esteem by a large circle of friends.

The following is an epitome of the Guild family, covering a portion of the lineal ancestry of E. W. Guild: John Guild, supposed to have been born in England about 1616, came to America in the year 1636, with his brother Samuel and sister Ann. He was admitted to the church at Dedham, Mass., July 17, 1640, and bought in that year

twelve acres of upland, on which he built a house, which was occupied by himself and descendants for more than two hundred years. He was made a freeman May 10, 1643. He was thoroughly honest in all his dealings, industrious and frugal, modest in his deportment and retiring in his habits. He never held an office, and the town records show his attendance at town meetings but once in several years, and then only on an occasion of considerable excitement in relation to making alterations and additions to the meeting house. He married, June 24, 1645, Elizabeth Crooke, of Roxbury, who died August 31, 1669. He died October 4, 1682, leaving seven children. John died young; Samuel, John, Eliexur, Ebenezer, Elizabeth and Benjamin.

Samuel Guild, born in Dedham, Mass., November 7, 1647, married November 29, 1676, Mary Woodcock. He was a member of Capt. Moseley's Company in King Philip's War, in 1675, and was made a freeman at Salem, in May, 1678. In 1703, he was one of a committee to invest and manage school funds; was a Selectman of Dedham from 1693 to 1713; and was a delegate to the General Court in 1719. He died in Dedham, on the 1st of January, 1730. His children were Samuel, Nathaniel, Mary, John, Deborah, John, Israel, Ebenezer, Joseph and Elizabeth.

John Guild, born at Dedham, Mass., October 2, 1687, married Abigail Robinson, of Rehoboth, who died January 31, 1793. He was a farmer of Walpole, and died June 15, 1767. His children were John, Abigail, Samuel and Jacob.

Samuel Guild was born at Dedham, Mass., and was married October 23, 1761, to Mehitable Clapp. They lived in Walpole and became the parents of five children: Meribah, Samuel, Aaron, Moses and Jacob.

Moses Guild was born in Walpole, Mass., January 6, 1772, was married first on the 19th of March, 1795, to Philena Barrows, who died October 16, 1800. He was afterward married, March 12, 1801, to Sally Newton, who died February 29, 1840. He removed to Marlborough, N. H., in 1797, and was taxed at Roxbury, N. H., from 1815 to 1851. He died September 6, 1854. By the first marriage there were three children, William, Willard and

Tyla; and by the second union two children were born, Betsy, and Hanna, who was born March 3, 1812, and on the 9th of September, 1841, married James W. Bain, of Keene, who died October 7, 1865.

Willard Guild, born at Marlborough, N. H., February 8, 1798, was married November 2, 1822, to Abigail Wood, of Nelson, N. H. He was a cabinet-maker at Roxbury, N. Y., removed to Michigan, and thence to Griggsville, Ill., where he died on the 20th of February, 1865. His children were all born at Roxbury, N. H., with the exception of the youngest, our subject. They are as follows: Albert Barrows; Almira, who died young; Emily Wilder and Edward W.



FREDERICK KOHL is a retired merchant, who makes his home in Danforth, Iroquois County. He is one of Germany's most worthy children, having been born in Ostfriesland, November 29, 1854. His father, Frederick Kohl, a native of the same country, grew to maturity and there married Geske Jacobs. The father followed the occupation of tilling the soil in Germany, where he still resides.

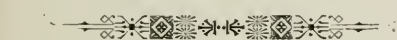
Frederick Kohl passed his boyhood days in the usual pursuits of farmer lads and received fair school advantages in his native language. Since coming to Illinois he attended the schools for about six months, in order to acquire the English language, but has largely informed himself in that respect through his reading and observation. When about seventeen years of age, he determined to seek his fortune in the New World, and accordingly said good-bye to the friends and scenes of his youth. He sailed from Bremen, and after a pleasant voyage of about fourteen days arrived in New York City. He landed in the United States in May, and came direct to Danforth, where he joined three older brothers who had previously settled at this point. The first year he worked on the railroad, and the following year hired out as a farm hand. He next obtained a clerkship in one of the Danforth stores, and there continued for a

period of a year and a-half. Subsequently he returned to farm labor. In 1874, Mr. Kohl went to Peoria, where he clerked for about six months, when, on account of sickness, he was obliged to discontinue his labors for a time. After his recovery he worked in a store at Danforth and continued in that position for five years. A partnership was formed at that time between our subject and John Eden, and together they bought out and established business, the stock costing \$8,500. The firm then embarked in merchandising and increased their business. They extensively increased their trade and continued to add to their line of goods. The partnership lasted for about ten and a-half years, and their efforts were blessed with great success. In February, 1892, Mr. Kohl sold his interest to Mr. Eden and retired from the business. Mr. Eden has since invested in Nebraska property, and during the summer just passed has spent much of his time in Platte County, of that State, where he purchased a farm and has valuable investments. Mr. Kohl also invested his money which he had withdrawn from the business in real estate. He purchased property in Chicago, and has already realized a good profit on his investments there.

Mr. Kohl was married to Miss Cevia, daughter of J. O. Johnson, a retired merchant of Danforth. The wedding ceremony was performed February 14, 1878. Mrs. Kohl was born in Woodford County, Ill., and was educated and has lived the most of her life in Iroquois County.

Mr. Kohl is identified with the Republican party, which finds in him a staunch advocate. He voted for Samuel J. Tilden, however, at the election in 1876, but with that exception has used his franchise in favor of the nominees of the Republican party. Mr. Kohl is a public-spirited man, and has always done all in his power to advance the best interests of his township and the community. Recognizing his worth and ability, his fellow-citizens have often called upon him to fill public positions requiring the qualities which he possesses. He was appointed Postmaster of Danforth, and acted in that capacity most acceptably for over ten years. He has always discharged the duties of citizenship and of official positions with fidelity

and zeal, and has merited the high regard in which he is held by his friends and neighbors. For twenty-one years, Mr. Kohl has made his home in this county and is a man of unblemished character and spotless record. Commencing in life as a poor man, with no capital save a fair education and undaunted courage, he has carved for himself a fortune and a place of honor in the estimation of those who know him. Mr. and Mrs. Kohl are honored members of the German Lutheran Church, in whose work they take an active part.



GEORGE H. POTTER, one of the pioneer settlers of Iroquois County, was born in Milton Center, Saratoga County, N. Y., January 27, 1819. He is a son of Constant and Sylinda (Hodge) Potter, natives respectively of Connecticut and Massachusetts. In early life they emigrated with their parents to New York, where in later years they were married. The grandfather Potter served in the Revolutionary War. The father was a manufacturer of leather, and lived to be seventy-eight years of age. His death occurred at Saratoga Springs. During his life he was a Jackson-Democrat, and both himself and wife were members of the Methodist Church. She lived to the age of eighty-eight years, her death occurring in Saratoga County. To them were born a family of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters, of whom six sons and one daughter are still living.

The subject of this sketch was the eldest son and third child in order of birth in his fathers' family. He spent most of his early days on a farm, engaged in the usual occupations of farmers' sons, receiving his education in the common schools of the neighborhood. Having remained at home until about seventeen, he went to Orleans County, N. Y., where he clerked in a store several years.

On the 4th of July, 1818, Mr. Potter wedded Miss Fannie E. Lyman, who was born December 28, 1825, in Byron, Genesee County, N. Y. She is the daughter of William and Lucia (Cleveland)

Lyman. Her mother's family is of the same original stock as that from which President Cleveland is descended. Her father was born in Ludlow, Vt., and her mother in Hanover, N. Y., both being of English descent. The father died in Genesee County when Mrs. Potter was only three years old, leaving three children, the eldest of whom was in her seventh year. Mrs. Lyman, after living a widow for several years, married Warren Parker, who went to Chicago about 1851 and organized the first omnibus line in that city, which was known as Parker's Bus Line. Mr. Parker died three years later. Of this marriage a son was born, Dwight L. Parker, a banker of Gilman. The year after her husband's death, Mrs. Parker came to Gilman, remaining here the remainder of her days. The last seven years of her life were spent at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Potter. She passed to the home beyond on the 17th of April, 1888. Had she lived until the following August she would have been ninety years old. Since her eighteenth year she had been identified with the Christian Church, and was a noble, good woman and one much beloved.

After their marriage, Mr. Potter and his young wife came to Iroquois County, and located at Iroquois, then generally known as Bunkum. Mrs. Potter says that one way they had of telling Sunday in those days was that shooting matches and horse races marked the day. After merchandising for a couple of years he sold out his business, deciding to return to New York, never to come back to this uncivilized West; but, reconsidering his former decision in 1853, he returned to this county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Onarga Township of the Government at \$2.50 per acre. He first brought his wife only as far as Chicago, but in 1855 moved on his land, where he had built a small frame house, and there they lived in true pioneer style. He made of his farm a good and well-cultivated piece of property. In 1871, they came to Gilman, where they still live.

Both Mr. Potter and his wife are members of the Christian Church, to which they belonged in New York. In his politics, he was a Democrat until the rise of the Prohibition party, since which time he has been identified with that party. Mr. and Mrs. Potter are among the highly esteemed

citizens of Gilman. As is the common lot of all, they have met with disappointments, but these they have ever met with courage and hopefulness, ever pressing onward, believing that all was for their best good and ultimate happiness and usefulness. Largely through the efforts and liberality of Mrs. Potter can Gilman boast of a public library, of which she has been librarian since it was established.



EDMUND SILL, the genial and well-known station agent of the Illinois Central Railroad at Clifton, is a native of the Empire State, his birth occurring in 1834 in Otsego County. He is a son of Henry and Abigail (Dimock) Sill. The father was a native of Salem, Conn., and the mother was of Spanish descent. The grandfather of our subject, Andrew Sill, was one of the earliest settlers of Burlington Township, Otsego County, N. Y., and was a farmer by occupation. He was a prominent and influential man and participated in the War of 1812. For many years he was a Deacon in the Presbyterian Church. His wife bore the maiden name of Helena Dorr, and her family were among the prominent pioneers of Connecticut and New York. The maternal grandmother of our subject was before her marriage Miss Barnum, a cousin of the showman.

Edmund Sill and his sister Eliza are the only ones now living of a family which consisted of three sons and two daughters. The others were Abigail, Henry and Cook D. His parents are also deceased, his father's death having occurred while on a visit to his son in Clifton.

Our subject received a good education, and on arriving at man's estate led to the marriage altar Miss Helen M. Walworth, daughter of James C. and Maria (Haines) Walworth, of Otsego County, N. Y. The wedding ceremony was performed on the 13th of October, 1859. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sill three children were born, the eldest, a daughter, died in infancy; James W. married Miss Mary E. Reynolds, daughter of Hubert and Rose Reynolds,

of Clifton. His death occurred October 20, 1892. A daughter, Helen Irene, is their only child. Charles B. is the youngest of the family.

Mr. Sill, for many years in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company as station agent, in January, 1867, was transferred to Clifton, holding the same position here. His many years' service in the employ of one railroad company is an evidence of his fidelity to duty and the dependence which they may safely place in him. He is interested in educational affairs, having held the office of School Director, and has also been elected to fill various other positions of trust and honor. Socially, he is a member of Clifton Lodge No. 688, A. F. & A. M. He is a man of intelligence and wide reading and always keeps well posted on all the leading events of the day. He is very popular, and has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, whose esteem he has won during his long years of residence in this vicinity. His home is the abode of hospitality and good cheer, and his friends delight to share them with him.



LORENZO N. SMITH, of Watseka, was born in Morristown, N. Y., on the 6th of August, 1849. He is a son of Aaron and Caroline (Kelly) Smith, both of whom were natives of New Jersey. The father followed the occupation of blacksmithing in his early life, and later engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was born June 27, 1820. Daniel Smith, the grandfather of our subject, was born May 5, 1781, in Prussia, Germany, and emigrated to America at an early age. When crossing the Atlantic he was shipwrecked, but was rescued and brought to New York City. He there enlisted under Capt. Decatur and served all through the War of 1812, on the good old ship "Constitution." His wife, Lydia Smith, was born in Pennsylvania, and died at the age of thirty-five, leaving a family of ten children. He died at the age of sixty-nine, his death occurring in 1852.

Lorenzo Smith, the subject of this sketch, is the fourth in a family of ten children, all living but one. He received his education in the common

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schools of his native State, and there learned the trade of blacksmith and wagon-maker. At the age of twenty-four he came to Watseka, believing that in the West was a larger field of labor, with better hopes of success to a young and enterprising man than in the crowded East. With marked perseverance and fidelity to his chosen line of work, he has always followed his trade, with the exception of but one year, which he spent at Indianapolis, Ind.

In 1876, Mr. Smith led to the marriage altar Miss Marian Burlew, who was a native of Illinois, and who died in 1880, leaving one child, Jesse M. He was again united in marriage, this time to Ida L. Marsh, in 1882. She is a daughter of Almon C. Marsh, of Batavia, N. Y. As the result of this union have been born two children, Olive and Mildred.

In his social relations, our subject is a member of Iroquois Lodge No. 74, I. O. O. F. He is a representative to the Grand Lodge of the State. He has served as a member of the City Council, which office he filled acceptably. His sympathies are with the Democratic party, to which he gives his interest and support. During a long residence in this section, he had won for himself a large circle of friends by his integrity and uprightness.



DAVID BRUMBACK, a well-to-do farmer and stock-raiser, who owns a farm on section 20, of township 27, Danforth Township, was born in Springfield, Ill., on the 31st of August, 1832. He is a son of Henry Brumback, a native of Virginia, who was born in 1804. His father was a native of Germany, born in Hesse-Darmstadt. He became one of the early settlers of Shenandoah County, Va., and there reared his family. Henry Brumback spent the days of his youth in the Old Dominion, and, when a young man, went to Ohio, locating in Licking County. There he was married to Miss Elizabeth Pitzer, a native of the Buckeye State. Her father, Richard Pitzer, was born in England, and was one of the early settlers of Ohio. After his marriage, Mr. Brumback engaged in farming in Ohio for a few years,

and in 1829 removed to Illinois, passing through Iroquois County when Guerdon S. Hubbard was an Indian trader, stationed at the town of Iroquois. He located on a farm near Ottawa, La Salle County, and resided there during the Black Hawk War. In the course of time he developed a fine farm from the raw prairie land, upon which he spent his remaining days, his death occurring in June, 1887, when he was eighty-three years of age. He was one of the honored pioneers of La Salle County. His wife died about the year 1870.

David Brumback is the fifth in order of birth in a family numbering five sons and four daughters, six of whom grew to mature years: Jacob, now deceased, was a farmer of La Salle County, and died in 1876; Elizabeth, who was the first white child born in Rutland Township, La Salle County, is the widow of Franklin Bruner; David, of this sketch, is the next younger; Elton farms on a portion of the old homestead; Elmira resides with her brother Theodore, who also operates a part of the home farm, and is the youngest of the family.

Our subject grew to manhood in La Salle County, where he received the advantages of a district-school education, supplemented by one year's course in the Jacksonville High School, then under the supervision of H. W. Bateman, the ex-State Superintendent of Schools of Illinois. After completing his school life, our subject engaged in farming on a tract of land which he purchased in La Salle County, and there made his home for a number of years. In 1867, he sold this farm and removed to Iroquois County, purchasing some unbroken prairie land in Danforth Township. He was one of the first settlers to locate there. He bought three hundred and twenty acres, the south half of section 20, and started to open up the land, fencing it and building a home and other farm buildings. He has now one of the best farms in the township, situated about half-way between Gilman and Danforth. Upon it is a pleasant, substantial residence, three good barns and other buildings, and a fine young orchard. It is in every respect a well-improved and valuable piece of property.

On the 2d of March, 1858, Mr. Brumback was united in marriage with Miss Ellen G. Barnes,

a native of the Empire State, who was reared and educated in Utica. She was a teacher in La Salle County previous to her marriage. Her parents were Hyder Pitt and Lucia M. (Goodwin) Barnes, who settled in La Salle County in 1856. To our subject and his wife have been born three children. The eldest is Allen D., now a resident of Montana, where he is engaged in mining; Lucia Rae is the wife of C. E. Bogardus, of Seattle, Wash. In the *Illini*, of March, 1892, the State University journal, appeared the following account of the Puget Sound Alumni Association meeting, held in the parlors of the Chamber of Commerce at Seattle, Wash. "In response to the toast 'Our college beans,' Mrs. Lucia Brumback Bogardus entertained us in a most happy manner. The lady was the youngest alumnus present, but she treated the subject with a womanly grace and richness of thought worthy of a much older and more experienced person. Her remarks were heartily enjoyed." Mrs. Bogardus is a graduate of the State University at Champaign in the Class of '90. She completed the literary and scientific course, and is also an accomplished musician. Almon, the youngest member of the Brumback family, helps to carry on the home farm, and is now a student in Grand Prairie Seminary.

Mr. Brumback is identified with the Democratic party, to which he has always given his staunch support. His first ballot was cast for Franklin Pierce. In local politics he votes for the man whom he considers best fitted for the position. He has held several local offices of honor and trust in the township, and since 1877 he served as Township Supervisor. He is now the efficient President of the Iroquois County Agricultural Association, which position he has filled for the past three years. To the cause of education he has ever given his warm and hearty support, and is a thorough believer in good schools and teachers. For the past twenty-four years he has acted as a member of the School Board, being ever zealous and faithful to the best interests of the community. Though not members of any religious organization, Mr. and Mrs. Brumback are in sympathy with and attend the Gilman Presbyterian Church. During his whole life our subject has been a resident of Illinois, and for nearly a quarter of a century has

lived in Iroquois County. He is widely and favorably known in this and adjacent counties, in whose development and progress he has very materially aided. He is a man of sterling character, and by his honorable and upright life has won the confidence and esteem of all.



HERRICK HOUGHTON, a prominent business man and respected citizen of Gilman, was born in Rutland County, Vt., on the 2d of January, 1845. He is a son of Capt. Leland and Lovica C. (Ripley) Houghton. Two brothers by the name of Houghton came from England in the early days of our country's history, and the one from whom our subject is descended settled in Vermont. The Ripley family also came from England. Both parents of our subject were born in Rutland County, Vt. In the fall of 1845, the father came by way of the Lakes to Chicago, but as he did not wish to locate in what he called that "mud-hole," he removed to a farm near Aurora, where he remained about nine years. He and his wife then removed to the Northwestern corner of Kankakee County, where they lived until 1874. At that time they came to Gilman, where they spent their remaining years. He lived to the age of sixty-nine years and his wife was sixty-six years of age at the time of her death. She was a member of the Methodist Church and her death was widely regretted. Mr. Houghton was a Whig and later a Republican. In their family were five children, of whom one died in infancy; of those who survive, Franklin is a resident of Gilman; Ollie is the wife of James Gordan, of Ashkum, this county; Herriek, our subject; and Sidney, who is a mail carrier in Chicago.

Herriek Houghton was reared as a farmer lad and was educated in the common schools. When only sixteen years of age, he enlisted in Company A, Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry. This was on the 16th of August, 1861. After spending two weeks in Chicago and an equal length of time at St. Louis, the company was sent to Maryland. The first fight

in which he was engaged was with Stonewall Jackson at Alpine Station. He participated in the battles of Kernstown and Black Water, also in the siege of Ft. Sumter. He then joined the army under Butler and took part in the battles of Bethesda Church, Drury's Bluff, Bermuda Hundred, Deep Bottom, Petersburg, Ft. Gregg, Rice Station and Appomattox. He served as Corporal and Commissary-Sergeant. He was mustered out at Norfolk, Va., and received his discharge at Springfield, Ill., December 16, 1865, after four years and four months of hard service. He was a valiant soldier, prompt in action and ever at his post of duty.

On his return home, Mr. Houghton turned his attention to farming. In Ashkum Township, March 3, 1868, he married Nancy E. Mellen, a daughter of William M. and Elvira (Bolster) Mellen, who are natives of Vermont. Mrs. Houghton is the second in a family of seven children, three sons and four daughters; she was born in Bennington County, Vt., and with her parents came to Illinois in 1857. At that time Mr. Mellen located on a farm near Joliet and followed agricultural pursuits until the year 1866, which witnessed his removal to Iroquois County. In 1887, he came to Gilman, where he and his wife still live, aged respectively seventy-seven and sixty-nine years. They are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are highly regarded for their sterling worth. Mr. Mellen was an old-line Whig until the rise of the Republican party, to the principles of which he has since adhered.

Having farmed successfully in Kankakee County until 1874, Mr. Houghton came to Gilman and opened a fancy grocery and notion store, which he continued for some three years. He then returned to agricultural pursuits, which line he followed until 1882, when he started a meat-market in Gilman, in which business he has since continued. After about a year he took as a partner his brother-in-law, William S. Mellen. In 1886 they started a branch market and in each do a thriving business. In addition, Mr. Houghton is interested in a dredge ditcher. He is recognized as a successful business man and is a leader in all that pertains to the best interests of society. Politically, he is a Republican but has never been an office-seeker. He is now

serving his second year on the School Board and has always been a staunch supporter of educational measures. Socially, he belongs to Gilman Post No. 186, G. A. R., and to Camp No. 521, M. W. A. Both he and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, in all the work of which they are active workers and are highly valued. He is a Trustee and Steward and is also the Superintendent of the Sunday-school. They have but one son, William L., who assists his father in his business most ably.



WILLIAM W. GILBERT, dealer in grain and lumber and a coal dealer of Danforth, Ill., was born at Philadelphia, Pa., on the 29th of January, 1841. He is a son of William Gilbert, who was born in Maryland, and is of English descent. In Dover, Del., the father was married to Susan Calley, who was born in Delaware, though of Irish ancestry. He was a man of superior education, and was a teacher in the Philadelphia schools for many years, or until the time of his death, which occurred in 1849. His wife died when the subject of this sketch was an infant.

William W. Gilbert spent his youth mainly in Delaware, where he was reared by an aunt. He attended the public schools, but has been mostly self-educated since arriving at mature years. At the age of sixteen he went aboard a ship as cabin boy, and spent from six to seven years before the mast. During the first part of his career on the Atlantic, he shipped in a coasting-vessel which sailed north in the summer months and south during the winter. Later, he visited many of the ports in the Old World, among them Liverpool, London, Cardiff (Wales), Naples, Messina, Palermo, and various other seaport towns. In the year 1861, he gave up the sea and came West to Buffalo. He then made a few trips on the Lakes and went to Chicago. From there he went to Danforth, where he arrived in July, 1861. He there engaged in the Government employ, and in November of that year went to Little Rock, Ark., remaining in the same employ until June, 1865. He returned to

Danforth, Iroquois County, and obtained employment with George W. Danforth, who was largely interested in real estate. After being with him for about two years, he next entered the service of Henry & Alman, who kept a general store at Danforth. He remained with them until 1871, and then purchased a grain and lumber business, in which he has been actively engaged since. At the time of his purchase, the business was but a small part of what it is to-day, only doing about one-tenth the trade he now carries on. He has built up an immense business through his enterprise and wise business investments. Mr. Gilbert commenced life a poor man, empty-handed and without a dollar, and has, by his own labor and industry, accumulated a large estate and a fine business. He is now one of the substantial and progressive citizens of this county. In addition to his other interests, he owns a section of land in one body and a quarter-section in another farm, all valuable and well-improved property, and also owns a fine residence property in Danforth and another in Kankakee. When Mr. Gilbert purchased the grain business in his town, there was a small elevator; this he rebuilt and enlarged until it has a capacity of fifty thousand bushels, and is one of the best of its kind. He also has a large warehouse and office in connection with his lumber yard.

Mr. Gilbert was married to Anna Foster on the 22d of February, 1871. Mrs. Gilbert was born and reared in Lewisberry, Pa., and is the daughter of John Foster. To our worthy subject and his wife have been born four children: Arthur H., who assists his father in the business; Jessie, James Russell and Lemuel, who still remain with their parents. They also lost their eldest daughter, Carrie, who died at the age of six, and one son, Leslie, who died when two years of age.

The first Presidential ballot of our subject was cast for Gen. George B. McClellan, and every nominee of the Democratic party for President has received his support. In local politics, he is independent, casting his vote for the man whom he considers best qualified for the position, regardless of politics. He has never aspired to official positions, though he was once induced to serve as

President of the Village Board, the duties of which position he discharged acceptably, and is now Mayor of Danforth. Mr. Gilbert is truly one of America's self-made men, and has bravely and nobly met and conquered the disappointments and discouragements of life, and well merits the success he has achieved.



HENRY SALMON, one of the self-made men, who is engaged in farming on section 9, Ash Grove Township, was born in Westphalia, Germany, August 4, 1860, and is one of a large family of children, whose parents were Henry S. and Mary (Wilke) Salmon. His father was a carpenter by trade. In the fall of 1866, he bade good-bye to his old home, and with his family sailed from Bremen to New Orleans, where they arrived after a voyage of nearly thirteen weeks. The family then went up the Mississippi River to Cairo, Ill., and on to Monee and Lake County, Ind., where for two years the father of our subject carried on carpentering. He then went to Will County, Ill., where he rented a farm. His death occurred on the 22d of September, 1875. His widow is still living, at the age of sixty-four years, and makes her home with one of her grandchildren in Ash Grove Township. In politics he was a Republican, and in religious belief was a Lutheran. He proved himself a valued citizen of the community, and had the high regard of all. Although he came to this country empty-handed, he was a man of energy and perseverance, and won a comfortable competence.

The eight children in the Salmon family are as follows: Annie, now the wife of D. Meyer, of Will County, Ill.; Johanna, wife of Fred Hasselberg, a resident of Jasper County, Ind.; Rieko, wife of Nicholas Casel, of Chicago; Augusta, who became the wife of Otto Hardekopf, who died in 1886, in Ash Grove Township, May 5, 1891; Lena, wife of Nicholas Feiler, of Chicago; Herman and Henry, twins; and Louisa, wife of Gus Brutlach, of Ash Grove Township.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of six sum-

mers, when, with his parents, he crossed the briny deep. The days of his boyhood and youth were quietly passed in Will County, and his early education, acquired in the district schools, was supplemented by a course in a private school. He came to Iroquois County at the age of fourteen and a-half years with the family, and on his father's death he began to earn his own livelihood, working as a farm hand. He then operated eighty acres of land, purchased by his father. He now owns an eighty-acre tract, and in addition operates forty acres of land.

Mr. Salmon has led a busy and useful life, and manifests a commendable interest in public affairs. He is a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Woodworth, and in politics has been a staunch adherent of Republican principles since he cast his first Presidential vote for James G. Blaine in 1884. He has often been a delegate to the conventions of his party, and for three years served as School Director.

In April, 1889, in Ash Grove Township, Mr. Salmon was united in marriage with Miss Matilda Munstermann, daughter of Christ Munstermann, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Their union has been blessed with two sons: Henry, born April 1, 1890; and William H., born September 20, 1892. Mr. Salmon is a wide-awake and enterprising young business man, intelligent and well informed, and his property has been acquired by his own honest industry.



JOHN CROUCH, a well-to-do and highly respected farmer and stock-raiser of Concord Township, residing on section 8, is a native of the Buckeye State. His birth occurred in Coshocton County on the 22d of January, 1838, and he is a son of William and Sarah (Lyons) Crouch. His parents were both natives of Ohio, the father born in Jefferson County, and the mother in Guernsey County. They are now residents of Iroquois. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Robert Crouch, died when John was

quite small. William Crouch engaged in farming in Coshocton County until 1880, when he came to this county, locating in the village of Iroquois, where he is now living retired. He owns considerable land in Concord Township.

Mr. Crouch, whose name heads this record, spent his boyhood days quietly upon his father's farm. Through the winter seasons he attended the common schools, where he acquired a good English education, and in the summer months he worked in the fields as soon as he was old enough to handle the plow. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which occurred when he was about twenty-eight years of age. On the 6th of November, 1866, he was joined in wedlock with Miss N. E. Carroll, a native of Coshocton County, Ohio, born October 20, 1843. Two children were born to them but they both died in infancy.

At the time of his marriage, Mr. Crouch's possessions consisted of two horses, two cows, six hogs, fifty head of sheep and a few farming implements. He engaged in the operation of rented land in his native State until 1869, when he removed to Piatt County, Ill. He there again rented land, and engaged in farming until 1870, when he came to Iroquois County. During the first winter, he lived in a log cabin. He then removed to a farm near the village of Iroquois, where he made his home for ten years. In 1874 he purchased his present home, consisting of eighty acres of wild prairie land and twenty acres of timber. He soon began to cultivate and improve it, and the same year erected a dwelling, to which he made extensive additions in 1881, when he moved his family to that place. He now owns a well-improved farm. The land is under a high state of cultivation and is well tiled. There are substantial buildings, such as are found on a model farm, and a fine bearing orchard is numbered among the other excellent improvements. In connection with general farming, Mr. Crouch is engaged in stock-raising, making a specialty of the breeding of Shropshire sheep. He has been very successful in this work and has some fine sheep upon his farm.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Crouch has been a supporter of the Democracy since he cast his first

Presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas in 1860. He served as School Director for two years, but resigned before the expiration of his term of office. He is now serving his tenth term as Trustee, and for three years he filled the position of Road Commissioner with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. The prompt and able manner in which he discharged his duties led to his re-election and won him high commendation. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic fraternity. Having been connected with the Blue Lodge of Troquois for twelve years. Himself and wife have long been active workers in and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he serves as Trustee. His wife is a worker in the Sunday-school. Their well-spent lives and their many excellencies of character have won for them high regard, and they are numbered among the county's best citizens.



REV. HELLWIG STAEHLING is an honored minister of the Lutheran Church, and now resides at Danforth, where he is pastor in the church of that denomination. He is a native of Germany, and was born in Hessen on the 24th of May, 1859. He is a son of Prof. George Staehling, who was born in the same province of the Fatherland. The father had the advantages of a superior education and was a teacher for many years. He married in Germany Emelia Clasing, who was born in Hanover. Prof. Staehling taught in his native land for a number of years, and in 1887 emigrated to the New World, locating at Waverly, Iowa, where he is now a teacher in German and music. To the Professor and his wife were born five sons and four daughters. The eldest, Rev. Frederick Henry, is a minister in the Lutheran Church at Somonauk, De Kalb County, Ill.; Rev. Frederick William, a minister of the same church, is now retired from active pastoral duties on account of poor health; Rev. Johannes Otto is located at Manson, Iowa; William is a theological student at Dubuque, Iowa; and our subject. The daughters are Maria, who

is the wife of Prof. Otto Kraushaar, a teacher in the college at Waverly, Iowa; Ida is the wife of Prof. Johannes Fritschel, also of the same college; Elizabeth, wife of Prof. Herman Kuhlmann, teacher of the same school; and Dora, who is a young lady still at home with her parents.

Rev. Hellwig Staehling spent his early years in his native land and received a thorough education in the schools and a full literary course in a college, supplemented by about two years in a theological seminary. His theological course was completed at the Lutheran Seminary, at Mendota, La Salle County. He was graduated from that institution in the Class of '75, and was ordained a minister of the Lutheran Church. He first assisted the minister at Gilman, but in 1876 received a call from the Melvin Church, which he accepted, locating there in the spring of that year. He was the able and devoted pastor of that church and people for the succeeding ten years. At the time of his call to Melvin, the church was very much run down, and by his earnest efforts and zeal he built up a large congregation and established the church on a good foundation. He also established Anchor, McLean County, whose numbers were greatly increased during his pastorate. During his ministry, Rev. Staehling has had a number of churches under his charge, among them Sibley, Germantown, Chatsworth and Roberts. At each of these places he has built up large congregations and has aided very materially in the growth of the work. At one time he had six congregations under his charge, for whom his labors were very earnest and arduous. In 1886, Rev. Mr. Staehling accepted a call to the pastorate at Danforth. The church was established and had a fair number of members. Since coming here he has built a schoolhouse and has otherwise strengthened the church. He has also established a church at La Hogue, and now supplies the two pulpits. Among his people he is highly esteemed and greatly beloved, as he well deserves. He is a faithful pastor and a conscientious advisor of his congregation.

At Melvin, on the 24th of August, 1876, Rev. Mr. Staehling was united in holy wedlock with Miss Augusta Gunther, who is a native of Illinois, her birth having occurred at Chatsworth. There

she passed her girlhood and was educated in both the English and German languages. She is a daughter of Christian H. Gunther, who was born in the Fatherland, and is now retired from active business and makes his home in Chicago. Rev. Mr. Staehling and his wife have a family of five children, as follows: Maria Emelia, Karl Christian, Henry Ferdinand, Edward Hellwig and Frederick George. These children are all receiving the advantages of a first-class education and good religious training.

For seventeen years Rev. Mr. Staehling has been a faithful minister, and has conscientiously done all in his power to uplift and better humanity. He has won the love and respect of all with whom he has come in contact and is one of the leading and representative ministers of the denomination to which he belongs. It is a fact well worthy of notice that his family is a most remarkable one, for of five sons, four are now ministers of the gospel, while the fifth one is also preparing himself for the same position; and of his four sisters, the three who are married are the wives of distinguished professors.



ALEXANDER KISKADDEN, a retired farmer of Gilman, was born in Madison County, Ohio, on the 5th of March, 1822.

He is a son of James and Rebecca (Ewing) Kiskadden. The father was born in Ireland in 1790, and when six years of age made the slow sailing voyage across the Atlantic to the United States, where they settled in Pennsylvania. He was reared to farm life and followed that calling for a livelihood. In Pennsylvania, in the year 1811, he married Miss Ewing, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1794, her parents also having come to the United States from Ireland. Her father was of Irish and her mother of Scotch descent. In 1814, the parents of our subject removed to Ohio, locating in Ross County, but some two or three years later went to Madison County, which was almost an unbroken forest at that time. Mr. Kiskadden cleared and improved several farms and

endured many of the privations of pioneer life. Though he never sought office, he was always actively interested in politics and the advancement of the best interests of the State. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His death occurred in 1852 at his home in Clarke County, Ohio, whither he had moved. His wife survived him nearly thirty years and died at the home of our subject in Gilman. In their family were ten children, four sons and six daughters.

The subject of this sketch is the fifth child of his father's family. He was reared on a heavily timbered farm and was thus early inured to hard work and hardships. When about twenty years of age he started out in life for himself. He was wedded to Elizabeth Williams in Upper Sandusky, on the 14th of August, 1849. She is a native of Richland County, Ohio, where her birth occurred August 11, 1825. She is the daughter of Amos and Mary (Cannon) Williams. Mr. Williams was born in Richland County, while his wife was a native of Maryland. The grandfather of Mrs. Kiskadden was born in Pennsylvania and was among the early pioneers of Ohio. Her grandfather Cannon was a pioneer emigrant from Maryland to Harrison County, Ohio, and the original Cannon farm is still in the possession of his descendants. Mr. and Mrs. Williams were married in Ohio and spent their lives on a farm. Both were life-long members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Her father died aged thirty-two and her mother at the age of forty-seven. He was a farmer by occupation and also ran a mill. While engaged in working on the dam he got wet, which resulted in a cold, and death followed. Mrs. Kiskadden is one of four children, one son and three daughters, of whom she and her sister, Mrs. Mary A. Barrmger, are the only ones living.

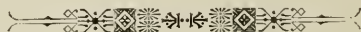
The first business Mr. Kiskadden engaged in was that of teaching school, which he did for some eight years, commencing at the early age of seventeen. In 1848 he engaged with a partner in the drug business in Upper Sandusky, continuing that for several years, and then added dry goods and groceries. He merchandised for some ten years and in 1861 came West and was salesman in Leaven-

worth, Denver, and Virginia City, Idaho. Returning to Ohio in 1864, he dealt in sheep and wool for about a year. He then removed to Lake County, Ind., where he farmed until 1868, when he came to Iroquois County, Ill. The traveler of to-day can hardly imagine the condition of the county at that time. The work of improvement was scarcely begun, most of the land was in its wild and primitive state, much of it being an unbroken swamp. Since that day all has changed. Waving fields of grain now greet the eye in every direction, the land has been wonderfully improved by judicious draining, and the country is inhabited by a prosperous and educated people, who are justly proud of the result of their toil and enterprise. Mr. Kiskadden did much for the good and advancement of the county, and though at first he purchased but forty acres of land, he added to his possessions until he had a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres. This he improved and tiled. The first tile that was ever laid in the First Drainage District was laid on his farm. In 1887, he removed to Gilman, where his home has been since.

Politically, Mr. Kiskadden was a Whig before the war, and has since been a Republican. Both he and his wife are workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, he being both Steward and Trustee of Trinity Church of Gilman. Mr. and Mrs. Kiskadden had a family of three children: Cooper W. died at the age of thirty-six unmarried. Mary Ella is the wife of Milford H. Brinkerhoff, dealer in musical instruments in Upper Sandusky, Ohio. He is one of the prominent young business men of that place and possesses excellent executive ability. He also deals in sewing-machines and employs seven commercial travelers. He is a shareholder in the Ohio Thresher Works, a stockholder in the First National Bank of Upper Sandusky, President of the Electric Light Company, and a stockholder in the Oil and Gas Fuel Company of the same city. It was Mr. Brinkerhoff who first suggested the idea of sinking a well for gas in that locality. As we see, he is one of the leading citizens of Upper Sandusky and is highly respected throughout that community. Dr. Harry S., the youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Kiskadden, a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Chicago, is one of the

leading surgeons of Detroit, Mich., and a specialist in the treatment of rectal diseases. He married Miss Sadie White and has two sons.

Mr. Kiskadden, whose name heads this record, assisted by his worthy wife, has acquired all he possesses by industry and good management. As to all, reverses came to them, but our subject by his determined will and strict attention to business, combined with economy and perseverance, overcame all obstacles, and has steadily worked his way upward, while through all his honor and integrity have remained unsullied. As the natural result, no one in this community ranks higher than he in the esteem of all. For twenty-four years Mr. and Mrs. Kiskadden have resided in Iroquois County, and by their consistent Christian lives have won a large circle of friends.



JOHN S. HARWOOD, who for sixteen years has been prominently identified with the business interests of Crescent City, claims Indiana as the State of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Wilmington, on the 21st of January, 1842. Jacob Harwood, his grandfather, was one of the pioneers of that locality, and there Frederick Harwood, the father of our subject, was reared to manhood. He married Harriet Powell, a native of Indiana and a daughter of James Powell, also an early settler of the Hoosier State. After some years' residence in Indiana, Mr. Harwood came with his family to Illinois in 1843, locating in Spring Creek Township, Iroquois County, where he entered land from the Government and developed a farm. He experienced many hardships and privations which are incident to frontier life during the first few years of his residence here. He was a prominent and influential citizen and was widely and favorably known in the county. His death occurred about 1878. His wife survived him for some years, and died in Crescent City in April, 1892, at the advanced age of eighty.

J. S. Harwood is the fourth in order of birth in a family of five sons and two daughters who grew to maturity. The eldest, James, is a resident farmer of

this county; A. J. makes his home in Crescent City; Zurilda is the widow of Sidney Wilson, also a resident of Crescent City; John S. is the next younger; Mrs. Mary Meyers and Lewis C. also live in Crescent City; E. M. makes his home in the same place, and is an extensive poultry dealer of the county.

We now take up the personal history of the gentleman whose name heads this record. He acquired a good education, which has been greatly supplemented by the knowledge gained through experience and observation after arriving at man's estate. He began earning his livelihood as a farmer, and carried on agricultural pursuits for about ten years, when he came to Crescent City, where he has carried on business almost continuously since. He is now engaged in the mercantile business. Mr. Harwood possesses good judgment, is sagacious and far-seeing, and by his well-directed efforts and enterprise he has won success.

On the 8th of January, 1872, in Hermitage, Hickory County, Mo., Mr. Harwood was united in marriage with Miss Anna Johnston. The lady is a native of the Keystone State but was reared in Iowa and Missouri. Two children grace this union: Iua M. aids her father in the store and also in making out the Assessor's books; and Ernest is at home. They also lost two children in early childhood: Harry, who died at the age of four years; and Gertie, who died at the age of two.

Mr. Harwood exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democratic party, with which he has affiliated since he cast his first vote for George B. McClellan. He takes quite an active part in political affairs, and has been honored with a number of public offices of trust. He was elected and served as Justice of the Peace for fourteen consecutive years, and is at present holding that office. For twelve years he filled the position of Town Clerk. In 1864 he was appointed Postmaster of Crescent City, and held the office three years, when he resigned. He was then appointed to that position under President Cleveland, serving for two and a-half years. In 1890 he was elected Coroner and has received the nomination for a second term. For four years he has served as Assessor, and the prompt and able manner in which he has discharged every public duty has won him high

commendation. He has never yet failed of election when nominated for an office, a high proof of his popularity and the appreciation which his fellow-townsmen have of his worth and ability. "Esq. Harwood," as he is called, is a member of the Modern Woodmen, and is now Venerable Counsel of the Lodge. His wife and daughter hold membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church. During nearly his entire life, he has made his home in this county and is one of its honored and highly respected citizens. His life has been well and worthily passed and in many respects may serve as an example to others. He has steadily worked his way upward and now holds an enviable position in the esteem of his fellow-townsmen.



ROBERT CHANDLER ALLEN, editor and publisher of the *Gilman Star*, is a native of Williamsport, Ind., where he was born on the 17th of January, 1860. When but six months old he was brought by his parents, James H. and Laura C. Allen, to Iroquois County. He became a resident of Gilman when about seven years old, and this place has been his home almost continuously since that time. After attending the Gilman schools, Mr. Allen spent three years in the State University at Champaign, and subsequently entered the Union College of Law in Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1882. Believing the West offered better opportunities to young men starting in life, he went to Huron, S. Dak., where he spent a year and a-half in the real-estate business.

Returning to Gilman, Mr. Allen purchased, in 1884, the *Gilman Star*, which was established in 1868 by Ed Rumley. Mr. Rumley had been conducting the *Review* at Onarga, and the citizens of Gilman offered him a bonus to come to Gilman and start a paper, which he did, giving the new paper the title of the *Star*. The *Star* has never changed its name or principles, it having been conducted as an independent paper, devoted to the welfare and best interests of this section. Having run the

paper until 1880, Mr. Rumley sold it to J. J. Coon, who continued its publication until 1884, since which time Mr. Allen has been editor and publisher. The *Star* is a well-edited and interesting paper, and takes rank among the leading newspapers of the county.

Mr. Allen was united in marriage in Gilman on the 20th of September, 1886, with Miss Jennie, daughter of John and Kate Lash, of Onarga, of which village Mrs. Allen is a native. The home of our subject and his wife has been blessed with one child, James L. Mr. Allen is a member of the Masonic order, and his wife belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. They are estimable people and move in the best society that Gilman affords. Their home is the abode of hospitality and they number many friends in this vicinity.



JOHNS O'NEILL is a leading farmer of Chebanse Township and owns a farm on section 11. He is a native of the Emerald Isle and was born in County Limerick on the 24th of June, 1835. He is a son of Lawrence and Nancy (Halpin) O'Neill, both of whom were also born in Ireland. The father with his family emigrated to the United States in 1849, first settling in the State of New York, in Orange County, where they resided a few years. In 1853, they came Westward and spent a few months in Milwaukee, and a couple of months in Chicago. From there they went to Monce, Ill., where they lived for about a year, when, coming to this county, they located in Chebanse Township. Mr. O'Neill and his sons worked upon the Illinois Central Railroad for two or three years. In 1856, the father pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land where his son now resides and settled upon the place about two years later. This was entirely uncultivated and he devoted himself to making a good and fertile farm of the same. He resided upon that property until his death, which occurred March 1, 1876. He was one of the honored pioneers, was an enterprising man, and helped very materially in the development of the county. His

wife passed away several years previous to the death of her husband.

John O'Neill is the only son of a family of four children who grew to mature years. The eldest, Mary, is the wife of John Ryan, of Chicago; Johanna is the wife of Pat Reynolds, whose sketch appears in this volume; and Bridget is now deceased.

Our subject came to this country with his parents when a lad of fourteen years, grew to manhood in this county, and remained with his father until the latter's death. After arriving at mature years he took charge of the farm and business and relieved his father of the care and anxiety attending the supervision and cultivation of a large farm. When younger he engaged in breaking prairie for the neighbors, and was quite active in the early development and settlement of the county. He is one of the honored pioneers and has seen the march of civilization and progress going steadily forward in this section. From a wilderness and almost limitless prairie, with scarcely a building upon it as far as the eye could reach in any direction, it has been transformed as the years have passed by to its present condition of cultivated land and comfortable farm houses, thriving villages and network of railroads.

February 9, 1869, Mr. O'Neill was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Bridget Fogarty, who was born in Ireland, April 15, 1847, and came when a child of two years to this country with her father, Edward Fogarty. He settled first in Wisconsin and there Mrs. O'Neill passed her girlhood days. By this union there are nine children living: Edward received a good education and is a successful teacher in this county. He has also taken a commercial course at the Bryant & Stratton Commercial College, of Chicago, and just previous to taking up that course held a position in that city; Nellie is at home; Thomas assists his father upon the home farm; John P., Willis H., Anna, David, Lucy and Mary Catherine are still under the parental roof and are receiving good educations. Four children died in early childhood.

Since becoming a voter, Mr. O'Neill has affiliated with the Democratic party. He has never aspired

to office but has given his time and attention to his farm and business interests. He is a friend to education and public schools. Mr. O'Neill and his family are members of the Clifton Catholic Church.

The farm of our subject, which consists of one hundred and sixty acres, is located just outside of the corporation limits of the town of Clifton and is all well improved and valuable property. He has erected upon it good buildings and a substantial residence, and his fertile fields yield to him a golden tribute for his years of care and cultivation. He has spent almost his entire life in this county and is esteemed as a man of upright character. The many friends whom he has made during his long residence in this portion of the county will be pleased to read this brief tribute to so worthy a man as John O'Neill.



JACOB H. HARE is a merchant and farmer of Pittwood, Martin Township, and is the son of J. W. Hare, a native of the Keystone State, who was born March 20, 1808. His father, Witmer Hare, was born in Germany. The father removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio about the year 1817, settling in Stark County, then a wilderness. The grandfather was a mechanic and worked at cabinet-making. J. W. Hare grew to manhood and married Lydia Hommon, a resident of Stark County, and a native of Pennsylvania. After his marriage, he engaged in merchandising, carrying on a country store for about five years. He then located on a farm, and for a few years engaged in agricultural pursuits. In the fall of 1848, he removed to Indiana, settling in Allen County, where he opened up a farm in what was then a wilderness. There he lived until 1885, when he sold his property and joined his son, our subject, in Iroquois County, where he resided until called away by death in November, 1889. During the last years of his life he was blind. His wife still survives him, a hale and hearty lady of eighty-one years. She is now living with our subject.

Jacob H. Hare is the youngest of two children.

His sister Barbara is the wife of George Hiser, who resides in Allen County, Ind. He grew to manhood on the farm, receiving good common-school advantages, and his education was completed at the Ft. Wayne Seminary. After completing his education he went on the road as a traveling salesman. This he did for about five years, traveling through Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Iowa.

Mr. Hare was married at Lansing, Mich., on the 20th of February, 1862, to Miss Elizabeth C. Keeler, who was born in Ohio, and grew to womanhood in Hancock County. She was a daughter of Joseph Keeler, of that State. Mrs. Hare departed this life on the 12th of July, 1882. Mr. Hare was again married, in the fall of 1883, this time to Miss Lou Brandenburg, a native of this State and county, who was here reared and educated. She is a daughter of Enoch and Elizabeth Brandenburg. Their home has been blessed with two children, Floyd J. and Fay C.

In 1863, Mr. Hare removed West to Illinois, and settled in Ford County, near Cabery, purchasing a piece of prairie land which he opened up, and on which he made many improvements, including buildings and fences. This land he farmed for several years, and then, having sold it, he removed to Melvin, where he engaged in the drug and grocery business for three years. He then clerked for some eight years for A. P. Gould. During his residence at Melvin, he purchased a farm which was located in Middleport Township, in Iroquois County. To this he removed in 1883, and has since carried on farming here. He has a farm of eighty-two acres of well-cultivated land, on which is a good residence, two good barns and two artesian wells, which furnish abundance of water for all purposes. On his farm is also a fine young bearing orchard. In 1888, Mr. Hare bought out and established business at Pittwood, and has engaged in the mercantile line, carrying a fine stock of groceries, clothing and notions. He has an extensive and well-established trade in this locality. In 1889, he removed to the village and now devotes his time to his business here and his farming interests.

Mr. Hare is a Republican, in politics, though casting his first ballot for Stephen A. Douglas. He

has since voted for the nominees and principles of the Republican party. He has held a number of local official positions of honor and trust, and has fulfilled the duties of each with fidelity and credit. For five consecutive years he served as Assessor of Rogers Township, Ford County, and for four years acted as Constable. He has always given his hearty support to public schools and the interests of general education, and has served as a member of the School Board. For about thirty years he has been a resident of Illinois, and in both Ford and Iroquois Counties is recognized as one of the most enterprising and public-spirited of their citizens. He is a man of sterling integrity, and has won for himself a wide circle of friends.



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN WELCH, the popular and widely-known host of the Welch Hotel, who has carried on business in this line in Sheldon since 1889, is a native of White County, Ind. He was born on the 13th of October, 1856, and is a son of James and Priscilla (Simons) Welch. His father was a farmer by occupation and followed that business during the greater part of his life. About 1840, he removed to Indiana, and in the Hoosier State spent the remainder of his days. He was twice married and had a family of thirteen children, our subject being the youngest and the only child of the second union. His parents are both now deceased.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth quietly in his parents' home. He received his early education in the common schools and afterward entered the Monticello College, from which he graduated. He has been a resident of Sheldon since 1880, when, at the age of twenty-four years, he came to this place and embarked in the restaurant business, which he followed successfully for about six years, enjoying an excellent patronage. He then determined to engage in other pursuits, and, selling out, he opened the Welch Hotel in 1889. He has since operated it and is doing a prosperous business. The hotel is very ad-

vantageously situated near the intersection of the Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis and the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroads, and is kept open day and night. It is a first-class hotel, complete in all its appointments, and has found favor with the traveling public.

The marriage of Mr. Welch was celebrated November 19, 1884, the lady of his choice being Miss Nellie N. Luckey, daughter of John and Rebecca Luckey, both of whom were natives of Illinois. By the union of the young couple have been born three children, two sons and a daughter, as follows: Etta May, Charles Ray and Herchal D., the baby of the home.

In his social relations, Mr. Welch is a member of Paragon Lodge No. 339, K. P., and his political sentiments accord with the principles of the Democracy. He takes an active interest in public affairs and is a progressive citizen who does all in his power to aid in the upbuilding of the community and the promotion of its worthy enterprises. He has now made his home in Sheldon for twelve years and is widely and favorably known, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of his life, which has been well and worthily spent.



BRADFORD J. WAKEMAN, proprietor of the Rural Nursery of Chebanse, Ill., has spent his entire life in this State and is a representative of one of its honored pioneer families. He was born in Du Page County, on the 15th of January, 1840, and is the only child of James C. and Mary P. (Kent) Wakeman, both of whom were natives of the Empire State. When a young man, Mr. Wakeman came to the West and enlisted in the Black Hawk War, as a member of the Fifth New York Dragoons. In 1832, he went to Chicago, when that large city contained only three buildings. He was in the Government employ for three years and helped to make the survey of Wisconsin up to Green Bay. Locating in Du Page County, he took up Government land, and for a term taught the only school in Chicago and that

was kept in a log schoolhouse. A year previous to this he was a sailor on the Lakes. At length he cultivated and improved his farm in Du Page County, and upon it reared his family and there spent the remainder of his life. His death occurred in 1875. Mr. Wakeman established a cemetery in this county and purchased a tract of land in 1866. His remains were interred in Evergreen Cemetery. He was one of the honored pioneers of Illinois and witnessed the growth of the State from a wilderness to its position of prominence in the Union. He was married in Du Page County to Miss Kent, daughter of Trumbull Kent. Her death occurred in 1843, after which Mr. Wakeman was a second time married.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of frontier life, spending the days of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm. He remained at home until he had attained his majority. His education was acquired in the common schools, but his privileges were quite limited. After the breaking out of the late war, he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting in 1861 as a member of Company B, Thirty-third Illinois Infantry. He served for a three-year term, and on its expiration he enlisted as a veteran and continued as one of the defenders of the Old Flag until after the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged in Springfield, November 15, 1865. He entered the service as a private but his bravery and meritorious conduct on the field of battle won him promotion and he was mustered out with the rank of Major.

Our subject participated in many important engagements, including the battles of Frederickstown, Pea Ridge, Little Rock, Cotton Plant, Ft. Esperanda, the Red River expedition, the battles of Ft. Morgan, Spanish Fort, Ft. Blakely, Selma, Ala., and the sieges of Vicksburg and Jackson. He also met the enemy in the engagements at Champion Hills, Raymond, Port Gibson and Black River Bridge, Miss. He received several flesh wounds and carries a number of honorable scars. He was always found at his post, faithful to his duty and to the Stars and Stripes.

When the war was over, Mr. Wakeman returned

to his home in Du Page County. The following year he came to Iroquois County and located in Chebanse, where for a quarter of a century he has made his home. He is numbered among the early settlers of this locality and has borne a prominent part in its upbuilding and advancement. He bought eighty acres of raw prairie land adjoining the corporation limits of this city, and thereon has since made his home. With characteristic energy he began its development. He broke the land, fenced it, erected good buildings and now has one of the finest improved places in this part of the county. His home is a commodious and substantial residence, there are good barns and outbuildings and the place presents a neat and attractive appearance. Soon after locating here, Mr. Wakeman set out nursery stock, and has since been actively engaged in operations in that line. The entire place is now used as a nursery and he is now doing an extensive and constantly increasing business. He has several salesmen on the road taking orders.

On the 24th of December, 1867, Mr. Wakeman was united in marriage with Miss Ettie A. Root, a native of Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and a daughter of Nathan Root, one of the early settlers of this county. Five children have been born of their union, the eldest of whom, Mary A., a young lady, is successfully engaged in teaching, having excellent ability in this direction; Lena E. is a graduate from a school of stenography and typewriting; Grace M. is at home; George B. and Oliver P. are still under the parental roof. The family circle yet remains unbroken and the children all yet live at home.

Mr. Wakeman is identified with the Republican party, having been a staunch advocate of its principles since he cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant. He has never been an aspirant for the honors or emoluments of public office, but for two years served as a member of the School Board and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. He takes an active interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community and does all in his power for its upbuilding. Socially, he is a member of Chebanse Post No. 293, G. A. R., and has been its Commander since its organization. Mrs.

Wakeman and four of the children hold membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Chebanse. This family is one of prominence in the community and its members are widely and favorably known. Mr. Wakeman is a man of upright character and sterling worth and has won universal confidence and high esteem during his twenty-five years' residence in this county.



HIRAM W. LAWHEAD, a leading photographer of Onarga, who for twenty-six years has successfully engaged in business in this place, was born on the 4th of June, 1841, Holmes County, Ohio, being the place of his birth. His parents, James and Jane (Boyd) Lawhead, were also natives of the Buckeye State. Their family numbered four children, three sons and a daughter, namely: Amanda, Hiram W., Alfred and Robert. About 1844, James Lawhead left Ohio, and, with his family, came to Iroquois County, locating first in Middleport, where he spent about a year. He then removed to the country, settling near Plato, about eight miles northwest of Watseka, and there engaged in the practice of the medical profession, for he was a physician a short time. His death occurred soon afterward. A few years later, his widow became the wife of Joseph Smith, a farmer residing near Watseka. After residing in that locality for a few years, they went to a farm near Sugar Island, about eight miles south of Kankakee. By this union was born one child, Samuel B. Smith. The parents are both deceased. Mr. Smith departed this life in 1874, and Mrs. Smith was called to the home beyond on the 4th of May, 1876.

Hiram W. Lawhead, whose name heads this record, acquired his education in the common schools of Illinois, for he was only about three years old when his parents came to this State. When he looked about him in choice of a profession or occupation which he wished to make his life work, he determined to take up photography, and to fit himself for the art he entered a gallery in Kankakee. He supplemented his study there by work in

Chicago, after which he embarked in business for himself. In 1866, he came to Onarga, reaching this place on the 6th of June, and at once opened a photograph gallery. From the beginning, his trade has constantly increased until he now enjoys a liberal patronage.

Mr. Lawhead is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in his political affiliations is a Prohibitionist. The cause of temperance finds in him a warm advocate and he votes with the party which embodies his principles along that line. He is a friend to all educational and moral interests and is a valued citizen of the community, giving his support to everything calculated to prove of public benefit or promote the general welfare. As an artist, he occupies a prominent place. His work is all done in first-class style, and by an earnest desire to please his customers, he has built up an excellent business, which he well deserves.



WILLIE M. BOSWELL, a wide-awake and enterprising young farmer of Onarga Township, has for many years been a resident of this county. He is a native of Indiana his birth having occurred in Tippecanoe County, on the 14th of March, 1856. His parents are William A. and Elizabeth Boswell, and a sketch of their lives is given elsewhere in this volume. He was reared to manhood under the parental roof, his boyhood days being passed in his father's home. He received good school privileges, being educated in Grand Prairie Seminary of Onarga.

On the 25th of March, 1885, Mr. Boswell led to the marriage altar Miss Fannie McIntyre, of this county, daughter of Leonard McIntyre. Their union has been blessed with a family of two children, a daughter and a son, namely: Pensee, born September 28, 1886; and Clark on the 24th of August, 1887. The Boswell household is a hospitable one and the parents being widely and favorably known in this community rank high in social circles.

Mr. Boswell now resides on a farm containing three hundred and twenty acres of land, and his home is pleasantly situated about three and one-half miles southwest of the village of Onarga. He is an industrious and practical farmer and his place is under a high state of cultivation, its well-tilled fields and neat appearance indicating the supervision of a careful manager, such as Mr. Boswell is known to be. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding.



HIRAM VINTON CROSSLAND, who is extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 28, Sheldon Township, is a native of this State, his birth having occurred in Marshall County, Ill., on the 29th of April, 1848. His parents, George and Julia (Feazel) Crossland, were both natives of Ohio. About 1838, they left their old home and emigrated Westward, locating in Marshall County. On the discovery of gold in California, the father, hoping to gain a fortune, went to the Pacific Slope, but lost his life there about a year later. In 1852, Mrs. Crossland was again married, becoming the wife of Alfred Wright. She is still a resident of Marshall County. By her first marriage she had two children, but the elder is now deceased.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood in the county of his nativity. In its common schools he acquired his primary education, which was supplemented by a collegiate course. He has engaged in teaching for twenty-three years during the winter season and is a capable and successful instructor and highly educated man, who keeps well informed on all the current events of the day. In the summer months he has always followed farming, and was thus employed in Marshall County for a number of years.

On the 6th of April, 1876, Mr. Crossland led to the marriage altar Miss Cynthia L. Broadbuss, a native of Marshall County, and a daughter of

Christopher and Minerva (Hall) Broadbuss. Her father was a native of Virginia. He was born in the Old Dominion in 1819, and died in 1871. In his youth, he acquired a liberal education and became a surveyor by profession. He was a Democrat, and was a man whom the people honored and respected for his strict integrity and sterling worth. He married Miss Hall, who was born in the Buckeye State in the year 1828. She is yet living at the age of sixty-four years, and now makes her home in Champaign County, Ill. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Broadbuss was born a family of nine children, two sons and seven daughters, of whom six are yet living at this writing. Mrs. Crossland, of this sketch, is the eldest; and the other members of the family are Helen, Jessica, Florence, Marshall and Alice. Mrs. Crossland was born in Illinois, May 16, 1847, and spent her maiden days under the parental roof in Marshall County, acquiring a very good English education in the public schools. She has proved a valuable help-mate to her husband, and is a lady of many excellencies of character. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born six children, but one died in infancy. Two sons and three daughters are yet living, namely: George Marshall, Cynthia Vinton, Viola, Hiram Edward and Julia Wright. These are all yet under the parental roof.

In the winter of 1888, Mr. Crossland, accompanied by his family, left Marshall County and came to Iroquois County, settling in Sheldon Township upon the farm which he has since made his home. He there owns and operates two hundred and forty acres of valuable land, and, in addition to this, owns three hundred and twenty acres of farming land in Marshall County, which is now rented. His well-tilled fields yield a golden tribute to his care and cultivation, and the neat appearance of the place indicates his thrift and enterprise. Mr. Crossland has also engaged extensively in stock-raising and is numbered among the prominent and progressive agriculturists of the community.

Our subject and his wife are both members of the Universalist Church, and Mrs. Crossland is a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in Sheldon. Mr. Crossland is also a strong

supporter of temperance principles and gives expression to his views on that subject by supporting the Prohibition party. He has held the office of Road Commissioner for nine consecutive years, was Collector one term and served as Assessor for one term. He has ever discharged his public duties with promptness and fidelity, proving an efficient officer. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who is ever found in the front ranks of worthy enterprises calculated to promote the general welfare, giving liberally of his time and means to their support. He has led an upright, honorable life and is highly esteemed throughout the community.



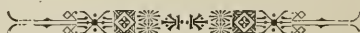
GERD WESSELS, a representative farmer of Crescent Township, residing on section 27, claims Germany as the land of his birth. He was born in the county of Aurich, town of Middels, Hanover, on the 18th of April, 1851, and is a son of Frederick Wessels, who was also a native of the same locality. His father was a mechanic and worked in a brick yard, and also followed farming. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Gesche Reinholz, and was born in Hanover. In 1869, Mr. Wessels emigrated with his family to the New World and made his first location in Washington, Tazewell County, Ill., where he resided for a few years engaged in farming. He then came to Iroquois County, locating in Ashkum Township, where he spent two years. He is now living a retired life in Crescent City.

Gerd Wessels, whose name heads this sketch, attended the schools of his native land and for two years was a student in an English school. He remained at home until nineteen years of age, when with the family he emigrated to America. On the 20th of June, 1872, he was married to Miss Thede Margaret Siebels, a native of Hanover, Germany, and a daughter of David Siebels. When a maiden of sixteen summers, she came to this country with her father, who first located in Woodford County, Ill. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wessels has been born a

family of eight children, as follows: Sena, now the wife of William Lubben; Anna, Minnie, Lena, John, Frederick, William and Matilda.

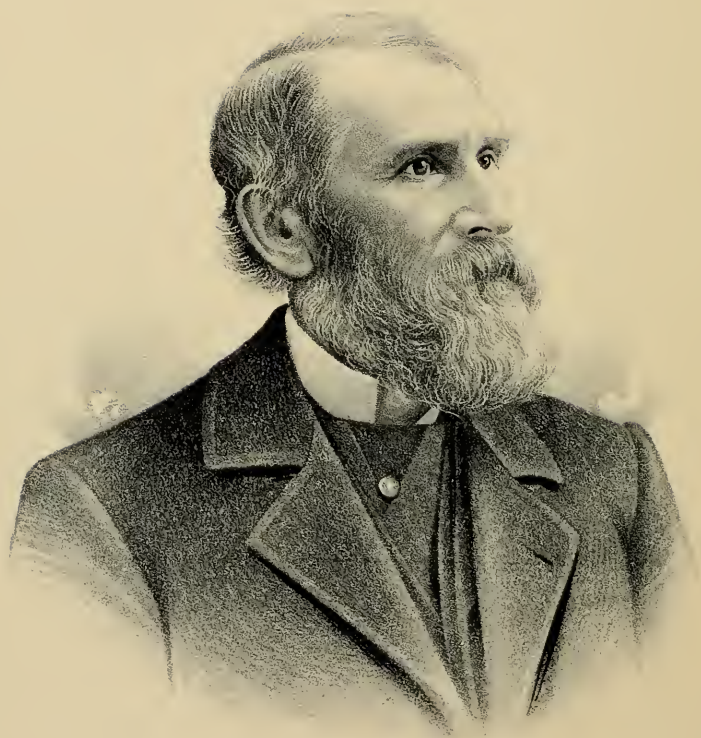
After his marriage, Mr. Wessels rented land and engaged in its operation for about nine years, when, having accumulated some property, he purchased an eighty-acre farm, upon which he now resides. He has built upon the place a substantial residence, good barns and other necessary outbuildings, and made many excellent improvements which stand as a monument to his thrift and enterprise. He has also purchased an additional tract of forty acres, adjoining the first purchase, and the valuable farm of one hundred and twenty acres now yields to him a golden tribute in return for the care and cultivation he bestows upon the land.

For a quarter of a century, Mr. Wessels has been a resident of this county and is now widely and favorably known. In politics, he is a Democrat on questions of State and National importance, but at local elections supports the man whom he thinks best qualified to fill the position, regardless of party affiliations. Himself and wife are members of the German Lutheran Church of Schwer. Wessee in Mr. Wessels a self-made man, who started out in life with no capital save a young man's bright hope of the future and a determination to succeed. However, he has steadily worked his way upward, and by his industry, perseverance and good management has acquired a comfortable property and is now numbered among the well-to-do farmers of Crescent Township.



LAZARUS STEELY, one of the early settlers of Iroquois County, was born near Chillicothe, Ross County, Ohio, December 4, 1819, and is a son of David and Mary (Carothers) Steely. At the age of twelve years, our subject left his native State and went to Pickaway County, Ohio, where he was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools. In September of 1845, he was married near La Fayette, Ind., to Miss Maria Ermie. Mrs. Steely was born in Pennsylvania and was a daughter of Christian Ermie.

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Mr. Steely engaged in farming in Indiana until the fall of 1853, when he removed with his family to Illinois, arriving in Middleport, Iroquois County, on the 1st of September of that year. At that place he located and engaged in the grocery business and later in the manufacture of lumber. In 1888, Mr. Steely started in the grocery business at Watseka, but was burned out in 1890, since which time he has not been in active business.

Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Steely, of whom four are living, three having passed away in childhood. Those living are James A., who married Louise Simms, and is now living in Nebraska; Ruth, now the wife of Iven Bailey, of Watseka; Laura, who married Charles Fowler, of Belmont Township, near Watseka; and Ida M., the wife of E. W. Bishop, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

Mrs. Steely departed this life on the 9th of September, 1884. She was a member of the Society of Friends or of the Quaker Church, and was held in high esteem. Her husband belonged to the same denomination. Mr. Steely has been a Republican the greater part of his life, but of late years has identified himself with the Greenback party. He still resides in Watseka, where he is much respected by all who know him.



HON. ADDISON GOODELL, the senior member of the firm of A. Goodell & Son, investment bankers of Loda, Ill., is one of the prominent citizens of this county. He established business here in 1855, and has since been connected with the leading interests of this community. As he is widely and favorably known, we feel assured that this record of his life will be received with interest by many of our readers.

Mr. Goodell was born near Mentor, Lake County, Ohio, on the 16th of July, 1822, and is the only survivor of a family of three children, whose parents were Nathan P. and Hannah M. (Griswold) Goodell. The father and mother were both na-

tives of Windham County, Conn., whence they removed to Ohio, where they were among the first settlers in the Western Reserve, now included in Lake County. Mr. Goodell was a woolen manufacturer by trade, and in connection with that business he carried on farming and milling. Public-spirited and energetic, he took a prominent and active part in all that pertained to the welfare of the community in which he made his home. Politically, he affiliated with the Whig, then with the Free Soil, and afterward with the Republican party. Both he and his wife were members of the Christian Church. Sidney Rigdon was pastor of the church to which they belonged, and when Joseph Smith established the Mormon Church there Rigdon succeeded in carrying all of his church except Mr. and Mrs. Goodell over to the Mormon Church. It was not uncommon for people to receive written revelations from heaven instructing them what to do. One Orson Hyde received such a communication, and in proof of the fact exhibited it to Mr. Goodell, who in turn showed him an exact copy of it. Seeing that Mr. Goodell was the author of the revelation, and knowing where unto such would lead, Joseph Smith received a revelation that the earth would drink Mr. Goodell's blood within a year. As this sounded rather ominous, the father of our subject was glad to sell at a round price and move to Painesville, Ohio, where he operated the city flouring mills until his death. He lived to the age of seventy-six years, and his wife reached the age of three-score years and ten.

Addison Goodell was reared upon his father's farm in Northern Ohio, where, amidst the active duties of farm life and in the district schools, he laid the foundation of his future successful career. After leaving the common schools, he spent some time in the Western Reserve Teachers' Seminary, held in the old Mormon Temple at Kirkland, Ohio, and conducted by the noted educator, Asa D. Lord. At the age of seventeen, Mr. Goodell began teaching school. After following this calling for four years in Ohio, he was attracted to Louisville, Ky., and in that city was employed for two years as a private instructor in the family of John J. Crittenden. Returning to the Buckeye State, he

then engaged extensively in the lumber trade, making Painesville his headquarters. He owned two vessels, one of which he built, and which he used in carrying lumber from the ports of Michigan, Ohio and Canada to markets in the East.

Disposing of his interest in the East, Mr. Goodell came to Illinois in 1855, and in July of that year located in Loda, where he again embarked in the lumber trade. This business, however, was subsequently abandoned, as he became interested in the real-estate business and in negotiating loans on farm lands for Eastern capitalists. The following year he added the banking business. Mr. Goodell is a man widely acquainted throughout this State, and wherever he is known his reputation for honesty and fair dealing is above reproach. Capitalists having learned this, readily entrust their interests with him, and his business has grown until now he handles more capital for other parties than any other loan agency in Eastern Illinois. For thirty-seven years Mr. Goodell has been a loan and investment banker, and it is said of him by one who has been acquainted with his business methods throughout these years, that during all this time no investor has lost a cent, nor has a single borrower been oppressed, but on the contrary many men in this region owe to his aid and encouragement the fact that to-day they own comfortable homes and are provided for life. But it should not be thought that to financial interests alone Mr. Goodell has given his time and attention. The interests of Loda, its churches, schools, etc., have all received a share of his extended liberality.

Before leaving Ohio, Mr. Goodell was united in marriage with Miss Jane H., daughter of Sellick and Mary V. (Yates) Warren, their union being celebrated May 21, 1850. The lady was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., on the 16th of October, 1830, being one of a family of seven children, of whom four are still living. Her parents were among the early settlers of Lake County, Ohio, whither they removed in 1837, there spending the remainder of their lives. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Goodell were born seven children, three of whom died in infancy. Those living are Frances M., Warren S., Nathan P. and Bertha G. Frances is

the wife of W. J. Strong, an attorney-at-law of Chicago. Warren is the junior member of the firm of A. Goodell & Son. Like his father, he is a man of splendid business ability, and for a number of years has had the active charge of the business interests of the firm, with which he is conversant in every detail. He prepared for college in the boys' academy at Albany, N. Y., but failing health caused him to abandon the idea of taking a collegiate course. To regain his strength and broaden his mind by contact with other countries and people, he spent a year traveling in Europe. Upon his return, he pursued a course in a commercial college, and then became an assistant in his father's office. In 1877, he was admitted to partnership, the firm assuming the style above given. For a wife he chose Miss Lucy M. Wendland, of Helena, Ark., and they have a pleasant home in Loda. Nathan P., the younger son, fitted himself for college at Greylock Institute, Williamstown, Mass., and in 1888 graduated from the Illinois State University at Champaign. Subsequently, he read law with Cratty Bros. & Ashcraft, of Chicago, and with J. H. Moffett, of Paxton, Ill. Upon examination, he was admitted to the Bar in September, 1891, receiving one of the highest grades in the class. He is now attorney for the firm of A. Goodell & Son, making a specialty of the examination of titles.

Mr. Goodell has witnessed and largely aided in the development of this part of the State. When he located at Loda, the surrounding country was a vast prairie, upon which scarcely an improvement had been made. There was a small settlement at Loda, but every so-called house was filled to its utmost capacity. Not able to get board in the neighborhood, he was obliged to take his meals in Chicago. Coming out in the morning with a lunch in his pocket, he would work all day and return at night. But the country has developed rapidly, and it is not too much to say that Mr. Goodell's growth, financially and otherwise, has been commensurate with that of the country. Politically, he is a Republican. He received his political education from such men as Joshua R. Giddings, Ben Wade and Thomas Corwin. Imbued with their political ideas, when the Repub-

ican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery, he at once joined its ranks. Prior to coming to Illinois, Mr. Goodell had never voted for any Congressman except Mr. Giddings, and by his first Congressional vote after reaching this State he supported Owen Lovejoy, a more radical Abolitionist.

Mr. Goodell has never sought the honors or emoluments of office, but his fellow-citizens, recognizing his ability and trustworthiness, have called upon him to fill important political positions. In 1861, he was elected to represent his county in the State Legislature. That was one of the most stormy as well as one of the most important general assemblies ever convened in the State. In 1870, he was chosen by the voice of the people as a member of the Illinois Constitutional Convention, and how ably the men of that assemblage performed their work is told by our present constitution. Again, in 1871 and 1872, he was called upon to represent Iroquois County. Besides this, he has filled a number of local offices. In every public position, he has served the people acceptably, and has ever received the highest encomiums from his constituents. But it is in business affairs that Mr. Goodell is a Napoleon, as his remarkably successful career well illustrates. His course has ever been marked by honesty, not because honesty is the best policy, but because it is right. It would be next to impossible to find another man in the State who has done so extensive a loan business as Mr. Goodell, and who retains the universal goodwill of those with whom he has had business transactions.

ABSALOM J. WARRICK, a highly respected citizen of Sheldon, who is now manager of the Farmers' Elevator, was born on the 28th of November, 1840, in Fountain County, Ind. He is a son of Samuel and Delia (Jenkins) Warrick, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The father was born June 17, 1811, and removed to Indiana in 1838. After fifteen years' residence in the Hoosier State, he came to Illinois

in 1853, and cast his lot amid the early settlers of Iroquois County. He is a carpenter by trade and followed that occupation in pursuit of fortune until coming to this county, since which time he has been engaged in farming. Mr. Warrick has been thrice married. Of the four children born of the first union, our subject is the third in order of birth and the only one now living. Nine children were born of the second marriage and a family of three graced the third. The Warricks come of a long-lived ancestry. Samuel Warrick, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of New York, and reached the ripe old age of eighty-five years.

In the usual manner of farmer lads the subject of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He was only thirteen years of age when he came to this county. His education was acquired in the common schools, and he remained at home until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself. He embarked in farming and followed that occupation continuously until his removal to Sheldon. He was a successful agriculturist and a man of good business ability.

In January, 1862, Mr. Warrick married Miss Cynthia Hoagland, daughter of Charles Hoagland, a native of Ohio. Unto them was born a family of four children, as follows: John A., the eldest, is a resident of Warren County, Ill. He is a well-educated gentleman who now follows the profession of teaching, being employed as Principal of the Roseville schools. He was united in marriage with Miss Charity Cobb, a native of Indiana, and unto them have been born two children, both daughters: Madie and Stella. Addie, the second of the Warrick family, is the widow of John N. Cobb, and resides in Middleport Township, this county. By her marriage she became the mother of three children: Pearl, Robert R. and Jessie. Mattie is now deceased. Maggie, who completes the family, makes her home under the parental roof. She has been one of the successful teachers of Iroquois County, but is now attending school, being a student in Valparaiso College. The family is one of prominence in the community, and its members, who are widely and favorably known, rank high in the social circles in which they move.

Since his removal to Sheldon in 1892, Mr. War-
rick has been the efficient manager of the Farmers'
Elevator, and has conducted the business to the
satisfaction of all concerned. In politics, he is a
supporter of Democratic principles, and socially,
he is a member of the Masonic fraternity and holds
the office of Secretary in the lodge to which he
belongs. He is an honored and respected citizen
of the community, ever found in the front rank
of any enterprise calculated to prove of public
benefit. His life has been well and worthily passed,
and his honorable career has won him the confi-
dence and good-will of all with whom he has been
brought in contact.



HERMAN CLASSEN is a retired farmer and
well-known merchant of Danforth. He was
born in Hanover, Germany, on the 4th of
January, 1827, and is a son of Claus F.
and Elbe (Herman) Classen, both likewise of Han-
over. The father was a farmer and spent his entire
life in the Fatherland. He died at the advanced
age of eighty-four years, and his wife departed this
life when sixty-five years of age.

Our subject's early life was passed on the home
farm, engaged in assisting his father and in receiv-
ing such education as might be obtained in the
common schools. Desiring to seek his livelihood
in the New World, he started from Bremen in
the year 1854, taking passage in a sailing-vessel,
which was bound for New Orleans. The voyage,
which was of ten weeks' duration, was not a very
pleasant one, as they experienced a great deal of
very severe weather and high seas, and in addition
to this there was much sickness on board the ship.
During the trip, thirty-one deaths occurred among
the passengers, but the ship finally arrived safely at
its destination on the 4th of July, 1854. Mr.
Classen was one of quite a company who came from
the same neighborhood in the Fatherland. There
were about seventy-five persons, all friends and
neighbors, in the colony. From New Orleans,
they proceeded up the Mississippi first to St. Louis
and from there to Pekin, Ill., where they nearly

all located. Our subject went with the other
members of the company and started to work in
the city at day labor or any other honest means
of obtaining a livelihood which came to hand. At
the end of about two years, with his carefully
saved earnings he purchased several wagons and
horses and engaged in the freighting and teaming
business. He also rented some land and carried on
farming to some extent for nearly five years, year
by year increasing his property and farming on a
more extensive scale. In 1860, he went to Wood-
ford County, where he purchased a farm and ran
it for about three years. He then traded that
property for a store building and an hotel in
Washington and removed to that place in the
spring of 1864. For the succeeding eight years,
he engaged in merchandising and in the hotel busi-
ness, in both of which lines he was quite successful.
In the meantime, he had purchased land in Dan-
forth Township and was the first of the German
settlers to own property here. His first purchase
consisted of a quarter-section. After he had dis-
posed of his Washington property, which was in
1871, he removed to Danforth and located on a
farm near that of Remmer Eden. On this farm he
made his home for about three years and then
rented it and removed to the village of Danforth.
He engaged in merchandising and was an active
business man for several years. He has also dealt
quite extensively in real estate and bought and
sold a large number of farms in Danforth and
Ashkum Townships. At the present time, he is the
owner of a number of farms, consisting of over one
thousand acres, all valuable and well-improved
tracts.

Mr. Classen married in Hanover Talka Smith,
who was a native of that city. Their union was
celebrated in the year 1852, and to them were born
two children: Lena, now living in Kankakee, and
Charles, a merchant of Danforth, whose sketch is
found on another page of this volume. Mrs.
Classen departed this life January 25, 1892, after
forty years of happy wedded life, and her death
was deeply mourned by many friends as well as
by her immediate family.

Mr. Classen has always taken an active part in
politics and uses his right of franchise in favor of

the Democratic party in all national issues. His first ballot was cast for James Buchanan, and he has since been a supporter of every nominee of his party. In local elections, he prefers to deposit his vote for the man best fitted to fill the position, regardless of party ties. Mr. Classen has never asked for or accepted office at the hands of his friends and neighbors, as he has preferred to turn his whole attention to his business interests. He has been a resident of Illinois for thirty-eight years and has made his home in this county for the past twenty-one years. During his long residence in this section, he has won the confidence and esteem of all, which he has well deserved by his upright life and honorable career. He commenced his life in the New World without capital with the exception of willing hands and natural business ability and thriftiness, and has through his well-directed efforts, enterprise and perseverance accumulated a fortune and is to-day one of the large land-holders of the county.



W C. SHORTRIDGE, Court Stenographer of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit of Illinois, residing in Sheldon, Ill., was born in Henry County, Ind., March 18, 1834. His parents were Elisha and Esther (Crumb) Shortridge, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Pennsylvania. On the paternal side the family is of Welsh descent. The grandfather was a native of Wales, and in Colonial days emigrated to America. He served in the Revolutionary War, aiding the Colonies in their struggle for independence.

Mr. Shortridge, whose name heads this record, is the youngest in a family of eleven children, three of whom are now, with the mother, still living. He attended the common schools during his early youth, and completed his education in Bethany College, Va., at the age of twenty years. He was now ready to enter upon his business career, and in 1856 he secured employment with the American Express Company, in the western division, with headquarters at Chicago, which position he

held for four years. In 1860 he was united in marriage with Miss Mollie Grim, daughter of Jesse Grim, a native of Pennsylvania.

The same year of his marriage Mr. Shortridge secured a position as commercial reporter on the Chicago *Tribune*, and thus served until after the breaking out of the late war. The blood of a Revolutionary and 1812 soldier ran in his veins, and prompted by patriotic impulses he responded to the call for troops, enlisting as a member of Company I, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry (Third Board of Trade of Chicago), in which he served until the close of the war. He participated in the battles along the Mississippi River, until that great waterway was cleared of all obstructions, and the interior of the States adjoining it submitted to the law as declared by the Constitution. He was in active service the greater part of the term. He received his discharge on the 29th of June, 1865. In the meantime he had been promoted from a private to the rank of Second Lieutenant, and served in that capacity during the last fourteen months in which he was in the army.

After being discharged from the army Mr. Shortridge returned to his home and engaged in teaching school a part of the time until 1868. During that time he was a sufferer from hemorrhage of the lungs, resulting from his army service. While at the front he acquired a knowledge of shorthand, and in the autumn of 1868 commenced an engagement as a shorthand reporter. To this work he has since devoted his time and attention, and is now one of the official reporters of this district. He has much natural ability in this direction, and is a very rapid and accurate writer.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shortridge have been born three children, a son and two daughters: Ida, now the wife of J. E. Crandall, who is President of the First National Bank of Johnson City, Tenn.; and Nettie and Paul. The latter two children are holding positions in the same bank in Johnson City, Tenn. Our subject and his wife are highly respected citizens of this community, their many excellencies of character having won them a large circle of friends and acquaintances. In his political affiliations, Mr. Shortridge is a Republican, having voted with that party since he attained his

majority. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and also belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic and Patriotic Order of Sons of America. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and does all in his power to aid in the promotion of those enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit. We take pleasure in presenting to our readers this brief history of his life.



REV. JAMES PARKER FORSYTH, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church now living a retired life in Sheldon, was born in Shippensburg, Cumberland County, Pa., March 12, 1830, and is the youngest of a family of six children, four of whom are yet living. The father, John Forsyth, was born near Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1797, and at the age of nineteen crossed the broad Atlantic to America, locating in Pennsylvania, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a contractor in mining and railroading, and was a successful business man. He married Ruth McKnight, a native of Pennsylvania, whose death occurred in 1842. He died on the old homestead, in the Keystone State, in 1849.

At eighteen, Mr. Forsyth left home to make his own way in the world. He went to the western part of Pennsylvania, Armstrong County, where he received an academic education, and on the 6th of February, 1854, in that county, was united in marriage with Miss Rosanna E., daughter of Jacob and Mary Meehling. She is a native of the Keystone State, as were her parents. Two children were born of this union: Emma J., now deceased; and Anna Dora, now the wife of William L. McCloud, a resident of Sheldon.

Rev. Mr. Forsyth spent the first two years of his married life in Vinton County, Ohio. For a year he engaged in the manufacture of charcoal, and the second year was assistant manager of the iron works owned by Stanley Bentley & Co. After two years he emigrated to Illinois, locating in

Rock Island County in 1856. He there purchased land and engaged in farming during the summer months, while during the winter seasons he taught school until the fall of 1863. Mr. Forsyth had united with the Methodist Episcopal Church when nineteen years of age in the city of Cumberland, Md., and was licensed to preach in 1858, when twenty-eight years of age. In 1863, he joined the Central Illinois Conference, and his first appointment was the Essex and Round Grove Circuit, of which he had charge for two years. That embraced portions of the counties of Kankakee, Will and Ford. He then had charge of the churches in Chatsworth and Forest for two years, and, during the latter year, succeeded in securing funds for the erection of the present Methodist Episcopal Church in Forest. In 1866, special efforts were made throughout the Methodist Church to raise funds for educational purposes, for this was the centennial year of American Methodism. Rev. Mr. Forsyth was appointed as agent by the Board of Trustees to secure money for Grand Prairie Seminary, and a fund of \$22,000 was obtained. He not only secured the money, but also made many friends for the institution which he represented. In the fall of 1867, he removed to Watseka, and was pastor of the church at that place for a year. His services there were blessed in building up the church and increasing its membership and also in securing the friendship of many of its citizens. His congregation requested him to continue longer in Watseka, but he thought his work there was done, and took charge of the churches in Loda and Buckley. He built a parsonage in Loda and carried much of the lumber upon his back. In 1870, he returned to Watseka, where he remained one year, and during that time was appointed financial agent for the Grand Prairie Seminary of Onarga. In 1880, he removed to Sheldon, but in the autumn of 1881 was made presiding elder of the Kewanee district. Failing health compelled him at the end of two years to enter the superannuated list, and in 1883 he returned to Sheldon, where he has resided continuously since.

When Rev. Mr. Forsyth retired from work, a resolution was passed which stated that whatever the church had asked him to do was done well. He

has been actively engaged the greater part of his life in ministerial work. His career has been a busy and useful one, and both by example and precept has he led many to walk in the true way. His life has been indeed well and worthily passed, and wherever he has gone he has won many friends who will ever hold him in kindly remembrance. He is one of Nature's noblemen, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of his life.



EDWARD B. JONES is a hardware dealer of Thawville and a prominent business man of the place, who has been connected with its mercantile interests for a number of years. He was born in New York City on the 29th of October, 1843, and is a son of William and Ann Cecelia (Davis) Jones. His parents were both natives of Wales but in early childhood came to America, crossing the Atlantic when about ten years of age. They were married in this country and became parents of two children: Ann Matilda and Edward B. The father was lost at sea in 1847, and the mother, who long survived him, died in 1876. The maternal grandparents of our subject, who were also natives of Wales, came to this country as early as 1833, and, locating in New York City, the grandfather established a boot and shoe store on the Bowery, where he continued business for a number of years.

The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the schools of his native city and afterward learned the hatter's trade, which he followed as a means of livelihood until after the breaking out of the late war, when, prompted by patriotic impulses, he responded to the country's call for troops in 1862. He was assigned to Company A, Twentieth Connecticut Infantry, and faithfully and valiantly served until the close of the war, when, his services being no longer needed, he was honorably discharged and returned to his home.

Mr. Jones then located in Jersey City, N. J., and ran an express wagon from New York City to Jersey City Heights for about two years. He was

next employed in Stevens' Battery Yard for about two years or more. At length he determined to come to the West and in 1871 made his way to this State. For about three years he was employed upon a farm near Onarga, Ill. In the meantime he was married. On the 2d of October, 1873, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Emma Hall, daughter of Bishop and Maria (Pangborn) Hall, of Onarga Township. Their union has been blessed with four children, two sons and two daughters: William Hall, Lillian, Sarah and Edward B.

On leaving the farm, Mr. Jones removed to Onarga and learned the tinner's trade. In 1882, he removed to Del Rey, where he established a hardware and tin store, carrying on operations in that line for a year, when he bought out a store in Thawville and moved his Del Rey stock to this place. Since that time he has resided continuously in this place and carried on business as a hardware merchant. He has a full and complete line of tinware and heavy and shelf hardware, and is doing a good business.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Jones is a Democrat, but has never been an office-seeker; in fact, has rather avoided office than sought it. However, he served his fellow-townsmen for two years as Town Clerk, and was also Postmaster of Thawville for a term of two years. He is a man of good business and executive ability, industrious and enterprising, and has achieved a well-merited success. He is also a highly respected and valued citizen, and his aid is never withheld from any interest calculated to upbuild or benefit the community.



WILL A. CROOKS, formerly the genial editor and proprietor of the *New Era*, of Gilman, needs no introduction to the people of that vicinity, for he is a native of Gilman, his birth having occurred there on the 30th of January, 1871. Though he has just reached his majority, his experience is much more extended than is common to young men of his age. His education was acquired in the Gilman schools, in which

he completed a course of study. Having spent two terms in the public schools of Iroquois County as a teacher, he next turned his attention to other pursuits. Journalism had always had an especial attraction for him, and while yet a school boy he procured an amateur outfit and learned something of the printing business. His first effort in the direction of publication was the *Agassiz Association Bulletin*, a paper devoted to scientific subjects, whose circulation he worked up to over four hundred. His next undertaking was the publication of a directory giving the names and addresses of ornithologists, zoologists and taxidermists of North America, which reached its second edition. In January, 1892, he established the *Danforth News*, and in June following engaged in publishing the *New Era*, at Gilman, a bright, newsy, seven-column folio, which ranked well in comparison with the leading local papers of the State. As its young editor is a Republican in principles, the political cast of the paper may be readily inferred. His venture in Gilman having failed to be a financial success, he moved his business to North Kankakee about the 1st of December, 1892, where he hopes to be able to meet with better success in money matters. Mr. Crooks is a wide-awake, energetic and intellectual young man, and with time and experience it is safe to predict he will make his mark in the line of his chosen calling. He is very popular and has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.



CHARLES BROWN is a well-known farmer residing on section 7, Chebanse Township. He is a native of Canada and was born in Dalhousie, Lanark County, on the 4th of August, 1852. He is a son of John Brown, who was born in Scotland in December, 1810, and emigrated to Canada with his father, Charles Brown, in 1820. At that time the country was a vast wilderness, and they and a few others made a settlement in the forest fifteen miles from any habitation. There the father grew to manhood and was early inured to the hardships and difficulties of pioneer life.

He there married Elizabeth Dobbie and engaged in agricultural pursuits for a number of years, but as that county was not adapted to farming he emigrated to Illinois in 1868 and settled in Iroquois County, on the farm where his son now resides. He bought a tract of one hundred and sixty acres which was partially improved and had upon it a small house. This farm he proceeded to develop and was quite successful in his efforts. In 1883, he removed to Herscher, Ill., and resided there for about three years. He is now retired from the active duties of farm life and is passing his remaining years in Chebanse. Mr. Brown has been twice married, his first wife departing this life on the 19th of December, 1884.

Charles Brown is one of a family of four sons and four daughters, who grew to mature years and are all now living. He came to this State and county when a young man of seventeen. He had received good educational advantages in Canada and also attended school here during a few winter terms. He remained with his father until he reached his majority and then started in life for himself. Purchasing a team, he then rented land here on which he raised two crops. He next went to Kansas and bought land in Sedgwick County, near Wichita. This tract was raw prairie land, and this he held for about two years, after which he sold at a fair price. He bought land near Sheldon, Ill., where he carried on agricultural pursuits for some three years and then rented the old homestead for some time, after which he sold his property near Sheldon and purchased the homestead in 1887. He has a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres, all fertile and arable land. It is located three miles from Clifton and the same distance from Ashkum. It is a most desirable piece of property and one of the best in the county. He started to make his way in the world without capital and has by his own labor and enterprise acquired a good property and home and a comfortable competence. He is one of the thrifty and well-to-do farmers of the county and has made many friends during his long residence in this section. He is considered a man of integrity and upright character and is widely and favorably known.

On the 22d of January, 1880, Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Miss Clarissa M. White, the ceremony being performed in this county. Mrs. Brown is a native of England and grew to womanhood and was educated in Illinois. She is a daughter of Thomas White, now deceased. Four children of this worthy couple are now living: John David, Clifford Thomas, Charles Le Roy and Raymond. They also lost one daughter, Mary Mabel, who died at the age of four years.

Mr. Brown was formerly identified with the Republican party but of recent years has been an advocate of the Democracy. He has never asked for official positions nor has he accepted the same, preferring to give his sole attention to his business. He is an interested friend of education, and ever does all in his power to advance the best interests and insure the prosperity of the community in which he dwells. His duties of citizenship are always faithfully discharged, and to every measure calculated to benefit the people, either socially, morally or politically, he lends his active support.

lady, Peter Durand, was a thrifty farmer and accumulated considerable property. His death occurred in L'Ereble in the year 1888, he having attained the three-score and ten years allotted to man. His wife departed this life some ten years previously. After a residence of about a year in Kankakee, the father of our subject removed to L'Ereble, where he arrived in the spring of 1861. For about two years, he carried on a blacksmith shop, and in the fall of 1863 went to Danville, where, on the 9th of August, 1864, he met his death in a sawmill. After her husband's death, Mrs. Coulomb returned to L'Ereble, where she reared and educated her children. In 1870, she was again married, becoming the wife of Isaac Jarvis. Two daughters, Georgia and Edwardina, have been born of their union. Mrs. Jarvis is still living on a farm near L'Ereble.

Basil F. Coulomb, whose name heads this record, received a good common-school education, but was obliged to enter upon the serious duties of life at an early age. This prevented him pursuing a collegiate course. He learned the blacksmith and wagon-maker's trade when a lad and carried on the dual business at L'Ereble for about three years. On the expiration of this period, he sold his shop and removed to Clifton, arriving here in 1886. He at once proceeded to establish a smithy and wagon factory, and now has one of the best-appointed shops to be found in any country town in Illinois. His industry and frugality have been rewarded with signal success, and he has built up an excellent trade, is the possessor of a pleasant home and five lots in Clifton.

On the 2d of February, 1884, Mr. Coulomb led to the marriage altar Miss Mary D. Cailteux, daughter of Francis and Mary (Eusett) Cailteux. Unto this worthy couple has been born a family of four children: Edna, Frank, William and Herman.

Mr. Coulomb is a prominent citizen of the community. He is now serving the second term as a member of the Village Board of Trustees and has given good satisfaction to all concerned in the discharge of his official duties. In politics, he is not affiliated with any party, being independent, as he prefers to cast his ballot for the one who in

BASIL F. COULOMB, a well-known blacksmith of Clifton, was born in L'Ereble, Ashkum Township, Iroquois County, on the 15th of August, 1862. His grandfather, Xavia Coulomb, was a ship-builder by trade, and was drowned in the St. Lawrence River, when the father of our subject was a young child. After the death of the grandfather, his widow and her son removed to Kankakee, living in the vicinity of L'Ereble until his mother's death. The father of our subject, Frank Coulomb, was twice married. Miss Basse being his first wife, and unto them two children, Frank and Pomilia, were born. The mother of these children died in the spring of 1859, and in 1861 Mr. Coulomb married Miss Mary Durand, a native of St. John's, New Brunswick. Two children graced this union, our subject and a daughter, Nellie H. The parents emigrated to the United States about the year 1858, locating in Kankakee, Ill., where they became acquainted and were married. The father of the

his estimation is best fitted for the position. Mr. and Mrs. Coulomb are members of the Catholic Church, and are much esteemed citizens of this community.



ABRAM HOGLE, one of the honored pioneers of the county, and a prominent and highly respected citizen, who is now living a retired life on his farm on section 12, Concord Township, where he owns one hundred and fifty acres of land, is a native of Ohio. He was born in Coshocton County, June 4, 1831, and is a son of Michael and Rebecca (Noble) Hogle. His paternal grandparents were natives of Holland, and crossed the broad Atlantic to America about 1780. The father of our subject was born in Virginia in 1781. He was drafted for the War of 1812, but the war was over before he began service. He was twice married, the mother of our subject being his second wife. After his first union he emigrated to Ohio in 1820. There was a large family of children by that marriage. In 1825, he was joined in wedlock with Mrs. Rebecca (Noble) Cresap. She was born in Virginia, in 1796, and with her parents removed to Coshocton County, Ohio, in childhood. By her first marriage she had one child, who long since died.

The subject of this sketch is the third in order of birth in a family of five children, but one died in infancy, and the sister, Luna, died at the age of nineteen. The three sons grew to manhood and were married, but Thomas L. died in Arkansas, and his family are all deceased. Henry is now engaged in farming in Vermilion County, Ill.

Abram Hogle was a lad of fifteen years, when with his parents he came to this county, locating on the farm which is now his home. This was in the spring of 1846. His father purchased four hundred acres of land, upon which was a log cabin, which still stands, one of the few landmarks of pioneer days yet remaining. He at once began making preparations to build a more comfortable residence, but in June of the same year, he was

taken ill and died, leaving a widow and four children. Abram immediately took charge of the home farm, for his older brother began work elsewhere, and in two years the latter had started in life on his own account. It was the father's intention to give his children good educational advantages, but his death changed all his plans.

Our subject made the most of the opportunities furnished by the district schools, but his home duties prevented him entering college; however, by subsequent reading, study and observation, he has made himself a well-informed man. He succeeded in getting sufficient education to begin teaching at the age of twenty-one, and was thus employed in Indiana and Illinois.

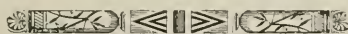
On the 13th of May, 1854, Mr. Hogle wedded Miss Mary Strickler, who was born in Page County, Va., in the Shenandoah Valley, May 19, 1832, and is a daughter of Henry D. and Catherine (Brubaker) Strickler. At the age of three years, she was brought to this county by her parents, who spent their remaining lives in Concord Township. They lived together as man and wife for nearly sixty-three years, and were laid to rest side by side in Liberty Cemetery. The parents of Mr. Hogle were also there buried. His mother resided with him until her death, which occurred April 23, 1881. Had she lived three days longer, she would have been eighty-five years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Hogle began their domestic life on the farm where they now reside, and the home has been blessed by a family of seven children: Henry S., who was born August 29, 1855, is now married, follows farming in Concord Township, and has also taught school several terms; Herbert N., born November 15, 1856, aids in the operation of the home farm; Rebecca N., born December 19, 1858, died on the 16th of August, 1860; Carrie, born February 12, 1860, was the wife of Benjamin Wingard, a resident of Concord Township, and died September 23, 1892; Flora, born November 23, 1865, is the wife of Alfred Yeagley, a resident of Fowler, Ind.; Nellie, born March 1, 1867, lived only a few hours; and Mina J., born December 4, 1868, died February 8, 1883.

In early life, Mr. Hogle was a Whig, and cast his first Presidential vote for Winfield Scott in 1852.

In 1856, he supported Fremont, and has since been a stalwart Republican. His fellow-townsmen, appreciating his worth and ability, have frequently called upon him to serve in public positions of honor and trust. For twenty-eight consecutive years he served as School Director, and then refused to hold the office for the three succeeding years, when his neighbors and friends so insisted upon him taking the position again that he served for another four years. For three years he was Justice of the Peace, and during that time there was only one appeal taken, and his decision was sustained in that instance. He served continuously as Commissioner for nine years, and has held the office altogether for fifteen years. For three years he was Supervisor of Concord Township, although the township is Democratic. He was also elected Township Clerk, but would not serve. His personal popularity and the high regard in which he is held are attested by his frequent election to public office. To those who know him it is needless to say that his duties were ever promptly and faithfully performed.

Mr. Hogle has been a great reader all his life, and is especially well informed on the subject of history. When thirty years of age he was united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in younger years was a prominent worker in church and Sunday-school. His life has been an honorable and upright one. True to every trust reposed in him, he has the confidence and good-will of all, and no man in the community is held in higher regard than the pioneer and valued citizen, Abram Hogle.



FRANKLIN COUGHENOUR, a representative farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 27, Concord Township. He owns two farms of one hundred and twenty acres each, and twenty-one acres of timber land, and his possessions have been acquired throughout by his own well-directed efforts. His entire life has been spent in this county. He was born on his father's farm in Concord Township, near where he now

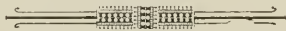
lives, December 21, 1846, and is one of thirteen children, eleven of whom grew to manhood and womanhood, while seven are still living, and, with one exception, all are residents of this county. The parents were Abram and Elizabeth Ann (Williams) Coughenour, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. His father is still living and is one of the honored pioneers of this community.

Franklin Coughenour, whose name heads this record, was reared on a farm less than half a mile from his present home. His education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood, which he attended through the winter months, while in the summer season he worked hard upon the farm, having labored in the fields since he was old enough to handle the plow. He began to earn his own livelihood on attaining his majority, and ere his marriage had purchased and made a small payment upon one hundred and twenty acres of land, his present farm.

On the 28th of March, 1873, Mr. Coughenour was joined in wedlock with Miss Ellen Eastburn, daughter of Jesse R. and Tabitha (Critchfield) Eastburn, born September 26, 1852, and who has spent her entire life in Concord Township. They began their domestic life upon this farm in the little log cabin, which is still standing. There they lived for about nine years, when their home was replaced by a more commodious and modern residence. In 1887, a good barn was built, other improvements have been made, and the land is under a high state of cultivation. In 1891, a second purchase of one hundred and twenty acres was made, and now a good farm of two hundred and forty acres yields a golden tribute to the owner. The home has been blessed by the presence of eight children, one of whom died in infancy. In order of birth they are as follows: Lena Etta, born on the 10th of January, 1873; Jesse R., born on the 3d of February, 1875; Franklin, born April 5, 1877; Margaret, born April 14, 1879; Thomas Abram, born December 11, 1881; Roy, born March 15, 1885; and Della May, born August 29, 1886.

Mr. Coughenour exercises his right of franchise in the support of the Democratic party, and his first vote was cast in 1872 for Horace Greeley. He has filled the office of School Director for a num-

ber of years and was also Trustee for a few years. He is a warm supporter of the public-school system and expects to furnish his children with good educational advantages. For twenty-two years he has held membership with the Odd Fellows, belonging to River Lodge No. 586, I. O. O. F., of Iroquois. Mr. Coughenour is a representative of an honored pioneer family of this county, but his own sterling worth is what has won him the high regard in which he is held. He is a valued citizen and an enterprising and progressive farmer, and his well-spent life has secured to him the esteem and confidence of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.



JAMES HEPWORTH is a prominent farmer residing on section 32, Chebanse Township. He was born in Lincolnshire, England, on the 20th of April, 1825, and is a son of Thomas and Maria (James) Hepworth, both natives of the same shire. They reared their family and spent their entire lives in England. James Hepworth is the elder of the two brothers. The younger, John Hepworth, is a retired farmer of Kane County, Ill.

Our subject grew to maturity in Lincolnshire with limited school advantages, and is almost wholly self-educated. When a young man he emigrated to the United States, taking passage in a sailing-vessel, the "James Wright," at Liverpool. For six weeks and three days he was upon the broad Atlantic, and arrived in New York City in August, 1850. From there he went to Utica, N. Y., where he obtained work in a brick-yard and there continued until the spring of 1853. He then went West to Chicago, which was at that time a small village and veritable mud hole. There he remained for about four months, working for the Northwestern Railroad, and then, going to Geneva, he engaged in teaming for the next thirteen years, most of that time working for himself. He also farmed a little near that place. In February, 1866, he removed to Iroquois County and bought a tract of raw prairie land, where he has since resided.

During the first years he experienced many hardships and privations, and in addition the weather was very unfavorable and the crops very light. However, undaunted by these misfortunes, he ever pushed forward with hope and energy and well merits the success which has crowned the efforts of years. After the year 1869, his land yielded abundant harvests in return for the care and cultivation bestowed upon it, and Mr. Hepworth was soon on the road to prosperity. He greatly improved his place and built a large, substantial residence upon it, and later added forty acres to his original farm, now being the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of fertile and valuable land. He commenced life in America with no capital except a good constitution, and has by his own labor, enterprise and industry and the assistance of his estimable wife, accumulated a good property and income.

In Utica, N. Y., on the 29th of August, 1850, a wedding ceremony united the destinies of James Hepworth and Elizabeth Platt. The lady, like her husband, was born in Lincolnshire, England, and is a daughter of Thomas Platt, who was one of the first settlers of Will County, Ill. There are four children by this union: George is married and is a farmer in Chebanse Township; Sarah is the wife of Burt Miller, who also carries on farming in the same township; Mattie, now at home, is a young lady of good education and has been a teacher in this county; and Lizzie, who was for eight years a teacher, is now the wife of Peter Nelson, an agriculturist of Iroquois County.

Mr. Hepworth cast his first ballot, in the Presidential election of 1860, for Abraham Lincoln, and since that time has ever been a warm supporter of the principles and nominees of the Republican party. He has never desired official positions but has ever attended strictly to his business affairs. For many years he has been a member of the School Board, and has always taken an active part in the advancement of educational interests. Our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. For nearly two-score years, he has been identified with the progress of this State and county. Great credit is due him in company with the other hardy pioneers who endured privations and hardships and established homes in the

wilderness. They were the forerunners of prosperity, education and civilization, and well deserve to be chronicled as such, that all may read of their lives, which have done so much for the opening and development of the country.



SAMUEL BROCK, a leading and influential resident of Clifton, owns and operates a farm of two hundred acres, although he makes his home in the village. He has lived in this county for a period of twenty-two years, and his residence in this State dates from 1851. His life record is as follows. His birth occurred on the 7th of December, 1821, in Epworth, Lincolnshire, England. He is the son of William and Catherine (Standring) Brock. Their family numbered seven children, three sons and four daughters. Five of these are now living, the two eldest ones of the family having died in England. Those surviving are Judith, Ann, Samuel, Hannah and John T. Three of the children have located in America. Ann crossed the Atlantic in 1852, and two years later was followed by her brothers, Samuel and John. They settled in Will County, Ill., the brothers working on a farm near Plainfield.

He whose name heads this sketch received a good common-school education, and upon arriving at man's estate was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Christina Brock, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Maudson) Brock. The two families, though bearing the same name, were not related. Mr. and Mrs. Brock became the parents of seven children, six of them being sons; William F. was born June 12, 1855, and married Miss Sarah Simrel, of Clifton, by whom he has one child, Edgar. He is a farmer by occupation, and operates a tract of land three miles from Clifton. George M., who was born April 22, 1857, married Miss Harriet Leggott, who is the daughter of Edward and Ann (Platt) Leggott. They are the parents of three children, Arthur, Grace and Carrie, and make their home in Clifton. Charles C. was born on the

11th of November, 1859. Alfred L., born April 10, 1861, wedded Miss Anna Carron, and makes his home in Clifton. The lady is the daughter of Alfonso Carron. Richard H., born May 9, 1863, married Miss Mary Louise Vandervort, and they too reside in Clifton. One child, Chauncey, graces their union. Edith E., whose birth occurred on the 17th of March, 1869, still resides under the parental roof. Edgar T., born December 11, 1870, died on the 12th of April, 1879.

Mr. Brock engaged in agricultural pursuits for a period of about sixteen years in Will County, and then changed his place of residence. It was in 1870 that he removed with his family to Iroquois County. He settled upon a farm comprising eighty acres, which was situated three miles to the northwest of Clifton, and thereon made his home for eighteen years. In March, 1888, he came to the village, but has not abandoned his farming interests, still operating his farm, which comprises within its boundaries two hundred acres. He is a good farmer, progressive and practical, and the neat appearance of the place indicates his industrious nature. On every hand can be seen the evidences of the enterprise and supervision of the owner, and his farm is a model one. He has overcome all obstacles placed in his pathway in a manner worthy of emulation, and well deserves the success which he has achieved. Mr. Brock exercises his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party, and is a loyal citizen of his adopted country.



PATRICK COLLINS is a prominent farmer of Milk's Grove Township, living on section 27. His birth occurred in Dublin, Ireland, in May, 1820. He was a son of Thomas Collins, who was born and reared in the same part of the Emerald Isle and followed the occupation of farming. He married Alice Nugent and they became the parents of five children, who were born in that country. The father was a member of the militia and lived to the age of seventy-four in his native land, his death occurring in 1852.

That year the family emigrated to America and went to Paris Hill, Oneida County, N. Y. The mother died at the home of our subject in Iroquois County, when over seventy years of age. The family is a long-lived race, her mother having reached the advanced age of ninety years, at which time she often walked two miles. The family have all been faithful members of the Catholic Church. In order of birth our subject is the eldest in his father's family. Andrew is a farmer of Milk's Grove Township; Thomas is a hotel-keeper at Springfield, Ill; Amy and Alice are both deceased.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed on a farm in Ireland, and his educational privileges were of a limited order. At the age of twelve, he was obliged to commence work, and remained at home until coming to America in 1850. He sailed from Dublin to Liverpool and there took passage in a vessel bound for New York City. The voyage was of two weeks' duration. He went to Paris Hill, N. Y., where he worked for eight years upon a farm in that neighborhood at \$12 per month. During the winter season he was engaged in chopping wood. In 1858, he came Westward to Illinois and carried on farming in Wilmington, Will County, for some years. The year 1866 witnessed his arrival in Iroquois County, at which time he purchased forty acres of land on section 2. The country was wild and but few houses were to be seen on the broad prairie. His land was entirely uncultivated and he turned the first sod upon the place. He was industrious, enterprising and frugal, overcoming the difficulties and privations of those early years with determination and fortitude. His efforts were blessed with success, and from time to time as his resources increased he added to his original farm until he had two hundred and forty acres in all. In 1883, he sold that property and purchased his present fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres of valuable and well-tilled land, which yields an abundant harvest for the care and cultivation bestowed upon it by the owner. When Mr. Collins landed in America he had but ten shillings in English money, and has worked honestly and faithfully to secure a livelihood and competence. He is now well-to-do and deserves the success which he has achieved.

In Oneida County, N. Y., in 1857, occurred the marriage of Mr. Collins and Miss Mary Gagen, a native of Dublin County, Ireland, who came with her parents to America when twelve years old and settled in Oneida County. Five sons have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Collins: Thomas assists his father in the work of the farm; James is married and carries on farming in Chebanse Township; Joseph, Francis and Lawrence are still under the parental roof. The three older children were born near Wilmington, Will County, Ill., while the two youngest were born at Reed's Grove in the same county. The children have all received the advantages of a good education and are good farmers and citizens.

Our subject, his wife and family, are faithful members of St. John's Catholic Church in Milk's Grove. Mr. Collins is not an office-seeker in any sense of the term, but is always faithful in discharging his duties of citizenship. His first Presidential vote was cast for J. C. Fremont, and in 1860 he voted for Douglas, and since that time has been a staunch Democrat. He heard Lincoln and Douglas in a debate, and has often served as a delegate to the conventions of his party. For a quarter of a century he has been a resident of this community and the many friends he has made since locating here will be pleased to read this brief tribute to his worth.



HENRY JACOB SCHRIEFER, a leading farmer of Douglas Township, residing on section 28, claims Germany as the land of his birth. He was born in Ottendorf, Hanover, September 18, 1841, and is a son of March Henry and Anna M. (Voschers) Schriever, both of whom were natives of the same province and there spent their entire lives. They had a family of four children: Henry, who is engaged in farming in Douglas Township; Herman C., a resident of Williamsburg, N. Y.; Henry J. of this sketch; and William, who is engaged in farming in the land of his birth.

We now take up the personal history of our sub-

jeet. who was reared on a farm in the Fatherland, and educated in the German language. On attaining his majority he was called upon to serve in the Hanoverian army and took part in the war between Hanover and Prussia, participating in the battle of Lamensalza. After his return home, he determined to seek his fortune in America. He bade good-bye to friends and native land, and on the 11th of April, 1867, boarded a sailing-vessel at Bremen, which after a voyage of forty-five days dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. Mr. Schriefer at once came to the West and made a location in Marshall County, Ill., where he worked for a time as a farm hand and then engaged in agricultural pursuits for himself.

Before leaving home, Mr. Schriefer was united in marriage, on the 10th of March, 1867, with Miss Anna K. Borchers, also a native of Ottendorf, and with his young bride he sailed for this country. Seven children have been born of their union, as follows: Samuel D., who died in his thirteenth year; Emma, wife of Hiram Ahrends, a resident farmer of Douglas Township; Lizzie Mary died December 6, 1892; Herman H., Anna R., Mina and Henry Jacob.

In 1874, Mr. Schriefer came to Iroquois County and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of wild prairie land, upon which not a furrow had been turned. It was also entirely destitute of improvements, and almost the entire locality was under water. He has tilled the land and it is now a desirable and valuable tract. Its well-tilled fields yield to him a golden tribute, and the good buildings and many other improvements upon the place attest the care and supervision of a thrifty and progressive manager. As his financial resources were increased, he extended the boundaries of his farm, which now comprises two hundred and forty acres. Since coming to this county he has engaged in agricultural pursuits and is now recognized as one of the prominent and progressive farmers of Douglas Township.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Schriefer hold membership with the Lutheran Church of Gilman, in which he has served as Trustee. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat but has never been an office-seeker. The cause of education finds in him a

warm friend, and he has done effective service in the interests of the schools while serving as Director. Socially, he is a member of the Order of Druids. His life has been one of signal success. When he came to this county he was \$42 in debt and had a family depending upon him for support, but by his industry and the assistance of his estimable wife he has acquired a comfortable competence and become one of the leading farmers of the township.



ROBERT FOWLER CUMMINGS, a prominent citizen of Clifton and dealer in grain and lumber, is a native of Massachusetts, his birth having occurred on the 17th of June, 1818. He is a son of Abel B. and Emily (Fowler) Cummings, both of whom were natives of Massachusetts. In 1853, they removed to Granville, Putnam County, Ill., where they lived until 1856, at that time going to Winona, this State. There they made their home until 1861, when they came to Clifton and resided for many years. On the 26th of March, 1888, the mother was called to the better land, she being then about sixty-eight years of age. She was a devoted wife and mother, and left many friends to mourn her loss. The father is still living and makes his home in Marseilles, where he is engaged in the practice of law. To Mr. and Mrs. Cummings three children were born: Marion, Robert F. and Mary S. Our subject is the only one of the family now living.

Robert F. Cummings received a good education in the common schools, and supplemented his training by a collegiate education in Winona Seminary and Lake Forest Academy, being graduated from the latter in 1866. After finishing his schooling, our subject came to Clifton and entered the employment of Cummings & Parmeter, dealers in grain, lumber and general merchandise. At the end of about a year, he went to Chicago and secured employment with the firm of B. Fowler & Co., grain commission merchants, and there continued for about the same length of time. He

next returned to Clifton and operated the grain business of B. Fowler & Co. until the year 1870 with good success, when he returned to Wenona and engaged in the dry-goods business with E. S. Fowler & Co., in which firm he was the junior partner. For the succeeding seven years he made his home in that place and assisted in building up a large and flourishing business. About fifteen years ago, he again came to Clifton and entered the grain and coal business, which he still follows. He also operates the Wabash Elevator at Gilman, and an elevator at Chebanse. He is a member of the firm of Cummings & Kent, lumber merchants of Chebanse, and also of the firm of George R. Ashman & Co., grain merchants of Gilman. For a time he operated an elevator at Onarga, and one at La Hogue, but has since sold out his business in those places. He is also a large real-estate owner, now being the possessor of thirteen hundred acres of land in the neighborhood of Clifton. In addition to all of his other lines of business, he is interested in banking, and carries on these various and diverse undertakings with wise business sagacity and ability. He is enterprising and progressive in his methods, and prosperity has attended his efforts.

On the 6th of July, 1874, Mr. Cummings was united in marriage with Miss Minnie A. Marston, daughter of Sanford K. and Sarah (Field) Marston, of Onarga, Ill. To our subject and his estimable wife have been born six children, five of whom are now living: Lenore, Marion, Florence, Irene and Marston. Mrs. Cummings is well known in musical circles, is a member of the Lyric Club, of Kankakee, and has appeared in numerous concerts of a high order. In 1889, our subject and his wife spent a number of months in Europe, and had an enjoyable and profitable trip.

Socially, Mr. Cummings is a member of Wenona Lodge No. 284, I. O. O. F. He is a staunch and loyal Republican, and a supporter of that party and its principles. His fellow-citizens have often called upon him to assume the duties of responsible positions, he having been a member of the Village Board of Trustees of Clifton almost continuously since his residence here, and was President of the Board for about

four years. He has always discharged the duties devolving upon him, whether as a private citizen or an official, in a creditable and faithful manner. Both he and his wife have a wide circle of friends, who hold them in the highest regard.



GAMALIEL G. BAKER, watchmaker and jeweler, is an old resident of Chebanse, having lived here for nearly a quarter of a century. His birth occurred in the township of Waltham, near Ottawa, in La Salle County, on the 1st of January, 1863. He is a son of John W. and Catherine C. (Baker) Baker, who were both natives of Washington County, N. Y. Their family consisted of two sons and a daughter. Selby S. married Miss Amanda Tallman, of Kankakee, and to them have been born four children: William S.; Imogene; Arthur, who died when two years of age; and Ethel. Mr. and Mrs. Baker now make their home in Brookdale, near Chicago. The second child, L. Anna, married Alvin P. Farley, a photographer of Manteno; they now reside in Kendallville, Ind. Our subject completes the family.

The father came to Illinois in 1858, settling in Ottawa, where he followed the carpenter's trade for a number of years. He then purchased a farm in Waltham Township, about five or six miles from Ottawa, where he carried on farming until the fall of 1865. He then sold that farm and came to Iroquois County, purchasing two hundred and eighty acres of land in Chebanse Township, about a mile and a-half from the village. This property now belongs to Messrs. P. C. Burke and Leroy Payne, of Chicago, and is now divided into two farms. Mr. Baker lived upon his farm until the spring of 1869, when he removed with his family into the village. After a residence here of about two years, he went to Iowa and now makes his home in Grinnell.

The education of Gamaliel G. Baker was obtained in the public schools of Chebanse. After completing his studies, he served for five years at the cabinet-maker's trade, and then for three

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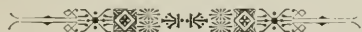
H. Lyon



Caroline M. Lyon

years followed the occupation of a painter. He next opened a grocery store, and carried on that business for about two years, when he sold out to C. P. Beck. His attention was next turned to the watchmaking and jewelry business, and he opened an establishment in that line, which he is still carrying on. From a small beginning he has built up a good business, and enjoys the confidence and friendship of his many acquaintances. He is industrious and careful in his purchases and investments, and has met with good success.

On the 13th of January, 1892, Mr. Baker was joined in matrimony with Miss Grace L. Morrison, daughter of James K. and Angeline C. (Aborn) Morrison, who are both natives of Connecticut, and at the time of their daughter's marriage lived in Otto Township, Kankakee County, about three miles from Chebanse. Since casting his first ballot, Mr. Baker has always voted the Republican ticket. Although but a young man, he is quite an old settler of Chebanse, and has a large acquaintance in this part of the county. By his characteristics of quiet perseverance and unostentatious demeanor, he has won the respect and friendship of all, and is a good citizen, devoted to the best interests of his fellow-citizens.



HOWARD LYON, one of the representative and progressive farmers of Onarga Township, who owns and operates four hundred and ten acres of land, is one of the early settlers of the county. He was born in Stockbridge, Windsor County, Vt., on the 1st of March, 1831, and is the son of Amasa and Polly (Barnes) Lyon, both of whom were natives of the Green Mountain State. Four children were born unto them, three of whom are living.

In the State of his nativity, our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth, and after attaining to mature years he was married, on the 22d of April, 1856, to Miss Betsy Brown, daughter of Robert Brown. In the fall of the same year, they removed to Illinois, settling in Iroquois County, west of Onarga. In December, 1857,

while returning on a visit to her old home, Mrs. Lyon was drowned while crossing the river at Detroit, Mich. After the death of his wife, Mr. Lyon remained for eighteen months in Vermont, and then returned to this State, in the spring of 1859, locating on a farm four miles south of Onarga, where he has since resided. He had at first rented a farm in connection with his brother.

On the 14th of February, 1864, Mr. Lyon was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Caroline Sanders, widow of Richard Sanders. There were five children born of that union, all sons: James, born March 29, 1865; Edward, October 17, 1867; William, November 22, 1868; Perry, December 15, 1869, and Robert, July 17, 1871. One is married, Edward, who wedded Miss Sadie Hiller, daughter of George and Mary Hiller, and they have a little child, Howard. The mother of this family was called to her final rest on the 12th of May, 1879. Mr. Lyon was again married, March 3, 1880, the lady of his choice being Mrs. Eveline Libhart, widow of P. T. B. Libhart. The lady was born in Bainbridge, Chenango County, N. Y., December 22, 1833. Her parents, Isaac and Eliza (Miller) Dalton, were both natives of Pennsylvania. In childhood, they emigrated to New York. In 1845, they moved to Wisconsin and a few years later returned to New York. In 1861, they moved to Iroquois County, and there the father spent his last days, dying in 1877, aged about sixty-three years. His widow lives near Gilman, aged seventy-eight years. After thirteen years of age, Mrs. Lyon lived with her relatives in Michigan, where she married October 23, 1853, Mr. Libhart. In the fall of the same year, Mr. Libhart moved to Del Rey, where he ran a sawmill. He died in Buckley in 1873. By her former marriage Mrs. Lyon had five children, as follows: Hubert C., born September 18, 1851, married Miss Dora Hayhurst, and resides in Mokena, Ill., with his wife and daughter Leo. Julietta, born August 6, 1856, is the wife of Andrew Camp, a resident of Monona County, Iowa, and they have six children, namely: Helen D., Hosea, Fred, Annie, Agnes and Josie. Mary Alice, born April 20, 1858, is the wife of Alfred Vanordstrand, by whom she has three children: Mabel E., Hubert R. and Mildred, and they reside

near Momence, Ill. William R., born April 8, 1859, wedded Miss Mary Beattie, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Beattie, and they reside in Sycamore, Ill., with their four children: Coila, Frank, Myrtle and Marx. Estella B., born January 3, 1861, is the wife of James Nichols and their home is near Lake Village, Ind. They have four children: Floyd, Fay, Beulah and Eunice.

As before stated, Mr. Lyon has resided upon his present farm since 1859, and now owns and operates four hundred and ten acres of land, which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. In connection with general farming, he has also paid considerable attention to stock-raising, and by his industry, perseverance and good management has acquired a handsome competence. Mr. Lyon is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and his wife holds membership with the Presbyterian Church. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles and is a valued citizen of the community. For more than a third of a century, he has here made his home, has watched the growth and development of the county, has aided in its upbuilding, and well deserves mention among its pioneers.



THOMAS B. COMPTON, one of the prominent and highly-respected citizens of Champaign Township, who resides on a fine farm on section 5, is of English birth. He was born in Leicestershire, England, November 16, 1841, and is a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Barberry) Compton, both of whom were natives of the same locality. His father was a farmer by occupation and was born and reared on the farm where the family had lived for over three hundred years. Robert was the first to leave the old home. In April, 1859, he bade good-bye to friends and native land, sailed from Liverpool and at length landed in New York City. He settled in Oswego, Kendall County, Ill., where for a time he rented land. He afterward engaged in farming upon land of his own, having purchased a tract of raw prairie, from which he

developed a good farm. He then sold out and is still living, at the age of eighty-five years, with his son. His wife died in England. She was a member of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Compton served as Tax Collector in England. He holds membership with the Baptist Church and takes a very active part in its work and upbuilding. In politics, he was formerly a Republican but is now a supporter of the Democratic party. In the Compton family there were but two children. The sister of our subject, Sarah Ann, became the wife of John Gruliths and died in Oswego, Ill.

Thomas B. Compton, whose name heads this record, resided upon his father's farm until twenty-two years of age. His education was acquired in the public schools of his native land. His privileges in that direction, however, were much more limited than his training at farm work. He remained in Kendall County until 1867, when he came to Iroquois County and purchased two hundred and forty acres of raw prairie land, a part of his present farm. Upon this was a shanty, 16x32 feet. In one end he had his bed, in the other a store, and in the center sheltered his horses. This building still stands, being now used as an outbuilding, while upon the place are all the improvements and accessories of a model farm, including a good residence, barns, the latest improved machinery, etc. In connection with general farming, which Mr. Compton has carried on successfully, he also engaged in the breeding and driving of horses for some years. He owns two hundred and forty acres of rich land under a high state of cultivation, but expects soon to rent this and remove to one of the suburbs of Chicago.

Mr. Compton was married in Kendall County, in 1863, to Miss Ellen Benson, daughter of Henry and Anna (Heap) Benson, natives of Lancashire, England, who came to America when Mrs. Compton was thirteen years of age. Her parents are both deceased. The wife of our subject is two months his junior. By their union have been born the following children: George W., who was born in Kendall County and was educated in Fairmont College of Cincinnati, has now for several years resided in Colorado for his health and is there practicing medicine. Emily A., the daughter

of the family, was born and reared in this county. She acquired her early education in the public schools, was a student in Belvidere Seminary in New Jersey and afterward engaged in teaching music in that institution. She is an accomplished and charming young lady and is now studying elocution in the Washington College of Elocution in Washington, D. C., where she expects to pursue a full course of study.

Mr. Compton and his wife have long been active workers in the Congregational Church. For a quarter of a century they have been prominently connected with the Sunday-school work, their children have been numbered among its teachers, and Mr. Compton has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school for a number of years. He takes an interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, especially those enterprises calculated to upbuild or benefit the moral or educational interests. He is a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association and was Master of the Grange during its existence. He cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. U. S. Grant, but is independent in politics, not willing to be bound by any party ties. He is an intelligent, valued and highly-respected citizen of the community and a self-made man, who by his own efforts has steadily worked his way upward.



FLEMING R. MOORE, an attorney-at-law, engaged in practice at Milford, was born in Iroquois County, on his father's farm, which was located nine miles from the city. His parents, John B. and Sarah M. (Fleming) Moore, were both natives of Ohio, and in the spring of 1831 emigrated to Illinois, settling in what is now known as Belmont Township, Iroquois County. The father entered a quarter-section of land from the Government, and by his industrious efforts the wild tract of prairie land was converted into rich and fertile fields. The boundaries of his farm he extended as his financial resources were increased until he owned four hundred acres. His death occurred on the 20th of November, 1870.

Eight children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Moore, six of whom are yet living. Joseph B., the eldest, married Sarah Frame, and unto them were born six children. Micajah S. enlisted for the late war as a member of Company A, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. He served for a little over two years, and was in a number of hard battles, but was never wounded. However, in May, 1865, he was taken ill with cramp colic, and died within twenty-four hours. Fleming is the next younger. Martha A. is the wife of Barton Bishop, of Sheldon, Ill., by whom she has seven children. William F. married Lydia Frame, daughter of Abner Frame, and they have a family of three children. Nancy J. died in infancy. Z. V. is the next younger. John A., who completes the family, married Sarah Tracy, and with their two children they reside in Sheldon, Ill.

The subject of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the farm where he was born, and was early inured to agricultural pursuits. After acquiring a common-school education, he became a student of Westfield College, of Clark County, a school conducted under the auspices of the United Brethren Church. After there pursuing his studies for two years, he engaged in teaching in the district where his own education was commenced, and later he took up the study of law, with the intention of making the legal practice his life work. This was in 1879. The following year he removed to Woodland, where he continued his studies for a time, and then began practice. In 1883 he came to Milford, and, opening an office, has since prosecuted his profession in this place.

During the late war, Mr. Moore manifested his loyalty to the Government by marching to the front and aiding in the preservation of the Union. He was only seventeen years of age, when, on the 13th of May, 1861, he became a member of Company B, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry. He was honorably discharged on the 25th of October of the same year. In politics he has been a stalwart Republican since attaining his majority, and warmly advocates that party's principles.

Mr. Moore was married October 23, 1872, to

Angeline Walters, daughter of Ephraim and Jemima (Good) Walters. Five children have been born of their union: Lena L., born December 13, 1871; Lola Wild, born September 3, 1883; Free Morris, born December 9, 1887; Morse Anderson and Hazel, twins, born December 30, 1891. The latter died January 27, 1892, and the former on the 9th of March following.

Mr. Moore is a leading practitioner of Milford. He has been a close student of his profession, and is now well versed in the law. During the ten years of his residence here his business has constantly increased, and he is now enjoying a liberal patronage.



RASMUS JOHNSON, a prominent citizen of Iroquois County, residing on section 22, Milk's Grove Township, is a Dane by birth. He was born in Sunde, near Swendborg, Denmark, on the 3d of May, 1839, and is a son of Jens Hanson, who was born in 1801, and who throughout his life engaged in farming in Denmark. He was also a soldier and served in the Thirty Years War. His death occurred on the home farm in his native land in 1872. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Maria Luvegt, was born in the same locality as her husband, November 6, 1811, and died on the 1st of May, 1892, at the age of eighty-one years. Both families were noted for longevity. The paternal grandfather of our subject reached the advanced age of ninety-eight years, and the maternal grandmother lived to the extreme old age of one hundred and three years. Both parents were members of the Lutheran Church. Their family numbered nine children, seven sons and two daughters.

The early childhood days of our subject were spent under the parental roof, and his education was acquired in the public schools. He is truly a self-made man, for he has been dependent upon his own resources since he was fifteen years of age. At that time he began work on a large estate, serving as gardener for two years, after which he occupied the position of foreman

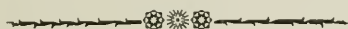
for four years. At the age of twenty-one he entered the army, and served as a member of the Dragoons for a term of six years. He entered the service as a non-commissioned officer, but for meritorious conduct was promoted to higher rank. He served throughout the war with Germany, and participated in more than twenty battles. He received a sabre cut on the hand, and one on the back, and was shot in the arm. After the war he worked out for two years as coachman for a wealthy gentleman, and was then foreman for two years on a large estate.

Ere leaving his native land, Mr. Johnson was married, at the age of twenty-seven years, to Miss Mariane Christensen, who was born January 4, 1843, in Klostrap, Jylan, Denmark. They became parents of twelve children, of whom two, William and Henry, died in childhood; the living are Eliza M., born May 5, 1867 the wife of Ole Mikkelsen; William Frederick, born March 12, 1870; Frank Emil, May 29, 1873; Latina, August 28, 1875; Walter Lund, February 17, 1877; Albert B. B., November 3, 1878; Mathilda H., April 13, 1881; Emma Sophia, August 21, 1883; Christian J. G., December 21, 1885; and Ida Caroline, April 29, 1887.

In 1866, Mr. Johnson, accompanied by his wife, emigrated to America. He sailed from Jylan to Hamburg, thence to Liverpool and on to Portland, Me., whence he came at once to Illinois, locating in Chebanse. He there spent the seven succeeding years of his life, working on a hay press and on the railroad. At length he disposed of his interest and began farming on rented land in Chebanse Township, where he remained for three years. He then rented land of Lemuel Milk, and operated one farm for a period of seventeen years. He now resides upon what is known as the Bell Farm, where he operates three hundred and twenty-seven acres, and in its management displays excellent business ability. He is a careful farmer and successful business man, and although he has been dependent upon his own resources from a very early age, he has won a comfortable competence.

In connection with his other interests, Mr. Johnson is land agent for the firm of Prince & Cook, of Chicago, which position he has held for six

years, and has done much towards securing homes for his fellow-citizens in this locality. He is also agent for a steamship line. Mr. Johnson cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant in 1868, and has since been a supporter of Republican principles. He has held the office of Constable of his township for five years, and has also been Road Overseer. He and his family are members of the Lutheran Church, and Mr. Johnson is one of its Trustees. He is a well-known and highly respected man, and a prominent citizen, who well deserves representation in this volume.



JOSEPH ODERWALD, one of the prominent and well-known citizens of Chebanse Township, residing on section 31, claims Prussia as the land of his birth. He was born in Westphalia, on the 21st of November, 1826, and is a son of Ludwig and Maria (Unke) Oderwald, both of whom were natives of Prussia. The father was born in the Province of Waldeck and was a laborer on an estate. He spent his entire life in Germany, dying at the age of fifty-four years. His wife survived him some time, and also spent her last days in their native land. Mr. Oderwald served in the army in the war against Napoleon in 1815. He was a member of the Lutheran Church.

The family numbered the following children, Josephine, the eldest, died in New York City; John is living a retired life in New York City; Joseph is the next younger; Frederick is still living in Germany; August makes his home in New York City; Lena resides in Elizabeth, N. J.; Conrad is living in New York; and Charles died in that city.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent in his native land, and his education was acquired in the parochial schools, which he attended between the ages of six and fourteen years. When a lad of fifteen summers, he began earning his own livelihood. In 1848, he was called into the army and served with the Eleventh Hussars, doing duty in the city of Coln. He spent three years in the army, and in 1851 was honorably discharged. He

then returned home, and again worked at farm labor. Later he engaged in farming and teaming along the river. In 1854, he went to London, England, where he worked in a sugar refinery for about a year, when, in 1855, he sailed for America. Landing in New York, he was employed in that city for a time and worked on a canal. The year 1859 witnessed his arrival in Illinois. He located in Morris, Grundy County, where he began farming on rented land.

On the 1th of March, 1862, Mr. Oderwald was united in marriage with Miss Bridget O'Conner, a native of Lancashire, England; her parents, however, were natives of Ireland, but for many years resided in Liverpool, England, whence they came to America. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Oderwald have been born eight children: Mary A. became the wife of Mike Dempsey, and died in Clifton, leaving two sons, Charles and Ed, who reside with our subject; Edward is a farmer and resides on a portion of the homestead; Kate is the wife of Ben Purcell, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in this county; Sadie is the wife of John Hendren, a farmer of this township; Joseph, Lizzie, Emma and Theresa are all at home. The latter were born in this county, and the four older children were born in Grundy County.

Mr. Oderwald has been a resident of Iroquois County since 1872. In that year he purchased the farm upon which he now resides, buying one hundred and sixty acres. Its boundaries, however, he has since extended until it now comprises two hundred and forty acres of arable land. The farm is well tiled, a good residence has been erected, fruit and shade trees have been planted, and all the improvements of a model farm have been made. From a tender age our subject has made his own way in the world. With no capital he came to America, but he possessed energy, enterprise and a strong determination to succeed. Overcoming the obstacles and difficulties in his path, he has steadily worked his way upward until he has now gained a handsome competence, and is numbered among the substantial citizens of the community. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church of Clifton, to the support of which he contributes liberally. He cast his first

Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and has since been a zealous Democrat, warmly advocating the principles of that party. Through his own efforts he learned to read and speak the English language, and is now a well-informed man and an intelligent and highly respected citizen, who has ever borne his part in the development of his adopted county. It was a fortunate day for him when he decided to come to America, for he has here met with prosperity.



ISAAC VAN DUZOR is a leading citizen of Clifton and one of the early and honored pioneer settlers of the county. His birth occurred on the 4th of January, 1815, in Orange County, N. Y. The family originally came from Holland, and Adolph, the grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The father of Isaac died in 1875 in New York, and the death of his wife occurred a few years previous. Their family consisted of twelve children, ten of whom, four sons and six daughters, grew to mature years.

The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood days quietly. He was married in January, 1836, to Miss Charlotte Kuykendall, daughter of Jacob Kuykendall, a native of the Empire State. Eight children, five sons and three daughters, blessed the union of Isaac and Charlotte Van Duzor. The deceased are Milton, Anna, Lena and one who died in infancy. Those living are Clay, who married a Miss Ferris, whose parents lived in Connecticut. They have two daughters. Harvey is also married and resides in Chicago. Jacob wedded Miss Van Doren, of Chicago, and now lives in Omaha, Neb. One child graces their union. Jacob is a traveling man, having been in the employ of a wholesale grocery house in Chicago for a number of years. Willard married a Kentucky lady in St. Louis and shortly after their marriage they removed to Florida, where he still lives. The lady came to Illinois to spend the summer at the home of her husband's parents and died here after a short illness. Willard some two

years later married a lady from New York State, who had lived for some years in Florida. This union has been blessed with two children.

Three sons of our subject were soldiers for the defense of the Union during the late war. When the first call for seventy-five thousand men was made by President Lincoln, Clay Van Duzor enlisted in the Twenty-eighth New York Infantry and after a service of two years was honorably discharged with his company. While they were on their homeward way, Gen. Lee invaded Pennsylvania, and the New York soldiers returning fought some of the hardest battles they had yet participated in, and finally succeeded in driving Lee from the Keystone State. After this, the regiment returned home and received their discharge. Harvey belonged to a Chicago battery and was one of the youngest soldiers in the service, being less than fourteen years of age when he was accepted. He served until the close of the war, being actively engaged during three years. Jacob was placed in the Commissary Department and spent most of his time in New York, gathering commissary supplies.

In 1851, Mr. Van Duzor was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died in the Empire State. He was again married, his second union being with Miss Julia Millsbaugh, daughter of Lewis Millsbaugh, who was born in Monticello, N. Y. Mrs. Van Duzor's parents removed to the West and both died in Illinois many years ago.

Mr. Van Duzor is one of the pioneer settlers of Clifton, having located here in the month of September, 1855. At that time this town had not been organized nor were there any other towns for many miles. This whole region was one vast prairie almost totally uninhabited. Game abounded and herds of deer and wolves roamed the prairies. As much of it was swamp land, there were many varieties of water-fowl in this locality, wild geese and long-necked cranes being especially plentiful. Since settling here Mr. Van Duzor has not been away from Clifton for more than three months. The first year he engaged in farming, taking up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres from the Government, three miles west of Chebanse. He carried on agricultural pursuits for about two

years and then came to the present site of Clifton, where he built a hotel. This business he followed until the spring of 1872, at which time he sold his hotel interests and engaged in the agricultural implement business, having opened a store in that line several years before, and in this line of trade he still continues. At one time he also owned a grocery store in Clifton. Although he has met with heavy reverses, he has been undaunted and has accumulated considerable property and has a flourishing business, carrying a large stock of goods. In the Chicago fire he sustained a severe loss, some \$55,000 worth of his property being consumed in the flames. However, he is now the possessor of a pleasant home and forty acres of land situated within the corporate limits of the village of Clifton. Some ten years before locating here, Mr. Van Duzor was appointed agent for the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company, of Hartford, Conn., having written applications for that company for forty-seven years.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Duzor are prominent members of the Congregational Church, but formerly belonged to the Dutch Reformed Church. In the earlier days of our country's history, our subject was a supporter of the Whig party and has been an adherent of the Republican party and its principles since its organization. He has never aspired to official positions of recognition and has attended strictly to business affairs. He is respected for his unostentatious and honorable life and is widely known as a genial and kind-hearted man. He has a host of friends in this vicinity in his many patrons and other acquaintances. In his business dealings he always shows the strictest integrity and honor.



JOHAN HELLER is a well-known farmer and stock-raiser, who makes his home on section 35, Chebanse Township. He was born in Darmstadt, Germany, on the 8th of February, 1842. He is a son of Conrad and Albona (Lucas) Heller, both likewise natives of the Fatherland. The father was by occupation a

farmer, and in 1852, taking passage at Rotterdam on a sailing-vessel, he started to seek a home in the New World. He arrived in New York City in the fall of 1852, having been fifty-two days in crossing the Atlantic. He went directly to Chicago and located near there, engaging in gardening for the succeeding seven years. In 1859, he removed to Iroquois County and purchased a tract of unimproved prairie land in Chebanse Township, which he continued to farm until his death, in 1890. His wife was called to the better land in 1878.

Our subject and his brother Jacob accompanied their parents to the United States, and lived upon the homestead in Illinois, assisting their father in the work of the farm. Their brother George enlisted, in 1861, in the Eighty-ninth Illinois Infantry, and was killed in the battle of Stone River, near Murfreesboro, Tenn.

John Heller lived until about seventeen years of age in Chicago and received good school advantages in that city. He then came to Iroquois County, assisting his father in developing his land until after he had reached his majority. His father then gave him an eighty-acre farm, and on this our subject located in 1872. He fenced a good deal of his land and proceeded to develop and cultivate it to the best of his ability. His place soon yielded him rich returns for his labors, and he was soon on the road to prosperity. He has since bought an adjoining eighty acres, and twenty acres, also eight acres more, making one hundred and eighty-eight acres in one body, all well-improved and arable land. Mr. Heller has done considerable tiling and has a pleasant and substantial residence, good barns and other outbuildings. He is one of the enterprising and thrifty farmers of Chebanse Township, and on every hand may be seen the careful attention and cultivation of the owner.

On the 2d of January, 1872, Mr. Heller was united in wedlock with Carrie Falter, who was born in Ohio, October 20, 1853, and remained in Columbus until a maiden of thirteen. Her father, Louis Falter, was born in Germany and removed from Ohio to Joliet, Ill., thence to Ford County, and afterward located in Iroquois County.

He lived on a farm in this township for several years and then removed to the village of Chebanse, where his death occurred. Mr. and Mrs. Heller have five children: Minnie, Nettie, Jacob, Charles and Alice, all of whom are still under the parental roof and are receiving good educations. Miss Minnie is a professional dressmaker and milliner.

The Republican party has received the support of Mr. Heller since he has been a voter. The cause of education finds in him a stanch friend and well-wisher. He has been a resident of this county for thirty-three years, and has been a witness of the remarkable changes in the same. From a wilderness of swampy prairie land has been evolved the present county of prosperous farms and thriving villages. He has made many friends in this and adjoining counties, and has ever assisted in the advancement of this section. He is one of the honored and esteemed pioneers, and it is with pleasure that we place his name and brief history among those who have made of this county one of the best in the State.



CHARLES C. DIETZ, who carries on the occupation of farming on section 31, Crescent Township, is a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in Philadelphia September 21, 1832. He is a son of John Gottlieb Dietz, a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in Wurtemberg in 1806. The father passed his early days in the Fatherland, and emigrated to America in 1830. He located in Lebanon County, Pa., and there resided until 1865, when he moved to Logansport, Ind., where he purchased a farm near that city, and there resided until his death, in the spring of 1890. He married in Philadelphia Christina Caroline Krantz, who, like him, was a native of Germany. She was reared and educated in that country, and came alone to America. Her death occurred in 1842, when our subject was a lad of twelve years. The father afterward married again. Mr. Dietz started in life a poor boy, and when he landed in the United States was practically without means, but

as the result of industry he accumulated a large estate, and at his death gave to each of his children forty acres of good land. He was an active member of the German Lutheran Church, in which he served as Elder for a number of years. From a paper published at the time of his death, we quote the following: "John Gottlieb Dietz died at his residence in Cass County, Ind., on the 17th of April, 1890, at the ripe old age of eighty-three years. He was born September 17, 1806, in Bretzfeld, Wurtemberg, Germany, and in 1821 sailed for America, landing in Philadelphia, where he resided for five years. He removed to Lebanon, Pa., in 1836. There he united with Zion's Lutheran Church. Mr. Dietz was confirmed in the Lutheran Church of Germany when fourteen years of age. In 1864, he with his family, except one son, came to Indiana, and has since lived in Cass County. He was the father of seven children, four sons and three daughters, all of whom were present at his burial. He was a remarkable man, of robust constitution and vigorous mind. He had studied the Scriptures carefully and prayerfully, so that his familiarity with God's Word was wonderful. He was a grand Christian gentleman, and was mourned by all. The funeral service was preached in the Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church, in Rock Creek, by Rev. J. L. Guard, who has been pastor for nearly twenty years, from the text, 'But the path of the just is as a shining light, which shineth more and more unto the perfect day.'"

Our subject, Charles C., is the eldest of four sons, and there was also one daughter by his father's first marriage. By the second union were born two daughters. Theodore, the second child, is a farmer residing near Logansport, Ind.; John Gottlieb also carries on agricultural pursuits near the same city; Henry Wilhelm is occupied in farming near Lebanon, Pa.; Christina Caroline is the wife of John Tripps, a farmer near Logansport; Eliza is the wife of George Hummel, who carries on the old homestead near Logansport; and Sarah, wife of Daniel Ray, who lives near the above city.

Mr. Dietz of this sketch grew to manhood in the Keystone State, and received his education in the schools of his native country. His advantages

in that direction were very limited and he is mostly self-educated; nevertheless, by close observation and well-selected reading, he has become a well-informed man on all the leading questions of the day and general topics. When a young man he came West as far as Chicago, intending to go to the far West, but then decided to go only as far as Iowa City. After staying there a short time he returned to Madison County, Ind., and near Anderson was united in marriage, February 22, 1857, his bride being Eliza Carmany, who was born in Lebanon County, Pa., and was a daughter of John Carmany, now deceased.

The first year after his marriage, Mr. Dietz worked at manual labor, at fifty cents per day. He then operated a farm belonging to a widow for two years; she furnished teams and farming implements, while he received three-fifths of the crops. After accumulating a small capital he then purchased one horse, and as occasion demanded hired another, paying for it by his labor. His industrious German spirit knew no such word as fail. He experienced many of the hardships and privations incident to the farming of new land. He there remained for nine years, and in 1865 moved to Illinois, settling in Iroquois County. For two years he rented a farm near Watseka, and then purchased one hundred and twenty acres of raw land, where he has since resided. He met with all the difficulties of opening up the new prairie land, and the first season after his purchase being very wet, he was not enabled to harvest any crops, and therefore for the first year or two the family was subject to many hardships. To add to his troubles, his faithful wife, after a short illness, died in February, 1869, leaving him with seven children, one of whom was an infant.

The following year, on the 27th of March, Mr. Dietz was united in marriage with Mrs. Emma E. Thompson, who was in her maidenhood Miss Orth. Her parents were Adam Godlove and Fannie (Seaschrist) Orth, both natives of Pennsylvania. The father was born in Lebanon County, May 8, 1806, and died April 3, 1886, at the advanced age of four-score years. The mother was born January 20, 1811, and is still living at the age of eighty-one. Her great-grandparents were both killed by the

Indians. A brother of Mr. Orth, Godlove Sotner Orth, was a man prominent in the history of this country. He was appointed by President Grant as Minister to Vienna, and afterward became candidate for the office of Governor of Indiana. Mrs. Dietz has in her possession a beautiful volume which contains the memorial address delivered in Congress on the death of Godlove S. Orth. The *New York Tribune* in 1876 wrote of him as follows: "Mr. Orth, the nominee of the Indiana Republican party for Governor, was born near Lebanon, Pa., April 22, 1817. After receiving a good education at Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg, he studied law, and was admitted to the Bar in 1839. He was elected to the State Senate of Indiana, served six years, and was President of that body. In 1862, when a call was made for troops to defend Indiana from threatened incursions, Mr. Orth organized a company in two hours. He was elected Captain and placed in command of the United States vessel, "Hornet," which did duty on the Ohio River." It is thus seen that Mr. Orth was very prominent both at home and abroad.

Mrs. Dietz was the sixth in order of birth in a family of twelve children, of whom five sons and three daughters are yet living. She was born, reared and educated in Pennsylvania, and witnessed the famous battle of Gettysburg. She became the wife of William Thompson, of Altoona, Pa., and had one child by her first marriage. The children born by the first union of Mr. Dietz are as follows: Melissa J., wife of John Burkholder; Milton A.; Anna L., wife of Henry Forbes, of this county; John Henry, who is married and resides on a farm in this county; Charles F., who occupies a responsible position in Chicago; and Ella. Fannie, wife of Frank Bedford, an engineer on a transfer boat at Vicksburg, Miss., is the daughter of Mrs. Dietz by her former marriage. By her union with our subject have been born two children: Godlove Orth, who has taught successfully in this community, is a young man of sterling worth, and is now a student in Onarga Seminary; and Cyrus Edgar.

Mr. Dietz, after recovering from the first two years of loss on his farm, began to prosper, and soon had his property in good shape. He has

since bought eighty acres of land adjoining, and has two hundred acres of valuable and well-improved land. He has erected a substantial and comfortable house and has good barns and out-buildings. Everything about his farm bears evidence of the thrift and enterprise of the owner. He is esteemed throughout this county as one of the most substantial and well-to-do farmers of this locality.

Mr. Dietz is identified with the Democratic party, casting his first ballot for Stephen A. Douglas and voting for every nominee of that party in Presidential elections since that time. In local politics he is independent, voting for the man best fitted in his estimation for the position in question. Though much interested in politics and the welfare of the State and community, he prefers to give his attention to his farm and own business affairs, never having asked for or accepted an official position. Mrs. Dietz is a member of the Presbyterian Church, while her husband, though not a member of the Lutheran Church, is inclined to that belief, though he usually attends the church with which his wife is identified. He contributes liberally toward the support of the church and its enterprises. For twenty-seven years, Mr. Dietz has been an honored and respected resident of this State and county, and is held to be a man of sterling character by all his numerous friends and acquaintances.



EDWIN HOBSON, a prominent farmer of Chebanse Township, owns a good farm on section 8. He is a native of England, his birth having occurred in Lincolnshire on the 1st of February, 1849. He is a son of William Hobson, a native of the same shire, who grew to maturity there and married Miss Mary Carleton. The father was a farmer in England and also followed that calling after coming to the United States. He crossed the Atlantic in 1856 with his family and settled near Joliet, Ill., where he rented a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits for

about five years. He next removed to Kankakee County, where for three years he rented and carried on a farm. In 1864, he came to Iroquois County and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land in Chebanse Township. This he developed and met with considerable success as an agriculturist. He resided here until his death, which occurred in March, 1887. Mrs. Hobson had passed away several years previous.

Edwin Hobson is the third in order of birth in a family of nine children: The eldest, Elizabeth, was the wife of Robert Luton and is now deceased; Jane; Robert, a farmer on the old homestead; Thomas, who is a merchant of Clifton; Agnes, wife of George Wilson, of Kankakee City; Frank F., a farmer of this county; Louise, wife of Louis Van Sant, of Clifton; and William, a butcher of the same place. One brother was killed by a threshing-machine at the age of about nine years.

The subject of this sketch came to Illinois with his parents when a lad of seven years and grew to manhood in this State. He had common-school advantages and remained with his father assisting in the care of his farm until he had attained his majority. He then rented the farm where he now resides for about five years, and in 1884 purchased the place. He has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres under a good state of cultivation, and his well-tilled fields yield to him a golden tribute. He has steadily carried forward the work of improvement and development, and his property is considered to be a valuable and desirable tract. It is located a mile and a-half from Clifton, and on it can be found a pleasant and substantial residence, good barns and other farm buildings. He is a self-made man, and has by his own labor, enterprise and industry achieved a success and prosperity which to-day crown his years of labor.

In Cassopolis, Cass County, Mich., Mr. Hobson wedded Miss Jennie Davidson, a native of that city, and there reared to womanhood. The wedding ceremony occurred on the 31st of December, 1879. Mrs. Hobson is a daughter of Samuel Davidson, a native of New England.

Our subject has never wished for official posi-

tions and has given his whole time and attention to his farming and business interests. He makes a specialty of the breeding of fine horses, and has in his stables some thoroughbred English Shire stallions. He has shown marked business ability, and his wise investments and industry have brought to him abundant returns. Politically, Mr. Hobson has been identified with the Republican party since becoming a voter. His first ballot for President was cast for Hon. Rutherford B. Hayes, and every Presidential nominee since has received his support. For nearly his whole life-time he has been a resident of this county and is well and favorably known in this community as a man of honor, integrity and worth. He has won the friendship of all who know him and well deserves to be remembered in this volume.



THOMAS STUMP, a leading and respected farmer of Ashkum Township, owns and operates a farm on section 21. He was born in Clermont County, Ohio, on the 27th of December, 1829. His father, Lewis Stump, was born in the same county on the 1st of January, 1801, while his grandfather, John Stump, was a native of Winchester County, Va., and was of German descent. The latter, in company with three brothers, went west to Kentucky, and after stopping there a short time removed to Ohio, where they settled.

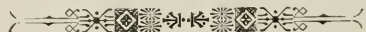
Lewis Stump, the father of our subject, grew to manhood in Clermont County and received as good an education as could be obtained in the schools of that early period. He married Elizabeth Fitzwater, a daughter of Thomas Fitzwater, one of the early settlers of Clermont County, who was of Scotch descent. Mr. Stump was a farmer and spent his entire life in Ohio, his death occurring there about 1885. His wife passed away in 1836. Three sons were born of that union: Thomas, who is the subject of this sketch; David and John Stump. David grew to manhood and resides on the old homestead in Ohio; and John is a farmer of Douglas County, Kan. He was a sol-

dier of the late war and was in the gunboat service under Capt. Perkins. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Stump was again married.

Our subject passed his boyhood days in the usual routine of farm life and received common-school privileges. He remained with his parents until about twenty-five years of age, assisting his father in his agricultural pursuits. He also ran a threshing-machine during the fall season. In 1855, Mr. Stump came on a visit to relatives in Iroquois County, Ill., and decided to make his home here. He accordingly rented land of Andrew W. Spence and engaged in farming on the place where he has since resided. After the death of that gentleman, our subject entered into partnership with Mrs. Spence and took entire charge of the farm and business until her death, which occurred in 1865. He then entered into an agreement with the heirs of the property, William H. and Margaret J. Spence, to carry on the farm in partnership. They have added to the original place until the property now consists of seven hundred acres of valuable and well-improved land. It is situated on the Iroquois River, in Ashkum Township. When Mr. Stump first came here the county was little better than a wilderness and swamp. The villages of Ashkum and Clifton were not then in existence, and only a little French settlement could be found in this section. One could cross the prairie in any direction for miles without coming to any buildings, settlements or even fences.

Mr. Stump was formerly an old-line Whig and a great admirer of Henry Clay. He has been identified with the Democratic party since James Buchanan ran for President, to whom he gave his support. Believing in his worth and ability, our subject has been many times elected by his fellow-citizens to fill official positions. He has served as Commissioner of Highways, has been Justice of the Peace for some eight years, and also was elected in 1861 as Supervisor, which position he filled for many years. To whatever office he has been elected he has always discharged his duties with fidelity and zeal and in a manner that has merited the approval of all. He has ever been a friend of the cause of education, and is a firm believer in our grand public-school system. He has served as a

member of the School Board for about a quarter of a century and is still one of the trusted and efficient members. He has also been an Associate Justice for a period of four years. Though never especially desiring office, he has acceded to the wishes of his fellow-citizens and performed his duties most acceptably. He is a public-spirited man and one who believes that personal and private interests should be largely put aside when higher duties to the city, county and State so demand. For nearly two-score years, Mr. Stump has been a resident of this State and county and has witnessed great changes in that time. He is one of the honored pioneers, and is an enterprising, well-to-do farmer of this locality.



MICHAEL HAUSZ, a prominent and successful farmer of Prairie Green Township, residing on section 9, claims Connecticut as the State of his nativity. He was born in Bridgeport on the 29th of November, 1839. His father, Michael Hausz, was born in Baden, Germany, May 6, 1809, and is still living at the advanced age of eighty-three years; his wife is seventy-six. He was reared to manhood upon a farm, and when a young man learned the trade of cabinet-making, which he followed in the Old Country. Hoping to benefit his financial condition by emigrating to America, he crossed the broad Atlantic in early manhood. Landing in New York, he there worked for a time, after which he went to Bridgeport, Conn., where he married Miss Elizabeth Heinig. She was also a native of Germany, and when a young lady of eighteen years came to this country.

Mr. Hausz continued to follow the cabinet-making trade in Bridgeport until 1840, when they moved to New York City, where they lived about six years, when they started Westward. They traveled by way of the Lakes, landing at Milwaukee, Wis. The father at once went to Jefferson County and secured a farm near Ft. Atkinson, where he has since made his home, covering a period of forty-six consecutive years. His

life has been an industrious and enterprising one, and by his own efforts he has acquired a competence, which enables him to live a retired life. In politics, he is a supporter of the Democratic party, and himself and family are members of the Lutheran Church. Of the children, Michael is the eldest; George J. resides on the old homestead; Mrs. Louisa Widman is living in Jefferson County, Wis.; and Mrs. Amelia Sherman makes her home in Tacoma, Wash. All the living children, except our subject, were born in Wisconsin.

Michael Hausz, whose name heads this record, was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of frontier life in Wisconsin. Indians still lived in the locality of his home, and all kinds of wild game were plentiful. As the country roundabout was all heavily timbered, he early learned to swing the axe, and became inured to the hard labors of developing a farm in a new country. His educational privileges were quite limited. He attended a log schoolhouse, with its slab seats and other primitive furniture, throughout the winter season when there was not much work on the farm. At the age of sixteen, he spent the winter in the High School of Albion Center, and when twenty-three he attended a half-term at Ft. Atkinson, and then pursued a complete course of study in Eastman's Business College of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., from which he was graduated in 1863. He then returned to Wisconsin and entered a store as salesman. During the next eight years, he engaged in clerking and in doing business for himself as a merchant, but the close confinement impaired his health. He consequently sold out, and in 1871 came to Iroquois County, Ill.

October 2, 1867, in Jefferson County, Wis., Mr Hausz led to the marriage altar Miss Paulina C. Giese, a native of Prussia, born September 2, 1846. He had been previously married. Mrs. Hausz' parents, John and Minnie Giese, were also born in that land. Eight children graced their union, six sons and two daughters: Frank G., born in Wisconsin, married Frankie Dawson and resides in Stockland Township; Edward M. died at the age of nine years; Frederick W., born in this county, aids his father in the operation of the home farm; August C., Lavisa L., Dora, and Ora and Orrin

(twins) are still under the parental roof. The children received good educational advantages, fitting them for the practical duties of life.

On coming to this county, Mr. Hausz purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. Its improvements were indeed limited. The house was a mere shell, there were no barns or fences, and the land was very wet. The nearest markets were at Sheldon and Watseka. In the twenty-one years that have since come and gone, a great transformation has been wrought. The land has been well tilled and is under a high state of cultivation, while well-kept fences divide it into fields of convenient size. There are good barns and other outbuildings, a fine frame residence, and all the accessories of a model farm. The improvements upon the place are monuments to the thrift and enterprise of the owner, who is recognized as a successful business man and farmer.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hausz are members of the Christian Church, with which they have been connected for ten years. They take an active part in its work and upbuilding, and contribute liberally to its support. In his social relations, Mr. Hausz is an Odd Fellow, belonging to Milford Lodge, and is also connected with the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. He cast his first Presidential vote in 1860, supporting Stephen A. Douglas, but in 1864 voted for Abraham Lincoln, and has since been a worker in the Republican party. He has never sought office, but has given his time and attention exclusively to his business interests, in which he has met with signal success. The competence which has crowned his efforts is well deserved.



WILLIAM R. KENT, of the firm of Cummings & Kent, lumber dealers, was born in Natchez, Miss., on the 29th of October, 1850. His paternal grandfather was a soldier in the Black Hawk War and was of English origin, coming from the county of Kent. Our subject is the son of Albert C. and Sarah J. (Damon) Kent,

the former a native of New Hampshire, and the latter, who is of Welsh descent, a native of Maine. To them four children were born: Margaret S. is now deceased; Albert C. is also deceased; Sarah J. became the wife of Jason L. Garey, a farmer near Dover, Me., and they have one child, Frank K. The youngest of the family is our subject. Jason L. Garey was a soldier in the late war as was also the father of our subject. They enlisted in 1861 at the first call for troops, in Company H, Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war. Mr. Kent was in thirty-two battles, and although he had many hair-breadth escapes was never wounded. At one time a lock of his hair was shot away by a bullet; at another time his hat was pierced by a ball; and still another instance of his nearness to death is shown in the fact that his clothing near his heart was traversed by a bullet. He was in many of the fiercest and bloodiest battles of the war. He often served as a scout under Gen. Logan and never seemed to know fear while in the army. Among the battles in which he participated were Holly Springs, Iuka, Chattanooga, Corinth, Atlanta, and the siege of Vicksburg. He was also in the battles of Mission Ridge and Chickamauga and a number of skirmishes in the mountains. At Little Rock, he was promoted to a captaincy. He was ever found at the post of duty and was courageous and efficient at all times. In 1840, he removed from Boston, Mass., to Natchez, Miss., where he engaged in the lumber business for about nine years. Returning to Boston, he remained there one year, and in 1850 came to Illinois, locating at Nashville, where he was employed as a painter until the breaking out of the war. His family during the time of his residence in Illinois remained in Boston. In 1859, the mother came with her children to Nashville, where they lived for about four years, then located in Richview, Washington County.

William R. Kent received a good common-school education at Nashville, and afterward attended the Richview Seminary. In 1872, he learned telegraphy and occupied positions as operator on the Iron Mountain & Southern Railroad in Missouri and with the Chicago & Alton Railroad in Illinois until 1876. He then entered the employ of the

Illinois Central Railroad Company at Ashkum, Ill., where he held the position of station agent and telegraph operator for fourteen years, and was esteemed by them as one of their most faithful and trusty employes. Of his own accord he left his position at Ashkum and has engaged in the lumber business at Chebanse, where he has been located for about two years.

The 25th of September, 1878, witnessed the marriage of Mr. Kent and Miss Julia Tibbetts, and one child, Charles, now five years old, graces their union. Mrs. Kent is the daughter of the Rev. James Tibbetts, of Waterville, Me. Her mother in her maidenhood bore the name of Ruby Knight.

For sixteen years Mr. Kent has been a Mason, fourteen years of this time holding membership with Clifton Lodge No. 688, A. F. & A. M., but is now a member of Chebanse Lodge No. 429. He is a loyal and representative citizen and has always been a man of enterprise and public spirit. He is ever ready to do his share in the advancement of his fellow-citizens and the community and is highly respected by all who know him.



FREDERICK SWIVAL is a prominent and respected farmer of Chebanse Township, and owns a valuable farm on section 6. He is a native of Switzerland, where his birth occurred on the 25th of August, 1842. He is the youngest of a family of six children. In 1855, he emigrated to the United States, in company with his brothers. He first spent three years in Cleveland, Ohio, attending the schools of that city, and then on account of his brother David's death in Wisconsin, he went to that State, and there worked two years, after which he came to Illinois to work with his brother Henry in Will County. There he grew to mature years, working on the farm in the summer and attending the district schools during the winter months.

Inspired by love for his adopted country, Mr. Swival enlisted in her defense in July, 1862, at Wilmington, Ill., becoming a member of Company A, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry. He partici-

pated with his regiment in many engagements,—was in the battles of Perryville, Ky., Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Buzzard's Roost, Resaca and New Hope Church. He was also in the battle of Lost Mountain, and was there taken sick and was in the hospital at Lookout Mountain for some time. He joined his regiment again in September and was afterward in the battles of Franklin and Nashville. He received a flesh wound on his left cheek, which has left a scar, a lasting memento of his service and patriotism. He was always found at his post of duty and was one of the most reliable of soldiers, discharging his duties with the utmost fidelity and bravery. He received his discharge at the close of the war, in June, 1865, and then returned to Will County.

For four years after his return home, Mr. Swival engaged in herding cattle on the prairies of Iroquois and Ford Counties. He purchased land where he now resides in 1866. This was a tract of one hundred and twenty acres of raw prairie, and on this he located in 1870. He proceeded to cultivate and develop the farm and has since purchased eighty acres additional and now has a farm of two hundred acres, all of which is good arable land, and at the present time well improved and yielding to its owner a comfortable competence. Its well-tilled fields and neat farmyard speak of a thrifty and industrious owner, and all the modern improvements to be there found indicate him to be a man of progressive ideas. He has built a good residence and has commodious stables and other farm buildings. Commencing his life in Illinois a poor man, Mr. Swival has steadily pushed forward, overcoming all obstacles, until success has crowned his efforts and he is to-day accounted one of the enterprising and well-to-do farmers of the township.

In Will County, on the 29th of April, 1866, occurred the marriage of Mr. Swival and Miss Permelia Jones. The lady is a native of Illinois, and grew to womanhood in Will County. She is a daughter of Harrison Jones, who was born in Kentucky. To our subject and his wife have been born nine children: Rachel is the wife of W. W. De Hart, of Chicago; Emma is the wife of Henry Perry, of the same city; Lizzie is at home; Fred is

engaged in helping to carry on the work of the home farm; Henry, Olive P., Frank, Clarence and Permelia are all at home and attending the schools of the neighborhood.

Since becoming a voter, Mr. Swival has been a Republican, his first ballot for President being cast in 1868 for Gen. U. S. Grant. Every Presidential nominee of the party since that time has received his support. He has never sought or accepted official positions, but has ever discharged his duties of citizenship in a faithful and unostentatious manner. For years he has served as a member of the School Board and the cause of education finds in him a true friend. While not a member of any church organization, he is a believer in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which he gives liberally, as he also does to the support of other churches. Socially, he is a member of the Grand Army Post of Chebanse. For thirty-three years he has lived in Illinois and for about a quarter of a century in this portion of the State. He has been a witness of its development and has assisted as far as he was able to advance its best interests. He is worthy to be placed on record as one of the honored pioneers, and by his upright life he has won many friends.



JOSEPH WADLEIGH, a prominent and influential farmer, who lives on his fine farm situated on section 17, is the oldest resident in Milk's Grove Township. His birth occurred on the 2d of June, 1817, on the Black River, Onondaga County, N. Y. He is a son of John Wadley, a native of New Hampshire. He was a carpenter, and engaged in the manufacture of trunks, and also served in the War of 1812. In New Hampshire occurred his marriage with Miss Susan Wadleigh, of that State. Our subject adopted the spelling of his mother's name. The father removed from New York State to Ohio when Joseph was a child, traveling in a wagon as far as Pittsburgh, Pa. From there the family floated down the Ohio River on a flatboat to Cincinnati. Soon after locating there, the father

died, and Mrs. Wadleigh removed to Oxford, Ohio, with her family, where she lived until her death.

The family consisted of four sons and four daughters, of whom Joseph is the only one now living, and is the youngest of the sons. Jefferson died in Maysville, Ky. John died in Oxford, Ohio, and Jonathan in New Orleans. Abigail departed this life in Ohio. Polly died in Missouri. Marietta died in Cincinnati; and Jane in Franklin County, Ind.

Our subject grew to manhood in Oxford, Ohio, and received a common-school education. He is continually adding to his store of knowledge by extensive reading and study. In Maysville, Ky., he learned the tinsmith's trade, but on account of the cholera, which raged fiercely in that section, he was obliged to return to Ohio. He started in the active business of life when about nineteen years of age, and had a "fippenny-bit" as his capital stock. He worked at his trade in Oxford three years, receiving as a weekly salary \$5 per week. From that small sum he saved money, purchased a lot and built a house, ultimately buying out his employer's business. His mother made her home with him during her declining years, and he was ever a loyal and dutiful son.

In 1847, he took the Western fever and started from St. Jo, Mo., in a wagon train of ox-teams under the charge of Capt. Hawes. They were bound for Oregon, and were five months on the road. He discovered what he now knows was gold at the head of Sweet Water River, in the Rocky Mountains, therefore he has the honor of being the first discoverer of gold in the Rocky Mountains, also antedating Sutter's discovery in California. He carried the first individual flag across the mountains, erecting it on the banks of Green River on the Fourth of July. His flag was also used during the Cuyuse War on Oregon. He remained in that State for about one year, and opened the first tinshop in the settlement. In 1848, he went to California and commenced business on Sutter's Fort. He was quite familiar with Capt. Sutter, and made the surveyor's chain which was used in laying out Sacramento City, and for which he was paid \$300. In 1849, Mr. Wadleigh

sailed down the Pacific to Panama, and returned from there to Ohio. His object in going to the West was his health, which was much improved by the outdoor life and pure air of the mountains. He came back with considerable money, and he remembers his trip as one of the most pleasant events of his life.

He resided in Oxford for about ten years longer, and in the fall of 1858 went to Kankakee, where he lived for about a year. In the spring of 1860, he came to Iroquois County, and bought a tract of sixteen hundred acres in Milk's Grove Township, where he still makes his home. The prairie was unbroken and uncultivated, and few neighbors were in this community. He has given liberally of his property to his sons, and has four hundred and forty acres left, which he rents. He has been a very successful farmer, and has used the most improved methods of machinery in his farm work. He is a man of known inventive genius, having in 1872 invented the dump used in elevators all over the country for unloading wagons. However, this invention was stolen from him, and he has never received any financial benefit from it. He also is the inventor of a car coupling, which couples automatically with both a hook and a link coupling. In addition to these, he has invented a hay-baling machine and many other ingenious and useful contrivances.

In Hamilton County, Ohio, on the 27th of July, 1851, Mr. Wadleigh was united in marriage with Miss M. J. Morey, who was born in Somerville, Butler County, Ohio, on the 12th of December, 1829. She departed this life in 1885 in Chicago, where she had been taken for medical aid. She lies buried in Eldridgeville cemetery. She was a devoted wife and mother, and her many friends and relatives deeply mourn her loss. Her brother, Lee Morey, was for some years a Congressman from Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Wadleigh were born the following children: Romeo F. was born in Oxford, Ohio, is married, and has a family. He is a prominent farmer of this township, and resides on a portion of his father's estate. Theodore S. and William M. each operate farms situated on section 18. Robert W. is engaged in farming near the old home, as is also Henry L. Joseph Sheridan is

a respected farmer of Milk's Grove Township. Josephine is the wife of Frank Porter, and resides in Englewood, one of the suburbs of Chicago. The four youngest children were born on the old homestead, and all have received the best of common-school educations.

Mr. Wadleigh has always taken an active and interested part in the cause of education. When he returned from California, he found Miami University in a state of bankruptcy. From him the President and Trustees of the University secured a loan of \$5,000 for five years at eight per cent., whereas he might have received ten per cent. had he loaned it to other parties. This loan enabled the school to continue and make itself immortal by educating such men as Benjamin Harrison, Whitelaw Reid, Secretary Noble, David Swing and others scarcely less noted, while the part Mr. Wadleigh performed in sustaining the school when its credit was good for nothing has long since been forgotten, or at least has not received the favorable notice it deserves.

When it was proposed to build a female academy at Oxford, Mr. Wadleigh took stock in the enterprise, which has since developed into the Oxford Female College, where Mrs. Benjamin Harrison was educated.

He contributed liberally to the schoolhouse on his home farm, which is the finest country schoolhouse in the county. Mr. Wadleigh is a Universalist in belief, and with his wife was one of the early members of the church in Oxford of that denomination. His first vote was cast for Andrew Jackson, and later he voted for Lincoln, and was a staunch Republican until Grant ran the third time for President. Since 1884, he has been a supporter of the Prohibition party. He is a public-spirited man, and has always taken an active and zealous part in all public measures tending to the upbuilding and welfare of the community. In 1866, he was elected Township Treasurer, and for twenty-six years continuously has held that position to the satisfaction of all. He has a pleasant home, and on every hand may be seen evidences of the thrift and inventive genius of the owner. One of his buildings is particularly a model in this line. Under one roof there is a mill, an elevator,

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Mr P. Pierson



Mary Tucker Condit Person

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creamery, beehouse and observatory. The latter is situated in a sixty-foot tower, which is surmounted by a windmill. From his observatory can be seen a fine view of the surrounding country, and with a telescope one can see fifteen towns, which are located in four counties. Personally, Mr. Wadleigh is a high type of the self-reliant, energetic and intelligent American. Though he has passed the allotted three-score and ten years, he is in good health, and is an active man. He says that his health and strength are due to the fact that he has never used whiskey and tobacco, and has led an active life. In conversation, he is interesting, and is a man of varied information and versatile talent. He is held in the highest regard by his many friends and neighbors, who will be pleased to read this life sketch of one who has done so much for the good of this section.



WILLIAM PORTER PIERSON, of Onarga, is one of the county's most prominent and honored citizens, and this work would be incomplete if the record of his life were omitted. He has done much for the town and county, yet claiming no credit for it, and all who know him speak of him in terms of highest respect and praise.

Mr. Pierson was born in LeRoy, Genesee County, N. Y., December 8, 1811, and is a son of Philo and Lucretia (Buell) Pierson. His parents emigrated from Connecticut, their native State, to the Empire State about 1806. Their family numbered six children. Our subject is a direct descendant of Rev. Abraham Pierson, who emigrated from Yorkshire, England, to America in 1639, and with his church colony founded the city of Newark, N. J. The ancestry is traced down through Abraham Pierson, Sr.; Rev. Abraham Pierson, Jr., rector and first President of Yale College; Abraham Pierson, Worshipful Colonial Magistrate of Connecticut; Samuel Pierson, Samuel Pierson, Jr., and Philo Pierson, the father of our subject, who died when the son was a lad of nine years.

At the age of fourteen, William Pierson assumed

the management of the home farm, and with his oxen, Buck and Bright, he plowed about one hundred acres a year. He made many of his farm implements, and when he harvested his crops, hauled them to the distant markets. After working through the summer, he attended school in the winter, but his advantages were very limited. However, he made the most of his opportunities, and stored up a useful fund of knowledge. Circumstances brought him in contact with the owner of a sawmill, and, at the age of nineteen, he rented and operated that mill, in which way he made some hundreds of dollars. The owner of the mill was a canal contractor. He entered a bid for making a canal around one of the rapids of the St. Lawrence River. On receiving word that his bid had been accepted, he induced Mr. Pierson to go with him to Canada, offering him a good position, but, on arriving at their destination, they found that after all the bid had not been taken. Mr. Pierson was thus forced either to return home or make his way for himself. He went to Montreal, but was not pleased with that city, with its light-hearted, unstable Frenchmen and its red-coated British soldiers, for the place was then under military rule. He determined to leave the Queen's dominions and went to the north end of Lake Champlain, about twenty miles distant, and by a steamer made his way into the interior of Vermont. There through the summer and fall he attended school, becoming a student in the academy of Hinesburg. His fellow-students were ambitious young men, many preparing for college, and Mr. Pierson determined to do the same. For a year and a-half he engaged in teaching, and then after six long years of hard labor completed his collegiate course. Two years of that time he taught, and four years pursued his studies, graduating in the fall of 1839.

The scene of action was now changed for Mr. Pierson. By a stage-coach he made his way to the Ohio, then went down that river to the blue grass region of Kentucky, where he engaged in teaching. He spent his leisure time in reading law, not with the intention of practicing, but more as mind discipline, and to become familiar with common law. Crittenden, Clay and Marshall were then the prom-

inent Kentucky politicians. After a year Mr. Pierson became a teacher in the family of a lawyer, with whom he continued his legal studies. A year was thus passed. In the meantime Boyle County was organized, Danville becoming the county seat. This seemed to open a way to our subject to practice law, which he commenced, and the bankrupt law having just been passed he made a specialty of work along that line. Seven pleasant years were passed in Danville, during which time he was a member of a debating social club, composed of the faculty of the college there located, the professional men, and other leading citizens. They met monthly in their respective homes, and after a feast was served, engaged in debating interesting topics. The subject of slavery was usually discussed once a year. Among the members of the club were Southern gentlemen who "believed that the negro was created to be a slave to the white man." There were also several Eastern gentlemen whose views were exactly opposite, and the debate waxed high and warm. Usually the discussion was not completed at one meeting, and was carried to the next. This society still exists, under the name of the Anaconda Club, and Mr. Pierson was recently invited to join in the celebration of their fiftieth anniversary.

Not liking law practice, and also on account of ill health, Mr. Pierson once more determined to seek a home in the North and went to central Iowa, where he purchased large tracts of Government land, at once commencing the improvement of the same. He did not find this a paying investment, however, for prices were very low, yet he regained his lost strength, and in that wise prospered.

About this time word was received that a young lady from an Eastern city was expected to come and take charge of a young ladies' seminary in a neighboring town. In his boyhood Mr. Pierson had heard much of her family, and he now determined that he would await her arrival, and, if possible, win her for his wife. Soon the important question was asked and answered favorably. Mr. Pierson then decided to dispose of his property and leave the State at an early day. The young lady also decided to resign her position and re-

turn to the East in a few months. In the spring of 1853 our subject went East, and there wedded Miss Mary Tucker, daughter of Rev. R. W. Condit, D. D., of Oswego, N. Y. With his bride he immediately went to Chicago, where he intended to enter into business, but after reaching that city went to the forests of Michigan and spent a little time at one of the mills there.

In the meantime the Illinois Central Railroad was being constructed, and reached Spring Creek, Iroquois County, in the fall of 1853. Our subject determined to go into the lumber trade at Champaign, Ill., as soon as the road should be built to that place. Onarga then comprised only two or three houses and a freight and passenger depot. A few pioneers lived on the banks of Spring Creek, but there was not a house on the prairie west of the station for twenty miles. In this little hamlet Mr. Pierson located in the spring of 1854. He brought with him four carloads of lumber, and made, as he supposed, a temporary location, but instead Onarga became his permanent home. He and his wife went to the residence of Judge Pangborn, by whom they were cordially welcomed. Our subject then began business, using the freight-house as an office, and with increasing emigration his trade constantly advanced. He found, too, that not only was lumber needed, but also all manner of household articles, furniture, hardware and farm implements. He added these to his stock, and worked up an excellent business, almost more than he could attend to. Then came the financial crash of 1857, and it is said every merchant along the Illinois Central Railroad engaged in the same line of business as Mr. Pierson failed with the exception of himself, yet he was financially embarrassed to a considerable extent. He had just purchased an immense stock, and for three years he worked hard without making a cent, for his goods constantly depreciated in value. Thus affairs continued until just prior to the late war, when prices rose. He planted branch houses in four other towns, and was solicited to do so in other places. His trade came from miles around and grew constantly. When Mr. Pierson came to the county, there were probably not a-half dozen reapers or mowers within its borders, and very few

cast-steel plows. In an early day he introduced the Manny reapers and mowers and the John Deere cast-steel plows. His business along this line became very large, and the immense quantities of plows which he brought to Onarga were the wonder of the entire community. He had to advertise his business largely by handbills, and on certain occasions he would take a stock of goods to a place, where he would sell for one day, generally disposing of the entire amount in that time. On one occasion he sent out advertisements asking all of the ladies to come to his ware-rooms and try his rocking-chairs. In many homes this useful article had never been introduced, and many men looked upon it rather contemptuously. On the appointed day the ladies all came, and few would go away without a chair. By these and other ingenious methods Mr. Pierson greatly extended his business, and through all he earnestly desired to furnish his patrons with those articles which would be both useful and helpful to them. His own experience as a farmer was a benefit to him in this way. He could aid the Eastern man with no experience by his advice and cautions, and also by trusting him for the money to pay for the goods which he must purchase.

For some time Mr. Pierson carried on business in little shanties and wooden sheds, and owned about one-third of the entire block on which the principal business part of the town is now located. This he improved by erecting the brick buildings known as the Pierson Block, taking the precaution to interest other parties with him in the enterprise and thus make it the central business locality of the town. About this time our subject found himself failing under the weight of his heavy duties. He also felt that there are two periods in the lives of most men, when they are imbued with an almost irrepressible desire to see the world, one in youth, and one after their business is almost over. He had yielded to the first impulse and had never regretted it, and this led him to give way to the second. In 1870 he left his affairs in Onarga to the care of his wife, with the understanding that she would spend the winter with her friends in Oswego, N. Y. He then went to New York City, and sailed for Europe. Landing in

Liverpool, he there spent a few days, forming some interesting acquaintances, and then sailed for Naples, Italy, where he proposed to spend the winter. The voyage was through the stormy Bay of Biscay and the Strait of Gibraltar. He coasted along the northern shore, visited Genoa and other points of interest, and finally reached Naples. Here he found much to interest him; he visited the museums abounding in ancient works of art, saw Pompeii, which was then being exhumed, and took a peep into Mount Vesuvius. After several weeks he set sail for Scotland, passed between Scylla and Charybdis, along the southern coast of Sicily, by Mount Etna, stopped at Palermo, and visited the catacombs. Returning to Gibraltar, he saw the famous fortress, and after a few days sailed for Glasgow, Scotland. He spent two weeks in Edinburgh, visiting places of interest, after which, the purposes of his trip abroad having now been accomplished, he sailed for home, arriving in Onarga early in the spring of 1871.

Soon after his return, Mr. Pierson retired from business, and proceeded to build a home on ample grounds away from the noise and dust of town, and in the midst of a forest of many rare varieties of choice trees, most of which were evergreens of his own planting. This place he has appropriately named Evergreen Home. He considers that all business is in some degree an education. Though his advantages were limited in early life, his opportunities in later years were a benefit to him in many directions. He has certainly been a benefit to the community in many directions. He came to Onarga at a time when the foundation of the future social, religious and political institutions were being laid, and he and his estimable wife found much to do outside of the lines of mere business activity. They soon interested themselves in the work of organizing the Presbyterian Church, and with others erected a house of worship. There were fifteen charter members, of whom only two are now living. They laid the foundation of a church, which has become a successful and prosperous organization. Politically, Mr. Pierson was a Whig and a supporter of Henry Clay. He afterward became prominent in the organization of the Republican party in Iroquois

County, and was a member of the State Republican Convention which met in Decatur and nominated Abraham Lincoln a candidate for the Presidency. A few weeks later he was made the candidate at the National Convention in Chicago.

At an early day Mr. Pierson and his wife undertook the work of founding an educational institution in this town, under the name of the Onarga Institute, to be modeled after the New England academies with which he became familiar in the days of his youth. It was quite successful for several years and did a good work. He erected a building and spent several thousand dollars in the enterprise, but failing to receive the co-operation from outside sources that was anticipated, the load became too heavy for him to carry alone, and the undertaking was reluctantly abandoned.

In 1865 Mr. Pierson secured and read with great interest some scientific works on tile draining. He at once became a strong advocate of tile drainage for the rich prairie lands of Illinois. He prepared and delivered an address on the subject before the State Horticultural Society of Southern Illinois. Joliet was then supposed to be the only place in the State where clay suitable for making tile could be found, and Mr. Pierson went there, purchased a carload of tile and shipped to Onarga, paying the Illinois Central Railroad \$75 freight for the same. Considerable amusement was occasioned to the community in consequence of his digging so many holes in the ground, and he was threatened with a law suit for digging at his own expense a ditch on the side of a low, wet and muddy street as an outlet for his drain. Up to that time at least one-fourth of the land in Iroquois County was practically swamp-land and nearly worthless. This caused the inhabitants to have fever and ague, and the cattle and horses suffered from drinking the stagnant water in sloughs and ponds. But tile draining was finally accepted by the county, and this in connection with the sinking of artesian wells has completely revolutionized the county and made it one of the best agricultural sections in the State.

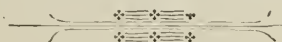
In benevolent, charitable or church work, Mr. and Mrs. Pierson were also prominent. They had no children of their own, but had given a home to

many orphan children, whose lives bear the impress of the noble character of their foster parents. Not less than twenty children were cared for by Mrs. Pierson at a considerable outlay of time and money, and many of them were reared and educated as if they had been her own. She was the first Sunday-school teacher in Onarga, and for many years the only one. This most estimable lady was called to the home prepared for the righteous December 30, 1890. It is said that no death in Onarga has ever been more greatly mourned. Her sweet and gentle spirit had endeared her to all who knew her, and she was known far and wide for her work of benevolence and charity. As it was written of her, her death was "a sweetly, solemn transfer from one Evergreen Home to another."

From an extended notice published in the *Onarga Leader*, we copy the following tribute to her memory: "No death in the annals of Onarga ever created more genuine regret and mournful interest in the community than that of Mrs. Mary T. Pierson. The universal respect, love and admiration with which she was regarded in life were displayed in general manifestations of sorrow at her loss; people in all conditions of life seemed to be personally bereaved by it, and the many expressions of mutual condolence and sympathy formed a testimonial to her worth and character at once touching and beautiful. Each individual member of the community appeared anxious to contribute some token of appreciation of the lovely life and distinguished example of the sweet, unpretentious woman, the influence of whose achievements illumines every sacred precinct and is hallowed in heart — an influence uncircumscribed by wordly measurement, unlimited by human vision, the ultimate results being fully recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life. The gray-haired veterans and old neighbors, whose early struggles in surmounting the difficulties and overcoming the privations incident to pioneer life were lessened by her brave words of encouragement, or removed by her timely assistance; the middle-aged friends and acquaintances who came later and were cordially welcomed in her quiet, winning way, and made to feel at home amid new and strange surroundings,

or grew to manhood and womanhood in the atmosphere of her beneficence; the little ones whose lives were begun under conditions made possible by her foresight and activity in church, school and social enterprises; the rich, the poor and lowly, the strong and the weak, the white and the black,—all could recall some circumstance, the remembrance of which made their hearts beat with loving emotion and created a desire to manifest their appreciation of and respect for the sainted woman now laid to rest." It is thus that friends regarded her, but it was in the home life that her best qualities were known. Surely the world is better for her having lived, and the people "rise up and call her blessed."

Mr. Pierson is not rich as the world estimates wealth, or did he ever aspire to be. He has enough and is comfortable, and rejoices that he is not a millionaire. He says that there are scores of old farmers to whom he in the old times sold the best tools the county afforded to cultivate their farms, who charitably supposed that he was living at their expense, who are now worth many thousands of dollars more than he is. Mr. Pierson is now eighty-one years old and is in excellent health. He is a good illustration of the tendency of cleanliness and godliness to produce longevity.



ROBERT MARTIN is a leading farmer of Milk's Grove Township, and has resided for eighteen years upon his farm, situated on section 21. His birth occurred in the parish of Curry, twelve miles from Edinburgh, Scotland, on the 15th of March, 1836. He is a son of James Martin, who was born and reared in the same place, and was a farmer by occupation. On arriving at mature years he married Ann Brown, and in Scotland his children were all born. Mrs. Martin departed this life in her native country, and the father and children emigrated to Canada when our subject was a youth of fourteen years. In 1850, they sailed from Greenwich, and were upon the briny deep for five weeks. After arriv-

ing at their destination, New York City, they went to Canada, settling upon a farm near Toronto. Afterward the father returned to his native land, where his death occurred about a quarter of a century ago. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

In the family of James Martin were six sons and six daughters: William died in Canada; James was drowned in Scotland; Isabella also died in that country. John is a civil engineer in Newfoundland, having learned his trade in the Old Country. He is a good marksman, and has a good position in the Government employ, where he receives an excellent salary. Jane was called to her final rest in her native land; Andrew is a farmer of Upper Canada; Alexander died in Canada; Agnes died in Scotland; Annie Lindley lives in Toronto, Canada; Emily is now deceased; Janet completes the family.

Robert Martin passed his boyhood days upon the farm, and received but limited education in the public schools, as his home was three miles from the nearest one; besides, his parents were poor, and were obliged to pay for schooling. He was next to the youngest in his father's large family, and was early inured to hard work. When he was fourteen years of age he came to America and spent the succeeding fifteen years upon his brother's farm in Canada. On the 12th of April, 1865, he arrived in Iroquois County, where he entered the employ of Mr. Milk, herding and caring for cattle for some years. He has often been lost upon the broad prairies, far from any residence or settlement.

On the 1st of December, 1870, Mr. Martin was married, in Canada, to Miss Catherine Young, who was born December 30, 1840, in England and when two years of age came with her parents, John and Mary A. (Sainsbury) Young, to America, being reared in Canada. Four children graced this union: Robert J. was born and reared in Iroquois County, and received his education in the public schools here and at Onarga; Alice M. finished her education in Grand Prairie Seminary, and is a successful teacher; the younger ones, Frank W. and Malcolm J., are still attending school. The family circle remains unbroken by death or marriage.

Mr. Martin was in the employ of Mr. Milk until 1874. He then purchased one hundred and sixty-five and one-eighth acres of land where he now makes his home. He has made good improvements upon his place, and is a successful farmer. He has been quite extensively engaged in the raising of draft horses. He started in life with \$500 capital, and has made his own way in the world since that time without any assistance. His first Presidential ballot was cast for Hon. James A. Garfield, and since that time he has been a staunch Republican. The family are members of the Episcopal Church, to which he gives his support. He has been a Director of schools, and is a good and loyal citizen of his adopted county.



JEREMIAH H. GOLDTRAP is a respected farmer and pioneer of Chebanse Township, and makes his home on section 36. He is a native of Ohio, and was born in Hamilton County, December 16, 1841. He is a son of John Goldtrap, who was born in the same State and county, and there grew to manhood, and married Christina Apgar, a native of New Jersey, and a daughter of Adam Apgar, who was born in the same State, and was one of the honored pioneers of Hamilton, Ohio. The family is of German descent, and the grandfather of our subject was a native of New England, and came to Ohio when the whole country was a wilderness. The father engaged in agricultural pursuits in the Buckeye State after his marriage, and about 1851 came to Illinois, settling in Iroquois County. He purchased unbroken prairie land, and was among the first settlers of the county. Not a house was to be seen in any direction upon the prairie, and the whole county was a wilderness and a swamp. Mr. Goldtrap at once began the development of his farm, and endured many privations and hardships in the first few years of his residence here. In those early times, before the present system of tiling and drainage had been inaugurated, the few inhabitants of that sparsely-settled region suffered much from the prevailing sickness, fever and ague.

Mr. Goldtrap went to the timber, cut logs, and built a log cabin, in which he lived for a number of years. He afterward sold that property and bought an improved farm, on which he made his home until his death, which occurred on the 17th of December, 1866. His death was much regretted by his many friends, who esteemed him highly as one of the honored pioneers. His wife is still living.

The subject of this sketch is the eldest of a family of five children. Anna is the wife of J. M. McConnell, of Minnesota; John died at the age of two years; Eliza died in 1863, and David is a prominent contractor and builder of Chicago.

The early days of Jeremiah Goldtrap were uneventful, being passed upon his father's farm in the usual occupation of farmer boys. He had but limited school advantages at that early day, and since arriving at maturity has become a man of wide reading and information, and is intelligent and well posted on all the leading National and general questions of the day. On the 11th of August, 1862, responding to the call for volunteers to defend the Flag, Mr. Goldtrap became a member of Company H. One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He was discharged at Memphis and mustered out of service in Chicago, in June, 1865. He participated in the engagement of his regiment and was in the siege and surrender of Vicksburg, Eastport and Guntown, and also in a number of skirmishes, escaping without injury. After the war he returned to his home, and engaged in farming for his mother for a few years upon the old homestead. He then purchased a portion of that farm, which he much improved. He has a farm of eighty acres, all of which is arable and improved land. He has a good residence and barn, and his place shows the care and cultivation bestowed upon it by the owner. His farm is located about three miles from Clifton, and has steadily increased in value year after year.

November 18, 1871, Mr. Goldtrap was united in marriage with Vannetta S. Rice, who was born in Clinton, Mass., June 18, 1849, and came to Illinois when a child of three years with her father, William Rice, who settled at Bloomington. Mrs. Goldtrap was reared and educated in that city and

Iroquois County. Six children grace the union of our subject and his estimable wife: Susan, William, Ada, John E. and Mabel, who are all at home, and are receiving the advantages of a good school education. Mary E. died at the age of seven months.

Since becoming a voter, Mr. Goldtrap has been a supporter of the principles and nominees of the Republican party, and cast his first ballot in the Presidential election of 1864 for Abraham Lincoln. He has never been an office-seeker in any sense of the word, but has always discharged his duties of citizenship in a faithful and unassuming manner. The cause of education and good schools finds in him an active friend, and he is one of the present members of the School Board. Mrs. Goldtrap is a member of the Congregational Church. Almost the entire life of our subject has been spent in this county, and by his sterling qualities and honorable life he has merited the high regard in which he is held by all.



DR. NICHOLAS RIDGELY MARSHALL, a prominent physician and the present Mayor of Clifton, was born in Easton, Md., on the 29th of February, 1844. He is a son of Perry and Mary Stanton (Rice) Marshall, both natives of Easton, Md. In their family were eight children, but only two of them are now living: our subject and his brother, John Redman, who is the editor and publisher of the *Kendall County Record*, a prominent politician of the Republican party, and an ex-Senator. He married Miss Augusta Emmons, and three children grace their union: Mrs. Dr. R. A. McLelland, who resides in Yorkville, the county seat of Kendall County; and Frances Emmons and Hugh Rice, the younger children. John Redman Marshall has the honor of having introduced the Compulsory Education Law in the Illinois Legislature. He learned the trade of printing in the office of the *Chicago Journal*, where he was employed for four years. He was afterward a compositor in the *Tribune* office, where he remained for a long time. In 1861,

he entered the army as a member of Sturgis Rifles, which was appointed Body Guard to Gen. George B. McClellan. Mr. J. R. Marshall was in the service for about eighteen months, and was a valiant and faithful soldier. After leaving the army, he returned to Chicago and worked as foreman in the job-printing rooms of Sterling P. Rounds, who is well known to all the printers of the United States. The father of our subject was of English origin, and the mother of German and French descent. She was a sister of ex-Mayor John Blake Rice, of Chicago, who was also a member of Congress.

In 1848, Perry Marshall removed to Illinois, locating in Chicago, where he made his home for about ten years. He was a sailor, and was Captain of a vessel running from Chicago to Milwaukee. For eighteen years he owned and sailed a vessel upon Chesapeake Bay with John Paca as partner in ownership. At the time that Mr. Marshall was on his wedding trip, the vessel was wrecked in a storm and his partner, Capt. John Redman, his brother-in-law, with all others on board were drowned. Until he was fifty years of age he sailed the Lakes, and at that time retired. He then removed to Kendall County, where he bought a farm consisting of one hundred and seventeen acres, on which he removed in 1857, and resided there for ten years. In the spring of 1872, he sold this property and came to Clifton, where he afterward made his home with his son, the subject of this sketch. He died October 11, 1892, in his eighty-sixth year, and is buried with his wife in Elmwood Cemetery, North Yorkville, Ill., and was a much esteemed member of this community. On the 16th of June, 1879, his wife departed this life, being then sixty-three years of age. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, and was an exemplary Christian woman, beloved by all who knew her. Mr. Marshall was the son of a Methodist minister, but though he is not a member of the church, he has been a liberal supporter of the same.

The subject of this sketch received a good common-school education, and also attended the Garden City Institute of Chicago, at the time that H. W. Snow was the Principal. The latter is a brother of Col. Snow, present Member of Congress

from the Ninth Congressional District. After completing his studies at the above-named institution, our subject attended Mt. Morris Seminary, and from there went to Jennings Seminary at Aurora, from which he was graduated in the summer of 1861. He then returned to Chicago, and entered the drug-store of A. B. Byran, and was engaged in compounding prescriptions. At that time he commenced the study of medicine and determined to make that his chosen profession.

On the 12th of August, 1862, Dr. Marshall enlisted as a private in Company H, Eighty-ninth Illinois Infantry, in the regiment called the Railroad Regiment, and was in the service for three years. About six months after his enlistment he was made Hospital Steward, but participated with his regiment in numerous battles. At Atlanta he received a severe wound in the left arm, but has never made application for a pension. He was a valiant soldier, and his army record is one of which he may well be proud. He was ever found at his post of duty, and was always reliable and courageous.

After returning from the war, our subject entered Rush Medical College, and was graduated from that institution in 1867. His preceptor was Dr. C. H. Duck, whose widow at present makes her home with Dr. Marshall. She is a daughter of Capt. Stevenson, of the Royal Navy. After completing his course in Chicago, Dr. Marshall opened an office for the practice of medicine in Plano, Ill., and also conducted the columns of the *Plano Mirror*. After a residence there of but eight months, he came to Clifton and commenced practicing medicine and surgery, and has here made his home since that time. During his long residence here of over twenty-six years he has built up a large and lucrative practice, and well deserves a liberal share of the public patronage. He keeps up his studies, and is well informed on all the latest discoveries in the line of medicine and science.

On the 15th of September, 1881, Dr. Marshall wedded Miss Julia Frances Sheldon, a daughter of Henry H. and Martha A. (Morris) Sheldon, of Oxford, Ohio. Mr. Sheldon was the first one to break the ground for the famous Oxford Female Seminary. To the Doctor and his wife have been born

four children: John Rice, who died in infancy; Mary Stevenson, Julia Sheldon, and John Ridgely.

Dr. Marshall is a prominent Republican, and takes an active and interested part in the progress of that party. He was a delegate to the State Republican convention, and has held various local positions. He has been Town Clerk and Postmaster. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the Doctor is one of the Trustees. He has recently purchased a residence in Evanston, Ill., where he intends moving for the purpose of educating his children.



PETER WRIGHT, an honored pioneer, owns and operates his farm, which is situated on section 9, Chebanse Township. He was born in Lincolnshire, England, on the 18th of January, 1841, and is a son of John and Jane (Carleton) Wright. The father was a game-keeper on a large estate in England. In 1856, he decided to seek his fortune in the New World. He accordingly crossed the Atlantic, and settling in Erie County, N. Y., engaged in agricultural pursuits there until his death. His first wife died in England, and he was again married in that country. His death occurred in 1890, and that of his second wife within a month afterward. By the first marriage eight children were born, and four children graced the latter union.

Our subject received good school advantages, both in England and after coming to this country. He remained with his father until about seventeen years of age, when he came to Illinois. This was in 1857, and for about three years he was employed on a farm with his uncle. In the spring of 1862, Mr. Wright enlisted in the first Board of Trade Regiment, becoming a member of Company G, Seventy-second Illinois Infantry. Entering the service as a private, he was afterward promoted to the rank of Corporal and Sergeant. He participated in all the engagements in which his regiment took part, among which were the battle of Champion Hill, Miss., and the siege and capture of

Vicksburg. He was also in the battles of Big Black, Columbia, Spring Hill and Franklin, Tenn., also two days at Nashville, and he was present at the siege of Spanish Fort, Ala., the last battle of the war. He received some slight wounds but was never absent from his post of duty for a day, serving until his discharge at the close of the war, which was received at Chicago in August, 1865.

On Christmas Day of that year, Mr. Wright was joined in wedlock with Miss M. E. W. Sands, who was born in the Empire State and is a daughter of J. H. Sands, of Chebanse, one of the honored pioneers of this county. Our subject and his wife have become the parents of five children: Charles T. is married and resides at Englewood, Ill., where he holds a responsible position with the City Railroad Company; Mamie L., Arthur Henry, Carleton P. and Frank are still at home, the two younger attending the Clifton schools. They have all received a good education and are thus fitted to enter the active and social duties of life.

After returning from the army, Mr. Wright came to Iroquois County, where he rented land for several years and devoted himself to agricultural pursuits. He then purchased the property where he now resides. This place had but slight improvements, but he has steadily developed and improved his farm and has now a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of well-tilled and fertile land, situated one mile from Clifton. He is the owner of a large residence, commodious barns and other farm buildings, and the air of neatness and thrift, together with the fields of golden grain, shows the care and cultivation of the owner. He is one of the prosperous, enterprising and substantial farmers of the county and has made a host of friends during his long residence in this place.

Mr. Wright has been identified with the Republican party since casting his first ballot for President, at which time he supported Gen. U. S. Grant. He has held several local offices, to which his fellow citizens, knowing his worth and ability, have elected him. He has served as Road Commissioner and is a member of the School Board of Clifton. To whatever position his friends have elected him, he has discharged the duties thereof in a faithful and efficient manner. Socially, he is

much interested in civic societies and is a member of Clifton Lodge No. 688, A. F. & A. M. He served for over thirteen consecutive years as Master of his lodge, which he has represented each year of that time in the Grand Lodge. He is a member of the Jaqueth Chebanse Post, G. A. R., and is also a member of the Union Veteran Club, of Cook County. Mr. and Mrs. Wright belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church and take an active interest in its work. He is progressive and practical in his business affairs and is ever ready to do all in his power to advance the best interests of the community in which he dwells. His many friends will be pleased to read this brief sketch of the life of so worthy a man as Peter Wright.

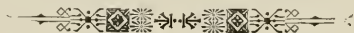


GEORGE M. BROCK, a prominent citizen and business man of Clifton, was born in Plainfield, Will County, Ill., on the 22d of April, 1857. He is a son of Samuel and Sarah (Brock) Brock, both of whom claim England as the land of their nativity. They set sail for America immediately after their marriage, at length landing safely in this country. Though both bearing the same name, they were in no wise related. The father of Mrs. Brock was a finely educated man, and served as clerk to a celebrated lawyer in England. He also contributed many articles to the papers and leading periodicals of that country.

The subject of this sketch received the advantages of a good common-school education, and was reared to manhood upon his father's farm in the usual manner of farmer lads. He embarked in business for himself at the age of twenty-four years, following agricultural pursuits upon a farm three miles northwest of Clifton. He remained upon the farm until 1888, when he removed to Clifton, purchasing the livery barn and business of his brother, Charles C. Brock, and entering into partnership with his brother Alfred L. After doing business together for a period of about four years, he purchased his partner's interest, and is now the sole proprietor. He has a large and lucra-

tive business, and has in all respects a well-appointed and equipped livery.

On the 31st of October, 1881, occurred the marriage of Mr. Brock and Miss Harriet Leggott, who is the daughter of Edward and Ann (Platt) Leggott, of Clifton. By the union of the young couple have been born three children: Arthur, Grace and Carrie. At this writing, in the fall of 1892, Mr. Brock is a member of the Village Board of Trustees, and is always active in his efforts to promote the prosperity and welfare of the community.



FRANCIS W. HOWE, a retired farmer, makes his home on section 4, Chebanse Township.

He is one of the honored pioneers of this township and of Iroquois County, where he has lived for thirty-five years. When he first located in this county it was a vast swamp and wilderness, and from that he has witnessed its development until it now stands among the best in the State. Mr. Howe is a native of Massachusetts, his birth having occurred in Brookfield, Worcester County, on the 18th of December, 1819. His father, William Howe, was likewise a native of Massachusetts and there was educated and grew to manhood. He was a lawyer and professor and a man of intelligence and worth. He married in Woodstock, Conn., Miss Elmira Lyon, daughter of Capt. William Lyon, who served in the War of 1812. The grandfather of our subject, Capt. William Howe, was an old settler of Massachusetts, and was commissioned Captain in the same war, but was not called into active service. The father of our subject after his marriage engaged in various business occupations in Brookfield, Mass., giving most of his attention, however, to his merchandising and the real-estate business. For a time he served as Justice of the Peace and was held in high esteem by his fellow-citizens. He reared his family and spent his entire life in Massachusetts, and there his death and that of his wife occurred.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent in the town of his nativity, his education being partly received in the public schools and completed in

the Monson Academy. After finishing his studies he went to New York City, where he engaged in clerking for a number of years and received a thorough, practical business training in the wholesale dry-goods establishment of Eno & Phelps. He then formed a partnership, under the firm name of Taylor & Howe, and engaged for himself in the wholesale dry-goods business, in which he continued until 1849, when he sold his interest. He then went to California with his brother, and locating in San Francisco, carried on business for several years, under the firm name of Howe, Hunter & Co. This firm met with heavy losses by fire in 1852, and our subject then returned to New York. Until 1857, he was in no regular business, but continued to make his home in New York City. Coming to Illinois in the fall of 1857, he joined a brother who was located in Iroquois County, where they had purchased about five thousand acres. Clifton is now located upon a portion of that tract. The brothers lived here and looked after their property for a number of years. Our subject soon after coming here located on the land where he now resides and proceeded to develop and open up a farm. At that time the prospects were rather discouraging, as the land was wild prairie and much of it a wilderness or swamp. Deer were very plentiful and prairie wolves as well. The Illinois Central Railroad had just been built through Chebanse Township and the towns of Chebanse and Ashkum were simply stations. Mr. Howe developed a farm of one hundred and twenty acres adjoining the village of Clifton, which is a valuable and most desirable piece of property. On this he still makes his home and has a comfortable and substantial residence, commodious barns and outbuildings. Everything about the farm denotes the thrift, careful cultivation and enterprise of the owner, and it is a model farm in every respect.

In 1845, Mr. Howe led to the marriage altar Miss Sarah S. Cowdrey, a daughter of David H. Cowdrey, a well-known lawyer of New York City. The death of Mrs. Howe occurred in 1866. She was the mother of four children: Helena C. is the wife of Edward S. Perry, of New Haven, Conn.; Walter M. holds a responsible business position in Chicago; William F. is Secretary of the Railroad Employes'

Banking and Trust Company in the same city; and Isabella is the wife of Francis P. Murray, who lives in Montana, where he has large mining interests. Mr. Howe was again married, this time in 1867, to Abbie A. (Hutchins) White, who was the widow of H. K. White, one of the first settlers of Clifton, and a grain merchant by occupation. Mrs. Howe was born in Boston, Mass., and was there educated.

In his political sentiment, Mr. Howe has ever been a supporter of the Republican party since its organization. He was formerly a Whig and a great admirer of Henry Clay. Though a public-spirited man and much interested in the welfare and progress of his fellow-citizens, he has never asked for or accepted official positions. He has ever given his hearty support to the public schools and educational measures and has served for years as a member of the School Board. Our subject and his wife are active members of the Congregational Church of Clifton. By his many friends and acquaintances he is highly esteemed as a man of upright character and strict integrity.



JOHIN B. VAN WYCK has been for many years a resident of Clifton and was born in New Paltz, Ulster County, N. Y., on the 28th of June, 1831. His paternal grandfather bore the same name as our subject. He was offered a commission as an officer in the Revolutionary War by Gen. Washington. At that time, Mr. Van Wyck did not accept the honor, but took command of a home regiment. He was a prominent and popular public man, possessing marked business ability, thereby accumulating a large property. His death occurred in 1841, and he left a large estate to his heirs. The parents of our subject were Alfred and Charlotte (Viets) Van Wyck, the former a native of New York, and the latter of Massachusetts. Their family consisted of three sons and three daughters, but only one is now living, the subject of this sketch. From Fishkill, N. Y., where they had formerly made their home, the parents came to Illinois in 1863, locating in

Clifton, Iroquois County, where they spent the remainder of their lives. The mother was called to the home beyond on the 12th of September, 1880, at the age of seventy years, and the father survived her until January 13, 1892, when he too passed away. He had attained the age of ninety years and eight months. His father was also long lived, having reached the age of four-score years at the time of his death. The father of Mrs. Van Wyck lived to the remarkable age of ninety-four years. Alfred Van Wyck was a farmer by occupation and upon his emigration to the West purchased a quarter-section of land, which included about all of the present site of Clifton east of the railroad.

The boyhood days of John Van Wyck were spent upon his father's farm and his time was devoted to work in the fields. He received such educational privileges as the district schools afforded and has since added to his store of knowledge by reading and observation until he is now a well-informed man. On the 10th of July, 1867, was celebrated the wedding of Mr. Van Wyck and Miss Mary C. Gorham. The lady is a daughter of Walter H. and Laura (Hubbel) Gorham, both of whom are natives of Newburgh, N. Y. Two children have blessed the union of our subject and his estimable wife: Alfred, who was born in Washington, D. C., died when six months old. Laura, the daughter, was also born in that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Wyck came to Clifton on their wedding tour and made their home here for about four years. They then went to Washington, where our subject secured a contract for building sewers. Though they remained in the Capitol City four years, they always regarded Clifton as their home, and after finishing his contract they returned to this place. In the winter of 1878-79, Mr. Van Wyck went to Knoxville, Tenn., where he took the contract for quarrying the marble to be used in the construction of the custom house at Memphis. He remained there for about two years, then returned to Clifton, where he has made his home continuously since. He devotes some attention to agricultural pursuits. He has a beautiful home in Clifton and his many friends delight to share in the hospitality there abounding.

Mr. Van Wyck has been a member of the Village

Board of Trustees for many years and for one year was its President, proving a competent official. He and his wife are members of the Congregational Church, to which they belonged before coming West. He is one of the Trustees and also Clerk of the church. In politics, he is a staunch Republican and has supported that party since its organization. Previous to that time, he was a Whig, as were also his father and grandfather. He is a representative and influential citizen and takes a leading part in all measures tending to the welfare and progress of the community.



GASPER REUSE, an enterprising and thrifty farmer of Chebanse Township, owns a farm on section 6. He was born in Switzerland, on the 10th of October, 1836. He received good common-school advantages in the French language, and when nineteen years of age he determined to seek his fortune in America. He went to Havre and took passage in a sailing-vessel, which took thirty-three days to make the voyage to New York. He arrived in that city on the 10th of June, 1856, and started immediately for the West. He first went to Ottawa, Ill., near which city he went to work on a farm and continued to live in La Salle County for seven years. With his carefully hoarded savings, he then purchased a tract of forty acres of partially improved land in La Salle County, on which he settled and engaged in agricultural pursuits for about four years. In 1867, he sold that property and removed to Iroquois County, buying one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land, where he still resides. This place had forty acres of partially improved land, and for buildings had only an old cabin upon it, in which Mr. Reuse lived for some five years. He opened up and cultivated his entire property, and for the first few years received but slight encouragement and little reward for his labor. Undaunted, however, he persevered and brought the property under such good cultivation that it soon brought forth abundant harvests. He has always been industrious and saving and has from time to time, as his

financial resources increased, added to his original farm until he now has four hundred acres, all in one body with the exception of eighty acres, which are situated one mile east of Clifton. He has erected a good residence, barns and a granary. On his place is also a good orchard, and on every hand can be seen the care and cultivation of the owner. Mr. Reuse commenced his life in Illinois a poor man and without any capital except a good constitution, and has by his well-directed efforts and enterprise accumulated a comfortable fortune and a fair income.

In November, 1863, was celebrated the marriage of our subject and Mary Ribordy, a native of the same country as her husband. She was educated and grew to maidenhood in Switzerland and came to the United States with her father, Gasper Ribordy. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Reuse seven children have been born: Henry, at home; Josephine, a successful teacher in Aurora Parochial School; Louis, Julia, Anna, Clotilde and Emery. The family are Catholics in religious faith and members of the Clifton Church.

Politically, Mr. Reuse affiliates with the Republican party and cast his first ballot for Hon. James G. Blaine. He has never aspired to official positions, but has ever been a friend to all educational and public measures tending to the good of the community. He has served for years on the School Board and is a firm believer in good public schools. By his many qualities of worth and his upright character, Mr. Reuse has won the esteem and confidence of all.



J P. H. TRESCOTT, one of the pioneer settlers of Chebanse Township, came with his family to Illinois in 1857, and settled upon a farm about four miles to the southeast of Chebanse, where he lived for about one year. The two years succeeding, Mr. Trescott taught school during the winter at Sugar Island, devoting his attention to agricultural pursuits in the summer time. On account of much sickness in his family, he decided to remove from the farm to

the village of Chebanse, and has made this his home ever since. This was in 1860, and the whole region, like many others, was very depressed, money having no regular purchasing power; and as most of this section was an unimproved swamp and wilderness, sickness was the rule. Farmers had not the advantages of the labor-saving machinery of to-day, and corn was sown by hand and most of the grain gathered with a cradle. There was not a bush as large as a pipstem within two miles, and a person could drive for forty miles without even seeing a fence. At that time deer and game were in abundance, and it was thought that there would be ample grazing for stock for all time to come.

Our subject is a native of the Keystone State, his birth having occurred near Harveyville, Huntington Township, Luzerne County, on the 30th of September, 1824. His paternal grandfather was a soldier in the War of the Revolution, and escaped as by a miracle in the Wyoming massacre on the 3d of July, 1778. While creeping through an oat field in the night, a number of Indians on horseback jumped over him as he lay crouching in a furrow. The Indians were scouring the country throughout Luzerne County for the scalps of the unfortunate white settlers. Our subject's maternal grandfather was also a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

The parents of Mr. Trescott, Luther and Elenor (Parke) Trescott, were both descendants of Quaker stock. The former was a native of Vermont, and the latter of the province of New Brunswick. They were the parents of four sons and four daughters, five of whom still survive: Mrs. Susan Dodson, of Weatherly, Carbon County, Pa.; Mrs. M. L. T. Hartman, of Shickshinny, Luzerne County, Pa.; Mrs. M. A. Lemon, of Asbury, Columbia County, Pa.; our subject, and Mrs. R. J. G. Beers, of Weatherly, Carbon County, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Trescott spent their entire lives in Pennsylvania and both departed their lives in the house where our subject was born. The father's death occurred in February, 1877, he being at that time in his ninetieth year. He came of a remarkably long-lived family and two of his brothers also attained a very advanced age. One of them, Peter Sylvester, died in 1884, at the age of ninety-three years,

and the other, Edward Lewis, reached the age of ninety-six years and two months, his death occurring in May, 1890.

On the 22d of September, 1850, Mr. Trescott, whose name heads this sketch, was joined in wedlock with Miss Sallie Ann Dodson, daughter of Stephen B. and Flavia (Tubbs) Dodson, of Pennsylvania. Her grandmother's name was Franklin, and the uncle of the latter, Capt. John Franklin, was an own cousin of Benjamin Franklin, the philosopher, inventor and statesman. To Mr. and Mrs. Trescott ten children have been born, as follows: Olin Rush, now deceased; Ada C., also deceased; Stephen O., who married Miss Nellie Buck, of West Union, Iowa, and now makes his home at Fremont, Colo., where he helped to organize a company that operates the gold mines at Cripple Creek; Luther R.; Henry A., deceased; Charles, Fremont, also now deceased; Amy E. is the wife of De Witt C. Merrill, a general merchant in Cabery, Ill., and unto them have been born two children, Marguerita Mabel and Wallace Trescott; William H., Lloyd F. and Edward L. are the youngest of the family.

For a number of years Mr. Trescott engaged in the butcher's business in Chebanse, and started the first meat-market here. He afterward embarked in the real-estate business, selling out his former business in 1867. In addition to his real-estate occupation he has for many years engaged more or less in agricultural pursuits, although his residence has been in Chebanse since 1860.

In 1862, Mr. Trescott was elected Justice of the Peace and for the long period of thirty years has continued to fill that office. He has also filled several other official positions, and the same month that he was made Justice of the Peace he was also elected School Trustee and has held that position since then. In 1869, he was made Supervisor and served for one year. He was also the Assessor of Chebanse Township for the two years of 1865 and 1866, and at present is the President of the Village Board of Trustees. He has been a member of the same board during most of the time of his residence here and has been its President a number of terms. In all of his official positions he has been prompt and faithful in the discharge of the duties, which fact is well evinced by the repeated calls he has had

from his fellow-citizens to fill various positions of trust. In political sentiments he is a staunch Republican and has cast his ballot for every Republican Presidential candidate from Fremont to Harrison. He made two visits to his old home, friends and relatives, the first one being in 1864 and the next one in December, 1891. He has been a Mason since 1867, holding membership with Chebanse Lodge No. 429, A. F. & A. M., of which he has been Secretary about half of the time since joining and still holds that office. He is a representative citizen, and as one of the pioneer settlers well deserves a place in this volume.



ELWIN L. WRIGHT, the efficient Postmaster of Chebanse, is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred in Jordan, Onondaga County on the 7th of January, 1830. His maternal grandmother, Mrs. Mary (Hedding) Ball, figured conspicuously in the Revolutionary War. She was one among many women who took off their stockings and petticoats to supply Washington's soldiers, who were suffering greatly for shoes and clothing, and who could easily be tracked by the blood on the snow and ice from their naked feet. Her husband when seventeen years of age was received into the army and served throughout the Revolutionary War. A brother of Mrs. Ball was taken prisoner by the Tories, who without giving him time to dress carried him from Newark, N. J., to New York over the ice and snow. On the trip both of his feet were frozen and he suffered so greatly from the exposure that his death soon followed. He had occasioned this cruel treatment by the Tories on account of his befriending the American soldiers as far as he was able, assisting to feed and clothe them. He was a merchant of Newark, and his life was one of the many sacrificed for the liberties of our glorious country.

The parents of our subject were George and Elizabeth (Ball) Wright, and to them seven children were born, three daughters and four sons, five of whom are still living: Mary, Antoinette,

Lucy, Elwin and Gideon. The father in his youth learned the trade of tool-making, which occupation he followed until improved machinery drove him out of the business, at which time he turned his attention to general blacksmithing. Mrs. Wright did the carding, spinning and weaving for the clothing of her family. Most of their lives were spent upon a farm. The death of the father occurred in New York in 1882, and for many years previous to this he had been retired from business. In the town of Jordan, Mrs. Wright departed this life in the following year.

The early education of our subject was largely attained in the public schools of Jordan, after which he entered the Jordan Academy, which he attended during the winter season. In June, 1856, he came to Illinois, taking a course in the Bryant & Stratton Business College of Chicago. Thus well equipped for the business of life, he commenced buying poultry, game and like merchandise, which he shipped to the New York markets. He afterward bought hogs and cattle for the Chicago market and was very successful in his business enterprises. At the first call for volunteers during the late war, Mr. Wright enlisted for the ninety days' service, but the quota from Illinois being sufficient at that time he was not received into active service.

In February, 1862, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Wright and Miss Olive Twombly, of Kankakee, and to them have been born twelve children, nine of whom are still living. The eldest, Antoinette, is the wife of Almond Lowe, a farmer living about half way between Aurora and St. Ann, Ill; they have one child, Henry. Lillie died when about a year old. The younger are Jesse, Nellie, Maggie, Helen, Alta, George, Lemuel and Sherwood (twins), and another pair of twins, who died unnamed.

Immediately after his marriage, Mr. Wright leased the Milk's Grove farm, consisting of about seven hundred acres, which he carried on for about two years. After that he removed to Chebanse, purchased a hay press and has made this place his home since that time. From 1865 until 1870, he ran his hay press and for the following fourteen years was book keeper for the firm of Capen

& Co., grain dealers and elevator men. During the next five years he was engaged in buying stock, cattle and hogs, which he shipped to Chicago. In the month of April, 1889, Mr. Wright received notice of his appointment by Postmaster-General Wanamaker to the office of Postmaster of Chebanse and entered upon the discharge of his duties on the 1th of May of that year. He has shown good ability and efficiency in filling this position and has given satisfaction to all.

Mr. Wright is a staunch Republican in politics and assisted to build the Republican wigwag in Chicago, where Abraham Lincoln was nominated for the Presidency. He is a public-spirited and progressive man and is always in the front ranks of those who advance the prosperity and best interests of this community. In his business relations, he is trustworthy and honorable, and his manly course in life has won for him the respect of all.



THEODORE BABCOX was born in Ohio, about fourteen miles from Cincinnati, in Hamilton County, on the 12th of March, 1821. His birthplace is about three miles from that of Gen. Harrison. His maternal grandfather was a soldier in the War of 1812, and was for many years a resident of Montgomery County, Ind., near Crawfordsville, emigrating there from New York. He was of Irish descent, and at the time of his death was about sixty-seven years of age. On his father's side, our subject is of English origin. He is a son of John and Julia Ann (Bryant) Babcox. The former was a native of New Jersey, and the latter was born in Genesee County, N. Y. They were the parents of four children: Elizabeth became the wife of O. G. Willhite, a tailor in Crawfordsville, Ind., where she died in 1868. They had four children: John, Alice, Florence and Frank, all of whom are now living. Theodore is next in order of birth; John, Jr., died when a child of four years; Stephen is the youngest of the family.

In 1818, Mr. and Mrs. Babcox removed from New York to Ohio, settling upon a farm near Cincinnati, where they resided for eighteen years. In 1836, the father went to New Orleans, and there contracted the dread disease, yellow fever, which caused his death. Soon afterward, the brother of Mrs. Babcox, Zephaniah Bryant, moved a family from Ohio to a place within ten miles of Crawfordsville, Ind., and our subject chose to leave home, going with his uncle upon the trip to live with his grandfather, whose children had all grown up and had left the old homestead to make homes for themselves. After Mr. Babcox had resided with his grandfather for about two years, his mother, with her other children, also removed to the same neighborhood. She was again married, becoming the wife of Samuel Kirkpatrick, with whom in 1846 she went to Joliet, Ill. She departed this life in February, 1848.

Theodore Babcox made his home with his grandfather until nearly fifteen years of age, and then started out to make his own living in the world. In 1842, he went to Joliet, near which city he obtained employment on a farm. He was allowed the privilege of reserving for himself a small tract of land, on which he sowed wheat in order to obtain money with which to secure a better education. During the summer months he worked upon a farm and attended school in the winter at Crawfordsville, going back and forth as the seasons rolled by. When he first removed to Joliet, the town was very small and he killed a deer on the present town site, which fact would indicate somewhat the wildness of the place at that time. In 1850, with his brother Stephen, he went to California, where they prospected for gold. In October of the following year, he returned home, but his brother preferred to remain in the West, and a number of years afterward removed to Washington Territory, where he lived for some years. In 1877, his death occurred at Silver City, Idaho. He was about four years younger than our subject.

On the 18th of January, 1849, occurred the marriage of Theodore Babcox and Miss Nancy Ann Cameron, daughter of Hugh and Sarah (Zumwalt) Cameron. Four children have blessed their

union: Florence became the wife of A. H. B. Ellis, who was a soldier in the late war, and who now draws a pension of \$72 per month. Their home is at Hastings, Mich., where he has held a number of offices, among them those of Deputy Sheriff and Constable. They have four children: Effie, Emmet, Edith and Cecil. The second child of our subject, John, resides in California. Alonzo lives in Eads, Colo. He is engaged in farming, and is Deputy Sheriff and Constable. He married Miss Louise Vose and three children grace their union: Marie, Robert and Theodore. The youngest of the family, Nancy Ann, died on the 28th of October, 1861. The wife of our subject held membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church and died in that faith on the 27th of April, 1856.

Mr. Babcox was again married, on the 4th of March, 1857, when Miss Mary Hunter, a native of Kentucky, became his wife. Her parents died when she was about seven years of age. By this union have been born the following children: Reason G., who was married in Peoria and now makes his home in Wisconsin, where he is engaged in the railroad business. He has one child, Maude, who became the wife of Terry Steele, a stock buyer and shipper of Chebanse. Fred died on the 12th of November, 1863, while an infant. Emma Dora, the youngest of the family, is still at home. The mother of these children departed this life on the 21st of March, 1882. She was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and left many friends to mourn her loss.

Upon returning from California, where he had been quite successful, Mr. Babcox settled upon a farm about ten miles north of Crawfordsville, where he engaged in farming for about seven years. He then purchased a piece of land of eighty acres in Chebanse Township, and removed there in 1858. For five years he was exclusively engaged in cultivating and improving this farm, which he sold in February, 1863, and came to the village, which he has made his home since that time. In 1863, he entered into the hotel business, but as it was during the depressing time of the war, it was not much of a success. Accordingly, in 1874, he decided to adopt another calling, and has followed the business of auctioneering, in

which he had some experience, after his return from the West. He is a man of good business ability and wide experience, and his dealings with his fellow-men are always marked by honesty and trustworthiness.

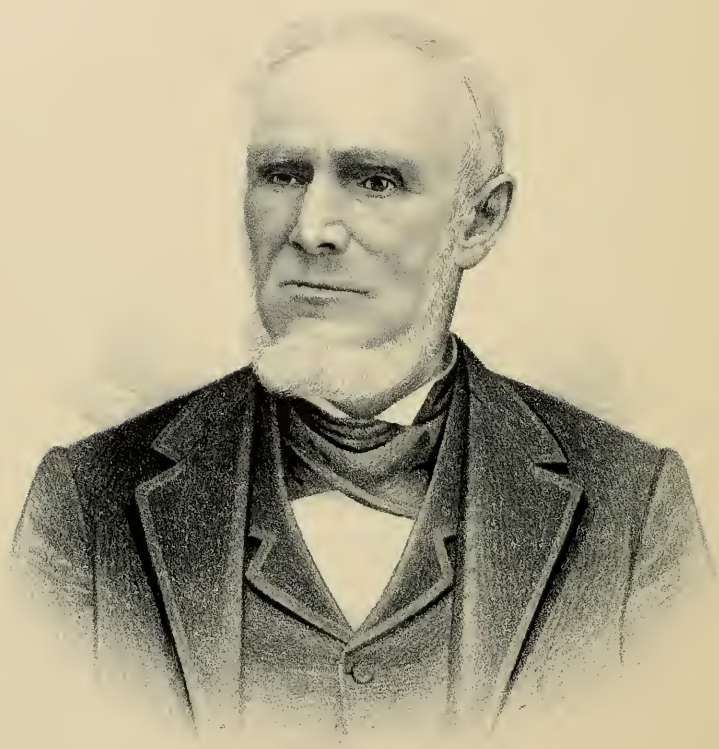
Mr. Babcox is a member of Chebanse Lodge No. 429, A. F. & A. M., which fraternity he joined in 1866. He has ever been a loyal Republican since the formation of that party, and previous to that was a staunch Whig. His life has been marked by perseverance and industry, and the comfortable competence which he has achieved is well deserved.



WILLIAM H. SELLERS, commercial traveler, makes his home in Clifton. He was born in Chebanse Township, on the 26th of April, 1857, and he therefore has the honor of being a native of the county. His father, Abraham Sellers, was a native of England, Yorkshire being the place of his birth, which occurred May 22, 1811. He served an apprenticeship of seven years to the blacksmith's trade, and after his marriage emigrated to America. Crossing the Atlantic, he arrived in the United States in 1842, locating in Bristol, Kendall County, Ill., where he followed his trade for several years. Opening a shop, he did blacksmith and repair work and also engaged in the manufacture of wagons. In 1856, he came to Iroquois County and pre-empted land in Chebanse Township, where he improved and developed a farm, making it his home for about two years. At the same time he carried on the shop in Chebanse. In 1858 he came to Clifton, and here embarked in blacksmithing, engaging in active business until failing health forced him to retire from active work. The ten years previous to his death he passed in retirement from labor, enjoying the well-earned fruits of his former toil.

Mr. Sellers was twice married, his first wife having died before he came to this county. At Sandwich, De Kalb County, Mr. Sellers was united in marriage with Miss Susan M. Kice, a native of the Empire State. She was born, reared and educated

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Yours Truly
Hiram Vennum

in Chemung County, N. Y. The wedding ceremony was celebrated on the 26th of July, 1855. William Kice, the father of Mrs. Sellers, died when she was but nine years of age. After the death of her parents, she found friends among strangers and came with them to Illinois in 1852. Mr. Sellers was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics was identified with the Republican party, strongly advocating its principles. He died on the 11th of March, 1889.

William Sellers is a son of Abraham and Susan Sellers. He received a good common-school education, and in his early life learned the tinner's trade. For about a year he was engaged in clerking in Kankakee, and then returned to his trade. For several years succeeding, he held a clerkship, and in 1886 became a commercial traveler. Mr. Sellers is a natural salesman, and in this line has been very successful. He was in the employ of one firm for about four years. Socially and in his business relations, he wins many friends, and much of his success is due to his genial and courteous demeanor. In September, 1891, he embarked in the hotel business in Clifton, and his wife and mother now efficiently manage affairs in that line, while he attends to his commercial interests. However, he intends soon to abandon the hotel and will occupy his fine new residence which has just been completed.

January 5, 1888, witnessed the marriage of Mr. Sellers and Miss Anna Taddikin, the ceremony taking place in Bureau County, Ill. The lady was born in Germany, and came to the United States when a child of four years. She grew to womanhood and received her education in Ashkum. By the union of the young couple has been born a daughter, Anna. She is the light and joy of the parents' home, where she is known by the pet name of "Tootsie."

In politics, Mr. Sellers casts his ballot for the nominees of the Republican party, but has never sought official positions, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business enterprises. He was probably the first male child born in Chebanse Township, and his entire life has been spent in the county of his nativity. He is well and favorably known throughout the county and State,

He is a man of marked business talents, and by his personal worth and nobility of character has won the friendship and good wishes of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



HIRAM VENNUM, or "Uncle Hiram," as he is familiarly called, an honored pioneer of Iroquois County, has made his home in Milford Township since 1834. He is now living a retired life in the city of Milford. His name is inseparably connected with the history of this county, for he has been an eye-witness of its entire growth, has aided in its upbuilding, and has borne his part in its development. He certainly deserves representation in this volume, and with pleasure we give this record of his life.

Mr. Vennum was born near Washington, the county seat of Washington County, Pa., and is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Kirkpatrick) Vennum. His father was also born near Washington, and his mother was a native of New Jersey, where she resided during the Revolutionary War. She saw Gen. Washington while he was with his troops in that State. In 1834, they emigrated with their family to what was then the far West, taking up their residence on Sugar Creek, in Milford Township, Iroquois County. The family numbered eight children, five sons and three daughters. Thomas K., while driving stock over the mountains in Eastern Pennsylvania, was taken ill and died at the age of twenty-two years. The other children all came to Illinois. In order of birth they were as follows: Thomas, Mary, Elizabeth, George, Urias, Christopher Columbus, George Washington, Jane, Thomas Kirkpatrick, and Hiram.

Our subject is the youngest of the family. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent in his native State, and at the age of twenty years he came with his parents to Iroquois County. He has experienced all the hardships and privations of pioneer life. His father built the first house erected on the prairie. The winter of 1837-38 was one of the most severe ever known in this

part of the country. Snow fell to a great depth and then the weather turned intensely cold. It was thirty-five miles to the mill and a load of corn or yard of calico could not be bought in this neighborhood anywhere.

Mr. Vennum of this sketch also aided in the arduous task of developing the wild prairie into rich and fertile fields. In 1836, he settled on a farm on section 2, Milford Township, known as the Mound Farm. It is said to be the highest spot of ground between Chicago and Cairo, and he there resided for fifty-five years engaged in agricultural pursuits. He led a busy life and as the result of his industry and perseverance acquired a comfortable competence. He was married on the 22d of March, 1810, to Miss Nancy V. Wagner, but after a short married life the lady was called to her final rest June 1, 1841. At her death she left a daughter, Nancy V., who is now the wife of Wilder Slead, a resident of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Mr. Vennum was again married March 24, 1846, his second wife being Mrs. Submit Fry, a daughter of Solomon Gilbert. She was an estimable lady and proved to him a faithful companion and helpmate. Her death occurred October 28, 1876. They had one son, Gilbert, who was married April 26, 1871, to Martha Elizabeth Hartwell, daughter of Albert and Ruth (Brown) Hartwell. He erected a beautiful residence in Milford and his father finds a pleasant home with him.

After the death of his wife, Mr. Vennum sold a portion of his farm and the remainder is now rented. His son Gilbert now manages his business affairs for him, thus relieving him of all care and anxiety. He has held the office of Supervisor for a number of terms and has been the administrator of a number of estates, which fact indicates the confidence and trust reposed in him, but he has always preferred to live a quiet life. He is familiar with the history of Iroquois County since the time when it was on the frontier, and can relate many anecdotes and reminiscences of his pioneer days. Almost sixty years have passed since he located in Milford Township, and few indeed are left who have so long resided here. With his means, which are abundant, he has always been liberal, assisting those who needed help. The

laboring man has ever found in him a warm friend, and many who are now in comfortable circumstances remember with gratitude the pecuniary aid received from this venerable gentleman.



THOMAS BURNS, one of the first settlers of this county, is a prominent farmer, who makes his home on section 18, Ashkum Township. At the time of his settlement here, there were few inhabitants, but there was an abundance of game. He often saw from twenty to twenty-five deer in one herd, and also great numbers of wolves and flocks of prairie chickens. Rattlesnakes were also very numerous. Mr. Burns was quite a hunter and killed many deer and great numbers of wolves. He has witnessed great changes, and has helped very largely in developing the county, which is to-day considered one of the best in the State, while it was formerly a swamp and wilderness.

Our subject is a native of Ireland and was born in County Carlow, Province of Leinster, on the 4th of December, 1826, and is a son of Charles and Johanna (Nolan) Burns. Both parents were also natives of the Emerald Isle, and there lived and died. The father was twice married. His first wife, the mother of our subject, died at the age of twenty-four years, when Thomas was but a child. The father was a farmer by occupation, and died in the same neighborhood in which he was born, at the advanced age of one hundred and two years.

The early years of our subject were passed in the usual pursuits of farm life, and his education was that of the country schools. When he had reached the age of twenty years, he determined to strike out for himself, and believing that the New World afforded better opportunities to a young man of industry and perseverance, he accordingly went to Dublin and took passage in a sailing-vessel, called the "Infanta," which was bound for New York. The captain and vessel were both from Wales. They were six weeks and four days in crossing the briny deep, and encountered a severe storm during the voyage. They arrived in New York about

May 20, 1848, where he spent two days, and then went to Albany by way of the North River. Thence he went by Canal to Buffalo, where he spent about two weeks in a brick yard, after which he returned to New York. At that time he was very home-sick, as he was in a foreign land among strangers, and he had about made up his mind to return to the land of his birth, when in New York City he met an old acquaintance, and with him went to Orange County, near Newburg. There he started to work on a farm, in the hay field, at \$9 per month, for Capt. Brown, who was also of Irish birth. After remaining on the farm for a couple of months, he went to Boston, Mass., and hired out to a farmer near that place, remaining with him during the two years succeeding.

In 1851, coming West, our subject settled in Wayne County, Mich., in Van Buren Township, not far from Detroit, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres, twenty-five of which were cleared. On the place was a log house and a good orchard. He did not remain there long, however, but went to Chicago and worked in a sawmill during the winter and until the following May. The next few months he remained in the employ of the same man at dredging. This man, Alexander Reed, was a Scotchman, and in his employ Mr. Burns continued until 1855, when he bought a team and engaged in teaming for several years in Chicago.

On the 23d of August, 1858, Mr. Burns was married to Eliza Gallagher, who was born in Ireland and reared in the same neighborhood as our subject. This union has been blessed with nine children: Charles is a farmer of Ashkum Township; James is employed in the stock yards at Chicago; Annie and Mary come next; Thomas holds a responsible position in Chicago; Katie makes her home in the same city; Walter, Terry and William are still at home. The mother of these children was called to her final rest on the 17th of September, 1884, leaving many friends to mourn her loss.

After his marriage, Mr. Burns continued to live in Chicago for three years, and in July, 1861, came to Iroquois County for the firm of Gross & Phillips and located land here for them. Mr. Burns staid in Ashkum for a time, until a house could be erected on the farm, which was situated

two and a-half miles west of Ashkum, on section 14. Here our subject opened up a farm and thoroughly cultivated and improved it. He was one of the first to locate in Ashkum Township. He engaged quite extensively in stock-raising and remained upon the farm for fourteen years. Three years after coming here he bought land for himself on section 18, the one on which he now resides. He first purchased forty acres, and as his financial resources were increased, added to his original tract, first buying forty acres adjoining, and then others, until he now owns two hundred acres in one piece, and all good, arable and well-improved land. He removed to his farm in 1875, and built a large and substantial residence, barns, and other necessary farm buildings. In 1887, he met with a severe loss by fire, his house and all its contents being completely destroyed.

The fire occurred in April of that year, and was a severe loss to our subject, as at that time he carried no insurance. On his land he has a good orchard and a great variety of fruit. He is one of the enterprising, thrifty and prosperous farmers of this county, and by these qualities well merits the success he obtained.

Mr. Burns was formerly a supporter of the Republican party, but now identifies himself with the Democracy. He has been called upon to fill several official positions, the duties of which he has discharged with ability and promptness. He has ever been a friend to education, and has served as a member of the School Board. He numbers a wide circle of friends and acquaintances throughout this township and county, who hold him in high regard on account of his many noble qualities.



EDWARD ALLEN TOPLIFF is a well-to-do farmer, owning and carrying on a farm on section 30, Chebanse Township. He was born in Alden, Erie County, N. Y., on the 26th of October, 1839. His father, Franklin Topliff, was a native of the same county and is numbered among its pioneers. The family is of Scotch descent and at an early day emigrated to Erie County.

The father of our subject, after arriving at man's estate, married Sabra McIntosh, also a native of the Empire State. Her father was born in Massachusetts. After his marriage, Mr. Topliff engaged for some time in agricultural pursuits in New York, and in 1840 removed to Ohio, settling near Columbus, where he located in the wilderness. The portion of the State in which he made his home was heavily timbered and a part of it he cleared and there made a farm. He resided there until his death, which occurred in 1850. His wife had passed away some four years after their removal to the Buckeye State. After the death of their parents, the children were obliged to go among strangers.

Our subject in his early life found good friends, who gave him the advantages of the public schools during the winter terms, the remainder of the year being spent in working upon a farm. Since reaching maturity, he has largely educated himself, as the limited advantages afforded by the schools at that early period but little fitted a man to meet the requirements of active business and social life. When about eighteen years of age, Mr. Topliff came to Illinois and secured work in a broom factory at Kankakee, Ill., where he learned the trade and remained for about three years. With the exception of that time and that spent in the service of his country, his entire life has been spent upon a farm. After leaving the factory he worked upon the farm of his uncle, S. H. McIntosh, until the breaking out of the late war.

On the 25th of August, 1862, Mr. Topliff donned the blue, becoming a member of Company F, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. He enlisted as a Corporal and took part in the battles of Tallahassee Bottoms, Holly Springs (Miss.), Jackson Cross Roads (Miss.), and was also in the siege and capture of Vicksburg and the fort at Jackson, Miss. From there his regiment went to New Orleans, thence to Pensacola, Fla., and Berkely, and took part in the charge on Ft. Mobile, Ala. On the 9th of April, in the last mentioned encounter, he received a severe wound, a minie-ball passing through his left breast. He was also shot through the left forearm. He received his discharge at the close of the war, in August, 1865, at New Orleans,

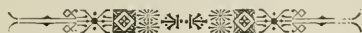
and returned to Kankakee, where he remained about a year.

In 1867, Mr. Topliff came to Iroquois County, and purchased a place, consisting of eighty acres of unimproved prairie land in Chebanse Township. Of this property he made a good and fertile farm and resided there for several years. He then sold the same and came to the place where he now resides in 1880. This property, which consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, was also unimproved, and this he opened up and developed to its present high state of cultivation. He has built a commodious and substantial residence, good barns and other buildings, and has done considerable tiling on his farm. He also has three miles of fine hedge and his farm is justly regarded as one of the best in the township. He was early thrown upon the world to shift for himself, and owes his present prosperity to his industry, enterprise and perseverance. He is to-day one of the substantial and well-to-do farmers of the county and has accumulated a valuable estate and a good income.

In this county, on the 11th of November, 1867, occurred the union of our subject and Miss Ella Miner, who was born at Springfield, Mass., June 29, 1845. She received her education and grew to womanhood in the city of Kankakee. By their marriage have been born six children: Flora E. is an accomplished young lady, who is a teacher of vocal and instrumental music; Charles E. is engaged in helping to carry on the work of the farm; Lillie M. and Bert E. are also under the parental roof and are receiving the advantages of good educations; Lulu Belle died at the age of eleven, and Harry at the age of six months.

Politically, Mr. Topliff has been a member of the Democratic party since becoming a voter, with the exception of his first ballot, which was cast for Gen. U. S. Grant in 1868. Appreciating his ability, our subject has been elected to fill numerous official positions and has ever discharged the duties of the same most acceptably to his fellow-citizens. Education finds in him a very active supporter and friend, and for twelve years he has served as one of the School Trustees. For the same length of time he has been Road Commissioner, being re-elected year after year to fill that position,

and was again re-elected in the spring of 1892 for another three-year term. He has been a delegate to a number of county conventions and is Committeeman of his township. He has always taken an active part in all public affairs and has done much to advance the interests of the community in which he dwells. He is a member of the Chebouse Grand Army Post and is also President of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. As one of the earliest settlers and a man of upright character and worth, he has won a wide circle of friends who hold him in the highest regard.



JOHAN SLATER is a prominent citizen and farmer residing on section 29, Milk's Grove Township. His birth occurred on the 8th of April, 1832, near the village of Larwick, in the Shetland Islands. His father, John Slater, was born in 1801, on those islands, and was there reared and spent his entire life as a fisherman. He married Ann Riddland. The father died in his eighty-fifth year, and the mother's death occurred in 1888. They were both members of the Presbyterian Church, and very strict in their observance of its ordinances. They would not even cook upon Sunday, and were very honest and conscientious in all their actions. The father made a good living and gave his children fair educations. His family consisted of the following sons and daughters: Jane, who is still living on the Shetland Islands; Lawrence, who, while following his calling as a fisherman, was cast away and never seen again; Thomas, a tailor in Edinburgh; John, who is next in order of birth; Peter, now deceased, a sailor; Ann and Elspit, who still make their home in their native country. The daughters have all lost their husbands. James, the youngest son, is a fisherman in his native land.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent upon the islands where he was born, and he received a good education in the public schools. During the fishing season, he worked with his father at that calling, and also learned the carpenter's and joiner's trade. In 1857, determining to seek his

home and fortune in America, he bade adieu to the friends and scenes of his youth and crossed the Atlantic in a steamship, which was bound for Portland, Me. He went immediately to Joliet, Ill., by way of the Lakes, and arrived there on the 26th of June, of that year. He followed his trade of carpentering for about three years, and then returned to Scotland on a visit. He was married there on the 26th of December, 1859, to Margaret Pottinger, of the same neighborhood in which he was born. He remained with his bride for a short time at his old home, and on the 16th of April of the following year, went to Liverpool, where they took passage in a steamer of the Allen Steamship Line, en route for Montreal. They were wrecked and cast on St. Paul Islands, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and were there one week before they were rescued, and continued their journey by boat to Montreal. In due time, without further accident, they arrived in Joliet, where Mr. Slater again engaged in carpenter work. They remained in that city for about five years, and in 1862 removed to Chicago, where our subject obtained employment in building Government bridges until 1872.

At that time Mr. Slater decided to buy a farm and turn his attention to agricultural pursuits. He therefore went to Kankakee County, where he purchased eighty acres of wild Government land. There he lived, engaged in improving and developing the property, until 1881, when he came to Iroquois County and purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, where he now makes his home. He erected a comfortable and pleasant home and the farm is well equipped with good buildings and improved machinery. In addition to his farming interests, he has also worked more or less at his trade, and has been very successful in his business affairs. For some years he has made a specialty of keeping thoroughbred Poland-China hogs, which are the only registered ones of the township. When he came to America he was \$50 in debt, but by his own efforts and energy has achieved the success which has crowned his years of labor. He is an enterprising farmer and a man of good business ability.

Mr. and Mrs. Slater are the parents of seven

children: John Charles was born in the Shetland Islands on the 28th of January, 1861, and when he grew to manhood married Ellen Avery, and is a leading farmer of Milk's Grove Township; James Alexander is a farmer of Washington; William L. and George A. (twins) are farmers of Milk's Grove Township; Margaret Ann is the wife of Hollis Avery, of Kankakee County; Agnes C. and Frank are at home. These children received good public-school educations, and George attended the seminary at Onarga, and they were thus well fitted to meet the duties of life.

Our subject and his family attend the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Slater has been a School Trustee for about nine years, and is much interested in educational matters. He is not an office-seeker, preferring to devote his time to his home and farm interests, but has been induced to accept several positions of trust and honor, the duties of which he has discharged in an able and efficient manner. At present he is a Trustee and Road Commissioner, and for five years has been Treasurer of the Board of Commissioners. He heard political speeches by Lincoln and Lovejoy, and was an Abolitionist from the time of his first becoming a citizen of the United States. Later, he has been a supporter of the Republican party and its principles, and his sons are also members of that party. His first vote was cast for James A. Garfield. In local elections he votes for the man whom he thinks will best fill the position, regardless of party politics.



DANIEL MONROE is an old resident of Milk's Grove Township and owns a farm on section 1. His birth occurred on the 25th of June, 1837, in Glasgow, Scotland. His father, Hugh Monroe, was of Highland birth, and left his home when a boy, going to Glasgow, Scotland. Upon his arrival in that city, he apprenticed himself for seven years to the cabinet-maker's trade. Through his own efforts and diligent study he managed to acquire a good education. In Glasgow he met and was married to Miss

Jean Campbell, who was a native of that city. They removed to London, where he worked at his trade for about fourteen years. In the spring of 1851, they took passage on a sailing-vessel, the "Hendrick Hudson," which was bound for New York City. They were seven weeks upon the Atlantic, and upon their arrival in New York City they started at once for the West. They settled in Joliet, Will County, Ill., where he worked at his trade. His death occurred in the year 1854, and the mother died at Wilmington in 1855. They were both consistent members of the Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Monroe was a successful business man.

Daniel Monroe lived in London from the time he was a year old until his parents emigrated to America, at which time he was about fourteen years of age. He received fair school advantages in London and also attended the Will County schools. Having to depend upon his own efforts for a livelihood, he was early inured to the hardships of pioneer life. In 1868, he came to this county and bought land where he now lives. His purchase consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of land which had upon it no improvements whatever. It was wild prairie and the grass upon it was about four or five feet high. The country was largely under water and great flocks of geese and ducks were abundant in this region. He now has a nice farm and a well-improved one. Upon it are a good house and other buildings, trees and hedges. He is a successful, enterprising and progressive farmer and has wonderfully developed his property.

On the 20th of October, 1869, occurred the marriage of Mr. Monroe and Miss Catherine M. Compton. Her father, James Compton, now living in Clifton, is an old settler and highly respected citizen of this county. Mrs. Monroe was born near La Fayette, Ind., and came with her parents to this county in 1865. This union has been blessed with four children, who were all born and reared upon this farm: Amy E., now at home, received her education in the county schools and at New Carlisle, Ind.; Harvey J. assists his father upon the farm; Clarence H. and Eva A. are still under the parental roof.

At the first call of his country for volunteers in defense of the Union, Mr. Monroe enlisted in Company F, Twentieth Illinois Infantry, under Col. C. C. Marsh. He enlisted at Joliet, where the company was organized on the 24th of April, 1861. They first went to Alton and from there to Cape Girardeau. The first battle in which the regiment took part was near Frederickstown, Mo. It was followed by the engagements at Ft. Henry and Donelson. He was under Gen. McClelland and his regiment lost heavily in the engagement, forty being killed and one hundred and twenty wounded. On the 6th and 7th of April, 1862, the regiment was stationed in the thickest of the battle of Shiloh, where they had hard fighting for two days and were driven back inch by inch. They also took an active part in the siege of Corinth. He was in the assault on Vicksburg under Gen. Logan, on the 22d of May, 1863, in which his regiment lost heavily. He witnessed its surrender and marched into the city on the 4th of July. The siege lasted from the 19th of May until that date and his regiment was most active during that time. He was also in the Meridian campaign under Sherman and participated in the battles of Baker's Creek and Jackson. The time of his service having expired, he returned home for a visit and re-enlisted at Joliet, in Company D, Sixth Regiment, Gen. Hancock's Corps. They went to Washington, from there proceeded to Harrisburg, thence to Pittsburg, and back to Washington during the winter of 1864-65. He was in that city at the time of Lincoln's assassination. After a service of four years and three months he received his discharge on the 1st of April, 1865, at that time being First Sergeant. He was ever found at his post of duty and was a faithful and brave soldier. With the exception of a short time after the siege of Vicksburg, when he was obliged to return home on a furlough on account of fever, he was on active duty during the whole time of his service.

After his return from the army, our subject went to Atchison, Kan., and started across the plains by wagon, arriving in Salt Lake City in the fall of 1868. He spent the winter there and in the spring continued his journey to Salmon River, Idaho, where he went into the mines. In

1867, he returned to this county and has operated his present farm since that time. Politically, Mr. Monroe is a staunch Republican and cast his first vote in 1860 for Abraham Lincoln. He had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Lincoln plead a case as a lawyer before he was President. Our subject has been elected to fill several local positions, though he is not an office-seeker and prefers to devote his time to his business interests. He is one of the best and most public-spirited of citizens and is held in the highest esteem throughout this section. He is a self-made man and started in life without any means. He has ever shown an enterprising and progressive spirit and has achieved great success. He is a friend to educational measures and has given his children a good education, thus fitting them for the battles and duties of life.



WILLIAM G. SANDERS, a well-known farmer of Ashkum Township, lives on section 16. He is a native of England, and was born on the 24th of March, 1846, in the city of Birmingham, Warwickshire, of which place his parents, William and Mary Ann (Gray) Sanders, were also natives. The father, with his family, emigrated to the United States about September, 1856, settling in Westchester County, N. Y., where he resided for about a year and a-half. He then removed to Kendall County, Ill., where he located on a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits for about twenty years. Desiring to retire from the arduous labors and duties of the farm, he went to Bristol, Ill., where he spent the last years of his life. He departed this life April 6, 1884. His wife survives him and makes her home in Bristol.

William G. Sanders came to the United States with his parents when a lad of ten years and grew to man's estate in Kendall County, where his youth was spent engaged in the usual duties of farmer lads and in attending the common schools. Later, he went to the Aurora Commercial College, where he received a good business education, thus fitting him for the active business pursuits of life.

He remained with his father until after reaching his majority, assisting him in the care of his farm. During this time, however, he worked some for himself, and his first experience in farming for himself was in Ogle County, where he was thus occupied for about three years. In 1872, Mr. Sanders came to Troquois County and bought a tract of eighty acres in Ashkum Township, on which he still makes his home. Of this farm but a few acres had been broken, and but slight improvements made. In the way of buildings there was but a small shanty, in which he lived while he made other improvements. Soon bountiful harvests rewarded his care and cultivation, and now a substantial home, good stables and other buildings show the owner to be a thrifty and prosperous farmer. This farm is located two and a-quarter miles from Clifton, and is considered a valuable piece of land.

In Joliet, Will County, on the 29th of October, 1874, occurred the marriage of Mr. Sanders and Miss Elizabeth B. Malcolm, a native of Illinois, who was reared and educated in Joliet. Her father, James Malcolm, was born in Scotland, and grew to manhood and was married in Bristol, Kendall County, to Miss Jessie Y. Bertram, November 4, 1845. He was one of the first settlers and honored pioneers of Joliet, being one of the first to locate in the city. He was a miller by trade and a much-respected citizen. When crossing the ocean to this country, he was shipwrecked, and, with some others, climbed upon some floating ice and was afterward rescued by a passing ship. Many others of the crew and passengers who got into the ship's small boats have never been heard from, and are supposed to have found watery graves. He departed this life January 31, 1885. Mrs. Malcolm died July 16, 1889.

While not members of any church organization, our subject and his estimable wife attend the Clifton Methodist Episcopal Church, to which they give their support, and are firm believers in its doctrine. Socially, Mr. Sanders is a member of Clifton Lodge, A. F. & A. M. Since casting his first ballot for Gen. U. S. Grant in the Presidential election in 1868, he has ever supported the principles of the Republican party. He has never

been an aspirant for official positions, but has preferred to give his entire time and attention to his agricultural and business interests. He is a representative citizen of this section, and has won many friends by his integrity of character and his manly course in life. Mr. and Mrs. Sanders have two interesting children: Cora and George, and two little girls, Edith and Eva, died in early childhood.



EBEN L. HILLS, Supervisor of Milk's Grove Township, resides on section 15. He was born in the town of Big Grove, Kendall County, Ill., on the 13th of November, 1843. His father, Eben M. Hills, was a native of Connecticut, his birth occurring on the 8th of October, 1801, in Goshen, Litchfield County. His early life was passed upon a farm, and when he arrived at mature years he was married, in Burnham Center, Oneida County, N. Y., to Miss Stella Sears. The wedding was celebrated on the 11th of June, 1828. Mrs. Hills was a native of the Empire State, her birth occurring in South East, Putnam County, N. Y., on the 21st of August, 1806. After his marriage, Mr. Hills removed to Illinois, coming by way of the Lakes. His family and goods came by team overland. He arrived in Kendall County in 1833, when the country was nothing but a wilderness. He proceeded to open up and develop a farm and afterwards became the owner of another one. He was quite successful as a business man and farmer, and was a strong anti-slavery man, and politically a Whig. He was a firm believer in the common schools, was a good citizen and a kind neighbor. He and his wife were highly esteemed members of the Congregational Church of Lisbon, where for a long time he was a Deacon. He was a man of wide reading and intelligence and was held in high regard by all. His death occurred on the 17th of February, 1859, and that of his wife on the 19th of June, 1884. Mrs. Hills spent her last days with her children.

In their family were eight children: Mrs. Caroline Cass, a widow, resides in West Superior,

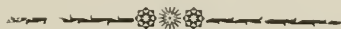
Wis.; Hubert died in South Dakota; Frederick B. is a leading farmer of Kendall County; Melissa Stone lives in Sandwich, De Kalb County; Mary Ann died when a child; Eben L., our subject; Sarah Lamira and Luther B. make their home in California. With the exception of the two eldest children, who were born in Oneida County, N. Y., they were all born and reared in Lisbon, Ill.

The early years of our subject were passed upon his father's farm in Illinois in the usual pursuits of farmer boys. For that early day he received quite a fair common-school education, and at nineteen years of age he left his studies in order to enter the army. He left Lisbon in company with the regiment in which he had enlisted on the 15th of August, 1862, as a member of Company E, Ninety-first Illinois Infantry, under Col. H. M. Day, and was mustered into service at Springfield. The company was detailed to guard railroad bridges in Kentucky. Gen. Morgan made them prisoners, our subject being captured on the 27th of December, 1862. He was paroled and sent to St. Louis, where he was kept until July, 1863. After being released, he proceeded to Vicksburg, thence went to New Orleans and afterward to Texas. He then went to Mobile and assisted in the capture of that city. He entered the service as a private soldier and was an Orderly at headquarters. He was a faithful and efficient soldier, ever to be found at his post of duty and true to the trust reposed in him.

Returning from the war, he went to Springfield and arrived at his home on the 28th of July, 1865. On the 29th of November, 1866, Mr. Hills was married to Miss Phila M. Bushnell, a native of the Empire State. Their marriage was celebrated in the house where he was born at Lisbon, Kendall County. Mrs. Hills is a daughter of Richard and Adeline (McCuen) Bushnell, who came to Illinois in 1818, when Mrs. Hills was but four years of age. They first settled in McHenry County, then at Dundee, Kane County, and finally removed to Lisbon, when she was about eleven years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Bushnell are now both deceased. Three children grace the union of our subject and his wife: Lillian M. is the wife of Arthur Boswell, and lives in Nebraska. She was

born in the same house where her father's birth occurred, and grew to womanhood in Kankakee County. Susan H. resides at home and was born at Chebanse, Iroquois County. She acquired her education in the public schools of Onarga. Hubert was born in Chebanse and assists his father upon the home farm.

In 1870, Mr. Hills removed to Kankakee and engaged in farming there until 1885. Since that time he has made his home in this township and operates a farm of four hundred and eighty acres. This is a well-improved piece of property, and as an agriculturist he meets with success. For several years he has engaged in breeding English Shire horses and has a number of full-blooded imported and registered animals. He is the owner of some very fine stock, and in all his business enterprises he shows good judgment and sagacity. Mr. and Mrs. Hills are faithful members of the Congregational Church at Chebanse. Socially, he is a member of the Grand Army Post at Chebanse and belongs to the order of Modern Woodmen. He cast his first vote for Gen. U. S. Grant and has been a staunch Republican since the war. He has often attended the conventions of his party, both county and senatorial. At present he is Supervisor of the township, and has served as Township Clerk for four years. He makes an able and efficient officer and discharges the duties of his position to the satisfaction of all. Mr. Hills is pleasant and genial and his hospitable home is always open to his many friends.



CHARLES W. RAYMOND. Every community has a few men who stand pre-eminent in the eyes of its citizens. This is because of their inherent public spirit, generous impulses or superior ability. Out of the mass which constitutes the community these few men shed their lustre abroad—their light shines not like a lamp which reflects its rays simply upon the four walls of a room, but like the sun, which shines upon all; they stand above their fellows; their

reputations extend beyond the narrow confines of their homes; their influence reaches out beyond the little community in which they happen to reside, and their names become household words because of the pre-eminent position which they hold in society.

Charles W. Raymond, the subject of this sketch, is an apt illustration of this fact. Born in humble circumstances, and battling with adversity, he has been constant in purpose, and has achieved a distinction in which he may well take pride, even as the friends who have watched his progress and admired his career are proud of the position he has attained among his fellowmen.

He was born in Dubuque, Iowa, the son of Capt. William M. Raymond and Mary E. (Meyers) Raymond. Soon after his birth the family removed to Nashville, Tenn., where the father conducted a prosperous business until the clouds of war began to hang like a dark pall over the threatened nation. Treason stalked with arrogance through the streets of the Rock City and vowed dire vengeance upon all who dared to assert their loyalty to the Union. Capt. Raymond, in whose veins flowed the blood of Revolutionary sires, was, however, not to be intimidated; he denounced in vehement terms the folly and futility of secession, and so outspoken and emphatic were his sentiments of loyalty to the Old Flag that he became a marked man and was obliged to flee for safety, his escape from lynching being due to the warning of a friend, a Southern sympathizer, whose friendship was yet so strong and true that he secreted the loyal but despised Yankee on his own premises until he could find safe passage with his family to the North. Capt. Raymond landed at Lawrenceburg, Ind., where he at once joined the Fifty-second Indiana Infantry, being elected First-Lieutenant of Company D, of which he subsequently became Captain. The family went on to Indianapolis, where they remained during the war. Capt. Raymond followed the fortunes of his regiment through all its vicissitudes; shared in its bivouacs, its battles and its marches, until he finally arrived with the army at Nashville, the old home from which he had been driven, and he here lost his life in the memorable battle of December 16, 1864. His

remains were brought to Cincinnati (his birth-place), where they were tenderly laid to rest in the Cummingsville Cemetery in January, 1865.

The widow, with three orphaned children, then moved to Mt. Washington, Ohio, in order to be near her relatives, with whom she afterward came to Illinois, locating in Washington, Tazewell County. Charles, then a youth, spent three years upon a farm in Linn Township, Woodford County. Afterward he joined his mother, who had moved to Onarga, Iroquois County, where he entered Grand Prairie Seminary. He applied himself zealously to his books, and completed his studies in Wabash College, at Crawfordsville, Ind. For a time he worked in the flax mill at Onarga as tow-boy, but in 1878 he came to Watseka, where he was given a clerkship in the office of the County Clerk, being in 1882 installed as Deputy County Clerk under Henry A. Butzow. In the interim, he studied law and was admitted to the Bar in 1886. To-day, although still a young man, he stands in the front of the legal profession in Iroquois County. As an orator, he is the peer of any of his colleagues, having (in his determination to succeed as a public speaker) overcome obstacles which have discouraged many another even better equipped. To-day he will stand before his auditors and command their profoundest attention by the fascination of his speech, while many people in Watseka well remember his complete failure and mortification in his first attempt to speak in public a few years ago. Words failed him, his tongue refused utterance, his face flushed, his limbs trembled; he stood there unable to utter a sentence, when, in abject humiliation, he took his seat, but in his discomfiture still resolved that he would yet overcome his timidity and some day prove to his friends that perseverance and determination will triumph in the end. This episode occurred in 1879 before a large audience (the writer of this sketch being one of the number), where he had been advertised to speak in the old Opera House on Third Street. The editor of the *Iroquois Times* in his report of the proceedings, August 23, 1879, referred to the matter in these kindly words of encouragement: "Don't be discouraged, Charley; the greatest orators the world ever produced failed

in their first efforts. We expect to hear from you yet." And "Charley" has verified the prophecy of the sympathizing editor.

Being thoroughly conversant with the affairs of the county, he was in 1886 selected by the Board of Supervisors to conduct the prosecution in the celebrated case of the People of the State of Illinois for use of Iroquois County vs. John W. Riggs, ex-Circuit Clerk, to recover certain trust funds and fees withheld by the defendant. In the prosecution of this, one of his first cases and a most important one, he exhibited such skill and determination that he at once sprang into prominence, and his reputation as an able and fearless attorney became established at the very threshold of his practice. The successful prosecution of this case did much to inaugurate some wholesome reforms among the county officials. From that time forth Mr. Raymond's career has been one of uniform success. He was employed by Hon. John L. Hamilton in 1891 in the contest between this gentleman and Henry A. Butzow for the seat in the Thirty-seventh General Assembly from the Sixteenth Senatorial District of Illinois, in which he scored a complete victory for his client, who was seated as a Republican, though the House in which the contest took place was Democratic. This contest attracted general interest throughout the State, as the election of a United States Senator was involved and much depended upon the complexion of the House, the parties being almost equally divided, three Independents wielding the balance of power. He was also engaged in the Munhall-Mann contest, wherein the latter, having been declared elected by the Board of County Canvassers and installed as Circuit Clerk, his rights were disputed by the complainant, who alleged irregularities at the polls, which, if corrected, would entitle him to the office.

Mr. Raymond has taken an active part in politics and is recognized as one of the leaders of the Republican party in Eastern Illinois, where he wields a marked influence. He has attended various conventions (county, congressional and district) and in 1892 was a delegate to the Republican State Convention, where he was chosen as a Representative-at-Large of that body to the National

Republican League, which met at Buffalo, N. Y., in September of that year. Here he became conspicuous, being placed upon several important committees, and was honored as Chairman of the committee of three (Judge James H. Blanchard, of New York, and Judge John P. Seamans, of California, being the other two members) to notify Gen. J. S. Clarkson of his election as President of the National League of Republican clubs.

He was appointed Master in Chancery for Iroquois County by the Circuit Judges of this district, his fitness for this responsible position being generally conceded. He is also one of the Vice-presidents of the State Bar Association, of which Hon. Lyman Trumbull is President.

Not alone in the practice of his profession and in public affairs does Mr. Raymond find congenial employment, but he devotes much of his time and talent to the advancement of fraternal societies. He is a leading Odd Fellow, having passed through all the chairs in lodge and camp of the order, and is representative from Iroquois Encampment No. 81, I. O. O. F., of Watseka, to the Grand Encampment of Illinois. His services are much sought after by lodges as orator on anniversary and holiday occasions. He is also a member of Milford Lodge No. 211, K. P., and a Sir Knight of the Uniformed Rank. He was instrumental in the organization of the Sons of Veterans in Iroquois County, and is held in high esteem by his comrades, who have frequently testified their appreciation of his services by honoring him with the highest offices in their gift.

No attorney in Iroquois County has more elegant business apartments, his office occupying three rooms over the Citizens' Bank. It is a model of tidiness and good order, indicating to the caller at first sight the character of the occupant, the impression being that a man who keeps his books and papers in order knows where they are, and, knowing this, knows what they contain—in fact, knows his business. His library is one of the most extensive and valuable in the county, his aim being to keep pace with all that is new in the profession. He is a man of fine presence, dignified yet affable, a true friend and a charitable opponent, slow to anger yet quick to resent, mild of speech yet he

can deliver terrific blows when occasion requires. He has risen by his own unaided genius from an obscure youth, guiding the plow upon a farm or pitching fibre in a flax-mill, to be one of the best known of the prominent citizens in Iroquois County; he has built up a successful practice and achieved an enviable reputation, the result of industry and perseverance. His career is but another illustration of what a young man may accomplish by well-directed effort and singleness of purpose—*Per aspera ad astra*. In this land of opportunities he wins who works.



JOHN F. SCHRADER, a well-known farmer of Chebanse Township, owns and carries on a farm on section 13. He is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred on the 7th of January, 1828, in Hanover. His early years were passed in an uneventful manner up to the age of seventeen in agricultural pursuits and in the acquisition of an education. In company with his father, John H. Schrader, he determined to seek a home and fortune in America. They accordingly went to Bremen, taking passage in a sailing-vessel, the "Anna" bound for Baltimore. After a voyage of some five weeks upon the briny deep they arrived at their destination in September, 1844. They proceeded to Indiana, settling in Ripley County, where the father engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in the winter of 1855.

Our subject was engaged upon a farm by the month in Indiana for nine years. He carefully saved his earnings and invested in land in the Hoosier State, which he afterward sold and with the proceeds purchased land, the place where he now resides. He had traveled through a large portion of Indiana and Illinois before deciding to purchase in this county, which he did in June, 1854. He then went to Kankakee, where he spent the winter of 1854-55 in school. He has largely educated himself since arriving at mature years as his early education was limited. He is now well informed on all leading

issues and affairs of importance, both national and otherwise. In the spring of 1856, he located upon his land and began in earnest to improve his property. The county at that time had but few inhabitants and much of it was under water. There were but two stores at Chebanse, and with the railroad depot they constituted the town. Mr. Schrader's first purchase was a tract of eighty acres. After he had partially improved this he bought adjoining land from time to time as his finances would permit and now is the owner of over a section of good arable and well-improved land. The farm on which is his home adjoins the corporate limits of Chebanse. Mr. Schrader is pre-eminently a self-made man, having commenced his business career absolutely without capital. His years of enterprise, industry and effort have been crowned with a success which he has well deserved, and he is to-day one of the wealthy and influential farmers of the county.

On the 26th of March, 1859, he was married to Miss Jane Slinn, whose birthplace and childhood's home was Stafford, England. At the age of twelve years she with her parents removed to America, settling in New York City. After two years they moved to Chicago, and four years later to Chebanse, where they permanently located. She was intelligent, energetic, a devoted Christian, and as a wife and mother faithful in the discharge of every duty. After twenty-nine years of married life she was called to her home above, her death occurring August 12, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Schrader are the parents of nine children, seven of whom are still living: Clara is the wife of Orin B. Streeter, who is engaged in a prosperous mercantile business in Denver, Colo.; George W. assists his father with the work upon the home farm; Emma, since the death of the mother, remains at home; John H., Charles, Joseph, Harriet and Flora are still under the parental roof and are attending school. Fannie J. lived to a beautiful young womanhood and died August 17, 1888, five days after her mother passed away. Freddie, the youngest son, died at the age of two years and six months.

Mr. Schrader cast his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and has been an active Republican, voting for every nominee since that time. Three of his

sons are voters; two of them like their father are Republican, and the other is a supporter of the Prohibition party. Though never an aspirant for office, our subject has been a number of times called upon by his fellow-citizens to occupy positions of trust and honor, and has discharged the duties pertaining to them in an able manner and to the satisfaction of all. Mr. Schrader and his family are members of the First Congregational Church of Chebanse. Every worthy enterprise finds in them support and encouragement and they have always given liberally of their means to church and benevolent purposes. For nearly two-score years, Mr. Schrader has been a citizen of this State and is numbered among the honored pioneers of the county. By his life of integrity he has won and deserved the praise and commendation of all and numbers host of friends in this county and those adjoining.



JOHN D. ASH, who owns and operates one hundred and twenty acres of land on sections 6 and 7, Middleport Township, is an honored veteran of the late war, and a progressive and substantial farmer of this community. A native of Ohio, he was born in Clarke County, near Springfield, on the 8th of June, 1833. His parents, William and Elizabeth (Driskel) Ash, were also natives of the Buckeye State, and were of German and Irish descent respectively. Their family numbered six children, three sons and three daughters. Mary, deceased wife of Henry Gaines; John D., of this sketch; Katherine, wife of Dr. Harvey Mitchell, a practicing physician residing in Muncie, Ind.; Harrison, a resident farmer of Marion County, Kan.; Priscilla, wife of Martin Halloway, who is engaged in farming near Crawfordsville, Ind.; and Elias, who died in 1863. The mother of this family died in 1845, and Mr. Ash departed this life in 1862. Both were members of the Methodist Church. Mr. Ash, whose name heads this record, spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads.

In the summer months, he aided in the labors of the farm, and when work in the fields was over, he

attended the district schools of the neighborhood through the winter season, until nineteen years of age. Under the parental roof he remained until his marriage, which was celebrated in 1857. The previous year he had come to Iroquois County, and having formed the acquaintance of Miss Sarah Buck, they were joined in wedlock. The lady was a daughter of David and Catherine (Lyman) Buck, who were numbered among the early settlers of Iroquois County.

After his marriage, Mr. Ash operated a rented farm until 1862, when, responding to the call of duty, and prompted by patriotic impulses, he offered his services to the Government, and became a member of Company B. One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry. He was mustered into service in Chicago, and the first battle in which he participated was at Arkansas Post. The same day, he was taken sick, and the following day was sent to the field hospital. Soon afterwards, he was sent to the hospital in St. Louis, Mo., where he remained for eleven months, ill with typhoid fever. November 14, 1864, he received an honorable discharge, and returning to Illinois again resumed farming. He purchased forty acres of land on section 4, Middleport Township, where he made his home for six years, when, selling his first farm, he became owner of one hundred and twenty acres on sections 6 and 7 of the same township.

In 1876, Mr. Ash was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. Five children had been born of that marriage, namely: Mary, wife of Charles Jewitt, a resident of Pittwood, Ill.; Doretta, who died September 7, 1878; Noah, a farmer residing in Middleport Township; John and William, both of whom are at home, and assist their father in the cultivation of the farm. In 1878, Mr. Ash was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Mary (Bower) Buck, widow of David Buck. Five children graced this marriage, but the three eldest, Georgia, Charlie and Lena, are now deceased. Eva and Edlie, twins, are at home.

Mr. Ash is a supporter of Democratic principles. He has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking, but has faithfully served his fellow-townsmen as School Director and Road Commissioner. His farm is a well-improved place, and its

neat appearance gives evidence of thrift and enterprise which are among the owner's chief characteristics. He is a man of sterling worth, held in high esteem throughout the community, and has proved himself a valued citizen by his public spirit and the commendable interest that he manifests in all pertaining to the welfare of the community.



JACOB HELLER, a well-known farmer of Chebanse Township, makes his home on section 26. He has the honor of being a native of Illinois, his birth occurring in Cook County, on the 28th of January, 1856. He is a son of Conrad Heller, and a brother of John Heller, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. Our subject came to Iroquois County with his parents when a child of but three years, and has here grown to manhood on the farm where he still resides. His boyhood days were spent in the usual manner and pursuits of farmer boys. His education was acquired in the district schools during the winter season, and these limited privileges were supplemented by a course of study in a German school at Kankakee. He remained with his father upon the home farm until the latter's death, which occurred October 2, 1890. In 1870, the father retired from the active cares and anxieties of superintending a farm, and our subject then took charge of the place and business. He has since added a forty-acre tract, thus making one hundred and forty acres in all. This is good arable land, and under a fine state of cultivation. Mr. Heller has just completed a good and substantial residence and has commodious barns and out-buildings. About his property on every hand are seen the thrift and enterprise of the owner.

On the 16th of April, 1879, Mr. Heller led to the marriage altar Miss Mary Zopf, a native of Kankakee, born April 24, 1855, and there reared to womanhood. She is a daughter of Sebastian Zopf, one of the first settlers of Kankakee, whose birth occurred in Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Heller have been born four children: William is now

attending school, and is bright in his studies, while Nettie and Laura are still under school age. Jessie, twin to Laura, died at the age of four months.

Our subject uses his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party, and is a believer in our public-school system and a staunch friend of education. He has served for several years as a member of the School Board, and has always been active and efficient in the work. Almost his entire life has been spent in this County, where he is well known and highly esteemed and respected as a man of upright character and life. He has seen wonderful changes in this county, as at the time of his first arrival here it had few inhabitants, and was but little developed. He has always taken an active part in all measures tending to advance the prosperity and welfare of his fellow-citizens, and well merits a representation in this volume of the pioneers and early settlers of this region.



HENRY R. FIELDS, a well-known citizen of Sheldon, was born in Danville, Ky., June 10, 1837, and comes of an old family of that locality. His great-grandfather, William Fields, was born in Ireland and came to Danville when the region round about was all wild and unimproved. He entered from the Government fourteen hundred acres of land, and the farm has been in the possession of the family for over one hundred years. The grandfather of our subject bore the name of Henry Fields, was a native of Danville and one of the early settlers. He owned six hundred and forty acres of land, the boundaries of which had been marked by his father by blazing trees with a hatchet. He was a large farmer and slave-owner in that locality.

William M. Fields, the father of our subject, was born in Danville in 1815, and spent his entire life there. In 1832, he embarked in merchandising and for near half a century was proprietor of one of the leading dry-goods stores of that place and a prominent and influential business man. He married Miss Ann Thorn, who was born in York-

shire, England, in October, 1815, and when six months old was brought by her parents to America, the family locating in Lexington, Ky., where her father owned and operated a woolen mill until his death. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fields was born a family of twelve children, eight of whom are now living; Henry R. is the eldest; Elizabeth D. is now the wife of Eloï Joffrion; Susan R. married the Hon. E. J. Joffrion; T. T. is living in Louisiana; Miss Annie, L. B. and W. M. reside in Lexington, Ky.; and Miss Carrie B. still makes her home in Danville.

The subject of this sketch was educated in his native city, a college town, and the seat of the old Center College which was founded sixty-nine years ago and from which have graduated some of the ablest men of the country, including Governors, statesmen, prominent journalists, etc. On attaining his majority, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary F., daughter of John and Mary Garrard. Their union was celebrated in La Porte, Ind., December 22, 1858. Mr. Fields had received his business training in his father's store, and after his marriage embarked in merchandising in North Liberty, St. Joseph County, Ind., where he carried on operations successfully until the fall of 1863.

At that time, Mr. Fields abandoned business pursuits and entered the service as a member of Company H, Twelfth Indiana Cavalry, in which he served until after the close of the war. He, with his command, was driven from Tullahoma to Murphreesboro, Tenn., and was there surrounded by Hood's forces for twenty-two days, fighting and skirmishing each day, and after the battle at Nashville, in which Hood was defeated by Thomas, he participated in the Mobile campaign. Lieut. Fields was ever found at his post of duty, faithfully defending the Old Flag which now waves over a united nation. When the war was over, he returned to his home and in 1872 came to this county.

By the union of Mr. and Mrs. Fields have been born six sons: William M., now a prominent and enterprising business man of Fowler, Ind.; John G., who for ten years has been traveling over the world; Henry R., a prosperous merchant of Fowler, Ind.; Bennett J., Louis A. and Arthur Bruce, at

home. Mr. Fields is a well-known citizen of Sheldon and takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its up-building. He has been quite prominent in political affairs and is an enthusiastic supporter of the Republican party. Those who know him esteem him highly for his sterling worth, and his friends and acquaintances throughout the community are many. Mr. Fields is now engaged in publishing the *Sheldon News*, one of the leading Republican organs of the Ninth Congressional District of Illinois.

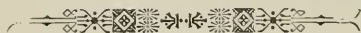


HANS RASMUSSEN, who owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of good land on section 22, Milk's Grove Township, is a native of Denmark. He was born in the city of Volkenbach, on the 28th of April, 1846, and is a son of Rasmus Hanson. His father was born and reared on the same farm as our subject, and there spent his entire life, engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was a well-educated man, quiet and unassuming in manner, and highly respected by all knew him. He served in the War of 1846. He married Miss Metta Christina Hanson, who is still living and makes her home with her children in this country. Mr. Hanson was a member of the Lutheran Church, to which his family all belong, and died in that faith in his native land, at the age of sixty-six years. In the Rasmussen family were four children, the eldest of whom is Hans; Frederick crossed the Atlantic in 1870, and is now engaged in farming at Fowler, Benton County, Ind.; Maria Christina is married, and resides on a farm in Cass County, N. Dak.; and Mrs. Mary Larsen is a resident of Chicago.

Our subject was only nine years of age at his father's death. He then started out in life for himself, and has since been dependent on his own resources. His school privileges were very limited—in fact, he is self-educated, but by observation and experience he has made himself a well-informed man. He remained in his native land until he had attained his majority, when he was married, May 16, 1866, and emigrated to America. The

lady of his choice was Miss Mary Jensen, who was born May 16, 1837, in the city of Holstenburg. In the spring of 1866, the young couple bade goodbye to their old home, and sailed to Hamburg, Germany, thence to New York. On landing in this country, they at once made their way Westward, locating in Rolla, Mo., but after a short stay of a month in that place came to Illinois. Mr. Rasmussen located in Chebanse, and for two years worked on the railroad. On the expiration of that period he began farming in his own interests, renting forty acres of land, which he operated until 1874. In that year he went to Newton County, Ind., where he engaged in farming for some time, when he removed to Fowler, Benton County. The last nine years of his life have been spent upon his present farm, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of arable land under a high state of cultivation, well improved and well tiled.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen have been born three children, two sons and a daughter: James L., who was born in this county; Olle John, who died when four months of age; and Lena M., born in Newton County, Ind. Both the living children were educated in the public schools, and are yet at home. Mr. Rasmussen and his family are all members of the Lutheran Church. He cast his first Presidential ballot for Gen. Grant in 1872, but since that time he has been a supporter of the Democracy. It was twenty-six years ago that he came to this county. In the years of his residence here he has proven himself a valued citizen, who takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community. He is held in high regard throughout the locality in which he has made his home, and his friends and acquaintances are many.



FRANKLIN J. HENNESSY is a retired merchant and a native son of this county. He has the honor of having been the first male child born in Milk's Grove Township, his birth occurring on the 29th of July, 1853. His father, Humphrey Hennessy, was born in County Cork, Ireland, and followed the life of a farmer in the Emerald Isle. In 1848, determining to seek his

fortune in the New World, he crossed the briny deep and located in the neighborhood of Le Roy, N. Y., where he also followed agricultural pursuits. The mother of our subject, who was before her marriage Margaret Gleason, was also born in Ireland, the place of her birth being the Silvermines in County Tipperary. In 1849 she came to America and settled near Le Roy, where she became acquainted with, and in 1852 married, Mr. Hennessy. Soon after their marriage they removed to Illinois and worked upon a farm in Milk's Grove Township, this county. For six months after their arrival they never beheld the face of a woman, and the howl of the prairie wolf and the morning call of the prairie chicken were to be heard on every hand. There was no house or settlement within many miles, with the exception of one log cabin in Pilots Grove, one in Oliver's Grove and one at Sammons Point, near the Iroquois River. Though the trials and hardships of that early day were enough to try the soul of any one however brave, Mr. Hennessy and his wife were made of that kind of material which knows no such word as fail. In their strong resolution to succeed they toiled on with patience and waited for such developments as time would surely bring. They lived to see their labors rewarded and saw the desert blossom as the rose and become one of the most fertile and profitable portions of the State. In the spring of 1856 they removed to a farm near Sugar Island, four and a-half miles east of the village of Chebanse, which farm is still owned by the family. The father's death occurred on the 23d of July, 1870, but the mother is still living and makes her home with our subject in Chebanse.

Their family consisted of two sons, Franklin J. and John. The latter lost his life in Chicago on the morning of the 25th of March, 1892, by falling from the third-story window of the New York Hotel. His remains were brought to Chebanse, where on the following Sunday he was laid to rest in the Catholic Cemetery. His occupation was that of farming and stock-raising, and for twenty-two years he had managed the farm formerly owned by his father. His mother lived with him and he made a comfortable and pleasant home for her. He was a young man of much promise, genial, af-

fable and happy and had a host of friends. He was in Chicago with stock, arriving the morning of the 24th of March.

Our subject, Franklin Hennessy, received but a limited education in the district schools of his neighborhood, as at that early day they had not been brought to their present standard of excellence. His first school teacher was O. S. Whitehead, and among his other school teachers was J. P. H. Trescott, who is still a resident of Chebanse, and one to whom he will ever be grateful for his kindness. Mr. Hennessy also took a short course in the Holy Family's Catholic School in Chicago. He always had a natural talent for business, and on the 8th of June, 1874, entered the employ of the celebrated Lemuel Milk in his general store, which was known as the Combination Store, and in his service remained as clerk until the 1st of March, 1883, at which time, Messrs. McKee and Bard purchased the stock of Mr. Milk. Our subject then entered their employ and was with them until May 1, 1886. On the 8th of that month, in company with his former employer, Mr. Milk, he opened the store with an entirely new stock of goods under the firm name of Milk & Hennessy. Their predecessors, McKee & Bard, removed their stock to Iowa just previous to this. The firm of Milk & Hennessy continued in business until the 9th of July, 1892, when they closed out their stock to H. Y. Swan and E. A. Brown, of Waldron, Kankakee County, to which place the latter removed their purchase. Mr. Hennessy always made a success of his business and enjoyed a large patronage, but tiring of the mercantile life he determined to give his attention to agricultural pursuits. He owns a farm comprising about one hundred and eighty-five acres, which he intends to improve and cultivate with the most modern appliances. He contemplates placing upon it about two thousand five hundred rods of tile, and will make of it a model farm of this decade.

The subject of our sketch was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Ellen Linehan, the ceremony being performed on the 23d of May, 1880. Her father, John Linehan, of Chebanse, was a native of Ireland, and her mother, who was before her marriage Miss Harriet De Witt, was born in Sullivan County, N. Y.

The citizens of Chebanse have a number of times called upon Mr. Hennessy to fill positions of public trust. He was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace, and became a member of the Village Board of Trustees, which office he held for eight years and was School Director for four years. Like his father before him, he is a supporter of the Republican party and cast his first ballot for President Hayes. Socially, he is a member of Chebanse Council No. 1079, R. A. He and his wife are members of the Catholic Church. Mr. Hennessy has always been identified with all measures for the welfare of the community and is a public-spirited and patriotic citizen.



HENRY CLAY FRITCH, who is engaged in farming on section 24, Lovejoy Township, owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of arable land, comprising one of the best farms in this locality. The fields are well tilled, and the many improvements, which are such as are found on a model farm, indicate his thrift and enterprise. He has one of the best barns in the township.

Mr. Fritch was born in Berks County, Pa., on the 9th of June, 1848. His parents, George and Christina Fritch, are also natives of the Keystone State. His father has followed the occupation of farming throughout his entire life and by his own exertions has become well-to-do. Himself and wife are members of the Baptist Church. In their family were twelve children, but only four are now living, Henry Clay being the eldest. Celia is the wife of William Dungan, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Mercer County, Ill.; Austin is married and follows farming in Kansas; Amanda is the wife of Ed Smallwood, a telegraph operator of Indianapolis, Ind.

The subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth in the family. The first seven years of his life were spent in the State of his nativity, and then with his parents he went to Williamsport, Ind., where he resided for about eight years, the

days of his boyhood and youth being spent in the usual manner of farmer lads. On attaining his majority he started out in life for himself. His capital was very limited, but he possessed industry and a strong determination to succeed.

When the war broke out he tried to enlist in his country's service, but being so young he was brought home by his father, who, to satisfy his military aspirations, permitted him to join the Home Guards, with which he was connected for some three years. The company numbered about one hundred, being well equipped and thoroughly drilled. Mr. Fritch was married August 10, 1870, to Martha, youngest daughter of John and Rebecca Mulholland. The lady was born March 25, 1854, and died March 18, 1872. One child, Clara, born of this union, died in infancy. Bereft of his companion, Mr. Fritch made four trips West, visiting several States, but finding no place he liked better than Iroquois County he returned and has since made it his home.

On the 23d of October, 1873, Mr. Fritch was united in marriage with Miss Ella McClure, daughter of John and Sarah (Kirk) McClure. Their union was celebrated in Milford, and has been blessed with a family of seven children, five sons and two daughters, but only four are now living: George who was educated in the Wellington schools and is a telegraph operator by profession, resides at home with his parents; John died at the age of two years; Edd aids his father in the farm work; Edlie died at the age of two years and ten months; James is at home; Henry C. died at the age of five years; and Ruth is the baby of the household. The mother of this family is a native of Indiana. She was born November 9, 1855, and when a maiden of twelve summers became a resident of Illinois. In the McClure family were ten children, seven sons and three daughters, of whom eight are yet living. Mrs. Fritch is the eldest; Minnie, is a resident of this State; Charlie is at home; John is married and makes his home in this county; Thomas resides in Iroquois County; Hugh is married and resides in this county; and Toliver and Daniel also make their home in this county.

In his social relations Mr. Fritch is an Odd Fellow, belonging to Wellington Lodge No. 785, I.

O. O. F. His wife holds membership in the Daughters of Rebekah. In politics he is an ardent adherent of the Republican principles, and his first vote was cast for Gen. U. S. Grant. He has never been an office-seeker, but has frequently been called to fill public positions of honor and trust, yet has never accepted. His fellow townsmen well recognize his worth and ability and know him as an honorable, upright man.



DR. JACOB M. MURREY, who is engaged in the practice of medicine in Sheldon, was born on the 12th of November, 1814, in Franklin County, Ind., and is of Scotch descent. His father, William Murrey, was a native of Scotland, and with his parents emigrated to America in 1800, when about twenty years of age. He was a cabinet-maker by trade and followed that occupation throughout much of his life. In the Buckeye State he met and married Miss Hannah Vansyeck, a native of Ohio, and in 1814 they removed to Franklin County, Ind., but after a short time returned to Butler County, Ohio, and subsequently removed to Louisville, Ky. It was not long afterward that Mr. Murrey joined the regular army, and this is the last knowledge which our subject has of his father. Whether he was killed or what became of him the family never knew. In September, 1834, the mother came to Iroquois County, Ill., where she resided for forty-one years, or until her death, which occurred at the advanced age of eighty-eight. Jacob was the third in order of birth in a family of five children and is the only surviving member.

The common schools of the Buckeye State afforded the Doctor his educational privileges. At the age of sixteen years he began earning his own livelihood, and afterward followed farming for a period of five years. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, he chose Miss Mary Wood, daughter of Jeremiah Wood, of Kentucky, their union being celebrated February 21, 1836. They lived together as man and wife for fifty-five years, sharing with each other the joys and sorrows, pain and

pleasure, adversity and prosperity, which checker the lives of all. At length the faithful wife was called to her final rest, passing away on the 6th of April, 1891.

By their union were born six children: Jeremiah B., the eldest; Margaret J., now the wife of David Stewart; Minerva Jane, who married J. P. Sutton; Josephine, wife of Francis W. Raymond; Josephus, twin brother of Josephine; and Albert P., who completes the family. Not long ago the Doctor made a visit to Kansas, and while there saw twelve of his great-grand children.

It was about twenty years ago that Dr. Murrey began making a specialty of the treatment of cancers. He has made a life study of this disease, and thorough preparation and natural skill and ability well fitted him for this line of practice. He has done an extended business over many States and has performed some wonderful cures. He has a wide reputation and well deserves the liberal patronage which he has received. In politics Dr. Murrey advocates the Democratic principles and has always supported that party, except in 1860 and again in 1864, when he voted for Abraham Lincoln. His life has been a busy and useful one, well and worthily spent, and he has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, being held in the highest regard by all who knew him.



JOHAN PAYNE is a highly respected farmer of Chebanse Township, residing on section 11. For a quarter of a century he has made his home in this county. He was born in Fayette County, Pa., in 1825, and is a son of Edward and Sarah (Anderson) Payne. His parents were both slaves in an early day. His father was liberated by the emancipation act of the State at the age of twenty-three years. Like the rest of the race, he was not given any chance for education. Both parents spent their entire lives in Fayette County. Of their children, Edward died in Pennsylvania in 1890, less than a mile from his birthplace; John is the second in order of birth; Barnes resides in St. Louis and is employed

on a steam-boat on the Mississippi River; Josephine is the wife of Isaac Bach and is now living near the old home in Fayette County; Mrs. Mary Curry resides in Washington County, Pa.; and Mrs. Sarah Jane Gilkeson is living in Allegheny City, Pa.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the State of his nativity. His educational advantages were limited, yet he managed to obtain a good knowledge of the common branches in the subscription schools, which he attended to some extent, paying \$2 per quarter for the privilege. He worked as a farm laborer in Pennsylvania until nineteen years of age, when he went to Ohio, locating near Cadiz, Harrison County. He was there under the employ of John Nicolls, with whom he remained seven years. When his employer removed to Bloomington, Ill., in 1851, Mr. Payne accompanied him. They were twenty-one days upon the road, making the journey with teams. For a time he worked upon a farm near Bloomington, and in 1856 went to Will County, working on a farm near Joliet for his old employer. He there carried on farming on shares.

It was in 1865 that Mr. Payne came to Iroquois County, and with the capital he had acquired through his industry, perseverance and economy he purchased eighty-five acres of land. This tract was entirely destitute of improvements. He hauled the lumber from Joliet, a distance of fifty-five miles, to build his house. All the improvements upon the place stand as a monument to the thrift and enterprise of the owner, who now has a comfortable home and good farm. In fact, he has so well succeeded in his business career, that he is now living retired, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves.

Mr. Payne was married, in Cadiz, Ohio, to Miss Ann B. Yancey, who was born in Virginia as a slave and was emancipated when about twelve years of age. From that time until twenty-two years of age she made her home with Isaac Kirk, of Belmont County, Ohio. Their marriage was celebrated in 1850. Mrs. Payne holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Clifton.

In 1868, Mr. Payne cast his first Presidential vote, thereby supporting Gen. Grant, and has since

been a warm advocate of Republican principles. For twenty-seven years he has resided in this county, has ever faithfully performed his duties of citizenship, and has done what he could for the best interests of this community and its upbuilding. He is truly a self-made man and his success in life is richly deserved.

BENJAMIN LOWER, a retired farmer residing in Ashkum, is a native of Blair County, Pa., born March 2, 1824. He is of German descent, his grandfather, Adam Lower, coming from Germany to this country at a very early day, being a pioneer of Huntingdon County, Pa. John Lower, the father of Benjamin, married Isabella Lancey, a native of Ireland, who came to this country with her parents while an infant and grew to womanhood in Pennsylvania. John Lower was a shoemaker by trade and worked at that line in Williamsburg, Pa., at which place he died many years ago.

Benjamin Lower, the subject of this sketch, is the third in order of birth in a family of four sons and three daughters, who grew to mature years. He grew to manhood in his native county, where he received an ordinary common-school education. For about sixteen years he followed the trade of a plasterer, working at that trade usually in the summer season, and in the winter helping his father at the bench. He was united in marriage in Scott's Valley, Blair County, Pa., January 14, 1851, to Anna Mary Milliken, a native of Blair County, Pa., a daughter of Edward and Catherine Milliken, the former of German parentage and the latter of Scotch descent.

In 1858, Mr. Lower came to Iroquois County and purchased eighty acres of land of the Illinois Central Railroad Company in Ashkum Township, and soon afterward bought forty acres adjoining and at once commenced its improvement. For the first few years the family suffered severely from fever and ague and typhoid fever, during which time two of the children died. In a few years they became acclimated, and have since en-

joyed reasonably good health. For sixteen years Mr. Lower remained upon his first farm, and then purchased one near the village of Ashkum, where he remained until 1888, and then built a good, substantial residence in the village of Ashkum, and has since lived a retired life. In the thirty-four years in which he has resided in this county he has witnessed many changes, and has contributed largely to its growth and prosperity. In early life, he was politically a Democrat, afterward a Republican, and is now thoroughly independent. He has never aspired to office, but has served his township in various local offices.

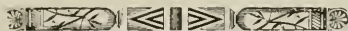
Mr. and Mrs. Lower are the parents of four living children: Ada C., now the wife of John Bridge, of Iroquois County; John A., a clerk in a store of Ashkum, a young man of fair education and ability; Dora, who resides at home; and Mary Malinda, now the wife of Edwin Duckham, of Ashkum. Two sons were lost: James, who died February 16, 1864, aged twelve years; and Abraham Lincoln, who died March 24, 1864, at the age of fourteen months. Mrs. Lower is a member of the Ashkum Congregational Church.

GEORGE A. REAKIN is a retired farmer residing in Danforth. He is a native of Germany, born in Hanover, February 9, 1833, and is a son of Claus and Nancy (Aden) Reakin, both natives of the same country. He grew to manhood in Germany, received a good education in his native tongue, and acquired his English education after coming to this country. In 1855, he married Cassie Saathoff, also a native of Hanover.

In 1857, the young couple took ship at Oldenburg for New Orleans. The ship was a sailing-vessel and they were three months on the voyage, during which time cholera broke out on board the ship and nineteen of the passengers died. They arrived at New Orleans November 4, 1857, and at once went up the river to St. Louis and thence to Peoria, where Mr. Reakin spent about fifteen months, doing such odd jobs of work as he could find to do. When he landed in America he had

about \$700 in gold, which he deposited in a bank, and every dollar of which he lost by its suspension. But he was not disheartened, continued on with his work, and soon accumulated a small sum and rented a farm in Livingston County, where he remained for about eight years. In 1866, he removed to Danforth Township, Iroquois County, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land and ten acres of timber land, paying down but a very small part of the purchase money. Now came the struggle of his life—first to free the land from debt, and then to place himself and family in comfortable circumstances for life. Success has crowned his efforts and he is now the owner of three farms, all of which are under a good state of cultivation.

Mr. and Mrs. Reakin are the parents of nine children who grew to maturity: Nancy, now the wife of Mr. Johnson, of Danforth; John, a farmer of this county; Claus, who resides in Minnesota; Seve, wife of Frank Wanth, of Ashkum; Sarah, wife of Eno Flessner; Rachel, wife of John Lottman; George, Eddie and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Reakin are members of the Lutheran Church. Politically, he is a Democrat.

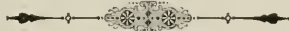


SANFORD A. ROBERDS was born near Jonesboro, Grant County, Ind., July 11, 1851, and is a son of Phineas and Elizabeth (Russell) Roberds. His father was a native of Ohio, and for many years was a minister in the Christian Church, much of the time being spent in evangelistic work. He removed to this county in 1867 and located in Milford, where he died June 11, 1890. He had been twice married, his first wife dying early in the '40s. His marriage with Elizabeth Russell, daughter of Samuel Russell, of Jonesboro, Ind., occurred in 1846. He was the father of thirteen children by the two marriages. The children of the first marriage are Martha Ann, Lucinda, Freeman, Morris, Matilda and Sarah. By the second union were born Nancy Jane, Sanford A., James L., Phoebe L., William D., Margaret and Ulysses S. Grant. The latter served

five years in the regular army and was mustered out in 1891. He married Miss Ida Doren, of Sheldon Ill., where they now live.

Sanford A. Roberds grew to manhood in his native State, where he received a common-school education at Farmington. Throughout the early years of his life he was engaged in farming, but retired from farm life about seven years previous to this writing. He came to this county with his father in the year 1867, having driven a team with household goods the entire way. On the 2d of April, 1873, he was married to Miss Laura Fanning, daughter of John and Mary (Spitler) Fanning. Five children have been born to them: Mary E., Minnie C., Amie L., Bessie L. and Arthur J. Minnie died April 3, 1876, and Amie, August 22, 1877. Mary E. graduated from the Milford schools in 1891, and afterward attended the Onarga Seminary at Onarga, Ill. She is now engaged in teaching the White College School, north of Milford.

Mr. Roberds is engaged at present exclusively in stock business, buying and selling, which business he has followed for about thirteen years. He is a member of Woodland Lodge No. 649, I. O. O. F., and of Watseka Camp, I. O. O. F., and also of Milford Camp No. 91, M. W. A. He is a man well known throughout Iroquois County, and enjoys the respect and confidence of all who know him.



JOHAN FITZGERALD is an old resident farmer, who makes his home on section 36, Milk's Grove Township. He was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, on the 8th of February, 1847, and is a son of Thomas and Mary (Fogarty) Fitzgerald, who were both born and grew to maturity in that part of Ireland. The father followed agricultural pursuits for a livelihood, and in 1848 emigrated to America, where he went to work upon a railroad near Joliet. He was in the employ of the railroad until 1863, when he once more turned his attention to farming. In 1854, his family came to this country, and were five

weeks and three days in crossing the Atlantic. Mr. Fitzgerald carried on the farm in Will County until 1868, at which time he came to Iroquois County, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of good land in Chebanse Township. For many years he was occupied in developing and improving his property, and it was only about six years ago that he retired from active duties and cares; he now makes his home in Clifton. He is about seventy years of age, and has always been a strong Democrat and good citizen. Both he and his wife, who is also living, are faithful members of the Catholic Church.

Thomas Fitzgerald, a brother of our subject, has been on the police force in Chicago for many years. Patrick, who was born in Joliet in 1855, is in the employ of the Chicago Street Railroad Company; Kate, wife of T. F. Donovan, was the mother of two children, and died in this county.

John Fitzgerald is the oldest living member of his father's family, and was about six and a-half years old when he first set foot on American soil. He was educated in the parochial schools of Joliet. On the 20th of May, 1863, he commenced the active duties of life by entering the employ of an uncle, who set him to work cutting wood on the railroad. At that time he was about sixteen years old, and has since been actively engaged at hard labor. After about two years in his uncle's employ he returned to his home and worked upon the farm. In 1876, he purchased his present farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres of valuable and well-improved land. He is now erecting several commodious and good farm buildings and has placed his farm under a high state of cultivation. He is counted a successful, thrifty and careful farmer, as is shown by his well-tilled fields and neat residence.

On the 9th of November, 1871, Mr. Fitzgerald led to the marriage altar Mary Hickey, who like her husband is a native of County Tipperary, Ireland. Her parents came to America in 1848, when she was a child of six years. They located upon a farm in Chebanse Township, where they are prosperous and well-known residents. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald are the parents of six children: Thomas was educated in the common schools, and is now on the home farm; Katie attended St. Mary's School, and joined the Sisters of Providence, who are stationed about four miles from Terre Haute at St. Mary's; Lizzie is a member of the same order having been educated at Chatsworth and at St. Mary's; Mary, Lydia and Raymond are still at home. The girls received their education at Chatsworth.

Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald and their family are faithful workers in the Catholic Church at Clifton. He is a man of large information and keeps posted on all the leading issues of the day. He is independent in politics and supports the man whom he considers best qualified to fill the position. He cast his first vote for Weaver, and for some time was a supporter of the Greenback party. At present his sympathies are with the Democratic party, as he is not in favor of Protection. For fourteen years he was a School Director, and is Drainage Commissioner of Milk's Grove Township, special district No 1. His father gave him some start in life, and with that exception, he has made his own way with the assistance of his family. He is a man of cool and clear judgment, and sagacious in his business enterprises and investments. He numbers many friends in this community, whom he has made in his twenty-four years' residence in this section.

THOMAS F. MOLONEY, born in Ottawa, Ill., August 17, 1859, is the son of John and Kate (Leahy) Moloney, both of whom were born in Ireland. Our subject was the only child born to them. John Moloney came to America many years ago, and located at Ottawa, Ill., where he was in the employ of the Rock Island Railroad Company for some time as baggageman. He has been deceased about thirty years. His widow married Michael Riordan, and they live three miles west of Buckley, and have six children. Mr. Riordan had one child by a former marriage, a daughter, Kate, who is married to John Feehan; they have three children. The names of the six children by the second marriage are: Michael, John, Mary, Dennis, Honora and Jerry. Mr. Riordan came from Ottawa to Buckley in 1876, and settled on a farm three miles west of town.

On the 3d of June, 1889, Thomas F. Moloney, the subject of this sketch, was united in marriage with Miss Frances Fisher, daughter of John and Mary Fisher; they have one child, John Francis Lane, born June 18, 1891. About two years ago, Thomas F. Moloney removed to Buckley for a farm west of town, and forming a partnership with his cousin, Thomas James Moloney, opened a hardware store, which they are now running under the firm name of Moloney & Moloney. They handle hardware, stoves, tinware, agricultural implements and machinery, buggies, wagons, etc.

Mr. Moloney and his wife are members of the Catholic Church. In politics, he is a Democrat.



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