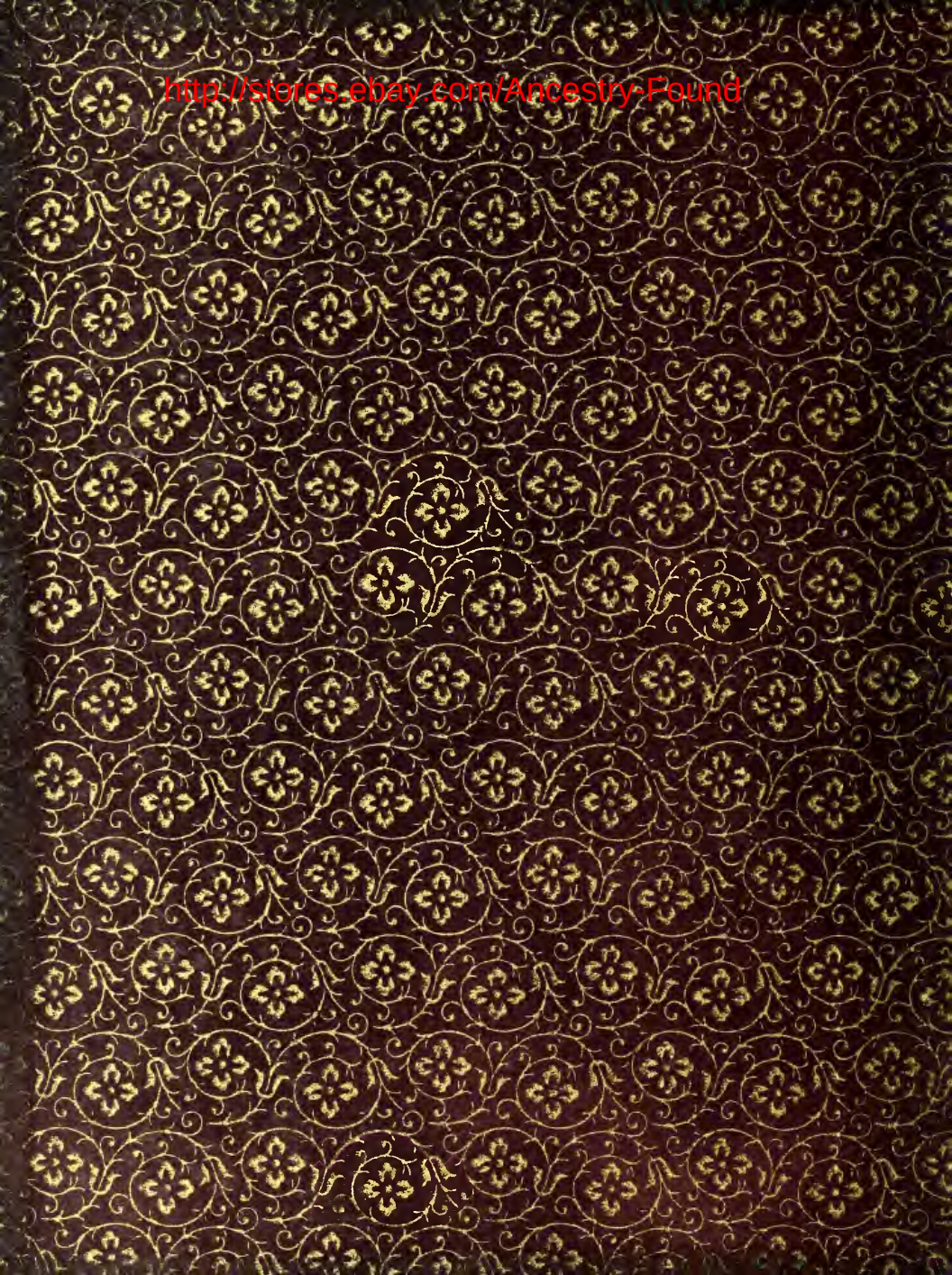


<http://stores.ebay.com/Ancestry-Found>

PORTRAIT
AND
BIOGRAPHICAL
RECORD

The title is rendered in a highly decorative, gold-colored font. The word 'PORTRAIT' is at the top, followed by 'AND' in a smaller font. Below that is 'BIOGRAPHICAL' and 'RECORD' at the bottom. The letter 'P' in 'PORTRAIT' is particularly large and ornate, containing a small portrait of a man. The entire title is surrounded by intricate floral and leaf patterns. The background is a dark, textured surface with a repeating pattern of stylized leaves and flowers.

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PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL



—OF—

Winnebago and Boone Counties, Illinois,

CONTAINING

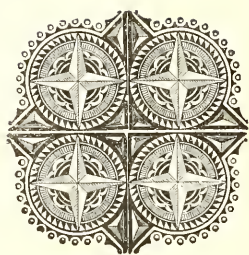
Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens,
Together with Biographies of all the
Governors of the State, and of the Presidents
OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO:
BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING CO.

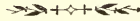
1892.

SAUK VALLEY COLLEGE
L.R.C.

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PREFACE.



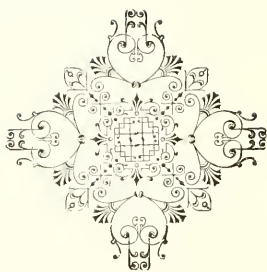
THE greatest of English historians, MACAULAY, and one of the most brilliant writers of the present century, has said: "The history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." In conformity with this idea the PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD of this county has been prepared. Instead 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.

September, 1892.

BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING CO.



 PORTRAITS
 AND

 BIOGRAPHIES

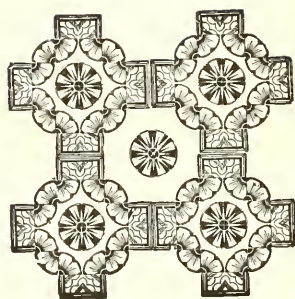
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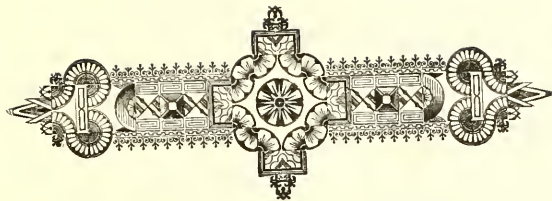
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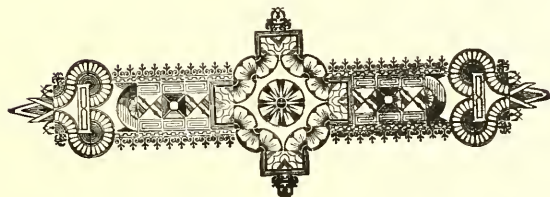
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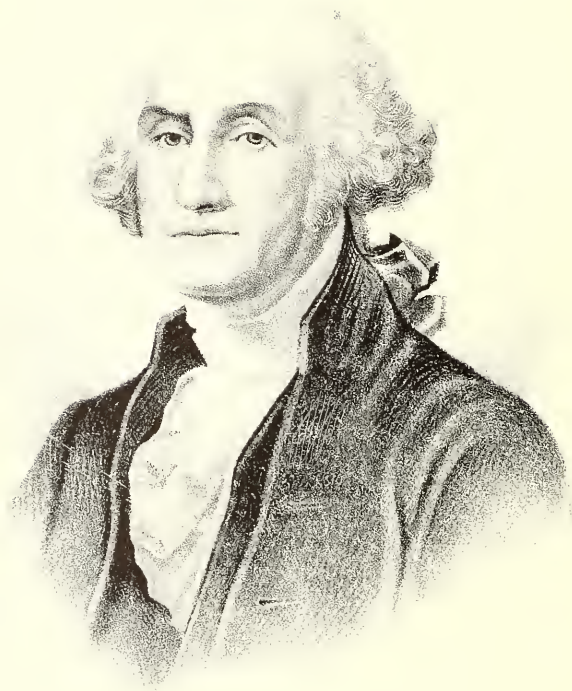




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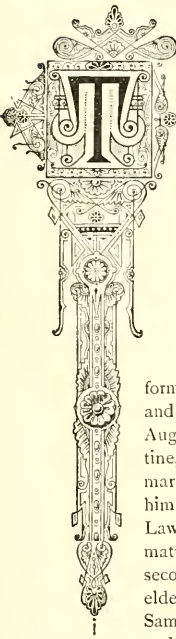




James Oglethorpe



GEORGE WASHINGTON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



John Adams



JOHN ADAMS.



JOHN ADAMS, the second President and the first Vice-President of the United States, was born in Braintree (now Quincy), Mass., and about ten miles from Boston, Oct. 19, 1735. His great-grandfather, Henry Adams, emigrated from England about 1640, with a family of eight sons, and settled at Braintree. The parents of John were John and Susannah (Boylston) Adams. His father was a farmer of limited means, to which he added the business of shoemaking. He gave his eldest son, John, a classical education at Harvard College. John

graduated in 1755, and at once took charge of the school in Worcester, Mass. This he found but a "school of affliction," from which he endeavored to gain relief by devoting himself, in addition, to the study of law. For this purpose he placed himself under the tuition of the only lawyer in the town. He had thought seriously of the clerical profession but seems to have been turned from this by what he termed "the frightful engines of ecclesiastical councils, of 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 town meeting, and the resolu-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

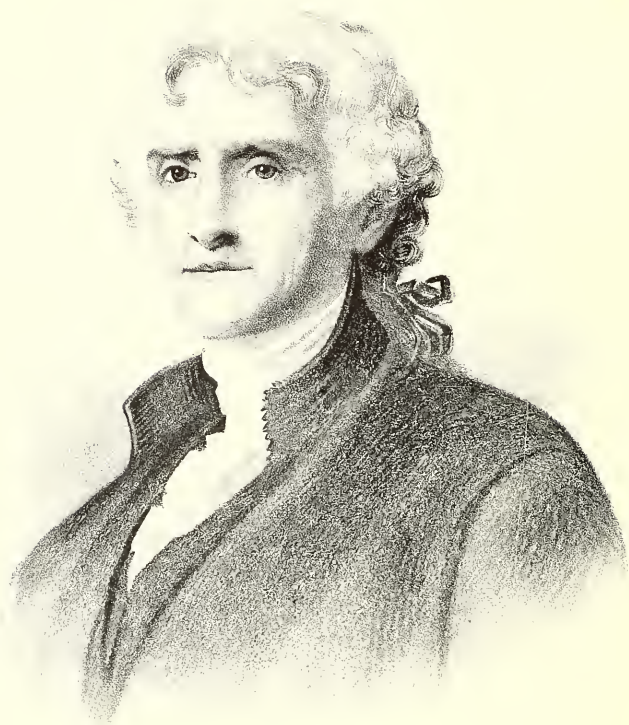
While Mr. Adams was Vice President the great

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

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

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

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



W. H. W.



THOMAS JEFFERSON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

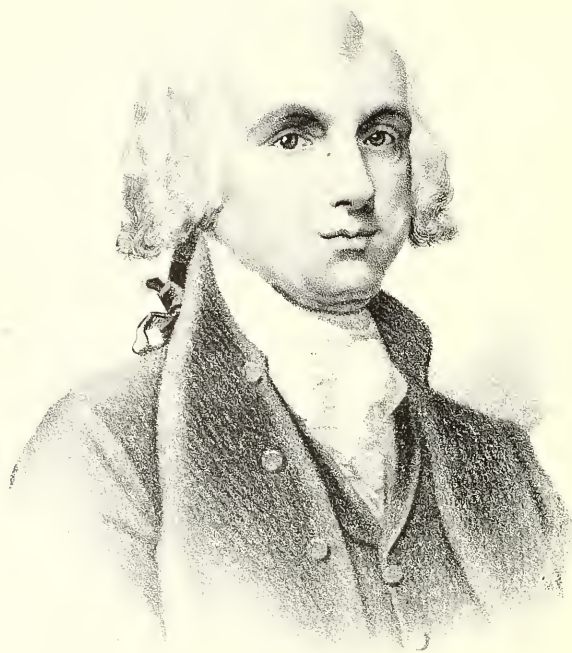
The fourth of July, 1826, being the fiftieth anniversary

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

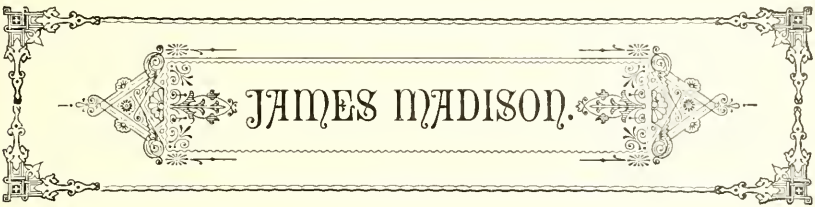
On the second of July, the disease under which he was laboring left him, but in such a reduced state that his medical attendants, entertained no hope of his recovery. From this time he was perfectly sensible that his last hour was at hand. On the next day, which was Monday, he asked of those around him,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

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

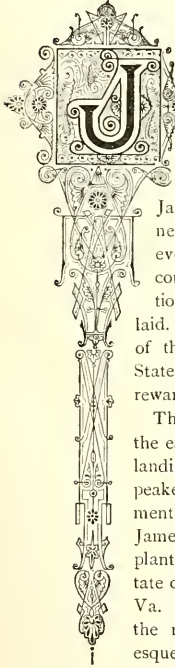
In person Mr. Jefferson was tall and thin, rather above six feet in height, but well formed; his eyes were light, his hair originally red, in after life became white and silvery; his complexion was fair, his forehead broad, and his whole countenance intelligent and thoughtful. He possessed great fortitude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



James McCune



JAMES MADISON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

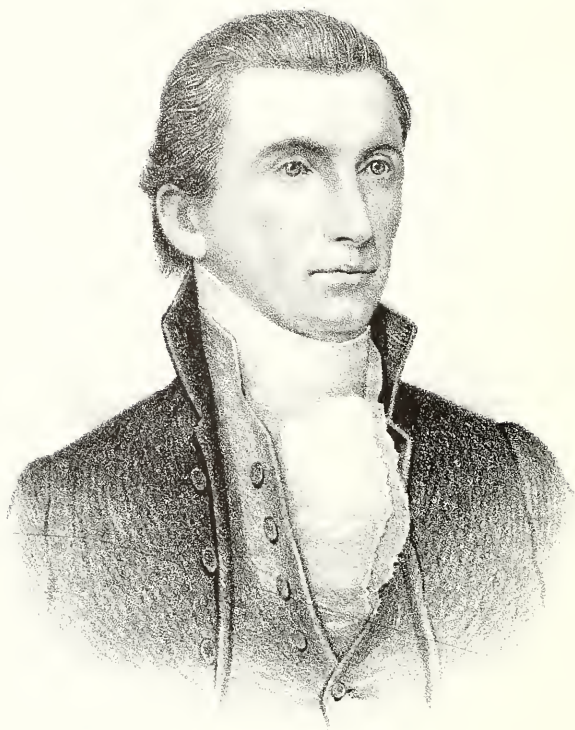
On the 18th of June, 1812, President Madison gave his approval to an act of Congress declaring war against Great Britain. Notwithstanding the bitter hostility of the Federal party to the war, the country in general approved; and Mr. Madison, on the 4th of March, 1813, was re-elected by a large majority,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

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

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

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

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



James Monroe



JAMES MONROE.



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 Brandy wine, Germantown and Monmouth, he continued aid-de-camp; but becoming desirous to regain his position in the army, he exerted himself to collect a regiment for the Virginia line. This scheme failed owing to the exhausted condition of the State. Upon this failure he entered the office of Mr. Jefferson, at that period Governor, and pursued, with considerable ardor, the study of common law. He did not, however, entirely lay aside the knapsack for the green bag; but on the invasions of the enemy, served as a volunteer, during the two years of his legal pursuits.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

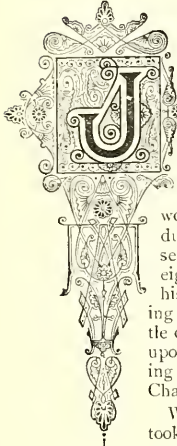




J. Q. Adams



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.



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

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

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

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

in the spring of 1782, he accompanied his father to Paris, traveling leisurely, and forming 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 mental 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.

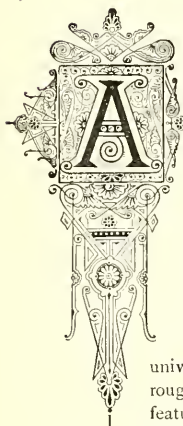
It has been said of President Adams, that when his body was bent and his hair silvered by the lapse of fourscore years, yielding to the simple faith of a little child, he was accustomed to repeat every night, before he slept, the prayer which his mother taught him in his infant years.

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."



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 every one 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.

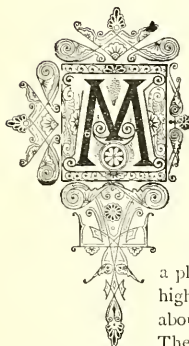
His administration was one of the most memorable in the annals of our country; applauded by one party, condemned by the other. No man had more bitter enemies or warmer friends. At the expiration of his two terms of office he retired to the Hermitage, where he died June 8, 1845. The last years of Mr.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



Dr. 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 termed the Federal proclivities of Mr. Adams.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

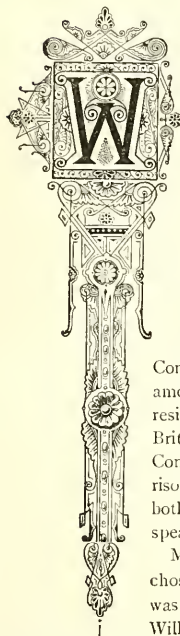


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W. H. Harrison

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

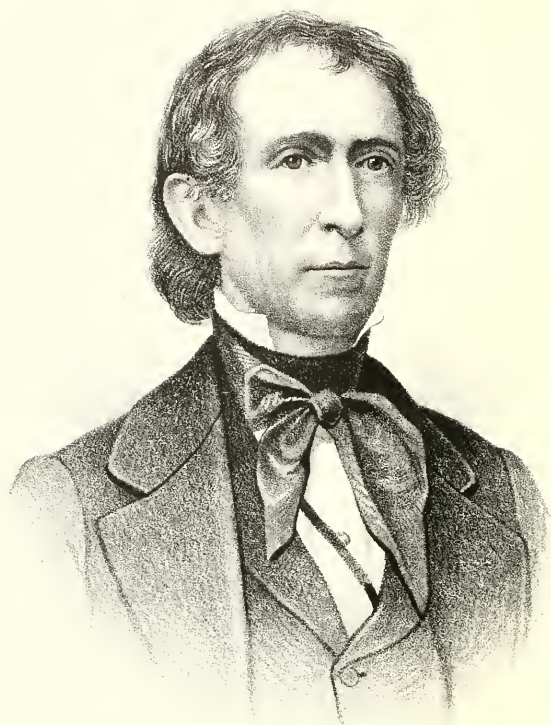
He won the love of his soldiers by always sharing with them their fatigue. His whole baggage, while pursuing the foe up the Thames, was carried in a valise; and his bedding consisted of a single blanket lashed over his saddle. Thirty-five British officers, his prisoners of war, supped with him after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

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

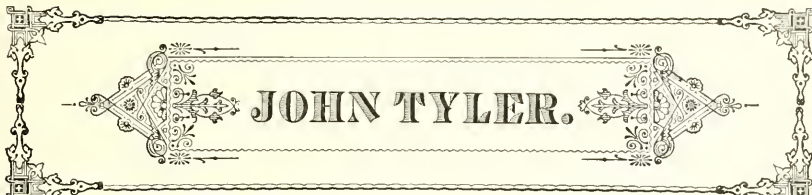
In 1819, Harrison was elected to the Senate of Ohio; and in 1824, as one of the presidential electors of that State, he gave his vote for Henry Clay. The same year he was chosen to the United States Senate.

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

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



John Tyler



JOHN TYLER.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

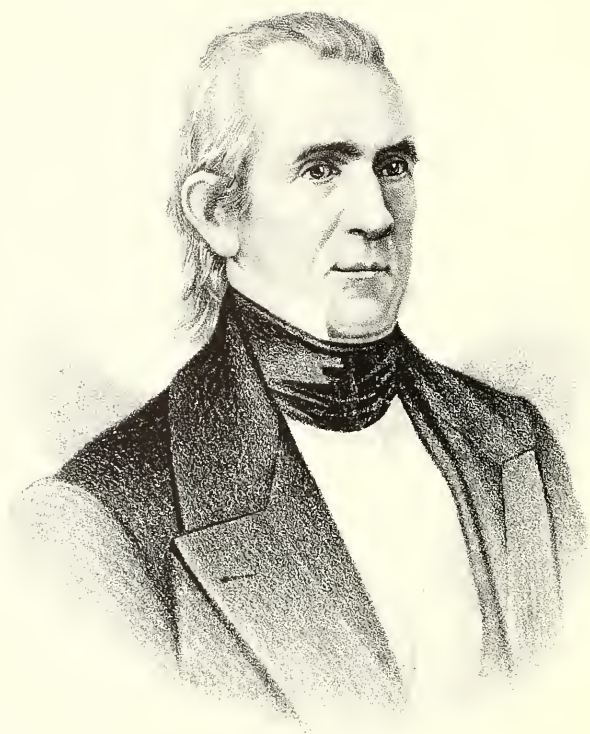
The opposition now exultingly received the President into their arms. The party which elected him denounced him bitterly. All the members of his cabinet, excepting Mr. Webster, resigned. The Whigs of Congress, both the Senate and the House, held a meeting and issued an address to the people of the United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

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

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

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

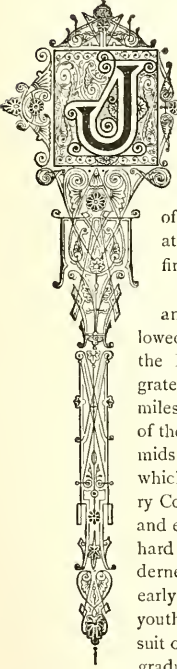
When the great Rebellion rose, which the State-rights and nullifying doctrines of Mr. John C. Calhoun had inaugurated, President Tyler renounced his allegiance to the United States, and joined the Confederates. He was chosen a member of their Congress; and while engaged in active measures to destroy,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



James K. Polk



JAMES K. POLK.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Zachary Taylor.



ZACHARY TAYLOR.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

lectual 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, untrained, honest soldier as their candidate for the presidency. Gen. Taylor was astonished at the announcement, and for a time would not listen to it; declaring that he was not at all qualified for such an office. So little interest had he taken in politics that, for forty years, he had not cast a vote. It was not without chagrin that several distinguished statesmen who had been long years in the public service found their claims set aside in behalf of one whose name

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

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

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

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

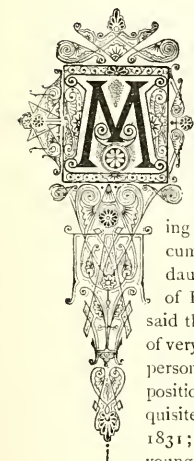
"Any allusion to literature beyond good old Dilworth's spelling-book, on the part of one wearing a sword, was evidence, with the same judge, of utter unfitness for heavy marchings and combats. In short few men have ever had a more comfortable, labor-saving contempt for learning of every kind."



Millard Fillmore



MILLARD FILLMORE.



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

though she was not permitted to witness the high dignity which he finally attained.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

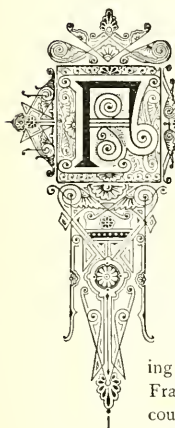
In 1856, Mr. Fillmore was nominated for the Presidency by the "Know Nothing" party, but was beaten by Mr. Buchanan. After that Mr. Fillmore lived in retirement. During the terrible conflict of civil war, he was mostly silent. It was generally supposed that his sympathies were rather with those who were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



Samuel Price



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.

an. Franklin was the sixth of eight children.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

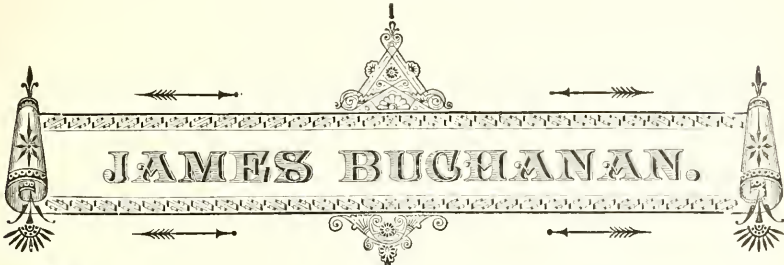
Such was the condition of affairs when President Pierce approached the close of his four-years' term of office. The North had become thoroughly alienated from him. The anti-slavery sentiment, goaded by great outrages, had been rapidly increasing; all the intellectual ability and social worth of President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

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

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



James Buchanan conf.



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 1,340,618, for Fremont, 1,224,750 for Buchanan. On March 4th, 1857, Mr. Buchanan was inaugurated.

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

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

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

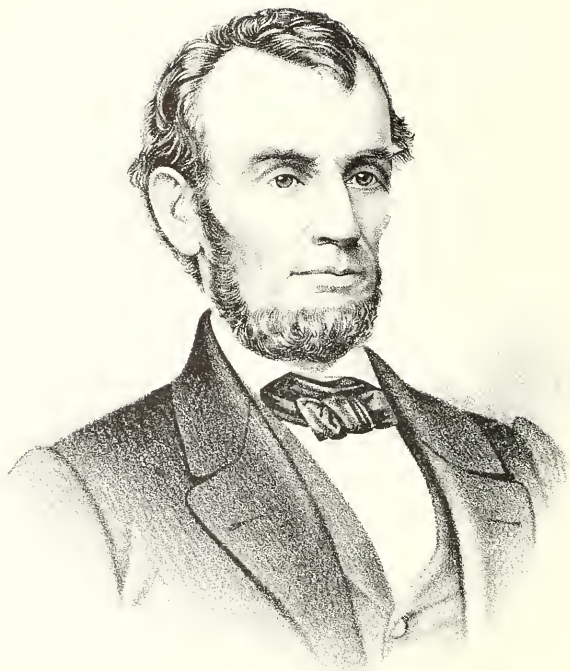
Mr. Buchanan's sympathy with the pro-slavery party was such, that he had been willing to offer them far more than they had ventured to claim. All the South had professed to ask of the North was non-intervention upon the subject of slavery. Mr. Buchanan had been ready to offer them the active co-operation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

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

South Carolina seceded in December, 1860; nearly three months before the inauguration of President Lincoln. Mr. Buchanan looked on in listless despair. The rebel flag was raised in Charleston; Fort Sumter 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.



For the ...
P. 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 then small lot of enclosed prairie planted with corn, when he announced to his father his intention to leave home, and to go out into the world and seek his fortune. Little did he or his friends imagine how brilliant that fortune was to be. He saw the value of education and was intensely earnest to improve his mind to the utmost of his power. He saw the ruin which ardent spirits were causing, and became strictly temperate; refusing to allow a drop of intoxicating liquor to pass his lips. And he had read in God's word, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain;" and a profane expression he was never heard to utter. Religion he revered. His morals were pure, and he was uncontaminated by a single vice.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

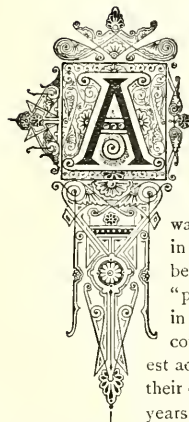
In the selection of his cabinet Mr. Lincoln gave to Mr. Seward the Department of State, and to other prominent opponents before the convention he gave important positions.

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

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



Andrew Johnson



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

opposition to, the principles laid down in that speech.

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

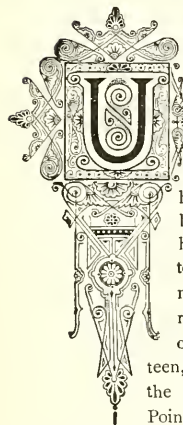
It was very tedious, continuing for nearly three months. A test article of the impeachment was at length submitted to the court for its action. It was certain that as the court voted upon that article so would it vote upon all. Thirty-four voices pronounced the President guilty. As a two-thirds vote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

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



U. S. Grant

ULYSSES S. GRANT.



ULYSSES S. GRANT, the eighteenth President of the United States, was born on the 29th of April, 1822, of Christian parents, in a humble home, at Point Pleasant, on the banks of the Ohio. Shortly after his father moved to Georgetown, Brown Co., O. In this remote frontier hamlet, Ulysses received a common-school education. At the age of seventeen, in the year 1839, he entered the Military Academy at West Point. Here he was regarded as a 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.

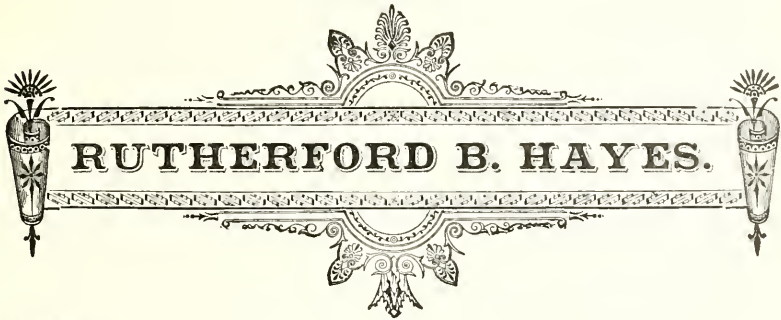
The National Convention of the Republican party which met at Philadelphia on the 5th of June, 1872, placed Gen. Grant in nomination for a second term by a unanimous vote. The selection was emphatically indorsed by the people five months later, 292 electoral votes being cast for him.

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.



S. J. C. 1874
R. B. Hayes



RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, the nineteenth President of the United States, was born in Delaware, O., Oct. 4, 1822, almost three months after the death of his father, Rutherford Hayes. His ancestry on both the paternal and maternal sides, was of the most honorable character. It can be traced, it is said, as far back as 1280, when Hayes and Rutherford were two Scottish chieftains, fighting side by side with Baliol, William Wallace and Robert Bruce. Both families belonged to the nobility, owned extensive estates, and had a large following.

Misfortune overtaking the family, George Hayes left Scotland in 1680, and settled in Windsor, Conn. His son George was born in Windsor, and remained there during his life. Daniel Hayes, son of the latter, married Sarah Lee, and lived from the time of his marriage until his death in Simsbury, Conn. Ezekiel, son of Daniel, was born in 1724, and was a manufacturer of scythes at Bradford, Conn. Rutherford Hayes, son of Ezekiel and grandfather of President Hayes, was born in New Haven, in August, 1756. He was a farmer, blacksmith and tavern-keeper. He emigrated to Vermont at an unknown date, settling in Brattleboro, where he established a hotel. Here his son Rutherford Hayes the father of President Hayes, was

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

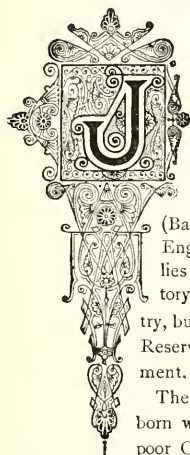
In 1867, Gen. Hayes was elected Governor of Ohio, over Hon. Allen G. Thurman, a popular Democrat. In 1869 was re-elected over George H. Pendleton. He was elected Governor for the third term in 1875.

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



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

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

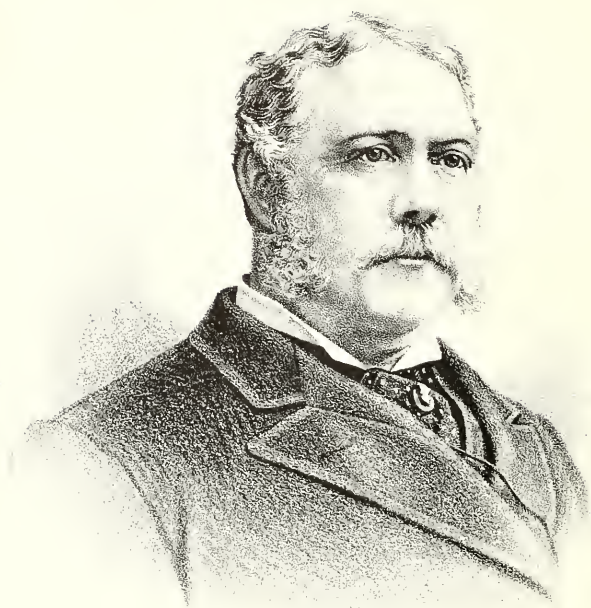
Mr. Garfield made his first political speeches in 1856, in Hiram and the neighboring villages, and three years later he began to speak at county mass-meetings, and became the favorite speaker wherever he was. During this year he was elected to the Ohio Senate. He also began to study law at Cleveland,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

The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with

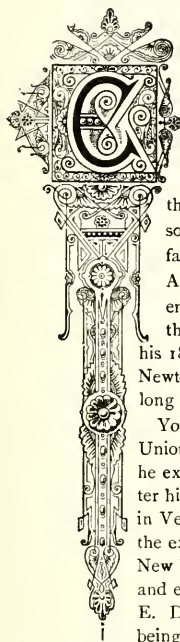
his brilliant services at Chickamauga, where he won the stars of the Major-General.

Without an effort on his part Gen. Garfield was elected to Congress in the fall of 1862 from the Nineteenth District of Ohio. This section of Ohio had been represented in Congress for sixty years mainly by two men—Elisha Whittlesey and Joshua K. 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. Fore 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, 1881, at Elberon, N. J., on the very bank of the ocean, where he had been taken shortly previous. The world wept at his death, as it never had done on the death of any other man who had ever lived upon it. The murderer was duly tried, found guilty and executed, in one year after he committed the foul deed.



C. A. Holman,



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

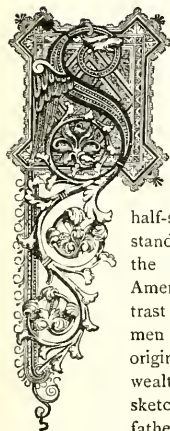
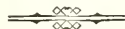
Finally the election came and the country's choice was Garfield and Arthur. They were inaugurated March 4, 1881, as President and Vice-President. A few months only had passed ere the newly chosen President was the victim of the assassin's bullet. Then came terrible weeks of suffering,—those moments of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

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

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



Grover Cleveland



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

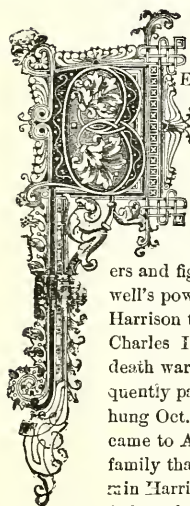
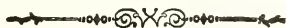
The first public office to which Mr. Cleveland was elected was that of Sheriff of Erie Co., N. Y., in which Buffalo is situated; and in such capacity it fell to his duty to inflict capital punishment upon two criminals. In 1831 he was elected Mayor of the City of Buffalo, on the Democratic ticket, with 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.



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 Northwestern Territory, was elected President of the United States in 1840. His career was cut short by death within one month after his inauguration.

President Harrison was born at North Bend, Hamilton Co., Ohio, Aug. 20, 1853. His life up to the time of his graduation by the Miami University, at Oxford, Ohio, was the uneventful one of a country lad of a family of small means. His father was able to give him a good education, and nothing more. He became engaged while at college to the daughter of Dr. Scott, Principal of a female school at Oxford. After graduating he determined to enter upon the study of the law. He went to Cincinnati and then read law for two years. At the expiration of that time young Harrison received the only inheritance of his life; his aunt dying left him a lot valued at \$800. He regarded this legacy as a fortune, and decided to get married at once, take this money and go to some Eastern town and begin the practice of law. He sold his lot, and with the money in his pocket, he started out with his young wife to fight for a place in the world. He

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

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

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

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

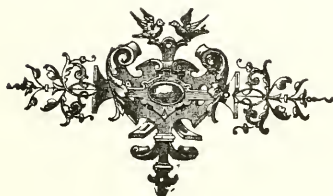
that body. With the expiration of his Senatorial term he returned to the practice of his profession, becoming the head of one of the strongest firms in the State.

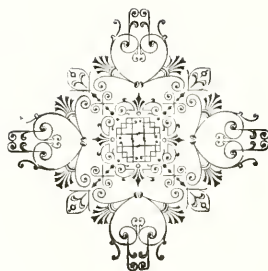
The political campaign of 1888 was one of the most memorable in the history of our country. The convention which assembled in Chicago in June and named Mr. Harrison as the chief standard bearer of the Republican party, was great in every particular, and on this account, and the attitude it assumed upon 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 dared 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.

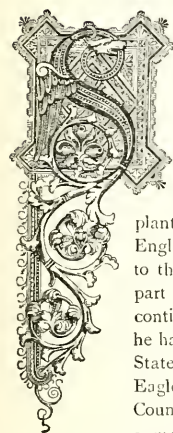






Hadriach Bond.

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 Keat Kane, his Secretary of State, and John McLean, while Nathaniel Pope and John P. Cook led the anti-slavery element. The people, however, did not become very much excited over this issue until 1820, when the famous Missouri Compromise was adopted by Congress, limiting slavery to the south of the parallel of 36° 30' except in Missouri. While this measure settled the great slavery controversy, so far as the average public sentiment was temporarily concerned, until 1854, when it was 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.



Edmund 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, Fazelwell, Wirt, etc. At the age of 23, young Coles found himself heir to a plantation and a considerable number of slaves. Ever since his earlier college days his attention had been drawn to the question of slavery. He read every-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

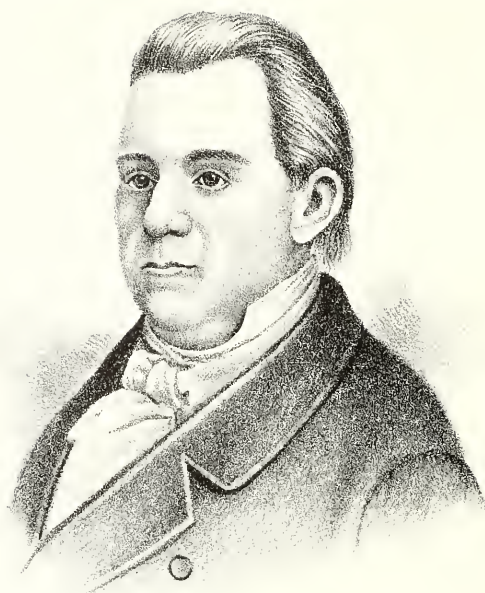
over 8,000. The Lieutenant Governor was elected by the slavery men. Mr. Coles' inauguration speech was marked by calmness, deliberation and such a wise expression of appropriate suggestions as to elicit the sanction of all judicious politicians. But he compromised not with evil. In his message to the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

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

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

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

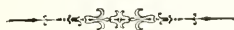
After the expiration of his term of service, Gov. Coles continued his residence in Edwardsville, superintending his farm in the vicinity. He was fond of agriculture, and was the founder of the first agricultural society in the State. On account of ill health, however, and having no family to tie him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



Herman Edwards



Ninian Edwards.



NINIAN EDWARDS, Governor from 1827 to 1830, was a son of Benjamin Edwards, and was born in Montgomery County, Maryland, in March, 1775. His domestic training was well fitted to give his mind strength, firmness and honorable principles, and a good foundation was laid for the elevated character to which he afterwards attained. His parents were Baptists, and very strict in their moral principles. His education in early youth was in company with and partly under the tuition of Hon. Wm. Wirt, whom his father patronized, and who was more than two years older. An intimacy was thus

formed between them which was lasting for life. He was further educated at Dickinson College, at Carlisle, Pa. He next commenced the study of law, but before completing his course he moved to Nelson County, Ky., to open a farm for his father and to purchase homes and locate lands for his brothers and sisters. Here he fell in the company of dissolute companions, and for several years led the life of a spendthrift. He was, however, elected to the Legislature of Kentucky as the Representative of Nelson County before he was 21 years of age, and was re-elected by an almost unanimous vote.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



John Reynolds

John Reynolds.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In 1839 the ex-Governor was appointed one of the Canal Commissioners, and authorized to borrow money to prosecute the enterprise. Accordingly, he repaired to Philadelphia and succeeding in obtaining a million dollars, which, however, was only a fourth of what was wanted. The same year he and his wife made at our 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.



Mr. Lee D. Ewing





WM. L. D. EWING.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

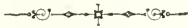
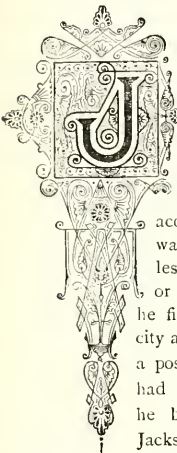




Joseph Duncan



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 *dénouement*, 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 larks and internal improvements.

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

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

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

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

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

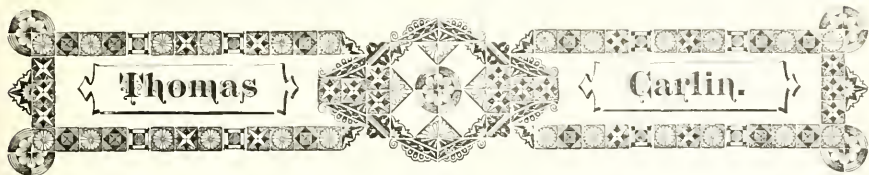
Gov. Duncan's term expired in 1838. In 1842 he was again proposed as a candidate for the Executive chair, this time by the Whig party, against Adam W. Snyder, of St. Clair County, the nominee of the Democrats. Charles W. Hunter was a third candidate for the same position. Mr. Snyder, however, died before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

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

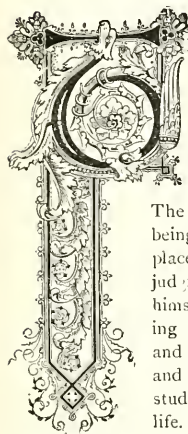
He was a liberal patron of the Illinois College at Jacksonville, a member of its Board of Trustees, and died, after a short illness, Jan. 15, 1844, a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, leaving a wife but no children. Two children, born to them, had died in infancy.



Thos. Carlin


 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 Monies, 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 at Carlin's administration, the Legislature also declared that he had no authority to appoint a Secretary of State until a vacancy existed, and A. P. Field, a Whig, who had already held the post by appointment through three administrations, was determined to keep the place a while longer, in spite of Gov. Carlin's preferences. The course of the Legislature in this regard, however, was finally sustained by the Supreme Court, in a *quo warranto* case brought up before it by John A. McClelland, whom the Governor had nominated for the office. Thereupon that dignified body was denounced as a "Whig Court!" endeavoring to establish the principle of life-tenure of office.

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

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

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

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

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

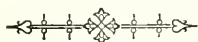
At the close of his gubernatorial term, Mr. Carlin removed back to his old home at Carrollton, where he spent the remainder of his life, as before his elevation to office, in agricultural pursuits. In 1849 he served out the unexpired term of J. D. Fry in the Illinois House of Representatives, and died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



Thomas Ford



Thomas Ford.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

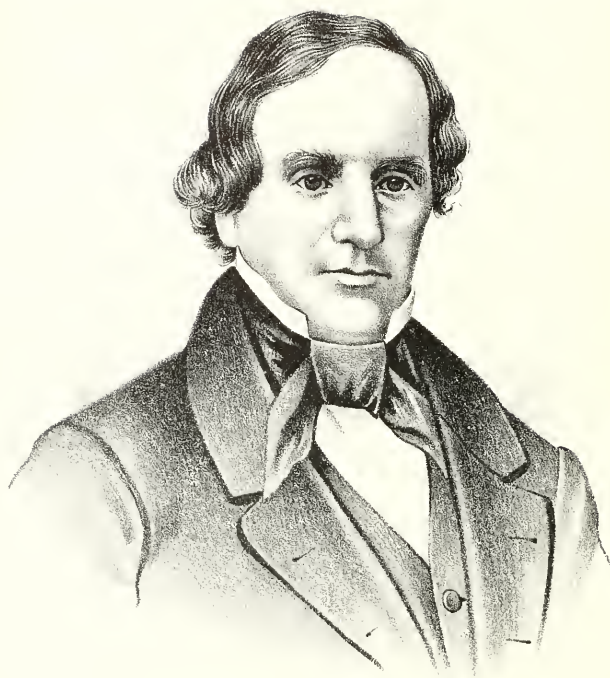
the preceding decade, with scarcely anything to show by way of "improvement." The enterprise that seemed to be getting ahead more than all the rest was the Illinois & Michigan Canal. As this promised to be the most important thoroughfare, feasible to the people, it was well under headway in its construction.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

But perhaps the Governor is remembered more for his connection with the Mormon troubles than for anything else; for it was during his term of office that the "Latter-Day Saints" became so strong at Nauvoo, built their temple there, increased their numbers throughout the country, committed misdemeanors, taught dangerous doctrines, suffered the loss of their leader, Jo Smith, by a violent death, were driven out of Nauvoo to the far West, etc. Having been a Judge for so many years previously, Mr. Ford of course was no i-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.

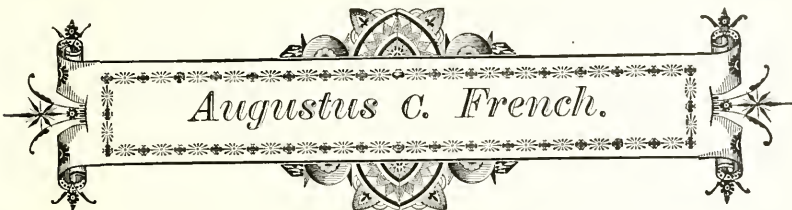
The Mexican War was begun in the spring of 1845, and was continued into the gubernatorial term of Mr. Ford's successor. The Governor's connection with this war, however, was not conspicuous, as it was only administrative, commissioning officers, etc.

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 imitable, his account is open, perhaps, to the objection that *all* his contemporaries are treated as mere place-seekers, while many of them have since been judged by the people to be worthy statesmen. His writings seem slightly open to the criticism that they exhibit a little splenetic partiality against those of his contemporaries who were prominent during his term of office as Governor.

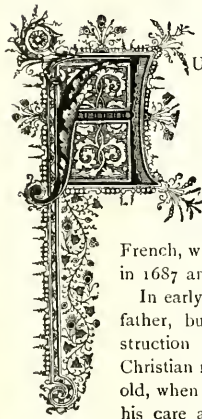
The death of Gov. Ford took place at Peoria, Ill., Nov. 2, 1850.



Aug French



Augustus C. French.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



J. A. Mattison



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, Jean 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-

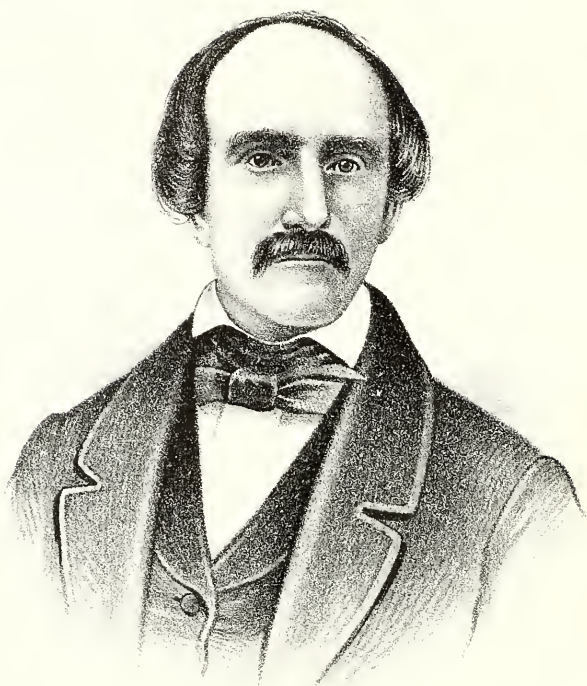
gress, under the leadership of Stephen A. Douglas in 1854, when the bill was passed organizing the Territory of Kansas and Nebraska. A large portion of the Whig party of the North, through their bitter opposition to the Democratic party, naturally drifted into the doctrine of anti-slavery, and thus led 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 renominated by the Democrats. But after a few ballotings in the Legislature (1855), these men were dropped, and Lyman Trumbull, an Anti-Nebraska Democrat, was brought up by the former, and Mr. Matteson, then Governor, by the latter. On the 11th ballot Mr. Trumbull obtained one majority, and was accordingly declared elected. Before Gov. Matteson's term expired, the Republicans were fully organized as a national party, and in 1856 put into the field a full national and State ticket, carrying the State, but not the nation.

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

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

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

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



James Russell



William H. Bissell.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



John Wood



John Wood.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





Rich. Yates



Richard Yates.



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

Gifted with a fluent and ready oratory, he soon appeared in the political hustings, and, being a passionate admirer of the great Whig leader of the West, Henry Clay, he joined his political fortunes to the party of his idol. In 1840 he engaged with great ardor in the exciting "hard cider" campaign for 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 the was ambitious to deserve the title of "the soldier's friend." Immediately after the battle of Shiloh he repaired to the field of carnage to look after the wounded, and his appeals for aid were promptly responded to by the people. His proclamations calling for volunteers were impassionate appeals, urging upon the people the duties and requirements of patriotism; and his special message in 1863 to the Democratic Legislature of this State pleading for material aid for the sick and wounded soldiers of Illinois regiments, breathes a deep fervor of noble sentiment and feeling rarely equaled in beauty or felicity of expression. Generally his messages on political and civil affairs were able and comprehensive. During his administration, however, there were no civil events of an engrossing character, although two years of his time were replete with partisan quarrels of great bitterness. Military arrests, Knights of the Golden Circle, riot in Fulton County, attempted suppression of the Chicago *Times* and the usurping State Constitutional Convention of 1862, were the chief local topics that were exciting during the Governor's term. This Convention assembled Jan. 7, and at once took the high position that the law calling it was no longer binding, and that it had supreme power; that it represented a virtual assemblage of the whole people of the State, and was sovereign in the exercise of all power necessary to effect a peaceable revolution of the State Government

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

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

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

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



R. J. Aglesly



Richard J. Oglesby.

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

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

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

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

pany of eight men, Henry Prather being the leader.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





John Peen



JOHN M. PALMER

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

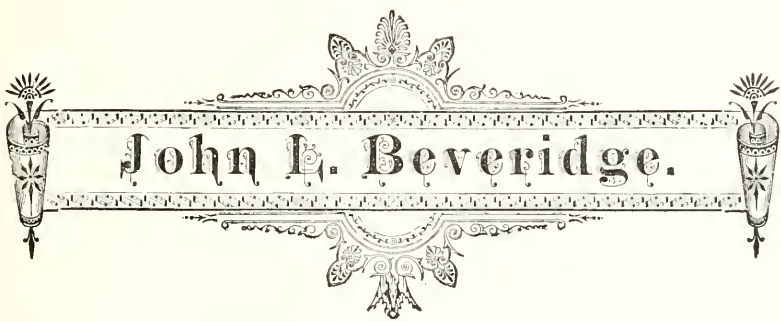
didature for the office. The result of the ensuing election gave Mr. Palmer a majority of 44,707 over John R. Eden, the Democratic nominee.

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

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



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-

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

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

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

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



McCallum

SHELBY M. CULLOM.



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 2,384 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. 10, 1855, to Miss Hannah Fisher, by whom he had two daughters; and the second time May 5, 1863, to Julia Fisher. Mrs. C. is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which religious body Mr. C. is also in sympathy.



John M. Hamilton



John M. Hamilton.



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

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

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

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

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

When the tremendous excitement of the political campaign of 1860 reached the neighborhood of Roberts Township, young Hamilton, who had been brought up in the doctrine of anti-slavery, took a zealous part in favor of Lincoln's election. Making special efforts to procure a little money to buy a uniform, he joined a company of Lincoln Wide-Awakes at Mag-nolia, 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.



J. W. Fisher

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 neighboringschool. 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 minie-ball struck him and passed entirely through his body. He was regarded as mortally wounded. His brother, George, who had been made a Lieutenant, proved to be the means of saving his life. The Surgeon told him 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.

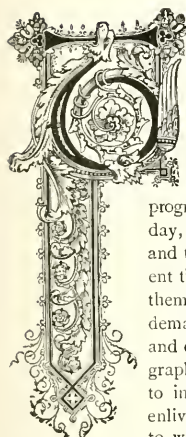


WINNEBAGO AND
BOONE COUNTIES,
ILLINOIS.





INTRODUCTORY.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Leungly Gans
Wm Brown*



BIOGRAPHICAL.



HON. WILLIAM BROWN. In the death of the above-named gentleman, January 15th, 1891, Rockford lost one of its high-minded and public-spirited citizens, while from the bereaved family circle a loving husband and father was removed, leaving a void in their lives that not even his honored memory can fill. He received his early education in the common schools of Oneida County, N. Y., at which time were instilled into his mind the firm principles which characterized him through life. He was an able lawyer, upright and honest, a devoted member of the Methodist Church, and a strong advocate of temperance principles, being a total abstainer himself.

He was born in Cumberland, in the North of England, June 1, 1819. His father, Thomas Brown, was also a native of England. The latter-named gentleman in 1827, accompanied by his family, emigrated to America and landed at New York on the 20th of May. They resided for a few months in Albany, then removed to Oneida County, where the father purchased a farm near the village of North Western, and was for many years engaged in agricultural pursuits, but subsequently retired and moved to North Western, where his death occurred. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Morton, also a native of England, who spent her last years on the home farm in Oneida County.

Mr. William Brown, desiring to become a lawyer, began the study of that profession in Rome, N. Y., and in 1846, after having been admitted to the Bar, started for the growing West, choosing as

his permanent abiding place the then village of Rockford. Mr. Brown began even with the world, but having little to do in a professional way for some time, accepted a situation the first winter as teacher in a district school. In 1847, he talked quite strongly of leaving Rockford, and went to Beloit with the intention of removing there, but was not sufficiently charmed with the outlook to do so.

In the election of 1847, Mr. Brown was chosen Justice of the Peace, and in speaking of the event later, remarked that he felt more thankful for that office than for any other to which he was afterward chosen. This arose from the fact that he was in need of something to do. In 1852, he was elected States Attorney for the district comprising Winnebago, Stephenson and Joe Daviess Counties, serving for a period of three years. At the expiration of that time, he was elected Mayor of Rockford, and in 1864 was sent to the Legislature on the Republican ticket. In 1857, he formed a partnership with William Lathrop, which connection existed for three years, when he took in as partner H. W. Taylor, with whom he was associated until 1870, at which time our subject was elected to the bench. He was first elected as Judge to fill the vacancy occasioned by the promotion of Judge Sheldon to the Supreme Court, and was subsequently elected three full terms of six years each—making altogether a period of twenty years as Judge. He left a pure and untarnished record as an able and upright Judge, and by the judiciary of the State was greatly honored for his ability and talent. The old lawyers of the district, as well as

the people, speak of him in the highest terms of commendation and love. He always enjoyed the confidence and esteem of the community, and was recognized as very painstaking and careful in the preparation of his decisions, which were regarded as able by the Supreme Court of the State.

Hon. William Brown and Miss Caroline H. Miller, who was born in Livingston County, N. Y., were united in marriage, September 19th, 1850. Mrs. Brown was the daughter of the Hon. Horace and Hannah (Clark) Miller, for a further sketch of whom the reader is referred to the biography of William H. Miller, on another page of this work. Mrs. Brown still resides in Rockford where she is greatly beloved by all who know her. She is the mother of three children who are respectively: Edward W., agent of the Illinois Central Railroad; Frank R., superintendent of the Nelson Knitting Co., and May, wife of H. W. Buckbee, florist and seedman. A handsome and substantial office-building has just been erected to the memory of Judge Brown on South Main Street, Rockford, known as the William Brown Building.



REV. JOHN WILCOX, one of the prominent and wealthy agriculturists of Burritt Township, Winnebago County, was born in the parish of Lanreath, Cornwall, England, December 7, 1825. John Wilcox's father was a native of the same parish, as was also his grandfather, Samuel Wilcox. The great-grandfather of our subject, Henry Wilcox, was the proprietor of a boarding-school in England and spent his entire life in the above-named parish.

Samuel Wilcox acquired a thorough education and for a time taught school in the parish of Lanreath. He was a surveyor by profession, and served in the position of Town Clerk for half a century, passing away when eighty-four years of age. His son, the father of our subject, on attaining manhood was placed in charge of a gentleman's farm in Lanreath, having the entire management of the estate for thirty years. In 1850, resigning the position, he came to America and located in Winnebago County, where he, in part-

nership with his son John, purchased one hundred acres of land in the town of Burritt. He was accompanied hither by his son, our subject, and died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Walter Searl, in his eighty-third year. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Stevens, a native of Looe, Cornwall County, and a daughter of William and Mary Stevens; she departed this life, after having attained the age of seventy-three years.

The seven children in the parental family were named, respectively: Samuel, William, Mary, Susan, Hannah, John and Maria, all of whom came to America, and one of whom, William, is at present residing in New Zealand. The original of this sketch attended school regularly from the age of seven to sixteen years, when he assisted his father on the home farm for three years and then received an appointment to a responsible position in the post-office in London, the Rev. Richard Buller, the owner of a farm which his father superintended, signing his bonds. While in the post-office, John Wilcox had use of the books in the British Museum and other libraries, and, making the best of the opportunity thus given him, improved his mind by good reading. He became a member of the Congregational Church when nineteen years of age, and soon after going to London acted as a teacher in the Hoxton Academy Sabbath-school, which had a membership of one thousand scholars. He also joined two different lyceums, and thus participating in their debates and addressing the Sunday-school, accustomed himself to public speaking. Our subject remained in the post-office for five years, when he resigned, his superior officers, however, remonstrating against him taking such a course, promising to promote him if he would remain. Having determined upon coming to America, he was firm in his first decision, and set sail from Fowey, Cornwall, April 18, 1850, in the vessel "Adelaide," which landed in Quebec on the 24th of May.

Spending four weeks in Canada, Mr. Wilcox, looking for a permanent location for himself and parents, came to Winnebago County, purchasing, as before stated, a tract of land in company with his father, for which they paid \$4 per acre. Fifty acres of the property were broken and fenced, and

a small frame house was erected on the place. His father, mother and sister Maria later joined him in this county, when they began the work of cultivating and improving a farm. The first winter our subject taught school in Pecatonica Township, but later devoting his entire time and attention to agricultural pursuits, added to his acreage until his estate contained three hundred and forty-five acres, besides a farm of one hundred and eighty acres in Laona Township.

Mr. Wilcox has been prominently connected with the Congregational Church since his settlement in Winnebago County. The first Sunday after locating here, he attended church, and the minister failing to put in an appearance, at the urgent request of the people assembled he preached. Two years later he attended an association of Congregational ministers at Roscoe and was licensed to preach for three years, but prior to the expiration of that time he was ordained in Pecatonica Township by three preachers and has been actively engaged in spreading the Gospel since that time.

In 1857, our subject went to Iowa Falls, Hardin County, Iowa, to accept the pastorate of the Congregational Church at that place. His parents, however, needing his presence at home, he resigned the charge after one year and, with that exception, has been a resident of Burritt Township since first locating here in 1851. The farm upon which he makes his home is one of the finest in the township, it being improved with all the necessary buildings and farm machinery which go to make a first-class estate.

March 3, 1855, John Wilcox and Margaret Webber, who was born in the Parish of Combe St. Nicholas, Somerset County, England, on the 4th of February, 1833, were united in marriage. The parents of Mrs. Wilcox, William and Mary Webber, were wealthy farmers. The whole family emigrated from England in August, 1849, and arrived in Rockton, this county, in October. They traveled by water from Bristol, England, to Milwaukee by means of sailing-vessels, canal boats and steamers, and from the Cream City came overland with teams to Winnebago County, where Mr. and Mrs. Webber purchased three improved farms of about

six hundred acres, on one of which they made their home for forty years.

Mrs. Wilcox received a good education in both select and boarding schools in England, and also in the Beloit High School. She has two sisters and five brothers, all of whom are married and have families of their own, namely: Catherine, Mary Jane, William, John, Henry A., Herman J. F. and Thomas H. The father of Mrs. Wilcox was born in Hancock, Devon, March 26, 1801, and died at the home of our subject in Burritt Township, July 19, 1889. He was a son of William Webber, who was a large land-owner and was also a native of Devon, England. William Webber's mother, Margaret Brome, was born in Collumpton, Devon, England, where also Mary Webber was born, April 2, 1802. She bore the maiden name of Mary Hake, and departed this life April 6, 1886, in Rockton; she was a worthy, intelligent and refined lady, a faithful wife, a loving mother, and neighborly to all. Being a devout Episcopalian in England, she became identified with the Congregational Church in Rockton.

The father of Mrs. Wilcox was a man of sterling worth, untiring industry, strict economy, good judgment, and one truly honest and reliable in all the relations of life. He was a devout Christian and, desiring to spend his declining years in Burritt Township, there died in peace. Mrs. Wilcox was a member of the Congregational Sunday-school in Chard, England, and on coming to Rockford united with that denomination in 1855, and has ever filled the relations of a wife, mother and neighbor in a kind, Christian spirit, aiding her husband in every way in family, business, and religious duties. They have had family worship during the thirty-seven years of their married life. The two eldest brothers of Mrs. Wilcox invented, patented and manufactured the celebrated reaping machine which was distributed in this and adjoining counties. Three of her sons are the most rapid and the best shearers of sheep in Illinois, and perhaps in the United States, each of them having sheared from one hundred to one hundred and twenty animals in ten hours.

The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Wilcox were John and Mary (Kenwood) Hale, the former a na-

tive of Ottery, St. Mary, Devonshire, England, where he was an active business man. The mother was also a native of that place, dying in middle life. They reared an excellent family of children, two sons, John and Thomas, becoming prominent wholesale merchants. One sister, with her husband, came to this county, and died in Rockton.

The seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. John Wilcox are, John Webber, William H., Mary S., Herbert H., Clarence L., George L. and Lillian M. In his political relations, our subject is a Republican.



JOHN W. CASTLE, one of the wide-awake and enterprising young farmers residing on section 31, Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, has spent almost his entire life in this community. He is a representative of one of the pioneer families. His parents, John and Elizabeth (Rockingham) Castle, were both natives of England, and when young came to this country. They were married in Troy, N. Y., about 1848, and started at once for the West, traveling by rail to Chicago, and thence by team to Rockford. Mr. Castle rented a small farm near the city, and for some time worked by the day. He afterward removed to Shirland, and purchased sixty acres of land, upon which he built a house and began the improvement of a farm. After six years he sold out and went to Ogle County, where he operated a farm on shares for some time, after which he purchased an eighty-acre farm. Its boundaries he later extended until it comprised two hundred and fifty-five acres of good land, supplied with all the necessary buildings, and under a high state of cultivation. At length, he rented his farm in the autumn of 1889, and is now living a retired life in Monroe Center.

Our subject was the fourth child and second son in a family which numbered three sons and four daughters. They are as follows: Alice E., wife of John Blake, of De Kalb County; Mary Ann, wife of John Butterworth, of Boone County; George H., who resides in Ogle County; John W., of this

sketch; Sarah Hannah, wife of John McLarty, who operates a farm adjoining the old homestead; Phoebe C., wife of William Fisher, of Cherry Valley Township; and Eber R., who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Story County, Iowa. There are also eighteen grandchildren.

John W. Castle, whose name heads this record, was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life in the usual manner of farmer lads. On attaining his majority, he chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Mary Janet McDonald, of Beloit, Wis., daughter of Thomas and Mary A. (Gayton) McDonald. Her father was a volunteer in the late war, and died in the hospital at Fortress Monroe, W. Va., on the 1st of April, 1864, leaving a wife and three children, all of whom survive him. The union of our subject and his wife was celebrated on the 3d of March, 1885. They began their domestic life upon their present farm, and have one of the pleasant homes in the neighborhood. It is brightened by the presence of a little daughter, Bessie May, who was born May 30, 1888. Mrs. Castle is a member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Castle is a Republican in politics, and a valued citizen who gives his support and co-operation to every interest calculated to benefit the community and promote the general welfare.



ALONZO HASKINS. Among the old and influential citizens of Boone County, Ill., we take pleasure in introducing to our readers Mr. Alonzo Haskins, who has been associated with all enterprises of interest in the county for many years. He was born in Cortland County, town of Truxton (now Cuyler), N. Y., on the 18th of November, 1814, and is a son of William H. and Lydia (Howard) Haskins, natives also of New York State. The paternal grandparents of our subject were natives of New England, but died in the Excelsior State when well advanced in years. William H. Haskins followed the occupation of a farmer, and died in Onondaga County, N. Y., when about ninety years of age. His wife died at the same place, when about seventy-two years of age. They were honest, industrious citi-

zens, and prominent in their community. Of the three children born to their union only our subject survives.

From early boyhood our subject became familiar with the arduous duties of the farm, and when starting out for himself he selected that as his calling in life. His marriage with Miss Lavina McKinney on the 10th of September, 1835, brought to his home a helpmate to whose aid and co-operation he is much indebted for his success in life. She was also born in Cortland County, N. Y., August 20, 1813, and is a daughter of Charles and Lydia (Morse) McKinney, both natives of that State. Her mother passed her last days in Rockford, Ill. Mrs. Haskins' maternal grandfather, David Morse, was a Revolutionary soldier, and for services thus rendered received six hundred and forty acres of land in New York State, Cortland County. He also received a pension until his death. Mrs. Haskins was one of fourteen children, six of whom are yet living, all farmers and lumbermen.

Four children were born to our subject's marriage, viz: Teresa M., born in Onondaga County, N. Y., is the widow of Barnard Farnsworth, and now resides in Dakota; Lydia L., born in Onondaga County, N. Y., married L. Albert Drake, and is the mother of two children, one of whom, a daughter, married William Beach, and has a little girl. The Drakes were pioneer settlers of this State, and are industrious, upright citizens. Mr. Drake is working the home place for our subject, but owns a fine farm of eight hundred acres in Dakota. Edgar D. Haskins, also a native of Onondaga County, married Miss Hattie Turnure, and is the father of three children, a son and two daughters. Mary J., born in the same county, married B. B. Wells, and has two children. She makes her home in Belvidere.

L. Albert Drake enlisted in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, served about four years, and was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant. He was a faithful soldier, and a brave and gallant officer. Edgar Haskins was in the light artillery, and served about a year. On coming to Boone County, Ill., our subject bought one hundred and seventy acres of land in Bonus Township, and on this there stood a small frame house in which Mr. Haskins

and family lived for several years. He then built his present handsome residence, and has one of the finest farms in the township. He has now retired from the active duties of life, and his son-in-law carries on the farm. They have twenty-eight or thirty cows, a fine herd of Jerseys that rank with the finest in the county, and make a specialty of the dairy business. Mr. Haskins has been Director in the Agricultural Society, and he has also been on the State Committee of State Fairs, etc., and is active in all laudable enterprises.



THADDEUS DAVIS, one of the highly respected agriculturists of Guilford Township, Winnebago County, living on section 24, was born in the town of Southold, Canada, June 17, 1828. His grandfather, William Davis, was born in Connecticut, whence he removed to the Empire State in an early day, and purchased a tract of land twelve miles from Albany. Twelve years later he went to Canada and spent his last days in Chippewa, where he died at the age of ninety-four.

The father of our subject, Thaddeus Davis, Sr., was born near Schenectady, N. Y., June 9, 1793, and was reared and married in the State of his nativity. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Catherine Kirkland. She was born in Schenectady, N. Y., February 10, 1797, of Scotch parentage. On emigrating to Canada, Mr. Davis made the journey with ox-teams, cutting his way through the wilderness, and secured a tract of heavily timbered land in the town of Southold. He first built a log cabin and afterward replaced it by a frame residence. There were no railroads in the community in those days, no near markets and few settlers, but plenty of deer, bears and wolves. While the father worked at farm labor, the mother spun and wove cloth, dressing her children in homespun. Mr. Davis sold his farm in Canada in 1839, and came to Illinois, accompanied by his family. They brought with them their household goods and drove cattle and sheep. After six weeks of travel they arrived at their destination. Rockford was then a mere hamlet and the work of pro-

gress had hardly been begun. About a month later, Mr. Davis purchased a squatter's claim—the farm which our subject now occupies—upon which was a log cabin, while twenty acres of the land had been broken. Upon that farm he made his home until his death, as did the mother of our subject. They had a family of ten children, as follows: Catherine, Ann Eliza, David A., Robert C., Daniel H., Joseph S., Thaddeus, George R., Jacob and John.

The subject of this sketch was only eleven years old when, with his parents, he came to Illinois. He remembers well the incidents of the journey and the pioneer life in this county and shared with the family all the hardships and trials incident to the frontier. He continued to reside with his parents until their death and now owns the old homestead. He is an enterprising and successful farmer and by his industrious and persistent efforts has acquired a comfortable competence.

An important event in the life of Mr. Davis occurred on the 10th of December, 1856, when he wedded Mary A. McClary, a native of the Empire State. Four children grace their union and the family circle yet remains unbroken. In order of birth they are as follows: Alma M., wife of Asa B. Hammond; Thaddeus G., who wedded Mary E. Hart; Mattie E. and Frank. In politics, Mr. Davis was formerly a Whig, but since the organization of the Republican party has affiliated with that body. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Church. He is held in high regard throughout this community, where the greater part of his life has been passed, and well deserves representation among the honored pioneers.



WILLIAM D. SWAIL, President of the People's Bank of Belvidere, is one of the leading business men of this city, and for a number of years has been connected with the moneyed interests of Boone County. He is now at the head of one of its most substantial moneyed institutions, and is recognized as one of the most prominent citizens of the community.

Our subject was born in Montreal Canada, December 17, 1830, and is a son of John and Esther (Hanna) Swail. The latter was a native of County Monaghan, Ireland. The father was born in Cumberland County, England, and was a son of William and Mary Swail. The grandparents were both natives of England and came to America about 1812. The grandfather purchased a farm at Mt. Royal, near Montreal, and there engaged in farming until his death. His old homestead is now owned and occupied by one of his grandsons. The father of our subject was reared upon that farm, but after attaining to man's estate, commanded a steam ferryboat across the St. Lawrence from Longueuil to Montreal. Later he settled upon a farm at Mt. Royal and there made his home until called to his final rest.

Mr. Swail of this sketch when quite young began to assist his father on the boat, and in 1853 entered the employ of the Government in the civil service, continuing two years. In 1855, he came to Belvidere and began dealing in real-estate and building. After a few years spent in that way, he next purchased land in Flora Township, and for a few years engaged quite extensively in farming, after which he returned to this city.

Mr. Swail has been twice married. In 1858, he was joined in wedlock with Sarah Loop, who was born in New York State, and died in February, 1860. He afterwards led to the marriage altar Louisa M. Benedict, a daughter of Rev. Timothy Benedict. The family numbers four children: Mary H., who is a graduate of the Northwestern University, and is now the wife of Rev. W. E. Wilkinson, who graduated from the same institution and is now a Methodist minister; John H., Assistant Cashier in the bank; Louisa M., a student in the Northwestern University; and Carrie, wife of Russ Lambert, an attorney of the State of Washington.

Mr. Swail assisted in the organization of the Republican party in this county, and voted twice for President Lincoln and once for Gen. Grant. In 1872, he followed the lead of Sumner, Greeley and other eminent Republicans and voted the liberal Republican ticket. Since that time he has affiliated with the Democratic party. He was the

first Mayor of Belvidere after its organization as a city and has filled that position three terms. He has also served as its Postmaster for four years. He is one of the substantial men of Belvidere, and the busy and useful life which he has led has won him high regard.



FREDRICK K. PRATT, one of the county's prosperous tillers of the soil, was born in Westmoreland, Cheshire County, N. H., May 25, 1813, and is a son of Moses and Louisa (Daggett) Pratt, and the grandson of Josiah and Jane (Knapp) Pratt, both natives of New England, where they passed their entire life. Moses Pratt was one of eight children born to this estimable couple. He was also a native of Cheshire County, N. H., and remained there until twenty-one years of age, when, seeing a better chance for himself in the West, he started for Rockford, Ill., in May, 1836. He took up one hundred and sixty acres of Government land and remained there for five years, when he returned East. He first came to Illinois via the canal to Buffalo, thence to Detroit, and walked from there to his future home, a distance of about three hundred and fifty miles. This trip proved almost too much for him and he never fully recovered. His goods came on the next boat. As before mentioned, he returned to the East after a five years' stay in the wilds of Illinois. This was in 1841, and he drove a horse and a home-made jumper. He also carried his tools, so that, if necessary, he could shoe his jumper, and as he journeyed towards the rising sun he visited friends along the way. He was returning for his future wife, and on the 24th of March, 1842, he was married to Miss Louisa Daggett, who was also born in Cheshire County, N. H. Her parents were Phineas and Mercy (Pierce) Daggett, the father a native of Massachusetts, but a pioneer of New Hampshire, where he received his final summons. He died at the age of seventy-seven years, and the mother passed away when about the same age. Mrs. Pratt was one of ten children, and is the only one now living. Phineas Daggett

was the son of Asa Daggett, who was born in Massachusetts, but who died in New Hampshire.

Mr. Pratt farmed down East until 1855, after which he sold out and returned to this State, where he bought eighty acres of unimproved land, to which he subsequently added eighty acres more. On this he resided for twenty-five or thirty years, and died on the 15th of March, 1881, when seventy-one years of age. He was at one time a Democrat, but the latter part of his days he affiliated with the Republican party. His estimable wife is still living, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Frederick Pratt is one of the foremost farmers of the county, and is interested in all worthy movements. He was married on the 20th of January, 1875, to Miss Marion Turnure, daughter of Uriah and Laura (Cline) Turnure. She was born in Bonus, this county, February 17, 1855. To Mr. and Mrs. Pratt have been born two sons: Frank H., born November 25, 1877, is now attending the Belvidere High School, and Ralph T., born April 22, 1884, is at home. In politics, our subject has always affiliated with the Republican party, but he is inclined to be independent. As an agriculturist, he ranks second to none in his township, and all his farming operations are conducted in a very superior and progressive way, as a glance over his well-kept farm will show. His home is bright and attractive, and is presided over by that refined lady and excellent housekeeper, his wife.



CHARLES JESPERSON, foreman for the extensive milling establishment of J. G. Chick Milling Co., of Rockford, has been in this gentleman's employ for many years, and has held his present position for the past fifteen years. Under his able and efficient management, the business has achieved a large share of success, and is in a prosperous condition.

Mr. Jesperson came to Rockford in 1865, and has since been engaged in the milling business, first with E. Derwent for five years, and later, with Mr. Chick, with whom he has since remained. He

is a skillful and practical miller, and thoroughly understands his business. He is interested in other business enterprises of the city, is a stockholder in the Mechanics' Furniture Co., the Union Grocery Co., in which he is also a Director, and a stockholder in the Swedish Building and Loan Association. He has a good and comfortable home at No. 511 Union Street, and is a useful and substantial citizen.

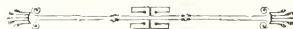
Of Swedish nativity, Mr. Jespersion has inherited all the characteristics of that hardy class of people, and is thrifty, honest, whole-souled and intelligent. He was born in Wester Gothland Province, January 23, 1815, learned his trade there, and when twenty years of age, or in 1865, crossed the Atlantic to American soil. His father, Jasper Carlsen, is a wood-carver by trade, and is a resident of Rockford at the present time. The latter was born and reared in Wester Gothland, Sweden, and although now seventy-two years of age, his mind is as clear and as well-balanced as ever. He was married in his native country to Miss Lizzie Samuelson, who died in 1871, when about fifty-seven years of age, in full communion with the Lutheran Church, in which he also holds membership.

Charles Jespersion, the second in order of birth of the children born to this worthy couple, was put on board a vessel and had his passage paid to Chicago by an uncle. He had but twenty-five cents in his pocket when he reached the Garden City, and he was obliged to work for a few days to get the means to carry him to Rockford, Ill. He was first married in this city, in the fall of 1866, to Miss Johanna Johnson, a native of Wester Gothland, Sweden, who came to the United States with her parents in 1863. Her father, Off Johnson, is now eighty years of age and is a resident of Rockford, but the mother died in 1888. Both were members in good standing in the Lutheran Church.

Mrs. Jespersion was born in 1810, and died at her home in Rockford in the fall of 1872, leaving one son, Gus, who is in the factories of Rockford. Mr. Jespersion took for his second wife Miss Johanna Friedberg, who was born in Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, September 1, 1818,

and was nearly grown when she came with her brother, P. J. Friedberg, to the United States. The latter is now a cabinet-maker and stockholder of the Centennial Furniture Company, and resides at No. 124 Bremer Street. The parents died in Sweden, the father, Andrew Anderson, when about fifty-five years of age, and the mother, whose maiden name was Mary Jonson, when about forty years of age. They were Lutherans in their religious views.

Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Jespersion, one, Walter, died when young. The others are: Joseph, born February 25, 1878, and Hilma S., November 21, 1883. Mr. Jespersion and family attend the First Lutheran Church in which they are members and active workers, and they are people much respected in the community. Mr. Jespersion is a sound Republican in his political views, and has been a member of the Board of Trustees for the past fifteen years.



ANDREW BORG, a mason contractor and builder of Rockford, is one of the well-known Swedish residents of this city. He was born on the 16th of June, 1839, in Sweden, and was the first of his people to come to the United States. He learned his trade in Oskersham, and at the age of twenty-four years left that place, crossing the Atlantic in the summer of 1854, on a sailing-vessel. They encountered some very severe weather, the deck being swept and the mast carried away. For some time the crew and passengers were all exposed and for four days they were without food and water, twenty-four dying from exhaustion and being buried in the sea. After thirteen weeks and three days, Mr. Borg landed in New York City, August 15, 1854, and thence went to Chicago. He had lost his trunk, the contents of which were his chief possessions. He found himself a stranger in a strange land, with no one to whom to look for aid, but he started out bravely and soon found employment. After a year he decided to go to Kansas, but in passing through Rockford was so well pleased with the city that he has since made it his home.

Since coming to this country, Mr. Borg has been followed by a sister who is now living in Webster County, Iowa, and a brother who died in this city some years ago, after he was married. The father, Swan Larson, was a farmer and carpenter of Sweden and spent his entire life in that land. His death occurred at the age of eighty-two years. His wife, whose maiden name was Stena G. Anderson, is yet living at the age of eighty-two. Like her husband, she is a member of the Lutheran Church.

Three years after coming to this country, Mr. Borg returned to his native land and wedded Anna S. Carlson, who died nine days after she and her husband had returned to this country, of quick consumption, at the age of twenty-two years. He afterward wedded Ida M. Carlson, a sister of his first wife, and she died three years later of pneumonia, at the age of twenty-two, leaving one daughter, Selma E., now the wife of Frank Sager, a clerk in Sawyer's drug store of this city. Mr. Borg was the third time married, in Rockford, the lady of his choice being Anna S. Booman, who was born in Sweden on the 4th of August, 1852, and came to Rockford in 1864 with her parents, who have since moved to Valley Springs, S. Dak., where they now reside, both being about sixty years of age. They are also members of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Borg have a family of four children and have also lost four. Edward is a bookkeeper for the Skandia Coal Company of this city; Albert A., Esther L. and Hulbert are still at home. Albert, Olivia and Victoria, twins, and Esther, are all deceased. The parents are members of the Zion Lutheran Church, of which Mr. Borg is a Trustee. He exercises his right of franchise in the support of the Republican party. The year after coming to Rockford, he began business as a mason contractor and builder and has erected many buildings in the city. He now owns a good brick residence at No. 406 Sixth Street and has an interest in the flats and residence at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Seventh Street. He is one of the stockholders in the Skandia Plow Company and a stockholder and Director in the Skandia Brick Company, also a Director in the Union Grocery

Store. Mr. Borg has been the means of inducing many of his Swedish neighbors to locate in this county and is a leader among his country-men. His business career has been a successful one and he is now numbered among the well-to-do citizens of Rockford.



DAVID PRYSE, who owns and operates two hundred and twenty acres of well improved land on section 15, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, is a native of Wales. He was born on the 14th of May, 1831, in Montgomeryshire, and is a son of James Pryse, who was born in the same county. His grandparents also spent their entire lives there. The family had long been residents of Wales. Many of its members spell the name Price.

The father was reared and married in Montgomeryshire, Miss Margaret Davis becoming his wife. They never left the land of their nativity, but three of their sons emigrated to the United States: David, Edward and James.

Our subject received no special advantages in his youth, in fact, at the early age of seven he began to earn his own livelihood and has since been dependent upon his own resources. He continued to make his home in the land of his birth until 1850, when, with the hope of bettering his financial condition, in the autumn of that year he sailed from Liverpool to America, as a passenger on board the "Patrick Henry." After a voyage of seven weeks and three days, the vessel dropped anchor in the harbor of New York and Mr. Pryse landed on American soil. He went to Oneida County, N. Y., where he engaged in farming for five years, and then came to Illinois in 1855. With the money he had saved, he rented a farm in Guilford Township, and after five years, in 1860 made a purchase of fifty-seven acres of wild land, which is now included within his present farm. As his financial resources have increased, he has added to his landed possession from time to time, until he now owns two hundred and twenty acres of valuable land.

Ere coming to the West, Mr. Pryse was married in Oneida County, on the 18th of March, 1854, to Miss Winnifred M. Jones, who was born in the north of Wales, in October, 1830, and came to America at the age of eighteen years. She died September 10, 1884, leaving a family of six children: Richard J., Ellen, Margaret, Mary, Fannie and Frank.

Mr. Pryse is one of the worthy citizens of this community, who takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare and upbuilding of the town and county and the promotion of its leading enterprises. He is also a self-made man and for his success in life deserves no little credit, as he has steadily worked his way upward to a position of which he may well be proud. His life in many respects is well worthy of emulation and has won him the confidence and high regard of those with whom he has been brought in contact.



MISS SARAH ROGERS, the daughter of John H. and Elizabeth (Cotton) Rogers well known as pioneers of Winnebago County, is at the present time residing in Pecatonica village. She is a woman of much capacity, is kind in heart and manner, cheerfully giving assistance where needed and charitably inclined toward all, a worthy type of the pioneer daughters of Winnebago County, who were important instruments in its upbuilding.

The father of our subject was born in Norfolk, Conn., in 1804, where he was married to Miss Elizabeth Cotton in 1828. Desiring to see and know something of the Western country, he came to this county in 1845 and entered a claim of eighty acres of Government land. The mother of our subject was also born in Norfolk, Conn., one year later than her worthy husband, and died in Pecatonica when sixty-eight years of age. The father of Miss Rogers died in the same place when in his sixty-seventh year.

The paternal grandparents of our subject were natives of the Nutmeg State, as were also the Cotton family. John H. Rogers was a blacksmith by trade, which line of business he followed for

some years, at the same time teaching writing school during the winter evenings. He filled the position of Postmaster of Seward at a time when the place was known as Vanceboro. In politics, he was a Republican and with his wife a member of the Congregational Church.

Two uncles of our subject participated in the late war, one of whom was wounded in the battle of Chickamauga.

Miss Sarah Rogers has always resided at home, and in 1867 opened a millinery establishment which she conducted successfully until five years ago, when she opened up in the shoe and wall paper business. Her education was received in the graded and High Schools of Pecatonica, and at the present time she is a working member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and belongs to various missionary societies. She is a charter member of the Women's Relief Corps and in all respects takes an active part in all good works. She is a member of the Chautauqua Society and was engaged for several terms in teaching school in this county, in which occupation her sister Eunice was also engaged.

Miss Rogers' father came by wagon to Albany, N. Y., thence by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, by way of the Lakes to Chicago, and overland to this county. He was a gentleman beloved by all, kind-hearted, charitable and honorable, and possessed of agreeable manners and jovial, friendly nature. Miss Rogers is one of the leaders in social life in the village, and her intelligence and grace add to the attractions of her hospitable dwelling.



PHILIP STALL, who is one of the most enterprising farmers of Le Roy Township Boone County, owns and occupies a fine homestead and stands high in the estimation of the people in this vicinity. He was born June 22, 1817, in Maine, and is a son of Jacob Stall, a stone mason and stone cutter by trade. He followed that occupation during most of his life, although during his later years he became a miller and owned a farm of one hundred acres, which was carried on by his family.

The lady who became the mother of our subject prior to her marriage was Miss Elizabeth Winchaw, a native of Knox County, Me. She reared a family of eight children and lost four in infancy. The elder Mr. Stall died in his eighty-eighth year, having been married nearly sixty-eight years. The family are all deceased, with the exception of our subject and a sister, Lucinda, now Mrs. Burton, of Maine. Philip was the sixth in order of birth, his brothers and sisters being Elizabeth, Charles, Edward, William, and Moses and Aaron, twins, who received their names from the old family physician when born.

Our subject left home when nineteen years of age, going East to Bangor, and two years later came to Illinois and purchased a quarter-section of land in Lee County. This he sold two years thereafter and came to Boone County, where, in 1857, he bought eighty acres of his present farm, for which he paid \$10 per acre. He has since purchased forty acres.

In 1857, Miss Frances, daughter of William R. and Mary (Moore) Millard and our subject were united in marriage. Both parents were natives of Pennsylvania and came West to Lee County, this State, in October, 1838, making the journey from Columbia County by means of a horse team. In the spring of 1841, Mr. and Mrs. Millard came to Boone County, Le Roy Township, purchasing a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, to which he later added until his estate on section 35 included two hundred and forty acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Stall have buried seven children and have one son living, Charles M., who was born in March, 1878. Those deceased are William, Elmer, Mary, Sylvia, Edgar, Katie and Altha L. Our subject has been engaged in mixed farming, and by persistent industry has cleared his entire estate and erected thereon suitable buildings, not the least among which is his comfortable farm residence which was erected in 1869. Two years later he built his main barn, 10x48 feet, with eighteen-foot posts to which he has since added as he found it necessary. In religious matters, the family of our subject belongs to the Methodist Church and, in politics, Mr. Stall has voted the Republican ticket since Lincoln filled the Presidential chair.

David Daniels, now in Iowa, William R. Millard and our subject are the only survivors who voted here in 1843.

He of whom we write has a dairy of from ten to fifteen cows and ships as many as fifty head of hogs per year. His place is well stocked with a good grade of horses, and from his stock-raising interests he reaps handsome returns. His property, which, it will be remembered, cost Mr. Stall \$10 per acre, is now worth \$70. Mrs. Stall's mother departed this life in March, 1891, when eighty-four years of age, and her father, who is still living, is seventy-nine years of age.



ORSEMUS HYDE, deceased, was for a number of years one of the most prosperous farmers of Bonus Township, Boone County, with whose agricultural developments he was closely associated and helped to make of the county one of the finest farming regions in the State. He was born in July, 1819, and departed this life at his home when fifty-two years of age.

Our subject was the son of Heman and Polly Hyde, of English descent and the heirs to large fortunes which, on account of insufficient proofs, they were unable to secure. The lady, Miss Permelia Rork, to whom our subject was married July 12, 1837, was born in Essex County, N. Y., June 18, 1818. She was the daughter of John and Elizabeth Rork, who were born in Ireland, of Scotch-English parents. The father and mother emigrated to the United States, and after residing for a time in New York, moved to Racine, Wis., where their deaths occurred at the respective ages of eighty and seventy-five years. Mrs. Hyde on her mother's side is related to the old family of McCibbons, her grandmother bearing that name. They were also related to the McCauleys and could trace their ancestry back on one side to the celebrated poet, Burns. The father of Mrs. Hyde was an Orangeman, and after coming to this country participated in the war of 1812.

To our subject and his wife have been born nine children, five of whom are living; Deett was born in New York State, is married and lives in Le Mars,

Iowa; William was born April 16, 1814, is also married and the father of three children; Alice was born April 15, 1816, is the wife of Robert Porter and the mother of five children; Julius A. was born April 12, 1852, is residing at home and works the old farm; Lucia was born January 12, 1855, is married and has three children. Julius A. interests himself in politics and is a leader of the Prohibition party in this section.

Mr. and Mrs. Hyde came to this county in 1842, where our subject rented land for eight years, having but \$2.50 when he came here. He made different purchases, until at the time of his death he left an estate of four hundred and forty-two acres to his heirs, leaving besides a name which will ever be held in loving remembrance. He landed in the county with only twenty shillings in his pocket, and as winter was coming on, he was engaged in teaming that season to and from Chicago. His widow still owns sixty-nine acres of the original homestead, which she is cultivating in a most intelligent manner. Since fifteen years of age, she has been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which denomination her husband was also a member and a liberal contributor. She is an excellent woman, and aids all worthy objects in a most substantial manner and is loved by all her numerous friends and acquaintances. She is in the possession of a comfortable property and devotes her time to helping others.



CHARLES L. SMITH owns and operates a valuable farm of seventy-two acres adjoining the city limits of Belvidere on the northwest. Every foot of his land is under a high state of cultivation and the well tilled fields yield to him a golden tribute for the care and labor he bestows upon them. The neat appearance of the place indicates his thrift, and the many improvements there seen stand as monuments to his enterprise.

Our subject was born in Windham County, Vt., February 28, 1829. His father, Hiram Smith, was born in Chesterfield, N. H., spent his boyhood days in the Granite State, and after his marriage removed to Windham, Vt., where he bought a

tract of land and made his home for a few years. He then returned to Westmoreland, N. H., where he spent the remainder of his life. He married Olive Arnold, who spent almost her entire life in Westmoreland. Her father, Col. Arnold, was a tanner and farmer residing in that place.

Our subject was a lad of but seven summers when his parents became residents of the Granite State, where his education was acquired. At the age of ten, he commenced to earn his own living and worked by the day, month or year in New Hampshire until he was nineteen years of age, when he went to Upton, Worcester County, Mass., where he was employed at carpentering for a year. His next place of residence was in Milford, Mass., where he was employed in a boot factory for three years. He remained in the Bay State until 1852, when, on the 5th of January, he sailed from New York and after thirty days landed in San Francisco, whence he went to Stockton, Cal., which was then a very small place. He engaged in teaming from there to the mines, from forty-five to seventy-five miles distant. At that time the price of freighting was from \$2 to \$25 per hundred pounds. Provisions were very high in the mines, flour selling at \$45 per barrel. He there remained for six years, when he returned to Milford, where he spent the three succeeding years of his life. He then again went to California, where he once more engaged in teaming until 1864, when he returned to the East.

Soon after his return, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Mrs. Luella (Wheeler) Bates, and their union has been blessed with one child, Clinton C. The lady also had a daughter by her former marriage, Addie L. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are worthy people, highly respected by all. He is a member of the Universalist Church, and his wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church. They have been residents of this county since December, 1864, when, coming to the West, Mr. Smith purchased a farm half a mile west of Belvidere, upon which they made their home for seven years. He then sold out and removed to the village, where he lived for three and a half years, after which he purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies.



Faithfully Yours
John Lake

JOHN LAKE. President of the Rockford Fire Insurance Company, is well known as one of the early settlers of Rockford; and as one of its foremost business men, who has for many years thoroughly identified himself with its best interests, his far-reaching enterprise, aptitude for affairs, and broad public spirit being potent in extending its commerce and in advancing its welfare in various directions, his name is inseparably linked with its rise and progress from a small, insignificant settlement to a beautiful and prosperous city. During the busy and eventful years of the half century and more that he has lived here, he has acquired wealth that places him among the most substantial citizens of Winnebago County, and he has built up one of the most stately and elegant homes within its borders.

John Lake was born March 27, 1821, on Blackford Farm, Selworthy Parish, England, said farm then being in the possession of his paternal grandfather, who was a farmer, dairyman, miller, maltster and a dealer in all kinds of seeds. In the latter part of his life he lost a large portion of his property, partly through reverses in business, and possibly a part of it by bad management. His family consisted of four sons and one daughter, all of whom died soon after they arrived at age, with the exception of James, the eldest, and Thomas, the youngest, both of whom emigrated to America, the first with his family settling at St. Johns, New Brunswick, and the latter in the United States. William Lake, the father of our subject, was also born on the old Blackford Farm, his birth occurring in the year 1798. He died there in the opening years of his manhood, at the age of twenty-two years, and thus early closed a promising career. He married when only twenty years old, the maiden name of his wife being Gould. She was a farmer's daughter, born at Cutcombe, in the parish of Cutcombe. Her mother died leaving eleven children, and as her father soon married again, she sought a home as a servant girl at Blackford Farm. She was subsequently married to the father of our subject, and they continued to make the farm their home until his untimely death.

He of whom we write was but six months old when his father died, and as his mother married

again a year later, he was reared by his grandmother in the home of his birth, she and he being the only ones of the name of Lake living in that part of England, up to the time he came to this country. He was given excellent educational advantages in a private school kept by Mr. Robert Taylor, which he attended until he was fourteen. At that age he commenced to earn his own living by working on a farm, being thus employed the intervening two years before he came hither. He was eleven years of age when his uncle Thomas became a citizen of this Republic, and the boyish imagination of our subject followed him in his voyage across unknown seas to the far-away, strange country whither he had gone, and he wished that he too might go there in search of fortune's favors, for the spirit of adventure, inherent in every true Englishman's breast, was his by right of birth. He treasured up his determination to try life in this land of promise until he was of suitable age to put it into execution, and in the month of May, 1836, he disclosed his plans to his mother and foster-parent (his grandmother), telling them that he would like to do as his uncle Thomas had done, seek a home in the United States. They strenuously opposed his purpose, but he told them, that although he did not wish to disobey them, he had firmly resolved to go a year from that time. In May, 1837, he again broached the subject of his emigration, and was met with the same opposition. He informed his mother and foster-mother that he wished very much to obtain their consent, but he should go in any case. When they saw that further persuasion was useless, they reluctantly gave in, and sadly made preparations for his setting forth into the great world, giving him such necessary aid for his journey as was in their power.

The first week in May, 1837, our subject started out on his travels from the pleasant English home that had given him shelter from his birth, and alone, but with a brave heart and a steady purpose, he faced the unknown future and the perils of an ocean voyage never to be forgotten while memory holds sway. From Minehead he went on a schooner to Bristol, where he secured passage for Philadelphia on the "Severn," a sailing-vessel loaded with iron, and carrying about forty other

passengers beside himself. In mid-ocean a dreadful storm was encountered, which lasted for five days, and it seemed impossible that the gallant ship could outweather such a tempest. Often great seas would break on deck, and the bowsprit, foremast and bulwarks were broken and washed overboard. When the fearful storm was at its height, young Lake requested the officer to permit him to remain on deck, and he allowed him to do so on condition that he would secure himself to the main-mast, which he did with a rope that lay near, and from six o'clock in the morning until late in the evening he remained in that position without a particle of food, watching with mingled feelings of awe the sublime spectacle of the conflict of the elements with Old Ocean. As darkness enveloped what seemed to be a doomed ship, the storm abated, and at sunrise there was not wind sufficient to move the sails, and a dead calm of four days ensued.

Mr. Lake landed in Philadelphia in the latter part of June, seven weeks from the day he left old England. He was at the time sixteen years and three months of age, and was a bright, active lad, with plenty of mother-wit and other essentials to make the life that lay before him a success, if he chose to do so. His destination was Illinois, where he intended to join his uncle Thomas. From the Quaker City he crossed Pennsylvania, and went over the Alleghanies by rail and canal, passing through Johnstown, which was so nearly erased from the face of the earth by the awful flood of recent years, and through many another place, whose very name he has forgotten, and on to Pittsburg, where he embarked on a river steamer for the West. Arriving at Rockport, a small river town on the Ohio below Louisville, he was taken sick with a fever, and had to remain there until November. In the meantime, he received a letter from his uncle, who was then living in Rockford, and as soon as he was able he resumed his interrupted journey down the Ohio and up the Mississippi to Fulton, Ill. Thence he traveled on foot through marsh and swamp, and over what seemed to him endless prairies, to Sterling, and from there proceeded on the west side of the river to Rockford, where he arrived about the 1st of December,

1837, "completely worn out, physically, mentally and financially," as he himself expresses it.

In the spring he had recuperated sufficiently to work on a farm, at which he was employed three years. At the end of that time, he apprenticed himself to Mr. Thomas Thatcher, a joiner, carpenter and architect. A year with that gentleman, with wages of \$5 a month and board, and he had acquired all his instructor could impart, and was prepared to set up for himself in the same line, thus showing how soon he had caught the dash and energy of the Western spirit. He not only worked out by the day as a carpenter, but engaged as a contractor, doing business by himself until the winter of 1852-53, when he formed a partnership with Mr. P. Howes, to engage in the lumber trade. The yard was where the East Rockford passenger station of the Chicago & North-western Railway now stands, which was at that time called the Chicago & Galena Railway, and which had been completed to the east side of Rock River, on the 20th of August, 1852. On the 20th of August, 1853, the railway bridge was completed across that river, and our subject and his partner removed their lumber to a yard on the west side, near the present station of the Northwestern Railway, continuing together until the summer of 1856, when they sold their business to a Mr. Freeman.

In November of that year, the prosperous young Westerner, whose course we have thus far followed with interest, revisited his old home at Blackford Farm, nearly twenty years having passed by with their many chances and changes since he had last crossed its threshold, a penniless lad on his way to the New World. Returning again to this country in February, 1857, in the early spring, he once more went into the lumber business, having his stand on the corner of Third and State Streets, on the same ground now occupied by the Rockford Coal & Lumber Company. Mr. Howes, his old partner, had an interest with him for a year, and then their connection was dissolved, in the fall of 1859, by the sale of the stock to Cook & Bro., lumber dealers on the west side of the river. In the spring of 1853, Mr. Lake made arrangements to take charge of the late Mr. Henry Fisher's yard, on

the west side of the river, and, in the summer of the same year, formed a partnership with that gentleman, which was continued until March, 1867. In May of that year, after closing out his interest with Mr. Fisher, he again visited England, and extended his tour while abroad to Ireland, Scotland, France, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland and portions of Germany, returning home in the fall. In the spring of 1868, he formed a five-years' partnership with the Hon. Seely Perry, who was doing a lumber business on the ground formerly occupied by our subject, and where Mr. Perry is still carrying on the same business. In the spring of 1874, they terminated their partnership, and in June Mr. Lake again indulged his fondness for travel, and revisited England, Scotland and France, and three times since he has made the same journey, in the summers of 1877, 1889 and 1891, his eldest daughter accompanying him across the ocean on his last trip. He has not altogether confined his travels to European countries, but has spent a winter on the Pacific Coast, going to California in May, 1885, with his wife and niece, and staying there until the following April.

Our subject is a man of fine physique and good presence, is possessed of business acumen and executive ability in a rare degree, and has made his influence felt in various directions. He has filled various positions of trust, and his official record is without blemish, as he has always acted for the best interests of those concerned, without regard to self, and has discharged his duties faithfully, fearlessly and with a clear conscience. He has been connected with the Rockford Fire Insurance Company since its inception. This company procured its charter in 1866, and Mr. Lake was elected its first Vice-president, and acted in that capacity until January, 1886, when he became the choice of the Board of Directors for President of the company, vice Dr. R. P. Lane, who had resigned at the close of 1885. This is one of the leading insurance companies of the West, and as its presiding officer, our subject's safe and wise policy in the management of its affairs strengthens the reputation it has acquired for stability. For ten years, ending in 1883, Mr. Lake served the Second Ward of the city as Alderman, and the same ward as Su-

pervisor a part of that time. From 1877 to 1878, he was Chairman of the Board of Education. He is prominent in social circles as one of the leading members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge and Representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the United States for six consecutive years.

Mr. Lake was married, October 11, 1819, to Miss Ahmeda M. Danley, whose parents, Cornelius and Sarah Danley, were farmers and pioneers of the town of Harlem, Winnebago County. Mrs. Lake has co-operated with her husband in the making of a true home in their handsome residence at No. 1211 East State Street, and its hospitalities are well known to their many friends. Of the seven children born to our subject and his wife, three died in infancy. The following is the record of the four that survive: Sarah E., born September 26, 1850, married William H. Crocker, of Evanston, Ill., August 21, 1884; Jennie E., born February 2, 1854, married Charles M. Clark, of Rockford, October 21, 1871; Alice M., born March 23, 1861, married William M. Prentice, of Rockford, December 18, 1878; Frank L., born April 5, 1865, married Jessie E. Shirley, of Rockford, May 5, 1886.

Mr. Lake is a man of wide experience, a keen observer of men and affairs, with a mind broadened by travel and contact with the world, and he is an interesting conversationalist, possessing a varied fund of information. Though retaining a strong affection for his native land, he is loyal to the country of his adoption, and a thorough American in his habits and views of life. He has not only watched with pleasure the development of this city, his chosen home, with which his personal interests are so closely bound, but he has witnessed with pride and delight the wonderful growth of these United States in the course of half a century. In a chat with the biographer concerning his past life, he spoke eloquently of the great changes that had taken place, of the discoveries and inventions that have revolutionized the world since he became a citizen of this republic. Speaking of the grand progress made in human affairs, he said:

"In June, 1892, it will be fifty-five years since I landed in Philadelphia. What changes in all the varied affairs of human life since that time! When

we sailed down the River Severn from Bristol, on our voyage to the United States, I remember seeing on the docks, in process of construction, the 'Great Western,' the first steamship of any importance that crossed the Atlantic to New York. Compare that slow and unwieldy craft with the floating palaces that are now nearly every day in the year crossing and recrossing from one country to the other!

"Instead of seven weeks, the journey of over three thousand miles is now accomplished in less than six days, and the passengers are provided with all the luxuries afforded by the best hotels in New York or Chicago. Postage to Europe was then twenty-five cents, and now a letter is carried across the ocean for five cents. Telegraph, telephone, electric railways and machinery of various kinds, propelled by steam or electricity, have come into general use only within a comparatively short time.

"In 1837, the United States had a population of about sixteen millions; soon its inhabitants will be numbered by seventy millions. Then Chicago could boast of but four thousand one hundred and seventy souls; now the latest census gives it nearly one million three hundred thousand inhabitants. When I came here, the country west of the Mississippi River was inhabited mainly by Indians and wild beasts to the shores of the Pacific; now six railroads cross the then supposed impassable Rocky and Sierra Nevada Mountains, and what was once called the 'Great-American Desert,' has been made to blossom like the rose, and is the home of a contented and prosperous people. Then the genius of an Edison had not been thought or dreamed of. What will be the experience of the human race during the next fifty-five years? Many who now live will see, but for us of the olden-time, it is not for us to know."



EDWARD H. MARSH, attorney at law, real-estate dealer, money lender and Notary Public, is one of the enterprising and wide-awake young business men of Rockford. His office is now located at No. 418 East State Street. He

has the honor of being a native of this city, his birth having occurred here in 1860, and a representative of one of its pioneer families. His father, J. B. Marsh, is proprietor of a large furniture establishment on East State Street. He has been a resident of this city for nearly forty years and his life has been spent in carrying on the business which his father, Horace Marsh, who is now deceased, established here at an early day. The family came from Connecticut to Illinois and have since resided at Rockford. J. B. Marsh was married, in this city, to Miss Amanda Work, a native of Ohio, who came to Rockford when a young lady. This couple are among the prominent residents of the city where they so long resided and have a wide acquaintance among its best people. Their two children are now living; our subject and Fannie, who resides with her parents.

Edward H. Marsh acquired his literary education in the public schools of Rockford, after which he fitted himself for the practice of law in the State University in Ann Arbor, Mich., from which he was graduated in the Class of '82. In 1884, he opened an office in his native city and has here since engaged in practice. He has also been connected with many of the leading industries and enterprises of Rockford. At this writing, he is Secretary of the H. W. Price Improvement Company, proprietors of the North End Division, a property embracing more than six hundred acres of land. It is well located and supplied with street car and railroad lines and a number of important factories are going up, while some are already in operation. The land is high, lying near the Rock River, which affords it a natural surface drainage. The lots are well located and elegantly laid out for building purposes and sell from \$200 to \$600 a piece, being already in good demand. There is also upon this division a schoolhouse, furnished with all the accommodations of the city.

Mr. Marsh is also connected with other leading enterprises and gives liberally to those interests calculated to promote the city's growth. He is both public-spirited and progressive, and is a valued citizen of the community. He is now serving as attorney for the Swedish Building and Loan Association and other corporations and

has been two years City Attorney and has served as Supervisor of the Sixth Ward. Every public trust reposed in him is faithfully discharged, and he has proved a competent officer. Socially, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Woodman lodges, and is a Mason. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican and has served as Chairman of the County Central Committee. Mr. Marsh is enterprising and industrious and is a young man who will no doubt win great success in life.



FREDRICK NUGREN has been a resident of Rockford since the fall of 1868, and is a well-known mechanic of the city, whose sketch we feel assured will prove of interest to many of our readers. A native of Sweden, he was born on the 19th of September, 1813, and is a son of Johnas Anderson, who spent his entire life in his native province in Sweden, engaged in agricultural pursuits, and was called to the home beyond at the age of seventy-six years. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Johnson, is yet living on the old homestead at the age of seventy-four. She is a consistent member of the Lutheran Church, to which her husband also belonged for many years. One daughter of the family resides in this country, Christina, wife of Johans Trupel, a mechanic of Rockford.

Mr. Nugren spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home, but on attaining his majority, he bade good-bye to friends and native land and set sail for America to try his fortune in the New World, of whose privileges and advantages he had heard such favorable reports. He sailed from Gottenburg, and after seventeen days spent upon the broad Atlantic, he arrived in New York, whence he journeyed Westward by land, reaching Rockford on the 16th of November, 1868. With the exception of a few months spent in California, he has since resided in this city. After locating here, he learned the trade of a cabinet-maker, to which he has devoted his entire energy. Since 1879, he has been a stockholder in the Central Furniture Company and is also one of its Directors and works in the factory.

Mr. Nugren was joined in wedlock, in this city, to Miss Mary Casya, who was born in the same province as her husband, and when a young lady emigrated to this country in 1870, since which time Rockford has been her home. Her parents never left their native land. Her father, a member of the Lutheran Church, died in Sweden at an advanced age. His wife, who is now sixty-four years of age, is also a consistent member of the Lutheran Church.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Nugren has been blessed with a family of five children, but Charles is now deceased. The four yet living are Anna M., Alma J., Fredrica W. and Esther. The family reside at their pleasant home at No. 303 Bluff Street, which was built under the direction of our subject. He is a skilled workman in the line of his trade and has become a well-to-do citizen, owing to his industry and good management. He came to this country empty-handed but has made the most of his opportunities and the result is shown in his present prosperity.



HORACE FOOTE, one of the old pioneers of Winnebago County, having come here as early as 1837, is now living retired in the city of Rockford. He hailed from New York, his birth having occurred in Burlington, Otsego County, December 27, 1811. Burnice Foote, his father, was born in Bernardstown, Franklin County, Mass., in 1766. The latter-named gentleman was reared and given a good education and remained in his native State until 1800, at which time he started for the then Far West, locating in Burlington, Otsego County, N. Y. He opened a public house at Burlington Green, which was located on the stage route leading from Albany to Cooperstown. After being employed as "mine host" for a few years, the elder Mr. Foote purchased land near the Green, upon which he resided and farmed until his decease in January, 1831.

Miss Melinda Field was the maiden name of our subject's mother, her birth occurring in Northfield, Franklin County, Mass. She survived her

husband many years, and died at the home of the original of this sketch in 1862, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. She became the mother of six children: Harriet, who died at the age of sixty-five years; Horatio, when ninety-one years; Lucius, at ninety, Feronia, at seventy-seven, and Hiram at the age of eighty-one. Our subject, who is the youngest member of the family, is the only one now living, and he is the only one among the sons of the family who did not become a minister in the Congregational Church.

Horace Foote was reared to man's estate and given a good education in Burlington, the schools being conducted on the subscription plan. There were no railroads or canals in the vicinity of his home, and the nearest market was at Utica, ninety miles distant. Our subject continued his residence in Burlington until 1837, when he started for this State, accompanied by his mother, the trip being made overland with a team to Oberlin, Ohio, where a brother and sister were attending college, and where also his brother Horatio was located. The mother remaining in that city, our subject, with Horatio, came on to Winnebago County, they being delegated by other families of the East, including Dr. A. M. Catlin, Deacon J. W. Baker, and Deacon Tyler, to select a desirable location. At that time Rockford contained but few families and the greater portion of the land was still owned by the Government. Mr. Foote and his brother purchased a "squatter's" claim to a large tract of land two and one-half miles up the river to Rockford, and after buying the claim, Horatio returned to Oberlin to notify the other families. Our subject remained here during the winter and erected on the land three log houses and two log barns.

Early in 1838, the family of our subject located on the above-mentioned tract, and, as before stated, the brothers being preachers were very busy attending to their professional duties, and consequently the management of the farm devolved upon our subject. He improved a farm, erected thereon good buildings, and continued to reside there until 1888, then removed to Rockford where he has since lived retired.

Miss Harriet M. Batchelder became the wife of

our subject in 1843; she was born in New Hampshire in 1826, and bore her husband six children, three of whom are living: Mary C., Nellie T., and Henry M. Mrs. Foote passed away January 16, 1867.



WILLIAM D. CORNWELL, County Treasurer of Boone County, was born in Brantford, Ontario, Canada, on the 27th of March, 1833. His father, Gabriel D. Cornwell, was, it is thought, born in York State, and was an infant when his parents moved to Canada. He was there reared and married, and continued to make that his home until 1815, and then, in company with his wife and eight children, came to Illinois. They started from their home in Canada with six teams, and drove to St. Joseph, Mich., where they embarked on a steamer and crossed Lake Michigan to Chicago. Then with their teams they came to Belvidere, at a time when the country was very sparsely settled, and Belvidere was but a small village on the northern side of the river. Mr. Cornwell secured a tract of land in what is now Caledonia Township, erected a good frame house and at once began the improvement of a farm. He resided on that place until the decease of his wife, when he made his home with a daughter in Le Roy Township, until his decease, dying February 7, 1885.

Our subject's mother bore the maiden name of Margaret Day; she was born in Canada and died on the home farm in 1877, having become the mother of eight children. William D. was twelve years of age when he came to the Prairie State with his parents, and has witnessed almost the entire growth and development of this section. He assisted on the home farm until fifteen years of age, and then served an apprenticeship of three years at the mason's trade. In 1857, he located on a farm which he still owns in Caledonia Township, hiring the work done on his estate and continuing to work at his trade until 1867. In that year, he went to Caledonia and engaged in the lumbering business. Four years later, Mr. Cornwell went to Colorado, and for four years worked at his trade

in Pueblo and Denver. Returning to this county, he resided on the farm, the operation of which he superintended, and worked at his trade until 1890, since which time he has been a resident of Belvidere.

The lady to whom our subject was married in 1857 was Miss Catherine, daughter of William Chappel, who was born in England, and on coming to America, located in Genesee County, N. Y., where he resided for many years, and where Mrs. Cornwell was born. In 1856, her father came to Illinois and located in Caledonia Township. The maiden name of his wife was Mary A. Getten, also a native of England.

Mr. and Mrs. Cornwell have reared a family of one child, Adella, who was born December 1, 1859, married, December 25, 1879, Walter Bruner, and departed this life April 14, 1881, leaving one child, William Howard. They have an adopted daughter, Jennie, who is the wife of James Preston, of Walworth County, Wis., and the mother of two children: Ruel and Ralph.

Our subject is a Republican in politics, and in 1890 was elected to his present responsible position of Treasurer of Boone County. With his wife, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and personally is a very genial gentleman, having a host of warm friends in this county.



ANDREW N. NOLING, of Rockford, first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 5th of April, 1839, in Wester Gothland, Sweden. He is the eldest child of the family, and was the first to come to America. A sketch of his parents is given in connection with the history of L. M. Noling, on another page of this work. No event of special importance occurred during the childhood of our subject. When it was time to enter upon a business career, he chose cabinet-making as the trade which he wished to follow, and served a full apprenticeship in that line.

In Sweden, Mr. Noling was united in marriage to Miss Johanna Johnson, who came with her husband to this country, and died at their home in Rockford, in 1874. She was a good Christian

woman, and many friends mourned her loss. One child preceded her to the final home, Hilda, who died in youth, and three are yet living. Frederick A., the eldest, is a carver in the employ of the Central Furniture Company of this city; Jennie O. occupies the position of book-keeper with the Star Laundry Company; and J. William is also a carver of the Central Furniture Company.

Mr. Noling came to Rockford in 1868. He sailed from Gottenburg to New York City on one of the steamers of the Inman Line, and reached his destination in May of that year. He did not tarry long in the Eastern metropolis, but at once made his way to Chicago, and on the 6th of June arrived in Rockford, where he has since resided. In the years which have followed, he has been connected in one way or another with the various furniture factories of this city. He is now a stockholder in the Union Grocery Company, and one of the large stockholders and directors in the Central Furniture Company, in which he also works as a cabinet-maker. He was one of the first men to help organize the latter company. He has been very successful since coming to this country, and has acquired a competence which numbers him among the well-to-do Swedish residents of Rockford.

Mr. Noling was a second time married, in this city, this time to Miss Anna K. Swenson, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, June 10, 1847. Her parents died in their native land when she was about eighteen years of age. Her father, Swan Nelson, was a farmer, and was called to rest at the age of fifty. His wife, whose maiden name was Helen Johnson, died about two years later. They were members of the Lutheran Church. In the family were five children: John and Mary are both married, and reside in Sweden; Christina is a resident of Kansas; and Sophia makes her home in Rockford. The two latter are also married. Mrs. Noling crossed the Atlantic in 1874, reaching Rockford on the 17th of July, and on the 14th of April, 1875, gave her hand in marriage to our subject. Their union has been blessed with two children, who are yet living: Martin Norman and Esther A. They lost four children: Charles A., Oscar M., Oscar E. and A. Lillie, all of whom died in childhood. The parents are members of the First Lutheran

Church. They reside at No. 305 Almon Street, where they have a beautiful home which was built by Mr. Noling. This worthy couple have many friends in the community, and are people of sterling worth, deserving the high esteem in which they are held.



RAMEL A. RICHARDSON. The Wisconsin Lumber Company was organized in January, 1886, as an incorporated institution, and since that time has carried on a large and lucrative business, with Mr. Richardson as President and Manager. The company carries a complete line of hard and soft lumber and house-building supplies, and, possessing large resources and facilities, occupies a position high among the leading enterprises of this character in Winnebago County. The practical management of the business is placed in the hands of Mr. Richardson, who is thoroughly experienced in all its details and attends to its operations in a manner which secures the maintenance of the high standard of quality for which the firm is celebrated, while his reliable business methods have secured for the firm an enviable place in the confidence of the people.

Before speaking more minutely of the life of our subject, it will doubtless be of interest to the reader to mention a few facts in regard to the career of his father, Hiram, who died near the city of Rockford, January 13, 1885. As early as 1836, he sought a home in Guilford Township, Winnebago County, where he secured a "squatter's" claim to new land, of which he gained possession when it came into market. At that time the county was in its infancy, and only two years before, Mr. Kent had erected a sawmill in the city of Rockford (then a mere hamlet). He was one of the first settlers in Guilford Township, and, without any capital, but with plenty of energy, he set to work clearing his land and improving a farm.

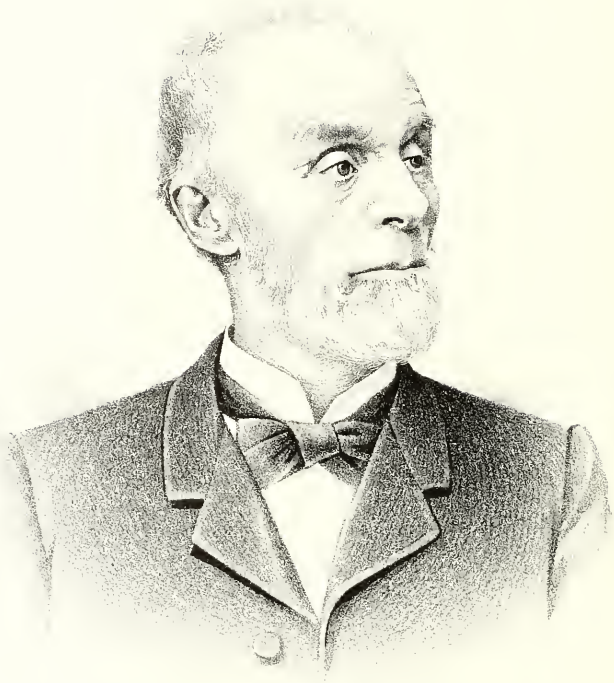
The nearest market in those early days was the unimportant little village of Chicago, which offered little inducements to the early settlers. Mr. Richardson, while he was there trading, saw a

man offered a lot where the court house now stands in exchange for a Seth Thomas clock, he declining without a moment's hesitation. He aided in putting up the first frame house erected in Rockford and made on his farm some brick, which was used in the construction of the first brick buildings of the city. Success crowned his efforts and he became well known as a prosperous farmer and prominent old settler. A man of quiet disposition, reserved and modest, he always worked for the good of the community and was a member of the Old Settlers' Society.

Mr. Richardson, Sr., came hither from Orange County, Vt., where he was born August 24, 1818. His parents died when he was a mere lad and he became self-supporting at an early age. In Winnebago County, this State, he was united in marriage with Miss Lucetta Thurston, who was born in New Hampshire, July 27, 1819. She still survives, making her home with her sons in Rockford. The only children of this family are Charles A. and O. A., both residents of Rockford.

The younger of the two sons, our subject, was born in Rockford, October 27, 1846, and here has spent his entire life. He early developed business qualities of no ordinary character and for some time was manager of a lumber company, of which he became owner in 1873. He remained in that connection until January, 1886, when the company was merged into the Wisconsin Lumber Company. Mr. Richardson also takes an interest in other corporations and institutions of Rockford. In politics, he is a Republican of the most pronounced type.

The lady who became the wife of our subject, September 27, 1870, bore the maiden name of Emma Regan, and was born and reared in Rockford. Her father, Marshall H. Regan, came to Illinois in the early '40s and engaged in the lumber business at Rockford until his death, in 1875. He was twice married, the mother of Mrs. Richardson being killed in a railroad accident at South Bend, Ind., in 1857, when in the prime of life. Her eldest daughter Mary lost her life in the same manner. The second wife of Mr. Regan was a Miss Stewart and still survives, her home being in Rockford.



Yours truly
Ingalls Carleton



Sincerely Yours
Amy Carleton.

In their religious connections, Mr. and Mrs. Richardson are members of the First Baptist Church of Rockford, and he is serving as Deacon. They are the parents of six children, as follows: Mabel, who graduated from Mt. Carroll Seminary; Harry D., who was educated at the Northwestern University, of Evanston, is a promising young man; Lillian M. is a student in Mt. Carroll Seminary; Alfred G., Raymond O. and Ethel Emma Pearl are at home and attend the city schools.



HON. INGALLS CARLETON. Probably in the history of Winnebago County no more worthy representative can be found of what can be accomplished by energy, integrity and well-directed efforts, than is so strikingly exemplified in the successful life of this gentleman. Since 1877, he has made his home in Rockford, where he owns and occupies an elegant residence on East State, corner of Summit Street. He has been engaged in the real-estate business since 1868, having dealt largely in land both in Winnebago County and elsewhere. At present, he has extensive interests in Sioux Falls, Dak., and the country immediately surrounding that city.

A native of Vermont, Mr. Carleton was born in Marshfield, Washington County, March 30, 1824, and is a lineal descendant of Gen. Carleton. His paternal grandfather, Jeremiah Carleton, was born in Lyndeborough, N. H., and followed farming pursuits in his native State, removing thence with teams to Barre, Vt., and settling in the wilderness. From a tract of timber land he cleared a farm, which remained his home until death called him hence. A grandson now owns the old homestead, one of the most attractive places in the Green Mountain State.

The grandmother of our subject, whose maiden name was Mary Edwards, was of New England birth and was descended from the famous Dr. Edwards. She reared seven children, whose names were Jeremiah, Silas, Noah, David, Hiram, Deborah and Mary, respectively. The only surviving members of the family are Hiram and Deborah. Jeremiah,

father of our subject, was born in Barre, Washington County, Vt., in 1800, and was reared in his native place, there receiving his education. In his youth he removed to Nashua, N. H., where he learned the trade of a blacksmith. After following his trade for a while, he purchased a farm near Marshfield. Before railroads had been introduced into that section of the country, Burlington was the principal market and depot of supplies, to which the farmers hauled their grain and returned home with articles procured in exchange. Jeremiah Carleton followed the calling of a farmer until his death in 1881. His wife, Betsey (Robey) Carleton, a native of Nashua, N. H., long preceded him in death, passing away in Marshfield, Vt., in 1836, at the age of thirty-six. Her father, Philip Abbott Robey, was born in the old town of Dunstable, N. H., and, until a few years ago, the house was standing in which he was born. He served during the Revolutionary War and was an active participant in the battle of Ticonderoga. He married Lucy Proctor and settled in Cavandish, Vt., now called Proctorville.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in a comparatively uneventful manner. At the age of eighteen, he commenced teaching and continued in that way during three winter terms, being engaged in farming the remainder of the year. He also dealt in live-stock, buying in Marshfield and the neighboring villages, and selling at Brighton and Cambridge, Mass. In 1856, he came to Illinois and bought one hundred and twenty acres in Rockton Township, Winnebago County. In the fall of the same year, he returned to Vermont and spent the winter, but in the spring came again to Rockton, where he formed a partnership with the Hon. G. H. Hollister and engaged in the grain business. The firm built a flouring-mill, which they operated in connection with the grain business until 1868, meeting with success as the result of judicious dealings and commendable perseverance. In the year mentioned, Mr. Carleton sold out his interest in the business and embarked in the real-estate enterprises, which have since engaged his attention.

In June, 1869, Mr. Carleton was married to Miss Amy Lawrence, who was born in Rockton, Winne-

bago County. She belongs to the well-known New England family of that name, who were identified with the early history of Massachusetts. The Lawrence family is of English descent and some of its members settled in New England during the Colonial period. They bore a conspicuous part in the history and development of that part of the country and as lawyers, jurists, soldiers and business men, stood in the front rank of American citizenship. The grandfather of Mrs. Carleton, John Lawrence, was a farmer of the old Bay State and spent his last days in Groton, Middlesex County, where his son Luther was born.

The last-named was reared and educated in Groton, whence, in 1837, he removed to Illinois and became one of the early settlers of Rockton. The journey to this county was made by stage and railroad to Albany, thence via Erie Canal to Buffalo, from there across the Lakes to Detroit, where he procured ox-teams and made an overland trip to Belvidere, Ill. At that time Northern Illinois was very sparsely settled, and deer and other wild game were plentiful. All the land in this section of the country was still owned by the Government, the surveys not yet being completed. He made a claim to a tract near Belvidere and when the land came into market, made the purchase from the Government. He was single on coming to Illinois and did not at once make a permanent settlement, but finally located at Rockton, operating a flouring-mill for some years, but was retired from active business cares for some time prior to his death in March, 1891.

The mother of Mrs. Carleton, whose maiden name was Adelia Loomer, was born in Rome, N. Y., the daughter of Loring and Mary Loomer, and died in 1869. Loring Loomer was a native of Great Barrington, Mass., his grandfather, a wealthy aristocrat, moving thence from Virginia, sacrificing a beautiful home during the war. Mrs. Adelia Lawrence reared four children, namely: Mary M., Harriet, Amy and Frances. Mr. and Mrs. Carleton have one son, Leonard Ingalls. In his politics, Mr. Carleton was formerly a Whig and joined the Republican party at the time of its formation, since which time he has been an ardent supporter of its principles. He was twice elected to represent the

town of Marshfield in the Vermont State Legislature. He was a member at the time the State House was burned and served during the extra session which was called to make appropriations for a new State House. He has been instrumental in moulding the opinions of his fellow-citizens, among whom his opinion carries great weight, and is justly regarded as a man of honorable principles and unusual ability. The attention of the reader is invited to the lithographic portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Carleton presented in this connection.



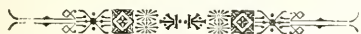
JOHN PILCHER, Jr., who was for many years a leading farmer of Caledonia Township, and is now living in Belvidere, claims England as the land of his birth. He was born in Kent County, March 15, 1841, and is a son of John Pilcher, also a native of Kent County, as were the grandparents. The father was reared upon a farm, and followed agricultural pursuits in his native land until April, 1851, when, with his wife and our subject, he sailed from London, England, to New York, where he arrived after a voyage of five weeks. He went at once to Fairfield County, Ohio, where he made his home until 1855, when he came to Boone County, and located in Belvidere. He here worked at the mason's trade, and engaged in drilling wells until 1865, when he bought land in the town of Bonus, and engaged in farming for twelve years, when he returned to Belvidere and devoted his energies to gardening. He now resides in Hillsboro, N. H. His wife died in this city, leaving three children: John of this sketch; Irene, wife of William B. Chilvers; and Eliza A., wife of Charles S. Dana.

Our subject was a lad of ten years when he came with his parents to the United States. He attended private school in Kent County, and afterward was a student in the public schools of Lancaster, Ohio, and of Belvidere. When not in school, he was employed on the farm, and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until 1862, when, on the 23d of March, he enlisted in Company E, Sixty-fifth Illinois Infantry. He was made a prisoner at Harper's Ferry the following September, and with oth-

ers was paroled, and was in camp at Chicago until exchanged. At the siege of Knoxville, in 1863, he was severely wounded and incapacitated for further active duty. He continued in service until the expiration of his term, when he was honorably discharged in March, 1865.

As soon as possible, Mr. Pilcher returned home, and resumed farming. After his marriage, he rented land for four years, and then purchased a farm in Caledonia Township, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his energies until 1891, when he sold out and came to Belvidere. He purchased property in the city, and has there since made his home. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey he chose Miss Ida A. Kipp, a native of the Empire State, and a daughter of Abraham and Clarissa Kipp. Their union was celebrated in 1871, and unto them was born a daughter, Cora Edith. The mother died April 8, 1885, and her death was deeply regretted by many friends.

Mr. Pilcher is a member of the Second Baptist Church, and socially, is connected with S. A. Hurlbut Post No. 164, G. A. R., while his daughter is a member of the Ladies' Aid Society, S. of V. He is recognized as one of the substantial citizens of the community, and for his success in life deserves great credit, as it is due entirely to his own efforts.



ORVILL P. THOMAS. A pleasantly located and fertile tract of land on section 7, Owen Township, Winnebago County, is owned and occupied by the subject of this sketch, who is giving his time and attention to agricultural pursuits. He is an old resident of the county, having come here in 1867, and has consequently been an important factor in the growth and development of this section.

William M. Thomas, the father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, as was also his father, Moses Thomas, whom tradition says was a descendant of one of three brothers who came from Wales to America in Colonial times. The grandfather followed the occupation of a farmer and resided in Wayne County, Pa. The father of our subject was married in the Keystone State, where he re-

sided until 1838, and then, coming overland with his wife and three children to Winnebago County, made the trip via the Lakes to Chicago and thence by team to Rockford. Making a claim to a tract of Government land now included in Rockton Township, Mr. Thomas erected a log cabin and began the work of subduing nature, clearing and breaking land. In 1841, he sold this tract and removed to Rockton where he died in July, 1882. His wife, who was born in Wayne County, Pa., was known in her maidenhood as Eliza Conkling.

The original of this sketch does not remember the overland trip to this county, as he was very young at the time, but the hardships through which the family passed in developing the new home have made a lasting impression upon his mind. For some time deer, wolves and other kinds of animals were very plentiful, and as there were no railroads, Chicago and the lead mines in the vicinity of Galena were the nearest markets.

In 1858, Mr. Thomas of this sketch started with others for Pike's Peak, the party crossing the Mississippi River at Fulton and the Missouri at Platts-mouth, but, hearing discouraging reports from people who were returning from that region, they concluded to come home, and from that time until 1862 our subject was engaged in farming with his brother, John C. On the outbreak of the Civil War, he was enlisted in Company F, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry and served his country bravely until the close of the war, having participated with his regiment in many of the important battles and campaigns, among which were Perryville, Stone River and the march with Sherman to Atlanta. He also fought at Chattanooga, Jonesville, Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville.

He of whom we write in 1867 purchased the farm upon which he now resides and where he has been a continuous resident, with the exception of the year 1870, which he spent in Kansas. The fall of 1870, he was united in marriage with Alice A. Carr. Mrs. Thomas was born in Livingston County, N. Y., and was a daughter of John Carr, who was born on the banks of Crooked Lake, that State. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Thomas, William Carr, was born either in New York or New England, and was a farmer by occupation.

spending his last days on his farm in Crooked Lake. The maiden name of her grandmother was Ann Mattison; she was also a native of the Empire State. The father of Mrs. Thomas came to Illinois in 1855, and resided in Rockton and Owen Townships, this county, until 1872, when they removed to Wisconsin, purchasing a farm near Beloit, where they made their home. The maiden name of his wife was Irene F. Bibbins, daughter of Smith and Angeline (Fargo) Bibbins. The three children comprising the household of our subject are William O., John L. and Dora A. In politics, he is a straightforward Republican.



BRUNDAGE CORBY WILLIAMS. Among the gentlemen prominent in business in Rockford there is, perhaps, no one more worthy of mention than Mr. Williams, whose birth occurred at Vernon, Essex County, N. J., September 2, 1832. His father, Aaron Williams, was also a native of that county, while his grandfather, Joseph Williams, hailed from Connecticut and was a lineal descendant of Roger Williams. The grandfather removed to New Jersey, where he resided on a farm in Essex County until his decease. His wife, it is believed, was also a native of Connecticut and spent her last years on the Essex County farm.

Aaron Williams was given a good education in his native county, and on learning the trade of a shoemaker was engaged in that business in Binghampton, N. Y., for a number of years. He later came to Rockford on a visit in the fall of 1881 and departed this life at the home of our subject, January 30 of the following year, when seventy-one years of age. His wife, who was born in Essex County, N. J., was prior to her marriage known as Miss Rebecca Corby, being the daughter of Ezekiel and Rebecca Corby, natives of the above-named State. On the death of her husband, Mrs. Williams returned to Binghampton, in the summer of 1882, and, residing with a daughter for a time, later went to Yonkers on a visit to another daughter, departing this life at the home of one of her

children in Rensselaerville May 16, 1856, in her seventy-fourth year.

Six sons and five daughters were included in the parental family, and our subject was but eighteen months old when his father and mother removed to Binghampton, N. Y., the journey being made overland by teams. There he received a good education, and when eighteen years old began to learn the trade of a carpenter, serving an apprenticeship of a year and a half. He worked at journey work during the summers and taught school in the winter. Later, going to New York City, he did journey work for a time, and in 1855 was similarly engaged for two years at Seranton, Pa., losing his wages at that time on account of the great financial crash, which caused all kinds of business to be suspended. B. C. Williams then went to the town of Lathrop, Susquehanna County, that State, and was given employment at cutting logs and firewood through the winter, and in April of the following year returned to Binghampton where he resided until July 20. Then coming to Illinois, our subject located at Warrenton, Du Page County, working in the harvest field for a few weeks, when he became employed at his trade, his first work there being the building of the Methodist Episcopal Church. After having framed and raised the steeple, and before it was completed, the staging fell, thus precipitating Mr. Williams to the ground, sixty feet below, by which fall he was severely injured.

In 1862, he of whom we write went to Chicago where he was employed at working at his trade, and in 1864 had charge of the erection of the Government corral on State Street, which extended from Twenty-fourth to Twenty-sixth Street. In the fall of 1864, our subject raised a company of mechanics for the United States service, and after the battle of Nashville went to St. Louis, where he was mustered into service. He was then sent to Nashville, being assigned to duty in the Eighth Tennessee Regiment, with which he remained until May, 1865, when he received his honorable discharge and returned home. Removing his family to the Garden City, our subject took charge of a sash, door and blind factory, which he managed until 1871 and then, on account of ill-health, came to



Your Truly,
J. A. Johnson

Winnebago County, purchasing a farm in New Milford Township, which he operated for four years. Then disposing of his tract, he moved into the city of Rockford and bought property, to the improvement and management of which he devotes his entire time and attention.

In Hyde Park, Pa., in the year 1857, Brundage C. Williams and Mary E. Lathrop were united in marriage. The lady was born in Lathrop, that State, while her father, Elijah, was a native of Unadilla, Otsego County, N. Y., where her grandfather was one of the pioneers and an extensive land-owner. Elijah Lathrop went to the Keystone State when a young man, where he met and married Jemima Mack, a native of Connecticut. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Williams was named Elijah Mack, and had his birth in Connecticut, of Scotch parents. He removed from that State to Pennsylvania, where he purchased a tract of timber land and resided until his decease. The father of Mrs. Williams was also a farmer and with his wife lies buried in the cemetery in Buckeye near Lathrop.

Our subject is an ardent advocate of temperance principles and is actively connected with the Prohibition Club. He is very public-spirited and liberal, having improved and donated Williams' Park to that city.



JOHN A. JOHNSON. The gentleman whose portrait is presented on the opposite page is one of the prominent business men of Rockford, having for eighteen years been connected with some of the leading enterprises of the city. A native of Sweden, he was born in Jonkoping, January 26, 1845, and is a son of Samuel E. and Katrina Johnson. The father was born May 13, 1820, and the mother September 18, 1816, and both are still living. They are kindly, generous people and are members of the Lutheran Church. They emigrated to this country June 11, 1854, sailing from Gottenburg to Liverpool, England, and thence to the United States, landing August 20, in Philadelphia, where they resided two years. In May, 1857, they removed to Chicago, and after-

ward went to Kane County, Ill., settling on a farm between St. Charles and Elgin. December 29, 1863, the father enlisted in Company B, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, and served with valor until he was honorably discharged, September 10, 1865.

Our subject is the eldest of the three sons of the family yet living. One brother, Charles A., married Miss Matilda Johnson and is foreman in one of the departments of the Elgin Watch Factory. William, a machinist in the Rockford Watch factory, wedded Anna Sandine. The first nine years of his life our subject spent in his native land, after which he came with his parents to America. His education was acquired in the public schools, after which he learned the trade of a mechanic with his father, who is a successful gunsmith, as well as farmer. He then worked at model and pattern making in Elgin for a time, and in September, 1868, entered the watch factory of that city. In 1872, he went to Chicago, where he was employed by the Cornell Watch Company until April, 1874, when he arrived in Rockford, where he has since made his home.

Since coming to this city, Mr. Johnson was joined in wedlock with Miss Ida Trusbury, March 16, 1886. She was born in Pecatonica, September 22, 1858, and spent her maidenhood days in this county. Her parents, Adam and Johanna Trusbury, are natives of Sweden, and now reside in Rockford, where they are surrounded by all the comforts of life. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are pleasantly located in a nice residence at No. 503 South Second Street, and their home is brightened by the presence of their daughter, Beulah B.

In politics, Mr. Johnson is a stalwart Republican, warmly advocating the principles of that party although he has never been an office-seeker. In 1874, on the organization of the Rockford Watch Company, he became one of its employees, signing a contract with them for five years, and is the only one that has now been continuously with the company during those eighteen years. He now occupies the position of master mechanic and is one of the stockholders. He also owns interests in other enterprises, including the Rockford Manufacturing Company, of which he is President.

He is a stockholder and director of the Forest City Furniture Company, a stockholder and Vice-president of the Home Building and Loan Association and of the Excelsior Furniture Company.

Since coming to Rockford, Mr. Johnson has been one of its leading and influential Swedish business men and is well and favorably known for his progressive and enterprising spirit and the upright life which he has led. He may well be termed a self-made man for he started out in the world empty-handed and has by his own efforts overcome all the obstacles and disadvantages in his path and worked his way upward to a position of which he may well be proud.



HENRY FISH. Now in the twilight of a well-spent life, this gentleman is living retired at his pleasant homestead in Manchester Township, Boone County. A life filled with varied and oftentimes thrilling incidents—his birthplace in Edinburg, Scotland, his childhood and early manhood passed in England, and his mature years amid the primeval scenes of an uncultivated and uncivilized country, where Indians and wild game abounded and few improvements had been made—the record of such a life, if told in its completeness, would make a volume of interesting reading. It is not our privilege to place it before our readers in its entirety. As we may not follow every curve of a river, but can only trace its general outlines from its source to the sea, so while we may not narrate every incident in the life of Mr. Fish, we can, notwithstanding, relate the principal events which have marked and characterized his career.

The father of our subject, William Fish, was born in England, and married Miss Catherine Chisholm, a native of Inverness, in the Highlands of Scotland. For twenty-one years he was a soldier in the Scotch army, participating in many heavy engagements and experiencing all the hardships of active service under the British flag. His wife accompanied him on his marches, and was in Egypt with him. On one occasion, when the army was surprised at breakfast and compelled to march at

once, in the hasty breaking up of camp she was left behind with her infant child, and followed on foot. Fortunately, she was overtaken by an officer, who kindly took the child with him, while she followed on foot for three days before she came up to the army, stopping at night at the most convenient place. One night she was refused lodgings in an inn, and, thinking she could sleep near by, lay down for the night under the sign. In the morning, to her surprise, she found she had slept by the post, and beneath the corpse on the gibbet.

A life pensioner of the English Government, Mr. Fish, Sr., attained an advanced age and died in Norfolk County, England, when nearly an octogenarian. His wife passed away in England in the year 1812. Their family comprised the following children: Neil, Archibald, Henry, James, Alexander, Kate, Ann and Mary. Henry was born in Edinburg, Scotland, in 1807, and passed his childhood in England. There he learned the trade of a carpenter, and was employed by Sir Jacob Astley. When about twenty-one years old, he was married, in May, 1829, to Miss Elizabeth P. Cooper, of England, and they lived together in mutual helpfulness until death called the loving wife hence, March 5, 1890, at the age of eighty-three.

In 1831, accompanied by his wife and two children, Mr. Fish emigrated to the United States, landing in New York after a voyage of six weeks. He worked at his trade for a few years in New York and Utica, and then, homesick for a sight of his native land, and in poor health, he returned to England and visited for about one year. Shortly after his return to this country, he resolved to seek a home in the Far West, and, with his wife and children, came to Illinois in November, 1813, the journey being made by canal and lake to Chicago, and thence by open wagon to Manchester. Arriving here, he paid William Clark \$150 for the claim which he had pre-empted on section 10, and at once went to the land office, secured a deed, and settled on the place.

The years that have come and gone since settlement was made on the farm have brought their sorrows and joys, their prosperity and adversity, their sunshine and clouds, but through them all they have been sustained by mutual love and de-

votion. A large family of children gathered around the fireside, and ten of the number still survive, namely: Henry, Edmund Y., William C., Elizabeth, Archibald C., Cyrus, Alexander J., Mary A., Caroline R. and Franklin B., the last three named having been born in Illinois. One son and one daughter are buried in New York. Four of the sons are unmarried, but the others have established homes of their own. Mr. Fish is justly proud of his children, his fourteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Elizabeth married William File, of Canada, who died in 1889, leaving one son and three daughters, all of whom are married. In the spring of 1890, Mrs. File came to the old home to care for her father, who has been considerably troubled of late years with rheumatism and is now in feeble health. Her children are: Rebecca E., who married Alpheus C. Barker, a farmer near Belvidere; Eugenia E., who married Edwin Collins, of Kansas; William Edward, who married Janette Patterson and cultivates his mother's farm in Manchester Township; and Josephine, the wife of John E. Wells, who resides on the old homestead and is operating its one hundred and fifty-five acres. In his political belief, Mr. Fish was first a Whig and later a Republican. He cast his vote for William Henry Harrison for President and one of his most highly-prized souvenirs is the badge which he wore at the funeral of that great general.



Leonard S. Longcor was born in Belvidere, Ill., August 22, 1815. His father, Samuel, was born in Dundee, Yates County, N. Y., October 25, 1813. His grandfather, who likewise bore the name of Leonard, was a native of New York, and spent his entire life in his native State, where he followed the occupation of a farmer. He married Miss Ann Thompson, who was born in New York, and was of Scotch descent. Mrs. Longcor became a widow, and was married a second time, and with her husband, Melvin Schenck, removed to Illinois. They were among the first members of the First Baptist Church of Belvidere,

and spent their declining years in Belvidere Township. Anton Longcor, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Germany, and there married a Miss Strubles. On coming to America, they settled in New York State.

Samuel Longcor, father of Leonard S., was married to Miss Malinda Smith, January 7, 1835. In 1840, he came to Illinois, accompanied by his wife and three children, coming via the Lakes to Detroit, at which point he bought a team and pursued the rest of the journey overland to Boone County. At that time Belvidere was but a small hamlet. Being a practical mechanic, Mr. Longcor at once engaged in the manufacture of wagons, and later, of carriages. After a few years he turned his attention exclusively to the manufacture of steel plows.

In the early history of Illinois, there were no plows that would scour in the difficult prairie soil. Being possessed of an inventive genius, Mr. Longcor, after repeated efforts, invented a plow which proved a complete success. The superiority of his plow, which was called the "Diamond Plow," became widely known. He was awarded a silver medal at the Mechanics' Institute, held in Chicago in 1852, for the best stirring plow. While a resident of the State of New York, he was elected an officer of the State militia. His commission, which bears the date of September 1, 1836, and the silver medal are highly prized as heirlooms. He has always been a public spirited citizen, and in his business life, has ever had the confidence of his acquaintances.

In the early days of Belvidere, Mr. Longcor aided greatly in the erection of a Methodist Church edifice. A few years ago he made a gift to the city of Belvidere of a valuable building lot, upon which was erected the present city hall, which is used for council meetings, public library and post-office. January 4, 1849, he was made a Master Mason, and has ever since been a highly respected member of Belvidere Lodge No. 60, F. & A. M. For the past few years he has lived a retired life. His wife was born in Steuben County, N. Y., April 14, 1814, and died in Belvidere, August 21, 1891. She reared nine children, namely: Addison N., Ann, Mary, Leonard S., John C., Jane, Sarah, Kate and Lydia.

Addison N. Longcor enlisted in Company B, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, early in 1861, and served as First Lieutenant, having command of the company for nine months. In 1862, he was detailed by the Adjutant General for the recruiting service. Soon after the battle of Shiloh, he was ordered to join his regiment. He participated in the siege of Corinth, and the battle of the Hatchie, besides in many other engagements, and died in the service, at Waterford, Miss., January 5, 1863, at the age of twenty-seven years. Jane Longcor died September 20, 1885.

Leonard S. Longcor, the subject of this sketch, was born and educated in Belvidere, where he afterward engaged in business with his father, whose mechanical genius he inherited. He was successful as a manufacturer of steel plows. A few years later he turned his attention to his present business, that of real-estate and loans. June 23, 1870, he was married, in Belvidere, to Miss Juliet G. Ticknor, who was born in Prattville, Ala., July 2, 1812. The parents of Mrs. Longcor, Simon B. and Harriet L. (Luce) Ticknor, were natives of Connecticut. Mrs. Harriet L. Ticknor became a widow and married for her second husband Joseph Goodrich, of Alabama. They removed to Illinois in 1858, where she still resides, her husband having died June 6, 1389.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard S. Longcor have two children living, Willard T. and Harriet G., and lost their first-born in infancy. The son was born August 17, 1872, and the daughter, September 21, 1877. Willard T. was graduated from the North Belvidere High School in the Class of '90. The following year he became a student in the Northwestern Military Academy at Highland Park, Ill., and was elected President of the Senior Class, graduating with high honors in 1892. His record is thus:

Second in deportment.

Warrant as staff officer, with rank of Sergeant-Major.

Scholarship in Wheaton College, for highest record in scholarship.

Best record in marksmanship of the rifle team—having made forty-nine out of a possible fifty.

Diploma, classical course.

Gold medal, for best oration, delivered in best manner.

Gold medal, for highest record in scholarship.

Commission as Brevet Second Lieutenant, Illinois State Militia, from Gov. Fifer.

Lieut. Longcor is aiming high, and we predict that he will hit his mark. He has not yet decided what college he will next attend—probably Lake Forest University.

Good for Lieut. Will. T. Longcor!

June 8, 1892, Gov. Fifer commissioned him Brevet Lieutenant, Illinois State Militia. The following letter speaks for itself:

Headquarters Northwestern Military Academy.

HIGHLAND PARK, ILL., April 13, 1892.

L. S. LONGCOR, BELVIDERE, ILL.

Dear Sir:—At General Orders yesterday, Willard was made Sergeant-Major of the Battalion, and assigned to Commandant's staff, a place which I think he has fairly earned by his gentlemanly conduct, loyalty to the school, and faithful discharge of his duties, both academic and military.

Yours truly,

H. P. DAVIDSON, Col. and Pres.


AUGUST HAEGG, Superintendent of the H. W. Price Glove Works and President of the Excelsior Furniture Company, of which he was a promoter and is now a stockholder, was born in Smolen, Sweden, on the 22d of January, 1848. His parents, S. J. and Charlotta (Lielstrom) Haegg, have ever been residents of Eksjo, Sweden, and the father is now seventy-one years of age. They have been members of the Lutheran Church all their lives. Of the eleven children born to this worthy couple, eight are still living, three in this country and five in Sweden.

August Haegg was just of age when he landed in this country and came immediately to Rockford, Ill., of which city he has been a resident ever since, with the exception of about two years. Shortly after locating in Rockford, he became connected with the glove manufactory and for a time was associated with T. Munthe. Later Mr. Haegg became the superintendent of the tannery and factory and has filled that position for the last fifteen

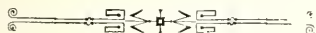




Alfred F. Wells

years. He has under him one hundred and fifty employes and is a man abundantly qualified for that position. He is a practical glove-maker, as well as tanner, and all the goods are made from stock that is tanned at this place. The business is located at the corner of Peach and Wyman Streets, and is a flourishing institution. He is also interested in other enterprises and is a Director and stockholder of the Building and Loan Association, incorporated in 1883, with a capital of \$5,000,000.

The original of this sketch was one of the first of the family to come to the United States, he and his brother, Otto W., having emigrated here in the spring of 1869, and in this country the former learned the business he is now following. He was married, in Rockford, to Miss Christina L. Jernberg, who was born in North Sweden and came to this country in 1869, with her parents, who settled in Michigan for a short time. Later they came to Rockford and here the father, J. E. Jernberg, died. The mother is still living. (For further particulars of the parents see sketch of Gus Jernberg.) Mrs. Haegg was educated principally in Michigan and is a lady of more than ordinary ability. To Mr and Mrs. Haegg have been born two children: Norma A. and Henry E. In politics, Mr. Haegg supports the views of the Republican party. He and his wife are worthy members of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church.



ALFRED P. WELLS, Secretary and Treasurer of the George S. Haskell Seed Company, is a native of the Empire State, but was educated in Vermont, Connecticut, and at Cambridge, Mass. The family is of English descent. His grandfather, the Rev. William Wells, was a native of England, and a dissenter from the English Church. In 1793, with his wife and children, he emigrated to this country, settling in Brattleboro, Vt., where he continued in active service as a minister for twenty years, and there made his home until his death in 1827, at the age of eighty-three. He was a personal friend of the well-known Priestly, and was assisted by the well-known English philanthropist, John Howard,

in securing his early education. Many of his sermons were placed in the Rev. Dr. Sprague's "Annals of the American pulpit," which are noted for their logic and intelligence. The wife of the Rev. Mr. Wells was an English lady, Jane Hancock, who died at her home in Brattleboro, Vt., at an advanced age.

The father of our subject, Alfred Wells, was born in Worcestershire, England, and was the seventh in a family of eight children, all of whom were born in England, reared in this country, and are now deceased. Alfred became a farmer of Mexico, N. Y., and died at his home in that place in his sixty-sixth year. He was a prominent citizen of the community, and highly respected. He wedded Mary Childs, a native of New York, who survived her husband a few years, and departed this life in Mexico. In the family were six children, but our subject and a sister living in Mexico, N. Y., are now the only surviving members.

Alfred P. Wells, whose name heads this record, was married in Massachusetts, to Miss Martha Kilbourn, who was born, reared and educated in Berkshire County, that State. By this union have been born five children, all yet living: Martha F., a stenographer and cashier in a wholesale house of Chicago; Fred K., a member of and book-keeper for a gas stove manufacturing company of Chicago, wedded Miss Anna Hansler; Ellen M. is the wife of William J. Burr, of the firm of Burr Brothers, leading grocers of Rockford; Julia F. and E. Howard are at home.

Mr. Wells has had a varied experience as a merchant, book-keeper and banker. He came to Rockford twenty-three years ago, and the first year of his residence here he was connected with the Rockford Woolen Mills. From the spring of 1871 until the fall of 1876, he was assistant cashier of the Rockford National Bank, and in 1877 was elected City Clerk, which office he filled for two years. During the succeeding four years, he was cashier of the Emerson, Talcott Manufacturing Company, and in 1883, became connected with Mr. Haskell in the seed business. Mr. Haskell had carried on trade in that line since 1865, and in 1889, when the Haskell Seed Company was organized, was made President, holding the office until his death. He was a native

of this city, and a man of prominence here for many years. He was particularly well known in the seed trade all over the country, and for nearly fifteen years did an almost exclusive wholesale trade. As before stated, the company was organized in 1889, with a capital stock of \$30,000. Mr. Wells then became a stockholder, and was elected Secretary and Treasurer, and, since the death of Mr. Haskell, has also been manager. This is one of the leading industries of the city, and the business is now in a thriving condition.

Mr. Wells is also interested in other concerns, is one of the directors of the Forest City Insurance Company, also of the Rockford Silver Plate Company, is a stockholder of the Rockford Electric Manufacturing Company, which manufactures electric machinery, and is connected with other leading industries. He is a well-known business man of sterling worth, and his public and private life are alike above reproach. He holds membership with the Star of the East Lodge No. 166, of Rockford, and he and his wife attend the Christian Union Church.



ROBERT F. ARDERY, one of the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of Le Roy Township, Boone County, is the owner of two hundred and seventy acres of arable land. He devotes the greater portion of his time to the raising of cereals, harvesting as high as three thousand bushels of oats and four thousand bushels of corn per year. He keeps a dairy of twenty-five cows and has about fifteen head of a good breed of horses on his place.

Born in Ogdensburg, N. Y., July 28, 1848, our subject is the son of James Ardery, who had his birth on the Atlantic ocean while en route to the New World from England. The grandparents of our subject were of English and Scotch-Irish descent respectively, and came to America in 1807. They were farmers and reared a family of two daughters and two sons, living to attain a ripe old age. The mother passed away in 1854 or 1855, when very old.

The father of our subject was a weaver by trade

which was the business of his father, but later in life became a farmer in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. The lady whom he chose as his wife was Agnes Montgomery, also a native of Ogdensburg, N. Y., and who, in 1852, accompanied her husband to McHenry County, this State. The elder Mr. Ardery purchased eighty acres of land in McHenry County, on which they settled and resided until 1858, in which year the father went to California in company with a Mr. Kibby, for whom he drove a number of horses and a herd of horned cattle. They were on the way from May until October, during which time they had a pleasant and successful trip. Mr. Ardery bought a vineyard in the Golden State and in 1861 was joined by his family. They had sold their farm in Illinois, and resided in California, where the mother died, in June, 1889, and the father followed to the land beyond the next October, the latter being in his eighty-fourth year.

Of the ten children comprising the parental family, seven were living at the death of their parents, viz: George M.; Margaret, Mrs. George R. Ford, who died in San Francisco, in February, 1891, leaving one son; our subject was the next in order of birth; Alex M., who resides at Carson City, Nev., is a train dispatcher and the master of transportation; James resides at Virginia City, Nev., where he is an engineer among the silver mines; Agnes, and Sarah. Those deceased are William, who died in Nevada, in 1872; Eliza, Mrs. S. W. Hammond, whose decease occurred in Blaine, this State, in 1888, and John, who passed away at Capron, in 1887.

He of whom we write accompanied his parents on their removal to California, and attended school at Placerville until he was seventeen years of age. He then left home and worked on a peach ranch for a year and a half, for which he received \$20 per month. On account of ague, however, he returned to Placerville, and, in December, 1866, in company with his brother John, made his way back to Illinois via the Niagara route. He rode across the Isthmus on a donkey, which he found to be a very slow and tedious way of traveling, and did not even stop to pluck the tropical fruits which hung in tempting clusters from the trees. He arrived in Capron January 16, 1867, and the fol-

lowing fall went to Beloit to learn the machinist trade of O. E. Merrill & Co. Having mastered that line of work, in December, 1869, he returned to Virginia City, Nev., and there followed his trade for six years, during which time he was very successful, being engineer for the Bonanza mine the entire period.

In the fall of 1874, Mr. Ardery of this sketch returned by way of the railroad to Blaine, this State, and the succeeding year purchased one hundred and ninety acres of land, for which he paid \$8,650 in cash, the most of which he made while plying his trade in the West. The lady to whom our subject was married, February 21, 1877, was Miss Ella, daughter of Philo and Diana (Head) Conyes. She was born in Le Roy Township, while her parents had their birth in Genesee County, N. Y.; they are now living retired in Capron where they are classed among the well-to-do citizens. The two children born to our subject and his wife are Claude Earl, who had his birth October 27, 1879, and Alta, who was born November 4, 1888.

Mr. Ardery for a period of seven years served as Assessor of this township, and was elected to be Supervisor in 1892. He is a Republican in politics, and, in social matters, a Master Mason, Knight Templar and Odd Fellow. Mr. and Mrs. Ardery visited California in 1887, when they had a most enjoyable and profitable trip. He is a gentleman whose character and abilities give him the respect of the community, and his enterprise and progressive ideas place him in the front rank among business men.



JOHN ALLEN. There is scarcely a line of business that is not represented in Rockford, where commercial and manufacturing enterprises seem equally prominent. The business in which the subject of this sketch is engaged is that of the manufacture of artificial stone, in which branch he has been more than ordinarily successful. A native of England, Mr. Allen was born in the village of Probus, Cornwall County, England, October 8, 1821, where his father, Thomas,

and his grandfather, Henry Allen, were natives. The latter-named gentleman was a stonemason by trade and spent his entire life in Probus.

The father of our subject also followed the trade of a stonemason, and died in his native town in 1841. He had married Margaret Secomb, the daughter of Samuel and Joanna Secomb. She departed this life in Probus, of which place she was a native, in 1843.

The parental family included ten children, viz.: Samuel, Elizabeth, Mary, John, Mary 2d, Henry, Emma, Edwin, Richard and William. Samuel, Elizabeth, John, Edwin, William, Emma, Mary, and Richard, all came to America and made their home in the Prairie State. Samuel served during the late war as a member of Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and was killed in the battle of Little Fort, S. C.; the other members of the family are still living.

John Allen was reared in his native land and, learning his father's trade, was employed in that line of work until 1849, when on the 4th of June he set sail from Falmouth, with his wife and four children, in the vessel "Priscilla." The party landed at Quebec after a voyage of seven weeks, and from that place came directly to Illinois, via the St. Lawrence River to Montreal, and then by way of land to Kingston, where they embarked on a lake vessel which conveyed them to Queenstown Heights. From there they went to Niagara Falls, by boat to Buffalo, and then by way of the Lakes to Chicago, from which city they came overland to Rockford, which latter trip consumed three days. On his arrival in this city, our subject at once found work at his trade, and after being in the employ of a gentleman for three months, started in business for himself as a contractor. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company C, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and going South with his regiment, served his country until the spring of 1863, when he was honorably discharged on account of disability.

Returning from the war, Mr. Allen, as soon as able, resumed business as a contractor. The past few years, however, he has been engaged in the manufacture of artificial stone, which is used in the construction of the fronts of buildings, side-

walks, etc. He is doing an extensive business in that line, from which he reaps a handsome income.

John Allen and Miss Jane Whitford were united in marriage in 1843. The lady is a native of the same parish as is our subject, and has borne her husband four children, living: Celia, Mary, Harry and Charles. The eldest daughter married Fred Wheat, who is Assistant Postmaster in Rockford and has been connected with the United States Postal Service for a period of twenty-four years. Mary is Mrs. C. B. Sears and resides in Wyoming. Harry makes his home in Rockford; and Charles in Colorado. Mr. Allen is a prominent Grand Army man and is a member of Nevius Post No. 1.



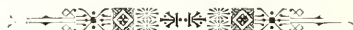
ARVIN KIBBE. This well-to-do agriculturist of Owen Township, Winnebago County, has by energy and perseverance, united with economy and good judgment, secured a good estate, which he is engaged in cultivating in a most profitable manner. Born May 25, 1827, in Jefferson County, N. Y., he is a son of Eli Kibbe, also a native of that State, where his grandfather, according to the best information at hand, was born and followed the occupation of a farmer.

Eli Kibbe was reared on a farm in New York, and, on removing from Jefferson County, lived in the vicinity of Canadaville until 1835, when he went to Cattaraugus County, where he purchased a tract of land and resided until the fall of 1844. At that date, accompanied by his wife and two children, the elder Mr. Kibbe came to Illinois, making the entire journey with a team to Winnebago County. Locating in what is now Harlem Township, he resided there for a time, then removed to Harrison Township, and thence to Owen Township, where he departed this life at the home of our subject. The maiden name of his wife was Abigail Mitchell; she was born in Oneida County, N. Y., and also departed this life at the home of our subject.

Arvin Kibbe came to Illinois in 1844 with his parents, at a time when the land in this vicinity sold for \$1.25 per acre. There being no railroads

in the neighborhood, the farm products were hauled to Chicago and Milwaukee, the principal markets. Mr. Kibbe located upon his present farm in 1882, which his persistent industry has brought to a good state of cultivation.

February 22, 1853, our subject and Matilda Steward were united in marriage. Mrs. Kibbe was born in Southold, Province of Ontario, Canada, and was the daughter of William and Sophia Steward, for a further history of whom we refer the reader to the sketch of Alanson Steward. The five children comprising the household of our subject and his wife are William E., Laura S., Charles E., Eva L. and Harry E. The eldest son married Iva Jones; Laura, who is the wife of Edward Turney, has three children: Olive, Ola and Ora; Charles married Annie Bingham and is the father of two sons: Harry and Earl; Eva is Mrs. John Rice and is the mother of one daughter, Lena; Lula M., the youngest child of our subject, died July 5, 1887, when fifteen years of age. Mrs. Kibbe is a member of the United Brethren Church and, in politics, our subject votes with the Republican party.



ALFRED EKBACK, Superintendent of the Scandia Brick Company, of Rockford, is another worthy American citizen of Winnebago County. He was born in Sweden, January 2, 1818, and is a son of Gustaf and Catherine (Hockinson) Ekback. His parents are still living at the ages of seventy and seventy-two years, respectively. Our subject is the second of five children, four of whom are now living: John, who married Miss Jennie Grant, of Rockford, is a watchman in the Chick's Flouring Mills; Helen, wife of Mr. Jurgeson, who is in the service of the Street Railway Company of Chicago; Charles, who married Abetena Wyman, is employed by the Scandia Plow Company; and Sophia, deceased, was the wife of John Pherson.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood upon his father's farm and at the age of nineteen, in company with his brother, crossed the Atlantic to America, in 1867, and has since made

his home in Rockford. He began life in this country as a farmer of New Milford Township, and to agricultural pursuits devoted his energies until he embarked in the manufacture of brick. For the past few years, he has been Superintendent of the Scandia Brick Company, whose factory is located near the city limits of Rockford on the east. They employ about twenty-five men and make about three million brick annually. We thus see that they have a good trade, and the company has been operated successfully for some time.

In this city, Mr. Ekback led to the marriage altar Miss Emma Lindstrom, who was born and reared in the same locality as her husband, and when a young lady came to this country, the fourth of her family to cross the Atlantic. She is a daughter of Peter and Martha (Olson) Lindstrom, natives of Smoland, Sweden. There the father engaged in farming and wagon-making up to his death, which occurred at the age of seventy-five years. His widow, who is yet living on the old homestead, is now about eighty years of age. The family were all members of the Lutheran Church. To the First Lutheran Church of Rockford Mr. and Mrs. Ekback both belong, as do also their children. They have become the parents of seven children, one of whom, Esther, died aged two years. Those who still survive are Theodore, who is in the employ of the Scandia Brick Company; Anna, Ellen, Esther, Martha and Hilda. In politics, Mr. Ekback is a Republican. He is a successful business man, who came to this country empty-handed and by his own efforts has worked his way upward until he is now possessed of a comfortable competence.



JAMES J. BURLINGAME, a prominent farmer of Harrison Township, was born in Morgan County, Ohio, August 7, 1819. He is the son of Josiah Burlingame and the grandson of Richard Burlingame, who was born at Situate, R. I., on the 27th of March, 1794. The latter's wife was Patience (Calvin) Burlingame, and they were the parents of two sons and four daughters, all of whom reached adult years. When quite

aged people, Richard Burlingame and his wife removed to Ohio, whither their son Josiah had removed when a young man, and there this worthy old couple passed away, she at the age of sixty-three, and he five years later, when seventy-one years of age. He had followed agricultural pursuits all his life. They were characteristic Quakers, leading a retired life and unswerving in their religious faith.

Josiah Burlingame was also a native of Rhode Island, born July 4, 1791, but removed to Morgan County, Ohio, when a young man, or about 1814, and was one of the earliest pioneers. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Noble, and who was born October 13, 1793, of the marriage of John and Martha (Hindman) Noble, came with her parents to Morgan County about the same time. They were soon married and commenced housekeeping in the woods. Both were well educated and Mr. Burlingame taught school from 1814 until 1850, being considered a very successful educator. He had studied medicine and surgery but was too sensitive and nervous to succeed at the latter, though he did assist in many amputations. With much hard work and labor on his part and that of his estimable wife, he succeeded in clearing three hundred acres of the heavy timber with which the farm was covered, and one hundred acres of this is considered the best of the fertile bottom lands. Mr. and Mrs. Burlingame reared twelve children, nine sons and three daughters, to become heads of families. Two daughters—Sarah, who married Samuel Hull, and Mary, the wife of George Tuttle—died when about fifty years of age, and each left two children. A son, Samuel, was killed by the cars, as was also his wife, while walking on the railroad track. They were sixty-eight and seventy years of age, respectively. Two sons were in the Civil War. Of this family there are still living eight sons and one daughter: Stephen, born June 1, 1816, a farmer of Indiana; James J., our subject; Charles, born in 1821, an attorney in St. Charles County, Mo.; Serrel, born in February, 1825, a surveyor for many years in Nebraska; Jabez, born in September, 1826, a farmer of Warren County, Iowa; George W., born January 31, 1829, a merchant in sight of the old home in Ohio; Benjamin F., born in Octo-

ber, 1830, a farmer and a shoe merchant in the same town as George W.; and Lydia, born February 15, 1837, who married James Warren, of Noble County, Noble Township, Ohio, both county and township being named for Grandfather Noble. These children all have small families, except Serrel, who is the father of fourteen children by one wife.

Our subject was married in Manchester Township, July 5, 1850, to Miss Prudence S. Mules, a native of Barnstable, England, born in 1826, and the daughter of John and Susan (Summerwell) Mules, who came to this country and settled in Genesee County, N. Y., when Mrs. Burlingame was about ten years of age. Her parents were quite wealthy, and after remaining in Stafford for some time removed to Manchester Township, this county, in 1850. Our subject had received a good collegiate education, as had also his brothers and sisters, and was a graduate of the Old School College in Cincinnati. He practiced medicine before coming to Boone County, Ill., and for ten years after he reached this State he had a large practice which proved too much for him and he gave it up, devoting his time to agricultural pursuits. He first built a brick house on one acre at the corner east of section 27, in 1819, and about two years later, he bought one hundred and twenty acres, to which he added one hundred and eighty acres still later. At that time he paid about \$10 per acre for wild land with no improvements of any kind. He soon erected a good, substantial building on his farm, moved into it, and there he and his capable and estimable wife resided until 1887, when they removed to Clinton Junction, Wis., purchasing a nice home and one acre in the central part of the village. They decided the farm to their son, Serrel Burlingame. This move was made for his wife who was suffering with cancer, but she died there on the 5th of June, 1890, and is buried in the family burying ground in the village of Blaine. A fine monument, erected by her bereaved husband, marks her last resting place, and there rests beside her her two little children, twins, a son and daughter, who died in infancy. She was an Episcopalian in her religious belief. She left two children, Atta E., now Mrs. Maynard M. Murray, whose

husband is a farmer near Clinton Junction, Wis., and Serrel, who married Maria Parker, of Manchester Township, this county, a daughter of Edwin and Elizabeth (Stockwell) Parker. They have four bright little daughters, of whom Mr. Burlingame is justly proud.

Soon after the death of his wife, Mr. Burlingame returned to the old farm, and resides with his son. He is now seventy-three years of age but has kept his age well for he looks very little over sixty years of age. He was Township Treasurer for twenty-five consecutive years and has served the township in other offices, although he has refused many.



JOHN M. MASON, a representative business man of Rockford, is engaged in the general bakery business at No. 505 East State Street, where he has carried on business for the past eight years, succeeding his father, who started a bakery in this city in 1858. The latter, Robert Mason by name, was a native of Scotland, born and reared near Edinburg, and came of Lowland Scotch stock. He became familiar with his trade in his native country, and was married there to Miss Ann Murdock, who came of similar stock. Early in the '50s, he and his wife sailed for this country, were six weeks on the ocean, and landed in New York City, where they remained for some time. Later, they removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, where Mr. Mason was in business for some time, and in 1851 they came to Rockford. He immediately established his State Street Bakery and devoted the remainder of his life to his business. He died when fifty-nine years of age. He was one of the old and prominent settlers and a good business man. In religion, he was a Congregationalist, and in politics, a staunch Republican. His wife, who died when about middle age, was also a member of the Congregational Church, and a good, true wife and mother. Their two children, our subject and Anna, are the only members of the family living, and both reside in Rockford. The latter is single.

John M. Mason first saw the light in Rockford, on the 2d of April, 1857, and here he attained his

growth and secured a good practical education. He learned his trade under his father and succeeded him after his death. He was married in this city to Miss Alice A. Cox, who was born in Rockford, September 17, 1863, and who is the daughter of Henry and Ann (Rex) Cox. Both parents are living at the present time and have a good home on Fifth Avenue, this city. Mr. Cox is a commercial traveler for the Rockford Baking Company. He and his wife are natives of England, but were married in Rockford, where they have since made their home. They have become the parents of eight children, seven of whom are yet living, Mrs. Mason being the eldest and only one now married.

Mr. and Mrs. Mason have a pleasant home at No. 609 East State Street, and are surrounded by many warm friends. He is a stockholder in the Rockford Baking Company and Rockford Plow Company. He is an active Republican in politics, and he and Mrs. Mason are regular attendants at the Christian Union Church. They have had no children.



JACOB S. DODD, deceased, was a native of New Jersey, born November 17, 1811, and died near Newark, of that State, on the 2d of April, 1884. He was reared in his native State, and began work for himself by entering a large leather manufactory owned by Mr. Halsey, of Newark. After this he was engaged in the leather business, either directly or indirectly, for a number of years, but subsequently retired to a small farm just out of the city, where most of the time he was engaged as a dairyman until his death. This home was familiarly known as the Lyon Farm.

Mr. Dodd's parents were natives also of New Jersey, and the family tree shows that they were honorable and much respected people. Our subject was a prominent man in his community and a leading member and elder in the Presbyterian Church of his city. He was well informed, was a leader in local affairs, and for a number of years was a Director in Newark Evergreen Cemetery. Just prior to his death, he was elected to the

office of Justice of the Peace. He left two children: William V. Dodd, an employe in the well-known leather house of Halsey & Co., of Newark, married Miss Mary Osborne, of New Jersey. The other child was a daughter, Phoebe, who became the wife of Fred Crain, who is now living on the old Dodd homestead.

In the fall of 1884, Mrs. Dodd, wife of our subject, returned to her old home in Rockford, whither she had come in 1844, and where she is the owner of much valuable property. She was born near Rochester, Monroe County, N. Y., June 4, 1818, and her maiden name was Emily G. Bond. Her parents, Abner and Mary (Gould) Bond, were natives of New Jersey, and came of English and German descent, respectively. They were married in their native State, and after the birth of six children they removed to near Rochester, N. Y., when that city was but a hamlet. There the remainder of their children were born, thirteen in all, five sons and six daughters having grown to maturity, and three are now living. There Mr. and Mrs. Bond improved a good home, and there Mr. Bond died on the 3d of April, 1840, when seventy-four years of age. He was a man of excellent character, and for many years was a Deacon in the Presbyterian Church. His wife, who survived him, came to Rockford with her daughter, Mrs. Dodd, and died here February 6, 1868, lacking only one month of being ninety-five years of age, her birth having occurred March 30, 1773. She held to the belief of the Presbyterian Church all her life, and was a most loving and devoted mother. Her mind was clear and strong up to the very last.

Mrs. Dodd was first married in Rochester, N. Y., July 25, 1841, to Mr. Albert Sanford, a native of New Haven, Conn., born May 4, 1818. He passed his boyhood days in that State, and, when a young man, entered land in Illinois. Later, he returned to Rochester and was married to Miss Bond, whom he had known in Rockford, and they then returned to the last-named city. This was in 1844, and they located on property that has since increased in value very much. Mr. Sanford died September 23, 1851, when only thirty-six years of age. He was a promising man, and was well

known among the old settlers of Rockford. His marriage resulted in the birth of two children, Edgar A. and another, both of whom died young. Mr. Sanford died in full communion with the Second Congregational Church of Rockford. He was a Whig in politics.

Mrs. Dodd, who still survives her husband, is now about seventy-four years of age, but has kept her years well, being still active and ambitious. She is possessed of many excellent virtues, and is surrounded by a large circle of friends. She is an active member of the Second Congregational Church.



MILES G. KEYES now makes his home on a portion of the old homestead which he purchased from his father in 1871. His birth occurred November 18, 1812, in Northumberland, Saratoga County, N. Y., where his father, Archibald Keyes, was also born, July 26, 1808. The grandfather of our subject hailed from New Hampshire, having been born February 21, 1771, in Acworth, while his father, Capt. William Keyes, was born in October, 1710, in Ashford, Conn. He in turn was a son of Ephraim Keyes, who was born July 5, 1715, in Connecticut, and was a son of Elias Keyes, born October 17, 1692, in Chelmsford, Mass. He was a son of Solomon Keyes, also a native of the Bay State, being born June 24, 1665, and the son of Solomon Keyes, who was the first ancestor of the family in America. The latter-named gentleman was married in Newburyport, Mass., October 2, 1653, to Frances Grant. He located in that part of Chelmsford, Mass., now included in the town of Westford, where he died March 28, 1702, his wife departing this life six years later.

Solomon Keyes, the son of the above-named couple, who was the next in line as far as is known, spent his entire life in Massachusetts. The next in order of birth was his son, Ehas, who, after his marriage and the birth of two children, removed to Ashford, Conn., where he passed the remainder of his life. His son, Lieut. Ephraim Keyes, married Sarah Watkins, and after her death was

united in marriage to Mrs. Glazier, a widow lady of Rockingham, N. H. The family removed from Ashford to Acworth, the same State, in 1769, where they were early settlers. There Lieut. Keyes died, September 6, 1802. The next in line was his son, Capt. William Keyes, who went to Acworth, in 1767, and was the first settler of that place. He was accompanied on the journey by his wife and one child, and departed this life April 21, 1813. The maiden name of his wife was Hannah Scarborough. Capt. Keyes received his title while serving in the Revolutionary War.

Frederick Keyes, the grandfather of our subject, in 1776 removed to Northumberland, Saratoga County, N. Y. He was at one time engaged in the lumber business at Argyle, Washington County, that State, and later removed to near Ballston. He was a patriot in the War of 1812 and died near Syracuse, September 12, 1831. The grandmother of our subject was prior to her marriage Rachel Jacobs; her decease occurred January 29, 1840. The next in line is the father of our subject, who was reared and educated in his native town, and on attaining mature years purchased a tract of land in Northumberland and was engaged in farming during the summer season and in the winter carried on the trade of lumbering. In 1815, he started with his wife and two children for Illinois, coming overland from Chicago to this county and fording the river at Rockford.

Archibald Keyes, on making this county his home, moved into a house with his brother-in-law, William Fowler, who located here in 1811. He remained with him for a twelvemonth, during the year having secured a tract of Government land, including the northwest quarter of section 18, in what is now Rockford Township, and erected thereon a frame house. Into that the family moved in 1846 and have since been residents of the farm. Mr. Keyes was married, June 18, 1831, to Elizabeth Clark, who was born in New York and died October 22, 1878. The father of our subject was then married to Hannah Wise. The three children born of his first union were John, who married Mary C. Hemingway, and now resides at Pomona, Los Angeles County, Cal.; Miles, our subject; and a daughter, who died in New York.



Gilbert Woodruff

The original of this sketch was in his third year when brought to this county by his parents. On attaining his majority, in partnership with his brother, he purchased the stock, tools, etc., of his father and carried on the farm until 1867, when the connection was dissolved. Our subject, however, continued farming alone until 1879, when, in July of that year, he went West to Iowa, and lived for two years and a half in Floyd County. Then disposing of his interests in the Hawkeye State, he returned to the old homestead and lived with his father until 1874, at which time he became proprietor of a portion of the estate and has since resided upon it.

February 5, 1879, Miss Emma Chapman, who was born in Addison, Steuben County, N. Y., became the wife of our subject. She was a daughter of Silas H. Chapman, whose native place was Pitcher, Chenango County, that State, while his father, William Chapman, was born in England, and on coming to America located in the Empire State, where he purchased a large farm in the town of Pitcher and spent the remainder of his days. His wife, who before her marriage was Polly Baker, was born in that State, where her decease also occurred. The father of Mrs. Keyes was a lad of eleven years on the death of his father, and was bound out to learn a trade, but did not complete his apprenticeship as he embarked as a sailor on the Lakes. After his marriage, he settled on a farm near Addison, where he made his home until 1863, and then enlisted in defense of his country in a New York Cavalry Regiment. He served for a period of eleven months, when he received his honorable discharge for injuries received from being thrown from his horse. He resided in New York State until 1870, and then, coming to Winnebago County, lived in Harrison, Owen and Seward Townships until 1885, when he went to Gray County, Kan., and there made his home until 1891. That year, he removed to Emporia, where he now resides. His wife was Miss Abigail (Higgins) Chapman and was also born in Addison. She was the daughter of Simeon and Adeline (Haskins) Higgins, the former of whom now lives in Tioga County, and the latter is deceased. Mrs. Keyes is one of a family of eight children, namely: Emma,

Albert, George, Kittie, Frank, Mary, Charles and Ira.

To our subject and his wife have been born three children: Archibald, Nina and Ethel. In politics, our subject is a Republican, and his wife is a member of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church.



HON. GILBERT WOODRUFF, President of the Rockford National Bank, President of the Forest City Insurance Company and of the Forest City Furniture Company, was born on a farm two and one-half miles from Watertown, Jefferson County, N. Y., November 20, 1817. His grandfather, Jonah Woodruff, was, it is supposed, a native of Connecticut, whence he removed to Jefferson County, N. Y., and was a pioneer there. He purchased a tract of timber land two and one-half miles from Watertown, and, clearing a farm from the wilderness, resided upon it until his death.

At the time of the removal to the Empire State, Frederiek Woodruff, who was born in Connecticut, was nine years old, and in the new home he grew to manhood, amid surroundings of a primitive nature. For many years after the settlement of the family in Jefferson County there were no railroads in New York State, and after the canal was completed all merchandise was brought from New York via Erie and Oswego Canal to Oswego, and thence by lake to Sackett's Harbor, and from there by team to Watertown. Farm products were transported to the seaboard by way of the lake, canal and rivers.

The old homestead was purchased by Frederiek Woodruff, who was actively engaged in farming there until 1838, when he sold out and removed to Watertown. He spent his last days in that village, dying in 1853. His wife, whose maiden name was Lodema Andrus, was born in Litchfield, Oneida County, N. Y., and died at Geneva, Ill. Gilbert, son of this worthy couple, received a good education in his native village and started out for himself in 1838, in which year he paid his first visit to Illinois. In his journey hither

he followed the most convenient and expeditious route at that time, which was by stage to Sackett's Harbor, then by boat to Lewiston, from there by rail to Niagara Falls, down the Niagara River to Buffalo, and thence by lake to Detroit.

At that time there was a railroad extending from Detroit to Ypsilanti. The rails were of wood with a strap of iron on the top and the road was of a very temporary nature. From Ypsilanti Mr. Woodruff proceeded by stage via Michigan City to Joliet, then a village of about five hundred inhabitants. He engaged to clerk in his brother's grocery store, where he remained until the spring of 1839, and then started on his return East, going by way of stage to Chicago. At that time the now populous city had about four thousand people and the principal part of the business was done on Lake and Water Streets. From Chicago Mr. Woodruff went by way of the Lakes to New York State and, soon after his arrival in Watertown, embarked in the grocery business in a small way, finally acquiring an extensive and lucrative trade.

In 1857, Mr. Woodruff removed West to Dubuque, Iowa, where he was interested in a flouring-mill, also in the real-estate and loan business. One year later he came to Rockford, where he has since resided, prominently identified with the city's best interests. He was a charter member of the Rockford National Bank, and has served as President since its organization. When the Forest City Insurance Company was organized in 1873, he became its President, and has since occupied that responsible and honorable position. In addition to these duties, he has served as President of the Forest City Furniture Company since 1875, he having organized the same and erected the buildings. In politics, he has been a staunch Republican since the organization of the party and has been called upon by his fellow-citizens to occupy official positions of trust, having served two terms as Alderman, representing the Second Ward, and also as Mayor during 1874-75.

In April, 1842, Mr. Woodruff and Miss Nancy Fay were united in marriage. Mrs. Nancy Woodruff was born in Watertown, N. Y., daughter of Henry and Almira Fay, and was called hence by

death in 1877. Five children were born of the union: Sarah, who married Marcus S. Parmelee; Volney D.; Emma, wife of Charles Keith; William; and Alice, now Mrs. R. M. Emerson. The second marriage of Mr. Woodruff united him with Miss Augusta A. Todd, a native of Hamilton, Canada, and took place in 1879. The position occupied by the family in society is an enviable one, and the various members of the household possess the cultured refinement which makes them influential and popular.

Soon after coming to Rockford, Mr. Woodruff purchased a farm, which at a later date he platted in town lots, and it is now known as Woodruff's Addition. These lots he sold at a reasonable price, giving the purchasers their own time to pay for them, and also loaning them money with which to erect houses. It is not strange, therefore, that he is perhaps the most popular citizen of Rockford, to the progress of which he has contributed so ceaselessly of his ability and means. Always and everywhere he is the same unswerving champion of justice and right, and by industry and application has won the highest admiration for his intellectual ability and attainments.

In connection with this biographical notice will be found a lithographic portrait of Mr. Woodruff.



NATHAN H. WOOSTER was born in New Haven, Conn., in the town of Oxford, December 25, 1821, and is now one of the old and much-esteemed citizens of Boone County, Ill. He has been identified with the interests of this county for many years and is one of the oldest living Justices in the State, having served continuously for nearly thirty-five years. He is doubtless the third, if not the second, oldest Justice of the Peace in Illinois. He is of English descent and traces his ancestry back to three brothers, Englishmen, who came to America at a very early date and one of whom settled in Massachusetts, another in New Hampshire and the other in Connecticut. One of our subject's uncles was a General in the War of 1812.

Our subject is a son of Washburn and Betsey

(Chatfield) Wooster. Washburn Wooster was born in the "Nutmeg State," and was a farmer the principal part of his life. For some time, he was in the sawmill business in Connecticut getting out ship timber, but agriculture was his chosen occupation. He came to this State about the year 1810 and died in McHenry County when seventy-two or three years of age. His parents were natives of Connecticut and died in that State when quite aged people. All his ancestors were farmers so far as known. Our subject's mother, Mrs. Betsey (Chatfield) Wooster, was also born in Connecticut and passed her last days in McHenry County, Ill., her death occurring when about eighty years of age. Her parents were natives of Connecticut and in that State were contented to pass their entire lives.

Nathan H. Wooster came to this county with his parents in October, 1840, and settled in Le Roy Township, where he took up eighty acres of land. On this he erected a rude log cabin in which he lived for several years, and then built a good frame dwelling. Our subject remained at home until his marriage, on the 4th of October, 1844, to Miss Abigail A. Hovey, who was born in Franklin County, N. Y., May 30, 1827. He then took up his residence with his father-in-law, Richard C. Hovey. Mr. Hovey was born in New Hampshire, as was also his wife, Abigail (Kimball) Hovey, and their nuptials were celebrated there. Later in life they removed to New York State, and in 1838 came to Boone County, from Ohio, where they had resided for about six years. They first settled in Le Roy Township, where Mr. Hovey took up one hundred and sixty acres and on which he built a log house. A number of years later, he built a frame house and here he died when seventy-eight years of age. His wife passed away when about eighty-four years of age. They were the parents of twelve children, seven now living, so far as known.

There were seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Wooster, but one died when four years of age. The remainder are named as follows: Laura E., born in Boone Township, Boone County, November 15, 1845, married John M. Conley, and has lost two children; Mary J., born in Boone Township, this county, November 18, 1847, married John H.

Landon and has one child; George J., also a native of Boone Township, was born December 27, 1849, and married Miss Helen Nichols, who bore him three children; John W., born in McHenry County, this State, April 15, 1852, married Miss Carrie E. Adams; Nathan H., Jr., born in Le Roy Township, this county, May 19, 1854, married Miss Elmina T. Cramer, and is the father of two children; and Minnie E., born in Boone Township, this county, March 27, 1870. The one deceased was Cora M., who was born in Boone Township, October 22, 1861, and died four years later. The children are all well educated and a number have taught school. Miss Minnie has been engaged in educational work since 1887, and for two years has been in the primary department of the schools in Capron. Another daughter, Miss Mary J., is quite a worker in Eastern Star Lodge, of Newton, Kan., and has been Worthy Matron of that lodge.

Up to the time of his marriage, our subject remained at home, and then took up one hundred and sixty acres, on which the village of Capron is now standing, and on this erected a small, rude, log house, 10x12 feet, in which he and his wife lived for seven years. After this they were in McHenry County for two years and then returned to Le Roy Township, this county, where our subject worked his father's farm, also eighty acres of his own. In 1856, Mr. Wooster sold out all his property in that township and bought eighty acres where he now lives, on which stood a small house. About twenty-five years ago, he erected his present residence and he was the first inhabitant of the town of Capron.

Our subject has held a number of local offices in the township and has ever been one of the prominent men of the same. He was elected Justice of the Peace the first or second year after coming to Capron, in 1855, and was Associate Justice for four years. He has also held the position of Collector and Trustee, and numerous other positions. He was a Democrat up to 1851 and then voted for J. C. Fremont, since which time he has voted the straight Republican ticket. His first Presidential vote was cast for J. K. Polk. He has been a delegate to different county conventions and has ever been an enterprising and public-spirited citizen.

When on the farm our subject engaged in general farming and when he first settled in this county all his marketing was done at Chicago, but later he went to Kenosha, Wis., also. Mr. Wooster is practically retired from the active duties of life but he attends to some official business yet. He is an honest, upright citizen and has a host of warm friends. Mr. Wooster was a soldier in the late war, enlisting in the one Hundred and Forty-second Illinois Infantry, Company C, and was Orderly Sergeant.



HON. HORACE W. TAYLOR, Master in Chancery, is probably one of the most prominent citizens of Rockford, where he is carrying on a successful practice of law. He was born in the town of Granby, Hampshire County, Mass., February 1, 1823, and is the son of Willard N. Taylor, whose birth occurred on the same farm as did that of his son.

The great-grandfather of our subject was one of the very early settlers of Granby, Mass., where he spent his days on a farm, which estate is now owned and occupied by his great-great-grandson. The grandfather of our subject, Levi Taylor, spent his entire life on that farm, which was in his possession during his lifetime. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Smith, a lifelong resident of Granby.

The father of the gentleman whose name we give above was reared to agricultural pursuits, being an occupant of the old homestead spoken of above, where he spent his entire life, dying in his forty-eighth year. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Cook, also a native of Granby, and a daughter of Perez Cook, who, as far as is known, was a native of that place, and departed this life after having attained the advanced age of ninety years. The mother of our subject died on the old home farm and bore her husband a family of eleven children, seven of whom grew to maturity and live are now living.

Our subject received his education in the public schools of Granby, and when reaching his fifteenth year, he was apprenticed to his brother-in-law, David Cook, to learn the trade of a blacksmith, the

contract being that he should serve him until reaching his majority. His health failing, however, he abandoned that line of work and when twenty years of age became a student at the Amherst Academy, preparing himself for college, and in 1844 entered Amherst College, from which institution he was graduated in the Class of '48. Our subject then engaged in teaching in the Bay State for the two succeeding years, at the expiration of which time he went to Baltimore and was similarly employed in a ladies' seminary until 1857. During his period as a teacher, he devoted all his spare time to study of law and in 1857 came to Rockford, where he was admitted to the Bar in the fall of that year and at once opened an office and commenced practice.

Miss Ama A. Robinson, who was a native of Enfield, Hampshire County, Mass., became the wife of our subject in April, 1851, the ceremony being solemnized in Cincinnati, Ohio, by the Rev. J. J. Blaisdell, now Prof. Blaisdell, of Beloit College, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are the parents of two children: Agnes and Ama S. The former is now Mrs. J. R. Crocker, of Chicago, and the mother of three children: Sidney W., Florence A. and Horace T. Our subject and his wife have lost two sons: Frank Willard, who died in 1862, aged sixteen months, and Willard Robinson, whose decease occurred at the age of nineteen years, in 1882. Ama S. was a student in Oberlin College in the Class of '92.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and their youngest daughter are active members of the Second Congregational Church. In political views, our subject is a thorough Republican, having voted that ticket since the formation of the party. His interest in educational affairs has caused him to be placed on the School Board, where he did effective work for a number of years. Mrs. Taylor was appointed by the Mayor a member of the School Board in 1891; she and Mrs. Clark were the first ladies ever appointed on the School Board in Rockford. Our subject was elected to the State Legislature in 1878 and voted for John A. Logan for Senator. He was appointed Master in Chancery in 1866 by Judge Sheldon. He resigned in 1872, but was re-appointed to that position four years later by Judge Brown



A. M. Cattie

and has occupied the office continuously since, numbering twenty-two years, and during that long period only once have his findings been set aside, but the Court of Appeals overruled the findings of the Circuit Court and ordered his report confirmed. He is very popular and a most efficient official. In 1860, he formed a partnership with the Hon. William Brown, which continued until Mr. Brown was elected Judge. One of the distinguishing characteristics of our subject is the possession of quickness of mind and talent, and disciplined in the stern school of experience, he is thus prepared to meet every emergency with a steady and ready hand.



ARCHIBALD M. CATLIN, M. D. The original of the portrait on the opposite page is without doubt the oldest physician in the State of Illinois to-day, having been in active practice in Rockford for the past sixty years. He was born in that part of Litchfield which is now Winfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., September 8, 1801. Roger Catlin, his father, was a native of Connecticut, as was also his father, Roger Catlin, Sr., who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

The latter-named gentleman was of English ancestry and removed from his native State to New York, where he passed his last days in Herkimer County. His son, the father of our subject, was reared and married in the Nutmeg State, and later became one of the pioneers of Herkimer County, N. Y., where he purchased a tract of timber land in what is now the town of Winfield. He there erected a log house, in which our subject was born, and which consisted of but one room on the ground floor and one room above. It was located in the center of the township, at the junction of five roads, and as he was often obliged to entertain travelers to different parts of the county, Mr. Catlin later established an hotel. As there was no church in the vicinity, meetings were often held at his home until a building could be erected upon the ground donated by Mr. Catlin. He later erected a good

frame hotel and continued to act as "mine host," at the same time superintending the operation of his farm until his death, which occurred in 1813. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Clark; she was born in Connecticut and was the daughter of Deacon Clark, a pioneer of South Tompkins County, N. Y. After the death of her husband, the mother of our subject was a second time married, and departed this life in Winfield, N. Y.

The original of this sketch was but twelve years old on the death of his father and remained with his mother on the old home farm until her second marriage. He then resided in the town of Plainfield with an uncle, whom he assisted in the farm work in summers and attended school during the winter season. He continued to be thus employed until 1820, at which time he started with a company of friends to the then Far West. As there were then neither railroads nor canals in the vicinity of his home, he walked to Olen Point and from there went down the Allegany River to Pittsburg, thence by way of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to St. Louis, which was then nothing more than a village. He was accompanied by a comrade, Amos Noble, and was in Missouri when that Territory was admitted into the Union as a State. Later, he came to Madison County, Ill., where he resided for a twelvemonth and then, going to Missouri, was engaged in the lead mines until 1823, when he returned to New York. His desire had been to fit himself for a physician, and having read medicine previous to coming West, he devoted his time and attention to that study, attending lectures at Fairfield Medical College in Herkimer County. He later read under Dr. Clark of Winfield, then, going to Castleton, Vt., attended a course of lectures at the college there in the winter of 1825-26. In January of that year, he again became a student of Fairfield College, from which institution he was graduated with the Class of '27.

Soon after receiving his degree of Doctor of Medicine, our subject commenced the practice of his profession in partnership with Dr. Nathan Harwood of Winfield, N. Y., with whom he continued for five years. At the expiration of that time, he went to Chester, Geauga County, Ohio, where he practiced medicine until 1832; then removing to

Lorain County, he resided there until 1838, the date of his advent into Rockford. The present enterprising city was at that time little more than a hamlet, and the surrounding country, which was very sparsely settled, was owned by the Government. Dr. Catlin purchased property on the East side where he built a home. He has been actively engaged in the practice of his profession for the past sixty years, and, as before stated, is without doubt the oldest physician in the State.

In 1828, Miss Miranda Harwood, who was born in Winfield, N. Y., became the wife of our subject. She was the daughter of Dr. Nathan Harwood and departed this life in 1846, after having become the mother of three children, two of whom, Benjamin and Edward P., are living. Dr. Catlin was married the second time in 1847, his wife being Sarah Morrill, who was a native of Meriden, N. H., and a daughter of Deacon Daniel Morrill. To them were born two daughters: Mary, deceased, and Alice.

In early life a Whig, Dr. Catlin now votes the straight Republican ticket. He acted as President of the first medical society ever organized in Winnebago County, where he is regarded as one of the most prominent and skillful physicians. With his wife, he is a member of the First Congregational Church, and his life in this community has been such that he will be held in loving remembrance long after he shall have passed away.



CCOURTLAND MANDEVILLE. This gentleman, who has for many years been associated with the business men of Rockford, and who has been largely instrumental in the up-building of the city, became a resident of this county when fifteen years of age, and while aiding in the work of developing this section he has acquired a comfortable property and can now take his ease in his cozy home at No. 802 Montague Street.

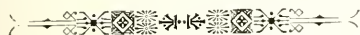
The subject of this review was born August 20, 1824, in Cayuga County, N. Y., being the son of Michael Mandeville, whom it is thought had his birth near Newbury, that State. Jacob Mande-

ville, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of the Empire State, and on removing to Cayuga County, became one of the pioneers there, clearing a farm from the wilderness and making that place his home until his decease. His wife, who was known prior to her marriage as Sarah Clark, was born in the above-named State. Her father was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and soon after her marriage to the father of our subject, the young couple moved to what is now Darien Township, Genesee County, where Mr. Mandeville bought a tract of land on which was located a log house, and three acres of which were cleared. Disposing of that estate a few years later, he removed to a farm six miles away, on which there was a mill, distillery and tannery, which he operated for a few years, when he became interested in a cabinet factory.

In 1838, visiting Winnebago County, this State, the father of our subject removed hither the following year, and as most of the land was owned by the Government, he rented a farm until 1841, when he purchased a tract four miles southwest of Rockford. Remaining upon that farm until 1858, he then divided the property among his children, and moved into the city, where he was the owner of two lots on South Main Street—the land now occupied by the William Brown Block. After a residence of one year in Rockford, Michael Mandeville spent a like period on the old farm, and finally returning to the city, lived retired in his home on Montague Street until 1887. His wife, Elsie Maria Corey, was the daughter of James and Deborah (Rathbun) Corey, and was born in Vermont. She became the mother of six children, and departed this life at her home in Rockford six years prior to the decease of her husband.

Courtland Mandeville was the third in order of birth of the parental family, his brothers and sisters being Henry, Jane, Horton, Philona and Edward. He came here when fifteen years of age and has consequently been an interesting witness of the marvelous growth of the county, having contributed his full share in bringing it to its present condition. He remembers that in those early days the grain was hauled to the Chicago markets by team, and deer and other wild game could be had

for the shooting. He made his home with his parents until his twenty-first birthday when he operated a farm on his own account, which had been given him by his father. In 1854, he went to Iowa, and in Bradford, Chickasaw County, bought a large tract of land and resided there until 1860, when he disposed of his interests in the Hawkeye State and then, returning to this county, carried on the home farm for the two succeeding years. Coming to Rockford at the expiration of that time, our subject lived here until 1861, when, in company with his brother Horton, he became the proprietor of a stock farm in Laona Township, which they successfully operated for four years. He has been a resident of Rockford since that time, where his reputation is one of which any man might well be proud, providing, as in his case, the character is equal to the opinions of men.



CHARLES A. CROSBY operates one hundred and seventy acres of land on section 11, New Milford Township, Winnebago County, and is one of the practical and progressive agriculturists of this community. He was born on the farm which is still his home in March, 1861, and is a son of George H., and Mary W. (Wood) Crosby. The father was born in New Hampshire in December, 1831, and the mother was a native of Connecticut. The grandfather, Alpheus A. Crosby, was a native of New York, and a blacksmith by trade. At an early day he came West with his family of six children and located in Rockford, and opened a smithy. His death occurred in that city at an advanced age, his wife passing away a few years previous. About 1850, he purchased one hundred acres of land for \$3,000, upon which was a small house and barn, while about eighty acres were under cultivation.

The father of our subject had acquired a fair education, and was a well-informed man. He was serving as Supervisor at the time of his death, having held the office for some years, and was also Assessor for some time. Among his fellow-townsmen he was recognized as a prominent citizen. He left three children: Charles A., of this sketch;

Laura M. and Hattie E. The last-named is the wife of Henry K. Hall, of Rockford.

In the usual manner of farmer lads, our subject was reared to manhood, no event of special importance occurring during his youth. In December, 1883, he led to the marriage altar Miss Alpharetta J. Cipperry, of Monroe Center, Ogle County, and a daughter of David A. and Martha Maria Cipperry, both of whom were natives of Rensselaer County, N. Y., from whence they emigrated to Illinois in the spring of 1862. Her father was a farmer and is now a grain-dealer in Monroe. Mr. and Mrs. Crosby have three living children: Daisy File, born April 14, 1886; Elsie May, February 18, 1888; and Leo Arthur, August 3, 1890. They have lost an infant son, Charles.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Crosby is independent, voting for the man whom he thinks best qualified for the office. He devotes his time and attention to general farming, and as the result has met with signal success in his business career. In addition to his home farm he has an interest in eighty acres on section 5, and the two tracts yield a good income. Himself and wife have a wide acquaintance in this community, where their entire lives have been passed, and well deserve a representation in their native county.



HERBERT R. PARKER, a well-to-do agriculturist, now living retired at No. 103 North Prospect Street, Rockford, was born in Vienna, Oneida County, N. Y., May 12, 1834. His father, the Hon. Linus Parker, was a native of Litchfield, Conn., where also his father, Eli, as far as is known, was born. The grandfather removed to New York, and died in the western part of the State, where also his wife, who was known prior to her marriage as Joanna Stoddard, departed this life.

The Hon. Linus Parker was a young man when his father removed to the Empire State, the journey being made overland with teams. He became the proprietor of a tract of land in Vienna and built an hotel on the road leading from Rome westward.

In addition to operating as "mine host," he superintended the cultivation of the farm, and was also Director in the bank at Rome. He was very prominent in local affairs, and was for many years Postmaster of Vienna. In politics, he was a Democrat, and served two terms in the New York Assembly, in which State he later disposed of his interests, coming to Winnebago County in 1852, purchasing an improved farm in Harlem Township, where his death occurred November 15, 1876, when eighty-seven years of age. The maiden name of his wife was Lutia Sherman, a native of Massachusetts, and the daughter of Joshua and Naomi (Munger) Sherman. Mrs. Parker departed this life at Vienna, N. Y., in 1811. The place which the father of our subject bought on coming to this county was known as the Simonds Homestead and the house into which he moved, and where the family resided until coming to Rockford, is the oldest in the county. It is located on the road leading from Beloit to Belvidere, and was for many years a public house and well known as Buckhorn Tavern.

The original of this sketch was educated in Vienna, N. Y., and accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, at a time when the western terminus of the railroad was on the eastern side of the Rock River. Herbert R. resided with his father until his marriage, when he located on the old homestead in Harlem and there lived for a number of years. In 1891, he removed to his present home at No. 103 Prospect Street, which was erected that year.

The lady who became the wife of our subject, December 9, 1865, was, prior to that event, Miss Sarah Kilburn, a native of Annsville, Oneida County, N. Y. Her father, Shaler Samuel Kilburn, was one of the pioneers of Winnebago County, and had his birth in Massachusetts. He is the son of Capt. Shaler Samuel Kilburn, a sea captain, who died when the father of Mrs. Parker was an infant. The latter was young when his mother went to New York State, where he was reared and married in Oneida County, making his home there until 1846, when he came to this county and purchased a tract of wild land, on which was located a log cabin. He resided with his brother-in-law for a time and during the interim erected a dwelling on

his own land, where his death occurred in January, 1885. The maiden name of Mrs. Parker's mother was Mary Bartholemew; she was the daughter of Eliakim and Annie (Simonds) Bartholemew, and is living at the present time in Rockford.

To Mr. and Mrs. Parker have been born six children: Whitman, deceased; Mary, Lutia, Joanna, Lizzie and Herbert. Mrs. Parker and her daughter Mary are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JOHN WRIGHT. This name is familiar among the agriculturists of Winnebago County, as belonging to one of its most industrious citizens and a man who occupies a high position in business circles. He has been the architect of his own fortune, making his way in the world from a modest beginning, and has proven a fine example of the results of patient industry, a wise economy and good judgment.

He of whom we write was born in Yorkshire, England, November 12, 1829. He is a son of William and Jane Wright, who emigrated to this country in 1832, and, settling in New York State, lived fourteen years near Genesee. In 1846, they came to Winnebago County, where the father took up a large tract of land. There he died in his eightieth year. His wife passed away in Rockford in January, 1891.

Mr. Wright of this sketch remained with his parents until twenty-five years of age, when he was married to Matilda C. Hutchins, who was born in the town of Kendall, Orleans County, N. Y., June 10, 1835. She was the daughter of Osman and Lydia (Davis) Hutchins, the former of whom was a son of John S. Hutchins, his birth occurring in 1773, in Massachusetts, and his death in Quebec, Canada, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. Mrs. Lydia Hutchins died in this county, in her forty-third year.

Mrs. Matilda Wright came of a family prominent in the early history of New York, and after her marriage to our subject, in 1853, they lived on the Wright farm for ten or fifteen years, when they purchased property south of their present place of



Cordially Yours,
Henry J. Sherrill

residence. They later sold that land and bought in Ogle County, which land Mr. Wright later traded for a farm in Seward Township, and in 1870 became the owner of his present farm, which is embellished with all the needful farm buildings, not the least among which is his comfortable residence.

To Mr. and Mrs. John Wright have been born seven children, five of whom are living, namely: George A., whose birth occurred February 8, 1855, is married and the father of five children; Alta J., who was born April 28, 1861, is married and has three children; Elizabeth who was born December 8, 1863, has one son; James R., born January 16, 1873, works the old home farm; and Lena A., whose birth occurred August 10, 1877, is also at home. Those deceased are Charles O. and Lottie B. In their religious belief, Mr. and Mrs. Wright are members of the Presbyterian Church. Our subject gives his entire time to carrying on his farm and, in politics, he is a staunch adherent of the Republican party, casting his first vote for Fremont.



PROF. HENRY J. SHERRILL. It has been truly said that a good education is the best inheritance that parents can leave their children. Riches may take to themselves wings and fly away, but a good education will last through life. Prof. Henry J. Sherrill, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, was born in Lebanon, Madison County, N. Y., on the 28th of April, 1824, and from early youth he enjoyed good educational advantages. His parents, Samuel R. and Nancy (Upham) Sherrill, were natives, respectively, of Massachusetts and New York, the father born in Berkshire County, February 22, 1794, and the mother on the 7th of June, 1796.

When a young man, Samuel Sherrill went to the Empire State, and, after settling in Madison County, engaged in the shoe business, which he carried on in connection with tanning for thirty years. He then retired from business and came West, making his home with his son until his death, on the 28th of March, 1872. He was of Irish descent and was a man of ability and good judgment. His wife died in her native State in 1866. Her people were

pioneers of the Empire State, and her mother was twelve years of age at the time the Indians burned Cherry Valley, that State. Her grandfather was a clergyman and a man of considerable prominence as were also many others of that name, the Uphams being well known in New York State as refined and accomplished people.

Prof. Sherrill was one of four children born to his parents, but he and a sister, Mrs. N. A. Gilbert, of St. Paul, Minn., are the only ones now living. He remained at home until eighteen years of age, and up to that time attended school in the country and town. He then began teaching during the winter months and attended school during the summer seasons until the age of twenty-one, when he entered the New York Normal at Albany. After graduating at that institution, he began teaching at Eaton, N. Y., where he remained four years, after which he taught in Kingsboro Academy one term. Later he followed teaching four years at Forestville, N. Y. On the 31st of July, 1854, he was married to Miss Jennie A. Briggs, a native of that city, born December 19, 1823. Mrs. Sherrill was the daughter of Giles and Orriel (Allen) Briggs, natives of New York, where both died at an advanced age. She became the mother of two children, Willie H., deceased, and Frank Allen, and died in St. Louis, Mo., on the 10th of March, 1868. Frank A., who was born on the 19th of November, 1862, in Hamilton, N. Y., was graduated from the University at Champaign, Ill., and is now a draughtsman in the iron works at Indianapolis. He married Miss Minnie, daughter of M. C. Woodruff, of Dubuque, Iowa.

On the 23d of December, 1873, Prof. Sherrill married Mrs. Alice J. Seaver, a native of Aurora, N. Y., born July 13, 1813, and the daughter of Martin C. and Sarah M. (Woodruff) Bentley. Mr. Bentley was a native of Vermont, born on the 1st of January, 1805, and is now a resident of Boone County, Ill. As maybe seen, he is quite aged but he enjoys unusually good health. His wife was born in New York but passed her last days in this county. Of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Bentley, five are still living. Mrs. Sherrill's first marriage united her with Mr. William Seaver, who was born March 10, 1842, in Darien,

Wisconsin, whither his parents removed from New York State. He died on the 30th of September, 1866, from sickness contracted in the army. He was in Company K, 2d Wisconsin Cavalry, and left Wisconsin University to enter the army, enlisting from Walworth County of that State and serving about two years.

Our subject's second marriage resulted in the birth of one child, a daughter, Jennie Bentley, who was born in Belvidere Township, Boone County, Ill., July 22, 1877. She has studied in the schools of Belvidere, and is now receiving instruction under the personal supervision of her able and distinguished father. After his first marriage, Prof. Sherrill engaged in the book business in Hamilton, Canada, for about three years and then engaged as Principal of the schools of Hamilton, N. Y., where he continued for nearly ten years. From there he came to this county and at once took charge of the North Belvidere school, but he was not allowed to remain long in this position, for one year later, his unusual ability as an instructor being recognized, he accepted a position in St. Louis, Mo., which he filled with credit for nearly two years. The climate not agreeing with him, he took the advice of his physician and left that city.

In 1868, Prof. Sherrill returned to Belvidere, where the people gladly welcomed him, and the same fall was made Principal of the North Belvidere school, where he remained until 1883. He then resigned and practically retired, or would have done so had not his fellow-citizens called so loudly for his services that he could not refuse, and in consequence was elected County Superintendent, which position he filled as only Prof. Sherrill could, until the arduous duties of the office forced him into retirement. For nearly fifty years, he has been prominent as a public educator, and some of the profoundest thinkers, deepest reasoners and brainiest men of the West attribute their success in life to his teachings. The genial urbanity and native politeness of his manners engage and captivate the good-will and confidence of all with whom he comes in contact, and his pleasing address and gentle suavity draw the heart and affections of his students magnetically toward him, securing their closest attention, easy control and

ardent interest in their studies. The untiring energy, unlagging zeal and ceaseless devotion he manifests for the promotion of educational improvements are highly appreciated.

One of the favors shown this most esteemed and worthy citizen was in his election as an honorary member of the celebrated Colgate University of Hamilton, N. Y., with the title of A. M., in 1859. Few, indeed, have obtained that honor and distinction. Prof. and Mrs. Sherrill are honored and active members of the Belvidere Presbyterian Church, and he has been Elder for many years. Politically, he is a staunch Republican. Mrs. Sherrill, a pleasing and refined lady, is a member of nearly all the ladies' societies and her brilliancy and rare accomplishments fit her in an admirable manner for the different positions with which her sister-workers favor her. Rarely does one meet with a more refined, intelligent and happy family than gathers under Prof. Sherrill's roof. For many years his home has been on his splendid farm just outside the city limits of Belvidere, a most beautiful place, which might well be called "Villa Content."



GEORGE W. LEVINGS, who is residing on a beautiful farm just west of the city of Rockford, has his dwelling located on Montague Street. The farm is supplied with good, substantial frame buildings and Mr. Levings has planted fruit and shade trees, which make the estate one of the most beautiful in the county. He was born in New York City, June 25, 1839, while his father, Peter Levings, was born in the town of Northeast, Dutchess County, that State. From there the elder Mr. Levings went to New York City, where he was engaged in the mercantile business at the corner of Greenwich and Vesey Streets. In 1812, however, on account of ill health he disposed of his interests there and came to Illinois, locating in Winnebago County at a time when the settlements were mostly confined to the timber and streams.

The father of our subject located a tract of Government land in what is now Winnebago Town-

ship, and erected thereon a house, in which the family resided during the time he was employed in clearing and improving a new farm. Soon after locating here, he formed a partnership with Alfred Sanford and opened the first meat market in Rockford. There being no railroads here, for some years he hauled his grain to Chicago, one hundred miles distant, to market. In 1876, he disposed of his property in Winnebago Township and, coming to Rockford, lived retired until his decease. His wife, who prior to her marriage was Miss Ann Nunn, was born in Liverpool, England, and also departed this life in Rockford.

The five children comprising the parental family were Harriet E., who married B. F. Pease; George W., Thomas G., Maggie and Alfred. The latter is a practicing physician in Milwaukee. Thomas G. served as a member of Company I, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, during the late war, and Mrs. Pease, who was a member of the Christian Commission, was taken to the front at Vicksburg in the interest of that organization.

George W. Levings was three years old when brought to this State by his parents, receiving his education in Winnebago and in the first school ever erected in Rockford. He resided with his parents until reaching his majority, when he was employed on different kinds of work in the city until 1863. In the fall of that year, he became a member of Company I, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, enlisting for a service of three years and participating with his regiment in all its marches, campaigns and battles. He received his honorable discharge in June, 1865, and on returning home spent the time until 1866 in Rockford, when he went to Chicago and was engaged in the fruit trade for two years. At the end of that time, he bought and shipped live-stock from Rockford, being thus engaged for three years, and then became the proprietor of a farm in Winnebago Township, operating it for six years, when he purchased the tract he has improved in his present farm. The estate of our subject is finely cultivated and by a proper rotation of crops yields a handsome income.

Nellie V. Stranahan became the wife of Mr. Levings in 1869. She was born in Ohio and is the daughter of Carlisle and Harriet (Humphrey)

Stranahan. Being very young when her mother died, she was adopted into a family named Knibball, whose name she bore, and was reared at their home in Elgin, Ill. During the late war, she went South in the interest of the American Missionary Society, as a teacher of the freedmen, and was at Memphis at the time of Forest's raid. She continued in the service until 1869, during that time teaching in Memphis, Mobile and other points.

To our subject and his wife have been born five children: Frank, Annie E., Nellie F., Ralph S. and Golden W. Mr. Levings is a member of Nevins Post No. 1, G. A. R., and is also connected with the order of Modern Woodmen of America. He casts his vote and influence in favor of Republican principles and candidates and is held in high esteem by all who know him. Mrs. Levings is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rockford.



HON. WILSON H. CRANDELL, M. D., who died at his home in Durand October 1, 1855, was a gentleman whose long residence in Winnebago County, together with his active participation in worthy measures for the development of his community, made him prominent both socially and in the ranks of his profession. It has been said that there are two kinds of education, one which is received at school, and the other, more important, which we give ourselves. Dr. Crandell was fortunate in gaining each kind of training, and, as a result, his character was rounded out and developed, while he acquired those habits of perseverance and energy which are so essential in any profession.

Born in Nassau, N. Y., June 11, 1805, our subject was the son of Nathan R. and Rebecca (Arnold) Crandell. His early life was passed on the farm and as an employe in a glass factory. He came West in early life and, entering Rush Medical College at Chicago, received his degree of Doctor of Medicine from that institution. He first practiced medicine near the Garden City, and was later established at Freeport.

In 1845, Dr. Crandell made his advent into

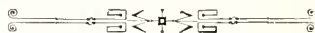
Winnebago County, at which time he located in what is now Laona Township, and gave his attention to his profession. A few years thereafter, he removed to what is now Durand Township, and, purchasing a tract of land, resided upon it until his death in 1855. He had an extensive practice, many of his patients living beyond Rockford, and even as far as Beloit. He represented his district in the State Legislature in 1848, during which time he formulated and secured the passage of the law establishing township organization. In politics, he always voted the Whig ticket, and occupied a conspicuous place in local affairs. He was a member of the Free-will Baptist Church and gave liberally of his means to its support.

June 6, 1829, our subject and Miss Sophia M. Elmore, who was born in New Lebanon, N. Y., July 13, 1804, were united in marriage. She departed this life September 4, 1843, leaving no family. April 9, 1845, the Doctor was married to Eliza Randall, who had her birth August 3, 1817, in Pompey, N. Y. She was the daughter of Joshua and Sarah (Smith) Randall, also natives of the Empire State. Mrs. Crandell emigrated with her mother to Wayne County, Mich., riding from Detroit to their home, twenty miles, over a corduroy road. In 1838, she came to this State, and in Laona Township made her home with her sister, Ruama, who had married William H. Stevens. Mrs. Crandell remained with her sister two years when, her brother William coming to this county, she made her home with him until her marriage with our subject.

Dr. and Mrs. Crandell had born to them three children: Edwin Elmore, who was born August 24, 1846, died September 15, 1852; Emily, who was born March 22, 1852, married Andrew Blake and resides at Colorado Springs, where Mr. Blake is engaged in the hardware business; Harriet, born April 10, 1854, became the wife of Addison Burningham, and departed this life January 13, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Blake, of Colorado Springs, have four children: Arthur, Maud Lillian, Clarence H. and Worthington G.

Dr. Crandell at his death left considerable property, and his wife, who carried on the farm for a

number of years later, sold it and built a residence in Durand. She has given her daughter quite a little fortune, and still has in her possession a handsome competency. She is a most excellent and charitable lady and the doer of many kindly deeds known only to their objects.



DEMUS W. GRIPPEN. Throughout Winnebago County there are doubtless few citizens who have not been personally acquainted with this venerable resident of Winnebago, who has aided in the development of the resources of the county, and during the late war contributed his self-sacrificing efforts to the preservation of the Union. He is a native of New York, and was born in Woodstock, Madison County, April 13, 1806. His father, Jesse, was a farmer in New Lebanon, N. Y., and also followed the same occupation in Woodstock, where he secured a tract of timber land, cleared a farm, and made his home until about 1815.

In the above-mentioned year, Jesse Grippen removed to Nelson Township, and afterward to Smithfield Township, whence, about 1818, he proceeded to Oneida County and purchased a tract of wild timber land in the town of Florence, where he cleared a farm from the wilderness, and remained for a number of years. Later he settled in the town of Vienna, where he bought property and where he was bereaved by the death of his wife, Rachel (Stevens) Grippen, who was probably a native of the Empire State. After her death, he came, West to Hillsdale County, Mich., where he died at the home of a daughter in the town of Reading.

At a very early age, the subject of our sketch commenced to be self-supporting, and learned the trade of a moulder at Taberg, Oneida County, where he remained until 1845. Then coming West by way of Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence on a propeller across the Lakes to Sheboygan, Wis., he proceeded on foot with his brother-in-law, Luther Miller, and made the overland journey to Rockford, where he selected a tract of Government land in what is now Winnebago Township, on the northwest quarter of section 31. During the

summer he erected a small frame house, and broke and fenced forty acres of land. In the fall he returned East for his family, and, coming hither the second time, was met at Chicago by his brother-in-law with an ox-team, and by that primitive mode of travel the family was conveyed to their future home. For some years there was no railroad in the county, and Chicago was the nearest market and depot for supplies.

Until the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Grippen continued actively engaged in farming, and then enlisted, September 1, 1861, as a private in Company G, Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry, serving two years, being promoted to Second, and later to First Lieutenant, as the reward of meritorious service. He then resigned on account of disability, and returned home. In August, 1864, he re-enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged, July 8, 1865. In his second, as in his first term of service, he enlisted as a private and was promoted to the position of Second, and afterward First Lieutenant. He participated in many of the most bloody conflicts of the war, and was always in the front in the thickest of the fight, proving his patriotism during all the horrors of war.

In 1866, Mr. Grippen removed to the village of Winnebago, where he has since resided, and where he owns eighty acres, the value of which is constantly increasing. His first marriage united him to Miss Lydia Miller, who was born in Oneida County, N. Y., and died in Winnebago, January 25, 1866. Afterward Mr. Grippen was married, October 22, 1868, to Miss Margaret L., daughter of William and Jane (Smith) Wallace, and a native of Franklin County, Ind. Her parents came to Illinois about 1853, and the father died in Olney in 1885; the mother still survives and makes her home in Winnebago Township, with her daughter, Mrs. Vansen.

Six children were born of the first union of Mr. Grippen, namely: Nancy, who married John Her-ring; Ezra; Maria, wife of William Tryan; Delia, who became the wife of Hampton Sloan; Mary, Mrs. Wallace Gorham; and Spencer. Ezra served in Company C, Seventy-ninth Illinois Infantry,

during some months of the Civil War. Mr. Grippen is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. About the time of his removal from the Empire State, the Congregational Church, North and South, was divided on the question of slavery, and after settling in Illinois, he and Mr. Miller offered the Rev. Mr. Hodges, the minister of the Congregational Church in Oneida County, N. Y., a tract of land if he would come West and preach at some convenient point. The offer was accepted, and the minister shortly after his arrival organized the First Congregational Church in Winnebago, with seven members, the only survivors at present being Mrs. Elizabeth Holt and our subject. A few years after the organization, a stone church was erected on section 21, and after the railroad was built in the county, and the village of Winnebago was established, the old building was abandoned, and the Presbyterian Church of Winnebago became its natural successor.

Throughout the community where they reside, Mr. and Mrs. Grippen are highly esteemed, and their generosity and kindness of heart are well known and appreciated. They are the parents of two children, who now survive, namely: Jennie Belle, who married Heman Hoyt; and Demus W., Jr.



LEWIS SHIRLEY, Jr., one of the early settlers now residing in Flora Township, Boone County, was born in LaPorte County, Ind., January 12, 1833. He is a son of Lewis Shirley, whom it is supposed, was born either in Virginia or Pennsylvania. He removed from the Keystone State to Ohio, and after residing there a few years, in about 1825 removed farther Westward to LaPorte County, Ind., where he was one of the early settlers. He located on Doore Prairie, and securing a tract of Government land, at once erected the log house in which our subject was born. His son, Adam K., was the first white child born in this county.

The father of our subject resided in Indiana until 1835, then, in company with his wife and seven children, he made the journey overland with teams to Illinois, and located in Winnebago County be-

fore it was organized. Indians were still in the vicinity, and deer, bear and other wild animals were plentiful, and roamed at will over the country. Mr. Shirley selected Government land both in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, and Flora Township, this county. He erected a log house on the former, the roof being formed of rived clapboards, and for a time the cabin did not even boast of a floor, and in lieu of a door a blanket was hung across an opening in the wall. There was plenty of water on the farm, and Mr. Shirley building a saw and grist mill, operated these in addition to carrying on his estate. He resided in Cherry Valley, with the exception of about two years when he was in California, until his decease, December 6, 1872.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Julia Keith; she was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Peter Keith, and departed this life on the home farm in 1837. After her death, our subject's father chose for his second wife, Miss Mary O'Hara, who died in 1887. The seven children born of his first union were Silas, Mary, Jane, Adam, Lewis, Charles W. and Elizabeth.

Lewis Shirley, Jr., was two years of age when brought to Illinois by his parents, and remembers well the incidents of pioneer life here. He attended the first school ever taught in this section, the temple of learning being a log house with slab seat set on common wooden pins for legs. Holes were bored in the wall, pins inserted, and a slab laid on to serve for the larger scholars to write on. When but a mere boy, he used to go to Chicago with his father, the latter leading off with a team, and our subject following with another, loaded with wheat which sometimes would only bring forty-two cents per bushel.

In 1859, he of whom we write went to California, making the entire journey overland with ox-teams. At that time there were no white settlements on the plains, and the buffalo and antelopes were numerous. After five months' travel, he arrived in the Golden State, and for a short time was engaged in mining, then began dealing in wood. He remained there about five years, at the end of which time he returned home and resumed farming. In 1864, Mr. Shirley located on the farm

which he now owns and occupies, which was a portion of the land which his father entered from the Government. In addition to farming, he has engaged quite extensively in the wood business, in which undertaking he has been very successful. His estate is one of the finest in the county, containing five hundred and seventy-five well-improved acres.

November 3, 1864, Miss Leah Ream became the wife of our subject. She was a native of the Keystone State, and departed this life February 28, 1876. The second wife of Mr. Shirley, to whom he was married March 14, 1880, was Sophia Z. Smith, a native of Carroll County, Ohio, her birth occurring July 21, 1841. Her father, James Smith, was born near Hoboken, N. J., where also his father, Hector Smith, was born, and, it is supposed, spent his entire life. The maiden name of the grandmother of Mrs. Shirley was Sophia, daughter of Amby Clark, who also had her birth in the above-named State and town. After the death of her husband, she went to Ohio with her children, and from there to Iowa, where her decease occurred in Fayette County.

The father of Mrs. Shirley was sixteen years of age when the family removed to Ohio and located in Franklin County. In 1837, he removed to Carroll County and purchased a tract of timber land near Carrollton. Making his home in that place until 1854, he again made his way Westward, in company with his wife and five children, this time making his home in Fayette County, Iowa. One of the children died on the way. Mr. Smith located land in what is now Smithfield Township, and when the township was organized, it was named in his honor. The family moved into a log cabin until a more substantial structure could be erected for them, the father having to go thirty miles distant to have lumber sawed. He improved his land, upon which he has resided, with the exception of a few years spent in Fayette, since locating there.

The parents of Mrs. Shirley were married in Carroll County, Ohio, in 1837, the mother's maiden name being May J. Morrison. She was born in Pennsylvania, and was the daughter of John and Jane (Montgomery) Morrison. They have been mar-

ried nearly fifty-five years, and have reared a family of six children: Jane, John M., Rose A., James H., and Charles F., all of whom are living, with the exception of John M. Mrs. Shirley was given a good education, and when fifteen years of age, entered the Iowa University at Fayette, where she fitted herself as a teacher, which occupation she followed for twenty years. By her union with our subject, one son has been born, James Lewis, born January 23, 1884. Mr. Shirley, by his first marriage, became the father of six children: Celestia E., Carrie A., Roswell R. and Adelbert W. Flora E., the second child, died when thirteen years of age, and Gertrude, the fifth in order of birth, departed this life in her seventh year.



MARTIN P. WHITESIDE, who at present occupies a pleasant home in Rockford, was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., August 23, 1822. His father, Robertson Whiteside, was a native of Washington County, that State, where he was reared to farming pursuits in the town of Cambridge. The grandfather of our subject, John Whiteside, lived and died in that place.

He of whom we write is the younger of two sons born to his parents, his brother, William P., being a resident of Chautauqua, living on the banks of that beautiful lake at Whiteside Point, where his father located on a farm of one hundred and thirty acres in 1836. After a residence there of some years, the elder Mr. Whiteside removed to Mayville, the county seat, where he died in his eighth year. His widow, prior to her marriage, was Maria Prendergast; she was born in 1798, in Rensselaer County, N. Y., and departed this life when seventy-eight years old. Her father was Martin Prendergast, of Chautauqua County, where he was Judge for many years. This family was one of the leading and wealthy residents of Jamestown, N. Y., which place was named in honor of James Prendergast, who there owned a large estate, a portion of which was timber land. There he erected mills, manufactured lumber, putting in the

first gang saw in that section, if not the first in the United States. William Prendergast, better known as Colonel, was in active service during the Revolutionary War, after which he located on a farm.

The gentleman of whom we write was given a good academic education, and in 1844 was married to a most worthy and estimable lady, who bore the name of Sarah Holmes. She was born October 6, 1824, in Oneida County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Seth W. Holmes, of Salisbury, Conn., whose birth occurred in 1799, and who departed this life at Paw Paw, Lee County, Ill., in 1864. His wife was Sallie Stone, who was also born in Connecticut in 1802, in the town of Litchfield, and, like her husband, passed away in Paw Paw, in 1856.

Our subject and his only brother were merchants at Mayville, N. Y., for a number of years. They erected a saw and grist mill, and did a large and paying business, which they sold out in order to come West. Locating in Paw Paw, this State, in 1852, they invested in farming lands, their estate comprising five hundred fertile acres. The father of Mrs. Whiteside owned in Lee County ten or twelve farms, which estate he left to his three daughters; the sisters of Mrs. Whiteside being Phoebe, Mrs. Martin Prendergast, of Chautauqua, N. Y.; and Helen, Mrs. John Dickson, who resides at Racine, Wis.

To Mr. and Mrs. Whiteside have been born two sons: Henry R., whose birth occurred April 6, 1853; and John W., who was born October 4, 1857. The latter-named gentleman is a physician at Bessemer, Mich., and, in partnership with other physicians, manages a hospital. He was graduated from the Rush Medical College at Chicago, in the Class of '82, and was one of the few members whose standing admitted him to the hospital that year. Henry resides in Chicago, and, in connection with the Board of Trade, is conducting a grain ensampler's business.

Our subject and his wife came to Rockford in 1886, where they purchased the Kimball Place, just west of Haskell Avenue. There they planted and grew a fine vineyard, from which they gathered annually four tons of grapes. They subsequently sold these grounds for building lots, on which they

erected in 1883 a pleasant residence. A year later, however, they removed to the home which will no doubt be their dwelling place until they shall be called to their final reward. It is located at No. 503 Rockton Avenue, where their kindly natures lead them to make life pleasant for others, and their influence in the community is always felt for good.



WILLIAM RICE. In point of energy, enterprise and determination, the subject of this sketch is looked upon as one of the leading men of Rockford Township, Winnebago County. He is what may be properly termed a "hustler," in the broadest sense of the term, and is genial and generous, one who is a universal favorite in both social and business circles. He is mostly interested in agricultural pursuits, and is the possessor of a large number of acres of land in this township.

The original of this sketch had his birth in Solon, Cortland County, N. Y., on the 4th of July, 1827. His worthy father, who bore the name of William Rice, was born in New England, and there reared. He went to Cortland County, N. Y., when a young man, and there bought a tract of timber land, clearing a splendid farm from the wilderness.

There were no railroads nor canals built in New York State for several years after his advent there, and the people lived off the products of their own farms, the women spinning and carding and making homespun clothes for their families. The father of our subject lived on the home farm with his parents until the year 1850, when he removed to Pennsylvania. After a few years' residence in the latter-named State, he again came to Cortland County and resided with his son, our subject, until his death, which took place in 1863.

The beloved mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Theodosia Thornton; she was a native of New York State, and died on the home farm in Cortland County. She reared to man and woman's estate six children, named as follows: Almon, Jason, Phoebe, Joseph, Betsey and William. Our subject is the youngest of the children born

to his parents, and was reared and educated in his native State and county, and resided under the parental roof until he was seventeen years of age. At that age he started out for himself in life, and commenced by working on a farm for \$7 per month, and later received \$10 a month. In this way he earned and saved enough money to help him get a good start. His father gave him sixty acres of land in the township of Cincinnati, Cortland County, when he reached his majority, and on this place was an old log house with a frame addition, a small barn, two and one-third acres being improved. On this place our subject lived for only one year, when he traded with his father for the old homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, paying his father \$2,500 besides. Here he lived until 1859, when he journeyed to the Prairie State, and settled in West Point Township, Stephenson County, purchasing a tract of one hundred and sixty acres on which he made his home until 1868.

In the year mentioned above, William Rice, the subject of this life history, sold his land in Stephenson County and came to the city of Rockford, buying property in the same, and also a fine farm of one hundred and eighty-two acres adjoining the city. He has since then purchased other lands, and now owns a farm which comprises two hundred and forty-eight broad and fertile acres, besides one hundred and thirty-eight acres adjoining the city, which has been his home for the past two years. On this place he is actively and prosperously engaged in tilling the soil, and raising some cattle, which are of the best grades, and he is a splendid example of what may be accomplished by a persistent, sagacious and economical man. He owns an acre of valuable land in the city, which is as yet vacant.

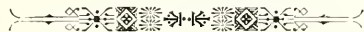
To the wife who has contributed her quota to his prosperity, presides with grace and true hospitality over his home, and makes his interest her own, Mr. Rice was united in marriage in 1818. Mrs. Rice was born in the Empire State, a daughter of Andrew and Matilda (Fuller) Coleman. Mrs. Rice was known in her maidenhood as Nancy Coleman, and has become the mother of the following children, viz: Vinton B., Tilla L., Mattie



Yours Truly
B O Upton

L., Kittie G., Opal A., Lena L. and Willie A. (Starr A., who was the second child, died when seven years and seven months old.)

The life record of our subject is an honor to him and an example to the youth of the present generation. He is gifted with a strong, clear mind, tenacity of purpose and far-seeing sagacity, which have enabled him to control his business affairs to the best advantage, so that he has become well-to-do. He is liberal in the use of his money, showing that he has not labored merely for himself. In his political views, he is a staunch Democrat. In their religious views they are liberal, and not connected with any church.



CHARLES O. UPTON. An honorable place among the citizens of Rockford is occupied by the President of the Manufacturers' National Bank, whose portrait is presented on the opposite page. Nearly forty years has Mr. Upton been a resident of this city, and by his business energy, integrity and public spirit, ably contributes to its prosperity and growth. Affable, clear-headed, a financier of safe discretion, in him and his estimable wife, a lady of much grace and dignity of presence and character, may be recognized that refined type of manners and morals, deeply rooted in austere New England virtues, ameliorated by Western influences, whose prevalence gives a high tone to the atmosphere of Rockford.

Charles Oscar Upton, youngest son of Amos and Hannah (Flint) Upton, was born in North Reading, Mass., September 17, 1832. He is of the sixth generation from his ancestor, John Upton, who came to Massachusetts from the original home of the family across the waters about the year 1652. Having been in his boyhood and early youth duly disciplined and instructed in the district schools, then in vogue in his native village, our subject was later enrolled as a student of Lawrence Academy in the neighboring town of Groton, and for a brief time enjoyed the advantages afforded by that institution for higher learning. Returning to the shelter of the parental roof, and enter-

ing into business, he began to think of marriage and a home of his own.

The marriage of Charles O. Upton and Catherine Elizabeth, daughter of Col. Jacob S. and Catherine (Foster) Rayner, took place at the home of the bride's parents in North Reading, Mass., March 26, 1855, and their wedding journey was the trip to the new home in the great Prairie State. The children born of the union are as follows: Florence L., born August 31, 1858, married Lyon Playfair Ross, who died February 23, 1889, leaving two children; Nellie R., born in 1861, died in 1863, aged two years and three months; Clyde W., born January 20, 1864, is at home; and Lucy J., born March 31, 1866, was married at the family residence on North Court Street, November 19, 1891, to Fred King Tribou. Liberal in their religious views, sympathizing with the progressive teachings of the Rev. Dr. Kerr, and enjoying his faithful ministrations, Mr. and Mrs. Upton are active members of the Christian Union Church.

When Mr. Upton came to Rockford in September, 1854, it was then an unimportant village. But the struggling town which he found by the River Rock has given way to the handsome, modern city of to-day, and in this development he has played no unimportant part as a solid and trustworthy man and sagacious financier, who has erected one of the most attractive residences in the city, founded a solid and reliable banking institution, and otherwise vigorously aided in pushing forward the material interests of city and county, besides bearing an honorable part in the guidance of public affairs. For a number of years he successfully conducted business, and engaged largely in buying and shipping live stock.

The Second National Bank of Rockford was organized in 1864, and Mr. Upton was made one of its Directors. He was connected with that bank twenty years, and the last two was Vice-President. In 1889, he organized the Manufacturers' National Bank, was elected its President, and still holds that office. Under his careful supervision, the affairs of the bank, which already occupies an important position in the monetary circles of the State, are in a flourishing condition, and a steady

and constantly increasing business denotes the high favor in which it is held by the people. Mr. Upton is also a Director in the Rockford Burial Case Company.

Soon after he became a resident of Rockford, Mr. Upton's fellow-citizens called upon him to help administer the local government, and he has held various offices of trust, executing his public duties with the same force, tact, business acumen and system that have always characterized his management of his private business. He served four years as a member of the City Council (being one of the committee of three that built the water works), was on the County Board of Supervisors three terms, and was Treasurer of Rockford two years. He has been permanently connected with the Agricultural Society as one of its leading members for many years, having served two terms as President, the same length of time as Vice-President, and is now Treasurer of the Association. A true Republican in politics, he cast his first vote for John C. Fremont and has stood firmly by his party ever since the early days of its organization.



GEORGE THOMAS WHEELER, an early settler in Boone County, is now living a retired life in the village of Poplar Grove. He was born in Hamburg, Erie County, N. Y., August 14, 1828, and is a son of Thomas Wheeler, whose native place was Massachusetts. The latter-named gentleman was reared and married in the Bay State and from there removed to Erie County, N. Y., where he was one of the early settlers in the town of Colden. Later, he settled in Hamburg, where he followed the trade of blacksmithing and remained until his decease in 1829.

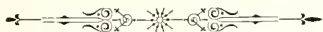
Miss Martha Buxton, the maiden name of our subject's mother, was born in Rhode Island and, surviving her husband many years, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Webster, in Poplar Grove. He of whom we write was reared in his native town, where he resided until 1848, and then came by the way of the Lakes to Chicago, and thence by teams to this county. Here he

entered a quarter-section of Government land in what is now Boone Township, which was said to be the last piece of Government land in this locality. He paid for this property with a soldier's land warrant, which cost him \$140. The estate was placed under most excellent cultivation, and five years later Mr. Wheeler sold out and purchased a tract one mile south of Poplar Grove. He made that place his home for ten years, at the end of which time he became the proprietor of an estate two and one-half miles southeast in the same township, which he occupied until 1888, the year in which he moved to Poplar Grove.

November 25, 1857, Miss Harriet Ball and our subject were united in marriage. They have become the parents of three children: Frank, Helen M. and Blanch. The father of Mrs. Wheeler, Edward Ball, was born in Northboro, Worcester County, Mass., in June, 1807. His father, who was also named Edward, it is thought, was born on the same farm as his son and was descended from one of four brothers who came to America from England in an early day and located in what has since been known as Ball's Hill.

Grandfather Ball was a farmer and spent his entire life in Northboro. The maiden name of his wife was Sophia Puffer, the daughter of Reuben Puffer, who was a preacher and many years pastor of the Congregational Church in Berlin, where he spent his last years. The grandmother of Mrs. Wheeler died at the home of her daughter in Northboro, Mass. Edward Ball was reared and married in the above-named place and, being the only son, inherited the old home farm, upon which he resided until 1856, the date of his coming to Illinois. He located on a farm in Boone Township, which consisted of two hundred and forty acres, and resided there until his death in June, 1889. The lady to whom he was married, in March, 1835, was Miss Harriet, daughter of Thomas Hapgood. She was born in Marlboro, Middlesex County, Mass., January 4, 1817. Her father was a son of Thomas Hapgood, Sr., who was of early English ancestry and married Lucy Wood. The grandfather of Mrs. Wheeler was a carpenter and died in Marlboro. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Witt, who was born

in what is now Hudson, Mass., and was the daughter of Ebenezer and Catherine (Goodenow) Witt. The mother of Mrs. Wheeler is still living and makes her home in Poplar Grove. In his political relations, our subject is a staunch Democrat.



CHARLES G. ALNEER, a member of the firm of Alneer Bros., dealers in all kinds of seeds and plants, with headquarters at No. 710 South Fourth Street, is one of the progressive young business men of the city, and is upright and honorable in all his business transactions. He has a very pleasant home at No. 710 Kishwaukee Street, and his brother Alfred, who is the junior member of the firm, resides at No. 703 of the same street. They began business in a small way in 1883, but met with so much success and encouragement that they gradually increased their business, until they are now classed among the flourishing and most reliable seed merchants of the State.

Our subject came to this city in the year 1869, was engaged with a seed merchant here for some time, and subsequently he and his brother began business on their own account. They have a large trade all over the United States, the result of their upright conduct in dealing with patrons and their manner of advertising with fine illustrated catalogues. They make it a point to give a buyer just what he buys, and no misrepresentation of goods is allowed. Buyers may feel assured that their orders will be filled with as good seeds, and at as reasonable prices, as though they were present. Their present quarters are found to be inadequate for their large and increasing business. They are now considering plans for a large and handsome block to be erected for them, the entire building to be used by them, in which to conduct their large seed and plant business.

Charles G. Alneer was originally from Sweden, born in Wester Gothland Province, December 23, 1856, and came with the family to America in 1869. They came immediately to Rockford, Ill., and there the father is still living, and on the 22d of December, 1891, was seventy-three years old. He has been a tiller of the soil all his life.

The mother, whose maiden name was Anna Lindstrom, died in 1874, when fifty-five years of age. She was a Lutheran in her religious belief, and her husband is a member of that church.

Our subject was the sixth child and the eldest son living of nine children born to his parents, of whom five are living, all of whom are residents of Rockford except one daughter, Carrie, who resides in Chicago. The others are: Mary, wife of Charles A. Anderson, who is in the employ of the Forest City Furniture Company; Eva, widow of John Ekeberg, who was formerly a cabinet-maker, resides at No. 1014 Sixth Avenue, and Alfred (his partner in business) married Matilda Stockenberg, of Rockford. To Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Alneer have been born two children, May and Raymond. Charles G., our subject, was married in this city to Miss Eva Carlson, a native of Sweden, who came alone to the States in 1875, leaving her parents, who still reside in that country. To Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Alneer have been born two children, both sons: C. Arthur and Walter H. He and his wife hold membership in the First Lutheran Church.



RANSOM BEECHER. It is probable that no resident of Winnebago Township is more widely known than Mr. Beecher, a retired farmer residing on section 21. He was born in Putnam, Washington County, N. Y., January 22, 1821, and was a son of Isaac Beecher, whose birth occurred in Connecticut in 1799. The grandfather of our subject, David Beecher, it is believed was also a native of the Nutmeg State, where he was married to a Miss Hawkins. He later removed to Vermont, in 1807, and was one of the pioneers of Rutland County, purchasing a tract of land in the town of Castleton, in addition to which he kept a public house. He later emigrated to New York State and settled in Putnam Township. After the decease of his wife he returned to Connecticut, where he died.

The father of our subject was eight years of age when his parents removed to Vermont, and there resided until reaching his majority, when he went

to Putnam, Washington County, N. Y., and located upon a tract of land which his father had previously purchased. In 1826, he removed to Genesee County, buying timber land from the Holland Purchase Company, upon which he moved his family the following year, making the trip by the way of the Champlain and Erie Canal. Mr. Beecher resided in Pembroke for five years and then returning to Putnam, purchased a farm about one mile from his father's residence, and which was beautifully located on Lake George. After a stay of five years he sold out and returned to Vermont, and lived for nine years in Castleton. In 1846, Isaac Beecher came to Illinois and secured a tract of Government land five miles south of Yorkville, Kendall County. At the expiration of that time, he made his advent into Winnebago County, purchasing land in what is now Winnebago Township, and a few years later he moved to Nebraska, locating in York County, where he purchased a home and resided until his decease, September 19, 1883. The maiden name of his wife was Minerva Gorham, whose birth occurred in Fairfield, Vt., in January, 1799. She was the daughter of Hezekiah Gorham, and departed this life in York, Neb., in February, 1890, at the age of ninety-one years.

Ransom Beecher was the eldest of the four children born to his parents, his brothers and sisters being Charles, Betsey R., and Daniel I. He of whom we write was fifteen years of age when his parents moved to Vermont, prior to this time, however, receiving a good education in the pioneer schools of his native place. He remembers that his mother did all the cooking for the family in an old-fashioned fireplace, and carded, spun and wove the material for her children's clothes.

Our subject started out in the world for himself in 1845, and the following year came to Illinois with the family, where he entered a tract of Government land, which was located about five miles south of Yorkville. The first two years after his settlement here, Chicago was the nearest market for grain, which was conveyed thither by means of ox-teams. When the Michigan & Illinois Canal was completed, Morris, fourteen miles away, was the nearest market, though he frequently went to Joliet or Lockport, twenty miles away. In 1853,

he sold his land, one hundred acres, sixty of which he had broken and fenced, for \$10 per acre. He then came to Winnebago Township, and, with his brother Charles, bought two hundred acres of land at \$15 per acre, which was located on section 33. The brothers continued together for a twelvemonth, when they divided the estate, each taking one hundred acres, and farmed until 1863, when our subject sold his portion and became the owner of a tract on sections 13 and 21, of the same township. There they resided until 1878, when he rented the farm and removed to Winnebago village, where he lived for five years, at the end of which time he returned to the farm and spent the following two years. Mr. Beecher then rented his estate and bought his pleasant home on section 21, where he is living retired.

March 12, 1841, our subject and Sarah A. Drake, a native of Castleton, Vt., were united in marriage. They are the parents of two children, Sarah E. and Inez E., the former of whom married George Hollenbeck and is the mother of four children, namely: William R., Frank, Effie A., and Artha. Inez married William T. Speaker, and has four children: Clifford, Faith, Ethel, and an infant not yet named. Mr. Beecher votes the Republican ticket, and is greatly respected in this locality.



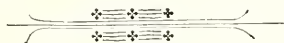
WILLIAM H. SPICER, a native-born citizen of Winnebago County, had his birth in Seward Township, August 1, 1861. He is a son of George W. Spicer, whose birth occurred August 4, 1818, in Yates County, N. Y., where he resided until 1844, which was the date of his advent into this county.

Here the elder Mr. Spicer took up the land which is the present abiding-place of our subject, and which contains two hundred acres of finely-developed property. The mother of our subject was, prior to her marriage, Lucy L. Hawkins; she also was born in the Empire State, and is now residing in Iowa with a son and daughter. Her parents were from Germany, and passed away in New York State when Mrs. Spicer was very young.

The paternal grandfather of our subject came from England to this country in an early day and died near Rockford, this State. Grandmother Spicer was a native of Ireland, and spent her last days with our subject. George W. Spicer died in this county November 27, 1884.

He of whom we write had seven brothers and sisters, one of the former dying when thirteen years of age. He was married, December 10, 1890, to Miss Abbie Albertus, who was born in Ridott, Stephenson County, this State, May 3, 1865. She was a daughter of Peter and Tillie Albertus, who emigrated from Germany and located in the above-named county about forty years ago. The father died in his sixty-sixth year and his wife still lives on the old homestead near Freeport. They were the parents of ten children, eight of whom are living.

William H. Spicer and his wife have one child, a daughter, Lucy A., who was born October 4, 1891. Like his father before him, our subject is a Republican in politics, and is looked upon as one of the representative citizens of Seward Township. In company with one brother and his mother, he bought out the heirs of the old homestead, upon which he is residing and which he is cultivating with signal success.



CHARLES E. BROWN. This gentleman, who owned a fine farm of sixty-one and one-half acres, located one half mile from Rockford, during the "boom" of 1890 sold all of his tract but seven acres, on which he is residing at the present time. He is also the proprietor of an excellent estate of three hundred and twenty-five acres in Owen Township, Winnebago County, which is operated by his son.

September 15, 1841, the birth of our subject occurred in Jersey County, this State. He was one of eleven children born to Mowry and Lucy (Pease) Brown, the former a native of Rhode Island. His grandfather, Joseph Brown, followed farming pursuits in his native State (Rhode Island), where he passed the greater part of his life,

although his death occurred at the home of the father of our subject in Illinois. Mowry Brown was reared and educated in his native town and, when choosing an occupation for himself, learned the carpenter's trade, soon after which he came to the Prairie State, and located near Alton, following his trade until 1838.

At that date, Mowry Brown made his advent into Winnebago County, when most of the land in this section was owned by the Government and the city of Rockford was little more than a hamlet. He prosecuted his trade in Rockford for a time, then entering a tract of land in what is now Owen Township, erected thereon a log cabin and made that place his home for a number of years. As there were no railroads in this locality, and Chicago was the nearest market, all the farm products were conveyed thither by means of ox-teams. Mr. Brown carried on the carpenter's trade, at the same time superintending the improvement of his new home where he resided until his death.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Lucy Pease. She was born in Medina County, N. Y., and now resides on the old homestead in Owen Township. She was on a visit in Jersey County, this State, when our subject was born, and as he was an infant when his mother returned to Winnebago County, he very naturally feels that he is a native of this place. He has been a permanent resident of this county and has witnessed its entire growth and development. In his early days he attended the pioneer log schoolhouse, which was furnished in the most primitive manner. On attaining his seventeenth year, in company with his brother George he rented a tract of land in Owen Township and engaged in farming. They also purchased a threshing-machine which they operated with extraordinary success for a number of years, and continued to work together until about six years previous to the marriage of our subject. After celebrating that important event, Mr. Brown became a fireman on an engine running on the Atlanta & Great Western Railroad, and was thus engaged for a twelvemonth, when he located on a tract of land which he had purchased in Owen Township. He cultivated the soil for four years, then disposing of his estate, was employed

in manufacturing brick in company with his father and brother, operating together for nine years.

Believing agriculture to be the most profitable business in which he could engage, Mr. Brown purchased two hundred and forty acres of land in Owen Township, where he cultivated the soil for six years, and then became proprietor of the sixty-one and one-half acres located one-half mile from Rockford and which has been mentioned above.

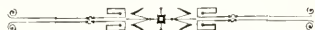
December 27, 1864. Mr. Brown was married to Miss Frances Mary Burritt, a native of Auburn, Cayuga County, N. Y. She was one of seven children born to Charles and Laura (Remington) Burritt, the former a native of Bridgeport, Conn. Her paternal grandparents, Eben and Polly Burritt, were natives of the Nutmeg State, whence they removed to New York State and located in the town of Sennett, where the grandfather bought a tract of timber land and followed farming pursuits until his demise.

In early manhood, Charles Burritt, father of Mrs. Brown, removed to New York State, where he purchased a farm in Ira, Cayuga County, and there resided for a few years. Later, disposing of his estate, he embarked in the hardware business in Weedsport, and remained thus engaged until 1855, when he came to Illinois and settled on a tract of partially-improved land in Owen Township, Winnebago County. There he continued to cultivate his land and improve the farm for many years. He departed this life at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Brown. His wife, whose maiden name was Laura Remington, was, it is thought, a native of Connecticut. She removed to New York with her parents at an early day and died on the home farm in Owen Township, Winnebago County. With her husband, she was a faithful member of the Second Congregational Church.

The six children born to Mr. Brown and his estimable wife are named as follows: Harry W., Nellie L., Mabel F., Mowry C., Ralph E. and Maude E. Harry W. married Miss Fannie M. Johns and they are the parents of two children: Orville and Aurilla. In political matters, Mr. Brown affiliates with the Republican party and is known as one of

the most public-spirited citizens of the community. He and his wife are devoted members of the Christian Union Church and are people of high social standing in Rockford and vicinity.

In connection with this biographical notice, the reader will notice a lithographic portrait of Mr. Brown on another page.



CHARLES COMLY. A traveler through Winnebago County sees many attractive homes, not only in the thriving towns, but in the agricultural districts, the evidences of enterprise crowned with success being plentiful on every hand. In Seward Township stands a substantial farm residence, around which good barns and other outbuildings cluster and well-tilled acres stretch. Everything about the place wears an air of neatness and order and evidences of good taste, which mark the occupants as people of intelligence, thrift and culture. Investigation shows the estate to be owned by Charles Comly and operated by his son Edwin. The household comprises three generations and the marvelous memory of which our subject is possessed at his advanced years is a cause for self-congratulation.

The gentleman whose life it is our purpose to outline in these brief paragraphs was born in Milton, Northumberland County, Pa., October 22, 1814. He is a son of Thomas and Catherine (Hunter) Comly, the former of whom was born August 17, 1789, in Chester County, that State. He was the son of Ezra and Hannah (Wedell) Comly, and a descendant of one Henry Comly, who came to this country from England in company with William Penn, in 1682. Henry Comly was married, August 17, 1695, to Miss Agnes Heaton.

Thomas Wedell emigrated from England to the United States in 1700 and was married, April 9, 1705, to Rebecca Williams. The mother of our subject was born July 6, 1796, in Northumberland County, Pa., and spent her last days in Lycoming County, that State, her decease occurring when seventy-six years of age. Ezra Comly was a lumber merchant and died in Northumberland County, Pa., when eighty years of age, his wife's decease

occurring at the same place when in her eighty-fourth year. The grandfather of our subject was a son of Henry and Agnes (Heaton) Comly.

The mother of our subject was the daughter of David and Isabella (Patterson) Hunter, the former of whom was a native of Ireland and died when sixty-eight years of age in Lycoming County, Pa., leaving a wife and seven children. The mother, Isabella Hunter, was a native of the Keystone State, and her demise occurred in Lycoming County, at the age of sixty-six years. The Pattersons were of Scotch-Irish descent, while the Comlys are among old and prominent families of the United States.

Charles Comly of this sketch remained at home until twenty-two years of age, when, December 8, 1856, he was married in Union County, Pa., to Miss Ludwig. His wife was born in Berks County, that State, January 5, 1816, and is the daughter of Abram and Hannah (Bower) Ludwig, natives of Pennsylvania, whose decease occurred in La Porte County, Ind., at the respective ages of seventy-eight and eighty years. The parents of Mrs. Comly were of German descent and old residents of Pennsylvania.

After his marriage, our subject worked by the month for four years, and then rented for three years, when he was enabled to purchase sixty-four acres of good land in Pennsylvania, which he cultivated and resided upon until 1851. Then, disposing of his acreage, Mr. Comly came to Winnebago County and located on his present farm of one hundred and thirty-five acres, which was partially improved at the time it came into his possession. As before stated, the excellent buildings on the farm have been the work of his enterprise, and, in every sense of the word, he may be considered a model and modern farmer.

To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Comly have been born ten children, one of whom is deceased. Those living are Isabella, who was born August 1, 1840, and is married and the mother of five children; Caroline, born May 23, 1842, is married and has seven children; Hanna M., who was born December 23, 1844, is married and has a family of four children; Catherine, born November 18, 1845, is married and has one child; Mary, born September 9, 1847, is

married and the mother of five children; Thomas, who was born April 22, 1849, is single; Abraham L., born September 18, 1852, is the father of two children; Charles H., born January 27, 1856, has one son; John B., who was born May 5, 1860, is a physician and resides in Iowa; Edwin D., born May 14, 1863, married Miss Jennie Lincoln, and is the father of a son and daughter. His wife was born May 28, 1867, and is a daughter of William and Lucy Lincoln. Our subject and his wife have four great-grandchildren. The family are prominent citizens of the county and were originally Quakers. Mr. Comly has a nephew who was a soldier in the late war and who carried a ball over twenty-two years.



GEORGE VICKERS, now living retired in the village of Poplar Grove, was for many years a prominent farmer in Caledonia Township, Boone County. He came hither at an early day and has been instrumental in the general upbuilding and perfecting of this section of country. He has been the architect of his own fortune, seeming to possess all the qualities necessary to prosperity, and is now living in a pleasant home that promises to be a haven of rest and peace in his declining years.

He of whom we write was born in Lancashire, England, February 8, 1817. His father, George Vickers, was also a native of that shire, and his grandparents, George and Isabelle Vickers, spent their entire lives in England.

The former-named gentleman was engaged in the slate quarries of Lancashire, and in early manhood was married to Frances Benson, also a native of that portion of England. The maternal grandparents of our subject, Robert and Ann Benson, became the parents of four children who came to America, namely: Robert and Joseph, who located in this county; James, who is now residing in Sioux County, Iowa, and the mother of our subject.

George Vickers was reared on a farm in his native county, residing at home until 1843, when he came to America, setting sail from Liverpool, April

15, in the vessel "Ohio" and landing on the shores of the New World on the 18th of May. He came directly to Belvidere by way of the Hudson River, Erie Canal and the Lakes to Chicago, thence overland by team to this county, where he arrived on the 7th of June. At that time Belvidere was a small village on the north side of the river, and the greater portion of the land in the county was in the possession of the Government. His means being very limited, our subject immediately found employment and engaged to work out by the month on farms, and in that manner saved enough money to enable him to rent land. In 1848, he purchased eighty acres in LeRoy Township and, erecting a log house on the place, commenced the work of clearing and improving his property. There were no railroads in the vicinity for some time and Waukegan was the nearest market and depot for supplies. Our subject lived on that place until 1853, when he sold out and purchased in Caledonia Township and there he made his home until 1887, the date of his removal to Poplar Grove.

February 15, 1810, George Vickers and Ellen, daughter of James and Mary (Steele) Postlethwait, were united in marriage. Mrs. Vickers became the mother of seven children, who are respectively, Mary, Mrs. Marshall; George, William Robert, John S., Joseph; Frances E., Mrs. John Hartley, and Frank. The wife and mother departed this life in 1883, mourned by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Politically, our subject has been prominently identified with the Democratic party, and is a man of whom it is said that his word is as good as his note.



GEORGE PFENSTIEL, who is now living a retired life at No. 506 North Third Street, has made his home in Rockford since 1862, and is one of the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to Winnebago County. He was born in Prussia, September 21, 1831, and is a son of Millet Pfenstiel, who died in his native land at the age of seventy-one years. His mother has also

passed away and the only surviving members of the family are our subject and his brother Casper, who is also living a retired life in Rockford.

Mr. Pfenstiel spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the Fatherland, and in 1860 bade good-bye to his old home, sailing from Bremen on the 17th of November. On reaching his destination, he secured employment at whatever he could find to do whereby he might earn an honest dollar. After eighteen months he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and a year later came to Rockford. To various enterprises he has devoted his attention since locating in this city, among which was the livery business. His undertakings being successful, he accumulated quite a valuable property which now enables him to live a retired life. He owns some good farming land in Illinois and some city property, including a large brewery.

The lady who is now Mrs. Pfenstiel was formerly Mrs. Charlotte Croneman. She was born near Berlin, on the 17th of May, 1829, and is a daughter of Frederick and Louisa (Loudwig) Bleger, natives of Prussia. Her father there began life as a miller and followed that occupation until called to his final rest at the age of fifty-five. His wife died at the age of thirty-two years. Both were members of the Lutheran Church. The grandfather, Christ J. Bleger, served as a soldier under Napoleon Bonaparte. Of the family a sister of Mrs. Pfenstiel is deceased, Mrs. Amelia Kahloff. Two brothers, Henry and Rudolph, are yet residents of Germany.

The wife of our subject acquired a good education in her native tongue, and was the first of her family to come to this country. She crossed the Atlantic alone in 1856, from Bremen to New York City, and spent some months in the latter place. In the early part of 1857, she came to Rockford, and the following year was married to Theodore Croneman, a native of Hamburg, Germany, who came to this country in 1856. After his marriage, he continued business in this city as a cabinet-maker for three years, and then went into the furniture business with A. C. Burpee, that connection continuing for twelve years. His death occurred in 1871, at the age of forty-one years. He was one of the prominent German business men of



Yours Truly
J. W. Wolven

Rockford, and a Democrat in politics. He held membership with the Germania Society, and was a member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. and Mrs. Pfenstiel also belong to the Lutheran Church, and, in his political affiliations, he is a Republican. His close attention to business, enterprise and good management won for him a handsome competence and he is now enabled to live retired, resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of former toil. He has the respect of his many acquaintances and has a large circle of friends in this community.



JOHAN W. WOLVEN. If a man's true character may be determined by the opinion of those around him, that of Mr. Wolven is irreproachable. By his habits of industry and prudence, he has built up a good home for himself and family, and acquired a competence for his declining years. He is progressive in his ideas, liberal and public-spirited, and in noting his surroundings and the respect in which he is held in Pecatonica, where he resides, it must be admitted that he is in the possession of a large share of all that makes life desirable.

The original of this sketch was born September 4, 1830, in Greene County, N. Y., and is the son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Story) Wolven, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania in 1800, and died in Upper Canada, in the prime of life. His wife, Elizabeth Story, had her birth November 6, 1810, in Greene County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Benjamin and Hannah Story, who spent their last days in Minnesota. Her father was very old at his death, and was widely known throughout his community as one of the honored pioneers.

Mr. Wolven of this sketch was one in a family of four children, and remained at home until 1845, his mother in the meantime having removed to Racine, Wis., where he hired out for \$4 per month. He was thus employed for six weeks, and then engaged with an uncle for a year, at the end of which time he secured a position as cook on a lake vessel at \$15 per month. He continued in that line of work for two years, when he returned home and

spent the winter with his mother, who had married a second time, and was residing in Shelbygan, Wis. John W. then spent the following two years with his uncle, Silas Wright, working on a farm summers, and going to school winters.

Having saved a sum sufficient to buy two yoke of cattle, our subject, in the spring of 1845, borrowed enough money to purchase two more yoke, and, in company with another man, was engaged in breaking prairie. Continuing so employed for a twelvemonth, Mr. Wolven operated alone during the year 1850, and the following spring came to Winnebago County, where he had purchased land the year previous for \$150, it being a soldier's claim. After sinking his money in the land, he was very much discouraged by having his uncle tell him that the property was worthless. But with a determination to succeed, and with his habits of industry and thrift, he managed his affairs so wisely that he soon took an honorable place among the farmers of his community.

Upon first locating on his new property, Mr. Wolven had \$2.50 in his pocket, four yoke of cattle, a wagon and plow, and was obliged to pay \$1.50 per week for board for himself and dog. The \$2.50 spoken of, he had earned by hauling wheat from Bloomfield to Kenosha, Wis., a distance of fifty miles. When that money was gone, he was so fortunate as to get a job at breaking prairie, his pay being an order on the store in Freeport. He next broke twelve acres for a Mr. William Moore, for which he received an old cow, and from that time on had plenty to do. He later engaged to work in a harvest field where an old Smith reaper was in operation. His duty was to pitch grain off the reaper, which should have been the work of two men, and as a compensation for his labors, received \$1.50 a day. In the fall Mr. Wolven cut and stored wild hay and then started for Pecatonica and hired out with his four yoke of cattle on the railroad.

October 1, 1855, Miss Juliet Martin, who was born June 12, 1836, in New York, became the wife of our subject. She was a daughter of David and Hannah Martin, who located in this section in the '30s, and died in Seward Township, this county. Mrs. Juliet Wolven departed this life November

11, 1879, leaving a family of four children, three of whom are living: Edwin J., Jessie and Georgie, twins.

The second marriage of our subject occurred August 10, 1881, at which time Miss Ida, daughter of Charles and Matilda Lamb, became his wife. The lady was born in 1859, in Minnesota, where her parents were pioneers, and are still residing there. Mr. Wolven has accumulated a handsome property in both farms and city lands, and it is his desire to lead a retired life in the village, but his keen knowledge of business and public enterprise make him a man much sought after. He is at the head of the Peatonica shoe factory, is interested in a large creamery, and otherwise takes an active part in business circles, and bids fair to reach a still higher place than that which he has already attained. In politics, he is a strong Republican, and is the incumbent of the office of Supervisor, which he has held for several years, and, by his intelligence and good judgment, has benefited the community.



JOHAN M. KERN. As a practical tailor of the highest skill, Mr. Kern has no superior in the city, and for excellence of workmanship and artistic skill and finish, he has earned a well-deserved reputation. He has followed his trade ever since he reached mature years and with such substantial results that he is now the owner of a fine home at No. 512 Hill Street, and another fine house on that block. He has been a resident of Rockford since 1869, and has ever followed his trade, part of the time on his own account, but most of the time has been employed by different tailoring establishments.

He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, May 6, 1833, and was well educated in the schools of his native country. He served an apprenticeship at his trade, and in 1847, he and a brother and sister took passage for the United States, arriving in New York City in May of that year. They went immediately to Detroit, Mich., where the brother is now living, engaged as a cabinet-maker, but the sister, Catherine, died in Detroit two weeks later,

of cholera. From Detroit our subject went to Ontario, Canada, but later returned to the States and became a resident of Illinois.

His marriage to Miss Sophia Nelson, a native of Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, born February 13, 1844, was solemnized in Geneva, Ill., and to them have been born nine children who are as follows: Georgie, who was accidentally drowned in Rock River when eight years of age; Albert, who died when young; Charles C., a farmer of Ogle County, Ill., who married Miss Mary Hancock; Emma P. married Edward Rayney, who is a finisher in a piano factory of Chicago; Julia O., married Edward Lorden, and now resides at home; Anna H., at home, is a seamstress and dressmaker; Amanda M., Victor E., and Mabel L., at home. After the death of her father, Mrs. Kern, her mother, two sisters and a brother came to the United States and settled in Geneva, Ill., where the mother and brother died. The three sisters then came to Rockford, and one of them, Mrs. Lawn Anderson, afterwards died in Elgin. The only sister now living is Mrs. Andrew Hollem, of Rockford.

Mr. and Mrs. Kern are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and, in politics, he is independent. He and his wife are classed among the best citizens of Rockford and have a host of warm friends.



SELVEY K. BLODGETT, Treasurer and stockholder of the Coon Creek Cheese Factory, is at present residing in Rockton Township, Winnebago County, where he has a large dairy farm. He had his birth in Beloit, Wis., June 10, 1838, and was the first white male child born there. His father, S. K. Blodgett, Sr., was born in the Empire State in 1812, where he was reared to farming pursuits.

The grandfather of our subject, Caleb Blodgett, was a native of New York State and came West to Beloit, Wis., in 1835, from Ohio where he resided for some time. His death occurred in Beloit in 1842, at the age of fifty-five years. He had been twice married and was the father of ten children by his

first union. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Mahala Norris, a native of Pennsylvania; she met and married Mr. Blodgett in Ohio and removed with him to Beloit in 1840, where her husband was engaged in farming and stock-raising for five years. Later he came to Winnebago County, and in Rockton Township bought a tract of land on section 22 for which he traded stock. He resided here for about eight years and was extensively engaged in stock-raising, having at one time as many as three hundred head. In 1848, however, he returned to Beloit and was engaged in the butchering business, which, like all his previous ventures, proved very successful. He continued in that line until 1853, when he crossed the plains with a team in company with others, his partner on the journey being Abram Rivers. He was absent from home about twelve months and, returning by the Panama route, again engaged in the grain and stock business in Beloit. Five or six years later, he established as miller and at the end of eight years was enabled to retire with a handsome competence. His life was quite eventful as he was a pioneer of three States, to say nothing of California, but his energy and indomitable will carried him through many hardships, and resulted in his attaining a high place among his fellow-men. He left at his death an estate of thirteen hundred acres and much personal property, dying in the spring of 1881 when sixty-nine years of age.

Our subject was the second of his father's family, and had a brother and two sisters. Eleanor died when nine years of age, and those living are William, who is engaged in the milling business in Beloit; Selvey K., our subject, and Sabra H., now Mrs. F. S. Fenton, also residing in Beloit, whose husband is a retired druggist. The mother of our subject died in the fall of 1885 in her seventy-third year.

He of whom we write passed the years from eight to eighteen attending school in Beloit, at the end of which time he engaged in the milling business with his father. He continued to be thus employed for seven years, when on account of impaired health he crossed the plains to California, where he worked in the mines, and was engaged in the stock business for two years. Returning home at

the expiration of that time, he came with his father to Winnebago County, and located upon the tract which is his present abiding-place and which was then owned by his father.

Mr. Blodgett of this sketch was married in the winter of 1870 to Miss Helen M. Bullis of Avon, Wis., and to them were born two daughters: Ella and Delia. Mrs. Helen Blodgett departed this life in April, 1871, when only twenty-four years of age, and our subject later married Miss Adeline Miller, of Rockton, this State. To them have been granted a family of five children: Harry, Elmer, May, Emma and Selvey, the eldest thirteen and the youngest six years of age. Mrs. Blodgett passed to the land beyond in August, 1887, in her thirty-second year.

The original of this sketch is not interested in politics other than to cast his vote for Democratic candidates. His second wife was a devoted member of the Congregational Church, but he rather leans toward Methodist principles. Mr. Blodgett is a stock-raiser, and has made a specialty of raising mules for the past twenty years, and has made a reputation throughout this part of the State. He also has on his place fine Durham cattle, and though he has experimented in other breeds, they are his favorites. As before stated, he is a stockholder in the Coon Creek Cheese Factory and keeps on his place about fifty milch cows. At one time he built a creamery on his own farm which was later abandoned. With his house, which is a most comfortable dwelling, large and ample barns, sheds and other outbuildings, he has quite a village of his own, which is beautifully located a short distance from the public highway. His influence is felt for good in the community, where he is respected for his sterling character and true neighborly kindness.



WILLIAM F. PELLEY was born on the farm he now owns and occupies in Rockford Township, Winnebago County, January 8, 1849. His father, John Pelley, was one of the pioneers of this county, having come hither at an early day from London, England, where the grandparents of our subject spent their entire lives.

John Pelley entered the naval service of the British army when seventeen years of age, and after serving a period of seven years, came to America in company with his brothers, Stephen, Joseph and George, the two former locating near Waterloo, Iowa, and the latter in Newfoundland. The elder Mr. Pelley made his home in Canada, where he met and married Amy Bodine, a native of the Dominion. Her parents, Abram and Zillah Bodine, hailed from Pennsylvania, where they were well-to-do residents.

The father of our subject came with his family to Winnebago County, making the journey overland with an ox-team. His means being very limited at that time, he sought and found employment in a stone quarry during the winter season at twenty-five cents per day and the rest of the year was employed on a farm. When he came to Rockford, the surrounding country was sparsely settled, and wild animals roamed at will where the city is now located. In 1815, he purchased eighty acres of the land now included in the farm owned by our subject, paying for the tract \$450. He was very successful in his operations and at the time of his decease was the owner of one hundred and thirty-five acres, clear of all indebtedness. Mr. Pelley died in March, 1876, and his good wife, who survived him a number of years, passed away in 1881. Five of their children are now living: Orrin, Sarah, John T., William F. and Mary.

William F. Pelley was reared and educated in his native town and commenced very young to assist his father on the farm. When the latter first came to the county, Chicago was the nearest market, and as there were no railroads in the vicinity, the entire trip of one hundred miles was made by ox-teams. After the death of his parents, our subject bought the interest of the other heirs in the homestead which he now owns and occupies.

January 8, 1877, Mr. Pelley and Nora Nolen were united in marriage. The lady was born in the town of Allegany, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and is a daughter of James Nolen, a native of County Wexford, Ireland. His brother Walter and sisters, Ellen and Ann, were the only members of his father's family to come to America. The father of Mrs. Pelley followed the trade of a tan-

ner in Allegany for about twenty years, and on coming to Rockford in 1867, resided here for two years and then purchased a farm in Ogle County, where his death occurred in March, 1869. The maiden name of his wife was Nora Delaney, a native of Dublin, Ireland, and the daughter of Thomas Delaney; she died on the home farm. Mrs. Pelley and her sister, Mrs. P. D. Murphy, are the only members of the family living. Our subject and his wife have five children: John W., James Francis, Mary Amy, Maggie E. and Lillie E.



EDWARD H. DAVIS, a member of the firm of E. H. Davis & Co., upholsterers and dealers in furniture, with business quarters at No. 329 South Main Street, is a young man of push, enterprise and reliability, and one who has standing in business and social circles. This company consists of our subject and his father, John H. Davis, and has been in operation in this city for the past fourteen years. Both gentlemen are popularly known in business circles, and the house is one of the most reliable, responsible, substantial and representative in its line in the city. The senior Davis is an expert in all matters pertaining to his business, while the junior member of the firm combines his vigor and ability with the ripe experience of his father to form a firm of commanding influence, wide popularity and solid worth.

Edward H. Davis was born in this city on the 1st of March, 1850, and from an early age was trained to the business of an upholsterer. He is of Welsh descent, his paternal great-great-grandfather being a Welsh tailor who died after coming to America. The latter's son and the great-grandfather of our subject, David Davis, was a native of New Hampshire and during his youth experienced many hardships and much ill usage. At one time, when about fourteen years of age, he was treated with so much harshness and cruelty that he enlisted in the Revolutionary War, and was in many of the prominent engagements against the British. During the time he was in service he was taken sick with the small-pox. His early advantage for obtaining an education being very meager, he tried

to get some schooling without an instructor and learned to read after he was married. He persevered in his studies and became a profound thinker, a great reasoner and a man of fine intellect. He had a most retentive memory and retained it until his death when eighty-eight years of age. He owned a good farm and passed the last years of his life in comfort and happiness.

His son and the grandfather of Edward H. Davis (our subject), John Davis, was a native of New Hampshire and a farmer of Cornish where he passed his entire life, dying when seventy-two years of age. He had married a Connecticut lady, a Miss Hannah Brown, who came of English ancestry, and who preceded him to the grave.

John H. Davis, Jr., father of our subject, was born in New Hampshire, March 9, 1820, and was educated in Kimbal Union Academy, where he was prepared to enter college. He was a teacher of penmanship for a number of years before he came West, and was married in his native town to Miss Sarah Edmonson, a native of Cornish, N. H., and of New England stock. In 1849, Mr. Davis and his young bride emigrated to Illinois and settled in Chicago for a short time. They later took passage for Rockford and after a long and tiresome journey landed in that city. Mr. Davis began learning the carpenter and cabinet-maker's trade, and worked in the first furniture factory in the city. He also assisted in putting in the old dam on the Rock River at this place, and some of the old houses now standing were built by him. Mr. Davis has lived a quiet, uneventful life, and for the past fifteen years has been very successful. He is an Independent Democrat in his political views. He lost the sharer of his joys and sorrows, his worthy wife, in 1855, when she was about middle age. She was the mother of two children: Edward H. (our subject), and Dannie, who became the wife of Alfred La Point, a machinist and mechanic in the Forest City Furniture Factory, this city.

Mr. Davis took for his second wife Miss Mary Case, a native of New York, of New Jersey parentage. She died young, leaving two children: John, who married a Miss Maine and now resides in Chicago, and Sarah, who became the wife of Fred Pfamstiel, a barber of Rockford. Mr. Davis' third

marriage was to Angeline La Point, a native of Milwaukee, whose parents were from New York State. Her father, John LaPoint, built the first house in Milwaukee, and was a pioneer of that city. He came to Rockford in 1855, and here his death occurred a number of years later. His wife had passed away a number of years before. She was a native of Troy, N. Y. Mr. LaPoint was a sash, door and blind manufacturer in Rockford for many years. Mr. and Mrs. John H. Davis have no children by this union. They are intelligent and much esteemed people.

Our subject has been a resident of Rockford all his life and was wedded in this city to Miss Fannie Green, also of Rockford. He is a fine musician and for years was one of the old Forest City Band, the same being known as the Berden & Davis Orchestra, which was the oldest band in the city and the leading one for years. It is now extinct, however. Mr. Davis and his estimable lady reside at No. 1002 Grant Avenue, where they have a very nice, tasty home.



SEBASTIAN FICKES, a retired agriculturist and a gentleman of broad and comprehensive experience and observation, is at present residing in the village of Shirland, which has been his place of residence for the past twelve years. He is a native of Pennsylvania, having been born in Cumberland County, in 1818. He is a son of Abraham Fickes, also a native of the Keystone State, who removed in 1833 to Summit County, Ohio, where he made his home until 1846, the date of his advent into Winnebago County.

The father of our subject was accompanied to this State by our subject and his bride, he having been married in 1844 to Miss Caroline Seely, a native of Summit County, Ohio. The young couple located upon an eighty-acre tract of land which Mr. Fickes sold in a few years, and became the owner of a quarter-section adjoining that property. His wife died in 1863, leaving a son, Miles.

The second marriage of our subject, which was celebrated in 1870, united him with Mrs. Sarah

(Fitch) Case, the daughter of Abner Fitch, of Connecticut, who was born in 1790 and died while residing in Chautauqua County, N. Y., in 1873. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Eunice Brownell, had her birth in Bennington, Vt., and her death occurred in Stockton, N. Y., in 1862, at the age of three-score and ten years. Their family included thirteen children, five sons and eight daughters, seven of whom are still living. Blackman Fitch, a brother of our subject's wife, was a volunteer soldier from Chautauqua County in Company E. One Hundred and Fifty-fourth New York Infantry, and served through the entire struggle. He was with "Old Tecumseh" on his march through Georgia, at which time he received a slight flesh wound. He is at present residing in Chautauqua County, where he is held in high esteem. A sister of Mrs. Fickes, Mrs. Eliza Hunt, resides at Grand Rapids, Mich., where her son is engaged with a barrel and stave company.

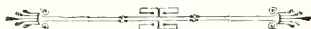
The paternal grandparents of our subject were Martin and Betsey (Michel) Fickes, both natives of Adams County, Pa. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Betsey Wonder, a native of York County, Pa., and the daughter of Sebastian and Sarah (Day) Wonder. They became the parents of three sons and nine daughters, and departed this life at the respective ages of fifty-four and eighty-four years, the father dying in York County, Pa., and the mother in Venango County, that State.

The parental family of our subject numbered ten children, one of whom died when very young. Mr. Fickes comes of a hearty, athletic race, and he and his son Miles, though not sporting men, have won considerable fame in their community for their marvelous strength. The son is a prominent farmer in Shirland Township, yet is a famous sprinter, and could he have traveled would seldom have found his equal for running one hundred yards. He is married to Miss Eva Kimball, of Winnebago County.

The original of this sketch resided at home until twenty-five years of age, and as the result of a life of industry and prudence is the proud possessor of an excellent estate of two hundred and forty-five acres, in addition to which he has a comfortable residence and several lots in the village. He has

been an active member and liberal supporter of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and likewise generously contributes to all measures that promise to be for the advantage and improvement of that portion of the country in which he lives.

Mrs. Fickes became the mother of a son and daughter by her first husband: Carrie, Mrs. Frank Morgan, of Rockford, and Charles W. of the same place.



WARREN E. FYLER. Probably in the history of the representative business enterprises of Durand, no more worthy example can be found of what may be accomplished by energy, integrity and well-directed efforts, than is so strikingly exemplified in the successful career of the enterprise conducted by Mr. Fyler, dealer in grain, and representing that business in Durand.

A resident of Winnebago County since 1861, Mr. Fyler removed hither from Oswego County, N. Y., where he was born March 26, 1846. He is the son of Lorenzo and Cordelia (Wiltse) Fyler, and in 1861 accompanied the other members of the parental family to Roscoe, Ill., where his father is engaged in the drug business. The childhood days of our subject were passed on a farm, and when not occupied with his school duties, he was industriously aiding in tilling the soil and improving the home place. March 8, 1864, he came to Durand, where he was employed as clerk for Andrew Ashton, a general merchant, for three years, and for one year afterward he had charge of a wholesale notion wagon.

After spending one year in Chicago, where he had charge of a roofing factory, Mr. Fyler returned to Winnebago County, and for three years ran a notion wagon, after which he again entered the employ of Andrew Ashton. In 1882, he associated Peter Patterson as partner, and under the firm name of Patterson & Fyler, engaged in a general mercantile business, also dealing in grain and live stock. Their freight charges amounted to \$6,500 annually, and their business was extensive and lucrative.

In 1884, Mr. Fyler engaged in the grain trade

alone and one year later settled on a farm, which he cultivated for a time. In 1887, he went to Omaha, where for several months he was employed by an abstract firm. From that city he proceeded to Plymouth, Iowa, where he had charge of a store for about six months. Returning to Durand, he traded property for the elevator, which he still owns, and has ever since been successfully engaged in the grain trade.

January 21, 1874, Mr. Fyler and Miss Charlotte G., daughter of D. E. Adams, were united in marriage. They are the parents of three children, namely: Katie, who died at the age of six months, Mabel, who is at home, and Frank, who died when five years old. In his political belief, Mr. Fyler is a Republican, and has been called by his fellow-citizens to occupy positions of trust, having served as Supervisor of Durand and in other local offices. He is a Thirty-second Degree Mason, and a member of Durand Lodge No. 30, F. & A. M., of which he is Master; Freeport Chapter No. 23, R. A. M.; Freeport Commandery No. 7, K. T., and Freeport Consistory, Scottish Rite. He and his amiable wife are highly esteemed for their fine personal traits of character, and occupy a warm place in the regard of the people among whom they have spent the greater portion of their lives.



CLINTON HELM, M. D. Among the successful professional men of Rockford, there is probably no one more perfectly in sympathy with that public spirit which has contributed to the progress of the city than the subject of this biographical notice. Persevering and energetic in whatever direction his efforts have been turned, material success is not the greatest of his achievements, for he has gained what is even better—the highest respect of the best men of the State and the confidence of all who know him.

The office of this skillful physician and surgeon is located at No. 107 N. West Street, and the Doctor has made his home in Rockford since 1878, enjoying a large and lucrative practice. Prior to locating here, he practiced his profession at Beloit,

Wis., for eight years and also spent some time as a practitioner in Ogle County, this State, at Oregon and Byron, commencing at the former place in 1852, after graduating in the medical department of the State University of Iowa at Keokuk. During the years of his practice, he has made his profession financially remunerative and has won a warm place in the esteem of his patients.

Before mentioning more fully the events of importance in the life of Dr. Helm, it may not be amiss to record briefly a few facts with reference to his parentage. Woodhull Helm, his father, was familiarly known as Captain, on account of service in the State militia. He was born in Orange County, N. Y., in 1777, and belonged to a pioneer family of the Empire State, whose lineage was traced to England and Ireland. A nephew of our subject, J. C. Helm, Supreme Judge of Colorado, has shown, from facts which he has gathered, that the family in England had a coat of arms, and its members were prominent in that country.

Capt. Helm by a former marriage became the father of two sons and one daughter, now deceased. Miss Lucy Ruggles, of Worcester County, Mass., whose ancestors had been American citizens through several generations and figured prominently in the Revolutionary War, became the third wife of Capt. Helm. Six children were born of this union, all deceased but our subject and Alfred. The latter went to California in 1851, operated there as a miner and later published a paper for some years. He is now a resident of Carson City, Nev., and has been Clerk of the Supreme Court of that State.

In 1835, Capt. Helm brought his family to Illinois and settled in Jersey County, whence two years later he removed to Ogle County and entered Government land, locating upon it when it came into market. There he died in 1845, when sixty-eight years old. His wife survived him several years and attained to the advanced age of eighty-four years, passing away in Tama County, Iowa. This worthy couple were faithful members of the Congregational Church, and were highly esteemed wherever they were known.

It was during the residence of his parents in Schoharie County, N. Y., in 1829, that Clinton Helm was born. He was yet young when he ac-

accompanied his parents to Illinois, and his education was principally gained in the academy at Rockford. In this city, he commenced to read medicine under Dr. Lucius Clark, a skilled physician whose reputation was extended throughout the surrounding country. His studies were afterward prosecuted with diligence at Keokuk, where he completed the course of lectures.

The marriage of Dr. Helm united him with Miss Hannah S., daughter of David R. and Polly (Moore) Poyneer, of French descent. Her parents came West in middle life and settled in Iowa, where they spent their closing years and died when quite old. Their two sons still reside in the Hawkeye State, Edward being engaged as a grocer and Alfred, the present Lieutenant-Governor of the State. Mrs. Helm was highly educated in her native State, Connecticut, and was an efficient and successful teacher prior to her marriage. She is a lady of superior intelligence and active, benevolent spirit, and is a faithful member of the Second Congregational Church, to which the Doctor also belongs.

Dr. and Mrs. Helm are the parents of six children, as follows: Minnie E., wife of E. J. White, a real-estate agent of Chicago; Lucy G., who married Allen R. Rea, of Rockford, manager of Barnes Manufacturing Company; Clinton, who married Miss Jennie Sackett, of this city, and resides on Walnut Street in Rockford, where he follows the profession of dentistry; F. Eva, formerly a teacher but now at home, whose ability as an artist, and especially in the use of the air-brush in portrait work, has won the commendation of able critics; Harry S., superintendent of the flouring mills at Jamestown, N. Dak.; Willis C., who is in the Hale Elevator Works. The children are well educated, and Eva and Willis are college graduates.

During the late war, Dr. Helm was appointed by Gov. Yates Surgeon of the Ninety-second Illinois Infantry, September 4, 1862, and was with his regiment in all its marches and battles until September 20, 1863, at Chattanooga, Tenn. He was then taken prisoner by the rebels and cast into Libby Prison, where he endured all the terrible experiences of that place for two months. He was exchanged November 24 and realizes that it was

his early exchange alone which saved his life. During the last year of his service, he was on the staff of Gen. Killpatrick, when he was often exposed to the enemy's fire and stood close by his commanding officer, who received several wounds. June 21, 1865, he was honorably discharged and returned to his home with a war record of which his friends may justly be proud. Brave and courageous, no danger harmed him and he shrank from no peril however imminent it might seem. He is a member of G. L. Nevins Post No. 1, G. A. R. and is a staunch Republican in his political belief.



JOHN BACKUS, deceased, was born in Catskill, N. Y., in 1814, and came of an old New England family of English descent. He learned the tinner's trade in New York City, and when a young man went to New Jersey. It was while residing in the Empire State that he married Miss Theodosia G. Patterson, who was born in Northumberland County, Pa. She lost her parents when very young and has no recollection of them. She was only seven years old when she was taken to Steuben County, N. Y., where she was carefully reared and educated. When quite young, she became a teacher, but gave up that profession on her marriage.

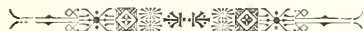
It was in 1854 that Mr. Backus and his wife came to the West and made a settlement in Winnebago County, Ill., where he secured a farm two miles from the city limits of Rockford. There he made his home for some years, but afterward went to Chicago, where he resided for six years. On his return to this county, he located in Rockford, where he continued to make his home until his death. He lived an upright and worthy life, true to every trust reposed in him, and was a consistent and faithful member of the Methodist Church. In politics, he was a supporter of Republican principles, but never sought or desired political preferment for himself. He passed away at his home on Grant Avenue in 1880, respected by all who knew him.

Mrs. Backus was a true helpmate to her husband. Since his death her life has been devoted



DR. D.E. FOOTE.

to the promotion of all interests calculated to advance the general welfare. She has been connected with various religious movements and moral reforms, and is a prominent temperance worker, being President of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of this city, which has a membership of two hundred. She has many times served as its delegate to the State conventions, and was twice a delegate to the National convention. The poor and needy find in her a true friend and, prompted by her benevolent spirit, she has given liberally of her means to worthy charities. The Court Street Methodist Church finds in her a faithful and active member, and her good works have made her well known and greatly beloved throughout this community.



DANIEL E. FOOTE, M. D., is one of the leading physicians of Belvidere and one of the oldest practitioners of the city. He was born in Otselic, Chenango County, N. Y., April 7, 1828. His father, Justin Foote, was born in Smyrna, N. Y., November 22, 1803, and was a direct descendant of Nathaniel Foote, a native of England, who emigrated to America, accompanied by his family. He located in Weathersfield, Conn., and was made one of its freemen in 1633. He died in 1611, at the age of fifty-one. His son Nathaniel, the next in direct descent, died in 1655; the third also bore the name of Nathaniel. He married Margaret Bliss, of Springfield, Mass., and died January 13, 1703. Their son Nathaniel wedded Ann Clark, of Lebanon, Conn., and after her death married Hannah Coleman, of Colechester, Conn. He died April 20, 1774, at the age of ninety-two. Daniel Foote, the next in direct descent, was born February 6, 1717, and married Margaret Parsons, a daughter of Ebenezer Parsons, of Springfield, Mass. He passed away in Colechester, Conn., December 27, 1801, in his eighty-sixth year.

Hon. Isaac Foote, great-grandfather of our subject, was the next in direct descent. He was born in Colchester, Conn., January 4, 1745, and in 1795 removed to New York, locating in what is now the

town of Smyrna, Chenango County. He secured the organization of that county, while serving as a member of the State Legislature in 1798. He was appointed the first Judge of the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions. In 1800, he was elected State Senator for four years. In 1806, he resigned his position of Judge and retired to private life. He died on his farm in the town of Smyrna, February 26, 1812, at the age of ninety-seven. His wife was Mary Kellogg, a daughter of Jonathan Kellogg. She was born May 30, 1768, and died at the age of eighty-two years. Their children reached the ages of fifty-three, seventy-five, ninety-two, ninety-three and ninety-eight years, respectively.

Isaac Foote, grandfather of our subject, was born in Stafford, Conn., April 18, 1776. Throughout his life he followed farming. He went to New York and was appointed agent for the sale of the Lawrence and Livingston lands. He served as Constable, Collector, Deputy Sheriff and Sheriff, and was a prominent citizen of the community. He spent his last years in the village of Norwich. In politics, he was a Whig, was a member of the Congregational Church and enjoyed the confidence and high esteem of the public. Justin Foote, father of the Doctor, was reared and educated in Smyrna, N. Y., and made farming his life work. While assisting in raising a building, he met his death by accident, June 19, 1834. His wife bore the maiden name of Irene Warner, and was a daughter of Samuel Warner. After the death of Mr. Foote, she became the wife of Horatio Seymour, Esq., of Alexander, N. Y. Her last days were spent in the home of our subject. She reared five children: Harriet E., who died at the age of twenty-one; Fannie Irene, who was a student in Alexander College, and died at the age of seventeen; Justin Hiel, who was engaged in merchandising in Belvidere and died at the age of twenty-four; and Samuel, who resides in Scranton, Pa.

The Doctor was the second in order of birth. He was reared in his native county, and acquired an academic education, after which he turned his attention to the study of medicine, and for six years was a student with Dr. Hyde, Professor of Surgery in the Syracuse Medical College. He

graduated from the Buffalo Medical College in the Class of '54, receiving his diploma from Millard Fillmore, then President of the United States and Chancellor of the college. He was engaged for a year with his preceptor and then went to Newark Valley, where he remained until 1854, when he came to Belvidere and has here been in active practice continuously since.

In July, 1853, Dr. Foote married Martha E. Up De Graff, who was born in Vestal, Broome County, N. Y., and is a daughter of William B. and Nancy (Morse) Up De Graff, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter a native of the Empire State. They have three children: Stella E., Harriet Louisa and Mary Irene. The eldest is the wife of Edwin W. Warren and has four sons: Frederick Foote, Daniel Edwin, Henry R. and Arthur.

The Doctor is a dimitted member of the Masonic fraternity. In politics, he is a Republican, and has served as a member of the Village Board of Trustees, and was Alderman of the Fourth Ward. He is a member of the Illinois State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, and, in 1876, was a delegate to the International Medical Congress which met at Philadelphia. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which he has been an Elder since 1856. He has always been a worker in the Sabbath-school and was its Superintendent for ten years. Few men are more widely known in this community than Dr. Foote and none are held in higher regard, his upright life having won him the esteem of all with whom he has come in contact.



WILLIAM C. PRATT, dealer in fruits and confectioneries at No. 415 East State Street, Rockford, is a native of Vermont. He was born in Manchester, Remington County, in 1838, and is descended from an old family of the Green Mountain State. His father, Chester Pratt, was born in Marlboro, Vt., reared to manhood upon a farm and in New York wedded Miss Almira Collins, a native of Cambridge, N. Y. They settled in New York, where Mr. Pratt followed farming until his death, at the age of fifty-

six years. His wife was afterward twice married and is now living in Brooklyn, Jackson County, Mich., at the age of seventy years. William is the eldest of four children; Warren W., a soldier in a Michigan regiment, was wounded and taken prisoner and died on the field of battle, while lying in a tent that had been prepared for him. He had been roped in a blanket and in its folds died. He was then only sixteen years of age. The sisters, Mrs. Betsy Hatch and Mrs. Julia Frances Shepherdson, reside in Windsor and Brattleboro, Vt., respectively.

Under the parental roof our subject spent the days of his boyhood, and when a young man emigrated Westward, locating in Rockford. Near this city he married Julia F. Spink, who was born and reared in the Empire State and came to Illinois in 1853, with her parents, Robert and Julia (Warner) Spink. The mother died at the age of eighty-two years, and the father is still living at the age of eighty-three, and resides with Mrs. Pratt. They have been life-long members of the Methodist Church and are consistent Christian people, highly respected by all who know them. They have one son, Andrew C., who is now a farmer of Scott Township, Ogle County. Mrs. Pratt is their only living daughter. She is a cultured and intelligent lady, and for a number of years before her marriage engaged in teaching. She has become the mother of three children: Andrew A., who is engaged in business with his father; Robert W., who wedded Myrtie E. Lewis, of Rockford, and is also in his father's employ; and Fannie, who is at home.

On coming to this city in 1854, Mr. Pratt engaged in teaming for some time, afterwards sold goods for Mr. Leonard and later, as a partner of Mr. Burroughs, engaged in business on his own account in that line for two years. At length, he became a dealer in fruits and confectioneries, and for eighteen years has devoted his energies to that business. He carries fruits of all kinds and a large line of confectionery, ice-creams, ices, etc., which he serves in the most beautiful style. He does both a wholesale and retail business and is enjoying a large trade. He is a pleasant, genial gentleman, who has many friends in the community.

and his wife is also held in high regard. They are both members of the Centennial Methodist Church, and Mr. Pratt belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M.



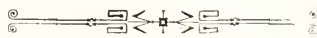
ROBERT McCULLOCH, one of the early settlers of Winnebago County and a prominent citizen of Rockford Township, was born in Ross-shire, Scotland. His father, William, was born in the same shire, was a farmer by occupation, and spent his entire life in the land of his birth. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Mary Falconer. She was born in Ross-shire, the daughter of Robert and Kate (McNeil) Falconer, and spent her entire life in her native land.

When orphaned by the death of his father, our subject was but an infant, and was afterward cared for by his mother and an uncle, whom he assisted on the farm as soon as he was old enough. He remained in Scotland until 1847, then went to Liverpool and took passage on the sailing-vessel "Kadamathew," landing in New York and coming thence directly to Winnebago County, via the Hudson River to Albany and Erie Canal to Buffalo, then by the Lakes to Chicago, and from there overland with a team to Winnebago County. The journey from Liverpool occupied two months, and on reaching his destination he was in very limited circumstances.

For a time Mr. McCulloch made his home with his uncle, Robert Falconer, by whom he was employed by the day and month on the farm. He was very industrious, saved his earnings and finally was enabled to purchase the land included in his present farm. There were a few acres broken at the time and this constituted the entire improvement. He has erected a nice set of frame buildings, planted fruit, shade and ornamental trees, and otherwise improved the property, until it is considered one of the best places in the township.

In January, 1857, Mr. McCulloch was united in marriage with Ellen Thompson, who was born in Campbelltown, Argyleshire, Scotland. Her parents,

John and Mary Thompson, were natives of Argyleshire, where the father was reared, married and died. The mother, who survived him a number of years, came to America in 1851 and spent her last years in Winnebago County. Mrs. McCulloch came to America with her two brothers, John and Robert Thompson, in the fall of 1853. They embarked at Greenock in the sailing-vessel "Charlotte Harrison," and landed in New York after a voyage of seven weeks and three days. They proceeded immediately to Marietta, Washington County, Ohio, arriving there July 7th, and remaining in that city until the spring of 1855, when they came to Winnebago County. Mr. and Mrs. McCulloch have seven children living, namely: John, Mary, Katie, Daniel, Hugh, Henry and Charles. The members of the family are highly esteemed socially and their position is among the most refined and intelligent in the community.



JOHAN G. EINOR, night engineer in the Nelson Knitting Factory and a stockholder in the Rockford Manufacturing Company, resides at No. 128 Bremer Street, Rockford, where he has a comfortable home. He was born in West Gothland, Sweden, October 10, 1848, and was the first of the family to come to this country. His father, Charles Teck, died in 1880, at the age of fifty years. At the age of eighteen, he entered the service of his country, and was an efficient private in the regular army throughout his entire life. He fought for Alsace and Lorraine against Germany in 1848, and saw some considerable hard service, but was never wounded. His wife, Mrs. Johannah (Olson) Johnson, for Teck was the army name of her husband, came to this country in 1881, and now makes her home with her children in Chicago and Rockford. She is now seventy-two years of age, but the infirmities generally accompanying declining years rest lightly upon her. With the Lutheran Church she holds membership, as did Mr. Teck. Our subject is the only son in a family of four children. One sister, Matilda, is the wife of Aug. Johnson, a farmer of

Sweden; Anna is the wife of Berhard Johnson, a dealer in ink in Chicago; and Minnie is the wife of Fritz Carlson, a shipping clerk for Marshall Field & Co., of that city.

We now take up the personal history of Mr. Einor, whose early life passed uneventfully in his native land. At the age of twenty-three years, in 1871, he first crossed the Atlantic to America, making a location in Putnam County, N. Y., where he was employed as an iron miner for some time. In that county, in 1873, he married Miss Jennie Lendgren, who was born and reared in West Gothland, Sweden, her birth occurring February 22, 1844. Her parents, Joseph and Kisa (Anderson) Lendgren, were also natives of the same locality, and there the father spent his entire life as a farmer. He was called to his final rest at the age of seventy-two years. His wife is still living at about the same age and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Einor. In the family were six children, two of whom reside in Sweden: Christina, wife of Alfred Cling, a farmer; and Swan Lendgren, a shoemaker, who wedded Johanna Johnson. Those living in this country are Charles, who married Charlotta Anderson and is a shoemaker in the employ of Mr. Englemire, of this city; Sophia, wife of Joel Hoagland, a cabinet-maker with the Co-operative Furniture Company; and Amanda, wife of Godfred Lind.

After his marriage, having spent four and a half years in this country, Mr. Einor returned with his young bride to Sweden, where they made their home until 1880. That year witnessed their second arrival in this country. They located in Chicago, where Mr. Einor followed his trade for eighteen months, when he came to Rockford and has since been variously employed. He is an expert mechanic as well as engineer. As his financial resources have increased, he has made judicious investments and is now in comfortable circumstances. The Einor family numbers three interesting children, daughters: Amanda E., who is a graduate of the Rockford Business College and is now employed as a stenographer by the City Clerk; Anna E., who is also a graduate of that college; and Minnie E., the youngest. The parents are both members of the Lutheran Church, in the

work of which they take an active interest, Mrs. Einor serving as a teacher in the Sunday-school. In politics, Mr. Einor is a Republican and a highly respected citizen.

ROCKWOOD SAGER, M. D., a promising physician and surgeon located on the corner of Main and Morgan Streets, Rockford, has been engaged in active practice here since 1879, which year he graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago. He was born at Belvidere, Boone County, in 1856, and is a son of Abraham Sager, who still resides at that place. The latter-named gentleman was born at Chester, N. Y., and is a son of Garret Sager, also a native of that State, who later came to Illinois and died in Belvidere when eighty-seven years of age. He was well-to-do financially and spent the last thirty years of his life retired from any active work, being a large land-owner in Boone County. He was very prominent in his locality in New York and was a member of the State Legislature, being elected on the Democratic ticket.

The grandmother of him of whom we write was born in Greene County, N. Y., near her husband's old home. She departed this life in Belvidere, shortly after his decease, at an advanced age. She came of a very prominent family in the Empire State, who are well known in political and social circles. The father of our subject grew to manhood in Greene County, N. Y., and was there married to Mary Dean, whose parents were farmers of that county, of which place they were natives for several generations back. Soon after his marriage Abraham Sager came to Illinois and settled at Belvidere, where the father was in business for a number of years. He also became the proprietor of a large landed estate, upon which he made his home for six or seven years on account of failing health.

Dr. Sager is the eldest of the three children comprising the parental family. His brother William is a member of the firm of Sager & Baker, located at No. 54 North Clinton Street, Chicago, where they do a large wholesale business in hardware



Horatio Stone

and are also the Western branch for the Co-operative Stove Company of Cleveland. His sister May makes her home with her parents in Belvidere. The original of this sketch was married, in Rockford, to Miss Agnes Dow, who was born in this city in 1862. She received an excellent education in the city and High Schools and is a daughter of Charles and Mary Dow, natives of Scotland, who, on coming to America, located on a farm not far from Rockford. There the father improved a splendid estate and lived until his decease, which was the result of typhoid fever when in middle life. The home farm is now owned by the eldest son, Charles Dow. The mother after the death of her husband came to Rockford and resided until her decease, in 1887, after having attained to the age of fifty-nine years. Mrs. Sager is one of a family of ten children, four sons and six daughters.

In his political relations, our subject is a Republican, and, socially, is identified with the Chapter Lodge No. 24, F. & A. M., and also the Blue Lodge of the Fifth Ward. He is a member of the Encampment and Canton of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and his knowledge and skill in medical science and all matters pertaining to the health of the body have given him an assured position among the intelligent and learned physicians of the State. He is regarded with the highest respect, not only throughout the community where his later years have been spent, but in other places where he has an extended acquaintance.



HORATIO STONE, President of the Rockford Hospital Association, has spent his life in doing good to others, and in upholding the rights of all. He is a man of large means and of a charitable disposition, and is known as the largest contributor to the hospital and Rockford Seminary. As a prominent citizen of Rockford, his life sketch and the accompanying portrait will be of especial interest.

Horatio Stone was born in the town of Framingham, Middlesex County, Mass., May 27, 1813. His father, Abner Stone, was also a native of that town

and State, where the grandfather of our subject, who also bore the name of Abner Stone, was born and reared to agricultural pursuits. The latter-named gentleman was the proprietor of a flour and sawmill at Saxonville which he operated in connection with his farm pursuits, his home being in that place until his death.

The first ancestor of our subject in America emigrated from England in 1635, and located in Cambridge, Mass. He was accompanied hither by his son John, they buying land of the Indians in Framingham, where they erected a saw and flour mill. The son of John Stone was named Daniel, and was born in 1644. He also had a son named John. Following him the line of descent is traced as follows: Daniel, born in 1707; Abner in 1751; Abner, Jr., in 1777; and Horatio in 1813. Five of the above-named were born, lived and died in Framingham. The history of Framingham, published by the Rev. Josiah H. Temple in 1887, contains the fac-simile of the signatures of Indians to a deed bearing the date of May 15, 1636. The paternal grandmother of our subject, whose maiden name was Persis Moore, was born in Boston, Mass., and died in Framingham, that State.

The original of this sketch was reared and educated in his native township, and, on attaining his sixteenth year, engaged as clerk in a general store in Framingham. Four years later, he succeeded his brother in the ownership of the store, and continued in that line of business very successfully for seven years. He then removed to Boston and established a retail grocery store, later engaging in the wholesale trade. In 1872-73, he made another removal, this time making his home in Concord, Mass., where he led a retired life until 1881, at which date he came to Rockford, which has since been his abiding-place.

Miss Eliza A. Heald, who was born in Concord, Mass., in 1807, became the wife of our subject in 1837. She was the daughter of Hon. Thomas Heald, who was born in New Ipswich, N. H. He was a finely educated gentleman, a graduate of Dartmouth College, and practiced law in Concord, Mass. Several years prior to the outbreak of the Civil War, he moved to Alabama, where he was appointed Associate Judge of the Supreme Court

of that State and there spent the remaining years of his life. His wife, Elizabeth (Lock) Heald, was born in Hopkinton, Mass., and departed this life in New Ipswich, N. H.

In their religious connections, Mr. and Mrs. Stone were members of the Central Congregational Church in Boston, and, on coming to Rockford, united with the Second Congregational Church. Their wedded life was one of mutual happiness and helpfulness, until terminated by the death of Mrs. Stone, in February, 1881. Mr. Stone has always been distinguished for prudence, foresight and discretion in business affairs. His sense of honor is great, and his name is used as a synonym for justice and disinterestedness of purpose. He enjoys the respect of all who know him and has a large number of warm, personal friends.



SAMUEL DERSTINE, now living retired at No. 1001 South Main Street, Rockford, is enjoying the fruits of his early toil and industry. He is an old resident of this city, having made his advent here in 1856, and at once entered the employ of Emerson Tallcott & Co., founders, with whom he remained for twenty-seven years, his good work and fidelity to his employers making him a most desirable man.

Mr. Derstine was born near Harrisburg, Dauphin County, Pa., November 30, 1829, and is the son of Michael Derstine, also a native of that place. The family came of good old Pennsylvania Dutch stock and were noted for their longevity. Michael Derstine learned the trade of a blacksmith in his native State, operating an establishment of his own for many years. Later, he went to Bellefonte, that State, and was employed in a stove factory, dying in 1816, when fifty-two years of age. He had been a hard-working, industrious man and was well respected in the community. In religious matters, he was a member of the Dutch Reformed Church, and voted the Whig ticket in politics.

The parents of our subject were married in Dauphin County, Pa., the maiden name of the mother being Margaret Schaffer. She was a native of that county, of Dutch parents, and was a true

helpmate to her husband in all his undertakings. She departed this life in Bellefonte, Pa., in 1879, when in her seventieth year. Like her husband, she was a member of the Dutch Reformed Church. The father of our subject had a local reputation as a musician and on the outbreak of the War of 1812, he joined a company as a musician but, being only fifteen or sixteen years old, his father induced him to return home.

He of whom we write is the first son and second child of the six children comprising the parental household, all of whom are living, with the exception of the eldest. Samuel, on attaining mature years, was married in Bellefonte, Pa., to Miss Susan Eye, who was born in Centre County, that State, in 1828. Mrs. Derstine departed this life at her home in Rockford, April 19, 1885, firm in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she was an active member. She had formerly been connected, however, with the Lutheran denomination in Pennsylvania. The six children born to our subject and his wife are: Michael L., who died when four years of age, and Charles H., deceased when one year old; Mary, the wife of John Lindsay, a grocery dealer, in this city; David W., a mechanic, makes his home with his father and married Miss Fannie Higbee, who is a native of this county; Ellen R. is the wife of H. B. Bussing, an implement manufacturer; Minnie C. is the wife of P. H. Barrett, who keeps a first-class restaurant on State Street. Mr. Derstine, in politics, votes with the Republican party.



MRS. LOUISA BLACKINTON. In narrating the lives of the many prominent citizens of Winnebago County, we find no one more worthy of mention than Mrs. Louisa Blackinton, who has been a resident of the county since 1845, when she came here with her parents. They came from the East, and after arriving in this county, settled in Roscoe, where the mother died, in 1878, at the age of seventy-two and the father in 1888, when eighty years of age. They left two sons and three daughters.

Mrs. Blackinton was born in New York, in June,

1832, and her maiden name was Louisa Garlick. After emigrating to Illinois with her parents, she was married to Henry H. Blackinton, a native of Ohio, born in November, 1822. When a young man, or in 1843, Mr. Blackinton and his parents, Jesse and Olive (Noble) Blackinton, who were natives of New England, where the family manufactured cloth, came by boat to Chicago and then with teams made their way to Winnebago County, where Mr. and Mrs. Blackinton had three older sons living. These sons had located in the county in 1836 and had taken up land, but as they had been unfortunate in land title in Ohio, where they had resided for some time after leaving the East, they had very little means to assist them along after reaching this State. The present home of Mrs. Blackinton was the original home of her husband in Illinois, and there were also forty acres of land in Harlem Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Blackinton became the parents of five children, one daughter, Lydia, having died when four years of age. Those living are: Harriet A., now the wife of Charles Kerr; James H., who lost a part of his right hand in the Rockford Burial Case Factory and has since been engaged in bee culture, for which he has a decided taste; Fred C., at home with his mother, manages the farm, and Ruby L. is the wife of William Lovesee, who is a substantial farmer in the township.

Mrs. Blackinton has five grandchildren. Her husband died on the 20th of June, 1886, of cancer of the stomach, when about sixty-four years of age. He was prominently identified with the public affairs of the county, and was universally esteemed for his many excellent qualities of mind and heart. He held the office of Supervisor two terms, Assessor four years and was School Trustee and Director, constantly, for many years. In all the positions of trust and responsibility held by Mr. Blackinton, he displayed excellent judgment and unusual ability in discharging the duties of the same. In politics, he advocated the principles of the Republican party and was an active worker for his party. In religion, he was a Methodist, being an official member of that church many years, and he was a liberal supporter and

contributor to all enterprises worthy of patronage. He left his widow a good home and a fair competency. She has also been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for years and is a lady well known and esteemed in the community. She is possessed of much business ability, and, with her youngest son, is managing the home place.



TRUMAN L. CLEVELAND, who is engaged in general farming and also carries on the dairy business on section 1, New Milford Township, Winnebago County, has the honor of being a native of this State. He was born in August, 1854, and is a son of Eli T. and Corinna (Lewis) Cleveland. The mother was born in Orangeville, N. Y., March 9, 1822, and was a daughter of Truman Lewis, a native of New Hartford, Conn., who was born November 5, 1784, and died in Warsaw, Ill., September 15, 1865, at the age of eighty-one years. He married Lucy Porter, who was born March 26, 1795, and was a daughter of Seth and Sarah (Cowles) Porter. She was called to her final rest in Rockford, December 13, 1866, at the age of seventy-one years.

The parents of our subject were married in Weathersfield, N. Y., October 1, 1851, and in the spring of the following year emigrated Westward, casting their lot with the early settlers of Winnebago County. The father had previously been in Illinois, and for a year had followed farming in Cherry Valley Township. He now bought a quarter-section of land in Seward Township, where he made his home for eighteen years. There his wife departed this life, leaving two sons and two daughters: Almon M., a resident of Storm Lake, Iowa; Truman, of this sketch; Lucy A., wife of A. T. Van Alstine, of Chicago; and Laura A., wife of W. L. Gregory, of Rockford. Mr. Cleveland afterward rented his land and removed to Rockford with his children in the spring of 1878. He built a home on Seminary Street and engaged in the hardware business on West State Street for some time, but is now living a retired life.

Under the parental roof our subject was reared

to manhood, and his educational advantages were those afforded by the common schools. He was married in his present home on the 15th of March, 1876, to Miss Ida May Nichols, daughter of Philander C. and Sarah F. (Godhe) Nichols. Her father was born in Casenovia, N. Y., February 18, 1818, and her mother in Dighton, Mass., March 15, 1816. They were married in Bristol, N. Y., May 25, 1813, and removed to Illinois in 1819. Six years later, Mr. Nichols purchased and located upon a farm of forty acres, the present home of our subject. His death occurred December 22, 1873, at the age of fifty-five years, and his wife passed away August 13, 1890, in the seventy-fifth year of her age. Both were members of the Centennial Methodist Church, and the father long served as a School Director. They had lost one daughter, Alice Amelia, who died July 30, 1851, at the age of five years.

Mrs. Cleveland is the only surviving child. She was born and reared in the house which is still her home, and acquired a good education, attending the Seminary of Rockford. By her marriage she has a little son, Leroy Nichols, who was born March 25, 1881. The parents are both members of the Centennial Methodist Church, and in social circles rank high.

The Cleveland farm comprises one hundred and fifty acres of land under a high state of cultivation and well improved. Upon it our subject has erected good buildings and added all the accessories of a model farm. In connection with general farming, he keeps sixteen cows for dairy purposes, and sells the milk to Rockford dealers. In politics, he votes with the Republican party, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business, in which he has met with signal success.



BENSON KLUMPH. A notable example of the enterprise, industry and self-reliance of the early Illinois pioneer, is furnished by the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch and who is one of the octogenarian citizens of Boone County. During the early days of

its settlement, he came hither and established a home in LeRoy Township, where he has lived and labored for almost a half century. He has done excellent service in subduing the wilderness and bringing it into its present splendid condition, socially and morally.

A native of Warren, Herkimer County, N. Y., Mr. Klumph was born November 30, 1804, the son of Jacob and Catherine (Bowhall) Klumph. The family of which he is a member trace their ancestry to Germany, where one Thomas Klumph was born and reared. He came to America prior to the Revolutionary War, as a soldier in the French army, and for a long time was held as prisoner of war by the Indians. Finally, he was ransomed by Gov. Provost, of Canada, and afterward became agent and secretary for that famous gentleman, who, as a token of appreciation for his valuable services in his behalf, presented him with a farm near Otsego Lake, Otsego County, N. Y. There he died at the age of four-score and nine. His wife, whose maiden name was Peggy Davis, was a school teacher in Albany in the early days of its history.

During the lifetime of Grandfather Klumph, some Frenchmen went out hunting, and returned to the camp with some of the flesh of an Indian horse, which they called "buffalo" meat, and from that incident the name of the city of Buffalo originated. The father of our subject, Jacob Klumph, was a farmer in Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he died at an advanced age. His wife survived many years and passed away in Le Roy Township in 1878. Their children numbered six, four of whom came to Illinois—Joseph, Augustus and Alfred coming in 1840-42 and our subject in 1835.

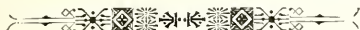
In Chautauqua County, N. Y., Mr. Klumph was united in marriage with Miss Chloe Hutchins of that county, and the young couple settled in the Empire State, where three children were born to them. Their journey to Illinois was made by steamer to Chicago and thence overland to Boone County, where a tract of land was purchased from the Government, consisting of eighty acres. Mr. Klumph still retains in his possession the parchment deed he then secured. The most of his



R. P. LANE.

active life has been passed in farming, although for about five years he was employed in a mill near Fredonia, N. Y.

Mr. Klumph was bereaved in 1873 by the death of his wife at their home in LeRoy Township, when sixty-three years old. Their children were: Caroline, who married Reuben Miller, and died leaving six children; Alexander, a farmer near the old homestead, married Elizabeth Cromer, a native of Ohio, and they have six children; and Clarinda, who cares for her father in his old age and tenderly ministers to his comfort. Alexander was one of the valiant boys in blue, who enlisted in the service of his country during the Civil War. He was a member of Company K, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, Capt. A. Schellenger commanding.



DR. ROBERT POLK LANE, deceased, was one of Rockford's most prominent citizens, and this work would be incomplete without his portrait and life sketch. He was born in Hopewell, Iron Works, Bedford County, Pa., February 21, 1818, and came of English ancestry, being a descendant of a highly respected family which was established in America prior to the Revolutionary War. The progenitor of the family in the United States was William Lane, who, on coming to this country, purchased land on which the greater part of Philadelphia is now located, and made a fortune of probably \$2,000,000. He came from England. The next in line was James Lane, who grew to manhood in Pennsylvania and succeeded to the business established by his father, the Hopewell Iron Works. He afterward met with reverses, and this loss greatly affected our subject.

Dr. Lane was only thirteen years old when his father lost his property. He was forced to begin life for himself. When a young man, he went to Washington, Pa., where he began the study of medicine under his mother's brother, Dr. John Wishard, of Edinburgh, Scotland. At length, after thorough preparation, he completed the course and entered upon a successful practice in Washington, where he continued to reside until the year 1851, when, with his wife and children, he

came to Rockford, and from that time until his death was widely known as one of the leading and most prominent business men of the city. He devoted his first years almost entirely to the practice of medicine, and with the competence acquired thereby made investments in real estate in this and Ogle Counties. He became owner of eleven hundred acres of valuable and highly improved land, which is yet in the possession of the family.

The Doctor was married, in Zanesville, Ohio, to Miss Mary Brice, who was born and reared in Pennsylvania and is descended from English ancestry. She is an intimate friend of James G. Blaine. Her education was acquired in a female college in Ohio, and she is a cultured and refined lady. Since her husband's death, she has resided at different times in Rockford and Chicago. She holds membership with the Episcopal Church, and her friends throughout this community are many. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lane were born three children: James B., now living in Rochelle; Nannie L., wife of R. L. Davis, who resides at No. 185 Dearborn Avenue, Chicago, and is an ex-director and a member of the Board of Trade of that city; and W. Stewart, who resides in the Rockford home which was built by his father some years ago. It is located at No. 508 North Church Street, and is one of the largest residences of the city. Stewart also has the management and is lessee of the eleven hundred acres of land in Ogle County which his father purchased. He is a man of good business ability, enterprising and successful, and is a worthy son of his honored father.

Probably no man in Rockford was more prominently connected with her business interests than Dr. Lane. He was one of the organizers of the Second National Bank of Rockford in 1861; was one of its largest stockholders and President of the bank from 1864 to 1881, continuously, when he resigned to accept the presidency of the Rockford Insurance Company. Probably the most important work in his life, however, was the organization of the Rockford Water Power Company in 1853. He became its President and gave his personal attention to the construction of the dam across the river. In 1866, he was made Treasurer

of the Rockford Insurance Company, and later became its President and Manager. He was also a heavy stockholder in the Graham Cotton Mills, which are still in active operation, and, with others, he was instrumental in securing the establishment of the J. P. Manny Manufacturing Company at this place. In company with G. A. Sanford, he established the gas works, and was connected with many other enterprises, giving his support to everything calculated to benefit the community. He was truly a public-spirited and progressive citizen, and was well fitted to be a leader among the people.

In politics, the Doctor was a stalwart Republican and during the late war was President of the Union League Club of Rockford, a society of most pronounced Unionists. He was also an active worker in the Episcopal Church, of which he was Senior Warden for forty years. His life was indeed a busy and useful one, devoted to the interests of the public, and friends were almost numberless. He was a man of fine personal presence and of remarkable suavity. He had a gentleness and tenderness of manner and a sympathy with the personal troubles of others that won him the greatest confidence of his fellow-citizens. After several years of sickness and some months of intense suffering, which he bore without a murmur, he passed away a little before noon on the 7th of March, 1891. His fellow-townsmen had learned to love him, and his loss to the community will long be felt and his memory revered for years to come.



HENRY C. SHEDD is a member of the firm of Putnam & Shedd, dealers in furniture, who carry an elegant line of goods and have their place of business located at No. 821 South Main Street and No. 306 Morgan Street, the latter building being their warehouse and repair shop. Mr. Shedd became a partner of Mr. Putnam in March, 1891, having been four years prior to that time foreman of the Union Foundry, of which enterprise he was one of the twelve stockholders and the original promoter. He dis-

posed of his interest in that line on engaging in his present work, since which time he has been more than ordinarily successful.

Mr. Shedd of this sketch came to Rockford in 1856, when a youth of sixteen years, and here learned the trade of a molder in the shops of Emerson, Talcott & Co., with whom he was employed until within a few years ago. He has taken an active part in all matters that pertain to the up-building of the city, and although taking no part in political affairs as regards office holding, yet always casts his vote at elections. Our subject came to this county from Canada, where he passed the years of his early life. He was born in Warsaw, Wyoming County, N. Y., June 19, 1810, and is the son of David Shedd, a native of Vermont. The father was a journeyman molder, and removed with our subject to Pittsburg, Pa., where he remained for a time, and then made his home in Warsaw, N. Y., where he was engaged in the same line of work. Mr. Shedd then went to Canada, and in Galt, Province of Ontario, acted as foreman for four years of the Fisher & Lutz Foundry. He, however, came to Rockford in 1856, where, as before stated, he was employed in the Emerson, Talcott Company. After leaving their shops, the father of our subject became a workman in the foundry of F. H. Manney, and was thus employed until 1877, when he retired from active work of any kind and departed this life at his home in Rockford, in 1880, at the advanced age of seventy-one years. In his political relations he voted in early life the Whig ticket and on the organization of the Republican party joined its ranks. His wife, who survives him, is seventy-five years of age. Her maiden name was Valonia Putnam, her birth occurring in the Empire State, and she is of Hungarian descent. She is quite a physician and has an extended reputation in this county. She is a Spiritualist in belief, which faith was also held by her husband.

Henry C. Shedd of this sketch, and Mrs. Frank Trumbull of this city, are the only members of the parental family living. A sister, Mrs. Helen Proctor, is now deceased. Our subject was married first in Erie County, N. Y., to Miss Elizabeth Bigelow; she died in Rockford April 24, 1873, and

her only child, Helen, died June 8, of that year, when six weeks old. The present wife of our subject bore the maiden name of Ida Crawford, a native of Erie County, N. Y.

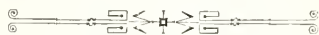


OSCAR NELSON, Vice-president and general Superintendent of the Forest City Knitting Company of Rockford, has the honor of being a native citizen of this place. He was born June 16, 1860, and is the third son of John Nelson, late one of the most prominent men of Rockford. In the family are five sons and one daughter: William, who is represented elsewhere in this work; Frithiof, who is Secretary and Treasurer of the Forest City Knitting Company, and a Director and stockholder of the Nelson Knitting Company, the Hotel Company, the Manufacturers' National Bank, and other enterprises; J. Frank, who is also a stockholder in most of those concerns, and Anna. The two youngest sons and Anna reside at home with their widowed mother.

Our subject acquired a good education in the city schools and the Business College of Rockford, and since attaining to man's estate has been prominently connected with the business industries of the city. As before stated, he is Vice-president and general Superintendent of the Forest City Knitting Company, one of the leading enterprises in the east side. The factory is located on Catherine Street and Nelson Boulevard and began operations in January, 1892. They employ between two hundred and three hundred hands and make a fine grade of hosiery, the best in the market. Already they have been forced to work at night in order to supply the demand, which is already large and constantly increasing. Mr. Nelson is also a stockholder in the Nelson Knitting Company, a stockholder and Director in the Rockford Mitten and Hosiery Company and a stockholder of the Nelson Hotel Building.

In Rockford, Mr. Nelson was united in marriage with Miss Emma Nelson, who was born in Minnesota, and was there reared and educated. Her parents are both now deceased. They were natives

of Sweden and after their marriage came to this country, locating in Minnesota. Unto our subject and his wife have been born one son, John A. They have a beautiful and commodious home recently erected at No. 702 Seminary Street—the finest residence on the east side. Mrs. Nelson is a member of the First Lutheran Church. Mr. Nelson is a Thirty-second Degree Mason. He belongs to the Commandery of Rockford, the Consistory of Freeport and the Shrine of Chicago. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican but has never sought or desired public office, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests. He is an energetic and progressive business man and the success with which he has already met argues well for the future. He carries forward to a successful completion whatever he undertakes, and the Forest City Knitting Company, of which he is now at the head, indicates his excellent ability as a manager.



PETER PETERSON. The entire life of Mr. Peterson has been one unmarked by any unusual occurrence outside of the chosen channels to which he has so diligently and attentively given his time and attention.

Born in central Norway in August, 1843, he began to learn the shoemaker trade when fifteen years of age, and followed this in his native country until 1874, when he crossed the ocean to America, being the first of his family to undertake the long voyage. He landed at Quebec, Canada, but shortly afterward came to the States and to Rockford, Ill. In this city he has resided ever since, with the exception of a few years spent in Oregon, whither he went for his health, and he is classed among the city's hardworking and esteemed citizens.

Shortly after locating in Rockford, Mr. Peterson invested in property there and this has increased in value until it is now worth many thousand dollars. He is also the owner of stock in different concerns in the city and has ever been public-spirited and enterprising. He owns a comfortable residence at No. 310 South Main Street.

He was married in Norway to Miss Ellen Anderson, who was born and reared in the same neighborhood as her husband, and whose parents passed their entire lives there. No children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Peterson. Both are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Peterson is identified with the Republican party in politics.

Our subject has one brother, Henry Peterson, who is now in this country, and an upholsterer in Chicago. He is single. A sister, Hannah, now resides in South Rockford. The parents passed their entire lives in Norway and died when about sixty years of age. The father, Peter Larson, followed agricultural pursuits for a livelihood. He and his worthy companion both held membership in the Lutheran Church.



MRS. HORACE COLE. It can not be expected in a work of this kind, where but brief biographical sketches of prominent citizens of the county are mentioned, that justice can be done this much esteemed and venerable lady, and yet she has been identified with the county so long, and her name is so familiar to all, that it is no more than just to dwell upon her career, not as empty words of praise, but the plain statement of still plainer truth.

Mrs. Cole was born in Litchfield County, Conn., on the 27th of May, 1795, and was the daughter of Joseph and Dianthy (Mott) Frisby, both Connecticut people and farmers. Her father died in Vernon, N. Y., in his ninetieth year. He was twice married and became the father of three children by his first union and five by his second, the latter marriage being to the mother of Mrs. Cole. Mrs. Frisby remained a widow thirty-six years, and with her daughter, Mrs. Cole, came West from Erie County, Pa. The latter was married in Westmoreland, N. Y., March 11, 1813, to Mr. Horace Cole, who was a weaver, but never followed his trade after his marriage. He was in the War of 1812, was Orderly Sergeant, and was in the battle of Sackett's Harbor. After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Cole resided for fourteen

years at Prattsburgh, N. Y., but moved from there to Chautauqua County, and thence to Erie County, Pa. Later, or in 1846, they came to Roscoe, resided in the village for two years, and then settled on the farm of one hundred and forty acres which has been Mrs. Cole's home ever since. Her husband passed away in May, 1862, when about seventy years of age. He had never had a strong constitution, but was well educated and thoroughly posted on all subjects. In his younger days he had been a Whig in politics, but later he became a staunch Republican. In his religious views he was a Congregationalist, and was an active official of that church.

Mr. and Mrs. Cole became the parents of eleven children, five of whom are now living: Abigail, now the widow of Amos Tuttle, resides in Roscoe; Hiram B., a farmer in New Milford Township; Seth B., a lawyer and for many years a judge in New York, now resides on the Hudson River; Edwin D., a single man, owns the home place and cares for his mother, and Sarah C. is now Mrs. W. H. Bernard, her husband a Congregational minister of Miles, Iowa. The children deceased are an infant daughter, unnamed; William died at the age of five years. Theodore G. died at Magallowa, Wis., January 20 1857, when thirty-three years of age. He was a missionary to Africa, going to Liberia, and thence to the Congo Country in 1853. Three years later, he returned, the climate being too severe for him, and died with an abscess on the liver. His mission was successful, but cost his life. He left a widow who had accompanied him to Africa. Another daughter of Mrs. Cole, Nancy, aged seventeen years, returned to Prattsburgh to attend school under her brother, Seth B. Cole, who was Principal of that Academy for fourteen years, and there died.

Edwin D. Cole, who is residing on the home place as above mentioned, is one of the representative agriculturists of the county, and a man of much energy and determination. He cared for his parents, and assumed the management and responsibility of carrying on the farm at the age of sixteen. He is a faithful and tender son and a man much esteemed in the community. During the first ten years of his experience on the

farm, he had to market his crops at Chicago and Milwaukee, and later at Belvidere, going with teams, and often selling his wheat (the principal crop for market) for fifty cents per bushel. The father had entered forty acres of this one hundred and forty acres, and purchased the balance at \$4.25 per acre. Forty acres are in timber, but the remainder is under cultivation. Mr. Cole makes no specialty of any certain branch of farm work, but is a good general farmer, raising such stock as hogs, cattle and horses. He would try and raise sheep were it not for the depredations of the wolves, which are very numerous yet in that county. His venerable mother is a grand old lady, and, though feeble in body, is still bright in mind, remembering distinctly many interesting events that have occurred in her long pilgrimage. On the 27th of May, 1892, she was ninety-seven years old.



J S. HULSE. In reviewing the various branches of industrial and commercial enterprise in the city of Rockford, it is our desire to mention in this volume only those houses which are thoroughly representative in the particular line of business in which they are engaged. In following out this intention, we know of no enterprise of the city more worthy of special mention than that of the J. S. Hulse Hardware Co., organized in January, 1890, with Guy P. Cobb, President. This representative establishment is located at No. 117 South Main Street, and a complete stock of all kinds of heavy and light hardware is carried. The premises cover a ground area of 22x130 feet, and are well arranged for the line of business conducted. Of the magnitude, variety and character of the stock carried, it would be impossible to speak too highly. In every department, the facilities of the house are of the highest character for enabling it to offer the best quality of goods to the public at the lowest prices.

Mr. Hulse, who is the Secretary and Treasurer of this vast enterprise, and a man well qualified for that responsible position, is a native of Winnebago

County, Ill., born in Winnebago Township, on the 12th of October, 1846. He was educated in his native county, and from 1865 until 1870 he was in the hardware business in Chicago. He subsequently engaged in the same business in Pecatonica, this county, continued this for twelve years, and then had all his stock destroyed by fire. Since then he has been a resident of Rockford, and one of its most successful and prosperous business men.

His father, Henry Hulse, was born near Springfield, Clarke County, Ohio, in 1818, and was of German descent, his father, Henry Hulse, Sr., being a native of Germany. The senior Henry Hulse, with a brother, John, left their native land for America when young men, and early in the present century. They resided for some time in New York State, but subsequently Henry Hulse removed to Clarke County, Ohio, and from there with his wife and family to Illinois early in the '30s. The trip was made overland with teams, when the country was sparsely settled, and they located on Government land in Winnebago Township. This family was among the very first to settle in the county west of Rockford, and there were very few settlers between that city and Belvidere, in fact, there were very few between that city and Chicago, while westward from the Rock River the country was wild and unbroken. A cousin of our subject, John Elliott, was the first white child born in the county. He is now deceased, but lived to mature years, served through a part of the Rebellion, and was a married man. His death occurred in the army, while a member of the Seventh Illinois Cavalry. Our subject's grandfather, Henry Hulse, Sr., died at his old home in Pecatonica Township, when sixty-eight years of age, and was a man whose character was above reproach. He was the father of fifteen children, all of whom he lived to see grow up and marry. One son and four daughters are still living. He had been married four times, and his last wife died in this county.

Henry Hulse, Jr., was trained to farm life at an early age, and when still a single man came with his family to Illinois. His mother, whose maiden name was Priscilla Sweet, and who was born and reared in the Buckeye State, died there when in the prime of life. Henry was married, in Illinois,

to Miss Susan Glynn, who was a native of the Emerald Isle, but who came to the United States and Winnebago County, Ill., when young. Following their marriage, Henry Hulse, Jr., and wife settled on a farm in Pecatonica Township, resided there for a number of years, and after the birth of all their children, took a trip West. Mr. Hulse died in Dubuque, Iowa, in 1849, when forty-one years of age. He was a good citizen, and a man well respected. He was a Whig in his political principles. The wife and mother is now Mrs. James Turner, of Maple Grove, S. Dak., and although seventy-eight years of age, enjoys perfect health. Her husband is a retired farmer.

Our subject is the youngest of three children now living. The eldest child, Kate C., married Zeno Campbell, an old settler and farmer of Pecatonica Township. Another sister, Priscilla, married Henry Akester, a business man of Dexter, Iowa. After our subject reached man's estate, but before he became of age (1863), he enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry, Company E, under Col. McChesney and Capt. H. J. Milligan, and was out nearly two years. He was with the Army of the West, chiefly with his regiment after Gen. Forest, and escaped unhurt. Returning to Illinois, he has since been actively engaged in the hardware business, with which he is thoroughly familiar. He is a prominent member of the G. L. Nevins Post No. 1, G. A. R., but was formerly of Ellis Post, Pecatonica, No. 320, G. A. R., being Adjutant of the Post for a number of years. He takes a leading part in political affairs, and is a strong advocate of the principles of the Republican party. While a resident of Pecatonica, he generally headed the Republican delegation from his town and township, and was an active worker for his party.

He was married, in this county, to Miss M. Nettie Kendrick, who was one of New Hampshire's daughters, and who came West to this county when a small girl. Her people were early settlers and prominent people of Winnebago County, and her father, Henry Kendrick, is now retired, and a resident of the West. He is an own cousin of President Franklin Pierce.

Mr. and Mrs. Hulse are prominent and active

young people of this city, and believe in progress and development, taking a deep interest in all movements that tend to build up the city. They are the parents of two children: Blanche E., a book-keeper for her father, and the wife of J. F. Huffman, who is a stockholder and Director for the Hulse Hardware Company, resides at a nice home on State Street; and Nina E. is a refined, intelligent young lady, and resides at home. Both are well educated.



SYLVESTER TRIPP for many years was busily engaged in agricultural pursuits, but is now living a retired life at his pleasant home in Belvidere. He was born in the village of Worle, Somerset County, England, October 16, 1816. The paternal grandfather, John Tripp, spent his entire life in that locality, and the maternal grandparents, Richard and Elizabeth (Batty) Laney, lived in the same county. John Tripp, the father of our subject, was born and reared in Somersetshire, and throughout life followed the occupation of farming in pursuit of fortune. He married Betsy Laney, who, like her husband, never left her native land. They had a family of eleven children, of whom the following came to America: Eliza, Louisa, Harriet, Sidney, Edwin L. and Sylvester.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood upon his father's farm, no event of special importance occurring during his childhood. On attaining his majority, he was married, May 7, 1841, to Sarah Rowles, a native of Somersetshire, England, and a daughter of Joseph and Sarah Rowles. She had one sister, who came to America, Mary, who wedded Henry Griffin, and died at their home in Rogers Park, Ill. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Tripp were born two children. Edward, the son, married Hattie Manchester and has two sons, Charles and Stephen. Ellen became the wife of Edgar Teeple, and is the mother of two daughters: Sarah and Blanche L. She also lost one child, Jessie, who died at the age of two and a half years.

The year 1852 witnessed the emigration of Mr. Tripp and his family to America. He sailed from

Bristol in April of that year and after a voyage of thirty-seven days landed at New York, from whence he came directly to Illinois, locating in what is now Belvidere Township, Boone County. He purchased a tract of partially improved land and gave his attention exclusively to agricultural pursuits until 1885, when he sold his farm and came to Belvidere, where he has since lived a retired life. Himself and wife are members of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Tripp has been a member of that church since childhood, and his parents before him. When he was fifteen years old he was confirmed by the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells to the Episcopal Church. In politics, Mr. Tripp is a Republican. Fair and honest in all his business dealings, his industrious and persevering efforts were rewarded with prosperity, and he is now enjoying a comfortable competence.



WILLET S. HAIGHT, who is engaged in farming on section 28, New Milford Township, Winnebago County, was born in Westchester County, N. Y., May 3, 1824, and is descended from a family of English origin. His grandparents, Samuel and Phoebe (Young) Haight, were born and reared in the same county and were members of the Society of Friends. His parents, Moses and Hannah (Sutton) Haight, were natives of the same locality.

In 1841, the father purchased and with his family removed to a farm of one hundred and forty acres near Mt. Morris, where he resided until the autumn of 1852, when he came to New Milford Township, this county, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of arable land and thirty acres of timber land. He bought it at \$16.50 per acre, but it is now worth \$100. His death occurred in 1858, at the age of sixty-four years. He left a widow and four sons: Willet and Stephen L., twins, Elias and Samuel E. Stephen died in New Milford Township, in May, 1882, at the age of fifty-eight years, leaving a wife and four children. His wife survived him five years. Elias died September 4, 1886, at the age of fifty-four years in Portland, Ore., and his remains were brought back to New Milford

for burial. His wife and two sons are still living. The parents of our subject were well-informed people, gave their children good educational advantages and reared them to habits of industry and sobriety. Not one of the sons ever used intoxicants or profane language. Two were church members and were Republicans in politics.

Mr. Haight was married on a farm adjoining his present home, April 7, 1857, his union being with Miss Agnes, daughter of Samuel and Adelia (Austin) Ramsey. They began their domestic life on the old homestead, a mile north of New Milford, and a year later rented the Ramsey farm, which Mr. Haight operated until August 12, 1862, when he enlisted for the late war in Company A, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry. He participated in a number of important engagements and on the first day of the battle of Gettysburg was seriously wounded in the jaw. After being in the hospital for some time he received his discharge, September 24, 1863.

On his return to the North, Mr. Haight settled upon his present farm on section 28, New Milford Township, and has since engaged in its operation. It comprises two hundred and four acres, for which he paid \$8,000. Since that he has made many improvements, having erected a comfortable residence, a barn, ice house and other buildings. In connection with general farming, he has engaged quite extensively in the dairy business and in raising hogs. He has led a busy and useful life and as the result has acquired a comfortable competence. He has served as Town Collector for six years but has never given much attention to political affairs. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church and have the high regard of all with whom they have been brought in contact.



SAMUEL ELI HOISINGTON, son of Horace and Priscilla Hoisington, is a worthy representative of one of the pioneer families of Winnebago County and comes of a prominent New England family. His parents emigrated Westward in May, 1846, and his birth occurred on the 29th of November, 1858. He received

good educational advantages and was reared on a farm near his present home. On the 6th of October, 1881, he married Miss Hattie Clayton, of Stillman Valley, a daughter of Joseph and Harriet (Norton) Clayton. Her father was born near Springfield, Mass., in November, 1813. His father was a New England farmer and had twenty-three children. About 1837, Mr. Clayton had his name changed from Phineas Crouch to James Monroe Clayton. He yet resides in Stillman Valley.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoisington settled on their present farm October 15, 1881. He now owns and operates one hundred and seventy-one acres, under a high state of cultivation and well improved with a good residence and other buildings. In connection with general farming, he carries on the dairy business, keeping thirty cows for this purpose, and also buys cream and milk which he ships to Chicago and Rockford. He is a man of good business ability and has won success in his undertakings. In politics, he was a Republican until 1881, since which time he has voted with the Prohibition party. Himself and wife are members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. They have an interesting family of four children: Herbert A., Homer L., Lucy L. and Florence.



DANIEL CARNEY. Among the prominent and enterprising farmers of Rockford Township, Winnebago County, none have a more beautiful home than he whose biographical sketch we take pleasure in here giving. In 1890, when the "boom" struck the city, he sold a portion of his estate, which adjoined the city, reserving only five acres for himself.

Marbletown, Ulster County, N. Y., was the native place of our subject, where also his father, Andrew Carney, was born, and where Daniel Carney, the grandfather of our subject, spent his last days. The father of him of whom we write was reared on the home farm and passed the remainder of his life in his native county. The maiden name of his wife was Laney Greene; she also died in Marbletown.

Daniel Carney resided with his parents until

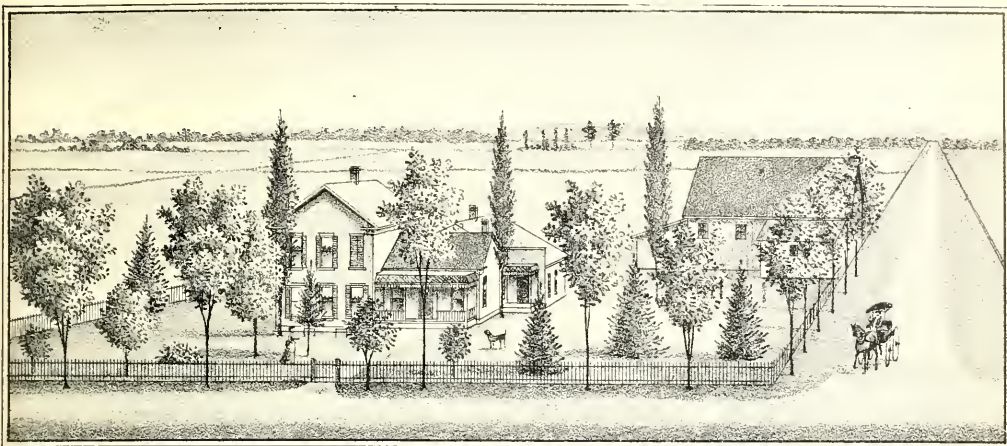
reaching his twelfth year, spending the following two and one-half years on the farm of an old couple, where he received his board and clothing in exchange for his services. He then commenced boating on the Delaware & Hudson Canal, being thus engaged a part of three seasons, after which he was employed in teaming across the mountains from Ellenville to Middletown. Later, he drove a stage from Ellenville to Kingston, and remained a resident of the Empire State until 1845, which was the date of his advent into Illinois, coming hither via the canal to Buffalo, and thence by way of the Lakes to Chicago.

In that early day there were no railroads in this State, the people being conveyed to and from different points by means of a stage coach. Mr. Carney was at once employed by Frink & Walker, the owners of many different stage lines in the Northwest, his route at first lying between Rockford and Chicago. He then went to Galena and drove a stage to Elizabeth, and afterward from Galena to Shabbona Grove, and then to Dixon. He was thus employed in different parts of the Prairie State until 1848, when he made a permanent settlement in Rockford, then little more than a hamlet.

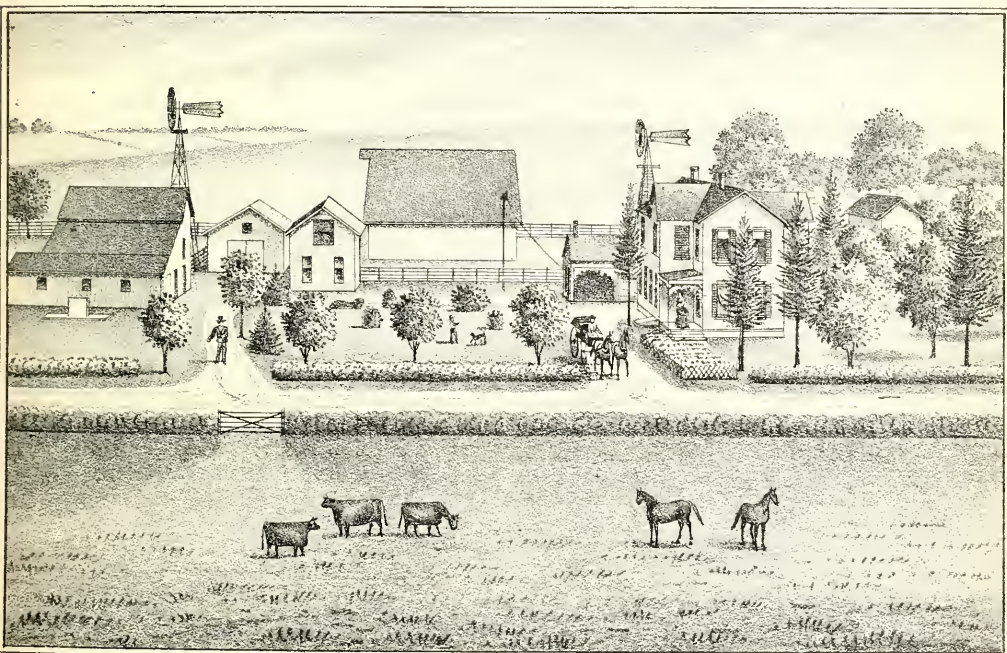
Forming a partnership with Dudley Redfield, Mr. Carney was engaged in the livery business for fourteen months, then, disposing of his interest, engaged in teaming from Rockford to Elgin, Chicago, Milwaukee, and points in Wisconsin two hundred miles distant. He was engaged in this kind of work for two years and then established a dray line, which was the first of the kind in Rockford, and after two years in that business became the first expressman in the city. He was very successful in that undertaking, and continued thus for fifteen years.

Mr. Carney has always been a great lover of fine horses and his experience in training them has led him to be a good judge of horseflesh. He owned and drove the first horse in Rockford whose record was 2:30, and also had in his possession the first stallion to make that record. He owns and now has under training several fine animals, and is thoroughly in love with his work.

In 1849, our subject was married to Jane Ann



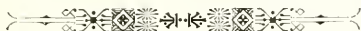
RESIDENCE OF DANIEL CARNEY, ROCKTON AV. & AUBURN ST. ROCKFORD, ILL.



RESIDENCE OF PALMER PICKARD, SEC. 21, HARLEM TP, WINNEBAGO CO, ILL.

Huntley, who was born in New York State, but was reared to womanhood in Michigan. She has two children living: Harry H., who makes his home in Iowa, and D. Fay, who is the assistant of his father. Julia died when thirty years of age, and Ann passed away in infancy.

On another page will be noticed a view of the attractive homestead of Mr. Carney.



HORACE E. HOISINGTON, residing on section 31, New Milford Township, has long been a resident of Winnebago County. He was born in Genesee County, N. Y., April 15, 1823, and is a son of Horace Hoisington, Sr., who was born in Vermont and died in New Milford in February, 1877, at the age of eighty-eight years. He married Gracia Maria Steele, a native of the Green Mountain State, who died in Genesee County, N. Y., when our subject was a small child. She left two sons and three daughters: Emily, wife of Bradford Clark, who died in Vermont at the age of twenty-six years; Elias, now of Nebraska; Eliza Ann, wife of Bradford Clark, who died in Vermont at the age of forty years, leaving three sons: Horace E., of this sketch; and Gracia Maria, wife of Carl Vose, of Danville, Ill.

Our subject was married in his native county, April 15, 1846, to Miss Priscilla Peck, daughter of Eli and Nancy (Smith) Peck, pioneer settlers of Saratoga County, N. Y. Her grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier, was captured by the British and while on one of the prison boats in New York Harbor, his toes were frozen off. Four of his brothers and his father aided in the struggle for independence and only two of the sons survived. The wedding trip of Mr. Hoisington and his bride consisted of a Westward journey to Illinois. They located in Guilford Township, this county, and after six months removed to Monroe, Ogle County, where our subject purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land for \$900, one hundred acres being covered with timber. For fourteen years Mr. Hoisington resided upon that farm and there built a good home. In those early days his nearest market was Chicago and the family bore many of the hard-

ships and privations of pioneer life. About 1859, he sold that farm and removed to his present home, where he purchased one hundred acres of land at \$25 per acre.

Unto our subject and his wife were born five children: Lucy Ann, who became the wife of William A. Johnston, died at the age of twenty-five. Her husband is now serving his third term as a Supreme Judge of Kansas. Emily died at the age of fourteen years; Julia Ann is the wife of Peter Kimmer, a farmer of Washington County, N. Y.; Eli is the next younger; and Gracia Maria, is at home with her father. The mother died January 19, 1886, at the age of sixty-four years. She was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, to which Mr. Hoisington also belongs. They aided in organizing the church at Lynnvile, Ogle County, in 1845. It was formed by people from the Methodist, the Free-will Baptist and other churches, but the Close-communication Baptist and Presbyterians would not affiliate. Mr. Hoisington aided in organizing the Republican party in Monroe Township, and attended the first county convention. For many years he was prominent in that party, but is now a Prohibitionist.



ARBA Z. CAMPBELL. No finer farm is to be found in Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County, than that owned and occupied by the subject of this sketch, and which is located on section 3. In fact, it is justly considered one of the finest places in the county, as it is under the most thorough tillage and the buildings upon it are of the best class in construction and design.

A native of Durand Township, this county, our subject is a son of David and Erixa (Barker) Campbell, and was born November 27, 1852. The father was a native of Grand Isle, Vt., and was twenty years of age when coming to this county. His birth occurred March 24, 1815, and his marriage to Miss Barker, who is also a native of the Green Mountain State, was celebrated February 16, 1840. Mrs. Campbell departed this life in Durand Township when sixty-nine years of age.

having been born February 10, 1825. She was the daughter of Asa and Molly (Mars) Barker, natives of New England and of Scotch descent. Asa died in Laona Township, Winnebago County, May 14, 1865, having been born May 30, 1781. His wife, who was born November 24, of the same year, also died in the above place, September 6, 1861. They were the parents of eleven children.

The father of our subject is the only one living of a family of twelve children. Deciding to see something more of the Western country, he came on foot from Lockport, Pa., to La Porte, Ind., thence overland by team to Pecatonica. Here he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land and marketed the products therefrom in the mining districts of Wisconsin and Chicago. David Campbell is one of the few pioneers left who came here as early as 1836, and has consequently been an eye-witness of the wonderful growth and development of this section.

Arba Z. Campbell was one of six children born to his parents, four of whom are living, as follows: Adeline, who was born June 30, 1847, is married and has three children; Louis L., who was born in 1858, is also married and has four children; Zeno A., who was born January 14, 1843, died October 31, 1891, leaving a wife and three children. Our subject remained at home until reaching his nineteenth year, when he cultivated rented property for a short time and then purchased a tract of land, to which he added from time to time until he is now the possessor of a magnificent estate of five hundred and sixty-seven acres.

Miss Eliza C. Hulse, who was born in Pecatonica Township, April 1, 1856, became the wife of our subject July 28, 1872. She is the daughter of P. and Elizabeth (Woodruff) Hulse, the former of whom was born in Clarke County, Ohio, and came to Illinois in a very early day. He located on a farm in this township, where his demise occurred when forty years of age. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Campbell, Henry Hulse, departed this life when sixty years of age; his wife, Mary Hulse, died in Salina, Kan., when in her seventieth year. The mother of Mrs. Campbell was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, and

reared six children, all of whom are living, as follows: Mary M., who was born May 3, 1850; Enos S., January 31, 1852; Mrs. Campbell; Jasper J., August 18, 1858; Ella L., September 7, 1860; and William H., November 5, 1864.

To Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have been born five children, four of whom are living: Ward D., whose birth occurred February 7, 1873, is attending college at Rockford; Burt P. was born December 25, 1877; Homer W., March 27, 1880; Floss A., March 25, 1885; and Starr H., who was born January 3, 1876, died February 5, 1877. Mr. Campbell, as before stated, has one of the finest farms in Northern Illinois, and, with his estimable wife, is most highly respected in this community. They have a beautiful home and a happy and intelligent family of children.

He of whom we write is engaged in mixed farming, devoting his attention principally to breeding stock. In politics, he is a Democrat, to which party he gives his support at the polls.



JOHNS ANDREWS. Among the prominent representative citizens of Rockford we are gratified to present the name of Mr. Andrews whose success here has certainly entitled him to consideration and whose constancy in every line of business and thrift have added greatly to the value of Winnebago County. Our subject was very fortunate in purchasing land adjoining the city, and as the years passed by and the property advanced in value, he, of course, became wealthy. His home is pleasantly located on the corner of School Street and Central Avenue, and bears every indication of the intelligence and culture of its inmates, being furnished with a splendid library which attests the family to be people of education.

John Andrews was born April 1, 1831, in Mt. Vernon, Posey County, Ind., and is the son of Anson S. Andrews, a native of Connecticut. The father when a young man went to New York City, where he was engaged in the mercantile business, but, on account of failing health, abandoned that branch of work, and emigrating to Indiana, be-

came one of the early settlers of Posey County. He there bought a claim to a tract of land which he later entered from the Government, and by persistent industry and good management, had the pleasure of soon seeing it put under excellent cultivation, and resided there until his death.

Miss Elizabeth Butler, our subject's mother, was born in Massachusetts, and departed this life at the home of Mr. Andrews, in Rockford. She was the mother of the following three children: John; Harriet, who became the wife of James Hinkley, and resides in Rockford; and Seth, who lives in Baraboo, Wis. He of whom we write attended the school in his native county, which was conducted on the subscription plan, and when quite young began to assist his father in operating a farm. He remained at home until the death of his father, which occurred when he was about twenty-three years of age, and at that time assumed the management of the farm. His father had been interested in a general store and flouring-mill, which were operated on the co-operative plan, and on his decease, Mr. Andrews devoted a portion of his time to the store and mill.

In 1857, our subject came to Washington County, this State, in company with his brother-in-law, James Hinkley, purchasing a tract of land on which they planted an orchard of eighty acres. The following year Mr. Andrews located upon the place, but two years after rented the farm and removed to Lincoln, and in the fall of 1861 came to Winnebago County. Here he purchased a block of land in the city and the following year became the proprietor of a farm one mile west of the city limits but did not move upon the place, continuing to reside in the home which he first purchased until 1889. In 1876, our subject bought forty acres adjoining his first purchase, to which he added, two years later, one hundred and nine acres, eighty of which joined the city. In 1880, he purchased one hundred and twenty-six acres, which connected with the eighty-acre tract above mentioned, and in 1885 sold the first eighty acres with the forty acres adjoining it, and again in 1889 sold a tract of fifteen acres. In January, 1890, Mr. Andrews disposed of sixty acres of his property to B. A. Knight, the originator of the "boom" in this city.

The remainder of the farm he still has in his possession, and it is improved with all that goes to make up a first-class estate.

September 21, 1858, John Andrews and Miss Mirinda Piper, who was born in this State, were united in marriage. The lady is the daughter of the Rev. Beverly Piper and has borne her husband three sons: Charles N., Harry B., and Ernest J. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews attend the Christian Church, and, in politics, the former casts the weight of his vote and influence with the Republican party.



WILLIAM A. PHELPS. The record of the life of this pioneer farmer of Winnebago County furnishes interesting facts for the perusal of his fellow-men. In the fall of 1849, accompanied by his estimable wife, he settled on a farm in Rockton Township, comprising one hundred and thirty acres, for which he paid \$1,040. The place was improved by a small barn and a log house, to which a frame addition had been erected, while the land was scarcely changed from the primeval condition of nature.

As he had only \$48 in his possession, Mr. Phelps was compelled to go in debt for his farm, and during the first winter of his residence upon it, chopped wood in exchange for one bushel of wheat per day, the wheat bringing thirty-five cents per bushel. He hauled his first crop of wheat to the lead mines near Galena, and received as compensation \$2.50 per barrel for the flour which was made in Beloit. From the first, he was indefatigable in his efforts to acquire an independence, and success crowned his exertions, as it usually does, when with perseverance is combined excellent judgment.

The original purchase was added to until Mr. Phelps now owns six hundred and fifty-seven acres of fertile land. In 1857, he erected a substantial frame house, which he remodeled and enlarged in 1883, making it one of the most commodious and pleasant residences in the county. Other buildings were erected as the convenience of the farmer demanded, until the place was transformed in its appearance and embellishments.

In that part of Allegany County now known as Wyoming County, N. Y., Mr. Phelps was born April 6, 1825. He is one of ten children born to James and Phoebe (Resigue) Phelps, natives of Schoharie County, N. Y. Five children died in infancy, and Austin died in Alexander, N. Y., at the age of sixty-four, dropping dead while leading a prayer meeting; James Harvey, who was a volunteer during the late war, died in a hospital at Annapolis, Md., in 1863. The only surviving members of the family are William A., Lovisa and Louisa. The father died in 1844, at his home in Cattaraugus County, while his wife passed away eighteen years after his demise.

At the age of twenty-three, our subject was married to Miss Mary Jane Lippitt. Her parents, Dr. John W. and Almira (Jocelyn) Lippitt, natives of New York, removed to Illinois in 1837, when she was a child of eleven years. Arriving in Chicago on the overland journey to Winnebago County, an elder sister, Maria, jumped out of the wagon on what is now Clark Street, and sank so deep in the mud that it required considerable effort to extricate her. Dr. Lippitt had purchased, during a previous visit to Winnebago County, one-half section of land, for which he gave in payment one pair of horses, \$80 in cash and his note for \$40. Returning to the land, he found the claim was worthless, owing to the Government having given it as a reservation for half-breeds. Accordingly, he crossed the Pecatonica River and purchased a claim to another half-section of land, where a permanent home was established. In 1840, the wife and mother passed away, leaving three daughters and one son; Maria Louisa, Mary Jane, Francis and Ann Phidelia. The only son died of heart disease at the age of twenty-seven; the three daughters still survive. Dr. Lippitt married a second time, choosing as his wife Mrs. Almira Warren, and they became the parents of five children. He died in 1864, and his widow departed hence eight months after his demise.

On removing West in 1849, Mr. and Mrs. Phelps settled on the farm which they have since occupied. They became the parents of eight children, as follows: Byron W.; Mary Fidelia, the wife of Frank P. Miller, of Latham, this State; Ella Viola,

who died June 16, 1868; William H., who is farming a portion of the old homestead; Carey E., dealer in grain and stock in Rockton; Hattie E., who married A. M. Wilson, of Thomson, Ill.; George H., who is still with his parents; and Rosa L., the wife of George Peppers, who assists in cultivating the old homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps are justly proud of, and devoted to, their ten grandchildren. In their religious belief, they are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically, Mr. Phelps was a Republican until 1884, and since that year has adhered to the principles of the Prohibition party. He is President of the Co-operative Cheese Factory, and gave the land on which the building was erected. His son is Director in this factory, which has been in successful operation for two seasons, making about sixty-eight thousand pounds of choice cream cheese which is consumed at the home markets. Our subject has been Steward of the Methodist Episcopal Church for twenty-five years, and has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school for about eight years.



GUSTAVE SANDELM, the well-known clerk and manager of the cloak department of the Stewart Company Dry Goods House, one of the leading houses of the city, has been with that company, though it has changed names, since 1881. He was formerly with Mr. Withrow of this city for one year. In 1877, he began as a clerk with P. L. Cable & Co., of Cable, Ill., and since then he has successfully followed that business. For ten years he was in the cloak department for Stewart & Co., and for three years he has been manager of that department. He is a stockholder in the Rockford Manufacturing Company, is an honorable and straightforward young man, and possesses rare business abilities. He owns a fine home, nicely located on one of the best residence streets of the city, and is a favorite in the community.

Mr. Sandelm came to this country in 1876, from Sweden, his native country, where his birth occurred in Jonkoping City on the 3d of June, 1861. He was well educated in the High Schools of his



Yours Very Truly
P. A. Peterson

native city, and was a student of English, French, German and his own language. While still a boy, he accompanied his parents to this country, whither many of their relatives and friends had preceded them, and the family located in Galway, for one year. Later they came to Rockford.

The father, Charles A. Sandehn, was born in Smoland, Sweden, and was a tailor from boyhood up. He died in Rockford in February, 1889, when fifty-five years of age, following his wife to the grave, her death having occurred in January, 1889, when forty-nine years of age. Both were worthy members of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church of Rockford. Of the nine children born to their marriage, six are dead. One daughter, Olive H., born August 10, 1861, died July 7, 1890; the rest died in infancy; one son, Harold, is residing with our subject, and is in the city schools, and a daughter, Anna, became the wife of William A. Johnson, a machinist, with the Rockford Watch Company.

The original of our sketch was married in Rockford, August 7, 1888, to Miss Caroline Johnson, the second daughter of A. C. Johnson (see sketch). She was born in Rockford, May 27, 1864, received her scholastic training in this city, and is a bright, intelligent lady. The fruits of this union have been two sons: Carl H., and Casper Wilhelm. Mr. and Mrs. Sandehn attend the First Lutheran Church of Rockford, in which they have been members for some time, and, in politics, he is a supporter of the Republican party.



PA. PETERSON. The Swedish-Americans are well represented in Rockford and have been effective in promoting the growth of the city, especially in the way of building up large and substantial manufactures. They are a steady, industrious class of people, employ in the aggregate several thousand men, and through their labors have enhanced the value of property in East Rockford. Probably no one has done more for the city than Mr. Peterson, whose portrait is shown on the opposite page, and who is identified with

many of the most important industries of Rockford.

Among the furniture companies largely directed by Mr. Peterson, we may mention the following: Union, Excelsior, Co-Operative, Standard, Mantel, Central, and Chair and Furniture Company. He is also closely connected with the Royal Sewing Machine Company, Skandia Plow Company and Skandia Coal Company. He is officially connected with various organizations, being Secretary and Treasurer of the Rockford Union Furniture Company; President of the Rockford Co-Operative Furniture Company; President of the Skandia Shoe Manufacturing Company; President of the Swedish Building & Loan Association; Vice-President of the Third National Bank; President of the Skandia Plow Company; Vice-President of the Rockford Poster & Printing Company; and Chairman of the Peterson Land Association.

Mr. Peterson was born in Ving Vestergotland, Province of Smoland, Sweden, September 8, 1848, and was only two years old when his parents emigrated to this country, taking passage at Gottenburg in a sailing-vessel and after a voyage of several weeks landing in New York City. Continuing their journey Westward, they finally reached Winnebago County, where they settled on a farm in Cherry Valley. In that township, the lad grew to a stalwart manhood, and soon afterward his natural business qualifications brought him to Rockford, where his fidelity and ability were recognized and he was in demand for the best places of trust in the gift of various corporations. With no capital but energy and perseverance, he has arisen from a position of poverty in his boyhood to a foremost place among the wealthy citizens of Rockford, and although only in life's prime has accumulated a large fortune.

As he possesses keen discernment, Mr. Peterson was quick to see the advantages of Rockford as a furniture manufacturing point, and also the benefits that would accrue from the co-operative plan. Having planned, he resolutely proceeded to execute, and is now interested and an active manager in more factories than any resident of the place, which has the full average quota of energetic business men. He is largely interested in property in

East Rockford, especially in Sunrise Addition and Furnitureville, and has improved the city by erecting a large number of residences. In his political belief, he is an adherent of the principles of the Republican party and gives to its candidates his influence and ballot. In his religious tendencies, he is devoted to the faith of his father, who was a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church. He is social by nature, but the demands of his business are so great as to prevent him from identifying himself with any secret or social organizations.



KORAH BRIGGS, a retired farmer, and one of the old and much respected settlers of Winnebago County, Ill., owes his nativity to Johnstown, Fulton County, N. Y., and was born April 8, 1811. His parents, Korah and Elizabeth (Scarboro) Briggs, were natives of the same place, and the father followed the arduous duties of a farmer. To their union were born three children, two daughters and a son, the latter being our subject, who was but an infant when his father died. Eight years later, the mother, too, passed away, when but a young woman. One besides our subject of the above-mentioned children is now living, Anna, who became Mrs. John Stevens, and resides in Minnesota.

Our subject was reared on a farm in Fulton County and after reaching mature years was married in Johnstown, of that county, to Miss Thankful A. Bonfey, a native of the same place, born October 20, 1815, their nuptials being celebrated on the 14th of January, 1841. She was the daughter of Barnabas Bonfey, of Utica, N. Y., and the granddaughter of Barnabas Bonfey, of France, who came to this country with Gen. La Fayette, as a surgeon, and died in Oneida County, Winfield Township, N. Y., in 1822, when very old. Barnabas Bonfey, Jr., who was a cabinet-maker by trade in Johnstown village, died in New York State when over ninety years of age, and his wife, whose maiden name was Mary Smith, died there five years later, when ninety-one years of age.

In the spring of 1812, Mr. Briggs came West prospecting, worked considerably at his trade, and

purchased eighty acres in the township of Harlem. The following spring, after a noted winter of deep snows and very cold weather, Mr. Briggs brought his family to his home in Harlem Township. Two years later, he sold this farm and purchased ninety-two acres in section 8 (1841), paying \$6.10 per acre for it. He could have purchased Government land near by for \$1.25 per acre, but this he took on a debt. Later he purchased five acres of timber and paid for this \$500. In the spring of 1845, Mr. Briggs moved his family on his farm and into a very rude, open log cabin, the same having been the original claim cabin. They then had but one child, the eldest, Barnabas D., who is now a resident blacksmith of Roscoe. In this primitive log cabin, with new and strange surroundings, Mr. Briggs and his thrifty and economical wife began gradually to gather around them everything necessary for a comfortable home. They resided on this farm until August, 1891, when they moved to Roscoe, where they recently purchased a very pleasant home. Their grandson, Charles O. Briggs, is renting the farm. Mr. Briggs erected a good stone house on his farm in 1840, and in 1857 he built a good frame barn. Since then he has erected good substantial buildings on his place, as he needed them, and his fine farm is now worth at least \$60 per acre.

The competency which this genial and contented old couple are now enjoying has been gained by many years of industry and economy on the part of both. They are the parents of a family of four children, and lost one son, Korah J., who enlisted as a volunteer in the Civil War (one of the last call), and was in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry for one year. He died at Fairfax Court House, March 15, 1865, when twenty-one years of age. Another son, Barnabas B., was in the army, going out at the first call for troops, but after serving for five months was discharged on account of sickness. The remaining children are as follows: Barnabas D.; John Q., a merchant at Houston, Minn.; and Mary Elizabeth, now Mrs. E. W. Dyer, of San Diego, Cal., engaged with an orange grove. Mr. and Mrs. Briggs have twelve grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. They have both been members of the Congregational Church since

youth, and are highly esteemed by all. Mr. Briggs advocated the principles of the Democratic party from early youth and his last Presidential vote in that party was for Franklin Pierce. Mrs. Briggs converted him to Republicanism, since which time he has voted the straight Republican ticket. This much esteemed couple are the oldest of the early settlers of Roscoe, and both are nearing the eightieth mile-stone.



ANCIL WIXON occupies a farm on section 19, Bonus Township, Boone County, which is sufficiently large to afford a comfortable maintenance. He makes a specialty of breeding stock and has one of the largest dairy farms in this section. He is numbered among that class who have been the architects of their own fortunes and is counted among the substantial residents of Boone County.

A native of Carmel, Putnam County, N. Y., our subject was born May 24, 1838, and is a son of Bethel H. and Esther (Hill) Wixon, the former of whom was also a native of Putnam County and a farmer by occupation. In 1855, he decided to come West, and, in company with his wife and two children, located in Boone County, where he purchased a quarter-section of land and resided until his decease, when seventy-seven years of age. Our subject had an uncle on his mother's side who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. His parents made their home with him until their demise; the mother, who was born March 8, 1801, died October 1, 1861, and the father, whose birth occurred September 18, 1805, passed away August 18, 1882.

Mr. Wixon of this sketch was married November 10, 1860, to Miss Julia Hart, who was born in the same place as our subject, January 10, 1830. She was the daughter of Eleazer and Rebecca (Barrett) Hart, also natives of the Empire State. The father died in his native place when seventy-two years of age, and the mother is still living and makes her home in Connecticut.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wixon have been born three children: Noah A., whose birth occurred February

27, 1861, married Miss Fannie Phillips and is engaged in farming; Nellie, who was born September 3, 1873, and Lillie, who was born December 8, 1875, still reside at home. After his marriage, he of whom we write resided at home until the death of his father, when he purchased the interest of the other heirs in the homestead, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres. In addition to that, he owns a portion of one hundred and fifty acres which he purchased in company with his son. As before stated, he has the finest dairy farm in the county and reaps a handsome income from that branch of agriculture.

Our subject and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, with which denomination Mr. Wixon has been connected for thirty-five years. One brother of Mrs. Wixon was a brave soldier in the late war, and her maternal grandfather was a Revolutionary patriot. Mr. Wixon is a Republican in politics, but is not interested in public affairs other than to cast his vote for the man whom he considers will best fill the office. With his wife, he is held in respect by their many warm friends throughout the county.



EDWIN W. McCOLLOM. The student of human nature is always deeply interested in tracing the career of one who has fought his way up to a position of prominence and financial success by dint of pluck, push and energy, and who has, notwithstanding the struggles of his youth, maintained a well-earned reputation for uprightness and just consideration of the rights of others. Such has been the career of the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs. His farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he purchased in 1876, has been brought to a high state of cultivation and embellished with a first-class set of farm buildings. It is not only one of the best in Le Roy Township, but does not suffer by comparison with any of the same size in Boone County.

The father of our subject, James A. McCollom, was born in New Hampshire in 1803, and in his early manhood came to Michigan, where he was

married to Lucetta Walker, who, like himself, was a native of the Granite State, born in 1813. She had emigrated from her native place to Michigan in 1821, with her parents, the trip being made overland to Buffalo, and thence by the Lakes to Detroit, where Mr. Walker died in 1856. His widow passed away two years later at Amboy, Ill.

After their marriage, which took place at Farmington, Mich., in 1832, James A. McCollum and his wife resided in Indiana until the spring of 1836, when they removed to Illinois and settled on a farm near Sycamore, De Kalb County. They entered from the Government a farm comprising about one hundred and twenty acres, forty acres of which were heavily timbered land, and cleared the place, which they improved with all needed buildings. They cut down and saved the ash and basswood lumber, some of which they brought to Boone County and used in flooring their house.

On coming to Boone County in 1848, Mr. McCollum, Sr., purchased eighty acres near Capron, paying \$300 for the place, which was unimproved. At his death, which occurred in 1868, he left his widow an estate of ninety-one acres of unincumbered land. He and his wife reared five daughters and three sons, and lost a child during their residence in De Kalb County. The others are Lucetta and James A., twins; Edwin W., of this sketch; Martha R., who died at Le Roy, in 1882, at the age of forty-three years; Addie P.; Lozie A., Ella and Watson L. James A., Jr., enlisted in 1861, at Dixon, as a member of the Thirtieth Illinois Infantry, and was mortally wounded at Lingo Gap, Ga., in November, 1863, at the age of twenty-eight years. He was buried in the National Cemetery at that place.

Edwin W. McCollum was born in De Kalb County, Ill., in 1837, and was a lad of eleven years when he accompanied his parents to Boone County. Nothing eventful occurred in his life until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he enlisted, in 1861, as a member of Company F, Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry, being mustered in at Galena Ill. He served eighteen months with valor, and, at the expiration of his term of enlistment, was honorably discharged. He returned to his home in Le Roy Township, and resumed the farming operations which had engaged his attention prior to the war.

In October, 1873, at Sharon, Wis., Mr. McCollum was united in marriage to Miss Clarisa Langdon, of Le Roy. She is the daughter of B. F. and Dorothy (Guiles) Langdon, natives, respectively, of Ohio and Wyoming County, N. Y., but now residing in Sharon, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. McCollum are the parents of five children: Della, Lillian, Ray F., Ruby E. and Edna L. The children are bright and intelligent and are receiving good educations in the schools of the district. Mr. McCollum and his wife take an active interest in all progressive and philanthropic measures and are prominent in social circles of the community.



SIMEON LEVI COVEY, a lumber-dealer of Belvidere, has been prominently connected with the business interests of this city since 1863, and is recognized as a leader in business circles. He was born near Mayville, Chautauqua County, N. Y., February 1, 1834, and is a son of Stephen Covey, a native of Vermont, who, when a young man, went to the Empire State. Settling in Chautauqua County, he purchased a tract of land near Mayville and engaged in the manufacture of shingles until 1839, when with his wife and four children he started for Illinois. After three weeks they arrived at Belvidere, which at that time was a mere hamlet, while the surrounding country was still in the possession of the Government and was but sparsely settled. Mr. Covey spent the winter in Belvidere and in the spring rented a farm, upon which he made his home until 1841, when he purchased a tract of land at Poplar Grove. A log house and a few acres of broken land constituted the improvements at the time. He there resided until 1850, when he sold and purchased on the west line of the same township, but again sold in 1853 and bought a farm in Boone Township, where he made his home for four years. Once again purchasing, he became the owner of a farm in Caledonia Township, upon which he made his home until his death August 21, 1885. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Susan Jenner, was born in Moriah, Essex County,



Yours Truly
William H. Alley

N. Y., July 4, 1810, and was a daughter of Stephen and Betsy (Mather) Jenner. She died at her home in Caledonia Township, in August, 1882, leaving five children: Henry, Eliza, S. L., Edwin and Ellen. Alonzo died three weeks after the arrival of the family in Belvidere, at the age of three years.

Our subject was only five years old when he came to Illinois with his parents, yet he remembers distinctly many incidents of the journey and of pioneer life here. He acquired his education in a log schoolhouse, in one end of which was a huge fireplace, the flames roaring upward through an earth and stick chimney. The seats were made of slabs on wooden pins, and on two sides of the room a log board was laid on wooden pins inserted into the logs and served as a writing desk for the larger scholars. Mr. Covey remained with his parents until fourteen years of age and then began to learn the blacksmith's trade, serving an apprenticeship of four years, but as he did not like the occupation, he returned to the farm and at the time of his marriage purchased land of his father and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1863.

It was in 1853 that Mr. Covey and Miss Eliza Webster were joined in wedlock. The lady was born in Hamburg, N. Y., and was a daughter of William and Esther Webster. She died in June, 1873, leaving a son, George, who married Cecelia Haskin and they have a little daughter, Cecelia. In 1875, Mr. Covey married Elizabeth Porter, a native of Garden Prairie, Boone County, Ill., and a daughter of Thomas Porter. They have one daughter, Lottie.

In 1863, Mr. Covey left the farm, came to Belvidere and embarked in the lumber business, which he carried on for three years, and then engaged in buying and shipping stock until 1881. His next venture was in the grocery trade, which he carried on for three years, when he sold out to resume the lumber business, which he has continued up to the present time. He is an enterprising and industrious man and, as a result, his business career has been a successful one. In politics, he has been a life-long Republican and has served two years as Deputy Sheriff, and for three terms was the efficient Sheriff of the county. At the present time

he is a member of the School Board. He has been alike true to every public duty and every private trust and has won the confidence and esteem of the entire community.



WILLIAM HALLEY, a native of Newbury, Orange County, Vt., was born June 29, 1812. David Halley, his father, was a native of Fifeshire, Scotland, where his father, William Halley, was also born, and on coming to America located in Vermont. The great-grandfather of our subject on his mother's side, David Webster, was also born in Scotland and emigrated to America at an early day, residing for a few years in Vermont. He then removed to Wisconsin, where he was one of the pioneers of Winnebago County, and died at his home near Oshkosh, in his ninety-seventh year. At one time, himself, his son, grandson and great-grandson, the latter a lad of sixteen years, all bound wheat in the same field.

The paternal grandfather of our subject made two or three trips across the ocean and on the last voyage, some of the passengers having ship fever, the vessel was in consequence quarantined at Montreal, and while attempting to land there William Halley fell from the vessel and was drowned in the St. Lawrence River. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Mackey, and was also a native of Scotland, where her decease occurred.

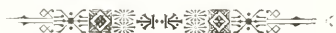
David Halley was about twenty years of age when he came to America, and, learning the trade of a shoemaker, acted as foreman in a factory at Lynn, Mass., for some time. Later, he bought land and engaged in farming in Newbury, Vt., residing there until 1866, which was the date of his removal to Illinois. Settling in Owen Township, Mr. Halley resided there until his decease. He had been married to Isabel Webster, of Fifeshire, Scotland, the daughter of David and Agnes (Sharp) Webster. She is still living and residing on the old home farm.

The original of this sketch received a fair education and remained at home until 1864, when he came to Illinois and was employed on a farm for

two years. He then rented land for a time, and in the year 1868, going to Blackhawk County, Iowa, farmed for four years in Lincoln Township. Disposing of that tract, he again purchased in this county, and here made his home until 1883, at which time he purchased the farm where he is now residing. His estate includes three hundred and ten acres of excellent and rich soil.

January 29, 1871, Mr. Halley was married to Elizabeth Simpson, a native of Burritt Township, and a daughter of David Simpson, of Forfarshire, Scotland. Her paternal grandfather, John Simpson, spent his entire life in that country. The father of Mrs. Halley was married in Scotland, and, on coming to America in 1843, lived for three years in Rockford, at the end of which time he located in Burritt Township on a tract of Government land, and there resided until his death. Her mother was also a native of Forfarshire, Scotland, and bore the name of Jane Archer. She was a daughter of George and Margaret (Smith) Archer and is residing with her children. She bore her husband six children, namely: George, Margaret, Jane, Rebecca, Martha and Mrs. Halley, twins. The parents of our subject also reared six children: William, Marion, David, Robert, Agnes and Edward.

Our subject and his wife have been granted a family of six children, who bear the names of David, William Henry, Frank E., Isabel, George and Jennie. Mrs. Halley is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Winnebago. In politics, our subject votes independently. In connection with his biographical notice will be found a portrait of Mr. Halley.



HON. J. STANLEY BROWNE, editor in chief of the *Morning Star* of Rockford, has held that position since its inception, March 10, 1888. The staff consists of R. B. Johnson, city editor, and Frank Edmison, reporter. The sheet is strictly Democratic, and is a strong advocate of Cleveland. It is very influential in its party, being the only avowed Democratic paper in Winnebago County. It has a large

circulation, its columns being perused by thousands of readers. It affords pleasure to the biographical writer to incorporate in this volume the sketch of the genial editor-in-chief, who demonstrates the fact that editors, like poets, are born, not made. The qualities which make a successful journalist are inbred, and no amount of study can supply the lack of a keenness of observation, acute perceptions of the tastes of the public, and accurate judgment on matters treated in various departments of a newspaper.

The *Morning Star* is a seven-column, eight-paged paper, issued daily, and be it said to the credit of the management, that nearly all the workmen who were employed in its publication at the beginning are still on the force. Mr. Browne has had considerable experience in the newspaper line in New York State, having been employed on the Albany *Argus*. While thus engaged, he took an active part in politics, and prior to reaching his majority stumped the State for Tilden, in the campaign of 1876, also making speeches in Indiana and Ohio. He was later twice elected on the Democratic ticket to the New York Legislature from Otsego County, in which he had previously served as page, messenger and reporter. He was very prominent in local affairs, and previous to the time above spoken of, was Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and was Secretary for a period of five years to Lieut.-Gov. Dorsheimer, during the time Tilden was Governor, and consequently became intimately acquainted with that gentleman and many other prominent men of the Legislature. His political record in the Empire State was a brilliant one, but his "*Star*" finally settled in the West, where he has since given his best efforts to making it rank among the best in Northern Illinois. He is a forcible writer, and while in politics had the reputation of being an eloquent speaker. While in the Legislature he was the youngest man in the assembly, in which he was an active worker, and was also a prominent member of the congressional and State conventions.

The Hon. Mr. Browne has made a success of all his undertakings. He was born in Albany, N. Y., thirty-seven years ago, where he received his education in the city schools. Becoming interested

in early life in newspaper work, he was carrier boy, when quite young, for the papers of that city. It will thus be readily seen that through his persistent industry and good judgment, he has attained to his present high standing among his brethren in the newspaper world, and it is his ambition to go on until he shall have attained to the topmost round of the ladder of fame. His parents lived and died in New York State, where they were well-to-do and honored citizens.

Our subject, since coming to Illinois, has made many political speeches in Winnebago County, in behalf of his party. He was married in his native State to Miss Tallmadge, who was born in Otsego County, where she was given an excellent education in the public schools. She is a most intelligent and refined lady and a leader in the social circles of Rockford. Her father was a soldier in the Rebellion, and her grandfather was a patriot in the Revolutionary War. In her religious belief, she is a Methodist.

Socially, our subject is a member of the Order of Elks, Lodge No. 64, of Rockford, and, in politics, is a straight out-and-out Democrat.



CYRUS D. FOX, who resides on a farm on sections 9 and 10, Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, has been a resident of this county since pioneer days. He has been an eye-witness to almost the entire growth of the county, has aided in its development and done all in his power for its upbuilding and advancement. To the early settlers a debt of gratitude is due which can never be repaid, but we can honor them as the founders of the county.

Mr. Fox was born in Parkman, Geauga County, Ohio, August 28, 1821. His grandfather, Israel Fox, was one of the old New Englanders who opposed the Puritans in their oppression of the Quakers. He was a farmer and one of the first to grow the Weathersfield onion, which became an important industry in his locality. He spent the most of his life in New England and died at the home of his children in Mentor, Ohio, in 1836, at the age of ninety-three years. Our subject re-

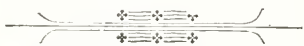
members him as an old man making whistles and squirtguns for his grandchildren.

Samuel Fox, father of Cyrus, was born in Glastonbury, Conn., May 3, 1791, and died in Paris, Mecosta County, Mich., in 1885, at the age of ninety-three years. His second wife, the mother of our subject, was Hannah Daniels, of Koenstreet, N. H., a daughter of Aaron Daniels, one of the pioneers of Mentor, Ohio. Our subject had four own brothers and three sisters: Abigail, Delana, Abner, Samuel, Laura, Sidney and Amos. Four died in infancy and all have now passed away. Delana, wife of Sanbern Rawso, a pioneer of Michigan, died in Coldwater, that State, at the age of seventy-one years. Samuel Fox had thirteen children by his three wives. Two sons, Sidney and Abraham, were volunteer soldiers in the Fourth Cavalry of Michigan, the former doing duty at Fortress Monroe. Sidney was one of fourteen who captured Jeff Davis. He is a farmer and a mechanic of Central Kansas and the only survivor of the family except our subject.

Cyrus Fox was a lad of fourteen summers when his mother died, and at that age he began earning his own livelihood. He afterward joined his family in Manhattan, Ohio, and assisted his father in running an hotel for three years. At the age of seventeen, he left home and from the wages earned the first year paid his father \$100 for his time. He worked on a farm that was the home of President Garfield and in that vicinity until twenty-four years of age, when he engaged in teaching. As a companion on life's journey, he chose Miss Lucy N., daughter of Phineas and Esther (Gore) Nichols. They were married in Perry, Lake County, Ohio, March 16, 1845, and a year later they came to what is now Roscoe, locating on their present farm on sections 9 and 10, Roscoe Township. Those pioneer days were very happy. In a little log cabin with their first baby they lived, and though many privations were to be endured, time passed merrily. Mr. Fox's first landed possessions consisted of eighty acres, a gift from his wife's father, and another eighty acres, which he purchased at \$4 per acre. He also bought an adjoining forty-acre tract at \$25 per acre. Both he and his wife were taken ill after coming here and had it not been for the

faithful nursing of friends they would have died. They had lost one of their twin babies while en route for Illinois but reared four children. The twins, Esther Louisa and Lucy Eliza, were born January 7, 1846; Mary Delana was born in Roseoe, December 23, 1851; Cyrus M. was born November 26, 1855; and Lucy E., now the wife of Herbert S. Power, was born April 5, 1863.

In 1891, Mr. Fox was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 22d of December, at the age of seventy-two years and was laid to rest in a cemetery near by. She was a life-long member of the Baptist Church and Mr. Fox and the children also belong to the same congregation. The latter have all settled on farms near the parental home. In politics, Mr. Fox is a Democrat and one of the honored citizens of the community.



DAVID SAMPLE is at present residing on an excellent farm comprising one hundred and sixty acres, located on section 34, Owen Township, Winnebago County.

The entire acreage is under the best methods of improvement and cultivation, its proprietor having erected all the suitable buildings on the place, planted fruit and shade trees, and in many other ways has added to its beauty and value. He ranks among the best agriculturists in the township, where he is looked upon as an upright and honest citizen.

Born in Shaler Township, Allegheny County, Pa., July 6, 1813, our subject is a son of William Sample, whose birth occurred on the same farm as did that of our subject, July 28, 1800. The paternal grandfather of him of whom we write, James Sample, was a native of Cumberland County, Pa., his birth occurring March 25, 1756. He was of Scotch ancestry and served during the Revolutionary War, under Gen. Washington. He located in Allegheny County at the cessation of hostilities, and, securing a tract of Government land in Shaler Township, began the work of redeeming it from its original wildness. Mr. Sample was captain of a company of militia men and while on duty his

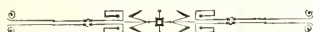
wife and children were taken prisoners by the Indians but were rescued the same night by a squaw to whom the grandfather of our subject had given clothing. While the Indians were having a war dance, the squaw secured a canoe and released the prisoners.

The direct progenitor of our subject was reared an agriculturist and resided on the farm where he was born seventy-one years. He later removed to Sharpsburg, where his death occurred in 1891, at the advanced age of ninety-one years. He had married Jane Anderson, also a native of Pennsylvania, where her birth occurred January 16, 1807. Mrs. Sample departed this life in Sharpsburg in 1882; she was the daughter of Robert and Christina Anderson, and became the mother of eight children, namely: Robert A., James, John, Martha, William Hayes, Margaret J., David and Elizabeth A.

He of whom we write was educated in his native town and resided on the home farm until the outbreak of the Civil War when he enlisted, July 4, 1861, in Company A, Sixty-second Pennsylvania Infantry, and was mustered into service at Pittsburg. From there the company went to Harrisburg, where they remained for two weeks and then spent a like period in Baltimore. Later, they went to Washington, D. C., and after a stay there of a month, were sent to Arlington Heights, and went into winter quarters near Falls Church. In the spring of 1862, the Sixty-second Infantry marched to Fairfax Courthouse, but were quickly ordered to Alexandria and there took transports for Fortress Monroe and after a short time spent there marched to Big Bethel and later to Yorktown. Our subject participated with his regiment in the battle and siege of that place and at Hanover Courthouse, Mechanicsville, Gaines Mills and Malvern Hills. In the latter battle, he was severely wounded in the right arm and hip and was taken to the hospital at Bedloe's Island. As soon as he was sufficiently recovered, he started to join his regiment, but instead of being allowed to do so was placed on detached duty at Ft. Hamilton. He later joined his regiment just in time to participate in the battle of Mine Run, and after that was employed in guarding the railroad from Manassas to

Bealeton Station until starting with Gen. Grant on the Wilderness campaign. Mr. Sample was discharged in July, 1864, his term of service having expired, and returning home again resumed farming on the old homestead until 1871. The following five years were spent in traveling, and in 1876 our subject bought the farm which he now owns and occupies, which comprises the northwest quarter of section 34.

In 1876, Miss Milinda Steward became the wife of our subject. She was born in Owen Township, and is the daughter of James and Mary Steward. By her union with our subject have been born three children, Steward, Ross and Leota. In his political relations, our subject is a strong Republican, and being a Grand Army man is prominently connected with Nevins Post No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford. He is also a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benevolent Association. Mr. Sample has in his possession the clock that ticked in his grandfather's old log house nearly one hundred years ago. It reaches from the floor nearly to the ceiling and is in fine repair, keeping correct time.



OSMAN S. NICHOLS, who formerly resided on a good farm in Bonus Township, Boone County, but is at present living in Garden Prairie, had his birth in Crown Point, Essex County, N. Y., September 28, 1830. His parents were John and Asenath D. (Edmonds) Nichols, the former of whom died in Michigan when sixty-three years of age. The mother of our subject was also a native of New Hampshire and died at the home of her son in Kansas in her eightieth year.

He of whom we write was one of a family of ten children, six of whom are living. His brother Orrin was a member of the Eleventh Michigan Infantry during the late war and was killed at the battle of Stone River, having enlisted in the three-years' service. Osman S., March 22, 1859, was married to Miss Emma Koon, a native of Steuben County, N. Y., where her birth occurred May 6, 1838. She was the daughter of Alanson and Marilla (Wells) Koon, natives of Albany

County, N. Y., and who died after coming to Hillsdale County, Mich., at the respective ages of sixty-eight and sixty-one years. Mrs. Nichols had seven brothers and sisters, five of whom are living. She is of German and Welsh ancestry, while our subject is descended from the English.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nichols have been born four children, only two of whom are living, namely, Nellie M., who was born October 12, 1861, and married John W. Kiester, whose birth occurred near Orangeville, Stephenson County, this State; he is Principal of the Garden Prairie High School, and received his education in the University of Madison, Wis., and at Carthage, Ill. Mrs. Kiester was educated at the Jennings Seminary at Aurora, Ill., and is the mother of one son, Glenn S., who was born July 19, 1891. Eugene Nichols, the second child of our subject, was born October 31, 1863, and married Essie McCuen, by whom he has become the father of one son, Roland O., whose birth occurred June 29, 1891. Mr. Nichols is engaged in general merchandising in Rush Center, Rush County, Kan., and was given a good education in Aurora.

He of whom we write went to California in 1853, where he was engaged in mining and farming for five years. He was a lad of eleven years when he left home and engaged to work for an uncle, with whom he remained until reaching his majority, receiving at that time \$100 in money. Soon after his marriage, he located on the farm in Bonus Township, which he had purchased a short time before, and upon which he resided until October, 1890, when he purchased town property and erected a beautiful residence which cost \$2,000. He now rents the old farm and is living in retirement in the village of Garden Prairie.

He of whom we write cast his first Presidential vote for Franklin Pierce, and since the election of President Grant has voted with the Republican party. He has been an incumbent of various local offices, having been School Director and Supervisor, and was President of the Township Board in 1885. He was also School Treasurer for a number of years, and at the present time is Justice of the Peace.

Charles Nichols, the brother of our subject, was

a soldier in the Civil War; his father took part in the battle of Plattsburg, and his grandfathers on both sides of the house were patriots in the Revolutionary War.



THOMAS ROBBINS, who is engaged in mixed farming at his pleasant home on section 20, LeRoy Township, Boone County, keeps about twenty-five dairy cows on his place, marketing the product at a creamery a short distance from his home. He was born in Franklin County, Ohio, in 1833, and is a son of Mathias Robbins, who had his birth July 27, 1796, in Columbia County, Pa. The grandfather of our subject, Thomas Robbins, was a farmer in England and, on emigrating to America, came in an early day to Pennsylvania. He came to the New World in company with six brothers, who made their homes in as many different States. The wife of Grandfather Robbins, previous to her marriage, was Elizabeth Cline, of German birth. To them were born a family of six sons and two daughters, only one of whom is living.

Mathias Robbins was married in the Keystone State to Sarah Conder and went to Franklin County, Ohio, in 1820 with his wife and three children. He was a tailor by trade, which line of business he followed for fourteen years in Wood County, and in the fall of 1848 came to Illinois, being accompanied by his family of seven children, his eldest daughters following in 1851. Mr. Robbins purchased forty acres of land in Le Roy Township, to which he soon added eighty acres, and five or six years thereafter bought another forty acres which comprises his present home of one hundred and sixty acres.

The mother of our subject died when he was a lad of ten years and his father passed away August 12, 1884, in his eighty-sixth year. The parents reared a family of ten children, of whom two sons and five daughters are still surviving.

He of whom we write was married to Amanda, daughter of Russel and Mary (Ash) Creveling. She bore him two children: William Russel and Bertha May, and departed this life November 5, 1873 in

her thirtieth year. March 31, 1875, Mr. Robbins chose for his second wife Miss Susan, daughter of William and Mary (Moore) Millard, natives of Pennsylvania, whose sketch will be found on another page of this volume.

Our subject is engaged in general farming, in which calling he is more than ordinarily successful. In politics, he votes the Republican ticket and occupies a high place among his fellow-townsmen. When the family of Mathias Robbins removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio in 1820, they made the journey with a team of horses and later, in 1848, came to the Prairie State in the same manner, making over a thousand miles' journeying in this way.



DAVID WILLIAM McMASTER. A traveler journeying along the highways of Bonus Township, Boone County, must be well pleased with the appearance of the farms which greet his eye. Among the most neatly cultivated and richly producing of them all we are pleased to mention that of Mr. McMaster. He was born July 3, 1818, in Chenango County, N. Y., and is a son of Daniel and Mary (Campbell) McMaster, the former of whom was born, lived and died in the Empire State.

The paternal grandparents of our subject came from Scotland and passed their last days in New York. He of whom we write remained at home until sixteen years of age, when he engaged to work out on farms by the month until 1843, at which time he made his advent into Boone County. He took up a tract of eighty acres of Government land which is his present abiding-place.

The lady to whom our subject was married in October, 1831, was Phoebe Green, who was born in Oswego, N. Y., and was the daughter of Horace R. Green. Her father was also a native of that State and died after coming to Boone County. Mrs. McMaster was one in a family of five children, three of whom are yet living, and departed this life in her forty-sixth year. To herself and husband were born seven children, the two eldest of whom are deceased; Alfred, who resides in

Iowa, is a farmer, is married and has four children; Clara is single; Matilda is married to Benjamin S. Herbert and resides in Bonus Township; Cephas H. works the old homestead, is married to Florence Reed and has one son; Phosa L., a music teacher, is at home. The children have all been given good educations in Belvidere and Freeport schools and are attendants at the Presbyterian Church, in which denomination our subject's father was Deacon for many years and one of the pillars of the church.

The political views of Mr. McMaster bring him into affiliations with the Republican party, though previous to the election of Lincoln he voted the Democratic ticket. He has taken an interest in forwarding educational affairs of his township and for a number of years was School Director and Highway Commissioner. The beautiful farm upon which he resides speaks forth the praises of the man whose systematic hand and thorough industry have brought it to its present prosperous and prolific condition.



SYLVESTER B. COFFIN, is a native-born resident of Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, Ill., his birth occurring January 6, 1844, and almost his entire life has been identified with the growth and evolution of social, political and natural life in this State. He is the son of Henderson W. Coffin, and the grandson of Edward Coffin, who was born in the Empire State, and who followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. The latter was married in his native State to Miss Petten, a native of New York State, and they became the parents of five sons and six daughters. Both grandparents died at an advanced age.

Henderson W. Coffin was born in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1813, and was married in that State to Miss Harriet Kanier, of Buffalo, N. Y. There they remained until the fall of 1837, when they determined to seek fame and fortune in the Far West, and with teams they made the journey to Illinois, which State was then but sparsely settled. Mr. Coffin had but very little means to assist

him along and he and his thrifty and economical wife experienced many hardships and privations in getting a start. The first night he spent in Winnebago County, Mr. Coffin purchased one-half section of land, giving his only cow, which he had driven from York State, his gun, his watch, and \$320 in a note for this tract. Mr. and Mrs. Coffin had a great struggle to keep and pay for this land but they finally obtained a Government lease for all but about eighty acres. This farm of two hundred and forty acres is now owned by their son Fletcher.

Mr. Henderson W. Coffin was a brick-maker by trade and his first brickyard was started in 1810, west of Beloit. He subsequently purchased more land for brickyards, becoming the owner of twenty-eight acres in Roscoe where the depot now stands, and this land is now owned by his daughter. He gave the land for the depot. He and Thomas Baldwin, an early settler, walked from Rockford to near Beloit, carried their tools, and built a house, taking four trees standing for posts. Three days later they had finished it and were back in Rockford. Mr. Coffin had men working for him for fifty cents a day and two meals, some walking six miles to and from their work. Many of them owned their own farms but wanted ready money. Mr. Coffin's trade was more to him than wealth, and men of means, able to buy him out several times, worked for him at fifty cents a day. At that time men cradled grain for twenty-five cents an acre. Mr. Coffin died in August, 1875, when not quite sixty-three years of age. His widow is now residing in Rockford, on Morgan Street. He built the first elevator at the Roscoe depot. This worthy couple reared eleven children: Agnes, Julia M., S. B. (our subject), Esther, William Henry, Horace A., Fletcher, Mary Jane, E. B., Alfred H. and Ruby H. Of these, Horace died at the age of forty years and Mary Jane, Mrs. W. B. Scott, died when thirty-six years of age. The remainder are living and well-informed people, although they had but common-school advantages.

Sylvester Coffin remained at home, engaged in business with his father, until twenty-nine years of age, when he married Miss Anna Addey, a native of England, and the daughter of Thomas Addey,

who came from his native country to Canada in 1851, and from there to Illinois the following year. In 1878, our subject sold out his grain elevator at Roscoe and began tilling the soil on his first farm, one of the many his father had owned, the latter being the owner at one time of eleven hundred acres. Sylvester has since erected a good frame house, large and comfortable out-buildings, and is progressive and enterprising. In connection with farming, he is also engaged in stock-raising to some extent. Of his marriage has been born two daughters, now fourteen and ten years of age, respectively. Mr. Coffin has been a Prohibitionist for the past twenty-two years, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.



W H. PALMER has been connected with the Palmer Hardware Company as an active member since 1872. This is one of the leading enterprises of the city and, in connection with the general hardware business, they manufacture large quantities of tinware. Their establishment is located on the corner of East State and Second Streets. The business was founded in 1856 by a brother of our subject, T. F. Palmer, who is now a resident of Eugene, Ore., and for one year it was carried on under the firm title of Peck & Palmer. Later, the firm became Wingate & Palmer, and in 1874 assumed the style of T. F. Palmer & Co., and later it was incorporated as the Palmer Hardware Company, with T. F. Palmer as President and E. M. Holmes, Secretary and Treasurer. On the former selling out, J. R. Moxley became President, Mr. Holmes continuing as Secretary, while W. H. Palmer and J. W. Hale are active members of the company. These four gentlemen represent the entire business interests of the firm. From the day on which it was established, the business has constantly increased, until, as before stated, it is one of the most important enterprises of Rockford.

W. H. Palmer, whose name heads this sketch, was born in Pittsford, Rutland County, Vt., in 1838, and there acquired his education. At about

the time he attained his majority, he went to Malone, N. Y., where he established a clothing store as a member of the firm of J. N. and W. H. Palmer. After three years, a disastrous fire broke out in the city and, with others, they lost their entire property. The gentlemen returned to their native county and our subject spent a few years in the Green Mountain State, after which he emigrated Westward, locating in Rockford.

Our subject possesses many of the best characteristics of his ancestors—the Scotch. His father, T. H. Palmer, was born in Kelso, Scotland, and when a young man, with two brothers and a sister, crossed the broad Atlantic, locating in Philadelphia, Pa., where the brothers established a printing-office and engaged in business for some time. After a few years one brother and the sister died. The other brother went South, was married and died after the birth of one son, who is yet living. T. H. Palmer left Philadelphia and went to Vermont, where he soon afterward wedded Joanna T. Fenton, who was born and reared in the Green Mountain State. They located on a farm, but Mr. Palmer gave his attention to his profession, that of an educator. He was Superintendent of public schools in Vermont for several years and a prominent man in that State. He died at the age of seventy-six years, and his wife passed away at the age of seventy-two. Both were consistent members of the Congregational Church, and the husband was a Whig and a staunch Abolitionist until the organization of the Republican party, when he joined its ranks.

Our subject was carefully reared by his parents and in Pittsford, Vt., after attaining to mature years, he wedded Louisa J. North, who was born in Springfield, Mass., and a daughter of Walter and Betsy (Carpenter) North, both natives of the Bay State. Her father was employed in the armory of Springfield until about middle life, when he became connected with a manufacturing company. His death occurred in Springfield at the age of seventy years. His father was also in the Government employ in the Armory of Springfield for many years. The family were members of the Episcopal Church in early life, but afterwards joined the Congregational Church.



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Unto Mr. and Mrs. Palmer were born three daughters: Helen F. and Florence A., graduates of the Rockford High School, and Grace L., who is still a student. The eldest daughter is now a teacher of recognized ability in the ward school. The mother, who was a consistent member of the Congregational Church, was called to the home beyond on the 1st of July, 1886, at the age of forty-four, dying in Wisconsin. She was a faithful and loving wife, a devoted mother, and won the esteem of all who knew her.

During the late war, Mr. Palmer enlisted, in 1861, for nine months' service as a private of Company G, Twelfth Vermont Infantry. He participated in the battle of Gettysburg and other engagements, and after a year's service was honorably discharged. He is now a member of Nevins Post No. 1, G. A. R., and is a stalwart advocate of Republican principles. His duties of citizenship are ever faithfully performed and he is a sagacious and far-sighted business man, who by his own efforts has achieved a signal success in life.



DAVID A. TOMB. This successful contractor and builder of Rockford, who has resided here since the spring of 1886, was born in Armagh, Pa., and is a son of John and Fannie (Shaw) Tomb. His father lived and died in Indiana County, Pa., passing away at the age of eighty years. He was a farmer and followed that occupation throughout his entire life. His wife died in the same county on the home farm when about sixty-five years of age. Both were members of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Our subject was reared and educated in the village of his birth and when sixteen years of age began to learn the trade of a cabinet-maker, and also a carpenter and joiner, serving a five years' apprenticeship. He then began work on his own account, and has since followed his trade successfully. He is a practical and skilled workman and hence there has always been a demand for his labor. He has traveled extensively as a builder, both in the South and West, having worked in many

towns and cities in Iowa and Kansas, and spent five years at his work in Chicago. He built the court house in El Paso, Tex., and wherever he has gone has won a high reputation for skill. He returned to Illinois in 1861, but afterwards spent some years in the South. He came from Mexico to Rockford in the spring of 1886, and since that time has been actively engaged as a contractor and builder, putting up some excellent buildings in this city. A good workman in this line is ever in demand, and hence he has received a liberal patronage.

In Mendota, Ill., in the spring of 1861, Mr. Tomb was married to Miss Agnes Peters, who was born on the Emerald Isle, and when a small child came with her brothers to this country. Her parents lived and died in Ireland. One child graces their union, Frankie, who is now the wife of George Wilson, a boot and shoe dealer in La Salle and a successful merchant. They have two children: George and Arnold. Although Mr. and Mrs. Tomb have resided in Rockford for a comparatively short period, they have made many friends in this city, and their sterling worth easily wins them high regard. He is a straightforward, upright business man who ever faithfully performs his part of a contract, and has thus won an enviable reputation in business circles. He now has a pleasant home at No. 910 South Court Street.

The portrait of Mr. Tomb is presented on another page.



STEPHEN DELOS GREGORY, who resides on section 33, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, was born on the 2d of March, 1834, on a farm on the dividing line between Niagara and Orleans Counties, N. Y. His grandparents were Samuel and Lorena Gregory, natives of Connecticut and of English descent. His father, Samuel Gregory, was born in Danbury, Conn., and when a young man removed to New York, where he was married. In the fall of 1835, he made a visit to Winnebago County, Ill., and located a claim in what is now Rockford. He then returned for his wife and two children and came on to the new home. They lived in a log cabin

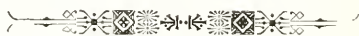
in the midst of a wild and unbroken tract of land. There was no mill nearer than Ottawa, and the deer roamed over the prairie where the city of Rockford now stands. Mr. Gregory improved his farm, which he sold after some years and purchased land in Cherry Valley Township. Sometime afterwards he went to Rockford and subsequently returned to Niagara County, N. Y., where he made his home until his death. His remains were brought back and interred in the Rockford cemetery. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Joanna Bateman, was born in the Empire State and died on the farm in Cherry Valley Township. They were both consistent Methodists and were members of the first Methodist Class of Rockford, which was organized at the home of Rev. William Royal with five members—Daniel and Mary Beers, Mrs. Enoch and Mr. and Mrs. Gregory.

Our subject was the eldest of seven children, the other members of the family being Delia A., John Clark, Samuel H., James B., Adelaide, and Edna J. Mr. Gregory of this sketch was only two years old when with his parents he came to Illinois. He attended the first school ever taught in Rockford, it being held on the block bounded by East State, Second, Third and Walnut Streets and was taught by Miss Brown. As soon as old enough to handle the plow, he began farming, and at the age of eight went to Chicago with his father, each taking a load of grain to market.

On the 6th of November, 1862, Mr. Gregory married Charlotte Arabella Matson, who was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Norman Matson, a son of William and Temperance (Taylor) Matson. He learned the trade of a plasterer and removed from New York to Ashtabula County, Ohio, whence, in 1846, he came to Illinois, locating in Winnebago County after the war, but after a year and a half he returned to Ohio, where he is yet living. He served in the Fifty-second Illinois Infantry during the late war and was a faithful soldier. His wife was Charlotte Viets, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Rosswell and Arabella Viets. She died in Ottawa in 1860.

Soon after his marriage, Mr. Gregory rented his father's farm for two years, then bought a farm in Cherry Valley Township, upon which he resided

until 1867, when he removed to his present farm, three miles east of the city limits. He there has a pleasant home and a valuable tract of land yields to him a golden tribute. Six children gather around the fire side: Frank Albert, Katie M., Charles D., Lottie B., J. Herbert and Irvin. The parents and the five older children are members of the Centennial Methodist Church and the family ranks high in social circles, while the Gregory household is the abode of hospitality. In politics, Mr. Gregory is a Republican.



FRANK G. HOGLAND. Among the leading business men of Rockford, the subject of this sketch takes a prominent place, having from small beginnings reached his present strong financial position through hard work, perseverance and pluck. Born in that cold and far-away country, Sweden, Wester Gotthland Province, February 6, 1863, he was the youngest of a family of five children, all of whom are now residents of the United States. His father, August Hogland, left his native country for this in the latter part of the '60s, and as soon as he had accumulated sufficient means, or in 1870, he sent for his wife and children. They joined him in Chicago, and there the parents reside at the present time, the father sixty-nine, and the mother sixty-seven years of age. They are prominent people in North Chicago, and are exemplary members of the Swedish Lutheran Church of that city. One child was born after coming to this country. The children are as follows: John H., a practicing attorney of Chicago, Ill., was married in that city; Edward C., a cutter in a merchant tailoring establishment of Chicago, married Miss Ida Landgren, of Chicago; Charles H. is single, and a Justice of the Peace of North Chicago; Frank G., our subject; and Oscar, who is associated with our subject in the insurance business located at No. 329 East State Street, and does the clerical work.

The subject of this sketch is one of the pushing, progressive young men of Rockford, and is as popular socially as he is successful in business. He is at

present the popular and capable City Clerk, and the efficient manner in which he has discharged the duties of this office abundantly testifies as to the wisdom of the people's choice. He is also President of the Star Furniture Company, Vice-president of the Skandia Furniture Company, and Vice-president of the West End Furniture Company, being the first stockholder in two of these. He is also a stockholder in a number of other enterprises, including the Mechanics' Furniture Company, Rockford Mantel and Furniture Company, the Royal Sewing Machine Company, and the Rockford Desk and Furniture Company. He is interested in the Peterson Land Company, also in other syndicates, and in the Posten Publishing Company of Rockford. If there is one enterprise among the many with which he is connected that Mr. Hogland takes special interest in, it is that of the Hogland Insurance Agency, which was organized three years ago. He was the chief promoter, and is now the sole proprietor, doing a strictly local insurance business, and meeting with remarkable success.

Mr. Hogland is a man of thorough understanding of public affairs, and is independent in his political views. He is now filling his first term as City Clerk, as before mentioned. In his religious views, he is a Lutheran, and a member of the Church Board of the First Swedish Lutheran Church of Rockford. He has been a Director of the Young Men's Christian Association of this city for many years, and, in short, is a live, energetic young man who is interested in all measures for the advancement and progress of the city.

Miss Emma M. Alander, who became his wife in Chicago, was originally from Wester Gothland, Sweden, born May 22, 1864, and was quite young when she came with her parents to this country in 1870. They settled in Chicago, but later came to Rockford, in which city the mother received her final summons, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Hogland, in 1887, when sixty-three years of age. The father is still living, is sixty-four years of age, and also makes his home with his daughter. He was a member of the First Lutheran Church, and his wife also held membership in that church. His son, Alfred A., is foreman of the music department

of the Kimball Organ Company, Chicago. The latter wedded Miss Emily Barnard, of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Hogland are among the representative people of Rockford, and their home possesses many comforts, and is pleasantly situated. Their marriage has been blessed by the birth of one child, Lillian Florence.



LEWIS B. GREGORY, one of the well-to-do and prominent citizens of Rockford, now living a retired life, was born in Seneca County, N. Y., March 28, 1820, and comes of an old New England family. His grandfather, Samuel Gregory, was a native of Connecticut, and there spent his entire life as a farmer, dying at an advanced age. The family was founded in America many years prior to the Revolutionary War. The wife of Samuel Gregory, a Connecticut lady, survived him some years, and died at the home of one of her children, at the age of eighty-seven. Both were active members of the Methodist Church.

The Rev. Harry Gregory, father of our subject, was born in the town of Danbury, Conn., and reared among the hills of that neighborhood. When a young man, he went to Seneca County, N. Y., becoming a farmer of Ovid Township, and there married Hannah Barnum, a native of that county. After some years, they removed to Niagara County, N. Y., where Mr. Gregory began preaching as a Methodist minister, and from that time until his death engaged in Gospel work. He died in Canandaigua, N. Y., in 1879, at the age of eighty-four years. He had fought in the War of 1812, and was a strong Abolitionist, taking an active part in the suppression of slavery. He voted first with the Whig party, and afterward became a stalwart Republican. His wife died in New York about twenty years before the death of her husband. They were the parents of eight children, four of whom are yet living, and are married.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who was yet quite young when his parents removed to Lockport. Later he went with the family to Lima, Livingston County, N. Y., where he acquired a seminary education, and became a

teacher. He there followed that profession for some years before coming Westward. He was a young man of twenty-two years when he arrived in Rockford. Here he engaged in teaching for about two and a half years, and then became interested in the erection of the first sawmill built on the Rock River at this place, and the construction of the first dam. He has taken quite an active part in the upbuilding and development of the city, and his name is inseparably connected with its history. He is now laying out in lots the land which he purchased here in 1845. He has been associated with some of the leading enterprises of Rockford, and is now a stockholder and Director of the Burial Case Company, and a stockholder and Vice-president of the Air Brush Company, which was established some ten years ago, and is now doing an extensive business, having gained a wide reputation. Although business has largely occupied his attention, Mr. Gregory has yet found time to devote to those interests which are calculated for the moral benefit of the city. He has long been an advocate of temperance principles, and now votes with the Prohibition party.

Mr. Gregory was married, in Rockford, to Miss Lucy E. Spafford, who was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., December 18, 1831, was educated in the Rockford Seminary, and died at her home in this city, July 2, 1888. Her parents were Dan and Julia (Galloway) Spafford, early settlers of Rockford, of 1844. Her father was a printer here for many years, and was well known among the pioneers of the county. "Uncle Dan" and "Aunt Julia" were household words with many, and they had the love and esteem of all who knew them. Mrs. Spafford was an Episcopalian. Both lived to an advanced age.

Mrs. Gregory was one of quite a large family. She was a cultured and refined lady, highly esteemed for her many excellencies of character, and was a member of the Presbyterian Church. After death she left five children, and one son, Charles, had died in infancy. The living are Edward, a member of the firm of Springer & Gregory, plumbers and pump manufacturers. He married Eveline Chaney, and after her death wedded Laura J. Potter. Carrol S., who was educated in Beloit, Wis.,

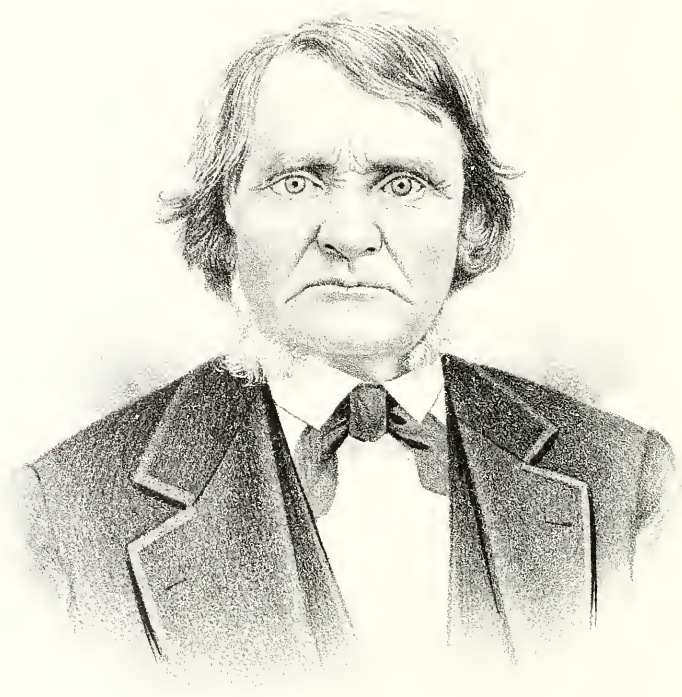
and is now a plumber of that city, married Jennie Waterman; Dr. Lewis L., who married Sarah Throckmorton, is a prominent physician of Chicago; Kittie C. is the wife of George N. Safford, a leading lumberman of Rockford; George B., who completes the family, is a clerk and book-keeper for the Love Manufacturing Company. The Gregory family is well and favorably known in Rockford, and the father is one of its leading and influential citizens. He now resides at No. 304 South First Street, where he has a comfortable home and is practically living a retired life.



CHARLES O. AND GUSTAVE E. EMERSON are members of the firm of Emerson, Winquist & Co., general blacksmiths, horse-shoers, and wagon and carriage repairers and manufacturers, located at No. 904 Fifth Avenue, where they have a large and well-arranged building for their business, 65x66 feet, recently erected by themselves.

These brothers have been residents of the United States since 1869, when they came with their parents, and as a family located at Attica, Ind. A year later, the father, Jonas Emerson, died, when about forty years of age. He pursued the calling of an agriculturist, and was fairly successful in this occupation. He was a member of the State Church. The wife and mother is still living, and finds a comfortable home with her children in Rockford. She is now sixty-four years of age, and a member of the Swedish Mission Church. Of the six children born to her marriage, three sons and three daughters, one, John A., died a few days after landing in this country. Another child, Augusta, died a few years later at Lafayette, Ind. The eldest living is Emma, wife of William H. Hallen, of Little Rock, Ark.; Mary C. resides the wife of James L. Peterson, and now resides in this city, her husband being a contractor and builder.

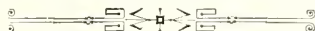
G. E. Emerson, of this notice, has resided in Rockford since December 24, 1890, and came from Chicago, where he had followed his trade, learned in Lafayette, Ind. Since their residence in this



Harry Dookittle

city, they have become equal stockholders in the Mantel and Furniture Company, and are practical and experienced young business men.

Our subjects are natives of Jonkoping Lan, Smoland Province, Sweden, the former born in 1861, and the latter September 17, 1863. Charles O. Emerson is a skilled wood-worker by trade. He wedded Miss Huldah Johnson, of Lafayette, Ind., and they have a bright little daughter, Ruth O. Gustave E. is a single man, and is also a skillful workman. Both the Emerson boys are noted for their integrity, ability and enterprise, and are very popular and respected in business circles. They are ardent supporters of the Republican party, in their political views. The entire family holds membership in the Swedish Mission Church.



HARRY DOOLITTLE, who was born October 21, 1815, in Boston, Erie County, N. Y., is now a well-known farmer of Guilford Township, Winnebago County, residing on section 11. His parents, Calvin and Susanna (Cary) Doolittle, were natives of New York and of English extraction. On emigrating Westward at an early day they settled in Marion County, Mich., and two years afterwards came to Harlem, Ill., locating on Government land which had not yet come into the market and was still unsurveyed.

Our subject had come to Illinois two years previous, and in the spring of 1835 made a squatter's claim of about two hundred and twenty acres of land in what is now Harlem Township, near the mouth of Willow Creek. He located upon this land and commenced its improvement. In May, 1838, he was united in marriage with Catherine Stedman, a native of Massachusetts, and a daughter of Austin and Sarah (Burbank) Stedman, both of whom were from New England. Her father died when she was an infant and her mother afterward removed to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where Mrs. Doolittle spent the days of her maidenhood. They came to Illinois in 1838, and Mrs. Stedman died in this State at the age of seventy, leaving a small family.

In 1856, Mr. Doolittle sold his farm in Harlem

Township for \$30 per acre and bought a farm of one hundred and fifty acres on section 11, Guilford Township, for which he paid about \$20 per acre. The log cabin upon it was soon replaced by a commodious residence, good barns were built, other improvements made, and two hundred and forty acres were added to the estate. At present he owns a finely-improved and valuable farm of one hundred and twelve acres, in addition to which he has a quarter-section of land in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa. He is now practically living a retired life, in the enjoyment of a rest which he has so truly earned and richly deserves. He spends his time at his home and with his children.

The Doolittle family numbered five sons and five daughters, of whom three are now deceased; Calvin, who died at the age of three and a half years; Sarah, who died on her thirteenth birthday; and Julia, who became the wife of A. J. Turner, and died at the age of thirty-five, leaving a son who was killed at Niger Wells, Arizona, and a daughter. The living are Mary C., now Mrs. Beamer; Philetus W.; Elizabeth S., wife of E. B. Fuller, who resides on the Iowa farm; Amzi L.; Edward; Austin, of California, and Laura, wife of A. C. Ketchum, of Michigan. The mother of this family died January 12, 1882. She was a most estimable lady and had many warm friends throughout the community. Mr. Doolittle is a well-known citizen of Winnebago County, where he has so long made his home. He is numbered among its honored pioneers, for more than half a century has passed since he located within its borders.

The portrait of Mr. Doolittle accompanies this sketch of his life.



HUMPHREY S. JENNISON. In giving honor to whom honor is due, we should not neglect H. S. Jennison, who began life empty-handed and has accumulated a good property by dint of energetic and well-directed efforts. He is living at the present time in Durand, where he is retired from business of any kind, and where he has a neat home, well supplied with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of

life. Our subject is a pioneer of Winnebago County, having located in what is now Laona Township in the spring of 1855, and has thus been an eye-witness to the wonderful development of this section, in the bringing about of which he has been no unimportant factor.

Born in Swanton, Vt., June 15, 1823, he of whom we write is the son of Joseph and Theoda (Barber) Jennison, natives of New England. The parents were farmers, and the father, who was born March 15, 1791, died in January, 1856. The mother of our subject survived her husband many years and departed this life in Howard County, Iowa, in 1889, at the advanced age of ninety-one years. William Jennison, grandfather of our subject, was born April 12, 1758, in Massachusetts, and married Sarah Sumner, who was born May 6, 1761, in the same State. They were the parents of nine children, viz: Elizabeth, Joseph S., Nahum E., Charles H., William D., Israel S., Sarah S., Daniel W. and Erastus G. William Jennison's maternal grandfather was Jesse Barber, born January 16, 1766, and married to Hepsibah Humphrey, born June 24, 1767. They were the parents of nine children, viz: Roswell, Hepsibah, Achaah, Giles, Theoda, Laura, Theophilus, Jesse and Diana.

The seven children included in the parental family were: Caroline, who was born in 1821, and died in 1812; our subject, who is the second in order of birth; Samuel W., whose birth occurred October 16, 1825, is a farmer and wheelwright, making his home in Sheldon, Vt.; Sarah S., who was born December 26, 1827, was married to George S. Hastings, and died in Canada, December 21, 1881; Lucy W., who was born July 15, 1830, is Mrs. James A. Crittenden and makes her home in Wentworth, Iowa; Allen B., who was born February 23, 1832, is unmarried and makes his home in Howard County, Iowa; Charles, who was born November 5, 1834, is also living in that county.

Humphrey S. Jennison was reared on the home farm, and April 6, 1816, was married to Calista J. Olds. The lady was born in St. Albans, Vt., February 12, 1825, and is the daughter of Elias and Abigail (Orcutt) Olds, natives of New England. Her father was a farmer and after marriage re-

sided in Vermont, where the decease of both parents occurred in Swanton. Elias Olds was born February 23, 1778, and died January 19, 1869; his wife, who was born March 29, 1789, died April 8, 1847. Mrs. Jennison was one in a family of six children: Louisa, whose birth occurred January 21, 1811, was married to Henry Sharp and died at Defiance, Ohio, September 10, 1834; Caroline, who was born March 10, 1813, became the wife of Henry L. Brainard and died in St. Albans, Vt., July 11, 1882; Roxa, who was born June 15, 1815, married Henry Sharp and makes her home in Ft. Wayne, Ind.; Samuel N., who was born June 24, 1818, resides in St. Joseph, Ind.; Calista J. is the wife of our subject, and Henry E., who was born January 31, 1827, departed this life at Delphi, Ind., January 12, 1871.

After his marriage, our subject owned and located on a farm in Franklin County, Vt., where he made his home until 1855, at which time he concluded to try his fortune in the West, and, upon locating in Illinois, settled in Laona Township. His first purchase of land consisted of eighty acres, which he improved and later sold. In 1857, he became the owner of one hundred and eighty acres in the same township, which he improved and lived upon until 1881. That year he sold his farm to his son and, removing to Durand, has since lived retired in a pleasant home.

Mr. and Mrs. Jennison are the parents of four children: Charles H., who was born February 11, 1850, married Rebecca Winchester and resides in Riceville, Iowa, being the father of four children: Myrton S., Blanch, Harry and Bessie. Louise S., who was born October 31, 1855, was the wife of Edward Norton, of Laona, and had a family of four children: Herbert, Arthur, Carrie and Milburn; she died May 6, 1892. Carrie E., who was born March 25, 1860, is now Mrs. Archibald Morgan and makes her home in Howard County, Iowa, where she also has a family of three children: Louise, Mildred and Fred. Mattie O., who was born December 3, 1861, married Frank Sheik.

In his political relations, Mr. Jennison, though formerly a Republican, now votes with the Prohibition party. His wife, who is a member of the Congregational Church, is a most amiable and

kind-hearted lady, making a happy home for her husband. Our subject, who has accumulated a handsome property, is generous with his means, ever ready to do a favor, and is well liked by his neighbors.



ELISHA L. WOODRUFF. Prominently connected with the institutions of Rockford as one of its leading business men, associated with the lumber interests of the place under the firm title of Woodruff & Maguire, and carrying on an extensive and lucrative business, is the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs. He first came to this city in 1851, and after spending some years in the employ of different companies, went to Pecatonica and established a lumber yard in the latter part of the '50s, remaining thus engaged until after the close of the Rebellion.

In 1865, Mr. Woodruff returned to Rockford and most of the ensuing years has been engaged in business as a lumber dealer, his stock consisting of a full line of hard and soft lumber and house-building supplies. He is also closely identified with other important organizations of the city, being President of the Forest City Electric Light and Power Company; Vice-President of the Second National Bank; Director in the Rockford Fire Insurance Company; Director in the Rockford Shoe Company, and the Rockford Tack Company, and President of the Rockford Plow Company, besides being a stockholder in various other corporations of the city.

To learn more fully the important events in the life of a gentleman who is so prominently connected with the best interests of Rockford, will be interesting and useful to the reader. Mr. Woodruff was born in New Marlborough, Berkshire County, Mass., June 21, 1826. His grandfather, John Woodruff, removed with his wife and children from Connecticut to the hills of Berkshire County, where he was an early settler and operated as a farmer. Members of the Woodruff family were soldiers in the War of 1812.

At the time of the removal to Massachusetts,

Elisha Woodruff, father of our subject, was a lad of six years, and he grew to manhood amid the scenes of Berkshire County. After his marriage, which united him with Miss Phebe Lewis, a worthy lady of German descent, he settled on a Massachusetts farm and devoted his attention to tilling the soil. When their children were grown to mature years, the father and mother came West to Rockford, where they spent their last days, both passing away at the age of seventy-three, his death occurring in the fall of 1869, and her decease taking place in the winter of 1865. They were members of the Congregational Church, and active workers in religious causes.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in a comparatively uneventful manner, and when he reached man's estate, he was married in his native county to Miss Emeline Beach. Mrs. Woodruff was born and reared in Berkshire County, Mass., the daughter of Deacon Gideon Beach, a prominent member of the Congregational Church, and a farmer of Berkshire County, where his entire life was passed. After his death, his widow removed to Illinois and spent her last days with her daughter, Emeline, in Rockford, her death occurring when she was about four-score. Two of her children survive: Mrs. Woodruff, and Mrs. Julia Underwood, of Berkshire County, Mass. Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff are actively identified with the Congregational Church as faithful members, and are prominent in the social circles of the city.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Woodruff is an advocate of the Prohibition party and its principles. He has served as Alderman of the Fourth Ward, and has been called by his fellow-citizens to other positions of trust and honor. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Adella M., wife of George W. Maguire, of the firm of Woodruff & Maguire, lumber dealers; and George L., who married Fannie Stevens and lives in Rockford, where he is a Director in, and Assistant Cashier of, the Second National Bank. Mr. Maguire, our subject's son-in-law and partner, was born and reared in Vermont, and has resided in this city since 1854. He is Director in the following companies: Rockford Insurance Company; Hess & Hopkins Leather Company; Rockford Tack Com-

pany; John P. Manny Mower Company; and he is prominently associated with the foremost interests of the city.

During the Civil War, Mr. Maguire enlisted in the service of the country as a member of Company D, Eleventh Illinois Infantry, under Col. W. H. L. Wallace and Capt. W. L. Nevins, commanding. Company D was the second company raised in the State, and the first in the city and county to offer service to the Government. For three months the regiment participated actively in various engagements, and at the expiration of the term of enlistment, was honorably discharged. Returning home, Mr. Maguire again enlisted as a member of Company K, First Illinois Cavalry, which was Gen. Steele's body-guard on special detached service, remaining in that capacity for almost two years. After the battle of Lexington, the company was discharged, Mr. Maguire having served as a commissioned officer. He re-enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and served as Captain until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged. He is now an active member of the G. L. Nevins Post No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford.



WILLIAM McKINLEY, who is numbered among the honored early settlers of Winnebago County, is now living a retired life at No. 605½ North Horseman Street, Rockford. He was born in Adams County, Pa., January 16, 1816, and was reared at Ft. Deposit, Md., until sixteen years of age, when he came to Illinois, settling in Madison County about the time of the Indian war, in which the red men were commanded by Black Hawk. He was employed in a lumber office from 1851 until 1856, in Rockford, and in the latter year was elected Township and City Collector. In 1858, with what money he had made, he went to Missouri, invested in land in Benton County and began making a home. But about two years later, it was found out that he had voted for Abraham Lincoln, and he was waited upon by the vigilance committee and told that he was no longer wanted in the county or State. So, leaving all his

possessions, he and his wife and children, with a wagon and mule team, started to return to Illinois with only \$5 in money. His funds gave out and he did not know what to do, but found a friend in the banker of Macomb, Ill., who, although he was a stranger, loaned him money to buy food for his family. At length he arrived in Rockford, and has since been numbered among its valued and prominent citizens.

In Madison County, Ill., Mr. McKinley wedded Miss Matilda A. Waller, a native of Kentucky, who went to Madison County at an early day. After their marriage, they removed to Jo Daviess County, and subsequently settled in Owen Township, Winnebago County, where Mr. McKinley engaged in farming. His wife died in middle life, leaving three children: John R. died from a wound received at Kenesaw Mountain, while fighting for the Union. He was a recruiting member of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. He bore much painful sickness, and his death occurred at Chattanooga. Mary E. is now the wife of J. F. Woodring, a resident of Waverly, Iowa; and L. J., who wedded Miss Mary Kirby, is a farmer of Green County, Wis.

Mr. McKinley was again married, his second union being with Miss Mercy L. Nichols. She was born and reared in Batavia, N. Y., and when a young lady came to the West. She proved a true and faithful helpmate to her husband, and her death, which occurred in February, 1885, was sadly mourned. She was the mother of six children, one of whom died in infancy. The living are: Frances, widow of Edward Minard, of Rockford; Alice, wife of W. R. Keyt, a contractor and builder of this city; Eva L., at home; Bertha R., who formerly engaged in teaching, but is now clerking in the dry goods house of J. W. Fish; Cora, wife of Harry S. Crandall, a grocery clerk of Rockford, and Edith A., wife of George A. Bruner, of Waterloo, Iowa.

Mr. McKinley is a member of the Methodist Church, to which his wives also belonged. After his return to Rockford, he engaged in buying and shipping grain from 1863 until 1871, as a partner of J. B. Agard. He subsequently purchased a grocery store on State Street, where he carried on business successfully for thirteen years, since which



John Sprague

time he has lived a retired life. He is a staunch supporter of the Prohibition party, and is a faithful worker and active member of the Methodist Church, with which he has been officially connected for more than forty years. To its support he has contributed liberally, and has done much for its growth and upbuilding. His life has been well and worthily spent, and he has thereby won the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has come in contact. For many long years he has been identified with the history of this community, and is well deserving of a representation in this volume.



JOHN SPRAGUE. As one of the well-to-do agriculturists of Boone County, who materially contributed to develop its agricultural resources, and as an early settler of Flora Township, where he built up for himself and family a desirable home, Mr. Sprague is well worthy of representation in this volume, and we are pleased to invite the reader's attention to his portrait and the following brief account of his life. Oneida County, N. Y., was his birthplace, the date thereof being March 7, 1834. His father, Eleazer Sprague, was for a number of years a resident of Batavia, where he kept an hotel. He later emigrated to Michigan and resided for a time near Grand Rapids. His next removal was to this county, where he resided for a twelvemonth, and then took up his abode in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, where he was residing at the time of his decease.

Our subject's mother, who was known in her maidenhood as Emily Burleigh, was born in Bethany, Genesee County, N. Y., on the 4th of December, 1806, and departed this life at the home of our subject. John, of this sketch, was about fifteen years of age when his parents moved to Michigan, and two years later he started out in the world on his own responsibility. He was variously engaged, and, being industrious and economical, invested his money in Wisconsin land and thus acquired a good start in life. In 1861, he came to Boone County and, locating in Flora Township, purchased

eighty acres of land on section 22, which was his home for a number of years. He then sold that tract and became the proprietor of the estate where his family now reside and where his demise occurred in 1884.

The lady to whom our subject was married September 25, 1866, was Martha J., daughter of Isaac Swain. She was born in Lockport, Niagara County, N. Y., while her father had his birth in Pennsylvania. The latter-named gentleman was a son of Isaac Swain, Sr., who was born in England, where he was reared and married, and on coming to America settled in the Keystone State. From there, he removed to Niagara County, N. Y., and died on his farm fourteen miles from the Falls.

The father of Mrs. Sprague was reared in Pennsylvania and when a young man went to New York State and after marriage located upon a farm in Niagara County for which he paid \$5 per acre. He cleared and improved a part of it which was his abiding place until 1840; then, with his wife and seven children, he came via the Lakes to Chicago, thence by team to McHenry County, this State. He entered a tract of Government land in Marengo Township, and erecting a log house on the place there established his family. The products of his farm were hauled by ox-teams to Chicago to market. He erected a good and substantial set of buildings on his estate, where his death occurred. Mrs. Sprague's mother was a native of New York State and died on the home farm in Marengo Township.

To our subject and his wife have been born five children: Maud, Edna, Gertrude, Alberta, and Pearl.



ANGUS McLEAN. We are pleased to give in this volume many sketches of estimable Scottish-American citizens, who have done much excellent work in helping to develop the various resources of the county. There are sterling qualities about the nationality that fit them for almost any occupation. Mr. McLean was born in Argyshire, Scotland, in 1827, and his parents, Duncan and Margaret (Johnson) McLean.

were natives of that country also. There the father was engaged in agricultural pursuits, and followed this occupation all his life. He died there when ninety-two years of age, but the mother died when about middle age. Of the eight children born to them, four were sons and four daughters: Margaret married in Scotland; John, at St. Louis, Mo.; Mary died young; Duncan died young; Agnes is married, and resides in Scotland; Angus, our subject; Donald was a volunteer in the army, and among the missing; and Katie married in Scotland.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in his native country, and when starting out to fight life's battles for himself, he very naturally selected the business to which he had been reared, agriculture, and has never regretted his choice for he has been unusually successful. He was married, in his native country, to Miss B. McIntyre, of the same place, and in 1858, led by the promises of the great prairies of this country, he and his family crossed the wide waters to American soil. They had very little to start with, but the desire to have a home stirred them up to great exertion, and after coming here Mr. McLean worked by the month for six years. In this time they had accumulated \$800, and then bought the farm they had rented the first year, paying \$30 per acre for two hundred acres. The comfortable mode of life which he and his family are at the present time able to enjoy is entirely due to the indomitable perseverance and energy of Mr. McLean and his industrious wife, for, as mentioned before, they had very little to commence with, in fact, what little they had was hardly worth mentioning.

Mr. and Mrs. McLean have seven living children, but lost a son, John, at the age of twenty-five. He was injured by the railroad cars in the fall of 1884, and died from the effects. The living children are as follows: Duncan B., born in 1858; Daniel B., born in 1860, now resides in Nebraska; Angus was born in 1862; Peter, in 1861; David, in 1866; Hugh, in 1869, and Barbara, in 1873. All the children are either at home or very near, and are industrious and upright. They have all received good educational advantages and are well thought of by all. The family hold membership in the Presbyterian Church. In politics, Mr.

McLean is a Republican but not a strict partisan. He is engaged in general farming and raises hogs, sheep, horses and cattle. He keeps about twenty good cows and sells milk to the creamery. Of the cereals, he raises barley, rye, corn, oats, but no wheat. He is successful and progressive and one of the foremost farmers of his township.



WILLIAM H. WAIT. This representative citizen of Spring Township, Boone County, was born in Warren, Greene County, N. Y., October 28, 1820, and is the son of Henry and Polly (Warren) Wait. The father, who was born in Rutland County, Vt., came to this section as early as 1816, and died at the home of his son-in-law, George Reed, aged ninety-one years. Mrs. Wait, who was also a native of the same place as was her husband, died in this county at the age of eighty-one years. The grandparents of our subject, on both sides of the house, were natives of Vermont, and reared large families of children.

William H. Wait, when twenty-two years of age, came West and took up one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in Spring Township. The trip hither was made from Pennsylvania overland with team, and when arriving here, our subject had but seventy-five cents in money. He erected a house on his farm, in which the family, who followed him two years thereafter, lived for seven years.

He of whom we write was married February 22, 1855, to Miss Nancy C. Kellogg, who was born in Rutland County, Vt., May 15, 1836. She was the daughter of Orlando Kellogg, also a native of Vermont, who emigrated to this county in 1846. The father later went to Iowa, where his decease occurred when seventy-eight years of age, and his good wife, who survived him a number of years, passed away at the home of her granddaughter, in this county, in her eighty-second year. To Mr. and Mrs. Wait have been born eight children, seven of whom are living, as follows: Scott A., who is married and has two children; Henry W., now deceased; Judson C., who is married and the father of five children; George R., who has one child, Fred; Lillie M., who married H. McDougal, has

one child; William W., and Gracie, at home. The children were given good educations in the schools of Belvidere.

Our subject lived on the old home farm after his marriage until about twenty-seven years ago when he traded for other property. He is now the proprietor of nine hundred acres of excellent land and has the largest farm in this part of Illinois. He is practically retired from active life and is enjoying to the fullest extent the comforts which his life of industry has enabled him to provide. In addition to his country estate, he owns considerable real estate in Iowa.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Wait cast his first Presidential vote for Harrison, in 1844. He has been the incumbent of various local offices, all of which he filled in a most desirable manner. Mrs. Wait departed this life March 8, 1891, firm in the faith of the Free-will Baptist Church. Our subject has so thoroughly systematized his business that all his land is now in the hands of good cash renters. He has ever been kind and hospitable in his home to all comers, the house is open and a hearty welcome is extended. He is a genial, whole-souled man who is well informed on the events of the day, and who has many friends in all classes of society.



DANIEL W. TICKNOR, who became a resident of Rockford in May, 1846, is now living retired on a farm in the southwestern part of the city. Thirty years of his residence here have been spent in the mercantile business, he successfully conducting an auction and commission store. Mr. Ticknor had his birth in New Lebanon, Columbia County, N. Y., December 29, 1820, while his father, Oran Ticknor, was born in New Barrington, Mass., where also his father, Elijah, was a native.

The grandfather of our subject removed from the Bay State to New Lebanon about 1800, and there passed the remainder of his life. Oran Ticknor was a wagon-maker by trade, which he followed for a time, and then engaged in the mercan-

tile business in New Lebanon for many years. From there he removed to Cayuga County, N. Y., in 1836, and located in the town of Sempronius; he later traded his real estate and business for a farm, and was occupied in its cultivation for a number of years. Selling out, the father of our subject purchased another farm near Homer, upon which he lived until 1860, at which time he also disposed of it, and, coming to Rockford, purchased a home on North Court Street, where his death occurred in 1876, at the age of eighty-four years.

The mother of our subject was known in her maidenhood as Abigail Orton; she was born in Connecticut, and survived her husband six months, her death occurring when she had attained the age of eighty-three. She became the mother of the following-named children: Sylvanus, Daniel W., Sallie M., James S., Horatio, Aurora, Elijah, Abigail and Betsey (twins), and Phineas R. Daniel W., of this sketch, received his education in the Empire State, and at the age of eighteen commenced teaching school, being so employed for seven winter terms in New York State. In May, 1846, he came to Rockford via canal and lake to Milwaukee, being accompanied hither by his brother, James S., they walking from the Cream City to Rockford. This now thriving place contained but fifteen hundred inhabitants, and one public school building in the city, the location being the southeastern corner of the public square.

Immediately upon arriving in Rockford, Mr. Ticknor accepted the position of teacher of the school, and taught for three years, having one hundred and twenty-five pupils the last term. In the spring of 1849, he established a drug and grocery business on the west side, and, after conducting a successful business for five years, sold out and became the proprietor of a book store, in connection with his brother James. Mr. Ticknor later purchased a farm, on which he is now living retired from active life.

In the fall of 1848, Daniel W. Ticknor and Miss Charlotte W. Weyburn were united in marriage. The lady was born in Genesee, N. Y., and departed this life in Rockford in 1853. Two years later our subject was married to Alzira Andrews, also a native of the Empire State, having been born near

Auburn, Cayuga County. The three children born of this union are Charlotte, Lizzie May and Herbert. Mr. Ticknor became the father of two children by his first marriage, Lewis and Alfred. With his wife he is a member of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, and, in politics, votes the Democratic ticket.

Mr. Ticknor expects to remove soon to a magnificent new residence among the maples at the corner of Elm Street and Independence Avenue, and here will spend the remainder of his days.



TRUMAN BUCK, for a number of years one of the progressive and well-to-do agriculturists of Flora Township, Boone County, departed this life at his home, January 26, 1877. He was born in Otsego County, N. Y., May 22, 1811, and was the son of Joseph S. Buck, a native of Vermont. The father of our subject removed from his native State to New York and thence to Erie County, Pa., where he owned a farm and resided until his decease, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. His wife, prior to her marriage, was known as Miss Betsey Eastwood; she was also a native of the Green Mountain State, and, like her husband, departed this life in Erie County.

Truman Buck was a young man when his parents removed to Pennsylvania, where he was married and located upon a farm in Erie County, which he cultivated until 1853, the date of his advent into Illinois. Making his home in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, he was identified with the interests of that community for two years, and then removed to the farm where his decease occurred.

September 3, 1835, Miss Eliza Drown, who was born in Rose, Wayne County, N. Y., August 15, 1817, became the wife of our subject. She was the daughter of Solomon Drown, a native of Parsonsfield, Me., in which State his father, John Drown, was also born. The grandfather of Mrs. Buck moved to New York State and thence to Pennsylvania, and departed this life in Erie County. His wife was Mrs. Sarah (Ayres) Drown, also a native of Maine. Mrs. Buck died May 30, 1892.

Solomon Drown was married in the Pine Tree State, and about 1816 removed to New York State, which was his home until 1832, when he took up his abode in Washington Township, Erie County, Pa. Five years later, he traveled West to Ohio, and in Seneca County owned a farm upon which he resided at the time of his death. His wife, who, prior to her marriage, was Elizabeth Hatch, also had her birth in Maine, and died in the town of Rose, N. Y.

The eight children who were granted to our subject and his wife are as follows: Elizabeth L., Mrs. Henry R. Van Epps, resides in Peoria; Mary J., who is united in marriage with Abial L. Adams makes her home on her father's old homestead; Eliza, the next in order of birth, is deceased; Joseph S. is a resident of Chicago; William Perry is living in Cherry Valley; Emma, Mrs. George H. Grummon, is a resident of this township, where also Clinton W. Lives, and Horace, at present residing in Pocahontas County, Iowa. Mr. Buck is a member of the Free-will Baptist Church, as was Mrs. Buck before her death. Since coming to Illinois, our subject has voted the Republican ticket.



JONATHAN HUSTON KIRK, one of the honored pioneers of Winnebago County, has resided upon his present farm on section 3, Guilford Township, for about forty-seven years. He was born in Nottingham Township, Chester County, Pa., August 31, 1817. His father, Jonathan Kirk, was born in Cecil County, Md., and was a son of Elsha and Mary (Allen) Kirk. The grandparents of our subject were Quakers, and died in that faith. His father was reared in his native county, and when a young man went to Chester County, Pa., where he married Elizabeth Thompson, who was born in Nottingham Township, and was the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Huston) Thompson. He settled on land which his wife had inherited and there resided until 1823, when, with two or three other enterprising men, he started for the West, and made a location in Washtenaw County,

Mich., before the State was even organized as a Territory. He built a log cabin, the first building in Ypsilanti, and erected the first mill at that place. In 1827, he bought a tract of land in Dixborough, and moved his family thereon. The year 1829 he contracted to build a mill at Coldwater, which he completed early in the following year. Soon afterward he was taken ill and died. The mother of our subject had died in Pennsylvania in 1821, after which the father wedded Hannah Thomas, a native of Steuben County, N. Y. After his death, she became the wife of Samuel Hicks, and in 1835 came to Winnebago County, locating in Guilford Township. She afterward went to Wisconsin, where her death occurred.

Our subject was only four years old when his mother died, and he then went to live with his uncle Joseph, with whom he remained until 1827, when he went to Michigan. After his father's death, he began earning his own livelihood, working by the month at breaking land at \$7. He continued to reside in Michigan until 1836, when he started for Illinois, arriving in Winnebago County in March. He found a sparsely settled region; nearly all of the land was owned by the Government, deer and other wild game were found in abundance, and the life which Mr. Kirk here lived was that of a true pioneer. After a short time he entered a claim, and when the land came into market purchased it at the land sales in Galena, in 1839. He located on the place in 1845, and it has since been his home.

In July, 1844, Mr. Kirk wedded Marcella Dennis, who was born in Yarmouth, Canada, March 18, 1819. Her father, Ezekiel Dennis, was born in New Jersey, and his father, Obediah Dennis, was a native of the same State and of English descent. The grandfather, soon after the Revolutionary War, removed to Canada. His son Ezekiel was then only three years old, and in that country was reared and educated. He married Rachel Moore, who was born in Nova Scotia, and was the daughter of Thomas and Esther Moore. She died in the town of Yarmouth, when Mrs. Kirk was quite young. After his marriage, Mr. Dennis removed to Yarmouth, becoming one of its early settlers, and purchased a tract of timber land, upon

which he built a log cabin and there made his home until 1836, when he sold out and started with his family for the Territory of Michigan, making the journey by team. He settled in St. Joseph, where he resided until 1842, which year witnessed his arrival in what is now Guilford Township, Winnebago County. He improved the farm which he there occupied, but afterward left it and spent his last days in Olmstead County, Minn.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kirk were born five children: Mary E., Ellen M., Henry F., William H., and Emma M. Mary E. and Henry F. are dead. The family is well worthy of mention in this volume, and the parents are among the most prominent pioneers of the county, few having longer been residents of this community. Mr. Kirk has borne an active part in the advancement and upbuilding of the community. He has been honored with a number of offices of trust, has served as School Trustee, Assessor and for twenty years represented Guilford Township in the County Board of Supervisors. In politics, he was first a Whig, but since the organization of the Republican party has been one of its stalwart supporters.



BOMER L. BOWEN, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Flora Township, Boone County, was born in Newport, Herkimer County, N. Y., on the 9th of March, 1839. His father, William S. Bowen, was born in Oneida County, N. Y., February 5, 1814, and the grandfather was an early settler of Deerfield Township, that county. He followed farming and died in 1849, at the age of sixty-seven. William Bowen was reared in the usual manner of farmer's sons, and was joined in wedlock with Maria Rix, a native of Herkimer County and a daughter of Theophilus Rix, who was born in Connecticut. He became a pioneer of the town of Fairfield, Herkimer County, and in the midst of the wilderness cleared a farm, upon which he resided until 1857, when he emigrated to Belvidere, Ill. His death occurred in that city in his one hundredth year. After his marriage, William Bowen pur-

chased a tract of land bordering on West Canada Creek, in the town of Newport, Herkimer County, and here resided until his death in 1850. His wife departed this life on the home farm May 12, 1813, at the age of twenty-seven years.

Our subject was only four years old when his mother died. He was reared by his maternal grandparents and acquired his early education in the district schools, after which he attended Fairfield Academy. With his grandparents he came to Illinois in 1857, and began working by the month until his marriage, when he settled upon the farm that is yet his home. It is a highly-improved tract of one hundred and fifty-five acres, and, with the exception of twenty acres of timber land, the entire amount is under a high state of cultivation.

On the 14th of September, 1859, Mr. Bowen wedded Laura M. Rice, who was born on the farm which is yet her home, July 12, 1841. Her father, Waite Rice, was born in Barkhamsted, Litchfield County, Conn., June 3, 1814, and for some years was overseer in the Collins Axe Factory. At an early day he came to Illinois and is numbered among the honored pioneers of Boone County, having located here in 1839. The farm upon which our subject now resides he entered from the Government. He was well known in this community as a man of sterling worth, and served as Justice of the Peace in Flora Township. His death occurred April 6, 1848. His wife bore the maiden name of Laura Case. She was born in Litchfield County, Conn., April 5, 1811, and is still living, a resident of Belvidere. She has been a second time married, her husband being Flavel Smith.

Mrs. Bowen spent the days of her maidenhood on the home farm and attended the old pioneer schools built of logs with slab seats, puncheon floors and huge fire-places. To her husband she has been a faithful companion and helpmate. They have one daughter, Nellie, now the wife of Fred Hall, by whom she has one son, Homer. They live in Belvidere.

In politics, Mr. Bowen is a Republican, and socially, is a member of Flora Camp No. 621, M. W. A. Himself and wife are members of Royal

Neighbor Chapter, M. W. A., and of Excelsior Lodge No. 2654, Patrons of Industry. He was one of the original members of the Creamery Company, formed in 1882, and has been Treasurer since its organization. The products of this creamery are of the best repute, and the business has been a paying one since the beginning.



CHARLES J. ROSENQUIST, a retired farmer of Rockford, Ill. The following is a brief sketch of the career of Mr. Rosenquist, a man whose present substantial position in life has been reached entirely through his perseverance, and the facts connected with his agricultural operations, and their results, only show what a person with courage and enlightened views can accomplish.

He first saw the light of day in Kalmar Lan, Smoland Province, Sweden, October 22, 1841, and as he grew up learned the trade of carpenter. When twenty-five years of age, he came to the United States, located in Rockford, Ill., and with very little means to back him, began the struggle for a livelihood. He followed carpentering for some time and also worked as a day laborer for a number of years, thus accumulating sufficient means to invest in land. He owns a good farm of eighty acres in Cherry Valley Township, all well cultivated, and on which are good substantial buildings, etc. Since his residence in this county, he has resided part of the time in Rockford, where he has a wide circle of friends, and where he is highly esteemed. His house, which he built himself, is located at No. 1103 Charles Street, and is large and comfortable.

Shortly after settling in this county, Mr. Rosenquist was joined by two brothers, Allen A. and F. August. The father, Charles Johnston, died when our subject was but twelve years of age. He was in the prime of life and was a farmer by occupation. His wife died about twenty years later, when sixty years of age. Her maiden name was Lena S. Donaldson. Both were natives of Sweden.

Charles J. Rosenquist selected as his life's com-

panion Miss Emily G. Johnson, a native of Kalmar Lan, Sweden, and their union was solemnized in Rockford, Ill., in 1870. To them were born two children: Gustave A. and Jennie F., both of whom died young. Mr. and Mrs. Rosenquist are members of the First Lutheran Church, and he is a Republican in politics.

Mrs. Rosenquist came to the United States in 1869 with a sister, Huldah M., who became the wife of Gustave Johnson. The latter is a prominent lumberman of Chicago. Mr. Rosenquist is the only member of his family now in this city, and Mrs. Rosenquist has no other relative in this country. Her father, John Jacobson, died in Sweden when sixty-nine years of age. He was a farmer all his life. His wife, whose name was formerly Anna F. Carlson, died when a little past seventy. During their entire lives they had been exemplary members of the Lutheran Church, and were well known in their native place.



ANDREW WHITING. The gentleman of whom we shall attempt to give a biographical sketch in outline, is one of the old pioneers of Boone County, owning and occupying a fine estate of three hundred acres located on sections 22, 26 and 27. He is a man who has attained considerable prominence in his locality, by reason of his intelligence and progressive tendencies and also by his genial and frank ways.

Born in Guilford, Piscataquis County, Me., November 9, 1831, our subject is a son of Charles Whiting, a native of Lincoln, Mass. The grandfather of our subject, Gaylen Whiting, was born in Hingham, that State, where were also born his father, Daniel, the great-grandfather of our subject; his father, also named Daniel, the great-great-grandfather; his father, Samuel, the great-great-grandfather; and his father, James, Sr., the great-great-great-grandfather. James Whiting, the first of that name to come to America, was a native of England and was married in Hingham in the year 1647, and, as far as known, passed his last days there. His son James was born in 1651; James' son Samuel in 1685; Samuel's

son Daniel in 1722; and Daniel's son Daniel in 1745. But little is known of his descendants until we come to Gaylen Whiting, the grandfather of our subject, who married Rachel Prouty and for some years made his home in Lincoln, Mass. On removing to North Brookfield, that State, he engaged in farming and departed this life in that place. He was born in 1766.

Charles Whiting was born in 1802, and was reared in North Brookfield, and from there went to Maine and, locating in Piscataquis County, purchased a tract of timber land and engaged in farming until 1838, at which time he came to Illinois, and during the winter of that year lived one and one-half miles northwest of Belvidere.

In the spring of 1839, the father of our subject purchased a claim to a tract of Government land in the same township, on which there was one acre fenced and a log house and stable. Mr. Whiting rented land to work that year, during which time he traded his claim for one in Caledonia Township, to which he removed the following fall. When the land came into the market, he entered his claim and made his home on his purchase until his death, March 19, 1883, when eighty-one years old. The lady to whom he was married was Elvira Woodward, a native of Garland, Piscataquis County, Me., and the daughter of Oliver and Sallie (Heron) Woodward. She departed this life three years previous to the death of her husband in 1881.

Andrew Whiting was a lad of seven years when he came to the Prairie State with his parents, and in that early day the county was very sparsely settled and gave but little promise of its wonderful development. There were no railroads in the vicinity and for many years the farmers did all their marketing at Chicago. Our subject remained under the parental roof until his marriage, in 1854, to Mary A. Kyes, when he located on a portion of the old homestead, and in 1882 settled on the original home farm. His estate comprises three hundred acres, which is excellently improved with all the buildings and machinery which go to make up a first-class farm. Mr. Whiting is a man of character and ability, and is enjoying a just meed of influence and standing in the com-

munity, and knows that he has reached this point from a boyhood which promised nothing except through his own right hand and sturdy heart.

Mrs. Whiting was born in Loraine County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Samuel and Mercy (Dailey) Kyes. She has become the mother of three children: Charles O., William A. and Ephraim A. Mr. and Mrs. Whiting are members of the Congregational Church, and in his political affiliations our subject has strong confidence in the future of the Republican party.



FRANK GILMORE. Among the native-born residents of Winnebago County who have made their mark in the farming community, we are pleased to mention Mr. Gilmore, who is at present residing on a good farm located on section 34, Owen Township. He was born June 22, 1858, a son of William Gilmore, whose birth occurred in Fifeshire, Scotland, February 2, 1826, and who in turn was a son of William and Ann (Halley) Gilmore. The father was a lad of six years when he accompanied his parents to America, they making settlement in Newbury, Vt., where he was reared to manhood and resided until 1853, which was the date of his advent into Winnebago County.

The father of our subject had borrowed money to pay his way to the Prairie State, and upon arriving in Rockford he had but two cents in his pocket, and, to add to his misfortune, was in debt. He worked by the day, and being very industrious and economical, saved a sufficient sum to pay the entire amount of his indebtedness. Very soon thereafter, he and his brother John borrowed sufficient money with which to purchase thirty acres of Government land in Owen Township, the price of the land being \$37.50. Through industry and perseverance he was prospered in his undertakings and became widely known as a successful and enterprising farmer as well as an upright and honorable citizen. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1891, he was probably the wealthiest farmer in Winnebago County.

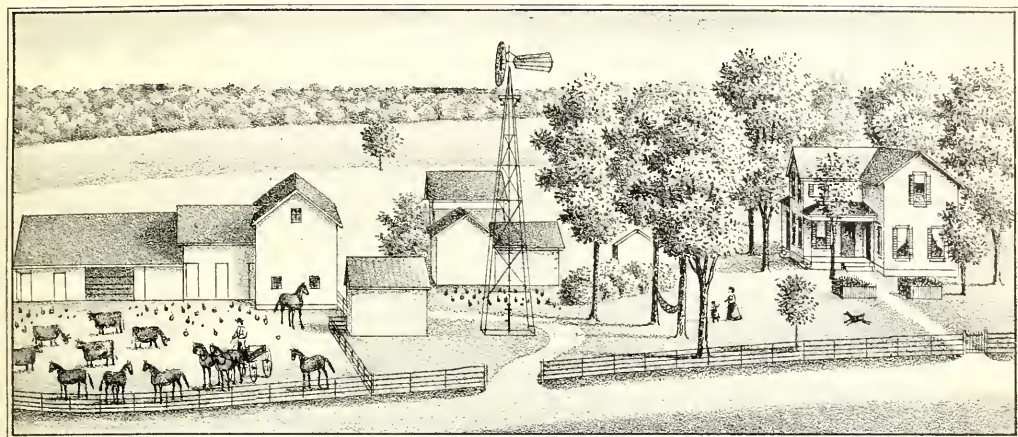
In 1857, William Gilmore was united in marriage with Jane Mack, who was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany. Her father dying when she was quite young, she accompanied her uncle, John Roseback, to America. Her marriage was a happy and congenial union, and six children came to bless the home, namely: Frank, Warren, Fred, Willis, Annie and Nettie. About 1878, the family located on the farm which still remains the home of the widowed mother and the three youngest children.

Frank Gilmore, of this sketch, passed his youth in a comparatively uneventful manner, and having been reared to the calling of a farmer, naturally chose that as an occupation through life. Like his father, he possesses the industrious and enterprising nature which almost invariably brings their fortunate possessor material success. In January, 1889, he established a home of his own, his wife being Julia, daughter of Decius Peckham, and a native of Michigan. They are the parents of two children: Grace and William. On another page of this volume will be noticed a view of the attractive residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore, which, with the inviting rural surroundings, bespeaks the thrift and refined tastes of the owner.

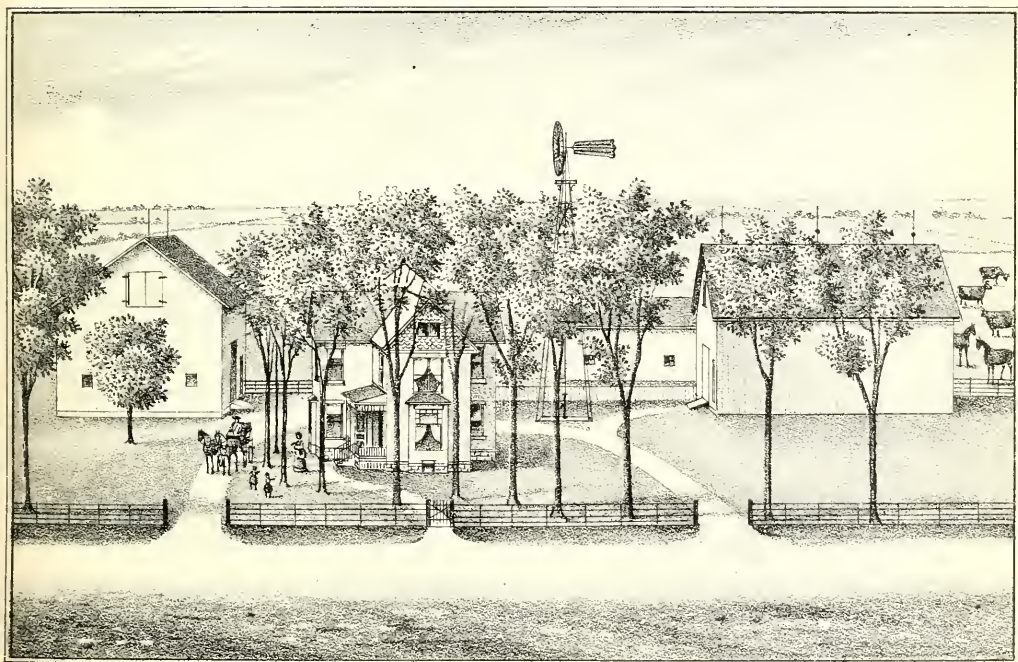


ANDREW JOHNSON, a prosperous and enterprising young farmer, operates two hundred and forty-seven acres of valuable land on section 18, Cherry Valley Township, and is a representative of one of the pioneer families of Winnebago County. His father, John Johnson, was born in Sweden, in March, 1820, and with his first wife came to this country in the spring of 1850, sailing from his native shores in April. The voyage was a long and dangerous one, the vessel not reaching this country until six months later.

For many generations back the Johnson family were farming people. The father of our subject buried his first wife in Rockford. She died soon after locating here, leaving one son, John, who died at the age of nine years. Mr. Johnson was afterward again married, his second wife being the mother of Andrew. They have buried four chil-



RESIDENCE OF ANDREW JOHNSON, SEC. 18, CHERRY VALLEY TP, WINNEBAGO CO, ILL.



RESIDENCE OF FRANK GILMORE, SEC. 34, OWEN TP, WINNEBAGO CO, ILL.

dren: Mary, who died at the age of sixteen years; Andrew (first), who died in childhood, and two infant sons. The living children are Albert, Ida and Andrew.

For about three years, the parents resided in Rockford and then settled upon a farm in Ogle County, where the succeeding thirteen years of their life were passed. Mr. Johnson then sold out and located upon a part of the farm which is now the property of our subject and his father. He first purchased eighty acres of wild land, to which he afterward added as time passed until he became the owner of a fine and valuable farm of two hundred and forty-seven acres. It was improved with a good dwelling, barns and all the other accessories. This our subject owns in connection with his father.

In 1876, John Johnson laid aside all business cares and is now living a retired life at No. 210 Sixth Street, Rockford. He has reached the advanced age of seventy-one years, and his wife is sixty-five years of age. They are both adherents of the Lutheran faith, belonging to the First Lutheran Church of Rockford. In politics, Mr. Johnson is a Republican.

Under the paternal roof, our subject was reared to manhood in the usual manner of farmer lads. He shared in the experiences of frontier life and aided in the arduous task of developing a new farm. His education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood and he is a well-informed man. The excellent farm which he now owns yields him a golden tribute for the care and labor he bestows upon it and he is a prosperous citizen. He follows in the commendable footsteps of his father and is a stalwart advocate of Republican principles. He is also a member of the Lutheran Church.

In May, 1889, in Rock Island, Mr. Johnson led to the marriage altar Miss Emma Lindgren, of that city, daughter of John and Anna (Frederickson) Lindgren, natives of Sweden, who emigrated to this country when their daughter was a maiden of only seven summers. The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed with one daughter, Edith L., who was born February 17, 1890, and is the life and joy of this happy home. Mr. and

Mrs. Johnson rank high in social circles and have many warm friends throughout the community.

The family residence, a view of which with the rural surroundings appears on another page, is an attractive abode, and the farm is one of the most highly cultivated in the county.

 SYLVESTER G. ATWOOD, a resident farmer of Harlem Township, Winnebago County, living on section 30, was born in the town of Washington, Berkshire County, Mass., May 5, 1835, and is a son of Phineas and Hulda (Haskell) Atwood, mention of whom is made in the sketch of David Atwood on another page of this work. The father was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church for a number of years. Our subject spent the first ten years of his life in the Bay State and then came with his parents to Illinois. Although so young, he remembers many incidents of the journey, which was made by way of the canal and the Great Lakes to Chicago, where they arrived five weeks after leaving home. There the father purchased a team and wagon, and in that way they proceeded on their way to Winnebago County, which they found to be a sparsely settled region and most of the people were in very limited circumstances. Chicago and Milwaukee were the principal markets and there were many hardships and privations to be endured in those early days by the pioneers, to whom a debt of gratitude is due for what they have done for the county and its upbuilding. Sylvester Atwood shared with the family in the experiences of frontier life. He aided in the arduous task of developing a new farm, and resided with his parents until his marriage.

On the 8th of October, 1863, he led to the marriage altar Lydia Rosecrans, a native of Troy, N. Y., and a daughter of Henry and Maria (Carey) Rosecrans. Her father was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., and was a son of James Rosecrans, a wheelwright by trade, who followed that business throughout his entire life. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Townsend. The father of Mrs. Atwood learned the trade of a pattern-maker and at the

time of his marriage settled in Troy, N. Y., where he engaged in business throughout the remainder of his life. He wedded Miss Carey, who was born in the town of Richmond, near Troy, and was a daughter of Abram Carey. She died in Harlem Township, at the home of her daughter, in 1881, at the age of eighty-five years.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Atwood was blessed with three children: Willie G., born May 20, 1865; M. Belle, May 19, 1874; and Gay Maud, April 8, 1877. They began their domestic life upon the farm which is still their home and many happy years have there been passed. Mr. Atwood has been very successful as a farmer and now owns and operates two hundred and sixty-five acres of arable land in Harlem and Guilford Townships, the greater part of which is under a high state of cultivation, while many improvements of both a useful and ornamental character indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner, who is regarded as one of the practical and progressive agriculturists of the community as well as a representative citizen. In politics, he is independent, giving his support to the man whom he thinks best qualified to fill the office, regardless of party affiliations. He is a member of the Masonic order, also a member of the Patrons of Husbandry and was Master of the order for six years and is Overseer of the State organization.



ANDREW C. LONG, who is numbered among the early settlers of Rockford in 1862, and has been identified with the growth and upbuilding of the city since that time, was born on the 12th of November, 1837, in Sweden. His parents died in that country, both being about fifty-five years of age when called to their final rest. Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the land of his birth and there learned the shoemaker's trade. In 1857, at the age of twenty years, he bade good-bye to his old home and in company with his sister Emeline sailed for Boston, Mass., where they arrived after a voyage of seven weeks and two days. They came on at once to the West and the sister

has since married Mr. Hilliard, by whom she has two children. The brother of our subject, Aaron, has since come to this country and resides with Andrew. These three are the only surviving members of the family.

Mr. Long whose name heads this record was united in marriage, in Rockford, with Miss Anna H. Bowman, who was born not far from Gottenburg, Sweden, on the 6th of April, 1844, and when a child of eight summers was brought by her parents to America in 1852, the family sailing to New York City, where they arrived after a voyage of six weeks. They came on at once to Illinois, settling in St. Charles, and in the autumn of the same year the husband and father, Andrew Bowman, died. He was then about fifty years of age. His wife afterward married Robert Welton and is again a widow. She makes her home in Rockford with her daughter, Mrs. Long, and is yet an active and intelligent old lady of eighty years. She has been a life-long member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, to which Mr. Bowman also belonged. One of her sons, P. G. Bowman, is still living in Rockford; and Eva C., widow of the late John Nelson, the inventor, resides on Seminary Street of this city.

For three years after coming to this country, Andrew Long resided in Geneva and St. Charles, Ill., and afterward made his home in Chicago. At length he came to Rockford in 1862, and this city has since been his place of residence. He was then in limited circumstances but he began work at his trade of shoe-making and prosperity has attended his efforts here, so that he is now in comfortable circumstances, having by his own industry, good management and enterprise won a handsome competence. He now owns a pleasant home at No. 607 Seventh Avenue. Himself and wife are among the oldest members of the First Lutheran Church of this city, to which most of their children also belong, and take an active part in its work and upbuilding. In politics, he is a Republican but has never had the inclination or found the time from his business to devote to office-seeking.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Long numbers six children: Frank E., who married Ida Holmberg, is now a book-keeper in the Manufacturers' National

Bank, of this city; Charles W. is employed in the Nelson Knitting Factory; Anton C. is a clerk in B. R. Waldo's book store; Anna Genevieve is at home; Minnie S. is in attendance at the Deaf-mute Institute of Jacksonville; and E. Florence completes the family.



JOHAN C. TRIPP, one of the prominent and highly respected citizens of Winnebago County, residing on section 36, Harlem Township, was born in Little Falls, N. Y., March 27, 1833. His grandfather, Stephen Tripp, was a native of Dutchess County and a farmer by occupation. He removed to Saratoga County and after some years went to Herkimer County, locating near Little Falls. He spent his last days in the town of Winfield. His wife bore the maiden name of Jemima Mosher and was a native of Saratoga County. She came to Illinois and passed away in Caledonia Township, Boone County.

The father of our subject, Noah Tripp, was born in Saratoga County and learned the trade of a shoemaker and weaver, following those occupations in Herkimer County until 1836. The succeeding ten years of his life were spent in Oswego County, and in 1846 he came to Illinois accompanied by his three children. On his arrival in this State, he pre-empted a tract of Government land in what is now Caledonia Township, Boone County, and at once built a log cabin and began the development of a farm. After some years, he sold out and came to Harlem Township, this county, where he bought a home and spent his remaining days. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Allen, was born in the town of Winfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., and died in 1843, in Schreppel, Oswego County, N. Y. Her father, Ebenezer Allen, was a native of Massachusetts and served under Gen. Putnam in the Revolutionary War. From his native State he removed to Danbury, Conn., where he married Hulda Stuart, who was born in Edinburg, Scotland, and died in Oswego County, N. Y., at the advanced age of ninety-five years. Immediately after their marriage, they removed to the Empire State, locating in the town of Winfield. Some years

later, they went to Oswego County, where Mr. Allen bought a farm, upon which he lived throughout the remainder of his life.

We now take up the personal history of our subject who was a lad of thirteen years when he came to Illinois, thus spending almost his entire life here. Under the parental roof he remained until attaining his majority, and during a portion of that time had operated a part of his father's farm on shares. He cut the oats with a cradle and then hauled them to Rockford, where he received ten cents per bushel for his grain. At the age of twenty-one, he began working by the month as a farm hand and was thus employed until 1857; he also ran a breaking team, when he operated his father's farm for two years. On the 16th of February, 1859, he started on a journey across the plains to Pike's Peak, but before reaching that place he learned that the prospects were not good, and with others pushed on to California, where he engaged in mining until late in the autumn of 1867, when he started homeward by way of the Nicaragua route. In the spring of 1868, he settled on the farm which he now owns and occupies, and to its improvement has since devoted his energies.

Mr. Tripp has been twice married. In 1868, he wedded Mary E. Tofflemire, who was born in Canada and was a daughter of Jonas and Sally (Anderson) Tofflemire, pioneers of Harlem Township of 1837. She died December 17, 1882, and on the 2d of May, 1885, Mr. Tripp was united in marriage with Clara Nelson, a native of Sweden, who came with her two brothers to America. They have two children: Mary E. and Joseph C.

Mr. and Mrs. Tripp are members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, in which he is an Elder, and take an active part in its work and up-building. Our subject has taken considerable interest in the Sabbath-school and is President of the county work. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican and a member of several local societies. He has been President of the Argyle Creamery Association since its organization in March, 1885; is President of the Society of Patrons of Industry; is a member of Harmony Grange No. 957, and of the Mutual Aid Society. He also holds membership with Argyle Association No. 2249, and is

Treasurer of the State Association, and is President of the Argyle Association of Mutual and Social Improvement. He is an honored member of these various organizations and, as stated in the beginning of this record, Mr. Tripp is one of the leading and influential citizens of Winnebago County, where he is widely and favorably known.



JOHN J. BUCKLAND, a successful boot and shoe dealer at No. 309 Kishwaukee Street, Rockford, where he has been engaged in business since 1876, was born in Carlshacum Province, Blaken, Sweden, May 3, 1834, and was the first of the family to come to America. He secured a good education in the city schools and when yet under age came to this country, landing in New York City after a nine-weeks' ocean voyage.

In the early part of the year 1859, he went to Denver, Col., which city then consisted of a couple of shanties, and there Mr. Buckland was offered a block in the center of that great city in exchange for a mule that he owned. He saw no money in the trade at the time, and shortly afterward he, with over sixty others, went up in the mountains on a gold exploring expedition. After stopping for a short time at Mt. McGregor Mines, the whole party decided to go farther up the mountain, and with only ten days' rations they started out. They ventured too far away and were lost for twenty days. They suffered untold agonies from hunger, having nothing for days but raw meat without salt, and some of the time were unable to get that. After four days of fasting, they had decided to sacrifice a mule, when one of the party killed an elk. They were so nearly starved that they could hardly wait for their portion, and very little meat was left on the bones after they had dined. After that, a deer was occasionally killed, but they were half starved all the time. At one time the captain of the company gave each about two or three pounds of meat and instructed them not to eat their portion until the day closed. The men were so hungry, however, that when

evening came all had devoured their share, except the captain, who had a very small piece left. It was in this way that the company got back to Denver. This is, in part, a review of Mr. Buckland's experience in going to Pike's Peak. He was afflicted with the mountain fever when first starting out and for three days had to be steadied on his mule by ropes. It was he and his partner, a Mr. Lewis, of Kankakee, Ill., from which place they started, who discovered the McGregor claim or diggings, now the site of Central City, Colo. Mr. Buckland was the only Swede in the company.

In the latter part of 1859, our subject returned to Illinois, and located in Rockford. In the fall of 1861, he enlisted in the Union Army, from this city, in the Silver Spar Battery, and served in the Fifteenth Army Corps, under Gen. Sherman, but later under Gen. Logan. He participated in twenty-seven active engagements, besides numerous skirmishes, and was never absent from duty. He was in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Arkansas Post, Hot Springs, Jackson, Vicksburg and other intermediate places, Memphis, and was with Sherman in his march to the sea. He was honorably discharged in June, 1865, after four years of hard service. He was slightly wounded at one time.

In 1866, after returning to Rockford, Mr. Buckland went West again, and spent four and a half years as a miner in Montana, after which he returned to Rockford. Later he went to Jackson County, Minn., took up a soldier's claim, and tried farming for four years. However, the grasshoppers "jumped his claim" so often that he gave up trying to till the soil, and returned to Rockford, where he has carried on the boot and shoe business since. He has been very successful in this venture and has a large and increasing trade. He also owns some valuable property in Rockford and is a stockholder of the Rockford Manufacturing Company, a thriving institution.

Mr. Buckland's parents, Jonas and Ellen (Pearson) Swensen, passed their entire days in Sweden, the father dying when eighty-two years of age, and the mother at the age of sixty. Both were members of the Swedish Lutheran Church. The father followed the occupation of a farmer. Of

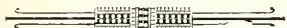


A. W. Fiske

the fourteen children born to them, ten sons and four daughters, five are now living and all are married: Swen, resides in Sweden, and is a baker; Otto is a goldsmith in Copenhagen; Joseph is a resident of Rockford, and Mrs. John Jacobson (see biography).

Our subject was married in Winnebago County, Ill., to Miss Susan Colwell, a native of this county, Cherry Valley Township, born December 29, 1845. She has never lived out of the county, except for a few years in Minnesota. Her parents were natives of the State of Maryland, but came to Winnebago County in the latter part of the '30s, and were among the first settlers. They located on a farm in Cherry Valley and there the father, Benjamin Colwell, died when eighty-three years of age. His wife lived to be quite old but died of a cancer when seventy years of age. They were the parents of a large family of children, seven of whom are living now, five sons and two daughters, and all are in comfortable circumstances.

Mr. and Mrs. Buckland are the parents of four children: Myrtle D., educated in the city schools; Charles E., also educated in the city schools; Izora at home and Zinia E., at home. Mr. Buckland and wife are well known and universally respected in Rockford. Politically, he is a sound Republican, and socially, he is a Master Mason, and a charter member of G. L. Nevins Post, G. A. R., No. 1.



JOSEPH H. FAKE. The results of unflinching perseverance, prudent economy and good habits, probably find no better exponent in Boone County than in the above-named gentleman, who is residing on his excellent farm on section 7, Flora Township. He is universally popular in both business and social circles and is possessed of more than ordinary ability, together with the energy and enterprise which seldom fail to win.

Our subject was born December 5, 1819, in Rensselaer County, N. Y., and is a son of John Fake, also a native of that State. The grandfather of our subject was born in Germany and, as far as is known, is the only member of the family who came to

America. He located in Rensselaer County, N. Y., when a young man, where he purchased a farm and resided until his decease.

John Fake was reared in his native State and died in February, 1825, in Rensselaer County. The lady whom he chose as his second wife was the mother of our subject and bore the maiden name of Susanna See. She was born January 10, 1793, in the Empire State and died in Brunswick, Rensselaer County, December 31, 1882, in her ninetieth year.

He of whom we write was five years of age when his father died and he continued to make his home with his mother until reaching mature years. After his marriage, he purchased a flax mill in Rensselaer County, and in addition to operating it conducted a farm which he rented. He made his home in Rensselaer County until 1853, at which time he came to Illinois, which he had visited in 1847, and had then purchased eighty acres of Government land in Winnebago County. In 1853, he bought forty-five acres adjoining his original tract, for which he paid \$15 per acre. There was a log house on the place and in that Mr. Fake made his home for about two years, when he built a good frame house in which he lived until 1859, when he sold his estate and purchased property near his home, which was his abiding-place until 1867, when he rented his farm and purchased a portion of the farm where he now resides. His estate comprises one hundred and seventy-five acres and is well improved with all the necessary buildings which make of it a first-class farm.

January 27, 1846, Joseph H. Fake and Miss Sarah A. Lane were united in marriage. The lady was born in Pittstown, Rensselaer County, N. Y., October 4, 1822, and died November 22, 1886. They have no children but have reared two: Sarah Elizabeth, who was married, December 18, 1869, to Fred B. Tyers, and is residing in Washington, D. C., having a family of six children; and Thomas C. Cramer.

Mrs. Fake joined the Methodist Episcopal Church before her marriage and our subject became a member of that body in 1852. He has officiated as Class-leader, and at the present time is Trustee. He takes a deep interest in politics and is a mem-

ber of the Republican party. He is self-made in the true sense of that term and has been so long and closely connected with the interests of Boone County that we are glad to be able to represent him on the pages of this volume. While a resident of Winnebago County, Mr. Fake was elected Justice of the Peace for three terms.



CARLTON W. SHELDON. Whilst history is philosophy illustrated, biography is the lamp of experience to encourage and guide us in the paths of success, or deter us from the road to ruin. The preservation of the facts, therefore, making up the lives of prominent men, is not only a source of gratification to personal friends, but a foundation of information to all, serving as guide-boards by the wayside, or beacon lights to the wayfarer who would achieve fortune or distinction in like walks of life. In Mr. Sheldon, who is engaged in the practice of law and a general loan and insurance business, we find a gentleman who has won, unaided, the leading position he holds to-day among the prominent citizens of Rockford.

The original of this sketch was born in Victor, Ontario County, N. Y., March 14, 1828, and is the son of Gad Sheldon, a native of New England. His father, Deacon Ezra Sheldon, was, from the best information at hand, also a native of New England, and engaged in the mercantile business. He spent the last year of his life at the home of his son, Ezra, at Mendon, Monroe County, N. Y. The maiden name of his wife was Sallie Perry. She was a native of New England and the mother of three children, namely: Ezra, Asaph and Gad.

The father of our subject was a young man when locating in Ontario County, where he purchased a farm in Victor and made the place his home until 1834, at which time he removed to South Bristol, that county. He there became the owner of a good estate, and cultivated the soil until his decease, which occurred in 1883, at the age of eighty-seven years. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Eunice Hosford. She was born, it is supposed, in Genesee County, N. Y. Her father, the grandfather of our subject, was a patriot in

the Revolutionary War, and died after having attained the advanced age of ninety-two years. His good wife departed this life at about the same age.

Gad Sheldon was a soldier in the War of 1812, and reared a family of six children, namely: Mary E., Alexander, Charles H., Carlton W., Porter and Ogilvie L. Mary E. married William Doty and is now deceased; Alexander, an attorney, who practiced at Jamestown, N. Y., was a member of the New York State Legislature, and is now deceased. Charles is a real-estate dealer at Rochester, N. Y., and Porter, who for a time practiced the profession of law in Rockford, succeeded his brother Alexander in Jamestown, N. Y., where he is residing at the present time. He is very prominent in public affairs, and served as Representative in Congress from his district. Ogilvie went to the Territory of Kansas in 1854, making a location in the town of Burlingame. He also served as a member of the Territorial Legislature, and at the time of his decease was a member of the State Senate.

Carlton W. Sheldon, of this sketch, prosecuted his primary studies in the public schools of Victor and South Bristol, N. Y. He spent a year as a student of East Bloomfield Academy when Prof. S. W. Clark, author of "Clark's Grammar," was its principal. In 1851, he came to Illinois by the railroad to Buffalo, then by way of the Lakes to Kenosha, Wis., where he secured a team, which conveyed him to McHenry County. That same fall he engaged to teach the school at Woodstock, which position he held during the fall, winter and spring terms, spending his leisure moments in reading law, which profession it was his determination to follow.

August 12, 1852, the gentleman whose name heads this sketch made his advent into Rockford, and at once entered the law office of Col. Jasen Marsh. He was a faithful student, and in the fall of that year was admitted to the bar, and, opening an office, was actively engaged in the practice of law until 1869, when he entered the employ of the Rockford Insurance Company as Adjuster. He traveled in the interest of that company for five years, then, in 1874, organized the Forest City Insurance Company, being elected its Secretary. He

discharged the duties of that responsible position conscientiously for five years, when he resigned and again engaged in the practice of law.

Mr. Sheldon was united in marriage, December 20, 1855, to Harriet J. Hathaway, who was born in Grafton, Mass., and was a daughter of Leonard and Caroline (Thompson) Hathaway. Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon have been blessed by the birth of four children: Charles E., George P., Dora E. and Ethel A. In all the country there is no more ardent, consistent Republican, no man of better impulses and strict integrity than Mr. Sheldon. Independent in his religious views, benevolent and kind, a good neighbor and a kind father and husband, he is entitled to and possesses the confidence of his neighbors and friends.



GEORGE BRADLEY. Each succeeding year witnesses marked improvements in the thriving city of Rockford, particularly in the way of handsome business blocks, residences, etc., and in all these structures there is the blending of the artistic with the utilitarian in modern architecture.

Among those who have acquired reputations as skillful architects, and who is one of the leading men in this line in Northern Illinois, as well as the oldest in Rockford, is George Bradley. The firm has been George Bradley & Son for eleven years and is located in the Stewart Building, where they occupy three floors. They have drawn designs for more than one thousand of the most substantial and modern residences of the city, besides many public buildings, including schoolhouses, churches, etc.

Mr. Bradley has been a resident of Rockford since May, 1855, and has since given his entire time to his business. He is a practical man of experience, thoroughly trained, and well qualified for executing all work appertaining to his profession, and has demonstrated all over the city and surrounding sections, by the numerous buildings which have been erected from his designs, that he knows his business thoroughly. Our subject was formerly a resident of Dixon, Ill., when

that place was small, but only remained there one year. He has witnessed the marvelous growth of Rockford, and has ever been forward in advancing any movement that had for its object the prosperity and development of the city.

Born in Dover, Kent County, England, in 1825, Mr. Bradley was but seven years of age when his parents, in 1832, crossed the ocean to America. They were forty-seven days on the water, but finally landed in Boston, Mass., where they remained a short time. From there they went to West Newbury, Essex County, of that State, and there the parents and a brother and four sisters received their final summons.

The father, William Bradley, was a native of Kent County, England, and came of an old and prominent English family, generally sailors or soldiers. He grew to manhood there and served fourteen years in the English navy, the last year as Shipmaster in the East India navy. After coming to this country, he withdrew from a seafaring life and engaged in tilling the soil. He was born in 1796, and died when forty-nine years of age. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Carlton, was born in 1800, and died in 1852. They were members of the Episcopal Church.

George Bradley is the only surviving member of his immediate family, and his boyhood and youth were spent on the farm in Essex County. This farm is now a part of the large tract of land owned by Maj. Ben Perley Poore, who was a particular friend and crony of our subject. After growing up, the latter was married in Haverhill, that county, to Miss Mary J. Burham, who was born in the Quaker settlement of New Hampshire, and who was of old New England stock. Mr. and Mrs. Bradley attend the Christian Union Church and are highly esteemed in the community. They became the parents of seven children, two deceased: George W. died when young, and Mary E. died at the age of four years. Those living are: Frances J., wife of Andrew Sheratt, secretary and treasurer of the Forest City Insurance Company; Emily A., wife of William D. Dow, a commercial traveler located at Butte City, Mont.; Ella L., wife of Frank McKinney, of the firm of Clark & McKinney, hardware dealers, at Rock-

ford; Charles W., a practical architect since the age of twelve years, and who, since seventeen years of age has been with his father, is a promising young man. He married Miss Carrie D. Smith, of White Water, Wis., where she was reared and educated, and they now reside on West Mulberry Street, Rockford. Edwin B. resides in Rockford and does business with the Berlin Manufacturing Company, of Beloit, Wis.; he married Miss Emma Cotton, of Rockford. Mr. Bradley and sons are independent in their political views.



MORTON A. BROWN, a retired farmer residing on West State Street, Rockford, was born in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1842, and is of English descent. His grandfather, Thomas Brown, Sr., was born in England and married Miss Mary Morton, a native of that country. After all their children were born and the eldest daughter was married, they emigrated to this country, in 1829, the married daughter continuing to reside in her native land. They sailed from Liverpool and after a pleasant voyage arrived at New York. A year later, Mr. Brown settled on a farm in Oneida County, N. Y., where his death occurred in 1855, at the age of eighty-one years. His wife died in 1813, when sixty years of age. They were members of the Episcopal Church in England, but after coming to this country became active members in the Methodist Church.

Thomas Brown, Jr., the father of our subject, was born in Cumberland County, England, in 1811, and at the age of fifteen accompanied his parents on their emigration to America. On the farm which his father had purchased in Oneida County, he was reared, and after attaining to man's estate wedded Alma Fuller, a native of Oneida County, who belonged to an old Connecticut family. Her grandfather removed to Oneida County in an early day and improved what was known as Fuller's Hollow. Her people were among the prominent and leading citizens of that community. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Brown

resided upon their farm in Oneida County until they emigrated to Illinois, becoming pioneer settlers of Burritt Township, Winnebago County. Mr. Brown secured one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Government, developed therefrom a fine farm and became one of the leading citizens of the community. He made the first wagon road north of Winnebago Village, and was one of the organizers of the Methodist Church, in which he continued a faithful worker until his death in June, 1890. He was first a Whig and afterward a staunch Republican in politics. Throughout the community, he had a wide acquaintance, and the noble, upright life which he lived won him the high regard of all. His death occurred at the home of our subject, and his wife also died at the home of her son in October, 1888. Their only daughter died at the age of twenty years, and our subject is now the only surviving member of the family. Thomas Brown was a brother of the late Judge William Brown, a very prominent citizen of Rockford.

In the usual manner of farmer lads, our subject was reared to manhood, and after he had attained his majority wedded Jane Houghton, who was born and reared in Durand Township, this county, and is a daughter of Robert Houghton, now deceased. Her mother still resides in Pecatonica Township at an advanced age. Eight children have been born unto our subject and his wife, six of whom are yet living: Mary, Agnes, Etta, Alma, Bessie and Horace. Thomas and Nellie are both deceased.

Mr. Brown is numbered among the early settlers of this county and for many years was one of its successful farmers. He located in Burritt Township in 1853, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits, and also in stock-raising and dairying. He kept an average of thirty cows and at the same time fed cattle. He yet owns four hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, a part of which is his father's old homestead. He has led a busy and useful life and the success which has crowned his efforts is well deserved. Having acquired a handsome competence, he decided to live a retired life, and about a year since came to Rockford, where he now makes his home. Both Mr. and



M. H. Turner

Mrs. Brown are members of the Presbyterian Church and are highly respected people. Their home is a pleasant residence, surrounded by commodious grounds, where hospitality abounds and where their friends are always sure of a hearty welcome.



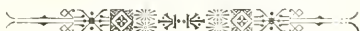
MRS. JULIA (KELLEY) TURNER, one of the earliest settlers of Winnebago County, now residing on section 29, Guilford Township, was born in Ireland on the 27th of December, 1814. Her father, Jeremiah Kelley, was also a native of the Emerald Isle and the grandfather, John Kelley, there spent his entire life. Her father was married, in Ireland, to Miss Mary Twemey, and in 1817 came to this country accompanied by his wife and three children. He settled in St. Albans, Vt., where he purchased land and engaged in farming for a number of years, after which he removed to Rochester, Monroe County. In that place, he rented land and engaged in farming for some time. Later he removed to Wisconsin and settled ten miles west of Milwaukee. After a short time spent there, he came to Winnebago County and his last days were passed in Guilford Township.

Our subject was a child of three summers, when, with her parents, she came to America. May 10, 1839, she gave her hand in marriage to Melger H. Turner, who was born September 3, 1818, in the Empire State and was a son of James and Nancy (Thomas) Turner. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent in his native county, where he resided until 1839. He then removed to Illinois, accompanied by his bride and his parents.

The removal was made by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes to Chicago, where Mr. Turner bought a yoke of oxen and a wagon, and thus equipped, the journey was completed to Winnebago County. The year previous, Mr. Turner, Sr., had purchased a "squatter's" claim on section 29, Guilford Township. Upon it was a log cabin, into which the family moved. At that time, all the land was owned by the Government; deer and all kinds of wild game were plentiful and the work of

progress and civilization seemed scarcely begun. Mr. Turner added a room to the cabin and occupied it with his father's family until the latter built a home of his own. A few years later, Mr. Turner erected a substantial brick residence, which his widow still occupies, and there made his home until his death. He passed away December 10, 1881, respected by all who knew him. He was one of the representative farmers of the community and an honored pioneer, and his portrait in another page is a valued addition to this volume.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Turner were born two children but the only son, William, died at the age of twelve and a half years. Mary is the wife of Nathan W. Watkins, who occupies an adjoining farm, and their son, William E., resides with his grandmother and manages her farm. Mrs. Turner is a most estimable lady, held in high regard by all who know her, and has a wide circle of acquaintances throughout the community.

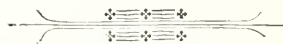


SEVER JOHNSON has passed the uneventful life of a farmer, and has continued steadily to pursue "the even tenor of his way," and is now classed among the prosperous and progressive farmers of Manchester Township. Although of foreign birth, a native of Norway, he has been a resident of this country since a small boy and takes as much interest in the progress and development of the same as any native-born citizen. His birth occurred on the 26th of November, 1845, and his father, John Johnson, was born in the same place in 1804 or 1808. The father was a farmer and was married in his native country, in 1832, to Miss Engebor Peters, also of that country. After the birth of their children, ten in number, and in the spring of 1850, this ambitious couple determined to cross the ocean to America and make a home in the "land of the free." After reaching New York, they went to Chicago via canal and Lakes. Mr. Johnson brought his family to Manchester Township, quartered them with friends, and returned to Chicago for employment, remaining there for a number of months. They were possessed of considerable

means for those days and they soon purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land with small improvements, for which they paid \$8 per acre. The house was a good log building and in this they lived for many years before Mr. Johnson erected the main part of his present commodious and comfortable dwelling. He died in the fall of 1875, when seventy years of age, and his wife too passed away about three months later, when sixty-six years of age. They had lost three children: Emily, born in 1833, died in Mississippi in 1866 leaving her husband, M. A. Brown, and three children; L. B., a twin brother of Mrs. Brown, died in Chicago in 1872. He was engaged in business on the vessels there and when on a recreation trip he was accidentally drowned. He was only thirty-nine years of age and was a prosperous young business man, leaving his wife and three daughters in very comfortable circumstances, all the fruits of his own labors. Ann, born in 1840, became Mrs. William Seaver, and died in Manchester Township in 1872, when but thirty-two years of age. She left her husband with four sons and one daughter. The living members of the family are: A. P., Susan, Peter, Nels; Sever, our subject, and his twin sister, Betsy; Hannah, John and Etta C. A. P. and Nels are manufacturers of furniture in Chicago, and have been in business there for many years. They started in a small way on Green Street soon after the war, and their business has increased until now they have the largest chair factory in the United States. All the members of this family were well educated.

Our subject has followed agricultural pursuits all his life and married a farmer's daughter, Miss Betsy Seaver, May 25, 1882. Her parents, Knudt and Thora Seaver, were both Norwegians, who came to the States at an early day. Mrs. Johnson was born in Manchester Township in 1859. After marriage, our subject and wife settled on the old homestead and are now the owners of one hundred and seventy-seven acres of good, productive land, with ample barns, outbuildings, etc. His barn was the first one erected in the neighborhood and was built by his father from timber that grew on the farm. One barn, 30x50 feet, has the stable in the basement. Mr. Johnson is engaged in general

farming and in connection raises a great many hogs, selling from forty to fifty head each year. He keeps from thirty to forty head of horses and horned cattle, and also about twelve cows. He and Mrs. Johnson hold membership in the Norwegian Lutheran Church.



SAMUEL KIRK. Lives of public-spirited and successful citizens furnish examples which should encourage others to greater efforts and nobler deeds; and among those who are building for themselves monuments that will outlast shafts of granite or statues in bronze, may be mentioned Mr. Kirk, who, amid comforts accumulated by his unremitting exertions, and surrounded by the evidences of the love of his family, the respect of his acquaintances and the confidence of his friends, is tranquilly passing the twilight of his life at his pleasant home in Pecatonica.

The father of our subject, Samuel Kirk, Sr., was the son of Thomas Kirk and was born in Northamptonshire, England, where he was also reared and married. In 1851, he emigrated to America with his wife and three sons (two sons having come hither previously) and located in Rockford, where he engaged in teaming for three years. Thence removing to Seward Township, Winnebago County, he purchased a quarter-section of land, and upon the home he there established resided until his death at the age of sixty-five years. His wife passed away at the age of seventy-eight years, ten months and sixteen days.

Born in Northamptonshire, England, April 24, 1836, our subject was a lad of about fifteen years when he came to America. He aided his father in teaming at Rockford and afterward accompanied him to the farm in Seward Township. After farming for three years in Winnebago Township, he returned to Seward, where he operated and cultivated a tract of land until he retired from farming pursuits and removed to Pecatonica. His labors resulted in the accumulation of a considerable amount of this world's goods, through the exercise of good judgment and integrity. Meanwhile

he has ever maintained a deep interest in religious work, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, prominent in its councils, and has served as Class-leader and Steward for thirty years. His political affiliations are with the Prohibition party and he takes an active part in public affairs.

In 1858, Mr. Kirk was united in marriage with Miss Ann Faulkner, who was born November 9, 1840. She is the daughter of John and Mary Faulkner, of whom see sketch elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Kirk are the parents of the following-named children: William, born in Seward Township, December 24, 1862, married Emma Logan, who died October 2, 1888, leaving one son, Howard R., born August 15, 1888; Elizabeth A., born September 5, 1864, married Seigel Buesingay and has two children living; Charles, born in Winnebago Township, December 20, 1866; and Fannie, born in the same township, April 7, 1868, married Charles Eddy.



CONRAD A. NEWMAN, a successful and prominent designer and draughtsman, employed by the Union Furniture Company and the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company, was born in Sweden, March 31, 1860. His father died before he was born. His mother afterward became the wife of Mr. Moberg, and with her family came to the United States, locating in Rockford, where she is still living at the age of sixty-four years. Her second husband died some years ago. He was a member of the Methodist Church, to which Mrs. Moberg also belongs.

Our subject was a lad of eight summers when, with the family, he crossed the broad Atlantic. Almost his entire life, therefore, has been spent in this city and of much of its growth and development he has been an eye-witness. His education was here acquired in the public schools and he became a carver in the employ of the Union Furniture Company, with which he remained for fifteen years. In the meantime, he gained a reputation as a draughtsman and designer and for some time has given the latter profession his closest attention. He has always been regarded as a skilled workman,

and it is said by some of the leading stockholders of the companies by which he is employed, that much of their success is due to the designing of Mr. Newman and his skilled work. He has been associated with the Union Furniture Company for some seven years, and with the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company for the past three years. He is also a stockholder and Director in both.

In Sheridan, Ill., Mr. Newman was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Mary Rasmusson, who was born in Chicago, in 1868, and when quite young went with her parents to LaSalle County. In Sheridan, her education was acquired and the days of her maidenhood were passed. Her parents were both natives of Norway. Her father, J. Rasmusson, who is now well advanced in years, is a shoe dealer of Sheridan. Her mother was called to the home beyond some years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Newman are the proud parents of four interesting children, three sons and one daughter: Earl A., Lyle W., Jennie V. and Ray H. Our subject and his wife hold membership with the Swedish Methodist Church and are actively interested in its growth and upbuilding. Mr. Newman is a Prohibitionist in politics. The cause of temperance finds in him a warm friend and he is an earnest advocate of everything calculated to promote the moral, social and educational interests of the city. His life has been well and worthily spent in the interests of his business and his family and he holds a high rank among his fellow-townsmen, as an upright and straightforward business man, who deserves the confidence of the community.



GEORGE H. HOLMES, who ranks among the well-to-do and progressive farmers of Rockford Township, is at present residing on section 21, where he is engaged in the successful cultivation of a fine tract of land. He is a native of the county, having been born in Rockford, February 23, 1844. He is a son of Hollis H. Holmes, one of the pioneers of this section, who it is thought was born in the town of Northeast, Putnam County, N. Y., April 15, 1810. He was very

young when his parents moved across the line into Connecticut where he was reared and educated.

The father of our subject was a shoemaker by trade, and from Connecticut went to Canada, where he was engaged in the leather business at St. Thomas. In 1839, accompanied by his wife, he came to Winnebago County, making the removal with teams. He at once located in Rockford, which was at that time little more than a hamlet, and opened the first extensive boot and shoe store in the place. He continued in that line of business until 1846, when, on account of ill-health, he sold out and purchased a farm adjoining the city on the east, which is now included in the suburb known as "Highlands." Mr. Holmes there established a nursery, which was the first in the county, and which he conducted until his decease in 1859.

Our subject's mother bore the maiden name of Sarah Moore. She was born in Sparta, County of Elgin, Province of Ontario, Canada. She departed this life on the home farm in 1885, having become the mother of three children: George H., Edward M. and Frank E. A sketch of both brothers will appear on another page of this work. The elder Mr. Holmes was, in early life, a Whig in politics, but later joined the Republican ranks. He was elected County Treasurer in 1846, serving a period of three years.

George H. Holmes received his education in Rockford, and, after the decease of his father, continued in the nursery business until 1862. In June of that year, he enlisted for three months in Company A, Sixty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and served with his regiment until the 6th of October following. He returned home, and May 11, 1861, enlisted in the United States naval service and served for one year on the gunboat "Undine." Again returning home, our subject resumed his business as a nursery-man until 1890, when the old home farm was sold and platted into city lots, which was known as the "Highlands," the most beautiful suburb of Rockford.

After the marriage of our subject in December, 1890, at which time Miss Alice Herrick became his wife, he located on the old Herrick homestead, where he resides at the present time. Mrs. Holmes was born on the farm which is her present abiding-

place, and is a daughter of Ephraim Abbott Herrick, a native of Andover, Essex County, Mass., where he was reared and resided until 1839. At that date he came to Illinois, made a claim to a tract of Government land on the east half of the southeast quarter of section 36, and when the land came into market purchased it at \$1.25 per acre. He erected a log house on the place and commenced its improvement. His father was associated with him in the ownership and cultivation of the property, and together they erected good buildings and resided on the place until the death of Mr. Herrick in January, 1881. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Holmes was Lovina Stevens. She was born in Lennox, Madison County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Noah and Lois (Walker) Stevens. She is still residing on the old homestead.

Our subject, socially, is a member of Nevins Post No. 1, G. A. R.



SAMUEL CUNNINGHAM is a man widely-known for his integrity, honesty and uprightness, always contributing liberally to every good cause and striving to suppress evil. He is at present residing on a splendid farm, pleasantly located two miles northwest of the city in Rockford Township, which is supplied with good buildings and well equipped with the most practical modern machinery.

Our subject was born in Peterboro, Hillsboro County, N. H., August 15, 1815, and is a son of James Cunningham, who was also a native of that place, as was also his father, James Cunningham, Sr. The great-grandfather of our subject, Thomas Cunningham, was born in the North of Ireland, of Scotch parents, and on emigrating to America settled in Londonderry, N. H. He later removed to Peterboro, about 1735, where he was one of the earliest settlers. He secured a tract of timber land in the southern part of the town and made that place his home until his decease, after having reared a family of three sons and three daughters.

The grandfather of our subject was reared to

farming pursuits, which calling he followed throughout his entire life. He became the owner of a tract of timber land, located one mile from the old homestead, which he cleared and improved, making his home there until his decease. He was widely and favorably known in the community and was a patriot in the Revolutionary War. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Nay, who, as far as is known, was also born in Peterboro. She became the mother of a family of five sons and two daughters, and departed this life on the old home farm.

The direct progenitor of our subject remained with his parents until reaching mature years, when he went to Maine, making that State his home for a time, and on returning to Peterboro lived on the old homestead until 1838. In that year, he came West to Winnebago County, and purchased a claim four miles from Rockford. He later entered a tract from the Government, which he improved and resided upon for a number of years, when, moving to Rockford, he purchased a home on what is now the site of the Second Congregational Church, and there resided until his death. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Sarah Morrison Cunningham. She was born in Peterboro, N. H., and was a daughter of Capt. Samuel and Susan (Carter) Cunningham. She came West to Winnebago County in 1839, and, surviving her husband a few years, died at the home of her son, Benjamin F.

The five sons included in the parental family were Isaac N., James P., Thomas, Samuel, William and Benjamin F. Isaac N. came to Winnebago County in the year 1836, and was the second Sheriff of the county; he departed this life in Rockford. James P. is a graduate of Bowdoin College and for a number of years practiced medicine at Huntsville, Ala.; he is also deceased, departing this life at Peterboro, N. H., when in his twenty-ninth year. Thomas located at Manchester, Coffee County, Tenn., where his decease occurred. William went to California in 1852 and is at the present time residing in San Francisco. Benjamin F. is a prominent resident of Rockford Township.

Samuel Cunningham was reared and educated in his native town and remembers distinctly when

there were no railroads near his home and Boston, which was the nearest market, was sixty miles away. He remained under the parental roof until reaching his sixteenth year, at which time he commenced clerking in an hotel. Later he was engaged in driving a stage from Keene to Boston, and in 1839, desiring to learn more of the Western country, came to Illinois, where he was met at Chicago by his brother William, who with his team conveyed them to Winnebago County. At that time, Rockford was little more than a hamlet and the surrounding country was owned mostly by the Government. Deer and wild game were plentiful and prairie chickens and quails would often come to the door of their cabin to be fed. Mr. Cunningham lived with his father, who had also come to this county, for two years and then purchased a tract of Government land in what is now Winnebago Township. There he erected a good frame house, improved the land and resided there until 1863, when he disposed of his estate and purchased the old homestead of his father. He made that place his home for the succeeding thirteen years, when he also disposed of it and became the owner of the place where he is at present residing.

June 12, 1839, our subject was married to Emily Cutter, who was born in Goshen, Sullivan County, N. H., February 24, 1816. She was the daughter of John Cutter, who was born in Cheshire County, N. H., October 31, 1788. His father, also named John Cutter, was born at Woburn, Mass., April 16, 1765, and was married to Abigail Demary, of Rindge, who was the daughter of John and Rebecca (Corneille) Demary, both of whom were natives of Boston and of French parentage. The grandfather of Mrs. Cunningham removed from Massachusetts to Jaffrey, N. H., in 1789. He was a leading member of the Universalist Church at that place, where he passed the remainder of his life. The father of Mrs. Cunningham learned the trade of a tanner from his father, and after his marriage removed to Goshen, where, in addition to carrying on his trade, he operated a farm. He departed this life on the 5th of February, 1829. Mrs. Cunningham's mother in girlhood was Betsey Crosby, a native of Jaffrey and the daughter of Capt. Alpheus and Elizabeth (Gilmore) Crosby. She survived her husband for

a number of years and died at Plymouth, N. H. Mrs. Cunningham was twelve years old on the death of her father, and was then taken into the home of an uncle. She commenced teaching school at the age of twenty-one years, which profession she followed until her marriage.

Two sons have been born to our subject and his estimable wife: James C., whose birth occurred November 21, 1848, died in his nineteenth year. John A., who was born August 27, 1851, died in his twenty-seventh year; he had married Elizabeth Hollenbeck and was the father of two children, John Clement and Katie Emily, the latter of whom is deceased. In politics, our subject is a Republican, voting the Whig ticket previous to the formation of that party. In official matters, he served as Assessor of Winnebago Township for thirteen years and was Supervisor for two terms. In 1844, he was elected a member of the Board of County Commissioners and in every position fulfilled the duties imposed upon him in a most creditable manner.

 AUGUST LUNDBERG, one of the wide-awake, thorough-going business men of Rockford, is a stockholder and Director of the Excelsior Manufacturing Company, of that city; also President and stockholder of the Globe Clothing Company, which was started in 1890 with a capital stock of \$50,000, most of which has already been paid up, and he is also interested in other enterprises. He has been a stockholder of the former company since 1882, and is now foreman of the upholstering department.

Like many of the representative business men of Rockford, Mr. Lundberg is a Swede, his birth occurring in Wester Gothland Province on the 29th of November, 1841, and in that country he learned his trade. He came to the United States in 1870, located in Chicago, and was the first of the family to venture on American soil. Since then he has been joined by three sisters: Mrs. Matilda Anderson, Mrs. Charlotte Matterson, Mrs. Caroline Talstrom, and a half sister, Miss Christina Carlson, all now of Chicago.

The parents, Carl and Johanna (Anderson) Lund-

berg, died in Sweden, when seventy-five and sixty-two years of age, respectively. The father had been twice married, his first wife being the mother of our subject. He followed the occupation of a tiller of the soil all his life, and met with substantial results in this pursuit. The second wife resides in Sweden, and is well along in years. She is a member of the State Church, as was also her husband and his first wife.

August Lundberg was the third in order of birth of the children born to his parents, and was a single man when he came to this country. He was married in Chicago to Miss Gustava Carlson, a native of Sweden, born October 28, 1815. He subsequently followed the trade of upholsterer in Chicago for twelve years, being overseer of the upholstery department of the Sherwood School Manufacturing Company for some time. From there he came to Rockford, and has been identified with the business interests of the city ever since.

Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lundberg, only two are now living, Anna O. and Lillie M., both at home. The remainder of the children died when under ten years of age. Mr. Lundberg and his wife hold membership in the Mission Lutheran Church, and he has been one of the Church Trustees for some time. He is a Republican in politics.

Mrs. Lundberg is now the only one of her family in America. She was preceded to this country by a brother, Swans Carlson, who died recently in California. Her father died in Sweden, and her mother still makes her home in that country.

 MRS. MARION (MONTGOMERY) GREEN-LEE, who resides on section 1, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, was born in Kintyre, Argyshire, Scotland, April 27, 1838. Her father, James Montgomery, was born in the same locality, and his father, Robert Montgomery, was probably born on the same farm. He was a farmer, and spent his entire life in Scotland. He married Jane Griffin, who likewise never left her native land.

James Montgomery was reared to manhood on

his father's farm, and after attaining to mature years wedded Jane Caldwell, a native of Argyleshire, and a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Howie) Caldwell. In 1842, with his wife and seven children, he emigrated to America. The vessel in which he took passage weighed anchor on the 4th of June and reached the harbor of New York on the 4th of July. With his family he at once started Westward, traveling by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes to Chicago, where he procured a team and came on to Winnebago County. He secured a tract of Government land in what is now Harlem Township, purchasing a farm in connection with his brother-in-law, Daniel Smith. They moved into a log building which had formerly been used as a distillery, and after three years Mr. Montgomery sold his interest in that place and bought the farm upon which Mrs. Greenlee now resides. It was a tract of wild land, upon which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made, but he at once built a house and engaged in the cultivation and improvement of the land until his death. His wife was not long permitted to enjoy her new home in America, as she was called to her final rest in January, 1843. Six children of the family are now living: Elizabeth, Robert, James, Mary, Marion and John. Jane died in 1883.

Mrs. Greenlee was a child of only four summers when her parents crossed the broad Atlantic, and has but little recollection of any other than her adopted land. She remembers well her early life among the wild scenes of the frontier here, and well deserves mention among the pioneers of the country. She resided with her father until his death, her husband having previously purchased the old homestead. It was in March, 1861, that she gave her hand in marriage to Robert Greenlee, a native of Argyleshire, Scotland, and a son of Robert and Mary (Mitchell) Greenlee. With his parents, he came to America when a young man twenty-three years of age, and throughout his entire life followed the occupation of farming. He was a successful business man and an upright and honorable citizen, and his death, which occurred in 1874, was a loss to the entire community, as well as to his immediate family.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Greenlee were born three children, who are yet living: Elizabeth is the wife of Peter Greenlee, and they have two children: Edith M. and Robert L. The sons of the family, Robert and James, are still at home, and operate and carry on the farm for their mother. Mrs. Greenlee and her children are all members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, and they are a highly respected family, held in warm regard by their many friends throughout the community.



GEORGE GLEASMAN, deceased, was born in West Leyden, Lewis County, N. Y., June 30, 1840. His father, Godfrey Gleasman, was born on the banks of the River Rhone, in Germany, where he was reared to man's estate, being one of a family of four sons, who came to America: Godfrey, Valentine, George and David. The father of our subject was married in Germany, and on emigrating to the New World, first settled in West Leyden, N. Y., and later lived in Rome.

In 1862, Godfrey Gleasman enlisted in a New York Regiment, and was killed in the battle of Antietam, in which conflict his brother George was also killed. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Henrietta Smuining; she came to Illinois in 1857, and spent her last days in Rockton, Winnebago County. Our subject was reared and educated in New York State, and previous to his marriage settled on the farm which his family now occupies, on section 1, Owen Township, Winnebago County. There he was actively engaged in its cultivation until January 1, 1890, when he departed this life. The estate is one of the finest in the county, and contains four hundred well-improved acres, and good buildings have been erected on the place, which is supplied with all needful machinery. It is managed by the older sons of our subject, Edwin and Charles. The other members of the family are Mina, Katie, Ratie, Alice, Abbie and Frank. George is deceased.

Miss Sarah Lake, who was born March 18, 1845, in Owen Township, became the wife of our subject. She is the daughter of Hiram Lake, who was a native of Canada, while it is thought her grand-

father, who bore the name of John Lake, was born in the Empire State, whence he removed to Canada, and lived for a time near Kingston. Later he purchased a farm near Orino, where he made his home until 1814, at which time he came to Illinois, and for a short time resided in Winnebago County. He, however, returned to Canada, where his decease occurred. He had married Sarah Stover, who departed this life in Iowa while on a visit to her daughter, but was brought back and buried in Rockford, Ill.

The father of Mrs. Gleason followed his trade of a carpenter in Canada, in addition to which he added the occupation of farming, and lived there until 1814, when he came via the Lakes to Chicago, thence by team to Winnebago County. He purchased a tract of land on section 12, Owen Township, on which was a partially completed house made of sod. He immediately commenced the work of improving his land, upon which he resided until his decease, October 16, 1872. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Thompson; she was born in England, and was the daughter of Richardson and Ann (Greene) Thompson, also natives of that country. Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson died on the home farm March 20, 1888. She reared two of her three children: Rachel married Albert Hullett, and Sarah became Mrs. Gleason, of this sketch. Our subject and his estimable wife became members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rockford, in 1882. Their eldest son, Edwin, married Lissie Trueman. The father of Mrs. Gleason was the first Justice of the Peace elected in Owen Township, which honorable position he held until his death.



GEORGE M. TAFT, one of the leading agriculturists of the township, if not the county, makes quite a specialty of stock-raising and has a large flock of Shropshire sheep that will compare favorably with any in the county. Like most of his neighbor farmers, he keeps many cows, and sends his milk to the creamery. He is wide-awake and thorough-going and has made a success of his occupation.

Mr. Taft was born in Roscoe Township, this county, on the 6th of February, 1855, but his parents, Levi M. and Electa (Gregory) Taft, were natives of the Empire State, the former born in 1817 and the latter in 1814. Grandfather Taft was a native either of Vermont or New Hampshire, and removed to New York State when his son Levi was but six years of age. Still later he removed to the Western Reserve, Ohio, near Ashtabula, where he died at an advanced age, leaving a family of children. He was a life-long farmer and was in comfortable circumstances. Mrs. Taft's father, Samuel Gregory, was a native New Yorker, and followed farming all his life. He was killed by a run-away team, when in the prime of life, and left a family of eight children.

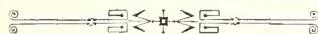
Levi Taft, father of our subject, was but twenty years of age when he came to Rockford, Winnebago County, and he entered a tract of about two hundred acres in section 6, on which he built a log house, and in which house his wife taught school. They buried two children in infancy; Helen died when eighteen years of age, and our subject is the only one now living. The latter was reared to farm labor, and was given excellent opportunities for getting an education, but he neglected his advantages. He selected his wife in the person of Miss Cora Carpenter, of Roscoe, and their nuptials were celebrated on the 23d of November, 1876. Her parents, Newton and Almira (Reynolds) Carpenter, of Herkimer County, N. Y., came West in 1852, and the father followed his trade, that of carpenter and joiner. He was one of the '49ers who went to California during the gold fever excitement, going by way of the Isthmus, and returning by the same route in 1851. The following year he came to Illinois, and, in company with his uncle, Henderson Coffin, purchased a farm. He then returned to New York for his wife, whom he married in the year 1851, and brought back with him to Illinois, locating in Roscoe. He built an elevator, and for many years ran his grain warehouse, and was also railroad agent for some time. He rented his farm but subsequently sold his part of the same to Mr. Coffin, and purchased one hundred acres a mile and a half east of the Roscoe depot. This land still belongs to the family. Mr.



Louis Goldman
American Fair Co
Rockford Ills.

Carpenter died on the 21th of March, 1884, when fifty-eight years of age, leaving a widow and one child, now Mrs. Taft. Mrs. Carpenter died February 15, 1887, when sixty-three years of age.

Our subject and wife have three living children: Helen, born August 30, 1877, and Edith and Edna (twins), born November 24, 1883. These are bright children and Helen attends the Roseoe school, while the two younger are in the district school. Mr. and Mrs. Taft lost two children: Merrill died November 9, 1884, when little over three years of age, and Marshall died August 2, 1888, when also a little over three years old. The living children are receiving good educational advantages and are being thoroughly drilled in music. Mr. Taft is a Republican but not enthusiastic in politics.



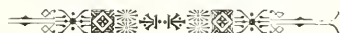
LOUIS GOLDMAN, proprietor of the American Fair at Rockford, located at Nos. 517, 519, 521 and 523 Seventh Street, is a native of Prussia. His birth occurred in 1854, and he was reared to manhood in his native country, acquiring his education in the public schools. After attaining to mature years, he was married to Miss Betsy Max, who was born and reared near the home of her husband. Her father, Charles Max, is still living in Prussia, but his wife died in middle life. The father of our subject is also yet living and makes his home in Chicago. He came of old Hebrew stock and has always been a member of the Jewish Church, to which his wife also belonged. She died in her native land.

Mr. and Mrs. Goldman crossed the Atlantic to America in 1870, landing at New York City, where they resided for a time and then removed to Chicago, where they spent some years previous to coming to Rockford. Their home has been blessed by the presence of six children: Dora and Lotta, who are clerking in their father's store; Harry, who is now a student in the High School of Rockford; Etta, Ella and Lillie, all yet at home.

While residing in Chicago, Mr. Goldman was engaged in the mercantile business for twelve years. At length, he came to Rockford and in 1886 established a dry-goods store on East State Street,

where he carried on business until removing to his present location at Nos. 517 to 523 Seventh Street. The American Fair, one of the leading stores in the city, contains a large and well-assorted stock of dry-goods, clothing, furniture, carpets, boots and shoes, etc., and receives a liberal patronage. The store occupied is 80x80 feet and is well stocked. From the beginning, Mr. Goldman has received a good trade and is now doing an excellent business, which yields him a handsome income.

Mr. and Mrs. Goldman began their domestic life without a dollar's capital, but their united efforts, enterprise, industry, and good management have proved important factors in their success and they have steadily worked their way upward until their possessions now aggregate more than \$100,000. They are both members of the Jewish Church and are well-known and prominent people in this community, taking an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of Rockford and its advancement. On another page will be noticed a portrait of Mr. Goldman.



DARWIN W. ALLEN, of Belvidere, is a native of the Empire State. His grandfather, Isaac Allen, was born in Rhode Island, April 29, 1768, and was a son of Nehemiah and Abigail Allen. He removed from his native State to New York, becoming one of the pioneers of Herkimer County, and in the midst of the forest developed a farm, upon which he made his home for many years. He came to Illinois in 1852, and spent his last days in Boone County. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Lydia Brown, died in Newport, N. Y.

John F. Allen, father of our subject, was born in Rhode Island in 1792, and was quite young when his parents went to New York. He was there reared, and married Phoebe Brown, a native of Rhode Island, and a daughter of Christopher and Ruby (Fenner) Brown. With his wife he removed to Oneida County, and purchased a partially improved farm, but after some years returned to Herkimer County. Emigrating Westward in 1852, he purchased a tract of land in Belvidere

Township, Boone County, where he engaged in farming until his death, May 22, 1859. His wife died March 17, 1878, in Belvidere. They were the parents of two sons, Darwin W. and Isaac B.

In the usual manner of farmer lads our subject was reared to manhood and in the Empire State he made his home until 1850, when he came to Illinois and cast in his lot with the early settlers of Flora Township, Boone County. At that time Elgin was the nearest railroad station and Belvidere was but a small village. His father and John Kohoon bought forty acres of land and platted it as an addition to the city. On this land was a small frame house and barn and the former continued to be the home of our subject until 1860, when he sold and bought land near the city, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1866, when he came to Belvidere, and since that time has resided at the corner of Pearl and Allen Streets.

On the 3d of December, 1838, Mr. Allen was joined in wedlock with Mary Rix, a native of Connecticut, and a daughter of Theophilus and Polly (Meech) Rix. She died in 1860, and for his second wife he chose Ruth Foster, who was born in New Portland, Somerset County, Me., in March, 1831. Her father, Leighton Foster, was born in Limerick, Me., and was a son of Benjamin Foster, a farmer in that locality, who married Hannah Bartlett, a native of Kittery, York County. They removed to New Portland and afterward to Dover, Me. The father of Mrs. Allen was reared in the former place and there married Clarissa Ricker, a native of New Portland, and a daughter of Levi and Rebecca (Merryfield) Ricker. A few years after their marriage they went to Dover, Me., and in 1852 emigrated to Illinois. Mr. Foster purchased a farm in Flora Township, Boone County, where he lived until 1861, when he moved to Belvidere, where he made his home until 1881; he then removed to Bremer County, Iowa, and is still a resident of Waverly. His wife died October 14, 1889, leaving three children: Ruth, John R. and Seth L. John R. died May 25, 1891.

By his first marriage, Mr. Allen had two children: Frances, who is now the wife of Joseph W. Harper and has four children: Irvin, Mary, Bertha

and Joseph Francis; and John R., who is married and has one son. There is also an adopted daughter, Lizzie C., who has resided with our subject and his wife since she was ten years of age. This worthy couple are widely and favorably known throughout the community, being held in high regard for their sterling worth. In politics, Mr. Allen is a staunch Republican and has been a patron of the *Chicago Journal* for over thirty years.



WILLIAM H. MUNN is numbered among the industrious and thrifty members of the farming community of Flora Township, Boone County, where he has an excellent farm that is under good tillage and yields a comfortable income. He was born in Whitestown, Oneida County, N. Y., December 28, 1830, and is a son of James Munn, who, like his father, also named James, had his birth in East Kent, England.

The grandfather of our subject was reared and married in England and in 1830 came to the United States and located in Lyons, Wayne County, N. Y., where he spent his last days. The grandmother of our subject prior to her marriage was Elizabeth Kingsnorth and was born in East Kent and died at the home of a daughter in Whitestown, N. Y. She reared a family of eight children, viz: John, James, Alfred, George, Mary, Celia, Jane and Thomas.

The father of him of whom we write was reared on a farm and in 1827, accompanied by his wife and five children, came to America, setting sail from London on the brig "Emily" in July and landing in New York in September after a voyage of ten weeks. He went via the Hudson River and Erie Canal to Whitestown and for several years was engaged in teaming for the Oriskany Manufacturing Company. He then purchased a farm in Whitestown, which he cultivated until 1858, the date of his advent into Boone County. Here he owned and occupied a farm in Flora Township, where his decease occurred April 22, 1866.

Our subject's mother, Sarah (Kingsnorth) Munn, was also born in East Kent, England, and spent her

last years in the town of Marcy, Oneida County, N. Y., dying in the year 1851. The parental family included five children, namely: James, George, Alfred, our subject and Edward. William H. was reared and educated in his native town and when old enough to do for himself commenced working in a woolen factory. He was thus occupied for seven years and then followed farming in Oneida County until 1858, when he made the overland trip to this place and settled upon the farm which he now occupies. It bears excellent improvements and is pleasantly located two miles from Belvidere.

In 1852, William H. Munn was united in marriage with Mary A. Barnes, who also had her birth in East Kent, England, and was a daughter of Richard Barnes, also a native of the British Isles. In 1810, her father came to America on a prospecting tour and after remaining in the States for four months returned to England, and, in October, 1841, accompanied by his family, sailed from London in the ship "St. James," and landed at Castle Garden after a voyage of six weeks. He first located in Vernon, Oneida County, where he resided on the farm until 1866, at which time he came to this county and engaged in farming in Belvidere Township. He traded property several different times and the last years of his life were spent in Belvidere, where he died in May, 1887. Mr. Barnes was twice married, the maiden name of his first wife, who was the mother of Mrs. Munn, was Elizabeth Baldock; she was born in the same county as her husband, in England, and died in Vernon in 1843, after having become the mother of three children.



JOHAN R. LINN. Quite a number of the most highly-esteemed citizens of Rockford are retired farmers, who have accumulated a competence by well-directed efforts, and in their old age are enjoying the fruits of the labors of earlier years. A fine representative of this class is the subject of this biographical notice, who owns and occupies a cozy and attractive residence at No. 904 Ferguson Street. He came to this city in

1879, from Byron Township, Ogle County, where he had commenced farming operations in 1867, at which time he settled on the farm now owned by his son James, and there operated both as a general farmer and stock-raiser.

In Perry County, Pa., Mr. Linn was born, February 24, 1817. His father, John Linn, was a native of the same place as himself and opened up a new farm in Sayville Township, building upon the place a house, where he spent the remainder of his life and where he passed away at the age of sixty-two years. His wife was Miss Mary Ross, who was born in Perry County, and, like himself, was descended from Scotch ancestry. She died on the old homestead two years after the decease of her husband, at the age of fifty years. The parents of our subject were members of the Presbyterian Church and had a family of ten children, eight daughters and two sons, all of whom married and reared children.

The first marriage of our subject united him with Miss Margaret I. McKee, a native of Franklin County, Pa., who was descended from Scotch ancestors. She was born in 1809, and died in Ogle County, in 1874, leaving three children: John, who married Miss Mary Adams, of Stephenson County, Ill., now resides in Geneseo, this State, where formerly he was pastor of the Presbyterian Church. He is a graduate of Cannonsburg College and Princeton University and a man of great eloquence and learning. Mary E. is the wife of Mathew Bull, a farmer in Byron Township, Ogle County; James purchased the farm formerly owned by his father in Ogle County, but makes his home in Chicago, and was an employe of the Chicago Fireplace Company, at No. 224 Wabash Avenue. He married Miss Anna Jones, of Ogle County. He is now in the employ of the Central West Advertising Bureau.

About 1876, Mr. Linn and Miss Ann L. McClure were united in marriage in Perry County, Pa., and their wedded life was terminated three years afterward by the death of the wife. The last marriage of Mr. Linn united him with Miss Mary E., Wilson, who was born and reared in Ohio. During some years she followed the profession of a teacher and was also a missionary among the Indians on

the frontier and a teacher in their schools. She is a lady of great ability and kindliness of heart and is a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church, to which Mr. Linn also belongs. In his political belief, he is a firm Republican.

Prior to coming to Illinois, Mr. Lynn engaged in merchandising at Perryville, Juniata County, Pa., for eleven years, and afterward was for three years Steward and Overseer of the farm of the Pennsylvania Agricultural College, of Centre County, embracing four hundred acres. In that way he acquired a knowledge of that great educational institution of Pennsylvania, and on severing his connection with it he removed to Illinois. He is now living quietly and comfortably, and is interested in all causes that are progressive, notably the cause of temperance and sobriety.



LIONEL W. RICHARDSON, who is living a retired life in Roscoe, is numbered among the early settlers of Winnebago County, having made his home in this place since 1851. For many years he was one of its most prominent business men and a valued citizen of the community. His life record is as follows:

He was born on the 17th of January, 1828, in Johnstown, Montgomery County, N. Y., and is a son of Benjamin and Judith (Mason) Richardson. Both were natives of Spencer, Worcester County, Mass., the father born February 27, 1782, and the mother February 9, 1790. The paternal grandfather, Joseph Richardson, was a farmer of East Brookfield, Mass. He married Esther Lammon, of that place, who died leaving two sons: Benjamin and Joseph. He then wedded Priscilla Hinchard, and they had three sons and a daughter. Mr. Richardson lived to an advanced age and died in West Camp, N. Y. The parents of our subject were married January 3, 1807, and resided in Spencer and Warren, Mass., for thirteen years, when they removed to Johnstown, N. Y. The death of the father occurred in Fultonville, N. Y., in 1838, at the age of fifty-six years. By trade he was a blacksmith and followed that occupation throughout his entire life. He left six sons and six

daughters and, with one exception, all grew to mature years. In 1844, Mrs. Richardson removed to Massachusetts and two years later came to Roscoe, Ill. Her children, Benjamin, George W., Julia and husband started Westward in the spring of 1836 and spent one summer in Bertrand, Mich., during which time the daughter died. In the fall the brothers came on to Roscoe, where they arrived in September. One sister, Judith, now the wife of Jeremiah L. Brown, came to Illinois in 1837, settling in Genoa, De Kalb County, and the mother with Sarah P. and William arrived in Roscoe in 1846, as before stated.

It was in 1853 that our subject came to the West. He spent the first sixteen years of his life in the county of his nativity and then removed to Worcester, Mass., whence he came to Illinois on a visit. The following spring he made a permanent settlement, and has since been a resident of the town of Roscoe. In the East, he had engaged in clerking for two years, and was then employed in a wire factory in Worcester and Cherry Valley, Mass., from 1846 until 1852. The two succeeding years were spent in running a portable engine in Dunkirk, N. Y. On coming to Roscoe, he embarked in the manufacture of plows and wagons in company with his brother William, and continued in that line of business until 1870. During that time he invented and patented the Diamond Plow, the first successful cast-steel plow ever manufactured. It was manufactured in Rockford, and W. H. Gregory became Mr. Richardson's partner in that business, the connection continuing until 1878. From that time our subject was engaged in buying and shipping grain and stock until 1886, when his elevator was burned, and for the past six years, he has lived a retired life.

On the 7th of November, 1854, in Worcester, Mass., Mr. Richardson wedded Maria L. Jones of that place, daughter of John and Sylvia (Day) Jones. She died in Roscoe, September 1, 1881, at the age of forty-seven years. They had buried an infant son. Mr. Richardson was again married, February 1, 1883, this union being with Mrs. Isabella Jones Richardson, widow of James Richardson. They have an adopted daughter, Sarah Priscilla, the namesake and youngest child of Mr.



Yours Truly
D. Howes

Richardson's youngest sister. This worthy couple are widely and favorably known throughout the community in which they make their home. Our subject is numbered among the honored pioneers of Roscoe, and is now enjoying a rest which he has so truly earned and richly deserves.



PHINEAS HOWES. It has been customary to speak of men who have raised themselves to honorable stations in life without the aid of wealth or influential friends, as "self-made." Such an one is our subject, who started out in life with nothing but his strong hands and his determination to succeed. And that his desire has been accomplished is noted by the fact that he is one of the most prominent and progressive citizens of Rockford. In his life we find an excellent example for young men just embarking in the field of activity, showing what may be gained by honesty, prudence and industry. In his youth he enjoyed few advantages, but relied solely upon his efforts and his conduct to win for him success, not in the sense of accumulating wealth, but in doing good to others, in serving others well, and in winning their respect.

The original of this sketch, and of the accompanying portrait, is one of the pioneers of Rockford. He was born in the town of Southeast, Putnam County, N. Y., September 25, 1817. His father, Job Howes, was, it is thought, born in Scholarie, N. Y., and was of early English ancestry. The latter-named gentleman always followed agricultural pursuits and spent his last years in Putnam County, N. Y. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Elizabeth Eggleston, and departed this life in the above-named county.

Phineas Howes was reared and educated in his native town and when seventeen years of age entered upon an apprenticeship of three years at the carpenter's and joiner's trade. He was then employed as a "jour" and remained in the Empire State until 1839, when he came to the Prairie State via the most expeditious route at that time, sailing up the Hudson River to Albany, thence

on the Erie Canal to Buffalo, where he embarked on a lake steamer which conveyed him to Chicago. From that then small city of but a few thousand people, Mr. Howes was given the permission to ride with a gentleman who was coming to Rockford, and landed in this city with but twenty-five cents in his pocket.

Rockford was at that time a very small place, the surrounding country being owned by the Government, and deer and other wild game being very plentiful. Mr. Holmes was very desirous to secure work and better his condition in life, and soon found employment at his trade. Being very industrious and economical, he saved a portion of his meagre earnings and was soon enabled to purchase a lot in the village and a claim to a tract of Government land, located in what is now Cherry Valley Township. When the land came into market, he with others started with a team of horses and a wagon to the land office at Galena. They provided themselves with provisions and cooking utensils, camping out and preparing their meals on the way.

In the fall of 1839, Mr. Howes erected the first frame house ever built in Rockford. This structure is still standing on East State Street. Our subject worked at his trade for a few years, then engaged in the lumber business with John Lake, the partnership continuing about fifteen years. Since that time his attention has been chiefly employed in looking after his private interests, and he is one of the wealthy and prominent residents of the city.

Miss Maria Barnum became the wife of our subject in October, 1839. Mrs. Howes was born in Danbury, Fairfield County, Conn., in February, 1811, and was the daughter of Daniel and Lorana Barnum, (further reference to whom will be found in the sketch of D. H. Barnum). The ceremony which made them one was solemnized at the home of Miss Barnum in Cherry Valley Township, and their wedding trip consisted of a ride with a pair of oxen and wagon from Cherry Valley to Rockford. They commenced housekeeping in the dwelling above mentioned before the doors or windows were put in, and all their furniture was home-made. Mr. Howes was very prosperous and

the structure was soon replaced by a comfortable and convenient dwelling, in which they resided for many years. Mrs. Howes departed this life December 10, 1877. She was the mother of three children, namely: Ellen C. (deceased) who was the wife of Charles Chamberlain; Cora is Mrs. Harry C. Woolsey and has three children: Maria, Ella and Ralph; Herbert H. died when thirty-five years old.

He of whom we write cast his first Presidential vote for Andrew Jackson and has ever since sympathized with the Democratic party. He is a man who combines strictness of moral principles with energy and decision of character. He has made profitable investments, become interested in remunerative enterprises, won honorable success in business and secured a competency as a product of personal industry and good judgment put forth in a field wisely selected. He is a careful business man, ever adhering to the dictates of his conscience in matters both of a public and private nature.



DAVID KEYT. There are many beautiful residences in Rockford, whose elegance of finish and superiority of design attract the admiration of the visitor to the city, but among the number there is probably none which so impresses the beholder as an ideal home as the charming residence of Mr. Keyt. Situated just south of the city and occupying ample grounds, handsomely laid out and adorned with shade and ornamental trees, its exterior appearance indicates that it is the abode of a family of taste and means, while the interior furnishings prove the cultured tastes of the inmates.

A native of Ohio, Mr. Keyt was born in Piqua, Miami County, September 20, 1826. His father, John, was born in New Jersey, and learned the carpenter's trade in New York City, whence he removed to Ohio at an early day, residing for a time in Cincinnati. Then he went to Piqua and built a house for Col. H. D. Johnson, Indian Agent at that place. He remained there until 1850, meanwhile carrying on his trade as carpenter and builder, and then went to California via the Isthmus of

Panama. His death occurred in the Golden State during the following year.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Margaret Widney, and she was born in Pennsylvania, being the niece of Col. H. D. Johnson. She spent her last years in Piqua, and died in the spring of 1857. She was the mother of eight children, who attained to mature years, viz.: Elizabeth, Mary A., John W., James R., David, Caroline, Stephen and Sarah J. David was reared in Piqua, and when eighteen years old commenced work with his father. In the spring before he attained his majority, he began in business for himself as contractor and builder, continuing at Piqua until 1857, when he came to Rockford and established in business here.

The first work secured by Mr. Keyt in Rockford was the erection of the Second Congregational Church, which was done so satisfactorily that afterward he had all the business he could attend to. Up to the time of his retirement, in 1888, many of the finest buildings, both public and private, in the city were built by him. The *Gazette* of April, 1888, in giving a resume of his work, remarked that Mr. Keyt had undoubtedly erected more buildings than any other contractor in the city. He built both the Centennial and Court Street Methodist Episcopal Churches, the latter of which he also designed. With a material mind for the contemplation of mechanical designs, and with the early training of his father, he soon developed a taste for architectural design and ornamentation. He has attained a name second to none as a superintendent and builder, and so long as he actively engaged in his trade, his interior finish and decoration were surpassed by none, equalled by few.

In 1817 Mr. Keyt was married to Miss Lydia A. Sawyer, who was born in Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio. Her parents, Uriah and Sarah Sawyer, natives of Massachusetts and Ohio, respectively, were people of worth and highly esteemed in their community. Mrs. Lydia Keyt died in 1861, and twelve years later Mr. Keyt formed a second matrimonial alliance, his wife being Mrs. Charlotte (Leonard) Skinner, a native of Milton, Chittenden County, Vt. The father of Mrs. Keyt,

Benjamin Leonard, Jr., was born in Raynham, Mass., and his father, Benjamin, was born in the same house, as was also his father. The house was built of bricks brought from England.

The great-grandfather of Mrs. Keyt was an employe in the iron works at Raynham and spent his entire life in that town. Her grandfather was also an iron worker, and lived and died in Raynham. His wife, whose maiden name was Judith McCumber, was of Scotch ancestry. Benjamin Leonard, Jr., went to Vermont when a young man, settling in the town of Ludlow, and was there married. Afterward he moved to Milton, residing there until 1850, and then came to Illinois, via Lake Champlain to Whitehall, then by the railroad and Erie Canal to Buffalo, and from that place by the Lakes to Chicago. The journey from Chicago to Elgin by railroad and from there to Rockford by team occupied three weeks, and upon his arrival here he bought a tract of land in Burritt Township, improved a farm and resided there until the death of his wife. He then removed to Wisconsin and spent his closing years in the home of his son at Lake Mills, Jefferson County.

The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Keyt was Lucy Colburn Chandler, and she was a native of Chester, Vt. Her father, Thomas Chandler, Jr., was, it is thought, born in the same town, and his father, who bore the same name as himself, was the first Supreme Judge of Vermont. The grandfather of Mrs. Keyt was reared and educated in his native village, where he spent his entire life, and followed literary pursuits during much of his time, being a man of splendid information. His wife, who was known in maidenhood as Asenath Adams, was a member of the same family to which John Adams belonged. She came to Illinois when quite old, and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Robert Short, in Seward Township, Winnebago County. The mother of Mrs. Keyt died on the home farm in Burritt Township.

In 1851, the marriage of Charlotte Leonard and James B. Skinner was solemnized. He was born in Barre Center, N. Y., and was the son of Stephen and Sophia (Butler) Skinner. He came to Rockford with his parents in 1839, and from that time until his death made his home on West Main

Street. Learning the trade of a blacksmith, he carried on his trade in connection with the manufacture of agricultural implements for many years. He invented several very useful farm implements, including the Skinner Gang Plow, a sulky plow, and walking and riding cultivator. He formed a partnership with C. C. Briggs and I. A. Enoch, and transacted an extensive business in the manufacture of agricultural implements, and continued actively engaged in business until his death, in 1872, aged forty-eight years.

Mr. Keyt has one daughter living, Clara, wife of James H. Rhodes, of Chicago, and she has one child, Blanche E. Mrs. Keyt has two children: Mary C. and Fannie S. The first-named married Albert Gray and they have three children: Lillian, Winifred and J. Wilber. Fannie S. became the wife of C. F. Henry, of whom see sketch elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Keyt are members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church, and, politically, he is a Republican, and cast his first vote for Zachary Taylor. The parents of Mrs. Keyt reared ten of their thirteen children: Clarissa A., Maria L., Caroline A., Henrietta L., Fannie A., Harriet A., Charlotte W., Lucetta M., Marcia A., and Levi B. All of these but Clarissa are now living.



FRANK L. MOORE. There is probably not within the limits of Flora Township, Boone County, a more thorough or substantial farmer than Mr. Moore, who is successfully operating a choice tract of land on section 3. He was born in Preble, Cortland County, N. Y., December 9, 1842, while his father, Samuel Moore, was a native of Peterboro, N. H.

The father of our subject was a lad of six years when his parents removed to the Empire State, where he was reared and married. In company with his brother Eben, he purchased a tract of land in Preble, where he was engaged in farming until 1852. At that date coming to this county, the elder Mr. Moore lived in Flora Township for two years, then disposing of his property removed to Rock County, Wis., where he owned a farm

which he cultivated until 1868. Preferring to live in Boone County, Mr. Moore returned to Flora Township and bought the farm which is in the possession of our subject and where he resided until his decease. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Skeal, a native of New York State, where she spent her entire life.

Frank L. Moore was an only child of his parents, with whom he resided until their decease. His farm is pleasantly located two and one-quarter miles from Belvidere and is well equipped with all the buildings and machinery which stamp him as a progressive and enterprising agriculturist. He was married in 1867 to Emily Gray, who was born in Corinth, Me., April 29, 1842. By their union has been born one daughter, Florence, who is now the wife of Lewis Hawkey.

Hartwell Gray, the father of Mrs. Moore, was born November 29, 1811, in the town of China, Kennebec County, Me., where his father, Jonathan Gray, was one of the early settlers. The latter-named gentleman purchased a tract of land on Deer Hill, which he cultivated until his decease in 1821. The lady to whom he was married was known as Annie Gray; she departed this life in Corinth in 1851.

Mrs. Moore's father was a lad of seven years when his parents died, and four years later he started out to earn his own living, being employed on farms until eighteen years of age. Later, he worked in the lumber regions, continuing to be thus occupied until his marriage. He then purchased a farm in Corinth, which he made his home until 1866, and then coming to Belvidere purchased a farm two and one-half miles from that city. He is now living retired and enjoying the results of an industrious life.

The parents of Mrs. Moore were married February 12, 1810, her mother, who was born in New London, N. H., November 21, 1824, bearing the name of Adeline Gile. Her father, David Gile, was born in the same town and was a son of Jacob and Phoebe (Martin) Gile. He followed the life of a farmer and on removing to Lower Massachusetts resided there some years, when he came to Chicago and died at the home of his daughter in 1882. The grandmother of Mrs. Moore, Emily Gape,

was a native of New London, N. H. Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell Gray reared a family of nine children, viz: Olive, Emily, Hiram, Jennie, Carrie, Sarah, Dayton, Nellie and Cora.

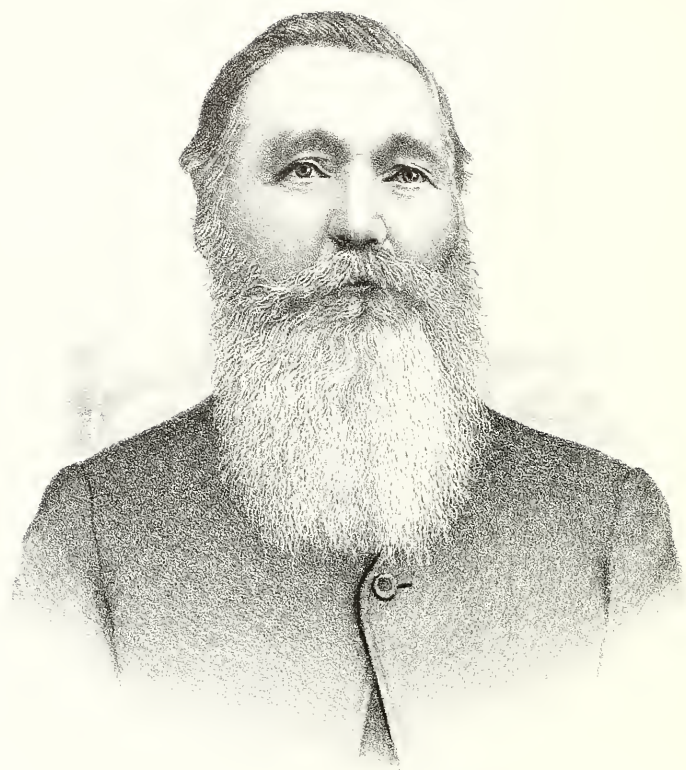


WILLIAM FROHNING, a successful dealer in wines, liquors, etc., doing business at No. 319 East State Street, Rockford, claims Westphalia, Prussia, as the land of his nativity. He was born in 1851, and when quite young came to this country with his parents, who were also natives of Germany. After coming to this county, they located on a farm near Rockford, where they spent the remainder of their lives, Mr. Frohning following agricultural pursuits. They both died in 1851, about three weeks after coming to America.

Our subject is the youngest of their family. He acquired his education in the city schools of Rockford and spent his boyhood days under the parental roof. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, he chose Miss Rosa Schoon, a native of Wisconsin, there reared and educated. When a young lady she came to Rockford. Her parents were of German birth, and crossed the broad Atlantic in the early '50s, locating on a farm near Milwaukee, Wis., where they spent the remainder of their lives, dying when well advanced in years. They were Lutherans in religious belief, as were also the parents of Mr. Frohning.

As before stated, our subject is engaged in business at No. 319 East State Street, where he has a large stock of wines and liquors. His establishment is fitted up with a most elaborate bar and lunch-room and there he has carried on business since June, 1888, having a liberal patronage from the wealthier class of Rockford's citizens. He takes quite an active part in public affairs, being interested in all that pertains to the welfare and up-building of this city and the advancement of its leading industries.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Frohning is a Democrat, which party he has supported since attaining his majority, but has never been an office-seeker. He takes considerable interest in civic societies and is a member of the Independent Or-



Yours Truly
Richard Johns

der of Red Men, and the Independent Order of Knights and Ladies of Honor. Himself and wife are both members of the Lutheran Church, to the support of which he contributes liberally. They have a pleasant and comfortable residence, situated at No. 302 Walnut Street, which is the abode of hospitality, and the light and joy of their home is their little son, William, Jr., now five years of age.



RICHARD JOHNS, a retired farmer residing in Rockford, is of English birth. His father, Thomas Johns, came to this country with his wife two years after our subject landed in America, and his death occurred at the age of seventy-six years of a facial cancer. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Lightfoot, reached the advanced age of eighty-two years. They were both members of the Methodist Church.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth in England, and at the age of twenty-two sailed on a lumber ship to Quebec, Canada, where he arrived after a voyage of six weeks. He came on at once to Illinois and spent three years in Rockford, engaged in the butchering business. He then returned to his native land, and in Cornwall, married Jane A. Hocken, who was there born, and, like her husband, was of pure Cornish descent. Their wedding tour consisted of their voyage and journey to this country, ten weeks being required at that time to cross the broad Atlantic. The parents of Mrs. Johns never left their native land. The father, John Hocken, was accidentally killed by the premature discharge of a gun when forty-two years of age. His wife survived him some time and died in her seventy-eighth year. They were members of the Independent Church of England. In their family were ten children, of whom Mrs. Johns was the second in order of birth.

Our subject and his wife have now lived and labored together for forty years, and their efforts have been rewarded with prosperity. Their union has been blessed with eight children, seven of whom are yet living. Emma became the wife of

Walter H. Morey, of Spencer, Iowa, and died leaving five sons; Nathaniel wedded Minnie Safford, and resides on a farm in Rockford Township; Will R. married Carrie Rowe and resides near the city; Nellie is the wife of John D. Safford, an agriculturist of Rockford Township; Frank wedded Ada Sauber, and follows farming in Owen Township; Minnie is the wife of Henry E. Sauber, who is connected with a furniture company of Rockford; Flora H. and Albert C. reside at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Johns began their domestic life upon a farm, and for some years prior to removing to this city made their home in Rockford Township, where our subject carried on agriculture and stock-raising. He now owns five hundred and forty acres of valuable land near the city, all of which is highly improved and yields him an excellent income. It is supplied with good buildings and all the accessories of a model farm. The land is underlaid with a fine stone quarry, which has been successfully worked by Mr. Johns, and proved a good source of revenue to him. By his industry and enterprise in former years, he has acquired a handsome competence which now enables him to live a retired life, enjoying the rest which he has so truly earned and richly deserves.

In connection with this sketch of the life of Mr. Johns will be found his lithographic portrait.



JOHAN HERMAN LYNN. In reviewing the various enterprises that contributed toward making Rockford one of the great leading business centers of this country, it is interesting to note the advance made in each industry, and among these none demand a higher order of businessability, or more finely cultivated and artistic taste, than does the manufacture of furniture. The well-known and popular West End Furniture Company was established in July, 1890, and is the largest and leading enterprise of the kind in the city. The factory is spacious and supplied with the latest improved machinery and appliances, affording employment for about one hundred and thirty hands in the different departments, where the most original and stylish designs are origin-

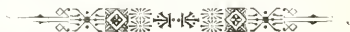
ated. This concern is now on a solid and substantial footing and manufactures almost exclusively bookcases and ladies' desks, of which they have all styles and designs. Under the control of such men as Austin Colton, President, F. G. Hoagland, Vice-President and Mr. Lynn as Secretary and Treasurer, the business cannot fail.

Mr. Lynn, who has been a stockholder and Director in the above-mentioned enterprise from its inception, and is now its most able and efficient Secretary and Treasurer, has given his entire attention to the business, which is capitalized at \$50,000. He has held his present position for about a year, and is a young, energetic, business man. He has been a resident of Rockford since 1871 and was here reared and educated. He learned the baker's trade, but later engaged in the fruit and confectionery business for some time. After this he was engaged in the grocery business with P. Heagg and still later was commercial traveler for the Star Furniture Company. Just before he became Secretary and Treasurer of the present business, he was commercial traveler for the Skandia Shoe Company.

Born in Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, on the 18th of April, 1858, he remained in his native country until 1869, and then came with his parents to this country. They settled in the south part of Winnebago County and there the father tilled the soil until the year 1871, when he was filled with a great desire to go still further Westward. The parents, with part of the children, emigrated to Clay County, Neb., and there settled on a farm, which they soon had well cultivated and improved. There the father, John Lynn, who was a man of sterling character and an honorable, upright citizen, passed away, his death occurring in 1888, at the age of fifty-two years. He had ever been a Lutheran in religion, and a Republican in politics. The companion of his joys and sorrows, his worthy wife, is still living and finds a pleasant and comfortable home with our subject. She is now seventy-one years of age and has ever been an earnest believer in the Lutheran doctrine. Their children, four in number, are as follows: Alexander, a farmer of Dodge County, Iowa, married Miss Sarah Marker; Eda

makes her home with our subject; John Herman (our subject), and Matilda, wife of Charles Anderson, a farmer of Clay County, Neb.

When the family moved to Nebraska, our subject came to Rockford and engaged in various enterprises as above mentioned. He has been a resident of this city for the most part ever since and is acknowledged by all to be a young man of much business acumen. Believing, as the best and truest of men do, that it is not best for man to live alone, he was married in Rockford to Miss Anna Pherson, who was also of Swedish nativity, born January 27, 1859. In the year 1868, she came to the United States with her parents, Ingvar and Christina (Hockson) Pherson, and settled with them in Rockford. The parents are both living at the present time and are now quite aged people. Mr. Pherson is a machinist for Emerson, Talcott & Co. He and Mrs. Pherson attend the Zion Lutheran Church, in which they have been members for years. Their family consisted of seven children, six of whom are yet living and four married. Mrs. Lynn, the third in order of birth of these children, is a most excellent lady and is possessed of many admirable traits of character. She and Mr. Lynn are members of the Zion Lutheran Church, and Mr. Lynn is a member of the church board. He is a Republican in politics. They have one little girl, Effie E.



WILLIAM McCULLOUGH, a prominent and substantial farmer of Harrison Township, Winnebago County, Ill., is a native of this county, born where he now resides on the 8th of December, 1847. His father, John Alexander McCullough, was born in the North of Ireland on the 1st of March, 1818, and was brought to America by his parents when six years of age. John McCullough's father was William McCullough, and his mother, Eliza Drummond, came from the North of Ireland. William McCullough was born in Scotland and was a schoolmate of Robert Burns. He was a well-educated gentleman and came of wealthy ancestors who lost the most of their property during the troubles there. He lived to be

ninety-seven years of age and was buried in Ypsilanti, Mich., about 1863. His wife died in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., when quite aged, and was the mother of two sons and five or six daughters.

William McCullough was one of eight children, the eldest, the first daughter, dying when young. The children who grew to adult years were as follows: James, a farmer of Alexandria, S. Dak., is the giant of the family, stands six feet and five inches, and weighs two hundred and ten pounds. He is known in Harrison as the "Baby of the Woods." He was a volunteer from Guilford Township, in the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, and entered as a private in Company B, under Capt. Munhall. William, our subject; Margaret died on the old homestead when eighteen years of age; Anna, widow of James Dobson, resides in South Dakota; Mary, Mrs. Perry L. Smith, resides in Chicago; Jeanette, Mrs. Charles Wright of South Dakota; David, also of South Dakota, and a farmer and Register of Deeds at Howard City.

Our subject was married June 11, 1885, to Miss Margaret Nangle, of Newark, Wis., daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Strow) Nangle, who were from Pennsylvania, but who came to Wisconsin in 1849. This union has resulted in the birth of three children: Fanny May, born May 1, 1886; Mary Alice, May 11, 1888, and Luther William on the 7th of January, 1890. Mr. McCullough has ever been a resident of his present farm and is known far and wide as a wide-awake, thorough-going agriculturist. He is the owner of one hundred and ninety-eight acres, all but thirty-eight acres, which he has since added, being the old homestead. He has made many improvements in the old place in the last few years and in 1881 he built a fine barn, 32x60 feet. Since then he has erected a corn house, wagon and tool house, horse barn, hen house and many other necessary improvements. He has added to the house his father built, and enlarged it very much, making a very comfortable and attractive home. In connection with his farming industry, Mr. McCullough raises considerable stock and has on his place at all times about fifteen head of horses. His Morgan stallion, "Stanton," is a splendid animal. He also has thirty head of

horned cattle which include a dozen good cows and he sells annually an average of twenty-five hogs. Mr. McCullough votes with the Republican party but is not a strict partisan. Mrs. McCullough is a Baptist, but Mr. McCullough comes of good Presbyterian ancestors.



AMOS C. HARRIS. A list of the old settlers of this section would be incomplete without the above name, which is borne by one of the most intelligent and public-spirited citizens of the village of Winnebago, where he has lived retired from farm life since 1881. He is a son of Solomon Harris, and was born in Berne, Albany County, N. Y., February 1, 1831. The father was also a native of the Empire State, and the grandfather was, from the best information at hand, named Jeremiah; he was a farmer of Berne, where his decease occurred.

Solomon Harris removed from Albany to Cayuga County, and, locating in the town of Ira, was engaged in farming several years. His decease occurred, however, August 23, 1851, in Elmira. His wife, prior to her marriage, was Rebecca Cowel, a native of the same State where he had his birth; she died May 9, 1816, in Cayuga County, when in her fiftieth year. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Amos Cowel, was a farmer, and died in Cato, N. Y. He had married Betsey Mills, with whom he spent many years of happy married life.

He of whom we write resided with his parents until reaching his majority, when he commenced life on his own account even with the world. He worked out on farms by the month in Cayuga County, and in 1855 emigrated West to Illinois, making permanent location in this county. Rockford was at that time little more than a hamlet, and it was there that Mr. Harris was employed in a machine shop for three years. During that time, however, he purchased a tract of wild prairie land in Winnebago Township, and in 1858 located on the place and engaged in farming until 1881, when, as before stated, he came to Winnebago village. In 1891, he erected his pleasant home where he

and his good wife make welcome their numerous friends and acquaintances.

In Cayuga County, N. Y., our subject and Miss Mary Kellogg were united in marriage in the year 1858. The lady was born in the town of Schaghticoke Point, N. Y., October 12, 1833, and is a daughter of Joseph Kellogg, a native of Connecticut, who went to New York State when a young man and was there married. The father of Mrs. Harris was a blacksmith by trade and in Cayuga County erected a shop and followed his trade until coming to this county, where his decease occurred in Winnebago village.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Angeline Holmes; she also had her birth in Schaghticoke Point and departed this life in Winnebago Township. One child, Steward H., was born to Mr. and Mrs. Harris June 8, 1860, and died in September, 1882. Our subject and his wife are devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and have many friends among the people where they have lived so many years.



EDWIN S. ALEXANDER, a retired merchant of Belvidere, is a native of Covington, Fountain County, Ind., and one of five children born unto James and Sarah (Mitchell) Alexander. His grandfather, William Alexander, was a pioneer of the Territory of Indiana, and for many years engaged in farming in Fountain County. James was born and reared in that county and married Sarah Mitchell, a native of Pennsylvania, whose parents, Thomas and Hester (Cowell) Mitchell, were also born in the Keystone State. They were pioneers of Indiana and came to Boone County in 1836. Mr. Mitchell died at the home of his son in Neosha Falls, Kan., and his wife died at the home of their daughter in Ontonagon, Mich.

It was in 1839 that James Alexander visited Boone County, and purchased a tract of land in what is now Bonus Township. He then returned to Indiana, and two years later brought his family to the new home. He at once began the improvement and cultivation of his land, and upon that

farm made his home until within a short time of his death. The last year of his life was spent in Indiana, and he there passed away in September, 1888. His wife died in Harvard, August 25, 1875. Their four children who grew to mature years are Edwin S., Frances M., Serena M. and Elisha J.

Our subject was only fourteen months old when his parents came to Illinois, and amid the wild scenes of frontier life the days of his boyhood and youth were passed. During the winter season he attended school and in the summer months aided in the labors of the farm until twenty years of age. During the three succeeding years of his life, he carried on farming for himself, but continued to make his home with his parents until 1862, when he embarked in the grain and lumber business in Poplar Grove. After ten years spent in that line, he engaged in merchandising, carrying a stock of dry-goods and groceries. He was first a partner of W. S. Webster, and later was associated with Woodward Brothers until 1880, when he disposed of his interest in the store and again engaged in dealing in grain for a year. Removing to Waunakee, Wis., he was there a dealer in live stock and grain for five years, when he returned to Poplar Grove, where he made his home until 1886. In that year he came to Belvidere and has since lived retired.

In January, 1870, Mr. Alexander was united in marriage with Eliza Bailey. Her great-grandfather, Levi Bailey, was a native of Westchester County, N. Y., followed farming and at one time was a large slave-holder, but voted for emancipation. He married Betsy Smith, and became a large land-owner of Putnam County, N. Y. He was also one of its prominent citizens and represented his district in the State Legislature. The grandfather, Levi Bailey, learned the trade of harness-making, which he followed for some years, and then operated a farm which he had inherited until his death. He married Priscilla Thompson, a native of Putnam County, and a daughter of James and Priscilla (Cole) Thompson. Her father served as General in the State militia. Daniel Bailey was educated in his native town and at the age of fourteen began earning his own livelihood. On attaining his majority, he went to Westchester County,

where he bought a farm and made his home for seven years. In 1854, he came to Boone County, and, purchasing one hundred acres of land in Belvidere Township, engaged in farming and stock-raising. He has been very successful and now owns more than seven hundred acres of land. Upon his farm he resided until 1888, since which time he has made his home in Belvidere. He was married, in 1842, to Emeline, daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Banker) Agor, and a native of Putnam County, N. Y., born July 25, 1822. They have three children: Theodore, Spencer and Eliza.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander and their daughter, Elora B., their only child, occupy a pleasant home in Belvidere, and its hospitable doors are ever open to their many friends. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles, and socially, is a member of Poplar Grove Lodge, A. O. U. W.



MARTIN MCCOY. In the early settlement of Winnebago County, Ill., Mr. McCoy bore a prominent part in developing and opening the way for civilization, and is one of the old and much esteemed citizens. He was born in the Keystone State, his birth occurring in Huntingdon County, in 1813, and he is the son of Jonathan McCoy, who was born in the North of Ireland, or on the ocean en route to America in 1788. The grandfather of our subject, George McCoy, was born in the North of Ireland, and came to Alexandria, Pa., about 1788. He was the father of four children: George, Jane, Mary and Jonathan. The mother of these children died at the ripe age of eighty-four years. Their daughter Mary was wed by Matthew Simpson, at Spruce Creek Iron Works, and the latter's son, Matthew Simpson, was one of the most eloquent and successful preachers in America, and was noted far and wide as a most gifted Methodist divine. He became an eminent bishop, and was a long time chaplain of the United States Senate.

Jonathan McCoy, father of our subject, was married, when twenty-two years of age, to Miss Isabella Houck, of his own neighborhood. After marriage they settled in their native place, and there reared a

large family of children. They were the parents of eight sons and four daughters, but one, Washington, died in infancy. The others were as follows: William, who died a few years ago; Martin, our subject; Ellen became the wife of J. G. Gunterman, and died in Madison County, Ill.; James is an extensive farmer near Blue Mound, Ill.; Hezekiah, a large railroad contractor and a very wealthy man, is a druggist of Salt Lake City; Jane, now Mrs. McNickle, resides in Milwaukee; Elizabeth, a young lady, died near Troy, Ill.; John, who resides in Lebanon, Ill., is a wealthy ranchman, owning many ranches in Texas; Dorsey, who is overseer for a large nail factory in Milwaukee, Wis., began the trade when thirteen years of age, and now at the age of sixty-nine years, is in charge of the works, and has been for many years, at a large salary; Thomas is a farmer of Macon County, Ill., and is in very good circumstances, owning land in Dakota; and Mary is the widow of Elder Palmer, an able Baptist minister of Southern Illinois, near Cairo. The latter was a brother of Hon. John M. Palmer, who was an expert linguist, being master of seven languages.

Martin McCoy, our subject, came to Southern Illinois in 1834, resided there for a little over four years, and in April, 1838, he came to Rockford. He was married on the 30th of March, 1837, in Smoother Prairie, Ill., seven miles east of Alton, to Miss Sarah Chandler, a native of North Carolina, and the following year he and his bride started for Winnebago County by the river from Alton. He left his wife at Savannah, and walked from there to Cranes' Grove, and then went by stage to Rockford. He walked from there to Harlem, and thence over to Harrison Precinct for his brother-in-law's two yoke of oxen. With these he returned to Savannah for his family and goods. He made the trip of one hundred and twenty miles in one week, and came on with his goods, wife and young babe, Ellen, who was three months old. This was in the month of April, and they were caught in a heavy rain storm which drenched his wife, child and goods, and stalled his team in the quicksand. This was but one of the many trials that beset the pathway of these young pioneers. The roads were new and with the load of household goods, for they had

plenty along with them, made the trip a very tedious one. Very thankful were they when they reached Rockford on the 17th of April. In order to cross Rock River, however, Mr. McCoy was obliged to wade the stream, which was waist deep, and set up stakes as landmarks, after which he returned for his team and precious load.

He first settled opposite Latham, on a half-section of land that Henry Chandler had located, and they improved forty acres, and put in a crop. They resided there two seasons, and then settled on Mr. McCoy's present homestead, where they erected a shanty, and immediately began making improvements on their future home. Of this, one hundred and sixty acres were in timber, and Mr. McCoy sold eighty acres to David Penfield, and got a Mr. Thompson, of Roseoe, to deed the other eighty acres for thirty acres. In 1843 or 1844, Mr. McCoy took a pre-emption of eighty acres where he now lives, and on this he built a log house, 16x16 feet, with a good shingle roof. Later he built a 10x16 addition to this, and still later another addition of 10x10 feet. He resided ten years in this house before he built a frame house. He sold his land at Latham, and with the proceeds paid for his homestead of eighty acres. In 1872, he bought eighty acres of the land just north of him which had been shorn of the timber, and for this paid \$1,700. Of this, sixty acres are of the very finest soil, producing immense crops, and twenty acres are in timber, good size, all grown since then. Mr. McCoy owns one hundred and eighty-five acres, of which forty acres are choice pasture land, forty-five acres timber, and the balance is in a high state of cultivation.

Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. McCoy, all daughters: Jane died in infancy; Nancy, now Mrs. A. P. Doolittle, is at home with her father; Mary, a lovely young woman of eighteen years, died of typhoid fever; and Estella is now Mrs. A. N. Rockstead, her husband a photographer of Rockford. Mrs. Doolittle and Mrs. Rockstead each have a son. Mr. McCoy buried his devoted and much beloved wife on the 30th of June, 1887, she being sixty-nine years of age, and but for the company of his daughter, his home would be desolate indeed. Mr. McCoy enjoys

comparatively good health for his years. He has five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He keeps many cattle and eight cows, sending his butter to consumers in Milwaukee, Wis. He also sells from thirty to forty fine hogs each year.

Our subject has always voted the Republican ticket since the birth of that party, though not a strict partisan. He has never sought official positions, but has held the office of Justice of the Peace, Assessor, etc. He has been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since sixteen years of age, and his departed wife was also a faithful Christian. Our subject has been a Master Mason many years, and knows Masonry to be a grand institution for suffering humanity.



SYLVESTER GAGE. We herewith present the sketch of a prominent farmer of Boone Township, whose home is located on section 11. He is a native of Herkimer County, N. Y., and was born on the 29th of December, 1838. His father, Alfred Gage, was also a native of the above-named county, where he was a farmer. In 1849, the elder Mr. Gage went West to California via the Nicaragua route, and died in the Golden State, in 1862, leaving a wife and three children in the East. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Parmelia Gregg, the daughter of Joseph Gregg, a carpenter of Sandusky, Ohio. The brother and sister of our subject were Seymour and Elizabeth, the family of five having been broken into by the death of Eliab and Mary Ann.

He of whom we write was given fair school advantages, and when fifteen years of age started out to earn his own living. In 1860, he was married to Elizabeth Ann, a daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Clark) Berry. Mr. Gage never served an apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade, but one day meeting with a Mr. Pearce, who offered him \$2.25 per day to work for him at that trade, he accepted the position and happened always to do the right thing required of him, thus making a success of that line of business. In the spring of 1875, Mr. and Mrs. Gage emigrated to Ingham County,

Mich., where they remained for two years, at the end of which time they came to Illinois and located in Capron, whither a brother of Mrs. Gage had settled in the '50s. They lived there for a twelvemonth, when our subject purchased a small farm of eleven acres. Previous to coming West, he purchased a farm for \$500 in this State, which he sold a few years later for \$1,800, and with that amount came West. They have a snug little farm and keep on their place five cows, marketing the milk at the creamery one-half mile distant. Mr. Gage is still working at his trade of a carpenter and is employed in the construction of some of the finest residences and stores in the place.

Our subject is a staunch Democrat and interested in the upbuilding of his community. His mother died in Litchfield, N. Y., in the summer of 1889, when eighty five years of age. Mrs. Gage's father died in Herkimer County, N. Y., December 2, 1857, when sixty-three years of age, leaving a widow and six children, namely: Thomas F., a carpenter at Capron; Robert C., of Fulton County, Mo.; William W., residing at Hion, N. Y.; Edward M., who makes his home in Kent County, Mich.; and Ann E. George M. died when thirty-six years of age. The parents of Mrs. Gage were natives of England and emigrated to the New World in 1828, being sixty-three days on the ocean. Grandfather Gregg was a patriot in the War of 1812 and did brave and active service during that period.



OSCAR FAVOR. The present popular Postmaster of Rockton was appointed to that office in the fall of 1889, and he enjoys the entire confidence of all with whom he has dealings. He is a native of this county, having been born October 18, 1841, in Rockton Township, and was reared to manhood on his father's farm in Owen Township, Winnebago County.

Wadley Favor, the father of our subject, was born in New Hampshire in 1806 and is a son of Moses Favor, a farmer in the Granite State, where he lived and died in his seventieth year, having reared seven children. His son Wadley in 1832 emigrated to Canada, where he was employed as

manager in a stove foundry for six years at Normandale. At the expiration of that time, he came to Rockford and was soon engaged in farming near the city, at the same time making claim to eighty acres of Government land in Owen Township. In 1845, he located upon that tract with his family, moving into a rude log house which had been hurriedly erected, and died September 2, 1889. The mother is still living.

The lady to whom Wadley Favor was married in 1842 bore the maiden name of Mary Bryning. On coming to the new home in Winnebago County, the parents began housekeeping in a primitive way and here reared their family. In 1855, Mr. Favor erected a substantial residence and added one hundred acres to his estate, all of which is still in the family. The greater portion of it lies on section 5, and it is one of the most thoroughly tilled farms in Rockton Township. In 1860, a large barn, 30x10 feet, was built, to which he later added another large structure. Their eldest child, who bore the name of Axie, died April 6, 1889 at the age of forty-five years. Those living are our subject and his brother Walter, who is engaged in the drug business in Rockford.

Oscar Favor was reared on the home farm which he left in 1869, and was married to Mary Bligh, of Rockton. Her parents were natives of New York and pioneers of Winnebago County, this State. They bore the names of Alpheus B. and Almira (Weird) Bligh, respectively, and passed away in this county at the respective ages of fifty-seven and seventy-seven years. The only son born to our subject and his wife, Oscar Bligh, died in April, 1882, when three years of age.

Our subject operated a fine farm and was extensively engaged in the dairy business for some twelve years, disposing of it to engage in the grain and stock trade, which he followed for six years in Rockton. In 1889, being appointed to his present office, he has since given his entire attention to the duties of that position. He is a true-blue Republican, as was his father before him, and while in the grain business was made Constable of his township, and for six years was Assessor and for three years served as School Trustee. He was appointed administrator of his father's estate and

likewise of his father-in-law's property, which he manages in the most satisfactory manner. In every relation of life he is most cordially esteemed by those who know him, as is indicated by the fact that he has been placed by his party in numerous official positions.



THOMAS LIDDLE. This successful horticulturist of Owen Township has on his estate the largest and finest orchard in the county of Winnebago, and has a wide reputation as a thrifty farmer and upright citizen. He resides on the farm which was improved by his wife's father and which comprises one hundred and sixty acres, on which improvements of a substantial order have been placed and conveniently arranged buildings have been erected. The most conspicuous structure is the family residence, a pleasant rural abode, a view of which is presented on another page.

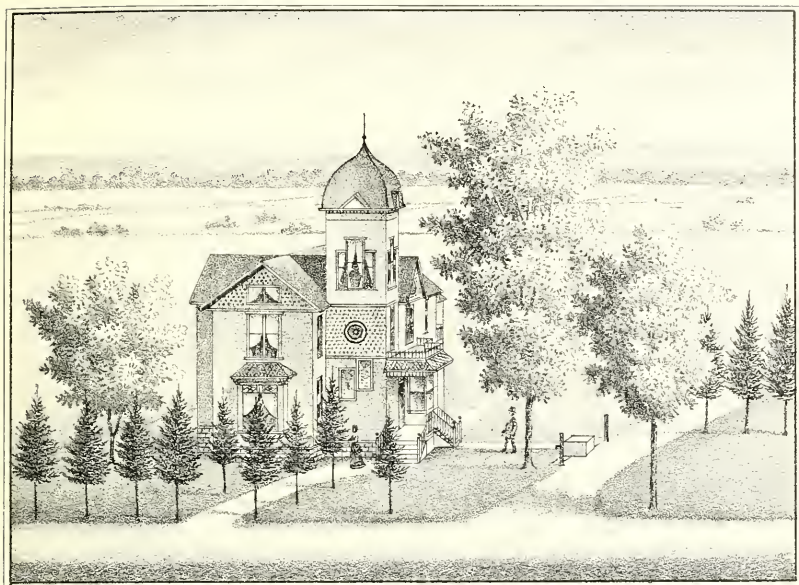
Tracing the lineage of Mr. Liddle back through several generations, we find that his great-grandfather, a native of Scotland, emigrated to the North of England and there spent his last years. The great-grandfather of our subject was a silver miner near Wolsingham, where he spent his entire life. Grandfather George Liddle was born in England, and his son, likewise named George, was a native of Durham County, there engaging in his younger days as a miner and in his later life as a miller and farmer. In 1852, he emigrated to America and resided at the Wadsworth homestead in the Genesee Valley, N. Y., one year. From that place he came to Rockford and followed the business of draying for one year, after which he bought a farm in Owen Township and followed agricultural pursuits until his death.

The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Jane Clay, was born in Durham County, England, the daughter of George and Hannah Clay, and died on the old homestead in Owen Township, after having reared to maturity eight sons and four daughters. The member of this family in whom we are particularly interested is Thomas, who was born in Durham County, England, April

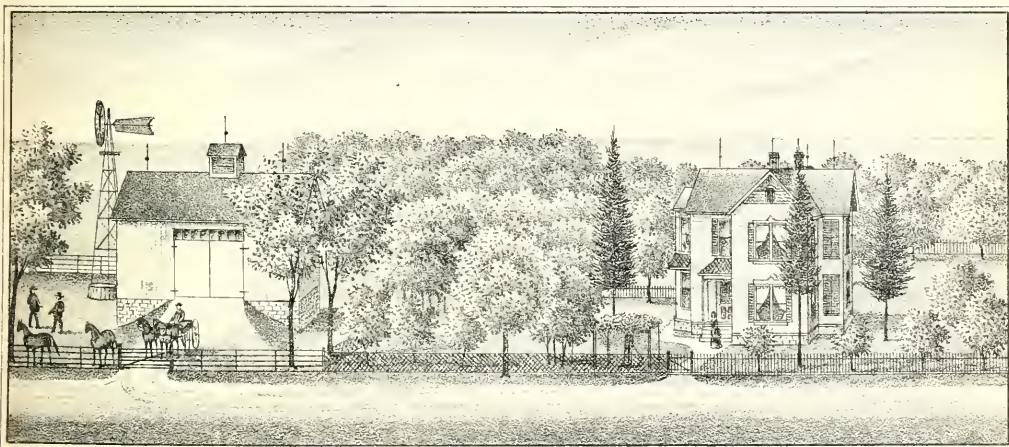
6, 1827, and was reared on a farm in his native country. At the age of seventeen, he commenced railroading on the Wear Valley Railroad, in which capacity, as well as in farming, he was occupied until he emigrated to America in 1851.

In that year Mr. Liddle set sail from Liverpool on the vessel "Corsica," which was wrecked on the coast of Newfoundland, all his possessions being lost excepting the clothes which he wore. He was taken in a life boat to Cape Ray, and four days later brought to St. Johns, New Brunswick, whence, two weeks afterward, he sailed for New York, landing in that city in June. Thence he proceeded to the Wadsworth homestead in the Genesee Valley, where he remained until 1852 and then came to Rockford, where he was engaged on the Chicago & Galena Union Railroad. During the five years in which he was in the employ of the company, he was industrious and economical and was thus enabled to engage in farming. Some years before leaving the railroad business, he purchased a farm in Owen Township together with his brothers, where he resided until the Civil War, and then bought his present property.

April 6, 1862, Mr. Liddle was married to Miss Minerva Chapman, who was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., October 1, 1839. Her father, Edom Chapman, was born in New York State. Her grandfather, Jeremiah Chapman, was, it is thought, born in England and emigrated to America, where he spent his last years on a farm in Putnam County. Grandmother Chapman, whose maiden name was Mary Barger, died on the old homestead in Putnam County. The father of Mrs. Liddle learned the trade of a carriage-maker and painter, and resided in Cayuga County for a short time after his marriage, coming in 1842 to Illinois and purchasing a tract of wild prairie land in Owen Township. Three years later his family joined him. Afterward he bought another farm in the same township, where he resided until death. His wife, Gertrude (Jones) Chapman, was born in York State, the daughter of Samuel and Rebecca (Tidyke) Jones, and died on the home farm. Mr. and Mrs. Liddle have three children: Jed, Ada and Arden. Ada married William Kel-



RESIDENCE OF F. E. WILLOUGHBY, NORTH MAIN ST, ROCKFORD, ILL.



RESIDENCE OF THOMAS LIDDLE, SEC. 2, OWEN TP, WINNEBAGO CO, ILL.

ley and has two children, Lucy and Mary. In his political affiliations, Mr. Liddle is a Republican and is public-spirited and enterprising.



FRANCIS E. WILLOUGHBY. Among the residents of Rockford Township, Winnebago County, none are more worthy of representation by the biographical writer than Mr. Willoughby and his wife, who are held in high esteem by all who know them. The farm which they own and occupy is one of the finest in the locality and a visitor would find upon it every necessary and convenient structure, which gives to the premises an air of prosperity and comfort.

The ancestors of our subject are such that their descendants can refer to them with pride, the various families furnishing men and women of intelligence and ability. John B. Willoughby, the father of our subject, was born in Westchester County, N. Y., January 16, 1802. His father, Bliss Willoughby, was, it is thought, born in Connecticut, and, as tradition has it, there were three brothers named Willoughby, natives of England, and members of Queen Anne's Life Guards, who, after the death of Queen Anne, came to America, one of them settling in Vermont, another in Massachusetts and the third, who is said to be the ancestor of our subject, making his home in Connecticut. All three served in the Revolutionary War.

The grandfather of our subject removed from Connecticut to Westchester County, N. Y., and from there to Chenango County, where he was one of the pioneers of Preston. Purchasing a tract of timber land, he set about improving his farm, and as there were no railroads or markets nearer than the Hudson River, was put to the great inconvenience of conveying the products of his farm many miles by means of ox-teams. Times being hard, he was unable to meet the payments on his land and was thus compelled to abandon it, moving to Oxford Township, where he rented property for a time, until he was enabled to purchase an improved farm, upon which he resided until his death. The maiden name of his wife was Fanny Patten. He served for a period of six months in the Revolu-

tionary War, and upon his discharge received \$50 in Continental money, \$10 of which he was compelled to pay for a square meal.

John Willoughby, the father of our subject, was reared in New York State, where he learned the trade of a stone mason, and for a time was employed in building locks on the Lackawanna Canal. After his marriage, he located on the old homestead, which he operated until his decease. He married Nancy Shapley, who was born in Oxford, Chenango County, N. Y., and was the daughter of David Shapley. Mrs. Willoughby still resides on the home farm in Oxford, being in her eighty-sixth year. She is the mother of three children: Francis E., William Darwin and John H. The latter died in Coventry, Chenango County.

The original of this sketch received a good education in the schools of his native town and continued to reside under the parental roof until 1855, which was the date of his advent into Illinois. Locating in Ogle County, he purchased a tract of eighty acres of wild prairie land in Linville Township, paying therefor \$11 per acre.

He soon traded, however, for one hundred and sixty acres in the same township, where he made his home until 1866, and then came to Winnebago County, becoming the proprietor of one hundred and ninety-three and one-half acres of land, located one-half mile from the city limits of Rockford. He was actively engaged in cultivating his farm until 1890, when the "boom" struck the city, and Mr. Willoughby platted one hundred and eight acres of his land. That year he erected a handsome residence, a view of which is shown on another page, which is furnished and finished in modern style.

February 6, 1857, Miss Janett E. Root, who was born in Oxford, N. Y., became the wife of our subject. To them have been born a family of five children: Augusta E., Edgar C., Arthur B., John H. and Frank. Augusta married Warren O. Eddy, by whom she has two children: Flora and Alice. Arthur married Catharine Ernst, and is the father of three children: Hazel Grace, Lyra, and Arthur Fletcher. Mr. and Mrs. Willoughby are members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics, our subject cast his first vote for Franklin

Pierce, and now votes the Prohibition ticket. He was for many years a leading member of the Grange, being a charter member of Whig Hill Grange, and for fourteen months was manager of the co-operative store in Rockford.



JOHAN A. BOWMAN, Secretary of the Royal Sewing Machine Company and also a Director and stockholder, is a native of Sweden, his birth having occurred in the Province of Smoland, January 22, 1860. His parents, S. A. and Anna G. (Anderson) Bowman, were natives of the same province, where they were married and began their domestic life, the father following the occupation of mining. After the birth of all their children, the family came to the United States, in 1869, sailing from England in May of that year, and landing in New York, whence they came to Rockford, Ill. They afterward removed to Michigan, and in 1873, to Valley Spring, S. Dak., which was then a new and unbroken country. The parents are still living on a farm near that place and are prosperous and enterprising people. They have lived to see all the improvements made in Minnehaha County and are numbered among its honored pioneers. The parents are both members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and have reached the ages of sixty-three and sixty-four years, respectively.

Our subject is the third of four children who are yet living. One sister, Sophia, is the wife of Andrew Borg, whose sketch is elsewhere in this work; Hilma is the wife of Charles Olander, and Emelia is the wife of O. Peterson. The two latter reside upon farms in Minnehaha County, S. Dak.

When a lad of ten summers, Mr. Bowman of this sketch went with his family to Marquette County, Mich., and three years later removed to Valley Springs, S. Dak., where he was reared and began business as a general merchant, there making his home until 1889, when he came to Rockford. While a resident of Minnehaha County, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Hannah Hetland, who was born in Norway, September 17, 1863, and

is a daughter of Stephen and Margaret (Larson) Hetland, also natives of Norway, who emigrated with their children to this country in 1872. They located in Morris, Ill., and in 1879 removed to South Dakota, locating on Government land in Minnehaha County, where the parents still reside upon the farm which they improved. Their family numbered six children. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bowman have been born three children: A. Leland, Chester A. and Blanche M.

The parents are members of the Zion Lutheran Church and are prominent young Swedish people of this locality, ranking high in social circles. Mr. Bowman is a Republican in politics. Since coming to this city, he has been closely connected with its business interests. The Royal Sewing Machine Company was organized in July, 1891, with a capital stock of \$100,000, and began to operate the following May. They employ about one hundred men and have a capacity of about two hundred and fifty. They manufacture a good machine and have a constantly growing business. Our subject is Secretary of the company and is also a stockholder in the new Swedish paper of this city. He owns a half-interest in the three-story brick block at Nos. 501 and 503 Seventh Street, and also in the three-story brick block at Nos. 505 and 507 Seventh Street. Mr. Bowman is President of the local board of the Loan and Investment Company of North America, located at Chicago.



ORANGE R. GORHAM. In giving honor to whom honor is due, we should not neglect O. R. Gorham, who began life empty-handed and has accumulated a good property by dint of energetic and well-directed efforts. His home is located on the corner of North Church and Napoleon Street, Rockford. Born in Pittsford, Rutland County, Vt., July 13, 1837, he is the son of Alonzo Gorham, whose birth occurred August 15, 1801, in Poultney, that State.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Seth Gorham, was a native of New Fairfield, Conn., and of English ancestry. He removed from that State to Vermont, where he followed the blacksmith's

trade in Poultney. In those days all the nails were made by hand and our subject now has some in his possession which he drew from a building in Poultney in 1883, and which had been made by his grandfather. Seth Gorham resided in the above-named place for a number of years and then went to Whipple Hollow, near Rutland, where he followed farming in addition to his trade and resided until his death. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, in which struggle he received a scalp wound. The maiden name of his wife was Amelia Dunks, and her decease occurred on the home farm near Rutland.

Alonzo Gorham was reared a farmer boy, and being a natural mechanic, during the winter season followed various trades. Purchasing land in Pittsford, he lived upon it until 1844, at which time he came to Illinois and located three miles southwest of Rockford. The following year he was joined by his family, and lived on rented property for three years, when he became the owner of a tract in Winnebago Township, on which he erected a frame house, which before its completion was destroyed by a cyclone, on the 31st of May, 1851. Immediately rebuilding the structure, he resided in it until 1882, and then selling his farm, went to California, and made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Hannah L. Weldon. Five years later, he returned to this county, and in 1887 came to Rockford, where his decease occurred in May of that year. The maiden name of his wife was Mercy Humphrey; she was also born in Rutland, Vt., and was a daughter of Joseph Humphrey. Her decease occurred on the 8th of August, 1866.

The six children of the parental household were Hannah, who married the Rev. S. R. Weldon, and makes her home in Santa Barbara, Cal.; Wallace A., who lives at Spirit Lake, Iowa; Laura J., who became Mrs. Col. H. C. Forbes, resides at Champaign, Ill.; Orange R. was the next in order of birth; Mercy Diana, who is the wife of Dr. H. N. Caner, of Los Angeles, Cal.; and Charles W., who lives in Santa Barbara, that State. Col. Forbes led a part of the army during the Grierson Raid in Mississippi, going with about one hundred others on a reconnoitering expedition. They were lost from the command, and, riding night and day, sud-

denly came upon a huge body of rebels in camp. It was, of course, expected that they would at once be surrounded, but the Colonel, adopting a bold ruse, raised the white flag, and, galloping into the camp of the rebels, told them he had come to demand their surrender, saying at the same time that he would withdraw and give them two hours' time in which to return an answer. He did withdraw and with his whole command made his escape.

Orange R. Gorham was a lad of eight years when he came to this State with his parents. He received his early education in the district schools of Winnebago County, which was advanced by an attendance at the Rockford City schools, and the Cedarville Academy in Stephenson County. Soon after reaching his majority, he purchased a farm in Winnebago Township and was engaged in farming for a number of years, during which time he bought and sold several different estates. Upon the death of his cousin, M. L. Gorham, in 1876, he managed his estate for fifteen years, at the same time superintending his own farm. He continued his residence in Winnebago Township till 1887, when he came to Rockford and has since been identified with the city's interests.

In 1886, he of whom we write became a member of the firm of Holland, Ferguson & Company, makers of abstracts and dealers in loans and real estate. This connection lasted until 1890, since which time Mr. Gorham has carried on an extensive business on his own account. March 11, 1862, he was married to Mary McDowell, and to them have been born five children: Frank F., William L., Charles M., Annie L., and Mary M. Mr. and Mrs. Gorham are members of the Congregational Church in Winnebago, and, in politics, our subject votes the straight Republican ticket. For six or seven years he served on the County Board of Supervisors, and was appointed Notary Public in 1890. In social matters he is a member of Rock River Council No. 29, Royal Arcanum.

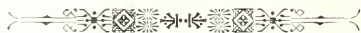
Mrs. Gorham's father, the Hon. William McDowell, was born in Frederick County, Va., March 27, 1795. He is the son of William McDowell, whose birth occurred in County Cavan, Ireland, of Scotch ancestry. The latter-named gentleman was left an

orphan at an early age, and was reared in the home of an uncle, with whom he remained until coming to America when a young man. Joining his brother John in South Carolina, the grandfather of our subject, soon after coming to America, commenced preaching, which profession he followed in many different States. He was married in Carlisle, Pa., to Rachael McClintock, the daughter of Samuel McClintock. The young couple located in Savannah, Ga., where Mr. McDowell was engaged for a few years in the mercantile business, whence he removed to Newton, Frederick County, Va., and for ten years followed that same trade. About 1807, he went to Chillicothe, Ohio, where he was one of the early settlers, and after a residence there of two years, removed to a farm eleven miles northwest of Deer Creek. Later, he returned to Chillicothe and was engaged in the practice of medicine until his decease, which occurred in November, 1811; his good wife preceded him to the better land in 1831.

When the father of Mrs. Gorham was two years of age, his parents went to Chillicothe, where he attended the pioneer school of Ross County. When his parents resided on the farm he was a pupil in the old log schoolhouse, whose home-made furniture bore a striking contrast to the convenient and comfortable temples of learning of to-day. There were no nails in the construction of the house, they being very expensive, as one and one-quarter bushels of wheat were exchanged for a pound of nails. Mr. McDowell later attended an academy at Chillicothe, and when fifteen years of age began clerking in a store, and two years later commenced the study of medicine, but was not enabled to graduate. After his marriage, he located on his father's farm in Ross County, which he cultivated for three years, and then engaged in the manufacture of soap and candles in Chillicothe. In 1842, the father of Mrs. Gorham started overland to Wisconsin, but the roads being in a very bad condition, he returned to Cincinnati, where he boarded a vessel, and went by the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Peru, thence by teams to Green County, Wis. He there purchased a tract of land, erected a log house, and fenced and cultivated his farm, making it his home for many years. He

later divided the greater part of it among his children, and at the present time he and his wife make their home with Mr. and Mrs. Gorham.

The maiden name of Mrs. Gorham's mother was Ann Eliza Clingman, and her marriage with Mr. McDowell occurred January 5, 1830. She was born in Portsmouth, Ohio, February 13, 1811, and is the daughter of George W. and Mary Bright Clingman, natives, respectively, of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. They are the parents of four children: Washington C., Charles, Mary and Annie. Mr. McDowell cast his first Presidential vote for Henry Clay, but now votes the Republican ticket. He served as Town Clerk of Chillicothe and while in Wisconsin was very prominent in local affairs. In 1844, he was nominated on the Whig ticket for the Territorial Senate, but was defeated. During the years 1848 and 1863, he was a member of the Constitutional Convention, and was honored with the position of County Treasurer in 1863-64. He joined the Methodist Episcopal Church when eighteen years of age, and afterward became a Swedenborgian in belief, to which faith he still gives allegiance.



OSCAR L. FREDRIKSEN. It is universally conceded that the distribution of food products constitutes the most important factor in the long list of a city's industries, and such being the case, the grocer must be accorded the palm as the most important contributor to the development of this fact, his wares covering almost every article of daily consumption known to man. This branch of mercantile activity is admirably represented by the popular and well-appointed establishment of Fredriksen & Anderson, located at No. 411 East State Street, Rockford, where they have conducted business under the present firm title since May, 1890. The business is conducted with vigor and push, and patrons are accorded prompt and courteous service, while the stock is constantly being replenished and kept choice and attractive.

Mr. Fredriksen is another of the many prominent citizens of the county who are of foreign birth, and first saw the light of day in Skorbes Lan,



Your Truly
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Sweden, October 1, 1867. In May, 1876, he came to the United States with his parents, August A. and Anna (Swenson) Fredriksen, and the family resided in Moline, Ill., for three years. From there they moved to Chicago, thence to Woodstock and, finally, to Rockford, where the parents reside at the present time. The father has followed agricultural pursuits as a livelihood and by his energy and industry has been unusually successful. He and Mrs. Fredriksen are now about fifty-three years of age and are prominent members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, in which he is an official. In politics, he affiliates with the Republican party. Their seven children are all living, as follows: A. W., a clerk in Rockford; Oscar L.; August L., a farmer at home; Charles S., George, Hilma and Anna, at home.

Our subject has resided in Rockford for ten years, and six years of that time he has devoted his attention to the grocery business. He was for some time with O. B. Harding, a successful dealer, and later a member of the firm of O. W. Heagg & Co., remaining with the same until the present firm was established. He is one of the most thorough-going, wide-awake young business men of Rockford, and his entire attention is given to his business. His partner, Mr. Anderson, is also active and enterprising and has been a resident of the city for about twelve years. In religion, Mr. Fredriksen is a Lutheran and, in politics, a Republican.



ISAAC TOMS, one of the pioneers of Rockford, now residing on section 27, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, was born in Essex County, N. J., December 21, 1809. His grandfather, Lewis Toms, was of English descent, and spent his last days in New Jersey. There Isaac Toms, father of our subject, was born and reared, and learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed in Essex County until his death in 1809, a few months before the birth of our subject. His wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Henderson, and was born in Essex County. Her father, Robert Henderson, a native of Scotland, was

drafted into the British army during the Revolutionary War, and came to America. He settled in New Jersey, but afterward removed to Canada, where he spent his last days. Mrs. Toms resided in her native State until 1816, when, with her family, she removed to Canada, and there passed the remainder of her life.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who in his youth learned the trade of a carpenter. After a few years in company with his brother, he purchased a farm in Canada, upon which he resided until 1837, when he came to Illinois. He started on foot with all of his worldly possessions in a bundle, and the first night met a young man en route for Michigan on a horse. They traveled together, riding by turns to Branch County, Mich., whence our subject walked to Rockford, then a collection of a few log cabins.

The surrounding country was all owned by the Government, and the work of civilization had hardly been begun. Mr. Toms was first employed in building a dam across Kent Creek, and in the spring of 1838, went to Ogle County, where he was employed at various labors until 1840, when he returned to Rockford, and two years later purchased the land included in his present farm. It was then a tract of wild prairie, upon which not a furrow had been turned, or an improvement made, but as time has passed, it has become one of the finest farms of the community. The home is a fine brick residence, in the rear of which are a commodious barn and other outbuildings. An orchard has been planted, shade and ornamental trees have been set out, and the place will compare favorably with any farm of Winnebago County.

In 1865, Mr. Toms was united in marriage to Martha A. Dodge, a native of Mt. Vernon, N. H. Her father, Charles Dodge, was born in New Boston, that State, and was a son of Anna and Lucy (Fowler) Dodge, who spent their entire lives in the Granite State. Charles Dodge was reared and married in Boston, and after his marriage settled in Mt. Vernon, where he made his home until 1830. He then removed to Lowell, Mass., where his death occurred two years later. He married Alice McClary, a native of Windham, N. H. Her father, John McClary, was born in the North of Ireland,

of Scotch parentage, and after his marriage spent his entire life in New Hampshire. He and his wife were Presbyterians, and he served as Deacon for many years. Mrs. Dodge survived her husband some time, and spent the last four years of her life in Lexington, her death occurring while on a visit to her daughter in Methuen, Mass.

Mrs. Toms resided in Lowell until 1856, after which she spent two years in Davenport, Iowa, two years in St. Louis, Mo., and then resided in Chicago until 1862, when she came to this county. She is a member of the Congregational Church, and a most estimable lady. Mr. Toms was first a Whig, and is now a Republican. He voted for William Henry Harrison, and cast his last vote for Benjamin Harrison, the illustrious grandson of the Tippecanoe hero. He is a prominent and representative farmer of Guilford Township, and his portrait on another page is a valuable addition to the volume.



ALONZO MAREAN, a successful farmer residing on section 11, Flora Township, Boone County, was born in the town of Maine, Broome County, N. Y., September 25, 1821. Tradition says that the first ancestor of the family to come to America was Dorman Marean, who emigrated from Normandy, France, in 1636, and spent his last years in the Colony of Massachusetts. He was followed by William, Thomas, Sr., and Thomas, Jr., the last-named being the grandfather of our subject. He was born in Boston, Mass., October 17, 1753, and emigrated to Canaan, N. Y., whence he removed to Broome County, in 1776. Purchasing a tract of timber land, he hewed out a farm in the midst of the forest and made it his home until his death. His wife, Esther Patterson, was born January 10, 1756, and spent her last years in Broome County.

The father of our subject, John Marean, bought a tract of land in the town of Maine, upon which he resided until 1836. He married Electa Caswell, a native of Herkimer County, and a daughter of Timothy and Mercy (Short) Caswell. In 1836, he went to Orleans County, accompanied by his

wife and three children, and located in the town of Carlton. The year 1816 witnessed their emigration to Boone County, Ill., and Mr. Marean made his home in Belvidere and Flora Townships, until his death in 1861. His wife long survived him, passing away March 27, 1892, at the advanced age of nearly ninety years. They had a family of five children: Alonzo, Sarah, Thomas, Charles and Roxy M.

Our subject spent the first fourteen years of his life in the county of his nativity and then went with the family to Orleans County. He resided with his parents until their death. On the 9th of February, 1816, he started for Illinois with a team and wagon and made the entire journey overland, reaching his destination on the 4th of March. For some years he rented a farm in Belvidere Township and in those days experienced all the hardships and privations of frontier life. After two years, he bought a tract of wild land, now included within his present farm, at \$2.50 per acre, and three years afterward made a purchase of forty acres at \$10 per acre. In 1850, he built upon the land and the farm has been his home continuously since. He now owns a tract of one hundred and twenty acres, all of which are under a high state of cultivation and well improved. Good buildings have been erected, fruit and shade trees have been set out and many other improvements made, such as are found upon a model farm.

On the 1st of October, 1851, Mr. Marean led to the marriage altar Miss Stira M. Robinson, a native of Guilford, Me., and a daughter of Elijah and Deborah (Cochran) Robinson, who are mentioned in the sketch of A. W. Robinson on another page of this work. Four children grace their union: Jennie, now the wife of James E. Munn, by whom she has one child, Wayne. John E. married Elizabeth Rote and they have a daughter, Minnie. Clara is the wife of S. P. Teeple and the mother of one child, Glenn. Fred A. completes the family.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Marean is a Republican, but has never sought official preferment. He is a well-informed man, both politically and otherwise, and is recognized as one of the substantial and enterprising agriculturists of this commu-

nity. He may well be termed a self-made man, for his success in life is entirely due to his own efforts. He had no capital when he started out for himself, but his industry, enterprise and good management have won him a comfortable competence. In 1881, our subject met with a serious loss, having two large barns destroyed by lightning, one 28x10, and the other 38x50, losing six head of cows, three hundred bushels of corn and oats and twenty tons of hay.



REV. LAWRENCE A. JOHNSTON is probably the most prominent clergyman in the city of Rockford, having charge of the First Lutheran (Swedish) Church in this place. As a pastor he gets very near to his people, and has ever sought to develop the highest type of the social life of the church. He has made himself the personal friend of each member of his congregation, sympathizing with them in trouble and joyful with them in their gladness.

He delivered his first sermon here in September, 1886, and has since been devoted to his church, which has the largest Swedish congregation in this country. The church necessarily must be very large, has a seating capacity of two thousand people, and is a beautiful edifice, the interior being Gothic in style. A \$3,500 pipe organ adds still further to the beauty and grandeur of this building. The attendance is about three thousand and the communicants are now two thousand. When he first came to this city, there were about eleven hundred members and since then many others have been added to the church. Mr. Johnston has labored zealously in his ministerial duties and has interested his congregation in church work. They have a parochial school, which was started in 1890, and which has a capacity for two hundred students. This is located on Kishwaukee Street, and four teachers are employed in the summer months. This school does not in any way conflict with the public schools.

The Rev. Mr. Johnston was originally from Warren County, Pa., born August 12, 1855, and he there grew to manhood, receiving his early edu-

cation in a Normal of that State. Later, or in 1874, he entered the Augustana College at Paxton, Ill., and the next year followed the college to Rock Island, Ill., graduating in 1879. He afterward graduated from the seminary of the same place with the Class of '81. He was ordained at the Synodical meeting held at Lindsborg, Kan., in 1881, with Dr. Carlson, formerly of Andover, Ill., as presiding officer, and his first service as an ordained minister was in Des Moines, Iowa, where he had eight hundred members and six hundred communicants.

He began to preach in the spring of 1881, and has since been an ardent worker for the church. He has filled the pulpit at Wicker Park, Chicago; was assistant as a student under Dr. Carlson, of Andover, Ill.; was one year at Cambridge, Ill., and another year at Attica, Ind. Aside from his collegiate education, he received private instruction in music, and was a teacher for some time while a resident of Rock Island and Moline, Ill.

Our subject came of Swedish parentage, his father, Frederick J. Jonson, being a native of Jonkoping Lan, Smoland Province, Sweden. The latter learned the trade of a carpenter and mechanic, and in May, 1846, he and a brother, Carl M., emigrated to the United States. The former was married at that time but the latter was single. They resided in Buffalo, N. Y., for two years, and then Fredrick Johnson (spelled without the t used by our subject) commenced working at his trade. He started out in Buffalo, N. Y., with about twenty-five cents, but success smiled upon him and he accumulated considerable property. He is still living, is seventy-three years of age, and has been smart and active until recently. His home near Chandler's Valley is a well-known resort for his many warm friends of Warren County, Pa. All his life he has been a devoted worker for the Swedish Lutheran Church and has been Deacon for many years. He is a prominent local politician and has ever advocated the principles of the Republican party. He is also deeply interested in educational affairs, has been a hard student all his life, and is a self-educated man. He is an able and extensive writer for local and State Swedish papers, and is a worthy and esteemed man. His life companion,

whom he married in Sweden, and whose maiden name was Charlotte, has stood by his side through all the trials and tribulations of life, and is a woman of true Christian spirit. She lost her parents when a small child and was reared by her grandmother.

The Rev. Mr. Johnston was one of six children born to his parents and two are now at home: Frank A. and Florence M. Three are residing in Jamestown, N. Y.: Frederica L., Sarah J., and Manley E. The latter married a Swedish lady.

The subject of this sketch was married in Rock Island, Ill., to Miss Anna S. Lindgren, a native of Wester Gothland, Sweden, born September 16, 1859, and who came to the United States with her parents, J. P. and Christina Lindgren, when eleven years of age. The parents settled in the State of Mississippi, but later came up the Mississippi River and located at Rock Island, Ill., where they now make their home. Mr. Lindgren is a mechanic and he and his wife are still enjoying excellent health. Both are adherents of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

Mrs. Johnston, wife of our subject, was educated in the public schools of Rock Island, and was a musical student for two years. Two children have been born to her marriage: Edith E., and Arnold V., both bright and beautiful children.



UPTON D. BROGUNIER, deceased, was for some years a prominent citizen of Rockford. He was born in Hagerstown, Md., January 22, 1829, and was a son of John and Susan (Cook) Brogunier. His father was of French descent, and both were of good families. They lived and died in Hagerstown, the father passing away at the age of eighty years, while his wife was called to her final rest at the age of seventy. He was a member of the German Reformed Church, and she held membership with the Lutheran Church. In their family were nine children, of whom three sons and three daughters are yet living, and are married.

Under the parental roof our subject was reared to manhood, and in his native city learned the car-

penter's trade, serving an apprenticeship at the age of sixteen years. When a young man, he came to Illinois, and in Ogle County engaged in carpentering until the time of the gold excitement at Pike's Peak, when he started for that place. On reaching Missouri, however, he decided to go no further, and in Lexington, that State, spent a few years. On his return to Illinois, in 1862, he located in Rockford, and from that time until his death was a resident of this city. He became a prominent contractor, and for years carried on a successful business.

Mr. Brogunier, on the 3d of August, 1865, in Pine Creek Township, Ogle County, led to the marriage altar Ann C. Mumma, a native of that county, born July 10, 1812. Her parents were Elias A. and Susanna (Miller) Mumma, natives of Washington County, Md., where they were reared and married. After the birth of five of their children, they emigrated to Ogle County, Ill., locating in Pine Creek Township, where Mr. Mumma improved and developed a farm, making it his home until his death, on the 12th of June, 1885. He was born April 4, 1809. His wife, who was born February 20, 1809, died on the old homestead, May 25, 1869. They were prominent members of the German Baptist Church, and were worthy and valued citizens and had a host of friends in Ogle County, where they were numbered among the honored pioneers. The wife of our subject was reared on her father's farm and was a true help-mate and faithful companion to him.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brogunier were born three sons: William H., a watch-maker, who for years was employed in the Rockford Watch Factory, but now working for the electric light company, married Minnie Hyer; Harry E. is a skilled mechanic and painter and Charles F. is an ambitious young man yet attending the public schools.

The death of Mr. Brogunier occurred at his home at No. 1009 West State Street, February 12, 1890, when past the age of sixty-one years. He was a valued citizen, public-spirited and progressive, and a man whose many excellencies of character won him the high regard of all with whom he came in contact. In his political affiliations, he was a Republican. Since the death of her husband,



Yours Truly
A. E. Brown

Mrs. Brognier has resided at the old home. She owns some fine property on West State Street, and has a competence amply sufficient to keep her through her remaining days. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church and a true Christian lady, who has the warm regard and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances in this community.



IRA E. CROWE. A stranger would not be in Winnebago County long without hearing the name which stands at the head of this biographical notice, and he would soon learn that it is the cognomen of a representative citizen of Durand Township. As a native-born citizen of the county and one of its most highly respected residents, we are pleased to invite the attention of the reader to his portrait, and the following brief account of his life career.

Born on Christmas Day, 1845, our subject is the son of Edward and Mary (Cody) Crowe, natives of County Wexford, Ireland, and born in 1814. His father learned the trade of a ship carpenter, which he followed with fair success. In 1832, he was married to Mary, the daughter of James and Mary (Murphy) Cody. She was a child of nine years when she accompanied her uncle, James Murphy, to Quebec, Canada, where her brothers James and Robert were living. After their marriage, the parents of our subject resided in Canada until 1837, when they removed to the States and located in Steuben County, N. Y., Mr. Crowe there aiding in the construction of the New York & Erie Railroad.

In 1843, Edward Crowe came West to Chicago, and in the fall of the same year proceeded to Grand Haven, Mich., where he engaged in lumbering during the winter. In the spring of the following year, he went to Milwaukee, Wis., and shortly afterward located in Winnebago County. Here he purchased forty acres of unimproved land, on section 27, Durand Township, and upon that place made his home until his decease, June 19, 1848. His wife survived him many years, passing away June, 20, 1885.

The parental family comprised five children, namely: John, who was born in Quebec, March 18, 1835, and resides in Durand Township; Mary, whose birth occurred in Steuben County, N. Y., in 1837, and who died in her fourth year; James, who was born in Steuben County, and died in infancy; Robert, who was born in Broome County, N. Y., and died in infancy; and Ira E., who was born in Winnebago County. The parents were members of the Roman Catholic Church, and were upright and industrious.

Ira E. Crowe was reared to farm pursuits, receiving his education in the district schools, and at Durand Seminary. He remained at home until reaching mature years, when, in 1875, he was married to Mary Ann Horigan. The lady was a daughter of Patrick and Alice (McCormick) Horigan, and was born in Westchester County, N. Y., April 13, 1853. Her parents were natives of County Kilkenny and County Antrim, Ireland, respectively and in early life came to the United States, and were married in New York City, March 28, 1852. They became the parents of two children: Mrs. Crowe and Albert, who was born November 25, 1860. They came to Illinois in 1858, and, locating in Harrison Township, this county, the father rented a tract of land, upon which he resided until 1860. He then took up his abode on one hundred and eighty-one acres in Durand Township, which is his present place of residence. They are members of the Roman Catholic Church.

After his marriage, Mr. Crowe located upon his present property which he had purchased six years previously. He is now the possessor of a splendid estate, numbering four hundred and eighty-one acres, one hundred and sixty-one of which are included in the home farm and the remainder located in Humboldt County, Iowa. His family includes six children: Edward G., born July 13, 1876; Mary A., July 1, 1879, died November 9, of that year; John A., born July 8, 1881; Merton P., May 31, 1885; Anna Belle, October 3, 1886; and Irene, August 19, 1888, died five days later.

Although leaning toward Democratic principles, our subject is not confined to party lines but votes for the best man. He has held the position of School Director for a number of years and is also

occupying a like position in the Durand Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company. In January, 1865, our subject enlisted and was mustered into service in Company G, One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Infantry. The company was organized at Camp Fry, Chicago, and was ordered to Tullahoma, Tenn., where Mr. Crowe was hospital clerk, and was serving in that capacity at the time of his discharge, in August, 1865. He is a member of Ellis Post No. 320, G. A. R., at Pecatonica. He is Secretary of the Patrons of Industry of Durand Center, No. 2156, and is also Secretary of the Anti-Horse Thief Association of Durand. With his wife, he is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and occupies a high position socially in this community.



LEWIS NICHOLS, who resides on section 9, Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, claims New York as the State of his nativity. He was born in Coventry, Chenango County, February 7, 1817. His parents, Phineas and Esther (Gore) Nichols, were both natives of the Green Mountain State, and immediately after their marriage emigrated to New York, settling in Chenango County about 1810. After fifteen years, they sold their farm and removed to Chautauqua County, where they resided for eleven years, when, again selling out, they moved to Lake County, Ohio, in 1837. Mr. Nichols purchased an improved farm and made a pleasant home. The first of the family to come to Illinois was Ira, the eldest son, who emigrated in the fall of 1837. Our subject and his father came in the fall of 1838, and the latter purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land two miles east of Belvidere. They then returned to Ohio, and Lewis came with his sister and brother-in-law to the claim which had been purchased.

It was in 1840 that Mr. Nichols of this sketch removed to an unimproved farm in Roscoe Township, which has since been his home. It then comprised one hundred and sixty acres but now has an area double that amount. He has made farming his life occupation and has succeeded admirably

in that undertaking. The well-tilled fields and many improvements indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner. His labors have not been without their reward, for he has prospered and is now numbered among the substantial farmers of the community.

Mr. Nichols was first married in Perry, Ohio, to Miss Maria J. Goewey and unto them was born one son, Daniel P., now farming near the old homestead. He was again married, July 15, 1873, his second union being with Elizabeth Streeter Vandercar, widow of Isaac Vandercar. By her first marriage, she had one child, Elizabeth, now the wife of Charles Lawrence, of Los Angeles, Cal. The name of this lady is often attached to able articles, both poetry and prose, found in the periodicals of the day, and she has sent her mother many rare and beautiful gifts from that far Western land.

Mr. Nichols has served two terms as Township Assessor and has filled other official positions, ever discharging his duties in a prompt and efficient manner. He has ever taken an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, widely and favorably known in this community, where he has so long made his home. He has been an eye-witness of the growth and upbuilding of the county and has aided greatly in its development.



ROBERT H. COTTON. A long course of persevering industry and prudent management on the part of the gentleman above named has resulted in the accumulation of a competence which has enabled him to retire from the toils of life and spend his declining years in ease and enjoyment. He was born in Monongalia County, Va., January 15, 1811, and is a son of James Cotton, a native of New Jersey, where his father, also named James Cotton, was born. The great-grandfather of our subject was a native of Belfast, Ireland, of Scotch ancestry, who came to America in the early Colonial times, spending the remainder of his days in New Jersey.

The grandfather of our subject was a farmer by occupation and, on removing from his native State, made his home in Monongalia County, Va., where he was among the earliest settlers. There he purchased a tract of timber land and industriously set about clearing and improving his estate, being accidentally killed by the falling of a tree in 1806. He was a patriot of the Revolutionary War, serving through all that struggle. The maiden name of his wife was Achsa Galloway; she was also a native of New Jersey, and departed this life while residing on the home farm in Virginia.

James Cotton, the father of our subject, was very young when his parents made their home in Virginia, where he grew to man's estate and married. He became the proprietor of a tract of timber land with a small clearing upon it and a log house, which was the birthplace of our subject. He was a hard-working and economical man and succeeded in accumulating a handsome estate, upon which he resided until 1822. Then, disposing of his acreage, he removed to Pennsylvania, locating in Greene County, where he made his home until coming to Illinois, at which time he settled in Henry County; his death occurred at the home of his son, R. H. Cotton, in 1871.

Jemimah Chalfant, the mother of our subject, was born in Monongalia County, Va., and was a daughter of Solomon Chalfant, whose birth occurred in Newcastle, Del. The father was very young when his parents removed to the Old Dominion, and when reaching mature years he served seven years under Gen. Washington, participating in the battles of Brandywine, Stony Point and numerous other prominent engagements. He spent the winter at Valley Forge, made memorable in history for the sufferings which the soldiers endured, and had the pleasure of seeing Cornwallis surrender his sword at Yorktown. His wife was a Miss Eaton, and he passed his last years in Monongalia County. Our subject now has in his possession a \$6 note of Continental money which was paid his grandfather in remuneration for his services in the Revolutionary War. The mother of our subject died in Greene County, Pa., after having borne her husband

eight children, viz: Elizabeth, Robert H., Achsa, Eaton, James, Solomon, David and Lydia.

The original of this sketch was a lad of eleven years when his parents removed to the Keystone State. When attaining his sixteenth year, desiring to earn money of his own, he commenced clerking in a general store in Waynesburg, which position he held about eight years. At the end of that time, having been very economical, he had laid by a sum sufficient to enable him to engage in business on his own account, and, making his home in that place, he carried on a successful trade until 1839, which was the date of his removal into Washington County. He was then appointed Superintendent of a general agency for the Jerome Clock Company, and later for Seth Thomas, of Plymouth, Conn. He continued as Mr. Thomas' representative in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois, his headquarters being at Zanesville until 1851, which was the date of his advent into Rockford. This now prosperous city was little more than a hamlet at that early day, there being no railroads nearer than Elgin. Mr. Cotton purchased a farm close to the city, upon which he resided for two years, when he moved into the village and engaged in the real-estate and mercantile business for six years. In the spring of 1861, at the outbreak of the Civil War, he was appointed Superintendent in the Chief Quartermaster's Department, being first stationed at Rollo, Mo. From that place he was sent to Ft. Donelson, arriving there the day the fort surrendered. Later, he went to Shiloh, being there at the time of that famous battle. He was stationed at different places and continued in the service of his country until February, 1866. Returning to the peaceful pursuits of life, Mr. Cotton opened a boarding and sale stable in Chicago, in which line of business he continued until 1871, since which time he has lived retired from active life.

The first marriage of our subject occurred in Greene County, Pa., June 24, 1831, at which time Miss Margaret Hager became his wife. Mrs. Cotton was born in Washington, Pa., and was the daughter of Nicholas and Charlotte (Drake) Hager, natives, respectively, of Pennsylvania and

New Jersey. His good wife departed this life in September, 1878, and our subject was united, in March, 1883, to Mrs. Harriet (Trowbridge) Platt, who was born in New Haven, Conn., and was a daughter of Eli and Luc (Lines) Trowbridge. The parents of Mrs. Cotton were natives of the Nutmeg State, where they spent their entire lives. Previous to her union with our subject she had been married to John Platt, a native of Connecticut, who came to Illinois in 1836, and for one year resided in Alton, after which he came to Rockford. Mr. Platt purchased land in the city, where he erected a small board house and engaged in the mercantile business, being one of the first merchants of the then village. He continued so employed for two years, then became the owner of a tract of land a few miles from Pecatonica, where he erected a log house and for six or seven years was engaged in cultivating the soil. At the expiration of that time, he disposed of his property and returned to Rockford, where he was a public-spirited and progressive citizen until his death, in 1881.

Mr. Cotton of this sketch by his first marriage became the father of five children, viz: James A., who is a resident of Rockford; Lizzie, Mrs. William Brittan, died in the year 1858, leaving one child, named Lizzie, who is the wife of William F. Woodruff; Christian E. resides in Columbus, Ohio; Nicholas is deceased; and Gilbert P., who is a graduate of West Point, is Captain of Battery H, First Artillery in the United States Regular Army. He has recently been appointed Commissioner by the Government to go to Honduras in the interests of the World's Fair.

Mrs. Cotton stands very high in church circles, being one of the charter members of the Second Congregational Church at Rockford. Our worthy subject became a member of the Masonic fraternity while residing in Ohio, and was a charter member of Cyprus Encampment, organized at Zanesville, Ohio, in 1818, of which organization he was elected Captain General. At the time of leaving the Buckeye State, he occupied the honorable position of Grand Generalissimo for the State. In politics, he was in early life a Whig and was a delegate to the Pittsburg Convention

in 1836, that nominated William Henry Harrison. He has voted for the following Presidents: Henry Clay, William Henry Harrison, Winfield Scott, John C. Fremont, Abraham Lincoln, U. S. Grant, R. B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, James G. Blaine and Benjamin Harrison. When Mr. Cotton shall have passed away to enjoy the recompense due his long and useful life, his memory will still live and his honorable and successful career will stand forth as a fitting example of what can be done by earnest and constant effort.



PATRICK H. WALSH, an extensive dealer in flour, feed, hay, straw, wood, etc., is located at No. 404 West Elm Street, Rockford, where he has been conducting a successful business since 1888. Since 1854, when he cast in his lot with the citizens of this enterprising place, he has been closely connected with its best interests and has made it his home, with the exception of three years during which he was in the service of the Union, and one year spent in Chicago. He established the business in 1885, although prior to that time he had been occupied along that line of work for fourteen years.

The father of our subject, Patrick Walsh, was born in County Mayo, Ireland, and grew to man's estate in the Emerald Isle, where he was united in marriage with Miss Ann Boyle. After the birth of one child, they came to America in the '30s, the voyage being made in a sailing-vessel from Liverpool to New York City. Some years later, they made settlement in the Province of Ontario, Canada, whence two years afterward they returned to the States and resided in Pennsylvania for a time, going from there to the State of New York. The father first followed the calling of a farmer and then worked on the York & Erie Railroad, his first home being in La Grange and later abode in Buffalo.

In 1854, removal was made from the Empire State via the Lakes to Chicago and from there to Scales Mound, Ill., whence two years afterward the family removed to Rockford. There the father died, January 23, 1891, at the advanced age of

eighty-four years. Some four years before his demise, his wife had departed this life at the age of sixty-five years. They were members of the Catholic Church and he was a Democrat in his political belief. During the residence of the family in Canada, the subject of our sketch was born, November 26, 1845. He removed with his parents to the States and was a small child when he accompanied them to Rockford, where he has since made his home.

April 12, 1862, our subject enlisted as a member of Company K, Sixty-fifth Illinois Infantry, and with his regiment marched to the front. After the capture of the Union forces at Harper's Ferry, he was paroled, and came to Chicago, where he was later exchanged and began service under Gen. Burnside in Kentucky. After trying to keep Morgan from making his raid into Indiana and Ohio, he accompanied his regiment across the Cumberland Mountains and came in contact with the Rebels at Knoxville, Tenn. After participating in several skirmishes, the company veteranized and later joined Sherman in his Atlanta campaign at Kingston, Ga., aiding him in the great battle at Atlanta and afterward assisting Gen. Thomas in the defense of Nashville. They fought Gen. Hood at Columbus, Tenn., and Franklin, as well as at Nashville, participating in the capture of Ft. Fisher, Wilmington, Goldboro and Raleigh. In May, 1865, they were honorably mustered out, after a service of more than three years.

After the close of the war, Mr. Walsh at once resumed his business pursuits, in which he has met with success. He is a resident of the Fifth Ward and has taken an active part in local politics, being a stanch Republican, although he never allows his adherence to party to blind him to the best interests of the community. Socially, he is a member of G. L. Nevins Post No. 1, G. A. R.

The lady who became the wife of our subject was Miss Mary Lynch, and was born in England in 1843. After the death of her father there, she emigrated to this country in 1862 and settled with her mother in Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Walsh are the parents of ten children, three of whom are deceased: an infant, May and Violet. Margaret became the wife of Thomas Nooman and resides in

Rockford; J. F. assists his father in his store; H. L. is also at home and clerks for his father; Walter L., Maude, Garland, and Nora are receiving splendid educations in the schools of Rockford and are bright and intelligent young people. The religious home of the family is in the Catholic Church and their position in social circles is prominent.



WILLIAM MAYES. This gentleman ranks among the enterprising and well-to-do citizens of Rockford, where he owns a pleasant home. He was born in Midlin County, Pa., December 10, 1815, but grew to manhood in Perry County. His father, James Mayes, died some months before the birth of our subject, leaving his wife five children. The maiden name of his mother was Rebecca Latta, a native of Adams County, Pa. She died in 1839 in Miami County, Ohio, whither the family had removed in 1831.

The original of this sketch was given a good education, and when nineteen years of age engaged as a tanner and currier in company with two brothers who were well established in that line of business. He was thus engaged for nine years, when he abandoned that occupation and became a farmer. Mr. Mayes was united in marriage in 1838, at Piqua, Ohio, to Margaret Elliott. The lady was born in Perry County, Pa., in April, 1817, and soon after her marriage with our subject located on a farm in the Buckeye State, where they resided until 1856. Selling out, Mr. Mayes came to Winnebago County, and became the proprietor of one hundred and sixty acres located five and one-half miles north of Rockford, which was known as the Woolery Farm. He immediately set about the work of further improving the place and paid \$25 for a plow. There Mr. and Mrs. Mayes lived for a period of twenty-two years. The lady was the daughter of Charles and Jane (Mitchell) Elliott, natives of Pennsylvania, who went to Ohio in an early day.

The following children were born unto our subject and his wife: Mary Jane, who died in Owen Township in June, 1856, when seventeen years of age; Charles William in March, 1862, when

three and a half years old; James O. died at Manchester, Iowa, on the 19th of January, 1887, aged forty years, leaving a wife and five children; Rebecca, now Mrs. John W. Parker, resides near Charles City, Iowa; Frances D. lives at home with her parents; Charles William was taken with the scarlet fever when the snow was so deep and the weather so intensely cold that they could not get medical aid, and he died within a few days; James was a volunteer from Rockford in Company I, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, enlisting near the close of the war, when not eighteen years of age. Mrs. Mayes departed this life March 17, 1892.

He of whom we write has been Deacon in the First Presbyterian Church, and also Elder of that denomination, for many years, with which society his wife was also connected. Mr. Mayes, in 1872, purchased eight lots on Rockton Avenue, equal to two acres, for \$1,500. He has since sold all but one, on which he erected a good home in 1879, receiving by the transaction more than twice what the property cost. He has been very prominent in local affairs, and served as Assessor of Owen Township, School Trustee and Commissioner of Highways for many years. Formerly a Republican, he now votes the Prohibition ticket.



GEORGE S. HASKELL, deceased, was not only a prominent resident of Rockford and Winnebago County, but was widely known throughout Illinois, and was held in the highest regard by all. He was a native of this city, born in 1838. Three years previous, his father, Dr. Haskell, had come to Rockford and here spent an active and useful life, dying in 1871, at the age of seventy-four years. He was born in Maine, educated at Dartmouth College, and was one of the prominent residents of this city for years. Of the First Baptist Church he was one of the founders and at his death it lost one of its best members and the county one of its most valued citizens. In Massachusetts, he married Miss Eunice Prescott Edwards, of the Bay State, a descendant of the old Massachusetts family of Edwards. She now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Henry Kimball, of Rock-

ford, and although eighty-eight years of age is still bright and active. For some years, she has been a member of the Christian Union Church.

Our subject acquired his early education in the schools of his native city, and afterward was a student in the State University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Later, he was a resident of that State for five years, during which time he had charge of his father's large fruit farm in the township of Bedford, five miles from Battle Creek. When this was sold, he returned to Rockford in the fall of 1864, and soon afterward established a retail seed house, his business increasing until it assumed extensive proportions. At length, however, financial reverses overtook him and, unable to carry on business alone, the George S. Haskell Seed Company was incorporated. He was made President and Manager, continuing as such until his death. He was one of the best known seed men in the country. He imported largely from European countries, particularly Germany and France, and did an extensive wholesale business. He did a large business in California, where he became well known as a seed-grower and dealer and contractor. For some years, he had a propagating and testing seed farm in Rockford, and so fast did his business increase that he became known throughout the country as a leading horticulturist and agriculturist. For some years, he was president of the State Board of Agriculture, his term of service expiring in January prior to his death.

Mr. Haskell took a very prominent part in local affairs, was Treasurer and Secretary of the County Board of Agriculture for several years and was long connected with the National Board of Seed Men, being one of its official members for years. He met with them at many annual conventions and his opinions were received as authority in most cases.

In 1859, in Bedford, Mich., Mr. Haskell was united in marriage with Miss Lydia E. Howell, who was born near Lansing, Mich., in 1813, and was educated in Battle Creek, and at a young ladies' seminary in Kalamazoo. She is a cultured lady, a prominent member of the leading societies of the city and a member of the Congregational Church. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Haskell were born two children:

George Edwards, who was a graduate of the Rockford High School, and a most promising young man, had just begun to help his father in business, when in 1879 his death occurred at the age of nineteen years. Mark Tracy died in 1882, also at the age of nineteen years. He had never had very robust health but his loss was no less a blow to his parents, who were thus deprived of their two sons.

In politics, Mr. Haskell took quite a prominent part as a staunch Republican and often attended the State and national conventions. For years, he served as City Alderman from the Fourth Ward. He was a leading Knight Templar, a prominent worker in the order and was the founder of the Crusader Commandery, of Rockford, one of the best societies in Northern Illinois. Although not a member of a church, he lived an upright, honorable life, true to every trust, and had the confidence of all. He was a public-spirited man in the best sense of that word and ever ready to aid in the advancement of enterprises calculated to promote the general welfare. For nearly a year before his death, he suffered from an attack of la grippe until death brought release on the 12th of August, 1890. He was buried with all Masonic honors and the State Agricultural Board as a whole also attended his funeral. A man of worth had passed away and many friends shared with the family in their deep loss. Mrs. Haskell still resides at her pleasant and elegant home at No. 802 North Court Street, which was built by her husband in 1884. She is a most estimable lady and has the high regard of all with whom she has been brought in contact.



AUGUST LIND. In Rockford are many important manufactories, and among these should be mentioned that under the control of the Rockford Manufacturing Company, of which our subject is Secretary and Manager. This company was incorporated in September, 1889, with a capital stock of \$200,000, and began business early in the following year. They furnish employment to from seventy-five to one hundred and twenty-five men, many of whom are stockholders in the company. The products of

this factory are farming implements, among the most important of which is the well-known Farm King Plow and the Imperial Corn Planter. On the organization of the company, the following officers were elected and still hold their respective positions: J. A. Johnson, President; L. M. Noling, Vice-President; August Lind, Secretary and Manager; A. P. Floberg, Treasurer; and J. Herva Jones, Superintendent.

Mr. Lind was born in Sweden on the 28th of July, 1851, and is a son of Andrew and Katie Lind. In 1866, the parents determined to come with their family to America, and the 4th of May saw them carry out their resolution, for on that day they embarked at Gottenburg and sailing by way of Hull and Liverpool, England, at length arrived in New York, but in that harbor the vessel was quarantined, as there were many cases of cholera on board. For seven weeks they were held there, and during that time the father sickened and died, being one of about one hundred and fifty out of the seven hundred on board who fell victims to that dread disease. He was buried on the shore of the Atlantic. His death occurred at the age of forty-nine years. When the quarantine was raised from the vessel, the mother with her two children landed and at length came to Rockford, but she is now living near Ft. Dodge, Iowa. She was born in December, 1818. Like her husband, she was a member of the Lutheran Church and is an estimable lady.

Our subject was only eleven years of age when he came to this country and owing to the death of his father has since been dependent upon his own resources. In his youth, he learned the moulder's trade, which he followed for some time, when he engaged in the hardware business for three years, and for two years was in the retail coal business, when he accepted the position which he now holds.

An important event in the life of Mr. Lind occurred in this city—his marriage with Miss Augusta Anderson, one of Rockford's fair daughters, born on the 25th of November, 1855. Her father, John Anderson, was born, reared and married in Sweden, became a shoemaker by trade, and throughout his life has followed that occupation. He now makes

his home in this city at the age of seventy-three years. His wife was called to her final rest some years ago. He belongs to the Swedish Lutheran Church. Mrs. Lind spent the days of her maidenhood under the parental roof, remaining at home until she gave her hand in marriage to our subject. Their union has been blessed with four children but Alice died at the age of five years. The living are Emily C., Raymond and Mary O.

Mr. and Mrs. Lind hold membership with the First Lutheran Church, of which he is Secretary of the Board of Trustees. In politics, he is a Republican, but has never been an office-seeker. He is one of the Directors of the Public Library, and is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding.



NELS G. STOCKENBERG owns and operates a good farm on section 11, New Milford Township, upon which he has made his home for fourteen years, although he has resided in Winnebago County since coming to this country in 1868. He was born in the Province of Smoland, Sweden, November 8, 1826, and was reared in that country, where his parents spent their entire lives. His father, John Stockenberg, was a farmer, and died at the age of forty-four years, when his son was a lad of fifteen. The following year our subject enlisted in the regular army, and served some sixteen years as a brave and faithful private soldier.

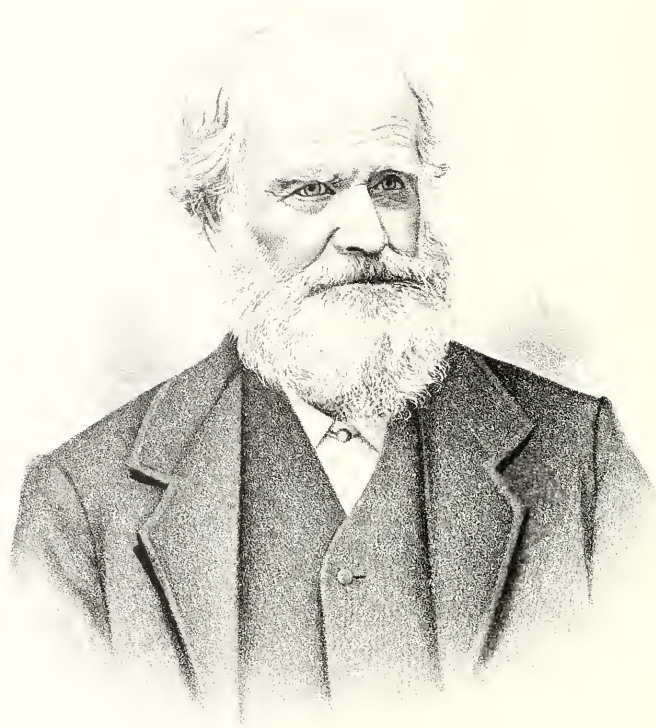
In his native province, Mr. Stockenberg was united in marriage with Miss Helen Olsen, who was born and reared in the same locality as her husband. Her parents also spent their entire lives in their native land, passing away when about the age of seventy-seven years. They were members of the Lutheran Church. The young couple began domestic life upon a farm in their native land, but at the same time Mr. Stockenberg served in the army during most of the year. All of their children were born in Sweden, and in May, 1868, with their family they emigrated to America, crossing the Atlantic in the steamer "City of Paris,"

which dropped anchor in the harbor of New York, and from thence they came at once to Rockford. Mr. Stockenberg had two sisters already living in this country: Mrs. Jonas Anderson, of Rockford, and Christina, who is now living in Chicago. His wife, however, is the only member of her family that has ever sought a home in the New World.

Five children have been born unto our subject and his wife, one son and four daughters: Mary, wife of John Olson, whose sketch is presented on another page of this work; John and Emma at home; Anna, wife of C. A. Lindblade, whose history is also given in this work, and Tilda, wife of Alfred Alner. This family is well and favorably known throughout the community, where they have resided for many years, and where they have a large circle of friends and acquaintances. In politics, Mr. Stockenberg is a Republican, having supported that party since he became an American citizen. The farm which he operates comprises seventy-seven acres of good land under a high state of cultivation and well improved, its neat appearance giving evidence of the thrift and enterprise of the owner. He engages in general farming, and the success which has crowned his efforts is well deserved. He has had no occasion to regret his emigration to this country, for he has here met with prosperity and found a pleasant home.



WB. LOUCKS established business in Rockford in February, 1891, with A. F. Tyler, as dealers in flour, feed, hay, straw, etc. He had been connected with Mr. Shick in the flour and feed trade for ten years and thus learned the business, with which he is now thoroughly familiar. He came to Rockford in May, 1880, from St. Lawrence County, N. Y. His birth, however, occurred in the Province of Ontario, Canada, in 1862. He was one of seven children born unto Nelson and Catherine (Utman) Loucks. His father was born in Canada, of Canadian parentage and German ancestry, and after attaining mature years wedded Miss Utman, a native of the Empire State, born in Morley, St. Lawrence County, where



Yours Truly
A. C. Gleason

she was reared and educated. They were married, however, in the Province of Ontario, where they resided for some time, removing to New York when our subject was a lad of six summers. Five years later, the death of Mr. Loucks occurred at his home in St. Lawrence County. His wife is still living and makes her home in Rockford. She is now about sixty years of age, but her years rest lightly upon her and she is yet enjoying excellent health. With the Methodist Church she holds membership and is a noble Christian lady who has the love and esteem of all who know her.

As before stated, the family numbers seven children. Two brothers, George I. and J. E., are now residents of California, the former residing upon a ranch, the latter engaging in railroading; our subject is the next in order of birth; Jennie, Charles and Bert, all reside with their mother.

Mr. Loucks of this sketch also makes his home with his mother. He is a wide-awake and enterprising young man, possessed of good business ability, and in his business venture is meeting with a well-deserved prosperity. His trade will no doubt rapidly increase, for he is ambitious and energetic, which qualities are always sure to win success. In politics, he is a warm supporter of Republican principles, but has never been an office-seeker. Mr. Loucks is both widely and favorably known in this community, has already won a good place in the ranks of business men and well deserves representation among Rockford's best citizens.



ABEL CHASE GLEASON, a well-known and representative farmer of Guilford Township, Winnebago County, living on section 25, was born in the town of Rowe, Franklin County, Mass., October 9, 1812. His grandparents, Jonas and Lucy (Harwood) Gleason, were among the early settlers of the town of Rowe, where the grandfather spent his last days. The grandmother died in Williamstown, Berkshire County, Mass.

Jesse Gleason, father of our subject, commenced to teach in his early manhood and followed that profession for a number of years. In 1820, he re-

moved to Bennington County, Vt., where he engaged in farming and teaching, and there made his home until 1837, which year witnessed his arrival in Illinois. He spent his last days with our subject, and died May 21, 1844. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Chase, was born in Massachusetts, and was a daughter of David and Judah Chase, and a granddaughter of Abel Chase. Her death occurred December 12, 1868. She reared nine children: Moses William, Mary, Jesse A., Eliza, Samuel W., Juliet, Caroline and Ephraim Curtis. Mary is living in Marengo, Ill.; Ephraim C. is in Chicago; and Juliet resides with our subject on the home farm. They are the only ones now living.

Abel C. Gleason was a lad of eight summers when with his parents he removed to Vermont. He was educated in Powell, that State, and in Williamstown, Mass., and resided with his parents until 1832, when he went to South Adams, Mass. There he was employed on a farm until 1835, when he started for Illinois. At that time Chicago was a small village, and all of the land in that vicinity was owned by the Government. He made a claim to a tract of Government land, where Warrenville, Du Page County, now stands.

In September of the above-mentioned year, Mr. Gleason paid his first visit to Winnebago County, which was then unorganized and attached to Jo Daviess County for judicial purposes. He came here for the purpose of assisting and building a sawmill in what is now Belvidere Township, Boone County, and, in the spring of 1836, made a claim, now included in his present farm. The same year, in company with his brother Moses William, he built a blacksmith shop at Newburg, the first at that place and one of the first in the county, and he there also built a home which he made his place of residence until 1810. The brothers were associated in the ownership and improvement of the farm until the death of Moses. They bore all the hardships and privations of pioneer life, and our subject has been an eye-witness of the entire growth of Winnebago County. He has resided upon his present farm for more than half a century, securing it before the land was surveyed.

In connection with this sketch will be noticed a

portrait of Mr. Gleason. He is recognized as a self-made man, who from an humble position has worked his way upward to one of affluence and has now a handsome competence, and one of the finest farms in the community. He is respected for his sterling worth and is held in high regard by all with whom he has been brought in contact. In politics, he is a Republican, and has served as a member of the County Board of Supervisors. He and his sister Juliet still reside on the old farm which has so long been his home.



ANDREW J. ANDERSON. In the new jewelry store of Mr. Anderson, opened to the public in December, 1891, we find the most important and praiseworthy additions to the conveniences for trading in this city. Its foundation may be said to mark a new era of enterprise in retail trade, and its meritorious example will be an inducement for others to follow, in the direction of the adventuresome and intelligent spirit displayed herein, and which is the root of all successful advance.

Mr. Anderson has been a resident of the United States since the age of five years, and was a resident of Elgin, Ill., for some time, learning the trade of a watchmaker in that city when a young boy. Since then he has given his entire time and attention to that business. He came to Rockford in 1876 and for many years was in the employ of the Rockford Watch Company, being foreman of the motion department for about ten years. He is a very skillful workman and thoroughly understands his business. He is a stockholder in the Druggists' Union Company of Rockford.

He was originally from Sweden, born February 17, 1849, and came from Gottenburg to Boston with his parents five years later. The parents settled on a good farm six miles west of Elgin, and there they live retired from the active duties of life, with their son, Charles J., who now owns the farm. The father, John Anderson, was seventy-one years of age in January, 1892, and the mother, whose maiden name was Anna Anderson, was seventy-one years of age in the same month.

They are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, Mr. Anderson having been officially connected with the same for many years. They are good, quiet, old people and are highly esteemed in the community. Seven children were born to their union; five are living and all are married.

The subject of this notice was the eldest of the above-mentioned children. He was married in Rockford to Miss Alexandra G. Matson, who was born in Rockford on the 21st of April, 1864, and who was reared and educated in the city schools. Her parents were both natives of Sweden, and the father, Benjamin Matson, who came to this country when a young man, is yet living in Rockford and is now fifty-five years of age. He was a turner by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are members of the First Lutheran Church of the city, and are the parents of three interesting children: Ethel A., Rosa L. and Emmert J.



CARL P. HAEGG. Among the many enterprises necessary to complete the commercial resources of a town or city, none is of more importance than that of the grocer, as being one of the main factors in the furnishing of our food supplies. Prominent in this trade is the establishment of Haegg & Lynn, located at No. 706 Seventh Street, where the firm does a flourishing business and carries a full line of staple and fancy groceries. Messrs. Haegg & Lynn are young, energetic and enterprising business men, full of push and perseverance that secure success in whatever is undertaken. Mr. Haegg has had practical experience in this line and was formerly a member of the grocery firm of Haegg Bros., which had an existence of seven years.

Our subject was born in Sweden, on the 19th of May, 1860, and received a good practical education in his native country. He came to the United States in 1881, and is the youngest of three brothers, now residents of Rockford. He has been prominently identified with the business interests of the city since his residence here and has been unusually successful.

He was married in Rockford to Miss Emily Soderstrom, a native of Sweden, born in Oster Gothland, September 24, 1862, and to them were born three children: Edna, who died young; Martha and Hattie. Mrs. Haegg passed her youth and early womanhood in the land of her birth and there secured a fair education. She was three years of age when her mother died and fifteen when her father passed away. Afterward she came alone to the States, following two brothers who are now in the lumber business in Arkansas. Mr. and Mrs. Haegg affiliate with the Zion Lutheran Church, and, in politics, he is a warm supporter of the Republican party.



WILLIAM L. BURR is now living a retired life at his palatial residence situated on the corner of Winnebago and Chestnut Streets, Rockford. The life record of this worthy gentleman is as follows: He was born in 1831, on his father's farm in Mohican Township, Wayne County, now Ashland County, Ohio, and is a son of James Burr, a native of Vermont. His grandfather, Asel Burr, was also a native of that State, in which he spent his entire life, a farmer and miller living near Burr's Pond, which still bears his name. James Burr grew to manhood upon the farm and served his country during the latter part of the War of 1812. He married Miss Polly Smith, who was also born and reared in the Green Mountain State. Her parents were natives of New England, and at an early day emigrated to Ohio, locating on a farm in Wayne County. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Burr also became residents of Wayne County, and spent the remainder of their lives upon a farm in that locality. They were quiet, unassuming people, highly respected by all who knew them. Mr. Burr died at the age of eighty-four years and his wife was called to her final rest when sixty-eight years of age. In their family were three sons and three daughters who are yet living, the sisters being residents of Iowa, while the brothers of Mr. Burr make their homes in Wisconsin.

When a young man of seventeen years, our sub-

ject started out in life for himself and sought the West as the scene of his future labors. He boarded a steamer at Cleveland, Ohio, bound for Milwaukee, the last vessel to make the trip during that season. They encountered very severe weather and barely escaped destruction. Capt. Applebee, who was in command and had been in charge of the vessel for twenty years, remarked that he had never known such a storm, but at length the dangers were passed and harbor was reached in safety. Mr. Burr began learning the jeweler's trade, at which he worked in Milwaukee, Waukegan and Chicago. He was also a resident of Beaver Dam, Wis., for twelve years, engaging in the jewelry business at that place, after which he removed to Winona, Minn., where the succeeding twenty-one years of his life were passed. He spent eight years in that city as a jeweler, doing a good business, and then removing to a farm near by, he devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits for some time. By the exercise of good business principles, industry, perseverance and good management, he succeeded in acquiring a handsome competence, and at length determined to live a retired life, so, securing a home in Rockford, he came to this city in 1888, and for the past four years has lived at his pleasant home on Winnebago Street.

The lady who bears the name of Mrs. Burr was in her maidenhood Miss Lusetta I. McClure, and was born and reared in Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio, where her marriage was celebrated. Her parents there resided for many years and her mother still makes her home in Wooster. The father, Jonathan McClure, died at the age of sixty years. He was a hardware merchant.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Burr have been born ten children: W. J., the eldest, is a member of the firm of Burr Brothers, the most extensive and successful grocery men of Rockford, located at No. 121 South Main Street and No. 405 East State Street. He married Helen Wells, of Rockford. Mary G. is the wife of Theodore Baker, a furniture dealer of Winona, Minn.; Charles D., who married Grace Swits, is a member of the firm of Burr Brothers; Frank R. is also connected with that firm; Mattie F. is at home; Edwin L. and Addison M. are both salesmen in their brothers' store; Fred is now

book-keeper for Burr Brothers; Lee H. and Jennie M. are still under the parental roof. Mrs. Burr and her children are members of the Second Congregational Church of Rockford. Mr. Burr is a Republican, as are all of his sons who have attained to man's estate. As before stated, he is living a retired life, and is regarded as one of the leading citizens of Rockford, and the respect of the entire community is tendered him.



SOLOMON WHEELER, one of the early settlers of Winnebago County, now living retired in his pleasant home in Rockford, was born in Jay, Essex County, N. Y., February 28, 1806. His father, David Wheeler, was born in New England, August 22, 1783, and was one of the early settlers of Essex County. He purchased a farm in the town of Jay and resided there until 1815, when he sold and removed to Cortland. This was before there were any railroads or canals in the United States, and the removal was consequently made with teams. After a residence of two years in Cortland, he removed to Tompkins County, where he died July 25, 1824. He was married, September 20, 1803, to Eunice Stewart; she was born August 31, 1780, and came to Illinois with her son, our subject, in 1816, and departed this life at his home January 12, 1862.

The original of this sketch was about eleven years old when his parents removed to Tompkins County, and when very young he began to earn his own living, receiving as his first wages 85 per month. When the Erie Canal was completed, he bought boats and engaged in freighting between Ithaca and Albany, in which business he continued until 1836, when he farmed for ten years in Yates County, when he sold and came to Illinois, via the Erie Canal to Buffalo, where he embarked on a steamer for Chicago, and thence by team to Winnebago County. He had visited his brother in this county the previous year and at that time bought four hundred and eighty acres of land located in what is now Guilford Township. There was a large barn on the place and a brick house in process of construction at the time it came into his possession.

He at once commenced to make further improvements on the place, and as there were no railroads in the vicinity for a number of years, like other farmers he was obliged to haul his farm products to Chicago to market, the round trip consuming five or six days. Solomon Wheeler purchased other land until his estate included six hundred broad acres. He resided there until 1856, when he disposed of his tract and came to Rockford to engage in the lumber business, which he carried on profitably for ten years. Since that time he has been retired in his pleasant home on the West Side. His dwelling is a commodious brick structure, with an acre and a quarter of ground, in the heart of the city.

Our subject was married, January 12, 1829, to Alice Babcock; she was born in Lansing, Cayuga County, N. Y., June 16, 1806, and died December 11, 1871. The following children were born of that marriage: David Hilton, President of Alleghany College at Meadville, Pa., is a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church; Homer Edwin resides in Rockford; Phebe Louise married Charles H. Brownell and died December 19, 1872; Eunice A. died September 23, 1854; and Horace D., February 15, 1851; Helen Cornelia married the Rev. D. J. Holmes; Mary A. became Mrs. George Feakins; J. resides at home; Frances died in infancy; Martin L. is an attorney in Chicago; and Emily Frances is Professor of Modern Languages in the Northwestern University. Our subject has twenty grandchildren living and twelve great-grandchildren.

Mr. Wheeler was a second time married, October 1, 1878, when Miss Mary E. Nash became his wife. She was born in Weston, Fairfield County, Conn., and was a daughter of David Nash, also born in the above-named county and who for a number of years taught in a private school in Weston, Conn. He then removed to New York City to accept the position of Principal in one of the schools, and continued in that capacity until his decease in August, 1843. The maiden name of his wife was Sally Lockwood; she was also born in Weston, Conn., and was the daughter of Reuben Lockwood, who, it is thought, was a native of the Nutmeg State and of English parents. He was a farmer





Gust. Holm.

and died in the above-named place. The maiden name of his wife, the grandmother of Mrs. Wheeler, was Elizabeth Raymond; she was the daughter of a Revolutionary soldier, and died on the home farm in Weston. The mother of Mrs. Wheeler resided in New York City until 1850, thence removed to Norwalk, where her decease occurred in 1870.

Mr. Wheeler joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1836, and has been a constant member of the same ever since, of which denomination his first wife was also a member. The present wife of our subject has been a member of that church since 1850. In early life a Whig, our subject voted the Republican ticket until the formation of the Prohibition party, since which time he has been a thorough advocate of its principles.



GUST HOLM. The sons of Sweden are well represented in Winnebago County, and although with characteristic modesty they do not aspire to brilliancy in the forum, yet they hold conspicuous places in many pursuits which make that county a substantial star in the galaxy of Illinois' many interesting counties. The gentleman whose portrait appears on the opposite page is a prominent contractor at Rockford, and one of its foremost citizens.

Born in Oester Gothland, Sweden, July 5, 1852, Mr. Holm learned his trade there under the supervision of his father. He was married in that country to Miss Alfina Olson, who was a native of the same province, born December 25, 1849. Shortly afterward, he and his young wife crossed the ocean to America, landed in New York City, where they remained a short time, and thence, in 1880, came to Rockford, Ill. Since then Mr. Holm has erected many of the best residences in Rockford, and has met with well-deserved success. He owns a good home on Twelfth Street, at No. 1,602 Fourth Avenue, also other property on that street, and is a stockholder and Director in the Globe Clothing Company, and the American Furniture Factory, of Rockford.

Peter Joneson, his father, is still living in Sweden, and has followed carpentering all his life. He is now seventy-three years of age. The mother, whose maiden name was Christina Carolena, died when about fifty-six years of age. Like the majority of Swedes, they were Lutherans in their religious views. Three of their sons are in this country and one in Sweden.

Mrs. Holm's father, Andrew Olson, left his native country for this, and died here on the 12th of October, 1889, when seventy-one years of age. His wife is still living at the age of sixty-three years, and resides with her only daughter, Mrs. Holm. Her maiden name was Johanna Johnson, and she has been an active member of the Lutheran Church all her life. Her husband was also identified with that church.

Mr. and Mrs. Holm are members of the Mission Church. In politics, the former is a Republican. Their union has been blessed by the birth of seven children, four now living: Karl D., Gust P., Huldah A. and Martin S., the last two twins. Those deceased are: Martin, Carl and David.



DR. IRA L. ANDREWS, who is engaged in the practice of dentistry in Rockford, is one of the oldest dental surgeons of this city in years of continuous practice, having located here in 1869. For a year he was alone in business and then became connected with a well-known dentist of this city now deceased, Dr. C. B. Rising, who for years had stood at the head of his profession in Rockford. The partnership was continued until the death of Dr. Rising, in August, 1875. He was one of the most prominent men of the community, respected by all for his well-known honesty and straightforwardness. His word was as good as his bond and in the payment of a debt he was scrupulously exact. At the end of each month he would draw up a check for the entire amount of indebtedness against him. His true worth made him honored, and his friend, Dr. Andrews, is always ready to pay a tribute to his memory.

We now take up the personal history of our

subject, who was born in Chenango County, N. Y., in 1825. His father was a native of Connecticut and came of one of the old and respected New England families. The paternal grandfather served as a drummer-boy in the Revolutionary War and the father of the Doctor fought in the War of 1812. He became a farmer, and in Danbury, Conn., married Roxanna Holcomb, a native of that State, also descended from one of the old New England families. Soon after their marriage, they emigrated to New York, where Mr. Andrews began to develop and improve a new farm in Chenango County, where he spent the remainder of his days, dying at the age of sixty-five years. He was a man highly respected by all who knew him. In politics, he was a Whig and, in religious belief, was a Baptist. His wife, who was also a member of that church, had reached the age of three-score years and ten when called to her final rest, about ten years after the death of her husband.

Our subject is the youngest of ten children, of whom three sons are yet living. He was reared to manhood upon his father's farm, and acquired his education in the common schools. In 1856, he left home and went to Binghampton, Broome County, N. Y., where he made his home for five years, being engaged in the wagon supply business. He afterward went to Milton, Pa., from whence he came to Rockford in 1869. In Milton, he was united in marriage with Miss Martha Goodlander, who was born and reared in Northumberland County, Pa., her people being early settlers of that community, and of German descent. Mrs. Andrews has proved to her husband a true and loving wife and faithful helpmate, and is a lady held in high esteem by all who know her, for her many excellencies of character.

The Doctor and his wife have a pleasant and beautiful home at No. 412 North Main Street, where hospitality abides and good-will reigns supreme. They are both members of the Court Street Methodist Church, and take an active interest in its welfare. In politics, the Doctor was a Republican from 1856 until 1884, since which time he has supported the Prohibition party. He is a stockholder in the People's Bank, also in the Rockford Watch Company. His success in the line of his

profession has been excellent, and from the beginning he has had an excellent patronage, which has increased as the years have gone by, bringing with it a handsome competence, which places him in comfortable circumstances. Pleasant and genial in manner, he has many friends among the best people of Rockford.



FRANK B. TRAHERN. There are few of the citizens of Rockford who are not personally acquainted with this gentleman, whose home has been in this city since 1818, and who has contributed his best efforts toward its advancement along the lines of education, morality, philanthropy and public improvements. Now retired from active labors, he makes his home at No. 308 Kent Street, in the cozy residence which he has gained by his unaided exertions.

On coming West with his brother, W. D., our subject engaged in manufacturing threshing machines for a time, but afterward withdrew from the firm and became foreman of the establishment. In 1883, he organized the Rockford Brass Works, which in 1890 was changed into a stock company confined to himself and sons. At present, the eldest son, D. E., is President of the company, and H. R., the younger son, Secretary, while our subject occupies the position of Treasurer. The business of the corporation is principally carried on by the sons, and bronze and brass castings, aluminum and copper castings are manufactured in large quantities, and shipped to different markets.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in Knox County, Ohio, where he was born February 16, 1829. His father, Samuel, was a native of Virginia and belonged to an old Virginia family descended from English ancestors. He married Miss Susan Brown, in Loudoun County, Va., whose father, Daniel, was an early settler of Knox County, Ohio. After the birth of one child, Samuel Trahern and his wife came West to Knox County, Ohio, where, in 1825, they commenced to operate as members of the farming community of that new country. He died at the age of seventy-eight and she passed away when forty-seven. In their re-

ligious connections they were members of the Quaker Church.

Until he was nineteen, Frank B. Trahern remained under the parental roof, since which time his home has been in Illinois. He was married in Walworth County, Wis., to Miss Martha Reader, who was born in New York State, and in 1837, when four years old, accompanied her parents, John and Elizabeth Reader, to Walworth County, Wis., where they entered land from the Government and commenced life as pioneers. Mr. Reader was one of the first organizers and supporters of the Baptist Church in that county, and remained in its fellowship until he died at the age of seventy-eight. His home was the favorite resort of ministers of early days and he was prominent as a Deacon and liberal contributor to religious causes. His wife, who was likewise a member of the Baptist Church, died at the age of seventy.

Mr. and Mrs. Trahern are the parents of two children, namely: Delbert E., who married Miss Sadie Johnson, and now lives at No. 209 Fourth Street, Rockford; and Harvey R., who chose as his wife Miss Ada Keeney, and resides at No. 607 Kent Street, Rockford. In his political belief, our subject is a staunch adherent to the principles of the Republican party, and is a generous contributor to the support of the Baptist Church, of which his wife is an active member. The social position occupied by the family is a prominent one and they are highly esteemed wherever known.



MRS. MARY A. (FARMER) CLARK, the widow of John Clark, is at present residing on and operating the farm left her by the death of her husband in 1881. It is pleasantly located on section 5, Owen Township, Winnebago County, and by being intelligently tilled nets a handsome income. Mrs. Clark was born in Newborough, Vt., November 25, 1837, while her father, Thomas Farmer, one of the pioneers of this county, was born in Edinboro, Scotland, July 10, 1815. The grandfather of our subject, Thomas Farmer, was also a native of Scotland, his birth occurring September 30, 1785. He learned

the trade of a stone-mason, which occupation he followed until 1840, when he came to America and spent his last years with the father of Mrs. Clark, dying February 26, 1841.

The grandmother of our subject bore the maiden name of Janet Gurley, and was also a native of Scotland, where her decease occurred. With her husband, she was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Clark has in her possession the old family Bible which her grandfather brought to America. Her father emigrated to this country together with his brother William, the latter of whom settled in Hamilton, Canada.

The father of Mrs. Clark received his education in Scotland, and when nineteen years of age emigrated to the New World. Having learned the trade of a mason in Edinboro, he followed that occupation in Newborough, Vt., until 1839, when, with his wife and two children, he came to Illinois, traveling by way of canals and lakes to Chicago, thence by team to Rockford. The land in this locality sold at \$1.25 per acre and the few settlers then living here were located in the timber and along the streams. Mr. Farmer selected a tract of Government land in what is now Owen Township, upon which he erected a log house and there resided for a number of years with his family. Deer, wolves and other kinds of wild game were very plentiful in the vicinity, and as there were no railroads in this locality for a number of years, Mr. Farmer hauled the products of his estate to the Chicago market. He was very successful as an agriculturist and added to his estate from time to time until he became one of the largest land-owners in the county. After being industriously engaged on the farm for many years, he moved to Rockford and lived retired until his death, October 9, 1880.

Margaret Halley was the maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Clark; she was born in Markinch, Fifeshire, Scotland, her parents being William and Mary (Markey) Halley. The grandfather made three voyages to America and on the last trip fell from the boat at Montreal and was drowned in the St. Lawrence River. His wife spent her entire life in Scotland.

The original of this sketch was an infant when

brought to this county with her parents, where she was reared and educated and when twenty-five years of age married Edward Marshall, who was a native of England. He came to America when a young man and was engaged in farming until his decease in 1866. Mrs. Marshall, as she was then known, was married three years later to John Clark, who was also a native of England and a half-brother of Mr. Marshall. He departed this life in 1881, since which time his widow has carried on the farm with signal success. She has one son by her first marriage who bears the name of Oscar. The five children born of her second union are Maggie, Robert B., Kittie, John and Edna. The eldest daughter is a teacher in the public schools, where she is meeting with more than ordinary success, and Oscar, who married Elizabeth Griffith, resides in Louisiana. Mrs. Clark is a conscientious member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is greatly respected in her community.



CHARLES A. HULT, Secretary and Treasurer of the Co-operative Furniture Company, was born in Smoland, Sweden, August 29, 1864. Both of his parents died in Smoland. His father, Swan Hult, followed farming throughout his life and passed away at about the age of seventy years. His wife died some years previous. They were life-long members of the Swedish Lutheran Church. Their family numbered four children, all of whom are now living in this country: J. S., who resides in Holdrege, Neb., married a Swedish lady of Stanton, Iowa; Christina is the wife of A. M. Casperson, who lives in Burlington, Iowa; Tillie M. is the wife of James W. Quick, of Burlington, Iowa; and C. A. completes the family.

Our subject came to this country with a sister in 1873, when only about nine years of age, and joined an older brother and sister who had previously emigrated to this country. He is a self-made man, his success in life being entirely due to his own efforts. He was reared in Burlington, Iowa, and acquired his education in that city at the Bushnell University and at Elliott's Business College. His

residence in Rockford dates from 1886. For some time after locating in this city, he was connected with the coal, wood and feed business of D. A. Elmore in the capacity of book-keeper. For nearly four years he has now been interested in the Co-operative Furniture Company, filling the position of Secretary and Treasurer. The factory is located at the corner of Railroad Avenue and Ninth Street and they employ between one hundred and thirty and one hundred and fifty men, doing a large and successful business which is constantly increasing.

Mr. Hult was united in marriage, in Rockford, with Miss Mary L. Danielson, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, on the 7th of September, 1863, and came to the United States in the early part of 1881. Her parents are still living in Sweden and are now past middle life. Mrs. Hult was the first of the family to cross the Atlantic but has since been joined by her sister Emily. Mr. and Mrs. Hult are prominent young Swedish people of this city, well and favorably known in the community where they reside. Their union has been blessed with one child, Leslie P.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Hult is a supporter of Republican principles. He is yet a young man and has the energy of youth. He is also progressive and industrious and will undoubtedly make for himself a successful career, his life already giving evidence of that fact. Socially, he is a member of Social Lodge No. 140, and Encampment No. 44, I. O. O. F., and is Past Noble Grand.



TENNIS TOLLEFSON, for over half a century a resident of Manchester Township, Boone County, was born in Norway, February 28, 1806. He is classed among the most successful farmers of the vicinity and is the proprietor of a splendid estate which is well improved in every particular. He is the son of Tollef Larson, a farmer of Norway, who reared a family of fourteen children, and departed this life in his native country at an advanced age.

The lady to whom our subject was married, in 1840, was Anna Rosseland; she died August 31, 1886, in her sixty-eighth year. Our subject came



J. W. Irvine.

to America in 1836, and was followed by Miss Rossland one year later, soon after which they were married. They were industrious and hard-working people and accumulated for themselves a handsome fortune. Mr. Tollefson is very generous with his means and within the last few years has made some large bequests. His present farm was entered from the Government, and the high state of cultivation and improvement which it is under, the good brick residence and the ample barns and outbuildings, represent many years of toil and privation.

Lars Tollefson, grand-nephew of our subject, has been conducting the home farm since 1887. He was married to Anna Erikson January 7, 1888, the lady being the daughter of John and Axlaine Erikson. They have become the parents of three children, two of whom died in infancy. Their infant son, who was born January 11, 1891, bears the name of Tennis Albert. He of whom we write on coming to the New World stopped for a time at the home of a brother in New York State near Rochester. He is, probably, the first Norwegian settler in Boone County and the oldest resident of Manchester Township. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran Norwegian Church, to the support of which they are liberal contributors. Mr. Tollefson takes but little part in politics other than to cast a Republican vote at elections. He has been more than ordinarily successful in all his undertakings, and his ability and character are such as to earn for him the esteem and regard of all who know him.

JOSEPH W. IRVINE. Prominent among the industries carried on in Rockford is the manufacture of boots and shoes, as represented by the Rockford Boot and Shoe Manufactory. This enterprise was established about ten years ago, and is one of the flourishing institutions of the city.

Mr. Irvine, Vice-president of this vast concern, has retired from active business and now resides quietly at his comfortable home in this city. He has been a resident of Rockford since October,

1869. For many years he was connected with the Emerson, Talcott Manufacturing Company, one of the best known organizations of the State, and especially in this part of Illinois. He was also with the Wilkins Knitting Factory, but subsequently sold out his interest and retired from active labor. He is a stockholder in other corporations, including the Silver Plate Manufacturing Company, the Rockford Watch Company, the Rockford Watch-Case Company, the Rockford Overalls Company, and at times has been officially connected with some of them, and has been a promoter of most of them.

He came to Rockford from Rockvale Township, Ogle County, Ill., and was engaged for about thirty years there as a successful farmer. He has been a resident of this State for fifty-six years, and during that time he has made his home in Ogle and Winnebago Counties, living to see the wonderful advancement made during half a century. While in Ogle County, he took and improved a large tract of Government land, and has spent his life very actively as a farmer and business man.

He was born in the Province of Ontario, Canada, in 1819, but most of his early life was spent in New York. Later he moved to Toronto, Canada, where he subsequently followed clerking in a store. He is a son of the Rev. Alexander Irvine, a native of Perthshire, Scotland, who was a descendant of an old and prominent Scotch family. The latter was but four years of age when he came with his parents, William and Marjorie (Stuart) Irvine, to America and settled with them in York State. William Irvine resided in the Empire State until his death. His wife, who survived him, finally went to Canada and died when over eighty years of age. She was a very bright, intelligent lady, and was a descendant of the royal family. She and her husband were members of the Presbyterian Church.

Alexander Irvine grew to manhood and was married in York State to Miss Clarissa Harrington, a native of that State and of Yankee origin. After marriage, they moved to Canada, where two children, our subject and a daughter, were born. Shortly afterward the family returned to New York, and when our subject was twelve years of age, they went back to Canada, where they re-

mained a few years. In 1836 they returned to the States and settled on the Rock River, near Byron, Ogle County, opening up a claim in Rockvale Township. There the father's death occurred about 1840, when in the prime of life. The mother followed him to the grave during the Rebellion, when sixty-two years of age. Both held membership in the Methodist Church.

The original of this sketch was the second of eight children born to his parents, four sons and four daughters, three sons and two daughters now living. He was educated in the schools of Ogle County, and after reaching his majority wedded Miss Electa Parsons, a native of the Old Bay State, where she was educated. She came West when a young woman and died on her husband's farm in Ogle County, when in the prime of life. She was an excellent wife and a devoted mother. Of this union were born five children: Edwin, a railroad mail agent, residing in Rockford, married Miss Mina Underwood; Ellen C. became the wife of William Warburton, a farmer of Buchanan County, Iowa; Mary P. is the wife of Christian Burkholder, a dealer in agricultural implements in Sterling; W. Henry is a painter in the West; and one younger, who died in infancy.

Mr. Irvine's second marriage occurred in Ogle County and united him with Rebecca W. Waggoner, a native of Union County, born on the banks of the Susquehanna River, June 23, 1829, and the daughter of Henry R. and Elsie (Woods) Waggoner, natives of Northumberland County, Pa. Her father was of Pennsylvania-Dutch stock, and her mother of Irish descent. They were married in Northumberland County, and Mr. Waggoner began life as a mechanic. In 1848, he moved with his family to Ogle County, Ill., and settled on a farm in Rockvale Township. After the death of his wife, he married Mrs. Margaret Hensel, and moved to Mt. Morris, this State, where he received his final summons when nearly seventy-five years of age, dying March 5, 1869. His wife is still living and is quite old.

Mrs. Irvine was one of seven living children, all married but one, and all prosperous. Mr. and Mrs. Irvine have had five children: C. Francis, a commercial man residing in Rockford; George L., Sec-

retary and Treasurer of the Rockford Overalls Manufacturing Company; Elsie M., wife of C. E. Sovereign, novelty manufacturer; and two who died in infancy. The members of the Irvine family, for the most part, belong to the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Irvine and his sons are worthy Republicans in politics.

The portrait of Mr. Irvine is presented on another page.



WILLIAM H. FITCH, M. D., is one of the native-born citizens of Rockford, who have contributed their ablest efforts to the progress of the city and labored unceasingly in its behalf. He has been remarkably successful in his profession, his skill having won for him a foremost place among the citizens of Winnebago County and, in fact, throughout the entire northern part of the State. For more than twenty years he has been engaged in the practice of his profession in Rockford, having come hither in the fall of 1870, and opened an office, which he has since conducted.

For the duties of professional life Dr. Fitch was thoroughly prepared by a splendid literary education received in Beloit College, and by a course of medical lectures at the Chicago Medical College, where he graduated in 1868. At that time, he received the second honors of his class, the first honors being gained by Dr. Nicholas Senn, of Chicago, one of the most celebrated surgeons of the world. After a short visit to Rockford, the young Doctor went on a tour to the Old World, and spent two years in the medical schools of Europe, most of the time being devoted to study at Vienna. Thus completely equipped for a professional life by a profound theoretical knowledge of therapeutics, he crossed the Atlantic to the country of his birth, and immediately secured a large practice in the city where he still resides.

The Doctor is Trustee of the Illinois Eye & Ear Infirmary, located in Chicago on West Adams Street, a splendid institution for the treatment of these special diseases and under the support of

the State. He is a member of the State Medical Society, the National Medical Association, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and he meets with these various societies regularly. He is a Trustee of the Rockford Seminary, an institution of prominence in the West, and one of the oldest educational centers in the county.

The father of our subject was John Fitch, an early settler in Winnebago County, who came hither in 1837, entered Government land in Cherry Valley, this county, and began life here amid primitive surroundings, his first home being in a log cabin. It was his good fortune to live until the dense forests and uncultivated wastes of land were transformed into splendidly improved farms and the sites of thriving villages. He had come to this county from Groton, Mass., his birthplace, and his journey Westward was made by the most expeditious route known at that time, being by canal to Buffalo, thence by the Lakes to Chicago, and from there in a small one-horse "prairie schooner" to Winnebago County, then very sparsely settled.

The farm owned by John Fitch was on the main thoroughfare between Chicago and Galena, and his house became the lodging place for travelers en route for the farther West, often as many as one hundred and fifty persons stopping on his premises with their wagons and teams. He was thus not only enabled to sell his produce, but gained an acquaintance with many of the Western pioneers, a number of whom found homes on the golden shores of California. It was not long before he had erected a substantial house and outbuildings, and, as he was practical and thrifty, belonging to the best type of Massachusetts farmers, he kept many years in advance of his neighbors.

Genial and sociable in disposition, Mr. Fitch, Sr., made friends with all whom he met and became the host of a well-known country inn between Belvidere and Rockford. He was progressive and took a leading part in all matters regarding education. When schools were few in the county, he hired a young lady to come from Massachusetts as governess, and she taught his children at his home. He admitted any of the

neighboring children who wished to come, and many took advantage of the offer, as "Uncle John" Fitch paid all the expenses. As a Whig and Abolitionist, he took a prominent part in public matters, and during his later years was a staunch Republican. In religious matters, he was identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Cherry Valley, but on coming to Rockford, in 1861, united with the Second Congregational Church, and remained in that connection as long as he lived. His death occurred here in the year 1881, at the age of seventy-five years, and was sincerely mourned by all who knew him. A man of remarkable thrift, he acquired a fine property, of which his children became heirs, and through their judicious management the value of their heritage has been increased. Mr. and Mrs. John Fitch were present at the dedication of the first church built in Rockford.

Three months after the death of John Fitch, his wife departed this life, aged seventy-four years. She was formerly Miss Lucy Sawtelle, and was a native of Vermont, coming of worthy New England stock. In her religious connection, she was a member of the Congregational Church, and was a lady of lovely disposition and noble character. The only survivors of the family of five children are the Doctor and Elizabeth. One brother, Dr. L. P., graduated from the Beloit (Wis.) College and the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, later entering the army as Surgeon, and serving in Gen. Schofield's Department for about three years. Afterward he became a prominent physician of Charles City, Iowa, where his death occurred, and where his widow still lives.

During the late war, our subject served as a member of the Fortieth Wisconsin Infantry, and bravely defended the Stars and Stripes. His marriage, which took place in Allegheny, Pa., in 1887, united him with Miss Catherine Kountz, who was there born. Her father, Commodore Kountz, was at one time the largest private owner of steam vessels in the United States, his steamers plying the waters of the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio Rivers, and doing a large business during war times. At present he lives retired, and is passing his declining days in comfort and afflu-

ence. One of the vessels which he owned was known as the "Crystal Palace," and was the finest passenger steamer which was ever on the Ohio River.

The education which Mrs. Fitch received in Pennsylvania was of a superior order, and she is a refined, accomplished lady, and especially talented as a musician. She and the Doctor are members of the Second Congregational Church and prominent in the best circles of the city. They are the parents of two children: William K. and Catharine.



SHERMAN COMINGS. Having retired from the active proprietorship of agricultural interests, the gentleman of whom we write makes his home in Rockford. He was born in the town of Berkshire, Franklin County, Vt., December 17, 1818, while his father, Samuel Comings, was a native of Windsor, N. H., and of Scotch ancestry. He was one of the first settlers in Berkshire, where he cleared a tract of college land, erected a log house and commenced the work of improving a farm. As there were no railroads or canals in the vicinity for many years after his settlement there, the father of our subject hauled the products of the farm to the nearest markets, returning with the necessary articles for the family. He improved a large portion of the land, erected thereon first-class buildings, and for a number of years made that place his home. Then disposing of this farm, Mr. Comings lived with a son-in-law until going to Wisconsin, where he spent his last years with his son Harvey. The mother of our subject was known in her maidenhood as Miss Martha Aikens, her birth occurring in Canada.

Sherman Comings of this sketch attended the district schools in his youth and on reaching his fifteenth year learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, which line he followed for six years, and then turned his attention to that of a millwright. He prosecuted that business in Vermont until 1848, and on emigrating to Wisconsin was accompanied by his wife, brother Harvey and family.

The family came with teams to Burlington, thence by way of Lake Champlain to the canal of that name and, going to Troy, came by way of the Erie Canal to Buffalo, where they took passage on the steamer "Empire State." At Conneaut the vessel foundered and the passengers were all transferred to the steamer "Michigan," which conveyed them to Milwaukee, where they were shipped on the steamer "Sheboygan." On landing, Mr. Comings and family hired a team to take them to Linden Township, sixteen miles distant, the latter part of the way following an Indian trail. There our subject purchased a claim to a tract of Government land, which was heavily timbered, and four acres of which were cleared; a log house constituted the only other improvement. He worked at his trade of a millwright, at the same time superintending the improvements of his farm, which he put under excellent cultivation. For some time, standing timber was of no value, and when it was found necessary to cut it, the logs were rolled together and burned. Mr. Comings did all his marketing and farm work by the aid of oxen, and remembers going ten miles away in order to buy iron to iron a cart, the woodwork of which vehicle he made from timber grown on his own land, and which he continued to use as long as he resided in Wisconsin.

In 1867, our subject sold his farm in the Badger State and came to Winnebago County, purchasing a farm three miles south of the city of Rockford, which is most beautifully located on the Rock River. Soon after settling here, he started a creamery, being one of the pioneers in that business, and shipping the products of his dairy to St. Louis. Mr. Comings resided on the above farm until 1891, when he moved into the city and is now enjoying the fruits of former years of industry and toil.

The lady who became the wife of our subject, December 31, 1810, bore the maiden name of Elmina E. Stone. Her birth occurred in Berkshire, Vt., and she is the daughter of James and Lucinda (Danforth) Stone. The two children born to them are Arthur F. and Everett S., the former of whom is a practicing physician in Rockford, and Everett S. is editor of a first-class paper de-

voted to poultry and gardening. Mr. and Mrs. Comings are members of the Second Congregational Society, and, in politics, our subject has voted the Republican ticket since the organization of the party.



HIRAM SNOW is the proprietor of extensive pickling works, located on the east bank of the Rock River, one mile east of the city limits of Rockford. He engaged in this business in 1881, and uses the products of from fifty to seventy-five acres each year. He is a native of the Green Mountain State, his birth occurring February 17, 1830. His father, Ira Snow, was also born there, whence he removed in 1834 to Ohio, via team to Troy, and then by way of the Erie Canal to Buffalo, where he embarked on a lake steamer to Huron, Ohio. There he rented an hotel and was employed as "mine host" until 1842, when he again started Westward, arriving in Chicago on the 3d of July.

While residing in the Garden City, the father of our subject kept the hotel known as the Franklin House, located on La Salle Street, between Lake and Water Streets. At that time Chicago contained but eight thousand inhabitants, and the surrounding country being sparsely settled, deer and wild animals roamed where the city now extends. Mr. Snow, after two years in the hotel business, was engaged in teaming between Chicago and Galena for a twelvemonth, at the end of which time he entered a tract of Government land in the town of Wheeler, twenty-two miles northwest of Chicago, and at once commenced the improvement of his farm, upon which he resided until his decease.

The mother of our subject prior to her marriage was Rebecca Daggett, also a native of Vermont. Her husband was in early days a Whig in politics, but later voted the Republican ticket. He was the first Highway Commissioner in the town of Wheeler and in 1856 was appointed Deputy Sheriff, which position he held for fourteen years.

Hiram Snow of this sketch was one in a family of five children, his brothers and sisters being Rebecca, William, Alonzo and Mary. He was a lad of twelve years when his parents removed to Chi-

cago and is one of the few early settlers of that city now living, and can relate many incidents of interest connected with the early history of Chicago and Cook County. Mr. Snow attended a school in that city taught by Judge Sturdevant, and after removing to Wheeler, assisted his father in cultivating the home farm, there residing until reaching his twenty-first year.

On commencing life for himself, he of whom we write worked out on farms for \$8 per month and continued to be thus engaged for five years, when he purchased the old home farm, upon which he lived until 1881. At that time coming to Rockford, Mr. Snow became the proprietor of the farm which is his present home, and soon afterward engaged in his present business. His farm is beautifully located and is cultivated in a most intelligent and profitable manner.

The lady to whom our subject was united in marriage, November 12, 1866, was Miss Naomi Perry, and to them eight children have been granted viz.: Anna, Clara J., Emily A., Maggie, Hiram P., Mabel N., June R., Junius Centennial. In his political belief, Mr. Snow casts his vote and influence with the Republican party, and, socially, is a member of Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M., and Winnebago Chapter No. 24, R. A. M.



GILES ELLIOTT, deceased. This name is known and honored throughout Winnebago County as one of the old pioneers, who had a hand in laying the solid foundation upon which has been erected the superstructure of its present wealth and prosperity, and although his earthly career has closed, his memory is still held in reverence in Pecatonica Township, where he located thirty-five years ago. His mantle has fallen upon worthy successors and it gives us pleasure to represent the family in this biographical volume.

The lady who became the wife of our subject was known in her maidenhood as Betsey Mitchell. She was born September 21, 1846, in Oneida County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Charles and Patience (Ufford) Mitchell, the former of whom was

a native of New York and of Irish descent, while the mother hailed from New England.

Our subject was a son of Charles and Lucy (Barber) Elliott, natives of Ohio, who departed this life in Mitchell, S. Dak., at the respective ages of seventy-nine and seventy-three years. He departed this life February 14, 1887, aged forty-eight years and four months and thirteen days. His marriage with Miss Mitchell occurred January 5, 1861, soon after which event they came to this county, and, as before stated, resided here for thirty-five years. Mr. Elliott had a well-cultivated farm, making a specialty of breeding thorough-bred cattle, of which he had some fine specimens.

To Mr. and Mrs. Elliott were born five children, as follows: Charles W., whose birth occurred June 26, 1865, resides with his mother; Ellen A., born May 4, 1867, married Patrick Reddy and lives in Ridott Township, Stephenson County; George H., who is also at home, was born September 27, 1868; Giles S., June 24, 1872; and William H., who was born July 28, 1875, is at present engaged with his brothers in carrying on the old home farm, which they do in an intelligent and profitable manner. They have all been given good educations in the Pecatonica schools and the youngest son will probably follow a professional life.

He of whom we write, socially, was a member of Eureka Camp No. 50, M. W. A., to which order his eldest son also belonged, the latter also being a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association.



PETER PARSON. In compiling an account of the different business enterprises of Rockford, we must not lose sight of the cabinet-maker's industry, carried on very successfully by Mr. Peter Parson. This gentleman is still another of those prominent Swedish settlers of Rockford, and is possessed of all those characteristics of thrift and enterprise which make the people of that nationality so prosperous and successful.

Born in Wester Gothland Province, June 18, 1844, Mr. Parson continued to make his home there until 1860, when, with his parents, he took passage to this country. After a tempestuous voy-

age of over nine weeks, they landed in New York City, but subsequently settled in Fredonia, of that State, for about eight years. In 1868, the entire family came to Winnebago County, Ill., locating in Pecatonica Township, and there the parents reside at the present time, both quite aged, the father, Andrew Parson, born in 1813, and the mother in 1809. Both are quite active despite their years, and the mother often walks two miles to the Lutheran Church, of which she and her husband are members.

Three of the eight children born to this worthy couple are now living: our subject; Mrs. Clara Anderson, a widow, residing on South Fourth Street of this city; and Mrs. Christina Lundberg, wife of P. J. Lundberg, a wealthy farmer now retired, and residing at Orleans, Neb.

Peter Parson learned his trade in Fredonia, N. Y., and on the 6th of June, 1869, he made his first appearance in Rockford. He immediately began working at the cabinet-maker's trade, and has since devoted the principal part of his time and attention to it. He is, in every sense of the word, a skillful and practical workman, and the beautiful furniture and ornaments at his home testify to his ability with the tools. He has a delightful residence at No. 610 North Third Street, and is surrounded with all the comforts and conveniences of life.

He is a stockholder and Director of the Central Furniture Company established in 1879, with a capital of \$125,000, and with a force of from one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and fifty employes, and since then Mr. Parson has given all his attention to the factory, in which he is a heavy stockholder. His investment has paid him well, and he has accumulated considerable property.

Our subject was married, in Rockford, to Miss Anna C. Oberg, a native of Sweden, born October 10, 1851, and they have one very bright little girl, Cora J. C., who is receiving a thorough education in the city schools. Mr. Parson and his wife are very popular people of the city, and both are members of the First Lutheran Church. He leans toward the Republican party in his political views.

Mrs. Parson's father, Olof Oberg, started with his wife and family for the United States in 1854,

and while on the ocean the mother died. She was buried in the Atlantic, and the bereaved husband and father with his five children, two sons and three daughters, after landing, came West and located on Government land in Martin County, Minn. He at one time owned an entire section of land, but the grasshoppers bothered him a great deal, and he has now been a resident of Rockford for some time. Although seventy years of age, he is still smart and active. Four of his five children are yet living in Martin County, Minn.



N E. BENOIT, a successful jewelry merchant of Rockford, located at No. 310 West State Street, has for almost a quarter of a century made his home in this city and during much of this time has been engaged in commercial pursuits. He carries a large and complete stock of goods in his line, having one of the best houses in the city, and in connection with his jewelry trade has for the past five years also sold organs and pianos.

Mr. Benoit is a native of the Province of Quebec, Canada. There the days of his childhood and youth were passed and in part he there learned his trade. His parents were Oliver and Mary (Mosier) Benoit, also natives of Canada, the lady of English descent. The Benois are of French descent and both families came to America about the time La Fayette crossed the water to aid the Colonies in their struggle for independence. The parents of our subject are still residing at the old home in Canada, the father at the age of eighty years, the mother now seventy-five years of age. The father has been a carriage manufacturer, and is well known in his locality.

Under the parental roof, our subject was reared to manhood and ere leaving home he had become familiar with the trade of carriage-making and undertaking in all the details of the business. In 1869, he came to Rockford, and soon afterward began business as a jeweler, which trade he has since followed. He was married, in Vermont, to Miss Julia P. Chaffie, who was born and reared in Berkshire, Franklin County, that State, and is descended from an old New England family. She

died at their home in Rockford, January 20, 1871, at the age of thirty-two years, on the birth of their only child, who also died. For his second wife, Mr. Benoit chose Mrs. Martha A. (Hobart) Thayer, who was born in Havana, N. Y., and when a maiden of six summers came to Rockford with her parents, John and Maria Thayer, who for many years were residents of this city but now reside in Alexandria, S. Dak., where they have lived for the past eight years.

Mr. and Mrs. Benoit are both members of the Christian Union Church, take an active part in its work and also in public interests which are calculated to benefit the community or promote the general welfare. Mr. Benoit has led a busy and useful life, giving strict attention to his business interests, and his efforts have been blessed with prosperity. He now not only has a good business but he is also a stockholder in the Forest City Insurance Company. Although of foreign birth, Rockford has no better citizen or one more worthy the esteem in which he is held. In politics, he is a stalwart supporter of Republican principles. He belongs to the Blue Lodge, the Chapter and Commandery of Rockford, and is also a member of the Elks' lodge.



N ELS P. ROSANDER is one of the successful Swedish-American farmers of Rockford Township, Winnebago County. He resides on section 17, where he owns one hundred and twelve and a half acres of valuable land, all under a high state of cultivation. It has been his home since 1873, during which time he has transformed the land into rich and fertile fields and made many excellent improvements. There may be seen good buildings, a comfortable and commodious residence and all the accessories of a model farm. He also has the place well stocked, indeed, it is complete in all its appointments.

Mr. Rosander was born in Smoland, Sweden, March 21, 1835, and is a son of Swan C. Peterson, who lived and died on a farm in his native province, passing away at the age of eighty-one years. He was a jeweler and quite a prominent man in

public affairs. He was officially connected with the Lutheran Church for many years and was one of its most active workers. He married Susanna Casries, who yet survives him and is now about four-score years of age. She, also, has been a leading lady in her neighborhood and a faithful member of the Lutheran Church. A daughter of the family is still living in Sweden, Johanna, wife of Gust Johnson, a Swedish farmer; Caroline is now married and resides in Chicago; John lives in Rockford, as does also Johannes, and Charles is a resident of Oregon.

Under the parental roof our subject spent the days of his boyhood and after attaining to mature years he was united in marriage in his native province with Miss Anna Johnson, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, in June, 1835. Her parents lived and died on the old homestead in that land. They were farming people, members of the Lutheran Church, and were highly respected. Their family numbered two sons and two daughters but Mrs. Rosander is the only one living in this country. She has proved a true wife and faithful helpmate to her husband. Mr. Rosander was the first of his family to cross the Atlantic, the year of his emigration being 1869, and on the 15th of May he landed in Rockford.

Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rosander: Sophia, wife of Emil Nelson, a mail carrier of Rockford, died April 21, 1892; Tilda, wife of Walter Wilson, a mail carrier of Chicago; Lotta, wife of Albert Larson, a machinist in the Nelson Knitting Factory of Rockford; Charles A., who graduated from the Augustana College of Rock Island in 1891, and will complete a course of study in the Rock Island Seminary in 1893; Wendla A., wife of Reynold Winqvist, a clerk of Rockford; Nellie, who is now employed in that city; Ida, a resident of Rockford; Theodore W. and Esther V. live at home.

Mr. Rosander has been very successful since coming to this country and is now numbered among the substantial citizens of Rockford Township. In addition to his farm property, he is a stockholder in the Union Grocery Store of Rockford and the founder and President of the Rockford Planing Mill Company, which was incorpo-

ated with a capital stock of \$50,000. He is a public-spirited and progressive man and has done much for the interests and upbuilding of the county. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles, and himself and wife are members of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford, in the work of which they have taken an active interest. Mr. Rosander served as one of the building committee during the construction of that large house of worship. His life has been well and worthily spent, thus winning him the confidence and high regard of all.



LEVIN EKSELL. The Globe Clothing Manufacturing Company, No. 1105 Sixth Street, Rockford, standing prominently forth as one of the most notable business enterprises of the city, was established in May, 1890, with August Lundberg, President; Levin Eksell, Secretary, and August P. Floberg, Treasurer. They employ thirty men, their custom cutter being A. S. Charn, and their commercial cutter F. A. Nordell; they have five commercial men on the road and do a general pants manufacturing business for the trade chiefly. They have met with wonderful success in this enterprise. Mr. Eksell was one of the promoters of the business, has always been a stockholder and is now a Director. He came to Rockford in 1887 and since then has turned all his attention to this particular business, and has met with the success merited. He is a capable and trustworthy gentleman and universally popular in business and social circles.

Our subject was born in Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, born March 30, 1865, and received a good business education in his native land. From the age of ten until twenty-two, he was clerk and book-keeper for different enterprises, but when he reached the last-mentioned age he crossed the ocean to America, and made a permanent home in Rockford. He was for some time in the Nelson Knitting Factory, but subsequently became connected with the business in which he is now engaged.



Yours Truly
Anthony Haines

The second in order of birth of eight children born to his parents, our subject was the only one of the family to venture on American land. The father, A. G. Eksell, is a practical farmer of his native country, Sweden, and is still living, as is also his wife, whose maiden name was Caroline Lindquist. They were old friends and neighbors of the late John Nelson, the inventor, of Rockford. (See sketch.)

Levin Eksell was married in Rockford to Miss Hildegard Djulang, a native of Stockholm, Sweden, in which city she was reared and educated. In 1888, she emigrated to the United States, and left home and friends to form new ties in a strange country. Her father, Eric G. Djulang, died in Stockholm in 1872, when about middle age. His wife and one daughter came to America in June, 1892, and are residing in Rockford. Mrs. Eksell came direct to Rockford on coming to the United States, and was subsequently married to our subject. They have two nice children, Esther E. and Anna C. (twins). Mr. and Mrs. Eksell are worthy and consistent members of the Mission Lutheran church and Mr. Eksell is now church Secretary.



ANTHONY HAINES, Vice-President of the Manufacturers' Bank and an influential citizen of Rockford, was born in Marietta, Lancaster County, Pa., April 21, 1829. His father, Maj. Frederick Haines, was a native of Maytown, that county, his birth occurring February 9, 1799. A. M. Haines, of Galena, Ill., has published a history of the family and from it we find that the name was originally spelled in many different ways, viz: Eines, Eynes and Eynns. At a later date the "H" was prefixed and the name has been spelled Haynes, Heines and Haines. The Haines families had their origin in Shropshire, one of the Western counties of England, and in Montgomeryshire, Wales.

The grandfather of our subject, Anthony, was born January 25, 1762. His ancestors undoubtedly first settled in Virginia, as in the "State Land Patent Books" of Virginia are found many entries

of Anthony Haines as early as 1658. "Anthony" is a rare name in the Haines family, except in the Lancaster branch of the family, and in this Virginia family, where it has been preserved for more than one hundred years. The first settlement of the family was made in Chester County, Pa., whence they removed to Lampeter Township, Lancaster County, the same State. They owned the land which is now the site of Lampeter Square, and the village was first called Hainestown.

From there Grandfather Haines removed to Maytown, and purchased a large tract of land in the vicinity of that village and Marietta. He was married to Susanna Bauer, who was born in Maytown, April 9, 1765, and died about 1840. She was a sister of the grandmother of Bayard Taylor. They had a family of eight children, and spent their last days on the old homestead, where the grandfather died April 23, 1811. He was quite an extensive farmer for those days, and in physique was large and powerful, as were all the members of the family. His mother, Charlotte, was born in 1739, and died in 1793. His brother, Col. Henry, was a member of the Legislature in 1805, and built the present brick Reformed Presbyterian Church in Maytown. For many years the village of Maytown was famous for her militia, and the representatives of the Haines family were patriotic, and ready at all times to fight for their country.

Frederick Haines was reared in his native town, and when choosing an occupation for himself began farming and stock-raising on a tract of three hundred acres of land which he owned in and around Marietta. There he remained until his decease which occurred in May, 1846. The maiden name of his second wife, the mother of our subject, was Sarah Guy. She was born in Lancaster County and departed this life in Philadelphia, about 1866. The parents of our subject were both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Anthony Haines of this sketch received a good education in Marietta and continued to reside under the parental roof until after his father's death, when, in 1848, he emigrated to Ohio and clerked in a general store at Bucyrus. He later formed a partnership with Theron Cummings (now President of the Grand Detour Plow Company) and others.

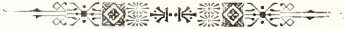
taking a contract to build a part of the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad in Ohio, and after completing the first contract, took another, engaging to build the road from Chicago to Valparaiso. Mr. Haines continued in that line of work until 1854 when he came to Rockford and here formed a partnership with E. A. Kirk, buying and shipping the first grain on the Kenosha Railroad. He continued actively engaged in that business until 1878, and in 1880, with other gentlemen, organized the Rockford Street Railroad Company and commenced the building of the present system of street railways in Rockford. He was elected President and General Manager of the company, which position he occupied for ten years. He is at the present time a Director of the company and Vice-President of the Manufacturers' National Bank, and, aside from the duties imposed by these positions, lives retired.

April 25, 1854, Mr. Anthony Haines and Miss Adeline Rowse were united in marriage. The lady was born in Bucyrus, Ohio, April 18, 1832, and was a daughter of Zalmon Rowse, a native of Massachusetts. Her father later removed to Crawford County, Ohio, where he purchased a tract of land, now included in the city of Bucyrus, and resided there until his decease. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Haines was Mehitabel Kent, a native of Massachusetts, who departed this life at Bucyrus. Mr. Rowse was a Whig in his political relations and filled the various official positions in Crawford County, where he was one of the influential and prominent citizens.

The three children comprising the family of Mr. and Mrs. Haines are named, respectively, Laura, Jessie and Frederick. Laura married Wilfred F. Rivers, a resident of Calgary, Northwest Territory, Canada, and they have two children: Edwin and Climenia. Frederick married Minnie Bushnell and they have one son, Anthony. They reside in a pleasant home at Rockford.

Mr. Haines has served as a member of the County Board of Supervisors, to which position he has been elected for eighteen terms. His wife is a member of the First Congregational Church, and interested in all religious enterprises. Socially, our subject is connected with Rockford Lodge No. 102, F. & A. M.

He has been instrumental in promoting the welfare of the citizens of Rockford, and, while a member of the Board of Aldermen, has aided the progress of the material interests of the city by the inauguration and vigorous support of important measures.

 **L**ARS M. NOLING, a real-estate dealer of Rockford, was born in Sweden, May 4, 1843, and spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native land. When twenty-one years of age he crossed the Atlantic, landing in New York on the 28th of June, 1864. He was the first of his family to come to this country, but later the father, mother, two brothers and three sisters sought homes in the New World. The father, John Noling, is still living at the age of eighty years. By trade, he is a carpenter and millwright and owned a mill in Sweden. In this country he followed that occupation throughout his active life. His wife, who was born March 18, 1816, died December 18, 1889. Like her husband, she was a life-long member of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

On landing in this country, our subject came at once to Rockford, and has since been one of its leading and influential Swedish citizens. He began by doing carpenter work for N. C. Thompson, and after two years entered the employ of his uncle, John Nelson, the great knitting machine inventor. He then went back to Mr. Thompson, in whose employ he remained for more than fifteen years, a fact which indicates his trustworthiness and faithful discharge of duty. Subsequently, he purchased eighty acres of land, all of which are now within the city limits, and has since been engaged in the real-estate business. The entire amount has been laid out in city lots, with the exception of thirty acres occupied by the Rockford Union Furniture Company. He has also erected many beautiful homes on the land he owns and has done much for the upbuilding of the city. He has been a leader among the Swedish people in this city and has been prominently connected with many enterprises in which his countrymen are interested. He is now President of the Me-

chanies' Furniture Company, which employs about one hundred men; President of the Forest City Bit and Tool Company, which was organized in 1889, and employs some twenty hands; President of the Union Grocery Company, and President and Director of the Rockford Manufacturing Company. He is President of the Rockford *Posten* Company, a Swedish newspaper; President of the Scandia Coal Company, and also the President of the Rockford Furniture and Undertaking Company; Vice-President and Director of the Royal Sewing Machine Company, and Vice-President of the Swedish Home and Building Association. In political affairs, he takes an active interest and is a stalwart supporter of the Republican party. He has been a member of the County Central Committee for some twelve years and does everything in his power to further and promote the Republican interests, but has never sought or desired preferment for himself, though his party has urged him to become a candidate for the legislature and the county conventions were instructed to that end.

In this city, Mr. Noling wedded Josephine Johnson, who was born in Skafte, Sweden, October 11, 1847, and is a daughter of Peter and Mary (Walgren) Johnson, natives of the same place. They were farming people in that locality, and in June, 1854, in a sailing-vessel crossed the Atlantic to Boston, landing on the 18th of September. They came at once to Rockford where the father is still living. He was born October 3, 1822. His wife, who was born September 15, 1822, died October 20, 1890. They were members of the First Lutheran Swedish Church of this city. Mrs. Nolan is the eldest of six children and the only one now living. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children, but the son, William A., died February 18, 1890, at the age of twenty-two. He was educated in the city schools, had graduated from the Rockford Business College, and was book-keeper in the Manufacturers' National Bank. He was a promising young man and had many friends in this city. Mary S., the daughter, is an accomplished young lady residing with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Noling and their daughter are members of the First Swedish Lutheran Church,

of which he has been a Trustee for twenty-four years, and chairman of the board for twenty years. What Mr. Noling has done for the city cannot be estimated in words. It will be seen that he is connected with many of the most important enterprises, and it is largely through his industry, good management and executive ability that these have been successful. Fair and upright in all his dealings, he has the confidence and respect of all who know him and is highly regarded. He came to this country a poor man but has worked his way upward to a position of wealth and affluence and his prosperity is truly deserved. Mr. Noling is erecting a handsome residence at the corner of Kishwaukee and Fourteenth Avenue, at a cost of \$8,000, which, when completed, will be the handsomest residence in East Rockford, it being all finished with hardwood—cherry, oak and sycamore.



ANDREW C. JOHNSON, who is Superintendent and a Director of the Forest City Furniture Company, is one of the prominent Swedish residents of Rockford, where he has made his home since 1855. He was born in the Province of Blaken, Sweden, August 16, 1836, and when about eighteen years of age came to America with the family, consisting of parents and five children. They sailed on a two-mast brig, and after a wearisome and perilous voyage of ten weeks, landed at New York, but one of the children, Chesty, had sickened and died during the passage and was buried in the waters of the Atlantic. The family came on by the Lakes to Chicago and a week after landing in this country arrived in Rockford, where another daughter, Enga, died in 1855. The father, Carl Johnson, died in 1861, at the age of fifty-four years. He was a well-educated man and came of a wealthy and respectable family of Sweden. His wife survived him for four years and passed away in 1865, at the age of fifty-four. Both were members of the Lutheran Church. Two brothers of our subject are yet living: John, a farmer of Kansas, and

Swan, a miner of Monmouth mines of Utah. One sister, Lissa, is the wife of Nels Pearson, an employe in the Forest City Furniture Factory of Rockford.

In his youth, Andrew Johnson of this sketch learned the cabinet-maker's trade and followed it in this city in the employ of others until 1865. In that year, in company with John Nelson and P. G. Hollom, he established a small furniture manufactory, and after three years became sole proprietor, running the business on his own account for eighteen years. He then formed a partnership with J. P. Anderson and together they continued operations until 1870, when their business was merged into the furniture business, with Mr. Johnson at the head. Mr. Johnson was at once made chief Superintendent, which position he still holds. He is also a Director and one of the chief stockholders. They employ from two hundred to three hundred men, and this industry is one of the leading enterprises of the city. The furniture interests have chiefly been developed by the Swedish people, not the least of whom is our subject. In fact, he has been connected with the business from its beginning in Rockford, all of the other factories having grown out of this or been established since it was started.

Mr. Johnson has been twice married. In this city he wedded Mary Hokinson, a native of Sweden, who came to the United States in 1854, and died twenty years later, leaving three children: Hilda S., who was married but is now deceased; Caroline, wife of Aug Sandeen, a clerk in the employ of Stewart & Co., and Theodore, a practical carver and designer, who is employed as foreman of the carving department of the Forest City Furniture Company. For his second wife, Mr. Johnson chose Miss Hilma A. Zeleem, who was born in Sweden and when a young lady came to this country. Three children grace the second union: Alma O., Caroline and Dwinnie E. Mr. Johnson and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church, of which he served as Deacon for three years and is now Trustee. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican and has served as Supervisor of the Sixth Ward.

Other business interests, in connection with the

Forest City Furniture Company, engross the attention of our subject. He is a stockholder in the Rockford Manufacturing Company and also in the Electric Manufacturing Company of this city. His business career has been a success and through his own efforts, good management and perseverance, he has worked his way upward to a position of affluence. He now has a valuable property and has built a pleasant home on the corner of Eighth Street and Ninth Avenue, where with his family he now resides.



ALBERT G. WALKER. We are pleased to present the sketch of this honored resident of Rockford to our readers—one who has aided greatly in its growth and development. He was born in Foster, Providence County, R. I., May 28, 1810, and is a son of Peleg Walker, also a native of that place, as was also his father, William Walker. The grandfather of our subject owned a farm in Foster and was engaged in its cultivation throughout life.

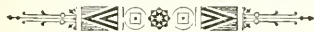
Peleg Walker was reared and married in his native town, which continued to be his place of residence until his decease in 1822. He was for a number of years a member of a company which manufactured cotton goods. He married Mary Potter, who was born in the same town as was her husband, and was the daughter of William and Mary (Arnold) Potter. Our subject began at the age of eighteen years to learn the trade of a millwright, which line of work he followed for two years, and then was employed in the capacity of a carpenter by one man for eleven years, in Brooklyn, Windham County, Conn. He later engaged as a contractor and builder there, where he was successfully employed until 1856, when he came West to visit this country, journeying through Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois, which trip occupied six weeks. After returning home, Mr. Walker received a letter from a friend who told him of a tract of two hundred and forty acres of land for sale in Scott Township, Ogle County, for a moderate sum. Our subject purchased the land, and made a location upon it in the fall of 1859. The land when it came into his



John W. Hall

possession was in its primitive condition, and he set industriously about clearing and improving it, erecting thereon a set of frame buildings, in which he made his home until 1877. At that time, he rented a farm and came to Rockford, where he purchased property and erected his present comfortable home.

Albert G. Walker and Miss Patience Remington were united in marriage in 1832. The lady was born in Pawtucket, R. I., and was the daughter of Peleg Remington. She departed this life on the farm in Ogle County, July 13, 1870, and our subject was again married, this time to Emily Bissel, the date thereof being 1872. Mrs. Walker was born in Andover, Mass., and died in Rockford in 1888. Our subject was again married, December 25, 1889, to Margaret L. (Ames) Rice; she was born in Ondaga County, N. Y., and was the daughter of John and Nancy (Wilbur) Ames, and the widow of Albert Rice. She died February 2, 1891. Mr. Walker became the father of the following children by his first union: Peleg R., who is the Superintendent of the City Schools; Martin, now deceased; John, who resides in Chicago, and Ann Eliza, who married Eugene Moore, and is now dead. Mr. Walker is a member of the Congregational Church, and in politics, is a Republican.



JOHN H. HALL. The original of this biography, and of the accompanying portrait, was born in Connecticut, in 1808, and died at his pleasant home in Rockford, in 1882, at the age of seventy-four years, respected by all who knew him. He was a prominent and leading citizen, and his death proved a loss to the entire community. His father, a Connecticut farmer, died when John was a boy. His mother was afterward again married, and in 1832 the family removed to Kingsville, Ashtabula County, Ohio, where the mother and stepfather spent the remainder of their lives.

John Hall there grew to manhood and was first married, his union being with Miss Dickinson, an estimable young lady of Ashtabula County. He then engaged in business as a merchant and hotel-keeper in Conneaut, Ohio, until about

1855, when, with his family, he came to Illinois, locating in Rockford. Here he engaged in the grocery business for some years, and after acquiring a competency thereby, retired from active business life. He took quite a prominent part in public affairs, served as Alderman of the First Ward for some time and while a member of the City Council was on the Building and Bridge Committee. He was also one of the School Board and had the management of the school property under his administration. Nearly all of the trees that now shade and adorn the public school properties were set out under his instruction.

Mrs. Hall died in Rockford, leaving one daughter, Mary A., now the wife of H. N. Baker, a prominent attorney and real-estate dealer of Rockford. Mr. Hall was again married, in Kingsville, Ohio, his second union being with Mrs. Mary E. Mills, *nee* King, who was born in Ellington, Conn., and when eight years of age went to Kingsville with her parents, Jeremiah and Esther (Ward) King, who located on a farm, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. King was called to his final rest at the age of ninety years, and his wife passed away in the eighty-fourth year of her age. Their daughter, Mary E., was reared on her father's farm and became a teacher in the public schools. Later she gave her hand in marriage to William Mills, a merchant of Geneva, Ohio, who died in that place in the prime of life.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hall have been born two children: Henry, who was educated in the city schools, was formerly engaged in business as a real-estate agent in the West, but was injured by being thrown from a cartage, after which he returned to Rockford and now makes his home with his mother. He wedded Hattie E. Crosby, of this county, who was reared in this city and educated in the Rockford High School, the Female Seminary of Rockford, and at Bradford, Mass. Helen, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hall, acquired her early education in Rockford, was afterward a student at Gambier, Ohio, in Harcourt Place, a female seminary, from which she graduated. She is now a teacher in the primary department of Montague.

Mrs. Hall and her children are members of the State Street Baptist Church. Mr. Hall belonged to the First Congregational Church and took an active interest in its work. In politics, he was a Republican. A man of unimpeachable character, his integrity was above question, and he had the confidence and respect of his fellow-townsmen to the fullest degree. His wife is an estimable lady and all who know her learn to love her.



WALTER VAN ALSTYNE a successful and competent contractor and builder, located at No. 512 Elm Street, with a fine and commodious residence near, has made his home in Rockford the principal part of the time since 1861. As to his skill and ability as a contractor and builder, perhaps no greater compliment could be paid him than to point out those monuments of his handiwork which now grace so many of the streets of this city. He has been a carpenter, mechanic and builder from early youth, and is, as all will acknowledge, an adept of high order. For a short time he was a resident of Lincoln, Neb., and many of the fine buildings of that city were erected by him.

Filled with a patriotic desire to aid his country's cause, he enlisted in the Union army in the fall of 1862, as a private in Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, under Col. Marsh and Capt. Douglas. The regiment was in the Army of the Tennessee, and fought at the battles of Perryville and Stone River. Mr. Van Alstyne fought bravely in defense of the Union, was ever at his post, and escaped without injury. He was honorably discharged on account of disability, and at the end of one year of recuperation, he joined the Government Construction Corps, with which he remained in Virginia for some time, or until the war closed.

Mr. Van Alstyne claims Massachusetts as his native State, and was born at Walford, Berkshire County, in 1845. He remained there until about nineteen years of age, when he came to Rockford, having learned the carpenter's trade before he left

Massachusetts. His father, Lawrence Van Alstyne, was a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., and came of sturdy Dutch ancestry, his forefathers being pioneers of the Mohawk Valley, N. Y., where the family was well known and very prominent, they having lived through the Indian troubles of that day. Lawrence Van Alstyne learned the mechanic's trade and builder while growing up, and followed this for a number of years in his native county. He selected his wife from Dutchess County, a Miss Eliza Crandall, who was born and reared in the same county, and who was a descendant of one of the old pioneer families of Dutchess County. Not many years after their marriage, Mr. Van Alstyne and wife moved to Berkshire County, Mass., and there the former breathed his last in 1864, when about sixty years of age. He had been a skillful mechanic, a quiet, worthy citizen, and one who was universally respected. His wife, who is yet living and who has remained faithful to his memory, is now living with a daughter, Mrs. Julius Corbett, of Canaan, Conn. She is now about eighty years of age and is prominently identified with the Methodist Church.

Our subject is the second son and child of eight children born to his parents, seven of whom are yet living and married. One resides in the Lone Star State and five make their home in the East. Walter Van Alstyne, of this sketch, was married in Rockford to Miss Mary Blanchard, who was born in Illinois, in the county of Joe Daviess, and who was reared and educated in Winnebago County. She is a lady possessed of many brilliant attainments and was a teacher for a number of years before marriage. Their union has been blessed by the birth of two children, both sons: Walter V., was educated in the High School and is bookkeeper in the Rockford City Railroad office, and Ray B., also educated in the High School.

Mrs. Van Alstyne's father, Rev. Richard Blanchard, was a native of New York, and a man of education. In early life he became a clergyman in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and emigrated to Illinois when that State was sparsely settled. He was a pioneer preacher and one of the early circuit riders, and followed his ministerial duties until his death, which occurred while he was in Belvidere, Boone

County, although he was residing and preaching at St. Charles, Ill. He died very suddenly of paralysis of the heart. He was a man possessed of many virtues of mind and heart and had a host of acquaintances and friends in North Illinois, where his life work was performed. His wife, who is still living, finds a pleasant home with her daughter, Mrs. Van Alstyne, and is a well-informed lady, being an extensive reader. She is now about sixty-five years of age. Her maiden name was Mary E. Brooks. She has ever been a devoted Christian woman and is possessed of many virtues.

The original of this notice and his worthy wife are members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church and are well respected in the community. Mr. Van Alstyne is a Republican in his political principles, and is a member of the G. W. L. Nevins Post, G. A. R., No. 1, and is ex-Senior Vice-Commander. He is also a member of the Masonic order, Blue Lodge, Star in the East No. 166, and is High Priest of Winnebago Chapter No. 24, in which he has filled all the chairs. He is Past Eminent Commander of Crusader Commandery No. 17, and is a member of the Woodmen and Workmen Insurance orders.



GEORGE LEAMAN is classed among the leading agriculturists of Flora Township, Boone County, where he has a finely-improved farm. He was born in Licking County, Ohio, July 5, 1820, and is the son of Daniel Leaman who had his birth in Philadelphia, Pa., where also his father, Jacob Leaman, was born, and, as far as is known, spent his entire life.

The father of our subject learned the trade of a carpenter in the Quaker City and a few years after his marriage removed to Licking County, where he purchased a small farm seventeen miles from Newark. There he was engaged in carrying on his farm and prosecuting his trade until his decease. The lady to whom he was married was Miss Mary Waggoner, also a native of Philadelphia, Pa., and the daughter of John and Polly Waggoner; she departed this life in Licking County.

George Leaman of this sketch was reared and

educated in his native county, and when twenty-three years of age came to this county, starting hither on the 4th of September, 1843, in company with Benjamin Marble, who furnished the buggy while our subject supplied the horse. After driving a distance of fifty miles from home, they sent the horse back and started on foot with all their possessions in a satchel. They walked twenty miles to Lake Huron, where they embarked on a steamer which conveyed them to Canada. They then went by way of railroad to Windsor, from there to Detroit, then across the State of Michigan to St. Joseph by means of the railroad, and thence by steamer to Chicago. At that time the Garden City was little more than a village and as there were no railroads in the locality, the gentlemen hired a team to take them to Ottawa, Ill. The horses being mired before they got out of the city, they at once abandoned the teams and walked to that place, where they remained for four weeks. At the end of that time, Mr. Leaman and his companion came to Boone County, this time on horseback, Mr. Marble having borrowed an animal which one would ride two miles and then walk that distance while the other rode. In that manner they made the journey in one day to this county.

At the time Mr. Leaman came hither, the country was sparsely settled and the greater portion of the land was still owned by the Government. He had often heard of Hicks' Mills, which he supposed to be a village, but on going hither found it contained a sawmill and two log houses. Our subject and his friend Mr. Marble on arriving there were very hungry after their long journey from Ottawa and asked for something to eat at one of the houses. A lady took some cornmeal and mixed it with water which was placed on a board before the open fire to bake. That with some fried pork constituted their supper.

Our subject spent the first winter in Boone County with a brother and the following spring commenced to work in a gristmill on the Kishwaukee River. About a year later, he bought eighty acres of Government land, on section 29, Flora Township, which he located upon and operated. He also worked at his trade as a millwright

for two years, as he found farming very slow work there being no railroads for many years, so that the people were compelled to haul their grain to Chicago to market. Mr. Leaman later worked at the carpenter's trade, still residing on the farm, a part of which is still owned. In 1883, he rented his estate and purchased his present home on section 21.

January 1, 1811, our subject and Deborah Bennett, who was born in Genesee County, N. Y., were united in marriage. Mrs. Leaman was the daughter of Alva and Lottie Bennett and died June 5, 1888. Mrs. Lucy M. (Hungerford) Rossiter, the lady to whom our subject was united in marriage, December 30, 1891, was born in Carpenter, Chenango County, N. Y., March 15, 1835. Her father, Dele Hungerford, was a native of the Empire State and was the son of James and Rachel Hungerford, natives of Massachusetts. Her father in 1811 emigrated to the Territory of Wisconsin where he purchased a tract of land in Rock County. He improved a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, upon which he resided until 1882, when he went to Minnesota and there departed this life in April, 1884; his wife died in December of that year. Mrs. Leaman was first married in Wisconsin to Edward S. Rossiter, a native of England, who was brought by his parents to America when two years of age. He was a stone and brick mason by trade and died in 1880. By her union with Mr. Rossiter one daughter was born, Georgia L. The first marriage of our subject resulted in the birth of the following-named seven children: Chas. W., Charlotte, Silas, Francis, Mary, William and Fred.



THOMAS J. DERWENT. As an evidence of the immense strides of the manufacturing and commercial interests of the city of Rockford in the last decade or two, no better instance can be produced than the vast progress made by the T. J. Derwent Manufacturing Company, of which Mr. Derwent is President. This company produces sash, doors, blinds, etc., and all kinds of house-finishing supplies, and is run by

water power. Twenty-five men are employed all the time and this is one of the leading industries of the kind in Rockford. The business was established by Mr. Derwent in 1866, and was carried on in his name until January 1, 1890, when it was incorporated and he was made President. His father, Thomas Derwent, was Vice-President until his death on the 9th of October, 1891, and a brother of our subject, Luther, is now Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. Derwent was one of the promoters and is ex-President and Director of the Skandia Furniture Company, and a prominent stockholder in the same. He is also Alderman of the Third Ward, and is now filling his seventh consecutive term. He is one of the city's most progressive and public-spirited citizens, and one of its oldest settlers, having located here as early as 1859, and has been a resident of the county since 1842.

His birth occurred in Rochester, Yates County, N. Y., on the 11th of September, 1811, and he is of English descent, his father, Thomas Derwent, having been a native of Derbyshire, England, born April 8, 1809. The latter grew to manhood in Sheffield and Manchester, was married in the Old Country, and later, with his wife, father, mother and other members of the family, came to the United States, sailing from Liverpool and landing in New York City in 1840. There they remained about a year, and then, in 1842, came Westward to Illinois, settling on a new farm in Pecatonica Township, where they soon had a comfortable home. Later, Thomas Derwent established a saw and grist mill in Durand Township and there remained until 1859, when he moved his business to Rockford, continuing the same until 1881, when he sold out. He was a well-known and prominent man of the city and was at one time Supervisor of the Third Ward. In politics, he was an active Republican, and, in religion, he was a worthy member of the Second Congregational Church. His parents both died in this county when full of years. Their names were Thomas and Hannah (Bradwell) Derwent, respectively, and they were classed among the best citizens of the county.

The wife of Thomas Derwent (father of our subject) was formerly Miss Betsy Garside, and she



RUFUS INGALLS.



U. B. INGALLS

now resides at the old home place, No. 310 South Church Street, Rockford. She was born in England and married there, and soon after emigrated with her husband to America. She is now eighty-two years of age. She was reared an Episcopalian.

Thomas J. Derwent was married in Rockford to Miss Emma Walling, a native of the Empire State, but who came to Rockford with her parents, Derwitt C. and Harriet A. (Boyce) Walling, when quite young. Her father was a builder and architect by trade and was an industrious, upright citizen. Both parents are now deceased, their deaths occurring in this county, and both held membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Derwent became the parents of one child, Albert, a bright, promising young man, who died when nineteen years of age. Both are worthy members of the Christian Union Church. Socially, Mr. Derwent is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, A. F. & A. M., of Rockford, and is also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In politics, he is a Democrat.



ORRIN B. INGALLS, deceased, came to Boone County in 1851. He was a gentleman whose life demonstrated the fact that perseverance and zeal will prevail to conquer circumstances and gain a competence for him who exercises those qualities. He owned an excellent farm in Belvidere Township, which his son managed, and made his home in the village until April 10, 1889, the date of his decease.

The lady whom Mr. Ingalls married, December 25, 1845, was Miss Nancy H. Smith, who was born December 14, 1816, in Denmark, Oxford County, Me. Her father, John P. Smith, was a native of Exeter, N. H., where, it is supposed, his father, Rev. Joseph Smith, was born. He was a preacher in the Baptist Church and held a charge in Cornish, Me., where his decease occurred at the age of forty-five years.

The father of Mrs. Ingalls was a young man when his parents removed to the Pine Tree State, where he was given a good education and for a time was engaged in teaching school. Later he

began farming and soon after his marriage engaged in the lumber business, in which he was more than ordinarily successful. From Cornish he removed to Denmark, where he was residing at the time of his death, in January, 1811. The maiden name of his wife was Nancy Hayes. She had her birth in Dover, N. H., and departed this life at Belvidere in 1865. John P. Smith was reared in a Baptist Church but later joined the Congregationalists and was an influential member of that body until his decease. The family, in which Mrs. Ingalls was the fourth in order of birth, bore the respective names of Oliver M. P., Joseph, Elizabeth, Charlotte and Clarissa. She was given a good education in her native town and later attended the academy at Freyburg and also at North Bridgton, Me.

Our subject was born in Denmark, Me., November 26, 1810. He was one of the prominent merchants in his native place and resided there until 1851 at which time he came to Boone County. He and his wife became the parents of one son, Rufus, who was born June 11, 1817. He married Miss Emily Dunwell, and died April 7, 1889, leaving two children, Clara and Gertrude. Our subject was a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church in Belvidere, where he was held in high esteem by those to whom his character and attainments were known. Mrs. Ingalls is also identified with the Presbyterian Church and is a lady of kindly and hospitable nature.

Their many friends who hold their memory dear will be pleased to notice in this connection the lithographic portraits of Orrin B. Ingalls and his son Rufus.



ERIN ST. JOHN, who for eight years has engaged in carrying on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Eating House, and who is numbered among the early settlers of Rockford of 1853, is a native of Weedsport, N. Y., born in 1816. He comes of an old New England family that was founded in America long prior to the Revolutionary War. His father, John St. John, was a

native of Connecticut, but removed to Cayuga County, N. Y., where he died at the advanced age of nearly ninety years. As a farmer, he lived a quiet, unassuming life and was respected by all who knew him. In politics, he was a Whig and anti-Mason, and in religious belief was a Baptist. His wife, whose maiden name was Emmarilla Bristol, was also a consistent member of the Baptist Church, and her earnest Christian life won her the love of all.

No event of special importance occurred during the boyhood of our subject. After attaining to mature years in the county of his nativity, he led to the marriage altar Miss Eliza M. Baylis, who was there born and reared, and is a sister of Mrs. R. C. Jilson, whose sketch appears on another page of this work. Their union has been blessed with two children, who are yet living. Four others are deceased, three having died at about the same time of scarlet fever. Marshall B. is now a member of the firm known as the Rhodes-L'iter Manufacturing Company, of which he is Secretary. He was also private secretary to the late Levi Rhodes, of whose estate he is now administrator. He wedded Ella Day, of this city, and they have a pleasant home on North Court Street. Addie L., the only living daughter of Mr. and Mrs. St. John, is one of the finest vocalists in Rockford. She is now a member of the choir in the Second Congregational Church. For nine years she was a successful teacher in the Rockford Female Seminary. She received the best vocal instructions to be obtained in this State, and has just recently completed her musical education in a large conservatory of music in London, under the instruction of Prof. Shakespeare.

Mr. St. John first came to Rockford in 1853, and began business as a member of the grocery firm of St. John & Jilson. After some years the partnership was dissolved, and he began business on his own account. As before stated, he has run the eating house for the past eight years, and has met with most excellent success, his establishment being well worthy of the liberal patronage which it receives. Mr. St. John is recognized as one of the leading and valued citizens of the community, as well as one of the early settlers. He now resides

at his pleasant home on Horseman Street, where he has a double house, part of which is rented. In politics, he supports the Republican party. His wife is a member of the Baptist Church, and both have many friends throughout the community and rank high in social circles.



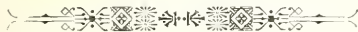
MATTHEW BLAIR, who is engaged in the operation of his eighty-acre farm on section 34, Cherry Valley Township, was born in Scotland in 1828, and is a son of John and Jennie (Barr) Blair, both of whom were natives of Argyshire, Scotland. They came to America in 1852. Two years previous, at the age of twenty-two years, our subject had bade good-bye to home and friends, and with seven young neighbors of Campbelltown, took passage on the sailing-vessel, "Sarah." They called the boat "The Lazy Sarah," as the voyage lasted for eight long weeks. From New York he and his comrades went by boat to Albany, and by canal to Buffalo. On one of these trips they saw for the first time a field of corn, then in silk, and one of the young men, plucking some of it, rubbed it in his hands as he would wheat or barley, to see what kind of seed it grew. At Buffalo, Mr. Blair and others of the party, took a steamer to Sandusky, Ohio, and from there went to Cincinnati by the Little Miami Railroad, then the only railroad into that city. Our subject there tried to find work, but failing, he walked to a country village named Reading, and hired to Richard Jackson, a Scotch farmer, for \$10 per month. He worked for that gentleman for two years, and then spent about a year in the employ of Jerry Dunn, an extensive agriculturist.

In August, 1853, Mr. Blair was joined in wedlock with Miss Anna Clark, for whom he had sent to his own native heath. She is a daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Templeton) Clark, farming people of Argyshire. The young couple removed from Ohio to Boone County, Ky., where Mr. Blair took charge of the farm of Isaac Stroub. Two years later, in 1859, he removed with his wife and two children to Middletown, Ohio, where he worked in a paper mill. He learned the business,

and received \$13 per week, but in 1880 he gave up that position, and, with his family, came to Illinois, locating upon his present farm in Cherry Valley Township. It has now been his home for about twelve years. In connection with general farming he raises some fine Durham cattle, and keeps on hand eight cows for dairy purposes. The butter made finds a ready sale in the Rockford market on account of the excellent quality.

Mr. and Mrs. Blair have lost two daughters: Margaret, who was born September 3, 1851, and died at the age of seven weeks; and Margaret, the second of that name, who was born November 14, 1861, and died March 11, 1864. The living children of the family are: John C.; Flora J., wife of Thomas Skinner, of Harlem Township; Jennie; Samuel, a machinist of Ohio; William A., a railroad agent of Irene, and Matthew, at home.

The parents of this family are members of the Presbyterian Church, and are highly respected people. In politics, Mr. Blair is a Republican, having supported that party since he cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1861. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, and one who takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community.



J S. HOUGHTON, who is now practically living a retired life at his pleasant home at No. 601 Avon Street, is numbered among the honored pioneers of Winnebago County, where he located in 1841. He was born in Saratoga, N. Y., and is descended from good old Revolutionary stock. His grandfather, Nathaniel Houghton, was a Revolutionary soldier from Lowell, Mass., and his two brothers, Ephraim and Jonas, also aided the Colonies in their struggle for independence. The Houghton family came to this country from Lancaster, England, but they espoused the cause of their adopted land and proved themselves loyal American citizens.

The father of our subject, Tilley Houghton, was born in Massachusetts and removed to Saratoga County, N. Y., where he married Miss Lucy Mitchell, daughter of Thomas Mitchell, who served as a

Colonel in the British army during the Revolution, and with Burgoyne was captured at the battle of Saratoga. She was born near Woodstock, Windsor County, Vt., where her girlhood days were passed, after which she went to New York with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Houghton began their domestic life in Corinth Township, Saratoga County, where he owned and operated a good farm for many years. He died at the age of seventy-eight years. In politics, he was a Whig and was a man of sterling worth. After his death, Mrs. Houghton came West and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Dayton, in Rockford, at the age of sixty-nine years. In early life she was a Baptist, but afterward joined the Methodist Church. She lived a consistent Christian life and won the love of all who knew her.

As before stated, J. S. Houghton came to this county in 1841, and for a number of years gave his attention to farming and stock-raising. At one time, he was the most extensive farmer in the county, owning a farm of nine hundred acres. At length he abandoned that work and in 1866 removed to Rockford, where he has since resided. Here he has engaged in various kinds of speculation and in his undertaking has been very successful, accumulating thereby a handsome property which now numbers him among Rockford's wealthy citizens.

After coming to the West, Mr. Houghton was joined in wedlock to Miss Philomela Pettibone, a native of the Empire State, who came to Winnebago County when a young lady of twenty-one years. Her father, Doris Pettibone, was a native of New York. He had several brothers, all of whom were ministers and prominently connected with missionary work. Rev. F. I. Pettibone is now Chairman of the Board of Missionaries and Translators, with headquarters at Constantinople, and is well known in missionary circles throughout the world.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Houghton were born three children; Frances, who became the wife of John M. Cochran, died in Colorado, leaving one son, John, who resides with his father, a cattle-dealer and rancher of that State. The two living daughters,

Florence and Kittie M., reside with their father. The mother of this family died November 17, 1884, at the age of fifty-four years. She proved a true and faithful helpmate to her husband and was also a consistent member of the Congregational Church. Her loss was mourned by many friends, as well as by her immediate family.

In politics, Mr. Houghton is a stalwart Republican. His success in business has been most marked, winning him a handsome property, and at the same time he has gained the confidence and good-will of all by his fair dealing and upright life.



FRANK H. KIMBALL, M. D. The medical profession is ably represented in the city of Rockford by the gentleman whose name introduces this biographical notice and who has already a good reputation as a successful physician and skilled surgeon. At once after graduating from Chicago Medical College, he located in this city, and during twelve years he has devoted himself to his profession. Before entering upon the study of medicine, he received a liberal literary education. Those who are acquainted with him will bear witness to his being an honorable, conscientious physician, who, by hard study and indomitable energy, has become thoroughly conversant with the details of his profession.

For the history of the father of our subject, Henry P. Kimball, the reader is referred to his sketch, which appears elsewhere in this volume. He was a prominent and highly-esteemed citizen of Rockford, and his death, which occurred at the asylum in Elgin, whither he had gone for treatment for chronic abscess of the brain, at the age of fifty-nine years, was sincerely mourned by his companions of many years. He was liberal in his religious views, upright in his life, and inherited the thrift of a long line of New England ancestors.

A life-long citizen of Rockford, Dr. Frank H. Kimball was here born, July 13, 1855. His boyhood days were passed in the public schools of the city and in the High School, after which he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and

graduated from that institution in 1877. He at once commenced the study of medicine, entering the Chicago Medical College, from which he graduated in 1880. He is one of the promoters and managers of Rockford City Hospital and takes an active interest in the welfare of the city.

The marriage of Dr. Kimball to Miss Henrietta T. Kirk took place in Rockford, in January, 1881. The lady who on that day became the wife of our subject was born in Rockford, here acquired a good education in the city schools and is now numbered among the accomplished and cultured ladies of the place. Her father, E. A. Kirk, was born in Maryland, but removed West when a young man, late in the '30s, and improved a farm in Winnebago County. He was at one time a successful grain buyer and has been associated with the growth of the city. He was here married to Miss Rachel Dennis, a native of Canada, who came to the States and settled in Illinois about the time of her husband's removal. They are the parents of three children, but Mrs. Kimball is the only survivor. Josephine married Samuel Kerr, an attorney in Chicago and an ex-Alderman of that city. They became the parents of three children, one of whom is deceased. Mrs. Kerr is also deceased.



CHARLES H. SPAFFORD, an old resident, is now living retired at his present home located at No. 206 Madison Street. He is an old settler of Winnebago County, having come here as early as 1839 and during most of that time has made the city of Rockford his home.

Previous to making a permanent settlement in this county, our subject had visited this locality, and was so favorably impressed with the outlook that he decided to make this place his home. He was accompanied hither by a friend, Volney A. Marsh, they making the trip via the canals and lake to Chicago. Here they secured a conveyance which took them to Joliet. They remained in that then village for a short time and then decided to take a direct route to Rockford. As before mentioned, deciding to make his future home in this county, Mr. Spafford returned home by the same

route which he had taken when journeying hither, and in 1840, in company with his brothers, John and Catlin, and his brother-in-law, Jasen Marsh, returned to Illinois, making the trip overland from Adams, N. Y., and after a long and tedious journey located in Rockford. They purchased land in what is now known as the Grove Farm, which was three miles south of Rockford on the Kishwaukee Road, and which is now owned by Ed. Morley. Our party of young men formed a sort of syndicate and commenced cultivating the land, in which they were very successful. A few years later, they moved into the city of Rockford, where our subject has since made his home and has aided greatly in the development and upbuilding of the city. He became interested in many valuable enterprises, being one of the promoters of the seminary of this place which was organized in 1848 and conducted according to plans drawn by Miss Anna P. Sill, of New York. Mr. Spafford was elected the first Secretary and Clerk of the Executive Committee of what afterward became the Rockford Female Seminary, and was one of the first Directors.

Mr. Spafford was appointed Postmaster under Tyler and Grant and has always been active in political affairs, for many years voting a straight Republican ticket. Now, however, he is in sympathy with the Free Trade party. He has held many prominent positions within the gift of his fellow-townsmen and was elected Circuit Clerk of the county, which position he held for three successive terms, aggregating ten years. He has always been a careful, conscientious business man and was one of the prime movers in getting the Kenosha Railroad, which was later purchased by the Northwestern Road, to run through this city. He served the company first as Director, then as Vice-President and later as Superintendent. He was public-spirited and gave liberally of his time and means in forwarding the best interests of his community. He erected the Commercial Block, and in company with others built the Metropolitan Block, in addition to which he was the owner of real-estate in the city and many farms throughout the county.

Charles H. Spafford was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., January 6, 1819, and was a son of Dr. John

Spafford, who was a prominent physician of good old New England stock. The latter-named gentleman was a young man when he began life as a physician and surgeon in Adams, N. Y., and there departed this life at the age of forty-four years. The maiden name of his wife was Lucy Moore, a native of Vermont and also of English descent. She survived her worthy husband six years, and died firm in the faith of the Congregational Church.

He of whom we write was the eldest son and second child of his parents' family of four children. The eldest of the family, Harriet, died while residing in Rockford, having been married to Col. Jasen Marsh, who was for many years a prominent attorney in Rockford, and who obtained his title through valiant service in the rebellion, being a Colonel of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. The brothers of our subject are John and A. Catlin, the latter the President of the Third National Bank, and the former President of the Rockford Wire Company, the Lubricating Oil Company, a lumber company and a suspender company.

Mr. Spafford received a collegiate education at Castleton, Vt., where he was prepared to follow the profession of a lawyer, but, deciding to come West, the current of his life was thus changed. He was married to Miss Abby Warren, a native of Maine and the daughter of Joseph Warren. Her father was a son of Dr. John Warren, who was Surgeon-General in Washington's army and a brother of Gen. Joseph Warren, of Revolutionary fame. Dr. John Warren was also a prominent physician and surgeon of Boston, Mass., where his decease occurred. His son, Joseph Warren, the father of Mrs. Spafford, received a fine education at Cambridge, Mass., and devoted the greater portion of his life to looking after the vast interests of his father, and died in the prime of life when his daughter Abby was but five years of age. Joseph Warren married Miss Abigail Whittier, a native of New Hampshire and a descendant of the same family as was John G. Whittier. She survived her husband and came to Rockford, where she departed this life in her eightieth year.

Mrs. Abby Spafford was given a good education and has aided her husband greatly in attaining

his present high standing in financial circles. She has one sister living, Miss Mary Warren, who is residing in Arizona. Mr. Spafford is a prominent member of the First Congregational Church, of which he is a charter member. His wife, however, is a Unitarian. Of the four children born to them, one, Mary, died at the age of nine years; Carrie is the wife of Frederick E. Brett, a salesman for Marshall Field & Co.'s Wholesale House, of Chicago; Charles H., Jr., a most promising young man, is still under the parental roof, and is engaged principally in looking after his father's large real-estate interests in Rockford, the latter having property in the First Ward, known as Spafford's Addition; Eugenia is Mrs. Charles H. Godfrey; her husband is a clothier of Rockford, in which business he has been very successful.



WILLIAM C. B. JAYNES, M. D. Although still quite young in his profession, and indeed in years, this gentleman is rapidly building up for himself a reputation as a skilled physician which gives promise of leading him to a front rank ere many years shall have passed over his head. He is a close student, and his quickness of apprehension, his mental culture and his honorable character, give him popularity in society and a reputable name among his fellow-men.

Dr. Jaynes has been a resident of Durand since June, 1888. He was born in Mobile, Ala., January 7, 1856, and is a son of Mortimer D. and Maria L. (Bartlett) Jaynes, natives of Vermont. His paternal grandfather, Daniel Jaynes, lived and died in St. Albans County, that State. The father of our subject came West when a young man, and was married in Beloit, Wis. He was also a physician, and was a graduate of the university at Burlington, Vt.

After his marriage, Mortimer D. Jaynes removed to Mobile, Ala., where he engaged in the insurance business, continuing to be so employed until the outbreak of the Civil War. He then sent his family North, intending to follow them as soon as he could settle up his business. He never came, and it is supposed he was killed. The mother of our

subject returned to Wisconsin and resided with her father, who was a farmer, and an early settler near Beloit. She makes her home at present on Locust Street in that city.

The early life of our subject was passed in Beloit, where he received an excellent schooling, and when fifteen years of age learned the trade of machinist, which he followed for seven years. He then entered the preparatory department of the college at Beloit, and followed the course of study in that institution for three years, with the exception of a short time each year when he worked at his trade in order to secure money to enable him to pursue his studies. Mr. Jaynes was graduated from the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College with the Class of '82, and immediately after receiving his degree located in Beloit and practiced medicine for four years. At the expiration of that time, he took a post-graduate course, and in the winter of 1886-87 devoted his entire time to the care of one patient at Eden Prairie, Minn.

In 1888, Dr. Jaynes located in Durand, where he represented the homeopathy school, being their only representative between Beloit and Freeport. Our subject was married, May 20, 1888, to Emma E., daughter of Henry P. and Paulena (Hawson) Johnson, natives of Denmark, where they were married, and in 1849 emigrated to the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson located in Wisconsin, where the former worked at his trade of a miller. He later moved to Sterling, this State, where he pursued his trade, and then making his home for a short time in Rockford, again returned to Beloit, which is his present place of residence. They are the parents of two children: Mrs. Jaynes, and Victor A., who was born in Sterling, this State, August 7, 1856, and follows the trade of his father at Beloit. Mrs. Jaynes was born also in Sterling, April 3, 1859. She is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church, and is a lady greatly respected in society.

Dr. Jaynes, in his political views, is an adherent of the Republican party, and in local affairs is a member of the Village Board. Socially, he is identified with Durand Lodge No. 302, A. F. & A. M.; Beloit Chapter No. 9, R. A. M.; Beloit Council No. 9, R. & A. M.; Beloit Commandery No. 6, K. T.;

Temple Lodge No. 42, A. O. U. W., and Beloit Camp No. 348, M. W. A. He is also a member of the Homeopathy Medical Society of Wisconsin, and devotes his entire time and attention to the practice of his profession.



JOHAN P. CURTIS, dealer in old iron, rags, &c., &c., is doing business at No. 214 North Madison Street, and he also has a large vinegar manufactory, on Kishwaukee Street, just outside the city limits. He owns valuable property on this street and a good, comfortable home. He gives his entire thought and attention to his business enterprises and is a man of character and energy.

Mr. Curtis claims New Hampshire as his native State, and was born in Winchester in 1835, being a descendant of New England stock. His father, Bradbery Curtis, died in his native county and State when fifty-two years of age, and was a farmer and lumberman by occupation. His wife, who recently died, lived in Sunderland, Vt., her maiden name being Harriet Coddington. Her father served in the War of the Revolution. She had been a worthy member of the Methodist Church all her life.

John P. Curtis, the eldest of nine children, seven of whom are living, is the only one of the family to locate in Illinois. He first left the parental roof to enter New York State and remained in Cambridge, Washington County, of that State, for eighteen years. In 1882, he came to Rockford, established his present business, and has succeeded beyond his most sanguine expectations, keeping as many as twelve or fourteen wagons on the road all the time.

He was married near Cambridge, N. Y., to Miss Julia A. Cook, who was born and reared in Washington County. The father, Isaac Cook, a farmer, passed his entire life in that county, but the mother, after his death, came West and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Curtis, in the spring of 1891, when nearly ninety years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis are well and favorably

known to the people of Rockford, and Mrs. Curtis is prominently identified with the Methodist church. In politics, Mr. Curtis is a Republican. Their children, five in number, are as follows: A. B., who is the cider maker for the manufactory, married Miss Lillie Clark and they reside with our subject; John F. is doing business for a Kentucky tobacco house as a commercial traveler; Ida married Deforest Sweet, a tinker dealer of Des Moines, Iowa; Rowne Belle is the wife of William Smith, a junk dealer of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, who, like the members of the Curtis family, is a very successful business man; and S. Dexter, who is at home and at present in business with his father.



RICHARD KIMMEY. As might naturally be expected, mention is made in the present work of many citizens of Boone County now prominent in their different callings, but none more so than the unusually successful agriculturist, Mr. Richard Kimmey, who, although young in years, is old in experience and possesses more good, sound judgment on matters pertaining to the farm than many men much older.

His parents, Jacob F. and Catherine (Mead) Kimmey, were both natives of New York State and resided there many years. In 1857, they decided to move to the Sucker State, and after journeying thither, purchased ninety acres in Boone County, to which they added at one time forty acres and at another one hundred and sixty-five acres. They were industrious, upright citizens and succeeded in accumulating many of the comforts and conveniences of life. Both received their final summons in this State, the father dying at the age of eighty years and the mother at the age of sixty-two years. The father had always cultivated the soil, but at the same time was engaged in other occupations. For a number of years, he ran a barge on the Hudson River. In politics, he was a staunch Democrat.

The subject of this brief notice was born in the Empire State in Albany County, on the 7th of May, 1853. He was but four years of age when his parents emigrated to Illinois, and in this

State he was reared and received his education. Like his father, he early evinced a liking for agricultural pursuits and became familiar with the duties on the farm when but a small boy. After reaching a suitable age, he branched out for himself and bought seventy-two and one-half acres of his father previous to the latter's death. He erected a fine residence on his well-kept farm about 1888, and now ranks among the most thrifty and progressive young farmers of Boone County. In the parlance of the present day, he might appropriately be called a "hustler" and one who is bound to become better known as the years pass by. Politically, he is independent, casting his vote for the man whom he thinks best fitted for the office in question, rather than one who promises to be a party tool.

The marriage of the gentleman of whom we write was celebrated on the 22d of August, 1877, his bride being Miss Laura E. Mayburry, a daughter of Jonathan and Desdemona Mayburry, who now reside in this county, where they have made their home for the past thirty-eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Kimmey are the happy parents of five children: Mabel, born June 17, 1878, is attending school at Belvidere; Lloyd R., born May 6, 1880; Maud, October 22, 1882; Bernice, April 22, 1886; and Bessie, May 25, 1888.



LUTHER H. FASSETT, a well-known agriculturist of Winnebago County, residing on sections 28 and 29, Roscoe Township, has in many ways been identified with the history of this community and we feel assured his sketch will prove of interest to many of our readers. He was born in Cambridge, Rutland County, Vt., December 17, 1814. His grandfather, Dr. Nathan Fassett, was a lifelong practitioner of that State. His father, Nathan Fassett, Jr., a farmer of Rutland County, was born February 16, 1778, and in 1833 removed to Genesee County, N. Y., with teams. He afterwards sold out and purchased one hundred acres of land in the Empire State, where he made his home until 1854.

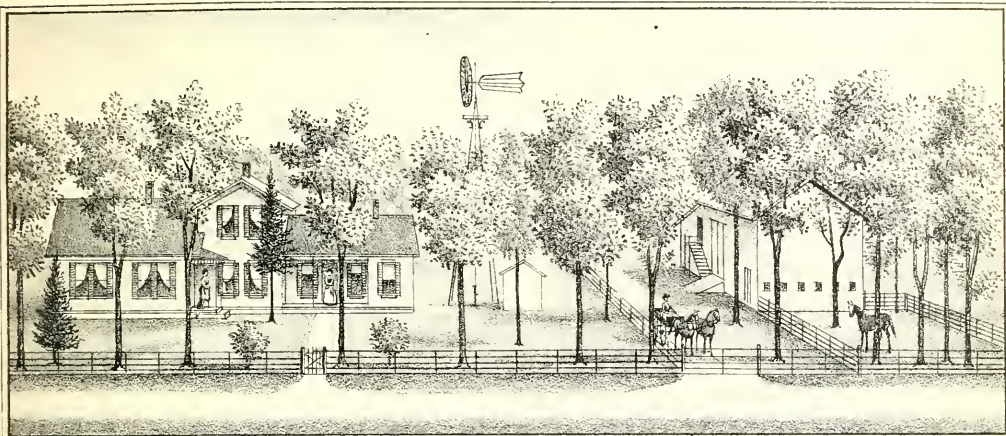
Through the misrepresentation of a party, Mr.

Fassett lost all that he had paid on his land but with the aid of his faithful wife, managed to rear his children and give them good school privileges. His wife died in Albion, N. Y., March 1, 1853, at the age of sixty-four, leaving three sons and two daughters: Luther H., born December 17, 1814; Azubah Matilda, September 11, 1816; Benjamin W., March 19, 1818; George M., August 27, 1820; and Mary Amelia, December 2, 1822. Our subject and Benjamin W., of Brighton, N. Y., are the only survivors. The latter has been a public official, Overseer of Public Construction, commanding large pay, and is a man of high standing, even among his political opponents.

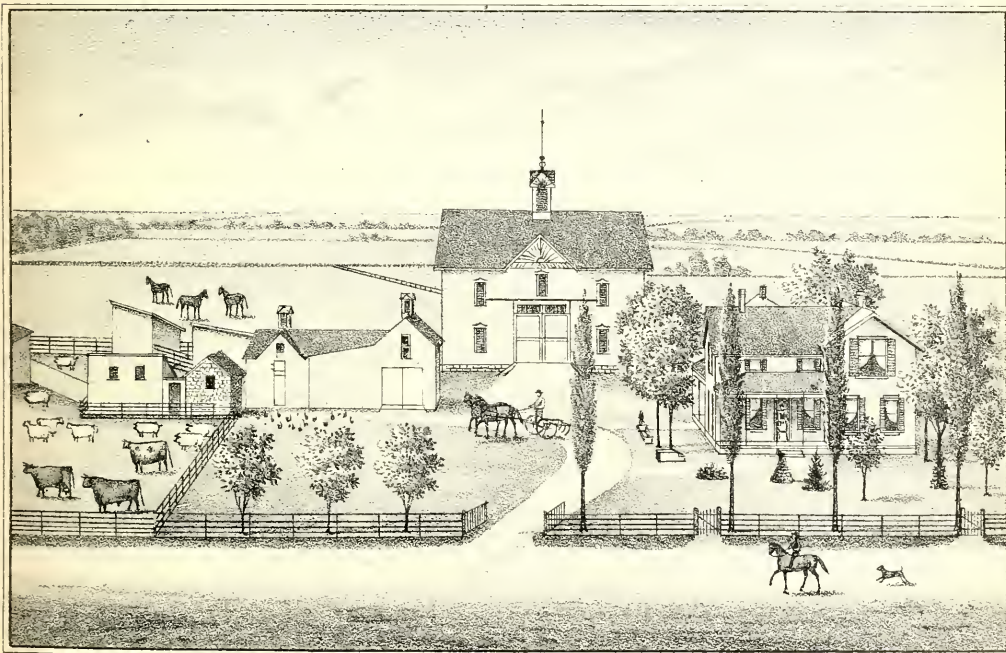
Our subject began life for himself at the age of twenty-two, working as a farm hand by the month for six years, when he rented land. At the age of twenty-nine, he married Amanda Bates, of Barry, Orleans County, N. Y., daughter of Jesse and Anna (Miller) Bates. They were natives of Massachusetts and pioneers of New York, who made their way through the wilderness by blazing trees. The father died in 1869, at the age of sixty-three years, and his wife died in 1856, at the age of fifty-four years.

In the autumn of 1853, Mr. Fassett emigrated to this county and purchased forty acres of land. The next spring he brought his wife, his daughter and his aged father to his new home. The latter died in September, 1854, and was interred in Roscoe Cemetery. He lived a noble life and was a consistent Christian. The wife of our subject was called to her final rest August 22, 1888, at the age of sixty-six years, leaving two daughters: Emma M., wife of T. B. Moore, by whom she has one son, Frank Fassett, a bright boy of eleven years. Mary A. is the younger daughter.

Mr. Fassett attended the first county fair held in Rockford, in September, 1854, and heard the opening address delivered by ex-Governor Bebb from the steps of the old court house. He was one of the Directors of the Fair Association. In politics, he has been a lifelong Democrat, a staunch supporter of the party principles and has been a faithful member of the Universalist Church for many years. Mr. Fassett has a wide acquaintance throughout this community and is held in



RESIDENCE OF NOLT ON BARBER, SEC. 9, ROCKFORD TP, WINNEBAGO CO, ILL.



RESIDENCE OF L. H. FASSETT, SEC'S. 28 & 29, ROSCOE TP, WINNEBAGO CO, ILL.

high regard by all who know him. He started out in life empty-handed and by his own efforts has worked his way upward until he is now numbered among the substantial citizens of this community.

In connection with his biographical notice is presented a view of Mr. Fassett's highly-cultivated farm.



NOLTON BARBER, who follows general farming on section 9, Rockford Township, Winnebago County, claims New York as the State of his nativity. He was born in Fenner, Madison County, April 29, 1826, and is a son of Eli Barber, who was born in the same town. The grandfather, John Barber, was a native of Worcester County, Mass. At an early age he was left an orphan, and thus thrown upon his own resources, had to earn his own livelihood. About 1791, he accompanied a neighboring family to New York, and resided in Oneida County until 1799, when he went to Madison County, and in March of that year married Lovina Thompson, also a native of Worcester County, Mass. Her parents settled in Madison County, N. Y., when she was a child. Mr. Barber bought a tract of timber land in the town of Fenner, and in the midst of the timber built a log cabin and began the development of the farm, upon which he made his home until his death, November 30, 1869. In 1801, he and his wife united with the Baptist Church of Fenner, being among its first members.

The father of our subject was reared in his native county, in the midst of the wild scenes of frontier life. He bought a tract of timber land three miles from the old home, and there built the log house in which Nolton was born. He began the arduous labor of clearing a farm, but his health failed and he died in 1832, at about the age of thirty years. His wife, whose maiden name was Olive Nourse, was born in Madison County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Joel and Mehitable (Woodbury) Nourse, natives of Massachusetts, and pioneers of Madison County, N. Y. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Barber came to Illinois in 1865, and died at the home of our subject in 1888, at the age of eighty-five years and five months.

Nolton Barber was only six years old when his father died, and at the age of nine he was bound out to a farmer, Daniel M. Gillett, with whom he lived until he was fourteen years of age, when he spent eleven months with his paternal grandfather. He then returned to Mr. Gillett, working for him as a farm hand until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life with a capital of \$108. After working by the month for some time longer, he purchased thirty-five acres of land in Fenner Township, where he made his home until 1855, when he traded his farm for a lease of a tavern in Perryville. He then engaged in keeping hotel until the fall of the same year, when he sold out and emigrated to Winnebago County, Ill. In this county he rented land for eight years and then purchased forty acres of his present farm, to which he has since added until now one hundred and five acres pay tribute to his care and cultivation.

On the 15th of March, 1849, Mr. Barber was united in marriage to Miss Emily Marshall, who was born in the town of Fenner, Madison County, N. Y., September 10, 1821. Her father, Thomas Marshall, was born near Albany, N. Y., and was a son of Caleb Marshall, who removed from Albany to Madison County, settling on a farm in the town of Sullivan, where he made his home until his death. He married Alcha Pinkney, a native of the Empire State, who also died in the town of Sullivan. Thomas Marshall was a mere lad when his parents removed to Madison County. After he had attained to man's estate, he bought a tract of timber land and built the house in which Mrs. Barber was born. He cleared quite a large tract, put up buildings and made a good farm, but after some time sold and purchased another farm in the same county, on which he lived until called to his final rest, on the 21th of May, 1863. He wedded Phoebe Keeler, who was born in Sullivan Township, Madison County, and was a daughter of Nathaniel and Jemima (Barnum) Keeler. Her death occurred November 20, 1878, on the old home farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Barber have a family of three children. The eldest, Myron A., was born April 2, 1850, and on the 23d of November, 1882, married Anna Sloan, by whom he has five children: Willie

N., John M., Emily P., Myron H., and May L.; Louisa M., born June 14, 1853, became the wife of Jerome A. Hudler, December 1, 1889. Ada L., born July 21, 1858, became the wife of Albert M. Truesdell, April 9, 1891. They have an infant daughter, born June 2, 1892, and as yet unnamed.

Mr. and Mrs. Barber both hold membership with the Methodist Church and are prominent and highly respected people of this community. In politics, he is a Republican and is recognized as one of the leading and enterprising farmers of Rockford Township.

A view of the fine farm belonging to Mr. Barber is presented on another page.



MRS. SUSAN (HORTON) BLAKE, who is the owner of a splendid estate located in Flora Township, Boone County, was born in Cornwall, England, May 9, 1827. Her father, William Horton, who was the son of William and Betsey (Lob) Horton, was also a native of that shire in England, where he was a farmer and spent his entire life. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Blake was Nancy Lob, also a native of Cornwall, where she spent her entire life.

Mrs. Blake was the only member of her father's family to come to America. She was reared in her native shire, and resided there until 1856, when, in company with her husband and one child, she emigrated to America, setting sail from Paxton on the vessel "Capt. Mably." The party disembarked at Quebec, Canada, after a voyage of six weeks and five days. One week after landing in the New World, they came to Rockford, Winnebago County, where Mr. Blake found employment with Dr. Clark for a few months. He was later engaged on a farm in Cherry Valley Township for one year, at the expiration of which time he went to Newburg, whence he returned after a short time to Rockford. A few months thereafter, Mr. Blake went to Burritt and for one year worked for his brother-in-law on a farm. After renting land for a time, he went to Lee

County and became the proprietor of a quarter-section of land five miles south of Dixon, upon which he resided for five years, and then renting that estate, leased a farm of six hundred acres for five years. He later traded his property for two hundred and twenty acres of land included in his present farm, to which he has added until the estate now comprises three hundred and twenty acres in one body and one hundred and ten acres on another section.

William Blake, to whom our subject was married in England, also had his birth in Cornwall, the date thereof being August 19, 1816. He is a son of William Blake, Sr., who came to America from England in 1867, and departed this life in Rockford. The mother also spent her last years in Rockford, having come to America from her native England in company with her husband and five children: John, Ann Bate, Mary Pooley, William and David.

Mr. and Mrs. Blake have a family of seven children living, viz: James, George, Charles, Frank, Fred, Fannie and Nannie. The eldest daughter, Mary, married Henry Luce and died while residing in Iowa, leaving four children; Fannie married Ernest Minter and has one child; Nannie, the wife of Sylvester Bowley, is also the mother of one child.



JOHN SHAW, who is engaged in general farming on section 3, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, was born near Sheffield, Yorkshire, England, October 4, 1822. His father and grandfather both bore the name of John Shaw. The latter came to America and spent his last year in New York. Two of his children, John and Eliza Ryals, also located in this country, the daughter settling in Utica, N. Y., where her two sons now reside. The father of our subject was reared in New York, and served a seven-years' apprenticeship to the cabinet-maker's trade, which he followed in the Empire State until 1831. He married Ann Ashforth, a native of Yorkshire, England, and a daughter of George and Mary (Ward) Ashforth. In 1831, Mr. Shaw and his family sailed

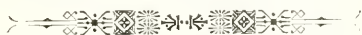
for America, and after eight weeks landed at Newport, R. I. from whence he went to Albany, N. Y. He spent a year in that place and afterward removed to Utica, where the death of his wife occurred. He there followed his trade for some time, but afterward operated a farm which he purchased. He then bought a home one mile from the city, where he lived retired until his death in 1885, at the age of eighty-four years. In the family were the following children: George, John, William, Helen, Henry, Mary, Eliza, Alfred, Franklin and Louisa.

Our subject was only eight years of age when he crossed the Atlantic, but well remembers the long ocean voyage. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, worked for his father until his marriage, and after that managed the home farm for one year. He then rented land, upon which he resided until 1853, when he came to Illinois. He then spent two years upon a farm belonging to his brother-in-law, after which he rented land in Harlem Township until 1863, when he purchased the farm which is now his home.

On the 16th of May, 1849, Mr. Shaw married Elizabeth Ward, who was born about ten miles from Sheffield, England, August 15, 1828. Her father, Thomas Ward, and grandfather, Richard Ward, were both born in the same house and were descendants of an old English family. The latter married Ann Mills, and they spent their entire lives in Yorkshire. Thomas Ward crossed the Atlantic in 1836, accompanied by his wife and eleven children. After five weeks they reached their destination and settled in Westmoreland, Oneida County, N. Y. After a year they removed to the western part of the same county, where Mr. Ward made his home until his death, May 1, 1870, at the age of eighty-four years. His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah Sanderson. She was born in Yorkshire, and was a daughter of Joseph and Ann Sanderson. Her death occurred September 28, 1836.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shaw have been born four children, yet living: Frederick, Ward, Annie and Albert. One son, William, died at the age of twenty-nine. Frederick married Nora Taylor, and they have four children: Lloyd, Lila, Bessie and an infant; Ward wedded Lizzie Marsh and they

have one son, Ellis. The Shaw family have a pleasant home on section 3, Guilford Township, where our subject owns a well-developed farm. It is well supplied with good buildings, is under a high state of cultivation and all the improvements of a model farm are there found. Mr. Shaw is a well-known and valued citizen of the community who stands high in the esteem of all, and his wife is a member of the Methodist Church.



JARED B. GOULD, a retired farmer and one of the honored pioneers of Boone County now residing at his pleasant home in Belvidere, was born in Warren County, N. Y., May 26, 1820. His great-grandfather, Solomon Gould, was an early settler of that county, and in the midst of the forest cleared and improved a farm, upon which he made his home until his death. Ira Gould, father of Jared, was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., was reared in his native State and married Dorcas Brace, who was also born in New York, and was a daughter of Jared and Joanna Brace. They began their domestic life upon a timbered farm in the town of Warrensburg, upon which was built the log cabin in which our subject was born. He made quite a good farm, upon which he resided until 1827, when he removed with his family to Montgomery County.

Three years later, Mr. Gould became a resident of Chautauqua County, and in 1836 he came to Illinois in search of a location. He visited Boone County, at which time all of the land was still owned by the Government, as the surveys were not yet completed. He made a claim in what is now the town of Spring, erected a small log cabin, and in the early winter left his son Ransom in charge of the claim, while he returned on horseback to the Empire State. In the spring of 1837, he brought his family to the new home, where they arrived after an overland journey of three weeks. Upon the farm which he there developed Mr. Gould made his home until his death.

Our subject was one of twelve children. At the age of seventeen, he came to Illinois, making

the journey by way of the Lakes to Toledo. From there he came to Chicago on foot, where he overtook the family, who had traveled by land, he being sick at the time the family started and unable to start. He saw this county in its primitive condition, when there were no railroads, few settlements, and the work of cultivation and progress seemed scarcely begun. Mr. Gould remained with his father for two years, after which he went to Mineral Point, Wis., and secured employment in a smelting furnace, but could not stand that work, and after two weeks engaged in cutting cordwood at the head waters of the Pecatonica, receiving from seventy-five cents to \$1 per cord. After six months, he returned with \$100 in silver, which he had saved from his earnings, and with that sum entered eighty acres of Government land on sections 1 and 5, Spring Township.

In October, 1815, Mr. Gould and Miss Charlotte Blackford were united in marriage. She was born in Wiltshire, England, January 10, 1821, and is a daughter of Francis and Elizabeth Blackford, who are mentioned in the sketch of Stephen Blackford, on another page of this work. Ten children graced their union, four dying in infancy. Those living are Harvey A., Ellen, Alice J., Fannie F., Lucius T. and Blanche.

Mr. Gould did not immediately locate upon his land, but engaged in making shingles and roofing buildings for new settlers, who were coming in large numbers to the county, but on his marriage he and his young bride began their domestic life upon the farm. He has been very successful and, as his financial resources have increased, he has added to his possessions until at one time he owned more than four hundred acres of highly cultivated land, and his farm was also well improved with good buildings. He there made his home until 1881, when he bought seven acres of land within the city limits of Belvidere, and in his pleasant residence on the bank of the Kishwaukee River expects to spend his remaining days. He is one of the honored pioneers of the county and can relate many interesting incidents of frontier life. On one occasion, they purchased a barrel of flour for \$12, and when opened it was found that the flour had been wet, and when dried had

hardened into a solid mass, which could be rolled over the ground like a rock. Wild game was in abundance and the table was thus supplied with meat, although breadstuffs were very scarce. Those early days have long since gone by, and the passing years have brought prosperity to Mr. Gould.



JOHN A. NASH. It affords the biographical writer pleasure to be able to record in this volume the main incidents in the life of an honest and upright citizen, who, though formerly one of the prominent business men of Rockford, is now living retired in his pleasant home at No. 407 North Second Street. He is a native of this city, having been born January 23, 1853.

Martin Nash, the father of our subject, was born in County Galway, Ireland, where also his father, Martin Nash, a wealthy farmer, was born. Mr. Nash, Jr., was reared and educated in his native county, and leaving the parental roof when a young man still remained in the Emerald Isle until 1849, when, accompanied by his wife and two children, he came to America. Settling in Northampton, Mass., he made that place his home for two years, and then coming to Illinois, located in Rockford, where he was residing at the time of his decease in 1866. He was a man who possessed excellent judgment in business matters and at the time of his death had accumulated a handsome property.

Winnifred (Madden) Nash, the mother of our subject, also hailed from Ireland, being born in County Clare to Bartley and Winnifred Madden; she departed this life in the year 1888. Three of her children: John A., Margaret and Ellen, are still living. Being the fortunate son of educated parents, our subject became proficient in book lore, his early studies being conducted in the schools of Rockford, which were later supplemented by a six-years' course at Notre Dame University at South Bend, Ind. After being graduated from that institution, Mr. Nash engaged in the boot and shoe trade, which he prosecuted for two years, and then



REUBEN HANKINSON.

selling out, established as a merchant tailor. A twelvemonth later, he sold out, since which time he has not been engaged in active work of any kind. In 1890, he was married to Mary Hargan, also a native of Ireland, and a member of the St. James Catholic Church, with which body our subject is also connected.



REBUBEN HANKINSON. Among the intelligent and highly respected families of Rockford, we may well note the family of our subject, whose pleasant home is located at No. 702 North Second Street. Mr. Hankinson was born in Johnstown, Montgomery County, N. Y., April 17, 1812, and died April 26, 1892, aged eighty years. He was the son of Frances Le Roy Hankinson, a native of New Jersey, from which State Reuben Hankinson, his father, hailed. After his marriage, the grandfather of our subject went to Nova Scotia where his decease occurred. The maiden name of his wife was Sally Le Roy, who, after the death of her husband, emigrated to Canada and departed this life in Middlesex County, province of Ontario.

The father of our subject was one of a family of eight children, and was quite young when his parents moved to Nova Scotia. Later, he returned to the States and made his home with an uncle in New York. After his marriage, he leased a tract of land in Montgomery County, and when purchasing property on his own account became the owner of a farm in Canajoharie Township. In 1835, he disposed of that estate and, removing to Middlesex County, Canada, there made his home until the fall of the same year, when he returned with his family. He purchased a tract of timber land, on which he erected a small frame house, and here the family resided for the succeeding three years. The father then sold the farm and, coming to Michigan, spent his last days in Oakland County.

Martha Jones was the maiden name of our subject's mother. She was born in New York State and was the daughter of Joseph Jones. She bore her husband eight children and departed this life on the farm in Michigan. Reuben Hankinson, of

this sketch, was twenty-three years of age when he accompanied his parents to Canada, making the journey with one horse and a buggy. He resided with his parents until his marriage, when he rented land adjoining the old home and resided there until 1841, which was the date of his advent into Illinois. The journey hither was made with two wagons and four horses, the party starting from Oakland County in the month of April and reaching Winnebago County two weeks later.

On locating here, our subject purchased a tract of land in what is now Guilford Township. As there were no improvements on his place, he bought a log house of Judge Shaw, which he moved onto the land and occupied with his family until a few years later, when he was enabled to erect a comfortable brick dwelling. In 1859, Mr. Hankinson sold his estate and came to Rockford, where for a number of years he was engaged in the sale of tinware. Ill health, however, compelled him to retire a few years later.

The original of this sketch was twice married. His first wife, to whom he was united in 1836, was Miss Ruth Sovereign; she was born in Middlesex County, Canada, a daughter of John and Miriam Sovereign, and departed this life in 1812. Three years later our subject was married to Alvira Mason, whose birth occurred in Scipio, Cayuga County, N. Y. Her father, Milton S. Mason, was born in Connecticut and was the son of Daniel Mason, also a native of that State. The grandfather of Mrs. Hankinson was reared in Connecticut, from which State he removed to New York about 1800, and lived for some years in Dutchess County. Later, he moved to Cayuga County, and resided there until he died in 1842. He was a rapid reader, reading the Bible through in forty-three hours and twenty-three seconds.

The father of Mrs. Hankinson was a young man when his parents removed to New York State, and after his marriage went to Cayuga County, purchasing a farm in the town of Scipio, where he resided until 1835. Then selling his property, he came to Illinois, being accompanied hither by his wife and three children. He located about three miles west of Belvidere, making a claim to four hundred acres of Government land, on which he

erected a double-hewed log house and commenced to improve his tract. For a number of years there were no railroads and Chicago was the nearest market place. Mr. Mason resided there until his death, which occurred in 1842. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Ingraham, a native of Rhode Island and a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Swan) Ingraham. She was married a second time, this union being with John Sovereign, and spent her last days in Rockford. Mrs. Hankinson is probably one of the oldest settlers in Northern Illinois, having been a continuous resident of the State since 1835.

Of the first marriage of our subject, one daughter is living, Martha Hadley. Of the second marriage were born the following children: Francis M., Mason T., Mary E., Allie J., Willie H., Fred E., Kittie J. and Henry.

We are pleased to present on an accompanying page a portrait of the late Mr. Hankinson, whose death was widely and sincerely mourned.



SAMUEL A. BLAIR. Although past the allotted age of man, three-score years and ten, Samuel A. Blair is one of the prominent men of the county and has ever taken a deep interest in her progress and development. He was born in Lebanon, Madison County, N. Y., on the 2d of October, 1817, of the marriage of Brown and Mary (Collins) Blair, the former a native of Worcester County, Mass., born in 1779, and the latter of Hamilton, Madison County, N. Y. The father died in Roscoe in 1855, when seventy-six years of age, and the mother died in Westfield, Chautauqua County, N. Y., when but forty-four years of age, leaving three sons and two daughters, viz: Samuel Alva, our subject; Albert, born in 1818, died in New York of quick consumption; Mary S., born in 1821, became Mrs. Gardner and died in the prime of life; Darwin, born in 1823, is a large farmer of California; and Ann became Mrs. Cheney, of Roscoe, and died of consumption.

In the spring of 1839, when in his twenty-second year, our subject, in company with Dr. B.

Bradley, of Beloit, came overland with teams to Illinois. Reaching the Maumee River, they found the ice going out, and after waiting there about three days for the ferry-boat, that was ice-bound, young Blair decided to cross the river anyway. Disregarding the advice and counsel of older heads, he plunged into the turbulent waters and, contrary to all predictions, reached the opposite shore in safety. Such was the indomitable will and courage of this young pioneer. Including delays, etc., they were thirty-eight days in making the trip. They stopped for four days in Michigan, and here Mr. Blair saw the first individual shaking with the ague, and, though he laughed then, he found it no laughing matter in subsequent years. Mr. Blair first worked on a farm for Franklin Able (who was the founder of Roscoe) for one year at \$16 per month, and then, learning of his brother's illness, he and Mrs. R. J. Cross and Mrs. Isaac Cole (sisters) went to Chicago. While there, our subject met an old friend, Hiram McHenry, captain of a brig on the Lake, and he took passage for Barcelona, N. Y., arriving only in time to see his brother die. Soon after he returned to Roscoe, but about a year later he went back to New York State and purchased a large drove of sheep, fourteen hundred head. After shearing them, he started back in June and, although he met with cold weather and storms and delays, he arrived in Roscoe in fairly good condition in August.

In 1841, our subject married, in Westfield, N. Y., Miss Mary Miniger, who was a native of that place and the daughter of Lowe and Martha (Martin) Miniger. Mr. Miniger became a wealthy farmer and died when eighty-two years of age. His wife died at the age of seventy-six, leaving six children. Our subject purchased his first farm of one hundred and two acres near his present home, in 1839, and later he purchased eighty acres, a part of his present farm. He sold the one hundred and two acres and thought seriously of going to Missouri, but the Dred Scott Decision caused him to abandon this project, and he purchased his present property. He now owns two hundred and thirteen acres in this farm and eighty acres one mile north. All his improvements are first-class, and he is a representative farmer of the

county. He keeps a fine flock of sheep and is engaged in general farming, although at present he is making a specialty of dairying, keeping about twenty-five cows. He sells all his milk to the creamery.

Mr. and Mrs. Blair have buried two children—one an infant, and the other, Augusta, a daughter who died at the age of twenty-six years. They have six children now living, two sons and four daughters: Albert, a hardware salesman in Lincoln, Neb.; Julius, a farmer in Fremont County, Iowa; Frances, now Mrs. John Q. Briggs, of Houston, Minn.; Ada, now Mrs. George B. Warner, of Page County, Iowa; Laura, Mrs. J. B. Hardy, resides on the home place and her husband carries on the farm, Mr. Blair making his home with them; and Nellie, wife of T. R. Field, a merchant of Houston, Minn. Mr. Blair's first Presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison, and he has held a number of township offices, such as Road Commissioner, School Director, etc. He is a Congregationalist in his religious views and one of the founders of that church in Roscoe. Mrs. Blair is a member of the Presbyterian Church. They have eleven grandchildren in Iowa and Minnesota.



EDWIN DEAN. After long years spent in agricultural pursuits, the subject of this sketch has retired from the labors of life and is passing his declining years in a peaceful enjoyment of the comforts of life, surrounded by friends whom he has gained by his upright character, and blessed by the love of children whom he has reared to honorable and useful manhood and womanhood. He is the possessor of one of the finest estates which Flora Township, Boone County, boasts, comprising about two hundred and thirty-one acres in three different bodies.

Mr. Dean is one of the oldest settlers now residing in Flora Township and was born in the town of Minot, Oxford County, Me., January 16, 1821. His father, Ira Dean, was born in Massachusetts, whence he moved to Maine and was an early settler in the town of Foxcraft. He resided there until about 1823, then again started Eastward and

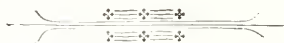
moved to Piscataquis County where he purchased a tract of timber land in the town of Foxcraft.

In 1843, Mr. Dean came to Illinois and remained for a few years in DeKalb County, then removed to Floyd County, Iowa, where he purchased and improved a farm and occupied it some years. He finally removed to the village of Rock Grove and lived there until his death. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Charlotte Hersey.

Edwin Dean was about two years of age when his parents removed to Foxcraft, Me., where he was reared and educated. His father was a blacksmith and our subject worked with him until 1813, when, with his wife, he started with a horse and buggy for this county and arrived within its limits after a journey of eight weeks lacking one day. He worked at his trade in Poplar Grove until the spring of 1844, then rented land in Flora Township one year, during which time he made claim to eighty acres of Government land on section 35. He located on the place in 1845 and soon purchased other property adjoining. The home farm contains one hundred and seventy acres, in addition to which Mr. Dean has a forty-acre tract on section 34 and another of twenty-one acres in the same section.

He of whom we write was actively engaged in farming until 1888, when he rented his property and removed to the home he now occupies on section 34. In addition to this, he has since purchased a residence in the city, which he proposes to occupy in the near future. Mr. Dean was married in April, 1843, to Rebecca B., daughter of Robert Lowe. She was born in Gifford, Piscataquis County, Me., and departed this life in 1887. The following year Mr. Dean was married to Mrs. Sarah (Swain) Hovey, who was born in Niagara County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Isaac Swain. Her father moved to this State in 1840 and was one of the early settlers in McHenry County, where he farmed until his decease. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Dean was Mary Bert. The wife of our subject was first married in 1854 to F. H. Hovey, who was a native of Broome County, N. Y., and departed this life in McHenry County, this State.

The original of this sketch by his first marriage became the father of four children: Oraville E., Henry E., Clarissa E. and William E. Mrs. Dean has three children living by her marriage with Mr. Hovey: Abner, Nettie and Mary. Carrie, the youngest, died when twenty-three years of age. Mrs. Dean is a member of the Free-will Baptist Church, and in politics our subject votes the Republican ticket.



ALFRED PULS. Of the many substantial and progressive farmers of Belvidere Township, Boone County, none are more honest, industrious or more deserving of success than the German element, of which Mr. Puls is a representative. His parents, William C. and Hannah (Stonemiller) Puls, were natives of Mecklenburg, Germany, and came to the United States in 1857. They first settled in De Kalb County, Ill., and the father was engaged in farming there until about twenty years later, when he sold out and moved to Boone County, Belvidere Township, where his son, our subject, was living. There he and his worthy wife reside at the present time, honored and esteemed by all.

The paternal grandparents of our subject, Frederick and Louisa Puls, were also natives of Mecklenburg, Germany, but came to this country at an early date, and here the grandmother passed quietly away when eighty-three years of age. The grandfather is still living and is now in his eighty-second year. The Pulses were all farmers, and what they accumulated in the way of this world's goods was the result of their own energy and industry. Our subject's maternal grandfather, William Stonemiller, was born in Germany and is now a resident of De Kalb County, Ill.

The subject of this sketch was born in De Kalb County, Ill., on the 24th of June, 1864, and was here reared and educated. He was one of four children, two sons and two daughters, born to his parents. On the 1st of March, 1887, he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Louisa Koencke, who was born in Bonus Town-

ship, Boone County, Ill., and here received all of her training and education. Her parents, Phillip and Sophia (Staas) Koencke, were natives of Germany, but came to the United States and passed the closing scenes of their lives in Iowa. They were the parents of nine children, all now living but one.

The home of our subject and his young wife has ever been in this county, and by their industry and good management they have gathered around them many comforts and conveniences. Mr. Puls was always at home until after his marriage, and now rents part of his father's broad acres. Like his father, who came to this country without a dollar and subsequently became one of the most prosperous and wealthy farmers of Boone County, his fine residence, barns and out-buildings attesting what a man can do in America who has the will and disposition to work, our subject is energetic and enterprising and is sure to make a success of life. His union has been blessed by the birth of one child, Willard Gratfield, whose birth occurred on the 19th of November, 1889.

Politically, Mr. Puls has not given any attention to office-seeking, but, like his father, he is a staunch Republican, and he is an earnest advocate of the principles of that party. He and Mrs. Pulse are worthy members of the Evangelical Church at Belvidere, Ill., and give their hearty support to all enterprises of a laudable nature. They are highly esteemed in the community and have gathered around them many warm friends.



JOHIN B. BALL. The occupation which this gentleman is now following has received his attention the greater part of his life, and it is but the truth to say that in it he is thoroughly posted and well informed and his labors in this direction have contributed very materially to the reputation Boone Township enjoys as a rich farming region. Like many of the representative citizens of the county, he is a member of the old Bay State, born in Worcester County on the 14th of October, 1838, and, al-



*Yours truly
Henry W. Avery*

though still comparatively a young man, he has risen to a position in the agricultural affairs of the county which many men older in years and experience might envy. His life has been without material change from the ordinary pursuits of farm toil, but yet has not been devoid of substantial results.

Mr. Ball is a brother of Edward Ball (see sketch), and, like his brother, is thoroughly posted on all subjects relating to the farm. He makes his home with his mother in Poplar Grove. The residence is commodious and attractive, and his fine farm attracts general attention because of the extreme neatness with which it is kept. Politically, Mr. Ball is a Republican, but he takes very little part in political affairs, preferring to give his entire attention to his productive and extensive farm. He is engaged in general mixed farming.

A history of our subject's father will be found in the sketch of Mr. Wheeler, of Boone Township, the latter a brother-in-law of our subject.



REV. HENRY W. AVERY. This highly-respected citizen of Belvidere was born on the 31st of May, 1823, in Ledyard, New London County, Conn. The most authentic record which we can gain says that Christopher Avery was the founder of the family in America. He emigrated from Salisbury, England, on the ship "Arabella," in 1630, and settled in Gloucester, Mass. His son James came with him to America and, in 1651, removed from Gloucester to New London County, Conn., where he spent the remainder of his days. He married Joanna Greenslade, and afterward wedded Sarah Miner.

The next in direct descent also bore the name of James. He was born in Gloucester, December 15, 1646, married Deborah Sterling, and died in New London County, Conn., May 14, 1703. Their son James was born in New London County, April 20, 1673, and wedded Mary Griswold. Their son, Ebenezer wedded Lucy Latham, and afterward wedded Mrs. Rachel Denison, the widow of Daniel Denison. The next in direct descent was also named Ebenezer. He was born March 7, 1732,

married Phoebe Denison, and was one of the victims of the Ft. Griswold massacre, September 6, 1781.

Ebenezer Avery, the grandfather of our subject, was born in New London County, August 8, 1762, was a farmer and spent his entire life in Connecticut. His first wife was Hannah Morgan, and he afterward wedded Mary, a daughter of Charles Eldridge. His death occurred August 8, 1842. Henry W. Avery, father of our subject, was born in New London County, Conn., October 12, 1795, was reared to agricultural pursuits, and was a valiant soldier in the War of 1812. He engaged in farming on the old homestead until 1854, when he came to Illinois and settled in Boone County. He married Betsey Denison, a lineal descendant of the sixth generation from Capt. George Denison, who with his wife, Ann Borodell, came from England and settled in Stonington, Conn., in 1645. She died at her home in Boone County in 1866, leaving two children. The elder son, Frederick, has been pastor of the Congregational Church in Columbia, Conn., for more than forty years.

Rev. H. W. Avery, of this sketch, spent his boyhood days in the Nutmeg State, and 1845 witnessed his emigration to Illinois. His uncle Sidney Avery had been here the previous year and entered Government land in Flora Township, Boone County, and our subject purchased forty acres in the same town. Fifteen acres of this had been planted, and a small frame house had been built. He paid \$400 for the tract, and commenced life in the West as a farmer. For some years there were no railroads and he would haul his produce to market in Chicago. He was very successful, and as the years passed, he made many improvements, including the erection of good buildings, and added to his landed possessions until he now has more than three hundred acres. He resided upon the farm until 1881, when he came to Belvidere and built his present home, which is pleasantly located on Lincoln Avenue.

Mr. Avery has been twice married. His first wife, to whom he was married in 1844, was born in Sherburne, N. Y., and died in Flora Township in 1847. They had one daughter, Elizabeth, who became the wife of John C. Thompson, and died in

1880, leaving three sons, two of whom are living and make their home with their grandparents. They are named respectively, Edward Avery and Henry Sidney. In 1848, Mr. Avery was again married, his wife being Rachel P., daughter of Robert McCord, and a native of Carlisle, Pa.

In 1842, Mr. Avery joined the Congregational Church in Ledyard, Conn., and three years later united with the Presbyterian Church in Belvidere. In 1852, he was made a Ruling Elder, which position he has held continuously since, and in 1887 was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Freeport. He has always been an active worker in the Sabbath-school, in which he has been Teacher and Superintendent, and for ten years was President of the County Sunday-school Association. In politics, he is a Republican, and has served as Assessor, Justice of the Peace, member of the County Board of Supervisors, and of the School Board. He is a ready and forcible writer, a fluent speaker, and at the centennial celebration of the organization of the Presbyterian Church delivered the historical address. He and his estimable wife have many warm friends throughout the community, and are beloved by all for their many excellencies of character.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Avery accompanies this sketch.



JAMES S. REID is the oldest native-born citizen of Harlem Township, Winnebago County. He was born on the farm which he now owns and occupies, on the 12th of November, 1810, and is of Scotch descent. His grandfather, James Reid, was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, was there reared and married, and resided in that country until about the year 1856, when he crossed the Atlantic to America and spent the remainder of his life in Guilford Township. His wife, Margaret Reid, died in her native land. The father of our subject, Hugh Reid, was born in Argyleshire and learned the trade of a weaver, which he followed in Scotland until 1836. In that year, he bade good-bye to his old home and crossed the broad

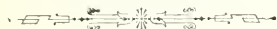
Atlantic, accompanied by his wife and one child. After several weeks spent upon the water, he reached his destination, and resided for one winter in Ottawa, Ill. In the spring he was offered forty acres of swamp land, now included in the city of Chicago, but came to Winnebago County, and was the third Scottish settler in Harlem Township. He made a claim, and when the land came into market entered it at the land office in Galena. He at once built a log house, which in after years was replaced by a frame residence, which continued to be the home of Mr. Reid until his death, December 27, 1887.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Mary Howie. She, too, was born in Argyleshire, and was a daughter of William and Janet Howie, both natives of Scotland, where her father spent his entire life. His wife came to America and died at the home of Mrs. Reid, who was also called to her final rest on the 11th of July, 1885. Three children of the family are still living: Margaret H., William H. and James.

Our subject was born in the cabin home of his parents, and has spent his entire life upon the farm which he now owns and occupies. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, he chose Miss Mary Breckenridge, who was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, and was a daughter of Edward and Margaret Breckenridge. Their union was celebrated June 7, 1867, and her death occurred on the 14th of June, 1876. Mr. Reid was again married, October 12, 1882, his second union being with Jane Smith, daughter of John and Elizabeth Smith. By the first marriage three children were born: Edward B., Hugh F. and James M., and four children grace the second union: Russell S., Lulu I., William Robert Howie and Mary Iva.

Mr. Reid now owns one hundred and ninety-five acres of valuable land in this county, and his farm is under a high state of cultivation and well improved with good buildings. He also owns a good farm in Boone County of one hundred and sixty-three acres. He is recognized as one of the substantial farmers of the community and one of the public-spirited and progressive citizens. He and his wife are members of the Willow Creek

Presbyterian Church, of which his parents were among the founders. Our subject was a delegate of the Presbyterian Church to the General Assembly held in New York City in 1889.



STEPHEN R. GODFREY, of the city of Rockford, State of Illinois. The Godfrey Clothing Company was incorporated April 1, 1885, with S. R. Godfrey as President, and his son, Charles H., Secretary and Treasurer. With the same officers, the company is carrying on an extensive and lucrative business at No. 304 East State Street. In their establishment, which is one of the largest and finest in the city, they carry a complete stock of clothing, gents' furnishing goods, hats, caps, etc., and are known throughout Waukegan and adjoining counties as reliable, one-price and straightforward business men.

Mr. Godfrey was born in Johnstown, near the city of Providence, R. I. His parents were Elisha and Patience (Webber) Godfrey, natives of South Dennis, Mass., and the former a sea captain during his entire active life. At the age of thirteen years, our subject secured a situation with Edward Mason, in a dry-goods establishment in Pawtucket, R. I. Three years later, Mr. Mason failed, and William Knight, of Burrillville, R. I., bought the stock, and made Mr. Godfrey sole manager of the business. Some months afterward, our subject closed out the stock, and at the age of nineteen proceeded to Boston, where he clerked for the firm of J. R. Gardner & Brother. Later, he was engaged in the dry-goods business with W. D. S. Havens, of Pawtucket, R. I., the firm name being Havens & Godfrey.

Attracted by the discovery of gold in California, in the winter of 1849 Mr. Godfrey left his wife and child with her mother in Pawtucket, R. I., and sailed in the ship, "Charlotte," on Sunday, March 4, 1849. After a long and tedious voyage, the ship dropped anchor in the bay of San Francisco on September 5, at 5 P. M. The passengers and crew numbered one hundred and thirty-five, among whom but one death occurred. The ship was a very poor craft, and had to be pumped twenty minutes every

two hours during the entire voyage. This work was done by the passengers, who divided themselves into "messes" of twenty each, and took turns, two at the pump at a time. This, no doubt, was healthy exercise for the men, who, however, did not at all enjoy it. Twice the vessel caught fire, but the flames were extinguished without much damage, although not without causing great fear and consternation among all on board.

During the long voyage, the ship made the harbor of Rio de Janeiro, on the Atlantic, and the harbor of Valparaiso, on the Pacific coast of South America. At the former place they stopped about three weeks, during which time the Captain took on board a fresh supply of provisions and water. During the passage, Mr. Godfrey organized a mining company of sixteen persons among the passengers, and, after leaving the ship, they secured passage on board a schooner to Sacramento, taking with them their baggage, provisions etc. After a voyage of ten days, during which time the little party suffered intensely from mosquitoes, Sacramento was reached, and the freight unloaded. The objective point of the company was Hangtown, now called Placerville, and to get their baggage conveyed thither, they were compelled to pay \$1 per pound, but, not having the amount required, they were forced to transfer the articles as needed.

The next move of the company, in a business way, was to investigate the price of oxen per yoke. Mr. Godfrey and another gentleman were appointed a committee to buy the cattle. After diligent search, they found three very poor yoke of cattle, which had just been brought across the plains, and these they bought for \$600. An old wagon was purchased for \$200, and with the team they started for the city, six miles from camp. Mr. Godfrey thinks they were about eight hours reaching their destination, and, meanwhile, they underwent severe experiences. Part of the team moved forward, and at other times backward; sometimes the oxen, with the wagon bottom-side up, made quite rapid progress, and a constant "Whoa, bou!" failed to produce the desired effect. Finally, a Missourian came along and soon taught the amateur drivers how to handle the oxen. He took a whip, with a handle about eight feet long, and a heavy lash of braided

leather, about fifteen feet in length, which he threw its full length, and, with a giant-like movement, brought it forward and down on the sides of the leading yoke of cattle with such a crack that the stubborn oxen started at a rate which raised the dust. The two gentlemen profited by their lesson, and reached the camp in safety about 7 P. M.

The company now had three yoke of oxen and nothing to feed them on. They cut down two or three live oak trees, and the cattle browsed on the leaves. Hay, being \$600 a ton, was a luxury not to be thought of, but they secured an excellent substitute. Hiring a scythe at \$16 per hour, they went along the banks of the American River, about three miles from camp, and cut some dry weeds and grasses, enough to supply the cattle for two or three days. They then started their first load for Hangtown, a distance of some forty-five miles from Sacramento, and, as the prairie fires had burnt the grass, they were obliged every night to fell live oak trees, on which their cattle might browse, and, in that way, reached their destination after a trip of four days.

After mining a short time, Mr. Godfrey sold out his interest to the company, and, returning to Sacramento with Capt. Charles Clark, of Providence, R. I., became proprietor of the Sacramento Hotel. While thus engaged, the city was inundated by the rising of the Sacramento and American Rivers, on the night of January 8, 1850. In the summer of 1851, Mr. Godfrey sold his interest in the hotel to his partner and returned to mining on the North Fork of the American River, twenty-two miles above Marysville, on what was then known as Owsley's Bar. In November of the same year, he went to Marysville, where he became acquainted with Charles N. Felton (now Senator from California) and soon afterward they commenced, as equal partners, in the business of running a pack-mule train from Marysville, and also trading in the mountains, having at one time a store in Downeyville and another at Gibsonville.

In the winter of 1852-53, Mr. Godfrey went to San Francisco and became a clerk in the clothing-house of Strowbridge & Blake. During the following winter, he returned to New York via the Isth-

mus of Nicaragua, and after spending several months with his family, returned to San Francisco via the Isthmus of Panama, his family remaining in Brooklyn, N. Y. In the fall of 1854, he formed a co-partnership with James C. Eddy, formerly of Fall River, Mass., and carried on a flourishing wholesale and retail clothing business in San Francisco until April, 1857. In the spring of 1855, Mr. Eddy went to New York City to attend to the manufacture of clothing for the firm, and returned to San Francisco May 1, of the same year, bringing with him Mrs. Godfrey and her two daughters, Emma F. and Annie R.

During his residence in the Far West, Mr. Godfrey was an active member of the vigilance committee which hung Casey for killing James King, of Williams; Corey, for the killing of the United States Marshal; Richardson and Hetherington, for the murder of Drs. Baldwin and Randall; also Brace, for highway robbery and murder. The committee, was formed of the best people of the new city, who took the law in their own hands, and wrested it from the grasp of lawless classes. It was probably the most sensational experience which San Francisco ever underwent. Mr. Godfrey relates many interesting reminiscences of those days, whose experiences stand out in startling distinctness, but space forbids us to make more extended mention of them.

In Pawtucket, R. I. Mr. Godfrey wedded Miss Mary A. Baker, who was born in Dennis, Cape Cod, Mass., and came of an old New England family residing in the Bay State. Her father was a sea-captain, and died of the yellow-fever when she was four months old. Her education was acquired in the academy of Pawtucket, R. I., where she resided from her girlhood until her marriage. She was an accomplished and intelligent lady, who was held in high esteem by all who knew her. Her death, which occurred in January, 1855, was the result of a stroke of apoplexy. From her sixteenth year she was a member of the Congregational Church, and lived a devoted and consistent Christian life. A most affectionate and faithful wife and mother, her place in the household can never be supplied.

Four children were born in the family of Mr.

and Mrs. Godfrey. Emma, whose death occurred eighteen months before her mother passed away, married N. S. Robinson, formerly of Rockford, but now of Eugene, Ore. Anna is the wife of D. S. Hough, a prominent grocer of Rockford; Charles H., a young man of great promise and ability, married Eugenia Spafford, of Rockford, and is now Secretary and Treasurer of the Godfrey Clothing Company; Lulu, a very intelligent and beautiful young lady, died at the age of eighteen years, sixty days after the decease of her mother. Her death was a great loss to her father, sister and brother, as well as to her many friends. Emma and Lulu were actively identified with the First Congregational Church, at Rockford, and Annie holds membership in the Christian Church.

In December, 1857, Mr. Godfrey came to Rockford and the following spring began business as a dealer in clothing with his brother-in-law, John M. Tappen, now a farmer of Ottawa County, Kan. After some years, this connection was discontinued and Mr. Godfrey became manager of the clothing house of W. V. Webster. Some time later, he bought out Mr. Webster, and, after continuing alone for one year, formed a co-partnership with Charles Smith, doing business for two years under the firm name of Godfrey & Smith, when he became sole proprietor. Since the organization of the Godfrey Clothing Company, in 1885, he has been its efficient President. In politics, he is a staunch Republican, and, socially, is a Royal Arch Mason. He became a member of the Congregational Church in Pawtucket, R. I., in his youth, and now belongs to the First Congregational Church of this city. He ranks among the best citizens of Rockford, and occupies a high place in the regard of his large circle of acquaintances.



JOHAN A. PALM, a grocer of Rockford, was born in Sweden, August 17, 1849, and is one of eight children born unto P. M. and Eliza Palm. His father for forty years engaged in teaching and then retired on a full pension as a teacher. He is still living in his native land at the age of seventy-eight years, and is yet

quite active for one of his age. He has been a life-long and leading member of the Lutheran Church. His wife, who was also a member of the same church, died July 28, 1891, at the age of seventy-eight years, one month and thirteen days. Of the family, two sons and the daughters are now deceased. Of the brothers who are still living in their native land, all are now married and are variously engaged.

The only member of the family to come to this country was our subject, who, after twenty years spent in his native land, sailed for New York in July, 1869, landing on the 2d of August of that year. He went at once to Chicago, where he arrived not only empty-handed, but was \$65 in debt for his passage to this country. He worked in that city for a time for small wages, and then went to New Orleans, where he spent one winter. Since his return to the North he has had a successful business career. He worked in Chicago for three years as a brick and stone mason, which trade he had learned in that city, and on the 21st of June, 1874, came to Rockford. Securing employment with H. F. Peterson, he worked for that gentleman for nine years, and in 1878 began on his own account as a contractor. He has met with excellent success, securing a liberal patronage, and has done the contract work on hundreds of homes and buildings in this city. He is now a member of the firm of Olson & Palm, who are engaged in the grocery business at No. 511 East State Street. In company with Andrew Borg, he owns the large stores and flats on Seventh Street. His home is a pleasant and commodious residence at No. 210 Seventh Street, and he also owns the property adjoining.

Mr. Palm was married, in Rockford, to Miss Christina Shold, who was born in Sweden, February 24, 1858, and in 1867 came to Rockford with her parents, John and Anna (Anderson) Shold, both of whom are now deceased, having passed away at about the age of sixty years. Mrs. Palm is the only surviving child of the family. By her union she has had seven children, but one died in infancy. The living are: Rudolph, Cora A., Mabel A., Irvin A., E. Lawrence and Floyd R. The parents are both members of the First Lutheran

Church, and Mr. Palm votes with the Republican party. He has been a hard-working man, but, as the result of his industry, enterprise and good management, supplemented by good business ability, he has made a small fortune, and is now enjoying the comforts and pleasures which a competence, well earned, brings.



LUCIEN WILLIAMS, President of the Rockford Burial Case Company, is at the head of one of the most prominent industries of Rockford, with which he has been identified since its organization in 1883. The company employs more than thirty hands, and is represented by three commercial men. Operating with ample capital and in a systematic manner, this reliable firm is enabled to push its trade far beyond what is usually termed the local territory, and enjoys a lucrative and extensive business throughout the county.

Mr. Williams is also an original stockholder and Director and owns a one-fourth interest in the Overall Manufactory of Rockford, a successful institution which was established in 1883, and is now numbered among the moneyed concerns of the city. Some ten men and sixty women are furnished with constant employment, and six traveling men are employed by the company. Mr. Williams is also a stockholder in the People's Bank and the Manufacturers' Bank of Rockford, and in the successful conduct of the various establishments and institutions with which he is connected, finds sufficient to demand his undivided attention. He is an efficient business man, and a most affable gentleman, enjoying a high place in the regard of his fellow-citizens and an enviable reputation for integrity. Since he came to this city in 1882, he has served as Supervisor of the Seventh Ward for four years, and been otherwise closely identified with the progress of the city.

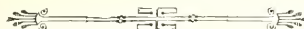
Born in Manlius Township, Onondaga County, N. Y., June 21, 1821, Lucien B. Williams is the son of Elijah and Lucy (Edwards) Williams. He grew to maturity in his native county, and in his early

manhood became foreman for a large contractor on the Erie Canal, whom he later aided in building the railroad from York to Erie. Thus early in life he gained a practical experience in undertaking and carrying out large contracts, and was one of a number of young men who familiarized themselves with railroad contracting. It was in order to accept a contract for seven miles of railroad, now the property of the Northwestern R. R. Company, that he came West with several others in 1852, and so satisfactorily did he fill the contract that he immediately secured another from the Illinois Central Railroad, for building the road between Freeport and La Salle.

Completing his contract in 1855, Mr. Williams settled in Harrison Township, Winnebago County, where he had purchased five hundred acres of land. He added to his landed property until he owned nine hundred acres, the most of which was placed under splendid cultivation, while the remainder was pasture land in the Pecatonica River bottoms. For twenty-seven years he lived and labored on his farm, giving his attention to general farming as well as to raising sheep and carrying on an extensive dairy business. He owned one hundred cows and shipped butter to Boston, St. Louis and other markets, and was the first large dairy farmer in the county, and the first man to use tile drainage here. This serves to illustrate his progressive ideas and his desire to promote the advancement of the agricultural interests of Northern Illinois. His popularity and large executive ability led to his appointment as a Director of the County Agricultural Society, and he was instrumental in securing its success, accomplishing much in behalf of the farmers of the county, and causing a more general interest to be aroused in the various departments of agriculture.

While he still resided in New York State, Mr. Williams was united in marriage with Miss Mary Arnold, who was born and reared in the Empire State and belongs to a good old family whose members have been distinguished for sterling traits of character and citizenship. In all his labors, Mr. Williams has received the devoted assistance of this wife, who has lightened his sorrows and doubled his joys, and who is now his

comfort in his declining years. She is the mother of six children, namely: Fannie, wife of Walter W. Favor, a druggist in Rockford; Ida, who married Delos Barningham, a farmer of Harrison Township; Rosemond, wife of J. Barningham, also a general farmer of Harrison Township; Myra, Charles and India, who remain at home with their parents. The last-named are graduates of Rockford High School, and are bright, intelligent young people, whose position in social circles is high. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are members of the Christian Union Church, and in his political affiliations, Mr. Williams is a sound Republican, favoring the principles and candidates of his party by his influence and ballot.



JOHN P. NORDHOLM. Among the most important lines of commercial industry in any business community is that of insurance, which gives security to the merchant and the householder alike, and secures him from possible loss in case of fire, accident, etc. Mr. Nordholm, who is a representative Swedish gentleman, ranks high as a successful business man, and is engaged in the real-estate, loan, fire, life and accidental insurance business at No. 420 East State Street. He came to this city in 1889, has been closely identified with the progress of the city since, and is upright and honorable in all his relations with the public. For some time after locating in this city, he was engaged as clerk by the Central Furniture Company, but being progressive and enterprising, he subsequently took the general agency for the Union Central Life Insurance Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and since March, 1891, he has attached the various other enterprises to his chief business. He is also agent for the Rockford Swedish-American Labor Agency. He is hardworking, gives his best energies to his present business, and under his energetic management it can not fail to succeed. He is a stockholder in the Central Furniture Company, the Rockford Manufacturing Company, the Royal Sewing Machine Company, Rock River Planing Mill Company, and the Rockford Furniture and Undertaking Company, and was

stockholder and Director from the start in the last-named concern, the same being incorporated with a capital of \$50,000. Mr. Nordholm is also a member of the Skandia Land Association, which has a capital stock of \$75,000, and takes an active interest in all these enterprises.

He was born in Skande Province, Sweden, May 30, 1860, and was thoroughly educated in his native country, where he continued under the parental roof until a young man. In 1888, he made his first appearance on American soil and is now the only member of the family in this country. He spent the first eight months as clerk in a mill and elevator at Wakefield, Neb., for J. O. Mulligan & Co., and later came to Rockford, where he has met with a more than average degree of success.

His parents were natives of Sweden and his father, Peter Person, was a successful agriculturist in that country. The latter was a man of excellent character and was highly respected in his section. He passed away in the year 1885, when eighty-one years of age, and had ever been a worthy member of the Swedish Lutheran Church. His wife still resides in Sweden, and is now in her sixty-ninth year. She is in every way a most amiable and pleasant lady, and, like her husband, has been prominently connected with the Lutheran Church all her days.

John P. Nordholm was the youngest in a large family of children, three sons and one daughter still living. He selected his wife in the person of Miss Nellie Felsenburg, a native of the Empire State, and their union was celebrated in Rockford on the 27th of October, 1891. She is a descendant of German-French ancestors and of a representative German family. Her father, Dr. Joseph Van Felsenburg, was born in Germany and educated as a physician in his native country. He was married to an Austrian lady of French ancestry, and they subsequently crossed the ocean to the United States, settling in New York City. There he practiced his profession very successfully until failing health caused him to abandon this and seek the Hot Springs of Arkansas to rebuild his shattered constitution. He was not successful and his death occurred in 1884, when in the prime

of life. His wife died at the same place in 1890, when about thirty-seven years of age. Her maiden name was Fannie Rimmer. They were of the better class of German people and were educated and refined. Mrs. Nordholm's uncles and aunts were people of more than ordinary intelligence and were very prominent in Vienna, Austria, especially in educational matters. She was thoroughly educated in the convents of Cleveland and Cincinnati, Ohio, also of St. Louis, and has many brilliant attainments, being particularly good in art. Mr. Nordholm is a member of the Second Congregational Church and the Young Men's Christian Association, being a member of the financial board in the latter.



FRANK G. STIBB, Government store-keeper and gauger for the city of Rockford, received his appointment to this responsible position in July, 1889, and was assigned to duty on the 1st of August of the same year. He had been connected with the city in other capacities previous to this, having been appointed East Side Street Commissioner in 1885 by (then) Mayor Taggart, and held that position and discharged the duties in a very satisfactory manner for two years. He has been an active worker for the principles of the Republican party, and is prominently identified with all enterprises of a laudable nature. He is a live, public-spirited citizen and is likely to make his presence felt in the near future.

He was born in Rockford on the 22d of May, 1856, and, as a consequence, his inclinations naturally tend toward the advancement and progress of his native town. He received a practical education and yet he is a self-educated and self-made man. Skilled as a mechanic and brick-layer, he has met with much more than the average amount of success and has accumulated considerable wealth. He owns some valuable property on Kishwaukee Street, about one hundred and seventy-one feet, and about two hundred feet on May Street, making him a fine triangle block which is steadily increasing in value. He has lived at No.

311, on his property, and has erected three business houses and a residence on this fine block. He built one house himself, being an advanced and progressive architect and a student and patron of the *Scientific American*, Architects' and Builders' Edition.

His father, John Stibb (whose Swedish name was Larson), was a native of Oster Gothland, born April 30, 1815, and was taught the stonemason trade in youth. After reaching mature years, he wedded Miss C. Al, a native of Smoland Province, who was reared there by good Swedish parents. After the birth of two children, one of whom died in Sweden, and the other shortly after reaching America, Mr. and Mrs. Stibb took passage with their remaining child on a vessel, the "Holland," at Gottenburg, and reached Boston, Mass., on the 10th of September, 1851, after seven weeks on the briny deep. On the 19th of that month, they reached the city of Rockford and this, from that time forward, became their permanent home. In this city the upright, honorable and esteemed citizen, John Stibb, passed away on the 11th of December, 1886. He followed his trade in this city and was accounted a skillful and reliable workman. His wife preceded him to the grave, having died on the 15th of December, the year previous. They were worthy people in every respect and were among the organizers of the First Swedish Church of Rockford, being members in good standing until the last. Mr. Stibb had been a staunch Republican and had taken out his naturalization papers immediately after his five years had expired and became a thorough American citizen. He was of much assistance to others who wished to secure their naturalization papers.

Mr. Frank G. Stibb selected for his life companion Miss Lena Peterson, and their union was solemnized in Rockford. She was born in Skane Province, Sweden, July 17, 1858, to the union of Nels and Sissa (Johnson) Peterson, natives of Sweden, who were reared and married in that country. After the birth of four children, or in 1866, Mr. and Mrs. Peterson took passage on a steamer for the American coast. After landing they came immediately to Rockford where the parents reside at the present time. The father is



E. N. Hervey M.D.

a mechanic and is working in the Forest City Furniture Factory. He and his estimable wife are sixty-two and fifty-eight years of age respectively. Both are devout members of the First Lutheran Church. Mr. Peterson is a Republican in politics, and is an honest, hardworking man. They are the parents of four children, all of whom are living. The eldest, Nels Peterson, is a molder by trade, and is a resident of Chicago. He married a Miss Hanson. The third child, Chestie, is at home and the youngest, Mary, lives in Chicago.

The original of this sketch is Secretary and Treasurer of the Scandinavian Cemetery Association, of which he was one of the organizers, and he is a director in the Union Grocery Company and the Swedish Mutual Fire Insurance Co. Socially, he is a member of the Unity Legion, No. 12, a Master Mason, Rockford Lodge No. 102, Scandia Lodge A. O. U. W., No. 54, the Odd Fellows' Society, and Social Lodge No. 140, Select Knights of America. Mr. Stibb and wife attend the First Congregational Church and are representative citizens. They have an interesting family of three children: May F., Harry T. and Lillie M. Mr. Stibb and his son, Harry T., are the only members of his father's family now living.



EUSEBIA N. HUNTLEY, M. D., is one of the successful physicians and surgeons of Rockford, where she has engaged in practice since 1873. She is a native of Herkimer County, N. Y., and a daughter of the Rev. Lyman Huntley, who for some years was a Baptist minister, but failing health caused him to withdraw from that work, and he engaged as a harness dealer in South Columbia, N. Y. He was born in Otsego County, that State, and is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five years, retaining his mental faculties to a good degree. His life has been well and worthily spent, and he has the respect of all who know him. He is an own cousin of Lydia Huntley Sigourney, the poetess.

The Rev. Mr. Huntley married Miss Elizabeth Tisdale, who was born and reared in South Col-

umbia, N. Y., and died in that place at the age of seventy-five years. Like her husband, she was a life-long member of the Baptist Church. The Huntley family is of English origin and its people were all Baptists in religious belief, while the Tisdales were of Protestant Irish ancestry. Four sons of the Huntley family wore the blue during the late war. L. C. was killed at Ream's Station, Va., near Richmond, while on skirmish duty, May 16, 1865. J. W. died of consumption in the field hospital of Bowling Green, Ky., after two years of service. Hon. S. F. is a graduate of Cornell University, and is now a missionary of the Congregational Church, located in Alexandria, S. Dak. He has been a member of both the Constitutional Conventions of South Dakota and its first State Senate. His wife, whose maiden name was Abi Townsend, is also a minister of the Congregational Church and an ex-professor of the college in Union Springs, N. Y. The fourth son who followed the old flag was D. T., who married Annie Fosket, and is now living a retired life in Caldwell, Sumner County, Kan. Another brother of the Doctor is L. D., who wedded Maggie M. Davis, of the Empire State, and is now a harness-maker and dealer in South Columbia, N. Y. The only living daughter of the family, with the exception of our subject, is J. Cyrene, wife of O. P. Ayres, who is living a retired life in South Columbia, N. Y. E. E. Huntley, the eldest daughter, died of consumption at Miller's Mills, N. Y., in 1857. The youngest daughter, Mrs. L. A. McCutchen, wife of J. W. McCutchen, died at Norris, Ill., of pneumonia, in 1870.

After acquiring her literary education, which was completed in Whitestown Seminary, of Oneida County, N. Y., Dr. Huntley engaged in teaching school, and was thus employed in Fulton County, Ill., for about thirteen years, and for three years of that time was a teacher in the High School of Canton, Ill., for which responsible position she was fully prepared by her splendid education. The fact that she holds a State certificate fully attests her qualifications. At length, determined to study medicine and engage in its practice as a life work, she entered the medical department of the State University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and later

did clinical work in the hospitals at Chicago for three months.

Dr. Huntley came to Rockford in 1873, and has an office at No. 204 North First Street. She has built up a large and constantly growing practice. From her mother she inherited great energy and the determination to carry out whatever she undertook, so that she has been very successful, and her reputation as a physician and surgeon might well be envied by those who have longer followed this work. She makes a specialty of the diseases of women and children, and her patrons are from among the best class of people. She is a lady of truly progressive spirit, and has made many warm friends in Rockford. Her large practice has proved remunerative, and she is now the owner of considerable real estate. In religious belief, she is a Presbyterian.

The attention of the reader is invited to the lithographic portrait of Dr. Huntley, which appears on an accompanying page.



ALBERT DICKINSON, a well-known business man of Rockford, who is engaged in the laying of concrete pavement, claims New York as the State of his nativity, and was the fourth in order of birth in a family of seven children, of whom he is now the only survivor. His father, Edwin Dickinson, was born near Attica, N. Y. The paternal grandfather of our subject reached the advanced age of ninety years, and his wife was ninety-two years at the time of her death. Edwin learned the trade of carriage-making and blacksmithing, and went to Oneida County, N. Y., where, being a skilled workman, he secured a good position in the New York Mills of that county. He there married Sarah Van Buren, who was born in Kinderhook, and was a daughter of Ephraim Van Buren, an own cousin of President Van Buren. The family had been slave holders in the Empire State in an early day.

After the birth of some of their children, Edwin Dickinson and his wife left Oneida County, N. Y., and removed with their family to Calhoun County, Mich., making the trip overland with teams in

1812. The father there secured some Government land in the oak opening, not far from Battle Creek, where he developed a farm, making it his home until 1818, when, having arranged to go into the carriage-making business in Battle Creek, he removed his family to that city, where he died a few months later in the autumn of that year. He was then forty-four years of age. In politics, he was a Whig; socially, he was a Mason, and in religious belief, was a Presbyterian. He was known as a worthy and upright man, highly respected for his excellencies of character. His wife long survived him, passing away in 1880, at the age of seventy-three years.

Our subject was quite young when his parents removed to Michigan. In that State, he was reared to manhood, his boyhood days being passed in the usual manner of farmer lads, while in the public schools his education was acquired. At Three Rivers, Mich., he married Miss Martha R. King, a native of that place, where her people had located in a very early day. Her father, Benjamin King, was born in New York and died in Three Rivers, at about the age of seventy-five. He married Miss Wetturbee, mother of Mrs. Dickinson, and after her death was again married, his second wife also being deceased. Mrs. Dickinson was one of eight children. She is an intelligent and cultured lady, and has proved a true helpmate to her husband. Their union has been blessed with two children: S. Isabella and Floyd E.

During the late war, Mr. Dickinson enlisted in the Michigan Battalion of Merrill Horse, which after some months became known as the Second Missouri Cavalry. With his command he participated in the battles of Memphis, Kirksville and Moore's Mills, together with minor engagements, and later went with the division that captured Little Rock, and raided the State of Arkansas. After three years of faithful service, he was honorably discharged in the fall of 1864. He saw much hard fighting, and had many narrow escapes. He was a few times hit by spent balls, but was never disabled, and it was very seldom that he did not report for duty.

On the 28th of June, 1882, Mr. Dickinson left Battle Creek, Mich., and in company with his fam-

ily came to Rockford, where he has been engaged in business in the line above mentioned. The pavement known as the Staples cement pavement, which was invented by Mr. Staples, who is yet a resident of Battle Creek, was brought to this city by our subject, and has come into general use. Its value has been thoroughly tested, and it is found to be a reliable and lasting paving. His work being thus proven, he has received a liberal patronage, and is carrying on a successful business. An enterprising and industrious man, he well deserves the prosperity which has attended his efforts.



GEORGE L. LUCE. Notwithstanding the rapid growth of the agricultural affairs of the county in the last few years, and the progressive ideas advanced, Mr. Luce has kept thoroughly abreast with the times and is considered one of the leading farmers of the county. He is a self-made man, and principally self-educated, and all his accumulations are the result of honest work and unflagging industry.

Our subject first saw the light of day in Tolland Township, Tolland County, Conn., June 29, 1819, and his parents, Israel and Julietta G. (Ramsey) Luce, were also natives of that county and township. The father was born on the 14th of January, 1781, and died in his native county on the 23d of August, 1878. He was one of three children born to Joseph and Priscilla (Loomis) Luce, the former an Englishman, who came to this country with two brothers. One settled in Vermont, another settled in the Far West, and Joseph located in Connecticut, where his son, Israel, and his grandson, George L., were born. He died in Tolland Township, Tolland County, of that State, when a very aged man. He served five years in the Revolutionary War and was an officer in the same. Many of our subject's ancestors were professional men and prominent on land and sea. Joseph Luce's wife, Priscilla (Loomis) Luce, was born in Connecticut and there passed her entire life. The mother of our subject was born in Providence, R. I., and was the daughter of William Ramsey, a native of South Carolina, who followed

the seas from early boyhood and became captain of a vessel. Later in life, he abandoned the sea and engaged in the wholesale grocery business. He died near Providence, R. I., from the effects of a sabre thrust received in a battle near Newport, when about seventy years of age. He was in the French Revolution. His wife was born near Providence, R. I., and there passed away when quite an old lady. Her maiden name was Dyer.

Our subject is one of five children, three sons and two daughters, four of whom are now living, and he remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age. From there he went to Alabama and worked at the carpenter's trade for a year or two, and then entered a machine-shop, where he continued for about five years. Later, he went to Mobile, thence to New Orleans, and then came up the Mississippi River to Galena, Ill. After remaining there a short time, he went by stage to DeKalb County, this State, and there bought two hundred acres of wild land. He subsequently invested in six hundred acres more, but he finally disposed of all his DeKalb County property. He had but a few dollars when he came to this State, and his nearest market was Chicago, where he could have purchased many acres of land for a mere song. However, by his untiring industry and excellent management, he has accumulated a comfortable competency and has little to regret in the past.

Mr. Luce selected his wife in the person of Miss Harriet Russell, a native of Ross County, Ohio, and their nuptials were celebrated on the 6th of January, 1853. She was one of thirteen children born to Laurence and Mary (Huff) Russell, but only five of these children are now living. Her father, Laurence, was a native of Virginia, but moved to Illinois, and died in DeKalb County, when seventy-three years of age. His wife was born in Virginia and died in DeKalb County, Ill., when seventy-seven years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Luce's union has been blessed by the birth of three sons, who are as follows: George E., born in DeKalb County, Ill., October 28, 1853, married Miss Ella Ward, and is the father of three children, a son and two daughters; Laurence R., born in DeKalb County, October 2, 1856, married Miss

Ella Pritchard, and is the father of four children, a son and three daughters; and Osear L., born in Golden City, Colo., on the 21st of September, 1862.

In 1859, our subject and family went to Colorado and he was there engaged in mining and farming, and also worked some at the carpenter's trade for about ten years. He resided for some time at Camp Collins, Larimer County, and while there held the office of Justice of the Peace. From Colorado, Mr. Luce went to Olathe, Johnson County, Kan., and purchased a farm, but two years later he sold part of this farm, about two hundred and fifty acres, and one of his sons is residing on the remainder at the present time. In 1873, our subject came to Boone County and is now a resident of Belvidere, being practically retired. He owns village property in Olathe, Kan., also some of the finest city property in Belvidere, and other property in the county. Wherever he has resided, Mr. Luce has held local position and has discharged the duties of the same in a most creditable and efficient manner. Mr. and Mrs. Luce have been members of the Methodist Church for years and contribute liberally to all worthy movements. Mr. Luce first voted for a Democratic President, but since the formation of the Republican party he has advocated its principles.



WILLIAM J. CLEVELAND. The name which stands at the head of this biographical outline will be at once recognized as belonging to one of the most energetic agriculturists and business men in Seward Township, Winnebago County. He has one of the finest farms in Northern Illinois, in which region he commenced building his fortune and where he has gained a competence. Aside from farming, he is interested in the elevator and creamery at Seward, and his enterprise and ability in managing affairs have brought him success.

Born in Hebron, Washington County, N. Y., July 21, 1829, our subject is a son of Job W. and Almira Cleveland, the former of whom was born in the above-named State and town, August 7, 1796. The paternal grandfather of our subject

also bore the name of Job and was born in 1757 in New York and died in Washington County. He was the father of eleven children, and, like all our subject's ancestors, was a farmer.

The father of our subject died July 7, 1870, in Wethersfield, Wyoming County, N. Y. His wife, Almira Fenton, was a native of Dorset, Vt., her birth occurring November 12, 1799; she died in Wethersfield on her eighty-seventh birthday. Her parents were also natives of the Green Mountain State and departed this life in Genesee County, N. Y., when very old people. The Fentons were mechanics and pioneers of Vermont, where they were recognized as honorable and upright citizens. Grandfather Fenton drew a pension from the Government, having been a soldier in the War of 1812, in which conflict the father of our subject was also a participant, and likewise drew a pension.

William J. Cleveland came to this county when twenty-two years of age and purchasing land in Seward Township, lived there for four years, when he sold his property to his brother S. H. and bought his present farm of two hundred acres, a portion of which is included in the town site of Seward. By persistent industry and enterprise, he placed his land under an excellent state of cultivation, erecting thereon all the needful buildings, and by properly cultivating the soil realizes handsome returns.

The lady to whom our subject was married July 3, 1851, was Miss Jane Curtis, whose birth occurred October 23, 1831, in Wethersfield, Wyoming County, N. Y. She was a daughter of Francis and Sylvia Curtis, natives of New York. The mother is at present living in Michigan, in which State the father died in 1860. Mrs. Cleveland was a member of a family which included eleven children, all of whom are living with one exception. Mr. Cleveland has five brothers and two sisters living.

Of the seven children born to our subject and his wife, six are living, namely: Albert W., born in Wethersfield, N. Y., August 27, 1852, is married and has four children; Maria A., a native of this county, was born August 26, 1854; Adela E., also a native of this county, was born June 10, 1857,



J. Dow.

and is married and has had five children, one of whom is deceased; Herbert W., a native of this county, was born August 8, 1860, is married and the father of three children; Clara R. was born on the 22d of May, 1861, is married, has one child, and resides in Iowa; Wilson J. was born July 3, 1876, on the twenty-fifth anniversary of our subject's marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which denomination our subject has been Deacon for the past twenty years. He is a believer in the principles embodied in the Republican platform, and in all national elections supports it with his vote. His fellow-citizens, marking his ability in carrying on his own affairs, have called upon him to aid in the management of public business, he having filled many positions of trust and responsibility.



DANIEL DOW. The thrilling scenes through which the pioneers passed in the settlement of this portion of the State, must ever awaken emotions of warmest regard for them. To pave the way for those who followed, and to make settlement in the West a pleasure, they stemmed the floodtide wave of civilization, they endured all, they suffered all. Mr. Dow is one of those few spirits who now survive; many of them have passed away full of years and honor, leaving their children and children's children and strangers to succeed them and enjoy the fruits of their toil, privations and the savings of their long and eventful lives.

Daniel Dow, whose portrait accompanies this life sketch, was born in Perthshire, Scotland, and is a son of Alexander Dow, who was a native of the same parish. The latter-named gentleman was always engaged in agricultural pursuits, and spent his entire life in his native land. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Ann McEwen. She was a native of the same shire as was her husband and spent her entire life in Scotland. To them were born eight children, namely: John, Thomas, Jane, Alexander, Charles, Catherine, Daniel and Neal. Charles, Daniel and Catherine

were the only members of the family who came to America, all settling in Winnebago County. Catherine became the wife of Robert Dow, who was also a native of Scotland.

Having heard wonderful accounts of the New World, the subject of this sketch, before reaching his twelfth year, made up his mind to come to this country. Before attaining his majority, he left the parental roof, and, going to Liverpool, took passage on a sailer, and after a voyage of seven weeks and four days, landed in New York. Having friends in that State, he spent a twelve-month there, and in 1838 came to Illinois, via the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and thence by way of the Lakes to Chicago, which was then but a hamlet. He found business very dull there and soon after visited Peoria. He returned, however, to Chicago, where he arrived with but twenty-five cents in his pocket. He was fortunate in obtaining a situation in a general store, but as fever and ague were very prevalent in Chicago at that time, and as he was himself in poor health, in 1839 he determined to return to Scotland.

On informing his employer of his intentions, the latter tried to induce him to remain, but Mr. Dow was inflexible and a settlement was made. His employer was to be at the store the next morning to pay him the remainder of his earnings and bid him a farewell. However, he failed to keep the appointment and did not arrive until after the boat was gone. It being the last boat which left Chicago that fall, and as there was no railroad, young Dow returned to his position as clerk in the store. He occupied that position until 1841, which was the date of his arrival in Rockford, at that time a place of but a few hundred people. The surrounding country was very sparsely settled, deer, wolves and other wild game being very plentiful, and the land which was not yet opened up was owned by the Government.

On making his home in this now prosperous city, Mr. Dow established himself in business by opening a boot and shoe store, and in a short time put in a stock of general merchandise, buying his goods at St. Louis, Cincinnati and New York. His first trip to St. Louis was made with teams to Galena, thence by the Mississippi River to his

destination. In later years he went by the way of Peru. He was very successful in business, and was prompt in meeting his obligations, never having to be sued or even dunned. He continued actively engaged as a merchant until 1859, when, on account of ill-health, he disposed of his business and crossed the ocean to visit relatives and friends in his old home. Remaining there for six months, he again came to Rockford and a short time after started for California, leaving New York and landing in San Francisco after being out thirty-five days. He traveled quite extensively in the Golden State and then went to Oregon, where he visited the principal points of interest, and returned home via Panama to Aspinwall, and thence to New York. He then commenced dealing in grain in Rockford, and from that time has operated more or less on the Chicago Board of Trade.

A man of decided ability and genial temperament, Mr. Dow is very popular with his fellow-citizens. For six years he served as Alderman of the Third Ward, and upon retiring from the office received a gold-headed cane, upon which was the following inscription: "D. Dow, Alderman Third Ward, Rockford, from his constituents." In social life he is very entertaining, and is well calculated to aid in the building up of a new country, being energetic, affable and kind-hearted. As a splendid example of what may be accomplished by an energetic, determined and economical man, we point with pride and pleasure to Daniel Dow.



THOMAS DUNKLEY. Among the popular citizens of the village of Winnebago is the gentleman whose name introduces this biographical notice and who, since first he settled in Winnebago County, has been closely identified with its progress along the lines of agricultural, religious and educational growth. He inherits the sturdy qualities of his English forefathers and he himself is a native of England, born in Northamptonshire, January 14, 1818.

The father of our subject, Joseph Dunkley, was

born in the same shire in which his son first saw the light, and was there reared to farming pursuits, in which occupation he spent his entire life in the shire of his birth. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Cooper, was born in Northamptonshire, England, and became the mother of five children: William, Janet, Frances, Elizabeth and Thomas. The last-named was reared in the town of Chapel, Brampton, and entered the employ of Lord Spencer at an early age, remaining with him until his death.

The next employment of Mr. Dunkley was at the trade of a butcher, in which he was associated with his father, and he was also the proprietor of an inn and engaged in farming. In 1849, having resolved to seek a home in America, he took passage, June 14, at London on the sailing-vessel "City of Devonshire," and landed in New York after a voyage of nearly six weeks. He was accompanied by his wife and two children, and proceeded at once after landing to Illinois, via the Hudson River to Albany, thence by railroad to Buffalo, and from there on the Lakes to Chicago, and thence with a team to Rockford. The roads were very bad and the journey from Chicago required almost a week.

After settling in Winnebago County, Mr. Dunkley worked at various kinds of employment for one and one half years in Rockford, then feeling that it was time to secure a home for his family, purchased eighty acres of fine prairie land in what is now Seward Township, paying \$1.25 per acre. There was plenty more good land in the vicinity for sale at the same price, but he thought it would not all be taken up in his day and so did not buy for some time, and he paid \$30 an acre for the first he bought after his original purchase.

On his new farm Mr. Dunkley first built a frame house, 12x18 feet in dimensions, which the family occupied until 1861, when he built a commodious, substantial, stone residence. As a farmer he was successful and purchased other land at different times until he became the owner of two hundred and forty acres of well-improved land, and still owns two hundred acres, but has disposed of the other property. He occupied the farm and engaged in actively tilling the soil until 1879, when

he built the residence he has since occupied in the village of Winnebago. June 22, 1816, Mr. Dunkley was married, in St. George's Church, Hanover Square, London, to Miss Mary A. Withers, who was also of English birth, and born July 7, 1818. For more than thirty-six years the worthy couple lived together in happiness, sharing their joys and working for the accumulation of a competency and the training of their children, until October 4, 1882, when the beloved wife and mother passed from earth. She was a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church, to which Mr. Dunkley also belongs. They became the parents of eight children who now survive, with one exception, namely: Thomas W., Elizabeth, Joseph, Edward, John, William, George, who died March 2, 1892, and Lillie. Politically, Mr. Dunkley adheres to the principles of the Democratic party, and has always contributed his influence toward those measures which will benefit the community.

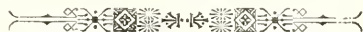


JOHN SMITH, a citizen of thorough integrity, enterprise and intelligence, is highly prized in Winnebago County as one of the early settlers in Harlem Township. Born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, Scotland, July 22, 1826, he is the son of Daniel and Mary (Montgomery) Smith. He attended the parish schools until fifteen years of age, then assisted his father on the farm until accompanying his parents to America in 1842. After the death of the father, our subject and his brothers worked together, and, as they were all very industrious, made considerable money, which they invested in lands, until they owned upwards of a section.

For many years after locating in this county, there were no railroads, all the grain being hauled to the Chicago market with ox and horse teams, our subject making twenty-five trips to that city in one year. He relates that at one time he drove in with a load of beef, and after selling all but one quarter, drove all over the city to find a customer for that. In 1852, the brothers divided their property, our subject locating upon the farm where he now resides. At that time the land was heav-

ily timbered, but Mr. Smith set industriously to work to clear it, erecting buildings in accordance with his means. His frame house was 16x21 feet in dimensions and one story in height. A few years later he erected a large frame barn with stone basement, which was replaced by a larger one in 1873. A commodious frame house was built in 1868, and is now occupied by our subject's son James, our subject residing in a beautiful dwelling, into which the family moved in 1892.

The estate of our subject includes two hundred and forty acres in one body, besides which he owns sixty acres of pasture and timber land. The buildings, which are neat and substantial, are located on a rise of ground commanding a fine view of the surrounding country. December 12, 1852, Miss Elizabeth Montgomery, who was born in Kintyre, Scotland, was united in marriage with our subject. Mrs. Smith was a daughter of James and Jane (Caldwell) Montgomery, pioneers of Harlem Township. The five children comprising the family of our subject and his wife are: Daniel M., Jane, Flora, James M. and Mary E. Daniel married Catherine Brown and has one son, Charles; Jane is Mrs. James S. Reid, of Harlem Township, and has four children: Russel, Lulu, Howie and Mary L.; James married Mary Greenlee and is residing on the old homestead. The family of our subject are all members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, and, in politics, our subject is a member of the Republican party.



CARL J. SWENSON, a stockholder and Director and the Superintendent of the Skandia Furniture Company of Rockford, has been connected with this enterprise since the organization of the company, in February, 1889. The factory is located on North Second Street, on the east bank of Rock River, and business was begun in September of the year above mentioned. Employment has been continuously furnished to one hundred and fifty men, of whom Mr. Swenson has had the superintendency during the entire operation of the factory.

Our subject was born not far from Gottenburg,

Sweden, on the 11th of December, 1856, and there resided until fifteen years of age, when he began life for himself, since which time he has been dependent upon his own resources. Going to the city near his home, he there learned the cabinet-maker's trade, after which he crossed the Atlantic to America in 1879, following his brother E. M. Swenson, who had previously emigrated to this country. He is now married and follows farming near Waterville, Minn. He also had one brother, Albin, who came to this country in 1880, and died in Rockford in 1882, and a brother August and sister Josephine, who came in 1881. This last brother is a cabinet-maker and is employed by the Skandia Furniture Company; the sister is the wife of E. A. Norrman, of the firm of Ulmark & Norrman, tinners. The parents came afterward to the United States, the year 1882 witnessing their arrival, since which time they have made their home in Rockford. The father, Sven Swenson, is a successful cabinet-maker, employed by the Rockford Co-operative Furniture Company.

The marriage of our subject was celebrated in this city, the lady of his choice being Miss Alma C. Olson, who was born in Sweden, on the 17th of August, 1857, and crossed the water in 1885, since which time her home has been in Rockford. Her mother died in Sweden, but her father, Olof Johnson, is now a resident of Rockford and a cabinet-maker, engaged with the Skandia Furniture Company. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Swenson has been blessed with two children: Thorborg and Carl E.

In connection with his other business interests, Mr. Swenson was one of the original stockholders in the Co-operative Furniture Company, and was the first cabinet-maker to draw a plane in its shops. He was also its Superintendent for three years, after working as a common employe for seven years. He was also employed for a time in the Forest City Furniture Factory and since 1889, as before stated, has been Superintendent of the Skandia Furniture Company. He has lived a busy and useful life, performing each task faithfully and well, and thus his merit has won him promotion. He is also a valued citizen of the community, interested in everything pertaining to the general welfare, and

is of a progressive spirit. In this community he has made many friends, who esteem him highly for his sterling worth, and he is well deserving of representation in the history of his adopted county.



JOHN A. BRANDSTROM, who is engaged in the boot and shoe business at No. 630 Seventh Street, Rockford, claims Sweden as the land of his nativity. He was born on the 10th of September, 1861, and is a son of John and Mary (Peterson) Brandstrom, both of whom are still living in the Old Country and are now past the age of three-score years. With the Lutheran Church they hold membership. They had several children, those who came to this country being Charles G., who is now in business with our subject, and three sisters: Ananda, now Mrs. Borg, of this city; Hulda, now Mrs. Lindburg; and Anna, who lives with her eldest sister.

Our subject spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and when thirteen years of age began serving an apprenticeship to the trade of a shoemaker, which he has followed throughout his entire life. He was the first of his family to cross the Atlantic to seek a home in the New World. Bidding good-bye to his native land, he prepared to sail, and the month of April, 1882, witnessed his emigration to America. He came at once to the West, locating in Oregon, Ill., where he spent two years, after which he came to Rockford in 1884. He began work in this city as a shoemaker until April, 1889, when he established his present store at No. 630 Seventh Street. He occupies a store-room, 10x50 feet, and has it well stocked with a good grade of boots and shoes.

A marriage ceremony performed in Rockford on the 28th of October, 1884, united the destinies of Mr. Brandstrom and Miss Gustava Anderson, who is a native of the same province of Sweden as her husband. Her father was a Swedish soldier and died in that country in the prime of life. Her mother is still living in Sweden and has passed her sixtieth birthday. She is a member of the Lutheran Church, to which her husband also be-



Yours truly
J. L. R. R. R.

longed. In the family was one son, who resides in this country; August, a farmer living in Ogle County, and a sister, Matilda, makes her home in Rockford.

Three children grace the union of Mr. and Mrs. Brandstrom, a son and two daughters: Ellen T., C. J. Henry and Esther A. The parents both belong to the Swedish Lutheran Church, and in politics our subject is an independent Republican. Since he established business in 1889, he has built up a good trade and is now enjoying a well-deserved patronage. He is recognized as one of the successful Swedish merchants of the city and ranks deservedly high in business circles. In connection with his boot and shoe store, he is interested in the Rockford Manufacturing Company, which has a capital of \$200,000, owning five shares of stock in the same.



HON. JOHN J. FOOTE. To be descended from ancestors whose names are inseparably associated with the annals of our country, is an honor in which one may take just pride, but it is equally gratifying to the biographical writer to record the deeds of those who, through long and honorable careers, have preserved untarnished the good name they bear and have even added lustre to the ancestral history.

It is therefore a pleasure to record the life sketch and present the portrait of Hon. J. J. Foote, of Belvidere, for the benefit of this and coming generations. He was born in Hamilton, Madison County, N. Y., February 11, 1816, and is the son of John Foote, a native of Connecticut. The paternal grandfather, Hon. Isaac Foote, was born in Colchester, Conn., January 4, 1745, and in 1776 settled in Stafford, the same State. In 1779, he was appointed Justice of the Peace, and was frequently elected to represent the district in the State Legislature. When the Constitution of the United States was drawn, he was chosen delegate to represent the town in the general convention appointed to canvass the Constitution in order for adoption, and it was unanimously adopted by the convention.

In 1795, Grandfather Foote removed West as far as Smyrna, in that part of Herkimer County now included in Chenango County, N. Y. Three years after settling there, he was elected to the State Legislature, in which position he was instrumental in securing the organization of the county of Chenango. He served with honor as the first Judge of the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions. In 1800, he was elected Senator and occupied that honorable office for four years. In 1806, he resigned the position of Judge and retired from public life. His death occurred in Smyrna, February 26, 1842, when he had reached the venerable age of ninety-seven. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Kellogg.

The father of our subject was educated at Hamilton College, Clinton, Oneida County, N. Y., and studied law with Judge Hubbard, of Hamilton. In 1813, he was admitted to the Bar and practiced in the district and United States courts, becoming eminent as a counselor and a solicitor in chancery. He was always a total abstainer and a great advocate of temperance. At the age of ninety-one years, he delivered an able address which was printed and had a large circulation. He was a charter member of the Congregational Church at Hamilton and served as Deacon and Clerk, remaining a faithful Christian until his death in July, 1884. He was first married, January 12, 1812, to Mary B. Johnson, the mother of our subject, who was born in New Canaan, Columbia County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Dr. Johnson.

In his boyhood days, our subject attended school until he was eleven years old, when he commenced to learn the drug and medicine trade, but attended Hamilton Academy during the winter seasons until sixteen. After that, he gave his time to business but devoted all his leisure hours to study until he had completed his education. The degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by Madison (now Colgate) University. He engaged in the drug business at Hamilton until failing health compelled him to seek rest from business cares, when he came to Belvidere and located on a farm which he owned near the city. In 1883, he moved to the city of Belvidere, where he now lives retired.

The marriage of Mr. Foote in 1839 united him

with Miss May, daughter of Amos and Mary (Owen) Crocker, and a native of Lebanon, N. Y. They have three children living, namely: Mary Annette, wife of Enos Clark, of Kirkwood, Mo.; John Crocker and Harriet, who reside in Belvidere.

In politics, Mr. Foote was formerly a Whig and while a member of that party was elected Supervisor of the town of Hamilton, Madison County, N. Y., and also served as Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors. At the time of the formation of the Republican party, he entered its ranks. In 1857, he was elected to the State Senate, representing the counties of Madison, Chenango, and Cortland, and introduced into the Senate the famous Personal Liberty Bill. He was well acquainted and in perfect accord with the leaders and stood high in the councils of his party. In 1860, he was Presidential Elector, representing Madison and Oswego Counties. Since coming to Illinois, he has twice been elected President of the Boone County Agricultural Society, for five or six years has represented Belvidere on the County Board of Supervisors and served as Chairman of the Board.

In 1873, Mr. Foote was invited to New York by Postmaster James to accept a position in the post-office. There had been numerous defalcations previously and something had to be done to check it. He organized the Auditor's Department of that office, which was the first post-office in the United States to have such a department, and was acting Postmaster when Mr. James was absent. The duties pertaining to the office of Auditor are as follows: accounting with the post-office department, supervision of the cashier and money-order department, receipt and expenditures of all moneys, supervision of the unpaid postage department, collection of newspaper postage, and of quarterly rates, supervision of the repair of buildings, pouches and sacks, and supervision of the different stations and correspondence. He was Auditor of the Custodian Department, having charge of public buildings, and was very successful in the position, which he held three years, resigning in 1876, because of failing health. The rules and regulations he established for the reorganization of the New York post-office were introduced into many post-offices of the large cities by Gen. M. La Rue Harrison,

son, of Washington, D. C., so that the reforms instituted in New York were not confined to that city.

Gen. Harrison was connected with the money order service at Washington, his duties calling him to large cities throughout the United States, reorganizing and reforming the service. After Mr. Foote had reorganized the postoffice at New York and provided "rules and regulations," which were printed in pamphlet form, the General adopted them as his guide. Referring to this in one of his letters to Mr. Foote, he says: "I have told post-office men over and over again, that to you more than to all others combined the New York office owes its present state of efficiency. I am on the record and ready to fight for it." Being a business man, the reforms which Mr. Foote instituted were based on approved "business principles," and proved most beneficial.



JOHN LEACH occupies an honorable position among the pioneers of Winnebago County, and as an active, intelligent, thrifty and practical farmer, has promoted its agricultural interests, and is classed with its most successful and wealthy farmers. He is a large landowner in this section, and his residence in the county dates from 1819. His home is located on section 36, Durand Township, where rich harvests have brought him wealth, so that he is enabled to spend his declining years at ease in a home that is replete with comfort.

Like many of the prominent residents of this county, our subject was born in England, August 7, 1824, and is a son of Jonathan and Catherine (Higginbottom) Leach, also natives of Lancashire, where the father was a dyer in a woolen mill. To the parents were born a family of seven children: Anna, George, Samuel, John, Levi, and two who died in infancy. Our subject was reared in Mosley, England, and worked at the trade of a spinner in a cotton factory. He was the only one of the family to come to the New World, and, setting sail from Liverpool, November 13, 1847, landed in New York after a journey of thirty-five days

on the "Sheridan." Arriving in this country, Mr. Leach went to Rhode Island, and in March, 1848, to Waltham, Mass., where he pursued his trade. The following year he came to Illinois, and being pleased with the outlook in Winnebago County, remained two months in Durand, and during the time selected the land which is his present home. Returning to the Bay State, our subject resumed work at his trade until April, 1853.

In August, 1851, Mr. Leach and Miss Elizabeth Higginbottom were united in marriage. The lady was also a native of Lancashire, England, her birth occurring April 27, 1823. She was the daughter of Harlam and Anna (Lees) Higginbottom, and accompanied her parents to the United States in 1841. Her father located in Trenton, N. J., but not being able to find work at his trade of a spinner, did manual labor. In 1842, he removed to Rhode Island, where he resided until 1848, then removed to Waltham, Mass., where he made his home until coming to Illinois in 1849. Locating in Durand Township, Mr. Higginbottom departed this life when eighty-three years of age, and his good wife when three-score years and ten.

Mrs. Leach was one in a family of seven children, five of whom grew to mature years, namely: Samuel, who resides in Norborne, Mo.; Mrs. Leach, who was the second in order of birth; Allen, who resides in Holyoke, Mass.; Hannah, who married Isaac Walker, died at Cahoos Falls, N. Y.; and Ann, Mrs. John McMann, who resides in Harrison Township, this county.

The original of this sketch made a permanent location in this county in 1853, having purchased forty-nine acres of land which bore partial improvements. He has since given his attention to farming, and is the proud possessor of three hundred and fifteen broad acres, upon which he has placed first-class improvements. He also is quite successful in stock-raising, and ranks among the progressive farmers of this section.

To Mr. and Mrs. Leach have been born eight children, four of whom are deceased. Those living are Levi, who was born August 24, 1852, and resides in Aurora, Buchanan County, Iowa; he married Hulda Fells, and is the father of four children: Mamie, Edward, Stewart and an infant.

John S., who was born August 5, 1857, married Emma Hicks, and has two children, Donald and Leonard. Allen, who was born November 2, 1861, is the husband of Emma Nelson, and makes his home in this township. Lizzie, who was born December 4, 1866, is Mrs. Edwin Barningham, and lives in Harrison Township.

In his political relations, Mr. Leach voted the Republican ticket until 1890, since which time he casts an independent ballot. He was reared in the Episcopal Church, and gives liberally of his means toward its support. The accumulation of his handsome property has been by good management in all of his enterprises, and by the assistance of a devoted and helpful wife.



GEORGE GREENLEE, senior member of the firm of George Greenlee & Son, hardware merchants at Belvidere, is of Scottish birth. He was born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, January 1, 1828, and is a son of Elder John and Helen (Brown) Greenlee, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. He was a lad of only eight summers when, with his parents, he crossed the broad Atlantic to America, but he distinctly remembers many incidents of the voyage and of early pioneer life in Winnebago County, where the family settled. It was some time after they had located here before there were any schools in this part of the county. Finally, a district was organized, and all the settlers joined together, cut trees and erected a log building, which was located about eighty rods west of the present site of the Willow Creek Church. The floor was made of slabs and the benches of the same material. There were no desks in front; holes were bored in the logs on either side of the room, in which pins were inserted, and slabs laid upon these served for the larger scholars to write on. The building was heated by a fire-place, and it was in this building that the Willow Creek Church was organized.

When very young, Mr. Greenlee commenced to assist his father with the labors of the farm, and under the parental roof he remained until his

marriage, when he located on the farm which he still owns in Harlem Township. He continued to actively engage in agricultural pursuits and devote his attention to the improvement of his land until 1876, when he rented his farm and removed to Belvidere. He embarked in the hardware business in company with his brothers, John and Charles. This firm continued operations until November, 1890, when Mr. Greenlee's son succeeded to the interest of his brothers, and the firm became George Greenlee & Son. They carry a full and complete stock of goods in their line, have worked up an excellent trade and are numbered among the leading merchants of the city.

In 1857, our subject was united in marriage to Martha Greenlee, also a native of Kintyre, Scotland, and a daughter of William and Martha Greenlee. Their union has been blessed by six children, three of whom are living: George, Martha and Lizzie, who are all at home. Mr. and Mrs. Greenlee are both members of the Presbyterian Church and are well-known people of this community, held in high regard for their many excellencies of character. In politics, he is a Republican, and is a public-spirited and progressive citizen who has ever borne his part in the advancement of those enterprises calculated to benefit and improve the community.



LESTER N. GALLUP, who resides at No. 102 La Fayette Avenue, Rockford, is a native of Cleveland, Ohio, but was chiefly reared in Newburg, that State, where he received a practical education. His parents, Jabez and Lucy (Meech) Gallup, were natives of Connecticut and of Scotch descent. In the Nutmeg State, they were married and came at once to Cleveland, Ohio, where the mother died at the age of thirty-seven years. Mr. Gallup was a second time married and removed to Denver, Col., where he died at the age of eighty-four years. He was a skilled mechanic and architect in house and ship building. In early life, he and his wife belonged to the Presbyterian Church but afterward became Congregationalists. He was a well-informed man, unyielding in sup-

port of what he believed to be right. In politics, he was a staunch Whig and afterward a Republican, and in the War of 1812 he served his country faithfully.

At an early age, our subject began to earn his own livelihood and for nearly three years served on a boat on the Mississippi River as a freight checker. He showed decided business ability in whatever he attempted to do and his life has been one of uprightness and honor. He became connected with the early development of the country west of the Mississippi River about 1850. In 1859, he crossed the American Desert and afterward became proprietor of trains that carried all the business which was done with the Far West. He conducted, and was proprietor of, different wagon trains which ran all the way to California. Few men are better acquainted with the early history of the West than Mr. Gallup. He saw Denver, Colo., when it was only a few log cabins, a mere Indian trading-post, and visited North Platte and Kearney before they were known as towns. He became well known among the frontiersmen and was a personal friend of many of the leading pioneers. He also became acquainted with the red men and their habits, and has helped to bury many massacred by the savages, but his own judgment and care, supplemented by undaunted bravery, made him safe from their treachery. If it were possible to relate all the experiences of Mr. Gallup in his Western life, it would fill a volume and the story would be one of thrilling interest. Circumstances led him to become connected with the railroad interests and also the stock business. He is now actively engaged in looking after his stock in Gentry County, Mo., and is the live-stock agent for the railroad companies through the West.

In St. Louis, Mo., Mr. Gallup wedded Miss Rebecca Griggs, who was born in Illinois, and is a daughter of Albert and Laura (Judd) Griggs, natives of the Empire State, and of French and New England descent, respectively. Her father died at Glenwood, Mills County, Iowa, in 1861. He was a prominent man in that county and was serving as Sheriff at the time of his death. He was a soldier during the War of 1812. In politics, he was a Whig and afterward a staunch Republican. His

wife now makes her home with Mrs. Gallup at the age of seventy-seven years and is yet remarkably well preserved. In religious belief, she is a Methodist and her life has been in harmony with her profession.

Mrs. Gallup is a cultured and refined lady and has been quite prominent in temperance work in the West. She was one of the pioneer temperance workers in Iowa and is a personal friend of Mrs. J. Ellen Foster. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gallup give their support to whatever tends to promote the moral interests of the community, are consistent members of the Baptist Church and are Prohibitionists in political sentiment. They have a pleasant home at No. 402 La Fayette Avenue, which is brightened by the presence of two children: Lulu F. and Fred. Mr. Gallup is recognized as a man of sterling worth, is true to every duty and is of a genial nature.



JOHN H. LINDERMAN. This gentleman has done much to forward the business interests of Winnebago County, and as one who is disposed to support all measures tending toward the continuation of its prosperity, he is well worthy of representation in this volume. He is at present residing on a good farm in Roscoe Township, where, besides being engaged in general agriculture, he makes a specialty of stock-raising, feeding the greater portion of his farm products to his animals.

A native of Steuben County, N. Y., our subject, who is the son of Henry Linderman, was born in 1828. His father was also a native of that State, where he spent the first sixty years of his life, then came West to Roscoe Township, this county, in the fall of 1854, making the journey overland with teams. His father, the grandfather of our subject, S. Linderman, also hailed from New York, and after rearing a large family died at the advanced age of one hundred years. He was a patriot in the Revolutionary War and an industrious and reliable citizen.

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Mary Sebring, a native of Newfield, Tompkins

County, N. Y., and the daughter of Cornelius Sebring, one of the earliest settlers of that place, whither he had removed from Pennsylvania. He was a great hunter, and as bear, deer and other wild game were plentiful, thus kept the family larder constantly supplied with wild meats. He reared a family of three sons and four daughters and died in New York at the venerable age of seventy-five years. He kept a country tavern and was thus widely and favorably known throughout that section of the State, being one of the most prominent pioneers of his day.

John H. Linderman made his advent into Illinois in 1854, at which time he was accompanied by his mother and young wife, who prior to her marriage was Miss Lucy, daughter of Simeon and Mary A. (Fargo) Church. Her parents were natives of Connecticut and later removing to New York were farmers, and there the father's demise occurred; Mrs. Church is still living. The first land owned by our subject in this county was one hundred and sixty acres on section 1, sixty acres of which were cleared, and an old house and stone hog pen completed the improvements. In 1876, he erected his present commodious and substantial dwelling where were born their seven children, two of whom died in infancy. Those living are: Arthur J., Ellen J., Cora B., Owen C. and Alice E.

Although reared a Democrat, Mr. Linderman casts his vote for Republican candidates. He has never identified himself with any church, but is a liberal contributor to the support of all worthy objects and has aided in no small degree the growth and prosperity of this county.



JOHN R. JEWETT. In tracing the genealogy of the Jewett family in America, we find that three brothers of that name, all blacksmiths, emigrated from Wales to this country at a period antedating the Revolution, and tradition has it that, being without means, they agreed that one should black himself as a dorky, and be sold as a slave by the others. He was afterward to run away and appear in his own proper

character. They did this in order to procure money to buy tools, and, after earning enough money, they paid the man back. From these brothers sprang the Jewett family now scattered over the United States. They settled in different New England States, married, and reared large families. The grandfather of our subject, Benjamin Jewett, also followed the trade over which Longfellow and Schiller have thrown a veil of romance and heroism, the blacksmith trade, and this was his chief calling during life. He was an active participant in the French War, and was in the battle of Quebec. He also served in the Revolution for seven years. He married Miss Abigail Bates, of New England, and they reared a large family. His death occurred in New England, and his wife followed him to the grave in Genesee County, N. Y., a number of years later.

The father of our subject, and the son of Benjamin Jewett, Levi Jewett, was born in Windham County, Conn., and after reaching man's estate, he married an own cousin. Six weeks after the birth of their first child (the subject of this sketch), they went to Genesee County, N. Y., making the journey of about four hundred miles through a new and wild country, with a horse-team. This young couple started out with limited means, and thought to lay the foundation for future comfort and prosperity in this heavily-wooded country. They took one hundred and twenty acres of the Holland purchase, cut the first tree on the place in 1815, and soon had a comfortable log cabin. There they delved and toiled for seventeen years, and there six of their children were born. They then sold out and removed to Attica, then in that county, but now in Wyoming County, and as Mr. Jewett had learned the blacksmith trade of his father, he followed this for many years on the farm. Although own cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Jewett reared eight bright, healthy children. Mr. Jewett died in Wyoming County, in 1839, of consumption, when in middle life, but the remainder of the family lived to be old people, and none died of that fell disease. His wife, the mother of our subject, died there when eighty years of age, and left seven children. She had buried one daughter, Eliza Ann, Mrs. Chancey Bykard, who died when thirty years

of age. Since the death of the mother, Marietta, another daughter, widow of Bissell Parker, died in middle life. The remainder are living: John R.; Harriet, the widow of a Mr. Chadwick, resides in New York; Emma, Mrs. Jacob Young, resides in Michigan; Abigail, Mrs. Wilbur Washburn, resides in Attica, N. Y.; Joel B., a farmer of Gainesville, N. Y.; and Josiah F., a mechanic in Attica, N. Y., and the City Marshal.

John R. Jewett, our subject, was born in Windham County, Hampton Township, Conn., August 22, 1815, and, like Tubal Cain, should have been a man of might, for he followed the family trade of blacksmithing on his father's farm in York State until twenty-two years of age, when he left the parental roof to seek his fortune in the Far West. He left Buffalo for Illinois on the 15th of May, 1838, and came by way of the Lakes to Chicago on a vessel, the old "James Madison." After reaching the last-named city, he walked to Harrison, Winnebago County, where he had an aunt living, and later engaged at his trade in Rockton, where he made the sawmill irons for three sawmills, and the wrought iron works for the Talcott gristmill. In 1839, he staked a claim of a one-half section west of the river, now the Carpenter farm, and this he sold for \$150, being sick and wishing to return to the East. He was taken sick while building a cellar for Stephen Mack, the first stoned cellar in the northern part of the county, and it is in good condition at the present time.

Mr. Jewett returned in the spring of 1840, with restored health, and worked at his trade and general mechanics, having inherited a natural taste for the same from both father and mother. In 1846, he took the contract to complete the work then under process of construction by others who were taken ill, and got this double sawmill up in good shape in 1847. This mill turned out much lumber for years. In 1845, Mr. Jewett had entered eighty acres of land, part of his present home, and bought the claim for \$75, walking to Dixon to pre-empt it, and in due course of time he obtained a title. In 1848, he built a sawmill on his side of the river at the dam, and ran this in connection with a broom-handle and lath mill until 1854, when he

sold it to Lucian Williams. Since then Mr. Jewett has been engaged in farming, erecting his dwelling, barn, and other buildings on the place, and to the original tract has added eighty acres, making a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in all.

He was married, in this county, to Elizabeth M. Gilmour, daughter of George and Mary A. (Wolfolk) Gilmour, natives of Kentucky, in which State Mrs. Jewett was born September 4, 1831, and their nuptials were celebrated on the 22d of May, 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Jewett have buried two daughters: Clara, who died in 1873, when in her twenty-second year; and Ella, who died in 1870, when fifteen years of age. They have three sons and one daughter now living: John Regulus, a mechanic, carpenter and joiner, in Nebraska, is married and has two children; George L., a carpenter in Council Bluffs, Iowa; Robert Burns, at home, but a natural mechanic, married Miss Winnie McMahon, of Harrison, daughter of John and Ann (Higginbottom) McMahon, and they have one son, John Robert Jewett. Mr. Jewett was at one time a Whig, and later he became a Republican, but of late years he has taken very little interest in politics. In 1836, he cast his first Presidential vote for William H. Harrison. He assisted in building the new church in Harrison, and although he contributes liberally to its support and to all worthy enterprises, he is not a member of any church. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace a great many times, also other minor offices, and has discharged the duties incumbent upon them in a creditable manner.

In 1843, Mr. Jewett built the first bridge across the Rock River at Rockton, and this was the first bridge built on the Rock River in Illinois. The next bridge was built at Rockford, in 1845. The bridge built by Mr. Jewett was at Mark's Point, and was carried away by very high water many years later. Mr. Jewett is practically retired from active duties but looks after the farm his son R. B. is now running. Our subject has a family relic in his possession which is a well-formed little hatchet, or tomahawk, which his grandfather made and stamped his initials, B. J., upon it. He wore it in his belt at the battle of Quebec, and this relic is a sacred one in the family. Mr. and Mrs. Jewett are both

enjoying excellent health, and are very proud of the five grandchildren living, especially the little baby boy at home. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Jewett was an active participant in the Revolutionary War.



GEORGE B. MOSS is a typical Illinois citizen. He is a man of education and learning, and as such is well known all over the county. Mr. Moss was born in Boone County, Belvidere Township, Illinois, on the 25th of September, 1845, and is a son of Andrew F. and Louisa (Bristol) Moss, both natives of New York, the father born in Kingsbury, Washington County, February 27, 1817, and the mother in Cato, Cayuga County, April 21, 1810. Andrew F. Moss was one of thirteen children, all of whom grew to mature years, born to Asa and Harriet (Sherwood) Moss, who were natives respectively of Connecticut and New York, the former born March 14, 1779, and the latter September 20, 1783. They moved to Boone County, Ill., many years ago and both died here, the father April 11, 1856, and the mother, August 17, 1846.

Andrew F. Moss, father of our subject, was one of the very first settlers of Boone County, Ill., making his appearance here in 1836, and lived to see that portion of the State grow up from its infancy, to be dotted with productive farms and thriving towns. He came here with the intention of working at his trade of carpentering, and when nineteen years of age he had charge of fifty men in that business. He took up land from the Government, and resided on the same until the time of his death, on the 21st of July, 1883. He was well known all over the county, was honored by all who knew him, and was one of the many who spent the greater portion of their lives in developing the country, that their children and grandchildren might enjoy the advantages which they themselves were denied. His wife died in this county on the 15th of November, 1891. Of the six children born to this much esteemed couple, only two besides our subject are now living, a brother and sis-

ter. Our subject's great-grandfather, Sherwood, was a native of England, and settled in New England when first coming to America.

Our subject passed his boyhood and youth in this county, and received a good practical education in the Belvidere schools. He subsequently spent two years in the Eastman Business College, at Chicago, and is considered one of the best-posted men in this section. He has gathered weather reports for the Government for fifteen years, and was statistical correspondent for the Department of Agriculture, at Washington, D. C. He remained with his parents until about 1882, and then bought eighty-two acres of land where he now lives, and thirty acres of his father's old homestead.

He was married on the 1st of January, 1878, to Miss Lydia M. Wood, who was born in Greene County, N. Y., and their union has been blessed by the birth of one child, a son, Hollie L., who was born in this county on the 26th of November, 1879. Mr. Moss is engaged in mixed farming and is successful in this as in every other enterprise to which he turns his hand. He is a Republican in politics, as was also his father, who, however, believed in electing good men for office, regardless of politics.



THOMAS N. MILLER, A. M., M. D., who is engaged in the practice of medicine in Rockford, was born in Oneida County, N. Y., August 21, 1819, and is descended from the Pilgrim Fathers. His grandfather, Eliakim Miller, was born in the Empire State, of Massachusetts parentage. Representatives of the family served in the Revolutionary War, and the eldest son of Eliakim was a soldier of the War of 1812. The grandfather spent his entire life as a farmer, and died in Madison County, N. Y., when about eighty years of age. His wife also reached an advanced age. The older members of the Miller family were members of the Congregational Church, and its male representatives were all Whigs.

Amos Miller, father of our subject, was born in Madison County, N. Y., and in an early day emigrated to Illinois, settling upon an unbroken farm

of two hundred acres in Winnebago County. There he engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1873. His wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Tyggert. She too was a native of Madison County, and proved a faithful helpmate to her husband, her efforts being largely instrumental in securing the success which he achieved. Mrs. Miller is still living on the old homestead in Winnebago Township, at the age of eighty-three years, and is yet remarkably well preserved. With the Congregational Church she holds membership and to that society Mr. Miller also belonged. Her family is noted for longevity. Her father, David Tyggert, a soldier of the Revolutionary War, died in Madison County, N. Y., at the age of ninety-two years, and his wife was ninety-three years of age at the time of her death.

Our subject is one of a family of seven sons and one daughter, and with the exception of one son and the daughter, all are yet living and are married. Three sons are farmers of Winnebago Township; Josiah is an attorney of Springfield, Mo.; and Richard is a Congregational clergyman of Milton, Wis.

Dr. Miller was only five years of age when the family came to the West, and upon his father's farm in Winnebago Township the days of his boyhood and youth were passed. He entered Beloit College, from which he was graduated with the Class of '73, after which he returned to the farm, remaining at home for a few years. At length he determined to make the practice of medicine his life work and became a student under Dr. Clinton Helm. Later, he entered the Chicago Medical College, from which he was graduated in the Class of '80. He at once established practice in Winnebago, and after ten years came to Rockford, where he has since resided. He is now enjoying a good practice, which is constantly increasing and already he has a reputation of which an older practitioner might well be proud.

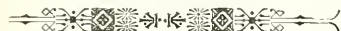
The Doctor was joined in wedlock in this county with Miss Arvilla A. Lane, who was born in Wisconsin on the 26th of February, 1852, and is a daughter of William H. and Emily N. (Weare) Lane. Her parents were natives of Maine, and after their marriage came to the West, locating in



C. F. Anderson

Wisconsin, whence they removed to Winnebago County in 1855, locating on an unbroken tract of land in Winnebago Township. It is now a highly improved farm, owing to the untiring efforts of Mr. Lane, who still resides there at the age of seventy years. His wife died in 1875, when past the age of fifty years. Both were members of the Congregational Church. Mrs. Miller was reared under the parental roof, was graduated from the Winnebago High School and afterward engaged as a teacher. She is a cultured and intelligent lady and has many friends throughout this community.

Three children graced the union of the Doctor and his wife, but Mary E. died at the age of two and a half years. The living are Edith M. and Bertha A. With the First Presbyterian Church the parents hold membership. The Doctor is a stalwart supporter of the Prohibition party and is a warm friend to all enterprises calculated to promote the moral and educational interests of the city. He is recognized as a valued citizen as well as a skilled physician, and his aid is never withheld from anything calculated to promote the general welfare of his adopted county.



CHARLES F. ANDERSON. President of the Union Furniture Company of Rockford, is one of the leading business men of the city, being connected with many of its most important industries. His portrait is shown on the opposite page and his life record is as follows: He was born in Sweden, April 16, 1810, and is a son of Andrew and Christian Nelson. His father, who is now about eighty years of age, has been a life-long physician and is well known in the community where he resides. Both he and his wife are adherents of the Lutheran Church. Three brothers of the family besides our subject came to this country: Gust, John and James, but none are residents of Rockford. The last-named is deceased, having been accidentally killed by falling from a wagon.

The education of our subject was acquired in the common schools of his native land, where he was reared to manhood. At the age of twenty-three, he became superintendent of a large planta-

tion and to that work devoted his energies for nine years, when he determined to seek a home in the New World. On October 18, 1872, he left Gottenburg, and landed in Boston on the 10th of November. He began life in this country as a day laborer and after a year found himself in Rockford, which has since been his home. Since locating in this city, he has acquired an excellent knowledge of cabinet-making, and yet devotes a part of his time to work in that line.

The lady who bears the name of Mrs. Anderson was in her maidenhood Miss Charlotte Gustafson. She was born and reared in Sweden in the same neighborhood as her husband, and was a passenger on board the same vessel on which he sailed. Her father, who was born in 1821, is still living in Sweden. His wife died in 1885. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been born six children, but two are now deceased: Robert and Charles J. Those still living are Ida, book-keeper in the office of the Union Furniture Company; Betsy, Esther E. and Winfield L.

Mr. Anderson was instrumental in organizing the Union Furniture Company, which began business in 1876. He is a Director and one of its large stockholders and has been its President since 1887. This is one of the most important industries of the city and now employs about two hundred and twenty-five men. He is also a stockholder and Director in the Mantel and Furniture Company, the Royal Sewing Machine Company, Chair and Furniture Company, Excelsior Furniture Company, Skandia Brick Company, the Folding Bed Company and the Skandia Shoe Company. Mr. Anderson was a promoter and one of the first subscribers to stock in most of these leading Swedish corporations. He has done much for the business interests of the city and for the welfare of his fellow-countrymen.

A prominent and well-known Swedish capitalist and a representative citizen of Rockford, recognized as such by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, he has also won prosperity, and although he began life in this country a poor man, he has worked his way upward to a position of affluence. He and his wife are leading members of the Zion Swedish Church, of which he is Dea-

con, and have taken a most active part in its work and upbuilding from the beginning. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican, but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his entire attention to his business, which he has followed with signal success.



HAMNETT H. TRAVELLER resides in Cherry Valley and is engaged in general farming. He was born in Ontario, Canada, in 1853, and is a son of Reuben and Henrietta (Dow) Traveller. His father was born in Philadelphia, Pa., while his parents, natives of England, were on their way from that country to Canada. His death occurred about 1849, at the age of seventy years, and his wife died in early life.

Our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits, his childhood days passing uneventfully and his educational advantages being limited. He left his old home at the age of twenty-five years and emigrated to Dakota with his young bride. He had just wedded Miss Mary J. Heatherington, of Ontario, daughter of John and Harriet (Meach) Heatherington. The young couple reached their destination in April, 1879, and Mr. Traveller made a claim of three hundred and twenty acres near Grand Forks, N. Dak., where he built a house, a good barn and other outbuildings, and devoted his energies to the improvement of a farm. He there resided for ten years, and in January, 1889, went to Seattle, Wash., proposing to make that city his future home, but the business outlook was not good and he removed to Salem, Ore. After a little more than a year spent in that city, he removed to Eastern Oregon and after six months returned to Illinois, locating in Cherry Valley in June, 1891. He here purchased one hundred and eighty-one and a half acres of land at \$73 per acre, a part of the Mackey farm, upon which was the old homestead that was erected in 1853 by J. Fitch.

Mr. Traveller takes delight in his chosen occupation and is therefore a successful farmer. In connection with general farming, he engages to some

extent in the dairy business. In politics, he is an independent and has never sought or desired public office, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his business interests. Himself and wife are both members of the Methodist Church and are people of sterling worth, held in high regard by their friends throughout this community. They have a family of three children, two sons and a daughter: Teel Dow, who was born in North Dakota, November 28, 1879; Ethel C. N., also born in that State, February 2, 1881, and Douglas R., who was born in North Dakota, December 4, 1885. They are bright, intelligent children, of whom the parents may be justly proud.



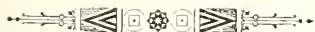
PETER JOHNSON, who is now living a retired life at No. 503 South First Street, is numbered among the early settlers of Rockford, of 1854, and has here a wide acquaintance. Sweden has furnished a number of prominent citizens to Rockford, among the most worthy of whom is our subject. He was born in that country, October 3, 1822, and is a son of John and Carrie (Dawson) Peterson, both of whom spent their entire lives in their native land, the father dying at the age of forty-five years and his wife in the sixty-seventh year of her age. Both were members of the Lutheran Church.

Our subject was reared under the parental roof, and after he had attained to man's estate, was married in his native province to Miss Mary Walgren, who lost her parents when she was quite young. She was reared in the same neighborhood as her husband. After the birth of three children, they emigrated to America, sailing from Gottenburg to New York City, where they landed in the summer of 1851, after a voyage of seven weeks. Many on board the vessel died of the cholera, and Mr. Johnson himself had an attack of the disease, but his strong constitution and will pulled him through.

They came on at once to Rockford, and as Mr. Johnson was in very limited circumstances, he engaged in various kinds of labor in different parts of the county, so that he might provide for the support of himself and wife. For some years he

worked as a farm hand for fifty and seventy-five cents per day, and afterward for eleven years was employed in the machine shops of N. C. Thompson and John P. Manney, formerly large manufacturers of this city. His life has ever been a busy and useful one, and his industry, enterprise and perseverance at length won him a well-deserved success. He thereby acquired the competence which now enables him to live retired, resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil.

In 1880, Mr. Johnson was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died August 20, at the age of fifty-eight years. She was a true, faithful wife and mother, and a member of the Lutheran Church. She had six children, but five are now deceased, three having died in early childhood, while Mary died at the age of seventeen years. Josephine, the only one now living, is the wife of L. M. Noling, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. Johnson has been a true, upright and honest citizen, and is a faithful member of the First Lutheran Church. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican, and is a loyal citizen of his adopted land, for which he has the greatest love. This worthy gentleman is respected by all who know him, and it is with pleasure that we present his sketch to our readers.



ELIAH PURDY, one of the early settlers of Winnebago County, and a representative farmer of Guilford Township, residing on section 16, claims Vermont as the State of his nativity. He was born in Manchester, Bennington County, December 9, 1821, and is a son of Ira Purdy, who was born in the same locality. The grandfather, Benjamin Purdy, was a native of Connecticut but removing to Vermont became one of the earliest settlers of Bennington County. His son Samuel was the first white male child born in Bennington County. The grandfather there secured a tract of timber land and cleared and improved a farm and there made his home until his death. The father of our subject was reared and married in Manchester, wedding Prudy French, who was born in Bennington County. Her parents,

Elijah and Abigail (Beardslee) French, were natives of Connecticut and pioneers of the town of Manchester.

Our subject was only two years old when his mother died, and at the age of six he began to earn his own living, going to reside with the family of Price Beardslee, a farmer of Manchester, with whom he lived for seven years, when he went to an uncle, living with him the succeeding seven years, and during this period assisted in the farm work and attended the district schools. In 1847, he came to Illinois, by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes and by team from Chicago to Rockford, where he arrived on the 25th of September. The city was then a small hamlet and the surrounding country was in almost its primitive condition, few claims having then been made. Mr. Purdy at once began work upon a farm and was employed as a farm hand until 1850, when he located upon the land which is now his home. He had purchased eighty acres of the farm at \$4 per acre during the fall succeeding his arrival here, but was able to make only a partial payment upon the land. After clearing it of all indebtedness, he extended the boundaries of his farm from time to time until it comprised three hundred acres. Upon it he erected good farm buildings, planted fruit and shade trees and made many other good improvements. In 1881, he went to Gerald County, Dak., where he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land, built upon his farm and improved a portion of his land. He there resided two seasons, after which he returned to his home in Guilford Township.

On the 20th of September, 1848, Mr. Purdy was united in marriage with Melissa Wightman, who was born in Sandgate, Bennington County, Vt., August 6, 1827. Her father, William Wightman, was also a native of the Green Mountain State, and was of English descent. He learned the trade of a wheelwright, which he followed in Sandgate and later in Manchester, Vt. After the war he removed to Linn County, Iowa, and purchased a farm near Marion, and there spent his last days. His wife bore the maiden name of Martha Woodard. She was born in Sandgate, Vt., and was a daughter of Abram and Dinah (Green) Woodard.

Mr. and Mrs. Purdy have been blessed with five children, three sons and two daughters: Alice, wife of Alfred Martin, of Rockford; Albert, Ira; Martha, wife of William McCutchen, of Rockford; and Frank. The parents are both members of the First Congregational Church of Rockford, and, in politics, Mr. Purdy votes with the Republican party. For forty-five years he has made his home in this county, and in many ways has been identified with its advancement and upbuilding.



JOSEPH MYERS derives a comfortable income from his farming operations, which he carries on successfully in Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County. He is a representative of the German element that has played so important a part in the settlement and development of Illinois, and was born in Sarnico, Germany, June 16, 1841. His home is most beautifully located, and the residence, which is a handsome modern structure, cost \$3,000. The home is supplied with all the comforts and conveniences which stamp its owner to be a thrifty and well-to-do citizen of the county.

The original of this sketch is a son of John and Elizabeth Myers, and from the age of ten to sixteen years he was employed at herding cattle in the Old Country. In 1857, when his parents emigrated to the New World, he immediately found employment on farms, receiving as remuneration for his services \$2 per month and his board. He also cut cord-wood for three shillings a cord, and later, going to Milwaukee, spent two years in the Cream City and then came to Winnebago County, where he did farm work for four years at from \$10 to \$17 per month.

Mr. Myers, of this sketch, was married February 26, 1864, to Miss Sophia Glawe, who died four years later, when twenty-four years of age. Soon after his marriage, our subject rented a farm, which he operated for twelve years, and in the spring of 1875 moved to his present property, which he had purchased the year previous.

He of whom we write was married a second time

to Miss Charlotte Dethwiller, who was born in Stratford, France, August 21, 1847. She was the daughter of Henry and Charlotte Dethwiller, and was nine years old when brought to this country by her parents. By her union with our subject eight children were born, viz.: Eda, who was born January 27, 1871, married John Smoke, a farmer; John H. S., born February 27, 1874; Frank, November 13, 1875; Anna C., February 2, 1876; William C., April 16, 1878; Louisa A., February 12, 1880; Rosa C., December 5, 1881, and Albert, the eldest of the family, who died at the age of four months.

Our subject later added to his farm in Pecatonica Township, and is now the proprietor of as fine a tract of land as is to be found in the county. His first one hundred and sixty acres cost him \$40 per acre, and the last eighty, \$60 per acre. With his wife he is a devoted member of the Lutheran Church, and takes a deep interest in all church matters. He takes a prominent part in public affairs, and votes the straight Republican ticket.



GEORGE H. CORMACK, Vice-President of the Oatmeal Company, is one of the representative and prominent men of Rockford. For the past twenty years he has been connected with the interests of the city and was one of the originators of the business which is now one of its leading industries. He is a native of Aberdeenshire, Scotland, born in 1837, and is a son of James Cormack, also a native of Aberdeenshire, and a miller and millwright by trade. He came of a pure Scotch family and married a lady of his native land. His death occurred in Scotland at the age of eighty-six years, and his wife died in 1869, when well advanced in life. There are ten children of the family yet living, our subject being the youngest, and they are scattered to the four quarters of the globe, living in Europe, Australia, Africa and America.

In his native land G. H. Cormack became a millwright and thoroughly mastered the business in all its details. To that work he devoted his energies in Aberdeenshire until he came to Amer-



Yours truly
J. Fletcher Weyburn

ica, the year of his emigration being 1871. With the hope of benefiting his financial condition, he crossed the Atlantic and spent one year in the province of Ontario, Canada, after which he came to Illinois, locating in Rockford, where he has resided continuously since, a good citizen and successful business man.

Immediately after his arrival, in company with Mr. A. M. Johnston, who is a native of the North of Ireland, he established and began the operation of an oatmeal manufactory. These two gentlemen continued partnership until 1882, when the company was incorporated, with R. H. Tinker as President and G. H. Cormack as Secretary. Mr. Johnston, his former partner, is a successful business man, connected with a large milling and seed business in Santa Cruz, Cal. From the beginning, the industry which was established met with success and was constantly increased in size and capacity until the morning of September 29, 1891, when the entire main building was destroyed by fire. The successful operation of the business is due almost entirely to Mr. Cormack, who is its manager, and by his efforts it has been placed at the head of this line of business in the West. His trade of a millwright has been of great benefit to him in improving his processes. He has been the inventor of fifteen different processes, including the one now used in the factory for the manufacture of the meal. At first the meal was ground with mill stones and then cut with sharp steel knives, but this left the grain only coarsely cut and in 1874 this process was discarded, being supplemented by the practical and scientific process invented by Mr. Cormack, whereby the whole grain is rolled and made into a beautiful flake, easily cooked and very nutritious. For many years one of the best known brands on the market has been the Nudavene, which is the product of this factory. Its sales are constantly increasing and it is now being manufactured extensively in Cedar Rapids and Chicago. No one in this country or in Europe has done more to develop oatmeal than our subject. The Nudavene flake was first placed before the public at the New Orleans Cotton Centennial Exposition, where it was awarded the first prize—the gold medal.

In 1880, Mr. Cormack and Mr. Johnston, who had for many years been a prominent wholesale grocery man in Buffalo, N. Y., established the glucose business in this city, a large concern, but after a time both withdrew and neither have any connection with it at the present time. Mr. Cormack is a man of sterling worth, upright and honorable in all the relations of life, and a straightforward business man whose worth is acknowledged throughout the city and county. In his political affiliations, he is a Republican but has never been an office-seeker.



S FLETCHER WEYBURN. Rockford cannot boast of a more prominent or worthy young man than the gentleman whose name introduces this biographical sketch, and whose portrait appears on the opposite page. His upright character and moral influence have been especially felt by his energy displayed in matters of religion and the advancement of Christianity. In 1876, when the opportunity was offered to organize a Young Men's Christian Association in this city, he was one of the first to lend a helping hand for the promotion of that noble cause, and became one of its organizers and charter members when it was founded here, and has since been one of its chief supporters and pillars.

As the association strengthened and it became apparent that better accommodations were needed, a subscription was started among those of a generous nature anxious for the welfare of the young men of Rockford. The appeal was readily responded to by donations from \$1 to \$1,000, except in the notable case of Mrs. D. S. Penfield, who gave \$1,000 in cash besides a part of the lot (representing \$2,500) on which the building was erected at the northwest corner of Madison and East State Streets. About that time Mr. Weyburn was elected President of the Association, and continued in that capacity during the critical times attending the erection of the new structure, and has ever served in the responsible position with fidelity and success.

The building, which was completed for occu-

pancy in 1890, is one of the most elegant and imposing structures in the city, and in its architectural design and appointment is complete throughout and truly metropolitan. The basement and first story are built of solid stone, the second and third stories of brick and terra cotta. The auditorium seats comfortably four hundred people; the reading rooms and gymnasium are beautifully furnished and fully equipped. The entire building represents a value of about \$60,000, all of which was raised by private donations in the city of Rockford.

In business circles, Mr. Weyburn is prominent as a real-estate and insurance agent, with his office in the William Brown building. He is also one of the promoters and managers of the Rockford Security and Investment Company, which was organized in May, 1890, and is Secretary of the Rockford Building and Loan Association, which was organized in October, 1890. Both these organizations have done much for the advancement of the city, and the first-named does business quite extensively both in Rockford and Chicago. In addition to these responsible positions, Mr. Weyburn is Secretary of the Winnebago County Agricultural Society, to the welfare of which he has contributed his tireless exertions.

Since Mr. Weyburn located in Rockford in 1872, he has worked unremittingly for the good of the different enterprises of the city, with which he has been officially connected. His first occupation was in doing clerical work in business houses here, and between the years 1876 and 1881 he was book-keeper for the Winnebago National Bank. During the two ensuing years he was engaged in the real-estate business in Denver, Colo., whither he went in search of renewed health. In 1883, he returned to Rockford, having regained his health, and became Cashier for the Emerson-Talcott Manufacturing Company, where he remained until he established his present business in 1890.

In local orders, Mr. Weyburn is prominent as a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Crusader Lodge No. 17, K. T., also Knights of Pythias. In politics, he is a staunch Republican and takes an active part in the public affairs of the community. He was nineteen years old when he

became a resident of this city, whither he came from Ontario County, N. Y., his birthplace. His education was received in the schools of that county and at Hobart College, in Geneva.

The marriage of Mr. Weyburn to Miss Flora M. Lyon took place in October, 1878, at Rockford. Mrs. Weyburn, who is one of the most accomplished ladies of Rockford, was born and reared in this city, and is the daughter of the late Isaiah Lyon, whose death occurred in 1883. Mr. Lyon came to this city at a very early day, and was a passenger on the only steamer that ever came here. He brought his family and household goods with him, and engaged in business as a merchant and hotel-keeper for several years. For forty years, he served as Justice of the Peace, and when he passed away at the age of seventy-nine years, was sincerely mourned by a large circle of friends. His wife died some years previous, while in the prime of life. This worthy couple were charter members and active workers in the First Baptist Church erected in Rockford, and politically, he was a firm Republican.

In their religious connection, Mr. and Mrs. Weyburn are members of the First Baptist Church, and he has been Sunday-school Superintendent for many years. With their two children, Lyon, aged nine years, and Elizabeth, four years old, they reside in their beautiful home at No. 209 North Church Street, and enjoy the high esteem of a large circle of personal friends.



CHARLES F. WITT. In Spring Township, Boone County, may be seen a good farm adorned with a comfortable residence and first-class buildings. This is the property of the gentleman whose name we have just given and who was born in Hampshire County, Mass., September 11, 1811. He is a son of Thomas and Electa (Cole) Witt, also natives of the above-named county, the father dying in Schuyler, this State, when eighty-four years of age, and here also the mother departed this life in her fifty-second year.

Charles F. Witt was the eldest in the family of eleven children, five of whom are yet living. His

paternal grandfather, Abner Witt, was a native of England, his birth occurring March 27, 1756. He was married October 8, 1778, to Mollie Rowland, and died May 13, 1812. The grandmother was of Dutch ancestry and was born June 11, 1760, and died October 3, 1845. Thomas Witt on emigrating to America in an early day, took part in the Revolutionary War, during which time he was shot in the leg and suffered amputation of that member, dying from the effects.

The mother of our subject was born January 5, 1791, and died February 19, 1813. She was the daughter of Amasa and Polly Cole, natives of England, where they were farmers. The first representatives of that name in this country probably came hither in 1650. He of whom we write left home when eighteen years of age, and going to Boston, was employed for two years in a tavern and a like period as driver of a stage coach between Brattleboro, Vt., and Boston, Mass. In the fall of 1833, he went West to Macomb County, Mich., and taking up a tract of timber land from the Government, cleared and improved the same.

The lady to whom our subject was married November 23, 1836, was Eliza A. daughter of William Brown. She was born in Washington County, N.Y., May 9, 1814, and departed this life December 23, 1883. Her father was a native of England and, so far as is known, was a farmer. Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Witt, five are living, namely: William C., who lives in Belvidere, was born April 6, 1838, is married and has one daughter; Henry C., who was born August 13, 1814, married Miss Elizabeth Hill, who was born in Canada August 3, 1846, and has two sons: Horace F. and Henry N.; Isaac N. was born October 27, 1816; Marion was born November 16, 1848, and is now Mrs. H. Mott, has six children and resides in Marion, Kan.; Charles, the youngest son, was born July 18, 1856, is married to Lucy Brainard and has one son and one daughter.

Mr. Witt removed from Michigan to Ohio about 1838, where he ran an hotel until coming to this county in 1842. One of his boarders, who remained with him for two years, was ex-President Hayes. Our subject's cash capital when he arrived in this community was \$2.80. He worked at cutting

wood, and making rails for fifty cents per hundred, from which small earnings he saved a sufficient sum to invest in property of his own. His farm produce was marketed in Chicago and Green Bay, from which cities he returned with a load of goods, often making as much as \$100 on a trip.

Our subject cast his first Presidential vote in Boston in 1832 for Andrew Jackson. He later became a Whig and on the formation of the Republican party joined its ranks. For sixteen years he was County Associate Judge and for eight years Justice of the Peace and for nine years filled the office of Supervisor in Spring Township. He was the recipient of nearly all the local offices, serving on the School Board, and is a man who is held in the highest esteem by all the people of his community.



WILLIAM REITSCH. The commodious residence at No. 107 North Horsman Street, Rockford, is owned and occupied by Mr. Reitsch, who is a carpenter and builder, and not only erected the neat dwelling which he occupies, but also has superintended the erection of many of the most substantial buildings in the city. He is a native of Germany, born September 11, 1850, in Zittau, Saxony, and possesses the qualities of thrift and tireless energy which almost invariably characterize those who claim Germany as their Fatherland.

The father of our subject, Charles T., was a native of the same place as his son, and was born in 1798. He followed the trade of a carpenter during his entire active life, and passed hence in 1881, at the venerable age of eighty-six years. He had a family of fourteen children, twelve sons and two daughters, seven of whom grew to mature years, and four are now living. The youngest member of the family is the subject of this sketch, who grew to manhood in his native country, and having resolved to seek home and fortune in the New World, emigrated to America in the summer of 1870, proceeding directly to Rockford, where he has since resided.

Immediately after his arrival in Rockford, Mr. Reitsch commenced to work at the trade of a carpenter for his brother Henry, and so successful was he, that in a few years he began as a contractor and builder for himself. Since that time he has erected many dwellings, churches and public buildings, and is well and favorably known as an honest and prosperous contractor and an upright man.

The marriage of Mr. Reitsch, in 1876, united him to Miss Jennie Simons, of Ogle County, the daughter of Henry and Anna (Zimmerman) Simons. She was born in Germany, whence, at the age of twelve years, she accompanied her parents to America, and settled with them in Ogle County, where they still reside, together with her only brother, Fred S. Mr. and Mrs. Reitsch are the parents of five children, as follows: Julius T., Arthur W., Cora E., George W. and Lillian J., and, more fortunate than many parents, they have not been bereft by the death of any of their loved ones. They are training their children for useful positions in the business and social world, and are rearing them under the salutary influence of the schools of Rockford, and the church relations of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church. In his political belief, Mr. Reitsch's sympathies are with the platform of the Republican party, and he is a man of public spirit and enterprise.



ALFRED A. KLUMPH. The farming class of Northern Illinois is notable for the degree of enterprise possessed by its representatives, and among the most successful and energetic of the younger farmers of Boone County is the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs. Although quite young, having been born April 11, 1866, he has attained a degree of success which is worthy of special mention, and he occupies a prominent position among the agriculturists of Le Roy Township.

Our subject belongs to one of those progressive families who aided in the development of the farming lands of Illinois, and is proud of the fact that his father was one of those fast disappearing landmarks of an heroic past—the pioneer. Certainly, in

a volume of this character, special notice should be given of the life and character of Joseph K. Klumph, who settled in Boone County about 1842. The son of a farmer, Jacob Klumph, who lived and died in New York, he was born in the Empire State in 1820, and there grew to a stalwart man. On coming West, he was accompanied by his mother, who was in maidenhood Catherine Bauthall, and who died here at the age of seventy-two.

In Le Roy Township, Mr. Klumph was married to Miss Sardinia Austin, a native of New York, who came to Illinois about 1842. The young couple settled on the one hundred and twenty acre tract of land which Mr. Klumph had purchased, and in the midst of a dense wilderness, with no neighbors save the brothers of Mr. Klumph, who had settled on adjoining farms, they struggled against hardships and the discouragements of pioneer life, and from the unimproved place evolved a good farm. The father died in March, 1886, when sixty-six years old. His widow survives and makes her home in Beloit, Wis. This worthy couple were consistent Christians, striving to exemplify in their lives the principles of the Golden Rule. The father was enabled by his arduous toil to clear up a tract of fifty acres, which he cultivated. He planted apple trees which are now in fine bearing condition. In other ways he aided in developing the farm and also in advancing the interests of the community of which he was an honored resident.

The family of which our subject is the youngest member consisted of the following-named children: Jacob, a farmer in Le Roy Township; Catherine, who married Henry Jenkins, of Beloit; Sophronia, the widow of Charles Iungbuhn, of Beloit; Elida, Mrs. Leander Iungbuhn, of Beloit; Mary, wife of F. Lawshe, a farmer of Le Roy Township; and Alfred A., who was born on the place which has always been his home. After gaining a practical knowledge of agriculture through his early farming labors, and receiving a good education in the district schools, our subject was married, September 17, 1891, his wife being Miss Ruby Curtis, of Caledonia Township. Mrs. Klumph is the daughter of L. E. and Margaret (Landon) Curtis, natives, respectively, of New York and Penn-





Yours Truly
Liberty Walker

sylvania. They were farming people, and emigrated to the West when quite young.

As did his father, our subject espouses the cause of the Republican party, and is a firm adherent to the principles of justice and equity in every relation of life. He and his wife are members of the Congregational Church, and are looked up to by the people of the community as worthy of their highest respect. In every measure which promises the advantage of the welfare of the community, they are acknowledged leaders, and enjoy great social popularity.

LIBERTY WALKUP, President of the Air Brush Manufacturing Company, at Rockford, and proprietor of the Illinois Art School, represents one of the leading industries of the nineteenth century. He is the sole manager and chief owner of the enterprise, which occupies a suite of rooms in the Henry Building, and, with the assistance of his wife, a skilled artist, teaches the use of that ingenious device, the air brush, in a most satisfactory manner. In 1881, after three years of arduous and untiring study, he completed the invention which has since been sent into every country in the world except China, and which has wrought a great transformation in photography, lithography, water-color painting, crayon and pastel work.

The air brush is a device for applying liquid color by a jet of air, and consists of three parts, air-pump, air-reservoir and hand-piece, connected with the necessary rubber tubing. The distribution of color is entirely controlled by the thumb-valve, and the artist can produce the finest line, or instantly change to a broad shadow. These results, with a single stroke, have a finish that only hours of toil can produce by any other known means. It is especially used in working with India ink and water colors, and in applying lithographers' ink to the stone, also in monumental drawing, where it is remarkably successful.

The Illinois Art School was founded in 1888, and has since been very successful, being attended by a fine class of students from every State in the

Union, Canada, and some countries in Europe. Many a young lady and gentleman have reason to be grateful to Mr. Walkup for aid given them in learning the use of this device, which now enables them to earn \$100 per month with ease, and numerous testimonials have been given him from those whom he has helped personally, when they were not able to make any financial remuneration.

Mr. Walkup has been a resident of Rockford since December, 1880, when he came here in order to secure the use of tools whereby he could develop the invention since perfected. He has also made an improvement on the pantograph, which is meeting with success. A natural mechanic, his work is original and of unusual perfection of finish, and he will undoubtedly gain a large fortune from his letters patent. He was born on a farm three miles west of Oregon, Ogle County, Ill., July 14, 1814. His boyhood days were passed on his father's farm, and when he attained to his majority he enlisted in the defense of the Union as member of Company K, Ninety-second Illinois Infantry, and served until on account of ill-health he was honorably discharged.

After his return from the battle-field, Mr. Walkup attended school for two years, and, later, followed the profession of a teacher. He has never wholly regained his health since the war, but has been a tireless worker, notwithstanding his delicate physical condition. For some years, he operated a butter and cheese factory in Carroll County, but losing his property by fire, he has since devoted his time to his inventions. His marriage, which took place in Ogle County, united him with Miss Phoebe C. Johnson, who was born in Ohio and came to Ogle County when a young girl. She is a gifted artist, and has executed some fine work with the air-brush, besides assisting her husband in a material way in his discovery. Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. Walkup are identified with the Presbyterian Church, while he is a Republican in his political belief, although he has Prohibition proclivities. In his social connections, he is a member of G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford. On an accompanying page will be noticed a portrait of this well-known inventor.

The father of our subject, Samuel Walkup, was

a native of Pennsylvania, but passed his youth in Ohio, whence, in 1837, at the age of twenty-one years, he removed to Illinois and entered a tract of Government land in Pine Creek Township, Ogle County. He continued to make his home there, improving and cultivating the place, and there passed away in August, 1889. Her parents were Scotch people, and members of the Presbyterian Church, but he was identified with the Free-will Baptist Church, and always made it his endeavor to show his Christian sincerity by his upright and consistent life.

The mother of our subject was known in maidenhood as Sophia L. Ruggles, and was born in New England. She traces her lineage to the Pilgrim Fathers, who figured so extensively in the early history of New England, as well as in its later progress. She was a faithful member of the Free-will Baptist Church, and was a loving helpmate to her husband, and a wise, tender mother to her children, nine in number, of whom five sons and two daughters still survive.



HON. ALLEN C. FULLER, Adjutant-General of Illinois during the dark days of the Civil War, and one of the most prominent citizens of the State, was born in the town of Farmington, Conn., September 22, 1823. His father, Lucius Fuller, who was likewise born in Farmington, spent his youth and early manhood in his native State, and removed from there to Towanda, Pa., when our subject was a small child. In 1846, having resolved to seek a home in the West, he came to Belvidere, where he resided until death called him hence. He was one of the most influential citizens of Belvidere during its early history, and served as Postmaster and County Judge, as well as in other positions of responsibility.

Unto Lucius Fuller and his wife, who was known in maidenhood as Candace Newell, and was a native of Farmington, were born the following-named children: Edwin, deceased; Allen C., the subject of this sketch; J. Ensign, who served in the Mexican

War, and died in the army; Rebecca, Mary, Henry, Charles, Frank and Ann. The second son, our subject, received the rudiments of his education in the Towanda Academy, and afterward carried on his studies under private tutelage, his instructor being Prof. Nash, of Towanda.

The legal profession attracted the attention of the young student, who, in 1842, commenced to read law at Towanda with Judge Wilmot, author of the "Wilmot Proviso." In 1844, he went to Warsaw, N. Y., where he studied with Senator Doolittle, and in the spring of 1846 was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the State of New York. Immediately afterward, he came to Illinois, and opened a law-office at Belvidere, where he entered upon a successful and lucrative practice, having been admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of Illinois.

Having entered the political field as one of the organizers of the Republican party, his career was forthwith identified with the public history of the State. He served as Circuit Judge with credit to himself and satisfaction to his district, and, in 1860, "stumped" the State with Gov. Yates, in the interests of the Republican party. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he was serving as Circuit Judge, which office he resigned, and was appointed Adjutant-General, a position in which his distinguished abilities were used for the promotion of the welfare of the people, whose interests he ever had at heart. In 1864, he was elected Representative to the General Assembly, and resigned the position of Adjutant-General that he might devote himself exclusively to the duties devolving upon him. He was chosen Speaker of the House, a position in which he displayed shrewd foresight, indomitable energy and great executive ability. He was twice elected State Senator and served two terms, and several important laws upon the subject of railroad, State charitable institutions and revenue, now in force, were prepared by him.

While a successful politician, Gen. Fuller is equally capable as a financier, and is considered one of the best business men of this country. He is a large stockholder in the Northwestern Shoe Factory, and the National Sewing Machine Company, and has served as Director in both organiza-

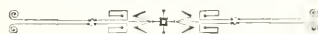
tions. In addition to these interests, he has served as Director in both the First and Second National Banks, and as President of the First National at Belvidere. He aided in the organization of the First National Bank at Ashland, Wis., and for an extended period was President and one of its largest stockholders. In 1865, he assisted in the organization of the First National Bank at Elgin, of which he was chosen Vice-President, and he is still interested in the institution as a stockholder and Vice-President.

In 1849, Gen. Fuller was united in marriage with Miss Naney Benjamin, who was born in New York, and died in Belvidere in 1871. The second marriage of our subject united him with Mrs. Mary A. E. Willey, in 1880, whose first husband, Dr. Willey, of St. Paul, stood at the head of the medical profession in Minnesota. Gen. Fuller has one daughter living, Mrs. Kittie E. Rheinhart. His eldest son, Frank, died in 1864, aged fourteen years; the second son, Wilbur A., was graduated from Yale College in his twenty-first year, and died of consumption in 1876; Ida, the youngest child, married A. T. Hovey, and died when only nineteen years old. The Ida public library of seven thousand volumes, which the General donated to the city, was named in honor of this daughter, and is a credit to him and an honor to the city, and highly appreciated by the citizens.

The life of Gen. Fuller furnishes an example worthy the emulation of the young. When he came to Belvidere he was without capital or influential friends, and had nothing on which to rely save an abundance of energy and enterprise. The success which came to him was not the result of fortuitous circumstances, but of patient and unwearied labor, while his close sympathy with, and patriotic participation in, public affairs made him conspicuous among the influential men of Northern Illinois.

In the work entitled "Patriotism of Illinois," edited by T. M. Eddy, D. D., the statement is made that the name of Allen C. Fuller has been more frequently mentioned in State military matters than that of any other man besides Gov. Yates. The following is quoted from the report of a com-

mittee appointed by the General Assembly to examine his office: "We have thoroughly examined the office of the Adjutant-General and find it a model in completeness; one that preserves in all its glory the proud records of our soldiery and reflects infinite credit upon the great State whose sons they are. In the judgment of the committee, the thanks of every patriotic citizen of the State are due to Gen. Fuller for the able and efficient manner in which he has discharged the duties of the office and for his indefatigable efforts in collecting and preserving this glorious record of a glorious State." Gov. Yates, in his biennial message, was equally complimentary regarding the services of Gen. Fuller and acknowledged himself deeply indebted to him for his hearty co-operation and able management of the military affairs of the State.



FRANK SEAVERNs is the proprietor of a fine tract of land, beautifully located in Owen Township, Winnebago County, which comprises one hundred and eighty-five acres. It bears all the improvements in the way of machinery and farm buildings found upon a first-class estate, and by a proper rotation of crops our subject reaps a handsome income. He is a native of the county, having been born in Rockford Township, December 13, 1850.

Isaac W. Seaverns, the direct progenitor of our subject, was born at Jamaica Plains, now a part of Boston, Mass., June 29, 1814. He is a son of Josiah Seaverns, also born in that locality, and a descendant of Samuel Seaverns, a native of England, and one of the earliest settlers of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The grandfather of our subject, who took part in the battle of Lexington, was a farmer and spent his entire life in Massachusetts. He married Rebecca White, who was born on the farm at Jamaica Plains.

The father of our subject was reared and educated in his native town, and when about twenty years of age, formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, Joseph Merriam, and opened a market on Milk Street, Boston, where they continued successfully together until 1836. At that date, the elder

Mr. Seaverns removed to Ohio, and engaged in milling at Richmond, near Painesville, then in 1840 went to Cleveland and established a mercantile business. Six years later, he went to Wisconsin, located upon a tract of land eight miles north of Racine, and was engaged in its cultivation for two years. Disposing of that purchase, he came to Winnebago County, and became the proprietor of a tract of land in what is now Rockford Township, on which there was a small house, and but little improvement. He erected two barns on the place, and successfully operated it for ten years, when, selling out, he purchased the estate on section 24, Owen Township, where his death occurred October 24, 1889.

Our subject's father was twice married. The lady who became his first wife was Abba Eliza Winslow, a native of New York State, whose decease occurred in Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Seaverns was then married, May 15, 1842, to Anna E. Titus, the mother of our subject. She was born in Middleburg, Genesee County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Horatio N. Titus, a native of Springfield, Mass., who went to New York State when eighteen years of age, and was married in Monroe County. There Mr. Titus lived for a time, and then removed to Genesee County, whence he later returned to Monroe County, and was engaged in farming on his father's farm in Brighton Township, and at the same time was employed in freighting on the Erie Canal. In 1836, he removed to Ohio, and located in Cleveland at a time when that city contained but a few thousand people, and there was not a railroad in the State. He was employed in freighting on the Ohio Canal, and resided there until a short time before his death, which occurred in Waterville. The maiden name of his wife, the grandmother of our subject, was Deborah Jones. She was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Elias and Abigail Jones. She survived her husband a number of years, and departed this life at the home of her daughter, in Marion, N. Y.

The parental family of our subject comprised eight children, five of whom grew to mature years, namely: Edwin M., Isabella M., Frank, Ella M. and George. Emma, Charles H. and Anna R. died

when young. The father of our subject reared one son by his first marriage, Isaac W. Frank Seaverns was reared to farm duties on the old homestead, and resided with his parents until his marriage, when his father sold him sixty acres of the home farm, which is his present place of residence. He has added to his possessions from time to time, and now has a good estate, which is located on a slight elevation, from which an extended view of the surrounding country can be had.

The original of this sketch was married, September 22, 1875, to Lillie Wills, who was born at Mauch Chunk, Pa., and is the daughter of Charles Wills. Her father was a native of Hazelton, Luzerne County, that State, where also his father, Adam Wills, as far as is known, was born, and where he spent his last years engaged as a machinist and engineer. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Muma.

The father of Mrs. Seaverns learned the trade of a machinist and engineer, and removed from Pennsylvania to Wisconsin about 1860. Locating in Janesville, he followed his trade for a time, and in 1882 came to Winnebago County, residing for eight years in Owen Township. At the expiration of that time, he came to Rockford, and at the present time is residing in Rockford, Ill. The maiden name of the wife was Mary Blay, a native of Philadelphia, Pa., and the daughter of Richard and Sarah (James) Blay.

Mr. and Mrs. Seaverns have an adopted daughter, Ida B., who is the child of Mr. Seaverns's sister. In his political views, our subject is an independent Democrat. With his wife he is a member of the Christian Union Church. Under the administration of President Cleveland, he was appointed Postmaster, and served efficiently in that position. He has served as Justice of the Peace in Owen for four years, and has filled the position of School Director for nearly twenty years, as well as numerous local offices of trust. His mother still resides in Rockford. George, the youngest brother, resides on the home farm; Isaac W., the eldest brother, resided on the old home farm until 1857, then located at Cleveland, Ohio, and engaged as a machinist, serving an apprenticeship for four years, then, at his country's call, he enlisted, April 12,

1861, in Company A, First Ohio Regiment, for three months, and re-enlisted the following March, in the Eighth Ohio Regiment. The following September he received an honorable discharge, and engaged as an engineer on the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad, which is now the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio, and remained with that company until 1865, and continued in their service until 1870. In that year he removed to Oshkosh, Wis., and there engaged in the lumber business as General Superintendent of the Regan, Cheny & Pratt Manufactory. In the fall of 1872, he left their employment and formed a partnership with A. M. Woodman, in the lumber business, but before the new firm was ready for operation, they were burned out in the Oshkosh fire of 1873. May 1, he re-entered the service of the Northwestern company, and is still in their employ. May 28, 1863, he was united in marriage to Miss Julia Pinkney, at Cleveland, Ohio. She was the daughter of John T. and Julia (Taylor) Pinkney, who were natives of England. Of this union there have been born four children, three of whom survive: Frank T., Jessie C. and Florence M. Fred M., a twin of Florence, is deceased. The only sister, now Mrs. Dr. Charles H. Taylor, resides in Chicago, Ill. George A., William S. and Joel Seaverns, cousins of our subject, now reside in Chicago. They are the only relatives of the family this side of the Eastern States that our subject has any knowledge of.



GEORGE OLIVER, a retired farmer of Rockford, Ill. A plain, unvarnished statement of the facts embraced in the life of Mr. Oliver, a man well and favorably known to the people of Winnebago County, is all that we profess to be able to give in this history of the county; and yet, upon examination of these facts, there will be found the career of one whose entire course through the world has been marked by great honesty and fidelity of purpose.

Our subject was a native of New York State, having been born near Utica, in March, 1842, but his parents, George and Sarah (Hale) Oliver, were natives of England, born near Lancaster, and of

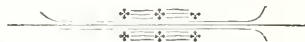
English ancestry. The parents were married in their native county, and the father worked as a laborer there until 1840, when he became convinced that there was a better opening for him in the New World. With his wife, he braved the tender mercies of Neptune and reached the States in safety. Locating near Utica, N. Y., he worked as a farm laborer for about eleven years, and then, desiring wider fields for his labors, came West to Wisconsin, in which State he remained for three years. From there he came to Winnebago County, Ill., settled in Pecatonica Township, and there farmed on shares for a few years. By economy and frugality, he had accumulated a sufficient amount of money to enable him to purchase one hundred and seventy acres of land, and afterward he increased this to two hundred and seven acres. As years passed over his head, he retired to Pecatonica, and there breathed his last on the 17th of December, 1891. He was then nearly seventy-nine years of age. He had always been a quiet, unassuming man, with but very little education, but he was as honest and upright as man need be. His worthy wife, who had been a true helpmate during the struggle for a livelihood, received her final summons in Pecatonica, October 12, 1888, when over seventy-three years of age. She was a kind and loving wife and mother. They were the parents of three sons, our subject being the eldest. John is now a resident of this county, and James resides in Pecatonica and is the husband of Miss Elizabeth Downes, formerly of Rockford.

George Oliver, Jr., subject of this sketch, was about eleven years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois, and his early days were passed in assisting his father on the farm. The knowledge he thus obtained was of use to him in later years and paved the way to his subsequent prosperous career as an agriculturist. After the death of his father, he became owner of the fine farm, which was well improved, and on which were good substantial buildings, and on this he resided for many years.

Miss Ellen Downey, whom he married in Rockford, is a native of this city, born April 10, 1856, and here she grew to womanhood and secured a

good education. Her parents, Daniel and Mary A. (Hart) Downey, were natives of Cork, Ireland, and of Irish descent. Mr. and Mrs. Downey came to America when young people and were married in Vermont. Later, they came to Rockford, Ill., and have resided in this county for a long time. The father cultivated the soil for many years but is now retired, and, with his amiable wife, resides at No. 1202 Elm Street, Rockford. He is now seventy-eight years of age, and Mrs. Downey is in her sixty-sixth year. Of the eleven children born to their marriage, ten are still living and five are under the parental roof.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver remained on the farm until a short time ago, when they sold out and removed to Rockford, where they have a good home at No. 1207 Elm Street. Mr. Oliver is a staunch Democrat in his political views, and his wife is an earnest member of the Catholic Church. Their marriage has been blessed by the birth of six children, who are named as follows: George J., Mary, Lizzie, Cornelius, John A. and Sarah, all at home.



JACOB M. HAMILTON. Among the well-regulated farms of Seward Township, Winnebago County, may be properly mentioned that of Mr. Hamilton, which stands as a fitting monument to his energy and industry. It is under good cultivation and embellished with all the buildings required by the intelligent and progressive farmer. The property has been in his possession since 1851, and he has effected most of the improvements now seen upon it.

Born July 11, 1823, in Oswego County, N. Y., our subject is a son of William and Nancy Hamilton, the former of whom was born near Glasgow, Scotland. He came to the United States with his parents when he was an infant, they settling in Albany, N. Y. William Hamilton, the grandfather of our subject, was a mason by trade, as was also his brother John, who was killed after coming to this country. The grandfather died when eighty-four years of age, two years after coming to the United States. Grandmother Hamilton reared a

family of four children and departed this life in Seneca County, N. Y., at the advanced age of ninety-one years.

The father of our subject was obliged to work out when a lad of seven or eight years in order to aid his mother in supporting the family, taking his pay in grain, etc. He was employed in that way until eighteen years old, when, in company with a brother, he went to the northern part of New York and purchased a mill claim, upon which they erected a sawmill and were engaged in the lumber business a period of twenty-one years. In 1836, Mr. Hamilton went to Seneca County, and in the town of Lodi purchased a farm which he operated for eight years, and on selling out at the end of that time came to Winnebago County. On account of clouded titles, he lost nearly all his property in the Empire State and landed in Stephenson County with but \$200 in his pocket, \$100 of which he paid for eighty acres of unimproved land. Later, he purchased forty acres more in Winnebago County, which consumed the other \$100.

The elder Mr. Hamilton was married in Williamstown, N. Y., in 1821, to Miss Nancy Miller, a native of Connecticut. Her parents were New Englanders, and his father, later in life, in company with his second wife and one son, came to Wisconsin, where he died. Mr. Hamilton died in this county when eighty-two years of age; his wife departed this life in her sixty-third year.

Jacob M. Hamilton was one in a family of nine children and remained at home until reaching his majority, when he took up a claim and removed upon it after his marriage, January 1, 1851, with Miss Sarah A. Derwent. The lady was born in Lancashire, England, February 9, 1833, and was a daughter of Thomas and Hannah Derwent who came to the United States in 1842, and, locating in Winnebago County, bought a "squatter's" claim for which Mr. Derwent paid three hundred sovereigns. The father was born in Derbyshire, England, February 9, 1781, and followed the trade of a wheelwright. His wife, whose maiden name was Bradwell, was born November 28, 1786, in the same place as her husband. They were married about 1803 and became the parents of six boys and

four girls. Mrs. Hamilton's mother died when eighty-nine years of age. Her father worked at his trade near Sheffield, England, where he was greatly esteemed as an upright and honest gentleman.

He of whom we write took up his present claim in 1845, but did not locate upon it until 1851, since which time he has been a resident here. In politics, Mr. Hamilton cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont. He is widely known throughout Northern Illinois as one of its most extensive agriculturists, and occupies a good position in his community as a man who has made for himself a good record and who gives support to the enterprises calculated for the good of the people around him, socially, morally and financially.

Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton, two of whom are deceased. Those living are William A., who resides at Devil's Lake, N. Dak.; Charles J., who is married and has one son, makes his home in this county; Ella M., wife of Charles Doty, is the mother of three children: Jay, Ward and Anna, who also reside in this county; Cora B., who is married to H. Houbson and is the mother of a son, Chester E.; Myron S., who resides at home, is married and has one son; Anna O., who is Mrs. Hobson, makes her home in this county; Raymond A. and Grace C., who are at home, complete the family list.



RALPH RULISON, a well-known and highly-respected resident of Belvidere, was born in Glenn, Montgomery County, N. Y., January 4, 1818, and is a son of Herman Rulison. The father was born in New Jersey, and was a son of Abraham Rulison, a native of Germany, who came to America with his parents, locating in New Jersey. By occupation, he was a farmer. He went to New York, becoming one of the early settlers of the town of Glenn, where he spent the remainder of his days.

Herman Rulison was a mere lad when his parents went to New York. He married Margaret, daughter of Christopher Fornicrook, who was

a native of Germany. Both the parents of our subject spent their last days in Montgomery County, N. Y.

Ralph Rulison was one of ten children. In his youth he learned the trade of a tanner and currier, which occupation he followed until 1813, when he engaged in farming in the town of Glenn. Two years later, he came to Illinois, making the journey to Boone County by team from Racine. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Bonus Township at \$3.80 per acre, of which fifty acres were broken. He built a small frame house and began the development and improvement of his land. Upon that farm he resided until 1883, and in his business dealings was quite successful. He sold out in that year and came to Belvidere, where he has since lived a retired life.

On the 26th of June, 1812, Mr. Rulison was united in marriage with Miss Maria Passage, who was born in Schenectady County, N. Y., April 9, 1820, and is a daughter of John and Eleanor (Correll) Passage. Their union has been blessed with seven children: George, who married Julia Wright, by whom he had four children: Blanche, Alta, Beth, and Emil, who is deceased; Emma, wife of Charles Howe and the mother of four children: Jay, Ralph, Maria, and one whose name is not given; Alice, wife of W. Herbert, by whom she has two sons: Ralph and John; Herman, who married Carrie Hammond and has seven children: Claude, Allie, Ralph, Lydia, Laura, William and Charlie; Frank, who married Nettie Powers, by whom he has four children: Estella, Eveline, Georgia and a boy not yet named; Elsie, wife of George Bassett, by whom she has a daughter, Alice; and Grant, who married Lillie Grant. They have one child, Genevieve.

In politics, Mr. Rulison is a stalwart Republican and has filled various township offices of trust. He was a member of the School Board for several terms, was Assessor, Road Commissioner, Town Clerk, and for eight years was Justice of the Peace. His duties were ever promptly and faithfully discharged and won him the commendation of all concerned. He has always been a great reader, is a well-informed man and an intelligent citizen, who well deserves the high regard in which he is

held. He and his estimable wife have traveled life's journey together for fifty years. The family circle has never been broken except by the death of one grandchild, Emil, who was killed by being kicked by a horse, on the 26th of June, 1892, and altogether their lives have been blessed with happiness and prosperity.



EDWARD B. BALL was born in Worcester County, Mass., March 17, 1840, and is a son of Edward and Harriet (Hapgood) Ball. The reputation he enjoys in Boone County is not only that of a substantial and progressive farmer but an intelligent and thoroughly posted man in all public affairs. His farm is one of the most finely improved in Boone Township, as the reader will conclude by a glance at the view of the place presented on another page.

The marriage of our subject on the 12th of June, 1867, brought him a faithful helpmate in the person of Miss Mary Cowan, who was born in Fall River, Mass., on the 8th of January, 1848. She is the daughter of Robert and Mary (Carmant) Cowan, natives of Scotland, the father born in Rothesay and the mother in Glasgow. The former emigrated to America when a young man and settled in Rhode Island where he followed the spinner's trade until 1851, when he came to Boone County, Ill. They were the parents of eight children, four of whom are living.

Our subject has always been a resident of the old home place since it was purchased by his father in 1855, and after marriage he took his wife there. He is engaged in general mixed farming, and all his operations on the farm are conducted in a manner suggestive of thoroughness and enterprise. He has a substantial home and comfortable outbuildings, and is classed among the representative farmers of his section. He bought his father's interest in the home place and now has two hundred and three acres, all well cultivated, he and his father making all the improvements but those on sixty acres.

In his political views, Mr. Ball affiliates with the Republican party, and his first Presidential vote

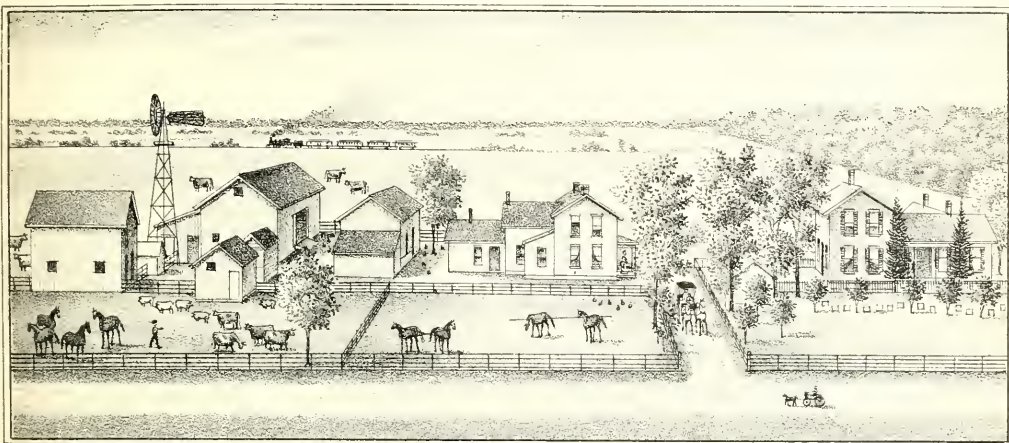
was for Abraham Lincoln, for the second term. He has never aspired to office but has been elected to a number of different local positions and discharged the duties incumbent upon them in a manner very satisfactory to all concerned. Socially, he is a member of the M. W. No. 675, of Poplar Grove, and the A. O. U. W. No. 158, Poplar Grove. Mrs. Ball is one of the educated and highly esteemed ladies of her township. She is a member of the Ladies' Aid Society, and was the first of her sex to be elected School Trustee in Boone Township. Her election bears testimony to her popularity, for she received every vote polled. It is hardly necessary to add that she is discharging the duties of that position in a very capable and efficient manner.

Mr. and Mrs. Ball became the parents of two children, one of whom survives, William D., born August 27, 1882. Edward A., born January 28, 1871, died when not quite two months old. The home life of this esteemed couple is full of sunshine and happiness, each member cultivating those qualities which are productive of the best results.

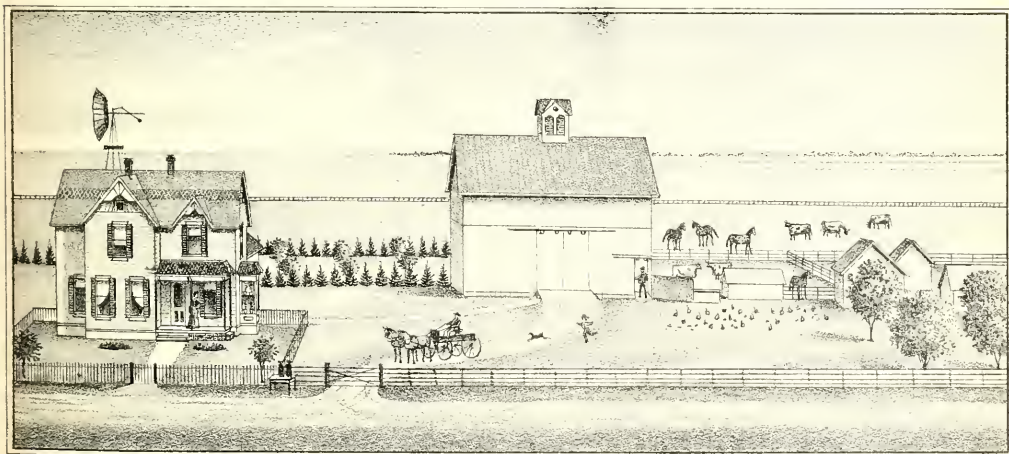


WILLIAM D. McCABE. Our subject is a fair example of many young Scotchmen, who are generously endowed by nature, and ambitious to grow to their fullest height in this land of great possibilities, and although he has had some drawbacks that might have discouraged a less constant nature, he has gone on undaunted in his career and is now one of the foremost farmers of Bonus Township, Boone County. He was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on the 18th of March, 1842, and is a son of George and Jeanette (Milligan) McCabe, also natives of that country, in which the father passed the closing years of his life. The mother is now a resident of Boone County, and is eighty years of age. The paternal grandparents of our subject came to America and died in Wisconsin at the age of seventy and eighty years, respectively.

Our subject was one of four children, but only he and a sister are now living. He was but four years of age when he was brought to America by



RESIDENCE OF E. B. BALL , SEC. 20, BOONE TP, BOONE CO, ILL.



RESIDENCE OF W. D. M^{rs}. CABE , SEC. 2 , BONUS TP, BOONE CO , ILL.

his parents, and was a resident of the State of New York for five years. He then came to Boone County, Ill., and here grew to mature years. During the Civil War, he was filled with a strong desire to aid his country, and in 1861 enlisted in Company I, Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry, under Capt. R. Kennicott, and served not only through the entire war, but was on detail work for a year afterward. He was in active service from 1861 to 1865, as well as the winter following, and was in many of the bloodiest and most destructive battles. He was wounded at the battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., and took part in every battle and skirmish in which his company and regiment participated. It is only necessary to glance over the record of his company and regiment to understand what he had to go through with in fighting for the Union, and he has every reason to be proud of his career as one of the boys in blue.

In selecting his companion in life, Mr. McCabe made a happy choice, for Miss Lucy A. Jackson, who became his wife on the 20th of May, 1869, is a lady of excellent judgment, refinement and culture and a noted housekeeper, as the interior of her fine home attests. Their happy union has been still further brightened by the advent of two children, both sons, who are as follows: Charles W., born in this county on the 28th of August, 1874, and George G., on the 15th of May, 1879. Our subject settled on his present farm after his return from Chicago in 1872, and is the owner of one hundred and forty acres of the best land to be found in the section. On another page may be found a view of his elegant residence which he erected at a cost of \$2,500, and he is now about as pleasantly located as one would well wish to be. He has every modern improvement, and there is an air of refinement and comfort in this rural home that renders it attractive to all. Mrs. McCabe's aged mother, a cheerful and most agreeable old lady, makes her home with her daughter and is passing the sunset of her life in quiet contentment. (For life of Mrs. McCabe's parents, Charles and Mary A. (Stowe) Jackson, see sketch of N. D. Jackson.)

Mr. McCabe cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant for the first term and has been an ar-

dent Republican in his political views since. He has held several local offices and has been Secretary and Treasurer of the town School Board for years. He is a prominent G. A. R. man and a member of Post No. 161 (Camp Hurlburt), of Belvidere.



JONAS N. ANDERSON, who is now living a retired life at No. 130 Bremer Street, Rockford, has been a resident of this city since the spring of 1866. Of Swedish birth, he was born in the Province of Smoland, April 13, 1827, and came of an old Swedish family. His parents both died in their native land. His father, Andrew Nelson, reached the advanced age of eighty-three years. He was a mechanic and farmer. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Martha Hickstrom, was called to her final rest at the age of four-score years. Both were members of the Lutheran Church, and were highly respected people.

Our subject belongs to quite a large family, but is the only member that has made a permanent location in America. His boyhood days were passed uneventfully, and at the age of sixteen, he began learning the blacksmith's trade, which he has made his life work, and in pursuit of that occupation he has acquired a good competence. After attaining to mature years, he was married, in his native province, to Miss Ingra Nelson, who was born in May, 1828, and, like her husband, is the sole representative of her people in this country. All the other members of the family died in Sweden. Her parents, Nels and Gonda (Mangenson) Johnson, were farming people, and passed away at the ages of sixty-three and eighty-five years, respectively. Mrs. Anderson has proved a true and faithful helpmate to her husband, and is a most estimable lady, who in this community has many friends.

Thirteen children have been born to our subject and his wife, nine sons and four daughters, but only three sons are now living: Otto is a blacksmith in the employ of the Skandia Plow Company. He wedded Clara Anderson, and they reside on Fifth Avenue, between Fourth and Fifth

Streets. August is a well-educated young man, and a skilled musician. He was graduated from the Conservatory of Music, and is an able teacher. He is also a member of the well-known Fitzgerald Band of Rockford, in which he plays the solo clarinet, and for some time has been a member of the church choir, and its organist. John, who is also quite proficient in music, completes the family.

Mr. Anderson and his sons all support the Republican party, and himself and wife are members of the First Lutheran Church, to which they have belonged since coming to this country. He began work in this city as a blacksmith, and for many years followed his trade in connection with leading manufactories of Rockford. His business career has been a successful one, and with the competence he has acquired, he is now enabled to live a retired life. Since the organization of the Skandia Plow Company, he has been one of its stockholders, and for many years was a stockholder in the Union Grocery Store. About three years ago, he laid aside all business cares, and is now enjoying the rest which he has so truly earned and richly deserves.



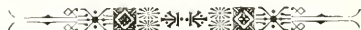
CHARLES W. SHARP, house decorator, and a well-known business man of Belvidere, is one of the worthy citizens that Ohio has furnished to Boone County. His birth occurred on January 11, 1858, in Lake County. He is one of five children born unto David and Mary (Barker) Sharp: Hattie A., John W., Charles W., Nettie F. and Grace A. The parents, natives of England, emigrated to this country in an early day, and after some years spent in Ohio, came to Illinois.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who acquired his early education in the district schools of his native county and when a lad of ten years came with his parents to Livingston County, Ill. His education was completed in the schools of Fairbury, Livingston County, and at the age of twelve years he began to learn the trade of a painter and paper hanger. During vacations he followed that trade in Fairbury until eighteen years of age, when he started out in life for himself

and went to California. He spent some time in the West, engaging in painting and paper hanging in California, Colorado and the Territory of Montana, until 1883, when he became a resident of Watertown, S. Dak.

The following year, Mr. Sharp was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie White, a native of Chicago and a daughter of Capt. White, who owned a vessel and was quite prominent on the Lakes. They resided in Dakota until 1887, when they came to Belvidere, where, in company with his brother John W., Mr. Sharp established a grocery store and soon built up an extensive trade. They still engage in that line and enjoy a liberal patronage. In 1890, our subject also began business as a house decorator, and to that branch of trade gives his personal supervision, while his brother manages the grocery store.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sharp have been born two children, one living, Lon C. They have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in this community and are highly esteemed. Mr. Sharp is a member of Belvidere Lodge No. 60, A. F. & A. M.; Kishwaukee Chapter No. 60, R. A. M.; Big Thunder Lodge No. 28, I. O. O. F.; the Encampment and Belvidere Lodge No. 289, K. P. In his business career he has met with excellent success. He is sagacious and far-sighted, enterprising and industrious, and in both lines of his business has secured a liberal patronage.



OSCAR F. HALSEY, who ranks among the well-to-do farmers of Seward Township, Winnebago County, had his birth in New York City, N. Y., May 27, 1827. His parents, Samuel and Mary Halsey, were born on Long Island and in Ulster County, N. Y., respectively. The mother, prior to her marriage, bore the name of Mary Wygant, the family being New Yorkers for several generations back, and originally from Germany.

The father of our subject is now living, at the advanced age of ninety-one years. His father, Jesse Halsey, was also a native of Long Island, where his decease occurred; he was a sea-captain. Our subject's great-grandfather came from Eng-

land at an early day. Oscar F., of this sketch, remained at home in Marlboro, N. Y., until attaining his majority, and from there in July, 1848, came to Illinois. He came to Roscoe, Winnebago County, and for two years worked out on farms by the month. In 1849, he purchased his present farm from the Government, upon which he removed a year later, and has placed upon it all the improvements which will be found upon the estate of an intelligent and progressive farmer.

The lady to whom our subject was married, May 4, 1855, was Miss Lydia Hawkins, a native of Ovid, Seneca County, N. Y. She was born March 1, 1827, and died in this county, November 18, 1888. Mrs. Halsey was the daughter of Jonathan Hawkins, who was a native of the Empire State, where his decease occurred.

To our subject and his wife have been born five children; Mary E.; William H. S., who is married and the father of two children; Anna M., also married; Nancy L. and Samuel P. The children have all been given good educations, and move in the best circles of Seward Township. Mr. and Mrs. Halsey are members of the Congregational Church, and, in politics, our subject was first a Whig, then a Prohibitionist, and now votes the Republican ticket.



GEORGE M. TUTTLE is one of the practical and representative agriculturists of this section, and from early boyhood was familiar with the occupation of farming, having learned the details of the work from his father, who was a worthy tiller of the soil. Our subject was born near Watertown, Jefferson County, N. Y., in 1827, and was the son of Chancy Tuttle, who was also born in Jefferson County, and who died in Beloit, Wis., in 1872, when seventy-five years of age. The elder Mr. Tuttle moved to Illinois, near Chicago, in September, 1834, and came from Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., to Chicago by the Lakes, having a very rough trip of about three weeks. His wife and five children, four sons and one daughter, came with him. He made a claim of one hundred and sixty acres near Chicago, but having very little ready

means, he sold this for \$150, and took another claim of one hundred and sixty acres five miles north of the first. Within a year and a half, he sold that for \$100, and subsequently moved to Rock County, Wis., near Beloit, where he took still another claim of a quarter-section, which he got entered at one-half per cent., a deed for which he obtained from the Government in due course of time when the land came on the market.

This settlement was made soon after the Black Hawk War, in 1836. They made this last move with ox-teams on the Government trail and were about six days in fording streams and worrying through sloughs. At one time they lost the way, got fast in a slough near Chicago, and were out all night, being obliged to sleep on the ground. The next day they reached the cabin that Mr. Tuttle had built the year before. He made a home here on three hundred and twenty acres, and erected good buildings, fences, etc., etc., and made his home here for thirty years. His wife, whose maiden name was Amy Weaver, of New York State, came of Dutch parentage. She died at her home near Beloit, Wis., in 1855, when fifty years of age. They were the parents of seven sons and three daughters, three of whom died young. Those now living are named as follows: Chester, Franklin, George M., Permelia, Julia M. and Jennie M.

George M. Tuttle was reared on the farm, and it was but natural, perhaps, that when starting out for himself he should choose agricultural pursuits as his calling in life. He received but a limited education, and when twenty-one years of age started out to fight his own way in life, working the first year for \$12 per month. He was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Hallock, a native of New York, and a daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth (Rice) Hallock, both natives of New York State, and the father a tiller of the soil. Mrs. Hallock died when a young woman, and her husband when in the prime of life, on the Isthmus of Panama.

After his marriage, Mr. Tuttle and his young wife moved to Minnesota, but after three years spent in that State, Mr. Tuttle sold out and returned to Wisconsin. He was a volunteer in the Civil War, enlisting in the Forty-third Wisconsin Infantry as a private. After returning home, he

came to Roscoe, Ill., and bought two hundred and fifteen acres on section 1, paying about \$50 an acre for unimproved land. He made this his home for twenty-two years, erecting buildings and fences, and getting under plow about one hundred and forty acres of timber land. He is still residing on that farm, but has a fine new residence, which was erected in 1889. His son resides in the old house. Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle lost their only daughter, Amy Lillian, at the age of three years. Their four sons are named as follows: Chester L., William F., Eugene E. and Charles A., all now married but the latter, who is a student in Beloit College, preparing for the ministry in the Methodist Episcopal Church. For six years he has ridden his horse from his home place to Beloit, a distance of three and a half miles.

Mr. Tuttle has been a careful, industrious farmer, and has accumulated a comfortable competence, with the assistance of his industrious and estimable wife, both having worked hard for their comfortable home. Mrs. Tuttle's death occurred April 1, 1892, her health having been rather poor for some time. Mr. Tuttle is still actively engaged in his chosen occupation, and is strong and vigorous. He is a staunch Republican in his political views, and was once called an Abolitionist. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace for two terms, and holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church in Beloit. Mrs. Tuttle having also been a member of that church.



FRANCIS BLACHFORD. In mentioning those of foreign birth who have become closely associated with the farming interests of Boone County, we should not fail to present an outline of the career of Mr. Blachford, for he is one who has fully borne out the reputation of that class of industrious, energetic and far-seeing men of English nativity who have risen to prominence in different portions of this county. There is a sterling quality about the nationality that particularly fits them for pioneers, and we, as Americans, are greatly indebted to settlers of English birth for the rapid advancement in our civilization. Mr.

Blachford was born in Wiltshire, England, on the 21st of July, 1819, and is a brother of Stephen Blachford (see sketch for family history). Now nearly seventy-three years of age, the progress that the country has made, and especially that portion in which he lives, is due to the energy and perseverance of such men as our subject. Like his brother Stephen, he has suffered all the hardships and privations of pioneer life, and the name of Blachford is already connected with the history of the country.

The subject of this sketch selected his wife in the person of Miss Jane Atkinson, who was born in Canada on the 1st of May, 1833, and their union was solemnized on the 29th of November, 1855. She was one of eleven children, six of whom are now living, born to the marriage of James and Margaret (McClatchey) Atkinson, the father a native of Lincolnshire, England, and the mother of Canada. The former was born in 1803, and died when eighty years of age, but the latter is still living, is a resident of this county, and is now eighty-four years of age.

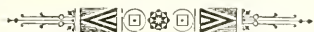
To our subject and his wife was born an interesting family of seven children, all of whom are living but one. They are as follows: Francis, a native of this county, is now engaged in farming in Dakota; William R., also a native of this county, makes his home in Dakota; Margaret married L. Shattuck and has a son; Eli R., residing in Belvidere, married Miss Ann Gathen and is the father of two sons; Stephen D. is at home; Harvey is engaged in business in Belvidere; and Albert is at home. All the children were born in this county. Some of Mrs. Blachford's people were of Scotch-Irish descent.

Mr. Blachford, excepting a few years when he worked in the pinery, has always remained on the old home place, and hauled his grain and produce to Chicago, and is well known in the county where he has made his home since 1835. He is a Democrat in his political liking, and is not a member of any church, although quite a regular attendant. He is noted for his open-heartedness, geniality and the public spirit that distinguishes his countrymen, and is a fine specimen of the industrial class that Great Britain sends to our shores. He has ever



L. F. Blumberg

been a loyal adherent of American institutions and his adopted country is to him, par excellence, the country of his heart. His well-cultivated farm attests his success in life.



CHARLES F. BLOMBERG, Superintendent of the Union Furniture Factory of Rockford, one of the leading and largest enterprises of the city, is a gentleman whose abilities and sound judgment have no equal in this line. He was a promoter of the enterprise and is now a Director and large stockholder of the same. He is also a stockholder in the Chair and Furniture Factory, a stockholder and Director in the Mantel and Furniture Factory, and a stockholder in the Royal Sewing Machine Company. He is one of the successful and representative Swedes of Rockford, and is highly respected both in social and business circles. Since 1876, he has been identified with the furniture factories of the city, and especially with the Union, which was organized in that year.

In the year 1874, Mr. Blomberg came to this country from Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, where he first saw the light December 26, 1850. As he grew to manhood, he learned the cabinet-maker's trade under his father, John Anderson, who was a skilled workman. The latter remained in his native land all his life and died when sixty-five years of age. He was a man well respected and was a member of the State Church, as was also his wife, whose maiden name was Brighta Swesen. She died in her native province when fifty-five years of age. They were the parents of six children, all now living and all married: Sophia, now Mrs. Johnson, resides in Sweden; August A., a farmer of Sweden; Clause A., a farmer and carpenter of Sweden; Charles F., our subject; Emma, wife of Mr. Norstron, resides near Belvidere, Boone County, and Lotta, wife of A. Bargstrom, resides in Rockford.

Charles F. Blomberg is the founder of the family in America. He left his native soil on the 17th of July, 1871, and made his appearance in Rockford, Ill., on the 6th of August of the same

year. September 14, 1875, he wedded Miss Christina J. Jasperson, a native of Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, born November 12, 1818, and a lady possessing many virtues. She came to this country in 1872 with her father and brother. The former, Jasper Carlson, was born October 17, 1820, and is now seventy-two years of age. He makes his home with his daughter, Mrs. Blomberg, and is a member of the Lutheran Church. His wife died in Sweden in 1871, when past fifty-six years of age. She was also a Lutheran in belief.

Mrs. Blomberg's brother, Prof. John Jasperson, is a graduate of R. I. Augustana College, and is now at the head of that institution. He is also a minister of some note, and carried on his ministerial duties in Burlington for three years. Mrs. Blomberg has another brother, Charles Jasperson, who is in the employ of J. G. Chick. She has three sisters in this country: Mrs. Johanna Roman, of Rockford; Mrs. Lottie Frieberg, also of this city, and Mrs. Mary Liden, of Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Blomberg are the parents of five children, only one now living, Clause E., a bright boy sixteen years old, who is attending the public schools. Those deceased are: Helga O. Albin and two infants. Mr. Blomberg is identified with the Republican party in politics, and he and his wife are members of the First Lutheran Church.

The attention of the reader is invited to a lithographic portrait of Mr. Blomberg which is presented on an accompanying page.



JAMES PARTRICK. A stranger would not be in this section long without hearing the name which stands at the head of this biographical notice and learning that it is the cognomen of a prominent citizen of Winnebago. For many years an agriculturist, he is still the proprietor of a fine farm in Winnebago Township and another in Seward Township, and in addition to this property owns six houses in the village, where he ranks among its well-to-do citizens. He is self-made, for at the time he came to Rockford, many years ago, he was about even with the world,

but his financial ability and integrity have aided him in attaining to his present high standing.

Born in Marston, Bedfordshire, England, in October, 1819, our subject is the son of Samuel Partrick, also a native of that shire, where he was reared, married and spent his entire life. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Elizabeth Cook, a most estimable lady, who bore her husband eleven children. James of this sketch, and his sister, Esther Chandler, now a resident of Pennsylvania, were the only members of the family to come to America.

The original of this sketch was reared to agricultural pursuits in his native land, and October 11, 1845, set sail from Liverpool on the vessel "Elsonora," being accompanied on the voyage by his wife. The young couple landed at New York on the 22d of December, whence they went to South Middletown, Orange County, and resided until October, 1846, when they started for Illinois. They journeyed by the way of the Lakes to Chicago, where Mr. Partrick was taken sick and was compelled to remain for two months, after which he came overland to Rockford in a lumber wagon, and found employment with a Mr E. Gregory, with whom he remained for two months. He was then engaged in doing various kinds of work, and chopping wood, for which he received \$1 per cord, and \$1 per hundred for splitting rails.

In 1847, James Partrick purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in Seward Township, for which he paid \$300. Locating on the place two years later, he was there successfully engaged in cultivating the soil until 1876, when he rented his property and came to Winnebago, where he is quite extensively interested in real estate.

Our subject was wedded to Rachel Faulkner, a native of Bedfordshire, England, in July, 1843. The lady was the daughter of John and Elizabeth Faulkner, who came to America in 1846, and departed this life in Winnebago County. Mrs. Partrick died in February, 1857, and in September of that year our subject was married to Clara M. Randall, who was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., and is the daughter of Gilbert Randall, of New York State and of English ancestry. The six children living were born of the second union and

are: Lucy, Mrs. James Bryant; Ezula, Mrs. Levi Faulkner; Rachel, Theron, Martha and Edith. Mrs. Faulkner has four children: Fay, Susan, Herbert and Volney.



JACOB HAZLETT, now living retired at his pleasant home at No. 201 North Second Street, is one of the old settlers of Winnebago County, having come hither in 1853. On locating in this county, he brought with him a stock of dry-goods worth \$5,000 or \$6,000, and with these went to Rockton and established himself in business. Not finding it a good location, he disposed of his goods, and seeing a good opening in Rockford, came to this city and opened an hotel in the old Crystal Palace.

Mr. Hazlett later, in company with a Mr. Miller, opened up in the boot and shoe business, which they operated successfully together until 1866, when our subject conducted affairs on his own account, and buying out the stock of C. C. Briggs, followed that line of trade for twenty-two years. In the meantime, Mr. Hazlett purchased a portion of the block bounded by North First and Market Streets, where he erected a good residence, besides the one in which he makes his home. Since 1886, he has partially retired from active business life, having a fine income from the real estate which he owns. Mr. Hazlett is public-spirited and has always been deeply interested in the upbuilding of the city.

The original of this sketch, with Mr. C. C. Briggs and George Troxell, was one of the original stockholders of the building of the Kenosha Railroad, in which venture he lost heavily. He was born in Preston County, Va., November 17, 1813, and was only four and a half years old when his parents came West to Allegany County, Md., where he grew to mature years and engaged in the milling business with his father for twenty-two years. He in the meantime built a saw and grist mill with a carding mill attached and later added to his possessions a store, all of which he operated for some time and then moved his stock of dry-goods to Fayette County, Pa., where he was successfully

engaged in business for some time. He made his advent into Rockford in 1853, with whose interests he has been prominently identified since that time.

The father of our subject, Samuel Hazlett, was a native of Lancaster County, Pa., while his father was born in the North of Ireland, and emigrated to the United States during the Revolutionary War. He located in Pennsylvania, where he followed his trade of a millwright, and later being pressed into the service of the Colonists, became a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He later returned to Lancaster County, and again establishing himself at his trade, was thus engaged until his decease, prior to which time, however, his house was totally destroyed by fire.

The grandfather of our subject at his decease left one son, Samuel, and a daughter, Catherine. The son on attaining manhood learned the trade of a millwright under his father, remained in Lancaster County for a time and later became a miller and a well-known resident in Allegany County, Md., where he spent his last years, dying at the age of seventy-five. He was an honest, hardworking man and had a host of acquaintances in the county, where he had spent so many years. He was prominent in politics, casting his first Presidential vote for Thomas Jefferson. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Catherine Fike, a native of the same county and State as was her husband. Her father was a native of Hesse-Darmstadt and came to America as a soldier during the Revolutionary War. Her parents were John and Margaret Fike, who died at the home of Mrs. Hazlett in Allegany County, Md. Mrs. Catherine Hazlett survived her husband some years, her decease occurring in Fayette County, Pa., when seventy-eight years of age. She was a member of the Dunkard Church, of which denomination her husband was a preacher.

Jacob Hazlett is the youngest but one of seven sons and two daughters born to his parents, and with the exception of his sister Susan, now Mrs. Samuel Welsh, of Winterset, Iowa, is the only one living. He was married in Somerset County, Pa., to Miss Jane Rush, who was born in that county in 1819, and was a daughter of John and Margaret

(Hannah) Rush. Her parents were of Irish descent, who after their marriage lived in Somerset County, where the father carried on a farm until 1841, when they removed to Westmoreland County, that State, and in 1852 came to Illinois and purchased a home in Rockford. They both departed this life in 1858, the father dying in September and the mother in October of that year, firm in the faith of the Baptist Church. The grandfather of Mrs. Hazlett, Jacob Rush, was a patriot in the Revolutionary War, participating in the battle of Bennington, and died when past ninety years of age.

The wife of our subject is one of the five sons and seven daughters born to her parents, two of whom are deceased. The eldest is eighty-six years of age and the youngest sixty-five. Mr. and Mrs. Hazlett are active members of the Baptist Church, and in politics, though formerly a Democrat, now votes the Prohibition ticket.



GEORGE H. BARBER is classed among the leading agriculturists of Shirland Township, Winnebago County, where he has a well-improved farm, and makes a specialty of dairying, keeping on his place about twenty milch cows, whose product he sends to the creamery at Shirland. Mr. Barber is a strong supporter of Republican principles, and has been prominent in local affairs, serving as School Director for fourteen years, and Highway Commissioner one term. His religious views find expression in the Methodist Episcopal faith, he and his wife being valued members of the society of that denomination in Shirland.

A native of New York, our subject was born in Westmoreland Township, Oneida County, January 30, 1826, and is a son of George Barber, whose birth occurred in 1803, in Washington County, that State. The latter-named gentleman was an agriculturist, and the son of John Barber, a native of Ireland. Our subject is one in a family of two sons and three daughters. His sister, Mary A., is now Mrs. Otis King, of Lockport, N. Y.; Sarah is a resident of Clinton, Oneida County, that State;

William F. is a Justice of the Peace at the village of New York Mills, N. Y.; and Ellen, Mrs. John Barber, departed this life in Oneida County, when about forty years of age, leaving one son.

The father of our subject died in 1813, in New York, and his good wife, who survived him some thirty years, was seventy-seven years of age at her demise. Our subject grew up a farmer boy, and like many of the lads of that early day, had a limited opportunity for receiving an education, being compelled to assist his father in carrying on the farm. When twenty-five years of age, he started out in the world on his own account, and for five years was in the employ of the New York Central Railroad.

The lady who became the wife of our subject in 1857 was Miss Adeline, daughter of David and Elizabeth (Worrell) Bradley, natives of Niagara County, N. Y., where they were farmers, and reared two sons and four daughters. They died at the respective ages of fifty and seventy-three years. All the children are living with the exception of one sister, Abigail, who was the wife of James O. King, of Lockport, N. Y.

Our subject came West to Illinois in October, 1865, at which time he purchased ninety-one acres of the land included in his present farm, for which he paid \$9 per acre. Within two years he returned East for his bride, and since that time they have been permanent residents of Shirland Township, where they have reared six children, and buried one daughter, Jennie M., who died May 4, 1886, aged twenty-two years. Those living are Sarah, Mrs. Oscar Boyden; Charles, who married Ada Bates, of Dakota; Carrie A., Nellie G. and Emory. They have all been given good educations, and fitted to become useful citizens.



MRS. EMELINE (OLIN) JOHNSON. Among the valuable and finely-improved farms of Winnebago Township, is the pleasant home occupied and owned by Mrs. Johnson, and comprising one hundred and nine acres, upon which the various improvements have been made which mark it as the abode of a

refined and intelligent family. Although it has been in her possession but a short time, having been purchased in 1890, she has already effected considerable improvement in its environments and buildings, and is justly entitled to consideration among the representative residents of the township.

Born in Erie County, N. Y., Mrs. Johnson is the daughter of David Olin, who was born near Providence, R. I., and the granddaughter of Anthony Olin, who was born in the same place and there spent his entire life. He married Abigail Remington, who, like himself, lived and died in Rhode Island. The father of Mrs. Johnson was reared in his native State and removed to New York in his early manhood, locating in the town of Sardinia, and there engaged in farming until 1852. He then removed to Wisconsin and settled in Spring Valley upon a tract of timber land, which he commenced at once to improve and which he continued to reside upon until his death. While a resident of Sardinia, he was united in marriage with Miss Eleth Cheney, who was born in Chautauque County, N. Y., the daughter of Daniel and Jane (Munson) Cheney.

When her parents removed to Wisconsin, our subject was only eight years old, and she made her home beneath the parental roof until her marriage to George Prior, a native of New York, who came West in his young manhood and settled near Janesville, Wis. He enlisted in 1864 as a member of the Twelfth Wisconsin Infantry and died while in service. On New Year's Day, 1876, our subject became the wife of Joseph Johnson, who was born in England and emigrated to America when a young man and located in Rockford. He engaged in farming and bought land at different times, until when he died he was the owner of three hundred and seventy acres of well-improved land, on which good buildings had been placed. His death occurred in November, 1883, mourned by a host of warm personal friends.

After the death of Mr. Johnson his widow made her home on the farm which he had purchased until 1889, when she rented it to tenants and removed to Rockford, buying a home in that beautiful city. In 1890, she traded her property in the



Thuret Blake

Forest City for a farm in Winnebago Township, where she now resides. She is the mother of two children, Ella and Harry, by her first union, and of her second marriage, one child, Myrtie, was born. The position occupied by Mrs. Johnson and her children in the social circles is prominent, while her management of the estate left by her husband proves the possession of great executive ability and remarkable judgment.



THATCHER BLAKE. In the suburbs of the beautiful city of Rockford and overlooking the Rock River, stands a palatial residence, one of the most elegant and attractive in the county, and erected by Mr. Blake in 1870. Nine happy years he passed within its walls and then, October 8, 1879, passed away from the busy scenes of earth. His life of seventy-one years was a busy and useful one, filled with successes and crowned with the friendship of the best citizens of Rockford.

Born in Oxford County, Me., October 29, 1809, our subject was the son of Thatcher Blake, Sr. The father was born in Taunton, Mass., February 22, 1771, and died in Maine, October 29, 1839. On his mother's side he was a lineal descendant of the celebrated Edward Winslow, who came over in the "Mayflower" in 1620, and is known in history for the prudence, intelligence and wisdom which provided a means of securing the confidence of, and intercourse with, the Indians during the early settlement of this country. In the history of the development of the New England States the family took an active part, and possessed the hardy and sturdy character that had enabled their forefathers to get a foothold in the New World.

Imbued with the spirit of his ancestors, it is not strange that our subject sought a home in the wild and sparsely settled West. He was one of the three oldest settlers of Rockford and Winnebago County, being associated with Stephen Maek and Germanicus Kent in the pioneer task of improving the land. He possessed the courageous spirit which enabled him to undertake the hardships

necessary to effect a settlement among not entirely peaceable Indians. Prior to coming hither, he had gained a practical knowledge of agriculture on the home farm, where he had been reared, and had also been a teacher during the winter season.

Upon attaining to his majority, Mr. Blake came West to Galena, this State, where he formed the acquaintance of Germanicus Kent, a native of Vermont, who had gone South, married a Southern lady, and returned North to Galena. The two gentlemen became close friends and purchased an Indian canoe in which they journeyed down the Mississippi River and investigated the lands on both sides, finally deciding to locate near the mouth of what is now called Kent Creek, a small stream emptying into the Rock River at Rockford. The name given to this city was suggested by the fact that at low water there was a good fording place where the dam now is.

No better men could found a city than Messrs. Kent and Blake. The latter gentleman had decided tastes for farming and made a claim to a large tract of land near the town. After improving the land, he retired to the city, where he engaged to some extent as a real-estate dealer and built some good houses. A man of noble character, he had a host of warm personal friends who honored him as one of the best citizens of the place. He was a member of the Unitarian Church, and, in his political belief, was first a Whig and later a Republican.

The marriage of Mr. Blake in Freeport united him with Miss Mary J. Goodhue, and this wedding ceremony, which was solemnized in November, 1836, was the first ever performed in Stephenson County, and the second in Northern Illinois. To Mrs. Blake belongs the honor of being the oldest living settler in Rockford or Winnebago Counties. She was born in Peterborough, N. H., August 29, 1813, and belonged to a worthy New England family. Her parents died when she was a child, and thus orphaned, she began to earn her living as a teacher when quite young. She came to Stephenson County, this State, where her sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Sanborn, resided. The venerable lady still survives and resides at the old homestead in Rockford.

A lady of courageous disposition and sincere character, Mrs. Blake occupies a warm place in the affection of all who have ever met her, and she delights to relate incidents of old pioneer days, when few comforts were in the reach of the early settlers, and hardships and trials were innumerable. She belongs to the Unitarian Church and is ever active in charitable and benevolent measures. Her daughter Katie is the widow of Clarence Bean, formerly a prominent druggist, who died in Rockford in 1888. Mrs. Bean makes her home with her mother, as do also her three sons: Thatcher B., Winslow and Clarence, bright lads who are the pride and hope of both mother and grandmother.

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



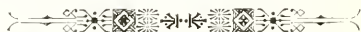
WILLIAM DICKINSON was born in the village of Haywood, Parish of Bridwalace, Yorkshire, England, July 23, 1822. He is at present residing on a farm in Burritt Township, Winnebago County, on which he has erected a comfortable stone house, and planted fruit and shade trees. He is making a success of his calling and ranks among the well-to-do agriculturists of the county.

William Dickinson, the father of our subject, was a native of the above-named parish and shire, as was also his father, William Dickinson, and in turn, his father, the great-grandfather of our subject. The latter-named gentleman spent his entire life in that country, and died when nearly one hundred years of age, being buried in Owston Churchyard. The grandfather of our subject was a carpenter, which occupation he followed until his death, in Yorkshire; his remains lie buried at Doneaster. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Pickering.

The direct progenitor of our subject always followed the trade of a carpenter, which he learned from his father, and at his decease was also buried at Doneaster. Rebecca Parkin, his wife, was born in Yorkshire, England, and bore her husband five children, Sarah, William, George, Charles and Lucy.

our subject being the only one who ever came to America. He commenced to learn the trade of a carpenter and wagonmaker when fourteen years of age, and when twenty-one did "jour" work until 1845, when he came with his wife to America, sailing from Liverpool August 6, in the vessel "Rochester," which landed them in New York after a voyage of three weeks. Coming directly to Illinois, Mr. Dickinson came overland from Chicago to Rockford at a time when this now prosperous city was a small village. He began life here working land on shares, and after the Mexican War he purchased a land warrant and secured a tract of land, which he now occupies.

There being no railroads in this locality, Mr. Dickinson marketed his grain in Chicago, Milwaukee and different points in Wisconsin. He had his wheat ground at Rockton, and disposed of his flour in the mining towns of Wisconsin. In 1841, he was married to Ann Coward, who was born in Yorkshire, England, January 10, 1833, and was the daughter of William and Ann (Cellars) Coward, also natives of Yorkshire, England, where their decease occurred. To our subject and his wife have been born ten children. Those now living are Rebecca, now Mrs. Wallace Hooker; Emily, now Mrs. Frederick Milne; Frederick, George, Florence; Annie, now Mrs. James Robins; and Theodore. William, the third son, died in his twenty-fourth year, and Charles, the next in order of birth, when twenty-three years. In his political relations, Mr. Dickinson is a staunch Democrat.



ANSEL SCHELLENGER. It is with sincere pleasure that the biographer responds to the call to give the life facts of any of our fellow-citizens who fought for the honor of the old flag during the dark days of the Civil War. The good gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch enlisted at Black River Falls, Wis., for three months, but as his company was disbanded, he again enlisted from Sharon, November 4, 1861, in Company C, Thirteenth Wisconsin Infantry, and going to the front in Kansas formed a part of the Western Army. Mr. Schel-

lenger re-enlisted December 15, 1863, and was discharged on account of disability, July 29, 1865, from the general hospital at Prairie du Chien.

Our subject, who is at present engaged in farming in Manchester Township, Boone County, was born in Harpersfield, Ashtabula County, Ohio, March 15, 1841, while his father, Hector Schellenger, was born in Sheffield, Mass., August 11, 1792. The latter gentleman was the son of Gideon Schellenger, who lived and died a farmer in the above-named place. The father of our subject came to Kaskaskia in 1813, in company with two brothers, where he remained about one year, during which period he made brick by hand. At the end of that time, he returned with his brother George to Ashtabula County, and the latter built a dam on Grand River and erected saw, grist and woolen mills. The father of our subject purchased a farm in that vicinity, which he cleared from heavy timber.

The lady who became the mother of our subject was prior to her marriage Cynthia, daughter of Archelus Parker, and was born June 23, 1809, in New York. The parents of our subject, in the fall of 1855, came to Roscoe Village, where Mr. Schellenger remained a short time; then coming to Manchester Township, he purchased a farm of two hundred and eighty acres, for which he paid \$3,000. A part of the family still remained in Ohio, among them Ansel, our subject, and his elder brother, who was ill. Mr. and Mrs. Schellenger reared twelve children, viz: Elmina, Edmund, Nancy, Almon, Hector, Polly (deceased), Ansel, Phoebe Ann, Emeline M., Samuel O., Silas A. and Sarah E. Almon was a volunteer in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, leaving home with the commission of Lieutenant, and when Capt. Cornwell was killed was appointed to take his position. He served through the war, receiving a severe bayonet wound in the ankle. Previous to being discharged, he was brevetted a Major for bravery and efficiency.

He of whom we write, on returning to civil life, engaged in farming on the old homestead, which has been his home since. He was married, October 25, 1875, to Miss Delphine E., daughter of David and Emeline (Glover) Willson, natives, respectively, of New Hampshire and New York. The

parents of Mrs. Schellenger came to Manchester Township in 1817, where she was born. By her union with our subject, four children have been born: Alice Maude, Blanche Marie, Marcia E. and Ralph Wilson.

Mr. Schellenger, in 1877, erected a very fine brick residence which is finished in a modern style of architecture, and furnished in a most comfortable manner. He also has a large barn on his place, and all the other buildings which go to make up a most attractive home. His estate is supplied with ornamental shrub and fruit trees, having a well-trained arbor vitæ hedge in front of the house. He has added one hundred and thirty acres to the original tract, which aggregates four hundred and ten acres, the greater portion of which is under excellent cultivation. He has raised a great quantity of clover on his place, which nets him \$15 per acre, or \$1.50 per bushel. He is one of the most practical and thorough farmers in this part of Illinois, and is making a success of his calling. He plants from one hundred to one hundred and fifty acres of corn, and keeps from fifteen to thirty-seven head of cows on his place. He has some very fine sheep, of which the Shropshire are his favorites.

The mother of our subject is now nearing her eighty-third birthday, and makes her home with her youngest daughter, Mrs. Blodget, in Le Roy. Our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics, he votes with the Republican party.



JOSEPH S. CARPENTER is one of Boone County's popular citizens, and an agriculturist of excellent reputation. He was born in Truxton, Cortland County, N. Y., on the 21st of December, 1817, and remained under the parental roof until twenty years of age, when he started out to make his own way in life.

The parents of our subject, Abner and Lura (Haskins) Carpenter, were natives of the Nutmeg State, but later became residents of New York State where they passed the remainder of

their days, the father dying in Orleans and the mother in Cortland County. They were the parents of seven children, but only our subject is now living. The paternal grandfather, Noah Carpenter, was also a native of Connecticut, but when about middle age he moved to the Empire State and there received his final summons when ninety years of age.

When our subject started out to fight life's battles for himself, he first began by hiring out by the month, and in this way, by his economical habits and good management, contrived to save much of his hard-earned money. He selected his wife in the person of Miss Clarissa Gilbert, a native of Livingston County, N. Y., born in the town of Sparta, October 18, 1824, and their union was celebrated on the 19th of March, 1846. Mrs. Carpenter was the daughter of Leonard and Elizabeth (Mitchell) Gilbert, the father a native of Connecticut and the mother of Pennsylvania, the latter of Quaker ancestry. They were the parents of six children, five of whom are now living. Mrs. Carpenter, wife of our subject, is a descendant of English ancestors, and the first of her kinsmen to settle in this country were three brothers whose descendants are now scattered in the United States, many of them professional men. Quite a number were Methodist preachers who won fame and renown in their chosen calling. Mrs. Carpenter's father was a physician of considerable consequence and was educated at Hartford, Conn. He died in Genesee County, Mich., when about eighty-seven years of age, and his wife died in Orleans County, N. Y., when about fifty-four years of age. Mrs. Carpenter's grandfather, Gardener Gilbert, was in the Revolutionary War and was Secretary for Gen. George Washington.

After marriage, our subject settled in Orleans County, N. Y., and for some time worked by the month, but becoming impressed with the idea that he could better his condition by going West, he, in the year 1848, made his first appearance in Illinois. He bought forty acres of land in Boone County, but later bought sixty-five acres where he now lives, and has been a resident of the same for the past thirty-five years. During this time he has not been idle, as the present appearance of his

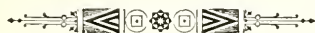
well-regulated farm will show. Satisfied that he has accomplished his share of hard work, our subject is now practically retired and with his worthy wife, to whose help he in a great measure attributes his success, will settle down to enjoy the result of years of hard work. Although he has taken but little interest in politics, Mr. Carpenter has held a number of local offices and is well able to hold any and all. He is a Republican and his first Presidential vote was for William H. Harrison. He has voted for every Republican President since Fremont. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter are members of the Methodist Church and are liberal contributors to the same. Mr. Carpenter favors advancement in every phase of life, and is a generous contributor both of his time and means to every measure that promises to be for the benefit of this section of the country.



SEYMOUR WILDER has been identified with the agricultural development of Winnebago County since the early date of its settlement and is a fine representative of the sturdy, intelligent and enterprising pioneers who have improved valuable and highly productive farms from the wild prairies. Our subject was born in Underhill, Chittenden County, Vt., October 31, 1831, and is the son of Oliver and Lemira (Lee) Wilder, for a further history of whom the reader is referred to the sketch of Seth C. Wilder.

During the residence of our subject in Vermont, as there were no railroads in the vicinity of his home, it was the custom of the farmers to visit Boston every winter, making the round trip with teams and bringing back in exchange for their produce, fish and the merchandise needed in the family. Mr. Wilder came to Illinois with his parents and while en route saw the first railroad and first train of cars he had ever seen. He assisted his father in improving a new farm and was never separated from his parents until their decease. He now owns and occupies the old homestead and is one of the best-known and highly esteemed residents in this section. For a number

of years he engaged in operating a threshing machine but now carries on general farming and stock-raising. Mr. Wilder has never married. In his political views he casts his vote and influence in favor of Democratic principles.



RICHARD GARDNER. Among those whose labors are ended, but who by their worthy lives still claim remembrance, may be properly mentioned Mr. Gardner, an early resident of Winnebago, who departed this life January 14, 1883. He was one of the old citizens of the county, within whose limits he owned a valuable and highly-improved tract of land, where he and his wife established a pleasant home and assisted in developing the land from a primeval wilderness.

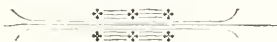
Our subject was born in Malpas, Cheshire, England, in 1821, and was the son of Richard and Ann (Palin) Gardner, also natives of England, who came to America in 1831, and located in Florence, Oneida County, N. Y., where they spent the rest of their days. Mr. Gardner was one of a family of ten children born to his parents, whom he accompanied to America when a lad of ten years. He was reared in Oneida County, where he resided until 1849, then, with his wife, came to Illinois, and stopped for a time in the town of Rockford.

The year after making this county his home, Mr. Gardner purchased eighty acres of land which is now included in the farm upon which his widow resides, and for which he paid \$3 per acre. In 1853, he sold his property, and moving to Lafayette County, Wis., there purchased a farm and resided for fourteen years, when he again returned to Winnebago Township, and bought the old home where he was residing at the time of his decease.

The lady to whom our subject was married bore the maiden name of Abigail C. Swezey, a native of Norway, Herkimer County, N. Y., where her birth occurred August 23, 1824. Her father, the Rev. Samuel Swezey, was a native of Long Island, and was a son of Daniel Swezey, whose sketch will be found in the biography of A. J. Swezey on another page of this volume. The latter-named

gentleman was a lad of twelve years when the family moved to Herkimer County, and being converted in early manhood, became a preacher in the Presbyterian Church. He was for some time in the employ of the Home Missionary Society, and, after abandoning the ministerial work, removed to his farm in the town of Norway, thence to Florence, Oneida County, which was his home until 1855, when he came to Illinois, and bought property in Winnebago Township. Here his death occurred in 1861. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Gardner was Harriet Mitchell, a native of Meriden, Conn., and the daughter of Zenas and Abigail (Merriman) Mitchell. She died in the town of Camden, N. Y., in 1853. The wife of our subject was reared and educated in her native State and resided with her parents until her marriage.

He of whom we write was a member of Winnebago Lodge No. 745, A. F. & A. M., and possessed that upright character and intelligent mind which led him to success in business life.



PETER PETERSON. If the Old Country had not contributed to the population of the New, Illinois would not have reached its present high state of development. Sweden has furnished her full quota of excellent men, and among them Peter Peterson, a resident of Rockford, who is honored and respected by all his acquaintances. He has been a resident of Rockford since 1867, when he was but thirteen years of age, and has ever taken an active interest in its growth and development. For seventeen years, he has been working as a foreman in the machine shops of the Ward Pump Company, in which he is a Director and stockholder, and he is a stockholder in the Skandia Plow Company, which is also a flourishing concern. Mr. Peterson is a first-class man of business, and is deservedly popular, bearing an honorable reputation.

Our subject was born in Blekinge, Sweden, on the 18th of May, 1854, and, like the majority of the youth of that country, while growing up was taught a trade. He became a machinist and

this has continued to be his occupation up to the present. He is hardworking and industrious and a most skillful and intelligent workman. In September, 1867, he and his parents took passage for the United States and after an uneventful voyage entered the harbor of New York, in which city they remained but a short time, Rockford being the point of destination. The parents are now residents of this city and are classed among the honest, upright citizens. The father, Ingval Peterson, is working in the machine department of the Emerson-Talcott Manufacturing Company, and is now sixty-four years of age, his birth occurring on the 3d of June, 1828. His excellent wife, who was born on the 25th of June, 1830, and whose maiden name was Chasta Hookson, has been a true helpmate to her husband and has stood faithfully by his side in sunshine and in shower. Like the majority of their native countrymen, they are devout members of the Zion Lutheran Church.

Of the seven sons and three daughters born to this excellent couple, three of each are now living, all but two sons married. These, William O. and Victor A., are both machinists. The daughters are: Mrs. Christina Christanson, a widow, who resides in Rockford; Hannah, wife of J. H. Lynn (see sketch), and Sarah, wife of Herman Danilson, who resides in Sweden.

The happy marriage of our subject to Miss Anna Charlotte Lindberg occurred in Rockford. She was born in Wester Gotland, Sweden, February 17, 1858, and came to the United States with the family in the early part of the year 1864. After a long, tedious voyage of seven weeks, they reached New York City and came direct from there to Rockford, where the mother died on the 10th of April, 1865, when but thirty-seven years of age. She was a most worthy and excellent woman and her death was a severe blow to the afflicted family. Her maiden name was Anna G. Johanasdatter, and she became the mother of four children, one, Elizabeth, having died when four years of age. Those living are Josephine H., wife of John J. Ferrel, now residing in Chicago; Anna C., wife of our subject, and John E., a molder for the Ward Pump Company, who wedded Miss Josephine Chinquist. The father of these children, Andrew

Lindberg, was married in Rockford, on the 1st of January, 1867, to Miss Sophia Hanson, a native of Sweden, who was the mother of four children by a former marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Lindberg now reside on a farm in Wright County, Minn., near Delano, and have one living son, Alfred, by this union.

Mr. Peterson is a Republican in politics and has all faith and confidence in the future of his party. He and his most excellent wife are members of the Lutheran Church. Their fine residence at No. 607 Grove Street is arranged in the interior in a very tasty and superior manner by Mrs. Peterson, who is not only a lady of intelligence and culture, but an admirable housekeeper as well.

 RICHARD P. LOVELAND, who is practically living a retired life upon his farm in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, was born in 1818, and is the eldest child of David and Amy (Lowrey) Loveland, whose family numbered four children, three sons and a daughter, all of whom are yet living. The paternal grandfather, Aaron Loveland, was born and reared near Hartford, Conn. Their ancestors had for a number of generations resided in New England. When our subject was a child, his parents removed to Ohio. Their family consisted of the following children: Roswell L., of Medina, Ohio; Amanda M., now Mrs. Dr. Cass, of Chicago; Seymour C., a resident of Union County, Ohio; and our subject. The youngest of the family is now sixty-three years of age.

R. P. Loveland was born January 29, 1818, was reared upon his father's farm and spent much of his time in his father's saw and grist mills. He possessed considerable mechanical genius and has engaged in that labor much of his life. As a helpmate on life's journey, he chose Miss Hannah M. Austin, their union being celebrated in Ashland, Ohio, December 15, 1841. She was born in New Hampshire, and is a daughter of Samuel Austin. They have resided in four different States: Ohio, Wisconsin, Missouri and Illinois. When in Missouri, Mr. Loveland responded to his country's

call for troops in May, 1861, and did service for three years as a member of the Seventh Missouri Regiment, which was engaged in duty all of the time in that State. As the regiment was not mustered out at the close of the war, he was a member of it for seven years.

In 1874, Mr. Loveland came with his wife to Illinois, locating in Rockford, where he made his home for five years, being employed with the N. C. Thompson Company. At the expiration of that time he removed to his farm, a tract of one hundred and six acres under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He is practically living a retired life, his son-in-law operating his land. Mr. and Mrs. Loveland have the following living children: Charles A., Lewis B., Martin E., Mrs. Amy Wilkeson, Seymour H., John T. and Mrs. A. L. Tibbetts. They also lost two children, an infant, and Minerva, who died at the age of one year. They have thirty grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

In politics, Mr. Loveland was a Democrat until his experience with the rebel Democrats in the South, and since that time he has been an ardent Republican. Whatever success he has achieved in life has been due to his own efforts, for he began life empty-handed and has made his own way in the world. He is a well-known and highly-respected citizen of this community.



GEORGE H. GRAVES has been a resident of Boone County since five years of age, and is counted one of the most substantial residents of Flora Township, where he is operating a fine farm. He was born in Guilford, Me., June 15, 1840, and is the son of Samuel Stillman Graves, who was born in the town of Litchfield, ten miles from Hallowell, Me., February 28, 1806. His father, Nathaniel Graves, was born in Topsham, that State, and his father, the great-grandfather of our subject, it is thought, hailed from Reading, Mass., and early in life moved to Litchfield, Me., where he was a resident until his death.

The grandfather of our subject was reared and

educated in his native State, where he learned the trade of a blacksmith, following that occupation a number of years. In 1810, he removed to Guilford, Piscataquis County, and his was the fifth family to settle in that town. He purchased and cleared a farm from the wilderness, where his death took place. The maiden name of his wife was Abigail Palmer; she was born in Scituate, Mass., and also died on the old homestead.

Samuel S. Graves was four years old when his father removed to Guilford, where he was reared, and learned and worked at the trade of a stonemason and bricklayer until 1845, when, with his wife and family, he came to Illinois and located in Boone County. He landed in Flora Township with \$54 in his pocket, at a time when the land in this vicinity sold at \$1.25 per acre. His brother-in-law, Jonathan Young, resided here, and the family made their home with him for a time. The father of our subject soon bought forty acres of Government land, walking to Dixon to make his first payment at the land office.

The parents of our subject were united in marriage on the 28th of August, 1830, the maiden name of the mother, who was born in Avon, Somerset County, Me., December 1, 1809, being Hannah Young. Her parents, Abraham Dorrisson and Hannah (Wright) Young, were natives respectively of Massachusetts and Maine. They reared a family of six children: Andrew J., Helen M., Theodore Wallace, George H., Huldah J., and Anna J. Theodore during the late war was a soldier in Company I, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, and died in the service. In April, 1861, our subject also enlisted in the War of the Rebellion, becoming a member of Company B, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, which was the first regiment mustered into the United States service for a period of three years. He was with his regiment in its various marches and campaigns until honorably discharged in June, 1864. His only wound was received at the battle of Shiloh, at which time he was struck on the left elbow by a spent ball.

January 3, 1869, Mr. Graves was married to Miss Varena Haller, who was born in Canton Argovie, Switzerland, December 3, 1851. Her father, Gabriel Haller, was born in the same lo-

cality and came to America in 1852, settling at Carter's Furnace, Ky. He served in an Illinois regiment during the late war, and after his discharge located in Franklin Township, De Kalb County, where he spent his last years.

Mrs. Graves died November 5, 1885, leaving two sons: Theodore K. and Thaddeus N. The former is the husband of Birdie Vistoria St. Peter, who was born at Columbus Junction, Louisa County, Iowa, and the daughter of Theodore and Harriet (Belknap) St. Peter. Her father served in the late war in Company A, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry. Mr. Graves is a member of S. A. Hurlbut Post No. 161, G. A. R., and also of Flora Camp No. 621, M. W. of A. His sons are both members of the same camp and also of the T. G. Lawlor Camp, Sons of Veterans. Our subject is a Republican in politics, and in 1890 was appointed Census Enumerator in Flora Township. Mr. Graves was elected Treasurer of Flora Township in 1888, and served until 1890, and was also a delegate to the Third Biennial Session of Master Workmen of America, held at Springfield, Ill.



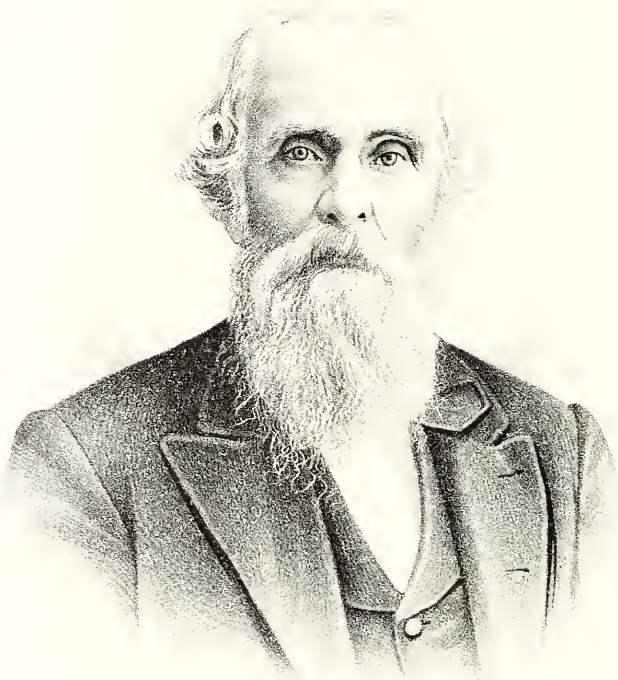
DAVID DANIEL, the pioneer shoemaker of Blaine, came to Boone County in 1812, leaving his Ohio home on September 27, and arriving at his destination October 14, following. At that early day settlements were few and far between, and the deep silence of the wilderness was unbroken, save by the occasional ringing of the pioneer's axe and at night by the howling of wild animals. Mr. Daniel can tell many interesting stories of pioneer life, illustrative of the various phases of self-sacrifice, pathos and mutual helpfulness. A skilled workman, he has for fifty years engaged at making shoes at Blaine, and his equal as a cobbler is rarely found.

The father of our subject, John Daniel, was born in Pennsylvania and removed to Ohio when a young man. He was there married to Miss Margaret Heckathorn, and after residing many years in the Buckeye State, came West to Illinois, accompanied by his wife and eight sons. He entered Government land in Boone County and purchased

other property until he became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres, where he resided until his death, August 3, 1850, at the age of fifty-nine years. David Daniel, our subject, was born in Franklin County, Ohio, April 8, 1820. He grew to manhood in his native State, where, in 1841, he married Miss Delilah Meek.

There is not one person now living in Boone County who was here at the time of the arrival of Mr. Daniel. The father of our subject, who came here in 1841, was identified with the early history of the county. He was an earnest Methodist, and his voice possessed such remarkable sweetness and power that he was called one of the "sweet singers of Israel." The members of the parental family are now widely separated and one, James, a blacksmith, mysteriously disappeared from Rockton about 1852 and nothing was ever heard of him afterward. Samuel is a minister in the Methodist Church and is at present a fruit-grower at Russellville, Ore. Wesley A. has been a practicing physician at Prior, Iowa, for thirty-eight years, and is especially successful as a surgeon, having served in that capacity in the Twenty-eighth Iowa Regiment during the late war. George, who was a teacher, died in Boone County in his youth. John, who was learning the business of carriage-making, was drowned in the Rock River at Beloit. Henry learned the trade of a cabinet-maker at Rockton, married the eldest daughter of Luther Lawrence, and died in Portland, Ore., in August, 1891. He started in life with limited capital, but when he died left his wife and two children property valued at \$100,000. Jacob, the youngest member of the family circle, is a contractor and builder, at present residing at Lake Charles, in Louisiana.

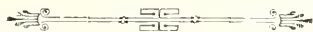
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel are the parents of five children: Martha died at the age of two and one half years; Lucy A. married C. C. Leech, of Denver, and they have three children; Mary, wife of M. F. Durycia, resides in Iowa; Morris H., a farmer, resides in this county; Permelia H. is the wife of D. G. Webster, of Blaine, and their four children are as follows: Carrie D., wife of Wilson A. Chapell, of Iowa; Jennie R., Mrs. Romeo H. Leavett, of Blaine; Daniel W., at home; and Mary E., a bright



Isaac Bates

child of nine years. Mr. Webster was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., January 14, 1837, and was brought to Illinois by his parents in 1842. In 1861, he went to California, where he remained three years, returning via the Isthmus in 1864, after having accumulated considerable property in the Golden State. He was married on New Year's Day following his return from the West and has since resided in Blaine, where he is well known as the inventor and patentee of the Webster Wind Mills.

After a long and happy wedded life, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel were separated by the death of the latter, June 21, 1875, when fifty-five years old. She was a faithful wife and loving mother, and her loss was deeply felt in the circle of loved ones to whom she was so tenderly devoted. Mr. Daniel is living retired in Blaine, where he has gained the reputation of being an energetic and public-spirited citizen. He has ever taken a deep interest in political affairs, first as a Whig and later as a Republican. As an honest man and good citizen, he justly receives the commendation and respect of all who enjoy his acquaintance. For twenty years he served as Justice of the Peace in the township, and never had a decision reversed.



ISAAC BATES, a popular and substantial farmer and a man very highly respected in Boone County, is a native of Staffordshire, England, born November 6, 1818. He is a son of Benjamin and Sarah (Warton) Bates, both natives of Birmingham, England, the former born July 8, 1777, and the latter in January, 1774. They came to America in 1848 and first settled near where our subject now resides, and there established a permanent home. The father died on September 16, 1853, and the mother passed away when eighty-six years of age. Benjamin was a son of Benjamin, Sr., who was also born in Birmingham, England, and both were steel workers in their native country. Benjamin, Sr., died there when eighty years of age. His wife, Carrie Bates, was born within ten miles of Birmingham, and died when comparatively young. Our subject's maternal grandpar-

ents were born near Birmingham and died there when quite old people.

The original of this notice was one of ten children, and he and a sister who resides in Boston are the only ones now living. He came to the United States about 1845 and was twenty-nine days in crossing the Atlantic. After reaching New York, he came by canal to Buffalo and thence by steamer to Chicago. He hired a team and brought about thirteen hundred pounds of freight out to Boone County, Ill. He first purchased eighty acres of land, but has added to this from time to time until he now has about three hundred and forty acres. He first took up his quarters in a little log cabin that was built by a brother-in-law and in that resided for some time. Afterward he erected a better house but only resided in it for two years, when he rented his farm and moved to Beloit to educate his children. There he worked at his trade as reaper manufacturer for six years, and then returned to the farm, where in 1861 he erected his present substantial residence. Mr. Bates had some means to start with when he came here and he has since been very successful.

Previous to leaving his native country, Mr. Bates was married in Birmingham, England, in a church that was erected in 1770, on July 27, 1840, to Miss Phoebe A. Tongue, a native also of Birmingham, England, and a daughter of Samuel and Rebecca (Reeves) Tongue. Samuel Tongue was born in Bromsgrove, England, and there died when sixty-six years of age. His wife, who was the daughter of William H. and Sarah (Osborne) Reeves, died in her native town, Birmingham, when eighty-six years of age.

Mrs. Bates is a great-granddaughter and also granddaughter of a born heiress, who was of a noble family. She is one of seven children born to her parents and the only one surviving. Of the seven children born to our subject and wife all are living and are as follows: William H., born in England, is married and has one child; Charles, born in England, is at home and rents the farm; Josiah F., born in England, married and has three children, and resides in Iowa; Samuel (see sketch); Benjamin A., born in Illinois, resides in Iowa, is married and has three children; Ellen B., born in

Beloit, Wis., married and has four daughters; and Albert E., born here, resides in Iowa, and to his marriage have been born two daughters. Our subject has been a Republican in politics ever since Pierce was elected. He voted for Fremont. He has held a number of local offices: Township Clerk, Highway Commissioner six years, Trustee for years and a member of the School Board. He is engaged in mixed farming, and his land, for which he paid \$1.25 per acre, is worth from \$60 to \$80 per acre at the present time.

On an accompanying page will be noticed a lithographic portrait of Mr. Bates.



ALEXANDER FERGUSON has been a lifelong resident of Harlem Township, Winnebago County and still makes his home on section 25, range 1. He was born on his father's farm on the 30th of June, 1842, his parents, William and Ellen (Picken) Ferguson, being numbered among the honored pioneer settlers of this locality. The Ferguson family is of Scotch origin. James Ferguson, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, and there spent his entire life. His son William was also a native of that locality. He and a sister, Mrs. Martha Greenlee, were the only members of the family that came to America and made a permanent settlement.

The father of our subject crossed the Atlantic in 1836, and settled in Ohio, where he married Miss Picken, also a native of Argyleshire, and a daughter of Alexander Picken. In 1840, they came to Illinois, making the journey with a horse and buggy, and Mr. Ferguson purchased a tract of wild land in what is now Harlem Township. He then returned for his family, whom he brought by way of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to Savanna and from thence by team to their future home. The land which he purchased was on section 24, a wild and uncultivated tract, upon which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made. He there erected a log house and in true pioneer style the family began life in the West. There were then no railroads in the county, Chicago was

the nearest market and that long distance had to be traversed every time supplies were needed. Mr. Ferguson developed and improved his land, resided upon the farm which he made until 1860, when he sold out and bought the farm on which our subject now resides, there making his home until his death. In the family were eight children, as follows: James, Alexander, Ellen, Mary J., William, Thomas, Hugh and Charles.

Alexander Ferguson, whose name heads this record, first opened his eyes to the light of day in the cabin home of his parents, June 30, 1842, and was reared to manhood in the usual manner of farmer lads, no event of special importance occurring during his youth. He gave his father the benefit of his labors until after his marriage, when he settled upon that part of the old home which he now owns and occupies. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, he chose Miss Margaret Ralston, daughter of Alexander J. and Margaret (McKerrel) Ralston, a native of Chatham, Canada. Their union was celebrated in 1877, and has been blessed with two children: William J. and Cora Ellen.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson are members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church and are worthy and respected people of this community who hold a high position in the social world. The husband owns a fine farm, well cultivated and improved with good buildings and other accessories of a model farm. His entire life has been passed in this county, and the fact that his oldest acquaintances are among his best friends shows that he has lived worthily and well.



NATHAN D. JACKSON. This representative farmer and excellent citizen of Bonus Township comes from good old New England stock on the paternal side, for his father, Charles D. Jackson, was born in Newton, Mass., on the 17th of October, 1810, and at the early age of seven years, engaged with an uncle to work for his board and clothes. For about eight years he continued with this uncle, and then attended the Portland, Me., schools for a few years. After this

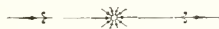
he engaged with a wholesale grocery firm as shipping clerk, and after his time was up with this house, he was elected as grain and produce weigher of the city, filling that position in a very satisfactory manner for some time.

About this time, Mr. Jackson experienced a great desire to seek his fortune in the Far West, and gathered together his belongings, and in the fall of 1838, started for Illinois, which at that time was considered very far West, and where a brother, Cranston Jackson, had preceded him two years. He went by way of the Lakes and canal as far as Chicago, and from there walked out to Belvidere. After much searching and considerable trouble, Mr. Jackson found his brother domiciled in a little log cabin about one mile from our subject's present home, and there the two brothers lived until the marriage of Charles Jackson. The latter then built a house on the land he had taken up from the Government, and on the 28th of December, 1843, he brought his bride, Miss Mary A. Stowe, to his pioneer home. She was a native of the Empire State, born in Broome County, August 15, 1818, and by her he became the father of two children: Nathan D., subject of this sketch; and a daughter, Lucy A., who was born in this county, on the 28th of September, 1847. The latter married Mr. William D. McCabe. (See sketch.)

Mrs. Jackson was the daughter of Horace H. and Sally (Matthews) Stowe, who were natives of New York State, but who spent their last days in Missouri. Our subject's grandfather Jackson was one of seven brothers who were in the battle of Bunker Hill. Charles Jackson and his brother Cranston gave the money to build the first school-house in the part of Boone County they first located in. The death of the former, which occurred when he was eighty years of age, took from Boone County one of its most worthy and esteemed citizens. He was ever ready to lend a helping hand to every good cause, and his purse was ever open to assist the struggling pioneer of early days. He was one of the most generous, self-sacrificing citizens the county has ever had.

Nathan D. Jackson was born in Bonus Township, Boone County, Ill., April 2, 1845, and is now residing on the old homestead his father had taken

from Uncle Sam. Like his father, he is progressive and enterprising, and in other respects inherits the admirable characteristics of that much esteemed and respected citizen. He was married on the 3d of September, 1879, to Miss Ellen E. Ward, who was also a native of Bonus Township, Boone County, this State, born November 11, 1855. Five children have blessed this union, and are named as follows: Alfred B., Lotta H., Charles C., Mary A. J. and Neal D. Mrs. Jackson is the daughter of Christopher and Jeanette Ward, the father a native of Yorkshire, England, and the mother of Glasgow, Scotland. The former died here, but the latter is still living. Mrs. Jackson's maternal grandfather came to this country also, and settled in New York, where he lived to be quite old. Grandmother Ward lived to be nearly one hundred years old at the time of her death. Mr. Jackson is engaged in mixed farming, and no better farm than his two hundred and fifty acres can be found in Northern Illinois.



EDWARD A. DUTCHER, dealer in general hardware, stoves, harness, paints, etc., in the village of Cherry Valley, is a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., born in 1842. His parents, Dwight L. and Regina M. (Gilchrist) Dutcher, were both natives of Otsego County. The father followed farming, as did the grandfather of our subject, Gabriel Dutcher, who was also a native of New York. The maternal grandfather, Capt. Donald Gilchrist, was of Scotch descent, and his wife was one of the heirs of the famous Chase estate, valued at \$60,000,000.

Our subject is the eldest of three children, having a brother Charles and a sister Alice A., now the wife of Frank Conant, a farmer of Summerdale, N. Y. Edward grew to manhood on his father's farm, and acquired his education in the district schools, and at the age of twenty years enlisted for the late war in August, 1862. He at once went to the front, and was in active service until the 1st of June, 1864, when at the battle of Cold Harbor he was wounded. His injuries disabled him for service for a year and seven months,

and resulted in his discharge. It was a gun-shot wound in the left leg and from the effects he has never fully recovered. He first received a pension of \$5.33½ per month, which was afterward increased to \$8, and subsequently to \$12, but this sum poorly requites him for all that he has suffered.

Mr. Dutcher left his native State in 1867, and went to Chillicothe, Mo., where he carried on a hardware and tinware store for about six months, after which he sold out and went to Mexico, Mo. He there established a hardware and agricultural implement store and carried on business successfully until December, 1877, when he again sold out, and thence came to Cherry Valley. He here purchased the stock of R. T. Connell and established his present business. His is the only store of the kind in the place. He receives a lucrative patronage and his trade is constantly increasing.

Mr. Dutcher was married in New York, in 1869, to Phoebe Keyes, of Mayville, N. Y., daughter of M. T. and Mary A. (Blood) Bond. Unto them was born one child, Edna Alice, but her death occurred in August, 1875, at the age of six months. Mr. and Mrs. Dutcher are people of prominence in this community and rank high in social circles. In politics, he is a Republican and one of the stalwart supporters of the party, doing all in his power for its success. He is a man of commanding appearance, six feet tall and weighing two hundred and fifteen pounds, and is of a genial disposition.

Mr. Dutcher is a member of the Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., Cherry Valley Lodge No. 173, A. F. & A. M., Vesper Lodge No. 277, K. P., and Kishwaukee Camp No. 104, M. W. A., in nearly all of which he has held office, being Past Chancellor in Knights of Pythias, and Past Sachem and Representative to the Grand Council of Illinois in the Modern Woodmen of America.

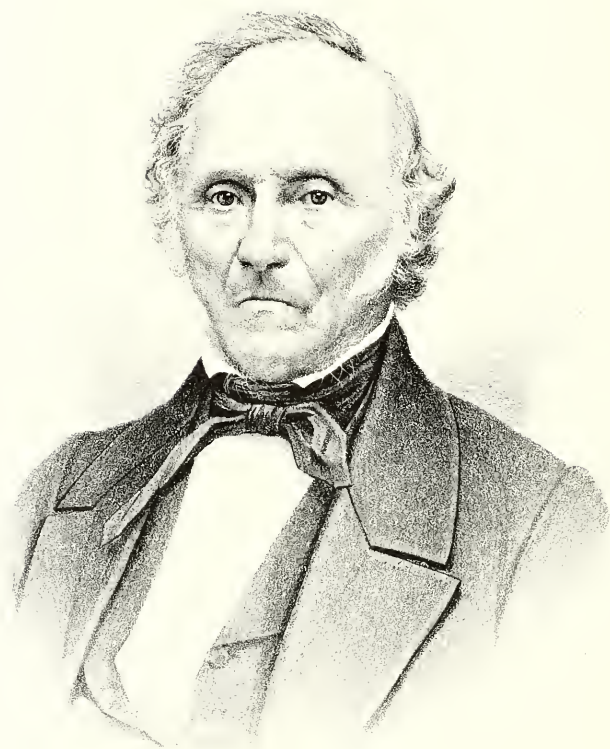


GEORGE H. GRUMMON, one of the energetic agriculturists of Flora Township, is a native of Boone County, having been born in Belvidere, October 18, 1846. He is a son of Horace D. Grummon, who was born, reared and married in New York State. The father came to

Illinois, in March, 1842, making the entire trip overland with team, and after six weeks' travel landed in Rockford, which was at that time a small village. He lived near that city for two years, and then located in Belvidere Township, this county, where he rented a farm. In 1851, he became the proprietor of a tract of wild land on section 19, Flora Township, which he sold two years later at a splendid advance. He next bought a good farm on section 17, where he was residing at the time of his decease in 1888.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Caroline Barton; she was born in England and was the daughter of Thomas and Angeline (Lawrence) Barton, who came to America and after residing a few years in the New World returned to their native home. They later emigrated to Canada, where they passed the remainder of their days, the mother dying November 24, 1861. She had reared a family of three children: Sidney L., Lorena and George H.

He of whom we write was given a good education in his native county and remained with his father until seventeen years of age, when, in February, 1861, he enlisted in Company A One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Infantry. Joining his regiment in Chicago, he went with them to Nashville, Tenn., then to Chattanooga, then to Dalton, and from there to Savannah, Ga., where he remained doing garrison duty until after the expiration of his term of service. Being honorably discharged, he returned home and began life for himself on a rented farm which he operated for two years. Mr. Grummon then purchased eighty acres on section 18, and after residing there for five years went to Chicago and entered the employ of the North Side Street Railway Company. Four years later, he returned and bought the farm which he now owns and occupies, and which includes one hundred and twenty acres of the southwest quarter of section 26, in addition to which he owns eighty acres, including the south half of the southwest quarter of section 22. Mr. Grummon has erected a comfortable residence on his place, also a large barn, and otherwise improved the estate until it ranks among the best in Boone County. Emma L., daughter of Truman and Eliza



HON. SPOONER RUGGLES.

(Drown) Buck, became the wife of our subject in 1876. She is a native of Erie County, Pa., and by her union with our subject became the mother of three children, two boys, who died in infancy, and Edna.

In his political belief, Mr. Grummon votes the Republican ticket, and socially is a member of Huribut Post, G. A. R., and is a demitted member of Cherry Valley Lodge, A. F. & A. M.



hON. SPOONER RUGGLES. Through his long and useful life, in every department of duty, this esteemed citizen of Rockford was kind and true—the generous neighbor, the patriotic citizen, the public servant of ability and incorruptible integrity. His death occurred at Rockford, March 7, 1874, when he had reached the age of seventy-nine years, and was mourned not alone by the people of the city and county, but by many in this and other States, whom he had met in the course of his life, and who had learned to respect the manly qualities which distinguished him. His friends will note with pleasure his portrait on the opposite page of the following record of his life.

Born in the town of Hardwick, Mass., August 4, 1795, Spooner Ruggles obtained a common-school education in the home of his birth. He acquired knowledge readily, and once gained, it was never forgotten, a characteristic which was noticeable throughout his entire life. During the War of 1812, he was an active participant. He was married in 1816, and removed to Blenheim, N. Y., the following year, whence, in 1818, he proceeded to Richland County, Ohio, and there successfully engaged in farming pursuits.

Hearing of the advantages offered to settlers in Northern Illinois, and especially in the famed Rock River County, where public lands were just coming into market, Mr. Ruggles was induced to visit this portion of the State, and in 1836 disposed of his property in Ohio and removed with his family to this region, then a wild frontier. He purchased land and settled near

Grand Detour, Ogle County, where he became prominent in public affairs, discharging the duties of County Commissioner and Justice of the Peace, and taking an active part in promoting educational and religious organizations, and all measures for the elevation of society.

In 1841, Mr. Ruggles was elected Senator, and faithfully performed his duties through his term of four years. He was noted for uniform punctuality and devotion to business and usefulness on committees. Subsequently, he was elected Judge of the Ogle County Court, and there, as elsewhere, was distinguished by the faithful and able performance of official duties. In 1867, he purchased a pleasant residence in Rockford, where he made his home until his death. He was an exemplary Christian and a member of the Congregational Church. At his demise, resolutions of respect were passed by the Rockford Society of Early Settlers, who felt that in his death they had lost one of their ablest and most honored members, and, as a last tribute of their respect, they attended the funeral services in a body.

Judge Ruggles is survived by his widow, a lady of superior refinement and known in her maidenhood as Miss Amanda Bennett. She was born in Ticonderoga, N. Y., October 12, 1812, the daughter of Zebulon and Sarah (Cooper) Bennett, natives of East Hampton, L. I. Her father was a farmer and manufacturer of shoes, having learned the shoemaker's trade when young. He also owned a tannery and manufactured much of his own stock. His family consisted of six daughters and five sons, all of whom lived to mature years, except Alonzo B., who died young. The only survivors now are: Ashley, a resident of Lawrence, Mich., who at the age of eighty-three is retired from farming pursuits; Adeline Johnson, two years his senior and a resident of Chautauqua County, N. Y.; and Amanda, Mrs. Ruggles.

Amanda Bennett was first married to Francis Melvany, a native of Dublin, Ireland, with whom she came to Illinois in August, 1852, settling on a farm, where Mr. Melvany died September 4, 1864. By a former marriage he had two children: James, who is in Iowa; and Jennie, now Mrs. Alexander Owen, of Rockford.

In August, 1866, Mrs. Amanda Melvany became the wife of Judge Ruggles, and their happy wedded life was terminated by the death of the Judge about eight years afterward. By a former union, he was the father of one son, James M., who enlisted in the Civil War, serving with distinguished credit and valor, meriting his promotion to General, and is now a wealthy agriculturist in Hanna, Ill. Mrs. Ruggles still occupies the old home at No. 703 Peach Street, which is brightened by the presence of her daughter and two grandchildren. The daughter, Mattie, married George Hopkins, who for years has been a commercial traveler for the firm of Hess & Hopkins. Mrs. Ruggles is a faithful member of the Second Congregational Church at Rockford, and, although now eighty years old, retains her mental and physical faculties, and takes an active interest in the events that are transpiring in the world.



JAMES M. ANDERSON. Probably a majority of the farmers of Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County, are men well-to-do, and of that class who have been the architects of their own fortunes. Among them may be properly mentioned the subject of this notice, who was born in Lycoming County, Pa., February 22, 1831. He is a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Wynkoop) Anderson, the former of whom died when James M. was a lad of eight years. The mother departed this life in Pecatonica Township, at the advanced age of eighty years.

He of whom we write was one of a family of eight children born to his parents, three of whom are now living. His brother William died in the army from the effects of the wound which he received in trying to escape from a prison at Blackshear, Ga. He participated in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain as a member of Company B, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, where he was also wounded. Our subject remained with his mother after the death of his father until December 21, 1861, when he was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Clark, who was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., December 8, 1836. Mrs. Anderson

was the daughter of Roswell and Mary (Walton) Clark, and a sister of Mrs. J. R. Wells.

James M. Anderson had born to him three children, one of whom is deceased. Those living are: Blanch E., who was born March 12, 1866, and resides at home. She is a graduate of Pecatonica High School, and was a student in music for over eight years. She also took a course in the business college at Rockford, and at the present time is engaged in teaching school in Pecatonica Township. The son, Howard C., was born February 4, 1871, and resides with his parents, being a graduate of the Pecatonica High School.

After his marriage, our subject settled in Ridott Township, Stephenson County, where for six years he worked a rented farm, in the meantime purchasing one hundred and sixty acres in this township, where he made his home for six years and brought the farm to a good state of cultivation. Purchasing his present farm of fifty acres, Mr. Anderson removed here seventeen years ago, and erected all the buildings which are necessary for the carrying on of a first-class farm. He later added eighty acres to his estate, and now has one of the finest farms in the county. He is an attendant of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics, he is a Republican, casting his first vote for John C. Fremont. He has held many offices of responsibility, having been School Trustee and Highway Commissioner, both of which offices he filled in a creditable manner.



GEORGE C. CLEVELAND. This gentleman, the salient points of whose life history we shall endeavor to give below, is one of the most prominent residents of Rockford and has been one of the important factors in developing to so high a degree the resources which nature has so generously lavished upon this section. Our subject was born in Hebron, Washington County, N. Y., July 27, 1818, and is the son of Job W. Cleveland, who was born in Salem, Washington County, N. Y., August 7, 1796. The grandfather of our subject, who also bore the

name of Job W., was a native of New England, his birth occurring March 27, 1757. The latter-named gentleman was of English ancestry and one of the pioneers of Salem, where he carried on agricultural pursuits, improving a farm upon which he resided until his death, April 5, 1825. The maiden name of his wife was Hannah Clark; she was born March 25, 1767, and departed this life on the old home farm in Salem, April 10, 1824.

The father of our subject located upon a tract of land which had been given him by his father, and which was located in the town of Hebron. He there resided and engaged in farming until 1835, at which time he removed to that part of Genesee County now included in Wyoming County, N. Y., where he purchased a tract of land in the town of Wethersfield. He continued to make that place his home until his decease, which occurred July 7, 1870. Miss Almira Fenton was the maiden name of our subject's mother; she was born in New Haven, Conn., November 12, 1799, and was a daughter of Jonathan and Rosalinda (Lucas) Fenton. She departed this life on the farm in Wethersfield, Wyoming County, N. Y., November 12, 1886.

George C. Cleveland was reared on the home farm, and growing up into manhood and passing onward in the rugged pathway of time, was disciplined in the stern school of experience and was prepared to meet every emergency with steady and ready hand. From what follows, it is obvious that he must have always fully availed himself of all the privileges of instruction to which he found access, and a distinguishing characteristic of his is the possession of a quickness of mind and talent. He remained with his parents in Wethersfield until reaching his majority and then engaged as clerk in a store for three years. In the spring of 1843, he emigrated West to Illinois, being accompanied hither by his bride. The young couple journeyed with a team to Buffalo and thence on the steamer "Illinois" to Chicago, where they again procured a team and drove to Winnebago County. The surrounding country in that early day was but thinly settled, the greater part of the land being still owned by the Government. Mr. Cleveland, however, purchased a tract of one hundred and

seven acres, located in Cherry Valley Township, for which he paid \$2 per acre. His land being entirely new, he rented property for a twelvemonth, and in 1844 erected a cabin on his purchase, into which he moved. There were no railroads in this locality and their nearest market and depot for supplies was Chicago. Our subject was industrious and economical and was more than ordinarily successful in his undertaking, adding from time to time to his property until he became the possessor of the magnificent estate of three hundred and fifty acres, all of which was located in Cherry Valley Township. He always used the latest improvements and best methods in cultivating his land, believing that by so doing he reaped the largest returns. His place is improved with a fine set of farm buildings, not the least among which was a substantial farm residence in which the family resided until 1886, when they removed to Rockford. Here Mr. Cleveland erected his present fine dwelling and here he entertains his friends who are as numerous as his acquaintances.

In January, 1813, Miss Elvira Clark became the wife of our subject. Mrs. Cleveland was born in Manchester, Vt., February 23, 1820, and departed this life October 25, 1849. The second marriage of our subject occurred October 1, 1851, at which time Miss Cornelia Lewis, who was born December 7, 1823, in Orangeville, Wyoming County, N. Y., became his wife. She was the daughter of Truman Lewis, whose birth occurred in Hartford, Conn., November 5, 1784. He was a son of Oliver and Lucinda (North) Lewis, and on emigrating from the Nutmeg State removed to Vernon, N. Y., and in 1807 walked the greater part of the distance from Orangeville to Wyoming, that State. He purchased land on the latter-named place, which he cleared and improved, and for a number of years was agent for the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, and was also one of the trustees of the will of James Lloyd, of Boston. These parties were surveyors to the Holland Land Company and held a large number of mortgages to many farms in Wyoming County. The father of Mrs. Cleveland held many offices of trust and was a member of the New York Legislature in 1834-35. He was also Treasurer of Wyoming County, and died at

Warsaw, N.Y., September 15, 1865. Mrs. Cleveland's mother's maiden name was Lucy Porter; she was born March 6, 1795, and was the daughter of Seth and Sarah (Cowles) Porter. She spent her last years with her children in Winnebago County, departing this life December 13, 1866. Our subject became the father of a son, George C., Jr., by his first marriage. The four children born to him by his present wife bear the respective names of Frank L., Edward W., Willis P., and Carrie E. With his estimable wife he is an influential member of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.



PLIN SMITH. This gentleman, who is one of the pioneers of Winnebago County, is at present residing on his fine farm in Rockford Township, upon which he has placed valuable improvements in the way of buildings and machinery. He was born in Swanton, Franklin County, Vt., March 14, 1823. His father, Martin Smith, was born in Connecticut, where his father, John Smith, as far as is known, was also a native. The latter-named gentleman removed from the Nutmeg State to Vermont, making settlement in the town of Swanton, where he made his home until his decease.

The father of our subject was eighteen years of age at the time of his parents' removal to Vermont, and when starting out in life for himself, purchased a tract of timber land in the town of Swanton, upon which he erected a log house, where our subject was born. There were no railroads in that locality for years, and the markets consequently being very inconvenient to reach, the people lived mostly off the products of their farm and the wild game which was very plentiful. The father raised sheep and flax, the latter of which the mother carded and spun and superintended its weaving, and in that manner all the clothing of the family was made. Mr. Smith cleared and cultivated a farm on which he resided until his death. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Prudy Percy, who was born in Highgate, Vt., and died on the old home farm in Swanton. To them

were born six children: Plin, John, Session, Wallace, Mary and George.

The original of this sketch was reared and educated in his native town, attending the pioneer log schoolhouse, where the seats were made by splitting logs, one side of which was hewed and set on wooden pins for legs. The free-school system had not been inaugurated and each family paid according to the number of scholars sent. Our subject assisted his father in the duties on the farm and resided with his parents until 1841, in July of which year he started with his bride for Illinois, the journey being made with teams and by way of the Lakes. They were provided with cooking utensils and provisions and camped at night by the roadside, the trip consuming four weeks.

On arriving in Rockford, our subject found this now "Lowell of the West" little more than a hamlet, the surrounding country being sparsely settled. He rented land for a twelvemonth and during that time entered a tract of Government land near Durand, upon which he erected a log house. There were no railroads in this locality for a number of years after he located here, and Chicago, Racine, Milwaukee, and Mineral Point were the nearest markets, and the means of transportation were not what they are to-day, as all their products were conveyed to the above-named cities with teams. Mr. Smith resided near Durand until 1865, at which time he disposed of his farm and purchased the tract which he now owns and occupies, two miles west of the city of Rockford. Here he has a well-improved farm of one hundred and thirty-five acres, which he cultivates in such a manner as to bring him in handsome returns.

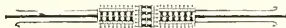
On April 9, 1841, our subject was married to Julia Campbell, who was born in Grand Island, Vt., October 21, 1825. Mrs. Smith was a daughter of William and Fannie (Allen) Campbell, whose grandfather, Samuel Campbell, was a resident of St. Albans, Vt., for many years. The latter-named gentleman came to Illinois and spent his last years at the home of his son, David Campbell, of Winnebago County. The maiden name of his wife was Grace Plumb. The father of Mrs. Smith always followed the calling of a farmer, and departed this life in Vermont in 1833. The maternal grandfa-



A. J. Swanson

ther of Mrs. Smith, Timothy Allen, was a son of Ethan Allen, of Revolutionary fame. On the death of her husband, Mrs. Fannie Allen was married a second time and coming to Illinois resided in Winnebago County for a number of years and then removed to Minnesota and spent her last years in Winnebago City.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have become the parents of four children, three of whom are living: Melvin A., Harriet A. and George E. The eldest son married Clarissa Hemenway and has one son, Melvin. Harriet is the wife of John Ganoung. Her first husband was Miles J. Clark, by whom she had one child, Azra J. George Smith married Nellie Foote; they have two children, Florence and Harald. The youngest daughter of our subject, Amy J., is now deceased; she was the wife of George Crandall. Our subject and all his children are members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church, and in his political relations Mr. Smith votes the Republican ticket.



A J. SVANLUND. On the opposite page is presented the portrait of one of the most successful contractors of the city, who has accumulated a handsome competency in the last eight years, the result of skill and ability in his line of business. He takes large contracts for all kinds of fine residences, is his own designer and architect, and his name is actively and prominently identified with the progress of Rockford, and the erection of many of her largest and most stately edifices. His buildings are just ornaments to, and among the best equipped in the city, and he is rightly considered an important factor in the welfare, happiness and prosperity of this flourishing place. He has in his employ about forty-five skilled workmen during the busy season and is known to his employes as a good paymaster and genial gentleman.

In addition to his beautiful home at No. 1611 Charles Street, Mr. Svanlund owns considerable improved property. He is a stockholder in a number of furniture factories in Rockford, is one of the promoters of and a stockholder in the Skan-

dia Land Association, which owns much valuable property, and is a stockholder and one-fifth owner of Stockholm Park in East Rockford, on Charles Street. He is one of the hardworking and progressive young Swedish-American citizens of Rockford and is popular alike in both social and business circles.

The subject of this sketch came to this city in 1884 and has been engaged in business on his own account for seven years, making a small fortune in that time. Previously, he had been a resident of Geneva, Ill., where he was engaged at his trade for two years. He has won the confidence and esteem of all Rockford and is looked upon as a man trustworthy and honorable in all his dealings. He was born in Jonkoping Lan, Smoland Province, Sweden, where he grew to manhood and secured good scholastic advantages. At the early age of eighteen, he became a mechanic and subsequently worked in that way in his native country until he decided to cross to the United States, being the first of the family to make the venture. He took passage at Gottenburg on the 11th of October, 1882, and landed in New York City on the 1st of November. He at once came to Geneva, Ill., and two years later made his first appearance in Rockford, the scene of his future success.

Mr. Svanlund's parents, Swan and Christian (Bengston) Munson, are still living in their native country, Sweden, and are engaged in tilling the soil. They are honest, industrious people, and are members of the Lutheran Church. Four of their sons, besides our subject, are in this country. Gus and Aaron are residing in Chicago, the former, a first-class stone cutter, and the latter a coachman. Two are living in Rockford: John, who is a skilled mechanic, is in the employ of our subject as foreman, and Charles is in the employ of John Lake.

Miss Christina Olson, whom our subject married in his native province in Sweden, was born, reared and educated in that province and in the same neighborhood as her husband. She possesses all the characteristics of thrift and integrity that make the Swedes so successful a class of people, and has been a true helpmate to her husband. Her parents, Olof and Anna (Peterson) Anderson,

still reside in the Old Country and have been members of the State Church all their lives. Mrs. Svanlund, wife of our subject, has a brother in Sweden, Andrew, who is a farmer; another brother, Edward, is a farmer of California, and she has two brothers in Rockford, Aaron and Gustave, both hardworking young men.

Mr. and Mrs. Svanlund were the parents of six children, but the great sorrow of their lives overwhelmed them in March, 1890, when four of their children passed away within two weeks. They were taken with diphtheria, and although the best physicians were employed and everything possible done for the little sufferers, death claimed them for his own. They were named: Charles W., Anna A. M., David E. and Fred. The eldest was nine and the youngest two years and six months old. Anna and David were aged seven and five years, respectively. The two living children are George O. and Fred. Mr. and Mrs. Svanlund are active workers and members of the Swedish Mission Church, in which he has held many official positions, being Trustee at the present time. He is a Republican in politics.



ALANSON J. BENHAM, deceased, was for many years one of the representative citizens of Winnebago village. He was born in Marcellus, Onondaga County, N. Y., August 2, 1814, and is a son of Isaac B. Benham, who it is thought was a native of Connecticut. The father, on removing to New York, located in Marcellus, and a few years later moved to the town of Dryden, where he purchased a farm and resided for a number of years. He later became a citizen of Sennett, where he improved a good farm, and finally removed to Auburn, where his decease occurred.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Eunice Baker; she also died in the above-named place in New York. He of whom we write was reared in Onondaga County, and subsequent to his marriage rented a farm in Cayuga County, and after a few years' residence there, lived for three years in Sennett, the same county. At the

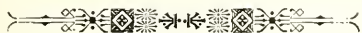
expiration of that time, he purchased and lived upon property for two years in Scipio, and in 1856 came West to Barry County, Mich., and became the proprietor of a quarter-section of land, forty acres of which were partially cleared, the only other improvement being a log house. Battle Creek at that time was the nearest market place, and also the nearest railway station. Mr. Benham improved his property, erected thereon a fine set of frame buildings, and in 1870 sold the farm and came to Winnebago Township, this county. Here he purchased a farm one mile north of the village, where he made his home until 1881, when he became identified with the interests of the village until his decease, June 23, 1883.

Mr. Benham was united in marriage to Maria O'Farrell, January 8, 1837. The lady was born in the town of Spafford, Onondaga County, N. Y., April 12, 1816, and is the daughter of William O'Farrell, also a native of that State. Her father being orphaned at an early age, he was adopted by a Mrs. Parmalee, of Oneida County, with whom he resided until her decease. The maiden name of Mrs. Benham's mother was Diana Turbush, a native of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., whose decease occurred in Spafford, five years after that of her husband.

The four children born to our subject and his wife are George Edward, Mary F., John H. and Emma. George married Elizabeth Dickinson, resides in Winnebago Township, and has five children: Mary A., Alanson J., Fred C., Maud M., and Alice M.; Mary is Mrs. Henry Newton, and makes her home in Hastings, Mich., being the mother of three children: Adelbert H., Fred and Frank; John married Christiana E. Cooper, and resides in Felix Township, Grundy County, Iowa, and has one child, Gertrude Maria; Emma A. is Mrs. Hiram Thorn, has one son, Ralph, and resides in California. Mr. and Mrs. Benham became members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1829, in which denomination our subject served as Class-leader for a number of years.

The father of our subject has been three times married, and reared five sons: John B. was a Methodist minister, and for seven years was a preacher and teacher among the Indians of Canada, and later went as a missionary to Africa; Vincent was

a coppersmith residing in Albany, N. Y.; Asa B. was also a Methodist minister, and Daniel and Isaac, the former a carpenter and the latter a machinist. Mrs. Benham had five brothers: Francis E., a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church; William M.; a farmer, David McD., of whom a sketch will be found on another page of this work; John W., a farmer; Elihue A.; and Henry T., a physician.



JOHAN M. RHODES, of Roscoe, was born in the town which is still his home, on the 25th of August, 1840, and is a son of John J. and Pernelia (Wilson) Rhodes. The former was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., in 1803, and was a son of John Rhodes, a native of Ireland. The grandfather of our subject came to America about 1792 with his wife and one son. He was a weaver by trade, and he established the factory for the manufacture of woolen goods in Onondaga County, where he spent the remainder of his life. He reared nine children: William, Robert, Joseph, John J., Thomas, Hannah, Mary, Deborah and Betsy. The grandmother was of English and Irish extraction.

The father of our subject learned the weaver's trade in his youth and also that of a wheelwright. At the age of twenty-two, he left home and went to Canada, and, in company with his brother Thomas, established a woolen and carding mill. He there married Miss Wilson, a native of Canada. Her parents, Crowl and Hannah (Crane) Wilson, were natives of New Jersey. Her father was a Member of Parliament for many years in Canada, and her brother, Benjamin Wilson, long served as Justice of the Peace. In 1839, they came by team to Winnebago County, landing in Rockford on the 3d of June. They made a claim on what is now section 33 of Roscoe Township, and lived in a little log cabin until a frame house could be built. The residence which was erected was considered one of the best in the community. It contained seven rooms and in the rear was a woodhouse and wheelwright shop. Mr. Rhodes built one of the first sawmills in this section, and on selling out his

business, December 19, 1857, bought two hundred and nineteen acres of land at the Government price. His death occurred in February, 1859, and he left a widow and six children. His wife survived him some seventeen years and died in January, 1876. William, their eldest child, was born in Canada, and now owns a gristmill and five hundred acres of land in West County, Iowa; Hiram is living with our subject; Thomas is engaged in iron mining in Southwestern Missouri; our subject is the next younger; Laura is the wife of Amos Sammons, a farmer of Harlem Township; and Henry completes the family.

In the usual manner of farmer lads, Mr. Rhodes of this sketch was reared to manhood. In the spring of 1861, he enlisted in the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, the regiment said to be the first sworn into the United States service, for three years. They went from Freeport to Missouri, where they remained from July until the following February, and then went to Ft. Donelson, arriving just after the surrender. At Pittsburg Landing they lost two hundred and sixty in killed and wounded out of four hundred and eighty-three, and this slaughter all took place in about twenty minutes. The Major and most of the officers were killed. Mr. Rhodes was on one occasion thought to be dead. He had been suffering from a low attack of fever and it seemed at that time that life had entirely left him. He was mustered out at Springfield at the close of the war and returned home.

Soon afterward, Mr. Rhodes married Louisa Love, of Harlem Township, daughter of Jabez and Lydia Love. Her father was born in London, England, in 1817, and when a babe was brought by his parents to this country. His father, James Love, was a carpenter and builder. The mother died in Rochester, in 1829, leaving three children: Jabez, Jane and James. The last-named is in the insane asylum at Kankakee from softening of the brain. He is the only one of her father's relatives known to Mrs. Rhodes. Her father came West in November, 1842, locating on section 2, Harlem Township, on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He became one of the wealthiest men of the county and at one time owned five fine farms. His wife died in the spring of 1887, at the

age of seventy years. She was the daughter of Joab and Eve Strawn; the father was born in New England, the mother was born in Canada, and her mother was by name Wintermute and was of German extraction. The father died in 1876, at the age of sixty years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes have been born three children: James Arthur, born in 1865; Charles J., born in 1869, is a teacher, and remains at home; and Mary M., born in 1871. She is now the wife of Clifford Wilcox and they have one son, Harry. James A. is a farmer of Roscoe Township, and married Ella Cummings, by whom he has one son, Ralph M.

For eleven years Mr. Rhodes served as Supervisor of his township, and was Justice of the Peace for sixteen years, proving a faithful and efficient officer. He has been a life-long and inflexible adherent of the Republican party. Himself and wife are members of the Methodist Church. Since the above was written, our subject has been re-elected for Supervisor for two years. His father was the first Supervisor elected in this township and held the office for six years.



SAMUEL NOBLE, who departed this life July 22, 1890, in Le Roy Township, Boone County, was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1819. His decease was greatly mourned by a large circle of friends and neighbors to whom he had endeared himself by his upright and honorable life.

Robert Noble, the father of our subject, was also a native of England, and died at an advanced age, leaving a family of eight children. He was a stone mason by trade, and Mathew, his second son, was a skilled and accomplished sculptor who lived in London. Our subject had been married a short time before leaving his native land, but his wife died while en route to America. Her remains were consigned to a watery grave.

Our subject was married to Miss Elizabeth Goodall, the daughter of William and Ann (Mow) Goodall, in July, 1842, in England. Miss Diana

Goodall, a sister of his first wife, whom he chose as his second wife in 1815, bore him four sons and one daughter, only one of whom was spared to grow to mature years, the four remaining children dying in early childhood with diphtheria, two passing away on the same day. The parents of Mrs. Noble owned a small farm in England, and, falling heir to a legacy of £900, emigrated to America in the fall of 1812, being en route thirty-eight days.

Mr. Noble came from Oneida County, N. Y., in company with his father-in-law's family, in the fall of 1842, making the trip by way of canal and lakes to Chicago, where they hired three teams to bring the household goods to this county, being about one week on the way. Mr. Noble made a claim to one hundred and twenty acres of land, upon which he located a small log house, and lived until 1855. He then erected a more comfortable structure, and in 1865 built the present commodious and modern residence. The place is equipped with all the necessary buildings, and bears all the improvements to be found upon the estate of a progressive agriculturist.

He of whom we write returned to his native land in 1867, where he remained about four months, visiting his venerable mother, who died at the advanced age of eighty-four years. Our subject died July 22, 1890, when in his seventy-first year, leaving a widow and one son. Four of his children preceded him to the better land, namely: Harcourt E., an infant daughter, Wesley E. and Samuel.

John C. Noble, the eldest son of our subject, was born April 6, 1848, and was married to Sarah Jane, daughter of Henry Bird, also a native of England, and an early settler in this county. Her father died on the day following the death of Mr. Noble. Wesley E. and Ada May, the children of John Noble, are aged respectively seventeen and thirteen years. They make their home with their parents on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, near the residence of Mrs. Noble. Our subject left an estate of one hundred and twenty acres to his widow, which is most efficiently managed by her son. In religious belief, he was a consistent and honored member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having become a member of

that denomination in 1843. Mr. Noble was a great lover of music, and in his younger days was an accomplished player on the clarinet. He was extremely conscientious and retiring in disposition, and a feeling of personal bereavement came to the large circle of his old friends when he was called to his long home.



ROBERT C. LIND, Secretary and Treasurer of the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company, has held that position for ten years, or since the organization of the company, and is also a Director and one of the leading stockholders. Our subject is another of the worthy citizens which Sweden has furnished to Rockford. He was born in Smoland, on the 7th of July, 1856, and is the youngest child of H. O. and Mary (Haraldson) Lind. With their five children, the parents left the land of their nativity in 1871, and crossed the broad ocean from Gottenburg to New York City, whence they came at once to Rockford. The mother died at her home in this city in 1874, at the age of fifty-eight years. The father is still living, at the age of seventy-two.

The educational advantages which our subject received were those afforded by his native land and the schools of this city. After attaining his majority, he was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Westholm, who was born in Sweden, and when quite young came with her parents to this country. They now reside in St. Charles, Ill., and are well advanced in life. Our subject has a pleasant home on Seminary Street, where hospitality reigns supreme and their many friends delight to gather.

Mr. Lind entered upon his business career in 1872, when he began working in the furniture factories of this city. He soon became a successful machinist and cabinet-maker, seeming to possess natural ability in that direction, and for nine years devoted his entire attention to his trade. For eleven years he worked untiringly. Subsequently he went upon the road, and for four years was employed as a commercial traveler by the Union Furniture Company, and also by the one of which he

is now Secretary and Treasurer. As before stated, he has held that position since the organization of the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company. He is also a stockholder and Director of the Rockford Union Furniture Company, the Royal Mantel and Furniture Company and the Royal Sewing Machine Company, also the Rockford Folding Bed Company, which uses a special patent. He has done much to promote the interests of these various companies, and is a representative and well-known business man of this city. His life is commendable in many directions. He has been energetic and industrious, and in all his business relations is upright and honorable. In politics, he is a supporter of the Republican party.



WILLIAM S. PORTER is a man whom nature seems to have especially designed to be a planter, for, owing to his desire to keep out of the beaten path, and to his adoption of new and improved methods, together with industry and good judgment, he has met with more than the average degree of success in pursuing his calling. He is a native New Yorker, born in Hamilton Township, Madison County, on the 2d of January, 1832, and the son of Roswell and Nancy (Shattuck) Porter, both natives of Connecticut. The father was a mechanic by trade and assisted in building some of the fine residences in New York City. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, received a pension for his services, and his widow received one after his death. He died in Madison County, N. Y., at the age of sixty-seven, and his wife also passed away in that State, but had reached the unusual age of ninety-seven years and four months. Roswell Porter was one of seven children born to Eleza and S. (Rowley) Porter, who were natives of the New England States, the former dying in Madison County, N. Y., when seventy years of age.

Nancy Shattuck, mother of our subject, was one of seven children born to Robert, Jr., and Anna (Loomis) Shattuck. Robert, Jr., was the son of Robert Shattuck, Sr., the grandson of William Shattuck, Jr., and the great-grandson of William

Shattuck, Sr., and the great-great-grandson of William Shattuck, who was an Englishman, and who came to this country in 1621 or 1622. The latter was about twenty years of age at that time, and died in Watertown, Mass., on the 14th of August, 1672. William Shattuck, Sr., married Susan Randall, and his son, William Shattuck, Jr., who was a native of Plymouth, Mass., married Mary Pratt. Robert Shattuck, Sr., was also a native of Plymouth, Mass., and was there married to Ruhannah Cook.

The 9th of January, 1853, was rendered memorable to our subject by its being his wedding day, his bride being Miss Thresa Shepardson, who was born in Madison County, Hamilton Township, N. Y., August 12, 1834. The fruits of this union have been three living children: Geneva I. married O. G. Forrer, and they have three children; Maynard R. married Miss Agnes Burehfield, and is the father of one child, a girl; and Cora L., at home and a graduate of Belvidere school. Mrs. Porter's parents were Erastus and Tryphenia (Coleson) Shepardson, the father a native of Connecticut and the mother of Massachusetts. The former is still living, and a resident of this county, but the mother died here when sixty-one years of age. Mr. Shepardson is a son of William Shepardson, Jr., a native of Connecticut, and the grandson of William Shepardson, Sr., who was born in England and who settled in Connecticut at a very early date. Tryphenia (Coleson) Shepardson was the daughter of Ebenezer and Lavina (Packard) Coleson, who were of Swedish descent, and natives of Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Coleson removed to New York, and died in Madison County, of that State, at the age of ninety-five and eighty years, respectively. Mrs. Porter comes of good fighting stock, for her ancestors were in the Revolutionary War, and she had two brothers in the Civil War. One of her brothers, William, died while serving his country, and Coleson, the other, lost a leg.

After his marriage, our subject settled in Spring Township, this county, but after six years as an agriculturist, he left the farm and went to the oil regions of Pennsylvania, where he remained eighteen years. Then selling out, he returned to Boone County, Ill., and bought one hundred and twenty acres of land belonging to the Colesons, and later

bought the Shattuck farm of two hundred acres, besides ten acres of timber. He has made \$1,000 worth of improvements and has four miles of tiling on the place. He is engaged in general farming and his home is a beautiful spot, characterized by all the comforts of rural life. In politics, he is a Republican, voting first for Stephen A. Douglas, but after that for Lincoln.



MRS. HENRY KORTIE, Sr., who is living at her home, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, is a native of Germany. She was born in Minden, Berkhausen, in 1820, and is a daughter of Henry and Christina (Koch) Black. Her father died at the age of seventy-two years, and her mother at fifty-five. They reared one son and one daughter.

Mrs. Kortie was reared in her native land, and fifty years ago there gave her hand in marriage to William Kortie. They crossed the Atlantic to America in March, 1852, and, coming to Illinois, the husband purchased sixty acres of her present farm. His death occurred on the 4th of July, 1851, from cholera, and five other members of his family died of the same dread disease, all within two weeks of one another. His widow was a second time married, becoming the wife of Henry Kortie, brother of her former husband. His father, Henry Kortie, Sr., died of cholera at the time above mentioned, and his mother died in Germany, at about the age of sixty years, leaving four children, two having preceded her to the home beyond.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kortie lived together as man and wife for thirty-eight years, making their home upon a farm which he operated until it yielded him a golden tribute in return for his care and labor. His death occurred very suddenly. He was in the barn doing his morning work, and dropped down dead. This was on the 30th of November, 1891, in the seventy-first year of his age. He was a worthy and valued citizen, a man highly respected throughout the community, and his loss was deeply mourned by many friends. During the late war he had served his country as a member of

Company A, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry. He enlisted on the 15th of December, 1861, and served as bugler for three years and three months, or until February 5, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. He was never wounded, but was injured by his horse falling on him.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kortie were born seven children, three sons and four daughters, five of whom are yet living: Louisa, wife of William Ilrke, of Rockford; Amelia, wife of J. Bartholomew, a resident of Milford Township; Carrie, wife of H. A. Brown, who is living in Owen Township; Henry K., a resident of New Milford; and Minnie, wife of A. C. Thompson. The latter resides on the old homestead with Mrs. Kortie, Mr. Thompson operating the farm. The mother of this family is seventy-one years of age. Since her husband's death, her daughter has resided with her. She is a most estimable lady, held in high regard by all, and has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances throughout the community.



BROWN C. ATKINSON is one of the oldest of the native-born citizens of Winnebago County, where he owns a large and valuable farm in Burritt Township. He was born on a farm on section 34, Harrison Township, September 30, 1841, and is a son of John Atkinson, who was born in Cumberland County, England, and he in turn was a son of James and Jane (Foster) Atkinson. The grandparents of our subject came to America in 1832, accompanied by their six children. They made the voyage on a sailing-vessel, which consumed seven weeks, and landed at Quebec. The family remained in Canada fifteen months, when they went to New York State, and thence came to Illinois in 1837. (For a further history of the family see the sketch of William Atkinson.)

The father of our subject was a young man when he came to America, and, in the year 1836, came to the Prairie State, spending the winter at LaSalle, and the spring of the following year came to this county, where he became one of the early settlers of Harrison Township. At that time

all the land was owned by the Government, and deer, wild turkeys, and other game were plentiful. He at once made claim to a tract of Government land on section 31, and there built the log house in which our subject was born. The father lived there about seven years, when he decided to remove to Burritt Township, entering a tract of land on section 1. This he improved and resided upon until 1870, at that time trading for land on sections 7, 8, and 18, of the same township, and residing thereon until his death, which occurred February 13, 1890.

For many years after the father came to this county there were no railroads, and Chicago was the principal market for grain, although he used sometimes to market at Racine, Milwaukee, Savanna, and the mining towns of Wisconsin. At one time the miller at Beloit sent for him to come and take a load of flour to Mineral Point. He started from home on Monday morning and on arriving at his destination found the man who had ordered the flour had gone. He tried to sell it, but could not dispose of it at any price, so he started to visit the various mining towns, and finally arrived at Savanna on the Saturday following. There he managed to sell his load, but after paying his bills, had only fifty cents left. After the railroad was built at Elgin, people teamed their grain and produce to that place, and our subject relates that in one instance he went with his father to take a load of pork to Elgin. The roads were so bad that they were compelled to unload in the mud, and consequently, instead of getting the contract price of \$2.50, they got only \$2 per hundred.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Nancy L. Conklin, a native of Wayne County, Pa., and a daughter of Benjamin and Mercy Conklin. She is now making her home with our subject. Brown C. Atkinson was about three years old when his parents removed to Burritt Township, and was here reared and educated, and with his parents made his home until his marriage. In August, 1862, our subject enlisted in Company A, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. Going to the front with his regiment, he served faithfully until February 7, 1863, when he was honorably discharged, returned home and resumed farming. He rented land until

1865, when he purchased eighty acres in Harrison Township, and after three years' residence there, sold, and purchased where he now resides, on two hundred and forty-one and a half acres, twenty-two acres being in timber, and the remainder improved and pasture lands.

The year 1862 is the date our subject was united in marriage with Mary E. Henry. Mrs. Atkinson was born in April, 1845, in Bradford, Pa. Her father, John Y. Henry, was born in New York State, and early removed to Pennsylvania, where he lived until 1855, in which year he came to Illinois, making his home in Owen Township, this county, two or three years. He afterward removed to Rockford, and later located in Harrison Township. He was also a soldier in the late war, having enlisted August 6, 1862, in Company A, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. He died in the service at Nashville, Tenn., December 17, of the same year. The maiden name of his wife was Clara Adella Berry, a native of New York State, and who resides in the village of Harrison.

Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson are the happy parents of eleven children, all of whom are living, namely: Estella M., David H., George W., Frank B., Clara A., G. Albert, Edith A., Chester A., Foster L., Ethel C. and Evelyn L. Mr. Atkinson is a member of Ellis Post G. A. R., at Pecatonica, and in his political views casts his vote with the Republican party.



NONATHAN H. HALSTED, who is the owner of a fine tract of land, including one hundred and eighty acres located one and one-half miles from Rockford, was born in Somers, Westchester County, N. Y., February 28, 1819. His father, Samuel Halsted, was born and reared on the old farm in the above-named State, and when old enough to choose an occupation for himself, purchased a tract of land in the town of Somers, Westchester County, where he was engaged in general farming. His estate was situated forty-eight miles from New York City, and eleven miles east of Peekskill, the principal market. The maiden name of his wife was Rebecca Marshall; she was

also a native of the Empire State and departed this life on the old home farm when our subject was very young. Mr. Halsted also died there, aged eighty-two years.

The original of this sketch attended the district school, where he gained a good education, and assisted his father in performing the duties on the farm until 1841, at which time he went to New York City and was employed by his brother-in-law, who owned a line of drays. In February, 1849, during the gold excitement, Mr. Halsted, in company with sixty-five others, started for California. They purchased a sailing-vessel, for which they paid \$40,000, and stocked the same with provisions which would last them for two years. Leaving New York in February, they sailed around Cape Horn and arrived at the Golden Gate in the month of September. San Francisco at that time was a city built of tents, and sailing up the Sacramento River, they landed at the city of that name, where our party purchased a number of ox-teams, which conveyed them to the mines in Coloma on the south fork of the American River. They were engaged for about one month, when, the rainy season setting in, the company disbanded, selling their vessel and provisions for \$20,000. Mr. Halsted remained in Sacramento for two or three years, then resumed mining until 1852, when he returned home via the Isthmus of Panama. He was in ill health two or three years after coming home, and consequently did not engage in any active business.

In 1856, the original of this sketch came to the Prairie State and operated a farm south of Rockford for three and a half years, at the expiration of which time he purchased the place on which he at present resides. His estate includes one hundred and eighty acres, and is very valuable on account of its close location to the city, being only one mile and a half from the city limits. His place is improved with good buildings and the land so cultivated as to bring him in handsome returns.

In 1855, Miss Deborah Kennard became the wife of our subject. She was born in Sussex County, England, August 23, 1826, and was the daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Field) Kennard. Mrs.



MRS. SARAH TWOGOOD.

Halsted was brought to America by her parents when five years of age, they locating in the town of Somers, Westchester County, N. Y., where her father was engaged as a merchant tailor and there resided until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Halsted have become the parents of two children: Mary E. and Lester B. The daughter married Fred Brown, by whom she has three children: Lester, Clinton and Ernest. Lester Halsted married Louisa Foltz. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Second Congregational Church, and are widely known and respected throughout their community. Mr. Halsted affiliates with the Republican party.



WILLIAM TWOGOOD died at his home, at No. 106 North Fifth Street, in Rockford, on the 13th of April, 1874. He was originally from the Empire State, born in Pittstown, near Troy, July 27, 1794. He grew to manhood in his native place and became a mechanic and carriage-builder. He came of good stock and was the son of James and Deborah (Halstead) Twogood, natives of New York, in which State they passed their entire lives. They were the parents of fourteen children and, although all lived to a good old age, they are now deceased.

In Pittstown, William Twogood was married to Miss Sarah Vanderecock, a native of that place, born July 24, 1803. Subsequently, he removed to Michigan City, Ind., coming overland with his family. He began looking for a suitable location, which he found in the beautiful Cherry Valley of Winnebago County, Ill., but not until after he had traveled many months over unbroken forests, where hostile Indians abounded. He crossed Rock River at Ottawa soon after the Indian massacre at that place and was sickened by the horrible sights that met his eyes. He pushed on to the Cherry Valley region of Winnebago County and located on a tract of land that had never been surveyed.

Shortly afterward, Mr. Twogood returned to Michigan City for lumber to make the doors, windows and floor of his log cabin, hauled it through

the wilderness and, after all was ready, returned to Michigan City for his little family. He settled in this county on the 4th of July, 1837, and was among the first settlers, there being but two houses between his place and Rockford, which then consisted of but a few houses. He brought with him, hid away in the household goods, gold and silver sewed up in shot bags and this was never touched until the land on which he was living was placed on the market. He then went to Galena and paid for his claim.

Mr. and Mrs. Twogood experienced many hardships in their new home and for some time were obliged to live on potatoes and salt. However, brighter days were in store for them and they soon became the owners of eight hundred acres of land in the valley. Five hundred acres Mr. Twogood reserved for himself and wife and three hundred acres were deeded to other members of the family. While his children were growing up, he moved to Chicago to educate them and there remained five years. He became one of the well-known and wealthy men of Winnebago County and was a leader in all enterprises of a worthy nature. He was one of the original stockholders of the Northwestern Railroad before any of the road had been graded. He lived and died an honest man that no money or position could buy or flattery seduce from the path of duty and rectitude.

Mrs. Twogood, who was carefully reared and educated, was of old Knickerbocker stock and her ancestors on both sides were among the prominent families of New York State. Her father, Michael S. Vanderecock, was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., and was the son of Simon Vanderecock, a prominent man of that county. The family name was originally Van Der Cook, but the descendants now spell it Vanderecock. Michael Vanderecock was a soldier in the War of 1812, fought as a Major in Col. Knickerbocker's regiment and was in many battles, including the engagement at Plattsburg. He was a merchant and also operated a sawmill for many years. Later, he was Sheriff of his county, and died on his large farm there, at the age of seventy-eight years. His father, Simon Vanderecock, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, fought in many battles and was Captain of a company. Mrs.

Twogood now has the commissions given him by Gen. Washington, and Gov. Clinton, of New York.

Michael Vanderecock married Miss Mehetibel Haskins, a member of a prominent family and a native of Rensselaer County, N. Y., who died when in the prime of life, leaving four children. After her death, Mr. Vanderecock was twice married. Mrs. Twogood is the youngest of the above-mentioned children. The attention of the reader is invited to her portrait on another page. Although time has touched her hair with frost, he has dealt leniently with her in other respects and she is yet bright and active, her hearing perfect and her mental faculties unimpaired. She is a very remarkable old lady and on the 21th of July, 1892, was eighty-nine years of age. Until recently, she has been able to do a great deal of light work around the house. Upon every Decoration Day since the late war she has attended the celebration, and her son's portrait is enfolded in the National colors. She resides in the old home at No. 106 North Fifth Street, and is spending the sunset of her life in peace and happiness. She owns large landed interests in the West and bank stocks in this city and is also a pensioner of the War of 1812, receiving \$12 per month for service rendered by her husband, who was drafted when he was eighteen years of age and who served as a drummer in Col. Jonathan Reed's regiment. He was a Republican at the time of his death.

Mr. and Mrs. Twogood were the parents of eight children: Orestes B. enlisted in the First Wisconsin Infantry, his company being the first offered to the Governor of Wisconsin. He was Captain of his company, but after the battle of Stone River, where he suffered much from exposure, he was taken sick, and died at his home on the 17th of December, 1863. Helen died in infancy; Emily is the wife of Merritt Satterlee, a pioneer of Chicago, who was formerly a large grocery merchant but is now retired; James H., a contractor and builder of Boise City, Idaho, married Miss Permelia Custer, of Pennsylvania; Elizabeth, wife of S. P. Jones, resides in Jacksonville, Ore.; Sarah became the wife of Col. Alfred Chapin and resides in Rockford. The Colonel was a prominent soldier of the Rebellion and is now deceased; Belle became the wife of

J. F. Hervey, who is retired and now resides in Chicago; William S., a very successful merchant of Marion, Iowa, has been twice married, his second wife having formerly been Miss Genevieve Alderman.

ANDREW MONTGOMERY, a retired farmer who passed away May 4, 1892, and who resided at No. 902 Rockton Avenue, in Rockford, was of Scottish birth. He was born in Campbellton, Argyleshire, June 5, 1805, and comes of an old and respected family of that land. His father, Robert Montgomery, spent his entire life in Campbellton, where he followed the occupation of farming. He was straightforward and upright in all things, and was an active member of the Presbyterian Church. His death occurred at the age of sixty years. His wife, whose maiden name was Jennie Giffen, died in her native county at an advanced age. This worthy couple had a large family, but all are now deceased. Of their children, Andrew, James and William came to this country.

Andrew Montgomery spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads, and in his youth also learned the trade of a distiller. After arriving at man's estate, he was united in marriage to Jennie Anderson, who died in the prime of life in Campbellton, Scotland, leaving four children, two of whom are now deceased: Robert died in Scotland when young, and William died after the family came to this country. The two living children are James, a resident farmer of Burrill Township, who married Annie Fleming, by whom he has four children: William, Jessie, Jane and James; and Jane, now the wife of James E. Langwell, an agriculturist of Owen Township. They have eleven children: Jane, Peter, Jesse, Andrew, Annie, Minnie, James, William, Robert, Martha and John S.

Mr. Montgomery of this sketch was a second time married in his native county, the lady of his choice being Miss Ann Templeton, who was born in Campbellton, December 3, 1819, and is a daughter of John and Ann (Colville) Templeton, who lived and died on the old homestead a few miles

from Campbellton, Scotland, the death of the father occurring at the age of eighty-five years, while his wife departed this life at the age of eighty-seven. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church, and as farming people, lived a quiet, unassuming life. In their family were ten children, six sons and four daughters, and with one exception all lived to mature years, and were married, but, with the exception of Mrs. Montgomery, all are now deceased. Thomas, the eldest, crossed the Atlantic, and died in Chicago some years ago, when past the age of eighty years.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery resided in their native land until the spring of 1861, when they decided to try their fortune in America. Since that time they have resided in Winnebago County, and made their home upon a farm in Owen Township until 1882, when they came to Rockford, and for the past ten years have lived a retired life in this city. They are members of the Presbyterian Church, and are noble Christian people who well deserve the high esteem in which they are held throughout the community that has so long been their home.



LORENZO S. McDOUGALL is a practical and successful breeder of Morgan horses and has his fine farm located in Bonus Township, Boone County. It comprises two hundred and twenty-five acres that were selected with a view to their present use and are adapted by nature and improvement for the purpose. Mr. McDougall is well known throughout Northern Illinois as being a man thoroughly posted regarding the stock in which he takes such delight. He has all the necessary buildings on his farm, and these are well constructed and sufficiently large for the various purposes for which they were designed. He is the owner of probably the finest Morgan mare in the county.

He of whom we write was born on the 6th of March, 1827, in the town of Sherbrooke, Quebec, being the son of Charles and Fannie (Terry) McDougall. The father is of Scotch descent and was born in Argyle, N. Y., in 1796, being taken to Can-

ada with his parents when an infant of one year. On attaining mature years, he operated a gristmill until May 4, 1836, at which time he sold out and came to Boone County and located upon the farm where he is at present residing.

The elder Mr. McDougall was interested in a claim of seven hundred acres of land, which he proceeded to improve, and when a division of the property was made, two hundred and twenty-five acres fell to his share, the same on which our subject is residing. Charles McDougall, about 1866, moved to Belvidere, where he spent his last days in retirement, dying at the age of eighty-two years. He was a Republican in politics, held many of the local offices, and in every relation of life was true to himself and those around him. He was an attendant at the Universalist Church.

Our subject is one of the family of four children, only two of whom grew to mature years. His sister, Mrs. H. Merchant, died April 2, 1886, about three miles from the old home in Spring Township, this county. When the father of our subject located upon his new farm there was an old log cabin on the place, whose floor was just large enough to stand a bed on. There they spent their early days in this county, using their trunks and old-fashioned chests for tables and chairs. Our subject says that he was very much discouraged at that time and often used to wish himself back in his native town. He is the only one surviving who surrounded that primitive table, and indeed is one of the very few living who came to Boone County in those early days. Deer, wolves and other wild animals would come up to the very door of their cabin, and wolves made night hideous with their howls.

The first furrow of land plowed in Boone County was on the farm of our subject. The nearest market was at Chicago and the nearest post-office was at the same place, the postage in that time costing twenty-five cents a letter. The father of our subject proved up his land, for which he paid \$1.25 per acre, and Lorenzo S. has in his possession the original deed from the Government. It is one of the few farms in this section which has never been out of the family who first entered it.

Fannie (Terry) McDougall, our subject's mother,

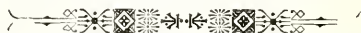
was born in New England, and her parents were natives of Vermont, who spent a portion of their lives in Canada. Grandmother Terry hailed from Rhode Island. Mrs. Fannie McDougall departed this life in Spring Township, this county, in her eighty-fourth year. He of whom we write remained at home until twenty-nine years of age, when he spent a short time in Belvidere and thence removing to Garden Prairie, was engaged in a grain and stock business for nearly fifteen years. Then purchasing a farm of forty acres, he operated it until nine years ago, when he moved onto the old homestead, having purchased his sister's interest after the death of the father, whose desire it was that our subject should own the old place.

To Mr. and Mrs. McDougall have been born four children, three of whom are living, viz: Nellie, who was born in Belvidere, in 1860, married Frank Tanner and has a family of four children; Fannie, who was born in Garden Prairie, in 1860, is the widow of George Countryman, who died when twenty-seven years of age, leaving two children; Hazen, who was born in 1867, also in Garden Prairie, married Miss May Wait, and has one son.

Our subject is widely known among the farmers throughout Boone County, is a well-read man, and thoroughly informed on topics of general conversation. He is a member of the Patrons of Husbandry, and since the organization of the Republican party has voted that ticket. He has served his fellow-townsmen in the office of Assessor and School Director, and is one of those zealous men who devote much time and ability to the improvement of the town with whose citizens they have cast their lot and to whom is due in a large measure the prosperity of the entire community. Mr. McDougall in addition to breeding stock is engaged in mixed farming and his upright and honest dealings with his fellow-men have made him very popular.

Our subject relates that they were induced to come to this county by a man named Goodhue, who was a merchant in a small way in this place, and was the first man to bring merchandise to Belvidere. The family embarked on the steamer "Michigan," commanded by Capt. Newbury, with a Mr. Barker as first mate. At Detroit, Gov.

Duncan, who was then the Chief Executive of Illinois, came on board and after looking over the six or seven hundred passengers, coolly remarked, "Now, you people will all be disappointed in Chicago, as it is nothing but a mud hole, but I tell you now that it is bound to become the metropolis of the United States some day, as its fine location and central geographical position will make it such." Mr. McDougall's memory of early historical incidents is truly wonderful and makes him an interesting conversationalist.



LEROY E. CHAMBERLAIN. This practical and intelligent young farmer is a native of LeRoy Township, Boone County, and makes his home on the splendid farm where his birth occurred June 3, 1854. He has been successful so far in his farming operations, which can be attributed to his persistent industry, his wise forethought and his prudent thrift.

The father of our subject, Joseph Chamberlain, was a native of Delaware County, N. Y., having been born May 7, 1813. The lady to whom he was married bore the name of Sallie P. Hovey, and is also a native of the Empire State, where she was born in April, 1822. They both accompanied their respective parents West when young, and were married in this county in October, 1839, and commenced life on a claim of one-half section of Government land.

Joseph Chamberlain, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Brattleboro, Vt., where he was an agriculturist, and a man of means. He lost his fortune, however, by going security for a friend. He removed to the Empire State in an early day, but died in middle life, leaving a family of five sons and one daughter, all of whom grew to mature years in New York State. In the fall of 1836, the widowed mother and three of her sons, Carman, Alfred and Lewis, came to Illinois and located on the place where our subject was born. The mother was Eunice Blakesley, of Connecticut, and lived to reach the advanced age of ninety-eight years. Her death occurred in 1875, in LeRoy, this county, and her remains lie buried in Round Prairie Cemetery.



Respectfully
T. J. Atwood

He of whom we write is one in a family of four sons and six daughters, two of whom died in infancy. Those living at the present time are Helen M., Mrs. Owen Brown, who resides at Sterling, Neb.; Eliza, Mrs. E. Reve, resides in Nebraska; Harry D., a farmer in Dakota, and Horace M., who is engaged in the butcher's business at Byron, this State. One son, William Wallace, during the late war was a member of the Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and died of smallpox in 1863, at Brownsville, Tex.

The father of our subject departed this life November 4, 1891, when seventy-eight years of age. He was a hard-working, industrious man, and by prudent management, accumulated a handsome property, and at his death left his family an estate valued at \$10,000. Our subject was reared on the home farm, which has since been his home. He was married, in 1881, to Miss Kittie Brett, of White Water, Wis., and to them have been born five children, namely: Maude E., Harry, Selah, LeRoy and Floyd. Mr. Chamberlain has twenty acres of excellent land in this township, and one hundred and sixty in Dakota. The old home farm was sold by his father to a Mr. Hovey. In social matters, he is a member of the Odd Fellows, and has adopted the political views of the Republican party, being active in promoting its success.



THOMAS J. ATWOOD. Although the life of a farmer does not present the salient points that are to be found in the experience of a city resident, it is not therefore devoid of interest nor unworthy of being preserved in a volume of this nature. Mr. Atwood spent more than forty-two years in the quiet and consistent performance of the daily duties of farm life, and is now living retired in the village of Pecatonica, where his public spirit and agreeable manners make him one of its most honored citizens. Formerly the owner of five hundred acres of land, he has given his son eighty acres and rents the remainder.

Our subject was born June 14, 1818, in Bridgewater, Windsor County, Vt., a son of Thomas and

Cynthia (Benson) Atwood. His grandfathers were both valiant soldiers in the Revolutionary War, and splendid types of our Pilgrim Fathers, who acquired independence as tillers of the soil. His parents were born near Plymouth Rock, Mass., and made their home in that State until they were married. Thence they removed to Bridgewater, Vt., where the father purchased a farm and resided until 1837. Afterward he made his home in Rutland, Rutland County. Thence he went to the town of Stowe, and in the fall of 1839 started for the Western country, driving to Buffalo with a four-horse team, where he embarked on a steamer and proceeded to Detroit, Mich. From that city he came overland to Winnebago County, whither his son Hiram had come in 1837, and purchased a section of land.

The elder Mr. Atwood lived with his son until the year 1840, when he purchased a farm of his own. His wife, who was born June 13, 1783, died July 29, 1846. After the death of his wife, he went to live with his son Hiram, where his demise occurred October 28, 1849. He of whom we write is one in a family of nine children, only two of whom are living. He remained with his parents until eighteen years of age, when he went to Rutland, Vt., in 1836. He was given a good education, being a graduate of the Rutland, Vt., Academy. He had only been in school two months and a half, however, when he was offered a school to teach, and accepted the position. After having been thus engaged three months, he returned to the Academy and was made an assistant teacher, graduating when twenty-one years of age. His first occupation on leaving school was in keeping books and collecting for a physician with whom he was engaged for three months. He then became clerk in a general store, and so well did he perform the duties devolved upon him that after a service of three years he was offered the position of junior partner in the firm.

Mr. Atwood, however, did not accept the position, as he had decided to come West. In September, 1841, he started for this State, being accompanied as far as Albany by a friend who made a trip to that city to buy a stock of goods. Our subject tarried long enough to assist him in making his purchase and was offered by the wholesale

house which they patronized a position at \$650 per year and board. Refusing this as he had the previous offer, he carried out his desire to come to Winnebago County, and on locating here purchased a claim to one-half section of land and also a timber claim. With his brother, who had preceded him hither, he succeeded in getting out enough logs for ten thousand rails, in the winter of 1841-12, which were used in fencing their farms.

May 4, 1817, Mr. Thomas J. Atwood and Miss Lois C. Cable were united in marriage. The lady was born November 19, 1826, in Litchfield County, Conn., and was a daughter of Ezra S. and Pamela (Fenn) Cable. To them have been born six children: Albert J., whose birth occurred May 10, 1849, is married and the father of five children; Emma C., who was born September 13, 1855, is married and has seven children. The remainder of the family bear the respective names of Rollin C., Ella M., Ezra C. and Henry W., twins. The father of Mrs. Atwood was born September 24, 1797, in Litchfield County, Conn., and died on his old farm in this county, April 23, 1879. He was the son of Abijah and Ruth (Fairchild) Cable, the former of whom was born August 13, 1775, also in Litchfield County, and the latter June 7, 1769. Abijah Cable was one of nine sons who came from England, and departed this life April 13, 1825. His wife, Ruth Fairchild, died September 3, 1820. The mother of Mrs. Atwood was born in Litchfield County, Conn., February 15, 1802, and died in this county, January 3, 1888. She was the daughter of Job and Lois (Scott) Fenn, natives respectively of Connecticut and New York. The father died in Litchfield County, Conn., while Mrs. Fenn departed this life April 3, 1854, in Winnebago County, being eighty-four years of age.

Grandmother Fenn had a brother named Ezekiel Scott, who took part in the Revolutionary War. The father of Mrs. Atwood remained at home until his marriage, January 1, 1826, when he lived for two years at Stratford Point, Conn. At the end of that time his father's estate was divided among the children, and, going West to Portage County, Ohio, in the spring of 1828, he cleared a farm and resided until 1837, which was the date of his advent into Winnebago County. At the time of his death,

which occurred April 23, 1879, he was the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of land. In politics, he was in early life an old-line Whig, later an Abolitionist, and afterward joining the Republican ranks, was looked upon as one of the active workers of that party. He was a County Commissioner and his vote decided the location of the present court house in Rockford. He filled the office three or four terms as Supervisor and for a number of years was Township Trustee and a member of the School Board.

Soon after his arrival in Winnebago County, in 1811, our subject located on the farm which remained his home for forty-two and one-half years. In December, 1841, he commenced to fence his land, and during 1843 raised his first crop, which consisted of fifty-five acres of winter wheat, thirty-one acres of corn and twelve of oats. The wheat crop was hauled to Chicago to the market, there being no railroad west of Buffalo, N. Y., at that early day.

After continuing to make wheat the principal crop for a few years, Mr. Atwood turned his attention to corn and clover, and also made a specialty of stock-raising, being particularly successful in raising draft horses and Holstein cattle, and his income from horses amounted to \$1,000 per year. For his horses he had a home market; fat cattle were driven to Chicago; hogs were fattened, and killed during the winter months, the products being held for eight or nine months when they were hauled to Milwaukee for market and there inspected by the City Inspector. They brought good prices, pork being on an average \$14 per barrel; hams \$9, shoulders \$7 and lard from \$9 to \$10 per hundred pounds.

Later Mr. Atwood became interested in raising sheep and for a number of years kept a flock of about seven hundred. When wool declined in price, he fattened and shipped the sheep to the Chicago market and in 1876 invested in Holstein cattle. He now has on his farm about one hundred head of Holstein cattle, the property of his son Albert J., who rents the farm of his father and continues the stock-raising business. In 1863-64, Mr. Atwood erected on his farm a fine residence costing \$4,000 and a substantial barn, which cost \$1,000. Febru-

ary 11, 1886, the residence was burned to the ground, and in just three months from that date he had an elegant house on the same site, completed from garret to cellar.

In his political belief, Mr. Atwood was a Whig in his school-boy days. In 1840, he voted for William Henry Harrison for President, and from that time until the formation of the Republican party in 1856, voted the Abolition ticket. Both in 1860 and 1864, he cast his ballot for Abraham Lincoln and subsequently voted for U. S. Grant both times that he was nominated. In 1884, he became a Prohibitionist and has since been a staunch supporter of that party, representing it by serving six years as President of the Pecatonica Prohibition Club. Since the organization of that club at Pecatonica, in 1886, he has served as its delegate to county and State conventions of the party. He has held various township and county offices, and for one year was Supervisor and member of the School Board. With his wife he holds membership in the Congregational Church, in which he is a Deacon. He is a man of sterling attributes and undaunted energy, and it affords us pleasure to present to our readers his portrait and this sketch of his life.



MATHEW ROURKE, who owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 14, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, is a native of the Emerald Isle. He was born in County Down, in March, 1828. His father, Patrick Rourke, was born in County Down, and when a young man entered the British Army, serving for fourteen years. He participated in the Indian War and on being wounded was honorably discharged and granted a pension. He then settled on a farm in County Down, where he spent the remainder of his days. He wedded Mary McGannan, who also spent her entire life in County Down. Four of their children came to America: Mary James, John and Mathew.

Our subject was essentially a self-made man. He left the parental roof at the age of eleven years and since that time has made his own way in the

world. He went to Scotland and was there engaged in the construction of railroads until 1852, when he bade good-bye to the Old World and on the 22d of April sailed from Liverpool to America. The vessel was shipwrecked on the coast of the West Indies and Mr. Rourke remained at St. Thomas for three months, when he again embarked on the same vessel, and after a time reached New York. After a year spent in that vicinity, he came on to Illinois, making his home in Chicago for two years, when he came to Winnebago County. After locating here, he purchased five acres of land on section 21, Guilford Township, upon which a log house had been built, and there began farming.

In Brooklyn, N. Y., in October, 1852, Mr. Rourke was joined in wedlock with Catherine Drake. She also was a native of County Down, Ireland, and there her father, Patrick Drake, was born. He married Mary Kellogg, and they spent their entire lives in the county of their nativity. Only two of their children came to this country: Mrs. Eliza McCamman, who settled in Paris, Ill.; and Mrs. Rourke who came to America in the same ship with her husband. Our subject's union has been blessed with seven children, who are yet living: William, May, John, James, Lizzie, Henry and Frank. They also lost two daughters, Mattie and Catherine.

During the late war, Mr. Rourke enlisted on the 9th of August, 1862, as a member of Company A, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and served until after peace was declared. He participated in a number of important engagements, including the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Peach Tree Creek, the siege and capture of Atlanta, Franklin and Nashville. He was honorably discharged on the 10th of June, 1865, after about three years of faithful service.

Not long after his return home, Mr. Rourke sold his farm on section 21, and bought where he now resides. It was at one time a tract of timber land, but he has transformed it into a fertile farm, and one hundred and sixty acres of highly cultivated land now pay tribute to his care and cultivation. His farm is complete in all its appoint-

ments. The fields are well tilled and good buildings stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. Mr. Rourke and his family are members of St. James Catholic Church. He has led a busy and useful life and by the exercise of good business ability, industry and enterprise, he has gained a comfortable property.



JOHNS BENSLEY, who is engaged in farming in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, claims Pennsylvania as the State of his nativity. He was born in November, 1830, and is a son of Adam and Anna (Impson) Bensley. His paternal grandfather, Israel Bensley, died in middle life, leaving but one child, Adam. The maternal grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier, and died in New York at a ripe old age. Our subject was one of eleven children, three sons and eight daughters, who grew to mature years, and with one exception all are heads of families.

John Bensley was the youngest of this family, and at the age of sixty-two years now has five surviving brothers and sisters. He acquired his education in the district schools, and at the age of twenty-three went from Pennsylvania to Cattaraugus, N. Y. In the autumn of 1855, he left the Empire State and emigrated to Rockford with the hope of bettering his financial condition by removing to the broad prairies of the West. About two years later, on the 20th of July 1857, he was joined in wedlock with Maria Davis, daughter of Benjamin H. Davis, who was born in the Mohawk Flats, where later he and his wife began their domestic life. He was a carpenter and builder and was the builder, owner and captain of the first line boat on the Erie Canal. To that business he devoted his energies for a number of years and laid the foundation for his future success. In 1836, he removed with his family to New York, after which he went to Waverly, Tioga County, at which time Mrs. Bensley was an infant. They had a family of three children who lived to be grown, two sons and a daughter. They also lost one son, John, who was drowned when a child.

In the spring of 1857, Mr. Davis came to Win-

nebago County, and settled on the west side of Rock River in Rockford. He engaged in contracting on the construction of the Erie Railroad and gave the site for the depot. He left behind him many other evidences of his thrift and enterprise. Many buildings of the city were erected by him, including one of the oldest blocks, which bears his name. His death occurred in May, 1872, and his wife departed this life in 1870, at the age of sixty-nine years. They have one son still living, Angus Davis, a resident of Bradford County, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Bensley have had two children: Eva, who is yet at home and Benjamin who died in infancy.

Mr. Bensley has had a varied experience in life, but farming has been his chief occupation and he now devotes his time and attention to that line of work in Cherry Valley Township, where he owns eighty acres of land which yield to him a golden tribute. It has been his home since 1889, and is a well-improved farm.



ELIKIM S. BARTHOLOMEW, an enterprising and intelligent farmer of Harlem Township, Winnebago County, residing on section 36, claims New York as the State of his nativity. He was born in Annsville, Oneida County, on the 18th of April, 1826. The family is of Scotch origin, and was founded in this country by Ebenezer Bartholomew, grandfather of our subject, who was born in Scotland and emigrated to America, settling in Connecticut, where he spent the remainder of his life. The father of our subject, Eben Bartholomew, was a native of Wolcott, Conn., and was there reared and married, the lady of his choice being Anna Simonds, who was born in Vermont, and is a daughter of Eliakim Simonds. From Connecticut, Mr. Bartholomew and his wife removed to Annsville, Oneida County, N. Y., where his death occurred in 1832. He was quite a prominent citizen of that community, and served as County Sheriff. His widow afterwards became the wife of David Hurlburt, and the year 1847 wit-



Chas M. Hutchins

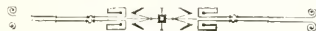
nessed her arrival in Harlem Township, Winnebago County, Ill., where she spent her last days.

The subject of this sketch was only six years of age when his father died. He remained with his mother until 1843, and then came to Illinois by way of the Erie Canal and the Lakes to Chicago, and by team to this county, which he found to be a sparsely settled region. There were no railroads, the nearest markets being Chicago and Milwaukee, and the work of civilization and progress seemed scarcely begun. Mr. Bartholomew began life in the West as a farm hand, working for his grandfather Simonds three years, after which he rented the land upon which he now resides. In 1817, he went to Joliet, where he spent a year, after which he returned to this county, where he has made his home continuously since, and during nearly the entire time his present farm has been his home. It is a well-developed tract of one hundred and sixty acres on section 36, Harlem Township. The land is very valuable, the rich and fertile fields yield him a golden tribute, and the improvements upon his farm are among the best in the township.

On the 15th of November, 1848, Mr. Bartholomew was united in marriage with Louisa L. Atwood, who was born in Middlefield, Berkshire County, Mass., and is a daughter of Phineas and Hulda (Haskell) Atwood, who are mentioned fully in the sketch of David Atwood, on another page of this work. Three children have been born unto our subject and his wife: Jay F., who married Belle Hart, by whom he has one daughter, Alice; Jennie, who wedded Monroe Clark, and has one son, Arthur, and Fred, who completes the family.

Mr. Bartholomew is a charter member of Harmony Grange No. 957, and has been a member of the County Agricultural Society since its organization. For twenty years he has been one of the officers of that society, serving for about half of that time as General Superintendent. He is Past Master of Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M., and is a member of Winnebago Chapter No. 21, R. A. M.; Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T., and of the Old Settlers' Society, of this county. In his youth he had no special advantages, but has made the most of his opportunities, and is now a well-informed old gentleman, highly respected by all

who know him and very popular with his friends. He has long been identified with the history of Winnebago County, and has borne his share in its upbuilding and advancement. His duties of citizenship are ever faithfully performed, and he certainly is well deserving of representation in this volume.



CHARLES M. HULDT, a popular Swede, doing business as a pattern-maker for the Utter Manufacturing Company, has been engaged in this connection for many years and is one of the most reliable, industrious men in the employ of the company. He came to Rockford in 1866, and has since been connected with the business interests of the city. He was one of the stockholders of the Central Furniture Company, and is also connected with other enterprises. His pleasant home is located on the corner of Second Avenue and Sixth Street. He has been a mechanic all his life and was a blacksmith in his native country, where he also owned a farm and followed agricultural pursuits in connection with his trade.

However, Mr. Huldt has spent the most of his life as a pattern-maker, and at this he is very skillful. To show that his work is appreciated, and that he excels in his line of business, it may be stated that in a contest at Rockford he received the largest number of votes cast by the people as being the most popular wage-worker in the city. This entitled him to a free trip to his native land, and it is hardly necessary to add that he enjoyed his visit and appreciated the kindness of his friends.

Mr. Huldt was originally from Kalmar Lan, Smoland Province, Sweden, born March 23, 1835, and, as he grew to manhood, learned his trade, which he followed until coming to the United States. He is the first of his kinsmen to come to America. His father, Nels P. Carlson, is still residing in Sweden and is now eighty-six years of age. The latter followed farming during his entire active life, but, in addition, was also engaged in blacksmithing. His mother lived to be ninety-

two years of age, and his father nearly ninety. All the old stock were members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

Since his residence in this country, Mr. Huldtt has had brothers and sisters emigrate hither, and they are now living in the West and are all married. He himself was married in his native province to Miss Ullrica G. Carlson, who was born April 17, 1835, and whose parents, Carl and Anna G. (Hemingson) Johnson, were also natives of that Province, passing their entire lives there. Her father was a farmer. Mrs. Huldtt has one brother in this country, now a resident of Omaha, Neb.

Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Huldtt: Carl A., a farmer of Jackson County, Minn., married Miss Tilda Nelson, of Rockford, and they have three children: Maude, Edith and Florence; Sophia became the wife of Charles Nelson, a machinist for W. F. and John Barnes' Manufacturing Company, Rockford, and has one child, Rube E.; Amanda C. married Albert Hollem, of whom see sketch in another part of this work; John E. resides in Rockford and is foreman carver of a furniture factory. Of his marriage have been born four children: Ralph, Elen, Daisy and Stanley. Hattie L., educated in the business college, is book-keeper for Withrow & Baird, dry-goods merchants; Jennie L. is at home, and is being educated in the city schools.

In politics, Mr. Huldtt is a staunch Republican. Socially, he is a prominent Mason, having occupied all the offices of the Blue Lodge No. 102, and has been Worshipful Master for two years. He is also a member of Winnebago Chapter No. 21, has filled a number of the chairs, and is a member of the Crusader Commandery No. 17. His portrait is shown in this connection.



WILLIAM BUSKE. With the rapid and steady advance of the city of Rockford, with the continual increase in her building operations, the trade of a mason-contractor is one of primary importance, and is one on which the first step of progress is dependent. To be a good mason requires years of experience, and Mr.

Buske has had this. He has done some fine contracting work for leading business houses, including the Rockford Opera House, the Rockford Burial Case Works, the foundation for the Young Men's Christian Association building, the Forest City Knitting Company's large establishment and two large stone banking buildings for Gilbert Woodruff, and has now under contract two large school houses, the Brown and Montague school buildings.

Mr. Buske came to this city in 1868, and was engaged in journeyman work for some time. He built the jail of this place and then went to Chicago, just after the great fire of 1871, and was engaged in following his trade at that place for two years. Returning to Rockford, he has since been actively engaged in contracting, and, besides the above-mentioned buildings, there are the Emerson & Talcott power-house, the large Germania Hall, besides many private buildings which he has erected. He owns a good business house at No. 505 West State Street, and a very fine brick residence at No. 712 Elm Street, besides other property in the city.

Our subject was born in Parmman, Prussia, on the 20th of March, 1841, and was the first of the family to take up his residence in this country. He took passage on the vessel "Schiller," and landed in Baltimore on the 2d of July. Six months later, he came on to Rockford, being obliged to tarry long enough in the former city to earn the money to bring him to this. He has been so successful since his residence in Rockford that his brother Albert came over, and is now running the rendering works of this city. The latter was married in his native country and brought his wife with him.

The parents of these children passed their entire lives in their native country, Prussia, and the father was a wagon-maker by trade. He was a hardworking, industrious man, and lived to be eighty-four years of age. His wife died in 1889, when seventy-two years of age. Both were members of the Lutheran Church.

Our subject was married in his native province two weeks before he came to America, and selected as his wife Miss Henrietta Hofbert, who was also a native of Prussia. Her father, August Hofbert, was

the owner of a large farm, and was a very successful tiller of the soil. He and his wife passed their entire lives in Prussia, lived to be old people, and were worthy members of the Lutheran Church. One of their daughters, Mrs. Fredrica Gau, a widow, resides at 156 Union Street, Chicago, and runs a milk depot.

Nine children have blessed the union of our subject and wife, and are named as follows: Adolph, a plumber and tinner of the firm of Roger & Buske; Louie, now in the employ of a telephone company in Muskegon, Mich.; Anna, a seamstress; Eda, William, Hattie, Clara, Walter and Richard, all but one at home. Mr. and Mrs. Buske are possessed of all those characteristics that make the people of Germany so successful in their different occupations, and are surrounded by many warm friends. Mr. Buske served his native country in the regular army, and from 1861 to 1866 was in the rebellion against Austria, participating in some of the principal battles. He leans toward the Republican party in his political views.



ALANSON STEWARD is eminently a self-made man, and is a fine type of the class who, in building up their own fortunes, have been important factors in securing the prosperity and promoting the growth of their State, county and township. Mr. Steward came to this county more than forty years ago, a poor boy with scarcely a dollar that he could call his own, yet to-day he is numbered among the men of wealth in this part of the State. For many years he has been actively engaged in agricultural pursuits and owns one of the largest and most valuable farms in the county, which is divided into four parts, and includes a magnificent tract of one thousand acres. It is exceptionally improved, under perfect management, and is fitted with all the modern conveniences in the way of buildings and machinery.

Alanson Steward was born in that part of London District now included in Elgin County, Province of Ontario, Canada, February 20, 1823. His father,

William Steward, was born in the Niagara District of Ontario, and of Scotch ancestry. He learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, and went to London District when a young man, where he was one of the pioneers in what is now Elgin County. Securing a tract of Government land which was heavily timbered, he cleared his acreage and erected thereon a log house, in which our subject was born. There was no sawed lumber used in the house, and the chimney was built of sticks, with mud on the outside. There were no convenient markets for some time, and the products of the farm provided the family with the necessities of life. The children of the family were dressed in homespun material, which the mother carded, spun and wove.

The father of our subject worked at his trade the greater part of the time until 1846, when, with his wife and seven children, he came to Illinois, making the journey overland with teams, and cooking and camping by the wayside. The two youngest children were born in this county, one having died in Canada. There were ten children. On his arrival in Winnebago County, Mr. Steward settled on what is now Owen Township, purchasing a tract of wild prairie land on section 15. There being no house on the place, he rented a cabin, in which he resided until the spring of 1847, in the meantime erecting a comfortable structure on his new farm. His wife bore the maiden name of Sophia Long. She was born in the neighborhood of Simcoe, Canada, and was the daughter of Abraham Long, of German ancestry. She departed this life at the old home farm.

Alanson Steward was a lad of thirteen years when he came to Illinois with his parents, and as there were no railroads here for some time thereafter, he hauled the products of the farm to the Chicago market, which was one hundred miles away. Our subject continued to reside with his parents until 1854, when he went to California, via New York and the Isthmus of Panama. He was there employed on a farm in Monterey County for a twelvemonth, then went to Coos County, Ore., and was employed in the lumber woods for a like period. Returning home at the expiration of that time, Mr. Steward again engaged in farming with his brother on the old homestead. Four years

later, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land where he now resides, eight acres of which were broken, but which contained no other improvements. He erected thereon a line set of frame buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, and otherwise improved the farm. His acreage at the present time includes nine hundred and sixty acres of prairie land, besides forty acres of timber in Harrison Township.

The day and year on which our subject was united in marriage to Miss Malinda Welton was June 18, 1856. The lady was born in Elgin County, Ontario, Canada, and was the daughter of John and Christiana (Barstido) Welter, on the father's side of the house, natives of Pennsylvania and of German ancestry. To Mr. and Mrs. Steward have been born ten children, viz.: Ella S., Nelson F., William J., Mary A., Hattie M., Alanson G., James E., Charles A., Nora B., and Bird. Mrs. Steward is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and, in politics, her husband is a staunch Republican.



ROBERT HENDERSON. This prominent resident of the farming community of Boone County is at present residing in a pleasant home on section 21, Caledonia Township, where he has an estate which bears evidence of the enterprise and progressiveness of its owner. He was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, November 12, 1832, and is the son of Lionel Henderson, who was also born in that country. The grandfather of our subject, Archie Henderson, and his wife spent their entire lives in Scotland, where they were well-to-do people.

Lionel Henderson was reared and educated in his native shire and was trained in early life to agricultural pursuits. He resided there until 1841, then, in company with his wife and two children, set sail from Glasgow and landed in Quebec, whence he went directly to Gananoque. Mr. Henderson remained in Canada for two years, and as he was very poor and the times exceedingly hard, he saw little chance of bettering his condition in the Dominion and in 1843 came to Illinois. On

his arrival in Boone County, he had \$10 worth of leather and \$5 in Canadian money, which was positively worthless. He made a claim to a tract of Government land on section 28, Caledonia Township, which is now occupied by his son John. Many people who, like himself, were too poor to enter their land, were holding their claims in the vicinity, while those who had money were entering good claims, regardless of the fact that they were occupied. Mr. Henderson gave a gentleman to understand it would not be safe for him to enter his claim and so was unmolested. He borrowed the money to pay for his property for which he was taxed fifty-nine per cent. interest. The corn which he raised on his place he shelled by hand, and was only able to get twelve and a half cents a bushel for it, and in this way he paid the interest on the borrowed money. Wheat, which sold at from fifty to sixty-two and a half cents a bushel when hauled to Chicago and twenty-five cents at home, paid off the principal, and thus by good management and perseverance, Mr. Henderson accumulated a fair competency. He died on the old home farm August 26, 1874, when ninety-one years and ten months of age.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Margaret Ralston, who departed this life April 26, 1878, when eighty-four years of age. She was a daughter of John and Belle (Brown) Ralston and became the mother of two children, John and Robert. The parents of our subject were both members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church. The father first voted with the Democratic party, but being opposed to the extension of slavery, on the formation of the Republican party voted for its candidates.

Robert Henderson was a lad of eleven years when he came to Illinois with his parents, and acquired a good knowledge of the English language in the log schoolhouse of that early day. On his arrival in Illinois, he worked out on farms during the summer months, for which he received \$6 per month and board. When not otherwise employed, he assisted his father in conducting the farm and drove the ox-team to Chicago to market their grain. In 1859, our subject caught the gold fever and started overland to Pike's Peak. Crossing the Mississippi

River at Fulton and Missouri River at Omaha, Mr. Henderson journeyed to Ft. Kearney where he met relatives who were returning and who gave such discouraging reports that he concluded to turn about and return home.

In 1862, he of whom we write and Miss Ellen Ralston were united in marriage. The lady was born in Watertown, Washington County, Ohio, and was a daughter of Robert Ralston, who had his birth in Argyleshire, Scotland. Her father commenced clerking when fourteen years of age at Greenock and continued so employed until 1832, when he came to America and located in Watertown, where he was engaged in teaching school until 1850. He then came to Illinois and locating in Harlem Township, Winnebago County, purchased a tract of land, the operations of which he superintended, and resided there until his decease July 18, 1890. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Henderson was Nancy Biggins and she is still living at the old home. She was born in Watertown, Ohio, and was the daughter of John and Sarah (Orrison) Biggins, the former of whom was a native of Virginia. They were members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, and the father in politics was a Republican, serving on that ticket as a Justice of the Peace for thirty-six years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Henderson have been born four children: Belle, Maggie, Robert H. and J. William. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church. In 1878, Mr. Henderson visited his old home in Scotland, and in 1886 with his wife left Caledonia Township and crossed the Atlantic, visiting Edinburg and Glasgow the second time. In his political belief, our subject is a staunch Republican, in which party he is an active worker.



ALEXANDER CAMERON, one of the prosperous and well-known farmers of Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, was born in Scotland, in 1833, and is a son of James and Sophia (Skinner) Cameron. His ancestors were farmers and mechanics. His parents had a family of four sons and one daughter: Christian, now deceased; Mrs. Alexander Skinner, who died

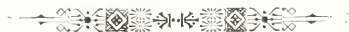
in Scotland; Alexander, James; William, who died in his native land; and Andrew, who died in Rockford, in the spring of 1882, leaving a family.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, and on attaining his majority emigrated to America, in April, 1851, settling in Ashland County, Ohio. He there learned the blacksmith's trade, and before coming to this country had learned the trade of shoe-making with his father. In 1857, we find him a resident of Rockford, and he opened a blacksmith shop at No. 115 South First Street, where Sackett's store now stands. He was in partnership with William Ryburn, his wife's brother, and they did a large business, having two shops on opposite sides of the street.

In 1860, Mr. Cameron was united in marriage to Miss Jane, daughter of William and Ann (Mitchell) Ryburn. She was also a native of Scotland, and came to this country during the same year in which her husband crossed the Atlantic. They began their domestic life in Rockford, where Mr. Cameron continued to engage in blacksmithing for twenty-one years. However, in the fall of 1862, he purchased his present farm of one hundred and seventy acres on section 28, Cherry Valley Township, removing to it on the 11th of March, 1878. He has since extended its boundaries until it now comprises three hundred and five acres of valuable land, all of which are under a high state of cultivation, and well improved. He came to this country almost empty handed. On landing in Ohio, he had only \$5, yet few men have been more prospered than Mr. Cameron, who now owns one of the best farms in this community, supplied with good buildings and all the accessories of a model farm. He also raises a good grade of stock, and the neat appearance of everything upon the place indicates his thrift and enterprise.

Mr. and Mrs. Cameron have three sons and one daughter: James, William, Mary T. and Alexander. They also lost one son, John, who died September 1, 1872, at the age of seven months. The three sons aid the father in the operation of the home farm. The daughter is now the wife of William Vogt, a resident farmer of Ogle County. They have one son and have buried two daugh-

ters. This family is one widely and favorably known throughout the community, and held in high esteem by their many friends. Mr. Cameron cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and has since supported the Republican party.



JOHN JACOBSON. That flourishing business enterprise, the Rockford Painting and Decorating Company, of which Mr. Jacobson is a prominent member, was established March 1, 1888, and has since been in successful operation at No. 111 South Third Street. This firm carries a stock valued at \$10,000, and has a branch office at No. 613 Seventh Street. Both stores are filled with a choice line of goods, and the members of the firm are men of experience and ability.

John Jacobson came to Rockford in 1871, and began business as a painter and decorator, meeting with success from the beginning. He gave his entire attention to his business since the time he was fourteen years of age, and with such substantial results that he is now the owner of a pleasant home at No. 1000 Ninth Avenue, Rockford. He was born in Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, October 6, 1848, learned his trade in Falkoping, and afterward worked as a journeyman for four years. Then, with his mother, two brothers and a sister, he sailed for the United States, reaching New York City on the 5th of January, 1871. The little family came direct to Rockford, to which city the father, Joseph Jacobson, had come in 1868, and here made their home. The mother, whose maiden name was Mary Krus, passed away in the fall of 1891, when seventy-three years of age. She was a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and her husband, who is still living and a resident of Alta, Iowa, held membership in the same. He is now seventy-two years of age.

John Jacobson was the second in order of birth of five children, three sons and two daughters, all of whom are living and are as follows: Henry resides in Rock Island, where he was graduated

from college June 18, 1892, as a minister of the Lutheran Church; he married Miss Mattie Anderson, of Iowa. Rev. Fritz, a graduate of the same college in June, 1891, also of Yale College, and now Professor of Philosophy in a college of New Haven, is pastor of a Swedish Lutheran Church and married Miss Othelia Holland, daughter of the Rev. M. Holland, of Stanton, Iowa. Tilda became the wife of Alpha Bodin, and they now reside on a farm near Alta, Iowa. Amanda married Charles J. Larson, who is also a farmer of Alta, Iowa.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was married in Rockford to Miss Carrie Buckland, a native of Sweden, born February 13, 1852. She came to America alone in May, 1868, and joined a brother, John, who is now a shoemaker in Rockford, whither he came in May, 1854, being one of the first Swedish settlers. Their parents died in Sweden, where the father was a successful tiller of the soil.

Of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson, three died young, viz: Carl, Herman and Otto E. Those living are: Alga O., Ellen H., Evan C., Carl W. and Julius E., all at home. In politics, Mr. Jacobson is a Republican, and in religion he and his wife are exemplary members of the Zion Lutheran Church.



JOHN A. BROWN. During the '50s there was an immense emigration to the United States by residents of that grand old country, Sweden, which seems somehow to instill into her sons and daughters the traits of character that make them successful and popular wherever fate leads their footsteps. Among those who sought out new homes for themselves in this country, was John A. Brown, who made his first appearance in Rockford, in May, 1856. He came here a poor man, and what he has accumulated in the way of this world's goods has been the fruits of his own exertions.

A native of Smoland Province, born October 5, 1829, Mr. Brown became inured to hard labor at

an early age, and after reaching mature years, he determined to try his fortune in the States. He took passage at Gottenburg, and after spending the first winter in New York State, subsequently went to Connecticut, and thence to Rockford, Ill., where his parents and a sister were then residing. The father, Andrew Anderson Brown, after spending a number of years in this country, longed for one more glimpse of his native soil, and returning, died there when eighty years of age. His father bore the name of Brown, which was the real family name, and our subject had it transferred to himself. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Sarah Johnson, quietly passed away in Rockford, at the advanced age of eighty-two. Like very many of the Swedish people, they were members of the Lutheran Church. Three of their daughters are living, and two, Mrs. Spherf and Mrs. Lilleblad, are much esteemed citizens of Rockford. The other daughter, Mrs. John Johnson, is a resident, it is thought, of Wisconsin or Minnesota.

Before leaving his native country, Mr. Brown selected as his companion in life Miss Emily Lilleblad, a lady of much culture and refinement, who was born in Jonkoping Lan, Smoland Province, Sweden, on the 14th of August, 1830. She was the only child born to her parents, and her father, John Lilleblad, died when she was very young. The mother died a number of years later, while on her way to the United States.

Mr. Brown's political affiliations are with the Republican party, and he takes an active interest in local and county politics. He is public spirited and enterprising, and is prominently identified with all movements of a laudable nature. He and his wife are very devoted Christian people, in the true sense of that word, and active working members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, of which both are old and prominent members. Of the six children born to their union, only three are now living: Ida M., wife of L. F. Johnson, a successful merchant at Crystal Falls, Mich., is the mother of six children; Huldah C., widow of Albert Larson, resides with her parents, and has one son, Harold H. C.; and Frank H., a watch-maker by trade, and a commercial traveler for the Star Furniture Factory of Rockford, makes that city his home, and

resides with his parents. The children deceased were named as follows: Frank G., Henry and George. Mr. Brown is now engaged in the machine shops of the Utter Manufacturing Company, and has a comfortable and commodious home at No. 1203 Third Avenue.



SIMMONS P. TERWILLIGER, deceased, was born in Preble, Cortland County, N. Y., June 17, 1820, and was a son of Green and Martha (Pearsol) Terwilliger, both natives of the Empire State. They spent their last days in the town of Preble, where the father cleared and developed a farm from the wilderness. His wife died in 1864, and two years later he came to Belvidere, where his death occurred.

Our subject supplemented his early education by study in the Homer Academy, and afterward took up the study of medicine. He later attended the medical college in Buffalo, and in 1847 visited Chicago, where he continued his studies, and was graduated. He commenced practice in Algonquin, McHenry County, Ill., where he resided until 1849, when he came to Belvidere and engaged in the drug business. A few years later, he opened a hardware store, which he carried on for some time.

In 1849, Mr. Terwilliger wedded Frances Mitchell, who was born in Peterboro, Hillsboro County, N. H. Her father, Jonathan Mitchell, and grandfather, Benjamin Mitchell, were both natives of the same town, and Samuel Mitchell, the great-grandfather, was a native of Londonderry, N. H., it is thought. He became one of the first settlers of Peterboro secured a water-power in that locality, and erected one of the first gristmills in that section of the country. The grandfather spent his entire life in Peterboro as a farmer. He married Martha Steele, who was born in that locality, and never left it until called to the home beyond. The father of Mrs. Terwilliger was reared and educated in his native county, and in 1839 removed to Cortland County, N. Y., where he purchased a farm, making it his home for three years. He then removed to the village of Preble, upon which he resided until 1850, when he came to Illinois, and

spent the remainder of his days in Belvidere, his death occurring October 20, 1853. He married Sarah White, a native of the Granite State, and a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Smith) White. Her death occurred in Belvidere, January 26, 1861.

Mr. Terwilliger of this sketch continued business in this city until 1883, when he was called to the home beyond. He was a Universalist in religious belief, and one of the leading members of the organization here. His wife, a most estimable lady, is a member of the Presbyterian Church. She has three children: Irving, Cashier of the Second National Bank of Belvidere; Helen A., wife of Lewis A. Seaman; and Alice at home. The family is one widely and favorably known in this community, the members of the household ranking high in social circles. The death of the husband and father was deeply regretted by a large circle of friends, for he was one of the valued citizens of the community.



MRS. ANNA CHESTER, who is at present residing on a splendid estate on section 10, LeRoy Township, Boone County, is the daughter of Ole and Betsey (Sondreson) Oleson. She was born in Norway in 1835 and came to America in the fall of 1849, in company with her parents. The party set sail on the brig "Uno" from Arndahl and landed in New York six weeks later. They went by water to Milwaukee, where they secured a team which took them to Blue Mound, Wis., where the father purchased eighty acres of land. After a residence there of one winter, Mr. Oleson sold his property and removed to Rock County, Wis., where he became the proprietor of eighty acres and resided until his decease in 1856. While making her home at Ft. Dodge, Iowa, with her daughter Helen, Mrs. Edwin Haatvedt, the mother died June 1, 1892, at the advanced age of ninety-seven years.

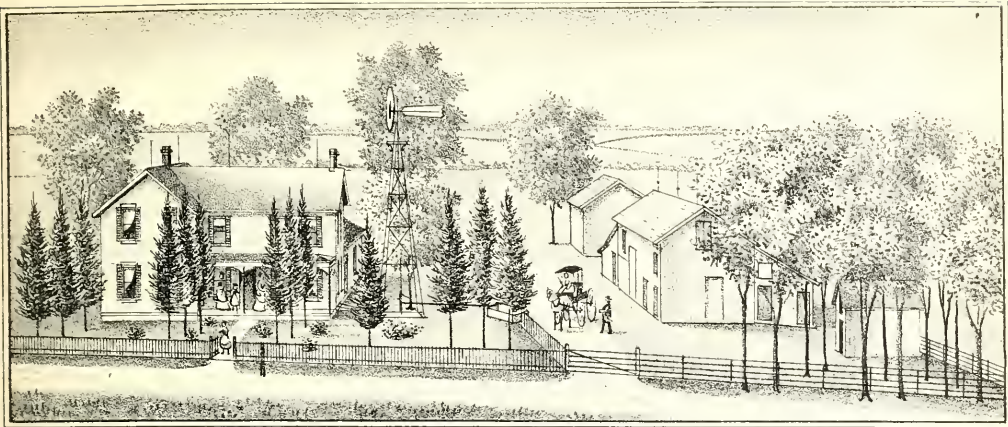
Our subject was married in Rock County, Wis., May 16, 1856, to Lawrence Chester. He was a son of Chester and Nellie Chesterson, who came from Norway to America in 1819, when their son

was fourteen years of age. The father, who had been an invalid for many years, died while en route to this country and was consigned to a watery grave. Mr. and Mrs. Chesterson were the parents of four children and were accompanied on their removal to America by a son and daughter, one having been left in their native country. The eldest son had preceded them two years to their new home.

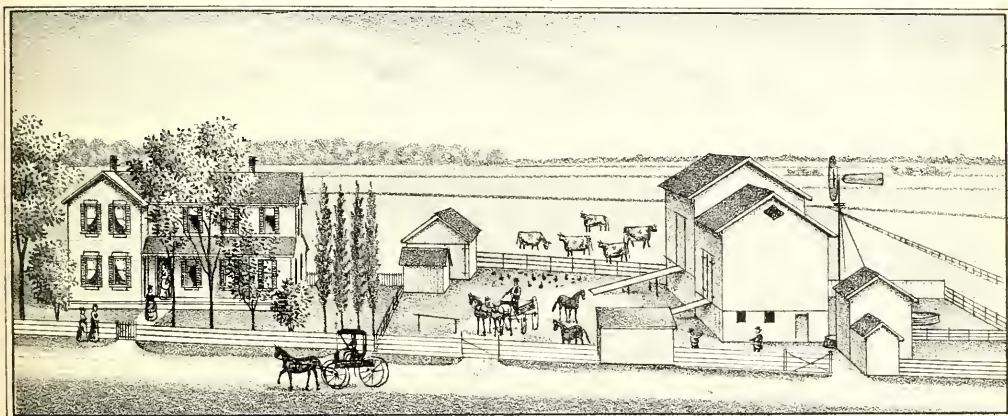
Mr. Chester located with his widowed mother on forty acres of land in Boone County, soon after which he added forty acres more. A few years later, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres, and in 1876 added to his already splendid estate eighty acres, for which he paid \$2,200. His mother departed this life in the fall of 1872, when eighty years of age. Our subject brought her husband at the time of her marriage a dowry of \$400, one cow, one sheep and one horse. To Mr. and Mrs. Chester have been born twelve children, all of whom grew to mature years with the exception of four. Nellie died when fifteen years of age; Nellie (second) died at two years; Betsey when eighteen and Julia at the age of sixteen years. The living are Charles, Oscar, John Scvert, Edward, Martin William, Frank Theodore, David Samuel and Henry Bennett.

Lawrence Chester was one of the early settlers of this township and passed through many of the hardships which beset the path of a pioneer. As before stated, he was fourteen years of age when locating here and for the first five years in his new home worked out on farms by the month. The first land of which he became the owner was a timbered tract, which by persistent industry he cleared and placed under excellent cultivation. He met with a severe accident when twenty-seven years old by losing his right arm in a threshing machine, and for twenty-five years thereafter performed more hard farm labor than most men with both their arms. When fifty-two years of age, he broke his leg, which accident finally resulted in his death, July 30, 1883.

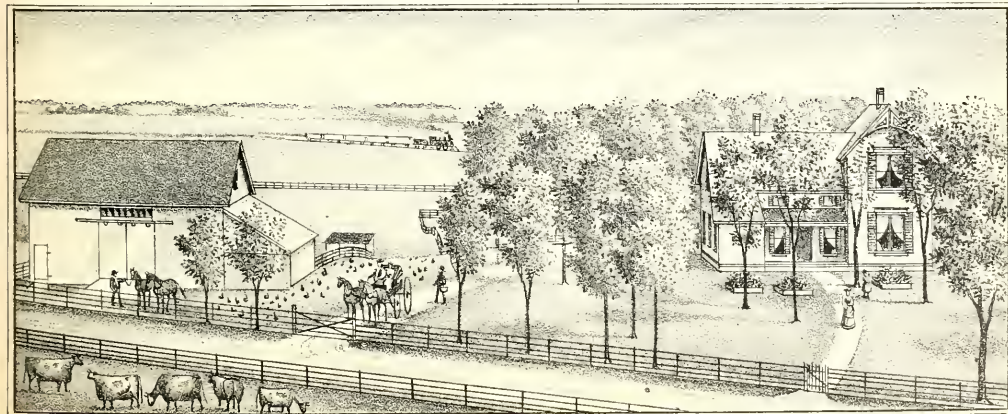
Mr. and Mrs. Chester were members in good standing of the Norwegian Lutheran Church, of which body the children are also members. Mr. Chester erected a house valued at \$2,000 which was



RES. OF MRS. SARAH E. GOODHUE, SEC. 29, NEW MILFORD TP, WINNEBAGO CO, ILL.



RES. OF MRS. ANNE CHESTER, SEC. 10, LEROY TP, BOONE CO, ILL.



RES. OF ALEXANDER FALCONER, SEC. 14, WINNEBAGO TP, WINNEBAGO CO, ILL.

the result of honest toil and economy. His handsome farm gives abundant evidence that he understood business as a farmer and possessed the enterprise and energy essential to keeping his estate in good shape and making it abundantly productive. A view of the residence and surroundings on the farm of Mrs. Chester appears on another page.



SARAH E. GOODHUE, who is living on a farm on section 29, New Milford Township, is numbered among the early settlers of Winnebago County. She is a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Lawrence) Goodhue, the former a native of Cheshire County, N. H., and the latter of Weston, Windsor County, Vt. They were married in Weston, and spent two years in that locality, where Mr. Goodhue owned a timber tract, from which he made shingles. He afterward sold out and removed to Elyria, Ohio, whence they emigrated to Illinois in the spring of 1836. They made the journey with two yoke of oxen and a yoke of cows, and after ten weeks of travel, arrived at their destination on the 4th of March, 1836.

Settling on section 29, New Milford Township, Mr. Goodhue made a claim, which he improved, obtaining the deed to the land in 1842. He and his family bore many hardships and trials incident to pioneer life and oftentimes had hardly anything to live on except what they gained from hunting and fishing, but as the years passed their farm became productive and they were in more comfortable circumstances. The father died September 9, 1869, at the age of sixty-nine years, and his wife was called to her final rest in January, 1871, at the age of seventy-three years. They were buried in the cemetery near their home. They had lost three children in infancy, their daughter Sarah being the only surviving member of the family.

The lady whose name heads this sketch has always resided upon the old homestead, a view of which accompanies this sketch. She has been twice married. On the 13th of January, 1856, she became the wife of William H. McCammond, and in

September, 1858, she gave her hand in marriage to Edward E. Price, a native of Montgomeryshire, Wales. She has lost three children who died in early youth, and one son, Daniel L. McCammond, died October 4, 1880, at the age of twenty-four years. She has seven children yet living; Margarey E., Edward J., Thomas C.; Albertie E., now Mrs. Van Fleck; Lillian F., Lenora L. and Leora E., twins.

Mrs. Goodhue has led a busy and useful life. She now owns two hundred and eight acres of land in the home farm, beside thirteen acres of good timber land in Noble Grove, and her property yields her a good income. She has many friends throughout the community where she has long made her home and is both widely and favorably known.



ALLEXANDER FALCONER. One of the finest farms within the limits of Winnebago Township is owned and occupied by Mr. Falconer, and is represented by a view on another page of this volume. The main points in the history of the subject of this notice are as follows: He is the son of Hugh Falconer, and was born in Ross-shire, Scotland, May 8, 1836. His father was also a native of that place, and followed his trade of a carpenter and joiner in Scotland until 1847, when, accompanied by his wife and four children, he emigrated to America, embarking at Liverpool in the sailing-vessel "Kalamazoo." They landed in New York twenty-eight days later, and, coming directly to Winnebago County, located in that part of New Milford Township now included in Rockford Township, where they resided for five years. At the end of that time the father purchased property in Winnebago Township, where he remained until his decease.

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Catherine McDonald; she was also born in Ross-shire, and died on the home farm in this township. Our subject was the third in order of birth in the parental family of four children, his brothers and sister being Robert, James and Catherine. Alexander, our subject, was a lad of eleven years on

taking the ocean voyage to the New World and resided with his parents until his marriage; afterward he continued to farm with his brothers for four years, and then, removing to Rockford Township, rented property for two years, when he returned and managed his father-in-law's farm for six years, during which time he purchased the place which he now owns and occupies on section 14.

April 4, 1866, Miss Ann Elliott, a native of Yorkshire, England, became Mrs. Alexander Falconer. Her father, John Elliott, was also a native of the same shire, and the son of Joseph Elliott, who spent his entire life in England. The father of Mrs. Falconer was reared to agricultural pursuits, and followed farming in his native land until 1842, when, with his wife and seven children, he took passage in a sailing-vessel "Prince Edward" and landed in New York after a voyage of eight weeks and two days. They came to Illinois by the most convenient route, and on coming to Winnebago County, found Rockford to be little more than a hamlet. Most of the land in the western part of the county was still owned by the Government, and deer could be seen from the doorway roaming over the plains. Wolves would often come into the yard and make night hideous with their howls. Mrs. Falconer vividly recalls the hard times that her people had to contend with in evolving a home out of the primitive wilderness.

Mr. Elliott made a claim to the northwest quarter of section 14, in what is now Winnebago Township, but when it came into market, speculators getting ahead of him, made him pay double price for the land. He at once built a frame house on the place, and as there were no railroads in the county, for several years after locating here he conveyed his grain to the Chicago markets with ox-teams. In the warm weather he took provisions along and camped by the wayside, but during the winter season was obliged to put up at the taverns. Mr. Elliott improved a farm of two hundred and forty acres, on which he resided until his decease, December 23, 1883. The maiden name of his wife was Susannah Dawson, a native of Yorkshire, England, who departed this life on the home farm in 1862. He reared two sons and eight daughters: Sarah, George, Elizabeth, Hannah, Su-

san, Emma (who died February 18, 1892), Ann, John, Esther and Ellen. John served in Company C, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, during the late war, and died in the service.

The six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Falconer are Hugh (who died at the age of eleven years), Susan, George, Kate, Alexander and Florence.



WILLIAM H. MILLER, who is one of the well-known citizens of Rockford, was born at Mt. Morris, Livingston County, N. Y., May 13, 1835. His father, the Hon. Horace Miller, was a native of Berkshire County, Mass., where he was born in 1798, and was a son of Jonathan Miller, who removed from Massachusetts to New York and for a time resided in Albany before removing to Mt. Morris, where he resided during his later years. The maiden name of his wife was Case.

The father of our subject was quite a young child when his parents changed their home from Massachusetts to New York. He married in Amsterdam, Montgomery County, and removed to Livingston County in 1817, becoming an early settler there. Upon the tract of timber land which he bought, he erected in the midst of the wilderness a log house, in which most of his children were born. For many years after making his home in Western New York, there were no railroads or canals, and transportation and communication from one part of the country to the other were difficult and slow. He cleared quite a tract of land and resided there until 1839, during which year he removed with his wife and six children to Illinois. The removal was made by team to Buffalo and from there teams and all were shipped by steamer to Chicago, where they disembarked and teamed it from that city to Winnebago County.

The Hon. Horace Miller had visited this section of the county the winter previous to his removal, and his brother, E. G. Miller, had bought him a claim to a tract of Government land near the mouth of the Kishwaukee River. At that time, there was a village located very near the junction of that stream with the Rock River, which was for some time quite a flourishing settlement. The fa-

ther of our subject bought a house in that village and moved it on his land. There were then no railroads here and the markets were Chicago, Galena, Dubuque and Milwaukee. He dealt largely in live stock in addition to carrying on farming, and was a successful man, adding to his landed estate until at one time he had twelve hundred and fifty acres. He resided on the farm until about the year 1861, when he came to Rockford and lived a retired life until his death in 1864.

Hannah Clark was the maiden name of the mother of our subject and she was born in Amsterdam, Montgomery County, N. Y., February 2, 1800, and was a daughter of William Clark. She lived until 1877 and died in Rockford, leaving the following children: Clark; Sarah, who married Hiram Waterman; N. Eliza, who is the wife of Philip W. Marsh; Horace, who resides in Mt. Vernon, Iowa; H. Caroline, who married the Hon. William Brown, of Rockford, and William H. All reside in this city with the exception of Horace. The father was in his political sympathies first a Whig and later a Republican. He filled various offices of trust and responsibility in Winnebago County and represented the county in the State Legislature, being elected thereto in the fall of 1850.

He of whom we write was but four years old when he made the famous journey with his parents from the East to the West and he remembers distinctly the difficulties of that trip and the incidents of change and the new home. For some time after their settlement here, deer and other kinds of wild game were plentiful. He early commenced making himself useful on the farm and attended school also during a part of each year. He resided with his parents until they removed to the city and then assumed the management of the home farm until 1865. During that year, he took a trip West and spent nearly a year traveling. In 1866, he bought fourteen acres of land in the city and later bought thirty-one acres of the Churchill farm close to the city and engaged in dairy farming. In 1877, he built his present residence, a commodious brick house in modern style of architecture, occupying ample and delightful grounds on a site that commands a pleasant view.

The marriage of Mr. Miller in 1859 united him with Jennie E. Phillips, who was born near Platteville, Grant County, Wis., and whose father, Henry B. Phillips, was born in New York State, November 8, 1810. He was a son of William Phillips, who was born in Canada and who came to Illinois during the year in which it was admitted as a State into the Union. He served in the interests of this country as a Lieutenant in the War of 1812, and received a land warrant in payment for his services. With that land warrant, he located a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Henry County, where he resided until his death, which occurred about a year later. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Baxter. She was born in Connecticut and died in Grant County, Wis., in 1837.

The father of Mrs. Miller soon after his father's death was apprenticed to a tanner in Pittsfield, Pike County, Ill., and lived with him until 1830, when, not liking the trade, he went to Galena and from there, with others, sought that part of the Territory of Michigan now included in Iowa, and engaged in mining on or near the present site of Dubuque, where the land was at the time owned by the Indians. The red man asserted his rights and drove them away and for some time they were prisoners on an island near by. In 1832, he served under Capt. Hathaway in the Black Hawk War. He was with the troops in pursuit of Black Hawk through Illinois and Wisconsin and was present at Bad Axe when that wiley chief was captured.

After the war, Mr. Phillips settled near Platteville, Grant County, Wis., and having purchased a tract of Government land erected a log house, in which Mrs. Miller was born, but which was abandoned some six weeks later by the family, who moved to a frame house. For many years, there were no railroads in Wisconsin and the nearest markets of any size were Galena and Milwaukee. He was one of the earliest agents in that section of the county for the McCormick Reaper and other kinds of farm machinery. He resided on his farm until 1861, after which he resided ten years in Platteville and then removed to Independence, Iowa, where he remained until 1886, at which

time he went to Atlanta, Ga., where he still lives.

The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Miller was Lucinda Sloan. She was born in Mt. Vernon, Ky., and her father, John Sloan, removed from his native home in Virginia to Kentucky and thence to Missouri, living at St. Charles for a time, and then going to Dubuque, Iowa, where he was one of the first permanent settlers. He bought a farm two miles from the city and there spent the remainder of his days. His wife before her marriage bore the name of Jennie Boatwright. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have two children: Ella G., who is now the wife of Robert B. Whipple, and Mabel J. The political views of our subject are in accordance with Prohibition doctrines, and he and his good wife are active and earnest members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church.



GEORGE M. HAINES, M. D., now one of the leading physicians of Durand, has been a resident here since November, 1877. He was born in Orleans County, Vt., September 9, 1846, and is the son of Moses and Deborah W. (Clark) Haines, natives respectively of Vermont and New Hampshire. Samuel Haines, the progenitor of the family in the United States, was born in Shrewsbury, England, in 1603. He was a son of John Haines, Sr., and in 1635 sailed with a party to America, at which time the vessel was wrecked off the coast of Maine. The survivors made their way by land southward toward the Massachusetts Colony. They located, however, in Portsmouth, and thus was founded the first settlement in New Hampshire. Samuel Haines was a Deacon in the Congregational Church and died about 1686.

The second son of the above-named gentleman was also called Samuel and had his birth in Portsmouth in 1616. He was married to Mary Fifield, who was also born in New Hampshire, and died in 1688. They were the parents of three sons and three daughters, one of whom, William, was born in Portsmouth, January 7, 1678, and died in 1760; he was married to Mary Lewis, of Caseo Bay, and

to them were born five sons and four daughters. Of these, Mathias was born in Greenland, N. H., March 17, 1712, and died March 28, 1795, having been married to Abigail Sherburn, also of Greenland, that State. Of their sons, Mathias was born October 14, 1711, and died August 22, 1808. His wife, Sarah Hall, of Chester, N. H., was born September 11, 1753, and departed this life September 4, 1844, after having become the mother of nine children. Of that family, Moses K. was born in Raymond, N. H., February 13, 1774, and died January 15, 1856. He had been thrice married, his first wife, to whom he was united in 1797, bore the name of Abigail May and died, leaving three children. His second union, which occurred in 1814, was with Jemimah Leach, by whom he became the father of two children. His last wife was Rachel Babbitt, to whom he was married in 1838.

The youngest son of Moses K. Haines by his second marriage was also named Moses, and was born on the 29th of December, 1818, and married March 8, 1842, to the lady who bore the name of Deborah W. Clark, who was born May 31, 1815, and died March 13, 1882. They became the parents of five children: Abigail D., who was born March 22, 1843, married J. D. S. Olmstead and makes her home in Greensboro, Vt. George M., our subject, was the second in order of birth; Cephas C., who was born October 3, 1849, married Clara E. Calderwood and also resides in Greensboro, Vt.; Sumner C., who was born January 23, 1852, died in 1886, unmarried; Alma J., who was born February 8, 1854, married Austin Rich and is living in Glover, Vt.

The original of this sketch passed his early life on the home farm and in attendance at the different schools in his vicinity. When reaching his majority, he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. S. R. Corey, of Craftsbury, Vt., as his preceptor. He later took a course of lectures at the University of Vermont, and was subsequently graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York City. Dr. Haines then located near his native place, where he practiced his profession for three years, and then, going to Orford, N. H., remained for four years, at the end



Lewis P. Anderson

of which time he came to Durand and, with the exception of two years spent at La Harpe, Kan., has been a resident of this place.

Dr. Haines and Miss Octavia L. Goodrich were united in marriage September 28, 1870. The lady, who was born in Greensboro, Orleans County, Vt., October 21, 1811, was the daughter of J. A. and Octavia A. (Wright) Goodrich. To them have been granted a family of five children, viz: Mary, who died when two years of age; Emma L.; Fred, who died when nine months old; George C. and Helen W.

The Doctor is not interested in politics other than to cast a Republican vote at elections. He is a member of the Winnebago and Stephenson Counties Medical Societies, and for many years was an active member of the Odd Fellows' lodge. He has always been a firm supporter of religion and is a member of the Congregational Church. He is justly regarded as one of the ablest general practitioners in this section of the State. Beginning his medical career with a fine theoretical knowledge, he has been studious, discriminating, and desirous of adding to the store of his learning all that modern investigation has to enrich the fields of therapeutical science.



LEWIS P. ANDERSON, Superintendent and Manager of the Derwent sash, door and blind factory, is numbered among the early settlers of Rockford, where he has made his home since 1854. In the years that have since followed, he has been prominently connected with the business interests of the city and is now one of the leading members of the company before mentioned. He is also a stockholder in the Excelsior Furniture Company, of which he was Vice-President, and has also been a Director of the Union Grocery Company, in which he still holds an interest.

Mr. Anderson, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, was born in Smoland, Sweden, June 15, 1829, and is a son of Andrew and Anna (Larsdant) Peterson, who spent their entire lives in their native land. The father was a farmer and

died at the age of ninety years. His wife survived him some time and passed away at the advanced age of ninety years. They held membership in the Lutheran Church, and were highly respected people.

In his youth, our subject learned the trade of a mechanic and builder. At length, he determined to seek a home in the New World, and in the month of June, 1854, his name was enrolled among the passengers on board the sailing-vessel "Levi Woodbury." After a voyage of five weeks and two days, he landed at Boston and came at once to Illinois, settling in Elgin, where he spent one year. He was the first of the family to cross the ocean, and is the only one now living in this country.

Mr. Anderson was married, in Rockford, to Miss Anna Anderson, who was born and reared in Sweden and when a young lady came to this country. She died at her home in Rockford in 1867, at the age of thirty-three years. For his second wife, our subject chose Miss Mary S. Noling, who was born in Sweden on the 11th of December, 1840, and came to this country in 1866, since which time her home has been in Rockford. The history of her parents is given in the sketch of L. M. Noling, on another page of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have four bright and intelligent children, who were educated in the city schools of Rockford and are an honor to their parents, namely: Frank A., a wood-carver by trade; Anna J., a dress-maker; Lydia E. and Oscar F. The parents hold membership with the First Lutheran Church, in which Mr. Anderson is a Trustee. For many years, he has been connected with that congregation, is one of its leading workers and a liberal contributor to its support.

During the late war, when his adopted country was in need of troops, Mr. Anderson enlisted in 1862, as a member of Company C, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. He participated in the battle of Perryville, Ky., and was there taken sick, being confined in the hospital for some time. After two years of faithful service, he was honorably discharged in Indianapolis, Ind., on the 14th of January, 1864. He is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., of this city. He takes quite an active interest in public affairs, and is a stalwart Repub-

lican in politics. His character is unimpeachable, his life above reproach, and his upright career has won him the confidence and regard of all. He is recognized as one of the leading and influential gentlemen of this city and an honored early settler. His comfortable home, which was built by himself, is located at No. 1005 Sixth Avenue.



FREDERICK SANDS, a retired farmer living in Belvidere, is numbered among the early settlers of Boone County. For many years, he has been an eye-witness of its growth and up-building and has aided in its progress and development. He has seen its towns grow into cities, and many of its villages spring into existence. He has ever borne his share in promoting those interests calculated to prove of public benefit and well deserves representation in its history.

Mr. Sands was born in Tompkins, Delaware County, N. Y., March 20, 1833. His grandfather, Judge Obadiah Sands, was a large real-estate owner in Delaware County, and spent his last years in the town of Oxford. Obadiah Sands, Jr., the father of our subject, was born and reared in Delaware County and wedded Mary Orr, a native of that county and a daughter of Walter F. and Mary E. (Craig) Orr. Mr. Orr spent his last years in Delaware County, but his wife came to Illinois and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Sands. In 1836, Obadiah Sands, accompanied by his wife and seven children, started for Illinois. He left his family in Chicago while he came on in search of a location and made a claim on sections 7 and 8, Bonus Township, Boone County. After building a log cabin, he returned to Chicago where he had left his family and brought his wife and children to the new home in a large covered wagon, drawn by five yoke of oxen. He purchased his land at the land sale in Chicago when it came into market and began the development of a farm. His wife died July 4, 1840, leaving the following children: Maria, Betsy, Mary, Olive, Frederick, Odessa and William D. Olive died in 1868, and George died in Cleveland, Ohio, when the family were en route for the West. The others are still living.

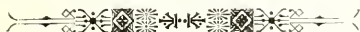
Mr. Sands was a second time married and by that union had three children: Melinda A., Obadiah and Dianitia. His death occurred in 1856. He was a member of Belvidere Lodge No. 60, A. F. & A. M., and in politics was first a Whig. He became a strong anti-slavery man, and supported Gen. Fremont in 1856.

With his parents, Frederick Sands came to Illinois when only three years of age. He acquired his education in the primitive log schoolhouse with its slab seats, puncheon floor and huge fireplace, and aided in the labors of the farm through the summer months. Many incidents of pioneer days are still fresh in his mind. In 1851, he started on a trip to the West. On reaching St. Joe, Mo., he made arrangements to go to California, but was taken sick, and his trip in consequence had to be abandoned. In 1855, he went to Stevens' Point, Wis., where he was employed for a year. He then floated down the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers to Quincy on a raft and then returned to his home in Boone County. From that time, he devoted his entire energies to farming and as a result won prosperity. He still owns the old homestead farm containing two hundred acres of highly cultivated land, well improved with good buildings.

In 1857, Mr. Sands was joined in wedlock with Henrietta Brink, a native of Union, Broome County, N. Y., and a daughter of Whiting F. and Lydia R. (Chambers) Brink. Her father was born in the town of Union and was a son of James and Cornelia (Giltner) Brink, farming people of Broome County, who spent their entire lives on the old homestead. Her mother was born on the west shore of Seneca Lake, and was a daughter of Samuel and Hannah (Van Zant) Chambers. They were married in Union, N. Y., where Mr. Brink followed the trade of a carpenter and joiner until his death in September, 1839. His widow afterward became the wife of Stephen Sweezey and emigrated to Illinois in 1855. She now resides in Boone Township, Boone County.

Two children grace the union of Mr. and Mrs. Sands: Fred Beecher and Bessie. Fred Beecher took for his wife Miss Hattie Vinton and they have one child, Fred Vinton. The members of the family

rank high in social circles and the Sands household in the abode of hospitality. Socially, our subject is a member of Belvidere Lodge No. 60, A. F. & A. M.; and Kishwaukee Chapter No. 90, R. A. M., while in politics he is a Republican. His industry and enterprise in former years secured him a comfortable competence which now enables him to spend his declining days in retirement from all labor.



CLINTON G. SHELDEN, a retired farmer residing in the village of Winnebago, was born in Granger, Medina County, Ohio, May 17, 1832. He is the son of David Shelden, who was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., October 19, 1794, and who in turn was a son of Johnson and Abiah (Northrup) Shelden. From the best information we have at hand, our subject is a direct descendant of William Shelden, who came from England to America in 1634, and settled in South Kensington, R. I. The next in line was John, the son of William; the next Isaac, and the next Joseph. Then came Jonathan, the grandfather of our subject, whom it is supposed was born in New England, whence he emigrated to New York State, and later to Richfield Township, Summit County, Ohio, where he spent his last days. His wife was born April 16, 1770, and died on the home farm in Richfield.

The father of our subject was reared in his native State, and when about eighteen years of age started out to explore the Western country. He went overland to Erie, Pa., and there embarked on a boat bound for Cleveland. On account of a severe storm, they landed before they reached that city and journeyed on foot to Summit County. Mr. Shelden remained there for a time, when he returned to New York and was married. With his young wife, he went back to Ohio and purchased a tract of timbered land, upon which he erected a log house and occupied it for some years. He continued a resident of that place until his decease, March 31, 1873.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Anna Sarles, a native of New York State, and

the daughter of Isaiah Sarles, whose birth occurred April 7, 1759. The grandfather served in the War of 1812, was wounded in the battle of Chipewawa, Canada, September 14, 1811, at which time he was taken prisoner to Montreal, where he died in the latter part of that year. He had been married to Anna Dean, who was born July 19, 1762, and died at Royalton, Medina County, Ohio. The mother of our subject departed this life on the home farm, August 6, 1855.

Clinton G. Shelden spent his early days on the farm, and when twenty-two years of age taught his first term of school. After being thus engaged for one term, he advanced his education by attendance at Delaware College. After this he taught two terms of winter school and remained on the home farm until 1863, at which time he came to Illinois and purchased a farm in Winnebago Township, including the northeast quarter of section 15. A small frame house, straw stable, and a portion of the land broken and fenced, constituted the improvements at that time. Mr. Shelden planted fruit, shade and ornamental trees on his estate, erected a good set of frame buildings, and was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1885, when he removed to the village and has since lived retired.

In 1861, he of whom we write was united in marriage to Rachel Spensley, who was born in the northern part of Yorkshire, England, and was a daughter of James and Anna Spensley. The parents were also natives of Yorkshire, and on coming to America in 1848 located in Granger, Medina County, where her father died. Mrs. Spensley survived him some time and spent her remaining years in Cleveland. Mrs. Shelden died at her home, February 18, 1883, and in November, 1884, our subject was married to Mary Eveline Phelps. The lady was born in Volney, Oswego County, N. Y., while her father, John Phelps, was a native of Tolland, Conn., where also his father, Eleazer, as far as is known, was born. The latter-named gentleman removed from the above-named place to Berkshire County, Mass., and spent his last years in Lennox.

The father of Mrs. Shelden was twelve years of age when his parents removed to the Bay State.

On reaching mature years, he enlisted as a soldier in the War of 1812. July 17, 1821, he was united in marriage with Miss Fannie Sears, the ceremony being performed at Lennox. Mrs. Phelps was the daughter of Calvin and Mary (Paddock) Sears. In March, 1822, the parents of Mrs. Shelden started for the then Far West, making the journey to Volney, Oswego County, two hundred miles distant, with a team. They had quite a load of provisions, and the roads being very bad they had to leave a portion of their supplies, among which was a barrel of pork, by the wayside. Mr. Phelps purchased a farm in the town of Volney, where he resided until 1841, and then again started Westward, emigrating to Medina County, Ohio. There he purchased a farm in Wadsworth Township, which he sold in 1853, and bought another in Granger Township, upon which he resided until his decease in 1874; the mother died on the same farm in 1885. They were the parents of four children: Franklin E., Hannah M., Helen M. and Eveline. Mrs. Shelden was reared in Medina County and commenced teaching school at the age of sixteen years, which occupation she followed until her marriage.

Mr. Shelden became the father of six children by his first marriage: Artis L., who was married to Christine Hansen; Edward C., who married Nellie South, has three children: Nettie E., Archie B. and Mark S.; J. Winfield, who married Emily Manning, has two sons: Ralph E. and Howard G.; and Edith, Ralph E. and Anna E. died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Shelden are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

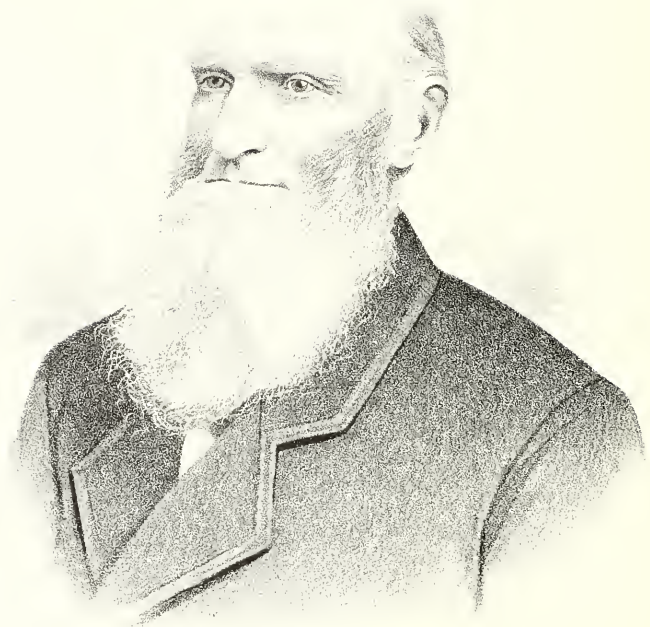
The parents of our subject reared eight children, viz: Phebe A., Ezra D., Edward G., Isaiah J., Clinton G., Myron S., Albert D. and Francis E.



MRS. LOVINA LIVINGSTON. This lady, one of the oldest and most esteemed in Boone County, is the widow of Hugh Livingston, and the daughter of Elijah and Elizabeth (Byce) Dickinson. Mr. Dickinson was a native of Worcester, Mass., and was a shoemaker

by trade, although he had received a good education and followed teaching for some time. He met his future wife (who was a native of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.), in Scholastic, that State, while teaching school, and after marriage they moved on a small farm, where Mr. Dickinson worked at his trade for many years. To them were born twelve children, six sons and six daughters, two of whom died when young, but the remainder reached mature years and became heads of families. The mother died first, when sixty-nine years of age, and left ten living children. The father survived her many years and died in the same place, when nearly eighty-three years of age. These children have all passed away except Mrs. Livingston and her sister Sarah, Mrs. Dexter McClintock, of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, now seventy years of age. Mr. Dickinson was one of the drafted soldiers of the War of 1812, and a drummer.

Mrs. Livingston was born in Scholastic, N. Y., in 1808, and was married in Middleburgh, that State, in February, 1827, to Hugh Livingston, son of Jacob and Sarah (Van Cleeck) Livingston, of New York State. His parents reared fifteen children and lost two infants. Mr. Livingston, husband of our subject, followed the carpenter trade in the early part of his life, but later gave that up and engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1853, he and his wife sold their farm in New York State and emigrated towards the West with their children, ten in number. They resided in Ohio for a few months, while Mr. Livingston came on to Illinois to select a location. He bought one hundred and sixty acres where his widow now lives and paid \$1,300 therefor, and subsequently purchased eighty acres more, on which he lived until he could get possession of his farm then occupied under a lease. Here they located and began making improvements. They had buried twin infants, daughters, in New York, and lost one son in the Civil War, David, born in 1842. He was a brave and faithful soldier, and served through almost the entire war, being shot down while in action. Another son, Solomon, served about nine months in the army and returned home in safety; Isaac W. died at his home when in his twenty-third year. There are four sons and four daughters



Lyester Talbot

still living. One daughter is in New York; two sons and one daughter in Iowa; a daughter, Sarah, is with her mother; J. H. works at the mason's trade, and Arthur has followed the carpenter's trade; and Elizabeth, Mrs. Marvin Ables. Mrs. Livingston has twenty-eight grandchildren and eighteen great-grandchildren. Mr. Livingston was born in April, 1803, and died in November, 1869. He left a fine estate of one hundred and sixty acres under a good state of cultivation and well stocked. He was a member of the Baptist Church.



SYLVESTER TALCOTT. There is probably no family in Winnebago County better known for integrity, fair dealing, enterprise and intelligence, than the one represented by the name at the head of this paragraph. It is one of those which have helped to make this county a center for all good influences, and one of the most enterprising sections of Illinois. Mr. Talcott, whose portrait is shown on the opposite page, died at his home in Rockton, in January, 1885. He was for many years one of the most prominent merchants of the city, and was active in political affairs, having been the incumbent of the office of Supervisor for a number of terms. He was deeply interested in every movement which tended to secure the best interests of his community, and with this end in view he was a hearty worker in all elevating movements.

The subject of this sketch was Justice of the Peace in Rockton in an early day, and married the first couple in the section. When locating in this vicinity, there were only twelve houses on the present site of this now prosperous village, but he lived to see its phenomenal growth in population and improvement in every aspect in life, and did his full share in its development.

We must here introduce in this sketch the name of her who became the companion of our subject, Miss Mary W. Westlake, who was born in Chemung County, N. Y., in 1820. Her father, Col. Jacob Westlake, was a native of Newburg, Orange County, that State, and died at Brooklyn in his fifty-second year. Her mother, who bore the

maiden name of Lanah Smith, was born in New York City, and departed this life in her forty-second year, when residing near Almira, Chemung County. They were the parents of three sons and three daughters, namely: Margaret, who was born in 1815; Benjamin, who died in Brooklyn after having attained his three-score and ten years; Mary, George, Henry and Melissa.

Mrs. Mary Talcott came West in company with her sister, Mrs. Roland Smith, in 1838, and married our subject in Rockton in June, 1840. The young couple located at this place, where Mrs. Talcott has lived since 1843. To them was born one child, Lissie W., now the wife of William Smith, but who first married Martin Rockwell, and became the mother of one son, Fred W., who makes his home with Mrs. Talcott. Our subject was engaged at an early day as a general merchant in Rockton, in company with Philander Bird. Later, dissolving that connection, he associated himself with Rumsey Hatch, and with him carried on a prosperous business and showed himself to be a man worthy of esteem and regard.

For many years Mrs. Talcott has been a great sufferer from rheumatism. She is an active and conscientious member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while her husband, during his life, was a communicant of the Congregational Society. Mr. Talcott was an excellent financier, and at his death left considerable property, which his excellent wife is using in doing good to those about her. She is a most intelligent and estimable lady, and is classed among the most honored and highly respected members of society in Winnebago County.



HENRY M. COOKE, one of the progressive and well-to-do agriculturists of Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County, was born in Atwater, Portage County, Ohio, March 18, 1848. He is the son of Friend and Sarah F. (Folger) Cooke, the latter of whom is a relative of ex-Secretary Folger and also of the mother of Benjamin Franklin, who also bore that name. The father of our subject was born in Wallingford, Conn., November 29, 1798, and died in his fifty-ninth

year in Atwater, Ohio. The mother was born on the isle of Nantucket in 1808, and died in Massillon, Ohio, when sixty-six years of age, whither she had removed in 1811.

The paternal grandparents of our subject were Samuel and Mary Cooke and the father of our subject was a grandson of Col. Thaddeus Cooke, who was present at the capture of Burgoyne and participated in the battle of Freeman's Farm in 1777. The old Cooke homestead in Wallingford, Conn., is still in possession of the family. The father of our subject was given an excellent education, being a graduate from the Schenectady Union College and also of Yale College, in which latter institution he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He practiced in his native town for two years, when, his health failing, he removed West to Ohio, in 1823, and practiced for a time at Atwater, Portage County, thence, later, went to Charleston, N. C., on account of ill-health.

Henry M. Cooke remained at home until sixteen years of age, at which time he enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Eighty-eighth Ohio Infantry, and served under Capt. P. H. Smith until September 29, 1865, when he received his discharge at Nashville, Tenn. He was the only child of his parents and was married, January 27, 1869, to Miss Mary Silasbury, who was born in Erie County, N. Y., February 15, 1847. Mrs. Cooke became the mother of five children, three of whom are living, as follows: Albert E., who was born November 17, 1876; Frank E., August 23, 1880; and Henry M., March 16, 1887. The father of Mrs. Cooke, Francis Silasbury, was born August 2, 1823, in Hamburg, Erie County, N. Y., and was the son of Smith and Roena (Parker) Silasbury, both of whom were natives of New York and died in Hamburg, N. Y., at the respective ages of forty and seventy years. The grandparents of Francis Silasbury on both sides of the house were of English descent. Four brothers originally came to America.

The father of Mrs. Cooke remained at home until nineteen years of age, assisting his father to carry on the home farm, when he went to Louisiana. He did not remain there long, however, as he was called home on account of his father's death. Purchasing one hundred and forty-four acres of Indian

land, he cleared it of the timber, and in a few years a plank road was built through his land, which joined the city limits of Buffalo. He later disposed of his tract to a Catholic bishop. Mr. Silasbury was married, about two years after buying the above-mentioned property, to Miss Jane Scott, who was born September 11, 1822, in Rome, Oneida County, N. Y., and departed this life November 11, 1891, in Pecatonica, Ill. She was the daughter of Thomas and Martha (Lindsay) Scott, of Scotch-Irish descent. After disposing of his property, Mr. Silasbury came West to Stephenson County, Ill., and in 1853 purchased a tract of one thousand acres of partially improved land in Ridott Township. There he resided until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he disposed of two hundred acres of his estate and removed to Pecatonica, where he has been a resident for over thirty years. In the meantime, he visited the oil regions of Pennsylvania and three years later returned to this place and engaged in the stock and grain business. About twelve years ago, he sold his estate and now lives a retired life. In addition to the property above mentioned, the father of Mrs. Cooke purchased lands in Iowa, which he has since divided among his children. He still has, however, forty acres within the city limits of Pecatonica and at one time owned the southern portion of the village.

The father of our subject was a Democrat in politics, until the organization of the Republican party, when he joined its ranks. He was a member of the convention of 1850-51 which framed the Constitution of Ohio, and was a great anti-slavery worker. He stood very high in his profession and died February 8, 1857, in the prime of life. The mother of our subject was a member of the Congregational Church, while his father was an Episcopalian.

Henry M. Cooke after the war was engaged in farming for his brother-in-law until his marriage, when he located on property of his own. Nine years ago he purchased his present estate and is making a success of his calling, being extensively engaged in the sheep-raising industry. He is a member of Ellis Post No. 320, G. A. R., in which body he is Senior Vice-Commander. He is also a member of Eureka Camp of Modern Woodmen and in local

affairs has served his fellow-townsmen for five years as Commissioner of Highways. His education was received in the district schools, and what he has of this world's goods has been the result of his untiring industry and perseverance, as he had very little monetary assistance from his father.

The Cooke family in America are direct descendants of Francis Cooke, who landed in Plymouth from the "Mayflower" in 1620, and erected the third house in that place. One branch of the family located in Connecticut and one in Norway, N. Y., our subject being a descendant of the former.



JACOB MABIE is perhaps as well known as any man in Boone County, as he was born in Bonus Township August 26, 1816, and has always been highly respected here as a thorough-going farmer and business man. His wife, too, shares in the esteem which is given to him and has a high standing in the most cultured circles in this part of the county. Mr. Mabie, in addition to cultivating his farm, is a stockholder in the People's Bank at Belvidere, and beloved, honored and trusted by everybody who knows him.

The parents of our subject, Aaron and Amy (Turneure) Mabie, were natives of New York, the father being born in Delaware County. He was the son of Jacob and Mary (Tollman) Mabie, who were also natives of the above-named State and county, but who departed this life in Boone County, whither they had removed in the '10s. The grandfather of our subject was born June 9, 1781, and died July 15, 1846; his good wife, who was born January 16, 1781, departed this life February 20, 1851.

The mother of our subject was one in a family of six children and also had nine half-brothers and sisters. She was the daughter of Peter and Lydia Turneure, natives of the Empire State. A brother of her father was taken prisoner by the Indians in an early day. The Mabies were of Dutch ancestry, one of that name having come to this country as a privateer from Holland in the

sixteenth century. Abraham Mabie was a son of that gentleman, who, in turn, had three sons: Abraham, Peter and John. The brothers located in the vicinity of New York City, where Abraham was married to a French lady, by whom he had the following sons: Stephen, Abraham, Joshua, Samuel and Solomon. Daniel Mabie was a grandson of Peter, one of the three brothers above referred to, and was the great-grandfather of our subject.

Aaron Mabie was married when nineteen years of age, when he was employed in operating a mill for his father. In 1812, in company with his wife and six children, he came to Boone County and settled on the property which is the abiding-place of our subject, and for which he traded a team of horses. The elder Mr. Mabie lived in a log house on that tract for some time, in which humble abode two of his children were born, Julia and our subject. His sister had her birth November 21, 1843, and is still residing in this township. The brothers and sisters of our subject are well-to-do and prominent business men in the Western States. Mr. Mabie has several cousins who are active workers in the Baptist Church, one of them having visited many heathen countries in the capacity of a missionary and is the author of a splendid book bearing on that subject. He was one of the most prominent missionaries sent out by the Baptist Church of Minneapolis, Minn.

Jacob Mabie was married December 25, 1867, to Miss Mary W. Morgan, whose birth occurred October 21, 1838, at Niles, Mich. She was the daughter of Erastus and Nancy (Spaulding) Morgan, who trace the Morgan history back to 1607. Mrs. Morgan was a daughter of John and Julia Spaulding, natives of New York. The father of our subject's wife emigrated to Michigan in 1837, where he resided for two years, and then, returning to his Eastern home, there departed this life near Buffalo, at the age of seventy-one years. The mother is still residing with a son in Bonus Township.

The original of this sketch inherited one hundred and forty acres of land on the death of his father, to which he has since added, until he is now the possessor of an estate comprising two

hundred and twenty acres and, in addition to that, has a lot in Belvidere. His father made most of the improvements on the estate and was successful at his calling of a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Mabie are members of the Baptist Church, and, in politics, our subject cast his first vote for Grant, of whom he was a great admirer. He has never held office of any kind, preferring to give his time to his private interests.

August 26, 1864, he of whom we write became a member of an independent company of the Fifth Illinois Light Artillery, commanded by Capt. A. W. Wood. After several months of brave service, he was discharged June 13, 1865, at Chester, Pa., and, returning home, has since devoted his time looking after his own affairs. Their only child, Fred M., died when three months old.



CHARLES E. CLARK. The business men of Durand recognize in Mr. Clark a man who pursues the even tenor of his way, and who exercises a considerable influence in his community. He is engaged in carrying on a splendid business in retailing furniture, and is looked upon as one of the most reliable men in the community. His straightforward methods of doing business, his genial disposition and his courteous treatment of all with whom he comes in contact, is a matter that is often made the subject of remark.

The original of this sketch was born in Newark Township, Rock County, Wis., July 20, 1861. He is the son of Benjamin Clark, who hailed from Vermont, and was in turn the son of Judge Spencer Clark. The father of our subject came West to Illinois when a young man, and at Beloit was married to Maria Gunderson. In 1864, he enlisted and was mustered into service in Company M, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and served with the Union ranks for ten months, when he was taken sick with typhoid fever and returned home July 4, 1865. He died thirteen days later at his home in Laona Township, Winnebago County, when in his forty-sixth year.

The mother of our subject was born in Cambridge, Mass., and in 1810, when ten years of age,

came to Beloit, Wis., in company with a family named Spaulding, with whom she resided until her marriage in 1858. She survived her husband many years, her death occurring in 1886, when fifty-six years of age. The two children born of her union with Mr. Clark were Charles E., our subject, and Benjamin, the latter of whom is a hardware merchant in Wayne County, Neb. Benjamin Clark was a prominent member of the Congregational Church, and occupied a high position in local affairs.

He of whom we write was reared on the home farm, and educated in the schools of Durand. When fourteen years of age, he left the farm, and, working at whatever he could find to do, prosecuted his studies in the higher branches. He purchased his present business in 1888, and besides carrying a full and complete line of household furniture, does an undertaking business. Although never learning a trade, he is quite a genius with tools, and can do anything in the line of cabinet work. When a boy he saw some of the work of a taxidermist, and being delighted with it, engaged in that business, and has done considerable work in that line. In addition to the different branches of work in which Mr. Clark has been engaged, he is an expert in penmanship, and in pen drawing has no equal in his vicinity. A peaceable and law-abiding citizen, he has contributed his full quota to the general welfare of the community, and is numbered among the best citizens of this county, having an unusual degree of intelligence, good breeding and honorable principle.



ATCLIN SPAFFORD. In scanning the lives and enterprises of the citizens of Rockford, it is pleasant to note the enterprise in every walk of life, and the achievement of success in every department of business. This we are able to discern in the career of our subject, who is President of the Third National Bank at Rockford, and ranks among the wealthy and public-spirited residents of the city. He has been interested in various corporations and manufacturing institutions in this section, and has

watched with interest the gradual evolution of this portion of the county from its original wild state into beautiful farms and thriving villages.

The original of this sketch was born in the town of Adams, Jefferson County, N. Y., September 14, 1821. He is the son of Dr. John and Mary Spafford, receiving his early education in the public schools of his native place, and later supplemented the knowledge gained therein by attendance at Castleton (Vt.) Academy, and at a select school in Watertown. In the fall of 1839, he came to Rockford, joining other members of the family, who had come here the previous spring. The journey hither was made by the most convenient and expeditious route, which was by team to Syracuse, then by way of the Erie Canal to Buffalo, where they embarked on the steamer "Illinois," commanded by Capt. Blake, which conveyed them to Chicago. In that then village they secured a team and came over land to Rockford. The first seven years of our subject's life in Winnebago County were passed for the most part on a farm, and in 1846 he formed a partnership with B. G. Wheeler, and for two years was engaged in the mercantile business, prosecuting a successful trade. At the expiration of that time, he became connected with L. B. Gregory, and erected a sawmill, which was the first of the kind to utilize the water of Rock River. They continued thus for two years, when in 1850, Mr. Spafford went to California in company with twenty other gentlemen, leaving home with teams, in the month of March. They crossed the Mississippi River at Rock Island and made their way tediously through the dangerous country, there being no white settlers between the Missouri River and California, except the Mormon settlement at Salt Lake, and United States soldiers at different points. Deer, antelopes, coyotes and buffaloes were very numerous on the plains, and the party arrived at Hangtown, near Placerville, in the month of August. From that place they went to Sacramento, thence to Nevada City, where Mr. Spafford was engaged in the mercantile business the first year. In January, 1852, he started on his return trip, via the Nicaragua route, crossing the Isthmus on horseback. He again engaged in the mercantile business, and two years later, in 1854, formed a partnership with

C. C. Briggs and D. S. Penfield in the banking business. One year thereafter, Mr. Briggs withdrew, and our subject, with his partner, carried on the business until 1864, when with others he aided in organizing the Third National Bank, of which institution he was elected President, and has been the incumbent of that honorable position since.

March 25, 1852, Miss Elizabeth B. White, who was born in Peterboro, N. H., became the wife of our subject. Mrs. Spafford was the daughter of Robert White, and by her union with our subject became the mother of four children, namely: Isabella, Lucy Antoinette, Jessie and George C. In social matters the original of this sketch is a member of Lodge No. 2, A. F. & A. M. Mr. Spafford has been a prominent factor in the development of Winnebago County, and is a splendid example of what may be accomplished by an energetic, determined and economical man. The present commercial importance and prosperity of Rockford is unquestionably the result of the wisdom, foresight and enterprise of her business men, and it is a fitting tribute to those who have honorably distinguished themselves in the commercial arena, that their names and career should be commemorated among those of the leading men in all branches.



WILLIAM C. McCaughey is now living retired in the city of Rockford. He was born in Ottawa, LaSalle County, Ill., March 8, 1838, and is a son of Thomas M. McCaughey, whose native place was Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson County, Ohio. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of Scotland, and came to America when a young man, being one of three brothers who made their home in this country.

James McCaughey, the grandfather, resided for a time in Pennsylvania, and then went to Jefferson County, Ohio, where he purchased a tract of timber land and cleared a farm upon which he resided until his decease. The father of our subject learned the trade of a cooper, which he followed in his native State until 1833, when he came to Illinois and resided for a time upon a tract of Gov-

ernment land near Ottawa. He later sold that claim and made another near by, where he made his home until 1810, and then spent some time in Rockford.

From this city the elder Mr. McCaughey removed to Highland Prairie, Dodge County, Wis., where he was among the earliest settlers, and located upon land one and one-half miles from the present site of Juneau. Making that place his home until 1855, he then sold, and, removing to Appleton, opened a general store, and five years later came to Rockford, where he engaged in farming on an estate located six miles south of the city, where his death occurred January 5, 1866.

Our subject's mother was known in her maidenhood as Ruth N. Noble, and she belonged to the Society of Friends. She was a native of Maryland, and the daughter of Charles and Margaret (Ellis) Noble, natives also of that State, and of English ancestry. She died in California in 1873. William C. McCaughey was only two years of age when his parents removed to Wisconsin, the journey being made with ox-teams. He attended the pioneer schools in Dodge County, and assisted his father on the farm. After removing to Appleton with his father, he attended a four-years' course at Lawrence University. In 1860, they removed to Rockford, from which city he enlisted, August 5, 1862, in Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and served his country until June, 1864. He was discharged from the service on account of disability, and returning home later, purchased a farm near the city, which he still owns, and engaged in market gardening. Before enlisting, Mr. McCaughey belonged to the Rockford Zouaves, commanded by Capt. Nevius. During 1861, he was employed in drilling companies for the service. In 1887, Mr. McCaughey purchased his present home on Second Street, where he has since lived retired from the active pursuits of life.

Miss Mary E. Kettlewell became the wife of our subject in 1870. She was born in London, Middlesex County, Canada, and was a daughter of Thomas Kettlewell, a native of Yorkshire, England, where his father, also named Thomas, was born. The latter-named gentleman came to America in 1810, and located near London, Canada, where he

resided on a farm until 1865, and then came to Rockford, where his decease occurred in the year 1871. His wife was Mary Pinkney, also a native of Yorkshire, who departed this life in Rockford in 1868. The father of Mrs. McCaughey was seventeen years of age when he came to the New World with his parents. He followed agricultural pursuits in Canada until 1850, when, coming to Rockford, he has since been a continuous resident of this city. He was for a number of years engaged in butchering and dealing in live stock, but is now practically retired. His wife bore the name of Susannah (Horton) Kettlewell, her native place being near St. Thomas, Canada. She was the daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Ramsey) Horton, natives respectively of New Jersey and Canada, and of English and Scotch ancestry.

To our subject and his wife have been born two children: Hallie Pauline and Eva Louise. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in his political relations our subject votes the Democratic ticket. He has been elected to various positions of trust, being Deputy-Sheriff, Coroner and Collector for the town of Rockford. He is a member of Conomac Lodge No. 147, I. O. O. F., at Appleton, Wis., and is also connected with Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R.

 **E**DWIN WARE, a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., was born in Hancock, Hillsboro County, N. H., January 31, 1842. He is at the present time residing on an excellent estate in Winnebago Township, which is located on sections 24 and 25, and where he is engaged in general farming.

Ebenezer Ware, the father of our subject, was also born in the above-named town, March 8, 1806, while his father, who also bore the name of Ebenezer, was born in Needham, Mass., in 1770. The great-grandparents of our subject moved to Hillsboro County, N. H., about 1790, where they were pioneers of Hancock. The grandfather was reared in his native State and on going to Hancock with his parents, purchased a farm in the southern part of that place, where he spent the remainder of his

life. The maiden name of his wife was Alice Eaton; she was born in Massachusetts and died on the home farm.

The father of him of whom we write learned the trade of a carpenter and was engaged as a contractor and builder for a number of years. Later, he devoted his entire time to the cultivation of his farm, he having inherited the old homestead, where he spent his entire life, dying July 24, 1888. The lady to whom he was married was known as Martha E. Lakin, a native of Hancock, N. H., and the daughter of Simeon and Betsey (Dennis) Lakin; she died January 15, 1880. Simeon Lakin, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the War of 1812.

Ebenezer Ware, Jr., was a Democrat in early life but opposed the extension of slavery and when the Democratic party championed the Missouri Compromise he left his ranks and voted the Republican ticket until his decease. He was a great reader, a ready debater and filled various offices of trust, serving on the School Committee, also as Selectman, and Representative in the Legislature.

Edwin Ware received his early education in the district school, which was supplemented by attendance at Hancock Academy. When seventeen years of age, he went to Wisconsin and resided with a brother in Waushara County for three years, when he returned to New Hampshire. Our subject enlisted in August, 1862, as a member of Company G, Thirteenth New Hampshire Infantry and served until after the close of the war. From the history of the regiment written by S. Millet Thompson and from the history of Hancock, which was published by William Hayward, we extract the following:

"Edwin Ware was disqualified for military duty by reason of malformation of ankle. He managed to conceal this from the surgeons and passed examination. Though suffering severely from the long marches, he was never off duty a day except by wounds received in battle. The regiment participated in fifteen battles, the more important of which were Fredericksburg, Suffolk, siege of Petersburg, Cold Harbor and Ft. Harrison. He was wounded twice at Fredericksburg, once at Cold Harbor and again at Ft. Harrison. Mr. Ware was

mustered in as Third Corporal, promoted to be first Sergeant and was later commissioned Lieutenant by the Governor. His commander says of him that he was an intelligent and a brave soldier, popular with both privates and officers."

He of whom we write has a very fine collection of War relics, among which is a copy of the *Richmond Whig*, the first issue after the surrender of that city, and he also has the largest collection of Indian relics in his neighborhood. He was honorably discharged with his regiment in June, 1865, and on returning home one year later went to the town of Dublin, N. H., where he was engaged in farming for six years, then returned to the old homestead, where he lived until 1876. December 16, 1866, Mr. Edwin Ware was united in marriage to Agnes McQuaters, a native of Fairfield, Conn., her birth occurring January 6, 1845. She was the daughter of John and Agnes (McNaught) McQuaters and departed this life May 24, 1883. Our subject was again married, January 31, 1886, this time to Mary E. Miller, a native of Vernon Center, N. Y., who was born January 31, 1842. Mrs. Ware, who was a member of the First Congregational Church of Winnebago, passed away April 20, 1892. Our subject has three children by his first marriage: Winifred Agnes, Ernest Edwin and John Clifton. He and two of his children are connected with the Second Congregational Church at Rockford. He is a Republican in politics and a member of Rockford Camp No. 51, M. W. A.



EDWIN H. KEELER, a wide-awake and enterprising young business man of Rockford, is now Secretary of the Rockford Lumber and Fuel Company. His life record is as follows: He was born in Janesville, Wis., and is a son of C. C. Keeler, a native of Vermont, born of New England parentage, who when a young man emigrated Westward, locating in Rock County, Wis. He was one of the first to establish the lumber trade in Beloit. In that county, he married Katherine M. Spaulding, a native of the Old Granite State. Mr. Keeler took quite a prominent part in local affairs and for some years was Chairman

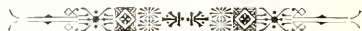
of the Board of Supervisors of Rock County. In politics, he was a supporter of Republican principles.

The education of our subject was chiefly acquired in Beloit and later he became associated with his father in the lumber and fuel business, owning an interest in the same from the time he was twenty-two years of age. He is yet connected with that business in Rock County, but has never given it his personal attention since coming to Rockford in 1887. He is Vice-President of the company known as the Keeler Lumber and Fuel Company, which is doing business at Beloit, Wis., and Rockton, Ill. Under the care and teaching of his experienced father, Mr. Keeler became thoroughly acquainted with the business of which he has been so successful a manager. About four years ago, he became a member of the firm of Lawler & Keeler, which did business at Rockford as dealers in general fuel until the present company was organized about two years ago, with Seely Perry as President, Col. Thomas G. Lawler, Vice-President, Thomas D. Reber, Treasurer, and E. H. Keeler, Secretary. They are the sole proprietors and do a large business, having a main office at No. 201 East State Street. They also have another fuel yard on West State Street, near the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad tracks. They have the largest trade in lumber and coal in the city and do an immense business, both as wholesale and retail dealers. Their lumber yard is one of the largest in the State outside of Chicago.

In Iowa, Mr. Keeler led to the marriage altar Miss Clara Reitler, a native of Chicago, and unto them have been born two children: Edwin R. and Katherine. The parents attend the Congregational Church and are respected people of this community, ranking high in social circles. Mr. Keeler is a Mason, a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Order of Elks, all of Rockford. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party.

Mr. Keeler is yet a young man, but has shown himself possessed of much natural business ability and sagacity and in connection with his other interests he has been President of the Rockford Building and Loan Association since its organiza-

tion in 1890, and President of the Superior Brick Company since it was organized in 1891, it being the successor of the H. A. Block Brick Manufacturing Company, which carried on business for fifteen years. He is also a stockholder and Director of the Forest City National Bank, which was organized about two years ago.



JAMES W. HODGSON, deceased, was a well-known grocery man of Rockford and deserves representation in the history of his adopted county. He was born in the Province of Ontario, Canada, and was a son of Thomas and Sarah A. (Dawson) Hodgson. The family is of English descent. The father died in the Province of Ontario, in middle life; his wife died recently in Grand Rapids, Mich., at the age of seventy-four. They were industrious, honest people, highly respected for their sterling worth.

Our subject was reared to manhood in his native Province and there acquired his education in the public schools. He was married in Brooklyn, in the Province of Ontario, to Miss Elizabeth Pentecost, who was born in England. By the union of our subject and his wife were born five children, but Arthur died in childhood. Carrie, Walter D., F. William and Bessie are still at home with their mother.

Mr. Hodgson came to Rockford in 1867, and began business in the city as a grocer at No. 327 East State Street. From the beginning he met with good success, working up a large trade, which yielded him a nice income. He was industrious, enterprising, and these characteristics, combined with good management, won him a well-deserved prosperity. He lived a quiet unassuming life, was upright and honorable in all things and had the confidence and regard of all with whom he was brought in contact. He took a commendable interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community and his aid was not withheld from those enterprises calculated to promote the general welfare. In politics, he was a Democrat but never sought or desired public office, preferring to give his whole time and attention to his business and

the enjoyment of home life. He died at his home at No. 405 South Third Street, March 28, 1883, and many friends shared with the family in their loss.

Mrs. Hodgson is still living at the old home with her children. She has been a devoted and loving wife and mother, a good neighbor, and to her husband was indeed a faithful helpmate, doing everything in her power to advance his interests and aid him in his work. She has a large circle of acquaintances in this community and is highly esteemed for her many excellencies of character.



GUST E. OLSON, a member of the firm of Palm & Olson, dealers in staple and fancy groceries, queensware and glassware, at No. 511 East State Street, Rockford, was born in Oland, Sweden, in 1857. He is a son of Pear Olson, who in 1889 started for this country to visit his sons, but while on the way died in New York City of inflammation of the lungs. He was then sixty-five years of age. His wife, whose maiden name was Wilhelmina C. Bjarklund, had died in Sweden some years previous, at about the age of fifty-five years. Both were members of the Swedish Lutheran Church. Our subject has a brother, Uno Olson, who still resides in Sweden. A half-brother, Victor, resides with him in this city, and Edward, another brother, resides in Butte City, Mont. He is a molder by trade, but for a time engaged in clerking, and is now manager of a prominent clothing store in that city.

Our subject acquired a good practical education in his native land, and at the age of eighteen started for Germany and England. He became a sailor boy, and for four years followed the sea. He was the first of the family to come to America, crossing the Atlantic in 1878. Two years later, he came to Rockford, and for a time was connected with the furniture factories of this city.

In 1886, the firm of Palm & Olson was formed as successors to the firm of Johnson & Hugh, for whom our subject had formerly clerked. He afterward bought out Mr. Hugh and was a partner of Mr. Johnson, who subsequently sold out to Mr.

Eskelsen, but a few months later Mr. Palm bought the interest of the latter in the business. They carry a full and complete stock, and by their good management and courteous treatment have built up an excellent trade, of which they are well deserving. Mr. Olson is also connected with other interests. He is a stockholder in the Mantel and Furniture Company, the Rockford Manufacturing Company, the Rockford Baking Company, and a Director and stockholder in the Rockford *Posten*.

During his life as a sailor, Mr. Olson visited many of the leading ports of Europe, also landed on the shores of South America and West Africa. The vessel on which he sailed was a merchant vessel from a German port. During that period of his life he learned much that has been of pleasure, profit and importance to him. It was a fortunate day for Mr. Olson when he came to America, for he has here met with prosperity, and is now well-to-do. Politically, he is a Republican, but has never sought or desired public office. In his religious belief he is a member of the First Lutheran Church. A lithographic portrait of Mr. Olson is presented in this connection.



LEWI B. FULLER. Prominent among the wealthy residents of Rockford, whose long and useful life has enabled him to retire and enjoy the recompense which he so justly deserves, we are pleased to mention Mr. Fuller, whose successful career stands forth as a fitting example of what can be done by earnest and constant effort. He is residing at a comfortable home in the city and for a number of years has been extensively engaged in buying and shipping poultry during the winter season, operating under the title of Read & Fuller. Prior to that, however, he conducted an extensive farm until 1865, since which time he has only devoted a part of his time and attention to its cultivation.

He of whom we write has been a resident of Winnebago County since 1839, with the exception of a few years spent in the West. Mr. Fuller came to this State from New York, where his birth occurred in 1831, in Genesee County. Being

quite young on making his home here, he grew to mature years on his father's farm. He is the son of John Fuller, a native of Massachusetts, where his father, Lemuel Fuller, lived and died. The latter-named gentleman was called Capt. Fuller, but it is not known that he had a regular military record.

The father of our subject removed to New York State when a young man, where he was for some time connected with his brother, Judge Henry Fuller, the well-known founder of the horse street car railway in Chicago, Ill. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Lucy Wilder, a native of the Bay State, where her family were well and prominently known. After the birth of four children, the parents of our subject came to Illinois in 1839, and located on a farm in this county, which the father had purchased from the Government the year previous. This now prosperous city was little more than a hamlet in that early day, consisting mostly of log houses, and here it was that the family were subjected to all the inconveniences and privations incident to pioneering in a new country. He lived to see the country built up, contributing his share to every good cause, and at his death, which occurred in 1858, had secured a competence as a product of personal industry and good judgment. In his political relations, he was a Whig, and held many of the local offices within the gift of the people. His good wife is yet living on the old homestead at an advanced age, and can tell many a tale of interesting pioneer times. She is widely known in this county as a lady possessing a kind and generous heart and a cheerful disposition.

Levi B. Fuller is the second child and son of eight children born to his parents, six of whom are yet living, and are well-to-do in this world's goods. Miss Anna A. Thomas became the wife of our subject in Chickasaw County, Iowa. Her birth occurred in Pennsylvania May 16, 1812, which was also the native State of her parents. Her father died in Iowa, where he was a farmer in good circumstances. The parents bore the names of Zenith and Martha (Carpenter) Thomas, the latter of whom is living in the Hawkeye State. Mrs. Fuller was a young girl when she went to that

State with an elder brother, Levi S., where she received her education and taught school prior to her marriage. She is a consistent member of the Congregational Church and takes an active interest in all religious affairs.

Mr. Fuller of this sketch has served as Alderman of the Fifth Ward on the Republican ticket, the duties of which office he has performed in a most creditable manner. Of their family of five children, three are deceased, viz: Franklin S., Emma and Ida E. Levi S. is engaged in the clerical department of the Price Glove Factory, of Rockford. Frances is a student at Mt. Holyoke (Mass.) College.



JUDSON DAY, one of the prominent farmers of Durand Township, Winnebago County, makes his home on section 28, and is justly regarded as one of the substantial young men of this section. He was born in Washington County, Ohio, March 7, 1857, and is the son of Daniel and Arvilla (Lackey) Day, natives of Pennsylvania and Vermont, respectively. They were married in Ohio, and in the spring of 1865 made their advent into Illinois and located upon the farm which is the present property of our subject. The elder Mr. Day became the owner of a tract of one hundred and fifty acres, which he placed under good tillage and which was his home until his demise, which occurred April 10, 1887. He was followed to the land beyond by his wife, who passed away February 21, 1891.

He of whom we write was a member of a family which included nine children, viz: Frances, who died when young, as also did Sarah and Mary (twins); Amanda departed this life in her eleventh year. The next in order of birth was an infant who died unnamed. Abbie married Calvin Smythe and died in Stephenson County, this State, May 18, 1880. She left at her death a daughter, Abbie H., who is now being reared in the family of our subject. Hugh makes his home in this county, and Daniel.

The parents of our subject at their decease were in the possession of two hundred and thirty acres

of land. In politics, the father was a Democrat and on that ticket was elected to serve in the position of Highway Commissioner and also School Director. Judson Day was reared to perform the duties of a farmer lad and being an apt pupil obtained a good education in the district schools. Maria Hoyt, who became his wife, December 9, 1879, was the daughter of Heman and Sarah (Thorn) Hoyt, and was born in Minnesota, December 15, 1857.

To our subject and his most estimable wife have been granted a family of seven children, viz: Nellie, Dudley, Myrtle, Sarah, Daniel and Harold are deceased and Gladys. Our subject is engaged in general farming and is the proprietor of a magnificent estate of three hundred and eighty-six acres, which by persistent industry and good judgment he has placed under excellent cultivation. He is a believer in and a supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and at the present time is classed among the wealthy and popular members of the agricultural community in this county, which rank he has attained by hard work and economy.



THOMAS S. MERRILL, one of the progressive and enterprising agriculturists of Boone County, Ill., and a man well and favorably known over its length and breadth, is of English origin and a descendant of one of three brothers who left England and settled in America as early as 1650. Very little more is known of these brothers but that their descendants have ever been loyal and upright in every walk of life there is every evidence. Mr. Merrill was born in the Empire State, Herkimer County, near the town of Litchfield, on the 8th of September, 1836.

Our subject's father, Asel Merrill, Jr., was born in Exeter, N. Y., on the 29th of March, 1806, and was married in his native State, to Miss Aurette Smith, also a native of New York State. He followed agricultural pursuits in his native State until September, 1845, when with his wife and four children he started from Herkimer County

with a two-horse wagon, and reached Chicago after a journey of twenty-one days. They shipped their goods by water. During the following winter, they remained in the vicinity of Chicago, and in the spring of 1846 they made their first appearance in Boone County, settling on land taken up from the Government in the fall of 1845 by Mr. Merrill. The latter hauled lumber from Chicago for his first house and commenced improving the one hundred and twenty acres he owned. He became one of the foremost farmers of his section and died here on the 16th of August, 1886. He was one of eight children born to the marriage of Asel Merrill, Sr., who was a native of the Nutmeg State, and who died in Oneida County, N. Y., when well advanced in years. His ancestors were in the Revolutionary War and fought bravely for independence.

When Asel Merrill, Jr., purchased his farm of one hundred and twenty acres, our subject and his brother Richard bought three hundred and twenty additional acres and, although it was without buildings of any kind, these young men went to work and soon made vast improvements in their place. In 1858, our subject was taken with the California fever and went to that State to engage in mining. Five years later, he returned to Illinois, and on the 7th of March, 1870, was wedded to Miss Louisa Daggett, who was born in New Hampshire and died on the 23d of December, 1881, leaving two daughters: Maud E., who was born in this county and township, on the 26th of March, 1873, and who is now teaching here, is a graduate of the Belvidere schools. The other child, Blanche A., is also a native of this county and township, and was born on the 12th of October, 1875. She is now in the Belvidere High School. Mrs. Merrill was a daughter of George W. and Sarah L. (Cole) Daggett, also natives of New England. (See sketch of Mrs. S. L. Pratt for further history of the Daggett family.)

On the 9th of May, 1883, Mr. Merrill was married to Miss L. E. Maynard, who was born in Rome, Bradford County, Pa., on the 25th of January, 1812, and whose parents, Pierpont E. and Laura M. (Washburn) Maynard, were natives of the Empire State. Both parents are now deceased,

the father dying in Pennsylvania and the mother in Belvidere, Ill., aged fifty and eighty-two years, respectively. Although no politician, Mr. Merrill, like his father before him, advocates the principles of the Democratic party. The latter cast his first Presidential vote for Andrew Jackson. Our subject attends regularly the Universalist Church. He is acknowledged by all to be a man of unquestionable honesty and is universally respected throughout the county.



CARL A. NEWBURG is a member of the firm of Newburg & Nygren, dealers in real estate; they also conduct an insurance and loan business. This firm was organized in the spring of 1892, and is already winning a liberal public patronage. Mr. Newburg was not unknown to the citizens of Rockford, as for seven years he had engaged in business as a contractor and builder.

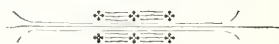
Our subject was born in the Province of Smoland, Sweden, on June 2, 1859, and was reared and educated in his native Province. He was the first of the family to come to this country. He sailed for New York in the spring of 1880, and, after reaching his destination, went to Ridgeway, Pa., where he had learned the trade of an architect and house builder. In May, 1886, he came to Rockford and has since resided in this city. For some years he carried on business in the line of his trade, was a stockholder in the Manufacturers' National Bank and was also interested in other corporations. He owns a half interest in a promising patent known as a rotary loom for rapid weaving, both for factories and for home use. In this he is associated with Jacob Peterson, of Putnam, Ill. They expect soon to establish a factory and begin business in the manufacture of this loom.

Since coming to this country, Mr. Newburg has been followed by three of his brothers, Swans A., Elof and Frank P. The former is a contractor and yet resides in Pennsylvania. Elof is a clergyman of the Free Mission Swedish Church, and Frank is a carpenter of Rockford. The parents, Solomon and Elin (Swenson) Nelson, are still living in

Sweden and both are now past the age of sixty years. They are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church. The father has made farming his life occupation.

In Ridgeway, Pa., Mr. Newburg was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Johnson, who was born in Holland, Sweden, February 20, 1858. When a young woman, she came alone to this country in 1880, the first of her family to cross the Atlantic. The parents never came to this country. The father, Johan Johnson, died in his native land when past the age of sixty years. His wife is still living and is a member of the Lutheran Church, to which her husband also belonged.

Mr. and Mrs. Newburg both hold membership with the Free Mission Church of Rockford. Their home has been blessed by the presence of five children who are yet living: Gertie J., Carl O., Nannie E., Carl E. and Arthur S. They have also lost two children, Carl H. and Carl E. In politics, Mr. Newburg is a Republican and is Alderman for the Sixth Ward. He has become quite well known in business circles and is held in high regard.



WILL J. JOHNSON, Secretary and business manager of the Republican Printing Company, has made a success of newspaper work, as he has been engaged in that business during the greater part of his active life. At the organization of the company, he became city editor, from April 10, 1890 to February, 1891. He was then made Secretary and manager. He is well and favorably known throughout this portion of the State and it is due in a great extent to his acquaintance, ability, industry and enterprise that the *Republican* of this city has reached its present position in the newspaper world.

The original of this sketch was given a good education, being a graduate of the East Side City High School in the Class of '81, after which he at once became connected with the home newspapers as city reporter. With the exception of the two years when he edited the *Beacon* at Aurora, this State, he has been actively employed in newspaper



Yours Truly,
Robert Simpson

work in Rockford. He combines in a happy degree marked ability as a writer and business man.

Mr. Johnson was born December 9, 1863, in Cherry Valley, Winnebago County, and resided with his parents until starting out in life on his own account. The latter were natives of Sweden and on emigrating to America, located in this county, where they were married and resided on a farm in Cherry Valley Township. In 1865, the father was accidentally drowned in the Kishwaukee River, leaving his wife and four children. Our subject's mother had previously married, in her native country, a Mr. Johnson, who left at his decease three children, who came with their widowed mother to the United States. She is still living and makes her home at the present time in the city of Rockford.

Miss Tillie Olson was united in marriage with our subject. Mrs. Johnson accompanied her parents on their removal to the United States when quite young; they still reside in this city, and like the Johnson family are active members of the Swedish Lutheran Church. To our subject and his wife have been born two children, Hazel and Sidney. In his political relations, Mr. Johnson is a sound Republican, and socially, is a member of the Knights of Pythias.



ON. ROBERT SIMPSON. This great Republic owes a larger debt than she can ever pay to the loyal citizen-soldiers who rallied to her defense in the darkest hours of the Rebellion and heroically fought and suffered until the glorious Stars and Stripes once more waved over an undivided country. As a representative of those heroes, it gives us pleasure to present the portrait and record briefly the life of Robert Simpson, who did honorable service in the Union Army during the late war. He has acquired a fortune by a persistent course of industry and economy, and is therefore enabled to spend his later years in comfort in the city of Rockford.

Our subject was born in Yarmouth, London District, Province of Ontario, Canada, on the 15th of March, 1836, and is a son of Peter Simpson, a

native of Edinboro, Scotland, where also his father, Robert, Sr., as far as is known, was born. The grandfather of our subject came to America in 1833, settling in the above-named district of Canada, where he resided for six years, then came to Illinois and bought a "squatter's" claim in Rockford Township, Winnebago County, which was located on section 6, Township 13, Orange 1, East of the third principal meridian. He improved and resided upon the tract until his decease. The maiden name of the grandmother of our subject was Mary Knox; she also was a native of Scotland, and departed this life in Centerville, Winnebago County.

Peter Simpson was reared and married in his native Scotland, where he practiced as a physician in Edinboro until the year 1833. He then emigrated to America and located in Yarmouth, Canada, and came to Illinois the same year as did his father. With his family, he made the entire journey overland, crossing the Detroit River on the 4th of July, 1839, and in the latter part of the same year landed in this county. At that time all the land in this vicinity was owned by the Government, and the few settlers in the county were living in or near the timber, it not being thought possible that the prairies would ever be settled upon. The timber land was held by claimants who were glad to sell their rights, so they could move farther Westward.

The father of our subject purchased a claim to a tract of land in Rockford Township, and when the land came into market bought it from the Government. The maiden name of his wife was Henrietta Currie. She was a native of Edinboro, Scotland, and bore her husband two children: Susan and Robert. He of whom we write was three years of age when he came to Illinois with his parents and resided with his father until 1862. August 6th of that year, he enlisted in Company C. Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and was mustered into the regiment as Corporal. He was soon promoted to be Lieutenant and participated in the following named important battles: Perryville, Nolansville, Stone River, Liberty Gap, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, and with Sherman in his Atlanta campaign, taking part in the battles from Chattanooga to Atlanta and in the siege and capture of that city.

After its fall, he went with his regiment in pursuit of Hood and fought in the battles of Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville. He was honorably discharged with his regiment and was mustered out June 10, 1865, when he returned home and engaged in farming.

Previous to entering the army, our subject purchased eighty acres of land, located on section 5, and included in his present farm. He has at different times purchased property until his estate now includes four hundred and fifty acres in Rockford Township. He has been more than ordinarily successful in agricultural pursuits, and in the fall of 1891 he rented his farm and purchased a home in the city of Rockford, where he now lives retired.

The date of our subject's marriage to Eliza Davis, a native of New Brunswick, was April 17, 1867. She was the daughter of John and Ellen Davis and departed this life in 1872. Mr. Simpson the following year was married to Catherine Spottswood, a native of Kemptville, Grenville County, Province of Ontario, Canada, and the daughter of Robert and Mary (Graham) Spottswood. The father was born in or near Roxboro, Scotland, where also his father, Robert Spottswood, was born, and came to America in 1833, settling in Grenville County, Canada. He had married Elizabeth Frater, also a native of Scotland, who died in Canada in June, 1866.

The father of Mrs. Simpson was a blacksmith by trade, and on coming to America in 1833, landed in Quebec, whence he went to Kemptville and was engaged in the mercantile business. Later, he removed to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and after a few years' residence there, returned to Kemptville, where he followed his trade of a blacksmith until 1867, the date of his arrival in Illinois. He is now engaged at his trade in Westfield Corners. Mrs. Simpson's mother is the daughter of James and Catherine (Clinkscates) Graham, and was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, and is still living. The only daughter of our subject by his first marriage died when twelve years of age. The two children born of his second union are still living and named respectively Mary H. and Arthur G.

The Hon. Robert Simpson was elected to the

State Legislature on the Democratic ticket in 1888. He has also served his fellow-townsmen in other capacities and for a period of ten years was Supervisor of Rockford Township.

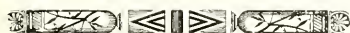


THOMAS D. REBER, Treasurer of the Rockford Lumber and Fuel Company, of which business he was one of the promoters, has filled his present position since the organization of that company in April, 1890, and is one of the leading business men of the place. He was formerly a member of the firm of Perry & Reber, lumber dealers, the company being formed on the 6th of January, 1885, and he is now a Director and President of the Rockford Driving Club, in which he is a large stockholder. This club was organized in 1890 and has since laid out a park and built a mile-race track. Mr. Reber, who is deeply interested in the breeding and raising of standard-bred horses, is the owner of the well-known horse "Independence," record 2:30, and also owns other promising animals. He is a stockholder of the Ingersoll Milling Company, organized in the early part of 1891, is a Director of the same, and he is also Vice-President of the Board of Control of the Rockford Commercial Club, organized in February, 1891. He is a stockholder in the Excelsior Furniture Company, was President of the same in 1890 and Vice-President in 1891, and he is also a stockholder and an ex-Director of the Rockford Paint Company. He is a stockholder in both the Manufacturers' National Bank and the Forest City National Bank; the latter was organized in the early part of 1890. He was an original stockholder in the Superior Brick Company, organized in 1891, and a stockholder in the Nelson Hotel Company.

Mr. Reber was born in Reading, Pa., on the 11th of December, 1863, passed his boyhood and youth there, and received his education in the Reading Business College. He subsequently attended the State Normal near Lancaster, Pa., and in April, 1883, with very little means to assist him in the struggle for a livelihood, he came to Rockford, Ill., and began working for the modest sum of

\$1.25 per day. He is of Pennsylvania Dutch stock, and his parents, B. B. and Mary E. (Dechart) Reber, were natives of the Keystone State. The father died when our subject was eighteen months old, but the mother, who is still quite active although well along in years, resides in Reading, Pa.

Mr. Reber was married to Miss Lydia Logue, a native of Chicago, but who was reared and educated in Rockford, where her parents are still living. He has just completed a \$6,000 residence at No. 305 South Third Street, and a \$2,000 barn at the same place. He is a live man and full of energy and business. He and Mrs. Reber are classed among the leading young people of the city and regular attendants at the First Christian Union Church. Socially, Mr. Reber is a Thirty-second degree Mason, a member of the Consistory of Freeport, charter member of the Uniform Rank Knights of Pythias, the Improved Order of Redmen, of Rockford, and of the German society, Germania. He is also a charter member of the Royal Arcanum. In politics, he is a Democrat in national affairs. He was formerly a member of the local militia, the Rockford City Grays, and was First Lieutenant of his company for two years. Although not at all superstitious, Mr. Reber regards the 7th of each month as his "lucky day," and really has been very fortunate on those days. To his marriage have been born two interesting children, Helen J., about three years old, and Edwin Perry, six months old.



RRANK WARD, President of the Ward Pump Company, of Rockford, was born in the Province of Ontario, Canada, and was a son of Mark Ward. His grandfather and father were both natives of the Empire State. The latter learned the trade of a molder when a young man, and was thus employed when, with his parents, he went to Ontario, where he worked as a molder until 1854. In that year he brought his family to Rockford, Ill., afterward removing to Milford, where he died at about the age of fifty years. His wife, whose maiden name was Ann M. Johnston, was born in Canada, but her parents were natives

of New York, and were of Dutch descent. She is still living in Rockford, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years, and is a member of the Baptist Church, to which Mr. Ward also belonged.

In the family of this worthy couple were six children. Our subject remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority, and under his father, learned the trade of a molder. At the age of seventeen, he came with the family to Rockford in 1854, and in this city was subsequently married to Helen Wortman, who was born in Pennsylvania, and when a child, came to Illinois with her parents, William and Mary (Milleck) Wortman, who were also natives of the Keystone State, and were of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. On coming to the West, they located on a farm in Scott Township, Ogle County, where both Mr. and Mrs. Wortman spent the remainder of their days. His death occurred at the age of seventy-seven years, and his wife died in her fifty-second year. They were members of the Presbyterian Church, and were highly respected people. In their family were three sons and four daughters, who are yet living.

Five children have graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Ward: Elmer, who married Anna Wetenhall, and is a molder in his father's shops; Mary E., an intelligent young lady, occupying the position of Treasurer of the Ward Pump Company; Mark A., a molder by trade, employed as shipping agent in his father's shops; Belle and Carrie, at home. All of the family are stockholders in the Pump Company. The mother and children are members of the Centennial Methodist Church. The father and sons are staunch Republicans in politics. The family have a pleasant home at No. 302 Third Street, and is well and favorably known throughout the community.

After coming to Rockford, Mr. Ward was employed as a molder for some time, and later became connected in that capacity with Emerson & Talcott, continuing with those gentlemen for some years. In company with M. D. Gebler, he then established business as a molder and foundry man, and after three or four years became sole proprietor. That was the beginning of his present business. He commenced the manufacture and sale of pumps, and in August, 1889, the company of which he is

president was incorporated. They now do a successful and rapidly growing business, and in connection with the manufacture of pumps, now do repair and job casting. The officers of the company are Frank Ward, President; George S. Stanley, Vice-President; Frank Lane, Secretary; and Miss Mary E. Ward, Treasurer. Our subject is an enterprising business man, sagacious and farsighted, and by the exercise of good business principles has steadily worked his way upward to a position among the leading manufacturers of this thriving city.



EDWARD G. SHELDEN. Among the many prominent agriculturists of Winnebago County who are now living retired in the village of that name, we are pleased to mention Mr. Shelden, who ranks among the well-to-do and progressive citizens of this section. He was born in Granger, Medina County, Ohio, and, it is supposed, is a direct descendant of the seventh generation from William Shelden, who emigrated from England in 1634, and located at South Kensington, R. 1. The line of ancestry is as follows: John, son of William; Isaac, son of John; Joseph, son of Isaac; Jonathan, son of Joseph; David, son of Jonathan, was the father of our subject. He was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., October 29, 1794.

Jonathan Shelden, the grandfather of our subject, was born June 21, 1770, probably in New England; he resided for a number of years in Schoharie County, N. Y., thence moved to Ohio and located on a farm in Richfield Township, Summit County, where he was living at the time of his demise. The full name of his wife, and grandmother of our subject, was Abiah Northrup, who was born April 16, 1770, and died on the home farm in Richfield Township.

The father of our subject was reared in his native State, and when eighteen years old went to Ohio, his destination being Cleveland. There being a severe storm, the passengers on the vessel on which he had taken passage were obliged to

land, and he made his way on foot to Richfield Township, Summit County. He resided there for a time and then returned to the Empire State and was married, whence he again came to Ohio and purchased a tract of timber land in what is now Granger Township, and there erected a log house, in which our subject was born. His decease occurred March 31, 1873, and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Anna Searles, also died on the same farm.

The parental family of our subject included eight children: Phebe A., Ezra D., Edward G., Isaiah J., Clinton G., Myron S., Albert D. and Frances E. Our subject was reared in his native town and attended the pioneer log schoolhouse, which contained slabs set on wooden pins for seats. He assisted his father in carrying on the farm in the woods until 1851, when he paid his first visit to Illinois. At that time Cherry Valley was the Western terminus of the railroad, and Rockford was reached by stage. Our subject started on foot to explore the country, and, returning to Ohio, resided there until June, 1853, when, accompanied by his wife and one child, he started to Illinois. Mr. Shelden purchased a tract of wild prairie land on section 1, Seward Township, for which he paid \$5 per acre. After improving his property, he sold it and bought two hundred and forty acres on sections 11 and 23. He later removed to the farm which he still owns and rents.

In October, 1818, the original of this sketch was married to Aurenda M. Stimson, who was born in Mendon, Monroe County, N. Y., January 29, 1829. Her father, Jason Stimson, was a native of Vermont, whence he removed to New York State, residing for a time in Mendon, when he removed to Granger Township, Medina County, Ohio, and for a number of years was engaged in the mercantile business. During that time, he studied medicine, and when completing a course in the college and ready to practice, he was taken sick and died.

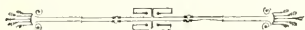
The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Shelden was Mary J. Phelps. She is now living at the age of eighty-seven years, and makes her home with her sons, Milton and Jason, in Iowa. Mr. and Mrs.



ROBERT COLTON.

Shelden have four children, namely: Elwin, who married Josepha Copeland, has two sons, Frank and Homer; he resides in Topeka, Kan. George E. married Artelissa Bentley, has three children, Lena, Elmer and Clarence, and also resides in Topeka. Clara, the wife of Edward L. Copeland, has two children, Harold and Malcolm, and also makes her home in Topeka. Mary J. is the wife of Walter Whittlesey and lives at Oak Park, Chicago.

The maternal grandfather of our subject, Isaiah Searles, was born April 7, 1759, and served in the War of 1812. He was wounded in the battle of Chippewa, Canada, September 17, 1814, taken a prisoner and carried to Montreal, where his death occurred in December, 1814. The maiden name of his wife was Anna Dean, who was born July 19, 1762, and died at Royalton, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.



ROBERT COLTON. The English-American citizens of Winnebago County have an excellent representative in the person of Mr. Colton, whose portrait and life sketch are here presented. He is one of the pioneers of 1846, and his splendid estate in Durand Township, which consists of three hundred and twenty-five fertile acres, is supplied with all the needful buildings, erected substantially and designed attractively. He has put forth his best efforts to make of it a home suited to his tastes and the needs of his family, and well has he succeeded.

The natal day of Mr. Colton was October 15, 1819, and his birthplace, Nottingham County, England. He is the youngest child in the family circle, that included three children, the others being Ann, who married John Ballader, and John. Our subject was a lad when his parents died, at which time he was compelled to start out in life on his own account. He resided with one man three years, and, when old enough to receive wages, hired out to a man named Richard Scott, whom he served five years, receiving as compensation for his labors, from \$10 to \$75 per year.

In the spring of 1813, Mr. Colton concluded to

try his fortune in the New World, and, setting sail in the American vessel "Mississippi," after a voyage of twenty-three days, landed in New York Harbor. He at once proceeded to Steuben County, N. Y., and worked by the day, job, and month, at anything he could find to do. He was thus employed for two years, and during that time saved \$201, which served to start him in life. Coming to Winnebago County, he purchased from the Government a tract of one hundred and twenty acres, located on section 29, Durand Township.

January 17, 1818, Robert Colton and Miss Martha Jane Himes were united in marriage. The lady, who was the daughter of Kingsley and Lucinda (Campbell) Himes, was born in New York State, and came to Illinois with her parents. Mr. Colton finally sold the farm above referred to, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres, located on section 28. The land was covered with timber and underbrush, and here our subject settled, and soon placed it under excellent tillage, and erecting good buildings on the place, resided there until October, 1889, when he removed to another farm on section 21. His property in the county aggregates three hundred and twenty-five acres.

Mrs. Martha Jane Colton departed this life at her home in April, 1858, leaving five children: Letitia C., Mrs. George Krone, makes her home in Monona County, Iowa; Elizabeth L. resides in Durand Township, and is the wife of George Cole; Grace A. married Warren Pettingill, and lives in Green County, Wis.; Anna E. is the wife of Charles Hammond, and makes her home in this township; one son died in childhood.

The lady whom our subject chose for his second wife was Mrs. Ann Ranney, *nee* Jayne; she was born in New York, and was a daughter of William Jayne. By her marriage with our subject she became the mother of two children: George Robert, who died in infancy, and William Walter, a graduate of Rush Medical College, at Chicago, and engaged in the practice of his profession in that city. After the death of Mrs. Ann Colton, our subject was married, October 10, 1887, to Mrs. Carrie A. Moore, *nee* Bradley. The lady was born in Highgate, Franklin County, Vt., June 5, 1847, and was a daughter of Stephen and Phoebe Bradley. She

was reared to womanhood in the Green Mountain State, and was there married to Richard Moore, by whom she became the mother of six children, viz.: Phoebe, Frederick, Jennie, Richard, May and Stephen.

He of whom we write is Democratic in his political affiliations. During the war he was a strong Union man, and a member of the Union League. He has become fully identified with the interests of the county, and has contributed in no small degree to its growth and prosperity. His present large property has been acquired through excellent judgment, and his position is among the foremost agriculturists of the county.

 **H**IRAM C. PHILLIPS, a successful pattern-maker and mechanical draughtsman, of Rockford, was born in the Empire State, and is descended from English ancestors. His parents, Jarvis and Nancy J. (Campbell) Phillips, were also natives of New York State, the father born in Saratoga and the mother in Albany County. The elder Mr. Phillips was reared on a farm, and was married in his native county to Miss Campbell, whose grandfather was a Scotchman. After all their children were born, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips came West to Black Hawk County, Iowa, settled on and improved a fine farm, and there his death occurred when nearly three-score years and ten. He was quiet, industrious and thrifty and accumulated a comfortable fortune. In politics, he was a Republican, and, in religion, he was liberal. His wife, who survives him, is now a resident of Waterloo, Iowa, and is sixty-seven years of age.

Our subject, the only son of his parents, has three sisters, who make their homes in Iowa and Nebraska. He came West with his parents in 1865, and, later, went to Moline, Ill., where he learned his trade. He subsequently spent one winter in the "Lone Star State," but returned to Iowa, and was engaged in superintending the building of the Insane Hospital, at Independence. Early in the '70s, he came to Rockford, and for about twelve years he has resided on his present property. For some time, he has been an experimental pattern-

maker, and most of the time has been engaged in business on his own account. He is thoroughly familiar with his business in every detail and is a skillful mechanic and pattern-maker. Since his residence in this city, Mr. Phillips went to California, and for some time was in Los Angeles and San Francisco, working while in the latter place on the cruiser "Charleston" as a pattern-maker. After this, he spent one year in Milwaukee, Wis., with the Milwaukee Harvester Company, and then returned to the thriving little city of Rockford.

Our subject was married in this city to Miss Libby Shearer, a native of Winnebago County, Ill., who received her schooling and attained her growth in Rockford. Her father, George Shearer, came to Winnebago County at a very early day, and died here when about sixty years of age. He was a wheelwright by trade. His wife, whose maiden name was Lizzie Whisen, is still living, and makes her home with her children. She is about sixty-four years of age. They were natives of Wheeling, Va., and both were strict Methodists in their religious views.

Mr. and Mrs. Phillips are pleasantly located on a very valuable tract of land on Corey's Bluffs, South Main Street, and are well respected in the community. They are the parents of four daughters: Eva, Myrtie, Cora and Florence, all at home.

 **J**OSEPH W. FAULKNER died at his home in Rockford, February 21, 1888, having removed here from his farm, which was located in Rockford Township, about one year prior to his decease. He was a very old resident of this county, having come hither when a youth of seventeen years with his parents, and when attaining his majority secured land in Seward Township and was engaged in its cultivation for a number of years. He later became the owner of a fine piece of improved land, located three miles from Rockford, which he made more valuable by the erection thereon of first-class buildings. He left at his death an excellent estate of one hundred and three acres, which is now in the possession of his widow and children.

Mr. Faulkner was born in Bedfordshire, England, January 3, 1831, being the son of John and Mary (Read) Faulkner, also natives of that shire, where they were farmers. After the birth of seven children, the parents of our subject came to America early in the '50s, making the journey on a sailing-vessel, which landed them in New York after a tedious ocean voyage of seven weeks. They came direct to Chicago, thence overland with teams to Winnebago County, where they were among the early pioneers of Seward Township. The father entered a tract of Government land, which he improved and brought to an excellent state of cultivation, and ranked among the well-to-do agriculturists of this section.

Our subject, as before stated, was a young man when coming to this county, and assisted his father in developing the new farm and was frequently sent to Chicago where all their farm products were marketed. John Faulkner, the father of our subject, departed this life at his home in Winnebago village in 1884, after having attained to the age of three-score and ten years. His wife is still surviving him at the age of eighty-four years, making her home at No. 704 Winnebago Street, Rockford. Like her husband, she is a member of the Methodist Church, to the support of which she is a liberal contributor. The father of our subject was known in this locality as "Uncle Johnny," and was active in all good work which tended to the upbuilding of his community. He erected the first warehouse in Winnebago and was held in high esteem for his honorable and upright life.

The parental family of our subject included fifteen children, of whom two sons and seven daughters are living. Joseph W. is the eldest son and second child, and on attaining mature years was married in this city to Miss Catherine Faulker, spelled in Scotland Falconer. She was born in Ross-shire, Scotland, in 1836, and was only six or seven years old when she accompanied her parents on their removal to America, where they located near Rockford. This was early in the '40s, and as this vicinity was sparsely settled and most of the land in its primitive condition, they endured all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. They made their home for some

time in a hut which did not even boast the luxury of a floor. This rude structure, however, later gave way to a comfortable residence, and the father, Hugh Falconer, later removed to Winnebago, where he died in advanced life. He was widely and favorably known throughout the county, being one of those sturdy Scotch citizens who have contributed so much to the upbuilding of this section. Mrs. Falconer died twenty years after her husband's decease, passing away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Faulkner. She was at that time seventy-three years of age and a consistent member of the Congregational Church, with which denomination her husband was also connected. Our subject's wife has three brothers, all farmers, now living in this county, where she was reared and has always resided.

To Mr. and Mrs. Faulkner two daughters have been born; Mary, who is the wife of James Bennett, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, who is conducting a fine tailoring business at No. 210 West State Street, is the mother of two children, Ethel F. and Josephine; Katie L., the second daughter, resides at home with her mother.



HENRY FISHER, one of the prominent business men and representative citizens of Rockford, died on the 21st of January, 1871, at Fennville, Mich., where he had been on business. He was originally from Vermont, his birth occurring in Springfield of that State, and his parents, Isaac and Harriet (Johnson) Fisher, were natives respectively of Massachusetts and Vermont. After their marriage, this worthy couple resided in Vermont, where Mr. Fisher, who owned woolen mills and who was a skilled machinist, had a very extensive business. As the years passed by, they retired from the active duties of life, moved to Rockford, Ill., and there the mother's death occurred a few months later, when seventy years of age. The father survived her only a few years. Both were exemplary members of the Congregational Church and active workers in the same. He affiliated with the Republican party in his political views. Their son, Henry

Fisher, received a good common-school education in his native State and subsequently went to Allegan, Mich., where he met and married Miss Alma L. Parkherst, a native of Bethel, Vt., and the daughter of Judge Ebenezer and Lucy (Cushing) Parkherst, both natives of Windsor County, Vt. Early in the '40s, Mr. and Mrs. Parkherst moved to Michigan, making the trip overland with teams, and located at Allegan when it was but a hamlet. They had the first frame residence in the place, and there the father received his final summons, his death occurring when sixty-four years of age. For years he was one of the leading men of the county and held many positions of trust and honor, the duties of which he discharged with ability, fidelity and excellent judgment. He was Probate Judge, County Treasurer and Register of Deeds for a great many years. He had taken decided views as a Whig in politics and was known as a live and active worker for his party. He was a descendant of an old and prominent Vermont family, the members of which suffered much from the Indians during the War of 1812, and his brother was captured and held by the savages for some time. After the death of Judge Parkherst, his widow moved to Iowa and there died at the age of sixty-four. Both were Congregationalists in their religious views. Mrs. Fisher was but twelve years of age when her parents moved to Michigan and in that State she made her home until 1854, when she came with her husband to Rockford. Since his death, she has resided at the old home, No. 107 South West Street, where she owns a comfortable residence and a valuable lot. After locating in Rockford, Mr. Fisher became connected with the lumber business and owned large yards in that city and Cherry Valley. He also owned a sawmill at Oconto, Wis., and was engaged in the lumber business there and at Fennville, Mich. Aside from this, he owned some valuable property in Rockford, and was considered a very successful and prosperous business man. He had for partners such well-known business men as Phineas Howes and John Lake, both prominently connected with the business interests of the city at the present time. For a number of years, Mr. Fisher was Superintendent of the Third Ward, where

he had made his home since his residence in that city, and was holding that position at the time of his death, which occurred when he was fifty-four years of age. In politics he advocated the principles of the Republican party, and in religion he was identified with the Congregational Church. He had a host of warm friends and his death was the occasion of universal sorrow. Mrs. Fisher is well preserved for her years and still takes much interest in passing events. She has a brother living in Baltimore and a sister in Chicago. To her marriage were born four children: Alice, the wife of George Eking, a prominent banker, Alderman of the Third Ward, a member of the School Board and one of the live men of Rockford, and they reside with Mrs. Fisher; G. J., at home; William H., with the firm of Holland & Ferguson, real-estate dealers, married Miss Rosemond Littlefield, and Frank P. married Miss Lena Cannon and is now a resident of Rockford.



SETH C. WILDER, who has long been engaged in farming on section 29, Harlem Township, was born on the 5th of December, 1819, in Jericho, Chittenden County, Vt. Tradition says that the great-grandfather was born in London, England, and came to America in Colonial times, settling in or near Lowell, Mass., and at one time he owned a tract of land now included in Lowell. The grandfather, Oliver Wilder, was born in Massachusetts and was a blacksmith by trade. He married Huldah Cutter and spent his last years in Jericho, Vt. His wife afterwards again married and, having survived her husband some years, died in Franklin County.

Oliver Wilder, Jr., the father of our subject, was born in Townsend, Mass., and was reared on a farm. After the death of his father he located on the old homestead and settled up the estate. Subsequently, he purchased a farm in the town of Underhill, where he made his home for twelve years, when he bought land and located in Jericho, there making his home until 1844, when he disposed of his property in the East and came to

Illinois. At that time, Winnebago County was sparsely settled and the work of civilization and progress seemed scarcely begun. He bought a farm on section 29, Harlem Township, at \$16 per acre, upon which a log house and stable had been built, while twenty-five acres of the land were broken. He there resided until called to the home beyond, April 6, 1863. His wife bore the maiden name of Lemira Lee. She was born in Jericho, Vt., and was a daughter of John and Sarah (Cochran) Lee. Her grandfather, John Lee, Sr., was born in Connecticut, and afterward became one of the first settlers of Jericho, Vt., where he secured a large tract of timber land, cleared a farm and made his home until his death. His son, after his marriage, removed on a part of his father's land and also followed agricultural pursuits throughout his entire life. Mrs. Wilder, the mother of our subject, died in May, 1865. She reared a family of ten children: Channeey, Sarah, Lemira, Huldah, Seymour, Page, Van Buren, Mary and Laura.

We now take up the personal history of Seth C. Wilder, who spent his boyhood days in a manner not unlike that of other farmer lads. In 1843, he bade good-bye to his old home in the East, and in the autumn of that year came to Illinois, locating upon the farm which is yet his home. Soon afterwards, he was joined by the rest of the family, who came in the spring of the following year. With his parents he remained until 1853, then spent one year in the East, and since that time has never left the old homestead. With the history of the county from a very early day, he has been prominently identified and deserves no little credit for the part he has taken in its upbuilding and advancement.

In 1861, Mr. Wilder led to the marriage altar Miss Polly Ann Sherman, who was born in Fairfield, Franklin County, Vt., and is a daughter of William Sherman, a native of Connecticut. His father was also a native of the Nutmeg State and after his marriage removed to Vermont, becoming one of the pioneers of the town of Fairfield. Upon the farm which he there purchased and improved he made his home until his death. His wife bore the maiden name of Polly Phelps. Their son William was only two years old at the

time of their removal to Vermont, where he was reared and educated. Inheriting the old homestead, he spent the remainder of his days upon it. He was one of the prominent citizens of that community and represented his district in the State Legislature. He passed away November 1, 1857. His wife, Betsy Lee, was a daughter of John and Sarah (Cochran) Lee. She was born in Jericho, Vt., and died in May, 1882, having long survived her husband.

As before stated, during his entire residence in this county, Mr. Wilder has resided only on the one farm. Nearly all the improvements upon the place are his handiwork and its neat appearance tells of the thrifty and industrious life which he has led. To the duties of citizenship he is ever true and since the formation of the Republican party he has been one of its staunch supporters.



THOMAS LANCASTER. In noting the leading incidents in the life-record of this gentleman, who is numbered among the leading men in Shirland Township, Winnebago County, we find that he was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1821, and is a son of Thomas Lancaster, who lived and died in his native England. His mother bore the maiden name of Mary Clark.

The parental family of our subject included fourteen children, twelve of whom grew to adult age, our subject being the fifth child and second son of the family. He has one sister, Mary, Mrs. George Lockwood, whose husband is engaged in ranching and goldmining in Tasmania, whither they were taken free by the English Government, to aid in the settlement of that country.

The original of this sketch, when twenty-five years of age, embarked on a sailing-vessel, "The Garriek," and after a tedious voyage of five weeks on the water, landed on the American shore, at New York City, whence he went to Albany, and thence by way of the canal to Buffalo, and sailed thence by the lakes to Southport, now Kenosha, Wis. He had been preceded to the New World by his twin brother, who died a few months after our

subject located here. The brothers settled upon a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Newark, Wis., which they had purchased from the Government, and the abundant products of their farm were marketed at Beloit, eight miles distant.

Living a single man eight or nine years after coming to this country, our subject, in February, 1856, was married to Sarah, daughter of John Hydes, who was killed in a public house in England, when Mrs. Lancaster was two years of age. She took passage for this country in 1855, when thirty-three years of age, and, after her marriage, resided on the farm in Newark, Wis., until 1882, when, with her husband, she came to Winnebago County, where Mr. Lancaster purchased one hundred and sixty-four acres, where they at present reside, for which they paid the sum of \$29 per acre. Their property in Wisconsin was disposed of at the rate of \$30 an acre.

Mr. Lancaster was thrown upon his own resources when a lad of twelve years, and was given the advantages of only a few months' schooling. By energy and perseverance united with economy and good business qualifications, he has secured a handsome competency, and is now living in the enjoyment of the comforts and luxuries which wealth affords, being worth at least \$12,000. Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster have had no children of their own, but have taken into their home and hearts a young man, who bears the name of Frank; he is married to a niece of Mr. Lancaster's, and is working the farm on shares. In politics, our subject is, and always has been, a Republican, and, although not identified with any church organization, gives liberally of his means to all denominations.



WILLIAM H. POLLOCK. This gentleman of whom we write, whose pleasant home is to be found in Shirland Township, is descended on both sides from heroic and high-minded people. He was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., September 25, 1811, and his father, Samuel Pollock, who was born in Ireland in 1801, and who was of Scotch descent, came to the United States when sixteen years of age, and after

reaching mature years was married to Miss Betsey A. Sackett, a native of New York State. Mr. Pollock was a farmer all his life but also followed the trade of a mason. His wife died at the age of forty-eight years and he followed her to the grave when about seventy-two years of age.

The subject of this sketch was the first son and fifth child of eight children born to his parents. He was the first one of this family to make his way Westward, and he came to Winnebago County, Shirland Township, April 12, 1866. For the first five years he worked on the farm and in the lumber regions, and in December, 1870, he was wedded to Mrs. Phoebe Strail, *nee* Lippitt, afterwards locating on the farm where his wife was reared. She is the daughter of Dr. John W. and Almira (Yarrington) Lippitt, the father a native of Rhode Island and of English descent, and the mother a native of New York, and of Scotch parentage. The Lippitts are of the English nobility. Mrs. Pollock's parental grandfather was London Lippitt, who came from England and settled in Rhode Island at a very early date. He had two sons and a daughter: John Wesley, Daniel, who was a school teacher and later a farmer of Pennsylvania, and Nancy, who passed away.

John Wesley Lippitt was thoroughly educated for the medical profession and was an eminent practitioner in his native State. He came to Illinois at a very early date, probably about 1836, and obtained one-fourth section of Government land where his daughter now lives. He came first from New York prospecting in 1835, and traded his team and outfit for a claim in Rockton Township, after which he returned on foot to New York, and the following year returned with an ox-team bringing his family, consisting of his wife and four children, back with him. On arriving here, he found his claim covered by a Government claim, known as Indian Float. He then purchased another claim of one hundred and sixty acres of one Baker and moved into a new log house erected by himself. Three years later, his wife died, leaving him with the four children above mentioned: Maria, a resident of Beloit; Jane, Mrs. W. A. Phelps, of Rockton Township; Ann, Mrs. C. B. Ayer, of Beloit, and Francis, who died at

Rockton when twenty-seven years of age. The father was again married, in 1813, to Mrs. Almira Warren, *nee* Yarrington, who was a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., but who came to this State about 1810. She bore him one daughter and four sons: Phoebe A., born in February, 1844, now Mrs. William Pollock; Loudon, the second son, enlisted in the army when but eighteen, where he served one year in Company A, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteers, coming home on account of failing health, and died at the age of twenty; John and Albert Wesley, both drowned, and Ira, who died when two years of age. Albert Wesley and John were promising boys and were drowned in Sugar River in 1856. The body of the former was not found by the family, although anxiously searched for, but about thirty-five years later, Mrs. Pollock learned that Deacon Patten Atwood had taken the body from the Rock River at Roscoe, many miles below, and buried it there. Dr. Lippitt died in Shirland Township, where his daughter now lives, in 1863, when sixty-nine years of age. His wife followed him to the grave one year later, when fifty-eight years of age.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pollock were born eight children, one of whom died in infancy, and they now have four daughters and three sons: Cora at home, a graduate of the Beloit High School when nineteen years of age, and now conducting a class in instrumental music; Samuel E., a student in the Beloit Preparatory Department; Wilbur H., attending the district school; Alice L., attending the home school; Mary Agnes, also in the home school, as are Clara M. and Truman A., the two youngest of this bright and interesting family. Mrs. Pollock has one child, Hattie Strail, by her first marriage. This daughter is now Mrs. Samuel Bennett, her husband being a photographer in Wisconsin. Mr. Pollock has been Commissioner of Highways for nine years and has been School Director for some time. The past spring he was elected Supervisor of the township. He and wife are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which he has ever been a liberal contributor, and in which he has served officially for some time. Mr. and Mrs. Pollock have one hundred and sixty-five

acres free from all encumbrances, and they are keeping twenty cows, selling the milk to the creamery in Shirland. They are wide-awake and enterprising and have been successful.



CORNELIUS E. KNUDSON, the efficient and well-known Superintendent of the Co-operative Furniture Company, was born in Norway, October 16, 1846. He lost his father, Knutson Olsen, when he was only four years of age. Mr. Olsen left a widow with ten small children to support. Of this family two brothers and a sister are married and reside in Norway, being well-to-do people. Crist, a brother of our subject, emigrated to this country. The mother, who was born in 1801, died at her old home in 1888, at the age of eighty-seven years. The parents and children all held membership with the Lutheran Church and were worthy people.

Our subject is the youngest of the family. At a very early age, he was thrown upon his own resources and since that time has made his own way in the world. In his native land, he served a full term of apprenticeship to the trade of cabinet-making, after which he ran a lathe for some time on his own account. At length, he bade good-bye to his old home, with the intention of trying his fortune in the New World. He sailed in April, 1871, and landed at Quebec, Canada, from whence he came to Illinois, and afterward went to Kentucky. He was a resident of Paducah, Ky., for two and a half years, following his trade at that place, and then removed to Chicago, where he resided only a short time. He then came to Rockford in the fall of 1873, and has since made his home in this city.

Mr. Knudson began working here as a cabinet-turner and was thus employed for several years before becoming connected with the Co-operative Furniture Company. He is not only Superintendent and manager of that company and a stockholder and Director, but is also a designer and draughtsman. He is a skilled workman, as his work in the different departments shows, and is a most industrious and energetic man. For four

years, he was on the road as a commercial traveler for this company and traveled extensively, especially on the Pacific slope. In this way, he became acquainted with the country, its people and its business methods, and the experience was very valuable to him.

In Chicago, Mr. Knudson was united in marriage with Miss Randa Brondstad, who was born near the old home of her husband and was reared and educated in the same school district. With her sister Maggie, she came to the United States in May, 1871, locating in Chicago, where a brother, Lars, had settled a few years previous. He and Maggie are still living in that city and the former is married. The father died when Mrs. Knudson was quite young. He was long survived by his wife, who departed this life a few years ago in Norway. They were both Lutherans in religious belief.

Unto our subject and his wife were born four children, but three are now deceased: Carl J., Anna D. and Anna E. O., all of whom died in childhood. Rose E., an intelligent maiden of thirteen summers, is still with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Knudson are well-known people of this community and have the respect of all on account of their many excellencies of character. In politics, he is independent, voting for the best man, regardless of party affiliations.



HENRY BROWN. In the monetary and mercantile fields, our subject is known to be a man of undaunted integrity and substantial ability. He is careful and conscientious, ever adhering to the dictates of his conscience in matters both of a public and private nature. After removing to Rockford in 1869, he was for ten years actively engaged in the livery business and was one of the prime movers in the organization of the Co-operative Furniture Company, with which branch of business he was interested for eight years. Since that time, however, he has lived retired from active labor.

Our subject was born in Springfield, Windsor County, Vt., March 26, 1826, and was a son of

Jonathan Brown, who was also a native of that place. His grandfather, Elisha Brown, hailed from Cohasset, Mass., and was active in the cause of American liberty, having participated in the battle of Bunker Hill and served through the entire Revolutionary struggle. His father served in the French and Indian War and bravely endured all the privations which fell to the lot of a soldier. He, in company with his brother Abel, and a Mr. Stevens were the third settlers in Springfield, Vt. The grandfather secured a large tract of timber land, which he cleared from the wilderness and resided upon for many years. There being no railroad in the vicinity of his home, the farm products were conveyed by team to Boston, ninety-two miles away. The maiden name of his wife was Merrill Bates, a native of Cohasset, Mass., who lived to the advanced age of one hundred years, lacking four months. The father of our subject was reared on the old home farm and when starting out in life for himself, settled on a tract of land owned by his father, which was located one mile from the village, on which he made his home until a short time before his death, when he removed into the village. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Hannah Stocker, who was born in Springfield, Vt., and whose father was a Revolutionary soldier, having participated in the battle of Bunker Hill and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis. Our subject removed to Winnebago County, where he was among the early settlers. Mrs. Hannah Brown, his mother, died in Springfield, having borne her husband six children: Horace, Henry, Homer, Augusta, Abbie and Emily.

Henry Brown was reared in Springfield, Vt., and resided with his parents until reaching his twentieth year, when he removed to Lansingburg, N. Y., and engaged in the manufacture of oilcloth. In 1849, he came to Rockford by way of the Lakes to Chicago and overland to this city. After spending a few months here, he returned to the Empire State and was again engaged in the manufacture of oilcloth at Lansingburg. In 1869, however, he made permanent settlement in Rockford, where, as before stated, he conducted a livery stable for ten years.

In December, 1849, Miss Ellen Brooks, who was born in Lansingburg, N. Y., became the wife of



Yours Truly
Luther Lawrence,

our subject. To them have been born two sons, Harry W. and Howard B. The former married Fannie Gaskett and is the father of three children: Clara, deceased, Chessie and Sarah A.



LUTHER LAWRENCE. The family to which this gentleman belonged traces its ancestry to Sir Robert Lawrence, of Ashton Hall, who was knighted about 1190. John Lawrence, of Suffolk, England, came to America in 1635, settled in Watertown, Mass., and died at Groton, in 1667. A descendant of that gentleman in the eighth generation, Luther Lawrence was born at Groton, Mass., July 29, 1812. He was reared on his father's farm, and after having acquired his education in the district and village schools, learned the trade of a miller, which he followed for several years with success.

In company with six young men, Mr. Lawrence left Groton October 26, 1837, for the new West. The journey was slowly made, the first part being by stage and railway; then passing through the Erie Canal, they finally resorted to horses and wagon, and lastly to ox-teams as they neared their Western goal. Our subject reached his destination amid the same difficulties experienced by the men and women who often left peaceful homes to become the brave pioneers of Illinois. He had heard of the far-famed beautiful valley of Rock River, and forthwith set to work with youthful ambition and manly integrity to aid in the start of one of the most fertile and prosperous countries the world possesses. Sufficient wealth crowned his efforts—the result of success in business. No notable event or grand achievement occurred to give special tone to his life, as he was one of the few who never craved public office. He gave generously of his means for the support of every good cause in a Christian way, and in his home was courteous and most hospitable.

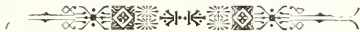
It cannot be said of Mr. Lawrence that he was a hero worshipper, although he cherished a sincere admiration for true, manly worth in all men, and, in short, was a good friend, and at the same time a strong enemy to self-conceit. The last years of

his life were spent in the village where he died, and in the house he built nearly a half-century ago. This structure of stone, the first of any consequence in the village at that time, was considered quite "recherche." The facilities for transporting building material being somewhat limited, it became necessary to employ a local mechanic to make by hand the various parts of the house—the blinds, mouldings, stair-rails, etc.—all of which were neatly executed in a praiseworthy manner.

Of the personal characteristics of Mr. Lawrence, one deserves special mention: he had a tenacious memory, and late in life was never more at ease than when exploring the halls of memory, recalling events long past, and dwelling on genealogies with guarded care. Perhaps his chief fault was in living over the past. Shortly before his death, he remarked to a friend: "The outlook of the new countries, Alaska and Africa, of which I have been reading, is most promising, but of their possibilities and probabilities, we may only judge by the past; that we absolutely know. We may safely predict for them, by comparison with the wonderful progress our own country has made."

In politics, Mr. Lawrence was always a Republican; his first vote, in 1833, was for Andrew Jackson, the last one he heartily gave for Benjamin Harrison. His love of nature was somewhat unusual, and through nature he would moralize and prophesy to his nearest friends. He was an earnest member of the Congregational Church, which he joined in early manhood.

The friends of Mr. Lawrence who cherish his memory will welcome his portrait, which appears on an accompanying page.



ALLEXANDER JOHNSON, Superintendent of the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company, was born on the 24th of December, 1839, in Sweden, where his parents spent their entire lives. His father, Johannis L. Johnson, was a cabinet-maker by trade, and died at the ripe old age of eighty-four years, in the faith of the Lutheran Church, of which he was long a member. His wife, who was born in 1807, is

still living and is also a member of the Lutheran Church. Three members of the family reside in this country: our subject; Frank, a cabinet-maker by trade, who is married and works in the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company, and Carrie, wife of C. J. Johnson, who is also an employe of the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company.

No event of special importance occurred during the childhood of our subject which was passed in his native land, where he learned the trade of a cabinet-maker. He was the first of the family to come to the United States, sailing from Gottenburg in May, 1869. He landed at New York City and after his arrival in America learned the machinist's trade, becoming a practical and efficient workman in that direction. He possesses much mechanical skill, is a man of good judgment and executive ability and is physically very strong. For a time after locating in Rockford, he worked at his trade but for the past nine years has been Superintendent of the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company. He was one of the original stockholders and organizers of this company, which began business in 1882. They now employ about two hundred men and do a large and constantly increasing business, theirs being one of the leading industries of the city. Mr. Johnson is also a stockholder in the Union Furniture Company and in the Mantel and Furniture Company.

The wife of our subject bore the maiden name of Miss Clara Johnson. She too was born and reared in Sweden and her parents there spent their entire lives. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Mission Lutheran Church. Their union has been blessed with seven children and the family circle yet remains unbroken. In order of birth, they are as follows: Tilla, Elmer, Enoch, Anna, Cora, Eli and Florence, all of whom are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Johnson is a self-made man. Although now one of the prosperous citizens of Rockford, he came here empty-handed, but his industrious and enterprising efforts in the legitimate pursuit of his business has won him a well-merited success. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to the growth and upbuilding of the city and gives his support and co-operation to those enterprises cal-

culated to prove of public benefit. Public-spirited and progressive, he is one of the valued residents of Rockford and holds a high rank among his fellow countrymen.

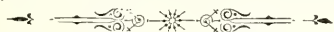


CHARLES F. TRITTLE, editor and proprietor of the *Reflector*, at Winnebago, is a native of this county, having been born in the town of Seward, June 19, 1865. His father, Franklin Clay Trittle, is a native of Philadelphia, Pa., and the son of Daniel and Mary Trittle, also natives of the Keystone State. There the father of our subject was reared, and when twenty-five years of age came West and after spending some time in travel, finally located in Rockford.

The lady to whom Franklin C. Trittle was married in 1858 bore the name of Caroline Faulkner. After their marriage, the young couple lived in Rockford, where they were classed among the respected and honored citizens. Mrs. Caroline Trittle was born in Marston, Bedfordshire, England, August 10, 1832 and is the daughter of John Faulkner, a native of that shire, whence he came to America in 1845. The trip across the Atlantic was made on the sailer "Eleanor," which landed its passengers at New York after a voyage of eleven weeks and three days. After a stay there of six weeks, Mr. Faulkner went to South Middletown, Orange County, that State, and in August, 1846, came to Illinois, where he remained at Chicago for two months and then removed to Rockford on the 20th of November. For four years, he was employed at various kinds of work, when he removed to what is now Seward Township, and purchased land warrants of the Mexican soldiers, which cost him \$1 per acre. There the father of Mrs. Trittle improved and resided upon his land until his decease. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Two; she also hailed from Bedfordshire, and died at the home of her daughter in Winnebago. The grandparents reared seven children: John, Mary, Joseph, George, Rachel, Samuel and Caroline.

Charles F. Trittle of this sketch was a lad of ten years when taking up his abode in Winnebago.

Here he attended the district school and for a time was employed as a clerk in the different stores in the place. In 1887, a stock company was formed and opening a printing-office established the *Reflector*. Our subject was appointed business manager of the concern and for the past three years has had sole charge of the establishment and, if we may judge from the circulation and reading matter of the paper, is making a success of his undertaking. In political matters, he votes the Republican ticket and for three years served his fellow-townsmen as Justice of the Peace and for a like period was Mayor of the village. He is at the present time Secretary of the Winnebago Memorial Society and was appointed Notary Public by Gov. Fifer.



PETER H. PALMER, Vice-President, stockholder and one of the directors of the Standard Furniture Company of Rockford, was born April 25, 1861, in Wester Gothland, Sweden, and is a son of Andrew and Nellie (Bowman) Palmer, who are now residents of Rockford, as is their daughter and all of their five sons. Our subject is the eldest of the family; Paul E., the next in order of birth, is now married and works for the Standard Furniture Company; John E. is in the employ of the same company; Aaron J. is engaged with the Rockford Electric Manufacturing Company; Carrie D. and Simon E. are still at home.

Under the parental roof, our subject spent the days of his childhood, no event of special importance occurring during that time. On attaining his majority, he determined to seek a home in the New World, where he believed better opportunities were afforded young men, and on the 15th of April, 1881, he sailed from Gottenburg, landing at Boston three weeks later. Since that time, all the family have come to this country. He learned the cabinet-maker's trade and became a skilled workman, being employed for some seven years by the Union Furniture Company of this city, his long-continued service giving proof of his faithfulness and prompt discharge of duty. Since that time, he has been connected with the Standard

Furniture Company, one of the leading industries of the city, which was established in 1887, and is now doing an excellent business, furnishing employment to some two hundred men. He is both Vice-President and Superintendent, having held the latter position for three years and the former for two years.

The marriage of Mr. Palmer and Miss Amanda O. Swansen was celebrated in this city. The lady was born in Sweden, near the old home of her husband, in October, 1862, and when a young lady of twenty summers crossed the broad Atlantic to America in 1882, since which time she has resided in Rockford and Belvidere, Ill. Both of her parents died in Sweden. One sister, Emma, is now the wife of John C. Osburg, who is in the employ of the Mechanics' Furniture Company, of this city. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Palmer has been blessed with one daughter, Rachel.

This worthy couple hold membership with the Swedish Baptist Church, in which our subject served as a trustee. He is independent in politics, voting for the man whom he thinks best qualified to fill the office, regardless of party affiliations. He has devoted his entire energies to his business since 1887, and the result of his efforts is shown in the success with which the business has been carried on. Mr. Palmer is one of the well-known Swedish residents of Rockford and, although his residence here is of comparatively short duration, he has already made many warm friends, who esteem him highly for his sterling worth and upright life.



HANS J. HANSON, one of the mail carriers of Rockford, was born in Southern Sweden, June 10, 1853, and the days of his boyhood and youth were spent in the usual manner of farmer lads. His parents were Hans and Mattie (Hockinson) Johnson. The father was born on the 17th of November, 1819, and now lives with his son Andrew in this city. His wife died in Sweden in 1869, at the age of forty-nine years. Like him, she was a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church. The first of the family to cross the

Atlantic was Andrew, before mentioned. Two sisters are also living in Rockford: Hannah, wife of J. M. Manson, who is employed by the Union Tea Company; and Alice, wife of Peter Nelson, a farmer of Boone County. One brother, Martin, died in Wichita, Kan., at the age of twenty-five.

On the 3d of May, 1872, at the age of nineteen, Mr. Hanson bade good-bye to his old home and sailed for the New World. He landed in Quebec, Canada, whence he came at once to this city. On the 2d of December, 1875, he was united in marriage to Miss Clara S. Bengtson, who was born in Sweden in the year 1850, and came to this country in 1870. She has since resided in Rockford with the exception of one year spent in Chicago. Her father, Andrew Bengtson, had previously come to the United States, and his death occurred in October, 1886, at the age of sixty-two. His wife is still living with her sons at the age of seventy-three.

When Mr. Hanson came to America, he was not only empty handed, but was \$40 in debt for his passage. He came on to Rockford in 1872, and began to earn his livelihood as a day laborer. For some time, he worked near Rockford, but his industry and enterprise soon made it possible for him to engage in business for himself, and for ten years he was a leading grocer of this city. For six years, he was also engaged in the manufacture of furniture and met with excellent success in that venture. He also organized the Skandia Coal Company, which has been a decided success. For some years, he engaged in business on Seventh Street and built what is known as the Hanson Block, at No. 701 Seventh Street, a large three-story building with store rooms beneath and flats above. During the administration of President Harrison, he has served as one of the city postal deliverers. Great credit is due Mr. Hanson for his success in life. The obstacles and difficulties in his way he overcame by persistent effort, and has arisen by his own merit to a position of which he may well be proud. He is a prominent Swedish gentleman of this community and well deserves representation in the history of his adopted county.

In politics, Mr. Hanson is a Republican, a stal-

wart advocate of party principles, and, socially, he is a Master Mason. He and his wife are leading Swedish people. They have had a family of six children, but Alice died at the age of six years. The living are: Nellie C., Oscar W., Julian N., George A. and Leona E.



ANDREW J. ANDERSON, a real-estate loan and insurance agent and Notary Public, claims the honor of being a native of Rockford. He was born in this city, June 7, 1862, and is of Swedish descent. His father, Jonas R. Anderson, a native of Rydaholm, Sweden, grew to manhood in that country, and while a young man sailed for America, in 1854, landing in New York City after a voyage of six weeks. By way of the Hudson River and Canal he went to Buffalo, and thence by the Lakes to Chicago, and on to Geneva, Ill., where he resided for some months. Subsequently he came to Winnebago County, and turned his attention to farming. He was then in limited circumstances. He afterward came to Rockford, learned the trade of a blacksmith, and secured the position of foreman in the shops of F. H. Manney, which position he filled for seventeen years. He later aided in the organization of, and became a stockholder in, the Central Furniture Company, and for some years has been one of its Directors. He is now living a retired life at No. 906 Kishwaukee Street, at about the age of sixty years. In politics, he is a stalwart supporter of Republican principles.

Jonas Anderson was married in this city to Miss Helen Stockenburg, also a native of Sweden. When a young lady, she came to this country with friends in 1856, and resided in Rockford until her marriage. By this union were born five children, but Jennie died at the age of eighteen years, and Olivia died in infancy. Those who still survive are Marie, wife of A. J. Enstam, a Lutheran clergyman of Minneapolis; Andrew J., of this sketch; and Amanda, who was for some years a dry-goods clerk, and now owns an interest in a store in Wakefield, Neb. The family are all members of the Lutheran Church.



JAMES H. BONNEY

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who has spent his entire life in this city, acquiring his education in the public schools and the Rockford Business College. He is a young man of excellent ability and good habits, temperate and upright in all things. Soon after starting out in life for himself, he became connected with the Rockford Watch Company, becoming employed in the motion mechanical department, where he remained for some years. In 1881, the Excelsior Furniture Company was organized with a capital of \$50,000, and for eight years Mr. Anderson was its Secretary and Treasurer as well as a stockholder and Director. He yet holds stock in the company, but gives the greater part of his time and attention to the real-estate business. In 1890, he opened an office at No. 421 East State Street, as a real-estate, loan and insurance agent, and is doing an excellent business. His success is assured, for he possesses the qualities essential to a successful career, and his course already has a bright outlook for the future. Those who have known Mr. Anderson from his boyhood, know him to be a young man of sterling worth, deserving of the confidence and respect of all, and his best friends are among his oldest acquaintances, a fact of which he may well be proud. At present he is Alderman from the Second Ward, having just been re-elected to that position. In his political affiliations he is a Republican.



JAMES H. BONNEY. For twenty-five years prior to his death, the original of the portrait on the opposite page resided in Rockford, where he was known as a quiet, unobtrusive and upright citizen. He was born in Massachusetts, November 16, 1812, and died in Rockford, March 25, 1891, aged seventy-eight years, four months and nine days. To the last he retained considerable activity and mingled with the business men of the Forest City, attending to his financial affairs, which consisted mainly in loaning money.

Harvey Bonney, father of our subject, was born in the Bay State, September 23, 1786, and died

September 26, 1850. His wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Fish, was born May 22, 1790, and died October 1, 1871. Their family consisted of twelve children, nine sons and three daughters, all of whom attained to mature years and still survive, excepting two. Enos T., who was born November 25, 1831, died in Galveston, Tex., shortly after the close of the Civil War, in which he had been an active participant as surgeon. His only son, Evans, now makes his home in Hattiesburg, Miss. Charles W. died in Osceola, Iowa, at the age of sixty-one years.

The surviving members of the parental family are as follows: A. H., who was born December 1, 1808, and now resides in Farmington, Me., a retired merchant, vigorous in mind and body; Sarah A., born October 27, 1810, now of Portage, Wis.; our subject; Hannah, Mrs. Snow, born December 27, 1814, and now residing at Cambridgeport, Mass.; Hiram B., born April 22, 1817, and at present living in Missouri; Emily B., Mrs. Prentice, born April 24, 1819, a resident of Portage, Wis.; Dr. Stephen F., born April 5, 1821, now practicing his profession at Taylor, Mo.; William L., born September 27, 1823, and a resident of Boston; Dr. Joel W., born February 23, 1826, and a leading physician of Quincy, Ill.; and Perez F., born March 14, 1828, now in Cambridge, Mass.

Although a native of Massachusetts, Mr. Bonney received his education mostly in Maine, where he learned the carpenter's trade of his father and followed that occupation during the summer seasons while he taught school in the winter. At the age of twenty-three, he went to Boston and a few years later proceeded South; from there he returned North to Illinois and remained at Quincy for a time. Afterward he resided for a time in Davenport, Iowa, where he married Miss Sarah Ann Parker, who died two years after their union, leaving an infant daughter, now Mrs. James H. Winn, of Rockford.

After residing for a short time in Galena, Ill., Mr. Bonney returned to Maine, and there was married to Miss Betsey Sylvester, who survives him, residing in the old home at No. 204 South West Street. In 1816, Mr. Bonney settled on a farm in Wisconsin, where he remained some twenty

years and became closely identified with local and State affairs. At the breaking out of the Civil War, he was a member of the legislature and he also served as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. When he came to Rockford, he made his home on Ayon Street for two years and later purchased the property which his widow still owns. He was one of the organizers of the Burial Case Company, in which he was a stockholder and Director and also served as President for a time. Generous and kind, ready to bear his part in the church of his choice—the Congregational—active in support of the Republican party in his early life and later a strong Prohibitionist, a man of wide travel, having visited almost every State in the Union, it is not strange that at his death he was widely and sincerely mourned.



WILLIAM THRONE, deceased, was one of the prominent early settlers of Winnebago County, where he located in 1836. He was a native of County Derry, Ireland, and a son of John Throne, also a native of the Emerald Isle. The grandfather, William Throne, was born in that country, and was a descendant of one of three brothers who went to Ireland with William the Prince of Orange. He followed farming throughout his entire life, and was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

The father of our subject never left his native land. He wedded Rebecca Stephenson, and she spent her entire life in County Derry, the place of her birth. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church, and in that faith they reared their family. Five of their children came to America: William, Margaret, Robert, John and James.

The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the public schools, and spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the land of his nativity. At the age of twenty, he crossed the broad Atlantic, and the vessel in which he sailed was wrecked, the passengers being detained on an island for two weeks. For some time he resided in Lower Canada, the year 1836 witnessing his arrival in Illinois. He became one of the first settlers of Har-

lem Township, Winnebago County, and securing a tract of Government land on section 36, erected a log cabin, in which he and his bride began their domestic life. He was an industrious and enterprising man, and to the occupation of farming successfully devoted his energies until called to his final rest on the 27th of December, 1880.

Mr. Throne was married, January 30, 1847, to Elizabeth J. Jack, who was born in Canada in 1826, and is a daughter of James Jack, a native of County Tyrone, Ireland. His father, Archibald Jack, was born in the same county, and throughout his entire life there followed the occupation of farming. James Jack crossed the Atlantic to America about 1835, and in Canada made his home for twenty years, when he came to Illinois, traveling by team to Montreal, and thence by the Lakes to Milwaukee, where he procured a lumber wagon and thence journeyed to Beloit, Wis. About three miles east of that place, he bought a tract of land and engaged in farming. He was one of the pioneer settlers of that region, and was a prominent and highly respected citizen. Upon his farm he resided until his death. His wife, Elizabeth Jack, was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, and died on the old homestead near Beloit. In the family were nine children, as follows: William, Rebecca, Sarah, Mary, Archibald, Elizabeth, James, Joseph and John.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Throne were born ten children, but only three are now living: William, Clarinda and Edward. John, who was born December 26, 1847, died October 7, 1860; Elizabeth, born April 1, 1849, died October 5, 1860; Mary Rosannah, born April 5, 1851, died November 10, 1860; Sarah M., born July 3, 1853, died October 19, 1860; Frances, born September 10, 1855, died October 5, 1860; Margaret F., born October 4, 1858, died April 27, 1887; and James M., born October 22, 1861, died on the 26th of August following.

Mr. Throne was a life-long member of the Presbyterian Church, and lived an upright and honorable life, which won him the respect of all who knew him. He was an intelligent citizen, and a prosperous man, who by his own efforts acquired a handsome competence. He left to his family one of the

most highly improved farms in the county. Mrs. Throne has also long been a member of the Presbyterian Church, and her daughter has united with the same organization. They are worthy people, highly respected in this community, and it is with pleasure that we present the record of their lives to our readers.



WILLIAM E. CANNIFORD. Many of the leading men of Winnebago County have been born across the Atlantic, as in the case of Mr. Canniford. His native place was Devonshire, England, and his natal day February 7, 1836. He is at the present time residing in Winnebago Village, engaged in the manufacture of pumps, windmills, etc., and is making a success of this line of work.

William Canniford, the father of our subject, is a native of Exeter, Devonshire, where the grandfather was also born and spent his entire life. The latter-named gentleman was a contractor on public works, and apprenticed his son, the father of our subject, to a farmer, when a lad of seven years. After reaching his majority, William Canniford was turned out into the world penniless, and with no education, having had to work on the farm both summer and winter. Being desirous of gaining an education, he secured books and taught himself. Later he filled the position of a teacher in his native shire for two years, and then going to Gloucester, taught in the National school at Ebrington for fourteen years. He was then appointed city missionary to Cheltenham and Bristol, which position he resigned and became connected with the Ratcliff Gaslight Company, of Wapping, London, as inspector of gas meters. He continued in the employ of that company for twenty-two years, when he was retired on half-pay for life, his decease occurring in 1888, when seventy-nine years of age.

The mother of our subject was known in her maidenhood as Elizabeth Every, also a native of Devonshire. Her father was a farmer, in addition to which he also kept a public house. Mrs. Canni-

ford died in Bristol while her husband was engaged as a missionary. She reared three sons, of whom our subject was the oldest, the others being named John and Herman.

The father of our subject, appreciating the value of a knowledge of books, gave his children a good education, teaching them himself. Our subject at the age of fourteen was apprenticed to learn the trade of a carpenter and joiner. He served until he was twenty years and six months of age, when, being given the last six months of his time, he went to London, and was engaged in journeyman work until 1857. On Good Friday of that year, he set sail in the vessel "Pearl," commanded by Capt. Davids, and landed in Quebec eight weeks later. From that place he went to Ottawa, where he was engaged at his trade for two years, when he came to the States, and at Whitewater, Wis., worked at the carpenter's and joiner's trade until 1860.

Returning to London in the above-named year, our subject spent two years in his native place, and then accompanied by his bride, returned to America, and came immediately to Illinois, stopping for a time in Chicago. In May, 1863, he came to Rockford and devoted a part of his time to his trade until February, 1871, when he came to Winnebago, and engaged in his present business, that of making pumps. He ranks among the well-to-do upright and honest citizens of the county, always casting his influence on the side of progress and reform.

Mary A. Gardner became the wife of our subject at Shadwell Church, East London, in 1862. To them have been born three children: William J., Lizzie and Ada.



SAHEL HOWARD, deceased, was born in the town of Sherburne, Chenango County, N. Y., September 24, 1821, and was a son of John Howard, a native of Rhode Island, in which State the grandparents were also born. The latter removed to the Empire State, and were pioneers of Chenango County. John Howard was quite young when, with his parents, he went to New York. He was reared to manhood

upon his father's farm, and followed that occupation in the town of Sherburne until 1826, when he removed with his family to Eaton, Madison County, and purchased a farm, which he occupied some years. On selling that place, he bought other land in the same township, and there made his home until the death of his wife, when he removed to the village of Oneida, and there remained until called to the home beyond.

Mr. Howard, whose name heads this sketch, was a lad of twelve years when he went with his parents to Madison County, N. Y. He there attained his majority, and on the 21th of January, 1848, was united in marriage to Lavina Sexton, who was born in Plymouth, Chenango County, December 9, 1820, and was a daughter of Pliny Sexton, a native of Connecticut. His father, George Sexton, was also born in Connecticut, but removed to the Empire State, where he spent the remainder of his life. Pliny Sexton was a young man when he went to New York. He was married in the town of Lebanon, Madison County, to Clarissa, daughter of Constant and Chloe (Bisbee) Crandall, and a native of Connecticut. They began their domestic life upon a farm in that locality, and there resided until called from this life.

Mr. Howard continued to engage in agricultural pursuits in the State of his nativity until 1850, when he came to Boone County, Ill., by way of the Erie Canal and the great Lakes to Detroit, then crossed Lake Michigan to Chicago, and from Elgin came with teams to Boone County. He had visited in this locality the year previous and purchased a tract of land in Flora Township, at \$6.50 per acre, upon which was a small frame house. He was an enterprising farmer, successful in his business dealings, and placed all of his land under a high state of cultivation. He also erected good buildings, made other necessary improvements, and set out shade and ornamental trees, which added greatly to the value and attractive appearance of the place. He died on the old homestead May 11, 1890, respected by all who knew him.

The family continued to reside on the home farm until 1892, when they removed to Belvidere. Mrs. Howard has four children: Emory L., who married Laura M. King, lives in Iowa and has two

daughters; Frank L., Addie and Gertrude are at home. Mrs. Howard is a consistent member of the Methodist Church, to which Mr. Howard also belonged. He took a great interest in the work of the Sunday-school, and did much for its advancement. In politics, he was a Republican from the formation of the party. The upright life which he lived is well worthy of emulation.



OZRO M. LA PORTE, an enterprising farmer residing on section 8, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., April 10, 1833. His father, Nacis La Porte, was born in Toronto, Canada, there reared and educated, and learned the blacksmith's trade. He went to New York when a young man, and was there married to Minerva Gardner, who was a native of the Empire State, and a daughter of Silas Gardner, who was of English descent. He was a millwright, and removed from New York to Illinois in 1830, becoming one of the first settlers of Kane County. He improved a farm four miles west of Aurora, and there resided until his death. His wife was in her maidenhood Catherine Garner. She was born in the Mohawk Valley of New York, and died on the home farm in Kane County.

Mr. La Porte, father of our subject, followed his trade in New York until 1837, when he emigrated to this State by way of the Lakes to Chicago, and arrived at his destination after ten weeks. He bought a farm four miles west of Aurora, upon which he resided for nine years, and then removed to Paw Paw Township, De Kalb County, where he purchased land and followed farming until his death. His wife now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Minerva Faile, in De Kalb County.

Our subject was only four years of age, when, with his parents, he came to Illinois. He acquired his education in Kane and De Kalb Counties, and was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life, sharing with the family in all its hardships and its experiences. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-two years of age, and then began life for himself in De Kalb County, working by the day and month. In 1857, he came to Winnebago



E. C. Dummer M. D.

County, and took up his residence in Guilford Township. A few years later he purchased the farm on which he now resides, and to its cultivation and improvement has since devoted his energies, being recognized as one of the leading and successful agriculturists of the community.

A marriage ceremony performed in 1858 united the destinies of Mr. La Porte and Elizabeth Benjamin, who was born in Orange County, N. Y., and is a daughter of John Benjamin, who, like his father, Silas Benjamin, was also a native of the Empire State. The former learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, and followed his chosen occupation in New York until 1835, when he removed to Canada. Three years later, he decided to try his fortune in Illinois, and coming to Winnebago County, purchased the farm on which his daughter is now living. He entered the land from the Government, buying it when it came into market. His first home was a log cabin, which he afterward replaced by a commodious frame residence which he made his home until his death in November, 1858. His wife bore the maiden name of Esther Mapes. She was born in Orange County, N. Y., and died on the home farm in 1856.

Since she was a very young maiden, Mrs. La Porte has resided upon the farm where she is now living, and has been an eye-witness of almost the entire growth and development of the county. Our subject and his wife have a pleasant home, and are highly respected in this community, where they have many warm friends.

ELISHA C. DUNN, M. D. In the line of history, science, and religion, this gentleman possesses an inexhaustible fund of information, and, as a lecturer, has won a national fame. He has a practical knowledge of every country, its people, politics and religion, and has been a thorough student of languages, speaking several different tongues with fluency. A man of fine physique, with military carriage and genial face, he has a welcome grasp of the hand for his many friends, and is most companionable. It is our privilege and pleasure to present his portrait

to our readers. Of recent years, he has given special attention to the study of the sagacity of the lower animals, particularly the horse and dog, and not long since edited a remarkable work, published by a Boston firm, entitled "The Sagacity of Dogs." The volume is beautifully illustrated, and is so arranged with attractive stories as to be a most popular juvenile work.

Now retired from the active duties of life, Dr. Dunn resides in his palatial home at No. 807 West State Street. This residence, which was erected by an architect from New York, is of an oriental design of architecture externally, with an interior Queen Anne finish, and is a model of elegance, fitted with the most complete modern improvements, such as steam-heating, gas and water accommodations. The parlor is finished in ebony and gold, and is furnished with light through double French plate glass windows. The octagon dining-room is finished in walnut and cherry, and the windows are of opalized glass, while the other rooms contain all the conveniences desirable. The residence is a delightful combination of comfort and magnificence, and is an important addition to the architectural beauty of the Forest City.

The Doctor has made his home in Rockford since 1863, although many of the intermediate years have been spent either in the lecture field or in travel. He has lectured on scientific and political subjects, and on the human anatomy and diseases, and has addressed audiences as small as twelve persons (in Sagatuck, Mich.) and as large as five thousand people (in Prince Albert's Hall, London, England). He often relates in a bright and interesting manner, stories of his travels, which have extended into every habitable country of the globe, except the Arctic regions, and he has lectured in most of the large cities of the world. While abroad, he collected gems and precious stones, some of which, worth at least \$9,000, were destroyed in a museum, in the great fire at Chicago. He has come in contact with many of the greatest minds of the world, and numbers among his friends many of the leading men of different kingdoms.

In social organizations, the Doctor has for years been very prominent. He is an Aide-de-Camp of the Supreme Commander, Gen. Carnahan, of the

Knights of Pythias, and meets with the Order in their State and National conventions. He is also a Knight Templar, belonging to Crusader Commandery No. 17, and is well known to the members of State and National lodges. In the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, he takes an equal interest, and is a member of the Encampment at Rockford.

While visiting in Palestine, with the intention of collecting material to assist him in his lectures against religion, he became thoroughly convinced of the Divinity of the life of Christ, and has since been a consistent and faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He advocates Prohibition principles, and has never drunk liquors or used tobacco in any form. In his political belief, he adheres to the principles of the Republican party, and takes the stump in its behalf whenever necessary.

When seventeen years old and a wild, reckless lad, our subject was taken into the home of Dr. Peebles, whom he calls his benefactor, and was given a thorough education, being a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. He remembers his benefactor with an affection which will last as long as life itself, for he owes him a debt of gratitude which naught can efface. He was young when he began the study of medicine, and soon afterward was able to support himself, although he resided with Dr. Peebles for fifteen years. Although a native of New York, he spent only a few years of his life there, and has resided in Illinois during the most of his life.

In Marshall, Mich., the Doctor was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Etts, a native of the Empire State, and a member of a worthy family. Early in life, she displayed great ability as an artist, and has in later years executed some very fine pieces, which in style and coloring are far superior to the work of amateurs. Her work has received the commendation of the best artists, and her last effort, "Pythias Before the Block," a painting six feet by four feet and six inches, is valued at more than \$1,000. She devotes much time to her artistic studies, and is a lady of dignity of presence and noble character. Dr. and Mrs. Dunn are the parents of two children. Aeola, wife of Richard

Hamlyn, resides in Rockford, where her husband is a member of the firm of Hamlyn & Bingham, in the meat-market business. James married Emma Patterson, and resides in Rockford.



WILLIAM UTTON, the owner of one hundred and thirty acres of fine farming land near Manchester, Ill., is entitled to a prominent place in this history, for he has been usefully and honorably identified with the interests of this county, and with its advancement in every worthy particular. He was born in England, in the town of Gissleham, Suffolk County, in the year 1821, and his father, John Utton, as well as his grandfather, John Utton, Sr., were natives of that country also. Both father and grandfather followed agricultural pursuits for a livelihood.

When twenty-two years of age, our subject was led by the prospects of the Western prairies of this country to cross the ocean to the United States. He took passage at Liverpool on the sailing-vessel "Rusush," commanded by Capt. Eldridge, who was afterward on the steamer "Pacific," which was lost at sea. Our subject's brother-in-law, John Balls, who was assistant engineer on that vessel, was lost at that time. William Utton was five weeks in crossing the ocean but at the end of that time landed safely in the city of New York. He had very little means to assist him, and going to Geneva, of that State, he worked for a wealthy gentleman, Dr. G. L. Rose, whose farm he carried on.

In April, 1851, our subject was married, in the city of Geneva, to Miss Hannah Balls, of the same place. Her parents, Samuel and Jemima (Auldiss) Balls, were both natives of England, and in that country the mother passed away. Mr. Balls then brought his family to America (this was about 1841), and followed farming on the Hudson River for two years. In 1855, he came to Manchester and bought sixty acres of land and resided on the same for many years. His death occurred in Michigan, in 1882, leaving a wife and three children. Mr. Utton lost his wife on the 17th of January, 1892, when in her seventy-first year. She

was a most excellent lady, and her death was a severe blow to her afflicted husband and devoted children. They were the parents of two children: Mary Jane, who married John Grout, is deceased; the son, William S. Utton, married Mrs. Hannah North, *nee* McNally, of Illinois, and is now engaged in carrying on the farm for his father, who is crippled with rheumatism.

On first coming here, in 1855, our subject bought one hundred acres of land, with but very few improvements, and for this paid \$12 per acre. He has since added to the original tract thirty acres, for which he paid \$1,000, and now has one of the finest farms in his section. He is engaged in general farming, raises all the cereals and is also engaged to some extent in raising stock. He built his present fine, substantial residence in 1862, and in 1866 he erected a good barn, and another in 1872. He is an enterprising, progressive, well-to-do farmer, who is respected by the community at large. He has served the town as pathmaster and also as School Director, and is well qualified to fill any of the township offices. He votes the Republican ticket, and is a member of the Anti-Horse Thief Association. He is an attendant of the Episcopal Church and his wife held membership in this church.



ROBERT B. COLEMAN. Probably few of the enterprising farmers and merchants of Winnebago County have met with more uniform success in their business undertakings than this gentleman who is now living in retirement at Pecatonica. For thirty years a general merchant, the inception of his business during the early history of the village was marked by success, which constantly increased with the progress of the community and the increase in number of its inhabitants.

Mr. Coleman was born in Chester Township, Morris County, N. J., December 22, 1824, and is the son of Jabish and Sarah (Bunn) Coleman. His father was born on Long Island and came to this county in October, 1839, entering land with his son at Dixon and remaining on the farm thus pur-

chased until he died, at the age of seventy-five. Mrs. Sarah Coleman, who was a native of New Jersey, was a daughter of John Bunn, who came from Germany to this country when quite young and entered the army during the Revolutionary War, serving until its close and receiving a pension on account of a wound received in the hand; he died at the age of ninety. The mother of our subject attained to the venerable age of nearly ninety-five years, when she passed away at the home of a daughter in Hancock, Ill. Her family included five children, three of whom are living at this writing (1892).

When his father sought a home in Northern Illinois in 1839, our subject accompanied him hither, and for three years thereafter carried mail on what was known as the Rockton & Savanna route. His journey to this State was made overland with a team from New Jersey to Wellsville, Ohio, thence by steamboat down the Ohio and up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, thence to Galena, where a team was hired at \$5 per day to convey the family to Winnebago County. In that early day, Chicago and Mineral Point, Wis., were the principal markets for produce, and journeys to those places were frequently taken. It was by no means easy to exchange grain and vegetables for good cash, and the mining towns were the best places to go for this purpose, as gold and silver could be there procured.

The wife of our subject was known in her maidenhood as Miss Emily F. Thompson, and was born near Hudson, Ohio, in 1828, and died in Pecatonica March 25, 1878. Her parents, J. W. and Emily (Mills) Thompson, were pioneers of Winnebago County, and died at the home of Capt. A. W. Thompson when about ninety years old. They were the parents of eleven children, six of whom now survive. Mr. and Mrs. Coleman had three children, but one alone survives—Lizzie, who was born in 1860; she married Joseph Wright and has one daughter, named Berdena.

After his marriage, Mr. Coleman resided on the land which he entered from the Government and continued to devote his attention to its improvement until 1856, when he removed to Pecatonica and, buying a stock of goods, entered the mercan-

tile business. He continued thus engaged with marked success until a number of years ago, when he disposed of his store and retired from active business interests. Formerly, he was an extensive property owner, but at present has sold all his landed possessions, excepting one and one-half section in Missouri, his home in Peconica, and several other lots in this thriving village. In his social connection, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the A. W. Rawson Lodge, F. & A. M.



SIMEON SPENCER, after many years spent in agricultural pursuits, is now living a retired life in Belvidere, enjoying the rest which he has so truly earned and richly deserves. He was born in Greene, Chenango County, N. Y., on the 1st of August, 1810, and is a son of Darius and Annie (Walker) Spencer, both of whom were natives of Chenango County. The grandfather, Jesse Spencer, was a native of New England, and became one of the early settlers of the town of Greene, where he spent his last years engaged in farming. The father of our subject was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads, and made his home in the Empire State until 1843, when, with his wife and four children, he emigrated Westward to Illinois, making the entire journey overland. They traveled for six weeks, and at length reached Boone County. Mr. Spencer secured a tract of land near Marengo and afterwards traded it for a tract of land in Belvidere Township, of which seventy-five acres had been broken, while a log house constituted the improvements thereon. Into this the family moved, but the cabin home was afterwards replaced by a substantial frame residence, wherein Mr. Spencer continued to reside until his death in August, 1878. His wife long preceded him, having departed this life March 18, 1847. She reared a family of six children, as follows: Louisa, Lorenzo, Sylvester, Simeon, Cyrenus and Cyrena. The two last named are twins.

Our subject spent the first five years of his life in the State of his nativity, and was then brought

by his parents across the country to Illinois. He was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life, sharing with the family in the hardships and trials of the pioneer, and also experiencing the pleasures of those days. He conned his lessons in the log school house, furnished in a primitive manner, and when his time was not occupied in this way, assisted his father in the cultivation and improvement of the farm. He remained with his parents until their death, and then continued to operate the old homestead for two years, when he sold and purchased a place in Bonus Township, three miles east of the city. Upon that farm he continued to reside until 1888, when he sold and has since been a resident of Belvidere.

A marriage ceremony, performed January 27, 1862, united the destinies of Mr. Spencer and Miss Helen, daughter of John and Caroline (Barton) Powell, who were natives of the Empire State, and came to Illinois in 1817. The lady was born in Oswego County, N. Y., and has two children: Leonce is now the wife of Charles Bruce and they have two children: Zora and Elmer. Jesse is still with his parents.

Mr. Spencer cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and has since been an advocate of Republican principles. However, he has never sought or desired public office, preferring to devote his entire attention to his business interests, in which he has met with signal success. He has worked his way upward from an humble position to one of affluence, and is now numbered among the substantial citizens of the community.



HENRY E. HARRIS, the present popular Postmaster of Durand, is well and favorably known in this county, as he was born November 27, 1812, in the village where he makes his home. He is a son of Elisha and Calista C. (Robb) Harris, the former of whom was born in Chenango County, N. Y., July 19, 1817. He was a son of Joseph and Julia Harris, natives of Connecticut.

The father of our subject, in 1837, came to Illi-

nois and purchased a claim to a tract of land in what is now Durand Township, Winnebago County. His marriage occurred in 1812, and with his wife he continued to reside for a number of years on the farm which he improved with all the necessary farm buildings and machinery, and which included one hundred and forty-five acres. Mrs. Harris died in 1885, and a few years later her husband retired from active life and is now residing in Durand with his second wife.

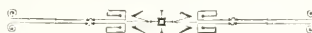
The parents of our subject reared a family of ten children, of whom Henry E. is the eldest. Erastus P., during the late war, became a member of Company H, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and died while in the service at Murfreesboro, Tenn., in March, 1863; William Eugene resides in Greenwood County, Kan., where also Lewis F. makes his home. Julia departed this life in November, 1869, when in her eighteenth year; Charles is residing in Durand; Joseph Scott departed this life February 2, 1892, when thirty-four years of age; Willis S. makes his home in Sycamore, this State; Elmer E. occupies the old homestead and Jesse F. is a teacher in the schools of Durand.

Henry E. Harris had his birth in the old log house on the home farm, and attended the best schools which the country district afforded. He was prepared to enter an academy at the outbreak of the Civil War, but on August 10, 1861, became a member of Company D, Eleventh Illinois Infantry, and with his regiment was sent to Bird's Point, Mo. He participated in the following important battles: Port Henry, Ft. Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Jackson (Tenn.), Paducah, and was on the expedition with Grant to Coffeeville, Miss. Thence he returned to Memphis and camped at Lake Providence, La., as a member of the Seventeenth Army Corps, and in August, 1864, was mustered out of service. He was very fortunate, and only received one wound during his entire service.

At the close of the war, Mr. Harris returned to Durand and continued his occupation of a farmer for three years. Then, on account of ill-health, worked at the carpenter's trade until 1889, when he received his present appointment. The lady to whom he was married, December 29, 1864, was Miss Ann C. daughter of George Fritz. She is

also a native of this township, and by her union with our subject became the mother of four children: Frederick, Lewis, Raymond and Lillian.

Our subject has always been deeply interested in politics, and on the Republican ticket has been elected to fill many of the local offices. Socially, he is a member of Durand Lodge No. 302, A. F. & A. M., and Ellis Post No. 320, G. A. R. His maternal grandfather, Scott Robb, came to Illinois in 1836, and located in Durand, where he died.



CALVIN WELTY. Among the many beautiful farms for which Winnebago County is so justly celebrated, conspicuous mention belongs to the estate of Mr. Welty, which is located on section 19, Guilford Township. It combines all the pleasures to be derived from rural life and surroundings with the advantages of city life, for it is only two miles distant from the courthouse, and its value is considerably enhanced by its proximity to the thriving city of Rockford.

One of the pioneers of Winnebago County was the father of our subject, John Welty, who was born in Frederick, Md. He was the son of Jacob Welty, who, so far as is known, was born in Maryland and followed the trade of a miller in his native State, Pennsylvania, and New York. Coming to Illinois about 1845, he located in Du Page County, where he engaged in farming until his death at an advanced age. The father of our subject was about twelve years old when he accompanied his parents to Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood and was married. He came to Illinois in 1811, locating in Cherry Valley Township, and purchasing a farm where he remained until 1872. His next removal was to Rockford, where the closing days of his life were passed.

The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Leinheart, was born in Switzerland, and came to America with her parents when she was seven years old. She now resides in Rockford, and at the age of eighty-two still enjoys good health as well as the full possession of her mental faculties. Her children were as follows: Mary, who died at the age of twenty-nine; Elizabeth;

Calvin, of this sketch; Timothy, who died when ten years old; Jefferson; Erastus, who passed from earth when twenty-four. Sarah and Alsetta died at the ages of twenty-six and twenty-three, respectively.

Calvin Welty was born in the town of Liberty, Tioga County, N. Y., December 2, 1836. He was fifteen years old when he came to Illinois with his parents, and he remembers well the incidents of pioneer life in this section of the State. October 1, 1861, he enlisted in Company L, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, serving until the close of the war, and with his regiment participating in the following battles: Fair Oaks, Turkey Creek, Malvern Hills, Poolsville, Barnstow, Catolin Pass, Middletown, South Mountain, Antietam and Martinsburg. In the last-named engagement he was captured by the enemy, but was at once paroled and sent to Annapolis, Md., thence to Parole Camp, at Springfield, where he was granted a furlough of twenty days. He then returned to the parole camp and remained there until exchanged.

After his exchange, Mr. Welty was an active participant in the following battles: Beverly Ford, Kelly's Ford, Rapidan Station, second battle of Beverly Ford, Upperville, Fairfield, Gettysburg, Williamsport, Boonesboro, Funkstown, Falling Waters, Chester Gap, Culpeper, Madison Court House, Raccoon Ford, Stevenburg, Brandy Station, Bull Run, Beattown Station and Hazel River. In January, 1864, he was veteranized and was granted a furlough of thirty days, at the end of which time he returned with his regiment to Washington. After doing garrison duty there some time, they were sent in pursuit of Mosely's band of guerrillas, captured a portion of them and drove the others out of Maryland, where they remained doing garrison duty until after the assassination of President Lincoln. They were then sent in pursuit of Booth, and after his capture they returned to Maryland, and shortly afterward were sent to St. Louis, where they were mustered out of service. They were honorably discharged in Chicago in 1865.

Soon after his return from the war, Mr. Welty purchased a farm in Monroe Township, Ogle County, and resided there until 1876, when he sold it and purchased the place he now owns and occu-

pies. After engaging in general farming for four years, he embarked in the dairy business, which he has since successfully followed. In 1867, he was united in marriage with Trocelia, daughter of Robert Dawson, and a native of Belvidere, Ill. They are the parents of four children: Grace D., Genevieve L., John R. and James E. Mrs. Welty is a prominent member of the State Street Baptist Church, and a lady of refinement and kindness of heart. Mr. Welty is identified with Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and, in his political sympathies, is a firm Republican.

 **D**ANIEL B. REDINGTON. It is said of the subject of this notice that he has been one of the most useful men in the community. He has certainly been very active and industrious and maintained a uniform interest in the welfare and advancement of his township, and at the present time occupies the honorable position of Supervisor of Rockford Township, Winnebago County, where he was born July 24, 1844.

Henry P. Redington, the father of our subject, was one of the early settlers in this county, where he watched with interest the growth and development of this section and where his name is held in kindly remembrance. He was born in Keene, Christian County, N. H., and was a son of Isaac Redington, who, as far as is known, was also a native of that place, where he was engaged for a number of years in the mercantile business and spent his last years. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Dana.

The father of our subject was reared and educated in his native town, where he resided until 1836, at which time he came to Illinois, which was then considered the Far West. He arrived in Rockford in September of the above-named year, when most of the surrounding country was owned by the Government. He, however, made a claim to a tract of land in the northern part of Rockford Township, and, as he was a single man, kept "batch" with Ephraim Wyman. When finally making a permanent location, he settled upon the

farm which is now the property of our subject, where he erected a small frame house which later gave way to a comfortable farm residence. There he made his home until his decease, which occurred August 21, 1887.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Jerusha Bradford, who was married to Mr. Redington in Rockford in 1838. She was born in Keene, N. H., and was a daughter of William Bradford. Her death occurred in California, whither she had gone in 1879, in search of health. The parental family included five children: Caroline D., who died in her twentieth year; Charles H., who is Paymaster on the Southern Pacific Railroad; Daniel B., our subject; Louisa, the widow of S. S. Montague, of Oakland, Cal.; and Sarah, Mrs. M. T. Morse, of Leominster, Mass.

The original of this sketch in his youth attended the district school, and when old enough assisted his father in performing the duties of the farm. He remained with his parents until 1864, when, June 23 of that year, he enlisted in Company M, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and in August was sent to Washington and saw service in the District of Columbia, Virginia and West Virginia, until the close of hostilities. He was honorably discharged in June, 1865, and, returning home, resumed farming on the old homestead which he now owns and occupies and which is pleasantly located four miles northwest of Rockford. He has added to his acreage from time to time, until he is now the possessor of an estate including three hundred and six cultivated acres.

Miss Louisa Steward became the wife of our subject in 1871. She is a native of Owen Township, Winnebago County, and is the daughter of William and Sophia (Long) Steward. To them have been born two children: Alice and Leta. Our subject and his worthy wife are influential members of the Christian Union Church, and, socially, Mr. Redington is connected with Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. He is also a member of Farmers' Lodge No. 616, M. W. A. He votes the straight Republican ticket, and, in 1888, was elected Supervisor of his township, which position he now holds. He is a very prominent business man and is Director of the Forest City National Bank. In

the early days when his father first came to this county, all the letters addressed to the people of this section were sent to Chicago. It was through such efforts as those put forth by the elder Mr. Redington that this section was transformed from its original dearthness to its present prosperous condition.



WILLARD CONVERS, one of the pioneer settlers of Guilford Township, Winnebago County, residing on section 9, was born on the 20th of January, 1822, in Litchfield Township, Bradford County, Pa., and is a son of Henry and Susanna (Latham) Convers, both of whom were natives of New England. The father was born April 30, 1779, and removed from Vermont to Pennsylvania, residing in Bradford County for a few years, after which he became a resident of Machias Township, Cattaraugus County, N. Y. In 1832, he emigrated to Ohio, accompanied by his wife and five children. Locating in Portage County, he there made his home until 1839, when he came to Illinois, settling in Winnebago County. He spent a few days on the Pecatonica River, and then located on section 9, Guilford Township, where he rented a log cabin and made his home until 1844. In that year, he removed to section 16 of the same township and there lived until called to the home beyond, January 3, 1853. His wife died on the old home farm September 15, 1859. Their children were Reuben, Betsy R., Polly, James and Willard.

The subject of this sketch accompanied his parents on their various removals and was a young man of eighteen years when he came to Illinois. This county was then sparsely settled; the greater part of the land was still in the possession of the Government, and deer and other wild game roamed at will over the prairies. There were no railroads and the nearest market was Chicago. In 1841, Mr. Convers made his first purchase of land, a tract on section 16, Guilford Township, now included within his present farm. Upon it, he erected good buildings and has made many other improvements

which add greatly to its value and attractive appearance. It continued to be his home until 1886, when he purchased adjoining land and upon that farm has since lived a retired life. He still owns one hundred and sixty-two acres of arable land, supplied with two sets of farm buildings.

On the 23d of August, 1855, Mr. Convers wedded Matilda (Beers) Whittle, who was born in Orleans County, N. Y., January 22, 1831, and is a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Herrick) Beers, who are mentioned in the sketch of Russell Marsh on another page of this work. Mrs. Convers was only five years old when, in June, 1836, she came with her parents to Winnebago County, and without doubt has resided longer in the county than any other lady living within its borders. She was first married, on the 25th of March, 1849, to Frederick Whittle, who was born in Canada, September 5, 1818, and came to Illinois about 1840, locating in Guilford Township. His death occurred on the 26th of April, 1851. By that union were born two daughters: Emily J., who was born February 28, 1850, became the wife of Leonard Marsh, and died September 17, 1885; and Amelia B., who was born December 15, 1853, is now the wife of George A. Stevens, of Rockford.

This worthy couple have a pleasant home and have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances throughout the community who esteem them highly for their sterling worth. Mr. Convers is a self-made man, who by his own efforts has worked his way upward to a position of affluence and is now enjoying a well-earned rest. Politically, Mr. Convers affiliates with the Republican party.



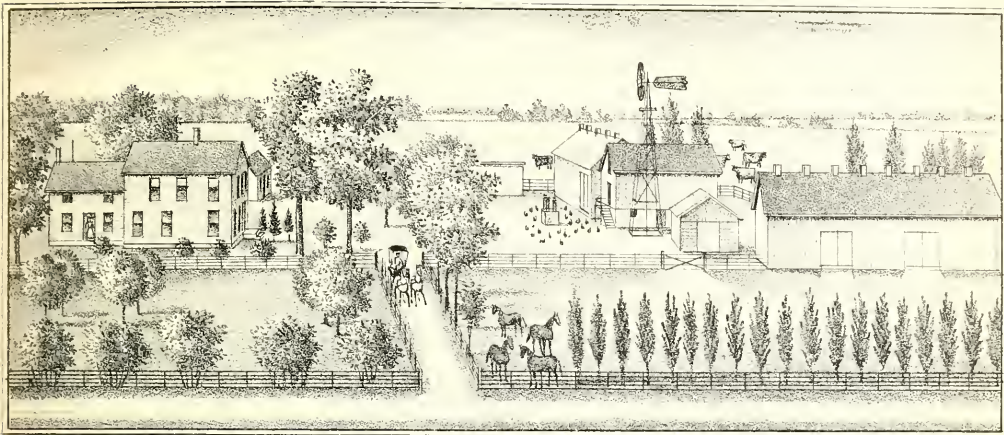
GEORGE A. BURRITT, an extensive farmer and resident of Owen Township, Winnebago County, was born in Ira, Cayuga County, N. Y., June 17, 1840. His father, Charles Burritt, was born in Roxbury, Litchfield County, Conn., in 1812. Grandfather Lewis Burritt was also a native of Connecticut and was there reared to agricultural pursuits. At an early day he removed from the Nutmeg State to New York, and bought a farm in Ira, Cayuga County, where he

followed agricultural pursuits several years. He spent his last days in the village of Weedsport, dying February 8, 1873, aged eighty-four years. His wife, whose maiden name was Polly Warner, was born in Connecticut, and spent her last years in Sennett, Cayuga County, N. Y., where her death occurred October 21, 1865, at the age of seventy-six.

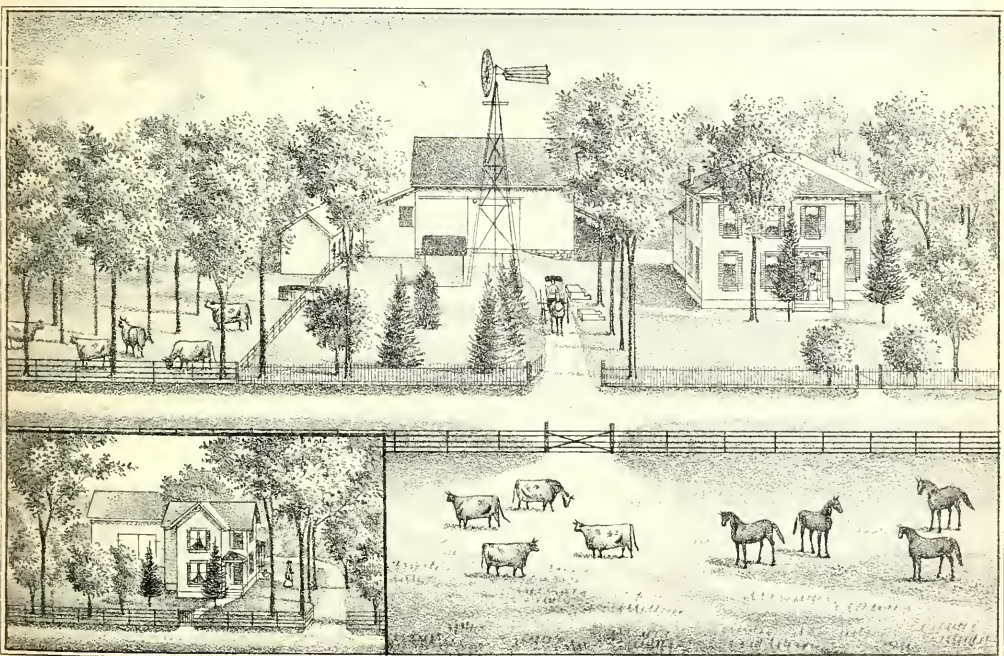
When about twenty years old, Charles Burritt accompanied his parents to New York State. He was principally reared to agricultural pursuits but did not always follow farming. He purchased an interest in a machine shop at Weedsport and was connected with that business for three years. After serving for two years as Superintendent of the County Infirmary, he pursued farming in Cayuga County, but in 1855 sold his interest there and removed to Winnebago County, Ill. The winter following his arrival he passed in Rockford and during that time purchased a tract of land in Owen Township. A portion of it was broken and fenced, and a log house was on it, these constituting the sole improvements. He placed the land under good cultivation, planted fruit and shade trees, erected a nice set of farm buildings and continued to own and reside upon the place until his death, March 12, 1885.

The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Laura M. Remington, was born in 1816, the daughter of Rufus and Deborah (Olmsted) Remington, and died at the home farm in April, 1877. She was the mother of seven children, all of whom are still living, namely: Lucy A. Moore, George A., Rufus H., Francis M. Brown, Dwight N., Ida M. Knapp and Charles L. At the time the family removed to Illinois, George A. was fifteen years old and he has been a resident of the old homestead since his parents settled here in 1856, with the exception of five years spent in Rockford.

At the time of his marriage, Mr. Burritt bought sixty acres of the home farm and soon after purchased one hundred and sixty acres adjoining. Since that time he has purchased the old homestead and is now proprietor of three hundred and twenty acres of well-improved land. Elsewhere in this volume will be found a view of the place, which is one of the finest in this section of



RESIDENCE OF O. J. SKOFSTAD, SEC. 1, MANCHESTER TP, BOONE CO., ILL.



RESIDENCE OF G. A. BURRITT, SEC. 26, OWEN TP, WINNEBAGO CO., ILL.

the county. In 1866, he was united in marriage with Harriet M., daughter of Royal and Sophronia (Dunshee) Drake, and a native of Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. Burritt are the parents of five children, namely: Lewis L., Jessie M., Neenah S., Roy W. and Frank C. In his political belief, Mr. Burritt is a staunch adherent of the principles of the Republican party but is not active in political affairs, his time being wholly occupied with the duties of farm life.



OLE J. SKOFSTAD. Among the foreign-born citizens of Manchester Township, Boone County, who have established reputations as farmers of thorough-going enterprise and system, we are pleased to mention the name which we have now given. This gentleman was born in Norway, June 1, 1835, and was the son of Johannes Evenson, who was also a native of Norway and emigrated to the United States, settling in Racine County, Wis., in 1840. He was accompanied on the journey by his wife and three children, of whom our subject is the first-born.

Johanes Evenson took up six hundred acres of Government land in Wisconsin, upon which he built a good hewed log house, 30x49 feet in dimensions, and became one of the pioneers of that State. Several of his fellow-countrymen emigrated to this country at the time he came hither, and the entire party set sail from Drammond, Norway, on the "Captain Onkerson." The fare was \$80, and Mr. Evenson, being a man of means, paid his own passage and that of many of the emigrants, whom he also loaned money to buy their first forty acres of land. He lived in Racine County for ten years, and at his death left a widow and five children.

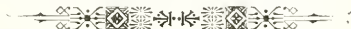
On the outbreak of the Civil War, three brothers of Mr. Skofstad, Evan, Albert and Martin, together with their cousin, Hans C. Heg, enlisted in the Fifteenth Wisconsin Infantry, of which Hans was the organizer and Colonel. Evan was taken prisoner, and while being conveyed from Andersonville jumped from the car with many others and made good his escape by reaching the army of Gen. Sherman. At the close of the war, the young men re-

turned home in fair health, having never been wounded in battle. Albert served as a Captain throughout the struggle; he was married to a lady from his native land, Miss Cornelia Germanson, and died in Lawrence, Kan., in the fall of 1873, leaving a widow and three children.

Ole J. Skofstad lived on the old homestead from 1840 to 1860. He was married there in September, 1857, to Miss Anna M. Anderson, who was born in Norway, in April, 1839, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of nine children, four of whom are living. John Edward is married and resides in Bessemer, Mich.; Annie E., Mrs. Henry S. Anderson, makes her home in Wisconsin; Orville M. B. is a young farmer and resides at home; Albert Leander has been given a common education and aids in conducting the home farm.

The father of Mrs. Skofstad emigrated from Norway to America in 1813, and died at his home in Greenwood, this State, while his good wife passed away in Chicago, being a victim of cholera. They were the parents of two children: Mrs. Skofstad and Anna, who died at Sharon, Wis., when sixteen years of age.

Among the finest farms in the township may be mentioned that of Mr. Skofstad, a view of which adorns another page.



JOHAN BURCH. He with whose name we introduce this biographical outline was one of the pioneers of Winnebago County, and may be properly designated as a "gentleman to the manor born." He is in the enjoyment of large means and has a pleasant home in Winnebago, where he is surrounded by all the comforts of life and lives in a manner much less pretentious perhaps than his means might justify.

Our subject was born in what is now the city of London, Province of Ontario, Canada, August 3, 1823, and is the son of John Burch, Sr., whose birth occurred in Woodstock, Windsor County, Vt. The grandfather of our subject, who was also a native of the Green Mountain State, was of English ancestry and spent his last years near Kensington, Canada. John Burch, Sr., was a lad of fourteen

years when his father removed to Canada, where he grew to manhood and was married. He then removed to London District and purchased a tract of timber land, which is now included in the city of London. He erected a log house on the place, in which our subject was born, and, as the markets were very inconvenient to reach, the family lived mostly off the products of the farm.

In 1831, the father of our subject sold the property above mentioned and removed to Port Stanley, where he bought a farm and resided until 1839, which was the date of his advent into Illinois. He was accompanied on the journey to this State by his wife and seven children, and made the entire journey overland with teams, the trip consuming four weeks. On locating in Winnebago County, Mr. Burch found the land still owned by the Government, and making a claim to a tract, he purchased it when it came into market and erected thereon a double log house. Commencing at once the improving of his new home, there the father resided until 1848, when he sold out, and removing to Guilford Township, lived there for ten years. His last days were spent in Fayette County, Iowa, whither he went in 1858, and purchased property in the city of Fayette, where he was engaged in the combined occupations of druggist, shoe merchant, money-lender and a tanner.

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Lydia Hlogaboom, whose birth occurred in Saratoga County, N. Y. She was of German ancestry and accompanied her parents on their removal to Canada when quite young, the journey being made in the winter with teams. When crossing Lake Champlain the ice broke and her mother and one sister were drowned. She resided with her father until her marriage, and departed this life at her home in Fayette County, Iowa. The father of our subject was a Whig and joined the Republican ranks on the formation of that party. He filled various positions of trust and was the first Justice of the Peace in Winnebago Township. With his wife he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and before a building was erected meetings were frequently held in his home.

John Burch had seven brothers and sisters: William, Benjamin, Levi B., Laura Samantha,

Hiram, Henry and Charlotte. He had reached his sixteenth year when he came to Illinois with his parents and with them he remained until reaching his majority. Starting out in life on his own responsibility, he purchased three yoke of cattle, for which he went in debt, and engaged in breaking prairie for \$1.75 or \$1.50 with his board. Mr. Burch was thus occupied for two seasons, and then having saved a sufficient sum of money, purchased a tract of land which is included in his present farm. The grain raised on his place was marketed at Chicago, and on the return trip our subject would bring back a load of goods for the merchants at Freeport, Galena or Rockford.

In 1850, the original of this sketch went to California, starting with teams from Westfield, this township, on the 4th of April and traversing Iowa to the present site of Council Bluffs, which was then called Kanesville, where he was taken sick with smallpox. He had made a contract to take two men through to the Western coast and board them on the way, for which he was to receive one-half of what they made in two years. Council Bluffs was a Mormon town at that time and the party secured a vacant Mormon cabin, in which our subject and one of the gentlemen, who was similarly afflicted, lay during their sickness, cared for by a Mormon doctor and nurse. His companion, Daniel Case, died and the remainder of the party carried out their plan of visiting the Golden State, leaving a team of horses and a wagon for our subject to return home.

On recovering his health, Mr. Burch joined another party of emigrants bound for the Western country, led by Capt. Duncan from Michigan. They landed in Nevada City in September, where our subject engaged in mining and resided until 1853. In June of that year, he started home by the way of the Isthmus, and had his first ride on the railroad, paying \$11 for eleven miles. Again coming to his old home, he resumed farming on the old place and at the time of his marriage located on the farm which is his present property, and which includes seven hundred and fifteen acres of land, besides which he owns a quarter-section in Greene County, Iowa, and fifty-five acres in Ogle County.

The lady to whom our subject was married January 22, 1866, was Sarah Martha John, a native of Northumberland County, Pa., and the daughter of John and Patience (Housewert) John. The father was a native of the Keystone State, of Welsh ancestry, while the mother was born in New Jersey, of German stock. Mr. and Mrs. Burch have been granted a family of seven children: Georgiana, Judson, Willard, Preston, Nellie Thressa, Jessie and Mildred. Our subject cast his first Presidential vote for Henry Clay and since the formation of the Republican party has been a firm adherent of its principles. When Mr. Burch crossed the Missouri River on his California trip, buffalo were seen in great numbers and he says the only way to compute their number was to estimate how many would stand on an acre, and in that way calculate how many acres a herd covered.

A portion of the house in which our subject lives was the first frame building erected in Winnebago County.



AVERILL MARSH, one of the early settlers of Winnebago County, residing on section 16, Guilford Township, is one of the worthy citizens that the Keystone State has furnished Illinois. He was born in Bradford County, Pa., December 14, 1822, and is a son of Russell and Abigail (Averill) Marsh, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this work. Our subject was in his sixteenth year when he came to Illinois with his parents, but remembers well the incidents of the removal here, and the experience of pioneer life in Winnebago County. At that time there were no free schools or public school buildings, but the teacher was paid by subscriptions, and school was held in any unoccupied building which could be secured.

Mr. Marsh remained with his parents until twenty years of age, and then engaged in farming for himself. In the early spring of 1849, in company with two companions, he started for California, going in a skiff down the Rock River to Rock Island, where they boarded a steamer, and by way

of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, reached St. Joseph, Mo. There they bought four yoke of oxen and a wagon and started across the plains. There were then no white settlers between the Missouri River and California, except the Mormons, at Salt Lake. In August they arrived at Hangtown, now Placerville, and Mr. Marsh went to the mines near Coloma, where he engaged in digging gold for two years, when he went to Sacramento, and formed a partnership with an experienced blacksmith, Mr. Marsh furnishing the capital. They opened a shop and continued in business for one year, when he resumed mining, and to that occupation devoted his energies until 1853, when he started on the return trip by way of the Isthmus of Panama and New York.

On the 28th of February, 1851, Mr. Marsh was joined in wedlock with Frances Robinson, who was born in Paris, Oxford County, Me., September 30, 1831. Her father and grandfather both bore the name of Stephen Robinson. The latter was a farmer of Paris, and spent his entire life in the Pine Tree State. He married Jemima Haskell, who also lived in Maine until called to the home beyond. Stephen Robinson, Jr., was reared in Paris, and there married Sophrona Cushman, a native of Buckfield, Me., and a daughter of Caleb and Polly (Buck) Cushman. In 1844, they emigrated to Illinois, by way of Buffalo and the Lakes, and, on reaching Winnebago County, purchased a farm on section 8, Guilford Township, where both Mr. and Mrs. Robinson spent their remaining days.

Five children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Marsh, but only one is now living: Lizzie, wife of Ward Shaw, by whom she has one child, Ellis, Eva, their first-born, became the wife of Byron Meech, and died in 1891, leaving four children, Lloyd A., Anna, Frank and Ralph; Bruce died at the age of six months; Dora died at the age of twelve, and Clinton died in his third year.

On his return from California, Mr. Marsh located upon the farm which he now owns and occupies. Within its boundaries are comprised one hundred and eighty acres of valuable land under a high state of cultivation and well improved with good buildings. He is recognized as one of the leading agriculturists of this community and is a public-

spirited and progressive citizen who manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the upbuilding of the county and the promotion of the general welfare. Politically, Mr. Marsh is a stalwart Republican.



L E. BENSON, a veteran of the Mexican War, was born in Cazenovia, Madison County, N. Y., March 10, 1826. His father, Isaac Benson, was a native of Albany County, N. Y., and was of Prussian descent. When a young man, he went to Madison County, and, after a short residence in Cazenovia, removed to Fayetteville, Onondaga County, where he followed the blacksmith's trade until 1845. He married Julia Thomas, a native of Williamstown, Mass., and with his wife and seven children emigrated to Illinois, making the entire journey overland with teams. He located in the village of Belvidere, opened a smithy and followed his trade for a number of years, after which he lived retired until called to his final rest. Both Mr. and Mrs. Benson died in this city.

Our subject was an infant when his parents removed to Fayetteville, where he was reared and educated. At the age of sixteen, he commenced working with his father at the blacksmith's trade, and continued with him until 1847, when he enlisted in Capt. Shepherd's Company of the Sixth Illinois Infantry, and went with the command to Mexico, where he participated in several engagements, serving about a year and a half, when he returned to Alton, and was honorably discharged. His health was greatly impaired during his service. On the 3d of March, 1849, he started with a company for California, making the journey across the plains with ox-teams. At that time there were no white settlers between St. Joseph, Mo., and the Pacific Slope, except the Mormons at Salt Lake. Large herds of buffaloes were seen on the prairie, also deer and antelopes. After one hundred and eighty days of travel, the party arrived at Bidwell's ranch, in Butte County, whence they went to the Feather River country. Mr. Benson continued to engage in mining in California, with the exception of two winters spent in Illinois. In 1862, he re-

turned to Belvidere, where he made his home until 1870, when he purchased a farm in De Kalb County.

On the 8th of January, 1860, Mr. Benson married Adeline A. Harper, who was born in Huron County, Ohio, and was a daughter of Joseph Harper. She died in 1887, leaving five children: Frank, Eben, Cora, Mary and Jessie. In his political affiliations, our subject is a Republican, and has served as Street Commissioner for the past three years. Socially, he is a member of the Belvidere Lodge No. 60, A. F. & A. M.; Kishwaukee Chapter No. 90, R. A. M.; Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T.; Freeport Consistory and La Fayette Garrison No. 27, K. G. His life has been a varied one. There are few men who served in the Mexican War, and also made the trip to California among the '49ers. He has likewise borne the experiences of pioneer life. In every community where he has resided he has been recognized as a valued citizen, and wherever he goes, he wins friends.



M ATTHEW McMILLAN. We are gratified to be able to present the life history of this progressive, intelligent and thrifty agriculturist, who enjoys the confidence of the business community and resides on section 21, Caledonia Township, Boone County. Both he and his worthy wife are highly esteemed among their neighbors, and in the accumulation of his farm he has been ably seconded by his faithful helpmate.

The original of this sketch was born in Kintyre, Scotland, December 25, 1815, and is a son of James McMillan, who was also a native of that portion of Scotland, where he spent his entire life. The maiden name of his wife was Mary McLain, who departed this life in her native shire. Matthew, of this sketch, was reared and educated in Scotland and served an apprenticeship of four years at the shoemaker's trade, but did not follow that branch of work, preferring to give his time and attention to agriculture.

Desiring to see something of the New World, of which he had heard so much, he, of whom we write,



Yours Truly
Robert Ridge

in 1852, came to America, accompanied by his wife and two children, setting sail from Glasgow in April on the vessel "Conrad" and landed at New York seven weeks and three days later. Our subject immediately went to Cincinnati, where for five years he was engaged in teaming and at the end of that time came to Illinois and, locating in Caledonia Township, rented land until 1878, when he became the proprietor of the two hundred and ten acres which he now owns adjoining the village.

The lady to whom our subject was married, December 28, 1841, was also born in Kintyre, Scotland, and bore the name of Agnes, daughter of John and Mary Kelly. They have become the parents of eight children, namely: Mary, Barbara, James, John, Matthew, Libby, Nettie and Charles. Both Mr. and Mrs. McMillan are earnest and active members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, and their influence in every way is used for the upbuilding of society and the forwarding of the interests of morality and religion.



ROBERT RIDGE. Among the most highly esteemed and respected residents of the village of Capron, Boone County, Ill., there is not one who has been a more faithful soldier and pleasant member of society, or a more thorough and sagacious business man, than the original of this notice, whose portrait is shown on the opposite page. His life of industry and usefulness and his record for honesty and uprightness have given him a hold upon the community which all might well desire to share.

The parents of our subject, George and Eliza (Crozier) Ridge, were natives of Ireland, in which country the mother died when comparatively a young woman. In 1850, the father came to the United States, settled in New York State, at Lawyersville, Schoharie County, and two years later sent for his family of five children. In 1874, he came to Illinois and made his home with his son, our subject, until his death, when eighty-three years of age. He was a hard-working man, a tiller of the soil, which occupation most of his

ancestors had followed, and was honest and upright in every walk of life. Of his children, only three are now living: Robert in Capron, Ill., and Thomas and James in New Haven, Conn.

Our subject was born in County Cavan, Ireland, June 1, 1839, and when but an infant was sent to his grandparents, with whom he remained until twelve years of age, or until coming to America. When thirteen years old, he began working out by the month for Horace Wakeman, but received little compensation. From 1858, when he came to Boone County, Ill., until the opening of the war, he received more substantial returns for his services, and his prospects were brighter in every respect. Although he worked on the farm during the summer seasons, he was in school during the winter months, and attended the South Belyidere school for one term. On the 12th of August, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, under Capt. C. B. Loop, and was with his regiment until after the siege of Vicksburg, when he was taken sick and confined in the McPherson Hospital for about three months. Recovering, he went to the front and joined "Sherman's dashing Union boys," at Kennesaw Mountain, remaining with them until after the capture of Atlanta, when he returned to his own regiment at Nashville. He was mustered out at Springfield, Ill., August 17, 1865, after being in many prominent engagements, and having his hat shot through twice—once at Vicksburg and once at Spanish Ft., Ala.

Returning to Boone County after cessation of hostilities, Mr. Ridge began clerking in a store at Capron for Stow & Lambert, and this continued until his marriage, November 21, 1867, to Miss Mattie A. Scott, a native of Canada, and the daughter of Francis and Mary Scott. The mother died in Canada, but the father moved to Illinois in 1857, and became quite an extensive landowner. He died in Capron when eighty-three years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Ridge became the parents of four children: The eldest, Alice, born January 1, 1871, died March 22, 1874; George S., born in Capron, Boone County, June 2, 1871, died June 1, 1892, aged eighteen years; Clara B., born January 5, 1876, and Benjamin Harrison, born June 26, 1888,

are the surviving members of the family circle. After his marriage Mr. Ridge engaged in general merchandising, in company with William Andrews, for eighteen years, and at the same time carried on a successful grain business; then dissolving partnership with Mr. Andrews, he bought the Capron elevators, and has been in the grain and feed business exclusively for the past six years. He is now interested in tile works and also owns a good farm of two hundred and fifty-three acres in Le Roy Township. He is a self-made man, and all that he now owns is the result of hard work and unceasing industry.

In politics, Mr. Ridge is a Republican. He has been School Treasurer for sixteen years, and has held other local positions in the township. He has been a member of the Christian Church for many years, and had charge of the township bible depository for over twenty-three years, resigning that position about two years ago. He also gave up the position of School Treasurer, which he had held for sixteen years. Socially, he is Adjutant of Cornwall Post No. 311, G. A. R., of Capron, and was one of the charter members. He is a member of Camp No. 623, M. W. A.

A conscientious and devout Christian, Mr. Ridge is honored and esteemed by all who enjoy his acquaintance, and the family is one of the most prominent in the township. He is public-spirited, and is actively identified with all good movements. He is President of the tile and brick works of the village of Capron, and was largely instrumental in establishing that enterprise in the village.



ALEXANDER RALSTON. This gentleman, though born across the ocean, was one of the early pioneers of Winnebago County, and has given the best efforts of his life to its development, and, as a reward for his industry, has accumulated a handsome competency. In Mr. Ralston, we find a splendid example of what may be accomplished by an energetic, determined and economical man. His birthplace was Argyleshire, Scotland, the date thereof being

May 1, 1808. His father, David Ralston, was also born in that place, where he was reared to the calling of an agriculturist and spent his entire life.

Our subject's mother, Helen Ralston, was born in the same shire as was her husband, coming to America in 1842, and departing this life in Winnebago County. She became the mother of five children: Robert, Alexander, Margaret, Jane and David, all of whom came to America. Robert settled in what is now Harlem Township, Winnebago County, where his decease occurred; Margaret was married to John Caldwell, and makes her home in Caledonia, Boone County; David resided in this county until his decease.

Alexander Ralston was reared and educated in his native shire, and when fifteen years of age went to Greenock and was engaged for four years as a clerk in a hardware store. After that he emigrated to St. Johns, Newfoundland, and was in the employ of the same man for five years. Returning to Scotland, he remained there until 1834, at which time he sailed from Greenock on the "Roger Stewart," and six weeks later landed in New York. He came directly West to Ohio, where he engaged to work out by the month for a time. Later, being enabled to become the owner of property on his own account, he secured an eighty-acre tract of timber land, upon which he erected a log house and there resided until 1843. On the above-named date, Mr. Ralston came to Winnebago County, making the journey hither by teams, and settled in what is now Harlem Township. At that time Northern Illinois was very sparsely settled, the greater portion of the land being in the possession of the Government. Our subject, however, made a claim to eighty acres, upon which he erected a small frame house, doing the carpenter-work himself, and going to Chicago with a team for the shingles. He from time to time added to his farm, until his estate included one hundred and eighty acres, well improved with good buildings. In 1879, Mr. Ralston disposed of his property and came to Rockford, where he has since lived retired from active labors.

Mr. Ralston was married in Scotland to Jane Gordon, who was a native of the same shire as was her husband, and died after coming to this coun-

try, in 1836, in Washington County, Ohio. In 1852, our subject was again married, this time to Elizabeth Harvey, a native of Argyleshire, Scotland, and the daughter of William and Mary (Greenlees) Harvey. She came to America with her parents, where she died. Two daughters were born of that union, Charlotte E. and Nellie. The first union of Mr. Ralston resulted in the birth of one son, John C., who resides in St. Louis.

The original of this sketch was reared under the influence of the Presbyterian Church, with which denomination he became connected in early life. He is at the present time a member of the Westminster Church, at Rockford, to the support of which he is a liberal contributor. He stands very high in business circles, being a founder of the People's Bank of Rockford. In 1875, Mr. Ralston returned to Scotland, after an absence of forty years, and visited friends and relatives. Our subject is a Republican, and has held various offices, among them that of Justice of the Peace for three terms.



WILLIAM C. CHAPMAN, a successful pattern-maker of Rockford, who has been in the employ of John and W. F. Burns since March, 1866, is highly esteemed for his ability, enterprise and integrity. He has been a resident of the city since 1852, except about four years that he spent in Chicago, Ill. He learned the trade of a cabinet-maker and designer, and was in the employ of J. G. Marsh, a furniture-maker in this city, for sixteen years. While in Chicago, he also followed his trade.

Our subject was born in Greenwich Township, Washington County, N. Y., November 15, 1830, and received his rudimentary education in the common schools of that county. He afterward attended Unionville Academy, where, during the four years of his attendance, he was a schoolmate of Ex-President Chester A. Arthur. Later, he was under the tutelage of his father in learning to be a mechanic, and when twenty-one years of age, came West to Rockford, Ill., and grew up with this city. His record as a citizen and business man is

very good indeed, and he is a man of excellent habits, never touching whisky or tobacco in any form. He has been a member of the First Congregational Church nearly all his life, and is a strong supporter of the principles of the Republican party.

Miss Linda Neal, whom our subject married in this county, was a native of the Province of Ontario, Canada, and came to the States, and to Winnebago County, Ill., when twenty years of age. She died March 27, 1876, when thirty-three years of age, leaving the following children, all now living: Frank W., now a resident of Southern Dakota; Le Roy, a railroad man, residing in Rockford, who married Miss Hattie Andrews; Lucy E., engaged with the Rockford Watch Company; and Charles H., residing in Minnesota.

Mr. Chapman's second marriage occurred in Guilford Township, this county, to Miss Andrews, who was born, reared and educated in that township. She died at her home in this city in October, 1878, when thirty-three years of age, leaving one child, Albert H., who is at home.

The third marriage of our subject occurred in Rockford, and the lady of his choice was Mrs. Elizabeth Warner, *nee* Judd. She was also born, reared and educated in Guilford Township, her birth taking place on the 4th of May, 1851. She was the daughter of old settlers of this county, both of whom died here. The parents, Benjamin and Mary A. (Carman) Judd, were natives of Canada, but after marriage they came to the States, settling in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, Ill. Later, they removed to Guilford Township, located on a farm, and died when quite aged.

Mrs. Chapman, the present wife of our subject, was first married in her native township to Mr. Alexander B. I. Warner, who was a brick-molder in Rockford for many years, but subsequently went to Michigan. He was in Antrim County, of that State, until his death, on the 25th of December, 1878, when forty-two years of age. He was a soldier in the Civil War, enlisting in the Eleventh Illinois Infantry and serving three years, and was in many prominent engagements. He veteranized after serving the last of four years in the Seventy-

fourth Illinois Infantry, and his discharge was covered with the battles in which he engaged. He escaped with only a slight flesh wound on the left cheek, but was the hero of many a battle. He died leaving five children: George A., in the employ of the Rockford Street Railroad; Ida P., wife of John Robinson, a farmer of Nelson, Neb.; Clara M. and Dora E. at home, both having received good educations at the Business College; and Benjamin J., at home. To the present union have been born two children, Chester A. and Darwin E.



HENRY A. LATHAM. Prominent among the pioneers of Winnebago County stands the name of our subject, who has resided for the last thirty years on the old homestead in Owen Township. His estate includes two hundred and fifty-two acres located on the Rock River, and the honorable and successful career of Mr. Latham stands forth as a fitting example of what can be attained by persistent and earnest effort.

Our subject had his birth November 12, 1843, in Schoharie County, N. Y., while his direct progenitor, Francis E. Latham, hailed from Connecticut. Darius Latham, the grandfather of our subject, was also born in the Nutmeg State, whence he removed to Albany, N. Y., and later came to Rockford, where he remained a short time and then went farther West to Kansas. Returning to Illinois, he departed this life at the home of his son in Lincoln.

When the parents of Francis E. Latham removed to Albany, N. Y., he was a lad of about twelve years, and when attaining mature life learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a time and then entered the employ of the New York & Erie Railroad, being engaged in building bridges. He continued to make his home in the Empire State until 1854 when he came to Rockford and was engaged in contracting and building for about three years, at the expiration of which time he purchased his farm in Owen Township and cultivated the soil until his decease. The maiden name of his wife was Maria Zimmer; she was born in New York

State and died on the home farm, after having borne her husband four children: Henry A., Sarah, Abbie and Emma.

The original of this sketch was a lad of ten years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to the Prairie State. He attended school during the winter months and assisted his father in performing duties on the farm, then on the outbreak of the late war enlisted at the first call for volunteers. His company, however, was not accepted, their services not being needed. Our subject again enlisted in August of that year, joining Company D, Eleventh Illinois Infantry, and served with his regiment until July, 1863, and was then transferred to the navy. He participated in many important battles while a member of the Eleventh Regiment, among which were Ft. Donelson and Shiloh, while in the navy he fought on the gunboats "Cincinnati," "Lexington," "Hastings," and the "Mortar Fleet," serving under Commodores Foote and Porter. The principal naval battles were Snyders Bluff, Arkansas Post, Yazoo Pass. On the 25th of May, 1861 the vessel on which our subject was aboard, the "Cincinnati," was sunk, and forty-two of the ninety-five men were lost. Mr. Latham was put on board the "Mortar Fleet" and later participated in the siege of Vicksburg, after which he was transferred to Lexington and went on the Red River expedition.

His term of service expiring in the fall of 1864, our subject received his honorable discharge and returned home. In February, 1865, he again enlisted, becoming a member of the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, serving his country until October of that year, and then returning home was engaged with his father until the death of the latter, which occurred in 1880. The original of this sketch then went to Benton County, Mo., where he purchased an unimproved tract of land, upon which he resided for three years. Then returning to Illinois, he bought the interest of the other heirs of the old homestead which he at present owns and occupies.

Mrs. Elizabeth Rice and Henry A. Latham were united in marriage in 1865. The lady, a native of New York State, bore her husband two children, Francis E. and Elwilda. Mr. Latham is a Grand Army man being a member of Nevius Post No. 1



Yours Truly
Willard A. Broun

at Rockford. He is also connected with Winnebago Encampment No. 44, I. O. O. F., and the Farmers' Camp M. W. A. and the Kishwaukee Tribe No. 34, Independent Order of Redmen. Our subject is a member of the Illinois National Guards, Third Regiment, and has filled the office of Commissary Sergeant for four years, and has belonged to the Regiment for seven years.



WILLARD A. BROLIN, Secretary and Treasurer of the Skandia Furniture Company, has the honor of being a native-born citizen of Rockford, his birth having occurred in this city on the 2d of January, 1865. His parents, Charles and Eva (Carlson) Brolin, were both natives of Sweden, and when young people came to the United States. After locating in Rockford, they were married and have since been residents of this city, where they still make their home. For some time the father was employed in the machine department of the N. C. Thompson Manufacturing Company, but has subsequently been a finisher in the cabinet works of the Skandia Furniture Company of Rockford. He and his wife are members of the First Swedish Lutheran Church, and, in politics, he is a supporter of the principles of the Republican party. Unto them were born a family of six children, but only two are now living: Willard and Arthur.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, whose portrait appears in this connection, and who is known as one of the enterprising young business men of Rockford. His education was acquired in the city schools, and since he has attained his majority he has been engaged in doing clerical work. He was employed for a time as agent for the East Side Illinois Central Railroad, and has been connected with several local enterprises. He is a stockholder in the Skandia Loan Association, and for the past three years has held the position of Secretary and Treasurer of the Skandia Furniture Company, and is also one of its Directors.

This corporation has its factory on North Second Street, on the east bank of the Rock River. The business was established in 1889, and has been car-

ried on successfully since. They manufacture hall-trees, book-cases, cylinder desks, ladies' secretaries, extension-tables, etc., employing one hundred and fifty men. They have a constantly increasing trade, of which the members of the firm are well deserving. Mr. Brolin is also a stockholder and Director of the Royal Mantel and Furniture Company; stockholder and Director in the Rockford Furniture and Undertaking Company; and has a third interest in the Oscar Larson Company, wholesale and retail dealers in fruit and confectionery.

Our subject and his brother reside at home with their parents. They hold membership with the First Swedish Lutheran Church and both exercise their right of franchise in support of the Republican party. Our subject is an energetic and ambitious young man, and though now only twenty-six years of age, is already regarded as one of the leading young business men of the city. Following out the course which he is now pursuing, he will undoubtedly make his life both useful and successful.



DAVID A. ELMORE, dealer in wood, coal, flour and feed, fire-proof brick, roofing material, etc., carries on a flourishing business at No. 516 South Main Street, Rockford, where he established in business in 1875. He is a man of superior attainments and accurate principles, and to this fact, coupled with industry and energy, is due the prosperity by which his enterprise has been attended. He came to Rockford from Rochelle, where for fifteen years he was engaged as a coal-dealer, his efforts there being so satisfactory as to favor the removal to the larger city.

Mr. Elmore is a native of Ohio, and was born in Columbus, December 25, 1829. When about one year old, he was brought by his parents to this State, settlement being made at Beardstown, Cass County. His father, Jacob Elmore, was born at Cobleskill, N. Y., and was a son of Daniel Elmore, who passed his entire life in the Empire State, dying at an advanced age. In his youth, Jacob El-

more learned the trade of a cabinet-maker, and after he came to Illinois, engaged as a mill-wright. He was thus employed when he was accidentally drowned in the Illinois River, at Beardstown, leaving a widow and one child.

A few years after the death of Jacob Elmore, his widow became the wife of John Acker, and, in 1837, removed to Ogle County, which remained their home for some years. Later, they removed to Pottawattamie County, Iowa, where Mrs. Acker died at the age of seventy-six, leaving five sons and two daughters by her second marriage. Mr. Acker died May 16, 1892, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. His entire life had been spent in farming pursuits.

In the home of his mother and stepfather, our subject grew to man's estate, coming with them to Ogle County in 1837, and attending the common-schools of that county. When twenty-one years and three months old, he started out to earn his own living, and since that time he has not only been self-supporting, but has accumulated a comfortable property through shrewd business management and judicious investments. He is genial and whole-souled, and never forgets, either in business or society, that the duty one man owes to another is courtesy. He has in his possession some highly-prized keepsakes in the shape of old letters written to his father in the days when postage was twenty-five cents and envelopes were unknown.

The lady who, February 11, 1857, became the wife of Mr. Elmore was Miss Addie E. Reynolds. She was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., in 1839, and was quite young when she accompanied her parents, James S. and Rosamond (Geer) Reynolds, to Illinois. They were natives of the Empire State, passed their entire lives on a farm, and now lie buried side by side in Ogle County, where they died full of years. Mr. and Mrs. Elmore are the parents of seven children, of whom the following is noted: Addie was for some years a teacher, but is now a stenographer, in Chicago; Kate is saleslady in a State Street millinery store, in Chicago; Grace is the wife of E. M. Burns, a druggist at Mason City, Iowa; Arthur E., Secretary for his father and the company, is a graduate of Evanston

College, and a young man of great promise; Isabelle is stenographer for the Rockford Watch Company; Helen M. is an accomplished and gifted pianist and a music teacher; Anna R. is a student in Rockford High School.



DAVID J. ANDERSON, who has been a resident on his fine farm in Winnebago Township since 1854, was born in Essex County, N. J., October 30, 1822. He is a son of John Anderson, who was born in Hunterdon County, that State, January 15, 1796. Capt. Jacob Anderson, the grandfather of our subject, was also a native of the above-named State, and received his title while a soldier in the Revolutionary War; he died in Hunterdon County about 1838, and his widow drew a pension of \$800 during her last years.

John Anderson was one of triplets born to his parents, one of whom died in infancy and one when six years of age. He was reared on the farm and died in June, 1850, in Hunterdon County. The maiden name of his wife was Eleanor Johnson, whose birth occurred in the same State, November 1, 1795. She came to Illinois in 1852, and died in Winnebago Township, August 7, 1874.

The parental family included the following-named children: David J., Catherine, Rachel, Ruth T., Hannah M., Mary M., Wesley B. and Henry M. He of whom we write was very young when his father removed to Hunterdon County and as soon as old enough began to assist in the cultivation of the home farm. When seventeen years of age, he served an apprenticeship of three years at the blacksmith's trade, and, in 1840, went to Tioga County, N. Y., where he was engaged as a smith for six years. At the end of that time, he came to Illinois, locating in Rockford, where he entered the employ of Frink & Walker, proprietors of the stage line, as their horse-shoer. As there were no railroads in Rockford at that early day, all transportation was made with teams.

In the fall of 1851, Mr. Anderson returned to New York State, and the following spring, accompanied by his mother, brothers and sisters, came to

this county, where he purchased, two years later, the farm which is his present home, and on which may be found all the improvements which go to make of it a first-class estate. Fruit, shade and ornamental trees enhance its beauty and value and not the least among its good buildings is a comfortable farm residence.

February 23, 1869, Elizabeth Forester, who was born in Northumberland County, Pa., March 21, 1834, became the wife of our subject. Her father, James Forester, was born in New Jersey, October 17, 1796, and was a lad of ten years when he removed with his parents to Pennsylvania. When starting out in life for himself, he purchased a farm in Northumberland County, which he cultivated until his decease, March 7, 1872. The maiden name of Mrs. Anderson's mother was Sarah Mettler, also a native of New Jersey, where her birth occurred March 24, 1798. She departed this life, February 7, 1885, when eighty-seven years old. Her thirteen children bore the names of Francis, George, William, John, Samuel, Henry M., Jane, Ira, Elizabeth, Philip, Charles, Sarah A., and James.

Two children have been granted our subject and his wife: Sarah Eleanor, who was born December 23, 1869, died January 1, 1873; and Gertrude, born June 20, 1874. Our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics Mr. Anderson votes the straight Republican ticket, with which party his wife is in full sympathy although not permitted to vote.



GEORGE J. THORNTON, one of the leading contractors and builders of Rockford, Ill., is pleasantly domiciled in one of the fine residences of his own building, at No. 114 Whitman Street, and at the head of Grant Avenue and Thomas Street. This is one of the many beautiful building spots of the thriving city of Rockford. Since 1881, Mr. Thornton has been a resident of this city. He has attended strictly to his business, winning a just reputation as to his ability as a contractor and builder. He was born in the Prov-

ince of Ontario, Canada, and his parents, Bowler and Hannah (Blackburn) Thornton, were natives of England.

Bowler Thornton was born in Yorkshire, in the year 1816, and comes of an old Yorkshire family. He grew to manhood there, and learned the blacksmith trade of his father, John Thornton. In 1829, the family came to America, settled at Port Hope, Province of Ontario, and in Clark Township, of that province, Bowler was united in marriage with Miss Blackburn. She was also a native of Yorkshire, England, born in 1821, and in 1832 she came with her parents, James and Rachel (Ware) Blackburn, who were natives of Yorkshire, to Canada. They settled on a timbered farm in Clark Township, Province of Ontario, and there the parents spent the closing years of their lives, having passed the allotted age of man. Both were prominent members of the Methodist Church. Of their eleven children, Mrs. Thornton was the youngest in order of birth. Her last remaining sister died in the Province of Ontario, March 14, 1892.

After his marriage, Mr. Thornton followed blacksmithing for some time, but later engaged in the grain business, and made a fortune at this. He was also actively engaged in merchandising, but soon met with reverses and lost all. In 1865, he came to Illinois and settled in Winnebago County, where he became manager of a sheep and stock farm of six hundred and forty acres in Owen Township, known as the L. W. Owen farm, and received as compensation \$65 per month. Three years later, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in that township, and resided on the same, making many improvements, until his death in August, 1876, when nearly fifty-nine years of age. Although he met with many discouragements and reverses, he was never disheartened, and at his death left a fortune of \$12,000. His wife, who is still living and who is seventy-nine years of age, has a comfortable home with a daughter, Mrs. H. H. Wilcox, in Burrill Township. She is a member of the Methodist Church, and her husband was also associated with that church.

George J. Thornton was one of eleven children, and was seven years old when he came with his

parents to Illinois. He remained in this State until seventeen years of age, and then returned to Canada. Later, he entered the Medical Department of the University at Ann Arbor, Mich., and then the Chicago Medical School, after which he went West. He had followed the drug business in Canada for some time before going to Ann Arbor, and in 1881, as before mentioned, he returned to Illinois. He was married in Rockford to Miss Ida J. Corlett, a native of Guilford Township, this county, where she was reared and educated. Her parents, James and Emma A. (Wood) Corlett, were natives of the Isle of Man and New York State, respectively. Mr. Corlett came to the United States with his parents when a child, settled with them in Ohio, and, later, came to Winnebago County, where he followed farming in Guilford Township. He was first married to Miss Mary A. Von Alstein, who died when a comparatively young woman, leaving four children. His second marriage was with Miss Wood, by whom he became the father of nine children. Mr. Corlett died at his home in Guilford Township, December 21, 1885, when sixty-three years of age. He was a very successful and popular business man, and left at his death an estate valued at \$75,000. Mrs. Corlett is a resident of this city, and is now not quite fifty years of age. She resides at No. 412 Whitman Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Thornton became the parents of two children: Birdie A., who died at the age of about five months, and Bessie A., a bright little girl of six years. Mr. and Mrs. Thornton are members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Thornton is a Republican in politics. Socially, our subject belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America.



HENRY A. POSSON. There is no doubt that a sketch of this popular citizen of Rockford will interest all the residents of this part of the county, as he is a very prominent man in social and business circles. Orleans County, N. Y., is the place of his birth, the date thereof being July 8, 1836. Jacob Posson, his father, was one of the first settlers in Rockford,

and it is thought he was born in Schoharie County, N. Y. He was the son of Frederick and Kate Posson, and was reared and married in New York State, where he learned the trade of a cooper. He removed to Niagara County soon after his marriage, where he was employed until 1836, the time of his coming to Rockford. In that early day all the surrounding country was owned by the Government, and but few families resided in this now wealthy city.

The father of our subject purchased a lot on the northeast corner of Second and Market Streets, and made his residence on the south side of Second Street, which property he also owned. In the fall of the above-named year he was joined in his new home by his wife and child, who came hither from the East by way of the Lakes to Chicago, and was twenty eight days in making the journey. They were met in Chicago by Mr. Posson, and were conveyed by a team to Rockford. In 1837, he bought a claim to a tract of land four miles from the city, on which he erected a log house and commenced at once the improvement on his farm. As there were no railroads in the vicinity for a number of years and Chicago was the nearest market and depot for supplies, the pioneers were compelled to haul their products to that city, and on the return trip brought back necessary articles for the family.

Jacob Posson resided for five years on the farm above mentioned, when he rented his estate and, coming to Rockford, erected a shop on the southeast corner of Second and Market Streets, where he intended to engage at his trade of coopering. His decease occurred, however, November 1, 1842, before the shop was completed. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Mary Sherwood. She was born in Salem, Washington County, N. Y., November 7, 1806, and was the daughter of James and Sarah (Smith) Sherwood, natives respectively of New York City and New Hampshire. Mrs. Posson is still living, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. She became the mother of three children: our subject, Frederick L. and Mary A. Frederick L. resides at Portland, Ore., and Mary A. married James M. Forbes, and makes her home in Santa Barbara.

Henry A. Posson, of this sketch, was an infant

when his parents emigrated to Winnebago County, and at that time was the first white babe in the county. He attended the early schools of Rockford, and at the age of twenty years went to Medina, N. Y., to learn the trade of house and carriage painting. After spending three years in the Empire State, he returned to Rockford, where he prosecuted his trade until 1861, when, in September of that year, he enlisted in Company G, Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry, and participated in the battles of Ft. Henry, Ft. Donelson and Shiloh. He was wounded at the latter-named conflict on Sunday, April 6th, receiving a gun-shot wound in his right arm, which was amputated the following week at the Central Hospital, Paducah. Our subject was honorably discharged July 2, 1862, and on returning home resumed work at his trade, which he followed for six years. He has been in the postal service in Rockford since January, 1890.

Miss Hannah McClafferty became the wife of our subject September 19, 1867. She was born in Annapolis, Nova Scotia, and was the daughter of Roger and Mary McClafferty, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two children: George A. and Mary A. Mrs. Posson is a member of the Baptist Church and her daughter is connected with the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and is greatly respected by the entire community.



RICHARD MOORE. The occupation which this gentleman now follows has received his attention the greater part of his life, and it is, perhaps, not to be wondered at that he is meeting with success in his chosen calling, for he has always attended strictly to the details of farm work, and is one of the intelligent and enterprising class of citizens who would give life to any community in which they might settle. He was born in Clarion County, Pa., on the 25th of May, 1826, to the union of John and Mary (Moore) Moore, natives of Ireland and Centre County, Pa., respectively. They were the parents of twelve children, four of whom are living at the present time.

The parents both died in this State, the father when sixty-two years of age, and the mother at the age of seventy-one. Both were worthy people and highly esteemed in the community in which they lived.

The paternal grandfather came from Ireland to America at an early date, and met with some exciting adventures in crossing the Atlantic. The captain of the vessel in which he took passage became drunk, the vessel was wrecked, and of the three hundred passengers who started, only about twenty-five were saved. The grandfather of our subject succeeded in reaching land, and was finally rescued and landed in Philadelphia, where he passed the remainder of his days, dying at the age of sixty-two. He lost all his belongings and was obliged to commence at the beginning again.

The subject of this sketch remained under the parental roof, working for himself and his father, until October 25, 1855, when he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Gordon, a native of Clearfield County, Pa., born May 21, 1832. She is the daughter of Patrick and Elizabeth (Cook) Gordon, the father a native of Scotland, and the mother of Centre County, Pa. Mr. Gordon came to this country when a young man, and here married. His death occurred in Illinois, when fifty years of age. His widow was married the second time, her husband being John Fleming, and by this union became the mother of one child. She received her final summons in Oregon, her death occurring when eighty-eight years of age. Mrs. Moore's grandmother, Margaret Cook, died in Illinois, and was a very old lady at the time of her demise. Her husband was in the Revolutionary War, and was a brave and gallant soldier. The Gordons and Cooks were for the most part agriculturists by occupation, there being but few exceptions. Mrs. Moore has four brothers and sisters living, and one brother, William Gordon, has been identified with the interests of Winnebago County, Ill., for many years, and has a street in Rockford named after him. Both Mr. and Mrs. Moore had brothers in the late unpleasantness between the North and South.

To our subject and wife have been born six children, five sons and one daughter: John A. is in Iowa engaged in farming; he married Miss Minnie

Norman, and they have five daughters. William A., who is in Spring Township, this county, married Miss Mina Wilcox, and has four daughters. George G., in this township, married Miss Ida Wilcox. James T., who resides in South Dakota, married Miss Jennie Stanton; they have one child, a son. Lizzie married Frank Tanner, a contractor and builder of Belvidere; and Clarence R. married Miss Philie Case, and resides in Belvidere.

Mr. Moore came to Boone County, Ill., in 1851, and for some time rented land. By industry and good management, he accumulated enough means to invest in land, and bought eighty acres, paying \$1,400 for it. He erected a small but comfortable and convenient house, also a small barn, and thus equipped he began to gather around him many of the comforts and conveniences of life. He subsequently purchased fifty acres more, paying \$15 per acre for this, and it is now valued at \$65 per acre at least. Mr. Moore was formerly a Republican in his political views, and cast his first Presidential vote for Col. John C. Fremont. He is now a Prohibitionist, and an active worker in the cause of temperance. He is a member of the Baptist Church, while Mrs. Moore leans toward the Methodist Episcopal Church.



AUGUSTUS NELSON, a successful dealer in agents' furnishing goods, hats, caps, etc., located at No. 320 East State Street, is a man of energy, push and enterprise, and is thoroughly conversant with every detail of his business, of which he has made such a pronounced success. This enterprise was inaugurated by Mr. Nelson in 1877, and at once bounded into popular favor and confidence, securing a flattering and steadily increasing patronage from its inception. He has a large room, 20x80 feet, and the secret of his success is not far to seek, as he handles none but strictly first-class and reliable goods, and gives prompt and polite attention to all customers.

Like many of the representative business men of Rockford, Mr. Nelson is a Swede, his birth oc-

curring on the 13th of October, 1831, and he was the first of his relatives to come to America. After reaching this country, he resided for a short time in Indiana and Michigan, thence he went to Chicago, where he was engaged in different occupations until 1861, when he made his first appearance in Rockford. Here he has since made his home. He was engaged as a carriage-maker for some time, but in 1870, he embarked in the merchant tailoring trade with Messrs. Erlander & Johnson, with which firm he continued for seven years. He then withdrew and established business on his own account. Shortly after coming here, he enlisted as a mechanic in the Rebellion, and was in service seven months.

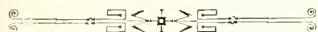
Mr. Nelson is in every respect a self-made man, and worked hard to lay the foundation to his subsequent prosperous career. He learned his trade in Batavia, Kane County, Ill., although when he first came to this country, in June, 1851, he resided in Chicago for some time. He has since been joined by two brothers, Lars P. and Carl J., the latter now deceased, dying at Garfield, Kan., from injuries received by his team running away. He was a farmer. Lars P. is also a farmer, and was married at Hobart, Ind.

The parents of these children died in their native country, Sweden, where the father, Nels P. Olson, followed agricultural pursuits. Both were quite aged, and both were members of the State Church.

Augustus Nelson was married in Geneva, Ill., to Miss Christina M. Peterson, who was born in Sweden, and who came to America with her father. The mother died while crossing the ocean, and was buried in the deep. The father, Carl Peterson, and only child, came to Geneva, Ill., and, later, the father found a home under the roof of his daughter, Mrs. Nelson, remaining with her until his death, in 1888, when seventy-nine years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of four living children: Alice M. at home; Ada T., wife of Fred W. Blake, of Minneapolis, Minn.; Della E. at home; and Carl A., a book-keeper in the Rockford National Bank. Mr. Nelson is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and, in politics, is a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are members of the

Emanuel Lutheran Church, and he has been Trustee in the same for some time. They have a good home at No. 203 North Third Street, Rockford.



OSCAR B. HARDING. The dealing in groceries, flour and provisions is an industry that occupies the attention of no inconsiderable portion of our mercantile community, and employs a capital aggregating a very large amount. A leading house in that line is that conducted by Oscar B. Harding, located at No. 305 East State Street, where he has been in business for the last five years. The store is very tastefully fitted up, admirably arranged and well stocked with a fine line of staple and fancy groceries, teas of the finest brands, canned goods in great variety, table delicacies of every description, etc. The store is now conducted under the title of the Great Western Tea Company.

A native of Sweden, born January 8, 1854, young Harding was but fifteen years of age when he came with his parents, John and Anna C. Harding, to American soil. He first came to Rockford and there finished his growth, after which he went to Omaha, Neb., where he was in the grocery business for five years. Returning subsequently to Rockford, he embarked in his present enterprise and conducted the business with so much vigor and push, and accorded his patrons such prompt and courteous service, that he soon became a leader in his line. He is also interested in other enterprises, and is classed among the substantial men of the city. Mr. Harding is a Director in the Skandia Plow Company, Rockford Baking Company, of which he is also a promoter, a large stockholder in the Union Furniture Company, Folding Bed Company, Mantel Company, Royal Sewing Machine Company, Rockford Manufacturing Company, Third National Bank, of Rockford, and is also a member of Peterson Land Company, and North Chicago Land Syndicate. By his energy and economy he is now worth from \$40,000 to \$50,000.

The father of Mr. Harding followed the occupation of a farmer, and made his home in Rock-

ford until his death, in 1872, when fifty years of age. He was a hard-working, industrious citizen, and a member of the Lutheran Church, in which his wife, who is now living and sixty-nine years of age, also holds membership. Their family consisted of four sons and two daughters. One daughter, Mrs. Selma Nelson, is now deceased; Albert, a molder in the Rockford Manufacturing Company, married Miss Carrie Thurston; Claus, now a painter with the Rockford Manufacturing Company, wedded Miss Ida Ekeberg; Oscar B., our subject; Mattilda, wife of John Bumberg, a farmer near Stone Lake, Iowa; and Theodore, a molder by trade, married Miss Nettie Blunt.

Our subject has never married. Mr. Harding and his brothers are Republicans in politics, and all the members of the family hold membership in the First Lutheran Church.



EUGENE C. HANCE. The ordinary, everyday life, with its duties and cares, affords a splendid opportunity for acquiring practical experience, and its most common and oft-traveled highroads give to the earnest worker available openings toward success. The honored position occupied by Mr. Hance in business and social circles is not the result of accidental fortune or what is usually termed "luck," but has been secured by a life of industry, in which he has ever displayed toward others the spirit of the Golden Rule. Now in the prime of a stalwart manhood, he is in the possession of a competency, and, what is better, has gained the confidence of his fellow-men.

For an account of the parentage and descent of Mr. Hance, the reader is referred to the sketch of his brother Ogden, which appears in another portion of this volume. In Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County, where he was born June 6, 1819, Eugene C. Hance grew to manhood amid such surroundings as prevailed here during the middle of this century. His home was with his parents until he was married, March 22, 1875, to Miss Mary A. Morrison, a native of Canada, and the daughter of Moses and Lucinda Morrison.

Mr. and Mrs. Hance are the parents of two children: Gertrude A. and Susie E., accomplished young ladies, who are at home.

For one year after his marriage, Mr. Hance resided in the village of Pecatonica, and then removed to a farm which was originally a part of the land entered by his father. Here he purchased three hundred and five acres, which are devoted to general farming and stock-raising. For several years, he resided on that place, which he brought to a high cultivation and embellished with substantial buildings. In January, 1892, he rented the farm and purchased a residence in Pecatonica, where he has established a comfortable and attractive home.

In his political belief, Mr. Hance is a Democrat, and, although he is by no means a partisan in public affairs, he pays considerable attention to the prominent questions of the age, and is careful to deposit his ballot in favor of what he deems right and true. Socially, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Farmers' Alliance, and is influential in both organizations. Mrs. Hance was born in the town of Waterloo, Canada, November 17, 1854, and is one of eight children, five sons and three daughters. She is a sincere Christian, and a lady whose generous disposition and hospitality are widely known.



CHARLES H. MELLEN, one of the influential citizens of the village of Winnebago, lives just outside the corporation, on a beautiful tract of eighty acres of land, which is cultivated in the most intelligent and thorough manner. Born in Skaneateles, Onondaga County, N. Y., December 11, 1829, he is the son of Erastus Mellen, whose birth occurred in Franklin County, Mass., October 12, 1800. His father, Jeremiah Mellen, was also a native of the Bay State, and of Scotch ancestry.

There is a tradition that two sons of the Mellen family accompanied their parents to America, where they were among the first settlers of Massachusetts. There they secured a tract of timber

land and commenced to clear the property. One son was killed by the falling of a tree, so the other was the ancestor of all the Mellens in the United States. The grandfather of our subject removed from Massachusetts to New York State, where he was a pioneer in the town of Skaneateles. Purchasing a tract of partially cleared land, he resided upon it for a number of years, and died October 15, 1826, in Mottville. The maiden name of his wife was Nancy Lindsey, who was born March 4, 1771, and died May 4, 1841.

Erastus Mellen was twenty years of age when his parents removed to the Empire State, where he met and married Sarah Mandevill, a native of Canterbury, that State. Her father, Jacob Mandevill, was born in New York, on the 22d of April, 1752, and was of Huguenot ancestry. He was a patriot of the War of the Revolution, being Commissary under Gen. Putnam. His last years were spent in Sennett, Cayuga County, where his death occurred January 19, 1839. He had married Sarah, the daughter of Jeremiah Clark, who was born at Cornwall, N. Y., March 5, 1774, and died in Sennett.

The father of our subject lived for a time on a farm in the town of Skaneateles, thence removed to Sennett, Cayuga County, and after a stay of two years there went to Tompkins County, where he purchased a tract of partially improved timber land. In 1834, he located on the Mandevill Homestead in Sennett, which he sold in 1853, and became the owner of a farm near Auburn, where he lived eight or nine years, then, also disposing of that tract, purchased a smaller farm near Palmyra, N. Y. Residing upon that estate until 1875, he came to Winnebago County, and made his home with his children until his decease, June 1, 1890; his wife had died September 30, 1876.

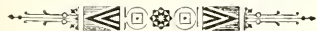
The six children reared by the parents of our subject were as follows: Jeremiah Clark, Charles H., Eliza, Judson, William and Albert. William served as a soldier in Company C, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, during the War of the Rebellion, and fell mortally wounded before Kennesaw Mountain in 1864. His remains now lie buried in the National Cemetery at Chattanooga. Charles H. Mellen, of this sketch, was given a good edu-



Thos. B. Faleott

education, and, when old enough to do so, assisted his father in carrying on the home, residing under the parental roof until 1851, at which time he came to Illinois. Four years later he purchased a tract of land in Ogle County, which he farmed until 1876, and then, disposing of it, was engaged in the drug business at Winnebago until going West to Nebraska a few years later. In the Western country, our subject purchased six hundred and forty acres of land in Fairmont, Fillmore County, to the cultivation of which he gave his attention for one year and then rented it to tenants. He is still the owner of that tract, and in 1880 purchased the property spoken of in our opening paragraph.

September 5, 1858, Mr. Mellen was united in marriage to Annis St. John, whose birth occurred in Weedsport, Cayuga County, N. Y. To them have been born three children: Elmer, Elida and Clarence. Mrs. Mellen is a member of the Congregational Church, in Ogle County, and, in politics, our subject is an out and out Republican. He has managed his affairs shrewdly and well, and may well be pleased with what he has accomplished by his own hands and steady persevering toil. He and his wife are greatly esteemed in the neighborhood, and cordially support all enterprises calculated to aid the social, moral and financial progress of their community.



HON. THOMAS B. TALCOTT, who is undoubtedly the oldest living settler of Winnebago County, was born in Hebron, Conn., April 17, 1806, the son of William and Dorothy (Blish) Talcott. When a child of five years, he accompanied his parents in their removal to Rome, Oneida County, N. Y., where the father settled upon an unimproved tract of land in the midst of a sparsely settled country. Amid such pioneer scenes, the lad grew to a rugged and stalwart manhood, well fitted to bear his part in the battle of life.

In 1830, our subject was elected Major of the One Hundred and Fifty-seventh New York Militia. One year later, he went to Horseheads, Che-

mung County, the same State, and engaged in the mercantile business in partnership with his brothers, Wait and Sylvester. With his father, he came West in 1835, driving all the distance from Rome, Oneida County, N. Y., with a horse and buggy, and arriving on the east bank of the Rock River, near the present site of Rockton, on Saturday, July 23. The only white man then in the vicinity was Stephen Mack, an Indian trader, who many years before had come from Boston in the employ of a fur company. At that early date there were not more than six families in the entire territory now embraced in Boone and Winnebago Counties.

Shortly after coming hither, the father of our subject returned to his home in Rome, N. Y., but in October, 1835, he was joined by his brother Henry, and, aided by him, he commenced to prepare the untilled soil of the prairie for their farms. It required arduous labor and great energy to bring the land to a state of cultivation, and none but a man of heroic nature would have braved the hardships attendant upon pioneer life. Maj. Talcott became closely identified with the public affairs of the community, and was elected a member of the first Board of County Commissioners. In connection with William E. Dunbar and Simon P. Doty, he organized the County of Winnebago, which then included all of Boone and half of Stephenson County.

In 1849, a still greater honor was conferred upon Mr. Talcott, by his election to the State Senate, and he was the first Whig candidate elected to that body from this Senatorial District. During his term in the Senate, the Illinois Central Railroad was chartered, with the condition of paying the State seven per cent. of its gross earnings. He was greatly interested in the Civil War, served as Assistant Revenue Assessor through the four years of the conflict, and gave his best efforts to aid in the preservation of the Union. In 1870, he took the census of the northern part of the county. He has also held various township offices in Rockton.

His portrait, on an accompanying page, perpetuates the lineaments of one of the best-known citizens of Winnebago County.

June 5, 1843, the marriage of Mr. Talcott to Miss Sophia E. Willard was solemnized in Rockton.

Mrs. Talcott was born in Vernon, Oneida County, N. Y., November 11, 1821, the daughter of Asa and Lucy (Whiting) Willard. She is a descendant of Rev. Samuel Whiting, D. D., and Elizabeth St. John, his wife, who came to America in 1636, and through them her genealogy is traced back to William the Conqueror in two distinct lines. She has been the cheerful and efficient helpmate of her husband, and occupies a warm place in the affection of her acquaintances.



PHILANDER COPELAND, M. D., is familiar to most of the residents of Winnebago as one having his full share of business and who has attained to a good position in the medical fraternity of the county. He has a fine office, thoroughly equipped with everything pertaining to the profession, while his prompt attention to the calls made upon him and his conscientious methods of practice have fully established him in the esteem and confidence of the people.

Our subject was born in Bridgewater, Mass., March 6, 1811, and is a son of Alfred Copeland, also a native of that place as was his father, Daniel Jonathan Copeland, the great-grandfather of our subject, was also born in the above-named town and State, and his father, the great-great-grandfather of the Doctor, William Copeland, was born in Braintree, Mass., and his father, Lawrence Copeland, was one of the passengers who came over in the "Mayflower" in 1620. The latter-named gentleman settled in Braintree, Mass., was married to Lydia Townsend and died in 1699, aged one hundred and ten years.

The great-great-grandfather of our subject married Mary, daughter of John Alden, the Pilgrim, and died in 1716, in his sixtieth year. Jonathan Copeland was a farmer, and spent his entire life in Bridgewater, Mass., dying in 1790 in his ninetieth year; he had married Miss Betsey, daughter of Thomas Snell. Daniel Copeland, the grandfather of our subject, was married to Susan, daughter of Joseph Ames. He was a farmer by occupation and with this he combined the trade of a car-

penter. His farm is now owned and occupied by a grandson, he dying in 1827, at the age of eighty-six years; his good wife died when ninety years of age in 1834.

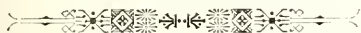
Alfred Copeland was reared a farmer, and when starting out in life for himself engaged in the mercantile business, residing in Bridgewater and Taunton until 1810, when he emigrated to Illinois and spent his last years in Byron Township, Ogle County. His decease occurred in 1871, when seventy-five years of age. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was May Williams, a native of Taunton, Mass., and the daughter of Nathaniel and Lucidia (Hodges) Williams; she departed this life in 1860, when seventy-eight years of age.

The parental family included ten children, all of whom were well educated. Our subject was reared in Taunton and early in life turned his attention to the study of medicine, reading with Dr. Bayles, of Taunton and afterward commenced practice at Fishkill, N. Y. After remaining there a short time, he went to Poughkeepsie, and after a stay of seven years in this city, came West to Michigan and was graduated from the Detroit Medical College. In 1853, he came to Winnebago County, and has been a resident of the village since 1866.

The lady to whom our subject was united in marriage in 1836 bore the name of Louisa Watkins and to them were born ten children, eight of whom are now living: Philander W., Louisa, Elizabeth, Frances, Rosephia, Nettie, Jessie and Edward L. Joseph, the first-born, served during the late war in the Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry for a period of two years, and at the end of that time was transferred to the First Tennessee Artillery and received the commission of First Lieutenant. He also served as Adjutant on the staff of Gen. Kepner at Ft. Pickering. He departed this life in 1881. Philander W. was also a soldier, enlisting September 17, 1861, in the Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served in his regiment as principal musician until July, 1865.

Mrs. Copeland was born in the town of Spaulding, Dutchess County, N. Y., in May, 1816. Her father, Joseph Watkins, was a native of New Jersey, and was a tailor by trade, which he followed

the greater part of his life together with farming. His place of business was in the town of Matteawan, near Fishkill, and he departed this life at the home of his son in Prattsburg, Steuben County, N. Y. His wife was known in her maidenhood as Abigail Watts. She was also a native of Dutchess County and died in Prattsburg. Her father was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and his demise occurred on the farm in Dutchess County. Mrs. Watkins was a descendant of Dr. Watts, the celebrated author of some of our popular hymns. The Doctor and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and, in politics, he casts his vote in favor of Republican candidates.



N P. NELSON, who has been Secretary, Treasurer and manager of the Skandia Boot and Shoe Company since the 1st of July, 1890, claims Sweden as the land of his nativity. He was born on the 27th of January, 1855, and when quite young lost his parents. Thus at an early age he was thrown upon his own resources, and his success in life has all been due to his own efforts. One brother, Louis, resides in Rockford, as do two of his sisters, Tilla and Sophia. The latter is the wife of Frank Coburg, of this city.

Our subject was the first of the family to emigrate to America. He took passage on a vessel which left Liverpool. During the voyage, they encountered very severe weather, and at length the ship struck on the rocks of Newfoundland. Thirteen minutes later it sank with five hundred and eighty on board. Only two hundred and thirteen of the passengers were saved, and most of these were young men who were better able to withstand the cold and exposure. The accident occurred at three o'clock in the morning, and it was not until six that they were rescued. As it was night time when the vessel sank, the passengers were in their night clothes, and thus attired, our subject hung on the rigging for three hours, beaten by the cold and merciless waves. At length, he with the others was landed on the bleak rocks and taken to Halifax, but they did not receive very humane treatment at that place. The few survivors finally

reached Boston, which seemed to them a blessed haven after all they had undergone. Here they were treated in the kindest manner, fed and clothed, and societies in New York City sent them on to Chicago. The generous people of the latter place gave them money and other aid, and in that city Mr. Nelson got his start in life. He has never yet fully recovered from the exposure and hardships of that awful experience. He spent a year in Chicago, and then came to Rockford, where he has since resided.

Mr. Nelson was married in this city, to Abertena Johnson, who was born in Rockford, October 23, 1859. Her father, Andrew Johnson, who died some years ago, was a soldier of the late war, having served in Company K, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. He participated in many engagements, and was wounded at Mission Ridge. He died in this city at the age of fifty-three. His wife is still living at the age of sixty-eight years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have been born two children: George L. and Elsie M. The parents are both members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and in politics, he is a Republican.

Mr. Nelson has led a busy and useful life, and by his own efforts has worked his way upward. He has become thoroughly acquainted with the boot business, and is now the efficient manager of the Skandia Boot and Shoe Company, which was organized in 1880. Its prosperity is largely due to his labors, for he has worked untiringly in its behalf.



AUGUST HOLMIN. In the complexities of city life the business of merchant tailoring may be regarded as one of greatest importance in furnishing those evidences of refinement and taste that are represented in fashionable and well-fitting garments. Few establishments in mercantile life attract more general attention in these days of tasteful attire than those devoted to the manufacture and sale of gentlemen's garments, for at no period during its entire history has the tailor's art been so highly appreciated or

better understood than at the present day. Among the most popular and prosperous houses devoted to this important branch of industry in Rockford, and well worthy of more than passing notice, is the concern of Marsales & Holmin, located at No. 111 South Main Street. This firm has been at this number since the spring of 1891, when they became sole proprietors of the Merchant Tailor Stock Company, of which Mr. Marsales and Mr. Holmin were members, the same being in existence for fifteen years. They carry all the latest and most fashionable styles and do first-class work.

Mr. Holmin, who has been a resident of Rockford since 1869, began here as a tailor and, with the exception of about eighteen months, has been a resident of the city ever since. He became one of the promoters and organizers of the Merchant Tailor Stock Company, was President and Treasurer for many years, and a Director of the company from its organization. Experienced and progressive, he is well and favorably known all over the city.

A native of Wester Gothland, Sweden, our subject's natal day was the 8th of January, 1849. As he grew to manhood, he received a common-school education and learned the tailor's trade in Sweden, and has followed this trade ever since he came to America in 1869. He was the first of his kinsmen to come to this country, but one year later his parents and other members of his family joined him. His parents, John and Bertha S. (Larson) Holmin, now reside on South Sixth Street, and although both are over seventy years of age, they are comparatively free from the ills and pains usual to their years. They are excellent citizens and have been members of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church for years. The father has been a tailor all his life. In politics, he has affiliated with the Republican party since coming to this country. He has another son, Frank, who is a resident of Rockford, and a tailor by trade, working for the firm of which our subject is a member. Frank married Miss Anna Liud, a Swedish lady, and they now reside on South Sixth Street. A sister of our subject, Tilda, married S. Ryblum.

He of whom we write was married in Rockford to Miss Tilda Johnson, a native of that city, where she was reared and educated. Their union has

resulted in the birth of three children: Oscar S., educated in the city schools; Esther A., and Joseph Rudolph. Mrs. Holmin's father, August Johnson, was a native of Sweden, but died many years ago in Rockford, where he was one of the early Swedish settlers. The mother is still living and finds a comfortable home with her daughter, Mrs. Holmin. She is now seventy years of age and a worthy and consistent member of the Lutheran Church.

In his political views, Mr. Holmin, like his father, leans to the Republican party and gives that the weight of his influence and vote. He has a pleasant residence at No. 107 South Second Street, and is one of the prosperous and much-esteemed citizens.



JAMES WHITTLE. This gentleman, who has been actively engaged in agriculture for a number of years in Caledonia Township, Boone County, is now living retired in the village of Poplar Grove. He was born in Mercer, Essex County, Ontario, Canada, April 16, 1823. His father, Thomas Whittle, was also born in Canada, while his father, John Whittle, it is thought, had his birth in Ireland and was of Scotch ancestry. The latter-named gentleman came to America when a young man, and spent the remainder of his life in Canada.

Thomas Whittle came to the New World when a young man, and was married in Quebec, soon after which he went to Ontario and became a pioneer in Essex County. He purchased timber land and built a log house, in which our subject was born. His death occurred on that place in about 1855. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Betsey Levi, the daughter of Thomas and Betsey Levi. She was born in Quebec, Canada, and died on the home farm in Mercer, in 1837.

The parental family included thirteen children, of whom our subject was the ninth in order of birth. He remained in Mercer until 1843, then, in company with his brother Charles, came to Illinois, making the entire journey overland with teams. The trip consumed thirteen days, and on arriving in Winnebago County, our subject found



John Woodruff

Rockford to be little more than a village. He immediately commenced working out on farms in the vicinity, and a few years later was enabled to purchase a tract of partly improved land near Caledonia Village, this county, where he made his home for seven years. Then selling out, Mr. Whittle removed to Guilford Township, Winnebago County, where he cultivated the soil for six years, and then removed to near Somonauk, De Kalb County, and four years later purchased property southeast of Rockford. That was his abiding place for two years, when he sold his farm and returned to Caledonia and purchased the Early homestead, upon which he resided for twelve years. He is now living retired in Poplar Grove, fully enjoying the ease and comfort which his life of industry so well deserves.

In June, 1851, Miss Josephine, daughter of John and Julia Early, became the wife of our subject. She was born in Gossfield, Canada, and departed this life in March, 1887. The lady whom our subject chose as his second wife, in 1889, was Miss Minta Webster. She was born in this county, and is the daughter of Willet S. and Mary (Wheeler) Webster. Our subject reared a family of four children, only one of whom is living, E. J., who married Alice Hillyer, and has two children, Cora and Fred. Philetus, the second son, died when twenty-six years of age. Cora departed this life at the age of fifteen years, and Fred when an infant of nine months. Our subject is a Republican in politics and is well respected in his community.



JOHN WOODRUFF. There is probably no family in Boone County better known for intelligence and character, or more universally respected than that which is represented by the name just given. Our subject was born in Middlebury, New Haven County, Conn., July 9, 1813, the son of Philo and Lucy (Tuttle) Woodruff, natives also of the Nutmeg State, born in the town of Waterbury. Philo Woodruff's parents, Jonah and Mabel Woodruff, were born in New England and died in Connecticut when very old.

Like most of his ancestors, Philo Woodruff was a prosperous farmer and followed that occupation in his native State for many years. He subsequently moved to Broome County, N. Y., and there he and his esteemed wife received their final summons, the father dying at the age of eighty-seven, and the mother at the age of seventy-three years. Of the eleven children who blessed this union, all grew to mature years and three are yet living. The eldest child was a carpenter, the next a farmer, the third (our subject), a tailor, the next two (twins) became tanners, and the youngest son became the editor of a paper at Johnstown, Pa. He was living there at the time of the great flood, but escaped without injury. He still edits a paper, the *Democrat*, at that place. The father of these children hired a substitute for the War of 1812.

The original of this notice remained at home until fourteen years of age, and then learned the trade of a tailor, which he followed in Broome County, N. Y., until 1849. In the fall of that year, he decided to push further West, and reaching Illinois, settled on his present property. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres, erected a small house and there resided, engaged in tilling the soil, until 1860, when he bought his present town property. He was married on the 21st of April, 1834, to Miss Lucinda M. Dimick, who was born in Livingston County, N. Y., December 29, 1816. Her parents, Nathan C. and Temperance (Russell) Dimick, were natives of the Excelsior State, but her father spent the closing scenes of his life in Madison, Wis., dying at the age of sixty-five. The mother passed away when eighty-seven years of age, in Wyoming, N. Y. They were the parents of two children, but only Mrs. Woodruff is now living.

The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Woodruff were Riverius and Charity (Hotchkiss) Russell, natives of England and America, respectively. When Riverius Russell came to this country during the Revolutionary War, he forsook the English vessel and joined the Colonists in their struggle for independence, fighting all through the war, and afterward receiving a pension for his services. He had a brother who also fought bravely for the Colonists. He and his wife passed their last days in

New York. The representatives of the Dimick and Russell families were originally for the most part farmers and mechanics, but in subsequent generations there were many professional men. The Dimicks were of Welsh descent and settled in Vermont.

The family of our subject consisted of eleven children, four of whom are living at the present time: Russell D., born in Broome County, N. Y., on the 11th of January, 1843, married Miss Laura Ball and is the father of two children, a son and daughter. During the Civil War, he enlisted in the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry and served all through the war. For seven months he was in Andersonville Prison, and only those who were in that horrible place can understand what he suffered during that time. A wonderful constitution alone brought him through. He is now residing in Rock Springs, Wyo., and is a painter and decorator. He is prominent in Grand Army circles and is Commander of the post at Rock Springs, and Quartermaster of the State troops of Wyoming.

Our subject's second child, John D., was also born in Broome County, N. Y., December 20, 1847, and took for his wife Miss Josephine Doty, who bore him three sons. He is now residing in Lander, Wyo., and is engaged in raising sheep, of which he owns between thirty and forty thousand head. He was one of the first State Senators elected in Wyoming, and there was considerable talk of running him for Governor of the State, of which he is one of the most prominent men.

The third child born to our subject, Edward D., M. D., is a resident of Salt Lake, but has retired from professional life on account of being overworked. He married Miss Minnie M. Roberts and is the father of a little daughter. Our subject's other child, Mary K., was born in this county, on the 20th of December, 1852, and became the wife of Payson E. Lamb, a farmer of Iowa, and they have four children, three daughters and a son. The subject of this sketch has one grandchild married, a daughter of Russell D. All these children are well educated and are intelligent and excellent people.

John Woodruff and his wife are regular attendants at the Methodist Episcopal Church when able, and their children are nearly all members of the

same. He was formerly an old-line Whig in politics, and his first Presidential vote was cast in 1836. Later, he voted for Fremont, and since then has affiliated with the Republican party. He has been Justice of the Peace for twenty years and has held nearly every local office in the township.

On another page appears a portrait of Mr. Woodruff.



WILLET S. WEBSTER. The business men of Poplar Grove are a class of whom the city may well feel proud, and they have added greatly to her financial strength and also to her reputation among the cities of Northern Illinois. Our subject, who is deceased, was a man of genuine and widespread popularity, was self-made and a worthy representative of the business community.

The original of this sketch was born in East Hamburg, Erie County, N. Y., March 7, 1819, and was the son of William Webster who, like his father, Joseph, was born in New Jersey. The latter-named gentleman on removing to the Empire State, purchased a tract of land in the town of East Hamburg, where he made his home until his decease. William Webster remained on a farm in his native State until removing to New York when a young man and was one of the pioneers of East Hamburg. He also purchased a tract of timber land, upon which he built a sawmill, and was engaged in its operation with his farming pursuits. About 1850, he came West to Boone County and died in Poplar Grove.

Miss Catherine Willet, the maiden name of our subject's mother, was born in New Jersey and died in Poplar Grove. He of whom we write was educated in East Hamburg, and when sixteen years of age commenced clerking in a store in Buffalo, where he was employed for five years. He was then engaged in the mercantile business in his native place until 1845, when he sold out and came to Illinois. They came from Buffalo by way of the Lakes to Chicago, and by team to Poplar Grove, and purchased three hundred and twenty

acres of land in this county. He farmed for about fifteen years, at the expiration of which time he removed to the village of Poplar Grove, and launched out in the lumber and grain business, from which he retired with a handsome competence, and lived retired until his death in 1885.

September 20, 1812, Mr. Webster was married, in East Hamburg, N. Y., to Mary J., daughter of Thomas Wheeler, who is a native of Massachusetts. She was born in East Hamburg, February 16, 1821, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of the following children: Katherine B., Mrs. Harry M. Hudson; Minta, who married James Whittle; Julia, the wife of D. C. Cowan; Elida M., the widow of A. O. Woodard; Albourne L., who married Edwin Willet; Warren M., the husband of Edith Clark; Adelbert, who married Eulia Miller; and two children Albourne and Warren A. are deceased.

The father of Mrs. Webster, on removing to New York, located in East Hamburg, where he followed his trade of a blacksmith until his death, in 1829. His wife, who was born in Rhode Island, was known in her maidenhood as Martha Baxter. She came to Illinois and died at the home of Mrs. Webster in Poplar Grove. Our subject was a staunch Republican.



BENJAMIN B. HOVEY, of Cherry Valley, was born January 16, 1825, in Washington County, Ohio, and is a son of Harvey C. and Clarissa (Stanley) Hovey. His father was born in Vermont, in November, 1793, and was a son of William Hovey, a native of Rutland, Vt., and a farmer, who served through the Revolutionary War. He was born in 1718, and died October 20, 1831, at the age of eighty-six years. His family numbered three sons and six daughters, all of whom grew to mature years and became heads of families. The mother died January 20, 1853, at the very advanced age of ninety-three years. Her last days were spent at the home of her son, Harvey C., in Ohio.

The parents of our subject were married in Fearing, Washington County, Ohio, November, 14,

1822. The lady was a daughter of Thomas and Mixenda (Dix) Stanley, natives of New England, who emigrated to Ohio in an early day. Our subject was the second child in the parental family, as follows: William T., B. B., Lucy, Edmund D., George S., Selden C., Mary Ann, Simon, Lucinda, Mixenda, Angelina, who died at the age of three years; Esther C.; Joseph R., who died in infancy, and Charles C., who was blind from early childhood, and after being an inmate of the blind asylum of Columbus, Ohio, two years, fell from a third-story window and died April 6, 1860, at the age of thirteen years. The only brother of our subject yet living is George S., a resident of Ohio. His sisters who are living are: Lucy, wife of Jonathan Alden, of Hollenburg, Washington County, Kan.; Mary Ann, wife of H. A. Stiles, of California; Lucinda, wife of Hiram Kyes, a farmer near Los Angeles, Cal.; and Mixenda, wife of Melvin True, an architect and builder of Lower Salem, Ohio.

The subject of this sketch was married on Christmas Day, 1850, to Miss Elizabeth Farley, of Lower Salem, a daughter of James and Ellen (Taylor) Farley. Her mother was a native of England, and her father of Washington County, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Hovey, as children, were reared near each other. When a young man, he learned the carpenter's trade, and did business for himself in Ohio for four years before coming to Illinois in 1856. In the spring of that year, he settled in Cherry Valley and bought a house upon the grounds where his present residence is now located. He built a store soon after locating here, and, filling it with a stock of hardware, did business in that line until 1859, when he was burned out. He then embarked in the grocery and provision trade, and, during the war, did an immense business, but after the close of the war he purchased a large stock of merchandise at inflated prices, which soon depreciated, and he was forced to the wall. He did not take advantage of the bankrupt act, and has never regretted his course, for he and his wife braved this adversity and at length paid off the indebtedness of \$12,000. In the spring of 1880, Mr. Hovey became an employe in the land department of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, and has since been actively em-

ployed in that line. During this time, his sales of the lands belonging to the company will aggregate \$100,000,000. On one occasion he made a sale of \$100,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Hovey have one son and seven daughters: Edward H., born December 3, 1851; Mary F., Minnie F., Josephine L., Esther C., Nellie H., Clara S., and Nina Blanche. They were all given good educational advantages, and some of them have received instruction in music. All have now left the parental roof. Mr. and Mrs. Hovey also had another son: James Harvey, who died July 8, 1859, at the age of four years. The little fellow was playing in the hay-loft of his father's barn, and, with matches picked up from the factory close by, he probably set the hay afire, and was burned to death.

Mr. Hovey was Justice of the Peace one term, and was a Notary Public for about twenty years. His last commission was given him by Gov. Pifer, and expires in 1893. In his early manhood he was an Abolitionist, and for many years was an ardent supporter of the Republican party, but is now a stalwart Prohibitionist. He was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian Church, but for many years he and his wife have been active members of the Methodist Church.



JOHIN C. STARR, who is engaged in the manufacture of harness and saddlery in Belvidere, is a wide-awake and enterprising business man of this city. His life record is as follows: He was born in Whitehall, Washington County, N. Y., March 16, 1839, and is a son of Humphrey G. Starr, who was born in County Cavan, Ireland, April 10, 1810. His father, Thomas Starr, and the great-grandfather of our subject, Jeremiah Starr, were both born in the same locality, and followed the occupation of farming. In 1824, Jeremiah Starr, accompanied by his wife and five children, sailed for America, and after a voyage of thirty-three days landed at Quebec. He located thirty miles east of Montreal, where he purchased land and engaged in farming until his death, which occurred at the advanced age of eighty nine

years. He married Sarah Nesbitt, who was born in County Cavan, and was a daughter of Humphrey and Catherine (Knight) Nesbitt, natives of Ireland, and of English descent. The grandparents of our subject were Episcopalians in religious belief.

Humphrey Starr was only fourteen years of age when he crossed the briny deep, locating with the family in Canada. The following year, he began to learn the trade of a harness-maker in Montreal, serving a five years' apprenticeship, after which he went to Whitehall, N. Y., where he was employed at his trade for five years. He then began business for himself in Hartford, Washington County, N. Y., but after two years returned to Whitehall, and there carried on business until 1855. In the autumn of that year, he came to Belvidere, and after a few months went to Forrester, Ogle County, where he carried on harness-making for four years. The succeeding year and a half of his life were passed in Freeport, after which he returned to Belvidere, where he still makes his home. He first married Lucy M. Black, who was born in Vermont, and was a daughter of Asa Black. Her death occurred in Whitehall in 1846, after which Mr. Starr wedded Harriet J. Wicker, a native of Rutland County, Vt., and a daughter of B. P. Wicker.

By the first marriage there were five children, three sons and two daughters: George, Mary J., John, Lucy and Frederick. Four children were born of the second marriage: Harriet, Lucy, Amelia and Frank. In politics, he was formerly a Whig, but has been a Republican since the organization of that party.

At the age of eleven years, John C. Starr began working in his father's harness shop and learned the trade. He remained with him until he had attained his majority, when he came to Belvidere and commenced business for himself in company with his brother George H. They continued to engage in the manufacture of harness and saddlery for four years, when our subject bought out his brother's interest, and has since been alone. He has built up an excellent trade and secured a liberal patronage as the result of his persistent industry, good management and fair dealing.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Starr has always



Geo S. Cate

been a Republican, and has filled several offices. He served for four years as Alderman of the First Ward, four years as Assistant Supervisor, and at the present time is a member of the City School Board. Socially, he is a member of Belvidere Camp No. 52, M. W. A. In business and social circles, he ranks high, and is well deserving of the warm regard in which he is held.

Mrs. Starr bore the maiden name of Angeline E. Pendleton. She was born in McHenry County, Ill., and is a daughter of Chancey and Eliza Pendleton. Their union was celebrated in November, 1863, and unto them have been three sons and a daughter: Chancey, Mary E., William and John Irvin. The family circle yet remains unbroken.

GEORGE S. CATE. The gentleman whose portrait and biography are here presented is a prominent citizen of Spring Township, Boone County. He is a general farmer and the owner of a fertile and productive estate, located on section 3. Born in Salem, Mass., November 2, 1816, he is the son of Samuel and Mary (Stacey) Cate, natives respectively of New Hampshire and Massachusetts. The father departed this life in Ohio when eighty-seven years of age, and the mother died in Salem, Mass., in her forty-fifth year.

Both the paternal and maternal grandfathers of our subject were patriots in the War of the Revolution, one of them being crippled for life in that struggle, and in prison for eleven months in New York City. George S. of this sketch was one in a family of seven children, of whom he is the only survivor. He remained at home until fifteen years of age and then, learning the trade of a currier, followed that occupation for eleven years. He had resolved to seek a home in the Far West, and accordingly took passage on a boat at Buffalo, landing in Cleveland and proceeding thence in a canal boat to Chillicothe, where he again embarked on a steamer. After sailing down the Ohio River and up the Mississippi, he arrived in St. Louis, from which city he traveled to Galena, Ill., and there met a gentleman, who, for a small compensation,

gave him a ride to Boone County. Arriving here, he purchased a farm consisting of one hundred and forty acres and at once commenced its improvement. The old log house which stood on the place remained his home for ten years, when he erected a more substantial residence.

Miss Marille Heaton, who was born in 1821, in New York, became the wife of our subject in 1853. She bore her husband two sons, who are now deceased, and departed this life in February, 1891, in her sixty-ninth year. Mr. Cate is one of the largest landowners in the county, his estate including at the present time three hundred broad acres. He has recently erected a handsome farm residence and has improved his estate with all the necessary buildings and machinery which make of agriculture a pleasant as well as profitable business. He came to Boone County with no knowledge whatever of cultivating the soil, and to-day is known throughout Northern Illinois as the owner of one of the best estates in this section.

Our subject cast his first Presidential vote for Martin Van Buren, but since the organization of the Republican party he has been a staunch adherent of its principles. For four years he filled the office of Justice of the Peace and has been the incumbent of various other positions of honor and trust. Modest and unassuming, his sturdy integrity has won the confidence of all with whom business or social intercourse has brought him in contact, and his place is among the most successful and prominent residents of Boone County.

JEROME B. ELLSWORTH was brought up to the life of an agriculturist by his father, Sherwood A. Ellsworth, and like the majority of boys, has followed in his ancestor's footsteps, and is now one of the leading farmers of Boone County. His fine farm attests his thrift and industry and his success in life. He is a native-born resident of Boone County, Ill., born in Manchester in March, 1851, and the son of Sherwood A. and Sarah J. (Sherman) Ellsworth.

Sherwood A. Ellsworth was born in New York State in 1814; when an infant he was taken by his par-

ents to Bennington, Vt., and there with his brother and sister grew to mature years. His parents were intelligent Christian people, and were well thought of. The father died there at an advanced age, but the mother afterward came to Manchester, Ill., where she resided with her son Sherwood A. for about five years, or until her death, when eighty years of age. Their children were: Orville, Sherwood; Mary E., Julia A., and Louisa are deceased. The latter married John Brown, a prosperous farmer of Bennington, Vt. They had two daughters and one son, Elbridge Brown. Orville was a farmer of Bennington and died in the prime of life, leaving three daughters and one son.

The father of our subject was first married in Vermont to Miss Maria S. Steel, of the same State, who bore him four children, all sons: Elmer, retired, makes his home in Clarence, Shelby County, Mo.; John, when twenty-two years of age, volunteered in the army and served one year. He died in the year 1862. George volunteered in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry and served four and one-half years; and Erwin D., is now a farmer of Manchester. Mr. Ellsworth's second marriage was to Miss Sarah J. Sherman, of Bennington, Vt. In 1842, Mr. Ellsworth left the Green Mountain State and with his wife and four sons came by water to Chicago. From that city they walked out to his eighty-acre farm, or claim, which his father had purchased for him, and which is now one-half of the present farm owned by our subject. Here Mr. Ellsworth passed away on May 15, 1883, when sixty-nine years of age. His widow and our subject carry on the farm at the present time. Mr. Ellsworth was active and industrious and worked hard all his life.

Our subject was reared on his present farm and has ever attended strictly to his chosen occupation and with such substantial results as can be seen by glancing over his fine farm. He has traveled very little, and was never in a railroad coach nor had he been to Chicago until twenty-seven years of age. He has seldom been farther from home than Rockford, Beloit or Belvidere. On April 2, 1872, he was married to Miss Catherine Campbell, daughter of Alexander J. and Ann (McEachren) Campbell. She was one of nine children.

Her father died in Manchester, March 15, 1872, when sixty years of age and the mother is living at Hunter, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth have buried one child, an infant, and they have four sons and four daughters now living: Clarence J., now nineteen years of age; Princess Beatrice, aged seventeen; Eunice, aged fifteen; Florence, aged thirteen; John A., aged eleven years; Stanley A., now nine years of age; Ernest Everett, aged seven years, and Ada, aged five years. All have attended the district school and three are taking music lessons, showing much ability and talent in their musical studies. Mr. Ellsworth moves in the Republican ranks and is an enthusiastic supporter of the principles of his party. Our subject has erected on his fine farm a tasty residence 20x36 feet, with an L 16x21 feet, under which is an excellent cellar, at a cost of \$3,000. He also has a good barn, 24x40, and has a granary and tool house combined, one and a half stories high, 24x40. He also has other substantial out-buildings. He keeps about a dozen cows, twenty-five head of horned cattle, ten or twelve horses, and annually sells about forty hogs.



A DONIRAM JUDSON SWEZEY, a horticulturist residing on section 16, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, was born in the town of Harmony, Chautauqua County, N. Y., February 22, 1836. His great-grandfather, Daniel Swezey, was born in Suffolk County, Long Island, N. Y., in June, 1753, and was a son of Christopher Swezey, and a grandson of Stephen Swezey, one of six sons who lived in Swezeytown, Suffolk County; he there spent his entire life, as did also Christopher. Daniel was there married, and in 1796 went to Norway, Herkimer County, N. Y., where he bought four hundred acres of land, erected a log cabin and made a farm. The grandfather of our subject, Daniel Swezey, was born on Long Island, December 25, 1778, and was eighteen years old when his parents went to Herkimer County, where he resided until 1836, when he removed to Chautauqua County, and purchased a farm, upon which he spent the

remainder of his days. He married Clarissa Sherry, who was born in New Haven, Conn., September 15, 1789. She was descended from an old family of English origin, founded in Massachusetts in 1635.

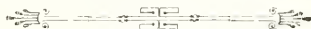
The father of our subject, Darius A. Swezey, was born in the town of Russia, Herkimer County, N. Y., August 15, 1808, and in 1833 became one of the early settlers of Chautauqua County, where he bought a tract of timber land and erected a substantial log cabin, in which our subject was born. In 1845, he sold his farm and removed to Erie County, Pa., where he bought land, upon which he resided until 1851, when he emigrated to Winnebago County, Ill. Purchasing the farm upon which our subject now resides, he there made his home until his death. His wife bore the maiden name of Esther Brooks. She was born in Cortland County, N. Y., September 30, 1815, and was a daughter of James and Rhoda Brooks. The former was born in New Marlboro, Berkshire County, Mass. He went to New York when a young man and resided in Cortland County until 1827, when he went to Chautauqua County, where he made his home until 1854. He then sold out and removed to Erie County, Pa., where he spent his last days. In the Swezey family were six children, one of whom, Edward, enlisted in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry and was afterward transferred to the One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Regiment. He died nine days after his discharge.

Mr. Swezey whose name heads this record acquired his early education in the public schools of Chautauqua County, N. Y., and Erie, Pa., and later attended Waterford Academy, of Pennsylvania, and the National Normal School, of Ohio. When a young man, he commenced teaching and followed that profession until his marriage. The latter part of the time he occupied the chair of languages and literature in Elgin Academy, but on his marriage resigned that position and bought the home farm in Guilford Township. For some years he engaged in general farming, but now gives his attention almost exclusively to horticultural pursuits.

In 1866, Mr. Swezey led to the marriage altar Miss Melinda Bruner, who was born in Canada and is a daughter of Philip Bruner, who is mentioned

in the sketch of M. L. Bruner on another page of this work. Four children have been born to our subject and his wife: Etta, Otto, Royal and Fannie.

The parents are both members of the State Street Baptist Church, of Rockford. Mr. Swezey is a member of Grange No. 6, with which he has been connected since its organization, seventeen years ago, and for three years he managed a store in the interest of the Grange. Throughout life he has been a strong advocate of temperance principles and since 1884 has affiliated with the Prohibition party. In 1889, he was its candidate for the State Legislature and received a larger vote than any other candidate of his party. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, prominent and influential, and has the high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



RICHARD E. BROWN was born on the farm in Owen Township, Winnebago County, where he is at present residing, September 8, 1858. Before giving a notice of his life, we deem it our duty to first briefly advert to the life history of those of whom he draws his origin. His direct progenitor, Mowry Brown, was born in Burrillville, R. I., December 29, 1813. His father, Joseph Brown, was also a native of that State, where he carried on farming. He passed his last days in Winnebago County, dying at the home of his son Mowry.

The maiden name of the grandmother of our subject was Elsie Mowry, who, as far as known, was also born in Rhode Island, where she spent her entire life. The father of our subject was reared in his native State, and, when starting out in life for himself, served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade. In 1835, he came to Illinois and worked until 1839 in Alton, at the end of which time he came to Winnebago County, accompanied hither by his wife, who made the journey by steamers on the Mississippi and Rock Rivers to Rockford Township. Here Mr. Brown purchased an acre of land on North Main Street, on which he erected a small frame house, and began working at his trade. His first contract

was building a house for Dr. George Haskell. He made his home in the city until 1840, then moved to a claim which he had made on section 26, in what is now Owen Township. He bought a log house, which he moved on to his land and occupied until able to replace it with a more comfortable edifice. Mr. Brown prosecuted his trade a part of each year until able to give his entire time and attention to the cultivation of his land. His death occurred on the farm June 4, 1879.

The lady to whom Mowry Brown was married, February 26, 1837, was Miss Lucy Pease. Her birth occurred in Lyons, Wayne County, N. Y., March 31, 1815. Her paternal grandfather was Ebenezer Pease, a native of Ballston, Saratoga County, N. Y., and the son of Abel Pease, a native of Massachusetts, who went to New York State when a very young man, where he was married in Saratoga County, in 1785, to Lucy Martin, also a native of the Bay State. On her death, Abel Pease married Mabel Campbell, a widow.

Ebenezer M. Pease was a natural mechanic and was employed in various lines of work in New York State until 1834, when, in company with his wife and seven children, four sons and three daughters, he came to Illinois via the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and by way of the Lakes and Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to Alton. They made their home for a number of years in the latter-named city, and then removed to Jersey County, where the father passed his last days. The maiden name of his wife was Pamela Wandell; she was a native of New York State, where her decease occurred.

The mother of our subject was eighteen years old when she came to this State, and resided in Alton until her marriage. She is now residing on the old homestead which her husband entered from the Government. Seven of her eleven children grew to mature years: George S. and Charles E. reside in Rockford Township; Mary E. married Egbert Phelps and makes her home in Owen Township, as does also Henry A.; Fred O. lives near Fairbury, Neb., and Richard E. is on the old homestead. William C., the fifth child, died when nineteen years of age, Florence E. when twelve years old and Ellen M. in her tenth year.

Emeline, the first-born, died in infancy, and Harriet E. is also deceased.

Richard E. Brown, like many of the farmer lads, was educated in the district schools and later prosecuted his studies in the Rockford schools. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and for a number of years managed the old homestead, which has always been his place of residence. He devoted his entire time on the farm until 1890, when he engaged in the manufacture of brick. December 7, 1880, Miss Fannie Martin, who was born in Rockton, became his wife. She was the daughter of Edwin and Caroline Martin, and by her union with Mr. Brown has become the mother of two children, Gertie E. and Clifton Martin. Our subject and his estimable wife are devoted members of the Christian Union Church, and in his social relations, Mr. Brown is connected with the Farmers' Mutual Benevolent Association.



JACOB ROSE. About three miles from Rockford is a splendid farm, embellished with good buildings and brought to a fine state of improvement. This was the home of the late Jacob Rose, who, after cultivating the soil for many years and introducing modern machinery and methods of agriculture in his farming operations, there passed away December 12, 1887. A man of great industry, unflagging perseverance, the soul of honor, scorning deceit in every form, he was beloved by all with whom he came in contact and his death was mourned as a public calamity.

This pioneer of Winnebago County was born in Pennsylvania, the son of St. Clair Rose, who, as far as is known, spent his entire life in the Keystone State. Early orphaned, our subject became self-supporting when quite young and when about seventeen came to Winnebago County, where he resided until his death. By industriously saving his wages, he was enabled to purchase a farm in 1859, five years after his marriage with Catherine Scougall. This estimable lady was born in England, and was the daughter of James Scougall, a native

of Edinboro, Scotland, and the granddaughter of James Scougall, Sr., who probably spent his entire life in the Land of the Thistle.

James Scougall, Jr., learned the trade of a stonemason, which he followed for a time in Liverpool, then returned to Edinboro. In 1846, accompanied by his family, he emigrated to America, taking passage at Glasgow in the sailing-vessel "Sault Anna," and landing in New York six weeks later. From there he proceeded by the Hudson River, Erie Canal and Lakes to Chicago, then a small village, and followed his trade in the last-named place for a few years. Coming thence to Rockford, his remaining years were passed here. The maiden name of his wife was Margaret Blair; she was born in England and died in Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. Rose became the parents of seven living children, namely: Walter, Jessie, Jennie, Harry, Laura, Kittie and Lucius. Since the death of his father, the eldest son superintends the farm, which under his capable supervision is kept in the high state of improvement to which it was brought by the father.

for many years. Their son, Chester Rolfe, was one of a large family of children, all of whom lived to be grown, and one, George, is now engaged in farming in Endfield Township, that being the occupation of most of the family.

Chester Rolfe was married in Endfield Township to Miss Matilda Corkendall, who was born and reared there and who was of Pennsylvania-Dutch extraction. After marriage, Mr. Rolfe and wife began life on a farm in Endfield Township, and there they lived and labored until the death of Mrs. Rolfe in 1863, when fifty-five years of age. Mr. Rolfe survived her many years. He came West to visit his son in 1881 and died on the last day of that year. His body was carried back and interred in the old family graveyard in Endfield Township. He was then about seventy-six years of age. In his early life he was a Whig and later a Democrat. He held a number of local offices in his township, and was a man of well-rounded character. He left a large family, five of whom are yet living.

Henry Rolfe was reared to the arduous duties of the farm and it was but natural that when starting out in life for himself he should choose agricultural pursuits as his occupation in life, for his ancestors had all been tillers of the soil. When a young man, he came to Ogle County, Ill., and was married, in Scott Township, to Miss Adelaide Ashton, a native of Mt. Morris, Livingston County, N. Y., born May 19, 1844, and the daughter of Sidney and Eliza (Downs) Ashton, natives, respectively, of Pennsylvania and Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. Ashton resided on a farm in Mt. Morris Township for many years and the mother died on the 27th of September, 1866, her birthday, while returning from a visit to Illinois. She was just fifty-five years of age.

Mr. Ashton spent the last years of his life with his daughter, Mrs. Rolfe, in Rockford, and received his final summons on the 7th of March, 1887, when over eighty-eight years of age. He and Mrs. Ashton were members of the Universalist Church, and, in politics, he was a Democrat. Their children, eight in number, are all living but one. Mr. and Mrs. Rolfe have no children. They attend the Christian Union Church, take an active interest in all worthy

HENRY ROLFE, now retired and residing at No. 710 North Second Street, where he owns a comfortable home, was born in Tompkins County, Endfield Township, N. Y., on the 13th of August, 1833, and was reared and educated there. His father, Chester Rolfe, and his grandfather, Samuel Rolfe, were natives of New Jersey, and of English descent. Samuel Rolfe passed his boyhood and youth in his native State and was there married to Miss Hannah Ellison. After the birth of several of their children, they moved to New York State, where Samuel and a brother, Jonathan Rolfe, made a settlement in the wilds of Endfield Township, Tompkins County. There they began clearing their land of the heavy timber with which it was covered, and after years of hard labor became the owners of comfortable homes. Samuel Rolfe and wife lived long and prosperous lives and died on the home place. They were well-known pioneers and representative citizens, Mr. Rolfe holding the office of Justice of the Peace

movements and are classed among the best citizens of the county. Mr. Rolfe is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of good land in Scott Township, Ogle County, this State, and has good, substantial buildings on his place. He also owns some property in West End addition to the city. He came to Rockford in 1877, and since 1883 he has made his home at No. 710 North Second Street.



GUST JOHNSON. In 1877, or fifteen years ago, Mr. Johnson began his business in the bus- and express line with a single horse, and by his industry and excellent business acumen soon accumulated a handsome competence. He now does a large and lucrative business, employs three men and has three or four good outfits. The result of his industry and able management is that he now owns a fine double house at Nos. 116, and 118 North Third Street, and is also a stockholder in the Skandia Plow Company, the Rockford Furniture and Undertaking Company, the Skandia Hardware Company, and is interested in the Union Grocery Store and other institutions.

Mr. Johnson was born in Jonkoping Lan, Sweden, September 26, 1852, and remained there until fifteen years of age, or in 1868, when he came to this country by way of Quebec, Canada. He subsequently came to the States, passed the first two years laboring on a farm, and with the money thus earned brought his parents to this country. He made a home for them and later learned the trade of a gardener and florist, being in the employ of G. A. Sanford & F. H. Manney for a number of years. His father, John Grabrilson, was a tiller of the soil and died in Rockford, in 1875, when fifty-eight years of age. His mother was also of that age when her death occurred, on the 18th of October, 1883. Both were members of the Lutheran Church. Of their large family of children, Gust Johnson was the eldest. He was married in Rockford to Miss Anna Olson, a native of Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, who when five years of age was brought to this country by her parents, Olof and Mariah (Bringlesdauter) Olson. The

mother, who had always been a member of the Lutheran Church, died when sixty years of age, but the father is still living and is now residing on Fourth Avenue. He, also, has ever been a devout Lutheran in his religious belief.

Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson two are deceased, one who died in infancy, and a daughter, Edna L. Those living are William G. and Ernest V. (twins), who so closely resemble each other that it is difficult to tell them apart. They are bright and healthy, and about twelve years of age. Arthur L. is an intelligent little fellow of seven.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are active members of the First Swedish Lutheran Church and are worthy and esteemed citizens. Mr. Johnson is a sound Republican in his political views, and in public movements he has ever taken a deep interest, but has never been an office-seeker.



PETER A. LARSON, who does an extensive business as a plaster contractor, was born on the island of Orland, near Sweden, February 7, 1849. His father, Lars Pearson, died when our subject was only nine years of age. His mother is still living at the age of sixty-four and yet makes her home in Sweden. She is a member of the Lutheran Church, as was her husband. Three children of the family are living in this country. A. O. Larson works for his brother and is married. The sister, Louisa, is the wife of August Johnson, a tailor on Second Avenue.

No event of special importance occurred during the childhood of our subject, which was passed in his native land, where he partially learned the trade of a plasterer. The year 1871 witnessed his emigration to America. He sailed in the spring and landed in New York City, whence he made his way to Chicago, where he resided for two years, there completing his trade. He then came to Rockford, in 1873, and has since made his home in this city. From the beginning, his trade has constantly increased and by good work and moderate prices he has secured a liberal patronage and acquired a handsome competence. His handiwork

is seen in many of the leading homes in this city and compares favorably with any done. In connection with work at his trade, he is interested in the Rockford Manufacturing Company, is a stockholder and Director in the Union Grocery Company and holds some \$2,000 worth of stock in the Swedish Building and Loan Association. He owns a large three-story brick store and flats, a valuable property, located at No. 303 Seventh Street, and a fine brick residence at No. 1103 Third Avenue, the family residence.

A marriage ceremony performed in this city united the destinies of Mr. Larson and Mrs. Oleda C. (Lundwall) Borg, who was born in Sweden, May 17, 1853, and when a maiden of fourteen summers came to this country. She afterwards gave her hand in marriage to S. A. Borg, a Swedish gentleman and a mason by trade, who died in 1877, at the age of twenty-seven years. One child was born of this union, A. Leonard, who is a graduate of the Rockford Business College and now occupies a position as book-keeper with the firm of Carlson & Co. on Seventh Street. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Larson was born a family of seven children, three of whom are now deceased, two named respectively Arthur and Harold. The living are Ellen C., Gertie A., Elmer E. and Hazel V., and all under the parental roof. With the First Lutheran Church the parents hold membership and in social circles they rank high. In his political views, Mr. Larson is a Republican.



DANIEL BEERS, deceased, was one of the first settlers of Winnebago County, and it may be truly said that he was one of its most esteemed citizens. He came to this county when there was one store and a few log cabins in Rockford, and the same year took up Government land in what is now Guilford Township, his house being one of the first in that township. There, with the boundless prairie stretching on every side and with neighbors many miles distant, Mr. and Mrs. Beers settled down to the duties of life. For a number of years they experienced many hardships and privations, but they finally got a start,

and their subsequent prosperous career was the result. In those early days, they took all their grain to Chicago with ox-teams and many were the mishaps that occurred in crossing streams, for there were no bridges. There were no churches, but it must not be supposed there were no meetings, for the few neighbors would meet at each other's homes and have a season of prayer and thanksgiving. Mr. Beers' log house was the scene of many a religious gathering, and his good wife would get supper for the whole congregation. All in the community were Methodists and when they met together they enjoyed themselves as only Methodists can.

Mr. and Mrs. Beers resided for many years on the farm they had improved in every way, and then moved to Monroe, Wis., where they resided for seven years. They owned a farm near that city. About 1866, they came to Rockford and here Mr. Beers' death occurred in 1880, when seventy years of age. Liberal, generous, and high-minded his life was filled with good deeds. He was a model American citizen. A Methodist in his religious belief, he was one of the leading men of his church, and was Class-Leader for many years. He was a Republican in politics and a strict temperance man. In pioneer days, when his first barn was to be raised, and whiskey was expected on such occasions, he informed his neighbors that no whiskey was to be given, but that his wife would give them a fine supper.

Mr. Beers was born in Pennsylvania and reared on a farm in that State. When a young man he went to LeRoy, N. Y., and was married there to Miss Mary Herriek, a native of that city. She is now past the eightieth milestone of her life but is still quick and active, and is one of the most pleasant and agreeable old ladies to meet. She has endeavored to make her life a useful one and to follow the teachings of the Golden Rule. She yet lives in the kind remembrances of the good old days of yore and her reminiscences of them are very interesting.

Mrs. Beers became the mother of a large family of children, and of them these are deceased: John, William D., James, Henry and Lucius. All died young but Henry, who was married. The children

now living are Matilda, wife of Willard Convers, a farmer of Guilford Township; Louisa M., wife of Russell Marsh, a farmer of Guilford Township; Richard, a wealthy farmer of Nebraska, married Miss Rhoda Marsh; Ella is the wife of a Mr. Campbell, a farmer of Nebraska; Sarah, wife of Alfred Ufford, now resides on a farm in Iowa; Flora, wife of David Ralston; Lucy, wife of Henry Thompson, a farmer of Nebraska, and Olive resides in Butte City, Mont., and is a dressmaker there.



ANDERS J. ANDERSON, a successful farmer, who rents and operates two hundred and seventy acres of well-improved and valuable land in Rockford Township, was born in Sweden, October 28, 1818. His mother died in that land when our subject was only fourteen years of age. His father was born in the same province as Anders and followed the occupation of farming throughout his entire life. He was a second time married and some eight years later the family emigrated to the New World, in 1875. The father is now living at the age of eighty-two years and his wife is about seventy-six years of age. Both have been life-long members of the Lutheran Church.

Our subject is the eldest of the family and was the first to come to America. One brother, Claus H. Anderson, is now a farmer of Cherry Valley Township, where he resides with his family. Gust and August both died in childhood. Anders crossed the Atlantic in 1870, and for a time resided in Chicago, Ill., after which he made his home for one year in Stephenson County. He has been a resident of Winnebago County for seventeen years and for thirteen years has resided upon the farm which he now occupies. He is an enterprising farmer and industrious man and is widely known in this community.

Mr. Anderson was married in the city of Rockford to Mrs. Johanna Hallgren, *nee* Johnson. She was born in Sweden, October 9, 1832, and when a young lady came to this country. Her parents, Joseph and Anna (Swanson) Johnson, were natives of Sweden, where they spent their entire lives as

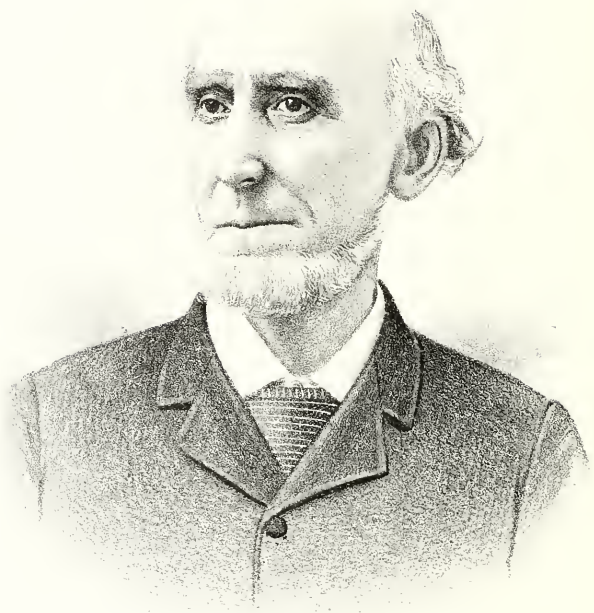
farming people, dying at the ages of eighty-two and eighty-seven years, respectively. They were members of the Lutheran Church and were worthy and respected people.

Mrs. Anderson is the youngest of three daughters. Charlotte, who came to the United States in the year 1861, is now the wife of John Lidell, a cabinet-maker in the employ of the Standard Furniture Company; Mary came to the United States and located in Rockford in 1879, and is now the wife of Gust Rappson. The wife of our subject crossed the water in 1868, and has since resided in Rockford. She was first married to John Hallgren, who was born and reared in Sweden, and in 1868 emigrated to this country. He became a resident of Rockford and after his marriage settled upon a farm near that city, where his death occurred at the age of thirty-seven. In politics, he was a Republican, was a member of the Lutheran Church and a good citizen. He died respected by all, and at his death left a daughter, Ellen, an accomplished and intelligent young lady, who resides with her mother. Mr. Anderson takes an active interest in political affairs, votes with the Republican party and is a stalwart supporter of its principles. He and his wife both hold membership with the Lutheran Church and are active workers in its interests, aiding in its upbuilding in all possible ways.



ROYAL HANCE, widely and favorably known throughout Pecatonica Township, is one of the well-to-do farmers of this section. The family occupies a high position in social circles, and Mr. Hance may be properly classed among the representative men who are uniformly found on the side of enterprises calculated to promote the best interests of the community.

Our subject was born November 30, 1834, in Seneca County, Ohio, and is a son of Thomas and Phoebe (DeWitt) Hance; his mother was born in Cayuga County, N. Y. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Adam and Elizabeth (Bunn) Hance, the former passing away in his seventy-seventh year, and his wife when seventy years of age.



D P Mesicky

The life of Ogden Hance, a brother of our subject, will be found portrayed on another page in this volume, to which sketch the reader is referred for the family history. He of whom we write remained at home until twenty-three years of age, when he was married, November 12, 1863, to Libbie Kellogg, who was born July 2, 1812, in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. Mrs. Hance is the daughter of Albert and Nancy (McDonald) Kellogg, the McDonalds coming from Scotland. The father of Mrs. Hance was a son of David and Henrietta (Wells) Kellogg, both of whom died in Messina, N. Y., aged respectively ninety and eighty-four years.

Royal Hance is one of the best-known men in Winnebago County, as soon after his marriage he located on a part of the land his father had taken up from the Government, which has been his home up to the present time. His estate comprised sixty acres, to which he has since added thirty-four acres and has the entire amount under the best of cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Hance have become the parents of four children, one of whom died in infancy; Earl C., who was born December 8, 1864, married Miss Hattie Martin and has one son; Ray D., who was born August 15, 1872, is a graduate of the Pecatonica High School, and resides with his parents; LaMont, who was born November 12, 1876, is also at home.



DAVID P. MESICK, who is at present residing in Rockford, was born in Athens, Greene County, N. Y., January 2, 1821. His father was a native of that State, where, as far as known, his grandfather was born. The latter named gentleman was a farmer, and departed this life in Albany County. Peter Mesick was reared in his native State and followed the occupation of a farmer until reaching forty years of age, when he learned the trade of a stonemason. He later removed from Albany to Cayuga County, where he made his home till the fall of 1851, at which time he came to Illinois and located in Rockford, where he died.

The mother of our subject was known in her maidenhood as Sarah Remer. She was born in Albany County, N. Y., and became the mother of thirteen children, viz: Catherine, Henry, Jacob, David P., Andrew, Margaret, Sarah, Joseph, Lydia J., Peter, Chauncey, William L. and Kate R. Jacob served in the late war and died soon after its close; William was also a soldier in that struggle.

The original of this sketch was very young when his parents moved to Albany County, and was a lad of seven years when they made their home in Cayuga County. There he was reared and educated, and in early life learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, serving an apprenticeship of five years. He worked as a journeyman for a time and afterward became a contractor. In 1854, he came to Rockford, arriving here on the 16th of November. He at once began his trade of contractor and builder, at which business he was employed for seventeen years. At the expiration of that time, he purchased a farm in Cherry Valley Township, and was engaged in its cultivation for twelve years. Then, making his home in Rockford, he has resided since that time in a pleasant residence on Catlin Street.

Susan Cram, who was born in the town of Keyesville, Clinton County, N. Y., February 25, 1829, became the wife of our subject October 5, 1862. Mrs. Mesick was the daughter of Jacob Cram, a native of New England, where his father, Ebenezer Cram, was also born. The grandfather of Mrs. Mesick was a shoemaker by trade and spent his last days in the town of Sennett, Onondaga County, N. Y. Her father removed from Vermont to Clinton County, N. Y., and thence to Onondaga County in October, 1833, the journey being made via Lake Champlain and Erie Canal. He resided in the town of Elbridge until 1846, when he came to Illinois, accompanied by his wife and five children.

At that time Rockford was little more than a village and neighbors in the surrounding country were few and far between. Mr. Cram settled on the west side of the river, where he made his home for a few months, and then leased a farm, which he cultivated one year. Then, on account of ill-health, he returned to Rockford and resided

there until his decease. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Mesick was Armina Perry; she was reared in Clinton County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Eli Perry. Our subject and his wife are members of the State Street Baptist Church. Mr. Mesick voted the Republican ticket until the organization of the Prohibition party, when he joined its ranks.

The portrait of Mr. Mesick adds value to the record of the county which he has aided so materially in developing.



WILLIAM ATKINSON, a well-known resident of Rockford and an honored pioneer of the county of 1837, was born in Cumberland County, England, January 11, 1813. His father, James Atkinson, was also born in that county and married Jane Foster, a native of the same locality. After the birth of six of their children, they emigrated to America, sailing from England on the 8th of May, 1832, and landed in Quebec, Canada, after a voyage of seven weeks. They spent a little more than a year in that country, after which they became residents of Syracuse, N. Y., where the father and his son followed the carpenter's trade. The year 1837 witnessed their arrival in Winnebago County, Ill., and a settlement was made in Harrison Township, where the father died some eight years later, at the age of fifty-eight years. His wife survived him two years, dying at the age of sixty-two. In politics, Mr. Atkinson was a Whig. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Church, and lived quiet, unassuming lives, worthy of the esteem in which they were held. Our subject is the only son of the family now living. However, he has four sisters, all married, one residing in Marengo, another in Iowa and the remaining two in this county.

William Atkinson of this sketch remained in the land of his birth until twenty years of age and learned the carpenter's trade under his father, with whom he worked in Syracuse, N. Y., for some years, as before stated. For more than half a century, he has resided in this county and has been prominently identified with its upbuilding. His

first location was in Harrison Township, where he obtained Government land, and after building a log cabin, began life in true pioneer style, experiencing many hardships and trials of frontier life. In those days their market was Chicago or Milwaukee, and as roads were poor it was often a hard task to reach those places. About 1839, he formed a partnership with Mr. Elwood, an Englishman, and they began operating a distillery, but were unsuccessful, and Mr. Atkinson lost all he had and was forced to begin life anew. From that time, he gave his entire attention to agricultural pursuits and improved nearly three hundred acres of land. This is divided into two farms, furnished with two sets of buildings and is highly cultivated and improved. The old home is situated on section 26, Harrison Township, and there Mr. Atkinson resided until September, 1890, when he came to Rockford, and has since lived a retired life at his present home at No. 1110 West State Street. He built this residence and four other nice places on the same block, including a compartment house.

Mr. Atkinson was first married, near Syracuse, N. Y., to Miss Nancy Bebee, who was born in England, and during her childhood came to this country with her parents, who died in the Empire State. Her death occurred in La Salle County, Ill., at the age of twenty-seven. She died in the faith of the Methodist Church. The second wife of Mr. Atkinson was Miss Lucy Phillips, a native of Ohio, who was a true helpmate and companion to her husband for forty years. She died when past the age of sixty, leaving twelve children, two of whom are now deceased: Itham, who died in childhood; and George, who was killed at the battle of Chickasaw Mountain while fighting for the Union during the late war. Nancy is the wife of H. Collins, of Rockford; James, who wedded Miss Gaylord, resides in Beloit, Wis.; Charles, a farmer of Sheldon Township, wedded Zetta Conklin; Jane, who married Robert Oliver, lives in Rockford; Marilla is the wife of David Kinney, a farmer of Rock Rapids, Iowa; Mary A. is the wife of H. Douglas, of Rockford; Thomas, who married Mary Shepardson, is a farmer of Harrison Township; William, a resident of Rockton, married Lydia Leffewell; Frank, a commercial traveler residing

in Racine, Wis., married Minnie Baker, who is now deceased, and Lucy, who married Fred Morgan, lives in Rockford.

For his next wife, Mr. Atkinson chose Maggie Miller, who died a few years later. His present wife was Mrs. Elizabeth (Van Dike) Wishop, who was married, in New Jersey, to Samuel Van Arsdale, who died fighting for his country. She then came to Illinois, and in this county married Andrew Wishop, who died in middle life. Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson attend the Court Street Methodist Church, of which Mrs. Atkinson is a member. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and voted both for William Henry Harrison and Benjamin Harrison. He has held many local offices, including that of Supervisor, which he has held for seventeen years, and his public duties were ever promptly and faithfully discharged. As an upright man, a valued citizen and an honored pioneer, he well deserves representation in this volume.

JOEL B. POTTER (deceased) was born in Sherman Township, Fairfield County, Conn., July 25, 1810, and died in Rockford, November 30, 1880. He was sixteen years old when his parents, William C. and Anna (Hubble) Potter, moved to Orleans County, N. Y. Agricultural pursuits had been the father's chief occupation in life and at that he prospered. The father and mother were members of the Congregational Church in Fairfield and members of the Presbyterian Church of Orleans County, and both were worthy and exemplary people. They passed the remainder of their days in that county, the father dying when over eighty years of age and the mother when over seventy. They reared a large family of children, a number of whom are still residing in Orleans County.

Joel B. Potter received the advantages of a good collegiate education and had prepared himself to enter the Presbyterian ministry. Failing health, however, caused him to abandon this, and although in after years his health was restored, he never entered the pulpit. He came to Rockford, Ill., in 1839, and after some years purchased

a drug store on East State Street, and was thus engaged for a number of years, having for a partner J. F. Harding. This business prospered until the death of Mr. Harding, about 1867, when Mr. Potter withdrew from the business and retired. During his early days in Winnebago County, he had been the owner of a good farm and this he carried on for some time before he went into the drug business. He took much interest in politics and supported the principles of the Republican party. He was a man of excellent business qualifications and good habits, and a citizen who had the highest regard of all who knew him. He witnessed many changes in the country and was a potent factor in its growth and development. He had two brothers, Hubble and Herman Potter, both now deceased, who were early settlers of Winnebago County. The former was a prominent dry-goods merchant and later a banker of Rockford. He was one of the pioneers of the city and was a well-known business man. The latter was a prosperous farmer. Joel B. Potter selected as his companion in life Miss Adaline Lathrop, a native of Vermont, born May 18, 1813, and their nuptials were celebrated in Genesee County, N. Y., in July, 1836. Mrs. Potter was reared and educated in Genesee County and there made her home until her marriage. She is a lady of much business ability and since the death of her husband has managed his affairs with excellent judgment. Her parents, Adgate and Martha (Moss) Lathrop, were natives of Connecticut, but emigrated to Vermont in early life and were there married. Mr. Lathrop followed the combined business of carpenter, joiner and farmer, and was fairly successful in all. In 1816, the family moved to Genesee County, N. Y., and there the parents died when seventy-five and eighty years of age, respectively. They were Baptists in their religious views. Mrs. Potter is one of ten children, but only a brother, Harry Lathrop, of Otsego, Mich., and a sister, Mrs. Orange Sherman, of Buffalo, N. Y., besides herself, are now living. Mrs. Potter is the mother of seven children; two died in infancy, and Mrs. Mary Willis died when twenty-two years of age. Those living are: Caroline A., who was the wife of Col. C. M.

Brazee, now deceased, formerly an attorney and an ex-soldier; Harriet J., widow of J. F. Harding (formerly a partner with our subject), is now residing on Oak Street, Rockford; Francis L. has been a teacher in the High Schools in Chicago for the past twenty years and is a prominent educator; and Laura J. is the wife of Edward S. Gregory, who owns a wholesale and retail store in sanitary goods and heating apparatus on State Street, Rockford. All his life Mr. Potter was a consistent member of the Westminister Presbyterian Church and Mrs. Potter is a worthy member of the same. The Potter family occupies a leading position in Rockford society. Mrs. Potter is well preserved for her years, her hair is scarcely tinged with gray and she walks with the elasticity of youth.

ROBERT M. BRANTINGHAM. The commodious, two-story brick residence at No. 401 Horsman Street is owned and occupied by the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs, and who has become well-to-do through judicious investments in real estate. Coming to Winnebago County in 1855, he has since been an important factor in the growth of the county, and especially in the progress of Rockford, which he has seen change from an unimportant village, to a city numbering twenty-five thousand people. In addition to valuable land in Rockford, he owns considerable real estate in South Chicago.

The father of our subject, Robert M. Brantingham, Sr., was a native of Staten Island, where he grew to man's estate. He engaged for some years in business in New York City, meanwhile continuing his residence on Staten Island. He was married on the island of his birth to Miss Jane Simonson, who was there born and reared, her parents being New York people and well-to-do. The parents of our subject had a family of three sons and seven daughters; of these two sons and two daughters are deceased. All of the children have married excepting the subject of this sketch, who is the eldest member of the family.

When the parental family sought a home in

Winnebago County, our subject was a lad of eight years and he has spent almost his entire life in this county. His father was the owner of about eight hundred acres of land in this vicinity; he also had large possessions in Iowa, and in Staten Island. His various financial enterprises proved remunerative and placed him on a solid footing as a capitalist. He died at his home, two miles south of Rockford, in 1865. His wife survived him many years, passing away January 1, 1890, at the age of seventy-five years, at the home of her son, our subject. Mr. Brantingham, Sr., was a firm Republican in his political affiliations, and with his wife held membership in the Episcopal Church.

All the local interests of Rockford have been heartily promoted by Mr. Brantingham, who has endorsed all measures having for their object the progress of the religious, educational, moral and philanthropic status of the city. He is a pronounced Republican in his political belief, and invariably casts his ballot and gives his influence to the support of the principles which he considers best adapted to our Government. He is a stockholder of the Rockford Watch Company, and is interested in various other establishments and organizations which have been of great value to the city.

ARTLEY S. GIELDSETH. During the comparatively brief time in which our subject has been engaged in business in Durand, he has built up a fine trade as the proprietor of a meat market, being a member of the firm of Funnell & Geldseth. He was born in Hammerfest, Norway, February 28, 1857, and is the son of B. H. and Eliza (Patterson) Geldseth. The family resided in Norway until 1872, where the father was a baker by trade, which business our subject also followed together with that of a printer. The elder Mr. Geldseth died in his native country in 1870, in his sixty-first year.

He of whom we write was the eldest but one in a family of five children, his brothers and sisters being Thomas; Nicoline, who is a teacher of



Yours Truly
Otis Eddy

music; Christine and Amanda, the two latter of whom keep house for our subject. The family set sail for the *New World* in 1872, and arriving here located in Durand, where the mother departed this life May 21, 1891.

Upon locating in Winnebago County, Mr. Geldseth purchased land in Laona Township, and followed farming for twelve years, during which time, by the quiet course of persistent effort and constant devotion to duty, he left poverty far behind and accumulated a handsome property. In 1886, our subject engaged in his present business in company with James Funnell. They also deal extensively in live-stock and do a general packing business.

Hartley S. Geldseth and Miss Anna Garder were united in marriage in 1878. The lady was the daughter of Ole Garder and was born in Rock Grove, April 23, 1859. She bore her husband three children, Raymond, Earl and Anna, and departed this life July 2, 1884. Our subject, religiously, is an influential member of the Lutheran Church. In politics, he votes with the Democratic party but does not aspire to office as he prefers to give his time to his private interests. He is a member of Durand Lodge No. 302, A. F. & A. M., and is also connected with Durand Camp of the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Geldseth still owns his farm property of eighty acres in Laona Township, which is under an excellent state of improvement, and in addition to that has considerable real estate in Durand.



OTIS EDDY. In point of energy, enterprise and determination, the subject of this notice is looked upon as one of the leading men of Rockford, where he has a beautiful home located on Main Street. He was born in Burrillville, R. I., August 28, 1804, and is a son of John Eddy, a native of that place, as was also his father, Stephen Eddy. The latter-named gentleman was a farmer and spent his entire life in Burrillville. The father of our subject inherited a portion of the old homestead and there resided until his death. The maiden name of his wife was Marcy

Sayles, who was born in the same town as was her husband and departed this life on the old home farm.

The parental family of our subject included five sons and one daughter, namely: Celia, our subject, Esten O., Elliott E., John S. and Marcus. The original of this sketch was reared and educated in his native town, where he attended the common school, and after reaching his majority engaged in the mercantile business in the village of Pascoag, and continued to be so employed for thirteen years. In 1840, he removed to Mobile, Ala., of which city he was a resident for four years, during the greater part of that time being engaged as a wood merchant. From there he went to New Orleans in 1844, and was engaged on a levee for a twelvemonth, returning thence to Rhode Island and locating at Blackstone. In 1851, he went to California via the Nicaragua route, being a passenger on the second boat which ever made the journey over that route. For two years he followed mining pursuits in the far West, and afterward engaged in the real-estate business at Downieville, where he has built and sold several houses at a handsome advance. Later, in 1856, he returned to Panama, and from there pursued the homeward journey.

In 1861, Mr. Eddy came West to Illinois and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land near the city of Rockford, and three years later became the owner of the farm which he now owns and occupies and which is pleasantly located one-half mile from the city. Our subject has been twice married; his first wife, Azubah Mathewson, was born in Burrillville, R. I., and departed this life in Blackstone in 1850. Mr. Eddy was then married to Lucy Carpenter, a native of Charlton, Mass. He became the father of the following-named children: Welcome J., Warren O. and Mathewson, all of whom are deceased, excepting Warren O. Welcome J. married Isabel Severans, and both have passed away, leaving four children: Lillie M., Ella, Ida and Walter L. Warren O. married Augusta Willoughby, by whom he became the father of two children: Flora and Alice. Mrs. Eddy is an active member of the Presbyterian Church.

When the "boom" struck the city of Rockford, our subject sold the greater portion of his land, reserving only a few acres for himself. He has a pleasant home and, surrounded by all the comforts of life, is passing his last days in that ease and comfort which his early industry has won. He has attained the advanced age of eighty-eight years and is widely and favorably known throughout the county.



HOMER DENTON. The career of a self-made man is finely illustrated in the history of Mr. Denton, who commenced the battle of life dependent upon his own resources and who through the difficulties and draw-backs common to most men has achieved success. Upon coming to Winnebago County, he in due time acquired a large amount of real estate, and as the property increased in value, he, of course, grew in wealth and has become one of the most prosperous men in the county. He has been an energetic, wide-awake man, keenly observant of what is going on around him and has contributed his full quota to the growth and development of his adopted county.

The original of this sketch was born in Middlefield, Otsego County, N. Y., December 19, 1812. He is the son of John Denton, a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., where his father, Joel Denton, as far as is known, was born. The latter-named gentleman served as a patriot in the Revolutionary War, for a period of seven years. He was a farmer by occupation and removed from Dutchess to Otsego County in about 1825, spending his last years in Middlefield. The maiden name of his wife, grandmother of our subject, was Harriet Brown.

John Denton was reared to the life of a farmer and removed to Otsego County in 1805, where he was one of the early settlers in Middlefield. He there purchased a tract of timber land and erected a log cabin, which was the birthplace of our subject. He was then employed in subduing nature, clearing land, breaking prairie, etc., but with all this labor was social and happy, having a care for

the morals and education of his children. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Hannah Hubbell, who was born in Connecticut and spent her last days in Middlefield, N. Y. The parental family consisted of eight children, one of whom is deceased. Those living are Amanda, Ambrose, Homer, Theron, Richard H., Rollin and Joel.

Homer Denton, of this sketch, was reared on the old homestead and remembers when there were no railroads nor canals near his home and Albany, which was sixty-five miles distant, was the nearest market and depot for supplies. He resided under the parental roof assisting his father in carrying on the farm work until 1835, when, having been married, he came with his wife to Indiana, making the journey overland with teams to Ft. Plain, from there by canal to Buffalo, where they boarded a lake steamer, which conveyed them to Detroit, thence by team to La Porte. He purchased, at a Government sale, eighty acres of land which was located three miles from La Porte. The place bore but few improvements, and Mr. Denton began industriously the work of cultivating the soil, and resided in the log cabin for two years. In 1837, he started overland with his family in an ox-team, his destination being Rockford, which was at that time little more than a hamlet, containing but twenty families. The land in the vicinity of this now prosperous city was owned by the Government, and our subject, locating in the northwestern part of Winnebago County, made a claim on what is now the site of Durand. He there erected a log house and a barn and by his persistent industry and perseverance brought his estate to good cultivation. For a time the emigrants coming into the county bought all the surplus grain. Afterward, Chicago becoming their place of marketing, Mr. Denton sold his produce there, the city being one hundred miles distant and the trip consuming the greater part of a week.

The original of this sketch lately purchased one hundred acres of land, which is now included in the city of Rockford. With the exception of twenty-three acres, he laid out the entire acreage into lots, which he sold at a good profit. In 1871, Mr. Denton erected a commodious residence on

North Main Street, where he made his home for twenty years. He is at the present time residing with his granddaughter, Mrs. Lockwood.

In 1834, the gentleman of whom we write was united in marriage with Miss May, daughter of James and Sallie (Harrison) Van Volkenburg. She was born in Middlefield, N. Y., and departed this life in March, 1883, greatly beloved by all who knew her. Of that union was born one son, De-Los H., who married Martha Thomes. She died three years later. He was a second time married, this time to Ann Lambert, by whom he became the father of five children. One daughter, May, was born of the first union of De-Los H. Denton, who is the wife of Elmer E. Lockwood.

Our subject casts his vote and influence in favor of Democratic principles and candidates. He cast his first vote for Martin Van Buren. His career has been one eminently worthy and useful to the community in which he has resided, and his neighbors and old friends unite in their testimony to his sterling worth, integrity and valuable services as an old resident of Rockford.

The father of our subject was a member of the New York militia, and as a non-commissioned officer in the War of 1812 for some months commanded a company. He with a company of others was captured by the British and imprisoned in Canada, having crossed into that country from Lewiston, N. Y.



OLIVER N. DRAKE, who is now living a retired life and spending his last days in his pleasant home on First Street, in Rockford, was born four miles from Cooperstown, N. Y., July 23, 1808. That was the home of J. Fenimore Cooper, the noted writer, and our subject was an old friend of the author. Mr. Drake grew to manhood under the parental roof. He was one of two sons born unto Clinton and Nancy (Newell) Drake. His father died in the prime of life when Oliver was less than two years old. His mother was again married, becoming the wife of Homer Beadle, and her death occurred in Otsego, N. Y., at the age of

fifty-four years. By her second marriage she had six children.

Our subject in his youth learned the shoemaker's trade and has been a merchant in that line throughout almost his entire life. In the county of his nativity, he married Harriet Waterman, who was born in Otsego Township, July 25, 1811, and there spent the days of her maidenhood. She was a true and affectionate wife and tender mother. Her death occurred at Cooperstown, N. Y., at the age of forty-two years. Soon after his marriage, our subject moved to Auburn, N. Y. He was keeper in the prison for several years. There were five children born of this union, but only one is now living; Oliver, who is a hardware merchant of Rockford and a prominent and successful business man, doing business on West State Street, opposite Court House Square. He is a Knight Templar Mason and a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford. He married Miss Alice Cobb, of Creston, Ill. In the late war, he served as a member of the Fifty-eighth Illinois Infantry, enlisting when merely a boy. His brother, George W., also wore the blue as a member of the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry. He served three years with his regiment, then veteranized and became First Lieutenant of Company B, One Hundred and Eighth Regiment United States Colored Troops. After serving more than four years, he was honorably discharged, and went to New Orleans, joining the police force of that city. He died very suddenly in 1868.

Mr. Drake, whose name heads this record, came with his family to Illinois in December, 1855, locating in Belvidere, where he resided for five years. He then came to Rockford, but one year later, removed to Princeton, thence to Bloomington, and later to Decatur, where he spent seven years. His next place of residence was Clinton, where he resided for twelve years, and there, as in other places, he was a boot and shoe merchant. He has followed that business throughout his entire life and in its pursuit has achieved success, gaining a competence which now enables him to live in retirement. His business career was marked by straightforwardness and fair dealing and he won the confidence and regard of all with whom he

came in contact. About three years ago he came to Rockford, purchased his pleasant home on First Street and has since lived in retirement. He is a member of the Universalist Church, to which his wife also belongs, and, in politics, he has been a staunch Republican since the organization of the party.



RUSSELL MARSH, a well-known farmer residing on section 17, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, is a native of the Keystone State. He was born in Bradford County, December 19, 1819, and was one of seven children in the family of Russell and Abigail (Averill) Marsh. His grandfather, Eliphalet Marsh, was born in New England, of English ancestry, and spent his last days in Vermont. Russell Marsh, Sr., was born in the Green Mountain State, whence he removed to Pennsylvania, and after a few years spent in Bradford County, went to Tompkins County, N. Y.

Five years later, Mr. Marsh, Sr., became a resident of Cattaraugus County, and afterwards spent three years near Hudson, Ohio. Removing to Canada, he there resided a year and a half, after which he came to Illinois, locating in what is now Guilford Township, where he purchased a tract of Government land on section 8, and began its development. The last years of his life were spent at the home of our subject. His wife was also a native of Vermont, and a daughter of Thomas Averill. She died at the old homestead. Their children were: Maria, George, Rhoda, Richard, Lucy, Russell and Averill.

Russell Marsh, whose portrait and life-sketch are herewith presented, accompanied his parents on their various removals, and with them came to Illinois when nineteen years of age. This county then seemed to be on the borders of civilization. It was an unimproved tract of wild prairie; Rockford was a mere hamlet and many of the towns and villages had not sprung into existence. Farming was done with very crude implements as compared with the improved machinery of to-day, and the products were hauled to market in Chicago, eighty-five miles distant.

Mr. Marsh remained under the parental roof until his marriage. On the 10th of February, 1845, he wedded Mary A. Hayes, a native of Canada, and a daughter of Samuel B. Hayes. Her death occurred October 5, 1857. She left three children: Lucy A., wife of William Kane, of Kansas; Rhoda E., wife of Richard Beers, a resident of Syracuse, Neb., and George W., who married Emily Snow, and is living on the home farm. Mr. Marsh was again married, March 16, 1864, to Mrs. Maria (Beers) Haley. They have an adopted daughter, Flora. Mrs. Marsh was born in Guilford Township, May 22, 1837. Her father, Daniel Beers, was born in Northampton County, Pa., August 6, 1806, and was of German descent. At an early age, he was left an orphan, and for a time lived with an uncle. When a young man, he went to New York, and was there married, February 11, 1830, to Mary Herrick, who was born in Batavia, N. Y., and was a daughter of Luther and Mary (Johnson) Herrick.

In 1836, Mr. and Mrs. Beers came to Illinois, few pioneers having preceded them to Winnebago County. They found here an almost undeveloped tract of land, the Government surveys not having yet been made, and the few settlers were widely scattered. Mr. Beers made a claim on what is now section 20, Guilford Township, and built a log cabin, which was the birthplace of Mrs. Marsh. He afterwards sold this farm and bought another tract on the same section. In 1855, he removed to Green County, Wis., where he made his home for ten years, and then returned to Illinois, becoming a resident of Rockford. He afterwards spent three years upon a farm in Harlem Township, and then returned to Rockford, where his death occurred, April 3, 1880. His widow is still living in that city, and undoubtedly has longer resided in this county than any other of its residents at this time. She and her husband were members of the first Methodist class organized in the city, and she is its only survivor. Her long life has been well and worthily spent, and she has won the love and esteem of all with whom she has been brought in contact.

Her daughter Maria became the wife of Oscar Haley, September 25, 1856. He was born in Chatham, N. H., August 18, 1833, and emigrated to



Richard March



Yours Truly
Ripell Marsh

Wisconsin in 1855. In the summer he worked at farming and in the winter season he taught school. During the late war, he enlisted September 12, 1861, in the Fifth Wisconsin Battery, and died during the service at Jackson, Tenn., November 13, 1862, thus giving his life in defense of his country.

Immediately after his first marriage, Mr. Marsh located upon the farm which is still his home, including one hundred and sixty acres of highly improved land on section 17, Guilford Township. He is an industrious and enterprising agriculturist and a worthy citizen. In politics, he is a Republican.



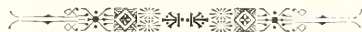
RICHARD MARSH, who has long been a resident of Guilford Township, Winnebago County, and now resides on section 16, claims Pennsylvania as the State of his nativity. He was born in Litchfield Township, Bradford County, and is the second son of Russell and Abigail (Averill) Marsh, who are mentioned in the sketch of Russell Marsh, Jr., on another page of this work. Our subject came to Illinois with his parents in 1838, and has been a resident of Guilford Township since that time. He has witnessed the development of the county from an almost unbroken wilderness, has seen its wild lands transformed into beautiful farms, while cities and villages have sprung up and the work of progress and civilization been carried forward until Winnebago County ranks among the best in the State.

On starting out in life for himself, Mr. Marsh began working as a farm hand by the month. He was industrious and enterprising and by 1841 had saved enough from his earnings to purchase a forty-acre tract of land, a part of his present farm. He has been very successful as an agriculturist and from time to time has added to his landed possessions, until now two hundred and ten acres of highly improved land pay tribute to his care and cultivation. His improvements are among the best in the township, including good buildings and all the accessories of a model farm.

On the 12th of September, 1842, Mr. Marsh was

joined in wedlock with Miss Sarah C. Watson, who was born in Lyth, Yorkshire, England, September 12, 1821. Her father, Leonard Watson, was born in the same county and in 1832 came with his family to America, locating in Toronto, Canada. He participated in the Patriot War of the rebellion of Canada in 1837, was captured, taken as a prisoner to England, tried for treason and was sentenced to banishment in Van Diemen's Land. He was pardoned, however, on condition that he would not settle within fifty miles of the British possessions in America, and so he returned to this country in 1839 and became a resident of Guilford Township, where he purchased a tract of land on section 8, and engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in 1811. He was killed by the falling of a tree. His wife bore the maiden name of Ann Hill. She, too, was born in Yorkshire, England, and there spent her entire life. After her death, he wedded Sarah Hill, a sister of his first wife, who survived Mr. Watson some years and passed away in 1867.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Marsh has been blessed with three children: Leonard, Averill A. and Fannie A. The parents have a pleasant home and are people held in high regard throughout this community. In politics, Mr. Marsh is a stalwart Republican. An enterprising and progressive farmer, a public-spirited and valued citizen, he justly deserves mention in the history of his adopted county, where he has so long made his home, and we are also pleased to present his portrait to our readers.



ALEXANDER C. LANSING, Rockford, Ill. Among the popular grocers doing business in this section of the city none enjoy a better reputation than Mr. Lansing, who is a member of the well-known firm of Lansing & Fiddock, whose business quarters are at No. 517 East State Street. This establishment, which was started under its present title in 1891, could not be more admirably arranged and provided with every convenience for business purposes, and contains one of the finest lines of staple and fancy groceries to be found in this part of the city. The

firm was originally Swets & Lansing, continuing so for two years, when Mr. Swets retired.

Mr. Lansing came to Rockford in 1871, and was engaged for about eighteen years in the flour and feed business, and has been all these years on East State Street, near his present place of business. He is an excellent business man, looks after the interests of his customers with zealous care, and guarantees all orders being filled with the best in the market. As might be supposed, he has met with well-merited success.

Our subject was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., January 12, 1810, and was eight years old when his parents removed to Montgomery County, of that State. He there grew to manhood, and became familiar with the duties of farm life, his father being a successful agriculturist. He was carefully reared by good Christian parents and he has ever endeavored to follow in their footsteps, being at the present time a worthy member of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has been Steward for six years.

Our subject's father, Cornelius Lansing, was born in the Empire State and was descended from a long line of agriculturists; he himself followed farming all his life. He was a much esteemed citizen, and his death, which occurred when he was seventy-one years of age, was the occasion of universal sorrow. He had married Miss Lydia Reed in Saratoga County, N. Y., of which place she was a native. Her death occurred in Lewis County in the summer of 1883, when seventy-eight years of age. She was a Methodist in her religious belief and her husband attended the same church. Of the large family of children born to this worthy couple, two sons and six daughters still survive.

Alexander C. Lansing took for his life companion Miss Sarah E. File, and their union was celebrated in New York State. She was born near Troy, of that State, on the 12th of January, 1844, but was reared in Montgomery County, whither her parents, Joshua and Mary File, removed when she was quite young. Both parents, who are now deceased, were exemplary members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Lansing of this notice is a prominent member and worker in the same church as her husband. He is a strong

temperance advocate. The only child born to Mr. and Mrs. Lansing, George, died when eleven years of age. He was a bright, promising boy and his death was a severe blow to his parents, whose hopes were all centered upon him.



DANIEL BARNUM, deceased, well deserves representation in this volume, for he was one of the most honored pioneers and oldest settlers of the county. He was born in the Empire State, not far from the boundary line of Connecticut, in 1778, and was a kinsman of P. T. Barnum. His father, Elias Barnum, was also born in New York and there spent his entire life, following the occupation of farming.

Our subject passed the days of his boyhood and youth in the State of his nativity, and when a young man went to Connecticut, where he met and married Lorana Hoyt, a native of that State, and a descendant of a prominent Connecticut family. After their marriage, they began their domestic life in the township of Danbury, Fairfield County, Conn., and upon that farm all of their six children were born, viz: Adelia who died in Rockford at the age of eighty-two years, at the home of her sister Cynthia; Maria B., wife of Phenias Howes; Emily died in early maidenhood, in 1838; Hoyt B., a retired citizen of Rockford, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; Harrison is living a retired life on East State Street; and Cynthia is living at her palatial home at No. 113 East Street. She also owns a farm in Cherry Valley Township and other valuable property.

In 1838, Mr. Barnum came with his wife and family to this county, and purchased a claim of one hundred and sixty acres belonging to a Mr. Jewett in Cherry Valley Township. As soon as the land came into market, he went to Galena, and purchased it of the Government. The family bore all the hardships and trials of frontier life and met with all the experiences of the pioneer, but as the years passed by and the county became more thickly settled, those early difficulties passed away and they enjoyed prosperity. In his agricultural

pursuits, Mr. Barnum was quite successful and at length accumulated a comfortable competence. His wife, who proved a true and faithful helpmate to him, died in 1849, at their home in Cherry Valley Township, at the age of sixty-eight years, and was mourned by many friends.

Mr. Barnum afterwards came to Rockford and spent the remainder of his life in retirement, enjoying the rest which he so truly earned. He lived to a very advanced age, but retained his mental and physical faculties to the last. He passed away November 8, 1870, at the age of ninety-two years. He had long been a resident of the county and had borne an important part in its upbuilding and advancement in an early day. His success in life was all due to his own efforts. He left to his daughter a handsome property and a fine home. Miss Barnum is a kind and sympathetic lady, well known throughout this community and held in high esteem for her sterling worth.



DAVID W. EVANS, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 31, Harlem Township, has been a resident of Winnebago County since 1856, and is numbered among its honored early settlers. He has, therefore, been an eye-witness of its growth and development, and has participated in its upbuilding and advancement, so that he is well worthy of representation in this volume.

Our subject was born in Grenville,^o Argenteuil County, Canada, November 30, 1840, and is of English descent. His grandparents, John and Jane Evans, were both natives of Hull, England, and the latter died in that country. Mr. Evans afterwards married again and came to America, settling in Canada in 1820. He there spent the remainder of his days. The father of our subject, James Evans, was also born in Hull, England, and was quite young when his mother died. He was afterwards apprenticed to the wagon-maker's trade, serving a term of six and one-half years. On attaining his majority, he crossed the broad Atlantic to Canada, and engaged in farming in Grenville until 1856, which year witnessed his

arrival in Illinois. He bought a tract of land in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, and there engaged in farming until his death. He was married in Canada to Ann Campbell, who was born in 1802, and was a daughter of Robert Campbell, who was of Scotch-Irish parentage. She still survives her husband and makes her home in Rockford. The family numbers eight children, as follows: Rebecca J., James, Ephraim, John, Robert, David, Joseph and Janet.

We now take up the personal history of Mr. Evans whose name heads this record. He spent his early boyhood days in his native land, and at the age of sixteen came with his parents to Illinois. He aided his father in the farm work until the spring of 1861, when he rented land and engaged in farming on his own account, but in September of that year he abandoned his work in the field and enlisted in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, serving in the Army of the Potomac until after the close of the war. He participated in all the campaigns, marches and battles of the regiment and served under MacClellan, Burnside, Hooker, Mead and Grant, and the following cavalry officers: Pleasanton, Bufert and Sheridan. He participated in the Grand Review at Washington at the close of the war, and, with his regiment, was honorably discharged on the 25th of July, 1865. He proved himself a faithful soldier, ever found at his post of duty. He also had two brothers in the army—one who died in Tennessee, and the other who was killed in Virginia.

During his service, Mr. Evans had purchased a farm in Cherry Valley Township, and on his return engaged in its cultivation. On the 27th of April, 1868, he married Emma J. Conklin, a native of Oneida County, N. Y., and a daughter of James S. and Theresa J. (Martin) Conklin. Their union has been blessed with seven children. They are as follows: Jesse R., Olive G., Nettie N., Ruby F., Alice J., Harry G. and Florence.

The family continued to reside on the farm in Cherry Valley Township until 1883, when Mr. Evans purchased a tract of land on section 31, Harlem Township, where he has since made his home. He is a progressive and influential citizen of this community and is widely and favorably

known throughout the county where he has resided since a lad of sixteen years. He is highly esteemed for his sterling worth and the upright life he has led. Socially, he is a member of Nevins Post No. 1, G. A. R.; Harmony Grange No. 957; and Harlem Camp No. 661, M. W. A.



THOMAS BUCHANAN. It is with pleasure that we recount the history of this gentleman, who is at present residing in Rockford. He has undergone many hardships and privations that he might bring about the prosperous condition of this section which we see to-day. He has been very successful in his business interests and for the past two years has lived retired from active life.

Lanarkshire, Scotland, was the native home of our subject, his birth occurring in the village of Shotts in May, 1835. His direct progenitor, John Buchanan, was a native of that shire, as was also his grandfather, Thomas. The latter-named gentleman was a molder by trade and spent his entire life in Scotland. His wife bore the maiden name of Ann Glen; she was born in Scotland, and there her decease occurred.

The father of our subject also followed the occupation of a molder, and in his native town married Miss Agnes Black, the mother of our subject, who was born in the parish of Shotts and is a daughter of William Black. To them were born a family of five children, namely: Thomas, Agnes, William, John and Robert. Our subject and his brother John are the only members of the family who came to the New World. The latter resides in Sacramento, Cal.

The original of this sketch commenced at the early age of ten years to learn the trade of a molder, which occupation he followed for seven years in Glasgow, then, in 1847, he set sail from that city on the packet "Henry Clay," and landed in New York after a voyage of thirty-three days. From that city he went to Woonsocket Falls, R. I., and was employed until 1855 with the Woonsocket Furnace Company.

On the above-named date, Mr. Buchanan came

to Illinois and located on a farm which he had previously purchased eight miles north of Belvidere. There he was engaged in cultivating the soil for a twelvemonth, and in the spring of 1856 came to Rockford, at once entering the employ of Emerson, Talcott & Company. Remaining with them a few weeks, our subject engaged to work with Clark & Utter, by whom he was employed until 1858, when he went to California via New York and the Isthmus of Panama. He worked in the mines for seven months, then started a foundry at Downieville, Sierra County, where he remained until 1862, and then returned to Rockford and worked for F. H. Manny, with whom he continued for twenty-six years, the greater part of the time acting as foreman of the foundry. As before stated, Mr. Buchanan has retired from active work and is residing in his present home on the street which bears his name.

Our subject and Miss Jane Smith were united in marriage in July, 1847. Mrs. Buchanan was born in Renfrewshire, town of Neilston, Scotland, and departed this life in 1878. To them was born one son, Thomas J., who married Alice Brownell and is the father of two children, Jennie and Bertha. He of whom we write is an Elder in the First Presbyterian Church and, in politics, votes with the Republican party. For six years he was a member of the School Board and has been otherwise very actively interested in local affairs. The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in 1878, was Miss Mary Cunningham, a native of Renfrewshire, Scotland.



AMUEL C. WINTHROW. In the line of fine carpets, draperies, brass goods, etc., etc. the city of Rockford stands second to none, a fact in which its citizens may well take pride in these days of intense competitive effort. In this age of refinement, wealth, and enterprise, the demands of all classes for artistic productions are more exacting than ever before, and in no branch of trade is this more evident than that in which the firm of Winthorpe, Baird &

Co. is engaged. This firm make a specialty of interior decorating, the same introduced lately, and are located in the Stewart Block, where they have a fine room, 135x44 feet. Winthrow & Baird have been in business together since April, 1889, and have, until quite recently, been located at No. 122 South Main Street, where, besides doing a decorating business, they carried a large and full line of dry-goods. Seeing the need of a house in Rockford that would make a specialty of interior decorating, they established themselves in the most favorable location for the business, and have been rewarded by the signal success they have achieved.

Mr. Winthrow has been actively engaged in business in this city for many years, while Mr. J. N. Baird, who came here from McGregor, Iowa, where he was engaged for a number of years as a dry-goods merchant, has only resided here since 1889. During that time, however, he has impressed the people as a man of sound judgment, excellent taste, and much energy. Mr. Winthrow came to Rockford in June, 1861, and engaged in the dry-goods business on his own account, but at the end of ten years, having a true artist's eye for harmony of colors and beautiful effects, he connected with his business a line of house decorations, which he carried on jointly and successfully with his former business until 1892. Since that time, the firm has established the latter line of business entirely. With the exception of a Mr. Dennett, who is still in business in this city, Mr. Winthrow is the oldest dry-goods merchant in Rockford. The honorable and equitable methods of this gentleman and his partner inspire the utmost confidence, and their energy and enterprise are reaping a well-merited reward.

Our subject came to this city from Cincinnati, Ohio, where he had a thorough training as a seller of dry-goods, in both the retail and wholesale departments, being connected for some time with the old dry-goods firm of Shaw, Buel, Barber & Co., and having a natural aptitude for that business, he has been unusually successful. He was born in London, Madison County, Ohio, and there passed his boyhood and received his education. At an early age, he began clerking in a dry-goods store in his native town and subsequently went to Cin-

cinnati, Ohio, where he remained, actively engaged in business, until coming to this city.

Prominent in all enterprises of a laudable nature, Mr. Winthrow is particularly so in educational and religious matters, having been one of the greatest, if not the greatest, Sunday-school worker in the county. Out of the thirty years he has been a resident of this city, twenty years have been spent as Superintendent of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church and he has been an official member of the same for years. He has been a delegate to the State Sunday-school Convention a number of times and when the National Convention met at Newark, N. J., he was one of the delegates from this State. He has been an energetic worker in this direction and has been in every church and schoolhouse in the county. He gives new impetus and life to old Sunday-schools and organizes new ones; he seems never to tire, and still the good work goes on. A staunch Republican in his political views, Mr. Winthrow works hard for his party, and is a live man in all local affairs.

The parents of our subject, Robert and Ann (Carr) Winthrow, were natives of Madison County, Ohio, and there passed their entire days. The father was a prominent farmer of his native county, but the last twenty years of his life were spent as a shipper of cattle. He died when seventy-seven years of age. His father was a Virginian, of English descent, and became an early settler of London Township, Madison County, Ohio, where he took up and improved Government land. He assisted in building the old National Road and was a prominent man in his day. The wife of Robert Winthrow died when seventy-two years of age. Her parents had come to Ohio from the Old Dominion at an early day, improved Government land, and were well known to the people of that county. Both the Winthrow and Carr families were Methodists in their religious views, and were Whigs and Republicans in politics.

Samuel Winthrow was married, in Peoria, Ill., to Mrs. Sallie Irwin, *nee* McFarland, a native of Pittsburgh, Pa., who came of Scotch-Irish ancestors, inheriting her thrift and industry from the former and her wit and sociability from the latter. She was reared and educated in her native city and was

there married to Maj. S. C. Irwin, who was in an Ohio Regiment and who was killed at the battle of Lookout Mountain, when in the prime of life. He received his regular promotions, was a brave and gallant officer and fought bravely in defense of the Union. He left no children.

Mr. and Mrs. Winthrow are without children of their own but they have adopted one son, christened Fritz, who is now in the fruit business in Galt, Cal., and who is a promising young man. Mr. and Mrs. Winthrow are prominent in social and religious matters, and are pleasantly located on Remington Bluff, south of the city.



HARMON B. SOPER, who is now living a retired life at his pleasant home at No. 703 East State Street, has been a resident of Rockford since 1862. He is a native of Oneida County, N. Y., born in 1819. His father, Philo Soper, was a native of Connecticut and married Hannah Goodwin, who was also born in that State. After their marriage, they removed to Oneida County, N. Y., locating in the wilderness of Vernon, and there made their home until called to their final rest. The death of the father occurred at the age of seventy-eight years, and his wife died in the sixty-sixth year of her age. They were both members of the Congregational Church and highly respected people. Mr. Soper served throughout the War of 1812 as Fife Major and was stationed at Sackett's Harbor. His parents were also natives of the Nutmeg State, and both lived to an advanced age. The husband, who followed farming throughout his entire life, reached the advanced age of ninety-six years.

Our subject is the only surviving member in a family of seven children. He made his home in the county of his nativity until his emigration Westward. For eight years he had served as a clerk in a large mercantile establishment of Syracuse, N. Y., and there gained an excellent knowledge of business and its methods. On coming to Rockford, he opened a fancy-goods store and did business in that line until 1880, at the same time keeping wagons on the road as dealers with coun-

try merchants. For some years, he has also sold goods, as a commercial traveler, for the Rockford Clothing Company, the Rockford Overall Company and the H. W. Price Mitten Company. He has an excellent reputation as a successful salesman and much of his life has been devoted to that business.

In the township of Vernon, Oneida County, N. Y., Mr. Soper was united in marriage with Miss Susan P. Brown, daughter of Leonard and Phebe (Snow) Brown. They were early settlers of Oneida County, and there her father developed and improved a farm, upon which he made his home until his death at the age of three-score years and ten. His wife had also reached the age of seventy years at the time of her death. Both were members of the Congregational Church and were descended from old New England families. Their children were nine in number, but Mrs. Soper is the only one now living. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children: Elizabeth, who died at the age of fourteen; Nellie B., wife of H. A. Leland, of Portland, Ore., an employe of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and Mattie G., wife of George W. Leach, of Philadelphia, Pa., an employe of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Soper hold membership with the Methodist Church, and, in politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles. His life has been well and worthily spent and the success with which it has been crowned is entirely due to his own efforts.



ELIZABETH S. (FOX) WHITTLE is numbered among the early settlers of Winnebago County. It was the husbands and fathers who cleared the land, made the farms and in that way developed the county, but the wives and mothers also bore an important part in its up-building, and among these should be mentioned the lady whose name heads this record. She was born in Porter, Oxford County, Me., and is descended from an old New England family. Her father, Luther Fox, was also born in Porter and was a son of Edwin Fox, a native of New England

and of English descent. He followed farming throughout his entire life, served in the War of 1812, and died in the town of Porter. His wife also passed away in that locality.

The father of Mrs. Whittle was reared to agricultural pursuits, and to that work devoted his energies throughout life. He continued to make his home in Maine until 1869, when he came to Illinois, his death occurring at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Whittle, in 1889, at the age of eighty-five years. He married Betsy Sawyer, also a native of the Pine Tree State and a daughter of the Rev. James Sawyer, a Baptist clergyman of Maine, who preached in various places and died in Buxton, Me. The Fox family numbered six children, namely: Mrs. Whittle, of this sketch; Thaddeus, Abigail, Mitti, James and Marcia.

Elizabeth Fox spent the days of her maidenhood in the county of her nativity, and in 1855 became the wife of Hiram H. Cole, also a native of Maine, and a son of Hiram and Sophronia (Warren) Cole. He had previously engaged in teaching in that State, but after his marriage emigrated Westward, accompanied by his young bride. They came to Rockford, where they resided until 1858, when they removed to Arkansas, and in that State Mr. Cole engaged in teaching school until his death, which occurred in August, 1862. His widow afterward returned to Rockford, and in January, 1865, became the wife of Charles Whittle, an honored pioneer of Winnebago County and an extensive and wealthy farmer of Guilford Township. He was born in Canada, about twenty miles east of Detroit, and was a son of John and Betsy Whittle. His boyhood days were spent in his native land, where he resided until 1837, when he came to Illinois and spent one season in Winnebago County. He then returned to Canada, but in the year 1838 again came to this State. Nearly all of the land was still in its primitive condition and yet in possession of the Government. Mr. Whittle purchased a squatter's claim in Guilford Township and at once began the development and improvement of a farm. He hauled his grain to Chicago, for no railroad had been built at that time. He was industrious and

enterprising, a man of good judgment and excellent business ability, and became well-to-do. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1881, he was the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres, under a high state of cultivation and well improved with good buildings.

Mrs. Whittle is still living on the old homestead and is one of the highly esteemed ladies of this community. She has three children. Charles S., who was born of her first marriage, is now a resident farmer of Guilford Township, and the children of her second marriage are Carrie A., wife of Abram Davis, of the same township; and Fred J., who operates the home farm.



DAVID A. MOORE, late of Caledonia Township, Boone County, was born September 18, 1836, in Taunton, Mass. His father, Alexander Moore, was born in Ireland, of Scotch ancestry, and on coming to America located in the Bay State, where he made his home for a number of years, and later, coming to Boone County, died on his farm in Boone Township. The maiden name of his wife was Ellen Kirk, also a native of Ireland, who died on the home farm in this county. Like her husband, she was a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church in early life, but during her last years united with the Methodist Episcopal denomination.

David Moore was quite young when brought to the Prairie State by his parents, and was reared on the farm, and educated in the schools of his district. Soon after his marriage, which occurred in September, 1861, he settled on the farm where his family now reside, it being a portion of the old Cornwell homestead. The maiden name of the wife of Mr. Moore was Fannie Cornwell, a daughter of William Cornwell. She was born October 3, 1843, in this township, while her father, and grandfather, Thomas Cornwell, were natives of Canada. The latter-named gentleman came to Illinois about 1816, and, locating in Boone County, purchased a large tract of land, upon which he was residing at the time of his death. The grandmother of our

subject, prior to her marriage, was Chloe Emery; she was also a native of Canada, and died on the home farm in Boone Township.

William Cornwell was married in Canada, where he resided until 1844, at which time he came to Illinois, making the removal overland with ox-teams. He located a tract of Government land on what is now section 25 of this township, and erected the log house in which Mrs. Moore was born. Here he made his home until his decease in 1849. His wife, who was born in New Jersey, was Miss Sarah, daughter of Christopher and Fanny (Barcroft) Little, the latter of whom is still living in Poplar Grove. To our subject and his wife has been born one son, Will A. Our subject is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.



MARTIN B. NEFF. Among the well-to-do farmers of Flora Township, Boone County, who have been the architects of their own fortunes, we may properly mention the subject of this notice who was born in Antis Township, Blair County, Pa., October 31, 1841. He is the representative of a substantial old family of German ancestry, being the son of John and Mary Neff, also natives of the above-named State and county. The grandfather of our subject, Jonathan Neff, was likewise born in the Keystone State and on removing from New York to Blair County purchased a tract of land in the latter place which he farmed until his decease.

The father of our subject was reared in his native county, where his decease occurred in 1855. He had been married to Mary Chrisman, whose birth occurred in the county of which he was a native. Prior to her marriage with Mr. Neff, she was the wife of Lewis McCartney. In 1861, she came to Illinois and spent her last days in Flora Township, dying in 1865. She was the mother of three children: Jonathan, David, who died in infancy, and Martin B., our subject. The surviving brothers are associated together in farming and are more than ordinarily successful in their calling.

He of whom we write was a lad of twelve years when his father died and he continued to reside

with his mother and attend school in seasons when not engaged upon the farm. When nineteen years of age, he came to Illinois and located on section 27, which is his present farm. In December, 1865, he was married to Martha E. McKee, who was born in this county, the daughter of Samuel McKee.

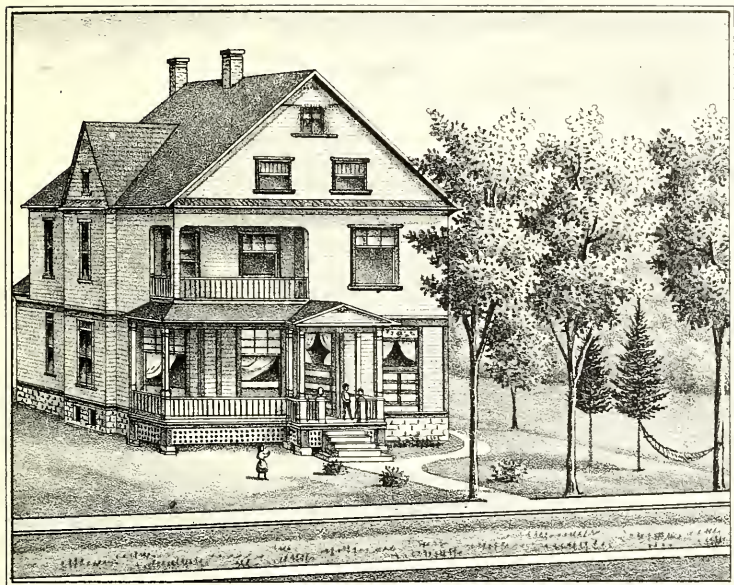
Mr. and Mrs. Neff are the parents of seven children: Zilda M., Mary, Bernice, Gertie, Wallace, Ralph and Harry. The mother is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and with her husband is connected with the Royal Neighbors' Lodge. Mr. Neff is a Republican in politics, and in social matters is a member of Belvidere Lodge No. 60, A. F. & A. M., Flora Lodge No. 621, M. W. A., Excelsior Lodge No. 2654, P. of L., and during the war was a member of the Union League.

Elsewhere in this volume will be noticed a view of the attractive homestead of Mr. Neff.

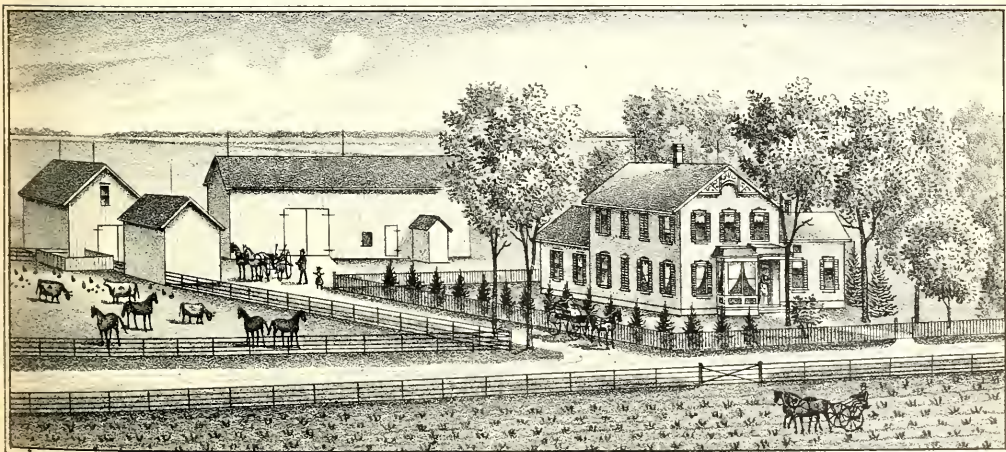


FRANK E. HOLMES. This gentleman needs little introduction to the people of Winnebago County, as he has long been recognized as one of the leading citizens of Rockford, where his birth occurred May 7, 1855. He is universally popular in both social and business circles and is possessed of more than ordinary ability, together with the energy and enterprise which seldom fail to win. He is at present residing in a beautiful home located at No. 1802 East State Street, a view of which is shown on another page, and which is finished and furnished in a manner that indicates its inmates to be people of education and means. The home farm of Mr. Holmes has been laid out in city lots, but has not yet been annexed. It is located in what is conceded to be the finest suburb of Rockford, and it is only a question of a short time until it will become a portion of the city.

Hollis H. Holmes, the father of our subject, was one of the pioneers of Rockford, having been a resident here since 1839, at which time he made the removal from Sparta, Elgin County, Canada. He was born in North East, Putnam County, N. Y., April 15, 1810. His father, William Holmes, was born in Greenwich, Fairfield County, Conn., on



RESIDENCE OF F. E. HOLMES , NO. 1802 , E. STATE ST., ROCKFORD , ILL.



RESIDENCE OF M. B. NEFF , SEC. 27 , FLORA TP., BOONE CO., ILL.

the 1st of June, 1779, and died in Danbury, the same State, when advanced in years. Hollis H. Holmes when a young man went to Canada, where he learned the trade of a shoemaker, and was engaged in that business until his removal to Rockford, as above stated.

At the time the elder Mr. Holmes located in this county, the city of Rockford was little more than a hamlet and the surrounding country was mostly owned by the Government. Mr. Holmes followed his trade in the town for a time and in 1815 purchased a farm near the city, for which he paid \$12 per acre and which includes one hundred and twenty acres. Chicago and Savanna were the nearest markets of the settlers, and they were thus obliged to live mostly off the products of the farm. The father of our subject soon established a nursery in this county, which he successfully operated until his decease, August 2, 1859. He was married, June 15, 1837, to Sarah Moore, a native of Sparta, Elgin County, Canada. Her father, John Moore, was a native of New York City, as was also the grandfather, who was a real-estate dealer. The latter-named gentleman removed from New York to Canada, where his decease occurred in Sparta.

The maternal grandfather of our subject went to Canada when a young man, where he was one of the pioneers of Elgin County. He purchased two thousand acres of land in Norwich, Oxford County, and eight hundred acres in Yarmouth Township, Elgin County. Upon the latter tract he erected a log house, where he resided with the family until 1836, when a comfortable brick residence was constructed. Mr. Moore cleared six hundred acres of the estate where his decease occurred. In addition to farming, he dealt extensively in live stock, driving them through to St. Catharines, to Buffalo, and occasionally to New York City.

The maiden name of his wife, the grandmother of our subject, was Deborah C. Stockton, a native of New Jersey, and the daughter of John and Hester (Wilson) Stockton; she died at the home of her daughter in Norwich, when seventy-one years of age. The mother of our subject passed away in 1885 after having reared a family of three children: George House, Edward Moore and Frank E.

He of whom we write was educated in Rockford, which has always been his home. In 1890, the home farm was laid out in city lots and is now known as the "Highlands." Mr. Holmes was married, September 21, 1876, to Clara Wiley, who was born in Hanover, Jo Daviess County, Ill., and a daughter of Mead and Jane (Johnson) Wiley. The father of Mrs. Holmes was born in Philadelphia, Pa., and his father, Henry Wiley, hailed from Ireland and when making his home in this country located in Philadelphia. He finally came to Illinois and departed this life at Galena. The maiden name of his wife was Catherine Leighey, who died in Hanover, this State, firm in the faith of the Methodist Church. Mead Wiley was reared in Pennsylvania and going to Galena when a young man resided there for a few years and then settled on a tract of land in Hanover. In 1873, however, he went to Washington Territory, and now resides at San Juan, where he has a fine fruit farm. He was prominent in local affairs and served his fellow-townsmen as Justice of the Peace.

The mother of Mrs. Holmes, who was also born in England, came to this country when quite young, both of her parents dying while en route on the ocean. The mother died in Hanover, this State, at a good old age. To our subject and his wife have been born three children: George Edward, Hattie Wiley and Harry Ellsworth. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and, in politics, our subject votes with the Republican party. Socially, he belongs to the Riverside Camp No. 20, M. W. A.



SWEN A. JOHNSON, one of the well-known Swedish residents of Rockford, and President of the Rockford Central Furniture Company, was born on the 12th of November, 1831, in Sweden. In his youth he learned the tailor's trade, which he followed until coming to America in the year 1852. Bidding good-bye to his old home, he sailed on the 13th of April, and, after a long and tedious voyage of forty-seven days, landed in New York City on the

30th of May. He afterward started Westward to Rockford, and along the way did journeyman work at Geneva and Elgin, arriving at his destination in November. His parents never left their native land, but lived and died in Sweden. The father was eighty-four years of age at the time of his death. A sister and two brothers, however, followed our subject to this country and lived in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Mr. Johnson was married in Rockford to Miss Emily Peterson, who was born in Sweden in 1842, and when a maiden of ten summers came to this country and to Rockford, with her parents, C. N. and Johanna Peterson, who settled on a farm in Seward Township, where they made a good farm. Subsequently, they removed to Pecatonica, where Mr. Peterson is still living at the age of seventy-five years. His wife died in 1891, at the age of eighty years. They were both members of the Lutheran Church, and the parents of our subject were of the same belief. Nine children graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson: Hilma; Amanda, wife of August Peterson, of Rockford, Secretary of the Central Furniture Company; Eda D., book-keeper for that company; Armer E., book-keeper in the Third National Bank; Victor M., a graduate of the High School, now assisting his father in business; Cora, Edmund M., and Maud and Linus (twins) are still under the parental roof. The children have all been provided with good educational advantages, and their family is one of which the parents may well be proud.

Mr. Johnson is connected with many leading business enterprises of the city. In 1879, the Rockford Central Furniture Company was organized, and he has since been its President. They employ one hundred and twenty-five hands in the factory, and two commercial travelers are on the road selling their goods. Mr. Johnson is also a stockholder in the Star Furniture Company, the Royal Sewing Machine Company, recently organized, and has been Treasurer of the Swedish Building and Loan Association since it was established. He is a member of a land syndicate in this city, and other local enterprises, and is a stockholder in the Third National Bank. In 1862, he opened a merchant tailoring establishment, and some time later formed

a partnership with John Erlander. About 1870, he established a gents' furnishing goods store, and in 1885 admitted to partnership G. A. Wanstrom, who had purchased John Erlander's interest. They now have a fine and well-kept store, 80x22 feet, located at No. 420 East State Street. Mr. Johnson is a man of excellent business ability, enterprising, sagacious and far-sighted. He has been successful in almost everything that he has undertaken, yet hard work has been required to achieve this prosperity. Upright and honorable in all things, he is a worthy and valued citizen, and too much cannot be said in praise of what he has done for Rockford and its interests. Himself and family are members of the First Swedish Lutheran Church, of which he was one of the organizers. It now has a membership of over two thousand, and is the leading church of its denomination in the city. He has also been its Trustee for many years. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican, and has served as Alderman of the Sixth Ward. He owns a comfortable residence at No. 402 Kishwaukee Street. With his family he holds a high position in social circles, and well deserves the warm regard tendered them. This work would be incomplete without the sketch of Mr. Johnson, who is indeed one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Rockford.



JOHN THIORESO, the well-known and prosperous Norwegian citizen of Rockford, has now retired from the active duties of life, and is spending the remainder of his days in the enjoyment of the accumulation of former years. He resides at No. 330 South Main Street, and there enjoys the rest and quiet becoming his years. He also owns other property on that street, and recently refused \$20,000 for it.

Our subject was born in Christiana, Norway, April 16, 1820, and, as he grew to manhood, learned the wagon and carriage makers' trade, following business on his own account for five years before coming to the States. He was seven weeks in crossing the ocean, and after reaching this country he located in Chicago, Ill., where he was engaged in business for two years before coming to

Rockford. He was the only one of the family to come to the United States. His only brother, Fredrick Thoreson, was born in 1815, and was a Lutheran clergyman until his death, in 1876. He was a prominent man in his native province, and carried on his ministerial duties in Trondhjem all his life.

The parents, Thor and Adelaide (Olson) Syver-son, were natives of Norway, and there passed their entire lives, both living to a good old age. The father was a shoemaker by trade, a good and worthy man, and a quiet and unassuming citizen. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran Church of their native city, and were active workers in the same.

John Thoreson came to Rockford in 1855, and was engaged as journeyman for some of the carriage and wagon establishments of the city until 1866, when he began for himself as a manufacturer of carriages and wagons. For a number of years after beginning business on his own account, he turned out much new and complete work, keeping from ten to twelve men constantly employed. He invested in valuable property in the city, and continued to do so until he is now a large property owner, and one of the most substantial men of the city. He was married in his native country, in 1848, to Miss Martha Oslund, who was born not far from Christiana, Norway, December 4, 1822, and who was a true helpmate to her husband until her death in Rockford, on the 31st of August, 1887. She was a devoted wife and mother, and a consistent member of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church of Rockford for thirty years. Mr. Thoreson is also a charter member of that church, and has been an official member for many years. In politics, he adheres to the Republican party.

His marriage resulted in the birth of seven children, only two of whom are living: Thomas, a carriage painter of Rockford; and Matilda J., wife of Alfred Abrahamson, who resides with her father. Mr. Abrahamson is a designer, stockholder and Director in the Mantel and Furniture Company, of Rockford. He and his wife are the parents of two children, Herbert and Amy.

In the year 1862, Mr. Thoreson enlisted from Rockford, in Company K, Seventy-fourth Illinois

Infantry, and served as a private with his regiment in the Cumberland Army. He was in the battles of Perryville, Stone River and Murfreesboro, where he was severely wounded in the left arm. He was sent to the hospital, and was there taken as a prisoner of war, being afterward confined in Libby Prison for two months. He was then exchanged and a few months later was honorably discharged for disability. He fought bravely for the Union, and was in many fierce battles. He is a member of the G. L. Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford.

JAMOS C. SAMMONS stands among the leaders of the stockraising and farming interests of Harlem Township, Winnebago County, where he owns a farm, which in point of cultivation and general improvement is scarcely surpassed by any in the neighborhood. He was born in Lincoln County, Province of Ontario, Canada, November 4, 1839. His father, John J. Sammons, is a native of Orange County, N. Y., his birth occurring December 18, 1782. His father, also named John, hailed from the Empire State, while the great-grandfather of our subject was born in Holland and came to America during Colonial days.

The grandfather of our subject was a farmer and died in Orange County, N. Y., in his ninety-sixth year, his wife departing this life at the age of ninety-four years. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and was highly respected in his community. John J. Sammons was reared and married in New York and in 1812 served in the war of that period. He went to Canada about 1823, and purchased a tract of timber land in Lincoln County, where he erected the log house in which our subject was born. He followed his trade of a blacksmith and resided there until 1856, when, accompanied by his wife and three children, he came to Winnebago County. Locating in Harlem Township, he purchased the farm where our subject now resides, for which he paid \$22.50 per acre, including the crop, which was in. Mr. Sammons devoted his time to the cultivation of his

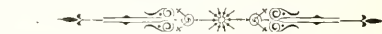
farm until the infirmities of old age caused him to retire. His decease occurred December 11, 1883, at the advanced age of one hundred and one years. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Anna Snure, a native of Lincoln County, Canada, her birth occurring October 6, 1796. She was the daughter of John Snure and died on the home farm September 17, 1860.

Amos C. Sammons was seventeen years of age when he came to this county, and at once commenced to assist his father in the work of the farm; he was never separated from his parents until their decease. He now owns and occupies the old homestead, which he is cultivating in a manner which brings him in the largest returns. June 20, 1867, he was married to Laura J. Rhodes, a native of Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, and the daughter of John J. Rhodes, who was born in Oneida County, N. Y. The grandfather of Mrs. Sammons, also named John, was born in Ireland, of English parents, and on emigrating to America resided for a time in Rome, N. Y., whence he removed to Marcellus, and operated a woolen mill until his decease. The maiden name of his wife was Hannah Combes.

The great-grandfather of Mrs. Sammons, Thomas Rhodes, was born in England, and with three brothers came to America, locating in Rhode Island about 1710. He there married a Miss Butler, soon after which event he returned to Europe and settled in Roserea, Ireland, where he built a stone house and spent the rest of his days.

John J. Rhodes was reared in New York State, and after the death of his wife went to Canada and established a woolen mill near London, in company with his brother Joseph. They operated successfully together until 1837, when Mr. Rhodes came overland to Illinois, bringing with him a quantity of the cloth he had manufactured. Locating in what is now Roscoe Township, he entered a tract of Government land and erected a sawmill which he conducted for a number of years, his decease occurring in 1859. The mother of Mrs. Sammons, known in her maidenhood as Pamela Wilson, was born in Kilham, Niagara County, Canada, and was a daughter of Crowell and Hester Wilson; she died in 1875. Mr. and

Mrs. Sammons have four children: Fred E., Harry L., William G. and Anna Laura. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and, in his political relations, our subject is a Republican, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln.



THEODORE JOHNSON is a practical and progressive farmer of Winnebago County, residing on section 19, Cherry Valley Township, where he owns and operates seventy-six and one-half acres of land. His fields are well tilled, and the many improvements seen upon the farm indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner.

The father of our subject, Montraville Johnson, was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., January 21, 1809, and was a son of Henry Johnson, a native of Rhode Island, who died in Jefferson County, N. Y., about 1842. He was the father of a large family numbering ten sons and a daughter. Four died in childhood, but seven grew to mature years and became heads of families. Three are yet living: Warren, who resides in Ashtabula County, Ohio; Mrs. Patience Whitney, and Montraville Johnson. He was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads, and acquired but a limited education. In Hoosie, N. Y., he was united in marriage to Sarah Richmond, daughter of Frederick and Elsie Richmond. They were both about nineteen years of age when married, and upon a farm in the Empire State they began their domestic life. The year 1866 witnessed their emigration to Illinois, and the following year Mr. Johnson purchased fifty-six acres of land in Boone County, five miles northwest of Belvidere, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1883. He then sold his farm and removed to Rockford, where he made his home for two years, after which he settled upon his present farm.

The parental family numbered eight children, but five have passed away, all dying when quite young. The surviving members of the family are Delia, widow of George W. Tyler, who lives with her father and brother; Edward R., who is living in Hoosie Falls, N. Y.; and Theodore, of this sketch. Neither of the sons is married. Mr. John-



H. H. STONE.

son has but one grandchild, Sanford N. Tyler, son of Mrs. Tyler, who resides with her father. The young man now resides in Spokane Falls, Wash. Mrs. Johnson was called to her final rest on the 5th of July, 1880, and her remains were interred in the Tobline burial ground, near the old home in Boone County, where the son Lorenzo also lies.

Our subject was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads, and to farming has devoted his entire time and attention. He now operates his father's land, and is considered a successful farmer, industrious and enterprising. He is widely and favorably known throughout this community, and has many friends in the county. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles and his father has been a life-long Democrat.



WALMER H. STONE. A position of prominence among the citizens of Rockford is occupied by this gentleman, who has made his home in this city since March, 1884. However, he had resided in Winnebago County for ten years prior to his location in this city, having come hither in January, 1874, and spent some time in Rockford, where he was connected with the Hess-Hopkins Manufacturing Company. Afterward he purchased a well-improved farm three miles from the city, in Rockford Township, and operated that place until, on account of failing health caused by sunstroke, he relinquished his active labors and retired to the city.

Although no longer a resident of his farm, Mr. Stone still retains an interest in its management, and does a large business as a wholesale dairyman, supplying large hotels and restaurants with milk. He is one of the original stockholders in the Rockford Burial Case Company, of which he is now a Director, and has contributed not a little to the growth of this corporation, one of the most extensive in the Forest City. He came to this city from Minnesota, where he was engaged in business as a dry-goods merchant, furniture dealer and undertaker at St. Charles for some seventeen years.

Mr. Stone, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, was born in Franklin County, Vt., in 1835, and learned the trade of a mechanic in his youth. His father, James Stone, belonged to a worthy New England family, of English descent, his ancestors having emigrated to America prior to the Revolutionary War. He grew to manhood in the Green Mountain State, and in 1844, accompanied by his wife and children, removed to Sheboygan County, Wis., where he commenced life as a pioneer farmer within two miles of the last house on the west in the State at that time. It will thus be seen that he was one of the earliest settlers of that part of Wisconsin, and amid primitive surroundings he toiled for years, rearing a family of eight children, and improving a good property. One child died at the age of seven, but the remaining seven are all living, and, with the exception of our subject, are farmers.

James Stone continued to live in Wisconsin until his death in 1857, at the age of sixty-one years. He was prominent in local politics, and served as Justice of the Peace for many years. He named the town of Winooski, Sheboygan County, Wis., and was its first Postmaster. In political belief, he was a Republican, and favored all measures calculated to advance the welfare of his community. His widow, who still survives, makes her home with a daughter, Mrs. Selden Akin, in Wisconsin. In February, 1892, she celebrated her ninety-third birthday, and although so old, is hale and active, writes with a steady hand, and has full possession of her physical and mental powers. Lucinda Danforth, as she was known in girlhood, was born in Vermont, and was of English extraction, and has for many years been identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In the parental family our subject is the youngest with one exception. He became of age in Wisconsin, and afterward went to Minnesota, where he lived a number of years. In the winter of 1863-64, he enlisted in the service of his country as a member of Company D, Seventh Minnesota Infantry, Capt. Rolla Banks and Col. William R. Marshall, ex-Governor of Minnesota, commanding. The regiment was an integral part of the Army of the Cumberland, and engaged in active battle as

well as in detached duty. At the close of the war, Mr. Stone was honorably discharged in September, 1865, and returned to his Minnesota home.

In Wisconsin, Mr. Stone was married to Miss Lucy McMurphy, of Painesville, Ohio, who died in St. Charles, Minn., nine years after marriage, leaving one son, Roy, now in Colorado. Afterward Mr. Stone was married, in this county, to Mary Etta Millard, who was born in Massachusetts, and came to Illinois when twenty years old, in 1865, settling with her parents on a farm near Rockford. Her father, John W. Millard, departed this life March 20, 1891, aged eighty years, his last days having been passed at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Stone. His widow, whose maiden name was Martha Harmon, still survives at the age of eighty years, and makes her home with her daughter in Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Stone have one son, Frank, who is attending school in Rockford. In their religious connections, Mr. and Mrs. Stone are members of the Christian Union Church, and socially, he belongs to the Eastern Star. He is a Master Mason, and a prominent member of the G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, at Rockford.



JOHAN A. CARLSON, Superintendent of the Skandia Plow Company, in which he has been a stockholder and Director since its inception in 1880, has also filled his present position and that of foreman most of these years. With the correct business principles and efficiency with which this business is conducted, it has not failed to contribute largely to the convenience of the community, and to its own established prosperity.

Mr. Carlson was born in Kalmar Lan, Smoland Province, Sweden, December 18, 1845, and remained there until 1868, when he left home and friends to seek his fortune in the New World. He arrived in New York City in June of that year, and for a year following was a resident of Ford County, Ill. From there he went to Chicago to learn the blacksmith's trade, and afterward was foreman for Brown Bros., manufacturers of that city, until 1874, when he came to Rockford. For

a number of years after coming to this city, he followed the blacksmith's trade, but finally became connected with the present plow company, and has since given this business his entire attention. He is a very skillful workman and thoroughly understands his business.

Since his residence in this country, Mr. Carlson has been joined by two brothers, Conrad and C. Alfred. The former is a grain dealer of Farnhamville, Iowa, and is married. The latter is single and resides in the mining regions of Beaverville, Cal. A sister, Tilda, is the wife of Gus Lindstrom and resides in Chicago. The parents are still living in Kalmar Lan, Smoland Province, Sweden, and are now quite aged, the father, Carl Peterson, born in 1819, and the mother, Gustavia (Johnson) Peterson, born in 1822. The former is a Swedish farmer and both are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

Our subject was married in Rockford to Miss Lotta Anderson, a native of Wester Gotland, Sweden, who came to the United States with her mother in 1868. She was quite young when her father died in his native country, and her mother died after reaching this country, in going from Chicago to Rockford. Mrs. Carlson went on to Rockford, where she had two sisters living, and has since made her home in this city. She and her husband are members of the First Lutheran Church, and Mr. Carlson was Trustee of the same at one time. He is a Republican in politics. They are the parents of four interesting children: Alfred C., C. Alma, Henry and Leonard, all at home. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson have a very pleasant and comfortable home at No. 1201 Fourth Avenue, Rockford.



CHARLES FLETCHER. The career of our subject as a pioneer citizen has been one eminently worthy and useful to the community in which he has resided, and his neighbors and old friends unitedly bear testimony to his sterling worth and valuable services. He is at the present time living a life of ease and retirement on South Main Street. Mr. Fletcher has been a resi-

dent of Winnebago County since 1854, and of the State since 1838, having spent the intervening years in Ogle County, where he located on a tract of three hundred acres of land in what is now Pine Rock Township. At that time the country was very sparsely settled, and Indians were often seen while traveling through that region. Mr. Fletcher went to Oregon for his mail, and hauled wheat to Chicago for many years to the market, receiving as low as fifty cents per bushel for it. The land in that part of Ogle County did not come into market until five years after our subject located there, and as Dixon was the land office, he went thither and entered his claim of three hundred acres. One-half of this he improved and resided upon until 1854, which was the date of his coming to Rockford.

Born in Kennebunk, York County, Me., October 30, 1818, our subject came hither from Massachusetts where his parents removed when he was a lad of nine years. He is a son of the Rev. Nathaniel H. Fletcher, a native of the Bay State, who was married to our subject's mother at Wells, Me. The lady bore the maiden name of Sarah Story, a native of that place, and the daughter of Capt. John Story. The young couple later returned to Middlesex County, Mass., where they spent the remainder of their lives, having become the parents of nine children.

Charles Fletcher is the youngest and only surviving member of the parental family. His father died September 4, 1834, having been connected with the Congregational Church as a minister for the greater part of his life. He was a well-educated man, being a graduate of Harvard College in the Class of 1793, and occupied a high position among his fellow-preachers. The decease of our subject's mother occurred May 26, 1834; she was also a member of the Congregational Church, and a true, consistent Christian lady.

Miss Anna M. Cory became the wife of our subject in Lowell, Mass. She is a native of Vermont, and a daughter of James and Deborah Cory, natives of New England and Ontario, respectively. To our subject and his wife have been born four children, all of whom are deceased. They are members of the Court Street Method-

ist Episcopal Church of this city, to the support of which they are liberal contributors. In his political relations, he has always been an ardent Republican.



WILLIAM HENRY SCHOONMAKER. In this gentleman Winnebago County has a fine representative of its native-born citizens, one who by his enterprise, progressiveness and marked ability, is materially forwarding its financial welfare in several ways. He is at present residing on a portion of the old homestead, and is making a success of his occupation as a farmer.

Our subject, who was born in this county, May 5, 1852, is the son of Henry Schoonmaker, one of the pioneers of the county, who had his birth in the town of Knox, Albany County, N. Y., where also Henry Schoonmaker, the grandfather, as far as is known, was born and carried on the combined occupations of a blacksmith and farmer.

The father of our subject learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, but was later employed in an ax factory at Cohoes, N. Y. In 1838, accompanied by his wife and one child, he came to Illinois, at a time when Rockford was but a hamlet and all the land was owned by the Government. He made a claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land in what is now Winnebago Township, and when it came into market made the first entry in this county. He built a log house on his place, into which the family moved and where our subject was born. The elder Mr. Schoonmaker married Mary Lown, and departed this life on the old home farm in 1872, having at his death the magnificent estate of three hundred and twenty acres. The mother of our subject was a native of Scholastic County, N. Y., and made her home on the old farm in Winnebago Township, until her death, April 11, 1892.

The eight children included in the parental family were Cornelia A., Emeline, John, David, Margaret N., William H., Charles E. and Mary. Our subject attended school in his youth, and assisted his father in cultivating the farm. He was married,

in 1873, to Belinda Taugher, who was born in Peconia, this county, and was the daughter of James Taugher. The father was a native of Bellefleur, Ireland, where also his father was born, and married Nora McCale. After the death of his wife, he came to America and died in Boston, two months later. The father of Mr. Schoonmaker was fifteen years old when he came to America, and after a short stay in Boston, went to Dunkirk, N. Y., and resided there until 1852, when he came to Peconia. Eighteen months later, he made Winnebago his home, being one of the oldest residents of the village. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Smith; she came from her native country, Ireland, with a brother, when eighteen years of age, and died February 10, 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Schoonmaker have five children: Mary, Jennie, Laura, Winnie and Nellie. In his political views, Mr. Schoonmaker votes with his Republican party.



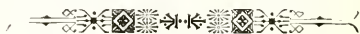
GUSTAF V. LINDBLADE, who is engaged in the grocery business in Rockford, was born on the 14th of April, 1862, in the Province of Jenseping, Sweden, and is a son of John G. and Stena (Anderson) Lindblade. When he was only seven years of age, his parents came to this country and have since made their home in Rockford, where they are recognized as worthy people and valued citizens. Both are members of the Swedish Tabernacle of this city, Mr. Lindblade being one of the founders of the church and an active and leading member. He has also been one of its officers for some time, serving both as Deacon and Trustee. He votes with the Republican party. Only two of the children are now living. Alfred, the elder, married Charlotte Nordwall, and is living in Rockford.

Our subject is the younger of the two brothers. He was reared to manhood under the parental roof and acquired his education in the public schools of Rockford. He entered upon his business career as clerk in the grocery store, and after attaining his majority started out in business for himself. He ran a dairy for some eighteen months, and in May, 1889, as a partner of Mr. Peterson, began business

as proprietor of a grocery store. Since December, 1891, he has been alone in business and has carried on a successful and lucrative trade.

In this city, Mr. Lindblade was united in marriage with Miss Anna S. Stockenberg, of Rockford, who was born in Sweden, and in 1868 came with her parents to this country. Her father, N. G. Stockenberg, is a farmer and dairyman of New Milford Township, and a well-known Swedish gentleman of this county. He and his wife were among the first, and are still leading, members in the Tabernacle Swedish Church, and are highly respected citizens.

Mrs. Lindblade remained with her parents until her marriage. By the union of our subject and his wife has been born a little daughter, Esther, March 11, 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Lindblade are among the prominent young Swedish people of this city. They are adherents of the same religious faith as their parents, and the husband is a Trustee in the church, in which he and his wife are faithful workers. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles, but has never sought or desired public office. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the city, its growth and its upbuilding, and gives his support to every worthy enterprise. He is a prosperous and promising young man who is bound to succeed in life, for he possesses the essential qualities of success and has excellent business ability, as his career has already demonstrated.



WILLIAM G. JOHNSON, who for a number of years did a good business in Rockford as a house painter and decorator, but is now living a retired life, claims Scotland as the land of his nativity. He was born near Glasgow, while his parents were sojourning there, but during his youth, the family resided at different places. His father, John Johnson, was born in Scotland, and was of English extraction. He became a commercial traveler and from Manchester and Leeds, his headquarters, traveled all over the British provinces. He was thus engaged until his death.



Henry W. Pier.

He died very suddenly of a fever when sixty-five years of age.

Our subject is the only son of the family in this country. He acquired a good English education, and remained at home until fifteen years of age, when he started out in life for himself. He then went to Liverpool, where he served a seven years' apprenticeship under Mr. Beard, an English house painter and decorator, and after the death of his employer worked for his widow, serving as a journeyman. At length, he determined to try his fortune in America, and in the latter part of November, 1852, sailed from Liverpool to the United States on the "Manhattan," landing in New York City, whence he went to Hamilton, N. Y., and subsequently to Earlville, that State, doing business as a boss painter until he came to Rockford.

Not long after his arrival in this country, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Jennie M. Murphy. Unto them have been born three daughters: Lutitia, wife of L. M. Saley, editor of the *Northwestern Lumberman*, of Chicago, where they make their home; Sadie, wife of Dell E. Trahern, proprietor of the Rockford Brass Works, living with Mr. Johnson; and Nettie B., wife of C. R. Duncan, a dealer in fine arts at Detroit, Mich.

On coming to Rockford in 1856, Mr. Johnson embarked in business on his own account as a house painter and paper hanger, and did a successful business for many years. He was an expert at his work, and a skilled grainer and decorator. He built up a large trade, and from the beginning his efforts were crowned with prosperity, so that in the course of years he won a handsome competence. He was a straightforward and upright business man, enterprising and progressive, and well deserved his success. In December, 1890, he sold out to J. C. Pilkington, who had been in his employ for many years, and since that time has lived a retired life. He has a wide acquaintance in Rockford, and is well and favorably known. Himself, wife and children are members of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, and, in politics, he is a stalwart Republican, taking an active interest in the work of that party and its success. He is also a Knight Templar Mason and prominent in Masonic circles. Public-spirited and progressive, he gives

his support and co-operation to all that pertains to the welfare of the community and the advancement of its best interests. The family is well worthy of representation in this volume. His daughters are all well married, their husbands being leading and successful business men in their various lines. Mrs. Trahern and her husband reside with her parents, and the lady is an artist of no inconsiderable ability.



HENRY W. PIER. More than one half-century ago in the Green Mountain State, a little district school was taught by a young gentleman, who, although a native of New York, had passed most of his life in Vermont. Among his pupils was a young lady in whom he had more than ordinary interest. She was about to leave Vermont for Illinois, together with her mother and sister, to join the other members of the family near Springfield. Teacher and pupil had a little private understanding in their business affairs, for they were to be in common, and it was arranged that he was to come West the ensuing year.

True to his promise, the year 1840 found our subject journeying Westward, and he finally reached Rochester, Sangamon County, Ill., his destination. There he found Nancy J. Taft in charge of a village school, and ready to step out of her position as teacher to give way to him. For six months the school was conducted in that manner, with an attendance of one hundred pupils. But neither was satisfied. They longed for a change and earnestly desired a home. Although the country was beautiful, yet the people were subject to fever and ague, and to establish a permanent home there would be to invite sickness and perchance an untimely death.

Henry W. Pier, for such was the name of the young gentleman, began to prepare to remove further North, and soon had a covered wagon, a span of bays and a trunk. Miss Taft, who was interested in the enterprise, also had a trunk and a dry-goods box filled with such things as only a

woman's foresight could see the need of. In 1811, they were married and commenced their journey Northward, not knowing at that time just where they would locate.

Traveling through Peoria, Dixon, Rockford, Janesville, Madison and Ft. Winnebago, Mr. Pier and his young wife at last reached Fond du Lac, Wis. Around them was a seemingly endless prairie, wild but beautiful. During their journey, wild animals would frequently cross the road, deer would gaze at them from the distance, and when the darkness of night would prevent further travel and they would lie down to sleep in the wagon, wolves would howl around them—the only noise that broke the silence of the night. The country to which they had come was healthy, but the Rock River region, through which they had passed, was ever uppermost in their mind and it was not long before they resolved to return hither in search of a home.

Accordingly, in the winter of 1811-12, Mr. and Mrs. Pier came to the vicinity of Belvidere, and here they have since resided, participating in the wondrous changes of fifty years and more. Mr. Pier has been principally engaged in farming, in which he has been very successful. In addition to his personal affairs, he has occupied positions of trust, both of a public and private character, and has discharged the duties of those offices with efficiency and fidelity. In politics, he is a Republican with Prohibition tendencies. Religiously, he is a firm believer in Jesus Christ as more than human, and the only One whose practices and teachings are safe to be accepted as our guide to eternal life. Those pioneers with whom he was associated in his younger years have mostly passed from the scenes of earth, but their places have been taken by others equally worthy, in whose hands the interests of Boone County are being upheld, and the principles of equity and justice are being promulgated.

As above stated, Mr. Pier is a native of New York and was born in Chenango County, January 9, 1815, the son of Albert D. and Clemma (Adams) Pier. Mrs. Pier was born in Addison County, Vt., September 5, 1819, the daughter of Josiah and Phebe (Davis) Taft. When our subject was a

mere infant, his parents returned to Addison County, Vt., their native place, where the father soon afterward died. The mother was left destitute but struggled along bravely and untiringly, inculcating lessons of virtue and honesty in her two children, our subject and a younger brother. Her memory is precious to our subject, who remembers that to her teachings he owes much.

Mr. and Mrs. Pier are the parents of two living children: the elder, Phebe L., married Marvin E. Woods, in 1870, and has since resided mostly in Iowa, although recently she removed to Colorado, where Mr. Woods died and lies buried. Their four children are all living. Frances C., the younger daughter, married Dr. Frank S. Whitman, in 1875, and has since made her home in Belvidere. This worthy family occupies a high place in the regard of the people of Boone County and there are few who have not either met them or heard much concerning their pioneer labors and noble characters.

The lithographic portrait of Mr. Pier accompanies this sketch.



Moses D. Martin. The attractive and commodious residence at No. 1007 Kilburn Avenue, Rockford, is owned and occupied by the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch and who is here passing his declining years in retirement. He has resided in the West since three years old, when he was brought by his parents to Ogle County, locating on a farm five miles from the city of Oregon. There he grew to man's estate, operated a farm, which he sold, and removed to Lee County in 1857. After improving a farm in China Township, he sold the place and returned to Ogle County, where he resided some four years.

We next find Mr. Martin a resident of Ashton, Lee County, where he operated as a lumber and grain merchant and was successful in accumulating a competency. With the earnings thus industriously obtained, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he still owns and which is a well-improved farm. Afterward he removed to Cherokee County, Iowa, and after a sojourn of

several years there, returned to Rockford, where he has since lived in retirement. However, his life is by no means an idle one, for in the oversight of his large landed interests he finds sufficient to occupy his attention and demand his supervision. He owns a substantial store building in Rockford, and other property of considerable value.

Born in the Province of Ontario, Canada, our subject is the son of John Martin, likewise a native of Canada. The paternal grandfather, James, was the son of an Irish nobleman, who, on account of his marriage with a lady of the Catholic faith, was disinherited and sent to America, thus founding the family in this country. After attaining his majority on the home farm, John Martin was married to Miss Annis Nettleton, who was born in Ontario, her parents being Connecticut people of New England ancestry. In 1838, Mr. and Mrs. John Martin removed with teams from Canada to Ogle County, camping by night and journeying in primitive fashion by day for six weeks, at the expiration of which time they reached Lafayette Township.

The first home of the family was a little log cabin which the father erected during his first visit to Lafayette Township on the land which he entered from the Government. So barren and drear was the surrounding country, that when the new home was pointed out to the wife and mother she burst into tears, but soon other settlers established homes near them and she became reconciled to the change. For many years, the bandits of the West were their neighbors, including such men as Norton Rich, Bill Bridge, and Dick and Tom Akins, but the only loss suffered on their account was that of a valuable horse.

The father, who was born in 1800, died at the home of our subject, in Ashton, in 1876. He was a good citizen and a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife, who was also born in 1800, survived him a number of years and died in Rockford, in 1887, leaving to her descendants the memory of a true Christian life. Three of her sons, James N., Henry L. and John W., are prominent ministers in the Methodist Episcopal Church and are scholars of wide reputation, the first-named having for twenty years been professor

in the Pacific College, of California. Another son, Philetus S., is a ranchman near Pomona, Cal., on the Cheno Ranch. A daughter, Sarah J., formerly the wife of Joseph Earl, died in the prime of life, leaving two children.

The marriage of Moses D. Martin at Light House Point, Ogle County, united him with Miss Burella Paddock, who was born in Indiana and was brought by her parents to Ogle County when six months old. She was here reared, and received her education in a seminary at Willoughby, Ohio. Her father, Riley Paddock, an old settler of Ogle County, died in 1886, at an advanced age. Her mother, Eliza (Snoddy) Paddock, survives at a good old age and makes her home in Ashton.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin are the parents of six children, namely: Luna M., wife of W. B. King, of Redwood Falls, Minn., a prominent business man of that city; Elmer E., who operates a steam grist-mill in Marcus, Iowa, and there makes his home, his wife having in former years been known as Miss Cora Over; Lillian E., who is a teacher in the Lincoln Schools, at Rockford; Riley P., who is taking a post-graduate course in chemistry at the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill.; M. DeWitt, a pharmacist and druggist at Redwood Falls, Minn., and Maud L., who is in the public schools of Rockford. In their religious convictions, Mr. Martin and his estimable wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially, he is a Mason, and in politics is a staunch Republican. He has served as Supervisor and School Treasurer of Ogle and Lee Counties, and is deeply interested in all public measures.



DAVID A. BARNARD, one of the foremost business men of Rockford, is now residing at No. 201 South First Street, where he has made his home for many years. He seems to be one of those quiet, unassuming gentlemen whose chief aspiration is an honest living, without that morbid ambition which sometimes leads to the wreck of fortune and character. He came to Rockford in 1853, when twenty-one years of age, and began business as a carpenter, but two

and is now located in Duluth, Minn., a prosperous business man of that place; Eve is now the wife of Dr. L. Liljencrantz, of Oakland, Cal.; Charlotte E. is the wife of John Green, a retired farmer of St. Peter, Minn.; Mattie is living with her sister in Oakland, Cal. Gustava is now deceased, and the whereabouts of Andrew are unknown.

Gustavus A. Salstrom, whose name heads this sketch, was married in this city to Miss Gustava Hegberg, who was born in Lundby, Sweden, December 26, 1847, and when a small child came with her parents to the United States in 1854. The family settled in Rockford, but the father and mother are now living near Winthrop, Minn., on a farm. Since coming to this country they have achieved success, and are now living retired, resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of their former toil. Mrs. Salstrom was the third in order of birth in their family of seven children, of whom three sons and three daughters are yet living.

Nine children grace the union of our subject and his wife: Charles F., Secretary of the Excelsior Furniture Company; Rachel, Gustavus A., a carver in one of the furniture factories of Rockford; David B., a carver by trade, now foreman in the Northwestern Parlor Furniture Company of Chicago; John E., book-keeper for the Union Grocery Company; Peter B., Luther A., Mary M. and Eva A.

Mr. Salstrom and his wife are active members of the First Lutheran Church, in which he has been Trustee and Deacon for some years, and Sunday-school Superintendent for four years. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, of which he is a stalwart supporter, and has been Alderman of the Sixth Ward for six years, and at present holds that office. After coming to this country, he spent three years in Chicago, and eight years in Minnesota, ere locating in Rockford. He then came to this city in 1864, and for one year was employed as clerk, after which he formed a partnership with H. F. Peterson, in the grocery business. The firm continued as Peterson & Salstrom for fourteen years, after which the business was merged into the Union Grocery Company, which has met with a prosperous career. They have recently built a beautiful block, which is oc-

cupied by the company. They carry a large and complete line of staple and fancy groceries, and do an excellent business, having a large trade. In connection with his interest in this company, Mr. Salstrom was one of the men who was instrumental in establishing the Rockford Central Furniture Company in 1879, which he has served as a Director, and was a traveling salesman in its interest for several years prior to the time that he became manager of the grocery company in 1886. He is also connected with the Skandia Plow Company, and has an interest in two hundred and sixty-five acres of land near Worthington, Minn. In business circles he ranks high as a trustworthy and upright man, and his friends throughout the community are many.



RUFUS LORD was born in Norwich, Conn., on the 17th of April, 1826, and his father, Lynds Lord, was born at the same place in 1787. The elder Mr. Lord followed farming in his native State, then in Pennsylvania and finally in Ohio. His wife, the mother of our subject, was Priscilla (Potter) Lord, of Norwich, Conn., the daughter of William and Olive (Fitch) Potter, of Lisbon, Conn. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Lord occurred on the 31st of January, 1821, and resulted in the birth of nine children, six sons and three daughters, viz.: Nathan L., Eleazer, William T., Laura A., Rufus (our subject), David H., Mary A., Caroline and Charles F. Only four of these children are now living. The parents removed from the Nutmeg State to Walnut Creek, Erie County, Pa., in the spring of 1829, and brought with them their six children. They settled on a farm with some improvements, made by an elder brother who had died, and a sawmill and gristmill on the place, run by water from the Walnut Creek, was operated by Mr. Lord. This mill was very near Lake Erie, and no matter how dry the season happened to be, Walnut Creek never failed. Often when streams were failing all over the State, grist was brought to this mill from a distance of one hundred miles.

After residing on this farm for about seven years, Mr. Lord sold out and removed to Trumbull County, Ohio, where he bought a farm of one hundred and twenty-eight acres, well improved with a good hewn-log house. Here this contented couple resided many years, but finally sold out to their son, David H., and the father died near Quincy, Ill., whither he had gone on business, in the spring of 1857. He was seventy-two years of age and was buried there. His widow survived him twenty years, and died in Ravenna, Ohio, in 1877, when eighty-eight years of age. Five of her children were then living.

In 1846, the subject of this sketch left home, and with his brother, William T., went across the country to Illinois, driving over one thousand head of sheep. They were fifty-one days on the way and arrived in Rockford Township the 3d of August of that year. The next spring they sold the sheep not killed by the wolves, and Rufus took eighty acres of State land in Rockford Precinct, settling on it with his bride, Esther M. Campbell, to whom he was married November 28, 1849. She was a native of Yates County, N. Y., born June 20, 1825, and the daughter of Delmount and Permelia (Bennett) Campbell, the father a native of New York, and the mother of Vermont. Mrs. Lord came West with her parents when eighteen years of age and settled with them on a farm near Rockford. The father died at the home of our subject, in 1862, when sixty-three years of age. The mother had died in 1851, when about fifty-seven years of age. Mrs. Lord has one sister, Mrs. Walter Crowley, who resides near her.

Mr. and Mrs. Lord sold their first farm in January, 1852, and bought one hundred and sixty-one acres where they now reside, for which they paid \$700. On this was a small log house and there were about fifty acres cleared. Here they have resided ever since and have made many and vast improvements. In 1871, they erected a nice, roomy house, and the same year their mammoth barn, 42x64, with a basement nine feet high and a shed, 32x14, was erected. This gives good stabling room for forty-five head of cattle and six horses. Mr. Lord keeps but few cows, just enough for their own use, and he has rented out his farm

for the past fourteen years. He has held a number of local positions and has served many years as School Trustee and Justice of the Peace. Mr. and Mrs. Lord are Free-will Baptists in their religious views.

Mrs. Lord's niece, Mary J. Crowley, was taken into the family at the age of five years, and remained with them until she married Henry J. Fritz, and sixteen years afterward. She is the mother of three children, Walter R., Alma and Florence E.



WARREN ANDREWS. Among the worthiest of the representative agriculturists in this portion of the country is Mr. Andrews, who owns a fine farm of two hundred and sixty-nine acres in Bonus Township, Boone County, Ill. Like many of the prosperous citizens of the county, he is a native of the Empire State, born in Onondaga County, April 12, 1821. He is a son of Eleazer and Daphne (Goodale) Andrews, natives of the Green Mountain State, but who passed the closing scenes of their lives in Onondaga County, N. Y., the father when about ninety-three years of age.

Warren Andrews remained at home until nineteen years of age, and then served three years' apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade. After this he got pay by the day, and by economy and good management he accumulated sufficient means to justify him in taking a wife. On the 8th of February, 1847, he celebrated his nuptials with Miss Louisa Keeler, who was born in Cortland County, N. Y., on the 25th of February, 1825. She is a daughter of Martin and Sally (Webster) Keeler. (See sketch of A. Keeler for family history.) To Mr. and Mrs. Andrews were born five children, who are as follows: Adelia, born in New York State, on the 5th of November, 1844, married Smith Marvin and is the mother of one child; Adelbert, also a native of New York, born March 27, 1849, married Miss Sarah Goodyear and is the father of two children, a son and daughter; Ella, born in this county, June 21, 1851, married Theodore Huffman and has one child, a daughter; Alda, also a

native of this county, born October 29, 1853, married George Dean; and Frank, born in this county on the 3d of February, 1868, married Miss Ida Robbins and is the father of one child, a daughter.

After marriage, our subject rented his father's farm until 1849, when, in the spring of that year, he resolved to seek his fortune in the Far West. He came to Illinois in search of a suitable location, and in the spring of 1850 moved his family to Boone County, where he purchased seventy-three acres, on which stood an old log house. Into this he moved with his wife and little children and this roof sheltered them for four years, when Mr. Andrews sold out and bought his present fine farm of two hundred and sixty-nine acres. On this he has made many very extensive improvements, and not only has he a fine, comfortable house, but his barns and outbuildings are all substantial and commodious. He conducts his farming operations in a manner suggestive of much thoroughness and experience, and is one of the active tillers of the soil in the community.

Politically a Republican, his association, as far as party is concerned, has always been with that body. He has never aspired to office and has never held any other than a few minor positions. He no doubt inherits his thrift and energy mostly from his Scottish ancestors on the mother's side of the family, but there were many successful farmers and professional men on the other side. Mr. Andrews had several nephews in the Civil War, and they became prominent men, both in serving their country in the war and in their different occupations.



FRANCIS BROCKMAN, of Rockford, who is now living a retired life, claims Germany as the land of his nativity. He was born in Hanover, June 24, 1826, and at the early age of six years was left an orphan, his parents dying ten months apart. In the family were seven children, but four died in the Fatherland and two in this country, and for the past twenty-six years our subject has been the only survivor. They were all members of the Catholic Church.

Francis Brockman at a very early age began

earning his own livelihood. He remained in his native land until eighteen years of age, when he determined to seek his fortune in the New World, and crossed the broad Atlantic from Bremen, landing in New Orleans in December, 1844. He went from there to St. Louis, Mo., where for two years he was employed in a brick yard, after which he began working in a cigar factory. On completing the trade in April, 1848, he went to Chicago, and in the autumn of the same year took up his residence in Peoria, where he remained until the following spring, when we again find him in St. Louis. At length, the cholera broke out in that city and he went up to Wurttemberg, Clayton County, Iowa, where his brother was living. In 1849, he returned to Peoria, where he spent the succeeding eight years of his life, running a cigar store for other parties until 1857.

While in that city, Mr. Brockman was united in marriage with Miss Louisa G. Schlink, who was born in Baltimore, Md., August 13, 1832. The same year, her parents had emigrated to this country from Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany. Her father, Valentine Schlink, was a cooper by trade. He became a resident of Peoria County, Ill., where he purchased and improved a good farm, making it his home until a few years before his death, when he moved to McLean County, Ill., where his death occurred May 12, 1890, at the age of eighty-four years. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Ebler, died in Peoria County, in 1877, in the seventy-first year of her age. They were members of the German Catholic Church and had a large family of children. From the time she was six years of age until her marriage, Mrs. Brockman was a resident of Peoria County.

In 1857, Mr. Brockman came with his family to Rockford, and purchased the stock of Julius Mayr, carrying on a successful business as a tobacconist for many years. He secured a large and lucrative patronage and won a place among the well-to-do citizens of Winnebago County. He is now the owner of the business house at No. 311 State Street and several valuable residences in this city and Peoria, and the income derived therefrom enables him to lay aside all business cares and live a retired life, enjoying the competence which he won

by his industry and enterprising efforts. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brockman were born four children: Frances L., wife of Charles Guillian, foreman of the chemical department of the Fire Department of Peoria, Ill.; Tillie M. and Emma L. at home; and George, who is assistant Superintendent of the Hackensack Electric Light Company, of Hackensack, N. J. In St. Paul's Church of Brooklyn, he was united in marriage with Hattie Hanley, of Jerseyville, Ill.

Mr. Brockman is an Odd Fellow and Trustee of his lodge. His wife is a member of the Catholic Church. They are worthy people, highly respected, and our subject is regarded as one of the valued citizens of Rockford. For years, he has been a prominent member of the Germania society of this city and has been its Treasurer for fifteen years.

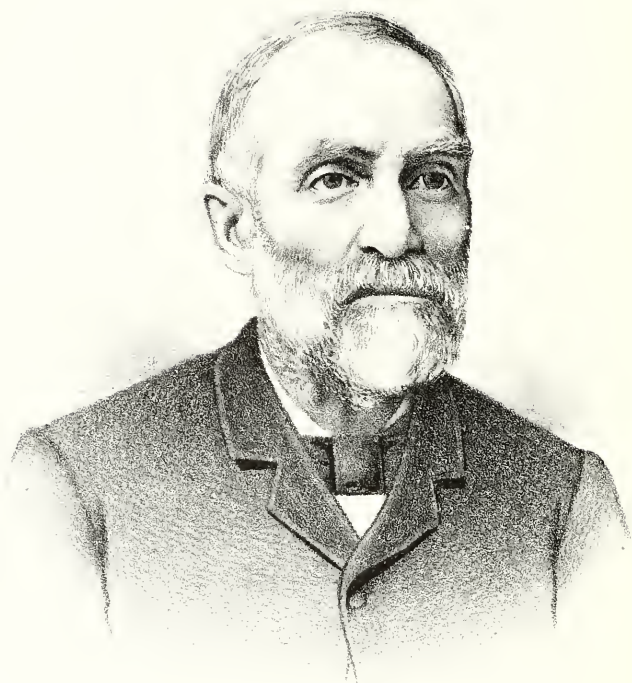
JAMES H. COMPTON, a successful dealer in all kinds of carriages, buggies, harness, farm implements, farm machinery, etc., and one of the popular and most successful business men of this city, has been a resident of Rockford since 1881, but has been engaged in business on his own account only since January, 1890. He is admirably located at No. 517 West State Street and has gained an enviable reputation as a successful business man. From the time he first came to this city he has been engaged in his present business, but for nine years of the time he was with Matthew Harvey, at the stand he now occupies, three years of that time. Mr. Compton's object now is to carry a fine and high grade of carriages to satisfy the demands of the best trade.

Our subject came to this State in May, 1852, and resided in Rockford for one year. Since then he has made his home in Winnebago County and was engaged in business as a mechanic and contractor for some time. After this, agricultural pursuits occupied his attention in this and Ogle County for eighteen years and his reputation as a hard-working, industrious man is well known. Since his residence here he has been identified with the business interests of this city, and the enter-

prise he has established is second to none in its line, and he may well feel a justifiable pride in it.

Born in Somerset County, N. J., our subject there grew to manhood and learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, which he followed for seven years before coming West. He came of New England stock, and was the son of Reuben Compton, who was also a native of New Jersey, born in 1798. The elder Mr. Compton followed agricultural pursuits all his life and remained in his native State until 1853, when he decided to move Westward. He came to Winnebago County, Ill., settled on a partially improved farm in Owen Township, and made many decided improvements in the same. He passed the remainder of his days on this, and died when over eighty years of age. The companion of his joys and sorrows remained a few years on the old home place and then too passed away, being also over eighty years of age. She had been formerly Miss Elizabeth Polson, a native of New Jersey, and her ancestors came from Holland, the original stock being members of the old, or regular, Baptist Church. They were the parents of ten children, four sons and one daughter now living. Two of the sons, John and Saul, were soldiers in the Rebellion, serving in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Regiment. The latter was killed in battle while bravely bearing his National colors. He had married, and by his death left a sorrowing wife and two little children who are still living. John was wounded at the battle of Ft. Donelson, and died soon afterward. He was single. Both were loyal and brave boys and are now numbered with the thousands of other brave lads who gave up their lives for their country.

In Somerset County, N. J., in 1847, our subject married Miss Hester A. Vandercook, who was born and reared in the same State, but in a county adjoining Somerset. She came of Dutch ancestors as the name indicates, and of New Jersey parentage. Her father, Henry Vandercook, was accidentally drowned when in the prime of life, while trying to save the life of another. His friend's life was saved but he himself was drowned. His wife, whose maiden name was Lydia Whale, having moved to Illinois in 1860, afterward married a Mr. C. Van Dyke, and both are now deceased.



Samuel F. Pierfield

the latter dying when eighty-four years of age and the former when seventy-seven years of age. They were the parents of three children, and after the death of her father, Mrs. Compton was reared by her mother and step-father, remaining with them until her marriage. She is a very intelligent and amiable lady.

In his political views, Mr. Compton advocates the principles of the Republican party, and in religion Mr. and Mrs. Compton are members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church, and both liberal contributors to the same. They have been blessed in their union by the birth of five children, one, Reuben, being now deceased. Those living are: Henry, a foreman in the Emerson-Talcott Manufacturing Company, married Miss Mary Forsyth, of Rockford; Nathan assists his father in the business and resides at home; Ella, wife of Robert McAvoy, an attorney of the firm of Frost & McAvoy; and Nellie at home.



SAMUEL F. PENFIELD, senior partner in the firm of S. F. & G. F. Penfield, in Rockford, was born at Pittsford, Rutland County, Vt., in January, 1822. His parents were both natives of Fairfield County, Conn., the father having been born at Fairfield in 1780, and the mother at Sherman in 1786. They were both connected with large and influential families who were among the early settlers of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, and took an active and prominent part in forming the religious, educational and political institutions of those States.

About 1796, John Penfield, the grandfather of Samuel F., removed with his wife and unmarried children from Fairfield, Conn., to Pittsford, Vt., where he spent the remainder of his days, dying in November, 1829, aged eighty-two years. His family of five sons and five daughters all lived to a good old age, their average age at death being seventy-five and three-tenths years. All but one settled in Vermont and the near vicinity, taking and maintaining high positions in the communities where they resided, and leaving families which followed

in their footsteps, and did credit to their memories. Their descendants have since become greatly scattered, being found in nearly all of the New England States, as well as most of the Middle and Western States.

Sturges Penfield, the father of Samuel F., returned to Fairfield County, Conn., in January, 1806, and brought Laura Giddings as a bride from Sherman to Pittsford, making the winter journey on horseback, instead of in a Pullman sleeper as his degenerate descendants would do now. Upon the spot where they first settled, they spent the remainder of their lives. There their six sons and six daughters were born and reared, all of whom reached maturity except one boy, who was accidentally poisoned. When a young man, Sturges learned the trade of a hatter, and carried on that business for many years, adding to it later the manufacture of woolen cloths and carpets, and also carried on a general merchandising store. He was a man of the strictest integrity, and of decided moral convictions. He at one time owned and operated a distillery for making whiskey, from which he derived a large revenue; but when the subject of temperance began to be agitated, some sixty years ago, he became convinced of the wrong of that kind of business, tore out the worm and the still, sold them for old copper, and converted the distillery into a tenement house, and he was ever afterward a strong advocate of total abstinence and prohibition. In early life, he was a Whig, but when the slavery question began to be agitated, he embraced Abolition sentiments, and early joined the Abolition party, and acted and voted with them until that party was merged in the Republican party. He lived to see the liquor business outlawed in the State of his adoption, and slavery abolished in the nation. He and his wife were during most of their lives consistent Christians, and ardent and liberal supporters of the Congregational Church of Pittsford.

Samuel F. spent his childhood and youth at home, attending the district and select schools, and working on the farm and in the factory when not attending school. When about fourteen years old, he became a Christian, and united with the Congregational Church. He shortly afterward became

animated with a desire to obtain a liberal education and prepare himself for the Gospel ministry. Having obtained the consent of his parents, he commenced fitting himself for college, studying with his pastor, the Rev. Willard Child, and attending the select schools, which were usually provided in the neighborhood each fall and winter. In February, 1838, his father took him to Burr Seminary, at Manchester, Vt., to complete his preparation for college, and in July, 1839, he was graduated with honor from that institution, and in August following entered the Freshman class of Middlebury College. He took a good stand in his class, and during the latter part of his college life, was employed as private tutor to the children of Prof. A. C. Twining, one of his college instructors. He was ambitious and studious, and in order to maintain his standing in his class, and perform faithfully his duties as tutor, he was obliged to "burn the midnight oil" a good deal, the result of which was, that when about half through his Sophomore year he was compelled to leave college and abandon study entirely on account of the failure of his eyes.

After resting a few months, Mr. Penfield found his eyes so much improved, that he ventured to engage in teaching, and in the spring of 1844, accepted the situation of Principal of the Boys' Academy in Pottstown, Pa. After filling that position for a year, he found his eyes so far restored that he decided to return and try to complete his college course, and accordingly went home and made up the rest of his Sophomore studies, and at Commencement, in August, 1842, was examined and admitted to the Junior class of Middlebury College. But before the fall term commenced in September, he was again attacked with inflammation of the eyes, and reluctantly compelled to abandon the idea of completing his college course. He then returned to Pennsylvania and engaged as Principal of the Boys' Academy, in Orwigsburg, Schuylkill County. After teaching there a year and a half to the full satisfaction of the Trustees of the institution, he resigned his position and returned to Pittsford to assist his father in his business.

Subsequently, Mr. Penfield formed a partnership

with H. F. Lothrop (who afterward became his brother-in-law), under the name of Lothrop & Penfield, and fitted up a thread mill for the manufacture of cotton thread in a building owned by Mr. Lothrop, near his father's factories. This business he followed until 1852, but finding it unremunerative, gave it up and returned to teaching. He taught private schools about two years in New Durham and North Hoboken, N. J., from which place he went to Pottsville, Pa., taking the position of Principal of the Grammar School, where he gave good satisfaction. This position he occupied until the spring of 1857, when he heard the call "Go West, young man," and obeyed it, locating at Rockford, Ill., where his two brothers, David S. and John G., were in business. Here he was employed as a teacher in the East Side High School and Grammar School for the first two years after they were organized. In 1860, he engaged in the insurance business, occupying the office with his brothers D. S. and J. G. Penfield, who were engaged in the real-estate and loaning business. In August, 1862, he enlisted as private in Company K., Seventy-fourth Regiment Illinois Infantry, and went into camp with the regiment at Camp Butler, Rockford, but upon examination by the regimental surgeon, for the purpose of being mustered into service, he was rejected on account of defective eyesight, so that he was not permitted to serve his country in that way. He then resumed the insurance business, and pursued the even tenor of his course.

In 1871, Mr. Penfield made a slight diversion from his usual labors, and spent most of that year in Kansas, as one of the Locating Committee, and General Manager of the so-called "Illinois Prohibition Colony" which located in the northern part of Dickinson County, and later became one of the influences which ultimately made Kansas a Prohibition State. He, however, kept up his insurance business in Rockford, which during his absence was looked after by his son George F.

In 1876, Mr. Penfield formed a partnership with George F. to carry on the insurance and real-estate business under the firm name of S. F. Penfield & Son. George F. had for several years been engaged in the insurance business in Chicago in connection with the Firemen's and Globe Insurance Compan-

ies of that city, and had developed an uncommon aptitude for that kind of business. Owing to the energy and skill which the junior partner brought into the concern, the business began to grow, and has continued to increase year by year until the present time. In January, 1881, the firm name was changed to S. F. & G. F. Penfield, which it has retained ever since. The firm probably represents at the present time a larger amount of insurance capital than any other one concern in the State, being upwards of \$80,000,000, and probably does a larger fire insurance business than any other firm in the State outside of Chicago.

In April, 1881, the Home Building & Loan Association of Rockford was organized, chiefly through the instrumentality and efforts of George F. Penfield. S. F. Penfield was made its first Secretary, which office he held for three years. At the end of that time, George F. was elected Secretary, and has held that office ever since. The business of the Association has always been carried on in the office of S. F. & G. F. Penfield, and has grown to large proportions. The Association has loaned during the eleven years of its existence upward of \$825,000, mostly in the city of Rockford, and has now in force loans amounting to \$328,875. It has proved a blessing to many a poor man, who has, through its instrumentality, secured a home for his family, and formed habits of economy and thrift which will bless him and his family through life.

The earliest resident of the Penfield family in Rockford was David S., brother of our subject, who became a permanent resident of the place in 1838, and soon afterward gained prominence in business circles as a merchant and banker, a member of the old firm of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield, bankers. That banking institution was finally merged into the present Third National Bank, which is one of the successful and solid institutions of the city. He took an active interest in the enterprises of the city and its advancement until his death, which occurred in May, 1873, at the age of sixty-one.

In the fall of 1851, Samuel F. was married to Miss Lemira B. Clark, of Pawlet, Rutland County, Vt., who belonged to a large and influential family in Southern Vermont, and which is now, like

many of the old New England families, scattered throughout the Middle and Western States. They have had five children, four sons and one daughter. The eldest, George F., is the active member of the firm of S. F. & G. F. Penfield. He is an energetic business man, stockholder and Director in several of the manufacturing companies of the city, and interested in several of the recent additions to the city. He was married, in the fall of 1876, to Miss Addie F. Sherman, at Jersey Shore, Pa., and they are the parents of six children, four daughters and two sons. They have a delightful residence on the west bank of Rock River, in the north part of the city.

The second son, Charles S., was married in 1879 to Miss Adella S. Potter, of West Springfield, Pa., and is the father of four children, one son and three daughters. He is a thorough-going business man, active, energetic and prompt, and readily secures the confidence and respect of all with whom he has business relations. He was for some six or seven years engaged in the real-estate and loan business in Spencer, Iowa, but for the last four years has been a railroad contractor of the firm of McDonald & Penfield, with headquarters at Fremont, Neb.

Edward M., the third son, is an expert book-keeper, and has been employed in the Rockford post-office, and in various manufacturing establishments in Rockford and elsewhere. He is now in the Government employ, gathering and compiling the statistics of the last census, and has merited and received high commendation from Hon. R. P. Porter, Superintendent of the Census Bureau.

Robert S., the youngest son, died of diphtheria when about nine years old. He was a bright and lovable boy, who easily won the hearts of his parents and teachers and all who knew him. Mabel S., the youngest child and only daughter, is a student in the Conservatory of Music at Oberlin, Ohio, and is a young lady of decided musical talent. Mr. and Mrs. Penfield have been for about thirty-five years members of the First Congregational Church of Rockford, in which he has been for many years a Deacon. Politically, he was as a young man a Whig, helped to make Vermont a Prohibition State, was in at the birth of the Re-

publican party, and clung to it until he was forced out by his Prohibition principles. He now labors and acts with the Prohibition party, and will ever pray and labor for the suppression of the liquor traffic.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Pentfield accompanies this sketch.



JACOB VAN ALSTINE, for many years one of the prominent agriculturists of Winnebago County, has since 1881 lived retired in the city of Rockford, at No. 606 Rockton Avenue. He was born in the town of Glen, Montgomery County, N. Y., April 6, 1814, in which place his father, John A. Van Alstine, was also born.

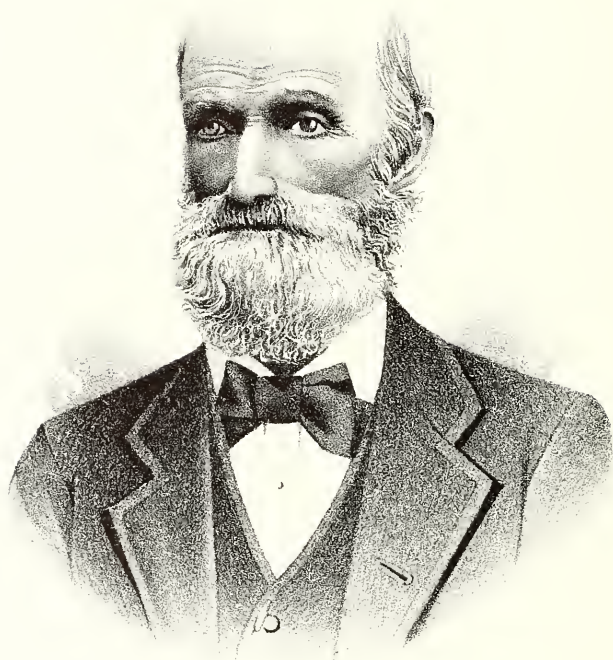
Abraham Van Alstine, the grandfather of our subject, was born in the above-named county and was of Dutch ancestry. He served as a patriot in the Revolutionary War and died in 1832, in the town of Glen. His wife, who was Miss Quackenbush, died on the same day and one hour later than her husband. The father of our subject learned the trade of a carpenter, in addition to which business he followed farming in the town of Glen for many years. Later, going to Michigan, he departed this life at the home of a daughter, near Vassar. The maiden name of his wife was Catherine Gardinier, a native of Montgomery County, and the daughter of Nicholas Gardinier. Her grandfather, Jacob Gardinier, was also a native of New York, and was a Captain during the Revolutionary War. His house was burned by the Indians during that period and on that same spot he erected another building, the nails which were used in its construction being manufactured by himself. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Nicholas Gardinier, was a farmer, and died in his native county in 1832. He was also a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and after his decease his widow, Rachel Gardinier, drew a pension. She was a native of the same county where his birth occurred.

Jacob Van Alstine learned the trade of a car-

penter and joiner, and when very young commenced boating on the Erie Canal, later owning a boat which was used in freighting, first from Montgomery County to Albany, and later from Buffalo to Albany and New York, which he followed for several seasons. While thus employed, he had an experience which came near costing him his life. About midnight two men came along and asked for a ride on the boat. Our subject consenting, they boarded the vessel. Leaving his brother to steer, Jacob retired to his bunk, but soon awoke to find one of the strange men standing over him with a revolver and demanding of him money or his life. Our subject reached for his pocketbook, which he handed to the robber, and as he did so, the robber attempted to shoot him, but the revolver missed fire, when Mr. Van Alstine grappled with his assailant, who was a much heavier man, and during the scuffle the robber fired twice but without effect. They struggled in the cabin for several minutes, when the stranger made his escape. During all that time, the brother of our subject had been having a similar experience with the other robber on deck. They both fell into the canal, and the driver on the shore cut the horses loose and ran for his life.

In 1853, Mr. Van Alstine of this sketch came to Winnebago County and purchased eighty acres of land in Burritt Township, of which seven acres were broken. He found a shell of a house set on blocks on the land, which he made more comfortable and resided in while he improved his farm, splitting the rails for the fences himself from the timber on the land. Our subject resided there for fifteen years, when he sold the property and purchased a farm on the State Road in Winnebago Township, seven miles west of Rockford. There was a house and barn on the farm and our subject erected a fine set of frame buildings, residing there until 1881, when he came to Rockford.

January 16, 1813, Mr. Van Alstine and Miss Margaret Coventry, a native of Utica, N. Y., were united in marriage. The lady's father, Dr. Alexander Coventry, was born in Scotland, and early turned his attention to the study of medicine. He was educated in Edinburgh, and after coming to America became a successful physician in Utica,



P. Pickens

where he made his home until his decease. The maiden name of his wife was Margaret Van Vacton.

To Mr. and Mrs. Van Alstine of this sketch ten children have been born: John W., Charles, Jane, Alonzo, Martha, Mary, William, Leonard, Belle, and Cyrenus. The parents are members of the Presbyterian Church, and, in politics, our subject is a Republican. John W., the eldest son of our subject, served in the late war as a member of Company G, Forty-fourth Illinois Infantry, and was killed in the battle of Stone River. Charles W. served as a member of the Twelfth Cavalry.

PALMER PICKARD, who for many long years has resided upon his present farm on section 21, Harlem Township, Winnebago County, was born in Sterling, Cayuga County, N. Y., on the 5th of January, 1820, and is one of a family of eleven children. His great-grandfather, Nicholas Pickard, was a native of Germany and, on emigrating thence, settled in the Mohawk Valley, in New York, where he died at the advanced age of one hundred and one years and eleven months. His son, who also bore the name of Nicholas, was born in the Empire State, whence he removed to Ohio about 1825, and there resided until his death.

Smith W. Pickard, father of our subject, was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., and in his youth learned the blacksmith's trade. However, he followed the occupation of farming in Cayuga County until 1829, when he returned to Onondaga County, where he resided until 1835. The three succeeding years of his life were spent in Orleans County, N. Y., and in 1838, accompanied by his wife and seven children, he came to Illinois, making the entire journey with teams. After five weeks of travel, he arrived in Lucas County, Ohio, where he remained during the winter, and the following spring pushed on to Stephenson County, locating nine miles west of Freeport, where he secured a tract of Government land.

The family lived in the wagon until a log house could be built, and all the hardships and experiences

of frontier life fell to their lot. Mr. Pickard resided there until 1818, when he sold out and removed to Richland County, Wis. He there purchased and resided upon a farm near Richland Center, but after some years rented it and removed to the village, where he lived a retired life until called to his final rest at the age of seventy-six years. His wife, whose maiden name was Affa Skeel, was born in the Empire State and was a daughter of Abyram Skeel, who was born in the eastern part of New York, and spent his last days in Sterling, Cayuga County, after having followed farming for many years. Mrs. Pickard survived her husband a few years, and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. H. G. Fowler, at Lena, Ill.

At the age of fifteen, Palmer Pickard began learning the trade of a woolen manufacturer, serving an apprenticeship of four years. In 1839, he came to Illinois by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes and landed at Toledo, whence he walked the remaining distance to Stephenson County. During the winter, he aided his father in splitting rails and chopping wood, and the following spring began working by the month in Jo Daviess County, being in the employ of one man for two years. He then returned to Stephenson County, where himself and brother built a cabin and kept bachelor's hall for a time, devoting their energies to the development of a farm.

Mr. Pickard resided with his brother until May, 1844, when he sold his teams and entered forty acres of Government land. In the above-mentioned year he went to Roscoe, this county, and assisted in establishing the woolen mills at that place, where for four years he occupied the position of foreman in the carding department. In the fall of 1848, he returned to New York, spending the winter in Camden, Oneida County. In May, 1849, we again find him in this State, engaged in the development of the farm which he had purchased in February, 1846. When he located at that place, there was a log house upon it, 16x16 feet, and thirty-five acres had been broken and fenced. After ten years the cabin was replaced by a small frame dwelling and in 1876 he built the commodious residence which is now his home. His farm comprises two hundred and twelve acres of

highly improved land, and he also owns a twenty-acre tract of timber in the same township.

In September, 1847, Mr. Pickard was united in marriage with Lydia Atwood, and their union has been blessed with five children: Jane E., Edgar J., Ella M., Alfred F. and Albert H. The family is a prominent one in this locality, ranking high in social circles. Mr. Pickard has long been a supporter of the Republican party, and in his religious views he is liberal.

The attention of the reader is invited to the portrait of Mr. Pickard, and a view of his attractive home, presented elsewhere in this volume.



L EMUEL TIBBETS, M. D., a successful and skilled medical practitioner of Rockford, who since 1878 has made his home in this city, has prosecuted his profession here during all that time and has won a place in the foremost rank among his professional brethren in the county. The Doctor is a native of Adams County, Ill., and is descended from a family of English origin.

In the year 1686, the first ancestors of our subject to come to America crossed the Atlantic Ocean from their native land and settled in Dover, Stafford County, N. H. Members of the family figured prominently in New England history and fought for independence during the War of the Revolution. Samuel Tibbets, grandfather of our subject, lived and died in the Pine Tree State, where the father, Joshua Tibbets, was born and reared. He emigrated Westward in a very early day, becoming a pioneer of Quincy, Ill., and for many years was prominently connected with the growth and development of Adams County, and still makes his home in Quincy. He married Lucinda M. Ames, who was born and reared in New England, and when a young lady came to the West. She proved a true and faithful helpmate to her husband, and died in 1877, at the age of sixty-five years. The history of Adams County in an early day is largely concerned with the actions of the Tibbets, Ames and Woods families.

Our subject was educated at St. Paul's College, of Palmyra, Mo., after which he engaged in teach-

ing. Later, he entered upon the study of medicine with a physician of Quincy, afterward was graduated from the medical department of the Michigan University, in the Class of '64, and was graduated from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, of New York City, in 1867. He made his first location in Dallas City, Ill., and subsequently engaged in practice for six years in Kirkwood, Ill., after which he came to Rockford. As before stated, he has been most successful and has performed some very difficult surgical operations which have won him a high reputation for skill in this line. He is now engaged in general practice but also makes a specialty of the eye and ear. Since locating here, he has spent eight months in New York City, studying for special treatment of the eye, ear and throat, the latter study being under Dr. F. H. Bosworth, while his study of the eye and ear treatment was with Dr. Mittendorf, both gentlemen being professors in the Bellevue Hospital.

The Doctor was married in this city to Miss Cornelia E. Bradshaw, who was born in Rockford when it was a hamlet. Her father, Robert E. Bradshaw, one of the pioneers of the city, now resides at No. 1108 South Court Street. For many years he successfully followed farming in Winnebago Township, but for eighteen years has made his home at his present place of residence. He was born in the Empire State, but in early life went to London, England, where he learned the carpenter's trade and afterward worked on Windsor Castle. He later married Mrs. Cornelia E. Miller, who died in middle life.

The Doctor and his wife attend the Second Congregational Church, of which the lady is a member, and they rank high in the circles of society in which they move. He is one of the most prominent physicians of the city and is now enjoying a large and lucrative practice. He holds membership with the State Medical Society, with the American Medical National Association, and has also been a member of the Military Tract Medical Society, and Quincy Society. He was President of the Board of Medical Examiners of Pensions for four years and has been the examiner for various insurance companies. He is a Thirty-second Degree Mason, belonging to the Consistory of Free-

port and the Crusade Commandery of Rockford. In politics, the Doctor is a Democrat. He has long been a close student of his profession and by his merit and ability has worked his way upward to the enviable position which he to-day occupies.

 **D**AVID R. PETERSON, a wide-awake and enterprising young business man of Rockford, has been connected with the Standard Furniture Company since its organization in 1887. He is one of its stockholders and Directors and from the beginning has held the office of Secretary and Treasurer. The success of the company is largely due to our subject, who has devoted his entire energies to it and its advancement and upbuilding. The company now employs about two hundred men and the business is in a flourishing condition.

Mr. Peterson first opened his eyes to the light of day in Central Sweden, December 8, 1865, and came of pure Swedish stock. His parents are both now deceased. His father, Peter Peterson, was a prominent and well-known business man of the community in which he resided and took an active part in public affairs. He died in the faith of the Lutheran Church when sixty-five years of age. His wife, who was a most estimable lady and an active worker in the Lutheran Church, died in middle life. Their family numbered six children who are yet living, four being residents of America. Two of these came to this country prior to the emigration of our subject: August, who is now Secretary and Treasurer of the Central Furniture Company of this city, and G. A., who is now engaged in business in Wakefield, Neb. Since the arrival of Mr. Peterson, one sister has sought a home in the New World—Matilda, now the wife of F. A. Wall, a contractor and builder of Rockford.

The subject of this sketch acquired an excellent education in his native land in its academies and colleges. Thinking to better his financial condition, he decided to emigrate to America, and in 1882 crossed the Atlantic to New York, whence he came to Rockford. Since his arrival here, he has pursued a course of study in the business college.

He did clerical work for the Excelsior Furniture Company for some time and at the organization of the Standard Furniture Company became interested in it. In 1888, they began business and for about five years our subject has been its efficient Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. Peterson is yet a young man but he has shown that in his composition are the elements necessary to success in business life. He is an industrious and energetic workman who has already secured an enviable position. With the First Lutheran Church he holds membership, and his right of franchise he exercises in support of the Republican party. Those who know him esteem him highly for his sterling worth and uprightness, and it is with pleasure that we present this sketch of his life to our readers.

 **Z** B. STURTEVANT. There is no country in the world more distinguished for its flour than the United States. It is one of the leading articles of industry, and as such we have much reason to be proud of it. Our millers are men of enterprise and push, with which they combine that energy which never fails to secure success, and are ever ready to adopt a system that will produce a finer grade of flour. It need not be wondered at, therefore, if the millers here prosper, and find a ready demand for their flour. Flour and grain are among the staple articles of commerce in Rockford, and there is one extensively engaged as a manufacturer of flour and a wholesale dealer in flour and feed, Mr. Z. B. Sturtevant, who is widely known, having been before the public for the last twelve years. He has been the leading miller of Rockford since 1880, and has met with a wonderful degree of success. He is a stockholder in the Rockford Cracker Factory, and is Vice-President and a Director of the Rockford Driving Club, of which he was one of the promoters. He is a well-known horseman and is very fond of that noble animal. At present, Mr. Sturtevant is Alderman of the Third Ward, is a Republican in politics, and has ever taken a decided interest in local matters.

Mr. Sturtevant is a native of Oneida County,

N. Y., born in the year 1817, and came West with his parents when a small boy. The family located at Delavan, Walworth County, Wis., in 1855, and there our subject passed his youthful days. He came to Rockford in 1867, and with the exception of three years, from 1877 until 1880, when he resided at Oregon, Ill., he has been a resident of this city. His father, Z. B. Sturtevant, Sr., was a native of Vermont, and came of New England ancestry. When a young man, he went to the Empire State, and was married in Utica to Miss Jane A. Story, afterward following his trade of contractor and builder, also of brick and stone mason, for many years. He then retired and returned to Delavan, Wis., where his death occurred in 1891, when eighty-five years of age. He was a prominent man and a much-esteemed citizen in the county and city where he had passed forty-five years of his life, and was a Congregationalist in his religious belief. His wife, who is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Dr. McLaughlin, of Jacksonville, Ill., is now sixty-eight years of age, but bears the burden of her years lightly. She adheres to the Congregational Church in religion.

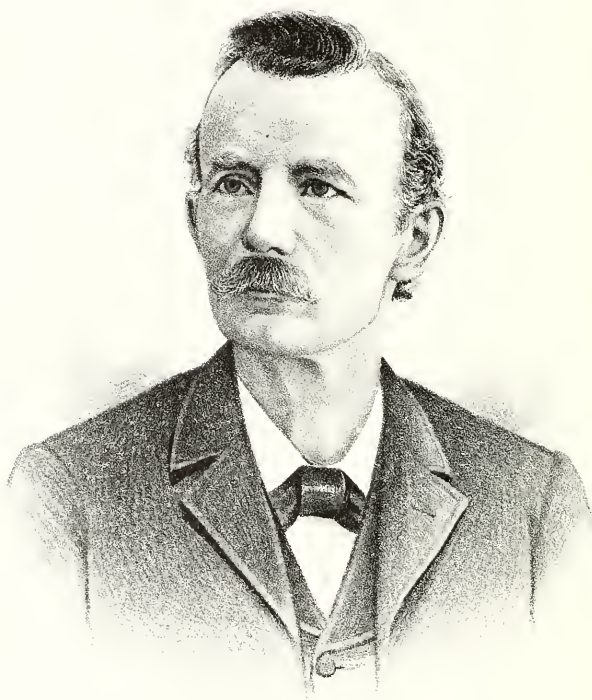
Of the five sons and five daughters born to the worthy couple mentioned above, all are now married except one. Our subject married in Rockford Miss Fannie Simpson, who passed her early life in Rockford, and who was graduated at the High School of the city. She is a lady of much ability, was a school teacher for a number of years before her marriage, and as an educator ranked among the foremost. Her father, John Simpson, was an Eastern man, and after he came to Winnebago County was prominently identified with its growth and development. He had four children, three sons and one daughter. One son, M. D., is an old day clerk of the Plankinton House, Milwaukee, Wis., and another son, Edward L., is with the *Monitor* Publishing Company, of Rockford, and has been a newspaper man for a number of years. One son, Henry, also a clerk in the Plankinton House, died October last in Milwaukee. Mr. Simpson was a blacksmith and manufacturer in Rockford for a number of years, and built the mills at Cherry Valley. Mr. and Mrs. Sturtevant are social leaders in the community, and their

pleasant home, which bears every evidence of the taste and culture of its inmates, is the meeting place for the best class of people in the vicinity. Both are regular attendants at the Congregational Church. They have one child, a daughter, named Mabel.

GUSTAVE A. PETERSON, a cabinet-maker by trade, and a stockholder in the Central Furniture Company, is a gentleman who has won for himself an excellent reputation by his honorable methods of business and his intrinsic social qualities.

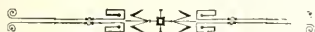
Our subject was born in Rockford, Ill., November 28, 1860, but comes of Swedish parentage, his father, P. A. Peterson, being a native of Smoland Province, Sweden. The latter passed his boyhood and youth in the Old Country, learned the trade of a machinist, and was the first of the family to cross the ocean to America. He followed his trade in the East for some time, and with the money thus accumulated, returned to his native country and married Caroline Wettshall, who was born in the same province and near her husband. Shortly afterward, they took passage for the States, and after three years spent in New York State, near Brewster, they came to Rockford, Ill. This was in the latter part of the '50s, and since then Mr. Peterson has labored, following his trade as a machinist. He is now retired and is pleasantly situated at No. 1007 First Avenue, this city. He is rapidly nearing the age of seventy years, but is a well-preserved man. His wife, who was born in 1819, died in this city in 1881. She spent the last years of her life with the Methodist Episcopal Swedish Church, in which her husband holds membership at the present time. He is a Republican in politics. Of the two children born to this much esteemed couple, our subject is the younger. The sister, Rose, was born in Brewster, N. Y., was reared and educated in that city, and is now the housekeeper for her brother. She is a young lady possessed of more than the ordinary degree of amiability, and is well educated.

Except for about two years spent in the West, on



Anton Neumeister

the Pacific Slope, our subject has been a resident of Rockford. While growing up, he received a good practical education in the public schools and learned his trade in this city. He has ever been industrious and enterprising and is in every branch of his trade thoroughly versed and experienced. He owns a comfortable home at No. 1603 Charles Street, and there he has resided for some time.



ANTON NEUMEISTER, who is engaged in the manufacture of wagons and carriages, in connection with which he has a repair shop, has carried on business in Rockford in this line since 1865. He is located at Nos. 115 and 119 North Madison Street, and is doing an excellent business, for, being a skilled mechanic, he has won a good trade. Whatever success he has won in life is due to his own efforts, and he may well be called a self-made man.

Mr. Neumeister was born in Furstenthum, Reuss, Germany, November 27, 1837, and is a son of Frederiek Neumeister, a native of the same province. There the latter grew to manhood and learned the iron-maker's trade with his father, who had followed it for many years. In his native land, he married Rosina Sack, who was also a native of the same locality. After the birth of all of their children, they came to America, taking passage at Bremen on a sailing-vessel in May, 1818. After a voyage of seven weeks, they reached New York, and went at once to the West by canal and the Great Lakes to Milwaukee. A year later, they removed to their new home, sixteen miles from that city, and Mr. Neumeister engaged in farming until his death, which occurred at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife afterwards returned to Milwaukee, and died in that city in September, 1891, when eighty-six years of age. Up to the last she retained her faculties, both physical and mental, to a wonderful degree. They were both members of the Lutheran Church, and Mr. Neumeister supported the Republican party by his ballot.

With his parents, our subject came to this country when a lad, and grew to manhood in Wisconsin,

where he learned the trade of a wagon and carriage maker. In 1862, he enlisted as a member of the Twenty-sixth Wisconsin Infantry, which was incorporated in the Army of the Potomac. After participating in several engagements, he was transferred to the Army of the Cumberland, and during the battle of Kennesaw Mountain was wounded in the left arm. On being discharged in 1865, he came at once to Rockford and embarked in business, as before stated. As a companion on life's journey, Mr. Neumeister chose Miss Theresa Staps, their marriage being celebrated in Milwaukee. She was born in Saxony, Germany, in April, 1841, and during her girlhood came with her parents to America in 1852, sailing from Bremen to New York City. Her people located in Milwaukee, and there her father died when in middle life. Her mother is still living in Wisconsin, with one of her daughters, and is now eighty years of age. Like her husband, she is a Lutheran in religious belief.

Mr. and Mrs. Neumeister also belong to the same church, and are well-known and prominent German people of Rockford. He has been for a number of years a member of the Germania societies, in which he takes an active interest. His right of franchise he exercises in support of the Republican party, but has never been an office-seeker. Empty-handed he began life for himself, and has steadily worked his way upward to a position of affluence, now owning at his place of business three lots, built up with good business blocks, besides his pleasant residence on North Madison Street.



NATHANIEL MARKS. The farmers of Winnebago County are, almost without exception, thrifty, enterprising, industrious and progressive, meriting their success by judicious methods and excellent management. A worthy representative of the class, and one who stands especially high in the estimation of all with whom he comes in contact, is the owner of one of the finely-improved estates in Pecatonica Township. Since Mr. Marks located upon the place in 1882,

he has added to its buildings, increased its acreage from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and eighty-two, and, by a proper fertilization of the soil and rotation of crops, reaped large harvests of golden grain.

Mr. Marks was born in Mt. Bethel, Northampton County, Pa., April 26, 1834. His father, John, likewise a native of Northampton County, died in Lycoming County, Pa., at the age of fifty-three. His mother, whose maiden name was Mary Johnson, was born in the same county as her husband, and died in Jackson County, Mich., at the age of three-score and eleven years. They were worthy people, whose upright lives proved the possession of honorable principles inherited from a long line of Irish ancestors, and both belonged to families whose members followed agricultural pursuits through many generations.

During the late war, two of the brothers of our subject enlisted in the service of their country and fought valiantly until their death. Isaac enlisted in the Home Guards of Missouri and died in Jefferson City, Mo., during the war. Levi became a member of the Fifty-first Pennsylvania Infantry and was killed at the battle of Antietam. Their memories are dear in the hearts of their relatives, who are justly proud of these noble defenders of the country's honor.

After the death of his father, our subject remained on the old homestead with his mother until 1860, meanwhile gaining a practical knowledge of farming and acquiring a limited education. The family of which he was a member consisted of eight children, three of whom survive at this date (1892). The lady who became the wife of our subject, January 12, 1860, was Miss Mary A. Miller, a native of Berks County, Pa., born October 16, 1832. Her father, John Miller, died in Lycoming County, Pa., at the age of seventy years; her mother, Mary (Boyer) Miller, departed this life in Lycoming County, at the good old age of four-score and two. They were the parents of ten children, of whom three have passed from earth.

Soon after his marriage, Mr. Marks came to Winnebago County and purchased a farm comprising eighty acres in Seward Township. In 1861, he brought his wife to the new home, and for three

years was actively engaged in improving the place. Then selling out, he removed to Iowa and for one year operated a rented farm. Thence he proceeded to Miller County, Mo., where he resided about five years, but not feeling satisfied with the soil or surroundings, again sought a home in Winnebago County, where he operated as a renter for ten years. By frugality and good judgment he was enabled at the expiration of that time to purchase the place where he now resides.

Mr. and Mrs. Marks have had a family of seven children, one of whom died when two and one-half years old. Kate, who was born in Lycoming County, Pa., married F. R. Benson and they have five children; Hunter C., who was born in Seward Township, Winnebago County, married Miss Mattie Sheldon and now resides in Seward Township; John M. was born in Seward Township and is at home, renting a portion of land adjoining the old homestead; Mary A., born in Black Hawk, Iowa, married A. L. Comly and they have two children; Charles W., born in Miller County, Mo., is aiding his father on the farm; and Sarah A., who was born in Pecatonica Township, is with her parents. In his political adherence, Mr. Marks is a Republican and cast his first Presidential ballot for John C. Fremont. He is a stockholder in the shoe factory and a charter member of the company organizing the creamery, besides which he has been interested in various progressive measures for the growth of the community.



JAMES ALBERT, retired, has been a resident of this city for the most part since 1850, and now resides in his comfortable home at No. 1011 North Second Street. He has been one of the most successful contractors and builders of the city and for many years had in his employ from forty to sixty men. He also had an interest as a grain and commission merchant, and had associated with him in business such prominent men as Elisha Kirk and Phil Armour; the latter, the well-known stockyards-man of Chicago, worked for them at \$26 per month. Our subject was un-

usually successful and became the owner of some valuable property in Rockford, real estate in the southeastern part of the county, and large tracts of land in Wisconsin and Iowa. He is quite wealthy and can pass the remainder of his days in peace and plenty. He has witnessed the marvelous growth of the State since his residence here, and has aided materially in the advancement and prosperity of Rockford. He is an active local politician and was formerly a Whig, voting and working for William H. Harrison. He assisted in nominating Col. Fremont and since 1856 he has been an Independent Republican. He is well known as a progressive, public-spirited man, who is fully abreast of the times in all matters of public interest that tend to develop the resources of the State and improve the condition of the masses. Intelligent and well-read, he has ever made his presence felt.

Mr. Albert was born in Lancaster County, Pa., and comes of good old fighting stock, both his grandfathers, Peter Albert and Daniel Brenanman, having served in the Revolutionary War. They were faithful and gallant soldiers, were with Gen. Washington during that terrible winter at Valley Forge, and one was an aide-de-camp to that General. Both passed their lives and received their final summons in Westmoreland County, Pa. Daniel Brenanman had two sons in the War of 1812 and Peter Albert had a son-in-law, James Morrow, in the same war. Our subject and seven nephews were through the Rebellion and all were known as brave soldiers.

James Albert's parents, Peter and Fanny (Brenanman) Albert, were natives of Germany and Pennsylvania, respectively, and were prominent people of the Keystone State, where they made their home. Peter Albert, Jr., was but two years old when his parents emigrated to America and settled in Pennsylvania. This was prior to the Revolutionary War. His father, Peter Albert, Sr., was the soldier referred to above. Peter Albert, Jr., was a tailor by trade and subsequently became a merchant of Westmoreland and Lancaster Counties, Pa. Later, he and his wife moved to Wayne County, Ohio, and there died when quite aged, the mother living eighty-seven years. They were

members of the Lutheran Church for many years but Mrs. Albert finally became a Methodist.

James Albert, the subject of this sketch, is one of five children yet living, the eldest now eighty-nine years of age. Mr. Albert is himself seventy-six. During the Civil War, he enlisted in the Sixth Missouri Infantry, Company I, and served faithfully for seventeen months. Then, on account of disability, he was discharged by special order. Since his return from the army, he has lived in Rockford. Mr. Albert has been twice married but has no children by either union. He is at present an advocate of Prohibition in politics. In his religious convictions, he is a Methodist. For some time, Mr. Albert held a Colonel's commission from an Ohio regiment in the local militia of the State.



AMOS RUGG, one of the well-to-do farmers of Seward Township, Winnebago County, is a son of David and Eunice Rugg, and had his birth August 11, 1825, in Heath, Franklin County, Mass. He was married December 26, 1850, to Miss Eunice F., daughter of Luther Purrington, by whom he became the father of four children, one of whom is deceased. Those living are: Ada L., George A. and Edith L. Mrs. Eunice Rugg departed this life in Excelsior, Minn., March 15, 1863. Our subject, on the 4th of November, 1865, was again united in marriage, this time to Mrs. Mary T. Andrews, who was born August 16, 1820, in Steuben County, N. Y., and is the daughter of David and Nancy (Taylor) Weld. The father was a son of Luther and Betty (Rogers) Weld, the mother being in direct line of descent from John Rogers, who was burned at the stake. The grandfather of Luther Weld was a native of Wales, and on emigrating to the United States located in Chatham, Mass., where Luther was born, April 11, 1761; his wife was born at Guilford, Vt., April 9, 1772. They were both farmers in the Green Mountain State, where their decease occurred.

The father of Mrs. Weld was one of a family of ten children, and April 20, 1852, Miss Mary, his

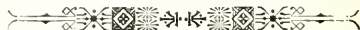
daughter, was married to Austin Andrews, who was born November 30, 1810, in Stockbridge, Mass. When an infant, he was taken by his parents to New York, and from there to Ohio, and after coming to Illinois, died in Winnebago County, March 9, 1857. Mr. Andrews came hither in 1836 in company with Judge Whittlesey, where he was numbered among the pioneers and prominent residents. His first marriage, which occurred May 6, 1840, united him with Miss Sarah J. Vance, by whom he became the father of two children, Sarah J. (Mrs. A. N. Bates), and Mary E., deceased. Mrs. Sarah J. Andrews was the daughter of John Vance, one of the first settlers of Seward Township, and after ten years of wedded life she died in 1850.

David Weld, the father of Mrs. Rugg, made his advent into this county in 1811, at which time he was accompanied by his daughter. He entered a tract of land from the Government, upon which he resided until his decease, May 2, 1859. He was very prominent in local affairs, and for several years was Supervisor, being the first of the township, County Judge and Justice of the Peace. In early life an old-line Whig, he later joined the Republican party, in whose ranks he was an arduous worker. Prior to coming to this State, Mr. Weld was an influential resident of his Eastern home, and for a number of years had been Deacon in the Congregational Church.

The parents of Mrs. Rugg were married September 1, 1819, the lady bearing the maiden name of Nancy Taylor. Her birth occurred in Massachusetts, she being the daughter of Jonathan Taylor, a native of New England. Her father was a member of the party who threw the tea overboard in Boston harbor. Nancy Taylor had eight brothers and sisters, many of whom were professional men and women, some of the latter being physicians with an income of \$20,000 per year. The male members of the family participated in the Revolutionary War, and were fine men and soldiers.

Amos Rugg has traveled extensively throughout the United States, but is content to follow the occupation of a farmer, in which branch of work he has been so successful. With his wife, he is an influential member of the Congregational Church.

David W. Andrews, the eldest son of Mrs. Rugg, was born in this county, March 15, 1851. He left home years ago for the West, and has not been heard from since. Abijah Andrews had his birth March 26, 1856, and on October 11, 1879, was married to Miss Addie Coburn, who was born in this State, August 3, 1861. They have had two children, Linnie May, who was born February 15, 1881, and died the following April; and Louis C., whose birth occurred January 24, 1883.



JOSEPH J. M. MYERS derives a comfortable income from his farming operations, which he carries on successfully in Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County. He is a representative of the German element that has played so important a part in the settlement and development of Illinois, and was born in Sarnico, Germany, June 16, 1811. His home is most beautifully located, and the residence, which is a handsome modern structure, cost \$3,000. The home is supplied with all the comforts and conveniences which stamp its owner to be a thrifty and well-to-do citizen of the county.

The original of this sketch is a son of John and Elizabeth Myers, and from the age of ten to sixteen years he was employed at herding cattle in the Old Country. In 1857, when his parents emigrated to the New World, he immediately found employment on farms, receiving as remuneration for his services \$2 per month and his board. He also cut cord-wood for three shillings a cord, and later, going to Milwaukee, spent two years in the Cream City and then came to Winnebago County, where he did farm work for four years at from \$10 to \$17 per month.

Mr. Myers, of this sketch, was married February 26, 1864, to Miss Sophia Glawe, who died four years later, when twenty-four years of age. Soon after his marriage, our subject rented a farm, which he operated for twelve years, and in the spring of 1875 moved to his present property, which he had purchased the year previous.

He of whom we write was married a second time to Miss Charlotte Bethwiller, who was born in

Strasburg, France, August 21, 1847. She was the daughter of Henry and Charlotte Dethwiller, and was nine years old when brought to this country by her parents. By her union with our subject eight children were born, viz.: Eda, who was born June 27, 1871, married John Schmoock, a farmer; John F. H., born February 27, 1874; Frank, November 13, 1875; Anna C., February 2, 1876; William C., April 16, 1878; Louisa E., February 10, 1880; Rosa C., December 5, 1881, and Albert, the eldest of the family, who died at the age of four months.

Our subject later added to his farm in Peacontonia Township, and is now the proprietor of as fine a tract of land as is to be found in the county. His first one hundred and sixty acres cost him \$40 per acre, and the last eighty, \$60 per acre. With his wife he is a devoted member of the Lutheran Church, and takes a deep interest in all church matters. He takes a prominent part in public affairs, and votes the straight Republican ticket.



LOUIS C. BLAKE, a well-known resident of Rockford, now living a retired life, was born in Newburg, N. Y., in 1833, and there acquired his education in the High School and an academy. While still in his teens, he became an auctioneer, learning the business in Albany, N. Y., with his grandfather, with whom he worked for some time. He later became advance agent for circus companies, and in this way traveled for many years through the South, becoming well acquainted with all the Southern States and the manners and customs of the people. His first connection was with the famous "Wizard of the Bugle," Almon Mentor, who was killed by a burglar at Covington, Ky. Mr. Blake afterward went upon the stage in the role of an Irish comedian. For some years he was with the Bailey Theatrical Company and played in all the leading cities of the North and South. He seemed especially adapted to this role and was very successful.

Mr. Blake at length came to Illinois, locating in Rochelle, where he spent about four years. During that time the Civil War broke out and he enlisted

in Company D, Eleventh Illinois Infantry, under his friend, Capt. Andrus, and Col. W. H. L. Wallace. He went with his command to the front and in October of the same year was made Sergeant of the company. The following April he was made Sergeant-Major of the regiment and in November, 1862, was commissioned Second Lieutenant of Company G, to which he had been transferred from Company D. His promotion was an acknowledgment of his meritorious conduct at the battle of Ft. Donelson. In the latter part of 1863, he resigned and was honorably discharged. His first colonel having been killed at Ft. Donelson, he was afterward under the command of Col. Ransom and participated in every engagement of his regiment until mustered out of the service. Rheumatism was the cause of his resignation and it afterward confined him to his bed for nearly a whole year.

Mr. Blake married Miss Anna Kissam, of Newburg, N. Y., who was there reared and educated. She is a refined and cultured lady and is descended from the old Knickerbocker stock of New York. Her great-uncle, Col. Richard M. Varriek, was the first Recorder and Mayor of New York City. In their home they have some of the valuable silver plate that belonged to the Colonel which is treasured by them as a family heirloom. They also have a chair which belonged to Col. Varriek and was frequently occupied by Gen. Washington while the Colonel was serving on his staff. Other branches of the family, including the Livingstons and Rooseveltes, have figured prominently in the history of the country.

Mr. Blake came to Rockford in 1877, and secured a position with the Chicago & Iowa Railroad, now belonging to the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. Three years later, he became ticket agent for the latter road and also for the Chicago & St. Paul, both having the same depot. A few months since, he severed his connection with the railroad companies, having acquired a comfortable competence. He is a genial, jovial man, warm-hearted and well-read, and is quite prominent in social circles. He belongs to G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and to the order of Red Men. He has filled all the offices in the latter lodge and has been representative to the Great Council of the

State and the United States. He has also passed through all the chairs of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and has been its representative to the Grand Lodge of the State.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Blake were born three sons and two daughters, but May died in childhood. Cora is now the widow of C. H. Largent, and has one child; Louis C., Mason K. and Collins K. are all at home. The parents attend the Episcopal Church. Their beautiful home is at No. 527 North Church Street. Mr. Blake also owns a residence next to his home, which is one of the finest in the city.



FRANK S. WEBBER, whose pleasant home in Flora Township, Boone County, comprises ninety acres of land, was born in Dover, Piscataquis County, Me., February 21, 1834. He is a son of Alvin Webber, who was also born in the Pine Tree State, as was his father, Daniel Webber. The grandfather of our subject followed the sea for a number of years, and in 1845 came to Illinois and located in this township, where he spent his last years.

Alvin Webber was reared to agricultural pursuits, and resided in his native State until the removal of his parents to Illinois. When locating here, although the land was very cheap, ranging in price from \$1.25 to \$5.00 per acre, his means were not sufficient to enable him to invest in property. He was not, however, particularly pleased with the country, which bore little resemblance to its present prosperous condition, and so rented land for five years; during this time the country became more settled, and he was induced by his children to purchase land, and so became the proprietor of the east half of the southwest quarter of section 27, Flora Township. Here he improved a good farm, and resided until his death.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Susan Grover, the daughter of Abraham and Susan Grover. Frank S. was a lad of eleven years when he came with his parents to Illinois, and remembers well the incidents of the overland journey and the pioneer life in this county. He attended the pioneer school, assisted the father on the farm,

and resided at home until his marriage, when he purchased a farm in Monroe Township, Ogle County. After a residence there of seven years, our subject located upon the farm which he now occupies, and which is well improved with first-class buildings. He has, besides, fifteen acres of the old homestead and ten acres of timber land in Cherry Valley.

He of whom we write was married, May 18, 1857, to Arvilla, daughter of Newell and Clarinda (Hovery) Watkins. She was born in Tioga County, N. Y., and departed this life in 1876. The lady whom Mr. Webber chose as his second wife was Caroline Hammill, the ceremony being performed May 23, 1883. Mrs. Webber was born in Iowa County, Wis., while her father, Richard Hammill, was born, reared and married in England. On coming to America, he made his home in Dodgeville, Wis., and later purchased a tract of timber land two and one-half miles from Linden, which was his home until his decease. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Webber was Ann Yoltou, a native of Cornwall, England, who died on the home farm in Wisconsin.

The wife of our subject was the youngest but one in a family of sixteen children born to her parents, and by her union with our subject is the mother of two children, Flora Belle and Earl S. Our subject has one child living by his first marriage, Frank S., the husband of Maggie Robinson. In politics, he votes the Republican ticket, and his wife, in religious matters, is identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church.



LEMU'EL FULLER is an enterprising and extensive farmer of Rockford Township, Winnebago County, residing on section 19. He is also a representative of one of the pioneer families of this locality and his parents should certainly be represented in this work. His father, John Fuller, was born in Worthington, Hampshire County, Mass., May 2, 1800, and was a son of Lemuel and Susan (Haskell) Fuller. On the 3d of September, 1831, he married Lucy Wilder, who was born in Hampshire County,

Mass., April 5, 1808. Her grandfather, Seth Wilder, was a native of Salem, that State, whence he removed to Hampshire County, there making his home upon a farm until his death. Upon the same farm, Abel Wilder, father of Mrs. Fuller, was reared. On attaining to man's estate, he purchased land in that locality and engaged in agricultural pursuits, taking his grain to market in Albany and Troy, N. Y., for there were no railroads in those days. In 1816, he sold his land and removed to Windsor, Berkshire County, where he made his home until after the death of his wife, when he removed to the Empire State. The maiden name of Mrs. Wilder was Lucy Pratt. She was born in Weymouth, Mass., and died when Mrs. Fuller was but ten years of age.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Fuller, they settled in Genesee County, where they made their home until 1839, which year witnessed their emigration Westward to Illinois. They went by way of the Lakes to Chicago, and thence with teams to Rockford, which they found to be a small hamlet in the midst of an unbroken tract of country. Mr. Miller made a claim on section 19, Rockford Township, and, as there were no buildings upon it, the family made their home in a store which had been erected about a mile and a half above their farm. They later moved into a log house in the same locality, and the following spring took up their residence in a log cabin adjoining the claim. In 1842, Mr. Fuller erected a frame residence on his own land, and there continued to make his home until his death, which occurred October 27, 1858. The family had borne all the hardships and privations of pioneer life, for when they came here the work of civilization and progress had scarcely been begun. The few settlements were widely scattered, all kinds of wild game were plentiful, and Chicago was the nearest market.

Mr. and Mrs. Fuller were the parents of seven children: Lemuel, Levi B., Charles, Nancy, John, Eliza and Ellen. The mother of this family is still living on the home farm, where she owns two hundred and seventy-eight acres of valuable land under a high state of cultivation. She is now well advanced in years, but is remarkably well

preserved for one of her age, both physically and mentally, and still directs and assists in the house work. She is an estimable lady and has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances throughout this community.

Lemuel Fuller was born in Covington, Genesee County, N. Y., on the 16th of May, 1832, and was therefore only about seven years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois. Since that time, he has resided in Winnebago County. His education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood, and until his father's death he assisted him in the labors of the farm, with the exception of one year, which he spent in Harlem Township. He now resides with his mother on the home farm and is the owner of an adjoining farm of two hundred and fifty acres. Mr. Fuller is numbered among the enterprising and successful agriculturists of this community, and is a worthy representative of so prominent a pioneer family.



HENRY OLSON, polisher for the Skandia Plow Company, of Rockford, is a stockholder and ex-Director of that concern, and is a leading exponent of his branch of industry. He was one of the original promoters of this enterprise, and since it was started, in 1880, he has devoted his time, money and interest to its advancement.

Our subject is one of the many influential citizens of Rockford who claim Sweden as their native country, his birth occurring in Smoland Province, January 13, 1838, and he was twenty-nine years of age when he first touched American soil. This was about the 1st of May, 1868, and he first located in Muskegon, Mich. One year later, or in 1869, he came to Rockford, and has since been an industrious, hardworking man. For some time he was polisher for the N. C. Thompson Manufacturing Company, but since 1880 he has been with the present company. He has been successful, has accumulated considerable means, and recently erected a modern and very pleasant residence at No. 509 Second Street.

Mr. Olson lost his parents, Olof and Christian

(Peherson) Peherson, when but a child. They were members of the State Church and died when about middle age. He is the only one of the family in America. He selected as his companion in life Miss Martha Olson, also a native of Smoland Province, where she was reared and educated, and where her father, Harold Olson, is yet living. She was the only daughter of six children, all of whom are living in Rockford (see sketch of Robert Lind). She came to this country alone in October, 1868, resided in Michigan for a short time, and then came to Rockford, where she was married to Mr. Olson. Her father, who is seventy-two years of age, was for a number of years a resident of Rockford, his wife dying in the latter place in 1874, when sixty years of age. Her maiden name was Marie Christafson, and she was a member of the Lutheran Church, in which her husband still holds membership. Mr. and Mrs. Olson have been members of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford for twenty years. They are the parents of a bright and intelligent child, Alice A.



ISAAC V. SEBRING. It is always a pleasure to record the events in the life of a member of one of those grand old families who have been identified with the history of this country since its earliest settlement, and who have been men of mark. The genealogy of the maternal ancestors of our subject, which is now being published, shows that their first representative in America was William Hartwell, who came over in the "Mayflower." There are now about one thousand of the name, who for the past eight years have held annual reunions at Concord, N. H. Their patriotism has been proved in the dark days of warfare, Grandfather Hartwell having served as a soldier from Vermont in the War of 1812, and his father, William, having faithfully defended the Colonies during the Revolutionary War.

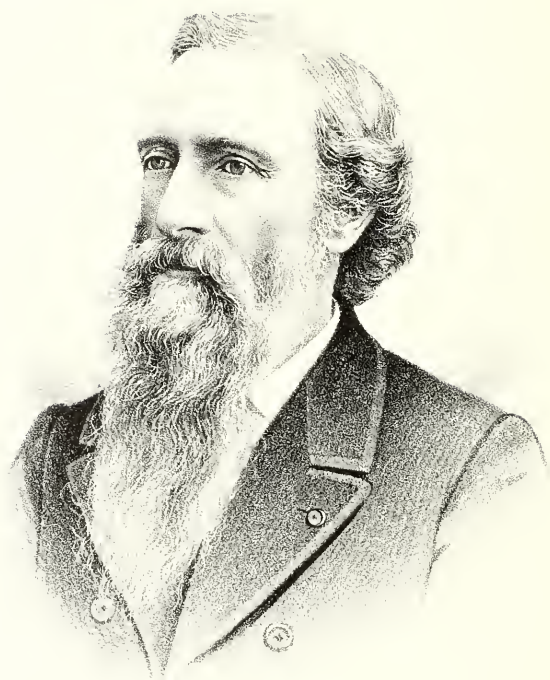
The paternal ancestors of our subject originated in Holland, where Grandfather Sebring followed farming pursuits until he emigrated to America. Isaac B., father of our subject, was born in Penn-

sylvania, in December, 1811, and passed his youth on a farm. In 1841, near Erie, Pa., he was united in marriage to Miss Eunice Whitney Hartwell, who was born in Vermont in 1818. After the birth of their first child, they removed West, in the spring of 1845, making the journey by water to Milwaukee, and thence by team to Boone County, where they entered one hundred and twenty acres of Government land on section 25, Manchester Township.

The first step toward the improvement of the farm was the erection of a log house, a portion of which still stands, and which was roofed with sod. Other improvements followed as opportunity offered, and when the father died, in 1862, he left his family comfortably provided for. He was an upright man, firm in his convictions and a staunch adherent of the principles of truth and justice. During the Civil War, he enlisted as a member of Company C, Thirteenth Wisconsin Infantry, Capt. Cummings commanding. He served with valor for several months, but, while marching to Kansas with his regiment, was taken ill and died at a farmhouse, in April, 1862, at the age of fifty-one years.

The family of which our subject is a member consisted of eight children, one of whom died when eighteen months old, and Orinda when three years old. The others were Nathan B., born December 21, 1841; Harriet, September 30, 1845; Isaac V., January 27, 1850; Jane, February 6, 1852; Sarah, January 6, 1854; and Ella, March 25, 1855. All are still living with the exception of Nathan, who died in Washington, D. C., in August, 1862, from the effects of a gunshot wound. He entered the army in his twentieth year, becoming a member of Company K, Seventh Wisconsin Infantry, Capt. Gordon commanding, and served as a private until his death.

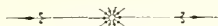
The mother of our subject was a daughter of William and Jane (Whitney) Hartwell, natives of New England, who removed to Illinois in 1845. She died in February, 1866, at the age of seventy-four years, leaving to her children a small estate of forty acres. All the children are married except our subject. Harriet is now Mrs. Augustus Cushman, of Shirland, Winnebago County; Jane



W. L. Chubb

became the wife of J. H. Livingston, a carpenter and mason; Sarah married Willis Hollister, of Belvidere; Ella is the wife of Oliver Webster, of Manchester Township, Boone County.

Our subject has passed his entire life in Boone County, and is now numbered among the prosperous farmers of Manchester Township, where he has a fine farm on section 35. The place comprises one hundred and sixty acres, including the forty acres of the old homestead. In 1872, he bought forty acres, paying therefor the sum of \$1,150, and in 1885 he purchased eighty acres for \$3,000, including some splendid farming land. He conducts a general farming business and also engages in stock-raising to some extent. In 1884, he improved his farm by the erection of a large and substantial frame residence, in which he makes his home. He is a man of public spirit, has served his fellow-citizens as Highway Commissioner and School Director, and exerts his influence in behalf of those measures which are conducive to the good of the community.



CAPT. WILLIAM D. E. ANDRUS. One of the oldest and most highly-respected citizens of Winnebago County, who has been prominently connected with its growth and development for many years, is Capt. William D. E. Andrus, of Rockford, whose portrait is shown on another page.

A native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., our subject came West with his parents and with them settled in Illinois as early as 1843. Since then, with the exception of about four years spent in the army and a few years in Dakota, he has been a resident of this county. He has ever been industrious and practical, and as a result of his energy and good management he is the owner of a large amount of property in Rockford and extensive tracts of land in Bon Homme County, S. Dak., which is fast developing as a farming and dairy county. He has been interested in Dakota real estate since 1879, about which time he filled the position of Indian Agent at the Yankton Agency for three years and a half. He became interested

in that State but not sufficiently to cause him to leave Illinois, his adopted State, in which he was reared and educated.

When the war broke out, our subject was among the first to respond to his country's call and was in the company that first telegraphed its services to the Governor in February, 1861, and that was one of the first to be accepted. The official record, direct from Washington, D. C., was as follows: "Entered service as a private, Rockford Zouaves, April 20, 1861. Mustered into service as Second Lieutenant, Company D, Eleventh Illinois Infantry, April 30, 1861. Regiment organized at Springfield, Ill., for three months' service. Ordered to Villa Ridge, Ill., May 5, 1861. Duty there until June 20, and at Bird's Point, Mo., until July 30. Mustered out July 30, 1861, expiration of term of enlistment. Re-enlisted in three years' service as Captain of Company D, Eleventh Illinois Infantry, July 30, 1861. Assigned to W. H. L. Wallace's Third Brigade, District of Southeast Missouri, August, 1861, to January, 1862. Second Brigade, First Division, Military District of Cairo, to February, 1862. Second Brigade, First Division, Army of Tennessee, to August, 1862. Paducah, Ky., to November 1862. First Brigade, Sixth Division, Left Wing, Thirteenth Corps. Department of the Tennessee to December, 1862. First Brigade, Sixth Division, Seventeenth Corps, Army of Tennessee, to September, 1863. Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Seventeenth Corps, to February, 1864. Second Brigade, First Division, Seventeenth Corps, to August, 1864. Skirmish at Charleston, Mo., August, 1861. Expedition toward New Madrid, September 9, 1861; another toward Charleston, October 6. One against Thompson's forces, November 2, 1861. Expedition to Charleston, January 7, 1862. Ft. Henry, Tennessee, February 2. Capture of Ft. Henry, February 6. Assault on Ft. Donelson, February 11 to the 15th. Severely wounded by gunshot in right hip. Absent with wounds until April. Rejoined regiment at Shiloh, April 7. Siege of Corinth, Miss., April 30 to May 30. March to Jackson, Tenn. Duty there until August. Trenton Ferry, July 1 and 2. March to Lexington, July 23 to 28. Ordered to Cairo, Ill., August 2. Ordered to Paducah, Ky., August 23. Trenton

Ferry, July 1 and 2. March to Lexington July 23 to 28. Expedition to Hopkinsville, Ky., October 31 and November 13. Moved to La Grange, Tenn., November 20 to 24. Grant's Central Mississippi Campaign. Operations on Mississippi Central Railroad to the Yocknapatafa River from November, 1862, until January, 1863. Action at Tallahatchie River, November 30. Moved to Memphis, Tenn., and thence to Young's Point, La., January 17, 1863, and to Lake Providence, February 11. Expedition to American Bend, March 17 to 28. Movement on Bruinsburg and Grand Gulf, April 25 to 30. Battle of Port Gibson, May 1; Raymond, May 12; Jackson, May 14; Champion Hills, May 16; Big Black River, May 17; siege of Vicksburg, May 19 to July 1; assault on Vicksburg, May 19 and 22; surrender of Vicksburg July 4. Detached on recruiting service in Illinois from July to September. Rejoined regiment at Natchez and temporarily on staff of Gen. Ransom, commanding at that point. Expedition into Louisiana, September 1 and 8. Moved to Vicksburg, October 12; on duty there until July, 1861. Yazoo Expedition, February 1 to March 8. Liverpool Heights, February 5. Yazoo City, March 5. Black River Bridge, until April 26. Expedition to Yazoo City, May 1 to 21 Benton, Miss., May 7, Vaughan May 12; Yazoo City May 13; Vaughan Station, May 14. Duty at Vicksburg, as Assistant Provost Marshal, June and July. Expedition to Jackson, Miss., July 1 to 7. Clinton July 1; Jackson, July 5 and 6; Clinton, July 7. Mustered out, July 31, 1864, expiration of term." These facts, taken from the Adjutant-General's Report, show conclusively that the war record of Capt. Andrus is a good one.

After his return to the city of Rockford, Capt. Andrus embarked in business enterprises and has been fairly successful. He has a pleasant, cheerful disposition, is sociable and agreeable and his friends are legion. He has been an active worker in the G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., which he organized and of which he was the first Commander. The name it bears was suggested by Mr. Andrus, who gave it that title in honor of the first Captain of Company D, who subsequently became Colonel of the Eleventh Regiment and was killed in the battle of Vicksburg.

Mr. Andrus is a Thirty-second degree Mason, being a member of the Oriental Consistory of Chicago. He was a charter member of the Crusader Commandery No. 17, of Rockford, and was the Commander under a second dispensation, also filled the same position after the lodge was chartered. He has filled several of the offices of the Chapter and Blue Lodges, the former, Winnebago Chapter No. 24, and the latter, Star of the East No. 166. In politics he is a strong Republican.

Our subject was married in Chicago, Ill., to Miss Isabella Westfall, a native of Brooklyn, N. Y., who was reared and educated at Sag Harbor. Her death occurred at the family residence in Rockford, in 1873, when in the prime of life. She was an intelligent, accomplished lady, and a devout member of the Presbyterian Church. They were the parents of two children, both of whom died young.

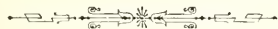


ALEXANDER SMITH. The farming community of Harlem Township, Winnebago County, recognizes a worthy representative in the subject of this notice, who pursues the even tenor of his way on a magnificent tract of three hundred and twenty acres on section 35. He exercises considerable influence in the community, and is looked upon as one of its most reliable men. His industrious, frugal and temperate habits have gained him a competence which will enable him to pass his declining years in peace and comfort.

A number of the best residents in Harlem Township have been born in Argyleshire, Scotland, which is also the birthplace of our subject, his natal day being June 21, 1832. His parents were Daniel and Mary (Montgomery) Smith, whose sketch will be found in the biography of Robert Smith, on another page of this book. Our subject was a lad of ten years when making the trip to America with his parents, and remembers well the ocean voyage and the pioneer life in this country. After the death of his father, he carried on farming in company with his brothers, and in 1852, when a division of the property was made, they

owned nearly six hundred acres. Daniel and our subject settled on the farm where Mr. Smith resides at the present time, and continued to work together until 1858, when the latter purchased his brother's interest in the old homestead, and began its cultivation. He has been very successful in all his undertakings, and is now one of the largest land-owners in the county, his farm being well improved and stocked with the best grades of horses, cattle, etc.

In 1858, our subject was married to Ann Smith, also a native of Kintyre, Scotland, and the daughter of James and Martha (Johnson) Smith. To them have been born six children: Barbara J., Hugh J., Mary A., and three deceased. The family are all members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church and have many friends in their wide circle of acquaintances.



ISRAEL SOVEREIGN. Among the men who cast their fortunes in Winnebago County, Ill., in 1840, and whose memory is respected by the people of this region is John Sovereign, the father of our subject. He was born in New Jersey, on the 28th of February, 1797, and was of German descent, although his parents were natives of New Jersey. He was four years of age when his parents moved to Ontario, Canada, and there he grew up to farm life, and was married to Miss M. Mabce. She was born in Canada, of Canadian parentage, and was probably of English descent. After marriage, John Sovereign and wife moved to Malihide Township, and there the latter died, in 1839, when just thirty-nine years of age. She left ten children, nearly all of whom grew to mature years. Two are now in California, one in Missouri and two in this State.

After the death of his wife, in 1839, John Sovereign came with teams and wagons and brought his family to Winnebago County, and November 10 of that year settled in Guilford Township. Being left with a large family, Mr. Sovereign took for his second wife Mrs. Mary Mason, a native of Illinois, and their marriage occurred in Boone County. She had a number of children by her

first marriage, and died in this county when quite aged. Mr. Sovereign and both wives were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he was a local minister in Winnebago County, being known far and wide as a good, earnest Christian. He passed most of his life in that county, but died in California while on a visit to his son George, August 20, 1870. He was then seventy-two years of age. He was one of the leading pioneers of Guilford Township, and one of its best citizens. Active in benevolent and charitable enterprises, strong in his friendship, and brave in his defense of the right, few men were better respected than John Sovereign.

Israel Sovereign, our subject, was born in the Province of Ontario, Canada, November 6, 1827, and finished his growth in Guilford Township, this county. In 1857, he came to Rockford, and became connected with the hardware business, which he followed until 1883, being one of the leading hardware dealers on the West Side. He yet owns a business block on South Main Street. Mr. Sovereign was one of the promoters of the Rockford Watch Company, is a stockholder in the same, and was one of the committee to investigate the watch-making business. Since its organization, he has been a Director, and has represented the watch company on the road for five years. He is a live business man, and has met with wonderful success for his house in the Northwestern States and parts of Canada, being very popular in his business, and justly merits the large measure of success achieved by his skill and industry. He is sociable and genial, a very pleasant conversationalist, strictly temperate in his habits, and, although sixty-four years of age, is free from ills and pains, and is as active as most men of forty. Our subject was married in this county to Miss Laura Judd, who came from Ohio to this State in early girlhood. Her parents, Jason and Rebecca (Shaw) Judd, settled on a farm in Durand Township, and there passed the remainder of their days. They were natives of Vermont and Massachusetts, respectively, and were representative people of their community. Mr. and Mrs. Sovereign have three children: C. Eugene, a prominent business man of Rockford, who first married a Miss Doyle, and after

her death married Miss Elsie Irvine; Fred J., proprietor of the City Ice Company, married Luella Rhoades; and Alice M., at home. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Sovereign is a Republican in politics.



JOHN ERLANDER is now living a retired life after many years devoted to active business in Rockford, where he has made his home since 1851. He is one of the worthy citizens that Sweden has furnished to this community. His birth occurred in that country, April 7, 1826, and he is a son of John and Steine (Pearson) Johnson, who spent their entire lives in their native land. The father died at the age of eighty-two years, his wife at the age of seventy-nine, and her mother reached the advanced age of ninety-four. They were life-long members of the Lutheran Church.

In 1851, our subject, his brother Peter, and sister Katie bade good-bye to their old home, and sailed from Gottenburg to New York City, reaching their destination after a voyage of seven weeks. They came on at once to Rockford, and all are yet living in this city. Mr. Erlander was married, in 1855, to Miss Christine Peterson, a native of Sweden, who came to Rockford the year previous, and died in 1857, at the age of twenty years, leaving one son, William, who departed this life at the age of fifteen. Our subject was again married, in 1857, this union being with a sister of his first wife, Lucas Peterson, who was born in Sweden, July 9, 1833, and is a daughter of Peter and Katie (Orvid) Johnson, who were also natives of that country, and who came to Rockford in 1854. They both died of cholera during the first week after locating in this city, at the ages of forty-eight and fifty-two years, respectively. They were members of the Lutheran Church.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Erlander have been born seven children: Frank, who died in childhood; Alfred is living in Chicago; Frank C., a watch-maker of Rockford; Peter E., who carries on a confectionery establishment in Chicago; Hannah C., a dressmaker of this city; Mary O., a milliner; and

John J. The children all received good educational advantages, and are doing well in life. They and the parents are all members of the First Lutheran Church. They have a pleasant home at No. 402 South Third Street, supplied with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, and in social circles they rank high.

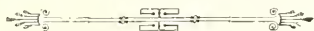
Mr. Erlander came to this city a poor man, with no capital except a knowledge of the tailor's trade. After working for some time for S. P. Franklin and John Frella as a journeyman, he opened a little shop of his own, and in the spring of 1861, went into the tailoring business with S. A. Johnson, the partnership continuing uninterrupted until 1885. In the meantime, they enlarged their business and carried a complete and extensive stock of ready-made clothing and gents' furnishing goods. From the beginning, their trade constantly increased, and it proved to Mr. Erlander a successful enterprise. In company with a few others, he became the founder of the Rockford Union Furniture Company in March, 1876, which has become one of the leading enterprises of the city. He was its first President, holding the office for three years, and was one of its Directors as long as he continued his connection with the company. He aided in establishing the Excelsior Furniture Company in 1880, became a member of the Board of Directors, and at one time the burden of the whole business rested almost entirely upon him. This was during the critical period of its existence, but he tided it safely over its threatened failure, and has made it one of the important industries of the city. He has been one of its Directors and its President for some years.

Mr. Erlander is a stockholder and Director in the Central Furniture Company; a stockholder in the Manufacturers' Bank; a stockholder and Director in the Rockford Brick Company; and was one of the chief organizers of the Swedish Mutual Fire Insurance Company, established in 1873. He became President of the company after its organization, and still holds that office. The important part he has borne in these enterprises has aided materially in the upbuilding of the city, the prosperity of his fellow-townsmen, and his own success. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican, and has



William C. Prout

been Supervisor of the Second Ward for nine years. He was one of the first members of the First Swedish Lutheran Church and Sunday-school, in which he has always been very much interested, has given liberally to its support, and taken an active part in its work. Whatever tends to benefit the community is sure to receive his hearty co-operation, and his aid is never withheld from any enterprise. He is an honored and valued citizen, respected by all, and it is with pleasure that we present this sketch to our readers.



WILLIAM C. PROUTY, deceased, was born in Brattleboro, Vt., in 1810, a descendant of an old and prominent New England family. He was educated in the High School of his native town and entered upon his business career in New York City, where he carried on trade in Chatham Square, then a prominent business quarter of the metropolis.

Returning to his native town, Mr. Prouty was joined in wedlock with Miss Adeline A. Wheelock, who was born in Wardsboro, Vt., in 1812. She was graduated from the Brattleboro Academy and engaged in teaching for a short time before her marriage. Her father, Judge Henry Wheelock, was also a native of Vermont and was a son of Asa Wheelock, a native of Massachusetts and a prominent citizen of Windham County, Vt., where he resided for many years. His son Henry was Judge of that county for some years and afterward came to Illinois, bringing with him a stock of goods. He established a store in Byron, and was thus engaged for some time, becoming a prominent citizen of Ogle County. In politics, he was first a Whig and afterward a Republican, and held membership in the Congregational Church. In the Green Mountain State, he was married to Adelpia Converse, who was born in Massachusetts, but spent the greater part of her girlhood in Windham County, Vt. She proved to her husband a true helpmate until her death, which occurred in Rockford at an advanced age. Judge Wheelock later died at the age of eighty-two, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lewis, of this city. A brother, Fred,

is now living on the old homestead in Byron, Ill.; Erastus resides with Mrs. Prouty, and Mrs. Charles Lewis makes her home in Rockford.

Mr. Prouty first came to Illinois in 1811 and did business for some time in Byron, Ogle County, with his father-in-law, Judge Wheelock. He afterward established a general merchandise store in Pecatonica and subsequently came to Rockford. He was one of the leading men in this county for years and was well and widely known in business circles. He came to Rockford in the spring of 1875, and here engaged in the boot and shoe business until his death, when he was succeeded by his son Henry, who died just seven years later. Fred Prouty, another son of our subject, then became proprietor of the store and still carries on business at No. 126 State Street.

Our subject ever took a prominent part in political affairs and was a co-worker and a great friend of Horace Greeley. He was one of the leaders in the W. H. Harrison campaign and his widow now has in her possession a letter written at that time, which reads as follows:

Williamsburg, November 17, 1840.

SIR:

You are requested to attend a regular meeting of the Williamsburg Tippecanoe Association on Tuesday evening, November 17, at seven o'clock, at the log cabin.

By order of

TEMPLE FAY, President,

WILLIAM C. PROUTY, Secretary.

Our subject was well fitted to be a leader of the people, and wherever he went occupied that position. He was straightforward and upright in all things, an honored and worthy man who was held in high regard by all who knew him. He died at his home in Rockford, September 8, 1878, at the age of sixty-eight years, and many friends mourned his loss. As pioneer, friend and neighbor, he won the esteem of all, and his portrait, which is presented on another page, will be regarded as a valuable addition to this work.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Prouty were born five children but two sons, both bearing the name of William H., died in the Empire State. Henry died at his home in this city when thirty-six years of age. The living are Adelaide A., wife of Dr. T. M.

Butler, a resident of Detroit; and Fred C., who married Sadie Kemp, of Chicago, and is now carrying on the shoe business established by his father. Mrs. Pronty is a most estimable lady, warm-hearted and true, and possessing many noble qualities and excellencies of character which endear her to all.



SAMPSON GRETTON, JR. The following is a brief sketch of the career of Mr. Gretton, a man whose present substantial position in life has been reached entirely through his own perseverance; and the facts connected with his agricultural operations and their results only show what a person with courage and enlightened views can accomplish. The subject of this sketch first saw the light of day in New York State, his birth occurring in Monroe County, near the town of Brockport, September 19, 1813.

The father of our subject, Sampson Gretton, Sr., was born in Staffordshire, England, and was married to Miss Mary Berry, who was also a native of England, born in Lancashire. They came to America at an early date, settled in New York State, where they were married, and there made their home until the spring of 1819, when they came to Illinois. They located on the farm now owned by our subject and bought the land of a brother, who had taken it from the Government. Here they passed the remainder of their days engaged in tilling the soil, and were much esteemed in the community. The father died when about seventy-eight years of age, and the mother at the age of seventy-six. They were the parents of three children, but lost two in infancy, our subject being the only one now living. They made many improvements on their fine farm, and lived to see the wilderness blossom like the rose.

Sampson Gretton, Jr., has been a resident of the old home-place for many years, and the improvements begun by his parents he has completed and made perfect. He still lives in the house first erected by his parents, is the owner of one hundred and forty-two acres of land and is prosperous and contented. On the 23d of November, 1869,

our subject was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Lawman, a native of Lincolnshire, England, born December 30, 1818, and the daughter of John and Rebecca (Fillingham) Lawman, also natives of that country. In the year 1851, her parents came to the United States and settled in Spring Township, Boone County, Ill., where they still reside. They are classed among the best citizens of the county, and are active in all movements that have for their object the improvement and development of the county and township.

Three children have blessed our subject's union: Alice M., born on the 22d of May, 1871; Wallace, May 3, 1875, and Charles H., born on the 22d of January, 1890, all natives of this township and county. At an early age, our subject became familiar with the duties of the farm, and agricultural pursuits have been his principal occupation since. He is thorough and enterprising, and everything about his well-kept farm indicates that he is one of the prosperous and substantial men of the county. His excellent wife is a noted housekeeper, and is a lady of culture and intelligence. Her paternal grandparents were William and Amelia Lawman and her maternal grandparents, William and Sarah (Thursby) Fillingham, natives of Nottinghamshire, England. The great-grandfather, John Thursby, was also a native of Nottinghamshire, England. Like his father, our subject is a decided Republican in his political views, and is a strong advocate of the principles of that party.



OMRI J. CUMMINGS, who carries on general farming on section 17, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, claims Ohio as the State of his nativity. He was born in Thompson, Geauga County, December 28, 1832. His grandfather, John Cummings, was an agriculturist, and spent his entire life in West Swanzy, N. H. He wedded Mary Hawk. Their son, Nehemiah Cummings, was born in West Swanzy, there acquired a common-school education, and, when a young man, started for the Far West. He became a pioneer of Geauga County, Ohio, and purchased a tract of heavily timbered land in Thompson Town-

ship, upon which he built a log cabin. There the family lived in true frontier style, and, while the father worked in the fields, the mother spun and wove the cloth used in making her children's garments. It was in 1844 that they left that home, and with their four children started with a team to Winnebago County, where they arrived seventeen days later. Mr. Cummings purchased land in Guilford Township, a tract of wild prairie land, and again the family experienced the hardships and privations of pioneer life. He there made his home until his death, in January, 1866. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Rebecca Coltam, was a native of Lincolnshire, England, and a daughter of Vincent Coltam.

Mr. Cummings, of this sketch, has long been a resident of Winnebago County, whither he came with his father when a lad of twelve years. He aided in the farm work, and remained at home until 1853, when he spent one year in Ohio. In 1854, he went to Iowa, but after a few months returned to this State, and in 1856 again went to Iowa, entering a tract of Government land in Floyd Township, but did not make a permanent location there. He afterwards exchanged that farm for his present home, upon which he has resided since his marriage.

On the 28th of October, 1858, Mr. Cummings wedded Anna Butler, a native of Franklin Township, Lycoming County, Pa. Her father was born in the North of Ireland, and was a son of John and Elizabeth (Bradley) Butler, who were natives of the Emerald Isle, and of Scotch descent. With his parents, he came to America when five years of age, and was reared and married in Pennsylvania, wedding Hannah Farr, a native of the Keystone State, as were her parents, William and Anna (Smith) Farr. They were of English lineage, and both the paternal and maternal grandfathers, William Farr and George Smith, were Revolutionary soldiers. Mr. Butler served in the War of 1812, and in 1851 came to Illinois, locating in Rockford Township, Winnebago County. He bought a farm upon which he resided until his death, four years later.

Four children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Cummings: Lillian, now the wife of Charles

Fitts; Mary E., wife of Edwin Gorham; Abigail, wife of Elmer Knoud, and Butler N., who married Ella Eliott. The parents attend the Christian Union Church, of Rockford, and are worthy Christian people, possessed of many excellencies of character. In politics, Mr. Cummings is a Republican, and, socially, is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. During the late war, he manifested his loyalty to the Union by enlisting, July 28, 1862, as a member of Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. He served until the 1st of January following, when, on account of disability, he received his discharge. For two or three years he was unable to work, after which he resumed farming, and has since followed that occupation with signal success.



PETER M. NELSON, a contractor and builder of masonry and brick work, who has made his home in Rockford since 1871, is another of the worthy citizens that Sweden has furnished to Winnebago County. He was born in England, on the 12th of January, 1852, and was reared and educated in his native country. His father, Nels Peter Danielson, died in Sweden when forty-two years of age. His wife is yet living and is about sixty-seven years of age. Her maiden name was Chesta Hawkinson, and she has been a life-long member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, to which her husband also belonged. Three brothers, Alfred, John A. and Gust, have joined our subject in this country and now live in Rockford. Alfred wedded Christina Begeholt, of Sweden; John A. married Emma Danielson, of the same country; and Gust was joined in wedlock with Anna Johnson.

Our subject was the first of his family to leave his native land and seek a home in the New World. He crossed the Atlantic from Sweden to Baltimore, and went Westward, landing in Chicago on the 12th of May, 1872. For two years he resided in that city and there learned his trade as a mason and brick layer. In 1874, as before stated, we find him a resident of Rockford, where he has since been engaged in business. He

has met with signal success in his undertakings and has worked his way upward from an humble position to one of affluence. He is now enjoying a liberal patronage, and has helped build some two hundred and forty-seven of the good homes and public buildings of the city, and is the owner of some valuable property, including a brick and stone block at No. 195 Seventh Street, together with his residence at No. 107 Sixth Street.

In this city Mr. Nelson led to the marriage altar Miss Selma Harding, who was born in Sweden in 1863, and came to the United States when a child of only three years with her parents, who took up their residence in Rockford and have since made their home in this city. The death of Mrs. Nelson occurred on the 26th of June, 1891. She left three children to mourn her loss: Herbert A., Elmer L. and Verna A.

Mr. Nelson holds membership with the Lutheran Church, as did also his wife. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles but has never sought or desired political preferment for himself, as his time and attention have been wholly taken up with his business, in which he has met with signal success. He is public-spirited and progressive, manifesting a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the city, and is regarded by his fellow-townsmen as a man of sterling worth. He ranks high in business circles and is well known throughout this community, where he has made his home for eighteen consecutive years.



CHARLES T. SPACKMAN, one of the prominent citizens of Belvidere, claims Illinois as the State of his nativity. He was born December 28, 1812, and is a son of William Spackman. The grandfather, George Spackman, was a native of England, and became a Baptist preacher. He came to America in 1826, and, after a year spent in New York, removed to Canada, locating four miles from St. Thomas, at what is now known as the Five Stakes. He erected a commodious house and opened a tavern. He also engaged in farming, and on Sunday filled a neighboring pul-

pit. At Five Stakes he resided until his death, which occurred at the advanced age of one hundred and three years, while his wife reached the age of ninety-seven. They had a family of six sons and five daughters.

William Spackman was a lad of twelve years when he came to America with his parents. He remained on the old home farm until 1837, when he emigrated to Illinois and cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers of Ogle County. He was a carpenter by trade and erected the first building which could properly be called a store in Rockford. He was a member of the vigilance committee which was organized for protection against horse thieves and banditti of the prairie and is said to be one of the eleven men who shot the Drimalls. He was one of those arrested and held for trial, but the vigilantes visited the judge in large numbers and secured their release. Mr. Spackman secured a tract of land in Marion Township, a short distance from Byron, and there resided until 1852, when he came to Boone County, and purchased the Blood farm in Spring Township, engaging in agricultural pursuits at that place until 1861, when he enlisted in Company F, Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry, and participated in the battles of Ft. Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg and many others. He was afterwards taken sick, transferred to the invalid corps, and went to Washington with Col. Boyd. Although using his crutch, he went out from there and fought Early's troops in Virginia. He served three years and three months, after which he was honorably discharged and returned home. He continued to reside in this county until 1872, when he went to Arkansas, and bought a plantation at Grand Lake, engaging in agricultural pursuits until his death, in 1886. He wedded Mary Smith, daughter of John Smith, one of the pioneers of Michigan. She now resides with her children in Arizona. The family number the following children: Charles T., Mary A., Phila, Emma, Mattie and William.

The early educational advantages which our subject received were those afforded by the common schools. He afterwards attended school in Belvidere, and in 1866 and 1867 was a student in the State University at Ann Arbor, Mich. On his



G. W. REEVES.

return home he resumed farming, which he followed until 1871, when he began the study of law with O. H. Wright. He studied one year and then again engaged in farming until 1876. Having been admitted to the Bar, he commenced practice in that year and is now numbered among the prominent attorneys of Belvidere.

In 1872, Mr. Spackman wedded Miss Eliza Roach, who was born near Marietta, Ohio, and is a daughter of John and Sarah Roach. They have ten children and the family circle yet remains unbroken. In order of birth they are as follows: Charles, Mattie, Emma, Bessie, Frank, William, Vina, Daisy, Grace and John.

In politics, Mr. Spackman is an ardent Republican and has frequently served as delegate to the county, district and State conventions. He was a charter member of T. G. Lawler Camp, of which he is now Captain, was one of the organizers of Boone Camp No. 52, M. W. A., is a member of the Royal Arcanum, Knights of Pythias, and of Belvidere Lodge No. 543, National Union. His wife is State President of the L. A. S. of S. of V. of Illinois. Mr. Spackman was elected Police Magistrate in 1885 and served continuously until 1890, when he was elected Justice of the Peace and now holds that office. He is an able lawyer and his merit has won him high rank at the Bar of Boone County.

GEORGE W. REEVES, deceased, is numbered among the early settlers of Rockford, and for many years was one of its leading citizens. He was born in Gloucestershire, England, October 15, 1800, and was descended from an old English family which had resided in that country since the days of William the Conqueror. His parents lived and died in Gloucestershire, where they were highly respected residents and prominent Episcopalians.

Under the parental roof our subject was reared to manhood and in his native county learned the trade of a carriage-maker which he followed for twenty years in England, becoming an efficient and skilled mechanic, and throughout his life the char-

acter of his work justified the complimentary words passed upon it. Ere leaving his native land, he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Reeves, who was born and reared in Gloucestershire, but, though of the same name, was not of the same family as her husband. After the birth of three children, they left their old home and took passage upon a sailing-vessel at Liverpool, in the summer of 1851. At length they landed at New York City, whence they came directly to Rockford.

Two of the children have since died. Mary A., the eldest, became the wife of George Reeves, now a resident of California, and died leaving two children: Charles E., who married Miss Cora Moore and now resides in Pomona, Cal.; and Clara A., wife of D. N. Burrett, also of Pomona. Another child, Frank E., is deceased. George C., the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Reeves, died in middle life. He married Myra B. Weldon, who is also deceased. They were the parents of one daughter, Daisy C., now a student in the Normal of Los Angeles, Cal. Fannie M., the only surviving child of Mr. and Mrs. Reeves, is the widow of Rev. John H. Reeves, who died in 1885. He was a Methodist clergyman, belonging to the Rock River Conference, and his consistent Christian life endeared him to all his acquaintances. His widow now resides with her mother and is a most estimable Christian lady whose life is devoted to the work of the Master. She is especially interested in missions and is the Corresponding Secretary of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society in the Methodist Church of the Rockford district.

On coming to Rockford, our subject established a blacksmith and wagon and carriage making shop, and for some years the firm of Reeves & Co., his son-in-law. George Reeves, being his partner, did an extensive and successful business, located on West State Street. Their constantly increasing trade caused them to give employment to a number of men, and in the pursuit of business Mr. Reeves acquired a good competence, which enabled him to spend his last years in retirement. Soon after coming to Rockford, he purchased the lot on which he built his home and there resided until his death, which occurred October 22, 1887. He had been a resident of Rockford for more than thirty-

six years, during which time he had proved his worth as a citizen, a straightforward business man and honorable gentleman. His lineaments are perpetuated for coming generations by his portrait on another page.

Mrs. Reeves still survives her husband and resides at their old home. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and her earnest Christian life is worthy of emulation. On March 27, 1892, she was seventy-nine years of age, but her years rest lightly upon her and her hair is hardly streaked with silver.



LYMAN TAYLOR, who resides on section 28, Harlem Township, is numbered among the early settlers of Winnebago County. of 1840, and during the half-century which has since passed has been prominently identified with its upbuilding and advancement. He was born in Middlefield, Hampshire County, Mass., October 21, 1821. Tradition says that William Taylor, his grandfather, was born in Scotland and came to America as a soldier during the Revolutionary War. He settled on a farm in the town of Middlefield, where he spent the remainder of his days. His wife bore the maiden name of Priscilla Loveland.

Asa Taylor, the father of our subject, was also a native of the Bay State, born August 26, 1797. He was reared upon a farm and followed that occupation in the town of Middlefield until about 1810, when he emigrated Westward and settled in Harlem Township, Winnebago County, Ill., where his remaining years were passed; he departed this life in 1847. His wife, Lovisa Taylor, was born in Washington, Berkshire County, Mass., November 19, 1799, and was a daughter of Amos and Lonisa (Bills) Haskin, who are mentioned in the sketch of Charles Haskin on another page of this work. Mrs. Taylor died February 7, 1881. Both parents were members of the Methodist Church. Their family numbered five children: Lyman, Harriet, Henry P., Mary and Josephine.

The subject of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native State, there resid-

ing until October, 1840, when he came with his father to Illinois, making the journey by team to Albany, thence by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and on by the Lakes to Chicago, where he again procured a team and proceeded to Winnebago County. The journey consumed nearly a month. During the same autumn, Mr. Taylor purchased a tract of land on section 29, Harlem Township. About twenty acres had been broken but there was not a building there or any other improvements. Mr. Taylor built a small frame house, doing most of the carpenter work himself; this was one of the first frame houses in the place. He then began life in earnest, and although he came to the county empty-handed, by his industrious efforts he gained a comfortable competence. He had to bear all the hardships and trials of pioneer life, but he overcame these and steadily worked his way upward.

In 1844, our subject married Elizabeth Bowman, who was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, April 27, 1824, and is a daughter of James and Ann (Steven) Bowman, both of whom were natives of Scotland. They came to America in 1836, accompanied by six of their seven children, and after a voyage of seven weeks landed at Quebec, whence they went to Huron County, Ohio, where the death of Mr. Bowman occurred in the fall of the same year. His widow continued to make her home in that locality until 1842, when she came by way of the Lakes to Illinois. She found Rockford to be a mere hamlet and the surrounding country but sparsely settled. In this county she made her home until her death. The Bowman family numbered seven children: Alexander, George, Ann, John, Elizabeth, Mary and James. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have been born five children: Andrew, Oliver, Louisa A., James, and one who died in infancy.

The parents are both members of the Harlem Methodist Church, and in this community where they have so long made their home have a wide acquaintance and many friends. In politics, Mr. Taylor is a Republican, having supported that party since its organization. He sold his first farm in 1872 and purchased that upon which he now resides on section 28, Harlem Township. He has

erected a good set of farm buildings and made other improvements of both a useful and ornamental character. His fields are well tilled and the neat appearance of the place indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner. Mr. Taylor is a leading farmer, a valued citizen and an honored pioneer, who well deserves representation in this volume.

PHILIP W. MARSH, one of the prominent residents of Rockford, was born in New Milford, Litchfield County, Conn., December 22, 1815. His father, Bradley Marsh, was also a native of that place, as was his father, Samuel Marsh. The latter-named gentleman was of English ancestry and a farmer by occupation, spending his entire life in New Milford.

Bradley Marsh was reared on the home farm, where he followed agricultural pursuits. His daughter, Betsey A., who married Moody J. Howes, now owns and occupies the old place. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Sally Wells; she was also born in New Milford, Conn., and was a daughter of Philip and Elizabeth Wells. The parental family of our subject included five children: Eliza L., Orin B., Betsey A., Philip and Sophia.

Our subject went to school in his native town and resided with his parents until reaching his sixteenth year, when he made his home with his sister Eliza at New Haven. He there learned the trade of a joiner but followed that occupation but a short time. He assisted in making the survey for the Housatonic Valley Railroad and after the road was completed from Bridgeport to New Canaan, our subject acted as conductor on the road for four months.

In 1845, Mr. Marsh came to Illinois via the railroad to Albany, then by way of the canal to Buffalo, where he embarked on the steamer which conveyed him to Chicago. He there met a farmer, who was in the city to dispose of his grain, and bargained with him to take him to Kishwaukee, a village located at the mouth of the Kishwaukee Creek in Winnebago County. At that time, this

section of the country was very sparsely settled, deer, bears and other wild animals roaming at will over the country, and most of the land was in the possession of the Government. Mr. Marsh started in the mercantile business at Kishwaukee, and after remaining there a twelvemonth disposed of his store and removed to New Milford, Conn. In 1851, he returned to Winnebago County and for two months was engaged as clerk in a general store. At the expiration of that time, he purchased a farm in what is now New Milford Township, and at the organization of the same, our subject, in company with Horace Miller and a Mr. Moore, was appointed a committee to select a name for the township, and it was thus named New Milford in honor of the old home of Mr. Marsh.

The original of this sketch continued to cultivate the soil until 1883, at which time he traded his farm for property on Charles Street, Rockford, which he has lately platted into city lots. He was married, December 22, 1845, to Nancy E. Miller, who was born in Livingston County, N. Y., and who was the daughter of the Hon. Horace and Hannah (Clark) Miller. To Mr. and Mrs. Marsh have been born three children, namely: Philip, Arthur A. Clarence and Frank M. Mrs. Marsh is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in his political views, our subject, in early life a Whig, casting his first vote for Gen. Harrison in 1840, now votes the straight Republican ticket. He has been the recipient of various township offices within the gift of the people, the duties of which he has performed in a most satisfactory and creditable manner.

SIDNEY LUFKIN, whose life has been an active one, and who has by his own industry and intelligent management secured a substantial footing among the citizens of this community, was born in North Yarmouth, Me., in 1821. His parents, Jacob B. and Elizabeth (Ludden) Lufkin, were natives of Cape Ann, Mass., and Maine, respectively, the father born in

May, 1778. They were the parents of eleven children, two of whom died young, and of the nine who grew to adult years our subject was the youngest.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Nathaniel Lufkin, was born in Cumberland, Me., September 4, 1791, and the maternal great-grandfather, Nathaniel Ludden, was a Revolutionary soldier. He was one of the minute men before the war and was among those who threw the tea into the Atlantic Ocean. He was very powerfully built, weighed two hundred pounds, and was six feet two inches in height. He died at his son's home in Maine when eighty-three years of age, his death having occurred in Pownal.

Our subject was reared to farm life and continued to cultivate the soil on his father's farm until seventeen years of age, when he went to sea on a merchantman from Portland and Boston, first on the bark "Ontario," going to the West Indies under Capt. Hambieton, and next on the "Henry Leeds," with Capt. Humphrey, to Havana, Cuba. He was on the ocean five years, and from before the mast at \$16 per month, he was finally made second mate with a salary of \$25 per month. He had a good common-school education and had kept his wages from the time he was seventeen years of age. He was married in Beloit, when twenty-eight years of age, to Miss Mary A. Banlet, of England, daughter of Joseph and Alice Banlet.

Mr. Lufkin came West in the year 1844, coming from New Orleans on the Mississippi River, and he soon after settled in Manchester Township on a quarter-section, with his brother, David T., occupying an adjoining farm. They built a saw-mill soon after and conducted this until 1849 or 1850, when our subject was taken with the gold fever and went to California. During the ten years he remained in that State, he made a great deal but also lost heavily, so that when he returned he brought back little more than he started out with, save experience. During the Indian outbreak in 1851-55 in California, our subject raised a company of sixty men and was engaged for about three months subjugating the redskins.

Our subject's union was blessed by the birth of the following children: George W. is married and

has four children; Elmer E., a farmer of Wyoming, is married; Alice May, now Mrs. Duncan McLean, her husband a farmer on the old homestead; Jesse W. is a carpenter in California; Edward A. is married and resides in Beloit, Wis.; and William W. is a teacher in Wyoming. The mother of these children passed away on the 2d of March, 1887, when sixty years of age.

Mr. Lufkin formerly owned three hundred and ninety acres of land, but he recently sold one hundred and seventy acres. He is very successful in all his farming operations and, in connection with this, also engages in stock-raising to some extent. He raises cattle, horses, hogs and a good grade of sheep, and everything about his place indicates a thrifty and progressive owner. Socially, he is a Master Mason, but in religion is a freethinker and a member of no church. He has been School Trustee and a member of the Committee on Highways. In 1860, our subject was a Douglas Democrat and a strong adherent and supporter of Peter Cooper, and still adheres to those principles.



GEORGE G. WHEELER. This gentleman owns and occupies a valuable estate in Flora Township, Boone County, and is numbered among the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of his community. He was born August 19, 1832, in Portland, Chautauqua County, N. Y., and is the son of Lyman Wheeler, who was born in Westmoreland, N. H., in which State Aaron Wheeler, the grandfather of our subject, died.

Lyman Wheeler removed to New York State when a young man, and was married in Hoosie, soon after which event he went to Chautauqua County, and located in Portland Township, where he was engaged in cultivating the soil until 1842. Mr. Wheeler then became a resident of Cattaraugus County, and later came to Illinois in company with his wife, four children and his brother Adam and family. The brothers each possessed a team of horses and wagon, in which they made the journey West, and in Michigan traded the horses for two yoke of oxen and bought a third pair.

On locating in this State, Mr. Wheeler went to Roseoe, Winnebago County, and there operated a sawmill and farm for one year and at the end of that time came to Belvidere. He resided in the village for one and one-half years, then, entering a tract of land in Spring Township, erected a frame house and at once commenced the work of improving his purchase. He resided there for seven years, when he moved to the place which our subject now occupies and where his death occurred, November 29, 1872.

Sabra Wright, our subject's mother, was the daughter of Phineas and Asenath (Burnham) Wright and was born in Chester, Vt. She reared a family of four children and departed this life on the 31st of May, 1887. The sisters of our subject were Sarah, who died April 17, 1891; Susan S. and Calista A. He of whom we write was the only son of his parents and was nine years of age when he accompanied them on their removal to Illinois. He attended the pioneer schools of Belvidere, which were conducted on the subscription plan. He commenced when very young to assist his father in carrying on the farm and resided at home until the decease of his parents.

In 1862, Mr. Wheeler and Miss Helen M. Foster, who was born in Warsaw, Wyoming County, N. Y., were united in marriage. She was the daughter of Silas and Fannie (Smith) Foster, her father dying in 1846, in New York, which was his native State. The grandfather of Mrs. Wheeler, Luther Foster, was born in Southampton, L. I., in 1770, and, removing from there to Montague, N. J., resided for a time, and in 1823 became a resident of Warsaw, N. Y., where his decease occurred. The maiden name of his wife was Ruth Hedges. She was also a native of Southampton, who departed this life in 1860, at the advanced age of ninety-four years.

Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler have three children living: Arthur F., Charles O. and Hettie Grace. George B. died in infancy and Robie B. when thirteen years of age. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Phineas Wright, was born in Hinsdale, N. H., January 1, 1779, and in early life moved to Chester, Vt., and from there to Hoosier, Rensselaer County, N. Y., where he was engaged in the manufacture of slate roofing. He later removed to a

farm in Sand Lake, where he died when ninety-one years old. He had been twice married, and was the father of twenty-six children, all of whom were living, with the exception of three, at the time of his death.



GIDEON HOLLEM, of the firm of Hollem Bros., grocery men, whose business quarters are located at No. 501 East State Street, with a branch store at the corner of Seventh Street and Fourteenth Avenue, is an energetic business man and abundantly worthy of the large measure of success achieved. This business was first started under the firm name of Hollem Bros. & Co., but later, in 1888, it became known as Hollem Bros., and this has since continued to be its title. The individual members of this firm are Albert and Gideon Hollem, and a younger brother, Elmer, manages the Fourteenth Avenue store, which was started in 1892. He is a bright, capable young fellow and full of push and energy. Hollem Bros. have been at their present location since 1883. They have by their fair and honest dealing built up an extensive trade. They carry on their affairs on the soundest business principles, and their record lends to these pages and Rockford credit and standing.

When eighteen years of age, Gideon Hollem began clerking for the Globe Tea Company, and four years later became a partner. He was born in Rockford, on the 1st of August, 1860, and he was carefully reared by good parents, and educated in the city schools. He was the third in order of birth of five children, three sons and two daughters, born to his parents, Andrew and Gustava Hollem. (For further particulars of parents see sketch of Albert Hollem.)

Gideon Hollem was married, in Rockford, to Miss Lizzie Flannery, who was born, reared and educated in this city, and who is of Irish parentage. Her father, Martin Flannery, died in Rockford when but little past middle age, and left his widow with a comfortable competence. The latter is now residing at No. 502 South Fourth Street, and is well along in years.

Mr. and Mrs. Hollem have a pleasant and comfortable home at No. 109 Longwood Street and this is further brightened by their little son Edward. They are classed among the best citizens of the city, and are interested in all movements that have for their object the development and prosperity of their native town.



RED L. MILLER, a prosperous and enterprising young farmer, residing on section 18, Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, is the only son of John and Lucy A. (Merithew) Miller. His father was a native of New Jersey and was of German descent. When a young man he removed with his parents to Mt. Morris, Livingston County, N. Y. In the family were four sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to mature years. One daughter, Catherine, who married Samuel Crowley, died in Tuscarora, N. Y., in 1881, aged sixty-four years.

John Miller died where his son now resides, October 9, 1886, and was sixty-four years of age. In Livingston County, February 16, 1850, he married, and then removed West to Janesville, Wis. Two years later he came to Illinois, locating upon a farm now occupied by our subject. He purchased one hundred and five acres of land from the Government, and in connection with farming followed his trade of carpentering. He worked very hard and his arduous labors at length brought him a competency. He started with nothing, but at his death left to his son four hundred acres of valuable land, all in one body, besides other property. He and his wife were both members of the Methodist Church of New Milford and did all in their power for its upbuilding and advancement. In politics, Mr. Miller was a Republican.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood under the parental roof, spending his boyhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads. On the 1st of August, 1881, he led to the marriage altar Miss Jennie Bartholomew, daughter of Charles B. and Hester (Weaver) Bartholomew. Her parents were natives of England and on emigrating

to America about 1850, settled near Milwaukee, Wis., whence they afterward came to Rockford, and still later they became residents of Mason City, Iowa. They had a large family, but three sons and a daughter are now deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller have had three children: Daisy died January 18, 1884, at the age of sixteen months. Edna was born December 4, 1883, and Jesse on the 24th of February, 1889. The family reside at their pleasant home, a commodious and elegant residence situated in the midst of beautiful grounds. Mr. Miller has sold all of his farm, with the exception of this and one hundred acres of timber land. He raises about fifty hogs a year, but gives most of his time to the operation of his portable engine. Though reared to agricultural pursuits, his taste runs to machinery and he takes great pleasure in using the power of steam for threshing, plowing, etc. He has proved how extremely useful his machine is in breaking among the grub oaks, in cutting large roots and in turning over stumps. When his engine is not used in this way, he utilizes it for elevating ice, for threshing, or in helping some manufacturer's broken engine. He is a practical mechanic and in the business which he now follows is meeting with excellent success. Other than devoting his attention to this line of work, he is living retired, for he possesses a competence amply sufficient for all his wants. He and his wife are held in high esteem and rank high in social circles.



RALPH ROBERTS, editor and proprietor of the *Belvidere Standard*, has published this paper longer, probably, than any other editor in the State of Illinois. He is a prominent and influential citizen of this community and well deserves representation in this volume. He was born in East Hartford, Conn., December 15, 1822, and belongs to the good old Revolutionary stock. His grandfather, William Roberts, served in the Revolutionary War and was captured by the British, but made his escape from the old prison ship in New York harbor and swam ashore. He was a cooper by trade, and spent his last years in

East Hartford. He married Abigail Stanley, of Coventry, Conn., who after her husband's death received a pension. She died at the advanced age of ninety-seven.

Isaac Roberts, father of our subject, was born in East Hartford, and learned the trade of a hatter. For some years he was foreman in the factory of Hoadley & Chaiker, of Hartford, after which he began business for himself in East Hartford as a partner of Hubbard Hills, the connection continuing for some time. He married Anna Ensign, daughter of Solomon Ensign, and both died at their home in East Hartford.

Our subject acquired his education in the schools of his native town, and, at the age of sixteen, started out in life for himself. He commenced to learn the printer's trade in the office of the *Congregationalist*, in Hartford, and after a short time went to New York City, where he was employed in a book and job printing office until 1843. In that year he determined to try his fortune in the West, and emigrated to Chicago, where he secured employment with the firm of Ellis & Fergus, book and job printers, but remained with them only a few months, when he went to St. Louis, and then to the American Bottoms, on the Illinois side of the Mississippi River, where he engaged in clerking for a time. His next place of residence was in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was employed in a stereotype foundry until the spring of 1845, when he returned to his old home in Connecticut, and was again employed at his trade in that place until 1850. On again coming West, he located in Woodstock, Ill., in 1850, where, in company with F. D. Austin, he established the Woodstock *Democrat*, and continued its publication for a year, when he sold out to his partner and came to Belvidere. Here he established the *Belvidere Standard* in 1851, and has conducted the paper as sole proprietor continuously since.

After locating here, in September, 1856, Mr. Roberts was united in marriage with Phoebe L. Cowdery, who was born in Troy, N. Y., and is a daughter of Asa and Laura Cowdery. They have had three children: Anna, wife of William Sower, now deceased; Bertha E., now the wife of H. W. Ames, a resident of Chicago; and Jessie, at home.

In early life, Mr. Roberts was a Democrat, but was an opponent of slavery, and when the Republican party sprang into existence to prevent its further extension, he was one of the first to espouse its cause and was a delegate to the first Illinois State Convention of that party. The fact that he has so long published the *Belvidere Standard* is sufficient evidence of its success. He is a bright and interesting writer and his paper is well deserving of the liberal patronage which it receives.



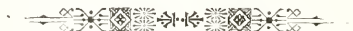
ALBERT HOLLEM, groceryman, Rockford, Ill. "The food we eat" is a vitally important question, and one which concerns the health and happiness of every man, woman and child. It is but natural to suppose that the best groceries are to be found in those establishments which transact the largest business. One of the finest appointed grocery stores in Rockford is that of Hollem Bros., located at No. 501 East State Street. The business has attained a wonderful degree of success under its present management, and the stock embraces everything in the line of fancy groceries, provisions, teas, coffees, etc., in fact, everything that is found in a first-class house. This business was formerly under the firm title of Hollem Bros. & Co., known as the Globe Tea Company, and was started in 1883. In 1888, it took its present title.

Our subject is the senior, and his brother the junior, member of the firm, and both are active young men, conducting their business on the soundest principles and carrying on an institution worthy of being called representative. Both were born, reared and educated in Rockford, where they are well and favorably known, and Albert clerked in this city for about eight years previous to starting in business for himself. These young men are interested in various local enterprises, are public-spirited, and are respected in social and commercial circles.

Our subject's father, Andrew Hollem, was a native of Sweden, but came to the United States and Rockford in 1854. Since then, he has been prominently connected with the growth and prosperity

of the city, and has a fine home at No. 606 Elm Street. He is well thought of in the city and is now quite well along in years. He was married in Kane County, Ill., to Miss Gustava Anderson, who was also a native of Sweden, and came to this country when a young woman. Both parents are much respected and have a wide circle of friends. Their family consisted of five children, three sons and two daughters: Paulina, wife of T. F. Strommerts, a butcher running a meat-market in Rockford; Albert, our subject; Gideon married Miss Elizabeth Flannery, and is a partner with Albert; Julia, wife of Adolph Ekstein, a druggist at Los Angeles, Cal.; and Elmer, who resides with his parents and is running a branch store for his brothers at the corner of Seventh Street and Fourteenth Avenue.

Albert Hollem was married in Rockford to Miss Amanda Hultdt, a native of Sweden, who came to America when a young girl, and who was reared and educated in this city. Her father, Charles M. Hultdt, was a well-known and very skillful machinist and mechanic of the Utter Manufacturing Company. To Mr. and Mrs. Hollem have been born one daughter, Hazel C. They are prominent young people of the county and have a great many friends. Mr. Hollem is a member of Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M., and he and his father and brothers are staunch Republicans.



JOSEPH BARNINGHAM was born in Marsden, Yorkshire, England, April 27th, 1816, and served as an apprentice to the trade of a machinist in his native country. Poor and without friends, he came alone to America in 1842, and after being employed in machine shops in different places, finally secured a position as an engineer on the New York & Erie Railroad. Later, coming West, he became engineer on the Chicago & Galena Railroad, now the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, and was soon given the position of Master Mechanic of the shops at Freeport, where he remained fourteen years.

Afterward Mr. Barningham went to Cincinnati,

Ohio, and entered the employ of the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad and was in its shops at Cochran, Ind. At one time he was also engaged in manufacturing street cars in Chicago, in company with John Elbert, and, in connection with him, manufactured the first dummy engine used on the street railway in Chicago, which was employed in carrying passengers to and from the Stock Yards.

In 1847, Mr. Barningham married Viletta A. Brewer at Buffalo, N. Y. She was born in Milford, Otsego County, N. Y., August 31, 1825. In 1849, accompanied by his wife, he came to Illinois and located in Durand Township, Winnebago County. Eight children were born to them, six of whom, Frances, Addison, Delos, J. D., Angerona and Gager are now living. His wife died October 5, 1882, and he survived her ten years, dying March 2, 1892. He was prominent in the development of the resources of the country and was one of its foremost citizens until his death.



ADDISON J. BARNINGHAM, the eldest son of Joseph Barningham, was born March 3, 1850, in Durand Township, Winnebago County, where he now owns and occupies a fine farm on section 22. He was reared to farming pursuits. In 1876, he purchased eighty acres of his present farm, and three years later added forty acres, which now includes as fine land as can be found in Durand Township.

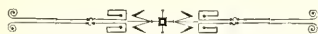
In 1879, Mr. Barningham was married to Miss Mattie S., daughter of Wilson H. and Eliza Crandall, whose sketch is published on another page of this work. Mrs. Barningham died at her home in 1881. November 21, 1885, Mr. Barningham was united in marriage with Mattie, daughter of Richard and Matilda (Tombs) Sackett. She was born in Chicago, July 2, 1864. They have one son, Dewitt B., who was born November 26, 1886. In his political relations, our subject votes for the man instead of the party.

Mr. Barningham was elected President of the Durand Mutual Fire Insurance Company in 1891. He is also a member of Durand Lodge No. 302,



C. A. Stockhus

F. & A. M., and is serving his ninth term as Secretary of that order. His possessions are the result of his industry and good judgment. In his farming pursuits he is conducting his affairs in the most intelligent and profitable manner. He occupies an honored position in the business and social circles of the community.



CHARLES A. STOCKHUS. The gentleman whose portrait appears on the opposite page has been a stockholder and Director of the Skandia Plow Company since its organization and is also Superintendent of the smithing department. He was born in Smoland, Sweden, and is a son of Gustaf and Sarah (Mangson) Stockhus, the former born in August, 1809, and the latter in 1811. Both are yet living and have been life-long members of the Lutheran Church. By trade the father is a mechanic and his business career has been a successful one. The eldest daughter of the family, Mrs. Anna C. Elm, is yet living in Sweden. A brother, J. P., was the first to cross the Atlantic, having come to this country in 1868. He is now married and with his family resides on a farm in McPherson County, Kan. Another brother, John G., now resides on Eighth Street in Rockford and is a mechanic in the employ of the Skandia Plow Company.

Charles Stockhus spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native Province and while still young served a five years' apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade. With the hope of bettering his financial condition in America, he bade good-bye to home and friends and in the spring of 1869 sailed for the New World. He landed at Quebec, Canada, and thence came to Rockford, where he joined his brother, J. P. He has since been recognized as one of the energetic and enterprising Swedish citizens of the county. He was instrumental in organizing the Skandia Plow Company, one of the leading industries of the city. He is himself a practical and skilled workman and now has under his charge forty employes. Much of the success of the business is due to his excellent management and he has made it one of the paying in-

stitutions of the city. Mr. Stockhus has been connected with the Union Grocery Company of Rockford since coming to the city and has aided in the promotion of other enterprises calculated to promote the general welfare. His own industry and perseverance have won him success, and in addition to his other business he is the owner of some improved real estate in Rockford, including his comfortable home at No. 608 South Third Street.

At Rockford, Mr. Stockhus was joined in wedlock with Miss Christina Pherson, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, July 21, 1850. She spent the days of her maidenhood in her native land, and in 1869 came alone to this country, settling in Rockford, where she joined her brother, James P. Talbot, who had located here a year previous and is now a farmer of McPherson County, Kan. Her father, Per Bengtson, was born in 1806, followed farming throughout his entire life and died in Smoland, Sweden, in 1878. His wife, who was born in 1818, is still living and is well preserved for one of her years. She is a member of the Lutheran Church.

In politics, Mr. Stockhus is a stalwart Republican and maintains a deep interest in public affairs. He and his wife are faithful members of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford. Unto them have been born four children: Alice, Frank R., Per E., and Gust A., and the family circle yet remains unbroken.



BENJAMIN S. MORSE has for seventeen years engaged in the livery business in Rockford. His residence in the county dates from 1849, when, a young man of seventeen years, he came with his parents to this county. His father, William Morse, was a native of Grimsby, Ontario, Canada, born March 2, 1806. He learned the trade of a mechanic and carpenter and became a skilled and successful workman. In Palermo, Canada, in 1830, he married Miss Lavina Smith, the eldest of three children born to Benjamin Smith, an early settler in the Province of Ontario. In the midst of the forest, he hewed out a farm and became a successful agriculturist, owning two

hundred acres of line land. His death there occurred in 1850, at an advanced age. His wife, whose maiden name was Catherine Shook, had died at the advanced age of ninety-seven years. They were both members of the Methodist Church and were devoted Christian people.

William Morse and his wife continued to reside in the Province of Ontario, for some years, where he followed his trade and also engaged in the dry-goods business. He made considerable money, but when the Canadian Rebellion broke out, he lost all and removed to New York, settling near Lockport. In 1840, he returned to Canada, and in 1849 came with his family to Illinois, making the journey by team and camping out along the wayside at night. In this county, he made a good farm but afterward lost it through misplaced confidence. Later, he went to California with teams, returning to Rockford after seven years. The mother of our subject died August 21, 1870, after which Mr. Morse wedded Mrs. Clarissa Woodworth, *nee* Hills, who was born in Melbourne, Lower Canada, September 9, 1805, and now with her husband resides with our subject. William Morse is past his eighty-sixth year but is still well preserved for one of his age. For many years he has been a member of the Baptist Church. In politics, he formerly supported the Republican party, but now votes with the Prohibition party.

Benjamin Morse was born in Palermo, in 1831, and there resided until with his parents he came to Illinois. He has borne many of the hardships and experiences of pioneer life and is a well-known citizen of this community. In Guilford, he married Miss Caroline Woodworth, who was born in the Province of Ontario, September 13, 1839, and was brought by her parents to this county in July, 1840, the family settling in Guilford Township, on a new farm, where she was reared. Her father, Gershon Woodworth, also a native of Canada, followed farming in Guilford Township until his death in 1872, since which time his widow has become the wife of William Morse, as before stated.

Into our subject and his wife were born three children: Charles P., a graduate of the city schools, now living on Avon Street, in Rockford, is a messenger for the Adams Express Company. He

wedded Miss Maggie McPherson. Fred R. holds a position as agent for the Adams Express Company in Kirkland, Ill., and John H. is still attending school. The parents attend the Christian Church, and the father and sons are Republicans in political sentiment.

As before stated, Mr. Morse has long engaged in the livery business in Rockford and for fourteen years carried on two stables. His courteous manner and attention to the wants of his customers has won him a liberal patronage and thereby he has secured a good income. He also owns a fine farm of two hundred and nineteen acres in Guilford Township, well improved and highly cultivated. He has a wide acquaintance throughout this community and is highly esteemed by his many friends.



LEVI LANDERS, who is engaged in general farming on section 32, Harlem Township, Winnebago County, is a native of the Empire State. He was born in Somerset, Niagara County, April 16, 1819, and is descended from an old New England family. His grandfather, Aquilla Landers, was born in Shoreham, Vt., whence he removed to Orleans County, N. Y., where he spent his last year engaged in farming. Benjamin Landers, the father of Levi, was also born in Shoreham, where he was reared and married, Miss Cynthia Intin becoming his wife. They removed to New York and were among the early settlers of Niagara County. Mr. Landers there purchased eighty acres of land in the town of Somerset, and upon it built the log cabin in which our subject was born. There were then no railroads in the county, no convenient markets, and no mills or post-offices nearer than Rochester, fifty miles away. The people lived mostly off the products of their farms and the wild game and fish which could be obtained in abundance. Mr. Landers cleared his land and made it his home for some years, after which he sold out and bought a tract of timber land in the same township, where he improved a farm and made his home until called to his final

rest. His wife died also on the old homestead about 1825.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who has ever been identified with agricultural pursuits. Almost as soon as he could reach the plow handles, he began assisting his father in the farm work and remained at home until after the latter's death. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, he chose Mrs. Anna (Wood) Landers, their union being celebrated January 22, 1811. The lady was born in New York, January 20, 1825. Her father, Samuel D. Wood, was a native of Connecticut, whence he removed to the Empire State when a young man. He there engaged in farming and was married in the town of Henrietta to Eunice Herrick, a native of New York, and a daughter of Luther and Mary (Johnson) Herrick. He bought a farm a few miles from Rochester, where he resided some years, and then took up his residence in the town of Somerset, Niagara County, where he made his home until about 1847. In that year, he came Westward to Winnebago County, Ill., and bought a tract of land which is now included in the village of Winnebago. After a time, he removed to Shirland Township, where he bought a farm and made his home for a few years, after which he resided with Mrs. Landers until his death, about 1862. His wife long survived him, passing away in 1887. Their daughter was first married at the age of fifteen, when she became the wife of Caleb Landers, a brother of our subject. His death occurred in January, 1841.

It was in 1846 that our subject, accompanied by his wife and two children, came to Illinois, making the journey by way of the Lakes. He was then not only empty-handed, but was \$50 in debt, so we see that his entire possessions have been made since that time. For three years, he rented land in Guilford Township, and then bought forty acres of timber land in Shirland Township, upon which a frame house had been built. Two years afterward, he sold the place and removed to Green County, Wis., but lived there for only two years, when he returned to Shirland Township and bought one hundred and twenty-seven acres of land near his former home. He there resided

until 1867, since which time he has been living on his farm in Harlem Township. His life has been well and worthily spent, and, though a quiet and unassuming man, he has gained the high regard of those with whom he has come in contact.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Landers were born three children: Roderick, the only son; Eunice, now the wife of William Rogers, of Rockford; and Eliza, wife of Oliver Taylor, of Harlem Township.



MRS. ISABELL COY has for the long period of forty-six years been a resident of Winnebago County, and well deserves representation in this volume. She now resides on section 15, Guilford Township. She was born in Buffalo Township, Union County, Pa., and is descended from an old family of that State. The great-grandfather of Mrs. Coy, Mr. Royer, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. Her grandparents, John Paul and Eva (Royer) Ziebach, were natives of the Keystone State, and there the father followed teaching throughout his entire life. The father of Mrs. Coy, Jacob Ziebach, was born in Berks County, Pa., and on attaining his majority wedded Anna Pollock, who was born in Chester County, that State, and was a daughter of John and Isabella (Rolance) Pollock, also natives of Pennsylvania, where they spent their entire lives. The young couple began their domestic life upon a farm in Buffalo Township, Union County, where they continued to reside until called to the home beyond. Their family numbered eleven children.

Mrs. Coy spent the days of her girlhood in her native county and remained with her parents until 1846, when, with her married sister and her husband, she started from Pennsylvania to Illinois, on the last day of August. The entire journey was made in a spring wagon, and after four weeks of travel they reached Winnebago County, which was then situated on the frontier. On the 11th of April, 1847, Isabell gave her hand in marriage to William Coy, a native of England, born in Lincolnshire, and a son of Thomas and Mary Coy, who were also natives of England, and there spent

their entire lives. Mr. Coy came to America in 1844, and at once made his way to Rockford, soon afterward purchasing the farm on which the family now reside. The young couple there located immediately after their marriage. It was a tract of wild land but he transformed it into rich and fertile fields, and added greatly to its beauty and value by erecting good buildings, such as are found on a model farm, and planting fruit and ornamental trees.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Coy was born a family of four children, who were reared to habits of industry and are now occupying useful and responsible positions in society. The eldest, Robert, is a graduate of the Chicago Medical College and is now engaged in the practice of his profession in Rockford; Anna is an artist and resides in the same city; William manages the home farm for his mother; and Emma is successfully engaged in teaching in Rockford. This family ranks high in social circles and its members are well deserving the warm regard in which they are held. William Coy died December 14, 1885.



JOHN J. MERRILL. Perhaps there is no resident of the county more generally admired, or who has a larger circle of friends, than the subject of this sketch, who has won the regard of all, not only on account of his genial, pleasant disposition, but for his uprightness and unquestioned honesty. A native of New York State, he was born in Herkimer County on the 15th of May, 1833, and is a brother of Thomas S. Merrill (see sketch for family history).

The happy domestic life of our subject began on the 1st of January, 1856, by his marriage to Miss Sarah D. Beebe, also a native of the Empire State, born in Tioga County, in the town of Apalachin, on the 30th of July, 1836. Her parents, David and Nancy (Heaton) Beebe, were natives of Broome County, N. Y., where they resided for many years. Subsequently, however, they moved to Iowa and there passed the closing scenes of their lives, the father dying at the age of eighty-two, and the mother when in her eighty-first

year. David Beebe was the son of Joel and Mary Beebe, who were also natives of Broome County, N. Y., and came with his parents to Boone County, Ill., in the spring of 1837. He built the third house in the town of Belvidere and resided there for some time. Joel Beebe died in Minnesota when seventy years of age and his wife died in Iowa at the advanced age of ninety-three. Mrs. Merrill was one of six children, four now living, and all farmers.

To Mr. and Mrs. Merrill were born four children, but three are deceased. The one now living is Mary D., who was born in Bremer County, Iowa, on the 5th of September, 1856, and who married F. A. Winne. She is the mother of three children and she and her husband reside in Spring Township, this county.

Our subject was reared on the farm and remained under the parental roof until twenty-three years of age, when he went to Bremer County, Iowa. There he purchased forty acres of land and there resided until 1861, when he enlisted in the army. He volunteered in Company B, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served three years, two years of the time as clerk in the Commissary Department. He was mustered out in the fall of 1865 and returned to his home, where he clerked for some time. Later, he and his wife went to Mitchellville, Iowa, and his wife was matron of the seminary at that place for three years and he was janitor for some time. He then came to this county, and two years later built a store at Herbert, the first one in that place, and was the Postmaster there four years under Grover Cleveland. He then sold out and moved to Belvidere where he has lived retired ever since. He lost his health in the war and has never been very strong or well since.

Mr. Merrill is a Republican in politics and his first Presidential vote was for James Buchanan. Later he voted for S. A. Douglas, then for U. S. Grant, and has voted with the Republicans ever since. He has held a number of local offices in this county, also held office while a resident of Bremer County, Iowa, and is one of the representative men of this section. Socially, he is a Royal Arch Mason, Eastern Star Lodge No. 60, and a



St. Billman

member of the Chapter. He is also a member of Hurlburt Post No. 464, G. A. R., and has been Sergeant for two or three years. Mrs. Merrill is associated in her church relations with the Universalist denomination. She is a member of the Ladies' Aid Society, No. 9, and was Treasurer of the same for some time. Mr. Merrill has in his possession a number of coat buttons on which are engraved the letters C. A. These, Mr. Merrill says, his grandfather Smith had on his coat during the Revolutionary War and he has been offered \$20 apiece for them.



SHALOR S. KILBURN. For about forty-seven years, this gentleman was a worthy resident of Winnebago County. He was a man who possessed an original and thoughtful mind, whose advanced ideas and progressive principles resulted in his own good and the good of those around him. He was born in Berkshire County, Mass., on the 10th of June, 1818, and his parents, Shalor and Betsy E. (Brown) Kilburn, were natives also of the Old Bay State. The father, who was a tanner and shoemaker by trade, passed his life in his native State, and Connecticut, and died in the latter State when in the prime of life.

Our subject's mother afterward married a Mr. Hewitt, and removed to New York State, where her husband died. She then made her home with her son Shalor S., in Harlem Township, this county, until her death, when seventy-seven years of age. She was an exemplary member of the Methodist Church and an excellent woman. Shalor S. Kilburn was one of five children born to his parents. In boyhood, he went to Oneida County, N. Y., and remained there until twenty-five years of age.

There Mr. Kilburn was married to Miss Mary Bartholomew, a native of New Haven County, Conn., born December 29, 1818. She was but six months old when her parents, Eben G. and Anna (Simons) Bartholomew, settled in Oneida County, N. Y. They resided in that county for a number of years and then returned to Connecticut to care

for Mr. Bartholomew's father, Osee Bartholomew, who died at an advanced age. Six months later, his son Eben followed him to the grave. He was a well-informed man and had spent his early life as a teacher. The widow returned to Oneida County, N. Y., and her second marriage was to David Hulbert, with whom she came to Illinois in 1847. They settled in Harlem Township, Winnebago County, and there remained until called hence, Mr. Hulbert dying when about seventy-five, and Mrs. Hulbert when seventy-four years of age. Both were original charter members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Harlem Township.

Mrs. Kilburn was one of a small family of children born to her parents and was fourteen years of age when her father died. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and takes a deep interest in all religious work. Mr. Kilburn, accompanied by his family, came to Harlem Township, Winnebago County, in 1815, when the country was comparatively new. He purchased eighty acres of land here, hauling lumber from Chicago with ox-teams to build a house, and followed farming pursuits until his death. He was also a commercial traveler and for many years was on the road for the firm of Savage & Love, of Beloit, Wis. He was also with John P. Manny and N. C. Thompson, of Rockford.

The genial disposition and upright character for which Mr. Kilburn was known, drew around him a large circle of friends, and his place in business and social circles was found hard to fill. His death occurred on the 15th of January, 1874, when seventy-one years of age. He was a Methodist in his religious belief, and, in politics, was a strong supporter of the Republican party. He was one of those solid, substantial citizens who honor the community in which their lot is cast. Mr. and Mrs. Kilburn became the parents of four children: Charles O., who died when eleven years of age; Anna, who became the wife of Rodger Miller, a farmer; Sarah, who married Herbert R. Parker, a retired farmer, and Mary, the wife of James Roney, who is in the express business at Rockford. Mrs. Kilburn has some old family relics which she values very highly. Now in the twilight of her useful life, she is surrounded by the comforts which she

aided her husband in accumulating, and has the love of those who have had the privilege of associating with her.

In this connection will be found a portrait of the late Mr. Kilburn.



CHARLES P. BRADY. This pioneer of Winnebago County, on coming hither in 1836, found the country new and the land unimproved, and has witnessed the wonderful transformation which the passing years have brought. His first purchase of land was made from the Government, and consisted of a tract in Burritt Township, on which not a furrow had been turned. Returning to Pennsylvania, he there resided until 1840, and in July of that year once more came West, and commenced active operations as a tiller of the soil.

Success crowned the arduous exertions of Mr. Brady, and he improved considerable valuable property, which he still owns. He may justly be termed a self-made man, as what he has and what he is may be attributed to his industry and judicious management. Prior to coming to Illinois in 1836, he had made his home for a time in New York State, and in journeying Westward had for a traveling companion one James Hoffman. The two young men came via the river and canal to Buffalo, N. Y., thence by boat on Lake Erie to Detroit, and from there on foot over the country to Rockford, working their way and carrying good guns, with which they killed enough game to subsist upon.

Mr. Brady explains as his reason for coming to Rockford on foot, that there was no other way of reaching the place except by stage, and the one who came in the latter vehicle had to walk and carry a rail, while the one who walked had no rail to carry, hence his decision to walk. When he returned East in 1837, he went down the Mississippi in a row-boat, thence up the Ohio to Pittsburg, and from there across to Philadelphia. The return trip in 1840 was made in a similar way. The usual pioneer experiences fell to the lot of Mr. Brady, who was obliged to go to Chicago, the

nearest market, while Dixon was the nearest post-office. Occasionally he would take pork and grain to the Wisconsin pineries, trade them for lumber, which he would raft down the rivers and sell in order to purchase Government land.

Born in Bucks County, Pa., December 11, 1814, our subject is the only son of Benjamin Brady, who died when his son was only six years old. The mother of our subject was Miss Betsy Pettett, who died when her son was only three months old. Thus early orphaned, Charles P. was reared by an uncle, and while quite young gained a practical knowledge of farming. He was married in Rockford to Miss Mercy L. Huntsman, the ceremony being performed by the late Rev. John Morrell. Mrs. Brady was born in Ohio, of which State her parents were early settlers, later removing to Illinois and settling in Rockford. Here the father, George Huntsman, died when quite old; her mother died in Indiana.

Mrs. Brady was born in July, 1815, and died in Rockford in 1883, mourned by all who knew her. She was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a devoted worker in the cause of temperance. She was the mother of four children, one of whom, Roy, is deceased. Annjenett, widow of James Atkinson, resides in Burritt, this county; Philura I. is the wife of Edgar A. Van Wie, Secretary, Treasurer and manager of the Rockford Electric Company. Mr. and Mrs. Van Wie reside at No. 701 North Court Street, and are the parents of three children. Henry H. married Georgia Terrell, and resides in Chicago. Religiously, Mr. Brady is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in his political affiliations was formerly a Republican, but is now a Prohibitionist.



JOHIN PEHRSON has filled the position of Superintendent of the wood department in the Skandia Plow Company since its organization, except four years when he was salesman on the road, and from almost the first he has been a stockholder and Director in that enterprise. This company is thoroughly typical, not alone of the comprehensive growth and increasing import-

ance of Rockford, but its career is a source of public pride, delineating, as it does, the general business enterprise and sagacity of some of the leading citizens.

Our subject, who is by trade a wood-worker and pattern-maker, and upon whose shoulders the care and charge of the wood department immediately rests, has been a resident of Rockford since 1865, and during that time he been industrious and frugal, thus accumulating a handsome competence. He was one of the first stockholders of the Union Furniture Factory and he was formerly a stockholder of the Excelsior Furniture Factory, in which he was Superintendent for about three years. For four years, he was on the road as salesman for the Skandia Plow Company and met with much success in that capacity.

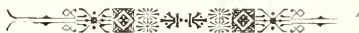
Mr. Pehrson came to Rockford from his native country, Sweden, his birth occurring in Skania Province, March 1, 1840, and this city has been his home up to the present. He is a descendant of worthy Swedish ancestors and inherits all those characteristics of energy and perseverance usual to this class of people. After learning his trade in his native country, he took passage for America, and after a reasonable length of time on the briny deep, landed in the Empire City, where he remained but a short time. From there, he went to Michigan, but a few weeks later he came on to Rockford, where he has been actively engaged in business and is now one of the foremost, substantial citizens. Since his residence in this country, he has been joined by two sisters: Anna, wife of Andrew Nelson, a farmer of Marengo, Iowa, and Hannah, wife of Oscar Ackeson, a boot and shoe merchant, who is quartered in the Exchange Bank Building, on Seventh Street, Rockford.

The parents of Mr. Pehrson never came to the United States but have passed their entire lives in that grand old country, Sweden, whose sons and daughters are among the most thrifty and enterprising people of the world. The father, Peter Pehrson, was a butcher and meat dealer, and a man whose honesty and uprightness were proverbial. He died when sixty-seven years of age. The mother, who is still living and closely verging on eighty-four years, finds a comfortable home with

her son Andrew, at Malmo, Sweden. A life-long member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, this venerable old lady is well known in her section and is highly respected.

John Pehrson was first married, in Rockford, to Miss Sophia Ekbock, who is also of Swedish nativity, born in Smoland Province. She remained in her native country until twenty-two years of age, and then braved Neptune's tender mercies and came to America and Rockford. She was identified with the First Lutheran Church and was a lady possessed of many virtues of mind and heart. One child, Frederick William, was born to this union, and he is now at home.

Mr. Pehrson's second marriage was to Miss Anna Bergandal, a native of Kalmar Lan, Sweden, born March 18, 1862, but who was grown when she came to the United States. She has a brother, Axel, and a sister, Alma, both living in Chicago and single. Mr. Pehrson is a firm believer in the advantages of the platform held by the Republican party, and casts his vote most unreservedly with that party. He and Mrs. Pehrson are members of the First Lutheran Church.



JOHNSTON WELDON MONTEITH, one of the prominent business men of Rockford, is at present successfully engaged in contracting and building. His birth occurring in 1848 in far-away Glasgow, Scotland, he is the son of Thomas and Eliza (Weldon) Monteith, both of whom were natives of that country, the male members on both sides of the house for many generations back being carpenters and builders. The father of our subject followed that trade in his native land; since coming to America in 1882, he has made his home with our subject; the mother died in Scotland.

The following are the names of the seven children comprising the parental household: James, Martha, Johnston, Mary, Sallie, Thomas, and Lizzie, all of whom, with the exception of our subject, make their home in Philadelphia. Johnston received a good education in the parish schools of Scotland and came to the New World with an

elder brother, when a lad of thirteen years. Locating in Philadelphia, and being ambitious to learn the English language, he became a student in the log school of that place and is to-day an intelligent and well-read man. A natural mechanic, Mr. Monteith soon began to work at the trade of a carpenter with his brother, which business they followed in Philadelphia until 1881, when they came to Bradford, Ill., and one year later to Rockford, since which time our subject has been identified with the business interests of this city.

The ceremony which united our subject in marriage with Miss Genevieve Menah was performed December 22, 1871. Mrs. Monteith was a native of the Quaker City and was a daughter of Alexander Menah, also a native of Scotland, who emigrated to America soon after his marriage and engaged in the mercantile business in the above-named city, where he is still one of the prominent dry-goods merchants. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Monteith, was Rebecca McClellan; her birth also occurred in Scotland and the date of her decease was December 11, 1891. She was the mother of seven children, viz: Maggie, Nellie, Letitia, Genevieve, Lucy, Mary and Willie. Lucy and Maggie are deceased. The two children born to Mr. and Mrs. Monteith are Lillian W. and J. Alexander.



FRANCIS H. CLARK, a successful and skillful mechanic residing at No. 100 East Street, where he has a pleasant and comfortable home, has been a resident of Rockford since 1883. He was a native of Ontario, Canada, where his birth occurred November 23, 1831, and his parents, Francis and Cornelia (Ross) Clark, were natives, respectively, of New York and Connecticut. The paternal grandfather, Francis Clark, Sr., was a native of the Emerald Isle but came to America when a young man and settled in New England.

During the Revolutionary War Francis Clark, Sr., served in defense of his adopted country, and subsequently married a New England lass, a Miss

Hamilton, with whom he settled in Franklin County, N. Y. They were among the pioneer settlers of that county and Mr. Clark followed agricultural pursuits in a small way, his trade being that of a tanner and currier, at which he was unusually successful. Later he was a boot and shoe dealer. He and his wife died in the Empire State when well along in years, and both were members of the Episcopal Church.

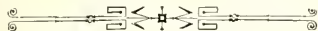
Francis Clark, Jr., passed his boyhood days on a farm and in learning the lumber business, following the latter principally in Ontario, Canada, until 1835, when he came to New York State. He settled on a new farm in St. Lawrence County, and there he and his wife soon had a good home. He died there in 1861, when seventy-three years of age, and his wife followed him to the grave four years later, in 1865. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. Mrs. Clark was born in Danbury, Conn., in 1790, but was reared and educated in Canada. She was a cousin of P. T. Barnum, the showman. Mr. and Mrs. Clark were for years members of the Episcopal Church, but later in life she joined the Methodists. Of the seven children born to this worthy couple, six are now living and Francis H. Clark is the youngest. He was four years of age when his parents moved to New York State and he was a resident of that State until 1869, when he came to Illinois, settling in Poplar Grove, Boone County. While a resident of New York, he learned the trade of a millwright and pattern-maker. In 1864, he enlisted from St. Lawrence County, that State, in the Sixth New York Regiment, Company M, and served as a private until his discharge on the 25th of August, 1865.

Our subject was in a number of prominent engagements, and after the battle of Fisher Hill he was one of thirty-two who reported at roll-call. While in service he was sick for some time from exposure, and he was crippled while doing drill duty. After remaining in the hospital for some time, he was honorably discharged and returned to New York State. There he was married to Miss Sophronia Richardson, a native of St. Lawrence County and the daughter of Samuel Richardson, who lived and died in that county. The latter was seventy-four at the time of his death. He



Frank S. Whitman -

served in the War of 1812. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Johnson, died when eighty-five years of age. Mrs. Clark was reared and educated in her native county and taught school there six years before her marriage. This union resulted in the birth of three living children: Preston, an attorney, and proprietor of the Mineral Springs at Peoria, was married to Miss Julia Eaton, who was County Superintendent of Schools of Boone County, but is now deceased; Barton F., an engraver in the Rockford Silver Plate Company, is now at home; Etta S., at home and a musical graduate, is a teacher of vocal music and is now chorister in the Christian Union Church. Mr. Clark is a Republican in politics, and he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mrs. Clark is a member of the Methodist Church.



FRANK S. WHITMAN, M. D., a practicing physician of Belvidere, has the honor of being a native of this city. He was born September 27, 1849, and is descended from an old New England family. His grandfather, Jacob Whitman, was a native of Connecticut and became one of the early settlers of Fairfield, Vt. He was a hatter by trade, but engaged in farming in the Green Mountain State. He afterward purchased a farm in Portland, Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he made his home until 1810, removing thence to Boone County and locating in Belvidere, where he made his home until his death in 1851. He married Sarah Spencer, who died in Portland, N. Y.

Hiram Whitman, father of our subject, was born in Fairfield, Vt., December 12, 1806, and when a young man went to New York, purchasing a tract of land in Chautauqua County. There he engaged in farming until 1837, after which he spent two years upon his father's farm in Portland. On the 5th of October, 1830, he married Clarinda Hanchett, who was born in Herkimer, N. Y., December 19, 1808. She is a daughter of Zacheus and Lucy (Cottrell) Hanchett, the former a native of Suffolk, Conn., and the later of Washington, Mass., where they were married in 1793. They removed to

Herkimer, N. Y., and after a few years went to Chautauqua County, being numbered among its pioneer settlers. They purchased a tract of heavily timbered land and in the midst of the forest developed a farm, experiencing all the privations and hardships of frontier life. Mr. Hanchett there died in his ninety-sixth year.

In 1839, with his wife and one child, Mr. Whitman came to Illinois, making the entire journey overland with teams. After twenty days of travel, he arrived at Belvidere on the 25th of October, and after a few months made a claim in Belvidere Township. To the cultivation and improvement of his land, he devoted his time and attention until his death, which occurred on the 10th of May, 1855. His wife survives him and makes her home in Belvidere. She enjoys good health and her faculties are still unimpaired. She has a family of four children: Royal T., Emily M., Gilbert R. and Frank S.

No event of special importance occurred during the Doctor's youth. After acquiring his early education in the public schools of Belvidere, he became a student in the Chicago University and subsequently engaged in teaching one year, being Principal of the schools in Roscoe, Winnebago County. Wishing to make the practice of medicine his life work, he began studying with Dr. James K. Soule, of Belvidere, and attended lectures at Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago, from which he was graduated in the Class of February, 1872. The same year, he opened an office in Belvidere and has since successfully engaged in practice.

On the 20th of January, 1875, Dr. Whitman married Frank C. Pier, a native of Belvidere. This worthy couple rank high in social circles and are widely and favorably known throughout the community. The Doctor is a member of the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Institute of Homeopathy, the oldest national medical association in the United States. He also belongs to Belvidere Lodge No. 289, K. T. He is a member of Court Clair No. 183, I. O. of F., and of Garrison No. 27, K. G. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, and has served as President of the School Board, member of the

Common Council, was two terms Mayor of the city and for three terms was County Coroner. He is a member of the Congressional Committee of Boone County, is President of the Boone County Board of Pension Examiners, and is Vice-President of the People's Bank, of Belvidere. He was also an alternate delegate-at-large for the State of Illinois at the last National Republican Convention held at Minneapolis. The Doctor is now enjoying a liberal patronage, gained through his skill and ability, and he ranks deservedly high among his professional brethren.

Elsewhere in this volume will be noticed a lithographic portrait of Dr. Whitman.



CAPT. HENRY KNOWLES, who is now living a retired life at the corner of North and Winnebago Streets, was born in Orleans, Mass., July 20, 1834, and is a son of Elijah and Abigail (Freeman) Knowles. His father lived and died on a farm in Brewster, Mass., passing away at the age of eighty-one years. His wife died November 5, 1891, at the advanced age of eighty-seven. She too was a native of the Bay State, and died in Brewster. Our subject comes of a long line of sea-faring men. His maternal uncle was a prominent master of vessels, and two of his brothers followed the sea. One of them, Elijah F., is now a retired shipmaster residing in Brewster, and the other brother, Albert C., was master of a vessel which was destroyed by a cyclone on the Indian Sea, and all on board were lost.

Capt. Knowles, whose name heads this sketch, was reared and educated in Brewster, Mass., and when fourteen years of age, went with a friend of the family, Capt. Crosby, to sea as a cabin boy, and thus became connected as a sailor in the cotton trade between this country and Europe. He rapidly won promotion, and on the Captain's death, which occurred on a voyage between New Orleans and Liverpool, Mr. Knowles, though only nineteen years of age at that time, took charge of the vessel. He continued in command of that vessel for some time, and later was master of the "Albatross," the "Massachusetts," the "Western Star" and the

"Belle Creole." Of the two former he was master for only a few years. He was part owner, and was master of the "Western Star" for eight years, and was similarly connected with the "Belle Creole" for four years, or until 1870, when he left the sea and came West. He has sailed over many of the most important seas, has visited Liverpool, Bombay, and all the ports of South America. He did business as a shipper of guano, and in 1869, with a load of that product on board, his vessel sprung a leak. The guano filled the pumps, which prevented them from being worked, and the ship sunk, but all on board were saved. The Captain was the last to leave the vessel, just as it sank in the waters of the tropics. He stood in great favor with his men, and he had many warm friends among the leading captains of Boston, including Benjamin Bangs and Elijah Williams.

Mr. Knowles was married in the Bay State to Miss Lizzie D. Collins, who was born in West Dennis, Mass., January 30, 1842, and a daughter of Capt. Seth and Anna (Knowles) Collins, both of whom are now deceased. Her father was a prominent business man of the Merchants' Service, and was master of a merchant vessel for some years. He continued to own an interest in a ship, but spent his last years on his estate at West Dennis, where he died at the age of seventy-two. After his death, his widow came to the West, and made her home with Mrs. Knowles, in Rockford, until called to her final rest. In the family were two sons, Jonathan and Ansel, who were large commission merchants of Philadelphia for many years. The former is now living a retired life in West Dennis, Mass., and the latter is now deceased. They were both prominent and well-known business men of Philadelphia for many years.

Unto Capt. Knowles and his wife have been born seven children, but John C. and Effie M. are both now deceased. Grace Pacific was born on the Pacific Ocean, off the coast of Peru, and is the wife of Alfred Holt, an attorney of Chicago; Herbert is a member of the firm of Johnson & Knowles, real-estate dealers of this city; Abbie F., Royal E. and Edwin W. are all at home.

The Captain and his wife are member of the Second Congregational Church, and, in politics, he is

a Republican. He also belongs to the Masonic order, of which he became a member on the Island of Malta. On coming to Rockford in 1870, he formed a partnership with Ansel Collins, and for five years they engaged in the grocery business, after which the Captain became a wholesale dealer in butter, cheese and eggs. To this he devoted his time and attention until about three years since, when, on account of failing health, he sold out and has since lived retired. His life has been a varied one, and well and worthily spent.



THEODORE C. DECKER. This gentleman is classed among the wide-awake, thorough-going business men of Winnebago County, and the active manner in which he has taken advantage of every method and idea tending towards enhancing the value of his property has had considerable to do with his success in life. Mr. Decker was born in Orange County, N. Y., as were also his father, Cornelius S. Decker, and his grandfather, Levi Decker, both tillers of the soil. The grandfather married Miss Roxanna Mould, and they became the parents of seven sons, only two now surviving; one of these, William Decker, is seventy-six years of age and a resident of Newburg, N. Y. Levi Decker died at the advanced age of ninety-eight years and his wife survived him until 1877, dying when sixty-eight years old.

The father of our subject, Cornelius Decker, was born in the year 1818 and was married in his native county to Miss Jane Ashby, a native also of Orange County, N. Y., and the daughter of John Ashby, of the same county and State and a farmer by occupation. In 1861, Mr. Decker sold his farm in New York State and moved to Zanesville, Wis., where he purchased a tract of eleven hundred and eighty acres, settling on the same with his wife and nine children, seven sons and two daughters. There he continued to cultivate the soil on a large scale for about twenty-eight years, or until 1888, when he concluded to try his fortune in another part of the country. He purchased forty acres in Rock Town-

ship, the same State, and there he and his admirable wife reside at the present time, both enjoying good health. They lost four children in infancy, two of each sex, and those now living are Jonathan M., Frank D., William, Theodore C., John A. and Anna G., the latter now Mrs. David Mould, a resident of Sioux City, Iowa.

Theodore C. Decker, the subject of this sketch, was born on the 8th of February, 1851, and was but ten years of age when his parents moved to Wisconsin. He was early trained to the tedious details of farm life, and in 1880 he selected his life companion in the person of Miss Mary McNamara, of Chicago. Her parents, Lawrence and Harriet (Hickox) McNamara, were natives of Williamstown, Mass., in which State Mrs. Decker received a thorough education, graduating at the Westfield Normal School there. After teaching in her native town and in Worcester, and still later in the Graylock Institute at Williamstown, Mass., she came West to Chicago, where she taught in the public schools for eight years. She was thoroughly in love with her calling and must have been a very successful educator, for she has the happy faculty of winning and keeping friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Decker commenced housekeeping in 1882, and the same year purchased twenty acres of choice land on section 3, Roscoe Township, Ill., two miles east of Beloit, for which he paid \$115 per acre. On this Mr. Decker has erected two large tobacco sheds and a large stock barn, in which he has a large silo tank, or cellar, with a capacity of one hundred and thirteen tons. He has rebuilt his residence, and everything about the place indicates to the beholder that the owners are people of culture and refinement. Mrs. Decker is quite a horticulturist and takes as much pleasure with her fine strawberries as her husband does with his fifteen acres of tobacco, if she does not realize as much profit as he does from his twenty-four thousand to thirty thousand pounds of the weed per year. Mr. Decker has some fine Jersey cattle and keeps from fifteen to twenty cows. He makes thousands of pounds of the choicest butter and sells it to the consumers of Chicago, where he has some customers among the best people. By growing corn fodder, which is made into ensilage, he

can feed many head of stock from these twenty acres, and the eight acres which he hires. He has raised some of the finest of Jersey cows, there being in his herd Muriel the Third, who was on exhibition at the Philadelphia Centennial, 1876.

Mr. and Mrs. Decker lost an infant son, and they now have one son living, Frank D., born September 16, 1881, who is a promising boy, having made four grades in three years. Mr. Decker has been a Democrat, but under the salutary influence of his wife is likely to become a good Republican. They are both members of the Congregational Church, and are held in high esteem in the community.



ASHLEY KNAPP. The results of industry, thrift and wise judgment have been manifested in the career of this gentleman, who, in all matters pertaining to his financial standing, has fairly earned the title of a self-made man. He is one of the oldest settlers of Burritt Township, Winnebago County, having come here about the year 1842, and he now owns and occupies a tract of two hundred acres of fine land.

The gentleman of whom we write was born in Eldred, McKean County, Pa., January 7, 1821. His father, Jacob, was born in New York State, and his father, Luke Knapp, came from Connecticut, and spent his last days in New York. The father of our subject was reared on the home farm, and as soon as old enough went to Pennsylvania, where he bought a tract of timber land in Eldred Township, and cleared and improved a farm, residing there until his demise, January 18, 1863, at the advanced age of ninety years and six months. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Mary Cahoon; she was a native of the Empire State, and the widow of a Mr. Brainard. She spent her last days on the home farm in Eldred Township, dying February 28, 1854, when past sixty-nine years.

The original of this sketch received his education in his native township, attending the pioneer schools taught in the old log schoolhouse with its home-made furniture. He resided with his parents until reaching his majority, when he started out

in the world for himself with \$1.50 in his pocket. He walked to Erie County, N. Y., and secured work in a harvest field two months, and in the fall was engaged in stacking straw. In October of 1842, Ashley Knapp started with his earnings in his pocket for Illinois, and came by steamer to Milwaukee, on foot to Beloit, and rode the remainder of the way to Burritt Township. His brother having previously come to this State, he stopped with him a short time, then went to Joe Daviess County, and secured a job splitting rails at fifty cents per hundred and his board. He was very industrious and saved his earnings, and was soon enabled to purchase ten acres of timber land which he still owns, which is located on section 6, Burritt Township. The next year he received \$13 per month for his labors, and with this, in 1844, bought forty acres more, a part of which was improved prairie land on section 8 of the same township, and there commenced his career as an independent farmer. Four years later, our subject bought the farm where he now resides, paying for it \$3.50 per acre, it including the northwest quarter of section 16, and the west half of the northeast quarter of same section. He did not have the money to pay down for his land, and had to pay ten per cent. interest.

At the time of Mr. Knapp's coming here there were no railroads, and Chicago was the principal marketing place, and he had to haul his wheat there, fording the river at Rockford, and selling his wheat for fifty and fifty-five cents per bushel. On the return trip, he would bring merchandise and other necessities for family use. The lumber with which he erected his first house was all hauled from Chicago by himself. His present farm contains two hundred acres, and is one of the best in the county, its good substantial buildings showing it to be in the hands of a sagacious manager. A number of springs of pure water, which flow from one hundred and fifty to two hundred barrels an hour, are to be found on the place. He has built a dam and formed a beautiful pond, in which are to be found the speckled-back trout.

The subject of this life notice, was married, in 1844, to Elizabeth (Herrington) Williams, a native of Canada, and a daughter of the Rev. Richard

Herrington, and the widow of Warren Williams. Mrs. Knapp died December 14, 1888. Mr. Knapp has three children living, namely: Loretta Bate, Aurella Franklin and Warren J. Lucretia, the youngest daughter, married John S. Bates, and died in Rockford, in July, 1890. Lovina, the third child, died when eight years old. Mr. Knapp is a consistent member of the Baptist Church, of which his estimable wife was also a valued member. From a genealogy of the Knapp family, we find they are of Saxon origin, three brothers having come to America, William, Nicholas and Roger, in 1630. Their descendants are numerous, and settled in the various different States of this continent. Mr. Knapp is a most excellent man, highly spoken of by all who know him, his habits being unexceptionable, and his whole life most exemplary.



GUST A. WANSTROM, junior partner of the firm of Johnson & Wanstrom, dealers in clothing and merchant tailoring goods, located at No. 420 East State Street, has been a partner in this concern since the 1st of May, 1885. He is a wide-awake and enterprising young business man and one well known throughout the community. He was born in Sweden on the 17th of March, 1861, and was still quite young when he crossed the Atlantic to America with his parents, Gust and Gustava (Barson) Wanstrom. The family came at once to Rockford, where they have since resided. His father, a carpenter by trade, is now living a retired life at his home on Third Avenue. Both himself and wife are about sixty-five years of age. They are members of the First Lutheran Church and are highly respected people. Of their family two sons and two daughters are yet living.

Our subject was reared to manhood in this city, and when a youth applied himself to study and got a practical education. In the early part of 1871, he went to Chicago and was a clerk in a meat-market in that city for two years, after which he returned to Rockford and has here since resided. Having learned the trade of a cabinet-maker, he

became connected with the Central Furniture Company and was one of its stockholders. He also was employed in the Forest City Furniture Company and is now a Director in the Royal Sewing Machine Company, which was organized in this city in the summer of 1890. He is also interested in other concerns, and by close attention to business has already won a handsome competence.

Mr. Wanstrom was married in this city in 1888, the lady of his choice being Miss Emma Anderson, who was born and reared in Rockford and is a daughter of Andrew Anderson. Her father is now a successful farmer, living in the town of Newport, and is a prominent citizen there. Himself and wife are members of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford and take an active interest in its work.

Mr. and Mrs. Wanstrom occupy a pleasant home at No. 909 Kishwaukee Street, where hospitality abounds and good cheer reigns supreme. They are active members of the First Lutheran Church, in which Mr. Wanstrom has been a Trustee for nine years. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles. He has been the architect of his own fortunes, and that he has worked truly and well is shown by the success that has crowned his efforts. He is recognized as one of the leading business men of the city, and is now one of its prosperous residents, enjoying a competence well earned and richly deserved.



MARTIN HILLIARD, who is engaged in the grocery business at No. 412 Seventh Street, has carried on operations in that line in Rockford for about twenty years. His life has been full of varied and interesting experiences and its record, we feel assured, will be received with interest by many of our readers. He has sailed all over the globe and traveled through several countries. From his native home in Sweden he went to Germany, and later took passage at Hamburg on a sailing-vessel which three months later landed him in New York City. He afterwards went to sea, shipping before the mast, and became second mate on a merchant ship, of

which he formed one of the crew for several years. It sailed in nearly all the waters of the globe and he landed at the chief seaports of the world, especially in the European countries, the South American provinces and Australia. He rounded Cape Horn and Cape Good Hope, and went through all the experiences of the old tar. After one voyage which lasted for thirteen months, he left his vessel at Liverpool, England, and thence again crossed the water to New Orleans and proceeded up the Mississippi River, on whose waters he then sailed for two years, from the mouth to St. Paul.

Later, Mr. Hilliard's mode of life was completely changed, and he became a member of the United States Artillery, serving for five years at Key West, Fla. On his discharge from the service, he opened a grocery store in that place, where he did business for some time. While in the army, nearly the whole of his company died of yellow fever and Mr. Hilliard himself took the fever, barely escaping death. He afterwards sold his interest in the store and came to the North, locating in Chicago, where he opened a grocery on the corner of Chicago and La Salle Avenues. Subsequently, he did business at the corner of Superior and North Clark Streets, but later sold out and went to California across the plains. After a wearisome journey of six months, he arrived at his destination and for ten years engaged in mining in Placer County, not far from the American River. After that varied but successful period in his life, he started on the return trip by way of the Isthmus of Panama. At Aspinwall he took the smallpox and was confined in the hospital for thirty-one days. He then proceeded to New York, where he had a severe attack of Shagers fever, from which he had not recovered on reaching Rockford.

In Chicago, Mr. Hilliard wedded a Swedish lady, Miss Amelia Long, who was a good wife and helpmate to her husband until her death, which occurred in the autumn of 1873. She left two small children: Joseph, the elder, a promising young man, graduated from the Rockford Business College and now assists his father in the store; Emma A., who for some time has been house-keeper for her father and brother, is a cultured young lady, well educated. The family attend the First Lutheran

Church and are held in high regard in the circles of society in which they move. Mr. Hilliard is a member of the Odd Fellows' Society, and, in politics, is a supporter of Republican principles. He is now seventy-three years of age, but his years rest lightly upon him and his faculties are still unimpaired. He has led a busy and useful life and has seen much of the world. His varied experiences have made him a well-informed man and a pleasant and entertaining companion.



WELLS FISH. In scanning the lives and enterprises of the citizens of Rockford, it is pleasant to note the exercise of enterprise in every walk of life, and the achievement of success in every department of business. This we are able to discern in the career of our subject, who was formerly a farmer but is now retired. He came here from his farm in Winnebago Township, this county, early in the year 1892, located on Rockton Avenue, and has since been connected with the Rockford Galvanizing Works.

Our subject made his first appearance in Winnebago County in the fall of 1868, and purchased a good farm of one hundred and fifteen acres on section 4, of Winnebago Township, where he resided for twenty-three years. He made many improvements, erected good buildings of all kinds, and was considered one of the most progressive and successful agriculturists of his section. During the last twelve years of his life on the farm, he carried on a dairy business and was as successful in this as in all previous enterprises.

The Keystone State claims him as her son, and he was born in Pike County, of that State, on the 15th of January, 1831. He was but a small child when he moved with his parents to New York State, and settled with them in Tompkins County, where he remained until he came West to Illinois. His parents, Joseph J. and Sarah (Cole) Fish, were natives of Pennsylvania, and were of German and English descent, respectively. After the marriage of this worthy couple, they continued to make their home in Pennsylvania for a number of years and then moved to New York State, where both

passed the remainder of their lives. The father was a mason by trade and an honest, hardworking man. He was a Methodist in religion, and a Whig in politics. The mother was also a Methodist in her religious views. Both died on the old homestead in Tompkins County, the father when sixty-two years of age, and the mother about twelve years later. They were worthy and much esteemed people. Her father was a patriot of the Revolution and was in Gen. Washington's army.

Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Fish, five sons and four daughters, and three of the sons, William, John and James, were in the Civil War, the last two serving through the entire conflict. William was Captain of the company in his regiment (the One Hundred and Ninth) and was killed while gallantly leading the same in the first charge on Petersburg, Va., during the disastrous explosion of the mines under that place. He was then a single man. James and John returned to the parental roof, but the former is now deceased. Another son, Joseph C., now resides in Kansas City, Mo. All the daughters are deceased.

Wells Fish was married first in Tompkins County, N. Y., to Miss Margaret Theal, who was born in Westchester County but reared in Tompkins County. Mated in temperament and in nature, this union proved most happy, and as the years passed one child was born to them, Willard, who died when about nine years of age. Mrs. Fish passed away from this life while yet in the vigor of her womanhood, when about forty-nine years of age, her death occurring in Winnebago County.

The second marriage of Mr. Wells occurred in Winnebago County, to Mrs. Mary Colson, *nee* Wygant, who was born and reared in Steuben County, N. Y. She was first married to Ezra Colson, who was a New York State merchant and who served through the Rebellion, dying a few years after returning from the army. He left one child, Ada, who is now the wife of James Rodgers, present proprietor of the Rockford Galvanizing Works, which he has controlled for the past three years. Mr. and Mrs. Rodgers now reside in Rockford and are prominent and much esteemed young people. To Mr. Fish's present union has been

born one child, Harry, who is attending the public schools of the city. Mr. Fish is a Republican in politics and two years previous to coming to Rockford he was Assessor for two years. He was also Township Trustee for fifteen years. He and Mrs. Fish attend the Presbyterian Church.



EZRA B. SACKETT has been a resident of Rockford since the spring of 1855, when he came to this city and established business as a painter and house decorator. He began on a small scale, but has steadily worked up a growing trade until he now has a liberal patronage. Many of the private residences and public buildings of the city have been beautified by his handiwork, for he is an expert in this line.

Mr. Sackett was born in Volney Township, Oswego County, N. Y., in 1822, and at the age of fifteen removed with his parents to Chautauqua County, where he was reared and educated. The Sackett family was founded in America by three brothers of English birth who emigrated to this country prior to the Revolutionary War. His father, Anson Sackett, was a native of Vermont, and in that State married Theodosia Ruggles, who came of a good old New England family. Soon after their marriage, they removed to the Empire State, locating on a farm in Oswego County, and there all their children were born. As before stated, the family subsequently went to Chautauqua County, where the parents spent their remaining days, residing on a farm in the township of Hanover until called to their final rest. Mr. Sackett died at the age of eighty-four and his wife died five years previous, in her seventy-sixth year. They were members of the Episcopal Church and lived unassuming, upright lives. Their family numbered thirteen children, four of whom died in infancy. Of the nine who grew to mature years, three sons and three daughters are yet living. One sister, Mrs. William Swits, resides in Rockford.

No event of special importance occurred during the childhood of our subject. In Westfield, N. Y., after arriving at man's estate, he married Miss

Simena R. Ward, daughter of Richard and Lois (Wilcox) Ward, natives of Connecticut. After their marriage, her parents removed to what was then Log City, Madison County, N. Y., where Mr. Ward established a tannery and carried on a shoe store. Subsequently, he removed with his family to Chautauqua County, where he followed agricultural pursuits until his death, at the age of eighty-two. His wife had passed away a good many years previous, when sixty years of age. They were members of the Congregational Church and were known as kind, hospitable and Christian people. With one exception, all of their thirteen children grew to manhood and womanhood and were all married but two. There is but one sister of Mrs. Sackett now living, Mrs. R. E. Morris, of Fond du Lac, Wis.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sackett have been born four children: Minnie, who died at the age of two and a half years; Jennie S., wife of Dr. Clinton B. Helms, a successful dentist of Rockford, residing on Walnut Street with his wife and their two children, Charles and Raymond; Charles T., who occupies a clerical position with the Rockford Insurance Company, wedded May Manny, by whom he has one daughter, Edith, and their home is on North Church Street; Harry B., the youngest, is a special agent for the Rockford Insurance Company. The family is widely and favorably known throughout this community. The parents are both members of the Episcopal Church and Mr. Sackett has served as Vestryman. In politics, he is a Republican, and socially, is a Master Mason. He owns a good business house at No. 119 First Street and a comfortable and modern home at No. 205 South First Street. His success in life has all been due to his own efforts and he may well be termed a self-made man.



GEORGE H. S. KENT, of Roscoe, was born in Erie County, Pa., April 7, 1821. The founder of the family in America was Asa Kent, who was brought when a babe from England to America about two years after the landing of the "Mayflower." The grandfather of our subject, who also bore the name of Asa Kent, was

born in Connecticut in 1759. He removed from Oneida County, N. Y., to Ashtabula County, Ohio, where he died at the age of sixty-eight years, leaving a wife and six children, two sons and four daughters. Asa Kent, Jr., father of our subject, was born in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1792, and at the age of twenty-two years went to Erie County, Pa., where he bought one hundred acres of timber land at \$4 per acre. Many years afterward, he came to Illinois, locating in Winnebago County, where he died at the age of sixty, leaving three sons and a daughter, namely: George H. S., of this sketch; Sarah, who was born in 1825; Hiram, who was born in 1830, and died in Roscoe, of smallpox in 1853, at the age of twenty-three years; and Elphinstone, named for Lord Elphinstone, of England, who is a farmer of Potter County, S. Dak.

Our subject spent the first twenty-three years of his life upon his father's farm in Erie County, which he helped to clear. On completing his education, acquired in the common schools, he engaged in teaching for four successive winters. The spring of 1844 witnessed his arrival in Roscoe. He came on the old steamer "Madison" commanded by Capt. Wilkinson, of Erie, who spent almost a lifetime on the Lakes and died on his boat. They were seven days coming from Erie to Chicago, and Mr. Kent rode from there to Belvidere with a farmer who had been to market. He traversed the distance between Belvidere and Roscoe on foot. Here he purchased a team and followed teaming to Chicago and many other points in the Northwest, carrying prospecting parties. He made his first purchase of land in 1849, becoming possessor of forty acres, for which he paid \$10 per acre. It is still his property, but is worth five times that sum to-day. He afterwards added to his landed possessions from time to time, until now four hundred and fifty acres yield to him a good income. He continued to engage in active farming until 1891, when he bought his present residence, which was the home of Mrs. Kent's parents from 1847 until 1874.

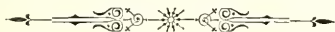
In this house, in the fall of 1853, Mr. Kent and Miss B. P. Smith were united in marriage. The lady was born in Mercer County, Pa., in 1830, and when a maiden of sixteen summers came to



P. M. REED.

Roscoe with her parents, John C. and Charlotte (Croy) Smith, the former a native of the Key-stone State, and the latter of Vermont. With their eight children, they came West during a pleasant autumn, and after an enjoyable journey of twenty-three days, arrived at their destination, but soon after locating here the family were all taken with chills and fever. The parents died at the home of Mrs. Kent in February, 1881. Both died of paralysis within a few hours of each other, at the age of eighty-one years, and were buried in the same grave.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kent have been born six children, but three are now deceased. Charles and Fred died in childhood, and William Forest died of typhoid fever in Fargo, N. Dak., in January, 1883, at the age of twenty-three years; Francis Smith, born in 1854, is operating the home farm; Mary E., born in 1855, has been suffering from insanity since 1883; and Ernestine D. is now the wife of Victor G. Coe, of Iowa City, Iowa, who was graduated from the State University and is now pursuing a law course. The parents of this family are members of the Congregational Church. Mr. Kent has been a life-long Republican, and is a staunch supporter of that party. He may truly be called a self-made man, for by his own efforts he has worked his way upward to a position of affluence, and certainly deserves great credit for the prosperity which has crowned his labors.



PETER M. REED. At one time this gentleman was a leading contractor and builder of Rockford, and many evidences of his ability and skill in that direction are to be seen in the city. He was regarded as a first-class workman, a reliable and straightforward man, and an excellent citizen. For many years he was one of the foremost contractors and builders of Rockford and had in his employ most of the time from forty to fifty men. Were it necessary to add more as to his ability as a mechanic or builder, perhaps the greatest compliment that could be paid him would be to point out those monuments of his

handiwork which now grace the city. He was seriously injured by a fall from a grain elevator he was building, and died on the morning of the 7th of November, 1889. Honored and respected alike in business and social circles, his sudden death was lamented by all.

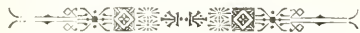
Mr. Reed was born in the Valley of Karlmeir, Sweden, September 16, 1838, and his parents, who were natives also of that country, are still residing there and are quite aged. The father is a farmer by occupation. Peter M. Reed attained to manhood and learned the carpenter's trade in his native country. In 1864, he emigrated to America, and, coming to Illinois, located in Rockford, where he became the owner of some valuable property, and where his widow is now residing. He also owned stock in the shoe and upholstery factory of that city.

For some time after coming to Rockford, Mr. Reed was engaged as a bridge-builder throughout the West and owned a construction car, which was well-equipped for boarding his men. He was very successful, but the work was not congenial to him, and he entered the building and contracting business in this city. In the meantime, he had gone to Chicago, and for four years was in the employ of the Street Car Company, laying tracks and building houses for their use, etc. In 1873, he returned to Rockford and there remained until his death.

In Chicago, Mr. Reed was married to Miss Johanna Peterson, a native of Sweden, born near the birthplace of her husband, on the 11th of November, 1838, and she was there reared and educated. Her parents, John and Christina (Daniels) Peterson, were natives of that country and the father is a farmer. Both are living, the father being eighty years of age. They are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church. Mrs. Reed belongs to the Lutheran Church and her husband held membership in the same. In his political views, Mr. Reed was a Republican, and, socially, he was a member of the Independent Order of Mutual Aid. He was the father of seven children, two, Dalia and Anton, and one unnamed, having passed away before him. The others are Ansel, a promising young man, who is now engaged in the silver plate business in Connecticut; P. Victor, a ma-

chinist for the Barnes' Manufacturing Company of Rockford; Selma and Tura, who are at home.

On another page a portrait of Mr. Reed is presented to our readers.



JACOB BLEWFIELD, now retired and living comfortably with his daughter at No. 110 North Horsman Street, has only been with the latter about a year, having previously made his home on Auburn Street, in the suburbs of the northwest part of the city, where he owns eleven acres of very valuable property.

Mr. Blewfield was born in Rockland County, N. Y., June 9, 1818, and came of an old and prominent New York State family. His grandfather Blewfield was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and served with the Colonists in many engagements. He was wounded in an engagement on the Hudson River, and his death resulted from these wounds a few years later. He was an early settler of Rockland County, N. Y., and there spent all his active life. He came of German parentage. He left a large family of children, and one, John, was the father of our subject. The latter, with the elder members of the family, spelled their names Blofield. He was born near Haverstraw, in Rockland County, and was engaged in different occupations until his death, when about four-score years of age. For some time he was engaged in building the lighthouse on Stony Point, in the Hudson River, where his maternal grandfather had fought during the Revolution. John Blewfield, or Blofield, was a man of sterling traits of character, and was a worthy citizen of his community. He was married on the Hudson River to Miss Hannah Dikens, who was also a native of Haverstraw, Rockland County, and who inherited French blood from her paternal, and Dutch from her maternal, ancestors. Her father, Richard Dikens, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and his knowledge of Stony Point, N. Y., and of the most accessible route to it, was the cause of his being selected as the leader of the American forces in the successful attack on that position. He died at an advanced age, near the

Hudson River, in Rockland County, and was an excellent specimen of the old settlers of that day. Many were the interesting stories told by this gentleman and his worthy wife of the early days, and our subject remembers most of them. He also remembers when he wore pants made from flax that had been woven by his grandmother.

The mother of our subject, Hannah Blewfield, was one of ten children, four sons and six daughters, all of whom lived to be aged people. Eight were married and reared large families, but all are now deceased.

Our subject was one of the following family: Polly, John, Peggy, Abbey, Nancy, Tilley, Jacob, Abraham and Samuel. All these reached mature years, married, and all had families. Jacob and his brother Abraham are the only ones now living. The latter resides at Haverstraw, N. Y., and is a successful agriculturist. Jacob was reared in his native county, and when nearly of age, or about sixty-three years ago, began boating on the Hudson River, the name of his first boat being "Mad Anthony," on which he remained and cooked for some time. Later, he became a man before the mast, and subsequently master of the boat "Fair Play," that plied between Albany and New York City. He saw the first steamboat that made that trip. He has ever been industrious and ambitious, and what he has accumulated is the result of hard work on his part. He assisted in building many of the public works in the harbor of New York City, including the dry-dock, and worked on what is known as Gibbitt's Island.

Mr. Blewfield is now seventy-four years of age, but remarkably well preserved for his years, both in mind and body. His memory is retentive, and he remembers events of his early life very vividly. He was married at Haverstraw, Rockland County, N. Y., to Miss Rachel Springstead, who was born and reared in that place. Her parents, Jacob and Lotta (Forkingson) Springstead, were also natives of that county, in which they passed their entire lives, dying when quite aged. Of the large family of children born to them, four are now living: Jacob, David, Sarah and Nancy, all of whom are married and have families.

Mrs. Blewfield died at her home in this city on

the 26th of April, 1891, when nearly seventy-three years of age. She was an excellent woman, and in every way a true companion to her husband. She was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Of the eleven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Blewfield, two are deceased, Lotta and Malinda, the latter dying when young. The former married George Kilburn, of Detroit, Mich. The living children are: Amelia, wife of William Stewart; Sarah, wife of Ed Richardson, a well driller, of Rockford; S. Gus married Miss Nellie Winchester, and is engaged in the saloon business in Rockford; Mary married Kit Sawyer, a business man of Rockford; Matilda is the wife of George Gailor, a blacksmith of Rockford; Jacob, at home; Dell, wife of Jerome Blewfield, a bartender for Gus Blewfield, at the Holland House, of Rockford; Charles, agent for the Illinois Central Railroad, of East Rockford, married Miss Florence Soul, and Hattie, wife of Wallie Furman, a milk dealer.

Mr. Blewfield is one of the honest, upright citizens of the city, and is public spirited and enterprising. In politics, he is a Democrat.



MINER CLIKEMAN. A prominent position among the prosperous and thrifty farmers of Winnebago County is occupied by this gentleman, who owns and operates a fine estate in Owen Township. He was born in Wright, Schoharie County, N. Y., February 26, 1832. He comes of German ancestry, his grandfather, Lawrence Clikeman, having emigrated from his native land, Germany, during the Revolutionary War, in which he served as a soldier in the British army. During the conflict, he was taken prisoner, and upon being liberated became a legalized citizen of the United States. He died in the town of Knox, Albany County, N. Y.

Peter Clikeman, father of our subject, was born in Albany County, N. Y., was there reared and married and followed farming pursuits. After the Civil War, he came West to Winnebago County and spent his last years with his children. His

marriage united him with Jane, daughter of John and Magdaline Hilligass, and a native of New York, her death occurring in the town of Wright. She reared seven children, namely: Mary A., Magdaline, John F., Miner, Seneca, Jacob A. and Peter H.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native county and at the age of nineteen engaged to learn the trade of a carpenter and joiner, at which he served an apprenticeship of three years and then followed the trade for one year in the Empire State. In 1862, he removed West to Illinois, and, settling in Owen Township, operated as a renter for about six years and also worked a time at his trade. His next venture was the purchase of the farm where he now resides, which at that time was entirely unimproved, having not a single tree nor any building upon it. He has planted fruit, shade and ornamental trees, erected a fine set of farm buildings, and brought the two hundred and sixty acres to fine cultivation. In 1886, he bought one hundred and sixty acres in Jackson County, Minn., which are well improved and embellished with suitable buildings, and that place he now rents.

June 4, 1852, Mr. Clikeman was united in marriage with Ann Elizabeth Allen, who was born in Berne, Albany County, N. Y. Her father, William Allen, was, it is thought, born in the same county. John Allen, her grandfather, was a farmer in Knox, Albany County, N. Y., and there spent his last years. William Allen learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed during most of his entire life. He is now living at Reidsville, N. Y., with his daughter and has reached the advanced age of eighty-three years. The mother of Mrs. Clikeman, whose maiden name was Eliza Ann Angle, was born in Albany County, N. Y., the daughter of Philip and Lydia (Miller) Angle, and passed her days in Albany County.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Clikeman includes the following living children: Charles, Sidney, Austin, Vernie A. and William C. Adella and Laura are deceased. Charles Clikeman is a carpenter and joiner, but is at present managing his father's farm. Sidney, now residing in Rockford, is a thorough and skilled mechanic. Austin is an extensive farmer at Greene, Butler County, Iowa.

Vernie A., now residing at Rockford, has followed school teaching for ten years, and is one of the best teachers in Winnebago County; he is an exemplary young man, of good moral habits, and is connected with the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church. William C. is a professional tonsorial artist of Chicago. The position occupied by the family in social circles is an enviable one, and they enjoy the esteem of a host of warm personal friends. In his political belief, Mr. Cliekman is a Republican, and his progressive spirit and energetic disposition have been instrumental in the promotion of the public welfare.



GUST BERGQUIST, Superintendent of the furnishing department of the Rockford Manufacturing Company, has held that position since its organization in 1889 and is a stockholder in the same. For nineteen years, he was a painter for Emerson, Talcott & Co., and this has been his principal occupation through life. Since 1869, he has lived in Rockford and he now has a comfortable home at No. 904 Seventh Street. He is a man of push, enterprise and reliability, and a popular member of the company.

Mr. Bergquist was born in Vermland, Sweden, July 7, 1836, and while growing up learned the painter's trade. He is a brother of Oscar Bergquist, in whose sketch will be found a full history of the family. Our subject was married, in his native country, to Miss Mary Swensen, who was born and reared in the same neighborhood and who was the only one of her family to set foot upon American soil. Her mother was born in 1802 and died in Sweden in 1888. The father, Swen Olson, was born in 1799 and is still living. He has been a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church all his life and his wife was a worthy member of the same. He has a son and two daughters living in Sweden, all quite aged now.

After marriage, Mr. Bergquist and his wife lived in their native province until after the birth of three of their children when they came to the United States, settling in Rockford, Ill. Mr. Bergquist came over in 1869 and his wife with her chil-

dren followed him in the fall of that year. Since coming to this country, they have had four children, seven in all, but two are deceased: Mathias died when six months old in Sweden; a son, Fred L., a promising young man, died in Rockford when seventeen years of age. The children living are Emma, wife of August N. A. Larson, who is a cabinet-maker and assistant Superintendent of the Desk and Furniture Company of Rockford; S. Oscar, Secretary and Treasurer of the Desk and Furniture Company, of Rockford (see sketch); Gustaf A., a painter of the Skandia Plow Company, married Hilma Johnson; Axel T., at home, single, and Andrew W., at home, single.

Mr. and Mrs. Bergquist were among the early settlers of Rockford and have witnessed the wonderful changes made in the city during their residence here. They are honest, upright people and are universally respected. All the family hold membership in the Zion Lutheran Church. Mr. Bergquist is active in politics and casts his vote with the Republican party.



CHARLES A. FORSBERG is the Superintendent of the Rockford Machine Company, of Rockford, which he established in November, 1889. Two years later, it was incorporated with a capital stock of \$10,000, since which time he has been President and Superintendent, while F. A. Lindstedt occupies the position of Secretary. Their plant is located at Nos. 902 and 904 Tenth Street, and they employ thirteen men, who are engaged in the manufacture of wood-working machinery, making a specialty of that used in furniture factories.

Mr. Forsberg was born in Sweden, September 2, 1856, and is a son of Gustaf Forsberg, who was born in that country in 1834, and there makes his home. He is one of the old railroad engineers of his native land, and is a practical machinist and successful inventor. His wife, whose maiden name was Caroline Lendstedt, died in Sweden in 1877.

Our subject is the only member of the family residing in this country. The days of his boyhood and youth were passed in Sweden, where, at the



S. J. Wing

age of thirteen, he began learning the machinist's trade, which he followed for some years. Subsequently, he became an engineer on board an ocean steamer in the European waters, sailing as far north as Hammerfest. He has been in the northern regions, where the sun has shone for months, and visited many ports in those waters. In 1880, he determined to try his fortune in America, and sailed for New York. The following year he came to Rockford, where he has since made his home.

Mr. Forsberg was united in marriage in this city with Miss Emma Anderson, who was born in Sweden, October 9, 1858, and came to this country in 1881. Soon afterwards, she gave her hand in marriage to our subject, and their union has been blessed with a family of six children, namely: Guerda, Gustaf, Fritz, Olga, Mary and Edith, all of whom are attending school in this city. The parents attend the Baptist Church, of which Mrs. Forsberg is a member. On questions of National importance, Mr. Forsberg votes with the Republican party. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, and one of the prominent Swedish gentlemen of Rockford. Following the business of a machinist, he has won success, which is due entirely to his own efforts, and for it he certainly deserves great credit. A man of sterling worth, he well deserves representation in the history of his adopted country.



LEWIS J. WING, who resides on section 20, Rockford Township, Winnebago County, was born in Roxbury, Delaware County, N. Y., on the 9th of December, 1809, and is a son of Samuel Wing, a native of Fishkill, Dutchess County, N. Y. The grandfather, Elihu Wing, was also a native of the Empire State and a member of the Society of Friends. He removed from Dutchess County to White Plains, N. Y., in a very early day. He met his death while assisting in raising a building.

Samuel Wing was quite young when his father died. He settled in Roxbury after his marriage

and bought a farm where he made his home until 1812, when he removed to Ulster County, N. Y. Subsequently, he returned to Delaware County, and later removed to Chenango County, where his death occurred. He married Esther Bennett, who was born in Fishkill, Dutchess County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Kelly) Bennett. She spent her last years with her daughter in the town of Hector, N. Y.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood in the State of his nativity, his boyhood days being spent in the usual manner of farmer lads upon the frontier. His mother spun and wove cloth and the children were all dressed in home-spun clothing. Lewis remained at home until about the time of his marriage, which was celebrated in 1834, Miss Eleanor Bartle becoming his wife. She was a native of Chenango County, N. Y., and died in Boone County, Ill., in 1853. Mr. Wing was again married, on the 21st of May, 1855, his second union being with Susan Hickley, who was born in Orleans County, Vt., and died in June, 1891, leaving three children: Lewis, Emma and Katie. By the first marriage were born five children: Elijah, Mary, George, Almena and Eleanor.

Mr. Wing's first purchase of land consisted of twenty-five acres in Green Township, Chenango County, N. Y. Upon his marriage, he settled thereon, making it his home for four years. He had learned the trade of a miller and followed it in addition to farming. When he sold out in Chenango County, he removed to Steuben County, of the same State, where he rented a mill and engaged in that business until 1841. That year witnessed his emigration to Ohio, where he resided in Ashtabula County for ten months.

In 1845, Mr. Wing came to Illinois, accompanied by his wife and four children, making the journey with teams. Locating in Belvidere, Boone County, he there engaged in milling until 1849, when he removed to Cherry Valley Township, where he rented a tract of land for four years. He then purchased a farm in Flora Township, Boone County, where he engaged in farming until 1862, when he sold and purchased a farm in Cherry Valley Township. Upon that land he resided until 1870, when

he again sold and bought the farm which is now his home. It is located on section 20, Rockford Township, and borders on the Rock River. The well-titled fields and many improvements indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner, who is regarded as one of the successful and progressive agriculturists of the community as well as a valued citizen. In politics, Mr. Wing was a Whig in early life and also a staunch Abolitionist, and since the organization of the Republican party has been one of its stalwart supporters.

The lithographic portrait of Mr. Wing accompanies this sketch.



EDWARD MULFORD. This gentleman, who is one of the prominent residents of Rockford, personally superintends the operation of his two farms, one of which is in Ogle County, and contains two hundred and forty-two acres, while the other includes a quarter-section in Boone County.

The original of this sketch was born in Guilford Township, Winnebago County, March 31, 1811, and is the son of William Mulford, a native of Long Island. From a genealogical chart of the Mulford family, which was published by William Remsen Mulford, of New York City, who was a member of the New York Genealogical and Historical Society, we extract the following information in regard to the early history of the family:

The first ancestor of our subject in America was John Mulford, who was born in England, and on emigrating to this country was accompanied by his brother William, they making their home in Connecticut. John's name appears many times in the Minutes of the Council of Connecticut. He removed from that State to Southampton, L. I., previous to 1613. The next in line was his son, Capt. Samuel Mulford, who was a town officer in Southampton at a very early age, and was Captain in the Colonial militia. He went to England in 1716 and appeared before a committee of the House of Lords, and by his pleading, the duty on whale oil was removed. He was a member of the Provisional Assembly. The next in line was his

son, Capt. Mathew Mulford, who was a land-owner in Southampton and also a Captain in the Colonial militia. Following him was Col. David Mulford, also a native of Southampton and a Colonel in active service in the Revolutionary War. The next in line was Mathew Mulford, the grandfather of our subject. He was born in Southampton and removed to Rensselaer County, N. Y., in 1800, where he was one of the early pioneers. He secured a tract of land which he improved and resided upon until his death, on the 21th of March, 1845. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Hutchinson; she departed this life July 31, 1834. Mr. Mathew Mulford served in the War of 1812 and was a pensioner of the Government during his last years.

The father of our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits in his native State, where he resided until 1835, at which time he came to Illinois, being one of the early settlers of Winnebago County. There were but one or two houses where Rockford now stands, and at that early day the land surveys were not yet completed. Wolves, deer, bears and other wild animals were numerous and Indians often proved troublesome. Mr. Mulford made a claim to a tract of Government land in what is now Guilford Township, where he erected a log cabin, covering it with poles, on which he strewed hay. Being single he kept "batch" for a time, and in that humble abode commenced housekeeping after his marriage. He continued to reside there until his death, March 2, 1862.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Lucy Stewart. She was born in Orleans County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Nathani and Lydia (Young) Stewart. The children born of her union with Mr. Mulford were named respectively Eli H., Edward, John H., William D., Charles L., Mary E. and Ida Viola. Edward Mulford, of this sketch, was reared on the home farm and attended the pioneer school in Cherry Valley Township. The first schoolhouse was built of brick, with seats made of slabs placed on wooden pins for legs. In his early youth, he remembers that there were no railroads in this locality and Chicago was the nearest market and depot of supplies.

The original of this sketch remained with his

parents until the outbreak of the Civil War, when, in June, 1862, he enlisted in Company A. Sixty-seventh Illinois Infantry, serving his country bravely and honorably for three months, at the end of which time he was discharged on account of disability resulting from a sunstroke. Later, he located at Cherry Valley, where he engaged in the drug business and also in buying and shipping grain, continuing thus actively engaged for about ten years. In 1882, he came to Rockford, where he has since resided. He has always maintained an interest in agricultural pursuits and now owns a farm of two hundred and forty-two acres in Ogle County and one of one hundred and sixty acres in Boone County, and gives his personal attention to the supervision of both.

October 22, 1867, Edward Mulford was united in marriage with Sophronia Johnson, who was born in Cherry Valley, Winnebago County, November 22, 1844. To them have been born two children, Mary Edna and William B. In his political views, our subject votes with the Republican party, and, being a Grand Army man, is a member of Nevius Post No. 1.

Peter B. Johnson, the father of Mrs. Mulford, was born in Sturbridge, Worcester County, Mass., where his father, James Johnson, as far as is known, was also born. The latter-named gentleman was a farmer and passed his last days in Sturbridge. The grandmother of Mrs. Mulford was the daughter of Peter Belknap. She died on the home farm in Sturbridge. The father of our subject's wife was a tanner by trade, which occupation he did not follow, however, being engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes at Sturbridge. In 1837, he emigrated to Illinois and located in what is now Cherry Valley Township, this county, where his twin brother, James B., had previously located. There he entered a tract of land from the Government, three miles south of the village, and erected a log house in which the two families made their home for a time. Mr. Johnson then erected a brick residence, in which the two families again took up their abode and here Mr. Johnson improved a farm and resided until 1856. At that date, he sold his property and removed to Rockford, where he made his home a few months and then located on

another farm which he owned in Cherry Valley Township, and there passed the remainder of his life. His wife was Miss Sophronia Lamb, who was born in Sturbridge, Mass., and was a daughter of Luther and Lavinia (Willard) Lamb. She died on the home farm in 1841. The father of Mrs. Mulford served as Assessor of Cherry Valley Township and also held the responsible position of Sheriff of Winnebago County.



JOSEPH C. TRUMAN is one of those farmers whose places, by virtue of their well-tilled acres, their neat buildings and general appearance of prosperity, proclaim them to be men who are ambitious to reach for a higher state of perfection. His home is located on section 26, Rockton Township, Winnebago County, where he is engaged in mixed farming.

He of whom we write was born November 25, 1828, in Jefferson County, N. Y., and is a son of Joseph Truman, who departed this life November 27, 1829, when thirty-one years of age, leaving a widow and a son, our subject. His wife was prior to her marriage Miss Fannie Fitch and had her birth in Tolland County, Conn. She is the daughter of Converse and Aruma (Grant) Fitch, who were farmers and lived and died in the Nutmeg State at the respective ages of seventy-eight and eighty-six years. They were the parents of the following sons and daughters: William, Russell, Orsan, Halsey, Augusta C., Warren, Hial, Nathan, Fannie and Lorina, the only one living, and who is now Mrs. Nelson W. Northrop, of Ellicottsville, N. Y. When about ten or twelve years of age, Mr. Truman of this sketch went to live with one Joseph Clark, a farmer and silk manufacturer. After being in his employ until seventeen years of age, he struck out for himself and worked as a woolen manufacturer in Massachusetts and Connecticut for nine years, where he was boss weaver or, more properly speaking, foreman of his department.

Joseph C. Truman and Miss Mary A. Hollister, who was born September 28, 1832, were united in marriage in 1851. Three years later, the young couple came West to Rockton, where our subject

was engaged in the paper mill. Two years thereafter, the firm sold out and our subject then purchased eighty acres of land, for which he paid \$25 per acre and which is his present abiding-place. He built thereon a house, 21x28 feet in dimensions, and in 1871 erected his present commodious barn, 35x50 feet. He has since added other land to his estate and is more than ordinarily successful in cultivating the soil.

To Mr. and Mrs. Truman have been born four sons and one daughter, the first-born of whom died when an infant. The other members of the family are Burdett C., a farmer in this township, who married Rhoda A. Weed, of Lanark, and has five sons; Lissie M., now Mrs. Edwin S. Gleasman, resides in Owen Township; Arthur died in 1856 when nine months old, and Fred C., who died, aged eighteen years, in September, 1890. Although brought up among Democratic friends, our subject has only voted for one candidate of that persuasion—Franklin Pierce; he now casts a Republican vote and has for eleven years been Assessor of his township and School Director and Clerk of the School Board for twenty-one years. With his wife, he is a conscientious member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rockton.



THOMAS HALL is numbered among the early settlers of Winnebago County, where he has made his home for over a quarter of a century. He is now living a retired life at No. 1504 Charles Street, Rockford. Of English birth, he was born in Shropshire in 1828, and was a son of Richard and Sarah (Forgham) Hall, also natives of that county, where they spent their entire lives. The father by occupation was a farmer, and followed that business throughout his entire life. He died at the age of seventy and his wife passed away in her sixty-sixth year. Both were members of the Methodist Church. In their family were seven sons and three daughters, and all the daughters and four sons reside in England. William and James died in that land, and another brother, John, who came to this country, enlisted in Company H,

One Hundred and Nineteenth New York Infantry, under Capt. Stevens, went to the front and participated in many engagements. He finally took sick, and died in the hospital at Fortress Monroe, thus giving his life in defense of his adopted country.

In the usual manner of farmer lads, our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth, and attained his majority in his native county. At length, he bade good-bye to his old home, and, boarding the "Martha Jane Ward," sailed from Liverpool to New York, where he arrived four weeks later. He went to Westmoreland, Oneida County, N. Y., and in the foundries of that place learned the molder's trade. While in Westmoreland, he led to the marriage altar Miss Elizabeth Hargraves, a native of Lancashire, England, who, when a maiden of fifteen summers, came to the United States with her father, James Hargraves, and her brothers. Her mother had died in England. The family located in Westmoreland, where Mr. Hargraves resided for some years, and then removed to Rondout, N. Y., where he died at the age of fifty-seven years. His wife was forty-nine years of age when her death occurred. They were both members of the Church of England, and were descended from old English families. Mrs. Hall has one brother living, James Hargraves, who is Superintendent of the Wiltwick Seminary, of Kingston, N. Y. He is married, but has no family.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hall have been born six children: Mary, wife of Charles Cary, an employe of the Northwestern Railroad Company, residing in Rockford; William, who, with his father, operates the dairy and fruit farm in Guilford Township, married Amelia Kauffman; James wedded Grace Craill and they reside in Rockford, where he is engaged in clerical work with the Rockford Insurance Company; Hattie, Edith and Nellie at home. Edith, who was educated in the Business College of Rockford, is now employed in Mr. Little's abstract office in this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall are members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church, and in social circles they rank high. On coming to Rockford, he began business as a molder with the firm of Clark & Uter, and afterwards was in the employ of N. C. Thompson. He was industrious and enterprising, attending

carefully to the details of business, so that he won considerable property, and, having made profitable investments, is now enjoying a comfortable competence. He is practically living retired, but owns a well-improved farm of ninety-five acres in Guilford Township, where is carried on the dairy business, and vegetables and fruits are also raised for the city market. The farm is in charge of his son William.



JOHAN D. W. RAY, of Belvidere, claims New York as the State of his nativity. He was born in Fallsburgh, Sullivan County, July 30, 1855, and is of English descent. His great-grandfather, Stephen Ray, was probably a native of England and the founder of the family in America. The grandfather was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., and married Aecy Crane, a native of Litchfield County, Conn. Removing to Sullivan County, he became one of the earliest settlers of Thompson Township, where both he and his wife died in the month of March, 1812.

Miles S. Ray, father of our subject, was born in Amenia, Dutchess County, and was only seven years old when his parents died. He found a home with a farmer residing in Monticello, Sullivan County, with whom he resided until he was twenty years of age, when he began to learn the carpenter's trade. He followed that occupation for ten years, and then, purchasing land in the town of Fallsburgh, engaged in farming until his emigration to Illinois in 1856. He settled in Flora Township, Boone County, and there made his home until 1864, since which time he has been a resident of Belvidere. Although he has now reached the advanced age of eighty-six years, he is enjoying good health and his mental faculties are still unimpaired. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ellen E. Hardenbergh, died in Belvidere in 1873. She was born in Sullivan County, N. Y., in 1812, and was a daughter of Thomas R. and Rachel (Be Vere) Hardenbergh. Her grandfather, Rev. Johannus Hardenbergh, was a native of Holland, and a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church.

Mr. Ray of this sketch has been a resident of Illinois since his third year. He acquired his early education in the schools of Flora Township and supplemented his common-school studies by a course in the State University at Champaign. He then started out in life for himself, and, going to Chicago, was employed in various kinds of work for about five years. He then returned to Belvidere, where he has made his home almost continuously since, and for the past few years has devoted his time to looking after his private interests.

Our subject has been twice married. He wedded Carrie E. Roberts, a native of De Kalb County, Ill., and a daughter of Alanson and Mary Roberts. She died in December, 1886. In July, 1887, Mary Lewis became the wife of Mr. Ray. She is a native of Troy Grove, La Salle County, and a daughter of Joseph and Jennie (Wallace) Lewis. Two children were born of the first union, Thomas Floyd and Ora Louise.

In politics, Mr. Ray is independent, voting for the man regardless of party affiliations. Socially, he is a member of Belvidere Lodge, No. 289 K. of P. His wife holds membership with the Baptist Church. They are people of sterling worth, whose many friends throughout the community hold them in high esteem for their excellencies of character.

The portrait of Mr. Ray accompanies this sketch of his life.



JACOB LIGGET. This gentleman's early identity with the farming and stock-growing interests of this part of Illinois entitles him to representation in this BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD as a pioneer of Winnebago County. He is also what may be termed a self-made man, as he came to the county poor in this world's goods but has by persistent industry and good judgment acquired a competence which has enabled him to retire from active life.

He of whom we write was born in Chester County, Pa., August 26, 1823, and is at the present time residing in the village of Winnebago. His father, Samuel Ligget, was also born in the Keystone State, and was reared and learned the trade

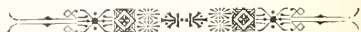
of a wagonmaker and millwright in Chester County. He followed those trades during his entire life, spending his last years in Pottstown, Berks County. Our subject's mother bore the name of Barbara Starrett, also a native of the same county as was her husband, and the daughter of William Starrett, who, as far as is known, hailed from Chester County.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and departed this life in Chester County, Pa. His daughter, the mother of our subject, reared a family of seven children, and died in Berks County; Jacob of this sketch grew up on the home farm and lived with his parents until fifteen years of age, when he began to care for himself, his first work being on farms in the neighborhood. After his marriage, he rented land in Chester County for five years, and in 1854 emigrated to Winnebago County, having visited the section the year previous and purchased one hundred acres of land, eighty acres of which were prairie and twenty timber; forty acres of the former were broken, but did not boast of any buildings. Mr. Liggett at once erected a comfortable house on the new farm, into which the family moved and resided for twenty-eight years. At the end of that time, he rented the place and, as before stated, is now residing in Winnebago. His landed estate now comprises two hundred and two acres of excellent land, the rental of which brings him in a handsome income.

The lady to whom our subject was united in marriage March 27, 1849, was born in Lancaster County, Pa., January 15, 1823, and bore the name of Ann, daughter of James Ayres. Her father was also a native of the above-named county, where also his father, Jacob, as far as is known, was born. The latter-named gentleman was employed in the iron works of that county, where his decease occurred. The father of Mrs. Liggett married Nancy Morrow, who was born and died in Lancaster County.

The following are the seven children born to our subject and his wife: Mary J. married Bryon Briggs; Henry B. married Martha E. Bunn, and is the father of four children: Willie, Lillian, Anna, and an infant unnamed; Ann A. is Mrs. Edward H. Warner,

and her three children are Nellie, Myrtle and Blanch. Clara E. married G. W. Bunn, and is the mother of three sons: Albert J., Henry F. and Lee J.; Clinton T. took to wife Alice Mack, and is the father of four children: Howard C., Alma A., Cora A. and Ethel M.; Ida L. is Mrs. Millard Hollenbeck, and has one son, Henry J.; Ella F. is the wife of Charles McManners, and has two children: Alta L. and Olive Hazel. Mr. and Mrs. Liggett are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church and are numbered among the well-to-do and honored citizens of the county.



PETER J. OBERG, a live business man engaged with the Rockford Manufacturing Company, has made his home in this city since 1868, and for a number of years has resided at No. 708 First Avenue. He is a gentleman of energetic and accomplished business habits, and prompt and reliable in all transactions.

Like the majority of the residents of Rockford, Mr. Oberg claims Sweden as his native land, and was born in Smoland Province, that country, on the 4th of December, 1830. Three years later, his father, Andrew S. Oberg, died, when about forty years of age. The latter was a soldier in the regular army in his native country, Sweden. In 1846, the mother was struck by lightning and instantly killed. She was about forty-five years of age.

Our subject was married in his native country to Mrs. Inga S. Jacobson, who was born and reared in the same province as her husband. Her father died there when forty-nine years of age. He was a farmer all his life. His wife is yet living at her old home in Sweden, and, although ninety-five years of age, is comparatively smart and active. She is a member of the Lutheran Church, and her husband held membership in the same. They were the parents of but one child, Mrs. Oberg.

In the spring of 1868, our subject came to America and was followed by his wife and two children in the fall of that year. He immediately located in Rockford and, with the exception of one year spent in the South, he has been a resident of this city since. For some time after locating here,

he was with the John P. Manney Manufacturing Company, and ran the emery wheel for that corporation for nineteen years. He still follows that business.

To his marriage have been born ten children, five now deceased: Carl A. died when five years of age; Matina C., at the age of fourteen months; Rug W., when eleven months old; Bada M., when three months old, and an infant unnamed. Those living are Anna G., wife of John H. Larson, a farmer of Cherry Valley Township; John A., now of the firm of Oberg & Rahkar, leading tonsorial artists, is doing a successful business at No. 401 East State Street. He began for himself at the age of eighteen, and later associated himself with his present partner, Mr. Rahkar. He is a stockholder in the Rockford Manufacturing Company, also the Rockford Land Company, doing business in Chicago, and in the Rockford Building and Loan Association. He is chairman of the musical committee in the Christian Union Church, which position he has held for two years, and he is a member of that church. Socially, he is a member of Genevieve Lodge, No. 274, K. of P., and is Past Chancellor. He was a charter member of the lodge, and one of its first officers. He is a social, pleasant young man, ranks well in social and musical circles, and has many friends. Following this son are Olivia M., wife of Gus. J. Johnson, a tonsorial artist of Rockford; Frank A. and Charles G. W., at home. The parents of these children are members of the Emanuel Church.

 **D**R. JOHN W. THOMAS, a physician and surgeon of Rockford, was born in Waukesha County, Wis., in 1857. The family was founded in this country by Capt. Whitmore Thomas, a sea-captain, who emigrated from his home in Wales to America about 1700. William Thomas, the great-grandfather of our subject, lived and died in Vermont. His son John, the grandfather of the Doctor, was a mechanic and farmer and married a Vermont lady, Miss Augusta Spaulding, who traced her ancestry back to the

Pilgrim Fathers. On emigrating Westward about 1842, they became residents of Waukesha County, Wis., locating on land in Vernon Township, which they obtained from the Government. There Mr. Thomas and his wife spent their remaining days, the former dying at the age of three-score years, and the latter when about eighty years of age. They were well-known pioneers of that county and highly-respected people.

Edwin B. Thomas, father of our subject, was the only son and the fourth child in a family of five children, all but one of whom are yet living, are married and have families. He was about fifteen years of age when he located in Wisconsin, and in Waukesha County attained his majority. He has since then engaged in farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of draft and road horses, Cleveland Bays, English Shire and Percheron. His cattle are thoroughbred Red Polled. He is also extensively engaged in market gardening and owns two large greenhouses. His home, called the "Evergreen Stock Farm," is well known throughout that part of the State, and Mr. Thomas is a prominent and very successful farmer. He was married in Vernon Township, Waukesha County, to Cornelia Munger, a native of Indiana, who in childhood went to Wisconsin with her parents, Gains and Celia (Smith) Munger, who settled in Vernon Township upon a new farm which they developed and improved. The death of the mother occurred there, but the father died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Thomas, a few years previous. Both had passed the age of eighty years.

Dr. Thomas was reared in Waukesha County and began his literary education in Rochester Seminary, in Racine County, Wis. In 1875, he entered the scientific department of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and was graduated in the Class of '79. He was a hard student and always at the head of his class. Then for ten years he engaged in milling as a practical business man. Subsequently, he took a term of lectures in Rush Medical College, of Chicago, after which he entered the Chicago Homeopathic College and was graduated from that institution in the Class of '91. There he was also foremost in his classes, was President of the class organization and was President

of the Halmemann Society. He commenced practice in Rockford in April, 1891, and although only a year has since passed, he has already won recognition as a young man of superior ability.

The Doctor was married, in Waterford, Racine County, Wis., to Miss Luella Eccles, who was born in that county and educated at Rochester Seminary and the University of Wisconsin. Her father, Andrew Eccles, is now deceased, but her mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Earnshaw, makes her home with Mrs. Thomas. The Doctor and his wife have an interesting family of four children: Roy E., Harold E., Bessie C. and Marjorie. The parents are both members of the Second Congregational Church. The Doctor was formerly a Republican in politics but is now a Prohibitionist. His studies have well fitted him for the work he has undertaken, and his skill and ability will not be many years in winning him a foremost place among his professional brethren.



CAPT. C. HOVEY, deceased, was a resident of Capron, Boone County, for a number of years, but died in 1857 in California. He was born November 29, 1821, in New York, and was the son of Richard C. Hovey, also a native of the Empire State, and a Captain in the militia. The title of Captain was bestowed upon our subject in honor of his father.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hovey went to Ohio from New York and in an early day came to Illinois. The mother's maiden name was Abigail Kimball; she reared a family of thirteen children, five of whom are sons. The parents farmed in Round Prairie for many years, where they had purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Government. The father died after the war at an advanced age and the mother followed him to the better land three years later, having attained her three-score years and ten. Two children of the parental family are residing in California, one in Iowa and the rest in Illinois.

Miss Lavina, daughter of Jonathan and Martha (Rogers) Webster, was united in marriage with our subject in 1845, and in 1851 they crossed the

plains to California, where the husband and father died in 1857. Mrs. Hovey's parents were natives of New York, and reared a family of six daughters and one son. One child died in infancy and one son was drowned at Buffalo. A sister of our subject's wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Lambert, makes her home with Mrs. Hovey, and another sister, Fannie, is the widow of Rowell Hovey and resides at Capron.

To our subject and his wife have been born two daughters: Sarah, Mrs. Charles Whitcomb, of Minnesota, and Amanda, who married Christopher Ward, who also lives in that State. The sons-in-law were both soldiers during the late war, serving a period of nearly five years, Mr. Whitcomb being a musician in the infantry and Mr. Ward serving in a cavalry regiment. Mrs. Hovey had a son George, who volunteered when seventeen years of age, becoming a member of Company I, Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and died of congestive chills in Arkansas, where he lies buried.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lambert, as before stated, resides with Mrs. Hovey, and is the widow of James B. Lambert, who died on Round Prairie, April 8, 1875, leaving three sons. One son, Morris, died March 4, 1892, leaving a wife and three children, and Mary Jane departed this life when twenty-three years of age. Melville resides in Minnesota; and John W. resides in Illinois.



HENRY A. WEBBER. He whose name adorns this page is a worthy representative of an honorable and ingenious English family. The same traits which made his father and brothers successful in the various interests in which they were engaged is discovered in our subject in an augmented degree. He is residing at the present time in the city of Rockton and is the manufacturer of the Webber Combination Angle Sieve, whose capacity for separating mixed grain is from thirty to forty bushels per hour.

He of whom we write was born in Somersetshire, England, August 19, 1849, and is a son of William Webber, whose birth occurred in the same country in 1807. In the fall of 1849, the latter-

named gentleman, accompanied by his wife and eight children, set sail for American shores. On reaching this country, he purchased five farms, which aggregated six hundred and forty acres, all in one body, for which he paid spot cash. The wife and mother died while on a visit to her son Herman, when eighty-four years of age. William Webber departed this life in June, 1889, at the home of his daughter in Wempletown, this State.

Henry A. Webber of this sketch was reared on a farm, and was given good educational advantages, and when twenty years of age left the farm and in company with his brothers, William and John, began manufacturing what was known as the Webber Reapers, of which they were the patentees. In the course of fifteen years, our subject purchased the interest of his brothers and managed affairs for himself for some years, since which time he has been engaged in the manufacture of the combination sieve.

June 26, 1866, Mr. Webber and Mrs. Sarah A. Kennedy, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Henderson) Jewett, were united in marriage in Hubbard, Ohio. They have made their home since that time in Rockton, with the exception of four years, when Mr. Webber was engaged as a merchant in Mendota, this State. For a like time after coming here, he was employed in the factory of John Spafford, patenting machines.

The wife of our subject was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, in 1841. Her father, who was a native of the same place, died in 1849, when thirty-four years of age, leaving a widow and four children. Her union with our subject has been blessed by the birth of three children, one of whom, Franklin J., died when six years of age in 1882. Those living are Mamie E., wife of William Alden, a farmer in Rockton Township, and Gertie E., who was born in October, 1883. In politics, Mr. Webber is a Republican but is not so rabid, however, but that he can see good in all men and parties. His wife is a noble, true-hearted woman, and with her husband is a member of the Congregational Church, in which the latter has been Trustee for eighteen years.

Mr. Webber is making a success of his grain and seed separator, his sales amounting to \$4,000 per

year and constantly on the increase. James N. Jewett, a brother of Mrs. Webber, was a soldier during the late war and met his death, January 2, 1863, at the battle of Stone River. Her mother, who was born in Eastern Pennsylvania in May, 1818, is now nearly seventy-four years of age and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Webber.



CHERRICK SCHOONMAKER, who is living retired in the village of Latham, Winnebago County, owns three hundred acres of well-improved land on the east bank of Rock River, which is operated in a most intelligent manner by his sons. Our subject was born in Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y., October 4, 1824, where his father, Peter, and his grandfather, Cherrick, Sr., as far as is known, were born. The latter-named gentleman was of Dutch ancestry, and carried on farming in Florida until his death.

Peter Schoonmaker learned and followed the trades of tanner, currier, and harness-maker, carrying on business in Berne, Albany County, after which he lived in different parts of the Empire State, spending his last years in Knox, Albany County, his death occurring July 29, 1856. The maiden name of his second wife was Elizabeth Schemerhorn, also a native of that State, and the daughter of Frederick Schemerhorn, who, it is thought, was born in Greene County. When a lad of sixteen years, the maternal grandfather of our subject was taken captive by the Indians and held a prisoner for four years and four months, when he was purchased by a white man for \$40. He wrote an interesting account of his experience which he had published in book form.

The mother of our subject died at her home in the town of Knox. Cherrick was reared to manhood in his native State and commenced to earn his own living as soon as old enough, by working out on farms by the month. He began in business for himself by working farms on shares, and finally purchased eighteen acres in the town of Knox, where he resided until 1857. Two years previously he had come to Winnebago County and

bought eighty acres of land in Owen Township, of which forty acres were broken; a log house constituted the improvements. He paid the sum of \$1,300 for the property, and in 1857 took up his abode in a log cabin in which he resided for seven years, at the end of which time he erected a substantial frame building in which the family made their home until 1865. Mr. Schoonmaker then disposed of that property and became the proprietor of the Anson Owen farm, where he lived until 1883; then selling that, he purchased the farm which he still owns in Harlem Township. This he improved with three sets of frame buildings and after occupying it for two years left it in charge of his sons and removed to Laplam, where he is now living retired in a pleasant home.

August 19, 1848, Charity Dearing, a native of Wright, Schoharie County, N. Y., became the wife of our subject. She was born January 5, 1827, and is a daughter of Frederick Dearing, also a native of the Empire State, of German parents. The grandfather of Mrs. Schoonmaker was a pioneer of Schoharie County, where his last few years were spent. Her father, in addition to carrying on a farm, was engaged in the lumber business, and passed his entire life in the above-named county. The maiden name of her mother was Catherine Hillsey, a native of New York State and of German parents.

Our subject and his wife have two children living: David, who married Ida Wright, and Fred, the husband of Minnie Brighton. Catherine, the second child, died at the age of thirteen years and two months; Elizabeth, the next in order of birth, passed away when eleven years and one month of age.



JOSEPH G. LYFORD, Esq., formerly the efficient County Treasurer of Winnebago County, residing on section 11, Guilford Township, first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 2d of December, 1839, in Canterbury, N. H. His grandfather, Dudley Lyford, was a farmer, and spent his entire life in the Granite State. The father, Thomas Lyford, was also a native of New Hampshire, was reared to agricultural

pursuits, and at the age of eighteen commenced to learn the trade of a stone-cutter. He married Eliza Greely, who was born in Gilmanton, N. H., and was a daughter of Joseph Greely. Immediately after his marriage, Mr. Lyford engaged in farming in Canterbury, where he resided until 1842, when, with his wife and three children, he started with teams for Illinois, and, on reaching Winnebago County, located in Roscoe Township, among its early settlers. The following spring, he purchased a farm of his brother-in-law, upon which was a log house. Into this the family removed and began life in the West in true pioneer style. Mr. Lyford died in December, 1859, on the home farm which is now owned by his son Dudley. His wife survived him some years, and died in Rockford in June, 1874. Their family numbered seven children, as follows: Dudley, Elizabeth G., Joseph G., Alice H., Thomas, Augusta A. and Charles C.

Our subject was only in his third year, when, with his parents, he came to Illinois, and his recollections are of Winnebago County. He was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life, and his early education was acquired in the common schools, after which he was a student in the High School of Roscoe, and in Beloit College, of Beloit, Wis. He then engaged in teaching for one term, and in 1865 went to Albany, N. Y., entering the Albany Law School, from which he was graduated in the Class of '66. He then embarked in the practice of law in Rockford, and continued to follow that profession until 1870, when he was appointed County Treasurer, filling the office until the autumn of 1871. Until 1877, he continued to reside in Rockford, when he rented the farm in Roscoe Township which was his home for two years. He then bought his present farm, and to its cultivation has since devoted his energies.

On the 1st of January, 1868, Mr. Lyford was joined in wedlock to Miss Emily M. Brown, a native of Shirley, Mass., and a daughter of Rev. Hope Brown, who was born in Concord, Mass., February 16, 1798. He acquired his literary education in Amherst College, and for two years studied theology in Princeton, after which he was ordained a minister of the Congregational Church

in Shirley, Mass., June 22, 1830. At the same time he was installed as pastor of that church, but after fifteen years resigned and removed to Naperville, Ill., where he had charge of the church from 1845 until 1856. In that year he went to Rockford, and was financial agent for the Rockford Female Seminary for thirteen years. During the remainder of his days, he lived retired at the home of his daughter, Mrs. M. S. Hinman, of Beloit. He passed away in 1883, at the age of eighty-five years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary P. Fuller, was born in Fitchburg, Mass., and was a daughter of Benjamin Fuller. She died at the home of Mrs. Lyford, in August, 1890. This worthy couple were prominent people, highly respected by all who knew them.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born two children, Starr and May. The mother is a member of the First Congregational Church of Rockford, and a most estimable lady. Mr. Lyford was a Republican in politics for some years, but has been a Democrat since 1876. He has a wide acquaintance throughout Winnebago County, where almost his entire life has been passed, and is recognized as one of its valued citizens.



JOHAN SEATON. Many of the most active and enterprising residents of Shirland Township, Winnebago County, are natives of this county and have here spent the greater part of their lives. In them we find men of true loyalty to the interests of this part of the State, and who understand, as it were by instinct, the needs, social and industrial, of this vicinity and have a thorough knowledge of its resources. They are, therefore, better adapted to succeed here than a stranger could and are probably, without exception, warmly devoted to the prosperity of their native place.

Mr. Seaton was born at his present home in Shirland Township on the 19th of April, 1846. His father, George Seaton, was born in Westmoreland, N. Y., in 1803, and his grandfather, George Seaton, was a native of Vermont who, with his wife, Hannah (Wheeling) Seaton, went to New

York at an early day. They reared six children, George Seaton, Jr., being the fourth son and child. The elder George Seaton was a millwright by trade and also a miller, rearing his son George Seaton, Jr., to the same trade. The latter was married in Oneida County, on the 28th of April, 1830, to Miss Abigail Makinstry, a native of Stafford, Conn., born November 29, 1805, and the daughter of Solomon and Jerusha (Baldwin) Makinstry, both New Englanders and the father a farmer and carpenter. Mr. and Mrs. Makinstry reared eleven children, five sons and six daughters, and died in the East, the father at the age of eighty-six, and the mother at the age of seventy-three years.

The parents of our subject left New York in 1838 and with a three-horse team started for the State of Illinois. They were well equipped with a stove, cooking utensils, bedding, &c., &c., and with their four small children were quite comfortable in making the trip. They were several weeks en route and after reaching their Western home set up housekeeping in the crude log house Mr. Seaton had erected on his two hundred acres the year previous. He paid \$1.25 per acre for his land and at once set work to clear his farm and make improvements. He followed agricultural pursuits all his life and was well known for his thrift and enterprise. He died on the 4th of July, 1857, when fifty-four years of age, of lung fever and quick consumption, and left his widow and eight living children. Mrs. Seaton is still living and, although now nearly eighty-seven years of age, is still quite strong, both mentally and physically. She has been a hard worker all her life until within the last nine years, since which time her daughter has taken the best and tenderest care of her. She has been a Methodist for sixty years and expects to pass away triumphant in that faith. Mr. Seaton was a Republican in politics.

Eight of the ten children born to this worthy couple lived to be grown, but two, Francis and Eli, died in early boyhood. The others were named Leonard C., Julia Ann, Adaline, Delani, Laura, Abbie, John (our subject) and Dorothy, respectively. Of these there are five living: Leonard C. volunteered in a regiment of Minnesota cavalry in 1862 and served three years in the

West, fighting the Indians. His death occurred in Ellensburg, Wash., October 13, 1890, when nearly sixty years of age. Julia Ann, who married Steven Card, died April 19, 1885, when fifty-three years of age, leaving five children; Abbie died in Redfield, Iowa, in 1887, when forty-three years of age.

John Seaton, the subject of this sketch, was reared on the farm where he now resides and has spent his whole life in tilling the soil. He was married, May 15, 1883, to Mrs. Alice L. Ryan, *nee* Tambling, a daughter of William H. and Miranda (Small) Tambling, both natives of New England. Her parents later moved to Stockholm, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and there Mrs. Seaton was born on the 19th of November, 1843. She came with her parents to Wisconsin in 1852. Her mother died in Forest, Livingston County, Ill., in January, 1877, when sixty-nine years of age, and the father passed away at Eagle River, Wis., May 20, 1889, when eighty years of age. They were the parents of six children. Mr. Seaton is a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benevolent Association, and although formerly a Republican in politics, is now a Prohibitionist. Mrs. Seaton's first marriage resulted in the birth of six children, but only one, Maggie, is now living. She makes her home in Wisconsin.



DENSLY KEZAR, an intelligent and highly respected farmer living on section 24, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, has been identified with the history of this community for more than half a century. He has ever borne his share in the work of development and upbuilding, has been an eye-witness of its progress and advancement, and well deserves mention among its honored pioneers.

Mr. Kezar was born in Shirley, Middlesex County, Mass., June 22, 1813, and is a son of Moses Kezar, who was born in Groton, Mass., July 26, 1790. The great-grandfather of our subject also bore the name of Moses. He was born in 1710, and became an early settler of Shirley, Mass., where he improved a farm, making it his home until his death. His son

Jonathan was born January 9, 1750, was reared to agricultural pursuits, and died in Shirley in 1829. His wife bore the maiden name of Abigail Stowe.

Moses Kezar, Jr., learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, which he followed in Shirley, Mass., throughout his entire life. His death occurred in July, 1825. He married Celinda Page, who was born in Shirley, and who was a daughter of Jonas and Lucy (Holden) Page. Her mother died February 10, 1841. The father was an agriculturist, and spent his entire life in Shirley, passing away on the 26th of January, 1822. He was a descendant of John Page, who came from Durham, England, to America in 1630. The mother of our subject survived her husband some years, and was called to her final rest while living in Groton, Mass. Their family numbered five children: Bensly, Charles, Walter, Elvira and Maria S.

Our subject went to Groton when a lad of sixteen years, and began learning the trade of a hatter, serving as an apprentice until he reached his majority. He then followed the business on his own account until 1836, when he decided to try his fortune in the Far West, and started for Illinois, making the journey via the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes to Detroit, and by team the remaining distance. He located in what was then Winnebago County, but is now a part of Boone County. At that time Chicago was a mere village, and the greater part of the land in this vicinity was not yet surveyed. Deer and other kinds of wild game roamed over the prairie at will, the settlers were few, and many of the towns had not yet sprung into existence. Mr. Kezar made a claim about a mile east of Cherry Valley, upon which he erected a log cabin covered with shakes, but soon afterwards sold to William Fitch and Henry Lawrence. Our subject then turned his attention to milling, being connected with the first gristmill in either Winnebago or Boone Counties. It was located in Newburg, and he continued to engage in its operation until 1850, when he purchased land in the town of Flora and engaged in farming. In 1855, he sold and bought a farm in Guilford Township, his present home.

On the 5th of January, 1844, Mr. Kezar married Catherine Bartle, a native of the Empire State, and



A. Olson

a daughter of John and Rose Bartle. Her death occurred April 9, 1815, and he was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Amanda M. (Wilder) Holcomb. She was born in New York, and was a daughter of Orin Wilder. She became the wife of our subject January 30, 1819, and was called to her final rest June 23, 1886, leaving five children: Jerome M., Hosea B., Charles F., Walter P. and Helen A. The last-named is the wife of Fred H. Chamberlain.

In religious belief, Mr. Kezar is a Universalist. He is a well-informed man and a public-spirited and progressive citizen. To the pioneers we owe a debt of gratitude for what they have done for the county, and among them our subject deserves honorable mention.



ANDREW OLSON, foreman of the Forest City Furniture Company, has for some years been identified with the business interests of Rockford, where he has made his home since 1862. He came to the United States from Sweden, his native land. He was born in 1851, and with his parents crossed the Atlantic to this country. His father, L. O. Johnson, is still living at the age of seventy-three years, and makes his home in Rockford. His wife died in this city in 1889, at the age of sixty-two years. Mr. Johnson is a member of the First Lutheran Church, to which the mother of our subject also belonged.

Under the parental roof Andrew Olson remained until after he had attained his majority. He learned the trade of a cabinet-finisher in his native land, and it has since been his life work. He is an experienced and expert workman, and well capable of filling the responsible position which he has held since 1875, a period of seventeen consecutive years. He is ever watchful over the interests of his company, attends carefully to every detail of business, and has the entire confidence and respect of his employers.

At Rockford, in 1876, Mr. Olson led to the marriage altar Miss Christina Hedland, who was born in Sweden in 1858, and came with her parents to the United States, the family locating in Rockford,

where the death of her father occurred. His wife is still living at an advanced age. They were both members of the First Lutheran Church of this city. With that congregation our subject and his estimable wife also hold membership.

In politics, Mr. Olson is a supporter of Republican principles, and while he feels an interest in political affairs, has never sought or desired official preferment for himself. He is public-spirited and progressive, manifesting a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, its growth and its upbuilding. Mr. and Mrs. Olson rank high in the circles of society in which they move, and have a commodious and fine home at No. 1202, Seventh Street, which is the abode of hospitality. Unto this worthy couple were born five children, four of whom are yet living, two sons and two daughters: Edward H., George H., Edna R. and Della R. By his own efforts, Mr. Olson has worked his way upward, and has now a comfortable competence.

In connection herewith may be found the lithographic portrait of Mr. Olson.



AUGUSTUS DEVILLO HALE, an enterprising farmer residing on section 6, Bonus Township, is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Boone County. His father and grandfather, both of whom bore the name of Oliver Hale, were natives of Tompkins, Delaware County, N. Y., where the great-grandfather, a native of New Hampshire, had settled in an early day. The grandfather served in the Commissary Department during the Revolutionary War. He was a farmer and spent his entire life in the town of Tompkins. Under the parental roof, Oliver Hale, Jr., was reared to manhood, and engaged in agricultural pursuits and stockraising. It was before the days of railroads, and he drove his stock to market in Philadelphia and New York.

In 1836, with his wife and three children, he came to Illinois, making his first location in Ottawa, whence he came to Boone County with ox-teams. At that time the land was all owned by

the Government, and had not yet been surveyed. There were four log cabins where Belvidere now stands, and no other buildings were in sight, and the nearest settler north was thirty-one miles distant. Deer and other kinds of wild game were seen in abundance. Mr. Hale purchased a tract of Government land four miles northeast of Belvidere, and their first home was a double log cabin, covered with shakes. The floor was made of punch-ions, and the chimney of clay and sticks. They bore all the experiences and hardships of pioneer life, had to go eighty miles to mill and market, and in consequence were forced to live mostly off the products of their farm. Mr. Hale engaged in the cultivation of his land for many years, and then removed to Belvidere, where he spent eight years, after which he returned to the home farm, where the remainder of his days were passed, his death occurring in December, 1885. His wife was in her maidenhood Miss Susan Bradt. She was born in Chenango County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Augustus and Anna (Evans) Bradt, the former a native of Holland. Her death occurred in 1879. She was the mother of seven children, two of whom are yet living, Augustus and Catherine M.

Our subject was born in Tompkins, Delaware County, N. Y., June 22, 1831, and was only five years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois. He has witnessed the entire growth and development of Boone County. His education was acquired in the pioneer schools. The first one taught in the township where he resided was held in the shade of a burr oak tree, and later in a log building, where the seats were made of slabs set up on wooden pins, while a writing desk was formed of a board laid on long pins which had been driven into the wall. Mr. Hale was early inured to the arduous task of developing a farm from the wild land, and has never left the old homestead, the title of which his father secured from the Government. The farm now comprises two hundred and forty acres of highly improved land, and the rich and fertile fields yield him a golden tribute in return for his care and cultivation.

On the 13th of December, 1855, Mr. Hale was joined in wedlock with Mary Hull, who was born

in Putnam County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Walter B. and Martha (Hill) Hull. Unto them were born six children: Abigail Adelia, Addie C., John P., Frank D., Meeker O. B. and Fred N. The mother was called to her final rest on the 1st of April, 1889, and her death was deeply regretted by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Hale is a Republican in politics, having been one of its stalwart supporters since the organization of the party. Few have longer resided in this community than our subject, who for more than half a century has resided upon the farm which is yet his home. As an honored pioneer he well deserves representation in this volume, and it is with pleasure that we record his sketch.



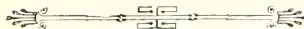
JAMES F. RAMSEY. The results of industry and unflagging perseverance are shown in the life of the above-named gentleman, who owns, and is living retired upon, a good estate in Caledonia Township, Boone County. A brief outline of the labors in which Mr. Ramsey has been engaged, will be of interest to our readers. He was born in Ohio, in 1823, and is the son of James Ramsey, who came from Scotland when a young man, and immediately located in Ohio, where he was married to Hannah Richardson, and moved to and settled in Boone County, Ill., in 1838.

The parental family of our subject included ten children, all of whom lived to mature years, and of whom four sons and two daughters are still living. Three of the brothers of our subject were volunteer soldiers in the late war, two of them serving during the entire struggle. The father departed this life in Manchester, and his good wife, who survived him many years, died June 18, 1889, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years.

The original of this sketch was married in 1849, in Ohio, to Abigail Watts, who was born in that State in 1829. Her parents, James and Anna Watts, died when Mrs. Ramsey was an infant. By her union with our subject, five children have been born, namely: George, who married Mary Clement, of Wisconsin, is station agent at Jackson Junction, and has one son and one daughter;

Edwin, who married Ella Barmore, of Manchester Township, lost his wife in February, 1891, after having become the father of three children: Stella, Nettie and Leah; Charles, who is station agent at Babcock, Wis., married Maud Henderson, and has had born to him one son, Guy, and a daughter, Grace; Bina, now Mrs. John Elliott, of Morgan Park, Ill., is preparing for the Baptist ministry; Carrie married John Howell, of Capron, who is the foreman of the creamery.

Mr. and Mrs. Ramsey started in life empty-handed and, being blessed with health, by industry and good judgment have accumulated a handsome property, and are the possessors of a quarter-section of land, under good cultivation, in Floyd County, Iowa; one hundred and ten acres in Caledonia Township, this county, and also a pleasant two-story house and one acre of ground in Clinton, Wis. They are members in good standing of the Congregational Church, and our subject, in politics, is an unswerving Republican.



ISAIAH J. SHELDEN. No location on the continent excels that of Northern Illinois for the encouragement offered to agriculturists in supplying the means for their success. With a delightful climate, fertile soil and every facility for transportation, it is not strange that the farming population has increased with a rapidity seldom witnessed elsewhere, and that examples of success are very numerous.

Among the farmers who have become prosperous through industry and energy, may be mentioned the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs, and whose position is among the most influential agriculturists of Seward Township, Winnebago County. He was born in Granger, Medina County, Ohio, October 17, 1829, and is the son of David and Anna Shelden, of whom further mention is made in the sketch of G. G. Shelden, presented on another page.

In the youth of our subject, the biographical writer finds little of especial importance to chronicle, his time being devoted to the usual routine of school studies and farm labor. He was married

May 19, 1853, in Granger, Ohio, to Miss Orenda Phelps, who was born October 4, 1831, in the town of Kent, Portage County, Ohio. Her parents were Silas and Clarinda (Williams) Phelps, the father being a native of Connecticut, and the son of Josiah and Roxina Phelps, natives of New England, and descended from English forefathers. Mrs. Shelden is one of ten children, of whom six are now living (1892). Two brothers were in the war, Silas in the Forty-fifth, and Will in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry.

The record of the children of our subject and his estimable wife is as follows: Silas J., born March 2, 1855, is married to Lavina Everette, and has one child, Charles Jay; Elnora died October 18, 1859, aged nine months; William D., born July 29, 1860, married Miss Lillie Stockburger, a school teacher, has one child, Verna May, and lives in Seward; Charles L., born November 5, 1863, married Miss Watie Everette, a school teacher, and has one child, Clare Isaiah; Mattie O., born April 20, 1867, is the wife of Hunter Marks, and resides in Seward; Sarah A. died May 17, 1891, aged twenty-one years and three months; Edward J., born March 13, 1872, and Frank L., July 20, 1874, are still with their parents.

After his marriage, our subject came to Winnebago County, where, with his hard-earned cash, he bought a tract of land comprising about one hundred and ten acres. His labors being crowned with success, he continued to add to the original purchase until he acquired six hundred and forty acres, of which he subsequently sold two hundred and forty acres to his sons on easy terms. He still owns two hundred and forty acres, and eleven lots in West Rockford, and devotes much time and attention to Holstein cattle. The high grade of dairy cows in this section of country is largely due to his untiring exertions in introducing that excellent breed of bovine. His success in that department of agriculture is worthy of special mention. He also breeds the finest of Norman horses.

Mr. Shelden is a Republican, but never meddles in political affairs, although at the request of his fellow-citizens he has filled several local offices for years, and his services have been efficient in the best interests of the community. He and his wife

are highly esteemed throughout the community, and although their attention is largely devoted to home cares and duties, they nevertheless find time to aid in church and charitable work. Mrs. Shelden being a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mattie and Sarah were graduates of Winnebago High School, and taught school many terms.



JAMES WALSH is one of the prosperous and substantial business men of Rockford, Ill., and is interested indirectly with his sons in general merchandising. He is also proprietor of the Rockford Bottling Works at No. 408 South Main Street. The sons are engaged in the general grocery business and are quartered at No. 402 Elm Street, where they have a lucrative business.

Mr. Walsh came to Rockford in the spring of 1858 and, with the exception of a few years, has been a resident of this city ever since. In 1869, he formed a partnership with Michael Joyce and they continued in business together until March, 1882, since which time Mr. Walsh has had his sons in business with him. Mr. Walsh has been frugal and industrious, has made money, and is owner of some excellent property in this city, including the business house at No. 402 Elm Street and a fine residence at No. 719 South Winnebago Street.

Our subject came here from the Keystone State, and was but fifteen years of age when he left his native place, County Tipperary, Ireland, and came to the United States. He was born in 1838, and when about ten years of age, his father, Patrick Walsh, and his mother, Bridget Lubey, both died. The father died on the 8th of February, 1849, when only fifty-seven years of age, and the mother followed him to the grave in May of the same year, when fifty-five years. They were both life-long members of the Catholic Church. The father was a native of Walshbog, County Tipperary, Ireland, the same being named in honor of the family, and was a carpenter by trade. Of the eight children born to this union only one beside our subject is now living, Mary, wife of Thomas Slaterly, who was a prominent contractor and

builder in Indiana, and who is now engaged in farming near Crawfordsville of that State, owning his farm of two hundred acres.

The original of this sketch was married, in Rockford, to Miss Mary Delaney, a native of County Tipperary, Ireland, born in 1842, and the daughter of Edward and Johanna (Tracy) Delaney, both of that county. There the father died when in the prime of life and when his daughter, Mrs. Walsh, the only one born to her parents, was but a small child. In 1856, she came with her mother to the United States and they made their home in West Chester, Chester County, Pa. until 1862; when they came to Rockford, Ill. In this city the mother's death occurred in March, 1891, when seventy-eight years of age. She, as well as her husband, was a life-long member of the Catholic Church.

Of the seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Walsh, two are deceased: William, Sr., and William, Jr., both of whom died young. Those living are Thomas F. and James P., in the grocery business at No. 402 Elm Street and successful young men; John J., book-keeper for his father in the bottling works; Alice C., now at school at St. Joseph's Academy, Dubuque, Iowa, and M. Bessie, at home, going to St. Mary's School. All the family are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church. Mr. Walsh is a Democrat in national politics, and his first Presidential vote was cast for Stephen A. Douglas.



SEYMOUR FULLER, who is prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Flora Township, Boone County, was born in Shaftsbury, Bennington County, Vt., July 8, 1817. His father, Solomon Fuller, it is thought, was born in Connecticut and followed the life of a farmer. He removed to Shaftsbury, Vt., and after residing there a number of years, in 1835 took up his abode in Wyoming County, N. Y., and, purchasing a farm in the town of White, made that place his home until his decease at the advanced age of ninety-one years. His wife, prior to her marriage, was known as Persis Bennett; after the death



Robert Parkhill

of her husband she came to Illinois, and departed this life at the home of our subject, when in her eighty-third year.

Seymour Fuller, of this sketch, was eighteen years of age when his parents removed to the Empire State, where he was married and resided in Wyoming County until 1844, the date of his coming to Illinois. He was accompanied hither by his wife and two children, and came by teams to Buffalo, then by way of the Lakes to Chicago, where he purchased a team of horses and a wagon, which conveyed the family to this county. The country round about in that early day was very sparsely settled, but our subject determined to make this his future home, and consequently purchased eighty acres of land, which is now included in his present farm. His means being very limited at that time, he erected a small frame house in accordance with his means, in which his family lived comfortably for a number of years.

The lady to whom our subject was married in Wyoming County, N. Y., in 1840, was Eliza A. Mordoff; she was born in the above-named county, and was the daughter of James and Polly Mordoff. By her union with Mr. Fuller five children were born, James A., George H., Charles E., DeFay A., and May. She departed this life in November, 1885.

Our subject is now the proprietor of a splendid estate of two hundred and forty acres, which are well improved in every particular, and bring him in good returns. In early life, he voted the Whig ticket, but since the formation of the Republican party has always been found in its ranks.



ROBERT PARKHILL. The portrait on the opposite page perpetuates the features of one of the well-known and enterprising business men of Belvidere. For about thirty years he has been a coal dealer in this city, and has built up an excellent trade which has constantly increased from the beginning. Fair and upright in all his dealings, and courteous in his treatment of his customers, he has thus secured a liberal patronage, of which he is well worthy.

A native of Renfrewshire, Scotland, Mr. Parkhill was born March 18, 1826, and belongs to an old Scotch family. His grandfather and father, both of whom bore the name of John, were natives of Ayrshire. The latter was for some years foreman in a cotton factory in Renfrewshire. In 1818, he bade good-bye to his old home, and took passage on the "Ann Harley," which sailed from Glasgow on the 3d of April, and reached New York on the 10th of May. He was accompanied by six of his children. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Smith, was born in Ayrshire, and died in Renfrewshire before the emigration of the family to America. Mr. Parkhill went at once to Rhode Island, where he was employed in a cotton factory until 1853, when he came to Illinois and made his home with his children until his death. His last days were spent in the home of a daughter, in Boone County. The six children were Elizabeth, John, Robert, Agnes, Margaret and Jennie.

Robert Parkhill, of this sketch, may well be called a self-made man. At the early age of nine years, he commenced life for himself, working in a cotton factory, where he was employed with his father until he crossed the briny deep. He then secured work in a mill at Providence, R. I., and there remained until the year 1855, when he came to Boone County, and then, in company with his brother, purchased a tract of land. For three years he engaged in farming, after which he went to Rockford, and was employed for about three years in the shops of the N. C. Thompson Manufacturing Company. He next came to Belvidere, and embarked in the business in which he is now engaged, and which he has followed continuously since.

In 1854, Mr. Parkhill was united in marriage to Jane Cunningham, who was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, and died in Belvidere in 1887, leaving three children: Margaret, Charles E. and Marietta, wife of Charles M. Peale. In religious belief, Mr. Parkhill is a Presbyterian, and his wife was a member of the same church. He has been a staunch supporter of the Republican party since its organization, and has filled various offices of honor and trust. He was a member of the first Board of Ald-

men after the organization of the city, was for some years a member of the City School Board and has represented his township on the County Board of Supervisors. He is now a member of the County Central Committee of the Republican party, and for some years was its Chairman. His public duties he has ever discharged with promptness and fidelity, thereby winning the commendation of all concerned.



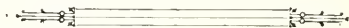
J P. B. JONES. The history of every community is made up, so far as its more interesting features are concerned, of the events and transactions of the lives of its prominent, representative citizens. In any worthy history of Boone County, an outline of the life of the subject of the present sketch should not fail to be given, together with a sketch of the family. Mr. Jones was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., June 6, 1854, and is a son of J. P. Jones, of Cherry Valley.

Our subject received a good practical education in the schools of Belvidere and finished in Rockford. He remained home until twenty-three years of age, but began fighting his own way in life at the age of twenty-one. He purchased a one-half interest in his father's farm and in other ways demonstrated that he had much energy and push about him. He was married, on the 31st of December, 1878, to Miss Elvira Howard, a native of Cherry Valley, Ill., born November 7, 1861, and a daughter of Wesley and Elvira (Brown) Howard. Mrs. Jones was well educated in Evanston, Ill., and was subsequently in a convent in Chicago.

Since starting out for himself, our subject has been engaged in breeding Hereford cattle in connection with agricultural pursuits and is one of the most successful stockmen and farmers in the county. He has one of the finest residences in his section. All his farming operations are conducted in a manner which clearly proves his efficiency as a tiller of the soil, and as a stockman his reputation is firmly established. He usually has about seventy-five head of choice Hereford cattle and keeps nothing but full-blooded stock. Besides

having a fine herd of Herefords, our subject makes a specialty of breeding trotting horses, and owns some most promising stock in this line. At the head of his herd of Herefords is "Prince Edward the 11," No. 14,117. At some of the most noteworthy exhibits of blooded stock, this animal has taken first prize. In trotting stock, Mr. Jones keeps standard-bred horses, and an animal coming from the J. P. B. Jones farm is sufficient guarantee of its pedigree and qualities generally.

Mr. Jones is a member of Blue Lodge No. 173, of Cherry Valley, A. F. & A. M.; Kishwaukee Chapter No. 90, R. A. M., of Belvidere; Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T., of Rockford; Cherry Valley Lodge, I. O. O. F.; Vesper Lodge, K. P.; Cherry Valley Camp No. 277, M. W. A.; and the National Union, of Belvidere. He votes with the Republican party. His rural home is the abode of domestic happiness and the center of true hospitality.



GEORGE SANDS, one of the well-known and prosperous farmers of Boone County, Ill., is a descendant of English ancestors, whose principal occupations were as merchants. However, they finally drifted into tillers of the soil and that has been the occupation our subject has pursued all his life. He was originally from New York State, born in Hancock, Delaware County, October 7, 1818, and his parents, Samuel and Artemesia (Covey) Sands, were natives of the same State, the father born in the same county. Samuel was engaged in the lumber business for many years, also followed merchandising, and in connection carried on a small farm for many years. In 1838, he sold out and came via the canal and Lakes to Chicago, and then, with the four horses brought with him, he and his family pushed on to this county. They first settled in Bonus Township, and cultivated the soil for many years. The father made his home with his children during the latter part of his life, but died at his own home when eighty-nine years of age. The mother died in Placer County, Cal., when seventy-eight years of age. Samuel Sands was a son of George and Jem-

ima (Smith) Sands, both natives of the Empire State, who died in Delaware County of that State when well along in years.

Our subject was one of seven children, four sons and three daughters, and remained with his parents until twenty-one years of age, working on the farm for his father. After reaching his majority, he branched out for himself, and after coming to the West, in 1838, he took up three hundred and fifty acres of Government land and began making improvements. On the 18th of January, 1844, he was married to Miss Betsey Sands, a native of Tompkins Township, Delaware County, N. Y., born April 2, 1826, and a sister of Frederick Sands (see sketch). Mrs. Sands' father was the very first settler on Bonus Prairie, Boone County, Ill., and experienced in every way the trials and privations incident to early settlement. He was born July 8, 1801, and his wife was born in 1802.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sands were born seven children, only three now living: George H., a native of Bonus Township, Boone County, married Miss Esther D. Ricks, and has one daughter. He is in Idaho and is engaged in the stock business; Clarence O. was also born in this county, and married Miss Martha Cooper, who bore him one son. He is also engaged in the stock business in Idaho. Edward F., born in the same place, married Miss Clara Susie Ricks, who died January 20, 1890, leaving a little girl. Edward is also in the stock business in Idaho, and the boys have a thousand acres of ranch land.

After marriage, our subject settled in a log house, 16x20 feet, built by his own hands on the Government land, and there he lived for ten years, all of his children having been born there. In 1850, like thousands of others, he was filled with a great desire to reach the gold regions of California and went overland with a company. He remained there for eighteen months, and then returned by way of the Isthmus to his home in Illinois. In 1852, he returned to the Pacific coast, and for two years was engaged in mining and merchandising. He then sold out and returned to Boone County, Ill., and sold his old home in Bonus Township. After this he bought his present farm of about two hundred acres which was then mostly wild and

uncultivated, and this has since been transformed into one of the finest tracts of land in the county. His home is very pleasant and cheerful and is presided over by that noted housekeeper, his worthy wife. Mr. Sands is engaged in general farming, but stock-raising is his principal occupation. He is also interested in the stock ranches owned by his sons in Idaho. They first thought of locating in that State in 1883, and in March of that year Mr. Sands and his sons took some blooded stock with them, a dairy outfit for one hundred cows, and then bought a few hundred head after reaching that State (then a territory). Mr. Sands sold out his stock and returned to Illinois, leaving his boys to conduct further operations there. They are now classed among the largest ranchmen of the Great West.

Mrs. Sands, who is a most intelligent and refined lady, was elected School Director in her township, the first time in the history of the county that a lady has filled that position. She is also a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, in which she has held office, and she and her husband are members of the Patrons of Husbandry No. 2,349, to which they have belonged ever since its organization. Mr. Sands voted the Democratic ticket once, and since then he has been a most earnest supporter of Republican principles. He voted for Gen. Fremont, was with that noted man in the mountains, and returned to the East by way of the Isthmus with him. His sons are all Republicans and bright business men in the young State of Idaho.

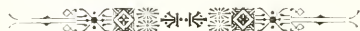


WILLIAM MALTBE ROWLAND was born in Fairfield, Conn., June 25, 1796. His father and grandfather were honored lawyers. His grandmother was Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Fitch, Governor of Connecticut (1754-66). He himself read law, but relinquished it for a mercantile life, into which he entered at an early age in the city of New York. He married Clara Leonard, daughter of Rev. Henry Wight, D. D., of Bristol, R. I., a graduate of Harvard, and a soldier of the Revolution, as was also her maternal grandfa-

ther, Col. Zephaniah Leonard, of Taunton, Mass. While still young, Mr. Rowland removed to Augusta, Ga., where he was first a merchant and later was connected with the Iron Steamboat Company, a corporation running a line of steamers between Augusta and Savannah.

During his residence in Augusta, Mr. Rowland was an honored citizen, and was vigorous and prompt in support of all measures for the public good. Soon after the repeal of the Missouri Compromise in 1854, the Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, then Member of Congress, informally received the leading citizens of Augusta. Long his warm friend, Mr. Rowland alone did not join in the congratulations offered Mr. Stephens, but assured him that the repeal would be most calamitous to the country at large, and especially to the South.

In 1855, our subject removed with his family to Rockford, Ill. Here he lived until his death, April 29, 1869, leaving in the hearts of those who knew him the memory of those virtues which most adorn our human nature. In 1871, Mrs. Rowland and her daughters removed to Chicago, where she died December 26, 1880. Two sons still reside in Rockford: William L. was graduated at Yale College in 1852, and has been Librarian of the Public Library since its establishment in 1872; and Robert C., a soldier in the Union army, and since the war a well-known druggist.



GEORGE S. BROWN bears the distinction of being the oldest living native-born resident now making his home within the confines of Rockford Township, Winnebago County. He is highly honored for the active part he has taken in developing its resources and in furthering its material prosperity. He is the fortunate possessor of large and splendidly cultivated lands in this and other townships, and on his homestead is successfully engaged in farming pursuits.

The subject of this sketch, whose portrait will be noticed on the opposite page, was born in the city of Rockford on June 23, 1839, to Mowry and Lucy (Pease) Brown. When an infant of one year, his parents removed from the city to a farm

in Owen Township, where he grew to mature years. His education was obtained in this district and he attended the first school taught in the first schoolhouse ever erected in Owen Township, Mercy Nichols, who afterward became the wife of William McKindley, being his teacher. Remaining on the old homestead until reaching his twentieth year, our subject commenced to learn the trade of a carpenter, which occupation he followed until the year 1865. He was very industrious and saved his earnings and in the year above mentioned was enabled to buy one hundred acres of land on section 35, Owen Township, paying one-third cash for his place. He at once commenced the career of a successful farmer, and devoted his attention closely to cultivating his place.

On that farm our subject resided until 1881, when, having purchased an estate of seventy acres on North Main Street, near the city of Rockford, he removed to this place and has since been a resident here. The original one hundred acres still remain in his possession, and besides that he owns one hundred and forty-four acres on sections 25 and 36, of the same township, and another tract of one hundred and thirty-one and one-half acres on sections 17 and 18, Guilford Township. These several fine estates Mr. Brown rents to tenants and is in receipt therefrom of a profitable income. When the "boom" of 1890 "struck" the city of Rockford, he sold sixty-five acres of his Rockford farm, retaining five acres for his home.

Mr. Brown's home is made pleasant and his life is cheered by the presence of his amiable wife, with whom he was united in marriage in 1868. Jennie Rogers, as she was formerly known, was born in England and came to America with her parents, John and Jane Rogers, when a child of five years. She was reared in Guilford Township, this county, receiving her education in the district schools. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Brown there have been born eight children, namely: William, Flora, Edith, Lucy, George, Jessie, Ruby and Norma. Flora married Fred W. Johns. Mrs. Brown is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Brown casts his Presidential vote with the Republican party, never swerving from its principles at any time. Their pleasant

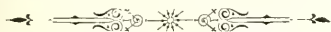


George I. Brown



Yours Respy
Chas. E. Brown

and attractive home is the frequent resort of the friends whom they have gathered around them during their residence here, and by whom they will be kindly remembered long after they have departed hence.



CHARLES E. BROWN. This gentleman, who owned a fine farm of sixty-one and one-half acres, located one-half mile from Rockford, during the "boom" of 1890 sold all of his tract but seven acres, on which he is residing at the present time. He is also the proprietor of an excellent estate of three hundred and twenty-five acres in Owen Township, Winnebago County, which is operated by his son.

September 15, 1841, the birth of our subject occurred in Jersey County, this State. He was one of eleven children born to Mowry and Lucy (Pease) Brown, the former a native of Rhode Island. His grandfather, Joseph Brown, followed farming pursuits in his native State (Rhode Island), where he passed the greater part of his life, although his death occurred at the home of the father of our subject in Illinois. Mowry Brown was reared and educated in his native town and, when choosing an occupation for himself, learned the carpenter's trade, soon after which he came to the Prairie State, and located near Alton, following his trade until 1833.

At that date Mowry Brown made his advent into Winnebago County, when most of the land in this section was owned by the Government, and the city of Rockford was little more than a hamlet. He prosecuted his trade in Rockford for a time, then entering a tract of land in what is now Owen Township, erected thereon a log cabin and made that place his home for a number of years. As there were no railroads in this locality, and Chicago was the nearest market, all the farm products were conveyed thither by means of ox-teams. Mr. Brown carried on the carpenter's trade, at the same time superintending the improvement of his new home where he resided until his death.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Lucy Pease. She was born in Medina, N. Y.,

and now resides on the old homestead in Owen Township. She was on a visit in Jersey County, this State, when our subject was born, and as he was an infant when his mother returned to Winnebago County, he very naturally feels that he is a native of this place. He has been a permanent resident of this county and has witnessed its entire growth and development. In his early days he attended the pioneer log schoolhouse, which was furnished in the most primitive manner. On attaining his seventeenth year, in company with his brother George, he rented a tract of land in Owen Township and engaged in farming. They also purchased a threshing-machine which they operated with extraordinary success for a number of years, and continued to work together until about six years previous to the marriage of our subject. After celebrating that important event, Mr. Brown became a fireman on an engine running on the Atlanta & Great Western Railroad, and was thus engaged for a twelvemonth, when he located on a tract of land which he had purchased in Owen Township. He cultivated the soil for four years, then, disposing of his estate, was employed in manufacturing brick in company with his father and brother, operating together for nine years.

Believing agriculture to be the most profitable business in which he could engage, Mr. Brown purchased two hundred and forty acres of land in Owen Township, where he cultivated the soil for six years, and then became proprietor of the sixty-one and one-half acres located one-half mile from Rockford and which has been mentioned above.

December 27, 1864, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Frances Mary Burritt, a native of Auburn, Cayuga County, N. Y. She was one of seven children born to Charles and Laura (Remington) Burritt, the former a native of Bridgeport, Conn. Her paternal grandparents, Eben and Polly Burritt, were natives of the Nutmeg State, whence they removed to New York State and located in the town of Sennett, where the grandfather bought a tract of timber land and followed farming pursuits until his demise.

In early manhood, Charles Burritt, father of Mrs. Brown, removed to New York State, where he purchased a farm in Ira, Cayuga County, and there

resided for a few years. Later, disposing of his estate, he embarked in the hardware business in Weedsport, and remained thus engaged until 1855, when he came to Illinois and settled on a tract of partially-improved land in Owen Township, Winnebago County. There he continued to cultivate his land and improve the farm for many years. He departed this life at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Brown. His wife, whose maiden name was Laura Remington, was, it is thought, a native of Connecticut. She removed to New York with her parents at an early day, and died on the home farm in Owen Township, Winnebago County. With her husband, she was a faithful member of the Second Congregational Church.

The six children born to Mr. Brown and his estimable wife are named as follows: Harry W., Nellie L., Mabel F., Mowry C., Ralph E. and Maude E. Harry W. married Miss Fannie M. Johns and they are the parents of two children: Orville and Aurilla. In political matters, Mr. Brown affiliates with the Republican party and is known as one of the most public-spirited citizens of the community. He and his wife are devoted members of the Christian Union Church and are people of high social standing in Rockford and vicinity.

In connection with this sketch will be found a portrait of Mr. Brown, on another page.



THOMAS SCOTT, who does an extensive business as a dealer in coal and wood in Rockford, his office being located on East State near Bridge Street, is of English birth. He is a native of Kent County, England. His paternal grandfather, Robert Scott, Sr., was born in Norfolk, England, but after his marriage removed to Epsom, in Surrey County, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a shopkeeper, and died when past the age of eighty years. Robert Scott, Jr., father of our subject, was born in Epsom, and was a small merchant or shopkeeper. He spent much of his life in Aldington, Kent County, and both he and his wife passed away at about the age of eighty years. The latter's maiden name was Charlotte

Simmons, and she was one of sixteen children, all born in Kent County. Both Mr. and Mrs. Scott were members of the Episcopal Church and were worthy and respected people. Only two of the children are yet living: Thomas and Mrs. Tapley, of Racine, Wis., and they are also the only ones who came to the United States.

Thomas Scott was married in his native county to Miss Mary Tunbridge, who was born and reared in Kent County, and came with her husband to America. They left London on the last day of March, 1850, and after a voyage of six weeks on a sailing-vessel, landed in New York, whence they came to the West. Mrs. Scott died of consumption at her home in Rockford, in 1861. She was a true and faithful wife and a member of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Scott has been again married, his second union being with Margaret Williams, who was born in Canada, of English descent. Her death occurred in this city in 1882, and her loss was deeply mourned by her husband and many friends, for she was a worthy woman, possessing many excellencies of character. Miss Frances A. Suthern, an intelligent and cultured young lady, a niece of Mr. Scott, has made her home with him for ten years and is now acting as his housekeeper.

Mr. Scott came to Rockford in 1862, in connection with the railroad now known as the Northwestern. He had been in the employ of the company since August, 1852, having become a railroad builder in Chicago. He shipped the first load of coal sent West of Chicago on the Northwestern, and since that time has been more or less closely connected with the railroad interests. He has paid the company more than \$300,000 for freight, which shows that his success has been excellent. He began dealing in wood and coal in 1863, at his present location, on a small scale, but as his trade increased, he likewise increased his facilities, and now has a storage capacity for five thousand tons of coal. He also has a large wood supply which he cuts from his timbered tracts in Sauk County, Wis., and now handles a large amount of fuel, in fact, is doing a very extensive business in this line, and is one of the prosperous merchants of the city.

Mr. Scott may truly be called a self-made man, for all that he has made through his own efforts. Since coming to America, he has made four trips back to his native home in England, but while he enjoys visiting that country he would not change his home in America for one in the land of his birth. He is a public-spirited and progressive man, a wide-awake and enterprising merchant and one of the valued citizens of Rockford.



DEWITT C. CADY. Among the prominent and successful agriculturists and stock-raisers of Winnebago County, we take pleasure in introducing to our readers the worthy subject of this sketch, one of the pioneers and representative citizens of Manchester Township. Mr. Cady was born in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1828, the son of Alvah and Catherine (Brookins) Cady, his father a native of the Old Bay State. The grandparents, Chester and Mary A. (Nichols) Cady, were originally from Massachusetts, but after the birth of all of their children, four sons and four daughters, they removed to New York State and there passed the remainder of their days, the grandfather dying at the age of eighty-four and the grandmother at the age of seventy-eight years.

The marriage of Alvah Cady and Catherine Brookins occurred in Oneida County, N. Y., and when their son Dewitt C. was three years of age, or in 1831, they removed to near Tyrone, Steuben County, that State, and purchased land. Their tract was covered with heavy timber, but Mr. Cady, who was a strong man and a great worker, went resolutely to work to clear the land. About this time, many Eastern people were emigrating Westward and Mr. and Mrs. Cady determined to try their luck with others.

In 1836, with their five children, this ambitious couple pushed into Illinois and took up a quarter-section in the northwest corner of Boone County, all timber and marsh land. They resided there until after the war, and in 1867 sold out and moved to South Haven, Mich. There Mrs. Cady died in 1880, when eighty years of age. Mr. Cady sur-

vived his wife ten years and died at the home of his son in 1890, when ninety years of age. They were the parents of six sons and one daughter: Francis R., at South Haven, Mich.; Sylvester B., who died at home when twenty years of age; D. C. (our subject); Chester C., a farmer and mason at Waverly, Iowa; Mary E., Mrs. Cornell, of Manchester Township; William H., who died at Iowa Falls, Iowa, in 1891, when forty-eight years of age; and Jay, a farmer in Michigan.

Alvah Cady and wife were the first settlers in Manchester Township, having removed there November 10, 1836. They came from New York by Erie Canal and Buffalo, starting in September, and from Buffalo to Chicago on the old steamer "Pennsylvania," Capt. Cotton, and John Smith, mate. There was not a public wharf in Chicago then, nor a public landing-place, and they had to pay twenty-five cents a hundred for all goods landed. They crossed the Chicago River on a rope ferry and all other streams were forded. They paid \$20 for a team to take their goods to Downer's Grove, and there the family remained with an uncle, Hiram, while Alvah Cady and his brother started on foot for the Rock River country, with only the Indian trails to follow. They came to Gen. Brown's place near Roseoe, and later returned for the family and goods with an ox-team and wagon belonging to the latter.

Their first stopping place was St. Charles, where Mr. Cady paid \$1 for one hundred friction matches, the first he had ever seen, and about one-half of which were worthless. They staled in the mud on Kite River, near the present site of Rochelle, and had to remain in the woods all night, being serenaded during that time by prairie wolves. They tried to cross the Kiskauwkee River at Belvidere on the new bridge not yet finished, and had a narrow escape from going into the stream. The mother was on foot and blocked the wagon wheel, or the team and load would have fallen into the water. The next stop was made at Drakes, near Beaver Creek, and the next place was Gen. Brown's.

After much trouble, Mr. Cady selected a claim, and in one day erected a log cabin, Gen. Brown furnishing boards from the nearest sawmill for the floor and roof and for beds. The first school in the

Township of Manchester was during the winter of 1837-38, which Mrs. Cady taught in her own log cabin, the pupils being her own children and Gen. Brown's. During the first winter, Mr. Cady worked for wages to support his family, and in addition cut and split enough rails to fence ten acres, his wife and three eldest sons setting up the rails. Thus by the hard work and energy of these sturdy pioneers were made possible the pleasant homes of to-day.

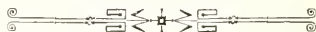
In those pioneer times, it required a month to get a letter from New York, and twenty-five cents to get it out of the postoffice. The nearest post-office was Belvidere, twenty-five miles distant. Mr. Cady, learning that there was a letter for him at the office, went nine miles to borrow the necessary twenty-five cents, then walked to Belvidere, and secured the letter. Opening it, he found it was from a party in Galena requesting his vote. Had the writer been present, it is probable that there would have been one less office-seeker, at least so Mr. Cady said. In the winter of 1837-38, he walked to Southport (now Kenosha), a distance of sixty-five miles, in one day, and two days later returned home, bringing with him some leather with which to make the children's shoes for the winter.

When twenty-eight years of age, our subject married Miss Lavina Hill, of Boone County, and they have resided on their present farm since 1867. During the late war, Mr. Cady enlisted in Company H. Twelfth Illinois Cavalry in 1863, and his brother William, and cousin, Horace D. Cady, enlisted at the same time. Our subject served until the close of the war and was mustered out at Houston, Tex., in 1866. He then returned to his home and bought the farm he now owns the following year.

Mr. and Mrs. Cady have lost two children: Alice M., who died in 1862, when nearly two years of age, and Sylvester B., whose death occurred in 1868, when eleven years of age, the result of being kicked by a horse. They have five sons and one daughter living: Herbert J., a farmer, who resides in Rock County, Wis., married Miss Blanch Bebee, of Manchester Township; Edward, a carriage-maker of Kalamazoo, Mich., married Miss Alvira Haines, of Michigan; Ray, a young man of twenty-three, is a

farmer; Minnie is at home; Wayne is a young man of eighteen years; and Ross, a youth of fifteen, is quite a farmer with his father.

Mr. Cady does general farming and is also somewhat of a stock-raiser, having some good horses on his place, and raises all the cereals but wheat. He has ever been a Republican in politics. He is a member of the Anti-Horse Thief Association, and the L. H. D. Crane Post, No. 52, G. A. R., of Beloit.



ANDREW G. NELSON. A picture of the grocery business of Rockford would be incomplete without a space on the canvas being devoted to the name of Nelson. Mr. Nelson came to Rockford in December, 1869, when ten years of age, and for some time was with the well-known firm of McCormack & Johnson, oatmeal merchants of this city. In the spring of 1888, he began business for himself at No. 311 Kishwaukee Street, and soon built up a lucrative trade, the same increasing to such an extent that he was obliged to move into larger and better quarters. He is now located at No. 413 Seventh Street, has a business house 65x23 feet, and the trade he enjoys is unquestionably one of the most successful of its line in the city, and from its very inception has enjoyed a reputation consistent with its management. All that is handled is selected with the greatest care, and is sold at moderate prices. He has seven employees constantly at work.

Mr. Nelson was born in Sweden, February 18, 1859, and in 1869 he came with his mother and his brothers and sisters to the United States to join his father who had crossed over the previous year. The first of the family to come to the United States was an uncle of our subject's, Peter Heiberg, and his family, formerly of Rockford but now residing at St. Peter, Minn.

Our subject's parents, Peter and Hannah (Christofson) Nelson, are now residing in Rockford, at No. 1301 Seminary Street, and are about sixty years of age. Both hold membership in the Zion Lutheran Church. Of the nine children born to their union, part are in Minnesota and part here. They are as follows: Oscar, dealer in crockery at

Duluth, Minn., married Miss Hilda Hulquist; August resides at home and is an engineer in the Mechanics' Furniture Factory in this city; Andrew G. (our subject); Tilda, wife of Charles Hult, now resides on a farm near Jackson, Minn.; Emma, wife of Erick Lagerquist, resides at No. 807 Second Avenue, Rockford; Albert, now of Brainard, Minn.; Fena L. resides at home and is a book-keeper for her brother, A. G., and is an intelligent, wide-awake young lady; and Emel, with the sister in Jackson, Minn.

The immediate subject of this sketch was married in Rockford to Miss Ida M. Wargher, a native of Sweden, born in 1865, and the fruits of this union were three children: Cora A., Daisy M., and Enoch E. They have adopted one child, a boy named Albon. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson hold membership in the Emanuel Lutheran Church. Mr. Nelson is independent in politics. Mrs. Nelson's father, Gus Wargher, and family came to the United States about 1868, and are now residing at No. 504 Pope Street, this city. They are about sixty years of age and are worthy members of the First Lutheran Church.



EUGENE HOVEY. He whose name is at the head of this sketch is one of the intelligent and progressive young farmers of Boone County and is residing on the place where he was born, October 23, 1849, and which is pleasantly located on section 33, Le Roy Township. He has proved himself efficient in promoting the growth and developing the resources of the old homestead and none is worthy of more esteem than is Mr. Hovey.

Rowell R. Hovey, the father of our subject, was born in New Hampshire, in 1817, and his father, E. H. Hovey, was born in New England, about 1796. The latter-named gentlemen was self-made in all that the term implies, was well informed on topics which interested his community, and, after emigrating to Illinois, was for many years Justice of the Peace. He was married in New England and moved West to Ohio about 1832, where he

made his home a few years, and in 1835-36 came with a portion of his family of ten children to Illinois, and settled on a quarter-section of land which he had entered from the Government in an early day. He resided on the tract until his decease, in February, 1871, in his seventy-fifth year. His wife survived him for four of five years and died at a good old age, leaving a family of four sons and four daughters, and buried three children when young.

The direct progenitor of our subject was married, in 1811, to Miss Sarah Norris, who lived only one year after her marriage and departed this life in Le Roy Township. The lady who became his second wife was Fannie, daughter of Daniel Webster, of New York. She resided on the home which is the present property of our subject until the latter's marriage, when the mother removed to Capron.

The father of our subject with three of his brothers, during the gold excitement in California, went overland to that State and worked in the mines for nearly thirty-two years, during which time he made and lost a great deal of money, and when returning home was possessed of but little means. He departed this life in Capron, April 16, 1889, when seventy-two years of age. His wife, who survives him, has attained her three-score and ten years. Our subject has one brother, Theron R., who was born in 1847, and married Alice Draper, of Capron. To them has been born a son, Henry.

In February, 1881, our subject was married to Miss Sarah, daughter of John and Ann (Phillip) Lascelles, natives, respectively, of Ireland and Canada. The parents were residents of Chicago for many years, where the father was a merchant, which business he still carries on at Capron. To Mr. and Mrs. Hovey have been born three children: Roger M., John Earl and William T. Our subject, in May, 1881, purchased eighty acres of his present farm, which was the old homestead, and has since added thereto until his estate now comprises two hundred and seventy-five broad acres. He erected his large barn in 1884 and is still living in a house which was erected by his father a half-century ago. It is a solid, hewed-log fortress, but Mr. Hovey proposes to erect a comfortable and modern residence in the near future. In politics, he votes

the Democratic ticket and, in social matters, is a Modern Woodman. With his wife he is a member of the Christian Church and gives liberally of his means to its support.

He of whom we write has been a hard-working and industrious man and has done his full share of pioneer work in opening up this section of country. He has been eminently worthy and useful to his community, and his neighbors and old friends unitedly bear testimony to his sterling worth, integrity and valuable services. His mother is still living in Capron, and can relate many an interesting tale of early settlement in Boone County.



WINFIELD S. BILLINGS, senior member of the firm of Billings Bros., is one of the prominent business men of Rockford. The establishment, in which the firm carries on a large and lucrative business, is located at No. 812 South Main Street, is 22x104 feet in dimensions, and is stocked with a complete line of hardware, tinware, and the various other adjuncts of that line of business.

Prior to 1888, when the present firm was established, our subject conducted business for some four years under the title of Glassell & Billings, and by reliable dealings and judicious business methods, has gained an enviable reputation as a business man. The junior member of the firm, G. W. Billings, is a young man of great enterprise, and the brothers combine those qualities which fit them for success in any chosen department of labor.

The first eleven years in the life of our subject were passed in Montgomery County, N. Y., where he was born May 6, 1839. At the above-mentioned age, he came West with his parents, James and Temperance J. (Bunn) Billings, settling in Rock County, Wis. In 1863, the father and mother removed to Butler County, Iowa, where they now reside on the farm they secured on first locating there. They have attained to advanced ages (1892), the father being seventy-eight and the mother seventy-six, and both are in good health.

The third son in a family of eleven children surviving of the thirteen born to James and Tem-

perance Billings is the subject of this sketch. For a time after he came West in 1850, he lived in Rock County, Wis., but in 1865 removed to Grundy County, Iowa, where he was engaged as a farmer, and whence he removed to Rockford. In Rock County, Wis., he was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Snell, who was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., in 1843. She was a young woman when her parents, Charles and Nancy (Lathers) Snell, removed from New York State to Rock County, Wis., settling on a farm, where the father died at the age of sixty-five. His wife afterward went to Nebraska, where she passed away at the age of sixty years.

Mrs. Amanda Billings died at her home in Grundy County, Iowa, leaving one child, William D., who now lives in South Dakota. The wife and mother was a sincere Christian, identified with the Baptist Church, and a lady of culture and refinement, whose friends held her in high esteem. Although by no means an active worker in political matters, Mr. Billings is a sound Republican, and is careful to cast his ballot for the candidates of that party. Socially, he is connected with Lodge No. 366, R. A. M., at Rockford, and is prominently connected with the most important measures originated in behalf of the city.



CHARLES A. LUNDVALL, a widely known and highly respected Swedish-American citizen of Winnebago County, owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and fifty-six acres on section 19, Guilford Township. There are good buildings, such as are seen upon a model farm; the fields are well tilled, and the neat appearance of the place indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner. He has won success in his undertakings and is now numbered among the substantial citizens of the community.

Mr. Lundvall was born in Smoland, Sweden, on the 3d of May, 1850. His father is yet living at the age of three-score and ten years and is the owner of a large farm and store. His first wife died in 1865, when in the prime of life, after which Mr. Samuelson was a second time married,

this union being with Miss Lena C. Samuelson, by whom he had two children, both now married and living in Sweden. Our subject is the second of four children born of the first union, three residing in this country; the other, Sophia, is the wife of N. P. Dahlburg, a farmer of Sweden. J. O. Lundvall is now living on a farm near Dayton, Iowa, and the other sister is the wife of P. Larson, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work.

Our subject spent his boyhood days in the land of his nativity and in the spring of 1867, when seventeen years of age, crossed the broad Atlantic to America. In Chicago, he led to the marriage altar Miss Augustina C. Swanson, who in 1868 came with her sister to this country from Sweden, her native land. Her sister Louisa is now living in Rockford, where they first located. Their parents are now deceased, both having been called to their final rest in Sweden. By the union of Mr. and Mrs. Lundvall have been born six children: Hulda R., Alice R., Abion S., Julia E., Henry L. and Charles E. The two eldest daughters have been educated in the Rockford Business College, and the family is one of which the parents may well be proud.

Our subject and his wife are prominent members of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford and take an active interest in its work. He has served as Trustee for many years and was a member of the building committee at the time when the elegant church edifice was erected. In politics, he is a Republican, but has never been an office-seeker. However, he has served as School Director for some years and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. He gives his support to whatever is calculated to benefit or improve the community or promote the general welfare, and is a valued citizen of Guilford Township, highly respected by all. In connection with his other business interests, he owns eight acres of land, now included within the city limits of Rockford. It has been platted and is a very valuable property. He is also Secretary, Treasurer and Manager of the Skandia Brick Company, which employs about thirty-five hands and makes over three million bricks annually. He is interested in the Union

Grocery Company, which has a capital stock of \$25,000, and is a stockholder in the Skandia Furniture Company and the Rockford Manufacturing Company, also an active member and a stockholder in the Swedish Building and Loan Association.



ALBERT F. BAXTER. We are pleased to present the name of a highly respected farmer, who resides in Spring Township, Boone County, and who is a native of this vicinity, his birth occurring December 10, 1855. His parents were John and Harriet (Smithson) Baxter, the father born in England, June 20, 1807. He was a farmer by occupation, and in 1832 left that country and after a voyage of seven weeks landed at Montreal, Canada. He made his home there for four years and in 1836 came to the States and for a twelvemonth resided in Chicago. At the expiration of that time, the elder Mr. Baxter came to Boone County and purchased forty acres which is included in the home farm. The estate included now, however, two hundred and eighty acres and is the joint possession of our subject and his mother.

John Baxter was a member of a family including five children, all of whom are deceased. His wife is a daughter of James and Elizabeth Smithson, of England, she being the eldest in a family of seven children.

The parents of our subject reared a family of ten children, namely: Jonas, Mary A., Emeline, William, John S., Eliza, Thomas M., Harriet E., Rosanna and Albert F. He was married, April 14, 1880, to Miss Ella Stillwell, who was born in Madison County, N. Y., and of their union have been born five children: Gertie M., John C., Fred C., Bert W. and an infant named Harry C. Mrs. Baxter is the daughter of Charles and Jane (Garlock) Stillwell, who make their home in Belvidere.

The father of our subject was in early life a Whig but during his last years voted the Prohibition ticket. He was an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church and for years was Class-Leader in that denomination. He was always a

strong advocate of temperance measures and was willing at any time to promote that policy which looked at all times to the moral and business upbuilding of his community.



SHEPHERD LEACH was one of the earliest settlers of Winnebago County, and this work would be incomplete without this sketch. His paternal grandfather, Abisha Leach, was born in Scituate, Mass., in March, 1740, and tradition says he was a descendant of Dr. Leach, a physician to King George IV. He probably spent his entire life in Massachusetts.

Andrew Leach, father of our subject, was born in Easton, Mass., December 14, 1768, and was a pioneer of Pittsford, Vt., where he purchased a large tract of unbroken land, which he developed and improved. In connection with this, he operated a foundry and woolen mill, and did business as a merchant. He was one of the leading citizens of Pittsford and became quite wealthy. He was married three times; his first wife was Mary Powers, whom he married in 1807, his second union being with Mrs. Bowman in Pittsford, in 1810. Her maiden name was Deborah Spooner, and she was born in New London, Conn., February 8, 1777, being a lineal descendant of John Alden, the Pilgrim. Her father, Juda Paddock, was a Revolutionary soldier and participated in the battle of Bunker Hill. After the war, he edited a paper in Connecticut, but when the new State of Vermont was organized and offered a bonus of one hundred bushels of wheat to any one who would start a paper there, he accepted the offer and published the first paper in Vermont. It was called the *Vermont Gazette* and its motto was:

"Pliant as reeds where streams of freedom glide,
Firm as the hills to stem oppression's tide."

Our subject, Shepherd Leach, was born in Pittsford, Rutland County, Vt., August 17, 1811. Here he was reared and educated, and, on attaining man's estate, became associated with his father in business, but failing in health, he went to Troy, N. Y., where he was a book-keeper for a

short time in the Stewart Stove Company, after which he came to Michigan in 1837. Two years were spent in Detroit and Ypsilanti, and in 1839 he came on horseback to Rockford, where he formed a partnership with D. S. Penfield and engaged in the hardware business on East State Street. Later on, the firm purchased about two thousand acres of new land, making a fine property out of it. He became the owner of nearly the entire amount and put many fine farm buildings upon it. At the time of his death, he owned about one thousand acres of land and was one of the best-known farmers in the county. His land was watered by living streams, and his skill and ability as an agriculturist made him owner of one of the finest farms in Illinois.

In Massachusetts, in 1818, Mr. Leach married Phoebe H. Allen, who was born in Heath, Franklin County, January 25, 1820. After acquiring her education at Mt. Holyoke Seminary, she engaged in teaching for some years. She came of a prominent family of Franklin County, her father being a mechanic and farmer. Both parents died on the same day—August 7, 1847. Elijah Allen passed away in the morning, being then sixty-five years of age, and in the evening his wife, Rhoda, was called to her final rest, at the age of fifty-eight years. They were active members of the Congregational Church and lived consistent Christian lives. In their family were twelve children, David, and Wealtha, widow of Yardley Hough, both of whom reside in Highland, Kan., and Mrs. Leach being the only ones now living.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Leach were born five children: Ida, who died in infancy; Clara, wife of W. L. Frisbie, a farmer of Rockford Township; Lizzie, wife of Dr. Frank E. Waxham, a prominent physician of Chicago; Harriet S., wife of Edgar E. Bartlett, President of the Rockford *Register-Gazette* Company; and Emma Allen, the wife of Joel B. Whitehead, a successful real-estate dealer of Rockford.

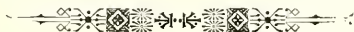
Mr. Leach ever bore his share in the development and upbuilding of the county. He came here when it was in its primitive condition, and did everything in his power for the general welfare of the community. In politics, he was a stal-



Levi Rhoads

wart Republican and took an active part in local affairs, but was never an office-seeker. Owing to poor health during the last fifteen years of his life, his winters were spent in California and in the South. There was no more honest and honorable man in the county, and no one had more friends. The respect of the entire community was given him, and he was worthy of that high regard. A partial stroke of paralysis prevented his doing any hard manual labor for many years. Although his health was poor, his mental faculties remained unimpaired to the day of his death, which occurred July 9, 1885, thus closing a very active and earnest life.

Mrs. Leach proved herself a true and faithful helpmate to her husband, who was ever kind and loving to her, and in his death she suffered an irreparable loss. Her life also has been well and worthily spent, and she has thus won the love of all. She and her children are members of the Second Congregational Church of this city.



L EVI RHOADES. Perhaps no citizen of Rockford was better known than Mr. Rhoades, and his career all through life was unusually successful, which was largely due to his great executive ability, and good common sense. His opinion on any important subject was eagerly sought for and highly respected, and although a man who did not make intimate friends quickly, he was always true as steel to those whom he knew and loved.

The pen is almost too clumsy to do justice to the life of Mr. Rhoades, and picture the ups and downs with which he contended. He was born in Hinsdale, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., June 25, 1830, and died at his elegant home, No. 710 North Court Street, on the 19th of November, 1891, when sixty-one years and four months old. Like many of the old Eastern families, his parents were in very moderate circumstances. In 1836, they removed to Alabama, Genesee County, N. Y., where, after a residence of seven years, they joined the vast army which was moving Westward at that time. Most of the trip was made by wagon, and

they finally settled at Troy, Wis., and engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Levi was then quite young, and was compelled to assist his father, David Rhoades, in the farm work, gaining what education he could when not thus engaged. When seventeen years of age, he made a start for himself, coming to Rockford, where he did almost any kind of work offered him, such as splitting wood, etc. In 1848, he entered the cooper-shop of Harry Landers, in that city, and there learned his trade. He was energetic in his work, quick to pick up a point about the business, and after three years of tireless effort had accumulated sufficient means to purchase a half-interest in the business. In 1853, he bought out Mr. Lander's interest, their main plant being located just south of where now stands the W. F. & John Barnes' foundry, and ran the cooperage business until 1884, supplying all the mills in that vicinity with barrels. In 1865, he formed a partnership with Isaac and C. M. Utter & Company, for the manufacture of paper, and was still at the head of the firm at the time of his death.

When the People's Bank was organized, in 1873, Mr. Rhoades was one of the heaviest backers, and always remained a Director in the institution. He was a prime mover in the organization of the Rockford Watch Company, which has done its full share toward the upbuilding of the city, was the first President of the company, and Director until his death. With H. W. Price and Irvin French, he was largely instrumental in securing the removal of the Watch Case Company from Racine to Rockford. Besides being a stockholder in the Phoenix Furniture Company, and also many other industries in the city, at the time of his death he was President of the firm of Rhoades, Utter & Co., President of the Water-power Company, Vice-president of the Rockford City Railway Company, and Director in the following companies: Rockford Silver Plate Company, Rockford Watch Company, Rockford Tack Company, People's Bank, Rockford Shoe Company, Home Building & Loan Association, Merchants' and Manufacturers' Insurance Company, and the Harlem Park Company.

Mr. Rhoades was regarded as one of the wealthy men of the city. He led a Christian life, and was

always most active in church work. At an early day he joined the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church, and was one of the most devout believers of the society. When he removed to the West Side, he associated himself with the Court Street Methodist Episcopal society by letter, and afterward was a regular attendant. To his efforts is largely due the construction of the imposing edifice occupied by this society. He was Chairman of the Building Committee, also President of the Board of Trustees, and gave the work his personal supervision while the church was being built, to be sure that no weak spots were left, and the best of material used. He gave largely to the building fund, his donation, it is said, being in the neighborhood of \$6,000. No person ever applied to him in vain for financial assistance in religious work.

In politics, Mr. Rhoades was a staunch Republican, and a great believer in the principles of that party, although of late years he had taken no active part in campaigns. During the Greeley Presidential campaign, he was a strong supporter of that gentleman, and achieved the reputation of making the best stump speeches of any man in the district. He was himself a candidate on the ticket that year for the Senate, running far ahead of his colleagues, but was defeated. In 1876, he was elected Mayor, and served one term in an able and dignified manner, doing all in his power to promote the best interests of the city. In the school sense of the word, Mr. Rhoades was not a scholar, but in the practical sense, he was an educated man. He was an excellent mathematician, and could solve the most difficult problems readily. He always believed in doing things well.

Mr. Rhoades was married on the 24th of December, 1851, to Mrs. Frederica (Reik) Rhoades, widow of his brother, Stephen Rhoades, who died in Rockford. For nearly forty years Levi Rhoades was one of the most faithful and loving of husbands, bestowing everything possible upon the home circle that could aid in his family's happiness. Three children were born of this union: Clinton F., who died when about twelve months old; Lucinda H., now the wife of James N. Harris, foreman of the Rhoades & Utter Paper Mill, resides with

her mother in Rockford and has one child, Florence F.; Luella I. married Frederick J. Sovereign, proprietor of the City Ice Company, and they have one child, Clinton I.

Mrs. Rhoades was born at Hazelstein, near Stuttgart, Germany, and her parents were natives of the same country. The father, Michael Reik, was a thoroughly educated and prominent farmer of his native country. He was a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, in which his wife also held membership, and was a liberal contributor to the same. He died when sixty-four years of age, and his widow followed him to the grave when seventy-seven years of age. Mrs. Rhoades was the youngest daughter born to this worthy couple, and she, with her brother John A., and sister, Anna M., who was married, sailed for the United States in 1817, and were only twenty-one days in crossing the ocean. They came to Milwaukee, Wis., but subsequently removed to Walworth County, of that State, where Miss Reik grew to womanhood.

The portrait of the late Mr. Rhoades accompanies this sketch.



ABRAM CHAMPION. England numbers many representatives among the best class of citizens in Illinois. There is a sterling quality about the nationality that particularly fits them for pioneer life and we as Americans are greatly indebted to settlers of English birth for the rapid advancement made in our civilization. He whose name heads this sketch and who is a representative farmer of Harrison Township, Winnebago County, Ill., was born in England in July, 1846. His father, Abraham Champion, was born in the same place, Somersetshire, England, in 1811, and was a farmer, as was also his father before him. His first wife, the mother of our subject, was Elizabeth French, and she was born in the same place in 1815. To this union were born nine children, one of whom, Emma, died when about six years of age. This family came to the United States in the spring of 1856, and located in Rockton, Ill., but two years later rented a farm

in Owen Township. There the parents resided five years and then purchased an eighty-acre farm in Harrison Township, paying \$16 per acre for it. To the original tract was added land from time to time until at the time of Mr. Champion's death it numbered two hundred and twenty-five acres. His wife died on this farm in August, 1871, and his second marriage was to Mrs. Sophia Diamond, *nee* Newman, widow of John Diamond. Mr. Champion passed away on January 1, 1890, when seventy-six years of age, and his wife followed him to the grave on the 22d of the following February.

The eight children of the first union are still living and are as follows: James, a farmer in Harrison, married Miss Mary Diamond and they have two children, a son and daughter; Charles, a contractor and builder, is a man of considerable wealth; Mary Ann married Henry Gummon, a farmer near the town of Harrison; Elizabeth married John Carpenter, a farmer near Harrison; Abram (our subject); Jane, now Mrs. James Oliver, of Harrison; Isaac, a wealthy farmer of Burlingame, Kan.; and Henry, a carpenter of Chicago. Abram Champion started out at the age of twenty-five years as an agriculturist, and it was quite natural that he should choose that as his calling in life for he had been trained to it from an early age, and his ancestors for generations had followed the same occupation. He first rented a farm in company with his brother Isaac, the David Jewett farm, in Owen Township, and this they conducted successfully for three years. They next rented the farm of James Champion for five years.

On July 10, 1872, our subject married Miss Ida F. Dobson, of Harrison, daughter of Edwin and Elizabeth (Hamer) Dobson, the father a native of New England, and the mother of England. After this union, Mr. Champion and wife resided on the Jewett farm, also the James Champion farm, and then bought about one hundred and thirty-three acres, for which he paid \$4,000. He went in debt for the most of it but has since added to this tract until he now owns four hundred acres, all under the plow except fifty acres in timber and seventy-five acres in pasture land. In 1882, he built a barn 32x42 feet, and in 1890 he enlarged it 36x32. In 1885, his fine modern residence was

erected, and all his outbuildings are good and substantial. Mr. Champion has cleared most of his land and marketed the wood in Rockton, Beloit and Rockford. He raises all the small kinds of grain, and keeps a dairy of sixteen cows, sending the cream to the factory.

Mr. Champion's marriage resulted in the birth of five children, viz: Lizzie M., Minnie M., Rena M., Nora J., and Edna F., all attending the district school except Miss Lizzie, who is in the Rockford Academy fitting herself for a teacher, and the baby. Mr. Champion was formerly a Republican in politics, but he is now Independent. He is not the worker he was at one time, on account of an injury received by a run-a-way team. Mrs. Champion was a school teacher before her marriage and is a lady of intelligence and a model wife and mother.



PETER McGEACHIE derives a comfortable income from his farming operations, which he is carrying on very successfully in Winnebago Township, Winnebago County. He is a representative of the Scotch element that has played so important a part in the settlement and development of the Great West, and his thrift and industry make him a most desirable citizen.

Mr. McGeachie was born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, Scotland, May 10, 1830, a son of Duncan McGeachie, born in the same county as his son, and his father, Archibald McGeachie, was, as far as is known, born in the same place, and farmed on land owned by the Duke of Argyle; he spent his entire life there. The father of our subject, who died in 1818, was reared and married in his native place and spent his entire life there, following the vocation of a farmer. He was married to Ellen Ralston, a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Piekan) Ralston; she came to America and spent her last years with her children, dying at the home of our subject in February, 1867. The parents were valued members of the Presbyterian Church, and reared seven children: Thomas, Archibald, Margaret, Duncan, Peter, Ellen and Barbara.

Our subject was reared and educated in his native place, attending the common schools and at the same time assisting his father on the home farm until twenty years of age, when he commenced farming for himself on land that his father and grandfather had worked. In the year 1863, he gave up the lease, and, deciding to come to America, sailed from Liverpool on the vessel "New York" and arrived at that city after an uneventful voyage. Coming direct to Winnebago County, he stopped for a time with his brother in Roscoe, and in January, 1861, bought the land included in his present farm. Going to Kansas in February of the same year, he shortly returned and located on the same land where he has ever since resided. The farm is pleasantly located five miles west of the Court House and is in a high state of cultivation, adorned with fruit and shade trees of various descriptions, besides fine farm buildings, and every part of the estate gives evidence of the prudence and good judgment of its owner, and likewise shows that he is a man of good taste and domestic instincts.

Mr. McGeachie has had the assistance of a good and faithful wife since his marriage, January 10, 1865, to Ellen Campbell, the ceremony taking place at Atchison Mo. Mrs. McGeachie was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, March 4, 1844, and has borne her husband seven children: Donelda, Mary, Archibald, Barbara, Edward Peter, Grace N. and Florence M. The father of Mrs. McGeachie was Donald Campbell, born in Argyleshire, and his father, Archibald Campbell, was in early life a merchant, later a farmer, and, as far as is known, spent his entire life in his native land. Donald Campbell was reared to agricultural pursuits and resided in Argyleshire until 1851, when he sailed from Glasgow in the sailing-vessel "Allen Kerr" to America, accompanied by his wife and five of his seven children. After a voyage of seven weeks, they landed at Quebec, and thence came directly to Illinois, settling in DeKalb County, where he bought a tract of land and engaged in farming for nine years. At the expiration of that time, Mr. Campbell moved to Lyon County, Kan., on a tract of land, but he sickened, and died two or three weeks after his arrival in that State. The

maiden name of his wife was Barbara McGeachie, a native of Scotland and a daughter of Archibald McGeachie. After the death of her husband, she bought a home in the village of Plymouth, Kan., which was then but a hamlet, and has there resided since. The names of her children are Mary A., Catherine, Barbara, Neil, Malcolm, Jessie and Ellen, respectively.

Our subject and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the First Presbyterian Church of Rockford.



GEORGE S. ELLIS, a prominent figure among the business men of Rockton, has for many years been engaged as a blacksmith, in which department of trade he has acquired a good understanding of all its details. He is a man who attends strictly to business, and bears the reputation of being reliable and worthy of being trusted in any business which his judgment may justify him in undertaking. Our subject, who was born in Canada in September 1840, is the son of David Ellis, a native of New York who emigrated to Canada, where he resided for a number of years and in 1845 came with his family to Owen Township, Winnebago County. He departed this life two years later, leaving his widow with eight children.

George S. Ellis was the fourth son and seventh child in the parental family, six of whom still survive. The mother, whose maiden name was Maria Spencer, departed this life at the home of her daughter in Harrison Township, this county, in 1850, when forty-eight years of age. Our subject was thus wholly orphaned when nine years of age and from that time he has had to "paddle his own canoe." He obtained his schooling after leaving home by working for his board and attending school during the winter. When seventeen years of age, he rented land and engaged in farming on his own account.

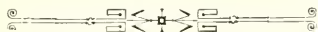
In 1861, he of whom we write and Miss Ruth, daughter of William Knapp, were united in marriage. The young couple located in Rockton in the fall of 1864, where our subject was for seven years engaged in teaming, and in 1871 purchased,



JOHN THOMAS PARKER.

for \$400, a half interest in the blacksmith business of Arthur Stiles. Five years later, he bought out his partner, since which time he has built up a lucrative trade as village blacksmith. He has acted in the capacity of "mine host" of each of the hotels here for about two years, and has served as a member of the Village Board for four years and School Director some ten years.

Five children have been granted Mr. and Mrs. Ellis, one of whom, a son Jesse, died when two and a half years of age. Those living are Emma, now Mrs. Byron Estes of Beloit, Wis.; Lena, who married E. P. Shotliff, of Rockton; William and Flora. Although our subject usually casts a Republican vote, he reserves a right to vote for the man whom he considers will best fill the office. He is a great lover of horses and possesses one of the most promising stock animals in this section, a very swift pacer. Mrs. Ellis is a consistent and devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



JOHAN T. PARKER. The old Bay State has furnished to Boone County a number of representative citizens, among whom may be mentioned John T. Parker, who died at his home in Spring Township, June 12, 1892. In everything connected with the growth and prosperity of the county he took an active interest, and as a tiller of the soil ever stood in the foremost ranks.

Born in Worcester County, Mass., in the town of Fitchburg, October 27, 1810, our subject was the son of Samuel and Lydia (Allen) Parker, natives of Massachusetts, and the father of English descent. The Parkers were New Englanders and for the most part followed agricultural pursuits for a livelihood. Samuel Parker died in Illinois when sixty-three years of age, and his wife received her final summons in New York State when eighty years of age. Our subject's maternal grandfather was a valiant soldier in the Revolutionary War and participated in the battle of Lexington.

The original of this notice was one of thirteen children, three of whom are living. One sister

resides with our subject and another sister makes her home in the Empire State. John T. Parker remained at home until twenty-one years of age, and up to that time worked with his father at the carpenter's and joiner's trade. He then started out to make his own way in life and went to Pennsylvania, where for three years he was engaged in building mills. He subsequently tried his hand at dressing feathers, and after working at that for some time with an uncle and putting in nearly all of his hard-earned money, he decided to quit and embark in other enterprises more suited to his taste. After this, he was in the saw-mill business for a number of months but later returned home and there followed the trade of a carpenter until the spring of 1846, when he made his advent into the State of Illinois.

Previous to this, on the 3d of September, 1837, he was wedded to Miss Eunice Lindsay, a native of Otsego County, N. Y., born September 3, 1813, and one of twelve children, four now living, born to David and Jemima (Crane) Lindsay, also natives of the Empire State. Her father died in Madison County, N. Y., when eighty years of age, and his wife passed away in Minnesota. At the above-mentioned date, 1846, our subject, with his father and family, came by way of the Erie Canal and Lakes to Chicago, and there hired a team to take them to near Belvidere, Boone County. In that place, on account of sickness, they remained two months, and there our subject's father and only child died.

Later, Mr. Parker and his wife settled on rented land and in 1848, having accumulated considerable means by their frugality and industry, they bought the farm where they spent their remaining years. He first pre-empted eighty acres but later added forty acres to this, thus making a snug farm of one hundred and twenty acres. He first erected a small frame house, in which they lived for years, and in 1861 built the present substantial building. To the original tract, he added enough to make one hundred and sixty acres, which is now worth fully \$65 per acre, and he put in over \$1,500 worth of tiling. The farm is one of the most productive and best improved in the county. His early market was Chicago and often he was eight or

nine days on the trip. He was thrifty and enterprising, no doubt inheriting his energy from his sturdy and energetic ancestors, and his ability as an agriculturist was well known.

Owing to his intelligence and superior ability, Mr. Parker was called upon to occupy most of the local offices of the township and discharged the duties of the same in a very creditable manner. He affiliated with the Democrats up to the formation of the Republican party, with which he afterward voted. His first Presidential ballot was cast for Andrew Jackson. He had several nephews, Parkers, in the Civil War, and some of them laid down their lives for the Stars and Stripes. On the 3d of February, 1891, Mr. Parker was called upon to mourn the loss of his affectionate wife, who passed away at the old home place. She was an excellent woman and well worthy the esteem of all. They had two children: Harriet, who died as above-mentioned, at Belvidere, and Henry L., who died before the family left New York State. Little more than a year after the death of his wife, Mr. Parker closed his eyes on the scenes of earth and passed to the Great Beyond June 12, 1892. To the last, he retained his deep interest in the welfare of his community and fellow-citizens, and was quite hearty and active, notwithstanding his advanced age. His friends will be pleased to notice his portrait on another page of this volume.



PO. N. WALL, the practical and fashionable tailor, whose artistic cuts and perfect fits are known throughout the aristocratic portion of the city, is located over No. 324 East State Street, where he keeps employed from four to six of the most skilled workmen. Among his permanent customers are many of Rockford's best dressed citizens, who thoroughly appreciate and understand the merits of a first-class tailor, and who find in Mr. Wall's establishment not only the best goods in the country, but a place where the style and trimming of a garment is a matter of careful study.

Mr. Wall was originally from Helsingland,

Sweden, born September 1, 1846, and while growing up learned the tailor trade. He was left an orphan when but a boy, his parents having died when comparatively young people. His father, Gust Nordenvall, was a prominent man in his community, holding many minor offices, such as town clerk, and organist in the State Church. The mother, who died when about thirty-two years of age, was a Lutheran in her religious convictions and a devout and worthy Christian. They were the parents of two children, but only our subject is now living. The other, Gust, was a married man and died in Chicago, leaving a widow and two daughters. Gust Nordenvall, Sr., was three times married and had children by each wife. To his last union was born a daughter, Anna, who is now the wife of Mr. Hess, the Methodist clergyman of the Swedish Church of Rockford.

It was in the year 1865 that Mr. Wall crossed the ocean to America and he first followed his trade in Brooklyn, N. Y. Later he was in business in different cities of that State and Pennsylvania, but in 1877 he came to Rockford, Ill., and in partnership with George Johnson established a merchant tailoring establishment on East State Street. They continued together until January 1, 1885, since which time Mr. Wall has continued the business alone. He is a live, energetic business man and one of the leading exponents of the merchant tailor's art in the city. By industry and good business management he has been unusually successful and is now the owner of some valuable improved property in the city, besides a comfortable home at No. 302 North Fourth Street. He also owns stock in the Standard Furniture Company, and the Rockford Manufacturing Company of the city.

Mr. Wall was married in Brooklyn, N. Y., June 6, 1869, to Miss Ida Hult, a native of Kalmar Lan, Sweden, born in March, 1847, and who came alone to the United States in 1866. Her father died in Sweden and her mother subsequently came to the United States, being now a resident of Jamestown, N. Y. Mrs. Wall's brother, Capt. C. A. Hult, now a resident of Jamestown, N. Y., was the first of the family to come to this country. He fought for the Union during the Rebellion.

Mr. and Mrs. Wall became the parents of five chil-

dren, two of whom died in infancy. Those living are: Anna W., attending business college; Walter C. G., and Louis W. Socially, Mr. Wall is a Knight Templar in the Masonic fraternity, and, politically, he is an active worker for the Republican party whose principles he advocates. He and his wife are members of the Swedish Methodist Church and he is an official in the same.



ALEXANDER ANDERSON, a retired florist, whose commodious and pleasant residence is at No. 714 North First Street, came to this city in May, 1853, and was first engaged as a flower gardener by Mr. Townsend, with whom he remained for a number of years. He was subsequently with Mr. M. Starr, another old settler of the city. Later still, he worked for others, including G. A. Sanford, and Emerson & Company, remaining with this company for fourteen years. In this way he has passed his life thus far and has saved a fair amount of his income, the same he is now enjoying. He has been overseer for the East Side Park for a number of years and holds that position at the present time. He is well known in Rockford, and is well liked by all.

Mr. Anderson claims Sweden as his native land, and was born in Wester Gothland, of that country, October 12, 1823. He remained there until twenty-nine years of age, and in the spring of 1852 he left home and friends to seek his fortune in the States. On the 2d of July of that year, he reached Boston and came thence to Chicago by cars, making the distance in five days. After about a year spent in the vicinity of that city he came on to Rockford.

He was the only one of his family to set foot on American soil, and the youngest of seven children born to his parents, Andrew S. and Breta (Hallenberg) Anderson, natives of Sweden, in which country both received their final summons, the father dying when about eighty-nine years of age and the mother also when quite aged. The family were all members of the State Church of Sweden.

Our subject was married in Rockford to Miss Erica Peterson, who was born in Wester Gothland,

Sweden, July 4, 1833, and whose parents, Peter Maline and Ingra M. (Holmberg) Peterson, were also natives of that country. They passed their entire lives there, the father engaged as a farmer, and both lived to be quite old people. Mrs. Anderson passed her youthful days in her native province, and in 1855, with her sister, Ingra (who is now deceased, having died in Rockford after her marriage), came to the United States and settled in Rockford, Ill. She was married shortly afterwards, or in 1857, to Mr. Anderson, and bore him five children, one deceased, Olivia L., who died when about four years of age. Those children living are: Edward, in business in Belvidere, married Miss Ida Lindene; Selma V., wife of John Hult, a carver in the furniture factory; Victor L., a machinist with the Nelson Knitting Company, married Miss Jennie Lundine, and Mary at home, a seamstress and dressmaker. All the family are members of the First Lutheran Church, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson being among the older members of the same. Mr. Anderson is an ardent Republican and cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln.



LETCHER COFFIN. The agricultural element that has been so largely instrumental in the upbuilding of Winnebago County is well represented by this gentleman, who is one of the foremost farmers and stockraisers of Burrill Township, where he owns a large and valuable farm. Mr. Coffin was born November 6, 1841, in Roscoe, this county, a son of Henderson W. Coffin, born in Newport, Herkimer County, N. Y., and he in turn was a son of Isaac, who was born in the town of Deerfield, Herkimer County, N. Y. His father, the great-grandfather of our subject, was from New England and was one of the first settlers of the town of Deerfield. He cleared a farm from the wilderness and resided there until his death. Isaac Coffin was reared on a farm and always followed farming as a vocation, assisting in clearing seven different farms. From Herkimer County, he went to St. Lawrence County about the year 1839, bought a tract of timber land, and with the assist-

ance of his sons cleared it and spent his remaining days there. His wife was known in her maiden days as Peggy Patton; she was a native of Eastern New York and the daughter of a Revolutionary soldier. She passed away in St. Lawrence County.

The father of our subject went to Canada when a young man and there learned the trade of a brickmaker with his brother Horace. From there they came to Illinois in 1838, and located in Winnebago County, Henderson still remaining in the employ of his brother. Sometime later, he started in farming for himself and went to Beloit, prospecting for a short time, and then established a brickyard. He had previous to this time entered a tract of Government land in what is now Burrill Township, and in 1860 settled on that land. There he engaged in farming some years, then removed to Winnebago Township, and bought a tract of land and made his home thereon until his death in May, 1876. The maiden name of his wife was Mary H. Kenear; she was born in New York State and now makes her home in Rockford. The father of our subject was a very industrious man, possessed of good judgment, and was one of the most successful farmers in the county, and at one time owned upwards of one thousand acres of land.

Our subject is one of eleven children born to his parents and he received his education in the public schools of this county. Reared to farming pursuits, he has always followed that vocation and is now the owner of a fine tract of land comprising two hundred and forty broad and fertile acres which are finely improved, and good and substantial buildings are erected thereon.

The date of the marriage of our subject and Miss Harriet Keeling was December 22, 1879. Mrs. Coffin was born in Philadelphia, Pa., and is a daughter of John Keeling, who was born near Liverpool, England, and a son of William and Harriet Keeling. The grandfather of Mrs. Coffin was a tailor by trade and on coming to America settled in Philadelphia and followed his trade there some years. From there he came to Rockford, and resided here until his death. His son John learned the trade of a tailor and also followed it for some time after coming to America. He is still a resident of Rockford and is now engaged as a house

decorator. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Taylor, a native of England, and a daughter of William Taylor, and came to this country with a brother and sister.

Our subject and his estimable wife have had born to them two children: Gertrude May and Alta Marie. Mr. Coffin votes the Republican ticket in politics.



GEORGE A. WADDELL, who resides on section 32, Guilford Township, is an enterprising and representative agriculturist of Winnebago County, and one of the worthy citizens that the Empire State has furnished to Illinois. He was born in the town of Bethel, Sullivan County, N. Y., April 1, 1853, and is of Scotch descent. His paternal grandfather was born in Scotland, and came to America accompanied by his wife and one son. He located in Sullivan County and there purchased a farm, upon which he spent the remainder of his life. James Waddell, father of our subject, was a native of Sullivan County and was there reared and acquired a common-school education. On attaining his majority, he was joined in wedlock with Mary J. Breakey, also a native of that county and a daughter of John and Elosia Breakey. The maternal grandfather of our subject was born on the Emerald Isle and was of Scotch descent. His wife was a native of New England. Mr. and Mrs. Waddell began their domestic life upon the farm in Bethel Township where the former now resides. His wife was called to her final rest in 1874.

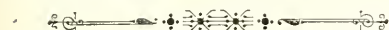
We now take up the personal history of George A. Waddell, whose boyhood and youth were passed in the usual manner of farmer lads. He aided in the labors of the farm during the summer months and in the winter season attended the district schools of the neighborhood. Remaining under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, he then started out in life for himself and went to Orange County, N. Y., where the succeeding year and a half of his life were passed. On the expiration of that period, he determined to try his



Egbert Phelps

fortune in Illinois, and emigrated to Winnebago County, where he was employed as a farm hand for a month and a half. He then rented land, and it was not until 1888 that he purchased the farm on which he now resides.

As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, Mr. Waddell chose Miss Minnie C. Scoville, a native of Ogle County, Ill., and a daughter of Stephen T. and Lucy (Preston) Scoville. Her parents are mentioned elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of Hon. H. C. Scoville. The union of our subject and his wife was celebrated in 1879, and the worthy couple are held in high regard throughout this community. They are both members of the Centennial Methodist Church of Rockford, and, in politics, Mr. Waddell is a Republican but has never sought or desired public office, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his business interests. On removing to the farm, he erected good buildings and has made many other improvements, which have greatly increased its value and made it a desirable place of residence. His home is pleasantly and conveniently situated about three miles and one-half from the court house.



EGBERT PHELPS, who is the oldest native-born citizen of Winnebago County now residing within its limits, was the owner and occupant of two hundred and forty acres of excellent land in Owen Township. His portrait and life sketch will therefore possess unusual interest for the reader. His birth occurred in Rockford Township, April 20, 1837, while his father, John Phelps, was born and reared in St. Albans, Vt. The latter-named gentleman was a carpenter by trade, and when a young man removed to Buffalo, N. Y., where he was engaged in that line of work for a time, and early in 1836 came West to the Territory of Michigan, where his marriage occurred.

Immediately after that event, the young couple started for the Prairie State, making the journey overland with a team. Their first stop was made at Paw Paw Grove, where Mr. Phelps left his wife,

and, starting out to seek a location, came to Winnebago County when Rockford contained but a few families, and the Government surveys to the land in the surrounding country had not yet been completed. Deciding to locate in Rockford, he purchased property on South Second Street, opposite the present site of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church, and, bringing his wife hither, they established themselves in this community.

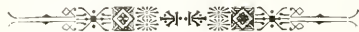
Mr. Phelps prosecuted his trade there until 1846, when he removed to what is now Cherry Valley Township, and making settlement on a tract of Government land, erected a log house and commenced the work of subduing nature, erecting a cabin and improving his farm. He worked at his trade a part of each year for some time, and occupied that farm until 1864, when he sold it and removed to Pecatonica Village, and was there for a number of years engaged in the hardware business. He later became identified with the business interests of Davis, Stephenson County, where he carried on a profitable lumber trade. On account of failing health, however, he was compelled to retire from active work, and died in the village of Durand, July 7, 1874.

Mrs. Lucretia (Kimball) Phelps, the mother of our subject, was born in the Green Mountain State and now resides with her son at Plymouth, Mo. She became the mother of the following-named four children: Egbert, John A., Hannibal, and Helen M., who became the wife of O. H. Davis, and died at Durand. The original of this sketch was ten years of age when he was brought to Cherry Valley Township, and after attending the schools first in Rockford and then in that township, entered the High School in Rockford. He assisted his father on the farm, and remained at home until twenty-two years of age, when he was employed at surveying in and around Rockford for two years.

In 1863, our subject enlisted in Company K, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, and served until after the close of the war, most of the time being under Pope in Missouri, Arkansas and Kansas, fighting the guerrillas and bushwhackers, which was the most dangerous kind of warfare. In December, 1865, he was discharged, and returning home,

engaged in teaming at Pecatonica. Two years later, he settled upon the farm which he now owns and occupies, and on which may be found all the buildings necessary for carrying on a first-class estate.

The ceremony which united Miss Mary E. Brown and Egbert Phelps was performed November 29, 1866. The lady was born in Owen Township, this county, September 12, 1813, and was the only daughter of Mowry and Lucy (Pease) Brown, for a further sketch of whom the reader is referred to the biography of R. E. Brown. The two children comprising the household of our subject and his wife are Charles E. and Zora E. Republican in politics, Mr. Phelps takes an active interest in all local affairs. Socially, he is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., while Mrs. Phelps is connected with the Woman's Relief Corps, of Rockford.



BENJAMIN F. GARRETT, one of the enterprising farmers of Guilford Township, Winnebago County, has demonstrated the fact that perseverance and zeal will prevail to conquer circumstances and gain a competence for him who exercises those qualities. He now owns two hundred acres of fine land. All of the improvements—and they are many and excellent—have been made by the present owner of the farm and reflect credit upon his judgment and thrift.

Born July 10, 1835, in Lake County, Ohio, our subject is the youngest son of Thomas and Margaret (Kewish) Garrett, whose history will be found in the biography of Robert Garrett on another page of this volume. Benjamin was three years of age when his parents came to this county, so he has but little recollection of other than his adopted home. He began working on the farm as soon as old enough and, making his home with his parents until his marriage, then rented land until 1864.

In August of the above-named year, Benjamin Garrett enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and served his country faithfully and well until the close of the war,

when he received his honorable discharge in August of 1865. Returning home, our subject engaged in work at the carpenter's trade in partnership with his brother Robert, and a twelvemonth later purchased the farm where he now resides. There was on the place a house 11x20 feet in dimensions, also a board stable. Mr. Garrett added to his property until his estate now includes two hundred acres, which its owner has beautified by planting ornamental fruit and shade trees and erecting a good set of buildings thereon.

Miss Esther A. Hayes was married to our subject in 1860; she is a native of this county and township, her birth having occurred in July, 1819. Her father, Samuel Baker Hayes, was born, reared and married in Connecticut, whence he removed to Canada, purchasing a farm near St. Thomas. His wife dying at that place, he later married the mother of Mrs. Garrett, whose maiden name was Catherine Grovero. She was a native of Canada and of French ancestry. In the fall of 1838, the parents of Mrs. Garrett came to Winnebago County, where the father purchased a claim to a tract of Government land on section 17, Guilford Township. There he erected the log house in which Mrs. Garrett was born and in which the family resided until the decease of the parents.

Our subject and his wife have one son, Bruce H. Mr. Garrett is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and in politics casts a straight Republican vote.



CHARLES M. KEELER has the honor of claiming Belvidere as his native city. He here first opened his eyes to the light of day, October 31, 1857. His grandfather, Calvin Keeler, was a farmer and spent his last years in Cortland County, N. Y., where Milton E. Keeler, father of our subject, was born. He there resided until sixteen years of age, when, in 1849, he left the parental roof and came to Illinois, where he engaged in clerking until the war. In September, 1862, he joined the boys in blue of Company B, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and was mustered in as First Lieutenant. He participated in the Vicksburg campaign, and the Red River expedition, and after

serving two years returned home, having resigned on account of ill-health. He then embarked in the mercantile business in Belvidere and continued operations in that line until 1871, when he purchased the creamery at Garden Prairie and conducted that business until 1877. He then sold and returned to Belvidere. He was elected County Clerk in the fall of 1877, and so faithfully did he perform his duties that he was re-elected at each succeeding election, holding the office until his death, which occurred January 29, 1884. Mrs. Keeler still survives her husband. She bore the maiden name of Louisa Owen and was born in Canandaigua, N. Y. Her father, Joseph Owen, was a soldier in the War of 1812, and during his last years received a pension in recognition of his services. His father was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary War.

Charles Keeler is one of eight children as follows: George H., Charles M., Willis E., Frank H., May B. Dunton, Helen L. Tousley, Grace M. Dawson and Emma C.

Our subject acquired his early education in the schools of Belvidere, and after the removal of the family to Garden Prairie assisted his father in the creamery. On returning to this city, he served as Deputy County Clerk for four years, after which he went to Chicago and was employed as assistant book-keeper by the firm of Clement, Bane & Co., with whom he remained until his father's death, when he was appointed to fill the unexpired term of County Clerk. In 1884, he was elected to that office, re-elected in 1886 and again in 1890, and is the present incumbent.

Mr. Keeler was married, June 25, 1884, to Julia Nixon, who was born at Ringwood, McHenry County, Ill., and is a daughter of the Hon. Alexander H. and Frances (Condict) Nixon, who were early settlers of McHenry County. Her father was a man of prominence who served one term in the Senate and three or four terms in the State Legislature. He died during the war. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born two interesting children, Clara L. and Marguerite. The parents are both members of the First Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Keeler is Adjutant of the Illinois Division Sons of Veterans. His efficiency as County

Clerk and his faithful performance of duty are well attested by his long continued service, which also indicates his popularity and the high regard in which he is held by all.



JAMES AUGUSTUS BENNETT, of Belvidere, has for more than half a century resided in Boone County, and is a worthy representative of one of its honored pioneer families. His grandfather was a farmer of Groton, Middlesex County, Mass. His father was born in that locality, and resided in Groton until 1839, when, in the month of May, he started Westward, accompanied by his wife and four children. They went by way of the Erie Canal from Albany to Buffalo, where they embarked on a steamer and in that way reached Chicago, where Mr. Bennett purchased a team of horses and a pair of oxen, and, attaching them to wagons he had brought with him, made an overland journey to Boone County. At that time few improvements had here been made, the few settlers lived in log cabins and their homes were widely scattered. The family moved into a log house with another family and there resided until fall, when Mr. Bennett purchased a tract of land near Newburg, where they spent the winter. He suffered very much from ague during the winter and in the spring concluded to leave that location, so purchased a tract of wild land on South Prairie, now included in Flora Township. Building a barn, the family occupied that as a place of residence during the summer, while the house was being moved from Newburg. Four years later, he purchased a farm on the north bank of the Kishwaukee River, a portion of which is now included within the city limits, and erected a commodious brick residence, frame barn and other buildings. He made it one of the desirable farms of the locality and continued its cultivation until his death in 1868.

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Mary Shattuck. She was born in Groton, Mass., and died in January, 1892. She had a family of seven children, six of whom grew to mature years; James

Augustus; Samuel, now deceased; John H., a resident of Belvidere; Sarah J., who is living in Bonus Township; George, of Coffey County, Kan., and Charles, a resident of Flora Township. Since the death of Mrs. Bennett, the farm has been sold to the Lincoln Avenue Land Company and it is platted and known as Fair View, and the company have already sold a large number of lots.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of only nine years, when, with his parents, he came to Illinois. He remembers well many incidents of the long journey. He was reared amid the wild scenes of the frontier to habits of industry, and at an early age became inured to the hard labors of the farm. In the winter season he attended the schools of the neighborhood, while in the summer months he assisted his father in the cultivation of the land, remaining under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself. Since June, 1839, he has resided continuously in Boone County, and is numbered among its worthy pioneers. He has ever borne his share in its upbuilding and advancement and is recognized as a public-spirited and progressive citizen of the community.



REBUBEN H. IRONS, who is now living a retired life in Rockford, was born near Zanesville, Ohio, August 18, 1826, and is a son of David Irons, a native of Schuylkill County, Pa., and was reared on a farm and worked in a sawmill owned by his father. About the time the war broke out, he enlisted as a soldier of the navy and fought in many engagements during that second struggle for American independence. On his return to Pennsylvania, he learned the blacksmith's trade, which proved to him a lucrative occupation. Subsequently, he removed to Ohio, becoming one of the early settlers of Zanesville. He there established a smithy and did much work on the first bridge that spanned the Maskenyuns River at that place. Subsequently, he purchased a farm in Franklin County, Ohio, not far from Columbus, and carried that on in connection with blacksmithing. After some years he brought his

family, with teams, to Illinois in 1847, again becoming a pioneer. He settled on a farm in Shirland, where his death occurred when past the age of seventy years. His wife survived him and died at the home of her son Reuben, while the latter was living in Clinton County, Iowa. She was then sixty-eight years of age. In the family were nine children, all of whom grew to manhood and womanhood, while two sons and six daughters are yet living.

The subject of this sketch remained upon his father's farm in Ohio until nineteen years of age, when he came to Illinois, locating in this county in 1847. After some years he removed to Clinton County, Iowa, where he spent sixteen years, after which he returned to Illinois and made a settlement in Cherry Valley Township, where he carried on farming. He is numbered among the honored pioneers of the county and has borne the usual experiences of frontier life. In those early days he has hauled grain to Chicago and Milwaukee and then frequently received only twenty-five cents per bushel for it. He began life empty-handed but has worked his way upward to a position of affluence. He still owns some good property in Woodbury County, Iowa, two hundred and forty acres of fine and well-improved land; and also has one hundred and sixty acres near Huron, S. Dak., and some property in Kansas. His property in Rockford is quite valuable also.

Mr. Irons was married in this county to Miss Eliza Atwood, who was born near Chatham, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, March 23, 1830, and is a daughter of Patten and Anna (Brooks) Atwood, natives of Massachusetts and Canada, respectively. They were married in the latter country and settled not far from Chatham, where Mr. Atwood engaged in the milling business for twelve years. In 1839, he came to the United States and made a settlement in this county, where he has since resided. He is now a well-to-do farmer of Owen Township, and is eighty-seven years of age. His wife died July 30, 1890, at the age of eighty-three years, in the faith of the Baptist Church, to which Mr. Atwood also belongs. He was an Abolitionist and joined the Republican party on its organization. For sixty-five years he and his wife

traveled life's journey together and were highly respected people. Unto them were born fifteen children, and, with the exception of one who died in childhood, all are yet living and have married. The eldest is sixty-five and the youngest forty-one years of age. They have all been quite successful in life and the family is noted for longevity.

Mrs. Irons was the third in order of birth. She was carefully reared and is a lady of noble and generous character, held in high esteem by all. With the Baptist Church she holds membership. By her marriage she has become the mother of four children, three living: Frank L., who was a farmer of Marshall County, Kan., wedded M. L. Seovill, and passed away November 10, 1891, at the age of thirty-eight years, leaving three daughters; he had buried a son Reuben nine months before his death. Charles L. married Emma Alger and is a farmer of Woodbury County, Iowa; Anna E., wife of Walter Belshaw, a carpenter residing in Oregon City, Ore.; and Vina M., wife of Henry Foote, a carpenter of the same place.

In politics, Mr. Irons is a Republican. He has resided in this city for some seventeen years and is now living a retired life at No. 410 North First Street. He is numbered among the early settlers of the county and since locating here more than forty years ago has been identified with its up-building and progress.



HORATIO C. DEMUNN, ex-Circuit Clerk of Boone County, is at present residing in Belvidere. He was born in Alexander, Genesee County, N. Y., November 12, 1824, and is a son of John DeMunn, who, as far as is known, was born in New York State, of French parents. The latter-named gentleman was well educated and practiced law to some extent. He was also engaged in agricultural pursuits on a farm which he owned in the town of Alexander, where his death occurred in November, 1826.

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Clarissa Goodwill. She was born in Tolland County, Conn., and was first married to William

C. Tisdale, by whom she became the mother of seven children. By her union with Mr. DeMunn four children were born. She continued to reside on the farm in Alexander until 1860, when she sold out and, moving one mile west, lived there until 1865, which was the date of her advent into Boone County, where her decease occurred.

Horatio C. DeMunn received his early education in the district schools of his native town, which was later advanced by attendance at the Genesee and Wyoming Seminary. When twenty years of age, he began teaching school, and was so employed until 1846, in Genesee County. Our subject then came to Boone County, settling in the town of Le Roy, and, in addition to cultivating the soil, was employed as a teacher until 1857. That year he received the appointment of Deputy Circuit Clerk, which office he held until 1864, when he was elected Circuit Clerk, being elected to that position for three full terms of four years each. Since that time he has served either as Deputy or Assistant Clerk.

Miss Abigail Stackpole, who was born in the town of Camden, Me., November 24, 1830, became the wife of our subject in 1849. Her father, James Stackpole, was born in Belfast, Me., and was a son of Aaron and Hannah (Young) Stackpole, natives, also, of the Pine Tree State, where they spent their entire lives. The parents of Mrs. DeMunn were reared and married in Maine, and in 1838 went to Wisconsin, traveling via Boston and Philadelphia to Pittsburg, thence by way of the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Peru, this State, where they engaged a team and went overland to the Badger State, locating at Beloit. There the father was engaged as a produce and provision merchant. At that early day the land in Wisconsin and Northern Illinois was very sparsely settled and the greater portion of it was owned by the Government. Mr. Stackpole often teamed from Beloit to the pineries, where he sold his provisions. In 1844, he purchased land in Manchester, Boone County, where he made his home and operated a farm until about 1852, when he went West to Garnaville, Clayton County, Iowa, and for about four years he carried on a thriving business in grain. From that place he went to Prairie du

Chien and became the possessor of one of the islands in the river in front of that city, from which he supplied the shippers of cattle with hay and grain. His death occurred in that place in 1886.

The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. DeMunn was Eliza Dunton. She was born in Waldo, Me., and was the daughter of Isaac and Abigail Dunton. Her death occurred in Beloit, in 1840. The four children born to our subject and his wife are George; Ella, Mrs. George Vickers; Kittie, the wife of L. C. Palmer; and Gertrude. Our subject has cast a Republican vote since the formation of the party, and has aided in many ways in the upbuilding of his community.



RUFUS W. GRAVES, who owns two hundred and forty acres of land on section 11, Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, was born in Norwich, Chenango County, N. Y., in the region which he thinks the most desolate in this fair land. His grandfather, Israel Graves, a native of Connecticut, was one of the pioneer settlers of Norwich. He married Lydia Wells and they reared four sons and three daughters. One of the latter is still living. Mr. Graves died in Rock County, Wis., at an advanced age, and his wife passed away in Ohio.

Obed Graves, father of our subject, was the third child in that family and was born in Cortland County, N. Y., in 1797. He was reared as a laborer and for some years followed teaming. When a young man, he married Allie Monroe, who at a very early age was left an orphan in Cortland County. They came West from Chenango County in September, 1817, settling in Roscoe Township. Their eight sons and one daughter were all born in Chenango County. One son died in infancy but the others grew to mature years. Mr. Graves engaged in farming on rented land for some time and spent the last ten years of his life with his son at his present home. His death occurred in December, 1889, at the age of ninety-three. He remained physically strong up to the last, but two years before his death his mind gave way. His

wife died in March, 1887, at the age of eighty-four years. Four children of the family are yet living: Perry O., a farmer of Wisconsin; Rufus W.; Calferna, widow of Spencer Brown and a resident of Minnesota; and George, who makes his home in Beloit, Wis.

Our subject was reared in his native State, and in 1846 came to Illinois by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes. He had embarked for Racine, but a heavy gale was encountered and the passengers were landed at Chicago. Mr. Graves was married on the 25th of February of that year to Julia A. Thornton, of Norwich, N. Y., daughter of Smith D. and Asha (Bolton) Thornton, who were among the early settlers of Roscoe Township. The young couple on reaching their destination had only money enough to buy a \$14 cow and a fifteen-cent skimmer. They commenced keeping house in a log cabin with his eldest brother, who had come to the county in 1845. For ten years Mr. Graves rented land and then worked on the railroad for two years. His first purchase of land consisted of twelve and one-half acres, and he also bought a third interest in a house. He next purchased fifty-five acres, the old Thornton homestead, which his father-in-law had entered from the Government. He then bought his present home, which yet contains two hundred and forty acres, although he has given fifty-five acres to his eldest son, fifty acres to his daughter, and has sold forty acres.

Mrs. Graves was called to her final rest in September, 1890, at the age of sixty-two years, leaving two sons and a daughter: Orlando, a resident of Beloit, Wis.; Frances, wife of George Muchmore, who resides on an adjoining farm; and Jay, who operates the home farm. Jay married Laura Frank, a native of New York, born of German parentage.

Mr. Graves is now serving as Road Commissioner, which position he has held for thirty years, and for twelve years he has been Justice of the Peace. This statement is the highest testimonial which could be given of his efficient and faithful service. In politics, he was a Democrat until appointed to solicit subscriptions for bounty money to send men to the front during the late war. He found that the Republicans subscribed willingly,

while nearly every Democrat refused, or gave grudgingly, and since that experience, Mr. Graves has been a stalwart Republican. His life has been well and worthily spent and he is now enjoying a well-earned rest. He has the confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact, and is held in high regard by his many friends.

PHILETUS S. DOOLITTLE, one of the prominent and honored pioneers, in fact, the earliest settler of Harlem Township, Winnebago County, now residing on section 19, was born in Boston, Erie County, N. Y., August 6, 1811. His father, Calvin Doolittle, was born in the Green Mountain State and was a son of Amzi Doolittle, also a native of Vermont. His mother, Susanah Cary, was born in Westfield, Mass., and was married October 12, 1801. Her parents were Richard and Marsina (Ford) Cary. The father was a Revolutionary soldier who served under Gen. Washington. Amzi Doolittle, on removing to New York, settled in the town of Nelson, Madison County, and in the midst of the forest hewed out a farm, upon which he made his home until the year 1820, when he started westward, journeying with a team to Morgan County, Ill. He bought Government land and then started to return to the East for his family, but was taken sick before reaching home and died in Indiana. His wife, who bore the name of Mary Hazleton, died in Austin, Erie County, N. Y.

The father of our subject was reared to manhood in the Empire State and settled in the town of Boston, Erie County. Subsequently, he became a resident of Pennsylvania, where he made his home until 1823, when he went to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where he resided about twelve years; he then came to Michigan, where he resided for two years, and from there to Illinois, locating in what is now Harlem Township, Winnebago County. He made a claim, purchasing the land of the Government at the land sale in Galena, when it came into market. Some time later he removed to Guilford Township, where he purchased a farm, on which he made his home until called to his final rest.

Our subject spent the first nine years of his life in the State of his nativity and then accompanied his parents to Mercer County, Pa. After three years, they became residents of Little Valley, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where they lived until 1835, which year witnessed their removal to Michigan. Mr. Doolittle remained there two years, and in 1837 came to Illinois. He made the entire distance with teams and after six weeks of travel reached his destination. In March, 1837, he located on the land which he now owns and occupies. He entered it from the Government and every improvement on the place is a monument to his thrift and enterprise, for when he came into the possession of his farm not even a furrow had been turned upon it.

On September 14, 1834, Mr. Doolittle wedded Sally A. Knox, a native of Augusta, Niagara County, N. Y., and a daughter of Elijah Knox. She was killed by lightning in 1851, leaving three sons living: Russell C., Alonzo P., and Myron H. Edwin H. is deceased. Russell C., Alonzo P., and Edwin H. served in the Union Army. On May 6, 1857, our subject was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Paulina Arnold, who was born in Essex County, Canada, and is a daughter of Edward and Ann (Abbott) Reynolds. Her father was born in Mercer County, Pa., and was quite young when his parents, George and Jane (Morton) Reynolds, removed to what is now Michigan, and thence to Essex County, Canada, where they were among the early settlers. After his marriage, he went with his wife to Ohio, and purchased a farm in Cuyahoga County, upon which he made his home until his death. In Canada, Paulina Reynolds became the wife of David Arnold, who was born in that country and there spent his entire life, passing away in 1841. Three children were born of that union: Solon F.; Ann J., who is now the wife of Russell Doolittle, and William W.

Mr. Doolittle of this sketch bore all the usual experiences and hardships of pioneer life. He came to this country at a very early day, when Chicago was one of the nearest markets. The settlements were few and far between and deer and other wild game roamed over the prairies at will. He bore his share in the development and upbuilding of

the county and with the history of Harlem Township his name is inseparably connected. No other man residing within its borders has so long there made his home as Mr. Doolittle, and this work would be incomplete without his sketch. Our subject has held several offices, among which was that of Justice of the Peace for twenty-seven years, and Supervisor two terms, and Clerk and Treasurer of the Free-will Baptist Quarterly Meetings for thirty-five years.



AUGUSTUS W. ROBINSON, one of the early settlers of Flora Township, Boone County, was born in the town of Atkinson, Piscataquis County, Me., October 7, 1831, where also his father, Elijah, and grandfather, Capt. James Robinson, were born. The great-grandfather of our subject hailed from Scotland, and, coming to America during Colonial times, located in that part of the Massachusetts Bay Colony now included in the State of Maine. He was a seafaring man and commanded a vessel.

Capt. James Robinson was Commodore of a vessel, and during the War of 1812 was captured by the British but soon retaken by the French. He then returned to Portland, and, fitting up a privateer, commanded the vessel until the close of the war. In 1841, he came to Illinois and purchased land in this county in company with his son-in-law, Augustus Harron. This was in Flora Township, where he was residing at the time of his decease. The lady to whom he was married bore the name of Sarah Mitchell; she was also a native of Maine and died in this township.

Elijah Robinson followed the sea until thirty-five years of age, and in the year 1842 came with his wife and six children to Illinois with teams, and, after about eight weeks' travel, located in Flora Township. The family moved into a vacant log house, the roof of which was covered with shakes held in place with weight poles. Mr. Robinson entered a tract of Government land, and while the family were living in the log house, he cut logs from his place which he drew to the mill

at Newburg, had them sawed and erected a frame house. He improved the greater portion of his land, upon which he resided for several years, then selling out, removed to Hamilton County, Mo., where he spent the remainder of his days. His wife, Miss Deborah A. Cochran, was the daughter of John Cochran and departed this life in Flora Township.

Augustus W. Robinson came to Illinois with his parents when eleven years of age, and has witnessed the entire growth and development of this section of country. He attended the pioneer schools of Flora Township, the first being taught in the log house with home-made seats. He resided with his father until eighteen years of age, then went to the pineries of Wisconsin and was employed in chopping until the following spring. He then rafted lumber down the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers for a time, and on returning home aided his father in conducting the farm. Returning to the pineries, he was there employed for about three years, and before reaching his majority had saved money enough to pay for sixty acres of land, which were located on sections 27 and 34. He did not locate on the property, however, and a few months afterward traded for eighty acres on section 22, where he made his home for ten years. This he sold, and now owns two farms in Flora Township, on the southwest quarter of section 14, where he is successfully engaged in mixed farming. Mr. Robinson is now living retired in a pleasant home in Belvidere.

Miss Mary, the daughter of David Russell, was united in marriage with our subject in 1852. She was born in Vermont, while her father was a native of Massachusetts. Mr. Russell removed to the Green Mountain State in early life, where he resided until 1835, then came overland with teams to this State, being one of the first settlers in what is now Franklin Township, De Kalb County. He made a claim to a tract of Government land when it came into market, on which he erected a log house where he lived for two years, at the end of that time taking up his abode in this township, where his death occurred. The maiden name of his wife was Lydia Woodward; she was born in Vermont and died on the home farm in this county.



Respectfully Yours
Horace Brown

To Mr. and Mrs. Robinson have been born two children: Freddie, who died at the age of twenty months, and Annie, whose death occurred when seventeen months old. They have an adopted daughter, Maggie, now Mrs. Frank Webber, Jr. Our subject is a Republican in politics, and for four years served on the County Board of Supervisors.



HORACE BROWN. Like all other cities of note, Rockford has been built up by a class of energetic men, among whom may be properly mentioned Mr. Brown, whose portrait and biographical sketch are here presented. He is one of the charter members and Vice-president of the Rockford National Bank, which important position he has held since its organization in 1871. He has also been a charter member of the Forest City Insurance Company and has served as a member of its Board of Directors, and as Treasurer and Vice-president of the company. He was elected President of the Skandia Furniture Company at the time of its organization.

Born in Springfield, Windsor County, Vt., June 24, 1824, our subject is the grandson of Elisha Brown, who was, from the best information at hand, a native of Winchendon, Mass., and of English ancestry. The latter-named gentleman was a patriot of the Revolutionary War, participating in the battle of Bunker Hill. He emigrated to the town of Springfield in 1788, where he was among the very early settlers. He purchased a tract of land on the east side of the village, which he cleared, and sold with the intention of going to Western New York, but, being prevailed on by his wife and friends to remain, he bought another tract of timber land on the west side of the village. This he improved and put under excellent cultivation and continued to reside upon it until his death, September 10, 1827, when in his seventy-ninth year.

The maiden name of the grandmother of our subject was Merrill Bates; she was born in Cohasset, Mass., in 1754, and was also of English ancestry. Her father was killed in the battle of Bunker Hill. Mrs. Merrill Brown departed this life in Springfield,

Vt., August 22, 1851, after having attained the advanced age of ninety-seven years.

Jonathan Brown, the father of him of whom we write, was a native of Springfield, Vt., where his birth occurred, October 5, 1796. His father operated a tannery and shoe factory in connection with his farming interests, and the father of our subject learned the trade of a shoemaker under him. After attaining his majority, he was in the employ of his father for five years, at the expiration of which time he located on land given him by the latter and which was located one and one-half miles northwest of Springfield. He continued to make his home on that estate for a number of years, and later moving into the village, lived retired until his decease, August 8, 1878.

Hannah Stocker was the maiden name of our subject's mother; she was born in Springfield, Vt., November 1, 1801, and was the daughter of Elijah Stocker, a native of the Bay State, and of English ancestry. Mr. Stocker was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and, like many of the ancestors of our subject, participated in the famous battle of Bunker Hill. He was among the early settlers of Springfield, where he departed this life in 1807. He had married Sallie Scholey, who was born in Lynn, Mass., of Scotch ancestry. Hannah Stockes, on the death of her husband, was married to a Mr. Towne, and spent her last days in Windsor County, Vt. The children of whom she became the mother bore the respective names of Emily Lois, Horace, Henry (see sketch), Augusta, Homer, and Abbie. The eldest child was born May 1, 1823, and died December 17, 1824.

Horace Brown was reared and educated in his native county, and assisted his father in operating the home farm until reaching his twentieth year. He then engaged to work one summer for William Thayer, whose daughter he afterward married. In 1845, he went to Lausangburgh, N. Y., where he was engaged in the manufacture of oilcloth, continuing to be thus employed until 1850, when he came to Illinois to look over the country, with a view to securing a location for his future home. He came by the way of the railroad to Buffalo, where he embarked on the steamer "Niagara," Capt. Pease commanding, to Chicago, which was then a

city of about thirty thousand population. From there he went to Elgin, at that time the Western terminus of the railroad, and thence by stage to Rockford, a village of eighteen hundred. He immediately secured two hundred acres of land in what is now New Milford Township, paying for the same \$10 an acre. One hundred acres of this tract was under cultivation, and he spent the first winter on the farm. He then returned to Vermont and was married, in September, 1850, to Mary A. Thayer. He at once started with his bride for Rockford, coming thither via the same route as when making the trip alone, some time previously.

It was the intention of Mr. Brown to make his permanent home upon the above-named farm, but as wheat at that time sold for forty-five or fifty cents a bushel, and as there was no market whatever for corn, except as feed, he spent the winter in Rockford. He returned to Lansingburgh, N. Y., and resumed work in the oil-cloth factory, where he was employed until the fall of 1852, when he again came to Rockford and traded his farm for West Side city property, opening up in the livery business in partnership with G. W. Reynolds. Mr. Brown was thus successfully engaged for two years, when he disposed of his interest in the business and returned to his native town. After spending the winter in the village of Springfield, he purchased a farm near that village, which he sold at a good profit a few weeks later. He then became owner of a sawmill, which was operated by water-power on the Black River, and at the same time purchased a pleasant home in the village. Later, he bought sixty acres of his Grandfather Brown's homestead, in addition to which, he became the owner of a like amount of timber land, which was located three miles from the village.

In the fall of 1858, he disposed of his interests in his native State, and in the spring of the following year came to Rockford, where he has been a continuous resident since. When locating in that section, Luke Joslin, the uncle of his wife, owned a large tract of land, now known as Park Ridge. He deeded forty-four acres of his property to our subject, which is his present beautiful home. The Ridge extends from north to south, with a western slope, on the top of which

is located his commodious residence. This is a farm structure of a modern style of architecture and is finished and furnished in a style which indicates that its inmates are people of culture and means. The dwelling is so located that it commands a magnificent view of the Rock River and also the city, the interests of which he has been an active factor in promoting.

Mrs. Horace Brown was born in Springfield, Vt., and is the daughter of the Hon. William Thayer, whose birth occurred January 17, 1790, in Rockingham, that State. His father, Capt. William Thayer, was a native of Massachusetts and was one of the early settlers in the town of Rockingham, where he improved a fine farm and spent the remainder of his days. The maiden name of his wife, the grandmother of Mrs. Brown, was Susan Lincoln; she was also born in Massachusetts, and departed this life on the home farm in Rockingham. The father of Mrs. Brown, when a young man, joined the State militia, of which he was commissioned Captain. After his marriage, he located in Springfield, Windsor County, and there operated a tannery and was engaged in the manufacture of shoes for a number of years. Desiring to pass his remaining years on the old homestead in Rockingham, he returned there and died December 23, 1853.

The maiden name of Mrs. Brown's mother was Sarah Joslin; her birth occurred on the 15th of August, 1794, in Winchendon, Mass. Her father was Peter Joslin, whose birth occurred October 12, 1759, in Lancaster, Mass. He was married, in 1786, to Sarah Kidder, who was also a native of that place, having been born August 30, 1764. They continued to reside in Winchendon some years after their marriage, thence went to Walpole, N. H., where they passed the remainder of their life. Mrs. Sarah Thayer died January 5, 1858, in Rockingham, after having become the mother of the following six children: Sarah, Mary A., Herman, John, Harriet and George.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Brown of this sketch have one son living, William Thayer, who married Mary L. Spalding, and has two children: Horace Spalding, and Harriet Irene. He resides at Kenwood, Chicago, and is a man of broad and compre-

hensive business attainments. He is a member of the firm of A. G. Spalding & Bros., wholesale and retail dealers in sporting goods, with their main office in New York and branch establishments in London, Chicago and Philadelphia.

The eldest daughter of our subject, Alice C., was born in Springfield, Vt., April 28, 1856; she married Duncan H. Ferguson, and died March 23, 1890, leaving one son, Donald Brown. Carrie A., the second daughter of our subject, was born July 27, 1860, and passed to the world beyond April 10, 1885. Our subject and his estimable wife are influential members of the First Congregational Church, to the support of which they are liberal contributors.

In politics, Mr. Brown has been an ardent Republican since the organization of that party. He has been the recipient of many positions of trust in local affairs, and for nine years was City Treasurer. Being of a retiring disposition, he has always shrunk from notoriety and public notice, and although he has often been urged by his friends to allow the use of his name as a candidate for the highest office in the gift of his fellow-townsmen, he has invariably declined. A man of decided ability, he is very popular with the people of this city, and is well calculated to aid in the upbuilding of a new country, being a citizen of sterling worth and integrity.



JOHAN BEATTIE, deceased. The subject of this sketch was a man whose sterling worth of character was recognized by all, and his death, which occurred at his residence in Rockford, on the 3d of December, 1889, was deeply deplored by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, as well as by his own immediate and sorrowing household. For more than fifty years he had been a resident of Rockford, and during his whole life naught was ever said derogatory to his character and honor. Kind and warm-hearted, his memory will live in the hearts of the people long after his body has moldered to dust. He had a beautiful home in Rockford, and was surrounded by all that made life enjoyable—domes-

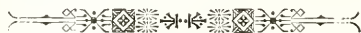
tic happiness and prosperity, a clean conscience and abundant means. To his praise, it may be said that his accumulations were made without loss or injustice to others, and that he was strictly upright and honorable in all his dealings.

Mr. Beattie was born in the North of Ireland, on the 21st of June, 1811, and was of Scotch parentage. In 1831, he left the land of his birth for America, and, like so many other successful citizens, his only patrimony was his vigor of body and mind. He landed in the city of New York and followed carpentering until the year 1837, when, in company with the late William Peters, he moved to Rockford, where he became identified with the push and bustle of that frontier town. Success followed his efforts, and he soon became the owner of a block of land in the principal part of the city, and this has been the home of the family for many years. He owned several business houses on West State Street, also other valuable property, and was one of the city's most prosperous and thorough-going men. In politics, he was a Republican.

Previous to coming to Rockford, Mr. Beattie went to Canada, and was married in Niagara to Miss Mary A. Davidson, who was then residing with her brother at that place. Miss Davidson, like Mr. Beattie, was of Scotch parentage, born in the North of Ireland, February 2, 1815, and both were reared in the same neighborhood. She came with her husband to Rockford in 1838, and during all the subsequent years stood side by side with him in the journey of life. She survived him a little over two years and died at her home in this city on the 7th of December, 1891. She was reared in the faith of the Episcopal Church and was a most excellent woman. Mr. Beattie's parents were natives of Scotland, and were representative citizens of their community. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church, and their son, the subject of this sketch, also held membership in the same. The latter was the only one of the family to come to the States.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beattie were born seven children, but four of whom survive: Edward W., a real-estate dealer, resides in Helena, Mont., is quite an active and extensive business man, and

is largely interested in mines. He married Miss Caroline O. Berry, who is now deceased. Mary I. and Anna reside at the old home and are cultured and intelligent ladies; George D. is a partner with his brother in business at Helena, and is engaged in extensive business operations. The children deceased are Alexander H., who had been admitted to the bar, and had a successful professional career opening before him, but he enlisted in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Regiment, and the wounds he received during service were in the end the cause of his death, December 20, 1884. He was a prosperous business man of Helena, Mont. John H. died February 26, 1863, when about twenty-one years of age, and Anna died when young. The surviving members of the family in Rockford attend the Second Congregational Church.



JOHAN W. BEATSON, County Treasurer of Winnebago County, was elected to that office in November, 1890, which position he fills to the general satisfaction of the community. In politics, he is a decided Republican and is recognized as a great worker in the ranks. Being a Grand Army man, he is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, and Winnebago Lodge No. 31, I. O. O. F., in which order he has many friends by whom he is highly regarded. He is also connected with Eastern Star Lodge No. 166, A. F. & A. M., Winnebago Chapter No. 24, R. A. M., Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T., and Rockford Camp No. 51, M. W. A.

Mr. Beatson was born in Kinross-shire, Scotland, April 20, 1840, being the son of William Beatson, also a native of that place, as was his grandfather. The father of our subject learned the trade of a stonemason, which he followed in his native land until 1843, when, with his wife and three children, he set sail from Edinboro and landed at New York, after a voyage of seven weeks. Going to the town of Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y., Mr. Beatson lived there for six years, when he came to Winnebago County by the way of the Lakes to Milwaukee, and thence overland with teams to this

section. He bought eighty acres of Government land in what is now Burritt Township, where he at once erected a house of slabs and resided with his family for a number of years. Later coming to Rockford, he lived retired until his decease, June 6, 1882. His wife at the time of their marriage was known as Elizabeth Wilson, a native of Scotland; she now resides in Rockford, in the seventy-eighth year of her age.

The original of this sketch was the second in order of birth of the parental family of seven children, his brothers and sisters being George A., Janet, Agnes, David, Caroline and Julia. He was three years of age when brought to the New World and thus has no recollection of his native land. In 1859, Mr. Beatson went to Colorado in company with five other gentlemen, they traveling with teams to Quincy, where they embarked on a steambot to Hannibal, then by way of railroad to St. Joseph, Mo., where they secured teams and journeyed across the plains. At that time Denver was a city of wigwams, containing but one white man, who kept store in a log building. Our subject, going to Gregory Diggings, engaged in quartz mining, remaining there for a twelvemonth, when he returned and resumed farming on the old home farm. April 18, 1861, however, at the first call for troops, Mr. Beatson enlisted in Company D, Eleventh Illinois Infantry for three months. He was mustered in at Springfield, whence he went to Bird's Point, where he remained until the expiration of his term of service, and receiving his discharge in August, returned home, and resumed farming until the following year, when he again became a member of Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. Going South with his regiment, our subject participated in all the marches and battles in which it was engaged until the close of the war. Among the more important battles in which he fought we make mention of Stone River, Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, and the Atlanta Campaign, and he was later with the command of Thomas in the pursuit of Hood's army, and thus occurred the battles of Franklin and Nashville. Being wounded at Mission Ridge twice, our subject remained with his regiment in preference to going to the hospital. He was appointed First Sergeant



Richard Lightfoot

at the organization of the regiment, and in April, 1863, was promoted to be Second Lieutenant, and again, in April, 1864, was honored with the rank of First Lieutenant, commanding the company from November, 1863, until his discharge at Nashville, Tenn., June 10, 1865.

Returning again to the peaceful pursuits of farm life, Mr. Beatson was engaged in cultivating the soil until 1869, when he went to Winnebago Township and purchased a farm, upon which he resided until 1875, when he removed to another portion of the township, on a tract which came into his possession, and there made his home until 1882. At that date coming to Rockford, our subject has since been actively engaged in promoting its welfare.

Jennie E. Van Alstine, December 14, 1865, was united in marriage with our subject. She is a native of Montgomery County, N. Y., and the daughter of Jacob G. and Margaret (Coventry) Van Alstine. To them have been born four children, Rosilla, Daisy, Margaret, and Hattie, who all reside with their parents.



RICHARD LIGHTFOOT is a typical representative of the industrious and intelligent English pioneers of Winnebago County, who have been so useful in developing its rich agricultural resources. Coming here in 1851, he identified himself with the farmers and stock-raisers of Burritt Township, and is living retired at the present time on his splendid estate of two hundred and forty-five acres.

Born in Landsalls Parish, County Cornwall, England, January 29, 1824, our subject is a son of William Lightfoot, who, with his father, Richard, was a native of the above-named shire. The father of our subject was reared on a farm and spent his entire life in Cornwall. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Hocken; she was also a native of the above-named parish and county, and the daughter of William Hocken. Mrs. Lightfoot reared a family of nine children: Richard, Elizabeth, Mary A., Jane A., William, Nathaniel, Sophia, Anna and Maria. Nathaniel came to the New World, and died in the service of the United States

during the late war. Jane is at the present time residing in California.

Richard Lightfoot commenced when very young to assist his grandfather on the home farm, residing with him until twenty-four years of age, when he returned home, and in 1851 came to America, setting sail from Plymouth, and landing in Quebec after a tedious voyage of eight weeks and four days. Our subject immediately came to Winnebago County by way of the water route to Huntley, McHenry County, this State, and as there were no railroads in the vicinity, engaged a team to convey him to this county. He commenced life here by working out by the month for four years, and rented land for four years, at the end of which time, being industrious and economical, he was enabled to purchase a tract of eighty acres in Burritt Township. There were a small frame house and log stable on the place, into the former of which Mr. Lightfoot moved and commenced the work of improving his land, for which he had paid \$20 per acre. At one time he was the proprietor of three hundred and twenty-five acres, but, disposing of a portion of it, still owns two hundred and forty-five acres which he has improved with good buildings and machinery. In 1881, he built a beautiful residence one-quarter of a mile distant from the old home, in which he purposes to spend his declining years in peace and quietness.

Susannah (Statham) Swindall became the wife of our subject, October 10, 1859. She was born in the village of Draycott, Derbyshire, England, June 14, 1825, and is a daughter of William and Anna (Astell) Statham. Her father was born in the same village in which her birth occurred, and was the son of Thomas and Mary (Allen) Statham. The mother of Mrs. Lightfoot was born at Winn Mills, Derbyshire, England, and was a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Boxon) Astell. Mrs. Lightfoot was married in Stockport, Lancashire, when twenty-one years of age, to John Swindall a native of that county, with whom she came to America in 1819, sailing from Liverpool, March 21, on the vessel "Washington." Arriving in Boston, one month later, the young couple located in Salem, Mass., where they resided until 1857, and then came to Rockford, where the husband died in 1859.

Mr. and Mrs. Lightfoot have one son, Nathaniel, who married Melissa Franklin, and is the father of two children: Eva May and Albert Richard. By her first union, the wife of our subject is the mother of three children: William J., Margaret Ann and Emma J. William married Sarah Sullivan, and is the father of two children, Guy and Glenn; Margaret is the wife of Henry Heiestand, which union has resulted in the birth of four children: Guy, Orate May, Floyd and Robbie; Emma, Mrs. George Franklin, has six children: Susie, Edith, Carroll, Walter, Bertha and Irmay. Our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and by the members of the congregation, as well as by the citizens in general, they are respected as their good qualities deserve.

The portrait of Mr. Lightfoot is presented on an accompanying page.



GEORGE C. TALLERDAY, M. D., has been engaged in the practice of medicine in Belvidere since 1890. His life record is as follows: He was born in Cass County, Mich., on the 2d of September, 1851. His father, David S. Tallerday, was born near Auburn, N. Y., and was a son of James Tallerday, Esq. The great-grandfather of our subject, James Tallerday, Sr., was a native of France and with La Fayette came to America. He commanded a vessel in the interests of the Colonies during the Revolutionary War. On one occasion, he went ashore to get some water, and as he was returning to his vessel in a skiff, was shot by a poisoned arrow and died from the effects of the wound. His two sons were taken ashore and reared by a Dutch family in New York. One of the brothers spelled the name Talady.

The father of our subject was reared and married in the Empire State and went to Elkhart County, Ind., becoming one of its early settlers. He there secured a tract of land and engaged in farming until 1854, when he removed to Williams County, Ohio, and bought a farm in Bridgewater Township. After operating it for four years, he removed to Stryker, where he engaged in merch-

andising until the breaking out of the war. At the first call for troops, he assisted in raising Company E of the Fourteenth Ohio Infantry and was commissioned Second Lieutenant and afterward promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant. The troops were mustered in for three months but served nearly five. When honorably discharged, Mr. Tallerday returned home and raised another company, which became Company C, of the Thirty-eighth Ohio Regiment. He was mustered in as Captain. After the battle of Mill Spring, he was taken sick and sent to Louisville, Ky., where he was placed in charge of the transfer office, directly under the orders of Secretary Stanton. He remained in charge at that place until the spring of 1863, when he was placed in charge of the United States steamer "Baltic," with the rank of Major, and continued in the marine service until after the close of the war, when he settled in Mississippi. He purchased a plantation at Canton, and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1867, when, on account of the hostility of the people in that region, he returned to the North and engaged in mercantile pursuits in Chicago. For the past eight years, he has been engaged in the real-estate business in Washington, D. C. His wife bore the maiden name of Caroline Graves. She was born in Niagara County, N. Y., and is a daughter of Josiah and Eunice Graves.

The Doctor began his education in the district schools of Williams County, and afterward attended the village schools of La Grange, Ohio. He was in Louisville at the time his father was stationed there and daily made the rounds of the hospital. Though but a boy at the time, he determined then that he would become a physician. After the war, he attended a select school in Vicksburg and later the graded school of Kendallville, Ind., and Bryan, Ohio. At the age of thirteen years, he began supporting himself, and from that time forward not only earned his own livelihood but paid his own tuition through college. Until seventeen years of age, he traveled quite extensively and at the age of eighteen years commenced teaching, which he followed until 1872. In the meantime, he spent all his leisure hours in studying medicine. From 1872 until 1877, he engaged

in merchandising in Chicago and during that time kept up his medical studies. In the latter year, he entered the office of Prof. W. H. Davis, of Chicago, and in 1880 was graduated from the Bennett Medical College. In June of that year, he located at Poplar Grove and at once entered upon a lucrative practice, which he continued until 1890, when he came to Belvidere.

On the 1st of January, 1872, Mr. Tallerday and Susan Markley were married. The lady was born in Fulton County, Ohio, was a daughter of Andrew J. Markley and died June 22, 1888. On the 11th of May, 1891, the Doctor wedded Julia Markley, a sister of his first wife. By the former union were born four children but Jesse, who was born March 9, 1875, died April 17, 1881. Myrta, George C. and Lottie are still living.

The Doctor is a member of Belvidere Lodge No. 60, A. F. & A. M.; Harvard Commandery, K. T.; Poplar Grove Lodge, A. O. U. W.; Boone Camp No. 52, M. W. A., and T. G. Lawler Camp, S. V. Dr. Tallerday has secured a liberal patronage, the result of his skill and ability, and among his professional brethren ranks high. His career has already been a successful one and undoubtedly he will steadily continue to work his way upward.



HENRY GABLE, who has been a resident of the village of Cherry Valley since March, 1890, was born in Erie County, N. Y., in 1836. His father, who had his birth in Pennsylvania in 1804, emigrated to the Empire State, where he resided until his death in 1865, when sixty-one years of age. His wife, Miss Betsey Leib, hailed from Lancaster County, Pa., and died in 1875 in her sixty-eighth year. The parents of our subject were married in New York, where they became the parents of seven children, one of whom, a daughter, Sarah, died when eighteen years of age. A brother of our subject, William Gable, was a volunteer during the late Civil War, and saw much active service in the Union army.

He of whom we write was given but limited advantages for obtaining an education, and at the time his parents emigrated to Cherry Valley,

Winnebago County, he accompanied them hither. His father was also a volunteer in the late war, but after serving ninety days was rejected. The elder Mr. Gable located eighty acres of Government land, which was then called The Island, where he erected a comfortable house and resided for a number of years. That property was the last Government land that was entered in this township. He later traded his property, which was valued at \$25 an acre, for one hundred and twenty acres of land in Fayette County, Iowa. After a residence there of three years, in 1859 he returned to Cherry Valley Township, where he was residing at the time of his decease.

Henry Gable and Miss Minerva Wood, of Canada East, were united in marriage in 1860. The lady was the daughter of Peter and Laura (Hitchcock) Wood. Her mother was a sister of Chester Hitchcock, of California. They farmed on rented land after their marriage, and the first property which Mr. Gable owned consisted of fifty acres which he purchased in Belvidere Township, in 1868. After a residence there of three years, our subject disposed of that property and moved onto a farm of one hundred and ten acres which he had purchased in Fayette County, Iowa, and after residing upon it three years, in 1871 returned to this county and farmed on the historic Black Hawk property, which place was his home until 1879. Our subject then became the proprietor of one hundred and five acres on section 16, known as the Frick Farm, for which he paid \$25.50 per acre, with fair improvements. This he cultivated in a most profitable manner, until in March, 1890, he disposed of it at \$50 an acre, and moved into the village of Cherry Valley.

To our subject and his estimable wife have been born one daughter and one son: Fannie B., who was born in September, 1862, and Chester B., who was born in February, 1867. The daughter is now Mrs. Alden Cramer, a broom manufacturer of Cherry Valley; they have one son, Earl B., a bright lad of seven years. Mr. Gable has cast his vote and influence in favor of the candidates of the Republican party.

The father of Mrs. Gable was one of the pioneers of West Shefford, Canada, and came to the States

and located in this township in 1857, where he died at the advanced age of seventy-one years. His wife, who preceded him to the better land, died in 1862. They were the parents of four daughters, all of whom are living in different States.



WILLIAM L. GRONEMAN, now deceased, was for many years a well-known and prominent citizen of Rockford. He was born in Prussia, in the year 1823. His father was a Lutheran minister, who devoted his entire life to Gospel work. Our subject was reared to manhood in his native land, his early life passing uneventfully, and at length he engaged in merchandising on a small scale. It was in 1854 that he carried out his determination to come to America. Bidding good-bye to his old home, he crossed the Atlantic, taking passage on a sailing-vessel at Bremen. He made his first location in Rockford, but after a short time went to Dubuque, Iowa, where he spent some ten years. He then returned to this city, where he made his home until his death in 1878.

In 1864, Mr. Groneman led to the marriage altar Miss Justena Sander, who was born on the banks of the Rhine in Germany, June 14, 1838. Her parents, John and Susanna (Loudenbeimer) Sander, spent their entire lives in that country. About eighty years ago, Peter Sander, the grandfather of Mrs. Groneman, lived a few years in Philadelphia, and then returned to his native land. Her father was a cattle-dealer and butcher, and died at the age of seventy years, his wife passing away the year previous. They were both members of the Presbyterian Church. Their family numbered six children, four of whom are living in this country: a brother in New York, a sister in Rockford, Mrs. Groneman, and a brother Jacob in Milwaukee, Wis. It was in 1859 that Mrs. Groneman came to the United States. Her residence in Rockford dates since 1863, and here she has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. Two children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Groneman, but William T. died in Dubuque, Iowa, at the age of three months.

Herman, the surviving son, resides at home with his mother. He is a prominent young man, and prosperous. Being industrious and enterprising, he is meeting with excellent success, and is recognized as a wide-awake and enterprising young business man. He is an honored member of, and takes quite an active interest in, the Odd Fellows' Society.

After his return to Rockford in 1866, Mr. Groneman opened a restaurant in this city, carrying on business in that line until within a few years of his death. From the beginning, he secured a liberal patronage, and had an excellent trade. As his financial resources increased, he made investments in real estate, and at his death owned some fine property, including a business house at No. 108 West State Street and another at No. 501 West State Street, which is now owned by his widow. She manages the property which he left, and in its care shows excellent executive and business ability. In politics, Mr. Groneman was a supporter of Republican principles, held membership with the Lutheran Church, and was a charter member of the Germania Society. He was recognized as one of the leading German citizens, public-spirited and progressive, and was held in high esteem for his sterling worth and the many excellencies of his character.



HOWARD O. HILTON, editor-in-chief of the Rockford *Republican*, has occupied that position since its first issue, April 10, 1890. Possessing natural newspaper ability and tact, he has made his calling a success. He is a staunch Republican in politics and has figured prominently in party conventions and on the stump.

Born near Atchison, Kan., about twenty-eight years ago, Mr. Hilton is a young man whose ability is attested by his present position as editor-in-chief of an influential paper like the *Republican*, with two editions daily and semi-weekly and weekly editions, in a city like Rockford. He was educated in the public schools of his native city and of Chicago and at the Lincoln University, at Lincoln, this State, at which latter place he was engaged in his



O. E. Carlson

first newspaper work, on the *Lincoln Times*. He was later city editor of the *Grand Island (Neb.) Independent*, and afterward held a like position on the *Lincoln Journal*, this State, and again with the *Bloomington Leader*. Coming to Rockford in 1881, he was engaged on the *Register* staff until the *Republican* was founded.

Our subject comes of good old New England stock on his father's side, the latter being a native of the Pine Tree State, who went West during the early days and became one of the leading business men of Atchison, Kan. His death occurred there in the prime of life, when our subject was but seven years of age. The maiden name of his mother was Julia M. Mannen, a native of McLean County, Ill. She was born of Southern parents, and now lives at Effingham, Kan.

Howard O. Hilton and Miss Etta Leslie, of Chicago, were married in that city in 1888. The lady was born in Logan County and was educated in the public schools at Lincoln and Bloomington. She is the mother of two daughters; Leslie L. and Helen. She is a member of the Court Street Methodist Church.



CARL E. CARLSON is but a late resident of Rockford, yet is a well-known real-estate, loan and insurance agent of the city. He was born in the Province of Halland, Sweden, July 24, 1858, and is the only surviving child of Carl and Fredericka (Hard) Carlson. His mother is descended from a titled family. His father, who was born October 16, 1822, is a contractor and builder. Both are yet living, the mother being seventy-five years of age. They are prominent members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native land, where he learned the trade of a machinist, there following it until his emigration to the United States. After attaining his majority, he sailed for New York City, and thence went to Pennsylvania, afterward coming to Rockford, where his brother, Prof. M. E. Carlson, was living. The latter was a graduate of a musical conservatory in his native country and served for

five years as a Professor in the Royal Conservatory. On coming to this country, he took charge of the musical department in the Gustavus Adolphus College, of St. Peter, Minn., which position he held until 1889, when he came to Rockford. His death occurred on the 4th of August of the following year. His wife had died some years previous, leaving one son, Carl G. M. Carlson, who has been adopted by our subject.

C. E. Carlson was married in the land of his nativity to Christina Anderson, who spent her maidenhood days in Sweden, where her mother is yet living at the age of sixty-seven years. Her father, Andrew Anderson, is deceased. She has one sister in this country, Mrs. Anna Fostberg, who is living in Manistee, Mich. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Carlson have been born three children: Emma J., Clara L. and Annett P. The parents are both members of the Swedish Methodist Church, in which he holds office and is also Superintendent of the Sunday-school. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles.

It was in 1885 that Mr. Carlson came to Rockford. He had previously resided for a short time in Sheffield, Pa. On coming to this city, he engaged in business as a contractor and builder, being a practical architect, but has later given his attention to the real-estate, loan and insurance business. He has a commodious and fine office over the American Exchange Bank, on Seventh Street. For four years he has been engaged in this line and has built up an excellent business, having since coming to Rockford made a handsome property, worth about \$40,000. He also owns an interest in the Rock River Subdivision, containing one hundred and twenty acres of platted ground, on which will be built the Rock River Planing Mill. The company has a capital stock of \$50,000 and Mr. Carlson has been its Treasurer from its organization. He also owns stock in the Rockford Desk and Furniture Company, Star Furniture Company, Diamond Furniture Company, West End Furniture Company, Skandia Shoe Company, Rockford Paint Manufacturing Company, and others, and has been Director in a number of these enterprises. Those who know Mr. Carlson esteem him highly for his sterling worth, and he has a wide

circle of acquaintances. He has steadily worked his way upward, and his own efforts have been the stepping-stones by which he has arisen to the enviable position which he to-day occupies.

The attention of the reader is invited to the accompanying portrait of Mr. Carlson.



SAMUEL COOK. The credit for a large share of the enterprise which helps to make Harrison Township one of the most progressive of any in the county, is due to the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He is full of push and energy, and is progressive and advanced in his ideas. Mr. Cook was born in Zora, Oxford County, Canada, on the 23d of November, 1844, and his father, James Cook, also a native of Canada, was born in Niagara County, seven miles from the Falls, whose mighty roaring could easily be heard at that distance, on the 27th December, 1812. The grandfather, Daniel Cook, was a native of New York, and a farmer all his life, as was his father before him. The latter was a Revolutionary soldier, and was probably slain in action. Daniel went to Canada when a young man, married there, and raised a family of nine children, six daughters and three sons. He remained there until about seventy-three years of age, when he and his wife came to the States. Their eldest son, Joel Cook, came to Winnebago County, Ill., from Canada, about 1850, and purchased a farm in this township. A few years later, he was joined by his aged parents, and with them moved to Boscobel, Wis., where they passed away within two months of each other, when about eighty-four years of age.

James Cook, the father of our subject, was the third son and the third child in order of birth of the nine children born to his parents. He married Sarah Hill, of Canada, daughter of Amos and Sarah (Phillips) Hill, both natives of New Brunswick where this daughter was born. Mr. and Mrs. Cook purchased a farm in Canada, and resided on this for about ten years, five of their children being born there. Subsequently, they sold this property and moved to Harrison, Winnebago

County, Ill., purchasing one hundred and thirty-five acres on section 20, at \$16 per acre. There were good improvements on this place for the times, and the stone house on it at that time is part of Mr. Cook's present dwelling. There was also a frame barn, 30x40 feet, on this farm. Mr. and Mrs. Cook brought with them five children: Samuel (our subject); Daniel, probably a resident of Minnesota; Amos, an invalid for the last three years, resides in Durand; Isaac, a farmer near the village of Harrison, and Elizabeth, who died in Harrison, on the 11th of February, 1870, when sixteen years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Cook have had two children since coming to this State: Hannah L., who married William S. King, of Chicago, and Phoebe A., who died on the 11th of February, 1878, at the same hour her sister Elizabeth passed away eight years before. The father of these children received his final summons on the 29th of October, 1884, when nearly seventy-two years of age, and his wife survived him about six years, dying on the old home-place June 17, 1890, when nearly seventy years of age. This most exemplary and worthy couple started in life empty-handed, but they accumulated a comfortable fortune, and passed their last days in ease and plenty.

The subject of this notice remained under the parental roof until after the death of his parents, and since then he has bought out the other heirs. He has no hobby as a farmer, except in raising mules, and of these he has raised from six to twelve each year since 1875. He has not raised as many mules as S. K. Blodgett, but no man in this part of Illinois has made this business so much of a success as has Mr. Cook. He not only breeds and raises large, fine mules, but he matches and breaks them. He owns his own jacks, the same costing from \$600 to \$1,500 each, and he has sold several teams for \$400. He grows the cereals, corn, oats, wheat and rye, and bales his hay, sometimes shipping it. All his land is fertile and productive, and near his house he has twenty acres of fine second-growth timber. Mr. Cook rebuilt and added to his barn in 1885, making it 40x57 feet, and other out-buildings, erected before and since, make the place look like a small village from a distance. He grinds his own and neighbors' feed with the

wind from his wind mill which he put in in June, 1891. His farm is well watered.

Mr. Cook has been a Republican, but has broken ranks, and is now a freeman, politically. His brother Daniel was the first to volunteer in the army, going out when sixteen years of age, August, 1862, in Company B, Twenty-second Wisconsin Infantry, from Beloit; next, Amos, at seventeen years of age, volunteered from Harrison, June, 1864, in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-first Illinois, and in February, 1865, our subject went out in Company L, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, under Capt. Cole. Samuel was discharged in June, 1865. His brother Daniel served until April, 1863, when he was taken prisoner near Franklin, Tenn., and confined in Libby Prison thirty days. He was then paroled, and later discharged for disability. However, in 1864, he again entered the army for one hundred days, and was discharged as Corporal at the end of that time. Amos was in the one-hundred-day service and came home without a wound, although his present infirmity is no doubt the result of exposure and hardship during that time. The subject of this sketch is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. He is still in the rank and file of single blessedness.



JUDGE WILLIAM R. WELD, a prominent attorney, Justice of the Peace, and insurance and loan agent of Rockford, has made his home in this city since 1872, and has been a resident of the county for nearly half a century. With its history he has been connected since that early day, has done much for its upbuilding and progress, and has aided largely in its development.

The Judge was born in Le Roy, Genesee County, N. Y., in 1820, and is of English descent, the family being founded in this country during early Colonial days by Presbyterian missionaries from England, who are referred to in the history of New England, by Baucroft, and also by Bryant. It was also a prominent family of England, one branch thereof being Catholic, as indicated by the fact that Cardinal Weld, an eminent Catholic scholar and prelate,

was of the same descent. Washington Weld, father of our subject, removed from Massachusetts to Le Roy, Genesee County, N. Y., in 1808, when Le Roy was a mere hamlet in the wilderness. He made the journey on foot, carrying his worldly possessions in a bundle on his back, and began the development and improvement of a home from land which he had obtained from the Government. He there resided until his death in 1851, at the age of seventy-three years. He was long an Elder in the Presbyterian Church.

In regard to politics, the father was a staunch Democrat, and having served as Justice of the Peace, was known as Squire Weld throughout the community. He married Elizabeth Strickland, who survived him some years and died in Le Roy, N. Y., at the age of seventy-seven. She was a member of the Baptist Church, and was a noble Christian woman. Our subject is the youngest in the family of five sons and one daughter, all of whom were married and reared families, and are now deceased, with the exception of the Judge. One brother, Washington, Jr., was a member of the Michigan State Legislature for some years.

Judge Weld was reared in Le Roy, N. Y., and was graduated from Brown's University, of Providence, R. I., in the Class of '42. He afterward studied law at the office of Hascall & Barton, of Le Roy, N. Y., and was admitted to the bar in 1841. In that year, he came West, but did not make a permanent location until June, 1845, when he opened his first office in Geneva, Wis., where he engaged in legal practice for four years, after which he came to Illinois, settling in Rockton. He was an attorney at that place until 1872, when he came to Rockford. For some time he was connected with the hardware trade, and was Deputy Postmaster of Rockton for eight years, under Presidents Polk and Buchanan. He was also Township Clerk for some years.

Ere leaving the East, the Judge was married in Livingston County, N. Y., in January, 1845, to Mary W. Smith, who was born in Lima, N. Y., and for some years before her marriage was there engaged as a teacher in the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary teaching music. Their union has been blessed with five children: W. L., who married Florence

Hasney, of Momence, Ill., and handles the insurance business in his father's office; Emma L., one of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, at the convent of South Bend, Ind.; Lizzie, who was graduated from the Sisters' school and the Rockford Conservatory, is now engaged in teaching music; Charles F. is a boot and shoe merchant and extensive real-estate dealer of Oakland, Cal.; F. J., a physician and surgeon of Rockford, wedded Mary Murtagh, formerly a successful teacher of this city.

From the year 1847 to 1883, Judge Weld was an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, serving in various official positions of the Subordinate and Grand Lodges of the State of Illinois, and, as Deputy Grand Master, instituting most of the Independent Order of Odd Fellow Lodges in this county. During most of the same period, he was also an active member of the Masonic order, serving about twelve years as Master of a Subordinate Lodge; also in official positions, both in Chapter and Commandery. He served as Justice of the Peace, and Associate Justice of this county, from 1856 until 1864. In 1872, he came to Rockford and established a law and insurance office, and in 1877 became Justice of the Peace, which office he has since filled. He is one of the prominent residents of this city, whose upright life has made him highly esteemed, and is an honored pioneer, who, for nearly half a century, has been connected with the history of this community. The Judge and his family are all members of the Catholic Church.



JAMES M. GREEN, one of the enterprising and progressive farmers of Winnebago County, Cherry Valley Township, was born May 25, 1838, at Berry's Ferry, on the historic banks of the Shenandoah River, in Clarke County, Va. His parents were William H. and Eliza (Reiley) Green, the former born in 1792, and the latter in 1801. The father died February 25, 1838, three months before the birth of our subject. In the family were three sons and a daughter: our subject, William H., Andrew J., and Edna J., wife of John Blough, residents of Kirkland, Ill.

The maternal grandfather of our subject, John Reiley, was a native of Virginia and his ancestors for some generations were Virginians. He was a private soldier in Capt. Richardson's Company in the War of 1812, and participated in the battle of Lundy's Lane.

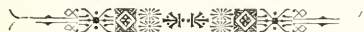
Our subject was eighteen years of age when his mother, then the wife of Abraham Shipe, removed with their family of twelve children to Athens County in the spring of 1856. They made the journey of three hundred miles by team, and on reaching their destination purchased one hundred and thirty acres of land along the Big Hocking River, where they lived for three years. On selling, they removed to Washington County and located in the small village of Belpreville. There Mr. Shipe opened a wagon and blacksmith shop and did business until the close of the war in the spring of 1866. Five sons of the family had aided their country in the struggle to preserve the Union. When the war was over, they came to Illinois and Mr. Shipe purchased sixty acres of land in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County. His death occurred in November, 1878. His widow is still living at her home in Flora, Boone County, and, although seventy-five years of age, is remarkably well preserved.

Mr. Green was married, November 29, 1871, to Miss Flora J. Campfield, of New Milford, daughter of William O. and Henrietta (Sanford) Campfield, who came from Nunda, Livingston County, N. Y., to Milford in 1844. They bought a farm, upon which the death of the father occurred in January, 1856. His wife survived him twenty-two years and died in January, 1878, at the age of sixty-three years. They left two sons and three daughters, all of whom are yet living. Mr. and Mrs. Green have four sons: Arthur C., Claude B. and Clarence E., twins, and Leroy M. The eldest is sixteen years of age and the youngest ten.

During the late war, Mr. Green enlisted in Washington County, Ohio, in April, 1861, for three months, and when that term had expired joined the Thirty-ninth Ohio Infantry, in which he served three years, most of the time as Orderly-Sergeant. In August, 1864, he was mustered out at Cincinnati, Ohio, after which he helped to recruit a com-

pany which left Columbus and went to Nashville, where it joined the One Hundred and Seventy-ninth regiment. Mr. Green remained with that company until the close of the war and was mustered out at Nashville in June, 1865, holding the rank of Second Lieutenant at the time of his discharge. He was wounded in the ankle and thigh at Corinth.

Soon after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Green rented the farm on which they reside and four years later purchased it. He now owns one hundred and four acres in Cherry Valley and twenty acres in Guilford Township, and successfully carries on general farming. Socially, he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and he and his wife are faithful members of the Christian Church of Rockford. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican, and has served as Road Commissioner for six years, but has never been an office-seeker. He was a faithful soldier during the late war and is now a valued citizen.



GEORGE L. WINN, M. D., of Rockford, has been engaged in the practice of the medical profession in this city since 1882. On the 21st of February of that year, he opened an office at No. 435 West State Street, and has since been a well-known and leading physician of the community. In the ten years which have since passed, his practice has constantly increased, until it has now assumed large proportions. He is a close student of his profession and by his merit and ability has won the position which he to-day occupies.

The Doctor was born in Oswego County, N. Y., March 10, 1851, and is descended from an old family of the Mohawk Valley. His grandfather, Joseph Winn, was a life-long farmer of that valley and died at the age of ninety years. The parents of our subject, Morris and Nancy (Simmons) Winn, were born in that locality. They afterward removed to Oswego County, where Mr. Winn engaged in the lumber business for about eighteen years, after which he became a resident of Syracuse, where he established a cooper shop, and man-

ufactured barrels for three years. He then came with his family to Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming for some time, after which he removed to Rockford. Mrs. Winn died in this city in 1889, when sixty years of age. She was a member of the Methodist Church and lived a consistent Christian life. Mr. Winn is now living retired, making his home with his son, Charles S., in Rockford. He was born in 1818, and, though now seventy-four years of age, is yet hale and hearty. Since the organization of the Republican party, he has been one of its staunch supporters, and is a member of the Methodist Church.

Our subject is one of a family of four children, three sons and a daughter. At the age of twelve years, he accompanied his parents to Wisconsin, and subsequently came with them to Illinois, and became a student in the State University of Champaign, Ill. Having determined to engage in the practice of medicine, he began that study in the office of Dr. D. C. Green, of Woodstock, Ill.; he afterward spent one year in the medical department of the Michigan State University of Ann Arbor. He was graduated from the medical department of the Northwestern University of Chicago in the Class of '76, after which he entered upon the practice of his profession in Walworth County, Wis., where he spent five years. He then spent one year in Bellevue and other hospitals of New York City, after which he came to Rockford, as before stated.

In Walworth County, Wis., Dr. Winn wedded Miss Kate Dickson, who was born in that county and is a daughter of Dr. John Dickson, an old physician of Walworth County, who died in December, 1875. He was a prominent practitioner and had served as President of the Wisconsin State Medical Society. He was a native of Pennsylvania, and after graduating from Allegheny College of that State, emigrated at once to Wisconsin, establishing practice at Allen's Grove. His wife is still living at that place and is fifty-seven years of age. The wife of our subject was carefully reared in her native county and for some years engaged in teaching. By her marriage she became the mother of two children, Josephine and Marjorie, but both are now deceased. The Doctor is a mem-

ber of the Odd Fellows' Society, belonging to the Encampment and Canton lodges of Rockford, and is a supporter of Republican principles. He is an active, progressive and ambitious young man and will no doubt win much success in the line of his profession. Of a genial nature, he makes friends wherever he goes.



HENRY RICHINGS, M. D. This highly esteemed physician of Rockford was born in what is now Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County, Ill., on the 15th of May, 1812, and is the son of the late Dr. Charles H. Richings, who was born in Atherstone, Warwickshire, England, February 26, 1815. Our subject is following closely in the steps of his distinguished father, and is recognized as one of the leading men in his profession in Rockford, and indeed in the county of Winnebago.

Dr. Charles H. Richings enjoyed exceptional advantages in an educational way in his boyhood, and his associations were of the best. When he left school, he joined, as a medical cadet, his uncle, who was a surgeon in the French army then occupying Brussels, and here he remained until he came to America, at the age of twenty-three; he traveled in a party of seventeen from Buffalo to Chicago, and came on to Winnebago County, reaching here July 27, 1836, having walked the whole distance from Chicago.

When Dr. Richings located his half-section about twelve miles west of what is now the city of Rockford, his was the nearest house to the site of this city on the west. Here he at once erected a log house of goodly proportions and comforts and devoted himself to agricultural pursuits and stock-raising. The year following, Dr. Richings, the elder, returned to England for his bride, and upon the return of the young couple settled down to the stern realities of pioneer life.

It was in 1855, when Rockford had grown to be a pleasant village, that the Doctor removed hither and made his home within its boundaries during the remainder of his days. He early proved himself a physician of ability and skill, but as he was ambi-

tious to keep up with the times, he pursued a regular course of medical study at Rush Medical College, Chicago, and received therefrom the degree of M. D. During the first five years of his settlement in the county, he had devoted his time to farming and stock-raising, but after that, until within two years of his death, he engaged in an active and extensive practice of medicine and surgery. His interest in the formation of the Winnebago County Medical Society was recognized by its members, and he was for some time its President. He was a man of strict integrity, exacting with himself and others in business, but always just, and delighted in acts of charity which were unknown to the community.

Dr. Charles H. Richings was baptized and reared in the Episcopal Church, but in his later years he did not recognize church relations as regards himself, yet strove ever to embody his religion in living the Golden Rule. In 1875, he visited his old home in England, and on his return experienced an illness on shipboard which was the beginning of the end. He was again taken very sick on Thanksgiving Day, 1882, and suffered much at various times, going at one time to New York for treatment, but with no good result. An operation which was performed with a hope of saving his life was in vain, and he died August 12, 1889, leaving a widow and the son whose name has been placed at the head of this sketch. While he was not an enlisted surgeon during the Civil War, it was understood by Gov. Yates that his services were to be commanded whenever necessary, and he was called as surgeon to various battlefields, notably those of Ft. Donelson, Pittsburg Landing and Pea Ridge. He was a very active member of the Masonic fraternity and received most notable degrees in the order.

The mother of our subject still lives and resides in Rockford, and the Doctor is her only child. He received his early education in the district school and later attended the public school of Rockford, after which he took a scientific course at Beloit College. He commenced the study of medicine with his father and in 1860 entered the medical department of the University of Michigan. Attending there for the period of one year, he en-

tered the medical department of the University of New York, from which he was graduated in the Class of '63; then receiving the appointment of Sergeant in the United States army, served until the close of the war. He commenced his practice in Rockford, but after eight years went to Washington, D. C., where, during seven years, he built up an extensive practice. But as his interests were largely in Rockford, in 1879 he returned here and has pursued his profession actively since that time. He was married, in 1869, to Miss Maria Cammaun, of Rockford. The Doctor and his wife have one child, Mary H.



CHARLES W. SHIRLEY. This gentleman, who is now living retired from active work of any kind, formerly owned an excellent tract of land of ninety-one acres, one-half mile from Rockford, to the cultivation of which he gave his personal attention. He has, however, platted the greater part of it into city lots, which he has disposed of at a handsome advance. He was born in La Porte County, Ind., August 17, 1835, while his father, Lewis Shirley, was born in Pennsylvania. As far as is known, the grandfather of our subject was also a native of the Keystone State, where he spent his entire life.

Lewis Shirley was reared to man's estate in his native town, and when attaining mature years removed to Ohio and resided for a time on the Muskingum River. He later went to Indiana, where he was one of the pioneers in La Porte County, and, entering from the Government a large tract of timber and prairie land, there made his home until 1835, which was the date of his advent into Illinois. He was accompanied hither by his wife and a family of six children, making the journey with teams. Mr. Shirley settled in what is now Cherry Valley Township, at a time when Northern Illinois was owned by the Government, and the surveys of that early day had not been completed. The father made a claim to a tract of land, and later, when the land came into market, went to the land office in Dixon and entered his tract.

The elder Mr. Shirley erected on his new place a double log house in which he established his family, and industriously commenced the work of clearing and improving his farm. He was very successful in his undertaking and added from time to time to his acreage until his estate included twelve hundred acres. He erected a saw and flouring mill, which he operated in addition to farming and which netted him a handsome income. He continued a resident of the above-named farm until his decease. The maiden name of his wife was Julia Keith, a native of Ohio, who departed this life on the home farm in Cherry Valley Township. Her parents came to Winnebago County and located on the creek which was named after the father, and which extended through Rockford Township.

Charles W. Shirley was an infant when his parents came to Illinois, and, being reared to manhood in a new country, the hardships and privations which they were called upon to endure have made lasting impression upon his mind. There were no railroads in this vicinity for years, and while an inmate of the parental household he often hauled grain to Chicago, which was seventy-five miles distant. After reaching his twenty-first year, he worked for his father one season, and then, employing a good carpenter at \$1 per day, built a house on the land which he purchased from his father, in Boone County, and in the spring of 1857 moved into the dwelling before it was lathed or plastered. He was engaged in farming there for two years, when, renting his estate, he went to California via New York and the Isthmus of Panama. Going into the mines in Placer County, Mr. Shirley was thus engaged for sixteen months, at the end of which time he returned home via the same route and commenced farming in Boone County. In 1868, he sold the farm and purchased land in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, where he was employed as an agriculturist until 1883. Then coming to Rockford, he became the proprietor of a good home in the city and later bought a farm of ninety-one acres, located one-half mile from Rockford. As before stated, he has platted this into lots and sold.

Miss Matilda A. Ream was married to our sub-

jeet in 1856. She was a native of Thompson Township, Seneca County, Ohio, and was the daughter of Samuel and Sarah Ream, natives of Philadelphia, and later pioneers of Seneca County. The two children comprising the household of Mr. and Mrs. Shirley are Lafayette B. and Jessie C. The son married Katie Pratt and is the father of two children: Nettie and Dayton. Jessie became the wife of Frank L. Lake and has one child, Francis Almeda. Our subject and his wife are members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics Mr. Shirley votes the Republican ticket.



DR. EDGAR T. BILLMYER, physician and surgeon, of Cherry Valley, Winnebago County, was born in Carroll County, Md., in 1832, and is a son of John and Harriet (McFarland) Billmyer, both of whom were natives of the same State. His father was a boot and shoe manufacturer and followed that business throughout his entire life. His first wife died in 1842, at the age of thirty-two years, leaving three sons and a daughter, and he afterward wedded Margaret Blacksten, by whom he had a number of children, but only two sons and two daughters are living. The Doctor is the only survivor of the first family, Eleanor, William and Joseph C. having all passed away.

The Doctor's father tried to make our subject learn the shoemaker's trade, but gave it up after attempting it for three autumns. He would find euclid, trigonometry and similar books on his bench, and, seeing that the son had an ambition to become a civil engineer, the father gave him a good common-school education and abandoned the attempt to teach him shoemaking. At the age of eighteen, the Doctor began teaching school, and after three years went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he attended the celebrated Physio-Medical College under Alva Curtis, graduating on the 16th of February, 1855. With his diploma in his possession, he came to Cherry Valley and has since engaged in practice. In 1858, he bought one hundred acres of land in this township and lived as a farmer and physician until 1861, when he sold his land at a

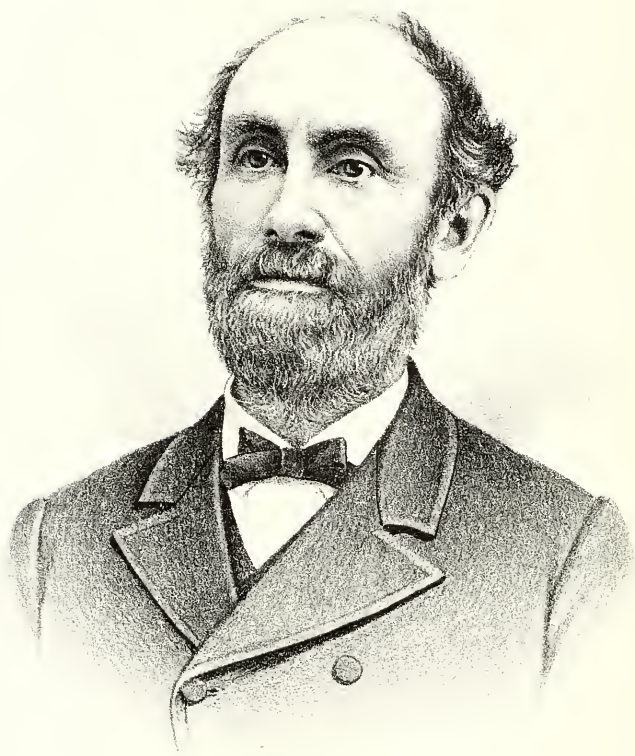
good advance. Since that time he has engaged in the practice of medicine and in the raising of blooded horses. He has bred and owned some of the best horses in this part of the country, including "Dr. Shepard," with a record of 2:29½; "Delight," with a similar record in pacing; and "Glide," with a record of 2:26½. He sold the first-named for \$1,500, the second for \$1,150 and the last for \$1,000 when twenty-four years old. He now has in his possession some five blooded horses of his own and has in his care some belonging to other parties, being kept for breeding to his fine stallions.

June 2, 1858, the Doctor was married to Miss Mary A. Mittler, whose death occurred February 7, 1884. He was born and reared as a Democrat but cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont and has since been an ardent Republican. Throughout this community, he is widely and favorably known and has the high regard of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.



MARSHALL H. REGAN, deceased, was one of the pioneer settlers of Winnebago County, and a man of exemplary habits and character. He located in Rockford in 1842, was a pioneer lumberman, and for many years was associated in business with Seely Perry. In connection with his lumber business, he was also a contractor and builder, and was regarded as one of the thrifty, enterprising business men of the place. He was a large contractor of both public and private buildings, and by his industry and good business acumen accumulated a handsome competence. At the time of his death, which occurred at his fine residence on East State Street, Rockford, in 1875, he was the owner of a considerable fortune. He had large interests in Wisconsin, especially in a large sawmill which he had established first on his own account, but later owned in partnership, and was well known for his push and energy. He was a good, reliable citizen.

In politics, Mr. Regan advocated the principles of the Democratic party. He was a liberal con-



A. MARCELLUS.

tributor to all worthy enterprises, especially those relating to churches and schools, and a willing hand was always extended to the needy and afflicted. He was born in Rochester, N. Y., and was partly reared in that State, and partly in Canada. He was still single when he came to Rockford, and here he was married to Miss Louisa Dewey, a native of the East. She died when thirty-seven years of age, having had six children, three of whom are now living: Emma, wife of O. A. Richardson (see sketch); George and William, the two sons now residing in Kansas.

Mr. Regan's second marriage was in Troy, N. Y., to Miss Adelaide Stewart, a native of Vermont. She was the daughter of Lyman Stewart, a Vermonter, who died when eighty-three years of age, and who was a prominent and successful farmer. Mrs. Stewart, whose maiden name was Orpha Kelsey, was also a native of Vermont, and died when she was sixty-four years of age. Both held membership in the Baptist Church. Mrs. Regan received a thorough education in Troy, N. Y., and since the death of her husband has resided at her home at No. 815 North Court Street. She is a lady possessed of more than ordinary intelligence and has a host of warm friends. Her marriage resulted in the birth of two children: Frank S., a partner with G. O. Williams, of the Rockford Abstract Company, located at No. 313 West State Street, is a promising young man, and Mamie S., a refined and cultured young lady, is at home.



AARON MARCELLUS. The gentleman whose portrait adorns the opposite page was well known to the residents of Winnebago County, and was respected alike for his straightforward and honorable career and for his noble, Christian qualities of mind and heart. He was originally from the Empire State, born in Montgomery County, on March 13, 1829, and there he grew to manhood and learned his trade, that of a machinist.

The parents of our subject, A. and Mary (Manny) Marcellus, were also natives of the State of New York, but their ancestors were originally

from Holland. The father was engaged as a mechanic and boat manufacturer, and died when past middle life. He and his wife were the parents of thirteen children, Aaron being among the elder members of the family. The latter was married in his native county to Miss Catherine Chalmers, who was born in Upper Canada, October 28, 1832. Her parents, James and Helen (Dixon) Chalmers, were natives of Scotland, and came to America in 1828 or 1829, after the birth of their first child, and lived for a number of years in Canada. Afterwards, about 1833, they removed to Lockport, N. Y., and the father became overseer of the locks on the Erie Canal, holding that position for many years. Later, Mr. Chalmers settled in Amsterdam, of that State, and there passed the remainder of his days, his death occurring in 1883. He was by trade a stone cutter and was a skilled workman. His first wife died in Amsterdam, N. Y., when a comparatively young woman, and his second marriage was to Miss Mary Burns, a native of Scotland. The latter died at Amsterdam, N. Y., in 1888, when eighty-three years of age. She was a member of the Baptist Church for more than fifty years and was in every sense a true Christian. Mr. Chalmers and his first wife were also active members of the same church.

Mrs. Marcellus was the second of five children born to her parents and was but seven years of age at the time of her mother's death. She was reared and educated principally in Amsterdam, N. Y., and was there married to Mr. Marcellus. In 1853, this young couple came to Rockford, and Mr. Marcellus, being a practical machinist, was engaged for some time with the J. P. Manny Reaper Company. Later he established for F. H. Manny the Rockford Bolt Works. A number of years after this, he and L. B. Wilkins became sole proprietors of the business and he was thus engaged at the time of his death, which occurred at his residence, No. 304 North Main Street, on October 5, 1876. He was a quiet, unassuming man, and those who knew him best loved and appreciated him most.

After her husband's death, Mrs. Marcellus disposed of her interest in the bolt works. Her beautiful home on Main Street is filled with all the comforts and conveniences of life and here she expects

to pass the remainder of her days. She is the mother of one son, William H., a skilled machinist, who is now engaged in the machine department of the Rockford Watch Company. Mrs. Marcellus has an adopted daughter, Josephine, and a niece, Corrinne, both of whom make their home with her. All attend the Christian Union Church.



DR. K. A. NORDERLING, the leading Swedish physician and surgeon of Rockford, was born on the 23d of February, 1857, in Gretna, Sweden, and is a son of Gust A. Norderling, who died in his native land in middle life. He was a prominent resident of Gretna, where his wife is still living at an advanced age. Three of the brothers of our subject had graduated from the high schools with the degree of A. B., and two are now in the postal service. One brother, Henry, is in business in Rantoul, Ill.

The Doctor spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native land and graduated from a college of pharmacy in Sweden in the Class of '75. He then secured a position as drug clerk and was thus employed until his emigration to the United States. After his arrival in this country, he joined an uncle, Gust Asholtz, who had come to this country about half a century before and settled in the South. He became the owner of a plantation, and married a Southern lady who owned a number of slaves. He afterward entered the Southern army, and was captured and held in a Northern prison until peace was declared, when he returned to his home, but most of his property was gone. He was one of the prominent citizens of Montgomery, Ala., and died recently at quite an advanced age.

On coming to Rockford, Dr. Norderling engaged in the drug business for some time, and while thus employed, prepared himself to enter the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Chicago, in which he became a student in 1884. After pursuing a three-years' course, he was graduated in the Class of '87, receiving his diploma on his thirtieth birthday. He then came to Rockford and opened an

office, continuing practice for two years, when he made a trip to the Old World and took a special course of medical study in the schools of Paris, Vienna, and Stockholm, Sweden. After a year spent in Europe, he returned to the United States and has since been successfully engaged in practice in this city. The excellent course of instruction which he has received is shown in his work, and he enjoys a well-deserved reputation for skill and ability. The Doctor is not only well versed in his profession, but is a highly educated man in other directions. In the colleges of his native land he studied Latin, Greek and French, and is conversant with those languages, as well as the Swedish and English tongues. His library is very large and contains many of the works of the best-known authors.

In Paxton, Ill., the Doctor led to the marriage altar Miss Lindia Nelson, who was born in Ithaca, Ind., July 1, 1859, and when a young lady came with her parents to Illinois. Her father, John Nelson, made a fortune as a merchant, and he and his wife are now living retired. They are both natives of Sweden. The Doctor and his wife are among the leading Swedish people of this city, rank high in social circles and have many acquaintances and warm friends in the community. In politics, he is a Republican. A well-informed and cultured man, he has traveled extensively, seen much of the world and is a pleasant and genial companion. He ranks deservedly high among his professional brethren, and the liberal patronage which he receives is a just tribute to his merit.



MARCELLUS G. LEONARD, one of the early settlers of Belvidere, was born in Gloversville, Fulton County, N. Y., May 20, 1824. His grandfather, Josiah Leonard, was a native of Massachusetts, and on removing to the Empire State, located in Kingsboro, Montgomery County, where he purchased a large tract of land and engaged in farming throughout the remainder of his life.

Daniel Leonard, father of our subject, was born

in the Bay State, and was one of the early glove and mitten manufacturers of Gloversville, N. Y., and one of the originators of the business there. He carried on operations at that place for some time, and afterward removed to St. Johnsville, where he engaged in milling, and spent the last years of his life at Gloversville. He wedded Mary Potter, a native of Connecticut, who died while visiting in Fulton, Ill. He had been previously married and had three children: Margaret, Horace and Frederick. Seven children were born of the second union: Edward, Polly, Elizabeth, Josiah, Anna, Daniel and Marcellus G.

Our subject acquired his early education in the public schools of his native town. When he was a lad of ten years, his parents removed to St. Johnsville, N. Y., where he attended school quite steadily until seventeen years of age, when he entered the military school in Oswego, and, on completing a course there, engaged in teaching in Oswego County until 1846, which year witnessed his emigration to Illinois. He chose as the scene of his future labors the town of Belvidere, then a small place of about one thousand inhabitants. The surrounding country was but little improved, and he secured forty acres of Government land in Boone County. There were no railroads here, and all goods were hauled from Chicago, where the farmers marketed all their produce. Mr. Leonard embarked in the mercantile business in Belvidere, keeping a general store, and continued operations in that line for five years, when he turned his attention to dealing in real estate and grain, the insurance business and banking. During the war, he also established a glove and mitten factory, which he operated in addition to his other business interests for some years. For forty years, he has been engaged in buying and shipping grain, and, in addition to this, for the past few years has dealt in coal.

An important event in the life of Mr. Leonard occurred September 27, 1847, when he was joined in wedlock with Mary Root, a native of Burlington, Vt., and a daughter of Silas Root. They became the parents of two children, but both are now deceased. Mary Gertrude died on the 10th of October, 1864; and Jessie died two days later. The

mother was also called to her final rest July 22, 1886. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church, to which Mr. Leonard also belongs. In politics, he is a Republican and has served as a member of the Common Council. From an humble position he has worked his way upward to one of affluence, and has now a good business which yields him a comfortable competence.



BENJAMIN F. ANDERSON has derived a comfortable income from his farming operations, which he carries on successfully in this section. His birth occurred September 19, 1843, in Warren County, N. J., where also his father, Henry, and grandfather, Daniel Anderson, were born. The great-grandfather of our subject, Jacob Anderson, was a Captain in the Revolutionary War, and spent his entire life in New Jersey, of which State he was a native.

Daniel Anderson was a farmer in Hunterdon County, where he spent his entire life. The father of our subject learned the trade of a blacksmith which he followed in Warren County for a time, and then removing to Hunterdon County prosecuted his trade in a place called Union. Later, removing to Morris County, he purchased a farm near the locality known as Drakestown, and was engaged in cultivating his place until his death in 1869. His wife prior to her marriage was Margaret Fritts; she was born in Hunterdon County and died on the home farm about 1862. Mrs. Anderson was a daughter of Benjamin Fritts and bore her husband seven children.

The original of this sketch was five years old when his parents removed to Morris County, where he was reared and where he resided until attaining his majority. He then began life for himself by working out on farms by the month, and in 1871 came to Illinois, where he was similarly employed for the succeeding five years. In company with his father-in-law, he then purchased a farm, which is his present property, and for five years they were engaged in its cultivation, when our subject purchased the entire amount, which includes two hundred acres.

Benjamin F. Anderson was united in marriage, June 26, 1876, to Caroline Bunn, a native of Hunterdon County, N. J. The lady is the daughter of John E. Bunn, while her grandfather bore the name of Jacob. The latter-named gentleman was also a native of New Jersey. The grandfather of Mrs. Anderson spent his entire life in New Jersey, where her father was also married and made his home until 1856, when he came to Illinois and located in the vicinity of Byron, Ogle County. In 1867, he came to Winnebago County, and in 1876, as before stated, purchased a farm in company with his son-in-law. On disposing of his interest in the estate, he removed to Byron, where his death occurred in 1889. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Conover, the daughter of Wilham and Jane (Petty) Conover. Our subject and his wife have two children: Henry and Herbert. Mrs. Anderson is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and, in politics, her husband is a Republican.

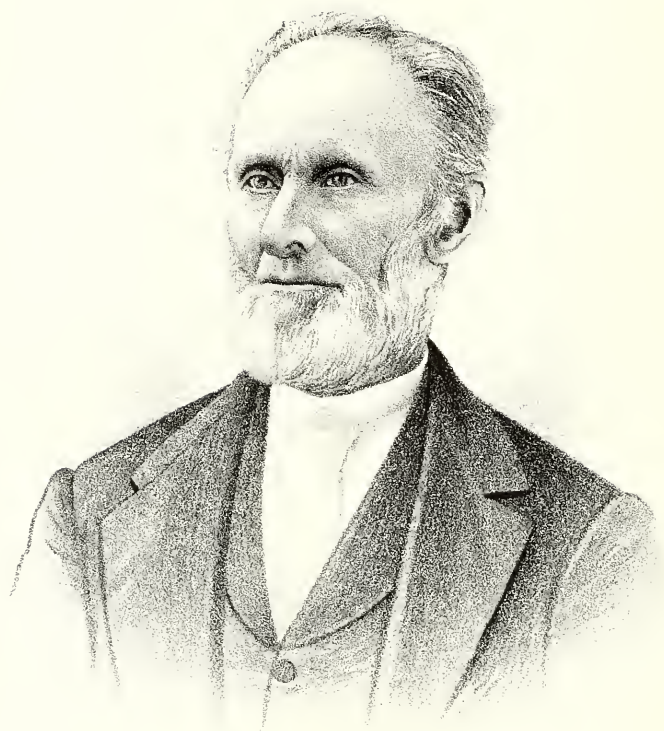


NASON J. LOVEJOY, who was engaged in general farming on sections 8 and 9, Harlem Township, is numbered among the early settlers of Winnebago County, and is well worthy of representation in this volume. He was born in New York City, August 8, 1818. His grandfather, Joshua Lovejoy, was a New England farmer, who reared four sons and several daughters and died in Sanbornton, N. H., at an advanced age. His wife survived him some years and spent her last days on the old homestead in New Hampshire.

Andrew Lovejoy, father of our subject, was born in Andover, Mass., June 18, 1772, and married Mary Taylor, who was born in Sanbornton, N. H., April 17, 1783, and was a daughter of Nason and Sarah Taylor. Her father died at the age of ninety years, and her mother when about eighty years of age. They reared two sons and several daughters. He was a Royal Arch Mason, a well-educated man and was Deacon in the Presbyterian Church. Andrew Lovejoy engaged in general merchandising in New Hampshire until our subject was nine years of age, when he removed

with his family to Shipton, Lower Canada, where he ran a branch store. He also manufactured lumber and pearl ash and there did business for twelve years, when he took a trip to New York and then with his son came to Rockford, Ill., where they arrived February 12, 1837. They first settled on a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Harlem Township, upon which our subject's son now resides. They built a log cabin and by the following spring were ready for the reception of the family, who then joined them. The mother died in Harlem Township, October 1, 1840, at the age of fifty-seven years. Mr. Lovejoy passed away, April 15, 1856, having survived his wife sixteen years. He was a well-known and prominent citizen of this community. They had a family of nine children, all of whom grew to mature years and became heads of families: Marcia, born in New Hampshire in 1802; Hannah, March 18, 1804; Lucia, March 21, 1806; Andrew J., March 1, 1810; Charles Henry, March 5, 1812; Mary, April 9, 1814; Sarah Ann, in Boston, Mass., December 25, 1815; Nason J., in New York in 1818; Sophia Hill, in Sanbornton, N. H., May 25, 1823. Only two are now living, our subject and Mary, widow of T. A. Perkins, who for many years was a physician of Tazewell County, Ill.

Mr. Lovejoy of this sketch came with his father to this county when a young man of nineteen years and has since been identified with the history of this community. He was married in Tazewell County, March 17, 1815, to Harriet E. Platt, a native of Connecticut, who in 1835 came West with her parents. She died in Harlem, June 22, 1866, at the age of forty-one years. Five sons and four daughters were born of their union, of whom six survive their mother. Andrew James, born December 5, 1815; Leslie Augustus, December 2, 1847; Mary, March 3, 1850; Nathan Taylor, April 28, 1852; Emily Annette, May 5, 1853; and Henry Stillman, April 4, 1865. Mr. Lovejoy was again married, in Harlem Township, September 24, 1867, his second union being with Miss Louise R. Wood, a native of Maine, and a daughter of John and Mary (Patton) Wood, who removed from Maine to Roscoe in the summer of 1850. Their family of eleven children have all passed away except



yours Truly
D. M^cD O'Farrell

Mrs. Lovejoy and her brother, G. A. Wood, of Roscoe.

Mr. Lovejoy has served his Township as Supervisor for three terms and was Township Treasurer for eighteen years. His long continued service shows the confidence reposed in him by his fellow-citizens and his faithfulness to that trust. In politics, he was formerly a supporter of Republican principles but now votes with the Prohibition party. He is a member of the Methodist Church and has lived an upright life, winning the high esteem of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



REV. DAVID McDONALD O'FARRELL, now residing in Winnebago, was born December 15, 1809, in Pompey, Onondaga County, N. Y. William O'Farrell, his father, was a native of the same State, and, being left an orphan when an infant, was adopted into the family of a lady who bore the name of McDonald. She later married a Mr. Parmelee, residing near Rome, N. Y.

The father of our subject learned the trade of a shoemaker, and after his marriage resided for a few years in Pompey, and later removed to Spafford. There he purchased one hundred acres of heavily-timbered land, from which he cleared a farm, and there resided until his decease, December, 1863, when in his seventy-eighth year. The mother of our subject in those early days carded and spun wool and flax, and thus dressed her children in homespun material. She bore the maiden name of Dina Turbush, and was born in Dutchess County. She was the mother of ten children, and departed this life on the home farm in the town of Spafford.

The brothers and sisters of our subject were named respectively: Jeremiah, Francis A., William Mc., John W., Elihue, Maria, Catherine, Cornelia and Henry T. David, of this sketch, received his education in the pioneer schools of Onondaga County, and assisted the father in performing the farm duties until sixteen years old, when he commenced to learn the trade of a carriage-maker in

Preble, Cortland County, completing his apprenticeship at Amber, Onondaga County. He did "jour" work for a time, and when twenty-two years of age attended school during the winter months, and, later took a year's course at the Cazenovia Seminary. He abandoned his studies for six months on account of ill-health, and on again resuming them entered Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, where he remained for nine months.

Mr. O'Farrell was then engaged in teaching and in working at his trade until 1836, when he joined the Oneida Annual Conference. He was licensed as a local preacher while at the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, was ordained Deacon in 1838, at Ithaca, and Elder, in 1840, at Cazenovia. He preached in different places in New York State for fifteen years, but on account of ill-health was compelled to abandon the ministry and purchase a farm of fifteen acres, adjoining his father's estate in the town of Spafford, and there engage in farming. To this he added from time to time until in 1863 he had seventy-eight acres.

In the year above named, Rev. David O'Farrell disposed of his interests in the Empire State, and, coming to Illinois, purchased his present home in Winnebago County. September 4, 1836, he was married to Adeline Whitney, whose birth occurred in New York, January 11, 1812. She was a daughter of William and Clarinda (French) Whitney, and departed this life July 2, 1879. Our subject is the father of three children by this marriage: Adeline E., the wife of Menzes Stebbins; William M. and Noah P. He has also thirteen grandchildren living. The second marriage of our subject occurred in 1880, at which time Eunice J. (Shedd) Hudson became his wife. She was born in Sardinia, Erie County, N. Y., August 14, 1826, and was a daughter of Andrew W. and Emily (Harris) Shedd, and the widow of Richmond L. Hudson.

Mrs. O'Farrell's father was a native of Vermont, and when a young man removed to Erie County, N. Y., where he bought a tract of timber-land from the Holland Purchase Company. There he cleared a farm in the wilderness, erected a good set of frame buildings and resided until his decease, in 1882, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. His wife, who was a native of the Empire State,

died two years previously, when in her eighty-second year. Mrs. O'Farrell was first married, in 1850, to Richmond Hudson, immediately after which she came to Winnebago County, where Mr. Hudson had purchased property in 1842. He was also the owner of land at Westfield Corners, but on selling that property purchased a farm about one-half mile southwest of the village, where he was engaged in farming until his death in 1863. The son born of this marriage, Frederick Hudson, is a graduate of the Cleveland (Ohio) Medical College, and is engaged in the practice of his profession at Hoosick Falls, N. Y.

On an accompanying page is a portrait of Rev. Mr. O'Farrell. He is a man of broad intelligence, and maintains a deep interest in the welfare of the community. While residing in Spafford, N. Y., he was elected Justice of the Peace three times, the last time being chosen by the unanimous vote of the people. He was for many years an adherent of the Republican party, but is now a staunch Prohibitionist.



CLAUDIUS B. RICHARDSON, a retired farmer residing at No. 308 South Winnebago Street, Rockford, was for twenty-four years the occupant of a finely improved farm on section 16, Rockton Township, and was known as one of the progressive agriculturists of Winnebago County. He was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., December 24, 1833, and is the son of William and Sabina (Parker) Richardson. His father, who was born in Massachusetts in 1780, was reared to the vocation of a farmer and in his early manhood removed from the Bay State to New York, where he purchased one hundred acres of timber land. He was three times married, his third wife being the mother of Claudius B.

In 1855, the Richardson family started on the Westward journey from the Empire State, coming from Ogdensburg to Racine on a steam propeller, and thence proceeding by stage to Rockton. The father purchased two farms in Winnebago County, one consisting of eighty acres in Rockton Township, and the other comprising one hundred and sixty

acres in Shirland Township. He settled on the Rockton farm and later sold the other place and bought a home in the village of Rockton, where he died in the prime of life. His widow survived until 1889, and attained to the advanced age of eighty-six years. Their children were: Henry, Claudius B., Amanda and Oscar.

The oldest child, Henry, had a passion for adventure and when about sixteen ran away from home, shipping on board a revenue cutter, where he remained two years. Soon after his honorable discharge, he shipped as a sailor and was before the mast a number of years but was afterward promoted from time to time until he was Captain. During one of his voyages, he sailed to China, returning via Cape Horn, and in 1851 crossed the plains to California. He was a man whose travels extended to almost every portion of the habitable earth, and his fund of information was inexhaustible. His death occurred in Chicago in 1864.

Claudius B. Richardson was also fond of travel and made five trips to California, going across the plains and returning via the Isthmus of Panama. His first journey to the Pacific coast was made in 1859, and the last trip in 1861, while the longest sojourn there was eighteen months. His marriage, on New Year's Day, 1864, united him with Emroy Gray, daughter of James L. and Sarah L. (Mitchell) Gray. Mrs. Richardson was born in Vermont, whence she accompanied her parents to Rockton in September, 1852, at the age of nine years. She was one of three children, her sister, Gertrude D., dying in infancy, and her brother, Henry M., dying in Fayetteville, Ark., as the result of a wound received while in the service. He enlisted in Company E, Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry, at Mendota, Ill., and served first as a private and afterward as an Orderly, until the battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., where he was mortally wounded. He was an only son, honest and upright, and the pride of his parents who deeply mourned his death. Soon after his decease, his mother died, at the age of fifty-four years.

Mr. Gray afterward married again, his wife being Frances A. Locke, who still resides in Rockford. His death occurred in May 1888, at the age of seventy-two years, and his large property

was willed to his only daughter, who is administratrix. Mrs. Richardson is a quiet, true and talented lady, and prior to her marriage engaged for a time in teaching. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has decided opinions on all the important questions of the age. She is firm in her support of Prohibition and will not rent out any of her stores either in Rockton or Rockford for the use of the liquor traffic, even though she might thereby receive large rentals.

Since their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Richardson have resided mostly on their farm in Rockton Township, although they kept a hotel in Rockton for one year. A short time since they located in Rockford, where they expect to spend their remaining years. They have three children: Henry Gray; Nellie, the wife of Edgar Austin, of Shirland Township, and Sarah, who married William Sears, of Rockford. Mr. Richardson owns a farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Buena Vista County, Iowa, upon which he has expended considerable money and has made many valuable improvements. He still owns the Rockton Township farm of two hundred and sixty-three acres, and his large possessions represent his labor and judgment in business transactions through many years. While he has gained material success, he has never stooped to deceit in order to enlarge his fortune, but has been so upright, so conscientious and so honorable in the accumulation of a competency, and so generous in its distribution, that he has won a warm place in the confidence of his fellow-men.



SOL. A. LUNDEN, brick mason of Rockford, is a thorough-going, persevering and enterprising business man, and is eminently deserving of all business success. He has been a resident of Rockford since the year 1870, has followed his trade as brick and mason mechanic from that time up to the present, and by his honorable and reliable business methods has been unusually successful. He owns a most beautiful residence at No. 1410 Charles Street, and this

bears every evidence of the taste and culture of its inmates.

Mr. Lunden is a Director and stockholder in the Palace Folding Bed Company, is also interested in other enterprises of the city, and takes an active part in all movements for the growth and prosperity of this thriving city. Like the majority of the residents of Rockford, Mr. Lunden is a Swede, and has inherited all the sturdy traits of character of that class of people. He was born in Elsborg Lan, Wester Gothland Province, on January 12, 1853, and his early life was passed in much the usual manner of boys of that country, in getting a good practical education and learning a trade. Mr. Lunden seemed to have a natural talent for brick and mason contracting and was three years in perfecting himself in this line of business. Many of his countrymen had crossed the ocean to America, and young Lunden was filled with a desire to make his future home in this country. He has since been joined by his sister Mina, who is now the wife of Mr. Lindquist, of Rockford, but our subject was the first of his kinsmen to settle here.

The father of our subject, John Peterson, has always followed agricultural pursuits in his native country and is prosperous and contented. He is now seventy-six years of age and is a devout member of the Lutheran Church. His wife received her final summons in Sweden in 1869, when about middle age. She was also a member of the Lutheran Church. Five children were the fruit of this union and all are living and fairly prosperous.

Anna J. Peterson was the maiden name of the lady whom our subject wedded in Rockford, and she is also a native of Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, born December 15, 1852. She attained her growth and received a good practical education in her native country, where she remained until coming to the United States, in 1873. She was one of five children born to Peter and Margaretta (Larson) Larson, the parents natives of Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, where the father is still living. He is an aged man, having passed the seventieth milestone, but he holds his years very well. His wife died there a number of years ago. Both were prominent Lutherans in their religious belief. Mrs. Lunden was the

only one of the family to come to the States. She and her husband, our subject, are also members of the Lutheran Church. He is a Republican in politics. They are the parents of five children: Oscar E., Alga, Alexes, Victor H., and Bertha.



WILLIAM G. WOODRUFF is a fair specimen of a successful farmer who has gained a competence by zealous and well-directed efforts, and at the present time is living retired in the village of Pecatonica. He has one of the most beautiful homes in the place, where his excellent business traits and well-trained mind have placed him in the front ranks of its best citizens. He was born in New Marlboro, Mass., September 2, 1819, and is a son of John L., Jr., and Hannah (Sanford) Woodruff.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, John L. Woodruff, Sr., was born in Watertown, Conn., and spent his last days in Massachusetts. The Sanfords were also natives of the Nutmeg State. One of that name, Elisha Sanford, participated in the War of 1812, and was a pensioner of the Government. Grandmother Sanford in her maidenhood was Hannah Treat, a native of England.

He of whom we write was the youngest in a family of ten children, and when thirteen years of age left home and engaged to work on a farm for \$3.50 per month. Two years later, he returned home and assisted his father in operating the estate until nineteen years of age; at the end of that time he embarked on a steamboat as deck hand for a year and later worked in a sawmill for \$13 per month.

In 1840, he of whom we write came to Illinois, and, locating in Carroll County, worked by the month until his marriage, March 8, 1842, to Miss Mary C. Tucker. The lady was born April 30, 1821, in Newfield, Tompkins County, N. Y., and is the daughter of Calvin and Mercy A. (Rice) Tucker, the former of whom was born in Halifax, Vt., February 21, 1792. He came to Carroll County, Ill., in 1840, and, purchasing a home near Elkhorn Grove, was Postmaster there for fifteen years, in addition to the duties of which office he

carried on his trade of a blacksmith until 1860. His decease occurred on the old farm February 16, 1882, and he left a family of eight children, five of whom are yet living. So far as is known, the Tuckers were all agriculturists.

The mother of Mrs. Woodruff was born in Providence, R. I., November 15, 1798, and was the daughter of Wanton Rice, who was Captain in the War of 1812. She died October 8, 1878, and her father passed away in his eightieth year. The maternal grandmother of our subject was Mercy Garner and many of her uncles were seafaring men. The father of our subject was born December 1, 1789, in Waterbury, N. Y., and his wife had her birth October 25, of the same year. They were married November 22, 1801, and died respectively in 1873, and 1871.

The four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff are Harriet E., whose birth occurred March 22, 1843, and who died March 11, 1856; Frances A., who was born December 24, 1845, died August 8, 1874; Emily C., born April 9, 1850, remains at home, and a babe whose decease occurred July 9, 1852. After his marriage, Mr. Woodruff continued to reside in Carroll County, where he operated rented land for three years. In 1846, he went to Boone County, where he remained for six months, and selling out his small farm there removed to Stephenson County, where he entered a tract of forty acres from the Government, to which he added one hundred and thirty acres and there resided until 1881, a period of thirty-five years. Mr. Woodruff, disposing of that property, purchased his present home in Pecatonica, where he has since lived retired.

During the early days in this county our subject remembers having driven hogs to the Galena market, which he sold for ten shillings per hundred pounds, and then had to pay for half of dressing. He sold wheat from thirty-seven cents to ninety-eight cents a bushel in Chicago, after having hauled it a distance of one hundred and twenty miles. He had the misfortune to lose his first team of horses by drowning and had not a dollar with which to purchase another. He was given credit for an outfit, however, and was soon enabled to pay for it. He did the most of his



John F. Totten

trading at Savanna in the early days, and often drove ten or fifteen miles before seeing a house. He purchased his first new wagon by paying one-half cash and the balance in corn at twelve cents a bushel.

Mr. Woodruff upholds the policy of the Republican party, having cast his first vote for William Henry Harrison. He is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church, while his good wife is a communicant of the Baptist denomination. Personally, Mr. Woodruff is looked upon as one of the leading men of the township. He is progressive, liberal and public-spirited and his career is indicative of the esteem and confidence with which he is regarded by his fellow-citizens.

On March 8, 1892, Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff celebrated their golden wedding. All the children were in attendance, in addition to many friends and acquaintances. They were the recipients of many useful presents.



JOHAN F. PETTENGILL. A high place among the farmers of Winnebago County must be accorded to the gentleman whose portrait accompanies this sketch, and who has made a fortune by hard labor, prudent economy and business shrewdness. He is at present occupying a fine homestead in Durand Township and has always managed his affairs in a thoroughly business-like manner, evincing remarkable discernment and discretion.

A native of Massachusetts, and the son of James and Betsey (Averill) Pettengill, our subject was born in Boxford, February 23, 1813. His parents, who were well-to-do, were natives respectively of New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Two brothers originally came from England in an early day and settled in Maine, one of whom, Enoch, had a large family of sons, from whom the Pettengills in the United States are descended.

The father of our subject was a farmer, and in an early day moved to Ohio, where he was taken sick, and, becoming very much discouraged, decided to return to his native State. Being very

poor, he was only enabled to get as far as Buffalo, which was then a small place, and there remained for several years. Finally reaching home, he recuperated his health, and later, coming to Illinois, spent the remainder of his life at the home of our subject. His wife also met her death in this State while residing with a daughter.

Six children comprised the parental family: James, who was born December 21, 1811, died while en route across the plains to California; our subject was the second in order of birth; Eliza Ann, who was born November 30, 1811, married John A. Johnson and died in this township; Warren, who was born December 28, 1816, was a sailor and died in early life; George A., who was born August 19, 1820, died in Durand in March, 1890; Ruby Foster, who was born August 1, 1828, is now Mrs. Charles Harvey, of Duluth, Minn.

John F. Pettengill was quite young when the family removed to Ohio. He spent the years from eight to seventeen in Buffalo, and when returning to Massachusetts was engaged as a contractor and builder. In March, 1837, he came to Illinois, and, stopping for a time in Chicago, worked on the construction of the canal at Joliet, where he had charge of a number of teams. In May of the above year, he came to Winnebago County and purchased a claim on section 15, Durand Township, for which he paid \$100. After putting up hay for his cattle, he went to Fox River and was employed in working by the month for a time. The following year he broke land on his own purchase and was also occupied in that kind of work for other parties. For the next three seasons, he was engaged in teaming in the lead regions with four yoke of cattle, during which time he made about \$50 per month.

Our subject gives his entire attention to farming pursuits and is now the possessor of four hundred broad acres, all of which he has placed under excellent tillage. In addition to his farm property, he owns several houses and lots in Durand, the rental of which brings him in a handsome income. His dwelling is a very large structure, having been built for an hotel and stores. It was erected at a cost of \$10,000, and occupies a front

rank in the list of Winnebago County's rural homes.

For the past forty years, Mr. Pettengill has acted as a local preacher of the Methodist Church. With his estimable wife, he is honored and respected, not only for what he is but for what he has done to promote the growth of the county and establish its material prosperity. In early life a Whig, he now votes with the Prohibition party, and in local affairs has been the incumbent of various positions, among which is that of Supervisor.

The lady to whom our subject was married in January, 1842, was Miss Maria Judd; she departed this life in February, 1870. September 15, 1873, Mr. Pettengill was united to Katie, daughter of the Rev. S. and Mary Ann (Jewel) Helsby, natives of Maryland, where the mother died. Mrs. Pettengill was born January 2, 1838, in Baltimore, that State. After the death of her mother, her father married Sarah Ann Ridgeway. In 1859, he came West, and died January 25, 1892, in Galena, Ill.



ELISHA A. COOK. Every community is bound to have among her citizens a few men of recognized influence and ability, who by their systematic and careful, thorough manner of work attain to a success which is justly deserved. Among this class is Elisha A. Cook, a man esteemed to be a prominent and substantial, as well as progressive, farmer of Bonus Township. He was born in the town of Lawrence, Otsego County, N. Y., March 30, 1811, and his parents, Chauncey and Lovina (Andrews) Cook, were natives of the Excelsior State also. The parents passed their lives in their native State and died in Otsego County, the father when about sixty-one years of age, and the mother at the age of thirty years. Our subject's paternal grandparents, Holden and Ruth (Joslyn) Cook, were originally from Rhode Island, but died in Otsego County, N. Y., at the age of sixty-five and seventy-seven years, respectively. They were the parents of eight children, all now deceased. Holden Cook was a son of

Samuel Cook, also a native of Rhode Island, but who received his final summons in New York State. The maternal grandparents of our subject, Eleazor and Daphne (Goodale) Andrews, were natives of Vermont, but died in Otsego County, N. Y., when quite aged, the father at about ninety-three years.

The subject of this sketch remained with his parents until twenty years of age, and then enlisted at Albany, N. Y., August 8, 1861, in Company B, Forty-fourth New York Regiment, and served until November, 1862. He was wounded at Malvern Hill and was on the battle field for a week. Afterward he was in Libby Prison, and after getting out he was for four months in the hospital. He participated in the following battles: Siege of Yorktown, Hanover Court House, Gaines' Mills, Malvern Hill, and in many skirmishes. He was mustered out at Philadelphia for disability on the 26th of November, 1862, and returned to his home in New York State. On the 20th of February, 1864, he came to Boone County, Ill., and as his means were limited he worked by the month for three years.

On the 18th of February, 1866, Mr. Cook was united in marriage with Miss Sarah J. Hoppen, a native of Holman, Dearborn County, Ind., born May 18, 1846. Her parents, Reuben and Martha M. (Givan) Hoppen, are natives of Prospect, New Haven County, Conn., and Maryland, and now reside near our subject in Bonus Township. Mrs. Cook's mother was the daughter of Joshua Givan, who was also a native of Maryland, but who died in Dearborn County, Ind.

After his marriage, our subject worked by the month for a year and then, having accumulated sufficient means, he purchased his present farm of one hundred acres, which had some improvements on it. A poor man at the outset, Mr. Cook has worked his way up until he is now in the enjoyment of a comfortable competency. He has ever taken a deep interest in all public enterprises, and, in politics, is a supporter of Republican principles, casting his first Presidential vote for Grant. He has held a number of local offices in the county, and for years has been a member of the Committee on Highways, also a member of the School Board. Socially, he is a member of Hurlburt Post, G. A. R.,

of Belvidere. Mr. Cook is of English ancestry, and many of his ancestors were professional men. One of his uncles was a Colonel in the Civil War, and a cousin held the rank of Captain. Grandfather Holden Cook was in the War of 1812, and the ancestors farther back were in the Revolutionary War.



RICHARD N. MOFFATT. Perhaps there are no more enterprising residents of Winnebago County than those who, like our subject, one of the first-class farmers of Shirland Township, are natives of this county. The father of our subject, George M. Moffatt, was born in England, December 11, 1819, and was brought by his parents to Canada when an infant, they locating near Kingston, Canada. At the age of twenty-eight, he and his wife came to Winnebago County. The grandfather of our subject, Richard Moffatt, was a farmer in Canada, where his decease occurred at an advanced age. His wife bore the name of Charlotte Wood and reared eleven children. One of the sons, Peter, who was six feet and two inches in height and a good swimmer, was drowned when a young man.

The mother of our subject was, prior to her marriage, Lydia M. Hicks, born July 13, 1826, a native of Canada, where she met and married Mr. Moffatt at the age of eighteen years. July 6, 1846, they came to Owen Township, Winnebago County, where they entered a claim of Government land in company with Mrs. Moffatt's father. They occupied that property for the succeeding four or five years, when, by the rascality of one Dr. Kellogg, they were compelled to leave their home. Mr. Moffatt then rented land for six years and then again occupied a home with his father-in-law, who died in the spring of 1865. The mother of Mrs. Moffatt passed away April 12, 1859, leaving two children. Her sister Zilpha Mahala, the wife of Henry Harndon, now resides in Nebraska.

Mr. and Mrs. Moffatt lost an infant son in Canada, and since residing in Illinois have laid away Sylvester H., who died aged two years and three months, and Alfred L., who was drowned in the Pec-

atonica River, July 11, 1886, in his sixteenth year. He was a bright and promising young man and his death was a severe blow to the family. The children living are Richard N., George E., Lydia B. and Manford M. Mrs. George Moffatt mother of our subject, departed this life, April 27, 1888, aged sixty-one years, nine months and fourteen days. The family are descendants of wealthy ancestors in England.

The original of this sketch resided with his parents until thirty-four years of age, and January 16, 1881, was married to Miss Maurilla J., daughter of Jonathan and Hannah P. (Vadakin) Todd, natives of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Todd emigrated from New Jersey to this State in 1855, when Mrs. Moffatt was six months old. The father died in Harrison Township, this county, in April, 1871, leaving his widow with four children: Milton J., George R., Daniel D. and Mrs. Moffatt. Mrs. Todd is still living at the age of seventy-two years; she comes of a long-lived race, her mother, who still survives, being ninety-four years of age, and many of the latter's sisters are in the nineties.



WILLIAM C. GORDON, a resident farmer of Guilford Township, Winnebago County, owns and operates a fine farm conveniently and pleasantly situated on section 30, within half a mile of Rockford. He is a native of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in Clearfield County, November 13, 1828. His father, Patrick Gordon, was born in Ireland, of Scottish parentage, was reared in the Emerald Isle, and when a young man went to England, whence he came to America. He was married in Centre County, Pa., to Elizabeth Cook, who was born in Lancaster County. They afterward removed to Clearfield County, where Mr. Gordon purchased a farm of one hundred and seven acres, and there resided until 1846, when he came to Illinois, locating in Monroe Township, Ogle County, where he secured a tract of Government land. His death occurred in November of the same year. His wife long survived him and died in Ogle County at a ripe old age. With one

was the first Deacon of the church of Farmington, and died in March, 1682. His descendants in regular order were: John Hart, Capt. John Hart, Isaac Hart, Job Hart and Jabez, the grandfather of our subject.

Jabez Hart was born in Kensington, Conn., in 1756, and there married Jemima Brace. In 1785, he removed to Victor, Ontario County, N. Y., becoming one of the first settlers of that locality. He purchased a tract of timber land a mile square and cleared a farm, the family enduring all the hardships and privations of pioneer life, such as grinding their corn in a coffee-mill, etc. The grandparents both died on that farm. Their children were Harvey, Tryphena, Theodocia, John, Demas, Cyrus, George, Eunice and Frederick.

Frederick Hart was the father of our subject. He was born in Ontario County, N. Y., August 6, 1802, was there reared and educated, and, for a few years engaged in the manufacture of sawing-mills. He purchased two different farms in Victor Township, and there resided until 1854, when he emigrated to Illinois and settled in Guilford Township, purchasing a farm on section 5, where he made his home until called to his final rest in 1864. His wife bore the maiden name of Sylvia Rowley, and was born in the town of Victor, in 1800, her parents being early settlers of that locality. She died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Collins. The children of the family were Sophia, Augustus, Melvina, Jabez and Eliza.

The subject of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the county of his nativity, and acquired his education in its public schools. With his parents he came to Illinois in 1854, and engaged in teaching school during the winter season for some time, while in the summer months he followed farming. In 1857, he was united in marriage with Charlotte McIntire, and immediately thereafter took charge of the home farm, to the development and improvement of which he devoted his energies. He has owned several farms in the vicinity of Rockford, Ill., and has been quite extensively interested in dealing in Iowa land and in stock-raising. In 1866, he settled upon the farm which is yet his home. It is an arable tract of land, under a high state of cultivation, and well im-

proved with good buildings and all the accessories of a model farm. The home, which is situated on an eminence, commands an extended view of the Rock River Valley.

Four children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Hart, two sons and two daughters: Belle C., Albert E., Fred A. and Jennie May. Belle and Fred are both members of the Methodist Church. Mr. Hart holds membership with Harmony Grange No. 557, and Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles, but has never sought or desired public office, preferring to devote his entire attention to his business, which he has followed with signal success.



MRS. AUGUSTA HARDY, daughter of John J. Crill, was born on her father's farm in Monroe Township, Ogle County, Ill., and, after acquiring her education in the public schools, received a teacher's certificate. Had she been in poor circumstances and obliged to earn her own livelihood, she would doubtless have followed that profession, but was not called upon to do so. Seventeen years ago, at her home in Monroe Township, she gave her hand in marriage to Henry Hardy. He is a native of the Empire State, and was only about seven years of age when, with his parents, he came to Winnebago County, Ill., the days of his boyhood and youth being spent in the vicinity of Rockford, and his education being acquired in the common schools.

Henry Hardy's parents, John and Margaret (Smith) Hardy, are both deceased. They were natives of the Empire State, and the father followed farming as his chosen occupation. He was a very successful agriculturist, and continued to engage in that pursuit in this county for many years, but later went to Michigan, where he died. He was then advanced in life. His wife had died some years previous in this county in the faith of the Methodist Church, of which she was a member. Mr. and Mrs. Hardy were excellent people, and will be remembered by many of their old friends and acquaintances in this community. Their family numbered eight children.

Henry Hardy for some years has been engaged in business in Rockford, and is regarded as one of the wide-awake, enterprising and progressive citizens. He and his wife own some valuable property, and are in comfortable circumstances. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles, and himself and wife attend the First Congregational Church. They have one daughter, M. Blanche, who was educated in the Rockford city schools, and is an accomplished young lady, yet at home.



CHARLES A. WORKS, Prosecuting Attorney for Winnebago County, residing at Rockford, was born in Guilford Township, Winnebago County, this State, May 4, 1848. His father, Charles, one of the pioneers of this county, was born in Westmoreland, Cheshire County, N. H., November 24, 1803. His grandfather, Aaron, was a New England farmer, and spent his last years in Westmoreland. After receiving a common-school education in his native village, the father of our subject removed to New York State, where he engaged in teaching and made his home until 1834.

Coming to Illinois during that year, Mr. Works, Sr., located in Ottawa and resided there until February, 1836, when he came to Winnebago County. At that time, two or three families occupied the present site of Rockford, and the surrounding country was but sparsely settled, the county itself not having been organized nor any land surveys completed. He made a claim to a tract of Government land in what is now Guilford Township and erected a log house, in which the subject of our sketch was born. In 1863, after having spent a lifetime in the occupation of farming, he came to Rockford and lived retired until he passed away in 1881. His fellow-citizens recognized his fitness for positions of trust and he was frequently called upon to occupy official posts of honor. In 1868, he was elected Justice of the Peace and held the office until his death. He was the first Supervisor of Guilford Township, also served as Collector and Assessor and for four years as County Treasurer.

In his political belief, he was a firm Republican and was one of the voters at the first election ever held in Winnebago County.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Jeanette Sanford and she was born in Vermont. She was the mother of three children: Charles A., Mary H. and Laura J. The son, who is the subject of this notice, received his education in the public schools of the district and was graduated from the East Side High School in 1868. Afterward he entered Beloit College, where he completed his literary education in the Class of '73.

Upon starting out in business, Mr. Works accepted the position of clerk in the office of the Clerk of the Supreme Court at Ottawa, where he remained until 1875. In September of that year, he was elected Superintendent of Schools in the city of La Salle and occupied that position two years, when he entered the office of the Circuit Clerk at Ottawa and served as Deputy Clerk until the spring of 1878. During the entire period of his residence in LaSalle County, he devoted his leisure hours to the study of law, and was admitted to practice at the Bar of Illinois in 1878. About the same time, he received an appointment to a position with the United States Superintendent of Indian Affairs stationed at Yankton, Dak.

During the latter part of 1878, Mr. Works returned to Rockford, and in January of the following year opened an office for the practice of law, since which time he has been engaged actively as an attorney and counselor-at-law. He was elected States Attorney in 1880 and has served ever since (1892) with universal satisfaction and honor to himself. A Republican politically, he cast his first vote for Gen. Grant, and has always upheld the principles of the party of his choice. In 1888, he was a delegate to the Republican National Convention. He was instructed for Gresham, voting for him first and for President Harrison afterward. Specially, he is a member of Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M., Winnebago Chapter No. 24, R. A. M. and Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T., Freeport Consistory, and attained the Thirty-third Degree in Boston, in September, 1891.

In November, 1880, the marriage of Mr. Works

to Miss Eva Enoch took place, and they are the parents of three children: Marion S., Mabel J. and Helen C. They are members of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, and liberal supporters of religious and benevolent enterprises. Mrs. Works was born in Guilford Township, Winnebago County, Ill., November 24, 1853. Her grandparents, Henry and Mary Enoch, were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Maryland, and the former erected the first building in Guilford Township, it being a log cabin.

Hon. Abraham I. Enoch, father of Mrs. Works, was born in Dayton, Ohio, and in September, 1835, accompanied his parents thence to Winnebago County. The family was one of the first to settle in the township, and the mother was a charter member of the first Methodist Episcopal Church organized in the county. Abraham I. Enoch engaged in farming in Guilford Township until 1867, when he removed to Rockford and was associated with James B. Skinner and C. C. Briggs in the manufacture of agricultural implements until his death in 1883, April 30. He served two terms in the Illinois State Legislature, and held many other positions of trust during his life. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Works was Catherine J. Davis, and she was born near London, Canada, the daughter of Thaddeus and Catherine Davis. She is still living and makes her home in Rockford.



ISAAC A. CORNELL. Among the progressive farmers and stockraisers of Boone County, we are pleased to present a sketch of the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this paragraph, and whose pleasant home and excellent farm are to be found in Manchester Township, where he has resided for the past thirty-eight years. His father, Amos Cornell, Jr., was born in Vermont, March 25, 1807, and was brought to Hamilton County, N. Y., when an infant, by his parents, Amos and Rhoda Cornell, the former a native of Vermont, born February 3, 1779, and the latter of the same State, born April 9, 1781. Amos Cornell, Sr., was a farmer, and after coming to New York State, settled in the wilderness on one hundred

and forty-five acres of land, the same being in three counties, Hamilton, Fulton and Saratoga. He erected a rude log house on the Saratoga corner of his farm, and there he and his thrifty and economical wife resided many years, and reared their three children. When quite advanced in years, they removed to an adjacent village, named Northville, and there Mr. Cornell passed away when seventy-seven years of age.

Amos Cornell, Jr., father of our subject, selected his wife in the person of Miss Hannah S. Aylesworth, of Rhode Island, and four living children blessed this union. They buried one son, John A., who was drowned in a small pond near the house, when but twenty months old. This was a crushing blow to the bereaved parents. The children who grew to adult years were as follows: Martha A., deceased; Isaac A., our subject; Laura M., now Mrs. Halsey G. Clark, of Rockford; and Lottie A., deceased. The father of these children died at the early age of thirty-seven years, and the mother received her final summons in Northville, April 3, 1864, when fifty-five years of age.

Isaac A. Cornell, our subject, was born in Hamilton County, N. Y., in 1830, and when twenty-four years of age, he was filled with a desire to try his fortune in the Far West. In 1854, he came to Boone County, Ill., and in June of that year purchased one hundred and thirty acres at \$12 per acre, part of his present fine farm. In the pleasant month of June, 1859, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Cady, a native of Steuben County, N. Y., who was brought to Manchester Township when four years of age, by her father, Alvah Cady, one of the first settlers of Manchester Township (see sketch of Dewitt C. Cady). After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Cornell settled at once on their present farm, and went vigorously to work to make improvements, and get a comfortable home. They now have four hundred and ten acres of good, productive land, for which they paid from \$12 to \$45 per acre, and Mr. Cornell is engaged in general farming. He has worked hard all his life until within the last five years, and has been unusually prosperous. When first starting, he received a gift of \$600 from his mother, and since then he has inherited \$1,100, but the most of

his wealth has been accumulated by years of hard work on the part of himself and wife. Although they met with some reverses and discouragements, as the best of farmers do, they still persevered, and can now enjoy the fruits of their labor.

Our subject and his wife lost one infant son, Charles, in 1862, and they now have four living children, a daughter and three sons: Amos E., engaged in agricultural pursuits on one of Mr. Cornell's farms, married Miss Mary Roth, a neighbor's daughter; Alvah A. carries on Mr. Cornell's farm, and married Miss Eva Johnson, of this township, and has one daughter three years old; Alice M., now Mrs. Clarence Adams, resides in Beloit, Wis., and has one son; and Charles A., a young man at home, and a sturdy son of the soil. Mr. Cornell has voted with the Republicans generally, but is not a strict partisan, and will vote for a good Democrat. He is a member of but one secret society, the Anti-Horse Thief organization, started in 1858, and he has been its Secretary for many years. This society has proved a fine thing in the neighborhood.



CHARLES H. HOPKINS, another prominent farmer, whose time thus far has been spent in furthering the agricultural interests of the county, is a native of Erie County, N. Y., born in 1835. His father, Cyrus H. Hopkins, was a native of Massachusetts, as was also Grandfather Hopkins, who passed his entire life in that State, engaged in agricultural pursuits, dying when in the prime of life. His family consisted of five sons and one daughter, and his widow was long known as the Widow Ransom, having married again.

Cyrus Hopkins was born in the year 1782, but removed from the old Bay State to Erie County, N. Y., in 1801, and was there engaged in opening up a road from Batavia to Buffalo. While on his way to New York State, he stopped at an hotel in Vermont, and there met two sisters (twins) with whom he became deeply enamored. The admiration seemed mutual all around, but Mr. Hopkins found himself in a dilemma, for he could not tell one

from the other, so striking was the resemblance. However, he was not the one to get discouraged over this novel situation, and, as he was determined to marry one of the young ladies, he selected Charlotte, and their nuptials were celebrated on the 3d of March, 1811. The other sister was named Loretta. This happy union resulted in the birth of twelve children, six sons and six daughters. Mrs. Hopkins' father, Mr. Bissell, was the proprietor of an hotel in Randolph, Vt., in connection with which he also carried on agricultural pursuits.

Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins settled in Erie County, about eighteen miles East of Buffalo, on a timber tract, where they continued to reside until 1855, except for about seven years, when they resided twenty-three miles west of Buffalo. At the above-mentioned date, seeing a better opening for them in the West, they sold out, and with their four youngest children, having buried one in New York State, they came to Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, Ill. They reared to adult years the following children: Cyrus B., Henry L., Loretta M., Charlotte S., Dorothy A., Eliza A., John O., William W., Sarah B., Nelson F., Charles H. and Jane W. Of these the following are now deceased: Sarah B., Dorothy A., Loretta M. and Cyrus B. Those now living are married and the heads of families. Mr. Hopkins' son William came to Winnebago County in 1854, one year prior to his father's settlement here, and located in Beloit, where he followed the carpenter's trade.

Mr. Hopkins purchased of Dewey Brown seventy-one acres on section 3, where our subject is now living, and paid \$28 per acre for this. On it was a fair house and barn, and here Mr. Hopkins and the partner of his joys and sorrows, his estimable wife, passed the closing scenes of their lives, he dying September 6, 1863, when eighty-one years of age, and his wife on the 16th of March, 1885, when ninety-four years of age. Mrs. Hopkins was a frail and very delicate woman all her life, but preserved her mental faculties up to the last. Mr. Hopkins was an active participant in the War of 1812, and was in the Quartermaster's department. His brother Timothy was a General in that war, and both came out unscathed.



Gus, Lendstrom

Charles H. Hopkins, the subject of this sketch, has been a life-long farmer, and has resided on the old homestead in Roscoe Township since 1855, except for two years, 1870 and 1871, when he visited relatives in Erie County and Brooklyn, N. Y. In 1876, he was married to Miss Emma L. Lund, who was left an orphan when six or seven years of age. She was adopted by the parents of our subject and was reared as one of the family. This union has proved a most happy one, and all their children, three in number, are living: Clara M., born in 1878; Nellie J., in 1881; and Isadore, in 1885. These children are attending school at Beloit. The eldest, Clara, has marked taste and talent for art, and both she and her sister Nellie are apt musical scholars. Mr. Hopkins' business is farming in a general way, but his stock is mostly sheep, of which he prefers and raises the medium grade. He is in no sense a politician, nor an ultra partisan, but votes with the Republican party.



GUS LENDSTROM. The brick and stone mason trade is of primary significance, and foremost among those engaged in it in Rockford is Mr. Lendstrom, a contractor and first-class workman. This gentleman, whose portrait is shown on the opposite page, first came to this city in 1867, but afterward, in 1869, went to Topeka, Kan., where he resided for four years. From there he went to Kansas City, and one year later to Chicago, where he resided for fourteen years. In the meantime, in 1882, he removed his family to Rockford, and since 1887 he has made his permanent home in this city. He has been very successful in his business enterprises, and besides owning a good home at No. 727 North First Street, owns three lots in the North End, with a fine brick residence on one.

Mr. Lendstrom was born in Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, March 6, 1841, and was the first of the family to come to the United States. He commenced learning his trade in Stockholm, but finished in New York City. He has been a very progressive and skillful workman, and the thor-

ough training he received in Stockholm, and the special training he gained in the Empire City, are apparent in his work. His parents, Lawrence and Maria C. (Dollberg) Lendstrom, were natives of Sweden, the father born in 1808, and the mother in 1803. They were prominently identified with the Lutheran Church, and died in their native country. They had another son beside our subject residing in the States, William Lendstrom, a grocer at Austin, Tex.

Gus Lendstrom selected his wife in the person of Miss Henrietta Haltgren, and their nuptials were celebrated in Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, where her birth occurred December 1, 1813. Her parents, Henry and Gustava (Strenbach) Haltgren, came to the United States in 1871, and settled in Chicago. They were the parents of five children, one deceased, and three now living in Rockford. The father died when sixty-four years of age, and the mother when sixty. Both held membership in the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Lendstrom and his wife became the parents of ten children, two deceased: John and Hickla. Those living are as follows: Charles R., a grocer of Rockford, who married Miss Cartensa Lundstrom; Anna, who became the wife of Frank Lundstrom, of the firm of Larson & Lundstrom, on North Madison Street; Jennie, a clerk at Hills & Olson's dry-goods store; Lawrence H., a brick-mason; Oscar G., who is employed in Wilkins' Factory; Laura, Nina and Matthew, who are at home. Mr. Lendstrom and family are members of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church.



LAURENCE McDONALD. It affords the biographical writer pleasure to be able to record in this volume the main incidents in the life of Mr. McDonald, who has been Justice of the Peace in Seward Township, Winnebago County, for the past twenty-seven years. He has also held the office of Assessor for nine years, School Director for fifteen years, and Township Trustee for nine years. He was elected to the State Legislature in 1881-82, during which time he served on many important committees. He is

a member of the Agricultural Board, and is now the oldest officer in that body, having served in all the chairs. He is also Vice-president of the Old Settlers' Society of Seward, which he has served on various occasions as Historian.

January 6, 1833, our subject was born in County Meath, Ireland, his parents being Patriek and Julia McDonald, natives of the above-named county. The father was a shepherd and stock-dealer, and died in his native place when seventy-seven years of age. Our subject was one in a family of eleven children, and in 1854, in company with his mother and a niece, emigrated to the United States, and located in New Jersey, where Mrs. McDonald passed away in 1866, when eighty-four years of age.

The original of this sketch, in 1855, landed in Winnebago County with but \$1 in his pocket. He immediately went to work for ex-Gov. Bebb, by whom he was employed for several years, and at the end of that time purchased his present property and established a home of his own. September 1, 1867, he was married to Miss Mary, daughter of David and Elizabeth L. Williams, who was born May 24, 1846, in this county. Her father was a native of Maescar, Carmarthenshire, South Wales, and was the son of George and Mary (Jones) Williams, also natives of Wales. The father of Mrs. McDonald came to Rockford, this State, in 1810, and in 1877 returned to Wales, where his death occurred when seventy-three years old. His wife, the mother of Mrs. McDonald, still resides on the old home in Wales; she was the mother of four children, two of whom are deceased.

Mr. McDonald is the proprietor of a magnificent estate of eight hundred and sixteen acres, all of which are cultivated and well stocked. He is shrewd, careful and persistent in his operations, and displays great vigor in his undertakings, but with all is modest and conscientious in his dealings. Of his family of thirteen children, two are deceased. Those living are as follows: Elizabeth A., Edward, John, Julia F., Mary, Charlotte, Emily, Patriek, David, Laurence, Jr., and Margaret. Those deceased are Katie and Rose.

Mr. McDonald had several nephews who were soldiers in the late war, they being sons of a sister

who resided in New Jersey. He has voted the Republican ticket from the organization of the party, with the exception of twelve years when he voted the Democratic ticket for Greeley, Tilden and Hancock. He has ever been active in political work, as his continuance for so many years in office would indicate. He has the ready speech and quick intelligence of the race from which he descends, is respected as his good qualities deserve, and like other members of his family, is a devout member of the Catholic Church.



HON. SEELY PERRY. Among the residents of Rockford who have devoted themselves untiringly to the development of the business resources of this place, we find the name of Mr. Perry, who is President of the Rockford Lumber and Fuel Company, one of the important industries of Winnebago County. He is truly honored by his neighbors, and his long life of industry, usefulness and integrity has given him a hold on the community which all might well desire to share. He is an old settler in Rockford and is seventy years of age, having been born in Stockbridge, Berkshire County, Mass., August 22, 1822, and it is universally conceded that he has not an enemy in the world.

The father of our subject, Ezra Perry, was also born in Stockbridge, in 1793. His father, Peter Perry, was a native of Rhode Island, where the great-grandfather of our subject, also named Peter Perry, was born. The latter-named gentleman was of Welsh ancestry and spent his entire life in his native State, where he carried on the occupation of a farmer. Grandfather Perry removed from Rhode Island to Berkshire County, Mass., where he was among the early settlers of Stockbridge, locating midway between the present sites of Glendale and Housatonic. There he cleared a farm in the wilderness and resided until his death. The maiden name of his wife, the grandmother of our subject, was Lydia Wilmarth.

The father of him of whom we write was reared to agricultural pursuits and remained a resident of Stockbridge until 1836, at which time he removed

to Monroe County, N. Y., where he purchased a farm in the town of Riga. There he made his home until 1851, at the expiration of which time he came to Rockford, making this city his home until his decease, which occurred in 1875. He was married to Miss Anna Ball, who was born in Salisbury, Conn., and reared to womanhood in Vermont. She became the mother of seven children, and departed this life in 1877 in Rockford. Seely Perry of this sketch received his early education in the public schools of Stockbridge, where he made the best of his opportunities, and is to-day an intelligent and well-read gentleman. After his parents removed to New York, he attended the Oneida Institute, and in 1841 entered the Oberlin University at Oberlin, Ohio. He was a student there for a twelvemonth and then entered Union College at Schenectady, N. Y., from which institution he was graduated in the Class of '45.

In the fall of the above-named year, Mr. Perry came west to Kentucky by the most convenient route at that time, which was via the railroad to Buffalo, thence on board a steamer to Toledo, from which city he traveled on the Toledo and Maumee Canal to Cincinnati, thence by steamer to Louisville, and by stage to Springfield, Ky., where for four years he was engaged in teaching a private school. In 1849, our subject came to the Prairie State, and, locating in Winnebago County, engaged as a teacher at Rockton for two years. Later, he came to Rockford, where he followed that profession for a year, at the end of which time he engaged in the lumber business, in which he has actively continued the greater portion of the time since. He is one of the most prominent men of the city and has aided greatly in its upbuilding, being energetic, affable and kind-hearted.

The first marriage of Mr. Perry occurred in 1846, at which time Miss Elizabeth Benedict became his wife. That lady was born in Verona, Oneida County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Lewis Benedict. She departed this life in 1874, and Mr. Perry was again married, March, 16, 1876, this time to Marie Thompson, the daughter of James and Sarah Thompson, who was born in the Dominion. Mr. Perry by his first marriage became the father of two children, Lewis Seely, and Eva, the latter of

whom is the wife of Philip Moore. One daughter was born by the second union who bears the name of Marie.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry are both members in very good standing of the First Congregational Church, where they are liberal contributors and active workers. Our subject has always been a Democrat, one who does not swerve from the views and principles promulgated by that organization. He has served his fellow-townsmen in many important offices and his interest in school matters caused him to be placed on the Board of Education, which he served as its President for a number of years. For three terms he was Alderman of Rockford and one term discharged the duties of the responsible office of Mayor. Socially, he is a member of Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M., and is identified with Winnebago Chapter No. 21, R. A. M. He is also connected with Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T. He was one of the organizers of the Rockford Lumber and Fuel Company and by his energy and perseverance, united with economy and good business qualifications, he has secured a competency which enables him to live in the enjoyment of the comfort which wealth affords.



WILLIAM C. LAWSHE. In Le Roy Township, Boone County, may be seen a beautiful farm, adorned with a comfortable residence and first-class farm buildings, which is the property of Mr. Lawshe, who is living retired from active work of any kind at his home in Sharon, Wis. He was born in Union County, Pa., June 7, 1832, and is the son of Abram Lawshe, whose birth occurred in the same State and county, in 1806. The father was a blacksmith, which trade he followed his entire life. In 1837, he moved with a horse team to Franklin County, Ohio, where he was ranked among the well-to-do citizens.

The lady who became the mother of our subject prior to her marriage was Hannah Parks, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Parks. On emigrating to Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. Lawshe were accompanied by

four children. They resided in the Buckeye State for twelve years, where their son Theodore was born, and died when eight years of age. In the spring of 1849, the father disposed of his property and again came West, this time locating in Boone County, after twenty-one days' travel. The first land of which he became the owner was eighty acres on section 8, Le Roy Township, where he erected a shop and followed his trade in addition to his farm operations.

Our subject aided his father in the shop in the summer months and attended school in the winter season. About twenty years after locating here, the father sold his farm, making on the transaction \$2,800, and moved to Sharon, Wis., where he purchased a home and resided with his wife until their death, the father passing away in 1871, and the mother two years later. They were the parents of the following-named children: William C., our subject; Mary, Mrs. Isaac Cramer, now deceased; Eleanor, the widow of the Rev. W. D. Skelton; and Cherokee, Mrs. H. B. Crofts, of Iowa.

William C. Lawshe was married in this county, in the spring of 1868, to Sarah, daughter of John and Julia (Greene) Winkler, natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Illinois in an early day. They were farmers, and reared a family of nine children.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawshe made their first home on twenty acres of land on section 16, for which our subject paid \$15 per acre. Four years later, he sold at a handsome advance, and bought sixty acres on section 14 at \$24 per acre. They farmed there for thirteen years, during which time they added forty acres to their estate, which is included in their present farm. In 1879, Mr. Lawshe sold his sixty acres and became the owner of two hundred adjoining his forty-acre tract, which cost \$40 an acre, and is now valued at \$70. In 1890, he erected a large barn on his place, which has a gambrel roof and is 44x64 feet in dimensions, with twenty-four foot posts.

Mr. Lawshe retired from busy life in August, 1891, and, moving to Sharon, erected a comfortable home where he lives with his two youngest children and wife. They have buried one daughter, Martha, who died when twelve years of age, those living being Fuller A., Isaac G., William W., Mary

C., and Charley F. Mr. Lawshe has been Assessor and Township Treasurer, also Town Clerk. In politics, he was first a Whig, later a Republican, and in 1882 joined the Prohibitionists, on which ticket he ran for the Legislature and was only defeated by a small majority. Mr. and Mrs. Lawshe have been the architects of their own fortunes, as they started even with the world, and by toil and economy have gained a comfortable competency.

 OTTO A. BECKSTRAND, who is engaged in general farming on section 9, Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, was born on the 14th of March, 1852, in Sweden. His parents are both now deceased. His father, P. M. Peterson, was a Swedish farmer, and died in 1872, at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife died in 1863, when fifty years of age. They were members of the Lutheran Church, and lived consistent Christian lives. Their family numbered nine children, seven of whom are now living, the following being residents of this country: A. W., of Minneapolis; Mrs. A. S. Gronquist, of Chicago; and Mrs. S. I. Johnson, of Rockford.

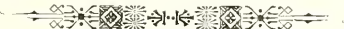
Mr. Beckstrand, whose name heads this record, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home, but at the age of eighteen determined to seek his fortune in America, and bidding good-bye to friends and native land, sailed for New York City. On reaching this country, he came at once to Rockford, where his brother, A. W., was then living. Some years later, our subject was united in marriage in that city to Miss Anna A. Carlson, a native of Sweden. Her father was a Lutheran minister, and died in middle life in his native land. Her mother is still living. Mrs. Beckstrand is the only member of her family that has located in this country. She crossed the Atlantic in 1876, came to Rockford, and has since been a resident of Winnebago County. She is an intelligent and cultured lady, and has proved a good wife and mother. Two children have been born unto this worthy couple, a son and daughter, Celia V. and Otto G.

Since coming to this county in 1870, Mr. Beck-



Price Lewis

strand has continuously engaged in farming, with the exception of two years spent in the employ of the Forest City Furniture Company. He worked as a farm hand near Rockford for a year, but for the past eleven years has owned and operated his present farm, comprising forty-two acres of arable land on section 9, Cherry Valley Township. He has his farm well-improved, and under a high state of cultivation, and is a well-known agriculturist of this community, who has led a busy and upright life, well deserving the high regard in which he is held. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles.

 PRICE LEWIS, deceased, was a prominent citizen of New Milford Township, Winnebago County, and his portrait and biography add value to this volume. He was born in Steuben, Oneida County, N. Y., and was a son of William Lewis, of Utica, N. Y., who made a fine farm in Steuben Township, Oneida County, where he was a prominent citizen. He served as Justice of the Peace many years, was Supervisor, and represented his district in the State Legislature. He married Janette Williams, a native of Wales, who came with her parents to this country when a child. In politics, he was a staunch Republican, a warm admirer of Roscoe Conkling, whom he considered a most able statesman, and during the late Rebellion was active in recruiting soldiers for the war. He was twice married, and had six children.

Our subject was reared to manhood on a farm in Oneida County, N. Y., and on the 15th of June, 1870, married Miss S. L. Hizer, of that county, a daughter of Adam and Lucy W. Hizer, both of whom were natives of Herkimer County, N. Y., and the parents of five children, two sons and three daughters: Mary A., Harriet, Charles W., Silas H. and Sarah L. In May, 1871, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis came West to Rockford, Ill., and after a year spent in that city, went to Flagg Station, Ogle County, where our subject engaged in buying and shipping grain for three years.

In December, 1874, Mr. Lewis purchased a

farm of two hundred and seventy-one acres. The land was arable, but without buildings. He erected a pleasant residence on a hillside, in the midst of a beautiful oak grove, and devoted his energies to farming until his death. He made a specialty of dairying and raising stock, and was very successful in his undertakings, being an industrious and enterprising man, possessed of good business ability. For about a year prior to his death, his health was impaired, but on the morning of April 22, 1891, he had been around attending to his affairs, and lay down to rest, when he soon dropped off into that sleep from which there is no awakening. He was an active member of the Methodist Church, and belonged to the New Milford Lodge of Modern Woodmen, of which he was a charter member and at the time of his death was Head Counsel. He was highly respected by all who knew him, and his death proved a loss to the community as well as to his immediate family.

Mrs. Lewis has a family of six sons and a daughter: William A., Charles S., Elias, Price, Harriet, Matthew Simpson and John A. Elias is attending the High School of Rockford, from which William was graduated in 1892, and the family is one of which the mother may well be proud. She lost one son, Ralph, who died in November, 1887, at the age of two years. Mrs. Lewis and her family are in comfortable circumstances, and with the aid of her sons she manages the home farm. She is an active and faithful member of the Methodist Church, and a lady whose many excellencies of character have endeared her to all with whom she has come in contact.

 MRS. ELIZABETH KINYON, of Belvidere, is a native of Stark County, Ohio. She was born in Massillon, November 16, 1835.

Her father, Thomas Marshall, and her grandfather, Daniel Clarkson Marshall, were both natives of London, England. The latter married Sarah Lincoln, and they spent their entire lives in London. Thomas was the only one of the family who came to America. He was reared and educated in London, and sailed for the United States in

1813, landing in New York on the 11th of June. He went to Ohio a few weeks later, making the trip on horseback, and there engaged in teaming, making his home in Stark County until his death. He wedded Isabel Greenwood, a native of Liverpool, England, and a daughter of John Henry and Mary (Martin) Greenwood, who emigrated with their family to America in 1813, and spent the remainder of their days in Ohio. Mrs. Marshall died at her home in Belvidere in 1880, having long survived her husband.

Under the parental roof Mrs. Kinyon spent the days of her girlhood, and in 1855 gave her hand in marriage to Thomas Hannah, who was born near Montreal, Canada, and was a son of Thomas and Sarah (Swail) Hannah. He was reared in Canada, and when a young man went to Ohio, where he engaged in farming until 1855, when he came with his wife to Boone County and bought a tract of land in Flora Township, where he engaged in farming until 1862. In August of that year, he enlisted in Company G, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and participated in many important battles with his regiment. He continued to serve until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged, October 22, 1865, and his death occurred one month after his return.

Mrs. Hannah was again married, 1872, this time to Job Kinyon, who was born in Huntington, Vt., and was a son of Sylvester and Mary Kinyon, and is numbered among the settlers of Boone County of 1814. Purchasing a tract of land in Flora Township, he engaged in farming until 1861, when, at the first call for troops, he enlisted and was mustered in as Sergeant when Company B, of the Fifteenth Regiment, was formed. He served until October 18, 1862, when he was honorably discharged on account of disability, and returned home. He resided upon his farm until 1868, when on account of ill health he removed to Belvidere, where he lived retired until his death in April, 1890.

By her first marriage, Mrs. Kinyon has two sons: Jesse, the elder, married Jennie Louise Huntoon, who was born in Peru, Ill., and is a daughter of Charles H. and Emma (Duncan) Huntoon. They have three children: Margaret E., Robert H. and

Marshall C. Thomas, the younger son, wedded Louise Bennett, a native of Belvidere, and a daughter of Samuel and Louise (Hippley) Bennett. Mrs. Kinyon is a most estimable lady, held in high regard by all who know her, and her friends throughout the community are many.



THOMAS FARLEY. The subject of this sketch was born January 12, 1834, in Morgan County, Ohio, and at the present time resides on section 17, Flora Township, Boone County. His father, James Farley, was born November 30, 1801, in Marshall County (the Panhandle district), W. Va., while his father, Andrew Farley, was a native of York County, Pa., his birth occurring in 1749. The great-grandparents, Thomas and Jennie (Finley) Farley, emigrated from the North of Ireland from the vicinity of the Boyne, the former having taken part in the battle and siege of that place in behalf of the Protestants.

Andrew Farley, the grandfather, was a man of influence and wealth, and took an active part in expelling the Indians from the western part of Pennsylvania and Ohio. During that period, from some unknown cause, he lost his property, and thus his family of three daughters and four sons were thrown upon their own resources and the charities of the world at the time of his decease in 1813. Thomas, one of the sons, who now makes his home in Pittsburg, Pa., at the age of ninety-one years, pursued the cabinet-maker's trade for a number of years, or until his ambition led him into politics. He was the incumbent of the offices of Clerk of the Court, Sheriff, Postmaster, etc., on the Democratic side, and was an able stump speaker; his sons and sons-in-law are in the employ of the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company, holding the respective positions of Auditor, Clerk, Division Superintendent and Civil Engineer, one of his sons having been Auditor for twenty-five years.

James Farley, the second son of Andrew, and the father of our subject, learned the trade of a brick-maker, which he followed successfully until twenty-four years of age, pursuing the calling in

Pittsburg and Washington, Pa., where he spent the most of his youth and early manhood. At the age of twenty-four, he emigrated to Eastern Ohio, where he was first engaged in farming, and later in selling goods and operating a mill, until October 20, 1853, when he removed to Cherry Valley. In that vicinity, he carried on his farm, and was engaged in mercantile pursuits for some twenty years, or until he retired from active business.

James Farley's surroundings during his early youth and manhood were unfavorable, but the foundations of true and noble manhood were so laid in his nature as not to be removed by adverse surroundings. He borrowed copies of Plutarch's Lives, Pope's Translation of Homer's Iliad, the poems of Burns, and the lives of Franklin and Washington, and, as opportunity offered, read these standard and useful works in connection with his Bible. Being possessed of a political turn of mind and fine retentive memory, he made these few volumes do the service of a good library. He, in opposition to his brother, was a Whig, casting his first vote for Henry Clay, and, on the organization of the Republican party, voted for its candidates, although his sympathies were with the Prohibitionists. He joined the Christian Church when young and had the pleasure of seeing his family and many of his friends become identified with that church. He died at the home of his son in Flora, January 27, 1890, aged eighty-five years and three months.

Joseph, the third son of Andrew Farley, died at Barnesville, Ohio, in 1840. David, the fourth son, was drowned at Beverly, Ohio, July 4, 1840. Hannah Craig, the eldest daughter, who was the mother of six sons and three daughters, died in 1854, at Claysville, Pa. One of her sons is an attorney-at-law at Keokuk, Iowa; one, now deceased, was President of Jefferson College, Pa.; another is now a Member of Congress; one died while teaching in the South; the youngest is a merchant in Claysville, Pa., while the remaining son is farming at Reserve, Kan. Sarah, the second daughter, died in 1883, at Marietta, Ohio, in the vicinity of which her large family of descendants now reside. Drusilla, the youngest, died near Beverly, Ohio, in 1882. The average age of the five older members

of James Farley's family was eighty-one and a quarter years.

The grandmother of Thomas Farley bore the maiden name of Hannah Templeton. Her ancestors emigrated from Scotland and located at Oldtown, Md. Mrs. Farley died near Wheeling, W. Va., in 1825. Thomas Taylor, the maternal grandfather, was born at Wigan, near Manchester, England, April 21, 1766. His wife, Margaret Nevel, was born December 23, 1771, and was married January 1, 1793. She became the mother of ten children, as follows: John, born in 1794; Mary, in 1796; Betsey, in 1798; Mary, in 1800; Ellen, the mother of Thomas Farley, in 1802; Thomas, in 1804; Ann, in 1807; Peter, in 1809; James L., in 1810; and Sarah, in 1818.

Thomas Taylor early showed indications of unusual musical talent and compiled a musical work. He was a tradesman, or merchant, in England, until attaining his forty-ninth year, when, with his family, he emigrated to America, setting sail from Liverpool on Easter Sunday, and landing in Philadelphia eleven weeks later. They crossed the Alleghany mountains with teams to Pittsburg, at which place they took passage down the Ohio River upon keel-boats, landing at Marietta, Ohio. Going back into the almost unbroken forest about fifteen miles, Mr. Taylor established a home, erecting a log house which later gave way to a brick dwelling. For thirty-eight years this spot was their home, or until their decease in 1852, their deaths occurring only about ten days apart.

In 1818, eight of the family were married and located within a radius of six miles of the old homestead. The youngest one died at the age of forty-nine. The average of the ages of the ten was seventy-one years, four of the number having lived to be over eighty years of age.

Peter Taylor went to Kentucky to prepare himself to be a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which State he remained until his decease, which occurred near Ghent, on the Ohio River, in 1867. Two of the family are still living: James L., of Flora, and Ann Bacon, of Sioux City, Iowa. Of their grandchildren, fifty-seven grew to manhood and womanhood, forty of whom are living, whose average ages are about forty-nine years.

The children comprised in the family of James and Ellen Taylor Farley were Hannah, who was born in 1828, and married William Kirkland; Sarah, who was born in 1830, became the wife of Philip Heckman; Elizabeth, who was born in 1832, married B. B. Hovey; Thomas, born in 1831; Mary Carpenter, now deceased, born in 1836; Lucy, born in 1851, married Austin G. Sprague, who was killed in 1863, in a charge on Champion Hill, in the war of the Rebellion. Mrs. Sprague was married again to John Brooks. Maria L., who was born in 1840, is now Mrs. Keith; Beccie, now Mrs. Dunwell, and Nellie (twins), were born in 1843. The latter became the wife of Capt. J. W. Hicks, of the regular army, who died of yellow fever in Louisiana, in 1867. Three years later, Mrs. Hicks was married to Edwin Thomas Ironmaster, at Portland, Me., who died in 1872, and in 1881 his widow became the wife of David Eckert, of Topeka, Kan. Carrie, the youngest of the family, who was born in 1849, is now Mrs. E. T. Frowe. Thirty-seven grandchildren are living, five of whom are attorneys-at-law, three physicians, nine students, five farmers, or farmers' wives, three clerks, two merchants, and one engineer. Ellen Taylor Farley, the mother of Thomas Farley, died in Cherry Valley, October 25, 1880, aged seventy-eight years. The average of the ages of the nine now living of the family is fifty-five years.

The subject of this sketch was married, December 25, 1859, to Lottie E. Sprague, of Washington County, Ohio, whose distant ancestors, Jonathan and Joshua Sprague, were among the first colonists of New England. Mr. and Mrs. Farley were the parents of two daughters: Eureka H., born November 10, 1860, died in February, 1886, and Marietta, who was born in February, 1862, and died January 10, 1863. The wife and mother departed this life July 23, 1865.

The lady whom Mr. Farley chose as his second wife was Mrs. Jennie P. (Haydon) Houghton, their marriage being celebrated September 3, 1868, at Galva, this State. She died November 5, 1880. Her ancestor on the paternal side, William Haydon, emigrated from England to Fayette County, Pa., which place was their home for some five generations, his descendants there being as follows: John,

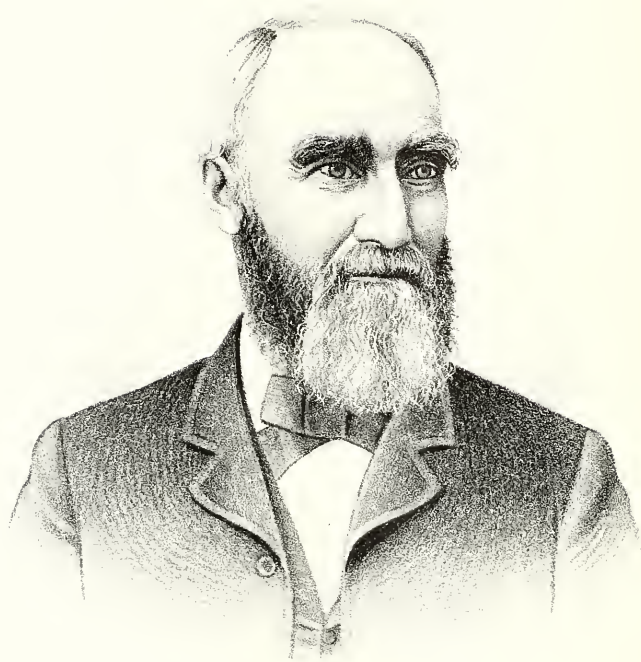
and two in succession by the name of Jonathan. Her father's name was Jonathan Jefferson. The family lived for a time in Maysville, Ky., emigrating from there to Indiana, and thence to Fulton County, this State. Mrs. Farley's mother's name was Reeves. Her family were from Virginia, while she was born in Fountain County, Ind. Her only son, Prof. F. A. Houghton, is a graduate of Cambridge University, and for a number of years was Professor of Natural Science in the Englewood High School; Eunice and Eugenia, her twin daughters, born in Cherry Valley May 13, 1870, are students of Hillsdale College. These two daughters are the only children Mr. Farley has living. In addition to her fine natural abilities, Mrs. Farley had considerable training in music and other accomplishments.



DANIEL RYAN. In the annals of Seward Township, Winnebago County, the name of this gentleman occupies an honorable place as one of its efficient pioneers, who has given practical aid in making it one of the finest farming regions in this section of the county. By steady toil and excellent management, he has acquired a valuable property since coming to Illinois, and has a large tract of two hundred acres, all lying in one body, besides ten acres in Ogle County, his entire acreage being under the best of cultivation and exceedingly well improved.

Like many of the prominent residents of Winnebago County, our subject was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, November 28, 1829, and is a son of Thomas and Julia Ryan, who were born, reared and died in their native Ireland. Daniel remained at home until 1847, when, desiring to see something of the New World, he emigrated to the United States, and for seven years worked by the month on farms in New York State. At the end of that time, he came to Winnebago County, with whose interests he has been identified ever since.

The lady to whom our subject was married June 22, 1862, was Miss Mary Flynn, a native of Westmeath, Ireland, where her birth occurred March



Your Truly
George Powell

17, 1831. She was the daughter of Laurence and Kate Flynn, also natives of the Emerald Isle, who came to America in 1817, and died soon after in Canada. Mrs. Ryan is the only survivor of the parental family of thirteen children, all of whom died in Canada. Mr. Ryan is the only survivor in a family of ten children.

To our subject and his wife have been born nine children, six of whom are living; Daniel is married and has four children; Kate, Mrs. Markan, is the mother of five children; Elizabeth, who married William Leary and has a family of six children; Julia, the wife of George Koch, has two children; William, who married Ella Hudson, is the father of one son, and Mary, who married Fred Blair, also has one child. Mr. and Mrs. Ryan have an adopted son named Joseph.

A Democrat in politics, Mr. Ryan cast his first Presidential vote for President Pierce, having taken out his naturalization papers one week after landing in this country. He is one of the most prominent men in the county and devotes his entire time and attention to carrying on his splendid estate.



GEORGE POWELL. This prominent gentleman is numbered among the early settlers of Boone County, having located one and one-half miles west of Belvidere, June 2, 1838. The country at that time presented a widely different appearance from that of to-day, and with his neighbors he bore the usual toils and hardships of pioneer life, meanwhile gaining for himself a good record, morally, socially and financially. He has been a resident of the city of Rockford since 1867, enjoying the competence which his unflagging industry has won, together with the esteem and confidence of those around him.

He of whom we write was born in Goole, Yorkshire, England, June 2, 1821. His father, William Powell, was born October 23, 1782, in the same shire, where he was reared on a farm and for a number of years was overseer of a large estate near Goole. In 1831, he came to America, accompanied by his wife and six children, and landed at Que-

bec after an ocean voyage of six weeks and four days. He went immediately to Dunham Township, fifty-four miles east of Montreal, where for three years he rented a tract of land, which he later purchased and resided upon until 1838, the year of his advent into Illinois. The journey was made overland with two teams as far as Cleveland, where they embarked on a vessel which conveyed them to Detroit, whence they came by teams to Belvidere, at that time a mere hamlet.

Joseph and William Powell, two brothers of our subject, preceded the family to this section, where they purchased claims near Belvidere, upon one of which the father settled. A log house was erected, into which they moved, and when the land came into market it was entered at the Government land-office at Galena. The elder Mr. Powell and his two sons became the possessors of four hundred and eighty acres, upon which they erected a good brick house, where the father resided for a number of years. Later removing to Belvidere, his decease occurred there in 1855. The maiden name of his wife was Jane Spacey, also a native of England, where her birth occurred October 1, 1788. She was the daughter of James Spacey, and died June 25, 1873, aged eighty-four years.

Six of the seven children born to our subject's parents were reared to manhood, all of them sons, and named Joseph, James, William, John, Samuel and George respectively. The last-named was a lad of seven years when he emigrated to America with his parents, and fourteen years old when he became a resident of Boone County, this State. He obtained his primary education in the pioneer schools, and later attended the academy, and also a select school. When quite young, he commenced to assist in the farm work, and as there were no railroads in the county until 1852, after locating here it was often his duty to drive the team to Chicago to market wheat. He resided on the home farm till twenty-six years of age, and during the last six years of his stay there, worked the farm on shares.

George Powell and Elizabeth Quackenboss, a native of Dunham, Province of Quebec, Canada, were united in marriage in 1850. They then located on the farm just across the street from the old home,

upon which they resided until 1867, when they removed to Rockford. The daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Powell, Ella, is now Mrs. Harry Allen, and the mother of one son, George. Mrs. Powell's father, Conrad Quackenboss, was a native of Lower Canada, and resided on a farm near Dunham until 1815, when, with his wife and four children, he came to Illinois. Locating in Boone County, he purchased land two and one-half miles from Belvidere, which was his home at the time of his decease in 1847. The maiden name of his wife was Jane McIntosh, whose birth occurred near Bedford, Province of Quebec. She was a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Astletine) McIntosh, and is at the present time residing with Mrs. Powell, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. On another page may be found a portrait of Mr. Powell.



MRS. LAVINIA LAKE has lived in Winnebago County longer than any other woman residing in its borders at the present time. She was born in Somersetshire, England, on the 10th of April, 1806, and is a daughter of John and Jane (Williams) Atkins. Her parents were also natives of Somersetshire, and there spent their entire lives, the father engaging in the butchering business and in farming.

Mrs. Lake resided with her parents until twelve years of age, when she went to live with her grandmother, Mrs. Atkins, and there remained until twenty-five years of age, when she gave her hand in marriage to Thomas Lake, who was born at Blackford Farm, Somersetshire, England, July 4, 1806, and was a son of William and Elizabeth Lake. In May, 1832, the young couple sailed from Bristol to New York as passengers on board the vessel "Charlotte," which dropped anchor in the American harbor after a voyage of seven weeks and three days. Cholera at that time raged in New York City, so Mr. and Mrs. Lake went up the river to Troy, where he worked for a short time, when cholera there broke out and they left for Buffalo. As the inhabitants of that city were very much afraid of the disease, they embarked on a schooner

bound for Cleveland, where again they found the same dread of the disease. However, they were finally permitted to land, but Mr. Lake could not secure employment in Cleveland. He then went into the country about fifteen miles distant and engaged to work as a farm hand. In the fall of the same year, he entered the employ of a carpenter, who was to pay him \$10 per month. The following summer, he went to Cleveland, where he again worked at the carpenter's trade. It was his intention to secure a farm on coming to America and engage in agricultural pursuits, so with this end in view he bought a tract of timber land a few miles from the city, hiring ten cleared acres. He then worked a half day himself but in that time was convinced that he was not suited for such arduous employment.

In 1835, Mr. Lake sold his property, and in the fall of that year started for Chicago, where he arrived in October. At that time, Chicago was but a village, and the surrounding country was sparsely settled, in fact, some of the land was still owned by the Government. Mr. Lake there worked at his trade until February of the following year, when with his family he started for Rockford, accompanied by an old acquaintance, Mr. Toogood, and his family. They were to make the journey by teams. On arriving at the Kishwaukee River, owing to the thinness of the ice they could not cross, so took possession of a vacant log cabin, where they spent two weeks. They then pushed on to Rockford, where Mr. Lake made a claim now included in the township of Rockford. In a log cabin which he built, himself and wife began life on the Western frontier in true pioneer style. He engaged in carpenter work for some time and assisted in building the first frame house in Rockford. A few years later, he purchased a farm in Guilford Township and there made his home until his death, which occurred in 1886. He was a very successful farmer and improved a beautiful and valuable home. The residence is a story and a-half brick house, which sits well back from the road and is surrounded by a grove of trees, including maple and shrub cedars.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lake were born two children who are yet living: Robert W., now a resident of

Plymouth County, Iowa and Eliza J., who resides with her mother. Mrs. Lake is still living on the old homestead and is a most estimable lady. She has a wide acquaintance throughout this community and is held in high regard by all who know her. Her long residence in the county well entitles her to a representation in this volume and it is with pleasure that we record her sketch.

ANDREW G. LOWRY, retired, is one of the pioneers of this county and one of its most substantial citizens. He was born in Warren County, Pa., on the 17th of May, 1827, and was five years of age when his parents removed to Lake County, Ohio, where he received his education and grew to manhood. He became familiar with the arduous duties of the farm at an early age, but when about twenty-one years old went to Mercer County, Pa., and was engaged in the coal business for a few years. Selling out to a brother, he left Pennsylvania and came to Rockford, Ill., where he has been a resident since 1852.

Mr. Lowry began business in this city as a buyer of grain and produce, which he continued until his retirement. He was also engaged in business in Milwaukee, Wis., as a grain dealer and was fairly prosperous in all his transactions. He has a pleasant home at the corner of Peach and West Streets, and is well known throughout Winnebago County as an honorable, upright citizen, who has many warm friends.

Morrow Lowry, father of our subject, was born in the North of Ireland, of Scotch parentage. He was but seven years of age when his parents, in the latter part of the last century, came to America and made a settlement in or near Erie, Pa. The members of this family became the owners of large tracts of valuable land in the Keystone State, and over this was great litigation, costing the family many thousands of dollars.

After living in Ohio for some time, Morrow Lowry returned to Pennsylvania where he passed the closing scenes of his life. He was a Presbyterian in his religious belief and a Democrat in politics. His wife survived him two years and died

when seventy-seven years of age. She was formerly a Miss Mary Gibson, of American parentage, and a native of Pennsylvania, where she passed her early life. Three children were the result of this marriage, Andrew G. being the eldest. Alexander, the second son, lost his life at the first battle of Bull Run, fighting for his country, and Israel H. is a grain commission merchant of Milwaukee. Morrow Lowry was the father of ten children by his first marriage, all of whom lived to grow to manhood and womanhood, but all are now deceased.

Andrew G. Lowry, after coming to Rockford, married Miss Eliza Bingham, a native of Bradford County, Pa., in which State she was reared and educated. Her father died in the prime of life and his widow afterward came to Illinois with her three children and died when full of years. She left three daughters, Mrs. Lowry, wife of our subject, being the youngest.

Three children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Lowry: Hugh L., in the employ of A. Ashton's dry-goods house of Rockford; Walter B., a banker of Kirkland, Ill., now married to Miss Nellie French, of Rockford, and Mary E., at home, and a graduate of Rockford College.

ROBERT ROSS. The venerable and highly-esteemed citizen of Rockford whose life sketch is presented to the readers of this volume is a native of Scotland, born in Dyke, Murrayshire, April 28, 1815. His father, William, died in that shire when seventy-nine years old, and his grandfather, Alexander, was a native of Rothshire. For generations, the family has been devoted to agricultural pursuits and Robert was reared to rural life, early learning to till the soil and harvest the grain. In 1836, he came to America, and remembers well the ruins of the great fire of December, 1835, at New York.

The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Christine McDonald, reared nine children, four sons and five daughters, all of whom have passed away except our subject and his sister Jane. After Mr. Ross came to the United States, he served three years at his trade of a stone mason, since

which his attention has been devoted exclusively to the business. Since 1846, he has been actively engaged as contractor and Superintendent of bridge building, and is probably the oldest inspector of bridges in the country, his reputation having extended throughout the nation. In Rockford, he is particularly known as the builder of the three bridges across Rock River, and he received calls to every part of the United States to erect bridges.

In February, 1845, occurred the marriage of Mr. Ross and Catherine, a daughter of George and Edlie Birney, natives respectively of Scotland and New York. They have one son, William George, who is married and resides with his family near the parental home in Rockford. Notwithstanding his advanced years, Mr. Ross is in robust health, and his wife is also as keen and sprightly as in days long gone by. Their friends unite in wishing for them many years of continued happiness and comfort.

The following are some of the bridges and water works on which Mr. Ross has been engaged during construction: 1839-40, Superintendent of Masonry, Boston & Albany Railroad bridges in Green Mountains; 1841, Superintendent of Masonry, bridge over Quinebaug River, Norwich, Conn.; high bridge over Harlem River, N. Y.; bridge over Connecticut River for Hartford & New Haven Railroad; 1846-47, Superintendent of Masonry, bridge over Richelieu River, near Montreal, Canada; 1847-48, bridge over Connecticut River for Hartford & Willimantic Railroad; 1854, five bridges over Harlem Flats, Fourth Avenue, N. Y.; 1855, railroad bridge over Harlem River at North Haven, N. Y.; railroad bridge over Susquehanna River at Havre de Grace, Md.; 1855-56, bridges and aqueducts for United States Armory Buildings, Springfield, Mass.; 1858, Brooklyn, N. Y., Waterworks; 1859, bridge No. 7, Central Park, N. Y.; 1860, bridge over Connecticut River at Northampton and Amherst, Mass. During war, Springtown, N. J., and Elizabeth, N. J., for Jersey Central Railroad; 1865, New Haven, Conn.; 1866, Windsor, Conn.; 1867, Quincy, Ill., over Mississippi River; 1868-69, St. Louis, Mo., Waterworks; 1870, Hannibal, Mo., railroad bridge over Mississippi River; 1871, St. Joseph, Mo., railroad bridge over

Mississippi River; 1873, Louisiana, Mo., railroad bridge over Mississippi River; 1876, Boston Waterworks; bridge over Missouri River at Glasgow, Mo., and another at Plattsmouth, Neb.; 1881-82, railroad bridge over Missouri River at Bismarek, Dak.; 1883, railroad bridge over Missouri River at Blair, Neb.; over the Blue River at Beatrice, Neb., and another at Blue Springs, Neb.; railroad bridge for Union Pacific at Papillion, Neb.; 1883-84, railroad bridge over Mississippi River at Minneapolis, Minn., for the Northern Pacific Railroad, and two other bridges for the same road, twenty-five or thirty miles from Minneapolis; 1886-87, railroad and passenger bridge over Missouri River at Omaha, Neb. Also three bridges at Rockford, and many others involving a vast expenditure of money and enormous responsibility.



ANDREW BOWER, a retired farmer residing at No. 1011 Charles Street, Rockford, Ill., where he owns a good home, is another of the many prominent citizens of the county who is of foreign birth. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, on the 5th of December, 1835, and his parents, Frederick and Regina Bower, were natives of the same city in which they passed their entire lives. Their deaths occurred almost at the same time and they were buried in the same grave, both when about seventy years of age. They were Protestants in their religious belief. Andrew Bower was but seventeen years of age when he left his native country, and, with his brother Michael, crossed the ocean to America. They landed in New York City in February, 1852, after a voyage of forty-seven days, and there Andrew remained for four years. He then went to Cook County, Ill., and in the year 1856 removed to Winnebago County, where, by industry and economy, he accumulated a handsome property. He was still a single gentleman, and in 1861 he was married to Miss Sarah Sheer, a native of York County, Pa., born March 25, 1837, and the daughter of Peter and Catherine (Hass) Sheer, also natives of that county and of German descent.

There both passed the closing scenes of their lives, the father dying at the age of seventy-six and the mother at the age of eighty-four years. Mr. Sheer was a blacksmith by trade. He was a member of the Lutheran and she of the Congregational Church. After his marriage, Mr. Bower purchased a good farm, began making improvements, and soon became well known for his thrift and energy. He is the owner of four hundred and twenty acres of excellent farming land, and his buildings are all substantial and commodious. He remained on this until 1891 and then removed to Rockford, leaving the farm to be managed by his son. Mrs. Bower was one of twelve children born to her parents, and six are still living. She remained under the parental roof until 1855, when she came to this State and county and was married, in Cherry Valley Township, to Mr. Bower. The fruits of this union were three children: Sadie who died when eighteen years of age; Lizzie, wife of C. J. Ratliff, is now residing on a farm in New Milford, this county, and Eugene N. has the management of his father's farm in Cherry Valley. He married Miss Jessie Clark. Mr. and Mrs. Bower are classed among the wealthy and much esteemed citizens of the county, and all they have accumulated is the result of their own efforts. Mr. Bower has held a number of the township offices and discharged the duties of the same in a very satisfactory manner. He is a stockholder in the Forest City National Bank, also a stockholder in the Star Furniture Company, and Middle Furniture Company, and owns much valuable property in Rockford.

JESSE BUCKBEE, deceased, was one of the early settlers of Winnebago County of 1845. He was born in Orange County, N. Y., in 1796, and was a son of Russell Buckbee, a Revolutionary soldier, who was born in the Empire State and resided in Monroe Township, near Sugar Loaf, Orange County, N. Y., until his death when about sixty years of age. The family is of English descent, being founded by an English baker, who, on coming to this country, located in New York City. The mother of our sub-

ject was in her maidenhood Elizabeth Mapes. She was also born in New York and died at the age of ninety years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Buckbee were members of the Methodist Church.

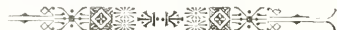
Jesse Buckbee was married in the county of his nativity to Miss Mary Secor, who was reared and educated in Orange County. She was born of French parentage. Two of her brothers, James and Abraham, were soldiers in the War of 1812. Her father was a prominent landholder at Highland Mills, Orange County, N. Y., who owned much property and a number of slaves.

In 1845, with his family, Jesse Buckbee came to Illinois, locating in this county. He made purchase of three hundred acres of land and, with the exception of forty acres, the entire amount is now within the city limits, and much of it has been laid out in lots and built up. He was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, for his death occurred in October, 1846. His wife survived him some years and died at the home of her son in Rockford, in March, 1875, at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

Unto this worthy couple were born ten children, but six are now deceased. The living are Eleanor W., who is now the wife of John Ames, a farmer of Dane County, Wis., by whom she has had ten sons; Francis A., a Justice of the Peace residing at Lake Geneva, married Jennie Palmer; Charles W., who is unmarried, resides with his younger brother in Rockford, they being interested together in business. Theodore E. completes the family. He resides at No. 1107 Kishwankee Street, and is a farmer. He and his brother were the original proprietors of the first and second Buckbee's Addition to Rockford. So rapidly did their property increase in value that they both have become wealthy men and are prominent citizens of the community. Miss Catherine E. Allington became the wife of Theodore E. Buckbee. She was born and reared in Chemung County, N. Y., and educated at Lima, that State, after which she engaged in teaching for some years. Her father, the Rev. Jacob Allington, was a prominent lumberman and landholder and also a Methodist minister. He died in Chemung County, N. Y., and his wife, whose maiden name was Catherine E. Westbrook,

was also called to her final rest while living in that county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Theodore E. Buckbee have been born two sons: Hiram W., who is proprietor of the Forest City Greenhouses, located on Kishwaukee Street, and also owns a large seed store on South Main Street, wedded May Brown, and they reside with her mother, Mrs. Judge William Brown. John T., who is living at home, is the overseer of his brother's seed store and is a young man of excellent business and executive ability. Mrs. Theodore E. Buckbee is a member of the Methodist Church. The Buckbee family is well worthy of representation in this volume, for its members have long been connected with the history of the county, and are numbered among the valued and leading citizens.



HENRY GRAHAM. The gentleman who is following farming pursuits on section 32, Rockton Township, is not only well and favorably known in the community where he resides, but enjoys an enviable reputation throughout Winnebago County. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Northumberland County, on the Susquehanna River, December 20, 1823. The farm where he first opened his eyes to the light had been purchased by his grandfather, Henry Graham, soon after the close of the Revolutionary War, in which he had served for seven years. At the time of its settlement, it comprised two hundred acres of wild timber land, as yet unsurveyed by the Government and outside the settled portion of the State. He had been attracted thither by the excellent soil on the bottoms of Warrior Run, or Creek River, near the Susquehanna.

One John Shannon, who had been Grandfather Graham's comrade during those seven long years of hardship and war, took a claim adjoining his, and these two brave soldiers of the Revolution, with commendable and undaunted courage, set about the battle of civil life with a determination to conquer the wilderness and gain an honest independence. In that effort, as in the war, success

crowned their exertions, and they made good homes for their families, whom they surrounded with the comforts of life.

The fourth among the seven children in the family of Grandfather Graham was Matthew, who was born on the Pennsylvania homestead in 1796. In his early manhood, he was married to Miss Martha Shannon, a lady of Irish descent, who was probably born in the North of Ireland. Her parents had been wealthy and had owned an estate on the Shannon River which was confiscated by the British Government. When our subject was fifteen years old, he accompanied his parents to Centre County, Pa., where they bought an improved farm five miles from Bellefonte.

In the above-named city, Henry Graham learned the trade of a plasterer, which has been his occupation during the most of his long and industrious life. When Henry Clay was the Presidential nominee, he would have voted for him as enthusiastically as he had already "carried the torch for Tippecanoe and sung the songs for Tyler, too," but he was six weeks under voting age. Before he had an opportunity to cast his ballot, experience and observation had converted him to the cause of the Abolitionists, and he has ever since cast his vote for the oppressed and for good morals. During his sojourn in the Southern States, where he worked at his trade, he saw "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in real life. He plastered an elegant residence on a large plantation in Mississippi, twenty miles east of Yazoo, where from three to five hundred slaves were worked, and between fifty and sixty little children were cared for by one old crippled nurse during the hours of field labor.

The first marriage of Mr. Graham took place in Janesville, Wis., in May, 1850, when Miss Melissa J. Shurtleff, of Beloit, became his wife. She died in 1856, of consumption, and her two children, a son and a daughter, died of the same disease when quite young. In 1858, Mr. Graham was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Foster, of Edwardsburg, Cass County, Mich. Her father, Andrew Foster, was born in Milton, Pa., and carried on farming operations there and at Edwardsburg until his death at the latter place, when eighty-three

years old. The mother of Mrs. Graham bore the maiden name of Rachael McMichael and died at Edwardsburg, in April, 1885, at the age of about four-score years.

Mrs. Graham was the second among seven children, two sons and five daughters, all of whom are living, with the exception of one sister, Margaret Foster, formerly a teacher, who was drowned while going to her school one day. Mrs. Graham was born in Ohio, March 8, 1831. They reared eight children, one of whom, Matthew, died in July, 1890, when twenty-four years old, leaving a widow and one child. The survivors are as follows: Andrew F., born in December, 1858; Lizzie, in May, 1860; Margaret, in June, 1862; Rachael, in June, 1864; Jennie, in June, 1868; Harry, in December, 1870; and Lucy, in October, 1872.

From 1847 until 1852, Mr. Graham resided in Beloit, whence he removed to Winnebago County and settled on eighty acres, a part of his present large farm, trading his home in Beloit for this farm. He continued in the business of plastering and has plastered many of the best houses in Roscoe, his first job being the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1849, and he has undoubtedly done more and better work in that line than any man in the county. While in Beloit, he plastered the first Beloit College building, and well remembers the first public meeting he there attended, it being the services in connection with the laying of the corner-stone of that structure.



CHESTER CLARK LEACH, one of the old and honored residents of Boone County, is the owner of a splendid estate in Caledonia Township which his enterprise and good judgment have brought to a good state of cultivation. He was born in Dorset, Bennington County, Vt., February 28, 1820. His father, Joseph Leach, was born in Canterbury, Conn., where also his father, Elisha Leach, was born. The great-grandfather of Mr. Leach was a native of Connecticut and of English ancestry.

Grandfather Elisha Leach moved to Pawlet soon after the Revolutionary War, where he purchased

timber land and spent his entire life. The maiden name of his wife was Lucy Cady, a native of Canterbury, Conn., who survived her husband and after her second marriage died at the home of her son in Dorset, Vt. The father of our subject learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, and after his marriage located in Dorset, where he purchased a farm and resided until 1836. He then disposed of his property and removed to Genesee County, N. Y., locating in the town of Stafford, where he bought property of the Holland Land Company and resided until 1852, the date of his removal to Michigan. The elder Mr. Leach located in Calhoun County, which was his abiding-place until his death. Our subject's mother, who bore the maiden name of Clara Clark, was born in Canterbury, Conn., and was the daughter of Elisha and Clara (Starkweather) Clark. She reared a family of eleven children and departed this life at the home of a daughter in Albion, Mich.

Chester C. Leach was sixteen years of age when his parents removed to New York, where he entered the employ of the New York Central Railroad Company, with whom he remained for six years, and then commenced to learn the trade of a stone mason, being employed in the public works of the Empire State until 1815. Mr. Leach then decided to try his fortune in the West and, coming to Illinois in that year, located in this county at a time when the land was owned by the Government. He rented property, and as there were no railroads in the vicinity for some time, he marketed his farm produce at Chicago, which trip consumed a week's time.

In 1852, he of whom we write engaged as foreman and contractor in the construction department of the Northwestern Railroad Company, and three years later located upon the farm which he now owns and occupies. In 1860, he went to Pike's Peak, and returning eight months later, again engaged in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. He is the proprietor of two hundred and sixty acres of choice land in Caledonia and Belvidere Townships, which, being intelligently cultivated, bring him in handsome returns.

April 22, 1848, Miss Cynthia, daughter of Joseph Smith, became the wife of our subject. She

was born in Greene, Chenango County, N. Y., of which State her father, as far as is known, was also a native. Mr. Smith came to Illinois in 1839, accompanied by his wife and six children, and formed one of the early settlers of Belvidere Township. He improved a tract of Government land, upon which he spent his last years. The maiden name of his wife was Hannah Barker, a native of Connecticut.

To our subject and his wife have been born three children, one of whom is living, namely, Francis M., who married Susan Fuller; he is the father of three children: Vernon S., Grace N., and Norman. Fred G. died when twenty-four years of age, and Grant when in his seventeenth year. Mr. Leach for the past thirteen years has had charge of the county poor. He has been a member of the Republican party since its formation, and enjoys the full confidence and respect of the people of his community.



ROBERT H. TINKER. The business interests of Rockford are well represented in our subject, who for many years has been prominently connected with the history of this city, its development and its upbuilding. His life record is as follows: He was born at Honolulu, in the Sandwich Islands, in 1837, while his father, the Rev. Reuben Tinker, was there located as a missionary. The latter came of a good New England family of the Puritan stock and was a man of more than ordinary ability, a prominent Presbyterian clergyman of the Empire State. He was sent by the American Board of Missions to the Sandwich Islands, and spent ten years in active work among the people there. He then returned to America and continued his labors in Chautauqua County, N. Y., as a minister of the Gospel until his death, which occurred in 1854. He was an original sermonizer, and known as such throughout the entire State. He married a refined lady of Massachusetts, Miss Mary T. Wood, who proved an able assistant in his life work as a minister and missionary. She is still living in Westfield, N. Y.,

at the age of eighty-three, and her mental faculties are yet unimpaired.

With his parents, Robert H. Tinker returned to this country, and since 1856 has resided in Rockford, a leading and influential citizen of the county. He was married in this city, in 1870, to Mrs. Mary Manny, widow of John H. Manny, one of the leading inventors and manufacturers of this city. Mrs. Tinker was in her maidenhood Miss Mary Dorr. She was born, reared and educated in the East and came to Rockford with her first husband. Since that time, she has been one of the prominent ladies of this city, ranking high in social circles. Many public interests have received her aid and, among other causes, she has given liberally to the building of churches.

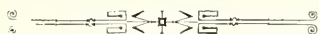
What Mr. Tinker has done for Rockford can hardly be estimated in words, but we will mention a few of the interests with which he is connected. He is President of the Rockford Water-power Company and a large owner in the Power Supplying houses and machinery. One has to walk over the grounds known in this city as "The Power" to gain any idea of the magnitude of this enterprise and the important part it has played in the upbuilding of this thriving manufacturing center. Mr. Tinker is also President of the Rockford Bolt Works and of the Rockford Oatmeal Company, and is a stockholder and Director in many other corporations. When a live man is wanted to take charge of any new enterprise, Mr. Tinker at once comes to mind, for it is well known that he took the laboring oar in bringing the second railroad to the city after a struggle of several years. He is not only energetic and industrious, but is far-sighted as well, and his sagacity and enterprise have made his business career a most successful one.

Mr. Tinker has taken some part in local politics and in 1875 was elected Mayor of Rockford, which position he held for one term. He possesses much taste for landscape gardening and, owing to this fact, was recently chosen to plot the addition to the West Side Cemetery, of which he is one of the trustees, and his talent in this direction, and his willingness to bestow it without thought of remuneration on public and private grounds, have



Yours Truly
P. O. Ugarkh.

given the city of his adoption a name for its beauty and finish. His skill in this direction has found ample scope in the grounds of his pleasant home, "Swiss Cottage," which is located on the south bank of Kent Creek, overlooking the Illinois Central Railroad. It is, perhaps, the most picturesque home in the State, and has frequently been used to embellish pictorial works. A genial, cultured, modest gentleman, whose upright life has won him many friends, Mr. Tinker is well deserving of representation in his county's history, and we feel that this work would be incomplete were the record of his life omitted.



PO. UGARPH is a gentleman whose long experience and natural aptitude for business have met with assured success and permanent prosperity. He is now a stockholder and Director of the Union Furniture Company, the Chair and Furniture Company, the Skandia Plow Company, the Mantel and Furniture Company, the Royal Sewing Machine Company, the Rockford Folding Bed Company, and numerous other enterprises. He is a courteous and obliging gentleman, whose reputation for sterling integrity and personal worth is too well known in this city to require mention. He came to Rockford in 1869, and for a number of years was connected as stockholder and cabinet-maker with the Union Furniture Company. He later became a commercial traveler for that company and for the Chair and Furniture Company. In 1883, he purchased a stock of goods in Clinton, Iowa, and continued the business until 1888, when he sold out to Suttin & Son. Since his return to Rockford, Mr. Ugarph has erected a very handsome residence at No 1008 Second Avenue.

Mr. Ugarph was born in Sweden, in 1852, and received his scholastic advantages in the public schools of that country. Miss Olga L. Ekstein, who was wedded to him in Rockford, October 22, 1890, was born in Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, and was eleven years of age when her parents emigrated to America (1878). Mr. and Mrs. Ugarph, of this sketch, are prominent young people of

Rockford and are very ardent believers in the capabilities of their adopted country.

In connection with this sketch we are pleased to present a lithographic portrait of Mr. Ugarph.



ADOLPH PETERSON, a successful tailor and skillful workman, is now in the employ of Marsales & Holmin, of Rockford, and is one of that firm's most competent men. He has had many years' experience in tailoring and has earned a well-deserved reputation for excellence of workmanship, artistic skill and finish. For some years he was with Mr. Atkinson, the merchant tailor on West State Street, and afterwards was a promoter, stockholder, Director, and part of the time President of the Merchant Tailoring Company. This company carried on business for three years and was then succeeded by Marsales & Holmin, in whose employ Mr. Peterson has been ever since. He has met with substantial results in his business enterprises and now owns a pleasant and commodious residence at No. 405 South First Street.

His birth occurred in Jonkoping, Sweden, February 24, 1847, and there he spent his boyhood and school days. He was reared to his trade and became a journeyman. In the spring of 1868, he came to the United States and the same year saw him domiciled at Rockford. He was the first of the family to set foot on American soil, but the following year he was joined by his parents, Nils and Christina (Larson) Peterson, and other members of the family. The parents are both living, are residents of Rockford, and are members of the Lutheran Mission Swedish Church. Both have now passed the allotted age of man, three-score years and ten, but still enjoy comparatively good health. Beside our subject, they have two children in Rockford, Gustaf, and Mrs. Maris Munthe (see sketch). The former is a cutter for the Rockford Clothing Company. He married Miss Selma Samuelson and they reside on First Avenue.

Adolph Peterson was married in Rockford to Miss Hedveg Linstrom, a native of Sweden who came to the United States in 1869 with the parents

of Mr. Peterson, and was later joined by a sister, Mary, who is now Mrs. Hollemborg. Mrs. Peterson's parents never came to the United States. The father, Peter Linstrom, died in his native country a number of years ago, but the mother is still living at the age of seventy-five, and is a resident of Jonkoping.

The fruits of Mr. Peterson's marriage are four children: G. Edwin, in the Rockford Watch Factory; Ellen A., at home; Nellie V., at home, and F. Raymond, also at home. Socially, Mr. Peterson is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Modern Woodmen, and, politically, he advocates the principles of the Republican party.

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ALBERT HULETT. This county is famous for the richness of its soil, and for its many farms that are scarcely exceeded in production and in the value of their improvements by those of any other section of our fair land, and this gentleman is represented as the fortunate owner of a splendid estate in Owen Township, that compares favorably with any in its locality.

Born in the town of Veteran, Chemung County, N. Y., August 14, 1833, our subject is a son of John M. Hulett, one of the pioneers of this county, whose birth occurred in Rutland County, Vt., in 1802. John Hulett, his father, came from his native England to America when a young man and engaged in farming in Rutland County, Vt. From there he removed to Chemung County, N. Y., and, purchasing a farm in Veteran, there spent the remainder of his life.

John M. Hulett, the father of our subject, after reaching his majority, removed from his native State to New York where he rented land near Rochester, and was engaged in market gardening for two years in company with his brother. He later removed to Chemung County, where he met and married, in June, 1832, Lucinda Jay. There the elder Mr. Hulett bought a farm of eighty acres, upon which he resided until September of the fol-

lowing year, when he made his home in Chautauqua County, becoming the owner of a tract of land, twenty acres of which were improved. There the family resided until 1837, when, disposing of his estate, the father, accompanied by his wife and two children, made the overland journey to Ohio. After spending two months in Birmingham, he went to Indiana and purchased a tract of land in Elkhart County. In 1842, he made another removal, this time coming to Illinois, and locating in what is now Rockton Township, Winnebago County, when the country round about was sparsely settled and wild game of all kinds was plentiful. Mr. Hulett purchased a tract of land, located on section 35, and as there were no buildings on the place, lived on an adjoining farm until the place was made habitable. After a few years' residence thereon, he disposed of his property and for the succeeding five or six years was the owner of a farmer in Owen Township, which he also sold later and bought the farm where his son, L. T. Hulett, now lives. There he departed this life, April 13, 1881.

The mother of our subject was born in Lansing, Tioga County, N. Y., August 9, 1812, and was the daughter of Joshua Jay, a native of New Jersey, who later removed to New York, where he was one of the pioneers of the above-named county. He was a blacksmith by trade, which occupation he pursued while the farm in the town of Lansing was operated by his son. Some years later, Mr. Jay removed to Veteran and erected a log house and shop on a tract of timber land, which he brought to a good state of cultivation, and built thereon a sawmill. After the death of his wife, Mr. Jay removed to Ohio, and departed this life at the home of his son in Birmingham.

The mother of our subject, who is still residing on the old home with her son Luke, reared six children: Albert, Gray, Martha, Luke, Zacharia T. and Mary. Albert of this sketch was an infant when his parents moved to Indiana, and in his eighth year when they came to Winnebago County. He attended the pioneer schools in Rockton and assisted his father in the farm duties, remaining at home until reaching his seventeenth year. He then commenced to learn the trade of a carpenter

and joiner, and after serving an apprenticeship of three years, bought his time of his father and rented land of Hiram Lake for one year. He then became the proprietor of eighty acres in Owen Township, which is now included in his present farm, his estate comprising two hundred acres on section 12 in one body.

The lady to whom our subject was married, May 1, 1856, was Rachael Ann Lake. She was born May 1, 1840, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, her father being Hiram Lake. She was an only sister of Mrs. George Gleasman (whose sketch will be found on another page of this work) and died November 25, 1876. The second marriage of our subject occurred October 17, 1889, at which time Mary M. Feakins became his wife; she is a native of Schoharie County, N. Y., and the daughter of George and Mary (Stockney) Feakins, natives of England. The father was a miller and followed that business in New York State until coming to Illinois in 1855 at which time he opened up that line of work in Belvidere, Rockford and Rockton. He died at the latter-named place, where the mother of Mrs. Hulett now lives.

Of the present marriage of our subject one son has been born, Paul M., and by the former union the following-named four children: Marston W., Mary Lorena, Mattie E. and John M. Mr. Hulett cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln and has since voted the straight Republican ticket. He has represented Owen Township five terms on the County Board of Supervisors and is held in high repute by all who know him.



GILES R. GOSS. The beautiful residence on the corner of West and Elm Streets, Rockford, is the home of Mr. Goss, whose successful career as a business man fairly entitles him to the esteem of his associates and the confidence of the community. He has resided in Rockford since 1866, and during twelve years of the period was engaged as a dealer in grain, but has been retired from active business cares for some years.

Coming to Illinois in 1856, Mr. Goss located on one hundred and sixty acres of land which he had

purchased prior to removing hither. He improved a farm now occupied by the present site of the village of Florence, erected the first grain elevator in the village and other buildings, which materially contributed to the value of his property. For some time he engaged as a real-estate dealer, and by judicious management accumulated a comfortable property. After coming to this county, he purchased a farm of three hundred acres in Winnebago Township, which he still owns.

Mr. Goss was born in Fulton Township, Schoharie County, N. Y., June 1, 1820, and made his home in his native place until he removed to Illinois in 1856, meanwhile becoming familiar with every detail of farm life. His father, Robert Goss, was a native of New York State, living and dying on a farm in the township of Fulton, and his death occurring at the age of sixty-four years. The grandfather of our subject, Col. John Goss, was born in the Empire State and probably gained his title through his service in the War of 1812. He followed agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred near Rochester at an advanced age. His wife was a lady of Irish birth and parentage, and died in the Empire State when quite old.

The mother of our subject was known in maidenhood as Mary Kirkland, and was born and reared in Fulton Township, Schoharie County, of which her parents were early settlers. She died at the advanced age of eighty-three years. With her husband, she was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where he served as Class-leader and Steward. Our subject is the third child among eight, all of whom grew to mature years, and five are yet living. Two brothers became Methodist ministers of considerable prominence; one of these still survives, and is the pastor of the church at Newburg, N. Y.

When twenty-seven years old, Mr. Goss was married to Elizabeth A. Wood, who was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., the daughter of James A. and Catherine (Lamont) Wood, natives of New York State. Mrs. Wood died in 1851, and her husband afterward came to Illinois and spent his last years in Rockford, dying at the home of Mrs. Goss in September, 1888, at the age of almost ninety years. He was a man of splendid informa-

tion and great ability, and had served as President of the College at Charlotte, and represented his district in the State Legislature. His politics first brought him into sympathy with the Democrats, but after coming to Illinois he became an active Republican.

Mr. and Mrs. Goss are the parents of one child, Catherine A., wife of Thomas Hamlyn, a native of Devonshire, England. He came when five years old to America with his parents, Thomas and Susan (Pengilly) Hamlyn, making settlement at London, Ontario, where the father died on his farm. The mother still resides on the old homestead. In 1868, Mr. Hamlyn came to the States and has since been a resident of Rockford. In their religious connections, Mr. and Mrs. Goss are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and, politically, Mr. Goss is a Republican, with Prohibition proclivities.



C F. HENRY is the junior member and city partner and manager of the Golden Eagle Clothing Store, located on the corner of West State and Main Streets in Rockford. This firm does a most extensive business as dealers in gents' furnishing goods and children's clothing, and has no superior outside of Chicago in Illinois. Mr. Sterns, a prominent business man of Chicago, is the non-resident partner, and the business is represented by the firm title of C. F. Henry & Co. They occupy a three-story building, 80x50 feet, well arranged, ventilated and lighted, and well filled with a complete stock of all kinds of goods in their line. The ground floor is occupied by men's clothing and gents' furnishing goods, and the upper story is the children's department, which is unsurpassed in this city.

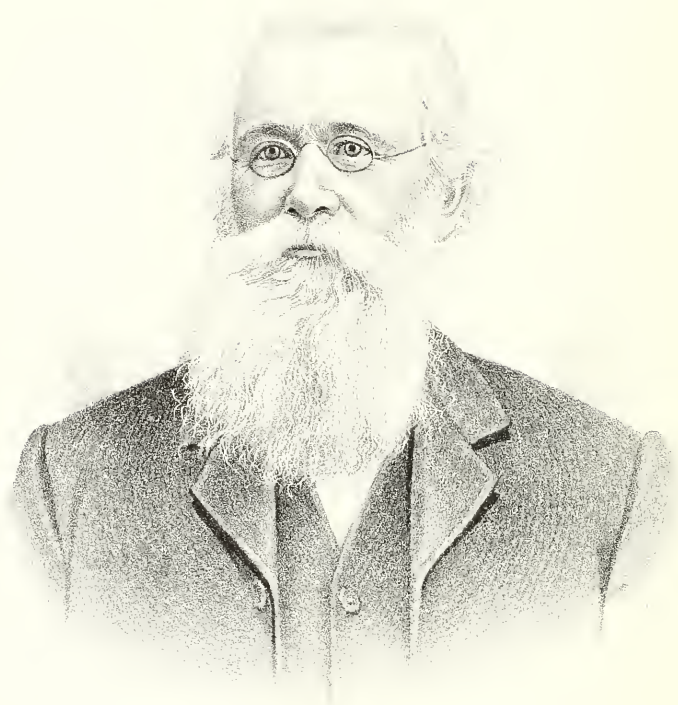
It will be interesting to know something of the resident proprietor of the Golden Eagle Clothing Store. He was born in the old shady town of Plymouth, Mass., not far from that rock on which the Pilgrim Fathers are said to have first set foot on coming to America. He was often lulled to sleep by the roar of the ocean, and on the beach many happy hours of his childhood were passed.

His parents were both natives of Germany, coming to this country after their marriage. For a time they resided in Massachusetts and then emigrated to Rockford, Ill., where the death of Mr. Henry, Sr., occurred, December 25, 1883, at an advanced age. His wife is still living in this city at the age of seventy-six years. Like her husband, she has been a life-long member of the Lutheran Church.

C. F. Henry was a small lad when he came to this city, where almost his entire life has been passed. His connection with the clothing trade began at the age of ten years, when he secured a position in a store. Of course he began at the bottom, but when quite young he determined to some day go into business for himself, and with this resolution to be carried out, he labored industriously and lived economically, until when he had arrived at man's estate he had accumulated enough capital to carry out his long-cherished desire, and so looked about him for a favorable opening for business. He had become a good salesman, and in 1863 he opened a store. In 1879, he became the manager and leading partner of the Golden Eagle Clothing House, which, as the result of his energy and good judgment, has had a continuous run of prosperity.

Mr. Henry was married in Rockford to an accomplished young lady, Miss Fannie S. Skinner, one of this city's fair daughters. Her father, James B. Skinner, is prominently known in this locality as the inventor of the first gang plow and President of the J. B. Skinner Plow Company, of Rockford. His death occurred in 1874, since which time Mrs. Skinner has become the wife of David Heyt, a wealthy citizen and honored early settler of Winnebago County, still residing in Rockford. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Henry have been born two interesting children: Rupert J. and Charlotte A.

To the clothing business alone Mr. Henry has not confined his attention, but, realizing the benefit of various enterprises, he has done what he could for the introduction of such to the city and for their growth and improvement. At the present time he is a stockholder in thirteen different institutions. He has also done much for the up-building of Rockford, having erected a large two-story brick building with basement on North Main



Yours Truly
H. E. Jenner

Street, divided into six storerooms, besides a large lively stable three stories high. In politics, he is a Republican, and is a prominent Knight Templar Mason, belonging to Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T., of Rockford, the Consistory of Freeport, Ill., and the Medina Order of Chicago. He is also an Odd Fellow and Knight of Pythias, has taken both degrees of the Elks and is connected with other insurance orders. In addition to this, he is a charter member of the Rockford Commercial Club, the leading club of the city. What Mr. Jenner has done for Rockford cannot be estimated in words, and to say that he has been a most valued citizen seems but poor praise; but though words cannot requite him, his fellow-townsmen appreciate his worth, as is evinced by the manner in which they speak of him, and the high regard in which he is held.



ASHER E. JENNER is numbered among the foremost citizens of Belvidere and has been prominently connected with its leading interests for many years, both officially and in a business way. He was born in Moriah, Essex County, N. Y., April 10, 1818. His grandfather, Stephen Jenner, was a New England farmer and spent his last years in the Green Mountain State, where his son, Stephen, Jr., the father of our subject, was born, his birth occurring in Pittsford, Rutland County. He learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, and was united in marriage with Betsy E. Mather, a native of Connecticut, and a daughter of Thomas and Hannah (Woodruff) Matlier. Immediately after his marriage, Mr. Jenner removed to New York, becoming an early settler of Moriah, and there he followed his trade until 1831, when he came to the West by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes. He settled in Ashville, engaged in carpentering there until 1839, when he located in Belvidere. He and his wife both spent their last days in this city.

Our subject was a lad of thirteen years when, with his parents, he removed to Chautauqua, N. Y.

On his fourteenth birthday, he became a jeweler's apprentice in Jamestown, serving a term of six years, after which he came to Belvidere, Ill., in 1838, making the journey by way of the Lakes to Chicago, and thence on foot to Belvidere. The city was then a mere hamlet, containing nine houses, while two others were in process of erection. All the surrounding country was owned by the Government and the land was in its primitive condition. At Belvidere, Mr. Jenner started the first jewelry and watch-repairing establishment between Chicago and Galena. At that time there were no railroads here and the people from the surrounding counties used to haul their products to Chicago, and on their way would bring Mr. Jenner work. He continued in the jewelry business until 1856, when, on account of ill-health, he was forced to discontinue it. In 1818, he had added a stock of hardware, and continued to carry on trade in that line until the war.

In 1810, Mr. Jenner wedded Mary J. Cook, a native of Pembroke, Genesee County, N. Y., and a daughter of Benjamin Cook. Her death occurred in 1851. In 1856, Mr. Jenner wedded Emmaroy E. Lyon, a native of Chittenden County, Vt., and a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Root) Lyon. By the first marriage were born two sons: Charles J., now the Sheriff of Chautauqua County, N. Y., and George C., a resident of Jamestown. By the second marriage there is one daughter yet living: Kittie H., wife of William H. Williams, a resident of Chicago. One daughter, Nellie A., died at the age of twenty-one years.

In politics, Mr. Jenner was formerly a Whig, but has been a Republican since the organization of the party. He has been called upon to fill various official positions. In fact, since his retirement from business, he has given his entire time to public life. He has served as Village and City Clerk since 1857, as Town Clerk since 1860, as Justice of the Peace since 1861, was School Commissioner two terms, was Deputy Sheriff, Deputy Circuit Clerk, Deputy Postmaster, and has been County Treasurer for ten years. The many offices which he has been called upon to fill indicate his popularity and the high regard in

which he is held, while his long-continued service in the various positions attests his efficiency and faithful performance of duty. He is one of the well-known and influential citizens of the community and well deserves representation in this volume. In addition to this biographical sketch, his portrait is presented on an accompanying page.



LORENZO S. FYLER. In tracing the genealogy of the Fyler family in America, we find that Walter Fyler, an Englishman, who came here as early as 1636, was the first to settle in this country. He located at Dorchester, Mass., was a man of wealth and influence, and lived to a good old age. In fact, the Fyler family has ever been noted for its longevity.

The subject of this sketch, who is of the eighth generation following Walter Fyler, was born in Sullivan, N. Y., June 1, 1818, and his father, Erastus Fyler, and his grandfather, Silas Fyler, were natives of Torrington, Litchfield County, Conn., and both successful agriculturists all their lives. Erastus Fyler was born on the 2d of October, 1789, and in 1810 moved to Madison County, N. Y., where he bought a small tract of timber land with some improvements. A year later, he was joined by his parents, who passed their last days in the county, both dying in August, 1812, within three weeks of each other, and when about sixty-two years of age. They left three sons and one daughter: Lucy, Silas, Shayler and Erastus, all of whom are now deceased. Lucy became the wife of Orange Soper and died in Madison County, N. Y., in 1871, when ninety-four years of age. She was the last of these children. Her mother, and the grandmother of our subject, was formerly Miss Lucy Drake, of Torrington, Conn., and her father, Moses Drake, was of the same place. Erastus Fyler married Miss Abigail Smith, of Massachusetts, who was the daughter of Jonathan and Hannah (Ellis) Smith, both natives of the old Bay State. To this union were born five children, a son and four daughters: Lorenzo S., Harriet, Lucy, Hannah M. and Eliza F. The father of these children died in Oswego

County, N. Y., in 1856, when sixty-seven years of age, and the mother died in the same place, in 1860, when sixty-five years of age.

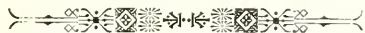
Lorenzo S. Fyler and his sister, Eliza F., now Mrs. Reuben W. Slayton, of Tully, N. Y., are the only survivors of this family. The former was but four years of age when his parents removed to Parish, N. Y., and he was early trained to the duties of the farm. In connection with farming he also taught school for fifteen winter terms, or until 1856, when he exchanged his farm for a stock of merchandise and followed storekeeping until 1861. From there he moved to Roscoe, Ill., and embarked in the wholesale Yankee-notion trade, running one and two wagons in Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin until 1877. He then sold out the business, and on the 1st of May, 1879, he opened a drug and grocery store in Roscoe. This he carries on very successfully at the present time. He took his daughter, Mary F., as an equal partner in the business on the 1st of May, 1890, under the firm title of L. S. Fyler & Co.

Before leaving New York State, Mr. Fyler held the office of Justice of the Peace several terms, was Superintendent of Schools, and held other responsible positions in a very creditable and satisfactory manner. Upon removing West, he went out of politics and gave his entire attention to domestic duties and his business enterprises. His first Presidential vote was cast for William H. Harrison in 1840, and since then every Presidential vote he has cast has been for a Whig or Republican nominee. He has voted for all, with the exception of Rutlerford B. Hayes, being at that time absent in a distant part of the State on business.

On the 12th of September, 1841, Mr. Fyler wedded Miss Cordelia Wiltse, who was born in Hannibal, N. Y., January 21, 1822, and who passed away in Roscoe, Ill., on the 22d of May, 1864. The result of this union was the birth of four children, three sons and one daughter: Edwin W., born November 5, 1813, now of Dorchester, Mass.; Warren E., born March 26, 1816, now of Durand, Ill.; Dewitt C., born March 8, 1850, now of Shellrock, Iowa, and Mary F., born November 27, 1862, now of Roscoe, Ill. On the 1st of March, 1865, Mr. Fyler married Miss Kate Wiltse, a cousin of his first

wife and a native of Hannibal, N. Y., born August 24, 1832. She has filled the place of an own mother to his children and made a pleasant home, around which their memories will gather in pleasurable reminiscences in the years to come.

When fourteen years of age, the original of this sketch united with the Free-will Baptist Church, of which his parents had been members and the father a Deacon for many years, thus early evincing a religious turn of mind. Subsequently, he became firmly established in the belief of the final salvation of all mankind from sin and misery, and that in the fullness of time all humanity would be better for having had an existence, as the All-Wise God intended for them at creation, and that all souls will eternally progress towards divinity. After settling in Roscoe, in order to enjoy a church home with its privileges and associations, he has affiliated with the Congregational society of his town and contributed liberally to its support and welfare.



JOSEPH B. ATWOOD, residing on his extensive farm in Roscoe Township, section 6, Winnebago County, Ill., near where he was born in February, 1840, is a son of Patten Atwood, who was born in Alexander, Grafton County, N. H., on the 11th of January, 1805. The elder Mr. Atwood was trained to the duties of farm life in boyhood and when eleven years of age went to Canada with his parents. His father, Joseph Atwood, was also a native of the Granite State and in 1816 moved to Canada, where he subsequently died, when in the prime of life. He met with an accident that resulted in his death. His wife survived him a number of years but died in that country. After the death of the father, the family was left with limited means, but Patten, who at an early age showed marked ability as a manager, assumed the responsibility of looking after affairs and assisted his mother in rearing the younger children. He was married in Canada to Miss Anna Brooks, a Canadian, whose parents were born in Nova Scotia. In December, 1839, Mr. and Mrs. Atwood, with their eight

children, emigrated to Harlem, Ill., and bought one hundred and twenty acres of Government land, on which they settled and which is now known as the Peter Mabie farm. This land was in a state of nature and they paid \$1.25 per acre for it. The journey from Canada to Harlem was made with ox-teams and they were six weeks on the way. They first moved into a house with one Mr. Mead, and there remained until spring. Mr. Atwood in the meantime erecting a good log house on his land. He had but \$30 left after paying for his farm, but he possessed a great amount of energy and perseverance and began at once to clear his land. He lived on this claim but one year and then traded for one hundred and ten acres now in Owen Township, where he has resided since. This farm had some improvements and he paid some difference. To the original tract he added from year to year until he owned six hundred acres, but he gave each of his children a start, and now has about two hundred acres with excellent buildings, etc. Mrs. Atwood died at their home in Owen Township July 30, 1890, when eighty-two years of age. She bore her husband fifteen children, six sons and nine daughters, all now living except one, a daughter, who died in early childhood. Of these children, the eldest is sixty-five years of age and the youngest over forty. They are named as follows: Sally, Henry B., Eliza, Lydia, William, Candace, Anna, Mary, Joseph B., Irene, Patten B., Harriet, John and Philip, the youngest, at home. All are married.

In 1864, Joseph B. Atwood, the subject of this sketch, left the parental roof and went to his farm of one hundred and eighteen acres in the southwest part of Roscoe Township, boarding with a tenant in his house. Seven years later, he bought one hundred and sixty-five acres where he now lives, on which was a house, and paid \$60 per acre for this. On the 5th of September, 1877, he was married in Rockton Township, at the home of Fred Gleasman, to Miss Lizzie H. Gleasman, daughter of Godfrey and Henrietta (Schmenger) Gleasman, both natives of Germany, who came to this country in 1837. Mr. Gleasman and his brother George enlisted from Oneida County in the Civil War and both were killed at the battle of

Antietam. In speaking of the Gleasmans as soldiers, Capt. Brendel, of Utica, N. Y., said that if he had a regiment of such men as the two Gleasmans he could march into the mouth of hell. These men were both over fifty and exempt, but they were patriotic and loyal to the Union. Mrs. Atwood's mother and her children came to Rockton, just over the line from Roscoe, in the spring of 1858 and first settled on rented land. She died in Rockton, September 27, 1886, when seventy-six years of age, leaving four sons and three daughters, having buried her youngest son, John, when twenty-seven years of age. He died August 12, 1878.

Mr. and Mrs. Atwood have buried one son, Joseph L., an infant, who died October 30, 1886, and two daughters, Alice H., who died December 30, 1888, a bright little girl of about four and one half years, and Hazel L., who was born March 23, 1890, and died March 10, 1892. The children now living are John Roy, born February 11, 1879, and George G., January 1, 1882. The sons are attending the district school. Mr. Atwood is quite an extensive farmer and owns about one thousand acres within five miles of his home farm. He has an excellent house, admirably presided over by his thrifty and intelligent wife, and his barns and outbuildings all show their owner to be a man of progress and enterprise. Mrs. Atwood is a member of the Methodist Church, and her husband affiliates with the Republican party in politics.



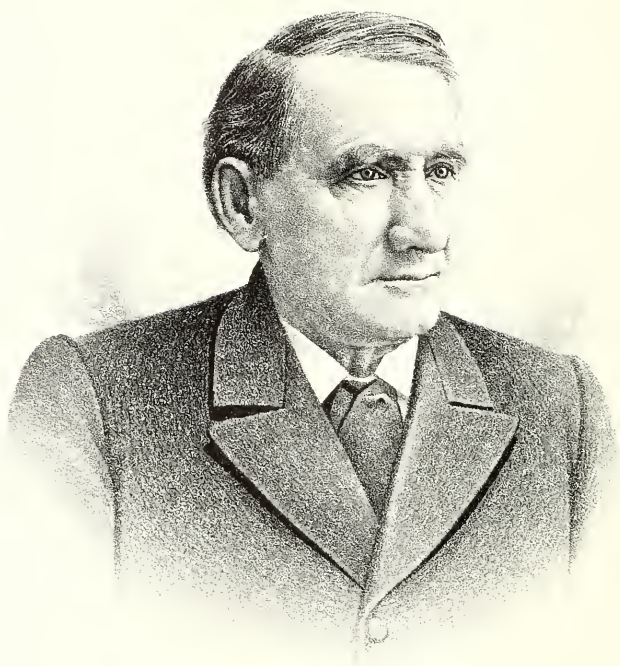
ROBERT SMITH is one of the leading and influential farmers of Harlem Township, and one of the representatives of the pioneer families of Winnebago County. His home is situated on section 26, and he owns and operates three hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, which is well tilled and yields him a golden tribute for the care and labor which he bestows upon it. It is well improved with good buildings and has all the accessories of a model farm.

Mr. Smith was born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, Scotland, August 22, 1821. His grandfather, Daniel Smith, was born in Ayrshire, whence he

removed to Argyleshire, locating upon a tract of wild land and residing in a sod house for many years. He there improved a good farm and made his home until his death. Only two of his children ever came to America, Daniel and Janet. The latter became Mrs. Brown and settled in Cincinnati, Ohio. The former is the father of our subject. He was born in Argyleshire, February 11, 1791, was reared to agricultural pursuits and after attaining to man's estate rented land and engaged in farming. He wedded Mary Montgomery, who was born in Kintyre, January 12, 1795, and was a daughter of Robert Montgomery. They became the parents of nine children: Flora, Robert, John, Daniel, Alexander, Archibald, Jane, William and Mary Agnes. The parents with their family emigrated to America in 1812, sailing on the vessel "Gleaner" from Campbelltown, the first ocean vessel which ever left that port. They weighed anchor on the 4th of June and reached New York on the 14th of July. They came at once to Winnebago County, making the journey by way of the Lakes to Chicago, and settled in Harlem Township. Mr. Smith bought the land on which our subject now resides. Upon the place was a log cabin and a large log building which had been used as a distillery. Mr. Smith and his brother-in-law, James Montgomery, bought the farm at 85 per acre, and at once began its development and cultivation. The trials of pioneer life were not escaped by them, they bearing the usual experiences of frontier families. Mr. Smith died on the old homestead August 20, 1845, and his wife there passed away May 31, 1872. They were highly respected people and had many friends in this community.

The subject of this sketch acquired his education in his native land, and at the age of seventeen accompanied his parents on their emigration to America. On his father's death, the care of the home farm devolved upon him and to its cultivation and improvement he has since devoted his energies, and in the undertaking has met with signal success.

In 1855, Mr. Smith wedded Agnes Greenlees, who was born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, Scotland, and is a daughter of William and Martha (Harvey) Greenlees. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been



Ezra May

born five children: Mary J., Martha, Agnes, wife of William Brown, William G. and Danie' Andrew. The parents and their daughters are members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, and are people widely and favorably known in this community. In politics, Mr. Smith is a staunch Republican, having supported that party since its organization.



EZRA MAY, a well-known citizen of Belvidere, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, is one of the most extensive land owners of Northern Illinois. He has always been interested in agricultural pursuits and now has a farm which is operated under his personal supervision. His other farms are rented and yield to him a handsome income.

Mr. May was born in Phillipsburg, fifty miles from Montreal, Canada, November 6, 1813, and is of English descent. His grandfather, Ezra May, Sr., was born in England, and came to America in Colonial days, settling in Goshen, Mass., where he spent the remainder of his life engaged in farming. His youngest child, Calvin May, was the father of our subject. He was born and reared in Goshen and in early life turned his attention to the study of medicine, graduating from Yale College. He afterwards went to Phillipsburg, Canada, becoming one of its pioneer settlers. His practice extended over a radius of eighty miles, and he used to make his rounds on horseback. He became well known as a prominent citizen, and his death, which occurred in 1828, was widely mourned. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Hyatt, spent her last days in Cherry Valley, Ill.

Our subject was one of eleven children. His boyhood and youth were spent in Phillipsburg, his early days being passed upon a farm, and later he was employed on Government work. He continued to reside in Canada until 1836, when, in company with two other young men, he went to Michigan City, where he was employed by the Government to buy machinery for six months. In the month of May, 1839, he came to Illinois and located in Winnebago County. He purchased a squatter's

claim to a tract of Government land in what is now Cherry Valley Township, and when the land came into market entered it at the land office in Galena. Upon it he built a log cabin and on his marriage, himself and wife commenced housekeeping in that humble abode. He was joined in wedlock on Bonus Prairie, February 21, 1840, with Lovisa May, a native of the Empire State.

After residing upon his farm in Winnebago County for seven years, Mr. May came to Belvidere and engaged in the dry-goods business. He has been prominently identified with the best interests of this county from that time until the present. He continued in the dry-goods business for some years, and later purchased a flouring mill which he operated for some time. He is now engaged in banking and in 1890 was elected President of the Second National Bank of this city. Mr. May possesses excellent business ability, is sagacious and far-sighted and his enterprise and good management have won him a handsome property.

Eight children have been born unto our subject and his wife, five of whom are yet living: Mrs. Ella M. Olney, Mrs. Florence L. Smith, Mrs. Clara H. Greenslit, Calvin D., a banker of Clinton, Iowa, and Stephen Douglas, a lawyer of Chicago.

Mr. May has filled various public offices of honor and trust. He has served both as a member of the City Board and of the County Board of Supervisors and his duties have ever been discharged with promptness and fidelity. He may well be termed a self-made man, for to his own efforts alone is due the credit of his excellent success. His upright life has won him the confidence of all, and in many respects his career is well worthy of emulation.



hUGH BROWN is a well-known agriculturist of Winnebago County, residing on section 3, Guilford Township. He was born on a farm a mile from the village of South End, Argyleshire, Scotland, September 28, 1835. His paternal grandfather, Edward Brown, a native of the same county, followed farming throughout his entire life, and died at the advanced age of ninety-six years. James Brown, the father of our

subject, also spent his entire life in Argyleshire, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits through much of his life. His last years, however, were spent in the village of South End, where he died in 1859. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Andrews, was born in Argyleshire, and there died in 1816. In their family were nine children, and by the second marriage of the father four children were born.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads and gave his father the benefit of his assistance until 1854, when, having determined to try his fortune in America, he sailed from Glasgow in July of that year, landing in New York sixteen days later. He came directly to the Scotch settlement in Winnebago County, and began working as a farm hand at \$13 per month. In 1855, in connection with his brother, he rented a farm in Boone County. Three years later, he came to this county, where he rented land for two years, when, in connection with his brother James, he purchased the Dennis farm, which they cultivated for ten years in partnership. Our subject then bought an eighty-acre tract of land, and as he also owns forty acres of the Dennis place, his landed possessions now aggregate one hundred and twenty acres, which pay to him a golden tribute in return for his care and cultivation. His farm is well improved and is one of the valuable places of the neighborhood.

On the 28th of April, 1870, Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Miss Jane Picken, who was born in Caledonia Township, Boone County, Ill., and is a daughter of George Picken, a native of Argyleshire, Scotland. His father, Archie Picken, spent his entire life in Scotland. The father of Mrs. Brown was married in his native land to Jane Brown a native of Argyleshire, and a daughter of Charles Brown, who came to America when quite well advanced in years, and after spending a short time in Cincinnati, became a resident of Winnebago County, where his last days were passed. Mr. and Mrs. Picken crossed the broad Atlantic in 1810, and became pioneer settlers of what is now Caledonia Township, Boone County, where the father purchased land of the Government and

developed a farm, upon which he resided until his death, November 20, 1875, at the age of sixty-nine years. His wife is still living on the old homestead, and has reached the age of four-score years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born two daughters, Maggie and Mary J. The parents are both members of the Willow Creek Church, and are most estimable people. Mr. Brown is numbered among the early settlers of this community, having long been identified with the history of the county. He is also a self-made man, for he came to America empty-handed, and has steadily worked his way upward until he is now one of the well-to-do citizens of this community.



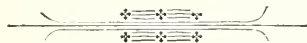
WILLIAM JONES, deceased. The name which introduces this sketch is one well known in Winnebago County, having been borne by a gentleman who was acknowledged to be an excellent representative of a self-made man and intelligent agriculturist. He was born June 1, 1817, in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and was a son of John and Nancy Jones, the former of whom came from England and located in Canada, where he made his home until coming to Rockford. His decease occurred when eighty-two years of age. Our subject entered the tract on which his widow resides from the Government in 1847, and placed the entire amount under most excellent cultivation.

The lady to whom our subject was married was Mrs. Mary Carson, the widow of John Carson. One child, a son, was born of that union, his birth taking place November 6, 1841, in the Dominion of Canada. He was married in 1872 to Miss Matha Mathewson, who was born in Tolland, Conn., November 24, 1850. To them have been born ten sons and one daughter, namely: Clyde W., Bertram W., George R., Ellie M., Clarence F., Howard L., Earl N., Ellis D., Kenneth C., Stanley A. and Glenn J. The daughter-in-law of Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Carson, was the daughter of Dearborn and Lavanea Mathewson, natives respectively of Rhode Island and Connecticut. The father died in Iowa when

seventy-three years of age, but the mother, who is seventy-four years of age, still lives and makes her home near Marion, Iowa.

Albert T. Carson, bugler during the late war, enlisted in September, 1861, for three years, or during the war, in Company K, First Illinois Cavalry. At the expiration of eighteen months, he was discharged, and re-enlisted in 1864, and during that time participated in many skirmishes. His last enlistment was with Company M, Eighth Illinois Cavalry. He was never wounded or captured, which is indeed quite remarkable for one who took such an active part in numerous hard-fought battles. He is a carpenter by trade.

Mrs. Jones was born August 3, 1822, in Ontario, Canada, and was a daughter of George and Elizabeth Taylor, of England. Her parents emigrated to Canada, where they spent the remainder of their lives, the father dying when seventy-four years of age and the mother in her seventy-eighth year. Mrs. Jones remained at home until twenty-nine years of age, and then, coming to Illinois to visit her sister, she met our subject and was married to him October 17, 1852. She is an able housewife, a kind neighbor, and wins the regard of those about her.



SYLVESTER BURR WILKINS. This gentleman who has for many years been one of the leading citizens of Rockford, was born on a farm in Chenango County, N. Y., in 1833, and is descended from an old and respected New England family. His education was acquired in the public schools, and he remained upon the farm until he had attained his majority, when he started out for himself, his father giving him \$2.50. His first business venture on his own account was in manufacturing wagon supplies in Binghamton, N. Y.

Afterward Mr. Wilkins went to Milton, Pa., where he was engaged in the manufacture of spokes and hubs for several years. Meanwhile he invented a machine for making wheel spokes, one half interest in which he sold for \$1,000, it being the first \$1,000 which he could call his

own. While living in Milton, he was also in the lumbering business a few years and in building canal boats.

In 1861, Mr. Wilkins was united in marriage with Miss Jane Goodlander, of Milton. They are the parents of George L., Mary R. and Ruth Wilkins. After spending twelve years in Milton, in 1869 he removed his family to Rockford where he has since been identified with the interests of that city, its growth and rebuilding. He was one of the promoters of the Rockford Bolt Works, an industry of much consequence to the city, to which he gave his personal attention for some years, having been President of the company since its organization. He was also the promoter and principal owner of the S. B. Wilkins Company, which began the manufacture of seamless hosiery on a small scale in 1881. This enterprise prospered and was incorporated in 1885 under the name of the S. B. Wilkins Company. Mr. Wilkins became the President and has continued to hold that important relation to this company, whose production has become widely known throughout the West and Northwest as "Rockford Hosiery."

In connection with his other duties in this concern, Mr. Wilkins spent much of his time in the invention and improvement of the special machinery which is used alone by this company. Recently, this machinery and the patents of the S. B. Wilkins' Company passed into the ownership of a new company, incorporated under the laws of Illinois and called the "Chicago-Rockford Hosiery Company." Of this company, Mr. Wilkins has also become the President and is one of its largest stockholders. Its principal office is now in Chicago, and its factories at Rockford, Ill., and Kenosha, Wis. He has also been connected with other enterprises, and has given liberally of his means to the support of any interest calculated to prove of public benefit. He was one of the building committee of Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church, and recently built the beautiful Wilkins Flats on North Church Street. His home is a fine residence on North Main Street.

Mr. Wilkins is free from political ambitions but consented at the solicitation of many, and the suffrage of a large majority, to serve as Mayor for

two terms. Like most men of inventive mind, he is quiet and unassuming, not willing to claim much credit for himself when it is really due, and at all times giving to others their full share. He has the confidence and esteem of all with whom he comes in contact in business relations, and he and his family rank high in social circles.



RICHARD MERRILL. The family of which the subject of this sketch is a worthy representative is one well known to the people of Boone County, and one which has been identified with the interests of the same from pioneer days. Richard Merrill, who is one of the prosperous agriculturists and much esteemed citizens of Boone County, is a brother of Thomas Merrill (see sketch for further particulars of the family).

Like many of the substantial and prosperous citizens of the county, our subject is a native of New York State, born in Herkimer County, in the town of Litchfield, July 27, 1841, and when about four years of age was brought by his parents, Asel and Aurette (Smith) Merrill, to Illinois. Here he finished his growth and received his education. Like his father, he selected agricultural pursuits as his occupation in life, and as he became thoroughly familiar with the duties of the farm at an early age, he has been unusually successful in his calling.

On November 27, 1883, he was wedded to Miss Alice H. Hare, who was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., April 13, 1859, and is a daughter of Chauncey S. and Harriet A. (Church) Hare, both natives of the Empire State. The father is a blacksmith by trade and is still a resident of his native State. His wife was born in New Berlin, N. Y., and died in Washington Mills, of that State, when forty-one years of age. They were the parents of five children all now living, but two. Mrs. Merrill's maternal grandparents were natives of New York, in which State they passed their entire lives, he dying when about middle age, and she when about eighty-two. Mrs. Merrill came to Illinois about 1882, and was here married to Mr. Merrill.

Three children are the result of our subject's

marriage: Fred C., born at his grandfather's old home on July 2, 1885, and Nathan H., also born on the old homestead, January 26, 1887, and Paul A., born May 24, 1892. Mr. Merrill has resided on that fine old place nearly all his life, but in the year 1891 he removed to Belvidere and is practically retired. However, as he has rented his farm, he still has considerable to keep him busy. The farm is about three miles from the city and is the original piece of land his father bought from the Government. Our subject remembers some of the experiences of pioneer days and delights to relate them. He remembers his mother taking a load of wheat to market to get some jeans to make up in clothing for the boys, but one load did not bring enough to pay for the goods and the father had to take in a second load the following day. Mr. Merrill is a Democrat in his political affiliations, and his first Presidential vote was cast for G. B. McClellan. Socially, he is a member of the Knights of the Globe. On all subjects of importance he has decided opinions, which carry weight among his fellow-citizens.



DANIEL KINSON, an enterprising farmer of New Milford Township, Winnebago County, is a native of the Green Mountain State, born August 21, 1827. The grandparents were farming people of Vermont, and had a family of eight children, the youngest of whom, John Kinson, was the father of our subject. He was born in New Hampshire in 1803, and married Melinda Lamphere, by whom he had three children, Lewis, Daniel and Cynthia Sophia, all of whom were born in Vermont. With his family, he removed to Essex County, N. Y., where he worked in a glass factory, and was afterwards employed in Boston. Later, he went to Lower Canada, where he engaged in farming for ten years, and in 1844 we find him residing near Keeseville, N. Y., where he and his sons chopped wood at thirty-seven and a half cents per cord for a year, each averaging two cords per day. With the money thus earned, they went to Milwaukee, and for three months resided in Whitewater, Wis. Mr. Kinson then went to Bel-

videre on foot, and was so well pleased with this locality that he hired a team and brought his family to Illinois. For three years he resided upon a rented farm, and then made a claim of one hundred and sixty acres, on which our subject now resides. In the fall of 1849, he removed his family to his own farm, and we can imagine the happiness with which they took possession of their own home, after so many years of hard labor. From that time forward, prosperity attended their efforts, and they became well-to-do. Mr. Kinson died in New Milford, December 28, 1891, at the age of eighty-eight years, and four months, and his wife passed away September 7, 1889, when about eighty-eight years of age.

Our subject had shared in all the experiences of the family, and in those earlier years labored hard to support himself and aid his parents in securing a home. He was married in his own home, May 23, 1855, to Miss Joanna Baxter, who was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., May 29, 1833, and is a daughter of John and Maria (Horton) Baxter, who removed from New York on the 23d of September, 1843, and by the canal and Lakes came to Illinois, accompanied by their family of six children. They soon settled on twenty acres of land, southeast of New Milford, and the log cabin which Mr. Baxter built in 1849 was their home for fifteen years, when it was then replaced by a frame residence. Mr. Baxter died at the home of his daughter, November 30, 1869, at the age of seventy-nine years, leaving a widow and eight children, seven sons and a daughter. They had lost one daughter, Rosetta Ann, who died at the age of two years. The death of the mother occurred on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1888, at the age of seventy-nine years. They were highly respected people in this community and made many warm friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Kinson have lost two sons: Irvin Eugene, who died August 28, 1858, at the age of two years; and Fred H., who died August 21, 1871, when about fifteen months old. Their living children are Clara H., who was born September 20, 1858; Ella T., June 8, 1860; Asa H., January 17, 1862; John L., June 18, 1864; Lourena M., March 11, 1866; Hattie R., October 24, 1872; Ora A., September 2, 1875. All of the children have left

the parental roof except the two youngest. Hattie has been deaf since her third year, the misfortune being caused by scarlet fever. All have received good educational advantages, and John is a teacher in the Rockford Business College. Asa H. was married, January 1, 1885, to Lourena Graham, and is farming in Iowa; John L. married Eva Eastman, March 6, 1885; Clara is the wife of Frank Fitzgerald; Ella L. is the wife of Albert S. McAvoy, and Lourena is the wife of Gilbert Thompson, of Iowa.

Mr. Kinson of this sketch owns two hundred acres of land in the home farm, besides an additional thirty-acre tract, thirteen acres of which are covered with a fine growth of timber. He has also bought two farms of one hundred and sixty acres each for his sons in Iowa. In politics, he is a Republican, and himself and wife are members of the Methodist Church of New Milford.



CORNELIUS H. BEAMER is a native of the Empire State. He was born in Wheeler, Steuben County, June 10, 1814, and was a son of Philip and Nancy (Dixon) Beamer, the former a native of Holland, and the latter of Scotland. When young, they came to this country, and were married in New York. They passed away in Ottawa, Ill., the father dying at the advanced age of ninety years, his wife at the age of seventy-eight. They had twelve children, all of whom grew to mature years. One brother, Thomas, was slain in the siege of Vicksburg, and Rosilla, a teacher, took cold while going to her school, and died of consumption at the age of twenty-two.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm, and on the 11th of November, 1837, arrived in Chicago, Ill., then a small village. He refused to buy a half-section of land near where the court house now stands, but instead purchased a horse for \$35 and rode to Belvidere. Since that time he has been a resident of this locality. Ere leaving the East, he was married in North Cohocton, August 16, 1836, to Sarah Walters, who was born in that place, and was of

German descent. She died on the 20th of May, 1849, leaving four sons and two daughters. One son, Albert, died quite young, and was buried by his mother in Belvidere; Barbara became the wife of Caleb Lewis, and died leaving six children; and B. F. Beamer. Sarah Beamer died in Cairo, Ill. Mr. Beamer was again married, this time to Lois Hartley, a native of England, who died April 11, 1890, leaving one son, Hartley, who is living in Illinois.

Mr. Beamer has had a varied and rather adventurous life. He was a stage-driver for a number of years, also followed farming, and was a dealer in horses, but, as he is now well advanced in years, he has laid aside all business cares, and is living a retired life in Pontiac, Ill. His son, Alva R. Beamer, was only twelve years of age when his mother died. He then went to live with George Lemons, in Boone County, with whom he remained until seventeen years of age, after which he resided with George M. Crane, of Cherry Valley Township, until he rented land and began farming for himself. He was married, January 22, 1863, to Mary C. Doolittle, of Harlem, Ill., a daughter of Henry and Catherine (Stedman) Doolittle, both of whom were natives of New England, and emigrated to Illinois in 1837. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beamer were born three children: Minnie L., wife of Archie L. Rummelhart, of Harlem Township; Etta M. and Herbert E., both at home. The children have received good educational advantages.

Mr. Beamer is a friend to all that can benefit or improve the community. In politics, he is a Republican, and has served as School Director. He has followed general farming throughout his entire life, and is now a successful and enterprising agriculturist.


ANDREW PHINNEY, an honored veteran of the late war, and now a successful grocer of Rockford, doing business at No. 206 Horsman Street, was born in Elbridge, Onondaga County, N. Y., in 1836, and when quite young went to Bradford County, Pa., with his parents, William and Mary Phinney. They

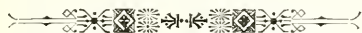
were both natives of the Emerald Isle, and immediately after their marriage came to this country. Mrs. Phinney died in Pennsylvania. Mr. Phinney was there again married, and again lost his wife in that State, after which he emigrated to Jonesville, Mich., where his death occurred in September, 1891, at the age of seventy-six years.

Our subject was the first of the family to come to the West. He located in Illinois, in 1856, and, after a year spent in Belvidere, came to Rockford, where he has since resided. In 1862, however, he left his home and joined Company A, of the Ninetieth Illinois Infantry, going to the South with his regiment. After the battle of Mission Ridge, he was commissioned First Lieutenant. At the battle of Atlanta, July 22, 1864, he was captured by the enemy, and held a prisoner of war until March, 1865, when he was exchanged. Subsequently, he had charge of his company in St. Louis, where they did service until honorably discharged after the expiration of their three-years' term. Mr. Phinney has a war record of which he may well be proud. He saw much hard service, but was never wounded, although he nearly lost his life from exposure and hardship. His meritorious conduct on the field of battle won him deserved promotion. Other members of the Phinney family also followed the old flag. His brother Michael, now of Jonesville, Mich., was a member of the Army of the Potomac and during his service was wounded. Two other brothers, John and William, both laid down their lives on the altar of their country, and the father also followed the old flag through many battles to victory.

On his return from the war, Andrew Phinney began business as a merchant, in 1865, and has since been selling groceries in this city. For a time he was in partnership with William Lyons, but is now alone in business. He has been at his present location since 1888, and there a full and complete stock of groceries is ready to supply the wants of the public. The proprietor is recognized as an enterprising and industrious business man, who by his own efforts has worked up an excellent trade, and is now enjoying a liberal and well-earned patronage.

Mr. Phinney was married in Rockford, in 1865,

the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Ryan, a native of Dublin, Ireland, who, when quite young, came to this country with her parents, both of whom died in Rockford some years since. Unto our subject and his wife, have been born the following children: Frank; Lillie, deceased, who was the wife of James O'Conner, who is a contractor; Josephine, a book-keeper in her father's employ; Dollie, who is engaged in teaching school; and Ida and Belle, who are students in the High School of this city. The parents are both members of the Catholic Church, and socially, Mr. Phinney is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles.



GEORGE W. CARMAN, who engages in farming on section 34, Guilford Township, is a representative of one of the pioneer families of Winnebago County, and is descended from an early New England family. His great-grandparents were John and Anna Carman. The former was born March 25, 1751. His grandparents were Jacob and Sarah (Haines) Carman, both natives of New Jersey. They had a family of two sons and four daughters who grew to mature years, but all have now passed away. They were: Hannah, who was born February 5, 1772; Ann, March 24, 1774; Ruth, January 27, 1776; Hannah, November 30, 1778; Jacob, March 6, 1781; Elizabeth, December 3, 1782; John J., September 24, 1785; Joseph H., April 20, 1789; and Mary C., January 10, 1792.

The father of our subject, John J. Carman, was a native of Pemberton, N. J., and in Canada, in 1716, married Mary Fisher, also a native of that State. His uncle, John Haines, after a long life spent in New Jersey, passed away at the advanced age of one hundred and fifteen years.

Unto the parents of our subject were born twelve children, eight sons and four daughters: John, Jr., born January 26, 1817; William W., August 17, 1818; Henry, who was born November 15, 1819, died at the age of eight months; Mary Ann, born February 19, 1821; Chauncey C., November 15, 1822; Henry F., July 11, 1824;

Elizabeth, born March 20, 1826, died at the age of nine years; George W., born January 1, 1828; Philip J., April 22, 1830; Alpheus W., December 18, 1832; Elizabeth, March 15, 1836; and Sarah, September 20, 1838. Of this family, seven are yet living, and their aggregate age is four hundred and thirty-four years. They were all born in Canada and, with the parents, came to Illinois in 1840, settling on the old homestead on the 19th of June. The oldest son, John, Jr., had come here two years previous and purchased a claim of one hundred and sixty acres for his father. He died on the 13th of March, 1845. Chauncey and Alpheus were volunteers in the late war, serving as privates throughout the struggle. The father of the family died December 29, 1870, at the age of eighty-five years, and his wife passed away September 29, 1878, at the age of eighty-two.

George Carman, whose name heads this record, was born near Brockville, Canada, January 4, 1828, and with the family came to Illinois when a lad of twelve summers. In the usual manner of farmer lads, he was reared to manhood and has since engaged in agricultural pursuits. He occupies the old homestead in connection with William W., and Sarah and Philip reside upon an adjoining farm. The sons are among the leading agriculturists of Guilford Township and, following the example of their father, vote with the Republican party.



SIMON PETER BEST. Among the well-regulated homes of Durand Township, Winnebago County, none have about them an air of greater comfort and content than that which has been built up by the joint efforts of Mr. Best and his estimable wife. Their pleasant home is located on section 20, and is improved with all the appurtenances required by the progressive and industrious agriculturist.

Our subject dates his residence in this county from the spring of 1855, at which time the family settled in Durand Township. He was born in Northampton County, Pa., April 13, 1841, and is a son of Jacob N. and Susannah (Unagest) Best.

who also hailed from the Keystone State. The ancestors of our subject came from Germany about two hundred years ago and for several generations resided in Pennsylvania.

Nicholas Best, the grandfather of our subject, died in 1801, when twenty-eight years old. The father of him of whom we write was a farmer, and in early life worked at the trades of a shoemaker and blacksmith. The parental family numbered three children, his brother and sister being Nicholas and Polly. Jacob N. Best came to Illinois in 1855, and located on the southwest quarter of section 20, Durand Township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land which bore some improvements. There he resided until his death, which occurred February 20, 1885, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. His good wife, who survived him until August 9, 1891, passed away in her ninety-second year. They were the parents of eleven children, one of whom died in infancy. Those living are: William, Sarah (Mrs. Unagast), Rosanna (Mrs. Glasser), Reuben, Anna Maria (now the widow of A. Gold, and formerly Mrs. G. Nolf); Sophia (the wife of Jacob L. Weaver), Rebecca (who married Joseph Richard), Elizabeth (now Mrs. Adam Rheinges, and formerly married to Thomas Jenewinie), Lovina (Mrs. A. Baker), and our subject, who is the youngest of the family.

Simon P. Best was reared to farm pursuits and received a fair education in the schools of his neighborhood. The date of his marriage to Elizabeth H., daughter of Jonathan and Lydia J. Matter, was February 13, 1868. Mrs. Best was born in Stephenson County, this State, March 21, 1847, and, with her husband, removed in 1880 to their present home. Our subject, who is the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of finely cultivated land, has been a resident of section 20 since 1855.

The nine children born to our subject and his wife bear the respective names of Fernando, Arthur J., Jacob E., Wallace V., Signora, Sylvia D., Oscar L., Arvilla M. and Susan P. In his political relations, Mr. Best usually votes the Republican ticket, but leans strongly toward Prohibition and reform principles. He is a member

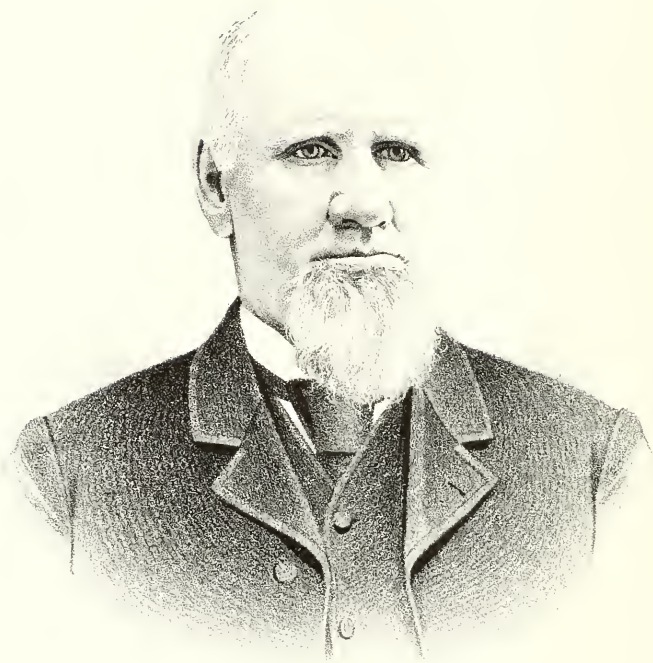
of the Evangelical Association and is active in all good works. His father belonged to a company of militia in Pennsylvania. He of whom we write, in addition to raising cereals, devotes a great deal of time and attention to the breeding of Short-horn cattle and Norman horses.



OSCAR J. WIGELL, representing the world-renowned Steinway piano house of Lyon, Potter & Co., Chicago, has one of the finest and best-equipped music stores in the State, outside of Chicago, at No. 212 West State Street, Rockford. He is one of the wide-awake, thorough-going young business men of the place. Rockford is his birthplace and he was born July 25, 1867. In education, he received the best that Rockford afforded. It was very evident in his early youth that he inherited the musical abilities of his parents. When but fifteen years of age, he took thorough instruction in piano-tuning, and in that work he has an enviable reputation as an expert.

During the winter of 1889-90, George W. Lyon, of Chicago (who for twenty-eight years was senior partner of the firm of Lyon & Healy), recognizing the ability of Mr. Wigell, engaged him as tuner and salesman for the magnificent new store of Lyon, Potter & Co., who opened their doors to the public January 15, 1890. During his first year with this house, Mr. Wigell gave up piano-tuning and devoted all his time to sales, in which he has met with deserved success. As a dealer, his upright and honorable conduct in all transactions has aided him materially in building up the large business he now controls.

October 18, 1887, O. J. Wigell was united in marriage to Miss Eva M., the eldest daughter of Rev. G. R. Vanhorn, of Rockford, of whom see sketch elsewhere in this volume. She was born in Minooka, Ill., November 9, 1868, and supplemented the education she received in the city schools of Rockford by a course in the seminary at Aurora, Ill. She is an accomplished and intelligent young lady and is very much devoted to art. To Mr. and Mrs. Wigell have been born two bright little



Joshua Manning

boys: Garrett O. and Lawrence L. They are happily situated in a pleasant home on the East Side. In religion, both are active members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church.

The father of our subject, the late John Wigell, was born in Sweden. There during his early life he became a devoted and thorough student in music, graduating with highest honors on piano, organ and violin at the conservatory in Stockholm. In his early manhood he came to America, where for a number of years he held a responsible position in one of the largest piano factories in New York. Early in the '60s, he came to Rockford, where he won the respect and admiration of all, especially of the musical fraternity, by his skill and practical knowledge. He manufactured a great many organs in Rockford, which have stood the test these many years.

Mr. Wigell had plans drawn for a large piano factory to be erected here, but these plans were never consummated, as he was stricken down with typhoid-pneumonia and died November 18, 1871, when only twenty-nine years old, leaving a widow and one son, Oscar J. His wife, to whom he was married in 1866, was Miss Clara Johnson, a native of Sweden, whence she came to America with her parents when but two years of age. To them were born two sons: Oscar J. and Lawrence Edward, the latter dying September 28, 1871, when but two years old. In 1874, Mrs. Clara Wigell was united in marriage with O. W. Haegg, of whom see sketch.



JOSIAH MANNING is the owner of one of the fine farms of Winnebago County, located on section 25, Guilford Township. His life record is as follows: He was born in Westminster, Middlesex County, Canada, on a farm near the suburbs of London, April 19, 1833. His grandfather was a resident farmer of the Empire State and removed to Canada, spending his last days in the Province of Quebec.

The father of our subject, Joseph J. Manning, was born in the Province of Quebec, and at the age of twenty-three removed to Middlesex County, then a sparsely-settled region, where

he bought a tract of timber land from the Government. In the midst of the wilderness he cleared and improved a farm, upon which he made his home until the spring of 1844, when he came to Winnebago County, Ill. The year previous, he had visited in this locality and purchased one hundred and ninety-four acres of land for \$950; upon it were a log cabin, a small frame house and a barn, and thirty acres had been placed under the plow. Accompanied by his wife and eight children, he came in 1844 and located upon this farm, which he greatly developed and improved. He made it his home until his death, which occurred on the 8th of June, 1850 or 1851.

Mrs. Manning bore the maiden name of Catherine Louisa Swart. She was born in Scholario County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Bartholomew and Elizabeth (Lawyer) Swart. The former was born of Dutch parentage, and removed from the Empire State to Canada, settling in Middlesex County, where he cleared and developed a farm, upon which he spent his remaining days. The death of Mrs. Manning occurred on the 6th of March, 1890, in the seventy-sixth year of her age. She was the mother of nine children: Charles F., Josiah, Julia M., Levi, Jacob B., Roswell A., Joseph J., Leonard and Eli. Josiah, Leonard and Eli are the only ones now living. The last two are residents of Chariton, Lucas County, Iowa.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of eleven summers when he came to Illinois with his parents; since that time he has been a resident of Guilford Township. As soon as old enough, he began to assist in the labors of the farm and aided in the arduous task of developing the wild land. Three years after his father's death, he purchased the interest of the other heirs in the homestead and now owns and operates two hundred and sixty acres of highly improved land, constituting one of the best farms in this locality. The rich and fertile fields indicate the thrift of the owner, and the good buildings there seen stand as monuments to his enterprise. In this direction his farm will compare with any in the county. In connection with general farming, he also engages in raising fine stock, making a specialty of standard-bred horses, and upon his land has a race-course.

In 1858, Mr. Manning was united in marriage with Julia A. Hale, who was born in Newport, Herkimer County, N. Y., and is a daughter of Alfred E. and Julia A. (Post) Hale. Their union has been blessed with a daughter, Eleanor, now the wife of Fred D. King, by whom she has had two children, Edna, and one son who died when four and one-half years old. In politics, Mr. Manning is a stalwart Republican, and has served eight terms as a member of the Board of Supervisors, which fact indicates his efficiency and faithful discharge of duty. He is a straightforward, upright business man and is well known throughout Guilford Township, and is one of its leading citizens.

In this connection a portrait of Mr. Manning is presented to our readers.



WESLEY D. CLARK, a baker of Rockford, doing business at No. 107 Kishwaukee Street, is a native of Rockford, Kent County, Mich., born in December, 1850. The family was founded in New England, prior to the Revolutionary War, and was represented in that struggle. The grandfather of our subject, Ezra Clark, was a native of Vermont and removed to New York, spending the remainder of his life in Erie County, where he engaged in the butchering business. In politics, he was a Whig and a stalwart Abolitionist, and his home was a station on the famous Underground Railroad. He died at the age of seventy years.

E. P. Clark, father of our subject, was born in the Green Mountain State, where he grew to manhood and became a farmer. In New York, he married Miss Julia I. Dennison, a native of Norwich, N. Y. Her parents were natives of Connecticut. On emigrating to Michigan, Mr. and Mrs. Clark settled in the midst of a forest in Kent County, and, procuring land from the Government, began the development of a farm. His death occurred in 1857, at the early age of thirty-three years. He was a staunch Abolitionist, and died believing that the slaves would be free. His wife yet survives, and although seventy years of age, is still enjoying good health. She is now visiting

in California, but makes her home with our subject. She is a member of the Christian Church. Her father, Dudley Dennison, was a native of Connecticut, and after his marriage removed to the Empire State, where he engaged in blacksmithing, also manufactured axes and hoes, and was the owner of a large farm. He died in Erie County at the age of seventy, and his wife was also well advanced in years. He participated in the War of 1812, and took part in the battle of Stonington. The only members of the Clark family now living are our subject and his brother O. E., who married Vera M. Hyde, a native of Michigan, and who is now superintendent of an electric plant in Napa, Cal.

Wesley D. Clark, whose name heads this record, was only five years old when his father died, and at the age of fourteen he came to Rockford, where he has since resided. In this city, he married Miss Eunice L. Keig, who was born in Rockford, and is a daughter of Edward and Margaret Keig, who were born on the Isle of Man, and, after their marriage, came to the United States. Since that time they have made their home in Rockford, being numbered among its honored early settlers. They are members of the Methodist Church, and are both past seventy years of age. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Clark is blessed with two children: Belle M. and William A. In politics, Mr. Clark is a Republican, and for the past six years has served as Alderman of the Sixth Ward, proving a faithful and efficient officer. He is a member of the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias, the United Workmen Lodge and the Odd Fellows' fraternity, and in the latter has filled all the offices and represented the Encampment at the Grand Lodge. His wife is a member of the Methodist Church. They are numbered among Rockford's citizens, and by all who know them are held in high regard.

On coming to this city, Mr. Clark began business with Adam McClure, now deceased, during which time he became thoroughly familiar with the bakery business. The partnership was then dissolved, and for two and a half years he was associated with Joseph Basford, after which he was with the Steam Bakery Company for two years. He then began business for himself, and, buying

out C. O. Asproth, now has a general and fancy bakery, and is doing an excellent business, of which he is deserving. Since coming to Rockford he has given a helping hand to every enterprise calculated to benefit the community and promote the general welfare, and is numbered among its valued and leading citizens.



SYLVESTER SCOTT. Among the prominent and leading pioneers of Winnebago County who are selected for representation in this biographical work, we take pleasure in presenting this worthy subject. He is at present residing in Rockford, where he is respected by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance.

Sylvester Scott was born in Machias, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., December 9, 1828. He is the son of Reuben C. Scott, a native of Connecticut, where his father, who also bore the name of Reuben, was born. The latter-named gentleman removed from his native State to Pennsylvania and later to Cattaraugus County, N. Y. The father of our subject accompanied him on these various removals, and on locating in the last-named county, purchased a tract of land in Machias, where he resided until 1837, when, with his wife and family of three small children, he came to this State, making the journey overland with teams, via Canada. Mr. Scott, on making his home in this county, located in what is now Guilford Township, where he entered a tract of land from the Government. He erected a log cabin for his family, into which they moved on the 14th of January. They made that rude structure their home for the succeeding five years, when Mr. Scott purchased eighty acres of land in another portion of Guilford Township, where he erected a brick house and resided until his death, which occurred in 1845.

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Anna Johnson. She was born in Cape May County, N. J., and was a daughter of David Johnson, also a native of that place, where his birth occurred in 1777. His father, the great-grandfather of our subject, was the owner of a large estate near Den-

nix Creek Landing, which was operated by slave labor. The grandfather of our subject bought and educated slaves and gave them their freedom. David Johnson removed to Pennsylvania, and, locating on the Schuylkill River, conducted a large lumber business. This proving a failure, he went to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and entered a tract of land in the town of Machias, where he resided until 1837. Desiring to see something of the Western country, he came to Winnebago County, making settlement on a tract of Government land in Guilford Township. He erected a log house on his purchase, where he made his home until his death, in 1855. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Young. She was also a native of Cape May County, N. J., and died on the home farm in this county in 1860, after having attained to the advanced age of ninety-five years.

The mother of our subject survived her husband many years, and continued to reside on the home farm. She became the mother of four children, namely: Sylvester; Daniel, who resides on his grandfather's estate in Guilford Township; Mary E., who married D. C. Dean, and makes her home in Denver, and Elvira, Mrs. Daniel Clay. Mr. Clay was a member of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteers, and died in Denver, in 1886.

Sylvester Scott, of this sketch, was nine years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to this State, and the hardships and privations of life in this then unsettled region have made a lasting impression upon his mind. The country was then little more than a wilderness, there being no railroad, and Chicago, which was ninety miles distant, was the nearest market and depot for supplies. The family did not suffer for fresh meat, however, as deer and other animals were numerous. On one occasion he remembers seeing his mother shoot and kill a deer which was very near the cabin. He resided with his mother until attaining his majority, when he removed to his Grandfather Johnson's homestead. The old log cabin which they occupied upon the place soon gave way to a modern brick residence, in which they made their home until 1874. At that date, the homestead being sold to his brother, our subject came to Rockford and purchased a farm,

where he engaged in market gardening for seventeen years, in which business he was very successful. In the fall of 1891, he disposed of his property and purchased upon the west side of the river, upon Montague Street, in South Rockford, a twenty-acre tract, within the city limits.

In 1850, the original of this sketch was united in marriage to Miss Alzina, daughter of Solomon and Charity Arvilla (Chaffee) Greeley, natives of New England, who came to Illinois in 1838, and located in Winnebago County. They made this place their home for two years, when they removed to Caledonia, Boone County, and later to Green County, Wis., and here the mother died in 1849. After remaining in the last-named place for some time, the father made his home in Floyd County, Iowa, and from there went to Worth County, where his decease occurred, in 1874.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott have had born to them six children: Henry W. married Cora A. Searles, of Rockford; Lydia A. became the wife of John D. Hardy; and Ella, the wife of Ira Purdy, all of Guilford Township. Sophronia E. and Ida E. died when small children, nearly forty years ago; Emma, the youngest daughter, passed to the spirit land in 1871, aged nineteen years.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott are members of Dr. Kerr's Church, the Christian Union. In politics (although liberal and a Spiritualist for forty years), Mr. Scott has been a strong Republican.



JAMES CORLETT (deceased), a prominent agriculturist of Guilford Township, this county, and a self-made man in every sense of that much-abused term, died at his home in that township on December 21, 1885. He came to Winnebago County in the year 1844, with but fifty cents in money, began working by the day, and thus accumulated sufficient means to enable him to purchase an unbroken tract of land in Guilford Township. He went in debt for an ox-team, erected a log cabin in the wilderness, and, thus equipped, began his struggle for a livelihood. Although he met with many ups and downs, he continued to persevere and by his industry and

good management soon became the owner of six hundred acres of land, all of which he improved. He was a progressive farmer, a successful stock-raiser, and an excellent citizen and neighbor. At his death, he left property valued at from \$75,000 to \$80,000. He always attended strictly to business, and this, no doubt, was in a great measure the secret of his success. In politics, he affiliated with the Republican party, and in religion, he was a Methodist.

Mr. Corlett was born on the Isle of Man and was a posthumous child, his birth having occurred after his father's death. The latter was a sea-captain, and a few months after his marriage went to sea. The vessel was lost and he was never heard from afterwards. James was but three years of age when he was brought to this country by his mother, who located near Plainville, Ohio. There he remained until nineteen years of age, when alone, and with very little money, he came to Rockford, Ill. His mother had married the second time and had passed the closing scenes of her life in Geauga County, Ohio. By her second husband (who is also deceased), she became the mother of six children.

James Corlett was first married in Winnebago County to Miss Mary Van Alastine, who was born in the Empire State, and who, when a young woman, came to Illinois. She died in Guilford Township when thirty-four years of age, and left four children, three now living: William E., a farmer of New Milford Township; Francis L., a farmer of New Milford Township, and Mary A., wife of C. C. Sanders, who resides on South First Street, Rockford. The one deceased was Nelson A.

Mr. Corlett's second union occurred in this county, and united him to Miss Emma G. Wood, a native of Genesee County, N. Y., born near Batavia, in 1843. She was nine years of age when she came with her parents, Nathan and Adelia (Sargent) Wood, to Boone County, Ill. They settled on a farm in that county, first near Manchester, but later removed to Bonus and thence to Belvidere, where the father died when forty-eight years of age. He was a successful blacksmith and followed his trade for many years. Mr. Wood was born in Cattaraugus



Timothy Lewis

County, N. Y., and there learned his trade. After his marriage to Miss Sargent, and after the birth of three children, he removed with his family to Boone County, Ill., and there Mrs. Wood's death occurred on March 13, 1891, when nearly sixty-eight years of age. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and her husband also held membership in that church. He was a Republican in politics. They were the parents of eight children, six of whom lived to be grown and five are now living. All but Mrs. Corlett are residing in Michigan.

To Mr. and Mrs. Corlett were born nine children, two deceased: Sherman, who died at the age of two years, and Alice E., who died when nineteen years of age. Those living are Ida, wife of G. J. Thornton (see sketch); W. Mortimer, a farmer on the old homestead, married Miss Olive Ritchie and has one child, Faith; Fannie M., at home, a teacher in the public schools; Bessie A., at home, a clerk in Mr. Stevens' store in Rockford; Georgiana M.; J. Ernest, and Mabel F., all at home. Mrs. Corlett is a pleasant, agreeable lady, and resides in a comfortable home at No. 412 Whitman Street, Rockford.



TIMOTHY LEWIS, a retired farmer residing in Belvidere, well deserves representation in this volume, for he is one of the oldest citizens of Boone County, and one of its honored early settlers. His portrait and life sketch will therefore possess peculiar interest for the reader. His grandfather and father both bore the name of Timothy. The former was born in Massachusetts, and spent his last days in Sunderland, Bennington County, Vt. The latter was a native of Ashfield Mass., and married Mollie Bradley, a native of Sunderland, Vt., and a daughter of Stephen Bradley.

After his marriage, our subject's father removed to Essex, Chittenden County, where he purchased a tract of timber-land from the Government, upon which he resided until 1808, when he bought a farm in Sunderland. His home and most of the effects were burned a few years later. He soon rebuilt, and resided upon that farm for a number of

years, when he went to Wyoming, N. Y., and spent some time with his sons. He then came to Belvidere, and resided with our subject until his death, which occurred at the advanced age of ninety-three years. His wife died in Essex, Vt., about 1806.

Our subject spent his early childhood days in Sunderland, and at the age of twelve years started out in life for himself, working by the month as a farm hand. He made his home in Arlington until eighteen years of age, when, with all his possessions in a pack on his back, and about \$7 in his pocket, he started on foot for Le Roy, Genesee County, in the vicinity of which his uncle and brother were living. He there resided for two years, when he removed to China, now Arcade, Wyoming County, where he bought a farm. After residing there for a short time, he sold and bought another farm two miles from the village of Arcade.

Upon it was a hotel, and in connection with agricultural pursuits, he carried on hotel-keeping until 1841, when, on account of ill-health, he sold, and for the following three years was unable to engage in business. In 1844, he concluded to try a change of climate, and on the Fourth of July of that year started with a team to Buffalo, thence by the Lakes to Racine, Wis., and with a team completed his journey to Belvidere. Here his health at once began to improve, and he soon began work at his trade. He also purchased twenty acres of land on the Rockford road, about one mile from this city, and built a nice home, which he traded a few years later for three hundred acres of land on the same road, two and a half miles west of Belvidere. About 1858, he settled upon this farm, which he made his home until 1889, when he came to Belvidere and built the residence which he now occupies.

For more than fifty years Mr. Lewis has found a faithful helpmate in his wife. He was joined in wedlock, in 1829, with Mary Olmstead, a native of New York. Her death occurred in that State, and on the 21st of September, 1840, he married Almira Smalley, who was born in the town of Ovid, Seneca County, N. Y., August 12, 1815, and is a daughter of Lewis and Susanna (Martin) Smalley, both of whom were natives of New Jersey. They

removed to Ovid, N. Y., becoming pioneer settlers of that locality, and in 1825 took up their residence in Friendship, Allegany County, N. Y., where they made their home until called to their final rest.

By his first marriage, Mr. Lewis has two sons yet living, L. L. and La Fayette. By the second union there are two children: Mary E. and Arthur. Our subject and his wife are now well advanced in years, but in their old age they can look back over a well-spent life, for which they need feel no regret. They have the highest regard of all with whom they have come in contact, and their friends throughout the community are many. Mr. Lewis is a self-made man. From a very early age he was dependent upon his own resources, and the success that he has achieved is due entirely to his own efforts.



EDWARD M. HOLMES, a self-made man, now Secretary and Treasurer of the Palmer Hardware Company, has been a resident of this city throughout almost his entire life. He claims Rockford as his birthplace, having been born in 1847. The Holmes family is one of the old New England families of sterling worth. His father, Hollis H. Holmes, was a native of Danbury, Conn., and a son of Granville Holmes, who spent his entire life in that State, dying at an advanced age. The father of our subject was reared to manhood upon a farm, and in his youth also learned the trade of a shoemaker, which he followed for a number of years in Connecticut. Subsequently, he removed to St. Thomas, Canada, where he did business as a leather dealer for some years. It was in 1839 that he came to Rockford with his family, consisting of his wife and only son. After a long and tedious journey by team, he reached Rockford, then a small town, and established a boot and shoe store, the first exclusive business of the kind in the place. Owing to failing health, he afterwards sold out and bought of Charles Oliver, the well-known bandit of the prairie, a farm consisting of one hundred and

forty acres, lying near the city limits on the east, and which is now known as the Highlands. He paid \$12 per acre, but the property is now very valuable, and within a short time will be embraced within Rockford's suburbs. There Mr. Holmes engaged in fruit growing and the nursery business until his death, which occurred August 12, 1859, at the age of fifty years. He was a Republican in politics, and a most worthy citizen.

Hollis Holmes' wife, the mother of our subject, was in her maidenhood Miss Sarah Moore, a native of the Province of Ontario, Canada, where their marriage was celebrated. She survived her husband some years, and died in 1885 at the advanced age of seventy-one. She was a member of the Methodist Church, and lived a consistent Christian life. In the family were three sons, all yet living.

Our subject acquired his education in the city schools of Rockford, and began his business career as clerk in a hardware store in 1865. With that business he has been connected continuously since. He proved himself an excellent salesman, and served as such until 1881, when he was admitted to partnership in the Palmer Hardware Company, of which he is now Secretary and Treasurer. He has led a busy and useful life, devoted to the interests of the work in which he is engaged, and by his own efforts has acquired a good property, being, as before stated, a self-made man.

In Delavan, Wis., Mr. Holmes married Miss Ruth Sturtevant, a native of the Empire State. In an early day she removed to Delavan with her parents, Z. B. and Jane (Story) Sturtevant. After locating in Wisconsin, her father carried on business as a mason and contractor of Delavan until his death, which occurred at the ripe old age of eighty-six years. His widow still survives him, and makes her home with her son, Edwin Sturtevant, a well-known contractor of Chicago. She is a member of the Congregational Church, and has attained the age of three-score years and ten.

Mrs. Holmes spent the days of her maidenhood under the parental roof, and for a number of years engaged in teaching, being employed in the Deaf and Dumb Institute at Jacksonville, Ill., and also in the Deaf and Dumb Institute at Delavan, Wis. She was a member of the First Congre-

gational Church, and a true and noble woman. She died December 12, 1886, at the birth of her daughter, Ruth S., who is now a bright lass of five summers.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Holmes is a Democrat, and twice served as Alderman of the First Ward, but has never given his attention to office-seeking, preferring to devote his entire time to his business, which he has followed with signal success. By his industry, perseverance and good management, he has worked his way upward, and is now in comfortable circumstances, and connected with one of the leading business houses of the city.



GEORGE M. BLAKE, attorney-at-law in Rockford, and who is also extensively interested in banking, real estate and other interests, is a native of New York State. In 1704 the Test Act of Queen Anne, and the Antrim evictions in the years following, drove many thousands of the sturdy Presbyterian Scotch-Irish from Ulster to America. Of these were Mr. Blake's ancestors, who came to New England in 1718, there to begin life anew.

Our subject's grandfather, Zara Blake, was born at Litchfield, Conn., November 12, 1782. About the year 1800, he removed to New York State, and at Herkimer married, in 1803, Esther Ethridge. This lady was born at Stonington Conn., August 10, 1783, and was a daughter of Thomas and Anne (Cleveland) Ethridge. Thomas Ethridge was also born at Stonington, on June 30, 1746, and his father was Nathaniel Ethridge. The Ethridges originally were of English Quaker stock. Soon after his marriage, Grandfather Blake removed to Western New York, residing first at Livonia, then at Dansville, Livingston County. He was engaged in the lumber and cattle business until his death, September 17, 1839, his wife having died in 1833.

The father of our subject was Sarah H. Blake, and was born at Livonia, N. Y., October 23, 1821, and received a good common-school education. He taught school for a time, then took up the study of medicine, graduating in the first class sent forth by

the Buffalo Medical College. Returning to Dansville, he practiced medicine there until his death, September 8, 1888. Dr. Blake was Examining Surgeon for his district all through the war of the Rebellion. He had a high reputation as an operating surgeon and a fine business man, and accumulated a handsome property. He was a well-known Republican politician in his day and held a number of honorary positions in medical and other societies, but he was a man who permitted nothing to interfere with his professional business and he refused anything that might conflict therewith. In 1849, he married one of his former pupils, Lovisa Dorr, who was born in Dansville and was the daughter of Samuel Griswold and Selima (Phelps) Dorr. The Dorr were originally Huguenots whom religious persecutions drove to England; thence they came to New England, and took a leading part in all the movements of the times. By intermarriage and descent, they are connected with much of the best blood of New England, such as the Griswolds, of New Hampshire, Waites, of Connecticut, Walworths, Tremaines, etc. Samuel G. Dorr was born at Chatham, Columbia County, N. Y., and was the son of Matthew Dorr; they were woolen and flour manufacturers and a wealthy family. Dr. Blake and his wife were the parents of two children who grew to maturity: George M., and Josephine D.

George M. Blake was born at Dansville, November 1, 1852, and attended the local schools until 1869, when he entered the classical school of Williston Seminary, at Easthampton, Mass., to prepare for college. Owing to his father being involved in several large business law suits at this time, he gave up going to college and did not complete his course at Williston, but in 1871 took up the study of law. The lawsuits, however, came to a happy end, and, at his father's earnest solicitation, he began reading medicine with him, with a view to succeeding to his fine practice. He thus assisted his father, graduating in medicine at Buffalo in 1874, and continuing with his father until 1877, when his dislike for medicine could no longer be repressed, and he abandoned it completely, returning to law.

In 1879, he graduated from the law department of the Michigan University, ranking third in a

class of one hundred and ninety-seven, and, settling in Rockford, Ill., began the active practice of law.

In October of the same year, he married Carrie Gilman Brown, who was born at Horicon, Wis. She is the daughter of Chauncey and Ann M. (Smith) Brown, of New Hampshire, and of Yankee descent. To them has been born one son, Chauncey Ethridge. Mr. and Mrs. Blake are identified with the Second Congregational Church of Rockford. In politics, he is a Republican, and has served two years as City Attorney. He is a Mason and a Knight Templar and belongs to the Odd Fellows. He is President of the First National Bank of Canton, S. Dak., and of the Fidelity Building and Savings Association of Rockford, and is connected with other business enterprises.



WILLIAM GENT, now deceased, is numbered among the early settlers of Rockford and for many years was one of its leading and well-known business men. He was a native of Staffordshire, England, and descended from a prominent family of that community, who had settled in Staffordshire, coming from Normandy. His maternal grandfather was the overseer of the carpenter work on the Earl of Shrewsbury's estate, and it is probably from him that our subject got much of his inventive genius. William Gent, Sr., the father, was also a native of Staffordshire, and was educated as a drill-master. He died in middle life, when our subject was only four years of age. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Bull, left England in 1856, fourteen years after the death of her husband, and came to the United States, settling in Ironton, Ohio, where she spent one year, when in 1857, with her four children, she came to Rockford, Ill. Her death occurred in this city on the 6th of March, 1886, at the age of seventy-five years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gent were members of the Church of England.

Our subject was nineteen years of age when he came to Rockford. In this city, he married Miss Mary Taylor, who was educated in Mt. Morris Seminary and spent her maidenhood days in Rockford. Her father, James Taylor, was a native of

Vermont, but was reared in New Hampshire and afterward removed to Rochester, N. Y. His father died when he was a lad of ten years, and from that time he made his own way in the world. He came to Illinois when Rockford contained only two houses, and ran the first ferry boat on the river at this point. He also became a farmer but lived in the city most of the time, his land lying near the town. It is now all within the corporation limits. His death occurred in 1879, at the age of seventy-five years. He was a man of prominence in Rockford and was widely known. Before the war, he was a staunch Abolitionist and later became a stalwart Republican. In his religious belief, he was a Methodist, belonging to the Centennial Church. In this city, he married Miss Jane Sovereign, a native of Canada and a daughter of John Sovereign, a pioneer of Rockford, who came to this State in wagons through a new and unbroken country. The latter died in California at the home of his son George, at the age of seventy-three. Mrs. Taylor died at the age of forty-three. She was a member of the Methodist Church, coming of an old family of that denomination, several of her father's brothers being Methodist ministers.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gent were born nine children, but one died unnamed and Allen and Sidney also died in infancy. Florence E., who was educated in Rockford and at Whitewater, Wis., is now engaged in teaching; William, an electrician, is employed in the electric works of St. Louis; Arthur, Charles, Emily M. and Rufus are all at home.

All his life long, Mr. Gent was known as a man of wonderful genius and a great inventor. For a time he was associated with John Nelson, the great knitting machine inventor, now deceased, and later he became connected with the J. P. Manny Manufacturing Company. Subsequently, he built a shop of his own, engaging in business for himself. His inventions of various kinds have become well known and many have been brought into general use, notably the machine for making barb wire, which is now in use in the Elwood & Haish Barb Wire Factories, of De Kalb, Ill. Another is his lighting staple machine. He would work out in his mind a plan, then put on paper his draft, and when the machinery was made it would go like clock-



J. P. Jones

work. He was not a day-dreamer but a practical inventor, but like many other inventors he never got the full credit and benefit of what he did. He won the respect and regard of all who knew him and his loss was not only to his family but to the county and community as well.



JOHN P. JONES. The world expresses its approbation when it says "Here is a self-made man." The foregoing is necessary to the complete understanding and appreciation of the subject of this sketch, whose portrait appears on the opposite page. Mr. Jones, who has been a prominent lawyer of Rockford, in addition to the duties of which business he superintended the operations of his fine farm, is now living retired from active life, enjoying the fruits of his early industry.

The original of this sketch was born in Chester, Warren County, N. Y., and is the son of Lindall J. W. Jones, whose birth occurred in Petersburg, Rensselaer County, N. Y., where also his father was born, of Welsh ancestry. The latter-named gentleman was a farmer by occupation and spent his entire life in his native State. The father of our subject was reared and educated in Rensselaer County, where he resided until after his marriage, removing thence to Warren County, and becoming one of the early settlers of the town of Chester. He continued to make that place his home for a short time, then purchased a portion of the Van Rensselaer tract, which was partially improved. At the time of his location in that part of the county, there were neither railroads, canals nor convenient markets, and the people lived mostly off the products of their farms. As wild game was plentiful, they were always supplied with the choicest meats, as well as the finest fish. The elder Mr. Jones carded flax, which his wife would spin and weave, thus dressing her children in homespun material.

Lindall J. W. Jones cleared the greater portion of his farm, erecting thereon a good class of farm buildings and making that place his home for nearly twenty years, at which time he disposed of

his estate and removed to Petersburg, where he purchased a home and resided until his decease. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Mary White; her father, Aaron White, was a native of Massachusetts, whence he removed to New York and spent his last years in Rensselaer County. His wife, the grandmother of our subject, was Betsey Bigelow, a native of Douglas, Mass. Her mother died at the advanced age of one hundred and three years, while the grandmother of Mr. Jones reached the good old age of ninety years, departing this life in Berlin, Rensselaer County, N. Y. His mother was ninety-five years old at her death.

John P. Jones, of this sketch, deciding to follow the profession of law, at the age of twenty-one became a student at the State and National Law School, at Ballston Spa, Saratoga County, N. Y., having studied previous to this, however, in the office of Martin & Townsend, at Troy, N. Y. Being graduated at the age of twenty-five, he commenced the practice of his profession in Troy, where he remained for two years, at the expiration of which time he went to Hoosick Corners and was there similarly engaged until 1866. He then came to Belvidere, Boone County, Ill., where he became the proprietor of an estate of six hundred and sixty acres, which was then called the Newburg Farm, and which place has the following history:

The house on the above premises was erected fifty years ago by Benjamin F. Hoyt, who purchased the property of Col. Mahlon Sayers, when that portion of the county was known as Sayersville. The building was used as an hotel for a number of years and was a popular resort for persons traveling overland between Chicago and Galena. In those early days, the place was larger than either Rockford, Belvidere or Elgin, or any town between the Garden City and the lead mines. In a few years, the name of the place was changed to Cleveland and subsequently to Newburg, and while it first bore the latter name it saw its palmiest days. Among its flourishing industries may be mentioned a large gristmill, blacksmith shop, two grocery stores, dry-goods shop, tailor shop, carding mill, sawmill and distillery. Farmers for forty miles around were in the habit of going to New-

burg to do their trading and to have their grist ground. At this time the people residing there aspired to make their town the county seat of the county, but cruel fate ordered it otherwise. After a heated contest between Newburg and Belvidere, the latter led by S. P. Doty and the former by Col. Mahlon Sayers, Belvidere won the day. In 1855, the property was purchased by our subject, who engaged in stock-raising and dairying, having as many as one hundred cows on his farm at one time, and during two years of the Civil War sold over \$11,000 worth of cheese at twenty cents per pound.

Our subject has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Armenia, daughter of Peter and Comfort Brimmer, the marriage ceremony being performed February 22, 1851. To them were born a daughter and son. Mary A., who was born December 3, 1851, is now Mrs. C. W. Fisher and resides at Los Angeles, Cal. The son, J. P. B., was born June 6, 1851, married Elvira Howard, and now resides upon the Newburg farm above described, where, in addition to cultivating the soil, he is a breeder of thoroughbred Hereford and Short-horn cattle. Mrs. Armenia Jones departed this life December 8, 1886, and our subject in July of the following year was married to Kate Conklin, who was born in Cherry Valley and was the daughter of George Conklin. By the second marriage of Mr. Jones, one son was born, who bears the name of Martin Townsend.

He of whom we write resided on his farm in Boone County until 1870, at which time he came to Rockford, and for three years engaged in the practice of law. He then removed to Cherry Valley Township, where he resided until 1891, when he returned to this city and is living retired from business of any kind. He is the possessor of considerable real estate in this locality, still owning two farms in Boone County, and an excellently-cultivated tract in Guilford Township. He has made profitable investments, by which he has secured a handsome competence, and now ranks among the wealthy and prominent residents of Winnebago County. In his social and public life, he is one who is capable of forming his own opinions and resolutely adhering to them. He is widely

known for his integrity, honesty and uprightness, always contributing liberally to every good cause and ever striving to suppress evil. With his good wife, he is an influential member of the Court Street Methodist Church, and, in politics, is a strong Prohibitionist.



CAPT. M. L. BRUNER. This honorable gentleman, who is a resident of Rockford, was born in Gossfield Township, Essex County, Canada, April 16, 1839. He is a son of Philip Bruner, a native of the same county, while his grandfather, Adam Bruner, hailed from Pennsylvania and removed in an early day to Essex County, where he cleared a farm and resided until his decease.

The father of our subject grew to man's estate in his native county, where he was married. He located about six miles from the old homestead in Gossfield Township, and continued to make that place his home until 1849, when, with his family, which included his wife and nine children, he emigrated to Illinois, making the journey with teams, which consumed fourteen days. Locating in Winnebago County, he purchased a tract of eighty acres, mostly timber land, in Harlem Township, besides farming land in the same township. There was a log cabin on his timbered land which he removed to his farm and resided in for about six years. In 1868, he sold that purchase and bought a farm two and a half miles from Caledonia and was there actively engaged in farming until his death.

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Mary A. Munger. She was born in Essex County, Canada, and was a daughter of Joseph Munger, a native of Pennsylvania. He was a wagon-maker by trade, and, on removing from his native State, located in the above-named county in Canada, where he was one of the pioneers of Colchester Township. There he prosecuted his trade, in addition to which he carried on farming and continued to reside until 1855, when he removed to Iowa and located in Black Hawk County, where he spent his last days. The maternal grandmother of

our subject was Sarah (Geity) Munger and was also a native of Pennsylvania. Her father, was Simeon Geity. The grandmother died in Harlem Township and Mrs. Bruner passed her last days on the home farm in Caledonia Township.

The children included in the parental family bore the following names: Joseph, William, Julia, Malcom, Augustus, Melinda, Orlando, Anderson, Myron, Franklin and Walter. William met his death by an accident when ten years of age; Walter departed this life at the age of twenty-eight years. Our subject, when ten years of age, accompanied his parents on their removal to this State. At that early day the country bore little resemblance to its present prosperous condition, there being no railroads in this locality, and Chicago being their nearest market. He attended the district school and assisted his father in performing the duties on the farm, continuing to be so employed until 1861. In September of that year, he enlisted in Company C, Eighteenth Wisconsin Infantry, which company he assisted in raising, and upon its organization was transferred to Company K, entering the service in October, 1862, as Second Sergeant. For meritorious conduct, he was soon promoted to be Second Lieutenant and in March, 1863, was made Captain of his company. His first battle was that of Shiloh, and in the first day's fighting his regiment was cut to pieces and disorganized, by ten o'clock, A. M., all on the line of fire being either killed or wounded. Two hundred and eleven men and eleven officers were taken prisoners, and on the second day of the conflict Mr. Bruner was placed in command of the Sixth Regiment, which numbered sixty-two men and was held in reserve. At noon, he turned the command over to a Second Lieutenant and later joined the skirmish line on the left, forcing his way through to the camp from which the rebels had driven them on Sunday. There he alone captured two prisoners, and after turning them over to the proper authorities, gave his attention to caring for his wounded comrades. He later participated in the battles of luka and Corinth, during the latter-named conflict being on detached duty for a time. Soon thereafter, he joined the Fifth Michigan, of which company he was placed in command, and

after the battle of Corinth went in pursuit of the enemy. With his company, Mr. Bruner spent the winter at Young's Point, and in 1863 fought in the battles of Jackson (Miss.) Champion Hills, Black River and the siege and capture of Vicksburg. At the end of that time, he obtained leave of absence, and on returning home was confined to his bed for two months with typhoid-malarial fever. When able to again endure the hardships of life in the army, Mr. Bruner joined his regiment at Memphis and marched with the command to Chattanooga and engaged in the battle of Missionary Ridge. His regiment was the first of Sherman's command to cross the Tennessee River, crossing at two o'clock in the morning, and before daylight had thrown up two lines of breastworks, and a third before ten A. M. In the fall of that year, the command went to Alabama, where they spent the winter, and in the spring sojourned at Whitesbury, on the Tennessee River, where they remained until June. During that time, they destroyed the salt works on the above-named river, and in the latter part of June marched to Chattanooga, where our subject celebrated the 4th of July by riding a mule to the top of Lookout Mountain.

The next important battle in which our subject engaged was Altoona Pass. At three A. M. on the day of that conflict, he was ordered to take command of three companies to protect the left wing. They there remained until 2 P. M., without orders, when they concluded to repair to the fort. Upon the arrival of our subject there, Capt. Rafferty, of Col. Ronett's staff, asked him if he thought they would have to surrender. Capt. Bruner answered, "No, not as long as there are men and ammunition left." He remained with his company until the close of that battle, when he returned home on a furlough. Rejoining his regiment at Nashville, Tenn., he accompanied them, via the Cumberland and Ohio Rivers, to Cincinnati, from there by railroad to Baltimore, and then by steamer to Newburn, N. C. Soon after landing, the regiment participated in the battle of Wise's Fork, then joining Sherman's forces, marched with them to Raleigh and finally to Washington, where they participated in the Grand Review.

At the close of hostilities, Mr. Bruner, on the

18th of August, 1865, returned home by way of Louisville, Ky. He then entered Beloit College, where he prosecuted his studies until 1867. At the expiration of that time, he purchased eighty acres of land from his father and one hundred acres of other parties, and, with the exception of teaching three terms of winter school, devoted his entire time and attention to cultivating the soil for thirteen years. Then disposing of his estate, our subject engaged as a commercial traveler, representing H. W. Pierce, with whom he was connected for six years. For a twelvemonth, he traveled in the interests of the Rockford Mitten and Hosiery Company, and a like period for P. P. Argersinger, of Johnstown. Mr. Bruner then established a carriage repository on North Madison Street, where he has conducted a successful business since that time.

April 23, 1867, Miss Sophronia Adelaide Swezey became the wife of our subject. Mrs. Bruner was a native of New York State and departed this life in 1878. Our subject was a second time married, August 3, 1884, this time to Emeline (Goodhoe) Barnes, widow of William Barnes. Capt. Bruner is the father of three children by his first marriage, viz: Elmer Howard, Augustus Harlin and Rhoda Adelia. The present wife of our subject became the mother of two children by her first marriage, Lutie and June. In social matters, the original of this sketch is a member of Rockford Lodge No. 120, A. F. & A. M., Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. Mr. and Mrs. Bruner are members in good standing of the Congregational Church.



ROBERT K. WELSH, City Attorney of Rockford, was born November 18, 1863, in Waukesha County, Wis. His father, Thomas Welsh, was a native of Glasgow, Scotland, where also the grandfather, who bore the name of James, was born. The latter-named gentleman was a stonecutter by trade, which occupation he followed in his native land until 1841, the date of his coming to America. He was accompanied on the journey by his wife and three children, and after a voyage of seven weeks on the ocean

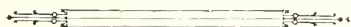
landed in New York. Going to Delhi, Delaware County, that State, the grandfather of our subject rented a dairy farm for seven years, and in 1848 moved to Wisconsin, going by canal and Lakes to Milwaukee, and then by teams to Waukesha County, where he purchased a tract of heavily-timbered land. Only a few acres of this expanse were cultivated and improved, but a log house had been erected. Mr. Welsh at once set about the work of redeeming the tract from its original wildness, and made that place his home until his death. His wife, Cynthia Welsh, died from the result of an attack of cholera soon after her arrival in Wisconsin.

James Welsh's family of three children bore the names of James, Elizabeth and Thomas. The father of our subject was seventeen years of age when he came to America with his parents, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits. When attaining mature years, he bought the interest of his brother and sister in his father's estate and resided on the home farm until 1877, at which time he sold and purchased another tract in the same county, which is his present place of residence. The mother of our subject prior to her marriage was Miss Janet Watson. She also was born in Scotland, in the city of Edinboro, and was the daughter of Andrew and Catherine (Rogers) Watson. Her father spent his entire life in his native land, and after his decease the mother and five children emigrated to America, making the trip to Waukesha County in 1847.

The household of which our subject was a member included four children: Catherine E., Robert K., James A. and Ruth I. Robert was given a good education, attending the district school in early life, which was supplemented by a course of study at the Waukesha High School, from which he was graduated in the Class of '82. Our subject then entered Beloit College and finished a course of study there in 1887, when, at once coming to Rockford, he accepted the position of first assistant in the High School. Being desirous of becoming a lawyer, he made good use of all his spare time in the study of that profession, reading in the office of Charles A. Works. So industrious was he, that in May, 1890, he was admitted to the Bar, and in Septem-

ber of that year opened an office in Rockford, where he has been engaged in active and successful practice since 1889.

In July, 1889, Robert K. Welsh and Miss Minerva E. Prouty were united in marriage. The lady was born in Richland County, Wis., and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two children, sons, Carlton K. and Frank A. A Republican in politics, Mr. Welsh never fails to vote the straight ticket at the polls, and in 1891 was elected City Attorney of Rockford, in which responsible position he gives entire satisfaction. In social matters, he is a member of Guinevere Lodge, K. of P.; of the Royal League, Royal Arcanum and Knights of the Globe. He is a gentleman who has won a high position among his fellow-men and is entitled to and possesses the confidence of his neighbors and friends.



IRAM BURTON. Nothing is of deeper interest to the student of human nature and human events than to trace the career of one who has fought his way to a position of prominence and financial success by dint of his own pluck, prudence and perseverance. Such a study do we find in the life of him whose name appears at the head of this paragraph.

The splendid farm of Mr. Burton, which is located on section 22, Bonus Township, Boone County, is well worthy of a visit from any one who admires a finely-tilled farm. This gentleman is a native of Vermont and was born September 19, 1821. His parents, Stephen and Hannah Burton, were also natives of the Green Mountain State and departed this life in New York at the respective ages of sixty-two and seventy-six years. He of whom we write had ten brothers and sisters, four of whom are yet living.

When reaching his majority, our subject worked out by the month for a time, and July 17, 1853, was married to Miss Minerva Paine, whose birth occurred May 29, 1825, in New York. Her parents, Daniel and Mahala (Sweet) Paine, were also natives of that State and emigrated to this county in 1856, where they died when about eighty-three

years of age. Mrs. Burton was one in a family of five children, four of whom are living and are scattered over the Western States.

Of the six children born to our subject and his wife, four are now living, namely: Pluma, born December 30, 1854, in New York, married M. G. Gurney, and is the mother of five children; Daniel R., who was born January 6, 1855, is residing near Olympia, Wash., where he is engaged in the culture of fruit; Flora M., who was born November 14, 1859, married M. Brown, a farmer of this county, by whom she has three children; Hermus, who was born February 26, 1865, resides at home and operates the old home farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Burton are active and influential members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics our subject casts a Republican vote. He is engaged in mixed husbandry and ranks among the foremost farmers in the county. He has resided on his present farm since March, 1856, and is the owner of two estates, comprising two hundred and fifty acres, all of which is under cultivation, with the exception of a tract of eighteen acres of timber. He has recently repaired his farm buildings so that they now rank among the best of the kind in the county. Mr. Burton possesses exceptional character and has displayed considerable ability in this particular line and has overcome many disadvantages. He is a typical Vermonter and well-to-do agriculturist.



ROBERT NICOL, who is living a retired life at No. 909 Rockton Avenue, in Rockford, was born in Sterlingshire, Scotland, April 7, 1820, and comes of an old Scotch family that has flourished in Sterlingshire for many generations, the occupation of most of its members being that of farming. His father, John Nicol, lived and died in that country, dying at the age of sixty-three. His wife survived him some time and was called to her final rest at the advanced age of ninety-two. The family were always Presbyterians. Our subject was the eldest of their family which numbered five sons and a daughter; he and two

brothers, Thomas and Andrew, are yet living, the last-named being a resident of Washington County Pa., where he has engaged in farming for thirty-five years. Thomas follows the same pursuit in the county of his nativity. No others ever came to America except those just mentioned.

Robert Nicol, whose name heads this sketch, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native land, and after he had attained to man's estate was married, in his native county, on the 17th of January, 1842, to Miss Mary McCougan. She was born and reared near the home of her husband and came from a good Scotch family that had lived in the Lowlands since the days of persecution. Her parents, Robert and Elizabeth (McMullen) McCougan, came to this country and settled in the Province of Ontario, Canada, where they spent their remaining lives. They died in the faith of the Presbyterian Church, when well advanced in years.

The year 1863 witnessed the arrival of Mr. Nicol and his wife in Canada. For three years they lived in the Province of Ontario, and thence came to Rockford, where they have made their home since the 17th of July, 1866. Our subject became connected with the machine shops of Emerson and Thompson, manufacturers of this city, and was thus engaged until he retired from active business life. He is now enjoying the rest which he has so truly earned and richly deserves. He has ever taken an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and has aided in the advancement of those enterprises calculated to promote the general welfare. He has supported the Republican party in politics, and he and his wife are prominent members and active workers in the Presbyterian Church. This worthy couple have traveled life's journey together for half a century, sharing with each other in its joys and sorrows, adversity and prosperity, and now in their declining years they are surrounded by many friends whom they have won by their upright lives.

Mr. and Mrs. Nicol are the parents of seven children: John, a photographer of Monmouth, Ill.; Robert, who is married and resides in Chicago, Edward, who is married, also makes his home there and is employed as a commercial traveler for a tack

factory of that city; James, a traveling salesman for Phelix, Marsh and Co., of Chicago; Hugh, manager for the Illinois and Iowa Base Ball League, and a resident of Rockford; and Elizabeth, wife of Joseph E. Turner, a butter merchant, also of Rockford.



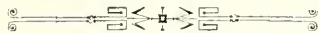
BERNHARD FISCHER, now living a retired life, was born in Saxony, Germany, on the 24th of September, 1831, and is a son of William Fischer, also a native of that country. He was a lumber merchant, carrying on a business which was established by his father and is yet run by his two sons. Mr. Fischer died at the age of sixty-five years. His wife, whose maiden name was Dora Heibel, was born in the same town as her husband, and died at the age of sixty-four. In religious belief, they were Lutherans. They had a family of six sons: George, who recently died in New York and left a property worth \$100,000; George Louis, a wealthy brewer of South Rockford; and Gearhard and Sigmund, who are extensively engaged in the lumber business in Germany, and are also very wealthy. One of these latter came to this country, and here gained many ideas concerning their business, which have materially aided in its growth.

Our subject remained in his native land until twenty years of age, when he determined to try his fortune in America, and crossed the Atlantic. He first came to Rockford in 1854. Five years later, he went to New York City, and thence by way of the Isthmus to San Francisco, Cal., on a mining expedition. This was not very successful, and in 1861 he went to Virginia City, near which silver mines were said to be located. He was afterward in Dayton, Nev., where for some time he successfully carried on a saloon. From here, in 1866, he went to Reynolds City, Mont., and opened the first brewery in that section. After some months, he sold out and went down the Missouri River to St. Joseph, thence to Grand Rapids, Wis., thence to Milwaukee, and across the Lake to New Haven, Mich., and by the Grand Trunk line to Canada and on to New York, where he remained until the spring

of 1867. He then again came to Rockford and established a saloon, carrying on a successful business for some years, or until his retirement in 1891. Since that time, he has made a trip to the Old Country and spent about a year in the Fatherland.

Mr. Fischer was married, in this city, to Miss Louisa Bringle, who was born in Buffalo, N. Y., and is a daughter of Leopold Bringle, who was born near Strausberg, Germany, and at the age of twenty-six emigrated to the United States, and was married in Eden, N. Y. His wife was born in the same locality as her husband, and at the age of thirteen came to this country with her parents, who spent their last days in Eden, N. Y. After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bringle, they began keeping hotel in Buffalo, and later went to Springville, Erie County. After some years they came to Rockford, and subsequently removed to Chicago, where Mr. Bringle died, August 12, 1889, at the age of seventy-three years. He was a Catholic in religion, and a Democrat in politics. His wife is still living with Mrs. Fischer at the age of sixty-nine years. In their family were ten children and, with one exception, all are yet living.

Mr. and Mrs. Fischer have many friends in Rockford, where they have so long resided. He is a member of Kent Lodge No. 169, I. O. O. F., and also of the Encampment Order of this city. He gives his entire attention to the management of his property, which includes his comfortable home, a brick residence situated at No. 208 North Church Street, together with four fine houses in the same block, and two good business houses, a frame and brick, on West State Street.



FRED H. MAXWELL, one of the prominent and well-known farmers of New Milford Township, who has also served as Justice of the Peace for many years, claims Massachusetts as the State of his nativity. He was born on the 12th of January, 1824, in Franklin County, and is a son of Luther and Elizabeth (Baldwin) Maxwell, also natives of Massachusetts, the former born March 17, 1797, and the latter in July, 1796.

The founder of the family in America came from Ireland to Bedford, Mass., in 1733, on account of religious persecution. He was one of seven sons who died between the ages of sixty-seven and ninety-five years. He served in the French and Indian War, and saw the achievement of American independence. Having lost much of his fortune, he made a trip to the West Indies with a cargo of horses, hoping to sell at a profit, but died on the return trip, and was buried October 14, 1799.

The grandfather of our subject, Hugh Maxwell, a native of Massachusetts, was a wool-carder by trade and a farmer. He married Olive Newhall, and died February 23, 1849. His wife survived him many years, passing away at the age of eighty-three. Luther Maxwell was one of five children. He bought one hundred acres of land in Massachusetts, which he added to the old homestead, and owned a half interest in an iron foundry, which, on coming to the West in June, 1846, he traded for seven hundred and twenty acres of land on sections 25, 26, 35 and 36, New Milford Township. Of this, four hundred acres were under the plow, and a good house and barn had been built. The mother of our subject died two months after their arrival here, of the prevailing malarial fever, at the age of forty-nine. Mr. Maxwell survived his wife some years, and died November 20, 1856, at the age of fifty-nine. He was a prominent and influential citizen of the community and one of its honored pioneers.

Our subject was a young man of twenty-two years when, with his parents, he came to the West. On the 29th of March, 1846, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Harriet M. Pierson, who was born October 14, 1828, in Shelburne, Vt., which town was founded by her great-grandfather, James Pierson, who was kidnapped when a child and brought from England to America in 1715. His son, Moses, was an active participant in the Revolutionary War. The parents of Mrs. Maxwell were Hiram and Maria (Holabird) Pierson, both natives of Vermont.

After their marriage, the young couple settled on his father's farm, where they have since resided. They lost an infant daughter, Ellen T., but have eight living children: Edwin L.; Elizabeth M., wife

of Frank Marsh, of Rockford; Arthur H.; Walter B.; Hattie M., widow of John Beale, of Rockford; Fred B.; Beecher H.; and Clarence Hugh. Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell had liberal educations. The lady was a student in Beloit, and for two years engaged in teaching. They have also given their children good advantages. Fred B., who was graduated from Beloit College and is a post-graduate of Cornell Institute, was a teacher in the blind asylum of Janesville for two years and was selected from the Cornell Institute, of Ithaca, N. Y., to fill a vacancy in the University of Chapel Hill, N. C.

Mr. Maxwell was elected Justice of the Peace in 1857, and has held the office almost continuously since. He was also Town Clerk for a term of twenty years, serving as such when the town was organized. He was Supervisor during the war. On the 6th of August, 1847, he was one of three who organized the first Odd Fellows' lodge in the county, called Winnebago Lodge No. 31, I. O. O. F., and he was elected its first presiding officer. In 1875, he made a trip to New England, thinking that he might not live to go again, but his health was much improved, and, as his wife laughingly remarked, "he now makes a very good chore boy." The years rest lightly upon this worthy couple, who are recognized among the best citizens of the community, and are certainly deserving of representation in the history of their adopted county.



GUST PETERSON, a member of the firm of Peterson & Benson, real-estate dealers of Rockford, does business at No. 601 Seventh Street, where he has a pleasant and comfortable office. This firm was established in August, 1891, and they do a general real-estate and loan business. They have interests in Stockholm Park and in Robinson's Addition, and have already secured a liberal patronage, of which they are well deserving. For some years previous to the forming of the partnership, our subject had dealt in real estate in a private way and thus experience fitted him for the work to which he now devotes his energies.

Our subject was born in Sweden, on the 3d of June, 1856, and is a son of Carl and Anna (Simon-

son) Peterson, who are yet residents of Rockford. They were among the founders of the Swedish Mission Church, of which they are still members. They have reached the ages of sixty-six and seventy years, respectively. The first of the family to come to this country was Mary, who is now the wife of Mr. Reble, a photographer of St. Peters, Minn. Our subject was the next to cross the Atlantic, and later the parents and the remainder of the family also sailed for the New World.

Mr. Peterson, whose name heads this sketch, spent his early boyhood days in his native land, but when sixteen years of age bid good-bye to his old home and started out to try his fortune in the New World. He landed at New York City and thence he went to Geneva, Ill., where his sister was formerly located. He has made his home in Rockford since 1872. For ten years after locating in this city, he was employed as a gardener by G. A. Sanford and with the money saved during that time he embarked in business on his own account. In connection with his real-estate business, he is ex-Director of the Star Furniture Manufacturing Company, ex-President of the Globe Manufacturing Company, and is interested in other leading enterprises of the city. His business career has been a successful one and he may well be termed a self-made man, for whatever he possesses has been acquired through his own efforts and he is now recognized as one of the well-to-do citizens of Rockford.

Mr. Peterson has been twice married; in this city he wedded Miss Tilla Lindblade, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, June 9, 1859, and when about four years old was brought to this country by her parents. She died of consumption at her home in Rockford in the fall of 1886, leaving two children: Earl and Grace.

For a second wife, Mr. Peterson chose Miss Hilda Lindstrom, who was born and reared in the city of Jonkoping, Sweden, her birth occurring January 11, 1859. Her parents are still residents of that country and are members of the Lutheran Church. Mrs. Peterson was the first of her family to cross the Atlantic, the year 1882 witnessing her emigration. A daughter graces this union, Edith B. Our subject and his wife are members of the



Aug Lyellgren

Mission Swedish Church, in the work of which they take an active part and in which he serves as Trustee. In politics, he is a Prohibitionist and his aid is given to every worthy enterprise calculated to promote the best interests of the city. His success in business is well deserved, for he has led a busy and useful life, deserving the confidence of all.



AUGUST KJELLGREN, Superintendent and foreman of the painting department of the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company, is one of the fifteen stockholders of this large factory, in which are employed several hundred men, about one hundred being in the department of which our subject has charge. He has held the position for five years and is a well-known Swedish business man of this city.

Mr. Kjellgren, whose portrait appears on the opposite page, was born in Wester Gotthland, Sweden, on the 29th of December, 1839, and is the eldest of a family of three sons, whose parents were John and Anna (Johnson) Kjellgren. The former was born in 1812, the latter in 1810. They crossed the broad Atlantic to America in 1866, came to Rockford the same year and are still residents of this city. With the Swedish Zion Church, they hold membership. The brothers of our subject are Samuel, a house painter of this city, and Andrew, a cabinet-maker by trade, now President of the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company.

Our subject spent his early boyhood days in the land of his nativity, and at length emigrated to the New World. He landed at New York City and thence came to Rockford, joining his parents here on the 25th of January, 1868. He afterward learned the painter's trade and has since followed that business, winning success in that line. For five years, he held the position of foreman in the painting department of the Union Furniture Company of Rockford, and since that time has been Superintendent and foreman of the painting department of the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company. From a humble position, he has steadily worked his way upward and is now one of the

well-to-do citizens of the community. In connection with his other interests, he is also a stockholder in the Union Grocery Company, of this city; the Mantel and Furniture Company, and other local interests, and has done much toward insuring the success of these enterprises.

A marriage ceremony performed in Rockford united the destinies of Mr. Kjellgren and Miss Caroline C. Wetterlund, who was born in Sweden, January 26, 1847, and came to this country in 1868. Her parents, who were Swedish Lutherans, died in their native land. Unto our subject and his wife have been born ten children, but Anna O., Alma J., Anna C. and Arvid S., are now deceased. The living are Eric, a painter in his father's factory; Axel L., who also follows the same trade; Ellen M., Hildur, O. B., Oscar S. and Kenneth F., who are still under the parental roof.



THEODORE I. COLBY has for many years been engaged in blacksmithing in Rockford, and is now doing business at No. 128 North Madison Street. In the pursuit of that trade he has acquired quite a little fortune and is now well-to-do. His shop is 33x60 feet, and he employs two men to help him. On coming to Rockford, he did journeyman work for three years for Sam Church, and then embarked in business for himself. He came to this city from Detroit, Mich., where he completed his trade, having begun it in Canada.

Mr. Colby was born in the township of Richford, Tioga County, N. Y., and when a lad of ten years removed to the Province of Ontario, Canada, with his parents, Charles and Mary A. (Shaffer) Colby. The paternal grandfather of our subject, David Colby, was a native of Maine and of English descent. He married Miss Farrington, of the Pine Tree State, and a part of their family was reared in Maine, but in an early day they removed to Tioga County, N. Y., where they resided upon a farm throughout the remainder of their lives. They were among the pioneer settlers of that county and were highly respected people. In religious belief, it is thought they were Universalists,

as was their son Charles, the father of our subject. On removing to Canada, the latter located on a farm at Chatham, where he is still living at the very advanced age of ninety-one years. He is still hale and hearty, the infirmities of age resting lightly upon him. His wife died at their home in Chatham at the age of sixty-five. She was born in the Mohawk Valley in New York, and was a daughter of Jacob Shaffer, a native of Schoharie County, N. Y., of German lineage. Jacob Shaffer was twice married, his first union being with Miss House, who became the mother of Mrs. Colby. She died in the Empire State, and he married Miss Cypher, of the same State, who died in Canada when well advanced in years. Mr. Shaffer was called to his final rest at the age of seventy-five.

Our subject is the eldest of five sons and three daughters; the latter are all now deceased, but the sons are yet living and all now married. It was in Chatham that T. I. Colby led to the marriage altar Miss Barbara McKay, who was born on Prince Edward Island in 1834, and came of an old Scotch family. Her parents were Donald and Huenia (McKay) McKay, both natives of Scotland. They were married on Prince Edward Island, and afterwards removed to the Province of Ontario, where as farming people they resided for some time. Later, they removed to Ridgeway, Mich., where they spent their last days, both having reached the age of four-score years when called to their final home.

For many years Mr. and Mrs. Colby have lived and labored together, and their efforts have been blessed with prosperity. They now have a pleasant home at No. 403 North Third Street, which is the abode of hospitality and a favorite resort with their many friends. They attend the Centennial Methodist Church, of which Mrs. Colby is a member. Their union has been blessed by one son, Charles E., who possesses great natural artistic talent and is a successful artist. He married Lillian Baldwin, and they have a little daughter, Bessie, who is the joy of their home and the pet of her grandparents.

Mr. Colby exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, but has never sought political preferment for himself. He is a

member of Ellis Lodge No. 104, A. F. & A. M. His residence in Rockford covers a period of thirty-six years, during which time he has won a handsome competence, and also by his upright life has gained the respect and good-will of those with whom he has been brought in contact.



AUGUST P. FLOBERG. One of the most popular, strong and flourishing financial institutions of Rockford is the Manufacturers' National Bank, of which August P. Floberg is the able and efficient Cashier. He was a Director and stockholder from this bank's inception and was one of the originators of the same. He was also a promoter and is now President of the Rockford Desk and Furniture Factory, which employs one hundred and twenty-five men and has a capital of \$100,000; and is Treasurer and a Director of the Mechanics' Furniture Company, which employs one hundred men and has a capital of \$75,000. Mr. Floberg was also one of the chief organizers of the Rockford Manufacturing Company, which was formed in 1889 with a capital stock of \$200,000 and one hundred employees, is Treasurer of the same, and is Director and Treasurer of the Globe Clothing Manufactory, Director and Treasurer of the Forest City Bit and Tool Company, Director of the Rockford Cabinet Company, and is Treasurer and one of the founders of the Rockford *Posten* Publishing Company. He is also a member of the Peterson Land Association and is a Director in the Swedish Building and Loan Association.

Our subject was born in Wester Gotthland Province, Sweden, born October 5, 1856, and came to this country with his mother in 1868. His father, Gustave Pherson, came of a well-known Swedish family and died when comparatively a young man. The mother came with her children to Rockford and is still living. She married John Breadberg, a cabinet-maker of this city, with the Standard Furniture Company, and is now about sixty years of age. She is a member of the Lutheran Church.

August P. Floberg was but eleven years of age when he came to Rockford and he received a good

practical education in the schools of the city. Later, he accepted a position as office boy, and with the earnings thus saved, gave himself a good education in the Business College of Rockford. He was then book-keeper for different institutions and later was for seven years Secretary for the Central Furniture Company. He soon became familiar with his business and has developed into one of the most thorough-going, enterprising men of the city. He is a bank officer of marked executive ability and vast practical experience, and is possessed of those characteristics of energy, promptness and sobriety which ever secure success.

Miss Augusta Ekeberg, who became his wife in Rockford in 1880, was born in Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, and attained her growth and received her education there. She came to this country with her parents in 1870 and has since been a resident of this city. The father, Jonas Ekeberg, and the mother, whose maiden name was Christina Ekeberg, are now residing in Rockford, are quite aged, and are exemplary members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Ekeberg is a mechanic by trade.

The political sympathies of Mr. Floberg have brought him in line with the Republican party and in public movements he has ever taken a deep interest. He and Mrs. Floberg are identified with the First Lutheran Church and he was Trustee for six years and is the present Treasurer. Their marriage resulted in the birth of three children: Adelbert R., eight years of age; Frances E. and Mary L.



CHARLES L. SUTHERLAND, M. D., now located at Rockford, enjoys a large practice in the town and surrounding country. He is quite young, possessed of abundant energy, and thoroughly skilled in his profession, having been graduated from the Chicago Medical College in March, 1883. He is a native of Janesville, Wis., his birth occurring November 26, 1858.

James Sutherland, the father of our subject, was born about 1821, in Ohio. His father, Thomas

Sutherland, was born in Pennsylvania, and, removing to Ohio, became a pioneer farmer near Ashland. His wife, the grandmother of our subject, who bore the name of Jane Smith, also hailed from the Keystone State, and was the mother of a family of four sons and three daughters, only two of whom survive. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Elizabeth Withington; she was born near Ashland, Ohio, and was the daughter of Daniel Withington. Her father went to Wisconsin in 1848, and became a resident of Rock County. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Sutherland, was known prior to her marriage as Temperance Gray, and departed this life in Rock County, in 1871, her husband, whose demise occurred in 1884, surviving her a number of years. They reared a family of seven daughters and four sons, one of the former dying young.

Our subject was the sixth in order of birth of a family of seven children, and spent his boyhood and youth in attending school and in the bookstore with his father. The latter has been engaged in that line of business since 1848, with the exception of two years, when he carried on a thriving trade in grain. His store is one of the finest in the city, and besides carrying a full and complete stock of books, has a splendid stationery and wall paper department. He served two terms as State Senator, and was Mayor for two terms of Janesville, Wis.

After graduating in the Chicago College, as before stated, Dr. Sutherland began the practice of medicine at Birnamwood, Wis., where he remained only a twelvemonth, and then he went from there to Janesville, Wis., where he remained until December, 1885; he then came to his present field, which has been his permanent abiding-place since that time. He is a graduate of the Regular School of Medicine, and is building up a fine practice, both as a physician and surgeon.

In September, 1890, Miss Susan H. Thomas, who was born in Rockton Township, became the wife of our subject. Her father, William M. Thomas, who was born in Wayne County, Pa., in November, 1805, came to Illinois in 1838, in company with his wife and three children. Mr. Thomas located on one hundred and twenty acres of land on

section 31, of this township, on which he erected a log house and established his family until able to erect a more comfortable dwelling. They were the parents of nine children, three of whom died in infancy. Mr. Thomas passed away in July, 1881, when seventy-six years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Eliza Conklin, was born in 1811, and is still living, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. Two of her sons, John C. and Orvill P., were volunteers during the late war, in Company F, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. They participated in the battle of Stone River, Orvill never being absent from the regiment; he took part in all its engagements, with the exception of Lookout Mountain, when he was detailed on guard duty. John C. was confined in the hospital for about three months; he is now a farmer in Kansas, while his brother is cultivating the soil in Owen Township, this county.

The parents of Mrs. Sutherland celebrated their golden wedding, November 13, 1878, at their home on the old farm, where they had lived for forty years. This was a happy and enjoyable occasion, and was largely attended by friends from the surrounding townships, bringing testimonials of the high esteem in which this grand old couple were held, who were pioneers of this State, and had journeyed together for a half century. An excellent and lengthy poem, composed for the occasion by D. V. Waite, was read, and the entire occasion was one to live many years in pleasant memories.



OSCAR BERGQUIST, Secretary and Treasurer of the Desk and Furniture Company, located on North Second Street, where the business was started in 1889, is a young man possessed of more than ordinary business acumen. This company manufactures all kinds of desks, making a specialty of ladies' desks, combination desks, book-cases, etc., and the greatest care is taken in the production of these goods, which, while being of attractive design and finish, also combine those qualities of strength and durability which make them extremely popular with dealers and customers. Under the able management of

A. P. Floberg, President; O. W. Haegg, Vice-president; and Mr. Bergquist, Secretary and Treasurer, the company has prospered, and is at the head of any establishment of the kind in the country. It employs a staff of experienced and competent traveling salesmen, and its affairs are managed upon progressive and reliable principles. About one hundred men are employed all the time.

Oscar Bergquist was born near the city of Carlstad, Sweden, on the 20th of October, 1863, to the union of Gustave and Mary (Swensen) Bergquist, both natives of that country. In 1869, the parents came to the United States, and subsequently settled in Rockford, Ill., where the father has been actively engaged as a painter, having followed that business all his life. He is at present Superintendent and Manager of the Rockford Manufacturing Company, also a stockholder in the same, as well as in the Skandia Plow Company of that city. Although about fifty-five years of age, he is energetic and enterprising, and one of the city's most prominent business men. His wife, who is still living, is about the same age, and both are members of the Lutheran Church. They have a good home at No. 901 Seventh Street. In politics, Mr. Bergquist is a staunch Republican.

Our subject, the second in order of birth of six children born to the above worthy couple, was but six years of age when he crossed the ocean with his parents, and he has been a resident of Rockford for about twenty-two years. He was educated in the city schools, and learned the painter's trade of his father as he grew up. He has followed that trade for thirteen years, and is a successful workman. For two years he was manager of the Rockford Paint Company. He is a live business man, well informed, and is at present a Director and stockholder in the Skandia Plow Company, Rockford Paint Company, and a stockholder in the Rockford Manufacturing Company, and the *Posten* Publishing Company.

Mr. Bergquist was married to Miss Amanda A. Nygren, a native of Sweden, born January 7, 1865, and the daughter of N. P. and Anna (Magnusom) Nygren, natives also of that country. The family came to the States in 1868, and settled in Rockford, where the father's death occurred in 1885.



A. G. Larson

His widow is still living in this city, and is about sixty years of age. She is a member of the Lutheran Church, and her husband also held membership in that church. They were the parents of seven children, five daughters and two sons, and all but one are now living. Three are married.

Mr. and Mrs. Bergquist's union was blessed by the birth of two children, E. Wilhelmina and Emily M. In politics, Mr. Bergquist is independent, and, in religion, he and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church. They are well liked by all with whom they come in contact, and are worthy members of society.



ALFRED G. LARSON, who is engaged in business as a stone and brick mason contractor at No. 308 Sixth Street, Rockford, claims Sweden as the land of his nativity. He was born in Wester Gothland on the 5th of September, 1857, and there spent the days of his boyhood and youth. At the age of twenty-one, he determined to try his fortune in America, and in 1878 crossed the broad Atlantic, making his first location in Walnut, Ill. His father, John Larson, also came to this country and located in Walnut, Bureau County, on a farm, after having followed carpentering in Chicago for some time. His wife and family later joined him at Walnut, and the mother is still living there at the age of sixty-one years. The father died February 16, 1892, aged sixty-three years, lacking three days. A brother of our subject, Charles Larson, is a city police officer of Rockford. He married Miss Nanna Levene, of Sweden.

Mr. Larson, whose portrait appears on the opposite page, spent three years in Bureau County, and then came to Rockford, where he has made his home since 1881. For more than ten years, he has been engaged in business as a contractor in stone and brick work and has built one hundred and fifty houses. He also owns a fine business block at No. 409 Seventh Street, including three-story flats and storerooms, and also owns a dwelling on Fifth Avenue. Being an expert workman and thoroughly understanding his business,

he has received a liberal patronage, which has made his undertaking a successful one. In connection with his other interests, he is a stockholder in the Rockford Globe Clothing Factory, owns an interest in the Excelsior Furniture Company, of this city, and is also stockholder in the Rockford Laking Company.

In Rockford, Mr. Larson was united in marriage with Miss Salma Peterson, who was born near the home of her husband in Sweden, May 17, 1862, and was reared and educated in her native province until the spring of 1879, when, with a brother, John Peterson, she came to this country. They were the first of the family to cross the Atlantic and have since been joined by two sisters. Mr. and Mrs. Larson hold membership with the First Lutheran Church. They have a little daughter, Laura, who was born on the 7th of September, 1890, and have lost two children, Arthur and Victoria, who died in early childhood.

Mr. Larson takes a considerable interest in political affairs and by his ballot supports the Republican party, of which he is a staunch advocate. He was elected to the office of Supervisor in 1892, and is serving with efficiency. He has led a busy and useful life, and the result of his efforts is seen in the handsome competence which he now possesses. He has taken an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and was instrumental in organizing the Swedish singing society, known as the Sveassoner. Since its organization, on the 23d of January, 1890, he has been its President. For five years, he was also chorister of the First Lutheran Church.



JOHAN G. PENFIELD, a successful real-estate dealer and money lender of Rockford, began business in this city soon after locating here in the spring of 1854. He was first a member of the firm of Spalding & Penfield, which connection was continued for some time, when a partnership was formed between our subject and his brother David S. They continued together for some time, and the latter was one of the well-to-do

and prominent men of the city. He was also one of its honored early settlers, having here located in 1837. His death occurred in 1873. He was prominent in all local matters, and a Republican in politics. His widow, whose maiden name was Mary H. Hodges, and several children are yet living.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Rutland County, Vt. His father, Sturgis Penfield, was one of the leading citizens of that county, and was quite prosperous. He had been a farmer and brewer, and afterward carried on a gristmill and engaged in the manufacture of woollen goods. He died at an advanced age, in the faith of the Congregational Church. In politics, he was first a Whig, but later became a staunch Abolitionist, and was a strong temperance man, becoming prominent in all moral reforms. In Connecticut, his native State, he married Miss Laura Giddings, who was also born in that State, whence they removed to Rutland County, Vt., where they spent nearly their entire lives. Further mention of this worthy couple is made in the sketch of S. F. Penfield on another page of this work. The members of the family who are still living are: Mrs. Laura A. Harmon, who resides in Bennington, Vt.; Mrs. Betsy P. Manley and Mrs. Eleanor P. Lohrop, now residing in Pittsford, Rutland County; S. F. and John G., residents of Rockford; Catherine J., a resident of Bennington, Vt.; and Abel Ogden, who is living in Battle Creek, Mich.

The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the schools of his native county and in Burr Seminary, of Manchester, Vt. He grew to manhood under the parental roof, and began his business career in connection with his father, having charge of some of Mr. Penfield's manufactories. After attaining to man's estate, he was married in Rockford, to Miss Mary E. Crosby, who was born in Troy, Cheshire County, N. H., where she spent the days of her maidenhood, her education being finished in South Hadley Seminary. Her parents were Alpheus and Mary (Fox) Crosby, both natives of the Granite State. On coming to Illinois, they settled in Winnebago County, where the parents afterward died. He was born in New Hampshire in 1798, and was one of five sons and five

daughters, all of whom grew to mature years, though none are now living. The father of that family was Alpheus Crosby, Sr., who fought in the French and Indian War under his father, Josiah Crosby, commander of the company. The latter was a native of England, and came to America in an early day. The family were members of the Congregational Church, and figured quite prominently in the early history of the State. Alpheus Crosby, Sr., married Miss Elizabeth Gilmore, who came of an old New England family. The parents of Mrs. Penfield were married in the East, and Mr. Crosby followed his trade of blacksmithing in Troy, N. H., until his emigration with his family to Rockford. He became an influential and wealthy citizen of this place, and the family is one unusually well and favorably known. The father was a member of the First Congregational Church, as was also his wife, and took an active part in politics, supporting the Republican party. Public spirited and progressive, he also took a prominent part in everything pertaining to the welfare and advancement of the community.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Penfield have been born three children: Helen M., widow of Edwin M. Revell, a real-estate and loan agent, who died on the 16th of July, 1891; Fannie H., wife of Charles E. Sheldon, who is Secretary of the Rockford Insurance Company of this city; and Kate C. at home. They have all been well educated, and Miss Kate has been a student in Wellesly College, of Massachusetts.

Mr. Penfield has been connected with a number of business interests in Rockford, and is one of its most enterprising and leading citizens. He laid out an eleven-acre addition at the corner of Kishwaukee Street and Fourteenth Avenue, in a good and rapidly developing part of the city, which he owns with Mrs. Annie P. Moore. He is a stockholder in the Watch Company, and is a Trustee in the Randolph Revell Land Association, which laid out Highland subdivision. He owns stock in several incorporated companies, and is a man of enterprise and spirit, who carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. He, with his brother D. S. and Mr. E. Gregory, laid out the Gregory Addition. He and his brother D. S. laid

out the Penfield subdivision of South Park, lot No. 11, in East Rockford. He also has an interest in Riverside Addition, which was laid out in 1890, one of the largest Additions in the city, which reaches from Rock River to the north limits..

old flag. He enlisted as a private in Company K, Ninety-second Illinois Infantry, Capt. Albert Woodcock, of Ogle County, and Col. Smith D. Atkins, of Freeport, commanding.

The history of the Ninety-second is one of interest, for it is known as one of Illinois' greatest and most valorous regiments throughout the entire war. After they were mustered into service in the early part of 1862, they advanced into the enemy's country, and fought with the Army of the Cumberland, doing good service in many hard-fought battles. After the battle of Chattanooga, our subject was commissioned First Lieutenant, soon after his regiment was assigned to Gen. Killpatrick's cavalry division of Gen. Sherman's army, and was with it on the march to the sea. While at Ringgold, Ga., Capt. Seoville, of Company K, was taken prisoner, and Lieut. Walker assumed command of the company. He refused to accept the Captancy out of respect for his captured leader, but retained command for a year or more, until his superior officer was released as a prisoner of war.

The regiment fought bravely at all the battles of the memorable campaign under Gen. Sherman, including the siege of Atlanta, the march to the sea, and from there to the North. For a short time, Lieut. Walker was in the hospital on account of sickness. He received a slight wound at the battle of Raleigh. With that exception, he was in active service until the close of the Rebellion, and was honorably discharged July 10, 1865, when he returned to his home in Ogle County.

Before his enlistment, Prof. Walker's worth as a teacher had been established, and upon his return home he was employed to return to the school which he taught prior to his enlistment. It was his constant aim to elevate the character of the schools of the county, and he accomplished much in that direction, many of his students to-day figuring prominently in places of trust and responsibility. Notable is the fact that while in that county Prof. Walker taught one school for eight years, and another for twelve years, his work always recommending him for a call to the same position.

When the School Board of Rockford commenced

PROF. P. R. WALKER. Not only in Rockford, where he resides, but also in Winnebago and Ogle Counties, and through the State of Illinois, this gentleman is known as a prominent educator, whose life has been spent in the advancement of humanity and progress along educational lines. In no way can his ability and profound knowledge be better illustrated than by mention of the various offices which he has held. He has been an instructor in many of the Institutes held in Northern Illinois, has occupied the principal offices in the State and local educational associations, and has been a Director in the National Teachers' Association for two years.

Born in Windham County, Conn., in July, 1835, and the son of Albert G. and Patience E. Walker (of whom see biography elsewhere in this volume), young Walker was surrounded with such opportunities as were common to the boys of sturdy old New England farmers back in the old Nutmeg State of fifty years ago. He received such practical training as was a source of much general value to him when he came in contact with a life's work that has required all his energies. Having received the rudiments of his education in the public schools, he taught his first school at the age of seventeen, in the county of his birth.

With the hope of improving his time and opportunities to the best advantage, Prof. Walker, with his father's family, came to Illinois in 1856, and settled in Ogle County. After teaching two years, he entered the State Normal University at Normal, Ill., graduating with high honors in 1861, and at once returned to his home, where he taught for one year in the district schools. His loyalty to the Union, and the spirit of his forefathers, caused him to throw aside his profession of a teacher and respond to the call of the Government for brave and gallant men to take up arms in defense of the

to look around for a Superintendent of ability, well versed in the system of public schools, and splendidly equipped as an educator and disciplinarian, they selected Prof. Walker to fill the honorable and laborious place. This was in July, 1881. Since that time he has labored continuously at his post, giving that satisfaction which can be given only by a man whose soul is in his work. His proficiency is best attested by the universal satisfaction he has given. He is a tireless worker, and has won his way through his unremitting exertions to a front rank among the foremost educators of the day. He was married, August 16, 1865, to Martha E. Webb, of Le Roy, Genesee County, N. Y. One daughter has blessed their home. Prof. Walker is a member of the State Board of Education, having recently been re-appointed for a term of six years. Socially, he is well known in Rockford, and is a member of the G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. In political matters, he affiliates with the Republican party, and takes great interest in all the important issues of the day.



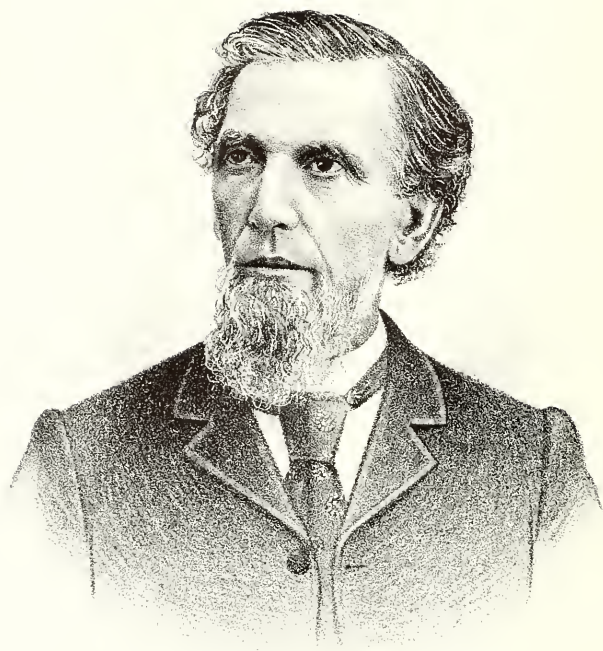
MRS. MARIAM K. TAYLOR, born in New Hampshire, April 9, 1814, and Mrs. Sally Chamberlain, born in Franklin County, N. Y., April 11, 1822, are the daughters of Richard C. Hovey, who was originally from Grafton County, N. H. The father was one of two children, and was left fatherless when about two years of age. He was reared by adopted parents, and remained with them until twenty years of age, when he married Miss Abigail Kimball, a native of the same place, and began housekeeping at Hanover, N. H., near Dartmouth College. Six years later, they removed to New York, settled at Ft. Covington, Franklin County, and there Mr. Hovey was engaged in lumbering during the winter months and farming during the summer seasons until 1833. He then sold out and, with his wife and children, moved to Ohio, where he was engaged in lumbering and milling for some time.

Led by the promises of the Western prairies of Illinois, Mr. Hovey came to Boone County, where

he took up three hundred and fifty acres of Government land. He erected a large log house and resided in this for many years, but subsequently a fine residence was built, in which he and his thrifty and industrious helpmate passed the closing scenes of their lives, the father dying when seventy-nine years of age, and the mother at the age of eighty-four years. The last-named was a daughter of Ezekiel and Mariam (Blake) Kimball, natives of New Hampshire, who spent their entire lives in that State, dying when quite aged. Mr. Hovey served as Postmaster, and was Justice of the Peace for thirty years.

Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Chamberlain are the sisters ters of Mrs. Nathan H. Wooster (see sketch), and are of a family of twelve children, ten of whom lived to be old people. Mrs. Taylor was married on the 21st of April, 1835, to John G. Taylor, and became the mother of four children, only one of whom is now living. Mrs. Esther Larkin, who has five children. Mrs. Taylor has about twenty-five great-grandchildren, the eldest of whom is fifteen years old. Mr. Taylor was born in New Hampshire, and died in Le Roy Township, Boone County, when fifty-seven years of age. He was a shoemaker by trade and came to this county about 1842. In connection with his shoemaking, he was also engaged in farming in this county and left a nice property at his death.

Mrs. Chamberlain was married to Joseph Chamberlain on the 23d of October, 1839, and became the mother of eleven children, all of whom grew to mature years, but only six are now living: Helen M. married and had five children, three of whom are now living; William W. was one of the first to answer his country's call, enlisting in Company I, Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and died in the army; Adelia married, and died in Nebraska, leaving three children, one of whom is now married and has a child; Eliza married and has four children; Leroy married and has five children; Harry D. married and has three children; and Horace married and has two children. Mr. Chamberlain was born in Delaware County, N. Y., and came to Boone County in 1832 or 1833, becoming one of the very first settlers. He was a carpenter by trade and built the first house in Rock-



Yours Truly
G. W. Murch

ford, also the first mill in Beloit, Wis. Later in life, he took up three hundred and twenty acres of Government land, but only proved up on one hundred and sixty acres. At his death, which occurred when he was seventy-eight years of age, he left the fine farm on which he had resided for fifty-two years. He only followed his trade for five or six years after coming to this State, engaging in agricultural pursuits instead.

Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Chamberlain have been members of the Christian Church for years, the former having professed religion at the age of eighteen years, and both are highly respected for their many estimable qualities of mind and heart. Both husbands were Republicans in their political views, and each held many of the different township offices.



GEORGE W. MURCH, a dealer in clothing, gents' furnishing goods, boots, shoes, etc., of Belvidere, was born in Truxton, Cortland County, N. Y., January 19, 1830, and is a son of Martin and Polly (Keeler) Murch, the former a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., and the latter of Cortland, where their marriage was celebrated. They afterward removed to Onondaga County and there resided until 1861, when they came to Belvidere and spent their last days in the home of our subject.

Mr. Murch, whose portrait adorns the opposite page, was reared under the parental roof, no event of special importance occurring in his childhood. In 1849, he located in Putnam County, Ill., and was employed in a warehouse on the Illinois River until the winter season, when he engaged in teaching school. With three young men, in the spring of 1850, he started for California, walking to St. Joseph, Mo., where they joined others from Putnam County who had teams, and in this way they made the entire journey across the plains and mountains. At that time, there were no white settlers between St. Joseph and California, except the Mormons at Salt Lake.

After one hundred and sixteen days of travel, Mr. Murch arrived at Hangtown, where he en-

gaged in mining for a time and was afterward employed as a vegetable gardener until the spring of 1852. He returned home by way of the Isthmus of Panama, leaving San Francisco in September and thirty days later arriving in New York, whence he returned to Putnam County.

The same autumn, Mr. Murch rented half an interest in a sawmill, which he operated throughout the winter. In August of the following year, he came to Belvidere, where, in company with his brother, L. H., he opened a harness shop and carriage-trimming establishment. A few years later, they extended their business, purchasing a stock of ready-made clothing, gents' furnishing goods, boots, shoes, etc., and carried on the two stores, one on the north side and the other on the south side of the river.

In 1857, Mr. Murch secured as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss A. Lavantia Amsden, who was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., and is a daughter of Benjamin C. and Achsah (Nichols) Amsden. They have two children: Idell B. and Nettie B. The former is the wife of J. C. F. Dick, of La Grange, Ill., and they have two daughters: Jean Louise and Majory Lavaneh.

Mr. Murch and his brother continued partnership until 1871, when the connection was dissolved, our subject retaining the harness business, which he carried on until 1874. His brother going to Minnesota, he then closed out the harness business and took charge of the clothing store, of which he is now proprietor. He has worked up a good trade and is now enjoying a thriving business. He is fair and honest in all his dealings and his courteous treatment has won him a liberal patronage. He is one of the Directors of the People's Bank and a stockholder of the National Sewing Machine Company. He was chairman of the committee chosen by the citizens to investigate the June Manufacturing Company and take steps to secure the location of the plant here, which was finally accomplished, and he served as Director and Vice-president of that company.

Socially, Mr. Murch is a member of Big Thunder Lodge No. 28, I. O. O. F. In politics, he is a Democrat and has served as a member of the Village Board of Trustees and of the County Board of

Supervisors. Himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which he has been Trustee for a number of years and also one of the workers in the Sabbath school. He is one of the substantial citizens of Belvidere and a man of sterling worth, who by his upright life has won the confidence of all and gained many friends.



WILLIAM WELLS FAIRFIELD was born in Pittsfield, in 1805, and was the eldest son of Capt. Nathaniel and Martha (Wells) Fairfield. His paternal grandfather was a resident of Boston, Mass., until 1748, when, becoming impatient to seek his own fortune, he went with a friend to examine the settling lots of Pontotoc and lands in that vicinity; before being satisfied with their exploration, they became short of provisions, and the elder man, Daniel Cadwell, returned to his home in Westfield for a fresh supply, leaving young Fairfield, then only eighteen years old, the only white person in the county. Indians were numerous and their voices he plainly heard upon all sides as he lay in a hollow log which served him as a lodging by night, and a hiding place by day. He purchased a tract of land at that time, and having made his clearing and built his log cabin, revisited his home, and returned in 1752 with his wife to their new home.

Mr. Fairfield and his wife had lived there but a short time when the Indians became hostile, and he sent his wife back to their former home on horseback, with marked trees for her only guide, the distance being about forty miles. He then turned his oxen out to pasture by Pontotoc River, putting a large bell on one of them, and leaving the place to join in the fight of subduing the hostile Indians. After peace was restored, he returned to find the oxen unharmed and the bell tinkling a welcome upon his approach. That bell is still in the family of William W. Fairfield, and prized by them as an historic relic.

Nathaniel Fairfield had three sons born to him—John, Enoch and Nathaniel, all of whom were born and died in Pittsfield, Mass., the last named

being the father of the subject of this narrative. His wife was Miss Martha Wells, of Wethersfield, Conn., and they had five children; the first, a daughter, died in her third year; the second child was William Wells Fairfield. His father was so rejoiced at the birth of a son, that he negotiated for a large tract of land to be deeded to him, which was done as soon as practicable, which was before the child was one month old. The next son lived to his twentieth year, when he was killed by a falling tree on the homestead at Pittsfield; the daughter, Almira Jenett, became the wife of William Tefft, Jr., of Syracuse, N. Y., where she died in January, 1889, in the seventy-fifth year of her age; Ebenezer lived in Adrian, Mich., engaged in the practice of law, and was a candidate for Governor at the time of his death.

William W. remained with his father until the time of the death of the latter, which occurred in the year 1837, in the seventieth year of his age. He then felt that he must remain as a protector and stay to his mother; he was appointed executor of the estate, which was settled to the satisfaction of all concerned. After some years his health becoming impaired by rheumatism, he removed to Syracuse, N. Y., where he soon recovered from his affliction, and, being inclined to an active life, he invested in the manufacture of salt, buying a number of salt blocks. He continued in this business until about 1852, when owing to the saline moisture of the air, he contracted bronchitis, which was so severe that his physician ordered him to try a drier climate. He went to Wisconsin and was much benefited by the change. He there became interested in school lands, buying many hundred acres of those, also a large amount of farming land and wood land also; much of those lands he owned long after coming to Rockford. He was very successful in his ventures, and amassed a large fortune; he made many trips to and from the Northwest, visiting the most important points of the same, and came to love the country and people whom he met. Their freedom from artificiality was very attractive to him, he being a man of most unassuming manners, plain speech, and perfectly honest in his intentions.

It was during one of those visits that Mr. Fair-

field met the lady who subsequently became his wife, Mrs. Eleanor G. Siegfried, a native of Philadelphia, Pa., who was like himself in quest of health, her's having failed during the sickness and death of her late husband, William Siegfried, also a native of the same place; they were married November 6, 1850, and he died August 25, 1851, of consumption. She contracted the same by long continued vigils at his bedside. He was only twenty-six years old at the time of his death, and left a loving wife to mourn his early death. She too was ordered by her physician to go to a drier climate, as the only hope held out for recovery, which, in the course of one year, seemed to gradually dawn upon the invalid. She returned to her home, and soon found herself liable to a recurrence of her trouble. She went again to the then Far West, and seemingly as before, regained comparative health, and as before, to be disappointed. In this way some years were spent, when in 1858 she met Mr. Fairfield, who obtained board at the house in which Mrs. Siegfried was stopping, and an attachment sprang from this acquaintance, which resulted in marriage, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Robert Patterson, D. D., of Chicago, on the 3d of July, 1862; they spent the intervening years until 1867 in travel, visiting the relatives of each at various times and places, and in looking over Mr. Fairfield's Western possessions in quest of a suitable location where they would be likely to enjoy plain and healthy living. They visited Rockford upon several occasions, each time being more pleased with the place and people.

In March, 1867, Mr. Fairfield came West, leaving his wife in Philadelphia with her friends. While there he purchased the Col. Marsh homestead of John Lake, who had bought it a short time previous. In April of the same year they came to Rockford, residing in the same place continuously, and Mr. Fairfield dying in the same house, March 14, 1891, in the eighty-sixth year of his age, esteemed by all who knew him. A good citizen in all that the word implies, upright in all his dealings, conscientious in all his deeds, his word was his law, and no one ever thought of his breaking either. He ever respected the Sabbath, and would allow nothing to occur, over which he had

control, to mar its holy influence. He was prudent, but enterprising, and possessed of excellent judgment of men and matters generally, and made very few mistakes in business matters, until in 1877 he to some extent lost his sight, not being able to read or write ever again; from that time he met with many and heavy losses, being obliged to depend upon the opinion of others. Previous to this time he invested largely in railroad stock and bonds, both in New York and Wisconsin, principally in the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, holding stock in both the Milwaukee and New York Central at the time of his decease. He was ever liberal in causes which he deemed worthy, contributing to colleges, both East and West, but always in such a quiet way that the beneficiaries alone had knowledge of his purpose, and to his relatives he gave large sums. A goodly share of his means was invested in Rockford property, and was used in developing East Rockford especially.

From his earliest manhood Mr. Fairfield was a Democrat in principle and practice, as no man could gain his approval or his support until he was fully convinced that he was honest and capable. He was tendered official honors of much importance, both in his Eastern homes, as also in the West, but he declined them ever, having no taste in that direction. He enjoyed the acquaintance of many men prominent in literary, financial and political circles. He was a school mate of Oliver Wendell Holmes, a warm friend of Whittier. Ex-Senator Vilas has been his friend and legal adviser for many years. In religious matters he leaned toward Presbyterianism, although his people, as well as his wife, were Episcopalians. He formed a great liking for the present Rector of the Emmanuel Episcopal Church of this city, the Dean of this diocese, the Rev. D. C. Peabody, who faithfully performed the duties of his divine office during Mr. Fairfield's sickness, ministering to him of spiritual things, and conducted the services at the funeral. Mr. Fairfield's death was caused by falling, which resulted in an impacted fracture of the hip joint. He had no disease, and was but recovering from the effects of a previous hurt when his spine was injured; that was in 1889; he suffered greatly from that, but as soon as he could,

was impatient to see to his affairs, and although earnestly entreated not to venture out, he persisted in doing so, with the above result; he struck in the fall upon the stone coping in front of his grounds, was carried into the house, was tenderly placed upon his bed, from which he never arose, but suffered for five weeks most intensely, when death relieved him of his agony. His remains were deposited in the receiving vault until early in May, when Mrs. Fairfield, having partially recovered from a severe illness, incident to the great loss which she had sustained, felt it to be her duty to take the body to his birth-place, which she did, and laid the dear remains to rest in the family burial place in Pittsfield, Mass., where repose three generations bearing the name of Fairfield. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Newton, Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, of Pittsfield.

A fine polished shaft of granite and marble was placed at his head, with an appropriate inscription, with date of birth and death, whilst a far finer monument of red sandstone is in course of erection in the city of his choice, which is to be known as the Fairfield Memorial and Parish House of Emanuel Episcopal Church. Mrs. Fairfield having been a member of the same for many years. She has the sympathy of all in her sad bereavement.



ALEXANDER BLACK, who was one of the well-known citizens of Rockford for many years, was born in New Brunswick, at St. Johns, in March, 1810, and was a son of Dr. Daniel Black, a native of Paisley, Scotland, who came of a prominent and noble family of the Highlands. The Doctor was a fine scholar and well-known physician, also a prominent member of the Masonic order. When a young man, he emigrated to New Brunswick, opening an office in St. Johns, where he wedded Miss Mary McCartney, by whom he had eleven children. The Doctor was drowned while crossing the St. Johns River on skates, at the age of fifty-four years. In 1825, his widow removed with her family to Canada, where she married George Calvert and spent the remainder of her days.

Our subject was reared in Toronto and in 1849, during the gold excitement, went to California by way of Cape Horn, on a sailing-vessel, where he made about \$5,000. He then returned to Toronto by water, and after spending some time with his family in Canada, went back to the gold diggings in California, but found that the mine was then exhausted. He afterwards went to Australia, where he spent about a year and a half, returning with about \$20,000. It was in 1851 that he came with his family to Illinois and purchased land in what is known as the Big Bottoms, in Guilford Township, Winnebago County, where he engaged extensively in farming and stock-raising and in importing horses. For some years he was owner of "Royal George," one of the finest horses ever brought to the county. His farm comprised two hundred acres of good land in Guilford Township, and he also owned property in Rockford. He spent the last fifteen years of his life in the city, living in retirement.

While in his native land, Alexander Black participated in the McKenzie Rebellion, of which he was one of the leaders. He had many narrow escapes, and finally had to flee to the United States, for a price was placed on his head. In politics, he was a stalwart Republican, and was a member of the Methodist Church. He lived an honorable, upright life, true to every trust reposed in him, and when called to his final rest many friends mourned his loss. He passed away at home in Rockford, October 30, 1883.

Mr. Black was twice married. His first wife died young, leaving a child who died in infancy. He then married Mrs. Orpha (Smith) Black, also a native of Canada. Her first husband was Dr. D. N. Black, a brother of our subject. Shortly after his graduation from medical college and only a few months after his marriage, he died of cholera in Toronto, Canada. Unto Alex and Orpha Black were born seven children, six of whom are yet living. The mother was a true and faithful helpmate to her husband. She survived him about three years and died on the 3d of February, 1887, at the age of seventy-seven.

Mrs. Mary McDonald, a daughter of this worthy couple, is now living at No. 209 North Second.

Street. She is a worthy lady and a member of the Methodist Church. Her husband, Dr. James L. McDonald, died in Pittsburg, April 9, 1891, of la grippe. He was reared in that city and graduated in the Medical College of Cincinnati, Ohio, after which he made his home in Pittsburg. Throughout the Rebellion he served as a member of a Pennsylvania regiment. By a former marriage the Doctor had two children: Rachel, wife of Dr. Sour, of Milwaukee; and Jennie, wife of Ernest Godfry, of Chicago. By her former marriage, Mrs. McDonald has two children: Louis Nicholas, who married Lydia Nelson and resides in Rockford, and Eliza, now the wife of T. O. Largent, proprietor of a river boat, "The Queen." They reside in Rockford and have two children, May and Lee.



LUCIUS M. WEST. It is a pleasure to incorporate in this volume a sketch of the life and labors of Mr. L. M. West, who is so well and widely known. He is mentioned as one of the most successful business men in the county, and is held in high regard for his financial ability and for the many pleasing traits of character which he possesses.

Mr. West's modesty forbids his stating to us all we desire to know of his long, busy life. We therefore leave this history to be traced by an old acquaintance of Mr. West, who has known his life and habits and can do it justice as we can not.

Mr. West suffered at two distinct periods of his life the loss of all his possessions by destructive fires in the East. He came to Rockford in 1858 a poor man and opened a very small retail store in rubber goods.

The Pike's Peak gold excitement, the Campaign of 1860, and the opening of the Civil War made business for Mr. West which he was not slow to improve. Having knowledge of the manufacture of rubber garments, etc., he solicited orders for rubber suits and camp blankets for miners, for wide-awake suits for the campaign, which he made by the thousands, and for camp blankets and outfits for soldiers.

For two or three years, our subject worked nights

from 12 to 3 o'clock manufacturing, and ran the store through the day. In 1862, he bought a saloon property where M. M. Carpenter's shoe store now stands, on West State Street, and built that store, which was then one of the best store buildings on the block. He now added leather boots and shoes to his rubber stock. This retail business he pursued, all told, for twelve years, after which he commenced a jobbing trade in his celebrated Enamel Carriage Top Dressing, which he had manufactured in a small way for several years.

Mr. West has spent a small fortune in advertising his business, until he is now selling his goods in every important town and city in the United States and many parts of Europe. He has done much to advertise his own city, having sent out for some years into every part of this country as many as five hundred thousand business circulars annually, besides advertising in many American and foreign periodicals. Beside this, he traveled throughout thirty States of the Union, from three thousand to six thousand miles every year, for fifteen years, to solicit and establish trade in his goods.

In this way, Rockford has been advertised world wide, until Mr. West's products have become standard goods of the two continents. Such an enterprise has been an important factor in helping to make Rockford what it is. No small amount of money through this channel has come to Rockford for the past twenty-five or thirty years. A moderate estimate would be several hundred thousand dollars.

Besides this business, Mr. West has owned and handled considerable real estate, having owned acre land in Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, and lots in Chicago, and not a few houses and lots in Rockford. In 1885, he put his manufacturing business into the L. M. West Manufacturing Co., with a capital stock of \$40,000, himself and family retaining most of the stock. The officers elected were: L. M. West, President; E. S. West, Vice-President; L. J. West, Superintendent; H. H. West, Secretary. All these officers now hold their positions in the company except his youngest son, L. J., who is now engaged in the real-estate business.

Benjamin West, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born September 17, 1752. Although a young man, he did good service in the War of the Revolution. Elijah West, father of Mr. L. M. West, was born July 2, 1785, and went through the War of 1812. Both Benjamin and Elijah were born and reared in Columbia County, N. Y., and were of sturdy Scotch descent. The mother of the subject of this sketch was born in Hatfield, Conn., December 9, 1890. Her maiden name was Sally Smith Wate.

Our subject was born June 19, 1820, at Vernon Center, Oneida County, N. Y. He had his early religious training for twelve years in the Presbyterian Church of that place, of which his parents were members. He lived in this and the adjoining town of Verona eighteen years. Sixteen years of this time were mostly devoted to school. Many and vivid are the scenes of the old school days of nearly two generations ago.

Mr. West entered upon mercantile life in the spring of 1837, jobbing goods in towns and cities throughout the State of New York, with a pair of heavy horses, as was the custom in those days, before railroads were so common and when the Erie Canal was a small ditch, and the New York Central Railroad, single track, was in its infancy, running on 6x10-inch timbers, running lengthwise across the ties, with wagon tire iron, two and one-half inches wide, for the wheels to run on—a big thing in those days.

On the 22d of May, 1842, Mr. West was united in marriage with Miss Sarah A. Sturtevant, of the town of Verona, Oneida County, N. Y. This has proved a most happy union, the result of which is three highly-respected, young business men: Hamilton H. Elliot S. and L. Judson, all married and well settled in business in Rockford. They are sons of whose usefulness, culture and refinement, any parents could justly be proud.

Mr. West, in speaking of his conversion to the Christian religion in 1837, at which time he united with the Baptist Church in Vernon Center, N. Y., his native town, says: "The Lord took me into business partnership with Him that same year, and we have worked together harmoniously ever since. No partner like Him. He furnishes all the capital

and skill, is a good Director, and safe Counselor." Mr. West expresses unbounded faith in the Holy Scriptures as the inspired word of God given to man as his guide in this life and to the life to come, through the Divine Christ, as therein revealed.

Being naturally averse to public political office, he has never sought or accepted such position but has devoted himself to moral and religious lines of work. He has been a life-long Anti-slavery, Prohibition Republican, always holding up these principles in his party with strong faith in the ultimate triumph of the Temperance cause, as on the question of human slavery. Church and Sunday-school mission work, combined with diligent attention to secular business, has always been his ambition. Mr. West attributes his success in business life to this combination. He says his business partner has carried him through all the great financial crises from 1837 to the present without a break; although the stones were sometimes set so close that they ground pretty fine, yet he never lost faith in Divine Providence and hard work.

Mr. West spent twelve years in New Haven County, Conn., where he was engaged with the Goodyear Rubber Company three years, superintending the manufacture of rubber clothing and other fabrics, and nine years he superintended the vulcanizing, finishing, packing and shipping departments with a large force of men. Product, three hundred and fifty thousand pairs of boots and shoes annually. Regular working time, twelve hours per day all through the twelve years.

In this manufacturing district, Naugatuck, Conn., was a large field for mission work, personal religious work and family visiting. Here their house was opened every week for seven years for religious meetings for the operatives, always well attended and many times crowded.

In 1854, Mr. West was chosen Deacon in the Baptist Church of Waterbury, Conn., of which church his wife and himself were members. In 1858, he moved his family to Rockford. The following year, they took up their abode on the corner of South Madison and Walnut Streets, where they still reside. Mr. West united with the Second, now called the State Street, Baptist Church. The same year, he was chosen Chairman of the

building committee, for the erection of their first house of worship, a chapel on the corner of State and Fifth Streets. The following year, he was chosen Deacon of the church, in which office he has served to the present time. In 1860, he was elected Treasurer of the society, to which office he was chosen for ten consecutive years, which in those days, in a young church and during the building of their present large and commodious house of worship on the corner of Third and State Streets, meant work. The laborious duties then were to solicit subscriptions and collect them and pay all bills. A few words taken from the auditing committee report will not be amiss here. To erect this church edifice within the prescribed limit of cost, nine contracts for different parts of the building were necessary. They say: "We, the undersigned committee, appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer of the State Street Baptist Church and society, in tracing the details of the accounts have been enabled to understand, and appreciate Mr. West's formable difficulties, which have been bravely met, and the energy which characterized his efforts, and his liberality in laboring for the interests of the church and society."

In 1861, Mr. West was elected President of the Young Men's Christian Association, then struggling with depletion from the call for scores of young men to enlist in the war for the Union. In 1862, he organized the first Sunday-school ever convened in Caledonia, fourteen miles north of this city, and met with and conducted this school fifty-one Sundays in the twelve months. There has been a flourishing school in that place ever since. Aside from this year's work in Caledonia, Mr. West was not a month without a Bible class in his own church for thirty years.

In November, 1875, Mr. West appointed the first religious meeting ever held in Woodruff's Addition, a Tuesday evening prayer meeting, and also organized a mission Sunday-school, both of which he sustained weekly for three and one half years, furnishing the building for use, until failing health prevented. He was five years Treasurer of the Winnebago County Bible Society. He is a life member of the Baptist Home Mission, Foreign Mission, and Education Societies. He is also a life

member and life Director of the American Bible Society. In his gifts for Christian work, he is said to be liberal to a fault. These are a few of the thousands of little things which we are glad to note, that go toward making a useful and happy life.

It will be seen that Mr. West's life has not been unsettled and roving. He spent twenty-seven years in his native State, twelve years in New Haven County, Conn., and thirty-three years in Rockford. Thus considerably more than half of his business life has been spent on the site of his present beautiful, commodious home, erected by himself about ten years ago, where, with the loving companion of his youth, with three sons and their families and a host of old and young friends, they have just celebrated their fiftieth marriage anniversary, or golden wedding, and long may they live to bless the world.



JAMES G. MANLOVE, deceased, was born in Dover, Del., December 15, 1812, and died at his home in Rockford, November 6, 1891, at the age of seventy-eight. His parents and grandparents were also natives of Delaware, but the family is of Welsh descent, having been founded in America, prior to the Revolutionary War, by emigrants from Wales. John Manlove, father of our subject, grew to manhood in his native city, Dover, and there spent his entire life, a respected and valued citizen. For thirty years he engaged in the banking business and was quite prominent in public affairs. He wedded Miss Mary A. Laferty, and both he and his wife were leading members of the Methodist Church. His death occurred at the age of fifty-six. His wife survived him for some time, and died in Pennsylvania at an advanced age.

The subject of this sketch was the eldest of eleven children, but it is probable that none are now living. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent in his native State, after which he removed to Pennsylvania, and in Saltsburg, that State he formed a matrimonial alliance with

Miss Juliet Sterett, who was born in Pennsylvania, August 10, 1817, her father and grandfather both spending their entire lives within its borders. The former, Andrew Sterett, was born in Franklin County and married Miss Elizabeth McPherson, whose father was a prominent Presbyterian clergyman of the Keystone State, where he lived and died. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth McCroskey, died in Franklin County. Both she and her husband were of Scotch descent. After his marriage, Andrew Sterett removed to Westmoreland County, Pa., where he engaged in the manufacture of salt. On the discovery of gold in California, he crossed the plains to that State, and there lost his health. Hoping to benefit it, he started for Australia but died on board the vessel, his remains being buried in the sea. He was then in middle life and his wife died at the age of forty-two years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sterett were members of the Presbyterian Church.

The month of May, 1851, witnessed the arrival of Mr. Manlove, our subject, in Rockford, where he resided for forty years. He had formerly spent seven years in La Fayette County, Wis., and, having studied law, was there admitted to the Bar and elected Justice of the Peace. On coming to Rockford, he opened a law office, and here began the practice of his chosen profession. Again, he was elected Justice of the Peace and Police Magistrate, serving as such for years, and was Alderman of the Fifth Ward for five years. In whatever position he was called upon to fill, he proved a capable officer, discharging his duties promptly and faithfully. In politics, he was a stalwart supporter of Republican principles, and was a warm friend of temperance. He lived to see the many changes which transformed Rockford from a village to a thriving and popular city and ever bore his share in its upbuilding and advancement. He was a prominent and influential man, a well-known citizen, and was held in high esteem by all. He had been reared in the faith of the Methodist Church, but after locating in this city joined the Second Congregational Church, in which he was an active worker. He was a teacher and Superintendent of the Sunday-school for many

years, and was also Clerk in the church. His life, well and worthily spent, might well serve as an example to others.

Mrs. Manlove is still living at the old home. She, too, is a faithful member of the Second Congregational Church, and, like her husband, delights in doing good. Her children have been reared in that way, and they, too, belong to the same church. Of the family, four sons and a daughter are yet living.



CHARLES O. NELSON, of the firm of Nelson & Walgren, proprietors of a grocery and meat market, located at No. 602 Seventh Street, Rockford, is a native of Sweden. He was born on the 22d of May, 1851, and is a son of Nels G. Pearson. His parents and the entire family came to this country, and his father is still living in Rockford, at the age of seventy years. His wife died about eight years ago, at the age of fifty-six years. She was a member of the Zion Lutheran Church, to which Mr. Pearson also belongs. Two daughters of the family are yet living: Mrs. Emily Nelson and Mrs. Hannah Jones, both residents of Rockford.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native country, and about the time he attained his majority, having determined to try his fortune in the New World, he sailed from Sweden to Quebec, Canada, and thence came to the United States, locating in Rockford, where he has since resided. This was in 1869, and he was the first of the family to cross the broad Atlantic. He learned the trade of a blacksmith and was employed as a journeyman for some time, after which he learned the cabinet-maker's trade and was engaged in the Rockford Central Furniture Company's works, where he remained for five years. In the meantime, he had become a stockholder of the company. Since 1887 he has devoted his entire attention to his present business, having charge of the meat market, while his partner attends to the grocery department. The double store which they occupy was built by them and is 40x50 feet. From the beginning, their



J. AUG. JOHNSON.

trade has constantly increased, and by the exercise of good business ability and by their courteous treatment they have won a liberal patronage. Mr. Nelson is also a stockholder in the Skandia Plow Company, the Central Furniture Factory, the Skandia Brick Company and the Rockford Manufacturing Company. He began life empty-handed, having neither capital nor influential friends to aid him, but has made the most of his opportunities and has worked his way steadily upward, winning success and prosperity. He is now well-to-do and bids fair to obtain affluence. Himself and sisters are all members of the Zion Lutheran Church, and in his political affiliations Mr. Nelson is a Republican. As every true American citizen should do, he feels an interest in political affairs, but has never sought public office.



J AUGUST JOHNSON is a stockholder, Director and Superintendent of the Central Furniture Company of Rockford, which was established in 1879, and now furnishes employment for one hundred and twenty-five men. It is one of the leading industries of the city, and much of its success is due to the untiring efforts and earnest work of our subject.

Mr. Johnson, whose portrait is herewith presented, is a native of Sweden, born September 18, 1860. His father, John Nelson, is yet living in that country, where throughout life he has followed agricultural pursuits. He has long been a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, to which his wife also belonged. Her death occurred in 1868, at the age of forty-five years. Two sons of the family have come to this country since the emigration of our subject: Gustaf, who is now deceased; and Mangnes, a cabinet-maker in the Central Furniture Factory of this city.

The early life of August Johnson was spent in the land of his birth and his education was acquired in the schools of his native Province. He there learned the trade of a cabinet-maker, serving an apprenticeship and thus becoming a skilled workman. In 1882, when twenty-two years of

age, he bade good-bye to home and friends and sailed for the New World, since which time he has been a resident of Rockford. He chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Helen B. Engbretson, their union being celebrated in this city. The lady was born in Norway, in August, 1860, and in 1868 came to this country with her parents, John and Ulricka Engbretson, who are now residents of Durand, Ill., and are well advanced in years. Her father is a mason by trade but has also followed the occupation of farming. Mrs. Johnson is an intelligent and cultured lady who has acquired the greater part of her education in this country.

By the union of our subject and his wife have been born two children: Glen R. and Wayne Leslie. The parents are both members of the First Congregational Church and are people of wide acquaintance in this community and prominent in the circles of society in which they move. In politics, Mr. Johnson has been a supporter of Republican principles since becoming an American citizen. It was a fortunate day for him when he determined to make his home in America, for he has here been blessed with prosperity and has worked his way upward to a prominent position and become well-to-do. He now owns a pleasant home at No. 701 Seminary Street, where with his family he resides, an esteemed citizen of the community.



J OHN H. MANNY. The history of Winnebago County, and indeed of the State of Illinois, would not be complete without some record of John H. Manny, the inventor of the famous reaping and mowing machine, which, a quarter of a century ago, made his name a household word throughout the States. Mr. Manny was born in Amsterdam, N. Y., November 28, 1825. He possessed a mechanical turn of mind, and at an early age made invention a study.

About fifty-five years ago, our subject accompanied his father to Illinois, and settled in Stephenson County, where, although his advantages were

limited, he still continued to take delight in originating new ideas for invention, taking machinery apart, altering and improving, or adding new parts, as their utility seemed to require. He was industrious at school, and among the other pupils was noted for perseverance.

The attention of Mr. Manny was directed, about 1816, to the need of a reaper (a machine then comparatively unknown in this country), by the purchase by his father of a heading machine, which failed entirely to do the work designed. He and his father promptly set to work to alter and improve the machine to suit their wants, and to do this, found it necessary to almost completely make a new machine of it before it would do satisfactory work. They then patented their improvement, and commenced building heading machines for sale. Their machine was very successful as a header, but was so expensive to manufacture that it was beyond the means of the farmers to purchase, and the result was that they lost nearly all they had invested in the enterprise.

This failure, however, only spurred our subject to greater exertions, and he set about experimenting for a machine for cutting grain and grass. He was discouraged and laughed at, but he toiled on, overcoming one defect after another, until the machine could reap well and cut grass nicely, and then his triumph was complete. His means had been entirely exhausted in his experiments, but by the aid of friends he proceeded, the ensuing year, to build forty machines. Owing to a defect in the sickles, which had been procured of a manufacturer who claimed to be experienced in the business, these proved to be a disastrous failure. This was another test of Mr. Manny's perseverance under difficulties, which, to ordinary men, would have been hopelessly discouraging. He was left with an incubus of debt hanging over him, and, worse than this, the damaging reputation of his machines by their failure that year. These difficulties, however, only served to stimulate him to renewed effort, and he went patiently to work to retrieve the disaster. From the experience of the previous year, it was evident that to insure success the sickle must be improved. No part of the machine is so essentially important to be just right

as this, and upon it depends the success of the whole machine. In this crisis, a series of experiments was made for perfecting sickles, and a satisfactory result arrived at. He also succeeded in making arrangements to proceed with the manufacture of machines for 1852, and that year built eighty-four, adding such improvements as practical experience suggested. These were a perfect success.

In July of that year, the great reaper trial at Geneva, N. Y., was held. In this contest for supremacy, Mr. Manny's reaper came in competition with eleven other machines. The result of that contest is well known to the public. We need not repeat it. The excellence of Mr. Manny's machine was more fully established, and henceforth the demand for his machine continued to increase, until at the time of his death he was at the head of the largest reaper business in the world.

In the spring of 1853, Mr. Manny was induced to remove to Rockford, and manufactured for the harvest of that year four hundred machines. The popularity of the machines still continued to increase, and the demand had now become so great, and the business so extensive, that it was deemed desirable to secure interested assistance in its management. Accordingly, in 1854, Messrs. Wait and Sylvester Talcott became associated with Mr. Manny in its management as partners, under the name of J. H. Manny & Co., and during this year upwards of one thousand machines were manufactured and sold. In 1855, Jesse Blinn and Ralph Emerson, Jr., were also added to the firm, and the firm's name changed to Manny & Co., the business also still continuing to increase. Mr. Manny's overtasked brain had by this time so worn upon his physical frame, that he was obliged to give up the business management to his partners. He, however, continued to make improvements on his machine, until twenty-three patents were issued to him—embracing thirty-three distinct claims.

In the year 1855, the competition between the McCormick and the Manny reapers had become fierce. McCormick commenced suit in the Federal Court at Chicago, to enjoin the successors of Manny from using what was called the "divider" or "shoe," which precedes the sickle, and parts the

standing grain. The question was, who first invented the divider used by Manny? The Circuit Court dismissed McCormick's bill, and he carried the case to the Supreme Court of the United States, where the decision of the Circuit Court was affirmed, thus sustaining Mr. Manny's right as an inventor. The "clean swath" cut even in the field of lodged grain was a mute witness to the unflagging toil of John H. Manny, as well as to his genius.

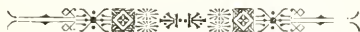
This celebrated suit involved as counsel such men as Reverdy Johnson and Edwin M. Stanton. In the first trial of the cause, Abraham Lincoln was employed, and afterward referred to his \$1,000 retainer in the case as enabling him to stump the State of Illinois with Douglas, and which logically, it should be added, made him the most famous of all the Presidents.

The suit also exemplified the extreme heights to which a private property right will be carried in a Republic, where the parties involved have the means to carry on the contest. It was in this justly famous litigation, that Justice Daniel, in delivering a dissenting opinion, referring to the testimony of professionals said: "The reveries, they may often be called, of a class of men styled experts are often as skillful and effective in producing obscurity and error as in the elucidation of truth."

Early in the autumn of 1855, it was seen that Mr. Manny could not live long. That remorseless destroyer, consumption, had fixed its seal upon him. He was an untiring worker, far above his physical strength, which undoubtedly laid the foundation of his disease, which first began to show itself in 1852. To the very last moments of his life he was devoted to his great work; and his great ambition, after the commencement of his invention, seemed to be to place it in advance of all others in practical utility, and beyond all question of infringement.

On the 31st of January, 1856, Mr. Manny died, while yet in the full prime of life, scarce thirty years of age, just as his fame was becoming known on both sides of the Atlantic. Death, the great reaper, claimed him as a victim, and he peacefully passed to that "bourne whence no traveler returns."

In his moral character, Mr. Manny led a spotless life, and his memory is cherished by all who enjoyed his personal acquaintance. Frank, open-hearted, generous to a fault, and possessing the attributes of a true man, he was emphatically one of "nature's noblemen."



JOHN A. WALGREN is another of Rockford's Swedish residents who has proved a valued citizen of this community. He was born in Sweden, October 11, 1860, and is a son of Andrew J. Walgren. In 1873, his parents with their family crossed the Atlantic to America, and the father is now living a retired life in the city of Rockford, being about sixty years of age. His wife, who is now sixty-three years of age, is in quite feeble health. Both are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and Mr. Walgren is a Republican in politics. This worthy couple have a family of four children, all of whom are now living in Rockford. John A. is the eldest; Christina E. is the wife of F. A. Youngquist, of Rockford; August, who is connected with the Co-operative Furniture Company of this city, married Amanda Friberg, and Andrew G., the youngest, is employed in his brother John's store.

Our subject led to the marriage altar Miss Matilda I. Johnson, of Pecatonica, this county. The lady was there born and reared, and acquired a good education. She is highly respected among the young Swedish people of this city, her intelligence and worth fitting her for that position. Her father, Carl J. Johnson, enlisted for the late war and gave his life in defense of the old flag. His wife died in 1879, at the age of forty years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Walgren have been born two children: Roy A. (deceased) and Rena A. In his political affiliations, Mr. Walgren is a Republican. Himself and wife are members of the First Lutheran Church of this city. He resided upon a farm in Pecatonica Township from 1873 until 1882, when he came to Rockford. For four years he engaged in the grocery business, before the firm of Nelson & Walgren was established in 1886. In this connection, he conducted a grocery and meat-

market, the management of the whole concern being entirely under his control. The business increased to such an extent that the firm purchased the southeast corner of Fifth Avenue and Seventh Street, where they built a double store, forty feet front and fifty feet deep.

Recently, Mr. Walgren sold his interest in the grocery and meat business to his partner, and has opened a coal and wood yard in Rockford under the firm name of Walgren & Co., his office being at No. 802 Seventh Street, on the corner of Railroad Avenue. He has also been instrumental in organizing the *Frontiers* Publishing Company, with a capital of \$10,000 and formed for the purpose of publishing a weekly journal in the Swedish language. He is a Director in the company, which is quite successful and rapidly growing in popularity. He is also a stockholder in the Rockford Manufacturing Company, which has a capital of \$200,000.

A wide-awake and enterprising young business man, Mr. Walgren is steadily working his way upward, and his career will undoubtedly be a prosperous one. The firm of which he is a member is already well and favorably known, having by their courteous treatment and fair dealing won a liberal patronage. Mr. Walgren takes an active interest in all that pertains to the growth and development of the city and is an ambitious and enterprising man who ranks high both in business and social circles.



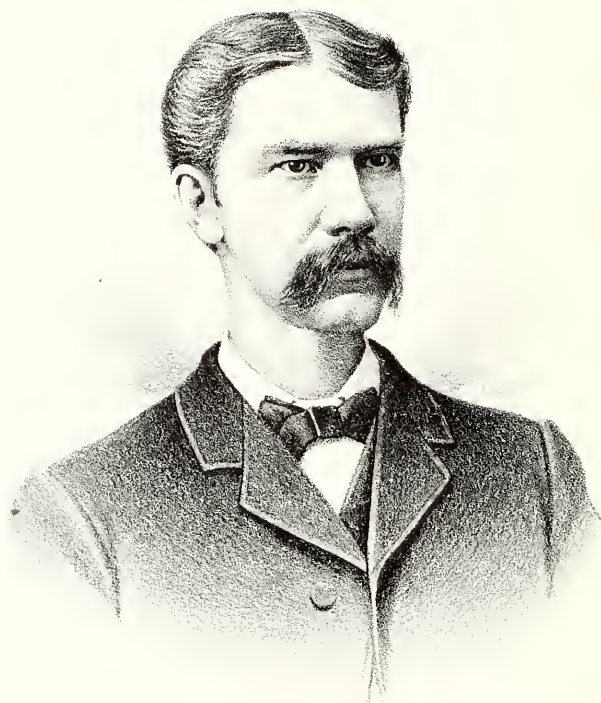
JOHN R. POST was born on the farm which is still his home, on section 35, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, June 1, 1812, and is a worthy representative of one of the pioneer families of this community. His father, Nathaniel Post, was born near Newport, Herkimer County, N. Y., May 21, 1810. The grandfather, Dan Post, was born in Saybrook, Conn., whence he removed to New York, becoming one of the first settlers of Herkimer County. He purchased a tract of timber land, and in the midst of the forest hewed out a farm. After many years spent in agricultural pursuits, he removed to Newport, where he lived retired

until his death. He first married Marcey Pratt, who was born in Saybrook, Middlesex County, Conn., and died August 30, 1829. Mr. Post was afterwards again married, and his second wife reached the advanced age of one hundred and three years.

The father of our subject was reared in his native county, and learned the trade of a carpenter. In 1838, he removed to Ohio, and for one year engaged in carpentering in Painesville. The year 1839 witnessed his emigration to Winnebago County, Ill. He was accompanied by his family, and on the 29th of June they reached Newburg. He bought a claim of the Government, upon which was a log cabin, and during the first year built a more comfortable log house, in which our subject was born. In 1850, he erected a substantial frame residence. He bore all the experience of pioneer life, and was one of the prominent and influential citizens of this community in an early day. His death occurred November 11, 1888. He was quite a musician, and in the early days made considerable money with his violin. He married Eliza Rich, who was born near Newport, N. Y., January 31, 1816. This estimable lady died February 2, 1890, leaving two children: John R., of this sketch, and Erwin, a resident of Rockford.

Our subject acquired his education in the district schools, and at Cherry Valley and Rockford, and is a well-informed man. On attaining his majority, he went East, visiting for a few months, and then accepted a situation as shipping clerk in a wholesale house in Chicago, but after a year returned home to take charge of the farm, upon which he has since resided. He now owns one hundred acres of the farm which his father entered from the Government, and also has another farm of one hundred and twenty-three acres in Guilford Township. Fruit and ornamental trees add to the value and beauty of the place, and the neat appearance of the farm indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner.

Mr. Post was married May 31, 1866, to Ella G. Fish, who was born in Erie County, Pa., February 19, 1849, and is a daughter of Andrew and Miranda (Sherwood) Fish, natives of Washington County, N. Y. Their union has been blessed with



Chas J Jones

two children: Minnie, who is a successful music teacher, and Frank. The musical talent of Nathaniel Post was inherited by his children, and in turn has been transmitted to his grandchildren. The Post family ranks high in social circles, and its members are truly deserving of the warm regard in which they are held. Mr. Post is a successful farmer, and is recognized as one of the progressive and valued citizens of the community.



CHARLES J. JONES, a stockholder and Director in the Brown Brick Company, is one of the leading business men of Rockford, and prominent in public affairs. He was born in Sweden, November 15, 1849, and is a son of Pehr Jonas, who spent his entire life in his native land, passing away at the age of about three-score years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Christina Nelson, is still living, at the age of seventy, and is a member of the Lutheran Church, to which her husband also belonged. Their son Godfrey, an employe of the Skandia Furniture Company, and a daughter, Matilda, reside with our subject.

Mr. Jones was reared and educated in his native city, graduating from the High School, and in 1867 left his native land, coming alone to this country. He sailed from Liverpool, England, to New York, and after fifteen days upon the bosom of the Atlantic reached his destination, arriving in New York on the 16th of April of that year. He has since made a visit back to his native land but thinks no country under the shining sun is equal to America. He has not only found a pleasant home in this land but has here prospered, and is now a substantial citizen. His life has been a busy and useful one and he is recognized as one of the enterprising and progressive Swedish gentlemen of Rockford. As before stated, he is connected with the Brown Brick Company, and is President and Director of the Skandia Brick Company, a lessee of the Rockford Brick Company, also of the Excelsior Furniture Company, and is Secretary and Director of the Rockford Tobacco and Snuff Company. He holds an interest in the Skandia Plow Company and the Skandia Brick Company.

In 1883, Mr. Jones was joined in wedlock in this city to Miss Hannah C. Nelson, who was born in Kalmar, Sweden, September 4, 1858, and is a daughter of N. E. and Louisa (Pearson) Nelson, who were born, reared and married in the Province of Smoland. The year 1869 witnessed their emigration to America and saw them located in Rockford, where the father, a well-to-do citizen, is now living retired at his pleasant home at No. 1006 Fourth Avenue. He has reached the age of three-score years and ten. His wife died at their home on Fourth Avenue, July 23, 1881, when about fifty-nine years of age. Their family numbered four sons and four daughters, but only one son and two daughters are now living.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones are the parents of three children: Ethel M., L. Eusebia and Ada F. The parents attend the Zion Lutheran Church. In politics, Mr. Jones is independent, and he is a sagacious and far-sighted business man, industrious and enterprising, and by the exercise of good business ability has won for himself a handsome property. He deserves all the more credit in that he is entirely a self-made man, and as a prominent citizen of Rockford we take pleasure in presenting his portrait and biographical sketch.



JOHN LOVESEE, an enterprising and industrious farmer of Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, residing on sections 34 and 35, was born in the city of Reading, Berkshire England, February 1, 1815. His grandfather, John Lovesee, spent his entire life there, and his father, William Lovesee, was born in the same locality. At the age of fifteen, he entered the army and served for twenty years, when he was honorably discharged. He then followed weaving in Berkshire until 1831, when he crossed the Atlantic and settled in Pittsford, Monroe County, N. Y. Five years later, he came to Winnebago County to join his children, making most of the journey on foot, and spent the remainder of his days in Roscoe Township. He married Ann Hanley, who was born near Dublin, Ireland, and

was a daughter of John and Ann Hanley. Her death occurred in Berkshire England. Their six children were John, Ann, William, George, Henry and Joseph.

At the early age of eleven years, our subject began to learn the weaver's trade in London, and after serving a four-years' apprenticeship returned to his native county, where he resided until 1831. On the 13th of September of that year, he sailed for the *New World*, landing in New York on the 8th of November, after a stormy passage. He went to Pittsford, N. Y., and after a few months removed to Chautauqua County, where he resided until the 1st of November, 1835, when he started by way of the Lakes to Illinois. Landing at Detroit, he came to Winnebago County on foot and began boarding with Steven Mack, the first settler of the county. Chicago was a mere hamlet and Rockford contained two families, Kent and Haight, living in a log house on the west side, and Daniel Haight in a log cabin on the east side. The Government surveys were not yet complete and the work of civilization had hardly been begun. There were no mills or markets within fifty miles until Chicago became a trading point, when he hauled his wheat to that city, selling it as low as thirty-seven and a half cents per bushel. He made a claim in what is now Rockton Township and afterwards in Roscoe Township. His farming implements were very crude. He harvested his grain with a cradle and his oxen tramped it out. In 1849, Mr. Lovesee sold that farm and purchased that upon which he now resides on section 35, Roscoe Township.

On the 29th of June, 1810, our subject married Miss Permella, daughter of James and Hannah (Wilson) McCredy. She was born at Niagara Falls, Canada, April 29, 1821. Her father and grandparents were natives of Scotland and on coming to America settled at Niagara Falls. Her father learned the blacksmith's trade, which he there followed until 1823, when he emigrated Westward and settled on a tract of land which his wife had inherited. A part of that he cleared, but as he preferred blacksmithing to farming, he bought land near Aybner and erected a smithy, making his home in that locality until his death.

His wife was born in New Jersey and was a daughter of Cromwell and Hannah (Crane) Wilson, natives of the same State, and of English and German descent respectively. While hunting in the woods during the Revolutionary War, Cromwell Wilson was captured by the British and held for three months. Some time after the war, he removed to Canada, where he spent his last days. His wife died when Mrs. Lovesee was quite young and she was reared by her aunt, Mrs. John J. Rhodes, with whom she came to Winnebago County in 1839.

Unto our subject and wife were born two children who are yet living: Mary A., widow of Henry Schellenger, a resident of Rockford; and Edwin R., who graduated from two medical colleges of Chicago and is now practicing his profession in Geneva Lake, Wis. He first married Dorcas A. Lundy and after her death wedded Lizzie Thompson. Mr. and Mrs. Lovesee are both members of the Methodist Church, and in politics he is a Republican, having supported that party since its organization. Among the most honorable pioneers of Winnebago County he is numbered and with one exception he has spent a longer time within its borders than any other resident. From a very early day he has been identified with its growth and upbuilding and has done much for its progress and advancement. He has the high regard of all with whom he has come in contact and is one of the prominent and influential citizens of the community.



SAMUEL N. MEECH, who is engaged in farming in Guilford Township, Winnebago County, was born in the town of Bridgewater, Mass., December 6, 1811. His father, Asa Meech, was born April 7, 1775, and became a minister of the Presbyterian Church. He resided for a time in Bridgewater and later removed to Connecticut, being pastor of the church in Canterbury until 1820, when he went to Canada, and located at Hull. As that was a new country and the people in limited circumstances, he could not depend altogether upon his parish-

ioners for support and so rented land for two years. He then secured four hundred acres of heavily-timbered land, upon which he erected a log house and afterwards a frame residence, managing his farm throughout the week and preaching on Sunday. He there resided until his death. For his second wife he married Maria DeWitt, who met her death the following spring after the family located in Canada. She was crossing a bridge with a wagon and oxen, and the water, which was very high, washed the wagon from the bridge and she and four children were drowned.

Our subject was a lad of nine years when his parents removed to Canada, where he acquired his education. When a young man he went to visit a sister in Merrickville, where he remained for a time, operating a farm in her interest. He then bought land and engaged in its cultivation until 1857, when he sold out and came to Winnebago County, Ill., where he first purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. He has been very successful in his farming operations and is now the owner of one hundred and ninety-five acres, constituting a valuable farm.

Mr. Meech was married in Canada, November 26, 1835, to Eliza English, who died in Greenville, Canada, November 7, 1838. He was again married, March 7, 1839, his second union being with Anna Bolton, who was born in Merrickville, Canada, January 7, 1823. Her father, Richard Bolton, was born in County Wexford, Ireland, March 25, 1797, of English parentage, his father there owning a large estate. He emigrated to America with some neighbors when quite young and located in Canada, where he wedded Mary, daughter of Benslee and Lois (Sherwood) Buel, natives of the United States. Her father was a pioneer of Canada and was the first to settle on the site of Brockville. He became an extensive land owner and spent his last years in Leeds County. His daughter was born in Elizabethtown, November 24, 1801, and inherited two hundred acres of land. Mr. Bolton located near Merrickville, where he secured a tract of Government land and cleared a farm.

By his first marriage, Mr. Meech had one son, Thomas E., who was born in Merrickville, Canada, September 16, 1836, and married Miss Hutch-

ings. He resides in North Augusta, Canada, where he operates a cheese factory. By the second marriage, four children have been born: Richard, born January 2, 1810, wedded Alice Bently and is now living near Rockton; Martha A. M., born August 6, 1817, is the wife of Caleb E. Feakins, of New Richmond, Wis.; Mary E., born July 20, 1852, is the wife of Albert C. Carr, of Beloit. The parents have traveled life's journey together for fifty-three years, sharing with each other its joys and sorrows, pleasures and prosperity. Although well advanced in years, they are enjoying good health and their mental capacities are still unimpaired. They have a pleasant home and are surrounded by many warm friends.



M ARVIN CLARK MAREAN, a well-known resident of Belvidere, who is numbered among the early settlers of the county, was born in Broome County, N. Y., June 8, 1827, and comes of an old New England family of French origin, founded by Dorman Marean, who emigrated from Normandy, France, to America in 1636, and spent the remainder of his life in the Colony of Massachusetts. Little is known of the succeeding ancestors. In line of birth they were William, Thomas and Thomas. The last-named, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Boston, Mass., October 17, 1753, and there resided until his removal to Canaan, N. Y. In 1786, he went to Broome County, becoming one of its early settlers. He purchased a tract of timber land, and in that county made his home until his death. He married Esther Patterson, who was born in New York, January 10, 1756, and died on the old homestead in Maine Township.

The father of our subject, Henry Marean, was born in Columbia County, N. Y., November 21, 1777 and was reared in Broome County, where he married Chloe Delano, a native of Kent, Conn., and a daughter of Aaron Kent Delano, who was born in Tolland, Conn., November 13, 1756. His father, Sylvanius Delano, was born May 17, 1720, and was a descendant of Philip Delanoye, a native of Ley-

den, Holland, who came to America in the ship "Fortune," in 1621, and landed at Plymouth. He married Esther Duesbury, December 19, 1631, and died in 1651, at the age of seventy-nine years. Aaron Delano wedded Anna Slosson, who was born in Kent, Conn., in December, 1761. He spent his entire life in the Nutmeg State, and after his death his widow went to New York, spending her last days with the parents of our subject. Henry Marean and his wife began their domestic life upon a farm in the town of Maine, in a little log cabin, which in 1825 was replaced by a frame residence, in which Marvin was born, and which is now the property of his brother. The death of the father there occurred in 1855, and the mother was called to her final rest in 1858.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth on the old homestead, and after his marriage operated the farm for two years. In 1851, he wedded Olive Howard, who was born in the town of Union, Broome County, N. Y. Her grandfather, Nathan Howard, was born and reared in Connecticut, and when a young man went to New York, becoming one of the early settlers of Broome County. He married Clarissa Pomeroy, and their son, Nathan Howard, who was born in Broome County, September 11, 1805, became the father of Mrs. Marean. He learned the trade of a miller, which he followed for many years in the East. In 1869, he came to Belvidere, where his death occurred, March 7, 1873. He had wedded Roxie Councilman, who was born in Broome County, September 4, 1809, and was a daughter of Philip and Betsy (Bundy) Councilman. Her death occurred in Belvidere, on the 2d of July, 1882.

The year 1854 witnessed the arrival of Mr. Marean and his wife in Boone County. He purchased land in Flora Township, upon which was a stone quarry that he operated for two years. He then successfully engaged in farming until 1868, when he sold his land and came to Belvidere, where he has since resided. He is a prominent and influential citizen of the community, who for seven years served as Notary Public, for eight years was Justice of the Peace of Flora Township, and for the past eleven years has held that office in Belvidere. In politics, he was first a Whig, but since the

organization of the Republican party he has been one of its stalwart supporters, and has served as Chairman of the County Central Committee. He takes a deep interest in political affairs, doing all in his power for the upbuilding of the party, and is a well-informed man, both on political questions and otherwise.

Mr. and Mrs. Marean have two children: Willie Marvin married Alice Wood, and they have three children, Llewellyn, Blanche and Olive; Harry, who was joined in wedlock with Hattie Fay, has a little son named Hollis.



JOHN A. STENVALL. For over twenty years, Mr. Stenvall has been connected with the business interests of Rockford and during that time his reputation as an honorable, upright citizen and business man has remained untarnished. At the present time, he is connected with the Trahern Pump Works, and is one of the foremost men representing that concern. He has been a resident of this prosperous city since 1869 and is now pleasantly located at No. 709 South Third Street.

Claiming Sweden as his native land, his birth occurred in Wester Gottenburg on the 19th of October, 1851, and he was early trained to the duties of the farm. His father, John Anderson, passed his entire life in Sweden, where he tilled the soil until he received his final summons, when sixty years of age. He was a peaceful citizen and was a prominent member and worker in the State Church. The mother, left a widow, came with our subject to the United States and settled with him in Rockford, whither two sons-in-law had previously located. She died in this city in 1888, when seventy-four years of age. A kind wife and mother, a good neighbor and exemplary member of the Lutheran Church, she has gone to her reward. Her daughter, Mrs. J. L. Segar, and a brother, John P. Anderson, who is a tinner, are residents of Rockford, and another daughter, Mrs. Peter Anderson, is still a resident of Sweden.

John Stenvall selected as his companion in life Miss Helmena Holmquist, a native of Skörbes Lan,



D. E. Moulton

Sweden, born March 10, 1855, and their nuptials were celebrated in Rockford. The fruits of this union are Hilma L., Anna O., Elmer W., Oscar T. and Etna C., all at home. Mr. Stenvall is a Republican in his political views, and he and his wife hold membership in the First Lutheran Church, of which he has been Deacon for the past nine years.

The parents of Mrs. Stenvall, Peter and Carry (Johnson) Holmquist, are now residing in Rockford, and are in comfortable circumstances. They have been residents since 1868, in which year they came to the United States. Both are members of the First Lutheran Church. They were the parents of three children, but only Mrs. Stenvall is now living, the two brothers, Gus and John, both dying, the former after his marriage and after he became the father of one child, Frank A., and the latter when a young man.


MRS. PAMELIA MOULTON, who resides in Belvidere, was born in Ascot, Canada, October 28, 1832. Her father, Cephas Gardner, was born in the town of Wentworth, N. H., October 9, 1800, and was a son of John Gardner, a native of Worcester County, Mass. The latter married Dolly, daughter of Ephraim Willard, of Sterling, Mass., removed to New Hampshire, and in 1806 went to Bennington County, Vt. His wife died in 1808, and two years later he married her sister Lois.

Cephas Gardner was eighteen years of age when he started out in life for himself. He walked to Sterling, Mass., one hundred miles, and there worked for his uncle on a farm at \$8 per month. He next went to Frankestown, N. H., where he spent the winter, and then returned to Sterling and apprenticed himself to his uncle, Manassah Willard, a chair manufacturer, who soon afterwards established a factory in Stanstead, Canada, Mr. Gardner being placed in charge of that business. When his term of apprenticeship had expired, he bought that factory and continued in business there until 1831, when he removed to Ascot and followed his trade at that place until 1837.

Although Mr. Gardner had been successful in business there and his social surroundings were

pleasant, yet he longed to return to the United States, where he could rear his children under the republican form of government, so in 1836 he visited Boone County and purchased a claim, now included in the city of Belvidere. The next year he brought his wife and three children, and the family moved into a log cabin, where they remained until a frame house could be built. When the land came into market, he entered large tracts and was extensively engaged in farming and also carried on merchandising. He resided here until his death, which occurred January 26, 1881.

On the 25th of March, 1821, Mr. Gardner had married Pamela Bodwell, who was born in Canada, July 12, 1806, and was a daughter of Eliaphlet and Betsy Bodwell, natives of Vermont. She died May 9, 1862, leaving four children: Emeline, Jane, Pamela and Mary A. The first-named was born March 17, 1828, and married Hon. Lucius Walker, a native of Vermont, who came to Illinois about 1838, and in 1852 went to Minnesota, becoming one of the early settlers of St. Anthony's Falls. For a while he was engaged in the dry-goods business, and at the time of his death was Government agent at the Chippewa Indian reservation. He served in the Minnesota Legislature and a prominent man of that State.

Jane, the next daughter, was born in Canada, November 8, 1829, and became the wife of Hon. Robert Waterman, who was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., in 1826, and came to Illinois with his parents at the age of twelve. For a time he was employed as a clerk for his brothers, James and Charles, at Newburg, and later for Alex. Neely of Belvidere. When a young man, he engaged in business on his own account. In 1850, he went to California, and returned after an absence of twenty months, locating in Wilmington, Ill., where he engaged in business for several years. In 1873, he returned to California with his family, and made his home in San Bernardino until 1887, when he went to Sacramento. Four years later, he removed to San Diego, where he resided until his death, April 12, 1891. He was elected Lieutenant-Governor of California in the fall of 1886, and held the office of Governor a few months on the death of his chief.

Pamela, the third daughter, was four years old when she came to Illinois with her parents. She was married, November 6, 1850, to Dorwin E. Moulton, who was born in Ascot, Canada, February 17, 1822, and came to this State in 1840. He located in Rockford and three years later went to Shullsburgh, Wis., engaging there in merchandising until 1851, when he went to Minnesota, and located at St. Anthony's Falls. At that time, the Government mill and one dwelling were the only buildings on the west bank of the river, where the city of Minneapolis now stands. He engaged in the mercantile business and after residing there for eleven years came to Belvidere, where he again engaged in merchandising for a number of years, being associated a portion of the time with his son-in-law, J. W. Darnelle. The last years of his life he lived retired at his pleasant home on East Lincoln Avenue, where he passed away January 25, 1892. He was a worthy citizen, held in high regard by all who knew him, and his portrait will be found on another page. Mr. and Mrs. Moulton had one daughter, Belle, who was born September 1, 1852, in St. Anthony's Falls, Minn., married J. W. Darnelle, and died November 22, 1876, leaving one child, Mabel G., born May 27, 1874, who makes her home with her grandmother, Mrs. Moulton. Mrs. Moulton is one of the estimable ladies of this community, where she has so long made her home.



LORENZO W. KING, who is engaged in the drug business in Cherry Valley, is a member of the firm of King Bros., his partner being his brother Oscar. They established business here in 1888, and have since enjoyed a good trade, which is constantly increasing and has already assumed excellent proportions. They well deserve a liberal patronage for they are business men of straightforward and honorable principles and are industrious and enterprising.

Our subject was born in Maine, N. Y., in 1835, and is a son of Harlo and Julia (Hovey) King, both natives of the Empire State. In their family were six sons and one daughter: Leander, Jewett;

Irving, deceased; Oscar, Origen, Lorenzo, and Lucy Thankful, also deceased. The father of this family died in Maine, N. Y., in the prime of life, leaving his widow with her family to support. His property was encumbered and his creditors took it all. Oscar and Origen were the first of the family to come to Illinois, settling in Belvidere and Cherry Valley in the spring of 1853. In 1855, the mother and other children joined them, the family locating in Belvidere. Mrs. King died at the home of her son Origen in 1863, at the age of sixty-seven years.

The early life of our subject passed uneventfully until the autumn of 1861, when, at the age of twenty-six years, he enlisted in the Ninth Illinois Cavalry and in the following January went from Chicago to the front. He did service in the Southwest, in Missouri and Arkansas, but on account of physical disability was discharged after two years. Since that time, he has never fully regained his health but prior to the war was considered the most robust one of the family. Shortly after his return, he was married in Belvidere, April 29, 1863, to Nellie R. Howard, of Maine, N. Y., a daughter of Nathan and Roxie (Councilman) Howard, also natives of Maine, N. Y. Her father was a miller and died in Belvidere, March 7, 1873, at the age of sixty-two years. The mother died at the home of Mrs. King, July 2, 1882, at the age of seventy-three years. Their family numbered six sons and two daughters, the wife of our subject being the sixth in order of birth.

From 1862 until 1866, Mr. King engaged in clerking in a grocery store for L. D. Collins, after which he embarked in the grocery business for himself. His wife opened a millinery and fancy-goods store and for twelve years did an excellent business in that line. Mr. King sold his stock of groceries in 1868 and in 1875 opened a drug store in Fielding, where he carried on operations until 1888, when he came to Cherry Valley and has since been engaged in business, as before stated.

Our subject and his wife have a pleasant home which has been their property since 1890. They have only one daughter, Lorena May, who was born February 29, 1884, and is now a bright little maiden of eight summers. She seems to possess

considerable eloquentary and musical talent and is the light and joy of her parents' home. In politics, Mr. King is a stalwart Republican. He and his wife rank high in social circles and are held in high esteem throughout this community.



PHILIP ATWOOD, a native-born resident of Winnebago County, was born on the old homestead in Owen Township, September 18, 1850. His father, Patten Atwood, was born in Alexander, Grafton County, N. H., January 11, 1805, where also his father, Joseph Atwood, was born. The great-grandfather of our subject, John Atwood, was likewise a native of New England, of English ancestry. He located on a farm in Hampstead soon after he attained his majority, and resided there until his death, after having reached the advanced age of one hundred years.

The grandfather of our subject was reared in his native town, and after his marriage located in Alexander, Grafton County, where he was one of the pioneers. He secured a tract of heavily timbered Government land, which he cleared and resided upon until 1816, then started for the Territory of Michigan, making the trip overland with three horses, a wagon and buggy. The roads being very bad in Canada, Mr. Atwood's wagon broke down, and he was obliged to tarry there for a time, and as during the winter his horses died, he had no means of getting out of the country. The following April he was injured while assisting in raising a barn, and died about a year later.

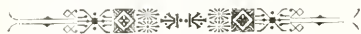
Polly Powers was the maiden name of our subject's grandmother; she departed this life at the home of her son Patten, fourteen miles from St. Thomas. The father of our subject was one of a family of six children, and was about eleven years of age when his parents went to Canada, and settled at Malahide, where they resided for some years. After his marriage, he settled on a farm fourteen miles from St. Thomas, and four years later removed to Eckford, Middlesex County, where he erected a gristmill, which he operated until 1839. In the

above-named year, the father of our subject, with his wife and eight children, came to Illinois, the journey being made with ox-teams, and consuming six weeks. Locating in Winnebago County, the elder Mr. Atwood secured a tract of Government land in what is now Harlem Township, and there erected a log house and made his home for a twelvemonth, when he traded for the place which is now his home on section 12, Owen Township. He is the oldest man and the oldest resident of the above-named township, and is widely and favorably known throughout the county. He is an interesting conversationalist and a great reader, being thoroughly posted on the Scriptures, making a practice of reading the Bible through each year. With his wife, he is a member of the Baptist Church, with which denomination he has been connected for many years. Mr. Atwood was residing in Canada during the Patriot War, being at that time engaged in operating a gristmill. Feeling that he would not make a good British subject, he accordingly came to the United States, and is now one of the prominent residents of Winnebago County.

February 14, 1826, Miss Anna Brooks, who was born near St. Thomas, Canada, March 20, 1808, became the wife of our subject's father. She was the daughter of William Brooks, a native of New Jersey, and died after sixty-four years of married life, July 30, 1890. She reared a family of fourteen children, all of whom are now living, the eldest being in his sixty-fifth year. They are named, respectively: Sally, Henry, Eliza, Lydia, William, Candace, Anna, Mary, Joseph, Irena, Patten, Harriet, John and Philip. One daughter, Susannah, died when three years of age.

Philip Atwood attended the common schools of his native town, and resided with his parents until attaining mature years. His marriage occurred November 27, 1873, at which time Eliza Anna Curry became his wife. She was born in the town of Mosa, Middlesex County, Canada, and was the daughter of James Curry, who, as far as is known, was also a native of that country, where he spent his entire life in farming. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Atwood was Lydia Siddle; she was a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Brooks) Siddle. She now makes her home with

her daughter, Mrs. Atwood. Three children have been born to our subject and his wife: Willis, Melvin, and Ethridge, deceased. They have a large circle of friends in their community, and are devoted members of the Baptist Church.



HON. ABRAM H. VAN WIE, a retired capitalist residing at No. 1307 South Main Street, in Rockford, came West in 1845 and located on timber land in the township of Lyndon, Sheboygan County, Wis. His resources of industry and energy were inexhaustible, but his financial capital was exceedingly limited, consisting, at the time of his arrival in Wisconsin, of \$5. Among the Indians, and surrounded on every hand by the wild animals of the forests, he located and commenced to clear a farm, but six weeks later a heavy blow came to him in the death of his devoted wife.

Amid hardships innumerable and obstacles neither few nor small, he worked his way to a prominent position among the successful farmers of Sheboygan County. His fellow-citizens called him to fill various positions of trust and honor and he served as a member of the State Legislature. He was President of the County Agricultural Society, which he aided in organizing, and which under his capable management was for years one of the most successful institutions of the State. He won the first premium for the best plowing done in the county and carried off many prizes at the fairs.

In the fall of 1866, Mr. Van Wie sold his interests in Wisconsin and during the spring of the following year came to Rockford, purchasing twenty acres within the city limits, which he recently sold at a great advance on the original cost. Since he located in Winnebago County, he has made considerable money in different ways and is now one of the most prosperous citizens of the place. He has served as President, Vice-President and Director of the Winnebago County Agricultural Society, and still takes an active interest in its welfare. He was for a time President of the Burial Case Company, of Rockford, and has interest as a stockholder in other institutions, including the watch factory.

While engaging as a farmer in Wisconsin, Mr. Van Wie was one of the most practical and successful agriculturists in the State, and since he has been a resident of Rockford he conducted for a number of years a garden, in which he raised choice vegetables. An extensive traveler and a close observer of men and things, he has gained a valuable fund of information, and recently returned from an extensive tour through the Rockies, whither he went in search of health. In his political affiliations, he is a firm Republican, and religiously, with his wife, is identified with the Second Congregational Church.

The ancestors of Mr. Van Wie were originally from Holland and resided in New York State for many years. His grandfather, Abraham Van Wie, passed his entire life in the State of New York, where he died in his old age, at the home of his son, Garrett, in Cayuga County, N. Y. The last-named learned the trade of a shoemaker and tanner, which he followed in Eastern New York until he was fifty years old, and then removed to Cayuga County, the same State. His wife was formerly Rebecca Haver, and was a native of the Empire State and a daughter of Abram Haver, who came of Holland-Dutch stock.

Our subject was born in Ira Township, Cayuga County, N. Y., April 22, 1816, and was reared and educated on a farm there, making it his home until he was thirty-two years old. He then removed to Wisconsin with his wife and child, and two relatives of his wife, making the trip overland and locating in Sheboygan County, Wis., where, as above stated, his wife died some few weeks later. Her maiden name was Lydia Osborn and she was born and reared in Cayuga County, N. Y. At her decease, she left one child, Edgar A., now Secretary and Treasurer of the Rockford Electric Works. He served four years in the Rebellion and afterward married Miss Filura Brady. The second marriage of Mr. Van Wie took place in Wisconsin and united him with Miss Minerva Swarts, of New York State, who came to Rockford and died here, leaving one child, Mary J., wife of E. L. Ranney, a ranchman in Landers, Wyo., and the owner of a fine three hundred-acre farm. Near Syracuse, N. Y., Mr. Van Wie was united

in marriage with Miss Emily E. Partridge, whose home was in the Empire State. She is a lady of many pleasant attributes of character and disposition, and occupies a high place in the regard of the people of Rockford. Both Mr. Van Wie and his wife are benevolent and generous, giving liberally of their means to the promotion of enterprises calculated to benefit others and uplift humanity.



CHESTER C. BRIGGS. This former prominent citizen of Rockford was born in Dover, Vt., September 6, 1817, the son of Calvin and Lucy (Washburne) Briggs, and died in Rockford January 24, 1892. In the city of his birth he grew to manhood, and early in life became interested in those matters that were of general interest among the people. In his youth he commenced to fight the liquor traffic, and never afterward faltered in what he regarded as his duty to mankind.

After receiving an excellent education at Dartmouth College, from which famous institution he was graduated, Mr. Briggs established and carried on the *Green Mountain Freeman*, a paper which did an immense good in the cause of anti-slavery, and which is still in existence, although the cause it first advocated no longer needs its active help. In every way possible, Mr. Briggs urged the abolishment of slavery, and was a conductor of an underground railroad for the freeing of slaves, having charge of one of the leading "depots" in New England. With his own money, he purchased one slave, in order that he might secure his freedom, and found great pleasure in afterward recounting his thrilling experiences in the days of slavery. Especially was he pleased to tell how the man whom he bought out of slavery rose from his degraded condition to one of honor and influence, and has for thirty years or more been one of the under clerks in the State Treasury at Boston. When old age came to him, he was as enthusiastic in the cause of temperance as in years gone by; he had been foremost in the cause of anti-slavery, and he enjoyed the personal friendship of many men

who have been influential factors in creating a sentiment among the people against the liquor traffic. He edited the Burlington (Vt.) *Gazette* for four years, and also edited other papers for some years.

In Montpelier, Vt., Mr. Briggs was married to Miss Emeline M. Peck, an estimable woman who during their long married life was the devoted companion and cheerful helpmate of her husband. They became the parents of five children. James and one unnamed died in infancy, and Emma when a small child. Charles E. married Anna Lorce, of Vinton, Iowa, and makes his home in Rockford, Ill.; George S. married Miss Mary Taggart, and is connected with Waverly & Co., of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Briggs reared an adopted daughter, Lizzie M., who died after her marriage to D. H. Ferguson, of Rockford.

In 1853, Mr. Briggs removed from Vermont to Illinois, where he located in Rockford, and soon afterward became President of the firm of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield, bankers. He continued at the head of the private bank for ten years, until the business was merged into the Third National Bank, which is now in operation. Later, Mr. Briggs became financial manager for the company that was organized to build twenty-eight miles of the Kenosha Railroad, of which he was one of the prominent supporters through the hardships attending the financial crisis of 1857, and until the road was completed in 1859.

For some years afterward, Mr. Briggs was engaged very extensively as a real-estate dealer, and was the owner of eight improved farms in the vicinity of Rockford, besides much valuable city property. In his business affairs he had times of depression and also of prosperity, but never lost courage, no matter what obstacles opposed his progress. In 1868, he became connected with the firm of Briggs, Mead & Skinner, dealers in agricultural implements, and continued in that capacity for several years, the business being conducted under the name of the Briggs, Enoch & Skinner Manufacturing Company, and after Mr. Skinner's death the firm was Briggs & Enoch until 1880, when it was organized as a stock company, under the name of the Rockford Plow Company. Mr. Briggs sold

out his interest in 1886, and afterward devoted his attention to the insurance business, representing a number of the leading companies.

Mr. Briggs was a Republican in politics and a strong temperance man both in example and precept. He had firm convictions and the courage to stand true to them, even under great opposition and bitter enmity. His estimable wife, who survives him, has a host of friends in the community, and is of such hospitable nature as to win the esteem of all whom she entertains beneath her roof.



JOHAN RALSTON, who is engaged in general farming on section 25, Harlem Township, Winnebago County, is of Scottish birth. He was born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, Scotland, in October, 1828, and there his grandfather, John Ralston, spent his entire life. The father of our subject, Gavin Ralston, was born in the same county, and learned the trade of a tailor, but devoted the greater part of his time to farming. At length he determined to try his fortune in America, and sailed from Greenwich in the spring of 1841, landing at New York after a voyage of seven weeks. He came directly to Illinois, locating in Boone County, where he obtained Government land, located in what is now Caledonia Township. There was much land to be obtained at \$1.25 per acre, but as his means were very limited, he could only rent a farm. However, he was very industrious, and with the aid of his sons, in the course of time he was enabled to enter a tract of Government land and begin farming for himself. He erected a log cabin which the family occupied some years, but it was afterward replaced by a more modern and commodious residence. He also made other good improvements and at the time of his death owned a fine farm. His wife, whose maiden name was Jane Montgomery, was also a native of Argyleshire, and, like her husband, died on the old homestead in Boone County. They were the parents of six children, who grew to mature years, all sons: Robert, John, Gavin, David, Alexander and William.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of thirteen

summers when, with his parents, he left the old home in Scotland and crossed the broad Atlantic to America. He was reared to manhood in Boone County, amid the wild scenes of frontier life, and lessons of industry and economy were instilled into his mind when a youth. At a very early age, he began aiding his father in the arduous task of developing a farm, and the other sons did likewise, so that the family prospered, and as soon as the first farm was paid for, the father purchased other land and subsequently divided with his sons. Mr. Ralston obtained his share of the land, so that at the time of his marriage he had a home to which to bring his bride. He now owns and occupies a good farm on section 25, Harlem Township, where well-tilled fields and all the necessary improvements attest the fact that the owner is a man of thrift and enterprise.

In June, 1858, Mr. Ralston was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Jane, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Andrews) Ralston. The lady is a native of Argyleshire, Scotland, and by her marriage has become the mother of four children: Gavin, William, John and Elizabeth. The parents and family are all members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church. The Ralston household is the abode of hospitality and its representatives rank high in social circles in this community. In his business career, Mr. Ralston has met with excellent success; such as comes to an energetic and industrious man, and is now numbered among the substantial farmers of Winnebago County.



DANIEL S. RICHARDS, who is one of the pioneers of Winnebago County of 1838, is a native of Livingston County, N. Y., his natal day being November 21, 1844. Our subject is the son of Daniel and Clara (Luch) Richards, natives of Litchfield, Conn. His grandfather, Daniel Richards, hailed from England, and, on coming to the United States when a young man, located in Connecticut, where he was married and reared a family of three sons and two daughters. He was a patriot in the Revolutionary War, holding the rank of a commissioned officer.

The father of our subject commanded a company of militiamen just at the close of the War of 1812, but did not participate in any active engagement. He removed from Connecticut to Rochester, N. Y., but soon thereafter settled near Lima, on a farm which is included in the present site of that city, and on which is located the Lima Seminary. He lived to attain the age of sixty-six years, and was preceded to the better land by his wife. They were the parents of nine children, and Mr. Richards by his union with his second wife, Mrs. Hannah Chapman, became the father of three children.

Our subject was three years of age at the death of his mother, and, being reared on the home farm, was given a good education in the district schools which he attended until reaching his sixteenth year. In the town of Wethersfield, Wyoming County, he was married to Matilda Tyler, who died within six months after her marriage. Mr. Richards then disposed of his property, and, coming to Illinois, made claim to a tract of land on Sugar River Bottoms, near Durand. Later, returning to New York, he was married to Charlotte Warren, and in 1841 again took up his abode in the Prairie State, making his home on the claim which he had entered in 1838. This he improved and resided upon for five years, when he removed to another farm, and later, in company with his brother, Benjamin F., became interested in the manufacture of lime. This connection lasted until 1855, when our subject removed from Pecatonica, where he bought a small tract of land, and continued in the lime business for the two following years. At the end of that time, he came to Durand and engaged in farming, at the same time operating a threshing-machine in the fall of each year, which he owned. Mr. Richards has since resided in Wyoming County, with the exception of the time spent with his children in Iowa.

To our subject and his wife have been born six children, viz.: Jane, Janet, Belle, Dora, Minnie, and Louisa. In his political relations, he was first a Democrat, then a Free Soiler, next a Republican, and is now a Prohibitionist. He has never been the incumbent of any public office, preferring to give his time to his private interests, and even

when elected Justice of the Peace, refused to qualify. In religious matters, he is a member of the United Brethren Church, with which body he became connected in 1844, and has since acted as a local preacher. He is a well-preserved old gentleman, and bears the good-will and respect of all who know him.



DAVID CARLSON. A representative local enterprise is that of Carlson & Nygren, contractors, carpenters and builders of Rockford, where the firm is doing a very successful business. Our subject was originally from Kalmar Lan, Smoland Province, Sweden, born December 15, 1856, and as he grew to manhood learned his trade in his native country. While still single, he came to the States and very soon located in Rockford, where he has won an enviable reputation as a contractor and builder. He has erected many of the finest buildings in Rockford, and is a skillful and reliable workman. He has a new residence at No. 709 Second Avenue, which is one of the many nice Swedish homes in the city, and although only a resident of Rockford since 1880, he has many warm friends. For about three years after coming to Rockford, Mr. Carlson was in the furniture factory, and later embarked in the carpenter and contracting business.

He was married in Rockford to Miss Mary A. Benson, also a native of Sweden, born February 16, 1866, and who was two years of age when she was brought by her parents to the United States. The fruits of this union are two children, Elsie V. and Roland D. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson are energetic, enterprising young people and are well liked in the community. Both are members of the Swedish Zion Lutheran Church and he is a Trustee of the same. In politics, he is identified with the Republican party. He is a stockholder and Director in the Excelsior Furniture Company and a stockholder in the Rockford Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Carlson's father, Carl Johnson, and his step-mother, Ann (Danielson) Johnson, now reside in Kalmar Lan, Sweden, and are well along in

years. The father is a carpenter and operates a sawmill in his native country. Our subject's mother died when comparatively a young woman. She was the mother of seven children, of whom our subject is fourth in order of birth. All are members of the Lutheran Swedish Church.

Mrs. Carlson's parents, Jonas and Johanna (Peterson) Benson, came to this country in 1868, and settled in Rockford, where they have a comfortable home on Sixth Street. The father is sixty-six years of age and the mother is sixty-seven. The former is a wood mechanic and is now with the Skandia Plow Company. Both are members of the Zion Lutheran Church. Mrs. Carlson is the only child born of his union, although her mother, by a former marriage, had three children.



WILLIAM F. ACKERLY (deceased). New York State has given to Winnebago County, Ill., many estimable citizens, but she has contributed none more highly respected, or, for conscientious discharge of duty in every relation of life, more worthy of respect and esteem than was the subject of this sketch. He was born in Delaware County, N. Y., on the 12th of September 1832, and his father, Jonathan Ackery, was also a native of that county, and a millwright by trade. The elder Mr. Ackery was married in Delaware County to Miss Charlotte Freeman but subsequently removed to Allegany County, N. Y., and thence to Conneaut, Ohio, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits. There his first wife died and he was afterwards married to a Miss Barnes. Later he moved to Battle Creek, Mich., and here his death occurred, when seventy-five years of age. His widow, who survives him and who is now quite aged, resides with a daughter in a town near Bradford, Pa. William F. Ackery was one of five children, three daughters and two sons, born to his father's first union. All but our subject are now living, and are successful in their different occupations. The father was a skilled mechanic and a very successful business man. In the spring of 1856, he came to Winnebago County and engaged in the lumber

business in Cherry Valley. Later he sold out and purchased two hundred and sixty-two acres of land in Guilford Township, and this he carried on in connection with his business as a contractor and builder. He was possessed of excellent business acumen, was well and favorably known all over the county, and his death, which occurred on the 22d of May, 1890, was the occasion of universal sorrow. He selected as his companion in life Miss Adaline M. Alexander, a native of Maryland Township, Delaware County, N. Y., and their nuptials were celebrated in Cattaraugus County of that State. Mrs. Ackery was the daughter of Nelson and Polly (Bacon) Alexander, the father a native of New Hampshire and the mother of Connecticut. The father was of Scotch descent. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Alexander resided in Maryland for some time but finally moved to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where Mr. Alexander, in connection with farming, followed the blacksmith trade. He died April 5, 1892, in his eighty-fifth year. He had ever been a prominent man in his county and had held many of the local offices. He was a man of great intelligence, a great reader, and a well-informed historian and Bible reader. He was a Republican in his political views, with Prohibition proclivities. In his religious views he favored the Universalist belief. His wife died November 2, 1887, when seventy-three years of age. She was a noble woman and had many warm friends. Mr. Ackery of this notice was also a Universalist in his religious belief, and was recognized as one of the county's most esteemed citizens. After his death Mrs. Ackery moved to the city of Rockford and is now residing at No. 201 South Twelfth Street. She was reared and educated in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and is a lady possessed of more than the ordinary degree of intelligence and judgment. To her marriage were born five children: Ella M., wife of Selden Turner, who owns and resides on a fine farm in Guilford Township, Frederick; M., married Miss Nellie Adams, and resides at No. 205 South Twelfth Street; Frank F., contractor and builder at Pomeroy, Iowa, married Miss Katie Blackington, of Iowa; Jessie M. became the wife of B. E. Brown, a farmer of Guilford Township; and J. Clark, who is an intelligent



P. J. Liljeholm

young mechanic, resides with his mother. Mr. Akerly, the father of these children, was a Master Mason of Cherry Valley Lodge No. 173 and was a Knight Templar of Rockford Lodge No. 17. He took a deep interest in Masonic affairs and was buried with those honors.



PETER J. LILJEHOLM, a successful carver, designer and draughtsman, in the employ of the Rockford Folding Bed Company, of Rockford, is connected with this flourishing enterprise, and also with the Union Furniture Company, as stockholder and Director. He was born in Orebro City, Sweden, on the 10th of April, 1845. His father, John Johnson, spent his entire life in that land, where he followed the occupations of farming and cabinet-making, being a skilled mechanic. He passed away at the age of sixty years. His wife and all the children, with the exception of our subject, are still residents of Sweden. Mrs. Johnson is now more than four-score years of age, and is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, to which her husband also belonged.

Mr. Liljeholm, whose name heads this record, and whose portrait is shown on the opposite page, is the only member of his father's family who has become a permanent resident of the United States. The educational advantages which he received were those of the common schools. In his native city he was reared to manhood, and served an apprenticeship to the trade of cabinet-making, which he has followed more or less throughout his entire life. Since coming to this country, he has also learned the trade of designing. It was in 1870 that he bade good-bye to his old home and crossed the Atlantic. On board the same vessel on which he sailed was Miss Anna Lindstrom, who was born and reared in the same locality as our subject. Soon after their arrival in this county, they were married in Chicago, and the following year they became residents of this city.

Mrs. Liljeholm is also the only one of her family residing in America. Her father, Eric Johnson, was a successful farmer of Sweden, where he

died some years ago. His wife is also deceased, but the children are still living in the old home, and all are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church. The mother was well advanced in years when she died. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Liljeholm have been born seven children, six of whom are living: Minnie W., a young lady of about twenty summers; Ida, a book-keeper in the employ of Gust Lindblade, a grocer of this city; Helma, Alice, Hattie and Wesley, who are still under the parental roof.

The parents hold membership with the Swedish Methodist Church, in which Mr. Liljeholm has served as Trustee, and in its upbuilding and advancement they take an active interest. He is also a warm advocate of temperance principles, and votes with the Prohibition party. His life has been well and worthily spent, and he has thereby gained the respect of all with whom he has come in contact. Since locating in this city, in 1871, he has been connected with its furniture interests, and has done some very fine work as a cabinet-maker and designer, acquiring a competence through his industry and good judgment.



NATE L. COLBY. The *Pecatonica News* is a bright and newsy weekly, and has aided in no small way in promoting the interests of the village where it is published. It is a successful representative of the people of the place where it is located, and its value in the community cannot be estimated. Tireless in its defense of the right, and fearless in its denunciation of the evils of the age, it has won an enviable reputation among the best people of the county, and its popularity is proved by a constantly increasing subscription list.

The editor and publisher of this paper was born in Beloit, Wis., December 20, 1854, the son of Nathan D. and Sybil W. (Pearse) Colby. The father, who was born in Emden, Somerset County, Me., October 1, 1810, came west to Wisconsin July 12, 1847, where he followed the trade of a miller for a time, and later took contracts for moving buildings. He lived retired for some time prior to his decease,

which occurred July 12, 1891. He was a brave defender of his country during times of peril; politically, was a Republican, and in the various county offices which he held was distinguished for efficiency and faithful discharge of duties. He was one of seven children born to Eben Colby, who was born and married in and was a life-long resident of Maine.

The mother of our subject, known in maidenhood as Sybil W. Pease, was born in South Norridgewock, Me., September 11, 1818, and died in Beloit, Wis., December 17, 1881. Her marriage, which was solemnized in her native place in 1844, was blessed by the birth of five children, four sons and one daughter. She was a cheerful helpmate to her husband, whom she aided in all his enterprises and cheered with her sympathy. Obligated for years after her marriage to use the strictest economy in regulating the household expenses, it was in no small degree due to her frugality and management that prosperity afterward rewarded their efforts.

In his youth our subject learned the trade of a printer in a printing establishment at Beloit, Wis., and gained a good education in the schools of his native city. In 1870, he went to Milwaukee, where he became a compositor in the office of the *Sentinel*, but the following year removed to Davis, Ill., and took charge of a newspaper there. A few months after locating there, he purchased and removed the plant to Pecatonica, and in partnership with his brother, William A., established the *News*. In 1880, he bought his brother's interest, and has since conducted the paper with marked success.

September 15, 1880, Mr. Colby was married at Freeport, Ill., to Miss Ella M. Smith, who was born in Stephenson County, this State, the daughter of Gilbert F. and Helen M. (Shaw) Smith. They are the parents of three children, namely: Gilbert F., born July 27, 1881; Claude A., July 19, 1883 and Smith W., May 15, 1887. The religious home of the family is in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Colby is a member of the Official Board. Politically, he is a Republican and has filled various positions of trust, serving as Township Clerk for five years, member of the Board of Education and President of the Republican Club.

In his social connections, he is identified with the A. W. Rawson Lodge, F. & A. M.; the Eureka Camp, M. W. A., Monitor Garrison No. 19, Knights of the Globe, and was formerly connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is chief of the Fire Department, President of the Electric Light plant, and otherwise identified with one of the most progressive measures for the upbuilding of the community.



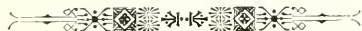
G. W. REYNOLDS is numbered among the early settlers of Rockford. He first came to this city in 1840, but did not make a permanent location until ten years later. For the past forty-two years he has been one of the well-known citizens of Winnebago County. He claims New York as the State of his nativity and there resided until 1835, when, with his parents, he became a resident of Michigan. His educational advantages were limited, but nature had endowed him with a fund of common sense, and by experience and observation he has made up for the lack of those privileges of schooling which many receive. His home for six years was in La Fayette, Wis., where he went in 1817, and where he served as Sheriff. In 1840, he came to Illinois and was employed in the Galena mines until 1850, when he located permanently in Rockford.

The father of our subject, James Reynolds, as before stated, brought his family to the West in 1835. He was born near Elmira, N. Y., and was descended from a good New England family. He made farming his life work and was successful in his undertakings. In 1846, he left Wisconsin and settled in Dixon, Lee County, Ill., where both he and his wife spent their remaining days. The death of Mr. Reynolds occurred at the age of seventy-six years, and his wife passed away at the age of three-score years and ten.

The subject of this sketch was married in Mineral Point, Wis., to Miss Esther Grover, a native of Cattaraugus County, N. Y., who, when a maiden of seventeen summers, came to Illinois, and for a short time resided in Winnebago

County. She then went to the home of her sister in Mineral Point, Wis., where she was afterward married. She has been a true and faithful helpmate to her husband, and their united efforts and labors have brought them a handsome competence. They now have one of the finest homes on North Court Street, and over this palatial residence Mrs. Reynolds presides as a kind hostess, ever ready to welcome her friends, who are many. In the family are two children.

On coming to Rockford, Mr. Reynolds established a livery stable and became a buyer and shipper of horses. His purchases were very large, and he shipped extensively to the South and Southwest, especially during the war. He ran a large livery stable from 1850 until 1867, thus acquiring a handsome competence, and while engaged in that business became acquainted with the leading horsemen of the country, many of whom he yet numbers among his warm friends. He is now practically living a retired life, but is yet a stockholder in many of the local enterprises of the city and is a stockholder and Director in the Second National Bank. He has taken an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of Rockford and its upbuilding and has been identified with its history. His life has been a successful one, and as the result of his industry and perseverance he has acquired considerable wealth. In politics, he has long been a Democrat but has never been an office-seeker. His acquaintance throughout the community is extensive and embraces the best people.



HENRY P. KIMBALL. From the date of his arrival in Rockford, in June, 1852, until his death, May 10, 1889, Mr. Kimball was closely identified with the progress of this city in various ways and was especially prominent as a horticulturist, having engaged in that occupation for seventeen years. He was Secretary of the County Agricultural Society, and contributed his ablest efforts to promote its interests, as well as the good of his fellow-citizens along social, educational and philanthropic lines.

The same fearless independence which ever characterized Mr. Kimball was displayed in his political preferences. He was in no sense of that word an office-seeker and at one time voted with the Republicans. He afterwards voted for Horace Greeley and became a Democrat. He was an upright, energetic man, a kind neighbor, an influential citizen, and true in every relation of life. Mr. Kimball died May 10, 1889, when sixty years of age.

Although a native of New Hampshire, Mr. Kimball was reared and educated in Maine and was a student in Colby University, of Maine, later graduating from Rochester (N. Y.) University. After completing his education, he became a teacher and was thus engaged in Maine for several years, meeting with success in that profession. In his young manhood he removed to the West, and in Winnebago County was married to Miss Ellen Haskell, a native of Massachusetts, who was quite young when her parents came to Illinois and located in Alton. She was nine years old when they settled in Rockford in 1838, and since that time she has made her home in this city. There are few citizens of Rockford who are not acquainted with her personally, or at least familiar with her name, for her long life here has made her well known, and her kindness of heart has won for her the respect of all.

The father of Mrs. Kimball was Dr. George Haskell, one of the first physicians of Rockford and a leader in every measure which was calculated for the benefit of the place. On account of ill health, he was compelled to relinquish his practice a few years after he came to this city, and afterward led an out-of-door life as much as possible. He was employed in different ways but devoted much of his time to horticulture and was a loving student of nature. His sympathy was given in behalf of progress and advancement, and his life was one of uprightness and honor.

In his native State, Dr. Haskell was married to Miss Eunice Edwards, who was born and reared in Acton, Mass., not far from the old town of Concord. She labored to assist her husband, whose faithful helpmate she remained until his death, since which time she has made her home

with her daughter, Mrs. Kimball. She has attained to the age of eighty-eight (1892) years, but retains full possession of her mental faculties and is hale and hearty. Religiously, she is a member of the Christian Union Church of this city.

The beautiful home of Mrs. Kimball, where she resides with her mother and son, is located at No. 305 Fisher Avenue and, both within and without, is one of the most attractive abodes in the city. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Kimball has assumed charge of his business affairs, which she conducts with judgment and success. She is the mother of three sons, namely: Dr. Frank H., of whom see biography elsewhere in this volume; Willis M., Alderman representing the Fourth Ward and Teller in the Second National Bank, and Carl C., who is still with his mother and is highly educated. Willis married Miss Isa Mears and resides in a beautiful place at No. 307 Fisher Avenue.



LORENZO L. BUNT, D. S., is engaged in the practice of dentistry on East State Street in Rockford, and has prosecuted his profession in this city since the spring of 1877. He was associated with Dr. E. J. Johnson, one of the oldest dentists of the city, until October, 1879, when he opened an office of his own at No. 418 East State. His rooms are pleasant, attractive and well arranged, and his work is satisfactory, as is proven by the liberal patronage he receives. He is a close student of his profession and keeps abreast with all its discoveries and improvements.

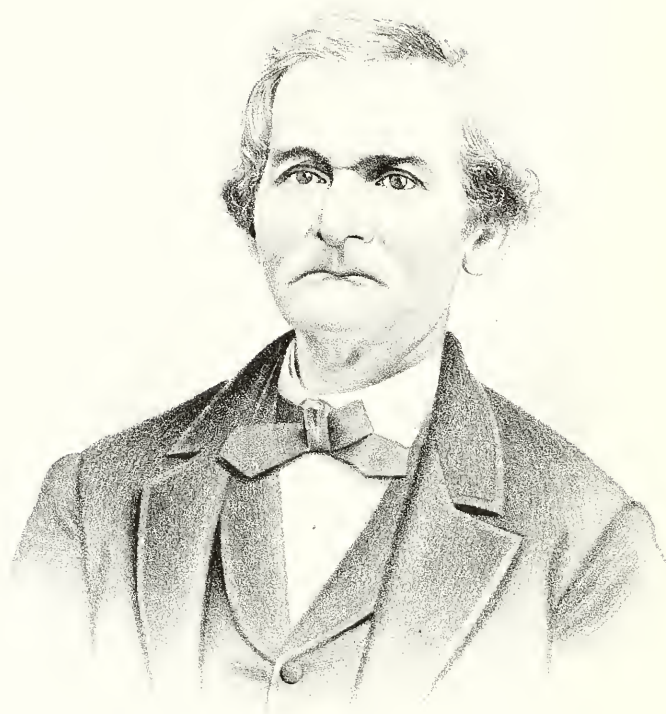
Dr. Bunt was born in the town of Wright, Scholarie County, N. Y., April 7, 1851, and is a son of George Bunt, who was born in the same county, of German parentage. He grew to manhood upon a farm and followed that occupation until he came to Illinois in 1853, when our subject was only two years old. He then turned his attention to the carpenter's trade, at which he worked until his death in Rockford, in 1887, at the age of sixty-five years. He was of a quiet and retiring disposition, but a worthy citizen and upright man who had many friends throughout the community. His

widow is still living and makes her home with the Doctor. Her maiden name was Sarah A. Nashold, and she too was born in Scholarie County, of German lineage. She is a member of the Methodist Church, to which Mr. Bunt also belonged. They were the parents of three children: Anson, a packer and shipper for the John Barnes Manufacturing Company, of this city. He married Lizzie Carpenter, and they have one child, Frank. The sister, Delta, is the wife of W. A. McCaenmond, a prominent portrait painter of Chicago, by whom she has one son, Milford.

Our subject is the eldest of the three children. Almost his entire life has been spent in this city, where he was reared to manhood and acquired his primary education. He afterward entered the Michigan State University at Ann Arbor in the fall of 1873, completing his studies in 1874. He fitted himself for the practice of his chosen profession with Dr. M. H. Knapp, of Adrian, Mich., now a prominent dentist of Jackson, that State. He then came to Rockford and opened an office as before stated.

Dr. Bunt was married in this city to Miss Minnie Johnson, a native of Elmira, N. Y., who was reared by Dr. E. J. Johnson, of Rockford. She is a lady of many excellencies of character, held in high esteem by all who know her. They have two children: C. Leta, a daughter of twelve summers, and George L., a lad of four years.

The Doctor and his wife are members of the Centennial Methodist Church. They have a pleasant home at No. 206 North Fifth Street and are held in high regard by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. The Doctor is a member of Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M.; Winnebago Chapter No. 21, R. A. M.; Adrian Commandery No. 21, K. T., and Oriental Consistory No. 1, of Chicago. Both he and his wife are past officers of the Eastern Star Order, and he is a past officer in Social Lodge No. 110, I. O. O. F.; Rockford Encampment No. 44; Eureka Canton, No. 6; Patriarch Militant and Anchor Rebecca Degree Lodge, No. 84. He is also a member and has been presiding officer of the Ancient Order of United Workmen; is a past officer of the Knights of Honor, past officer of the Sons of America, and is a charter



W. R. MILLARD.

member of the first order in this State, Camp Washington No. 61. He has taken much interest in civic societies and is an honored member in the various organizations to which he belongs. He also holds membership with the Dental Association of Northern Illinois.



WILLIAM R. MILLARD. This worthy and honorable gentleman, who is engaged in general farming on section 35, Le Roy Township, Boone County, makes a specialty of the dairy business. He was born in Columbia County, Pa., July 1, 1813, and is a son of Reese Millard, a native of Berks County, Pa. The father was a farmer, and removed to Columbia County when a youth with his parents.

The grandfather of our subject, Joseph Millard, was a miller by trade, and superintended the operations of his father's gristmill near Reading, Pa., where he was born. He was a Quaker, and never went beyond the boundaries of the Keystone State. The maiden name of his wife was Phoebe John, and to them were born a family of two sons and one daughter. The grandmother died when about sixty years of age, but her husband lived to attain his ninetieth year.

Reese Millard was married to Catherine, daughter of William Rittenhouse, who was a native of the same place where his birth occurred. To them were granted a family of seven children, all of whom, with one exception, grew to mature years, namely: William R., our subject; Joseph P, who died in March, 1889, in Kalamazoo, Mich., when about seventy-four years of age; Phoebe (second), Anna R., Rebecca and Catherine. Phoebe, the first-born, died in her third year.

The original of this sketch and of the portrait found on the opposite page was reared on a farm, and started out to do for himself when twenty years of age. In 1832, he came overland to Michigan, but on the death of his father he returned home and remained until 1838. In the meantime, he had married Mary Moore, a native of Luzerne County, Pa., and in the fall of 1838 the young couple came to Illinois, stopping in Dixon until

the spring of 1841. On locating in this county, Mr. Millard purchased eighty acres of Government land, and within a few years was able to add to his estate until he had two hundred and forty acres. He comes of a very wealthy family, and has made a success of his calling as an agriculturist.

To Mr. and Mrs. Millard were born six children, all of whom are living, namely: Frances Catherine, now Mrs. Philip Stall, of Le Roy; Dorcas Elizabeth, who married D. H. Jones; Susan, the wife of Thomas Robins, a farmer in Le Roy; Clarinda R., Mrs. Hiram Day, of Caledonia; Emmor K., who married Hattie Livermore, of New York, and Mary M., Mrs. C. B. Winkapaugh. The wife and mother departed this life March 2, 1891, when nearly eighty-four years of age.

Our subject has served his fellow-citizens in many positions of trust and responsibility, and is well and favorably known throughout his community. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which his wife also belonged, and in which body they were active workers. In politics, he always votes with the Republican party. He visited his old home in Pennsylvania in the fall of 1891, spending some weeks with his two surviving sisters. He is one of the leading agriculturists of Boone County, a public-spirited and enterprising man, and warmly interested in the movement of public affairs and the progress of all good measures.



CHRISTIAN STIGMAN owns and operates one hundred and twenty-seven acres of land in Cherry Valley Township and is numbered among the early settlers of Winnelago County. He came here in the spring of 1852, and has since been identified with its history, has aided in its development and has watched with interest its growth and progress. The pioneers certainly deserve much credit and as one of them our subject should be mentioned in this volume.

Mr. Stigman was a native of Germany. He was born about ninety miles from Bremen in 1828, and is a son of Henry and Christina (Colemeyer) Stigman. His mother died when he was but an

infant and his father died during his childhood. Our subject had but one brother and he died young. Christian then went to live with a maternal uncle and in the usual manner of farmer lads was reared to manhood. On attaining his majority, in accordance with the laws of the country, he entered the service, and for three years was in the army, serving as a private. The year succeeding his dismissal was spent in his native land, after which he emigrated to America, in the spring of 1852. He was accompanied by his wife and daughter, having been married at the age of twenty-one to Miss Caroline Kortie. After locating in this county, Mr. Stigman worked upon the construction of a railroad at \$1.00 per day. Like most of his countrymen, he came to America empty-handed and has since acquired all of his property.

In 1851, cholera was epidemic and his wife fell a victim to the terrible scourge. She, with four others of the Kortie family, died within two weeks. Mr. Stigman was also attacked and his life was despaired of, but through good nursing and a strong constitution he recovered. He has since been a second time married, this union being with Christiana Possmeyer, of Germany, daughter of Henry and Augusta (Brown) Possmeyer. Her parents spent their entire lives in the Fatherland, the former dying in 1866, at the age of sixty-one, and the mother dying in 1867, at the same age. Their family numbered two sons and three daughters, but only two are now living: the wife of our subject, and William, who is living in Germany at the age of fifty-eight years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stigman have been born eight children, four sons and four daughters, but two are now deceased: Frank, who died in 1871 at the age of thirteen years, and Louis, who died in 1880 at the age of two and a half. The living are Anna; Julia, wife of Fred Hay, of Rockford; Lotie, Edward, Charles and Lillie.

Some time after locating in this county, Mr. Stigman in company with his two brothers-in-law purchased ninety acres of land and his third formed the nucleus of his present good farm of one hundred and twenty-seven acres. This land was mostly covered with timber which he himself

cleared away, and then developed rich and fertile fields which now yield to him a good income. He has been very successful in his labors and the able assistance of his estimable wife has also been an important factor in his success. They are Lutherans in religious belief, and Mr. Stigman generally votes with the Republican party but has never taken an active part in political affairs.



JOHNS CLARK, who follows general farming on section 31, Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, first opened his eyes to the light of day in Scotland, in 1828. He is one of a family of eight sons and three daughters, the parents being Samuel and Margaret (Templeton) Clark. His father followed farming upon rented land and died in Scotland at the age of seventy-eight years, his wife passing away at the age of sixty-five years.

Under the parental roof our subject was reared to manhood, no event of special importance occurring during his childhood days. He came to this country in August, 1851, when twenty-three years of age, and in the vicinity of Cincinnati, Ohio, followed the occupation of farming upon rented land for some twenty years. As a companion and a helpmate on life's journey, he chose Miss Catherine Allison, a native of Scotland, and a daughter of James and Janet (Greenlees) Allison. Their union was celebrated in August, 1855, and has been blessed with a family of ten children, two sons and eight daughters: James; Margaret, wife of Isaac Turrell, Principal of one of the schools of Cincinnati, Ohio; Samuel; Jessie, wife of Hugh McEvoy, of Dallas, Tex.; Catherine, who is engaged in teaching in Dallas; Flora, wife of Abram Davis, a farmer; Agnes, Mary, Mattie and Ella. The family circle still remains unbroken, although some have left the parental roof, and there are also sixteen grandchildren. Of the two sons, one is a farmer in McPherson County, Kan., and the other is engaged in the real-estate business in Canton, Kan.

It was in the autumn of 1871 that Mr. Clark removed with his family to Illinois, coming through

Chicago at the time the great fire was raging in that city. He settled in Winnebago County, purchasing a farm of one hundred and twenty acres at \$24 per acre, and to this he has since added until now two hundred acres of valuable land pay tribute to his care and cultivation. He has laid eight hundred rods of tiling upon the place, has erected a good residence and large barns and is recognized as one of the successful agriculturists of this county. He deserves all the more credit in that his prosperity is due entirely to his own efforts. In politics, he is a Democrat, and himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church. During the twenty years of their residence in this county they have made many friends and are well and favorably known in this community.



FRANCIS RUTGER was born in the Palatinate of Bavaria, Germany, in 1829. After receiving a common-school education, he chose teaching as his profession, and prepared himself for the work at Spiers on the Rhine. The troubles of 1848-49, in which he took part on the liberal side, compelled him to seek a home in another country, and he came to America in 1849. When the great Rebellion broke out, he enlisted in the Twelfth Illinois Infantry as a private in Company K. With his regiment he took part in the battle and siege of Ft. Donelson, and the battle of Shiloh, where he was wounded. His first promotion was to Second Lieutenant, and in the spring of 1863 he was promoted to be First Lieutenant for meritorious services rendered at Ft. Donelson and Pittsburg Landing.

In January, 1864, the regiment re-enlisted, and its members returned to their homes to recruit. In March of the same year, Lieut. Rutger was detailed as Acting Adjutant of the regiment, which duties he performed at the opening of the Georgia campaign, taking part in all the engagements in which the Second Brigade and Second Division (to which the Twelfth belonged) participated. Among the number were the battles of Snake Creek Valley, Resaca, Altoona, Kenesaw Mountain, Nickajack Creek, Atlanta, and the heroic defense

of Altoona Pass. While the regiment was stationed at Rome, Ga., in October, 1864, Lieut. Rutger was honorably mustered out, and returned to his home in Belvidere in very poor health. His death occurred April 15, 1878.

The lady to whom our subject was married in 1871 was Miss Mary Case, a niece of John Case. This gentleman settled in Boone County as early as 1846, having been a resident of Skaneateles, N. Y., until the Western fever seized him. He sold his effects, with the exception of a few articles, which he put within a large closed coach, and made the journey to Chicago in that vehicle, to which he hitched a fine span of horses. Upon reaching Chicago, he started out in search of a desirable location, and, entering Boone County just across the DeKalb County line, in the town of Spring, stopped at a log house which some "squatter" claimed. He bought his interest in the place, then returned to Chicago, where he made a purchase of Government land. Afterward he made several trips for the purpose of entering land, the deeds to which were mostly given under the administration of James K. Polk.

Upon the farm where he first located, John Case made his home until 1867, when he moved into a house he had purchased in Gilman's Addition to Belvidere. In January, 1868, he passed from earth at the age of eighty-four years, and his remains were laid to rest in the pleasant cemetery at Blood's Point, where he had expressed a desire to be buried. He was one of four brothers, the others being William, Ezekiel and Seth. The last-named, who was the father of Mrs. Rutger, was born in Massachusetts in 1800, and was of English descent. In 1834, with his family, he removed from the Bay State to Ohio, where he purchased a tract of timber land two miles from Elyria, Lorain County. Twelve years later, he went to Geauga County, and purchased land in Huntsburg, where he resided until 1848. At that time he removed to Michigan, where he bought a comfortable home in Clinton, Lenawee County. There he was bereaved by the death of his wife (whose maiden name was Mary Miller), and afterward spent his time in visiting his children, his death occurring at the home of Mrs. Rutger.

At the time of the removal to Ohio, Mrs. Rutger was quite young, and her early education was gained in the schools of Lorain County. Later, she attended the village school at Clinton, Mich., and subsequently was a student in the Westfield (Mass.) Academy. After completing her education, she began to teach, and was thus engaged until coming to Boone County to reside with her uncle. After his decease, she returned to Massachusetts, where she was married. She is connected with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.



SALAH HIGHBARGER is numbered among the industrious, thrifty members of the farming community of Seward Township, Winnebago County, where he has an excellent farm that is under good tillage, is provided with comfortable buildings and yields a good income. Mr. Highbarger makes a specialty of breeding Short-horn cattle and has several pedigreed animals. He has been thus engaged for over twenty years and is so managing affairs that he is making a financial success of this branch of farming.

The birth of our subject took place in Shortsbury, Washington County, Md., August 10, 1835. He is the son of David and Leah Highbarger, also natives of Maryland, who emigrated to Ogle County, this State, in 1845; the father died on the old farm, and the mother, surviving him many years, passed away when eighty years of age. The maternal grandparents of our subject lived and died in Pennsylvania, while on the paternal side of the houses he is of Welsh and German descent.

He of whom we write when twenty-one years of age left the old home and engaged to break prairie by the mouth. Establishing a home of his own, he was married, in February, 1855, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Henry and Mary Rhinehart, natives of the Keystone State, but who came hither from Maryland in 1816. Mr. Rhinehart was a Captain in the War of 1812 and drew a pension from the Government. His father, Henry Rhinehart, departed this life in Washington County, Md. Mrs. Highbarger had two brothers who participated in the late war.

The seven children who comprise the family of our subject and his wife bear the respective names of William F., Frances M., Martha, David H., Ann E., Mary E. and LeMina. Mr. Highbarger when taking up his present farm of two hundred acres from the Government had only \$25 to pay for the property. He borrowed the balance of the money and bought soldiers' warrants, with which he was enabled to get his land at seventy-five cents per acre.

A Republican in politics, our subject cast his first vote for Zachary Taylor. With his wife, he is a member of the Presbyterian Church, in which body he has been a Trustee ever since its organization in his neighborhood. He has been successful in worldly affairs and in gaining the esteem of his fellow-men, to whom his honesty and kindness are well known.



PETER G. BOWMAN, a shipping clerk and one of the stockholders of the Forest City Knitting Company, was born in Sweden, January 6, 1838, and is a son of Andrew Peterson, who with his family crossed the Atlantic to America in 1852. They sailed from Gottenburg on the 19th of April and landed in New York the 30th of May. They came at once to St. Charles, Ill., and there the father died at the age of forty-five years, only a few months after his arrival. His wife afterwards married a Mr. Bowman, a Swedish gentleman, who died while in the service during the War of the Rebellion. She then married Robert Welton, who is now deceased, and at this writing makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Long, of Rockford. Although now eighty years of age she is very well preserved.

On coming to the United States, our subject settled in Kane County, Ill., where he resided for some time. He first came to Rockford in 1865, but subsequently removed to Chicago, where he engaged in the grocery business until 1885. He then returned to Rockford and for some time was connected with Mr. Munthe in the real-estate business and yet owns an interest in an addition. He is now shipping clerk for the Forest City Knitting



John Nelson

Company, with which he has been connected since its organization and is also one of the stockholders.

While residing in Chicago, Mr. Bowman was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Floren, who was born and reared in the same province in Sweden as her husband. When a young lady, she crossed the broad Atlantic to America and made her home in Chicago until after marriage. She has been a true wife and helpmate to Mr. Bowman and by her efforts has aided him materially. They have two children, a son and daughter: Robert G., an enterprising young man, employed in the works of the Nelson Knitting Company; and Anna who is still at home. The family have a pleasant home, which is the old Sylvester Scott property on the east bank of Rock River. The household is the abode of hospitality and the members of the family rank high in the social circles in which they move. Mr. Bowman may well be called a self-made man for whatever success he has achieved in life is due entirely to his own efforts. By his industry and enterprise he has worked his way upward and has acquired a good property.

JOHIN NELSON was one of the most prominent citizens of Winnebago County. No man ever resided in Rockford that left behind him a memory more revered than that of our subject, and this work would be incomplete without his sketch and the accompanying portrait. He was born in West Gothland, Sweden, April 5, 1830, and at a very early age became a spinning-wheel maker. His father had died when our subject was quite young. His mother was left a poor widow, but she was a woman exceedingly intelligent, and possessed of much natural ability to penetrate the deep mysteries of complicated machinery, and this trait was inherited by her son.

When twenty-two years of age, John Nelson bade good-bye to his old home, and crossed the Atlantic from Gottenburg, arriving in New York City after a voyage of six weeks. He at once came Westward, and made his first home in St. Charles, Ill. While there, he married an intelligent, pleasant and a tractive young lady who had come

over in the same ship with him. Their friendly acquaintance formed on the vessel ripened into love, and on the 14th of November, 1851, John Nelson and Eva Christina Peterson were married. She was born in West Gothland, Sweden, May 6, 1831, and is a sister of Mrs. Andrew Long, of this city.

Our subject came to Rockford in 1852, and for a time was a designer and pattern and model maker. He did business in connection with Mr. Ghent, and later was in partnership with A. C. Johnson and Gust Hollem in the sash and door manufacturing business. After the war, Mr. Nelson was induced to go South, and in connection with Gustaf Burgland, of Water Valley, Miss., began business at that place, but, not liking the people or the climate, he soon returned to Rockford. His active brain, during all these years, was working out the plan of one of the most intricate machines that has ever been invented, the Nelson Knitting Machine, which has entirely revolutionized the knitting of hosiery. The machinery is so complete that hose are now made at about two cents per dozen pair. Just about the time he had completed his great discovery, he was called from this life, dying April 15, 1883. His death was mourned by all who knew him, for he was not only a great inventor, but was a most worthy citizen and honorable man. His concentration of thought was such that he found it almost impossible to sleep at night, and so his constitution, never very strong, was undermined. He was a natural born mechanic, and from his early boyhood his mind was filled with ideas that gave promise of the rich fulfillment of his mature years. His life was spent as that of a true Christian, and we feel safe in saying that no death was more deeply regretted in Rockford than that of our subject's.

Mrs. Nelson still survives her husband. She was ever a true helpmate to him and a faithful and loving wife. Since his death, with the aid of her children, she has developed a splendid business from that started by her husband, and the success of the machine is indicated by the following incident: After President Grant had made his tour around the world, he came to Rockford and visited the shops of the Nelson Knitting Com-

pany. After looking over the machinery and seeing the wonderful work, he boldly declared that after all his tour of the great world, including a visit to the large cities and factories, he had never seen anything to equal this. Then picking up a pair of the hose as they dropped from the machine, he walked away.

The Nelson family once numbered seven children, but two are now deceased. Alfred, who died at the age of thirty-three years, inherited his father's genius, and invented some necessary improvements, especially that for widening the leg of the hose as it is being knitted. He was known as a worthy and most promising young man. He left a wife of a year, who is now living in Colorado. Fritz died in childhood; William and Oscar are represented elsewhere in this work. Fritz is associated with his brothers in many of the enterprises with which the Nelson boys are connected, and John is a promising young man, also interested in business. Anna C., who completes the family, is an intelligent and entertaining young lady residing with her mother. What the Nelson family has done for Rockford cannot be estimated, for they have set in motion business industries whose good effect can only be measured by time.



JOHN HUTCHINS, who is now living a retired life at No. 308 North Third Street, has been a resident of Rockford since 1855.

He was born on the Isle of Man in January, 1838, and is a son of Charles Hutchins, who was also born on the Isle of Man, as was the grandfather, Isaac Hutchins. The latter there spent his entire life as a fisherman and farmer. The former is the only surviving child of his parents. He grew to manhood on his native isle and followed the business of cabinet-making and carpentering for many years. He is now eighty-six years of age but is still hale and hearty. He is over six feet in height and portly, and the infirmities of age rest lightly upon him. His wife is eighty-four years of age. In her maidenhood she was Jane Callin, and

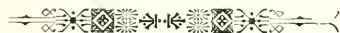
was also born on the Isle of Man. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins are members of the Methodist Church. Their family numbered six children, one of whom died in Africa of the African fever. The others are still living.

In his native land our subject acquired a common-school education and there remained until seventeen years of age, when he determined to try his fortune in the New World. He crossed the broad Atlantic in 1855, being the first of the family to come to the United States. Making his first location in Rockford, he here served an apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade under Mr. Jockings, for whom he afterward worked one year, and then established a smithy at No. 510 East State Street, at the head of Kishwaukee Street. After two years he removed his shop and built the large brick block on East State Street, 44x84 feet. He has been very successful in his business career, and in connection with his trade has become a stockholder in the Rockford Burial Case Company and also in the Rockford Watch Case Company.

In Guilford Township, Mr. Hutchins was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Black, who was born in Palermo, Canada, April 5, 1843, and there resided until eighteen years of age, when she came to Illinois, locating in Guilford Township. She is a daughter of Alex and Orpha (Smith) Black, the former a native of New Brunswick and the latter of Canada. They were married in Palermo, Canada, and afterward came to Illinois, locating on a good farm in Guilford Township, which they made their home for some time and then removed to Rockford, where they spent their last days in retirement. Mr. Black died in 1883, when past the age of seventy years, and Mrs. Black died in 1887, at the age of seventy-seven years. They were members of the Methodist Church. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins have been born three children, but one died in infancy. Daniel, who graduated from the High School of Rockford, is now studying stenography and type-writing in a business college; and Charles, also a graduate of the High School, is pursuing a course of study in the Rockford Business College.

The parents of this family hold membership in the Methodist Church and give liberally to its

support. They are well-known people in this community, and are held in high regard by their many friends and acquaintances. Mr. Hutchins has led a busy and useful life and is now enjoying the fruits of his former labor.



PETER FLEMING was born in Washington County, Ohio, December 25, 1817. His parents were Jesse and Eleanor (Collins) Fleming and his paternal grandmother, who came from Ireland to this country, died in the above-named county and State when eighty years of age. The father of our subject, it is thought, was also a native of the Buckeye State, where he carried on farming and departed this life in his seventy-eighth year. His mother was born near Baltimore, Md., and died on the old homestead in Ohio when seventy-two years of age. The parents were old pioneers of Ohio, and were highly respected throughout their community as people whose principles, intelligence, and habits afforded a worthy example to those about them.

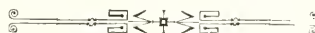
He of whom we write assisted his father in carrying on the farm until fifteen years of age when he went to Newport, Ohio, and for two months was engaged in working out on farms. He then learned the cooper's trade which he prosecuted until his marriage, September 23, 1841, at which time Miss Betsey A. Lackey became his wife. Mrs. Fleming was born December 21, 1814, in Swanton, Franklin County, Vt., and was the daughter of Isaac and Hannah (Wright) Lackey. Her father was a native of Connecticut and spent his last days in Ohio, his death occurring at the advanced age of ninety-two years. The mother hailed from Massachusetts and also departed this life in Ohio, when in her seventy-eighth year. The Wright family were of English descent and were generally well-to-do farmers. Isaac Lackey was a patriot in the War of 1812. Mrs. Fleming is a descendant of the celebrated Peabody family, and on both sides of the house our subject comes of people who were noted for their longevity.

After his marriage our subject came to Durand, this county, and purchased land upon which he

resided until February, 1891. At that time he sold out and bought his present home in Pecononia village, where he ranks among the intelligent and progressive citizens. Mr. Fleming politically supported the principles of the Democratic party, as likewise did his father, but otherwise devoted his time and attention to his private affairs. He cast his first vote for President Polk.

Mr. and Mrs. Fleming have had born to them eight children and adopted a son, Charlie Hill, who went to California and died at the age of twenty-two years. The eldest daughter, Adelaide, was born December 18, 1842, and is now Mrs. Edmund Berwent, Jr., and has two children: Marietta, who was born January 23, 1845, married Charles Reddington and is the mother of two sons and two daughters; Annette, whose birth occurred May 29, 1848, became the wife of H. B. Farewell, and had born to her two children, one of whom is deceased; Delight, who was born October 3, 1849, married John Frederiek who died in Oakland, Cal., when forty-three years of age, leaving two sons; Alice, now Mrs. John C. Ross, was born August 6, 1851, and is the mother of two sons and two daughters. The remaining children of the family died when young. They have all been given good educations in the Rockford and Pecononia schools and with one exception have been school teachers.

The family is now living retired in the village, where they have a pleasant and attractive home and are respected and useful members of the community.



NORMAN JUDD. This old pioneer of Winnebago County was born March 1, 1828, in Sandusky County, Ohio, and was the son of Jasen and Rebecca (Shaw) Judd, natives of the Empire State. The family moved to Ohio, where they resided until 1839, at which time they came to this county and located on a claim in Durand Township. The father disposed of the property a year later and took up another claim on section 23, which was his home at the time of his decease in 1863.

Mr. and Mrs. Jasen Judd had a family of six

children: Nancy, Maria, Nelson, Norman, Laura and Eline. Our subject was reared on the home farm and attended the district schools of that early day. He remained with his parents until attaining his majority, and on starting out in life for himself purchased forty acres of land, upon which he erected good buildings and made other modern improvements. Three years later, he removed to another farm, on which he resided for the following fourteen years. In the spring of 1883, he moved to the village of Durand and built the pleasant home which he now occupies. He is the owner of considerable farm lands, having in Clay County, Iowa, a tract of one hundred and forty-three acres.

Norman Judd and Miss Sarah B. Miller were united in marriage, August 14, 1856. The lady was born in Franklin County, Pa., September 23, 1829, and departed this life October 12, 1859, leaving one daughter and one son: Ellen L., who was born July 17, 1857, died October 3, 1885, after having become the wife of Andy Golley, of Rockford, Ill., and they had one child, Ella J.; Ansel Norman, the son, was born August 31, 1858, and died in infancy.

The lady whom our subject chose for his second wife was Mrs. Harriet L. Hart, *nee* Ely. Their marriage was celebrated December 21, 1860. Mrs. Judd was the daughter of Elisha and Charlotte (Chapman) Ely, natives of Connecticut; her birth occurred in Westbrook, that State, April 5, 1830. Her father removed to Madison County, N. Y., in 1835, the mother having died in Connecticut two years previously. Mr. Ely then married a sister of his first wife, Miss Electa Ann Chapman, and died in Madison County, in September, 1863. By his first union were born three children: Harriet L., Henry, and one who died in infancy. Of his second union five children were born: Henry E., a soldier during the late war in a New York regiment, died in the service; Charlotte M., Mrs. A. E. Van Tassel; Fannie E., who married David Bebee; Frederick A., a resident of Oregon City, and George C., who also makes his home in that place.

Mrs. Judd, while residing in New York, was married to L. D. Hart in 1851, by whom she became the mother of one daughter, Frances C., now the

wife of Charles Crain, of Stockton, Kan. Mr. and Mrs. Crain have eight children: May Bell, George C., Bertha M., Hattie, John, Lottie, Nora and Norman. The only daughter born to our subject and his wife was Isabel J., who was born September 26, 1861; she was married to Frank Sheik, and died April 1, 1881.

Our subject for four years was a successful shoe merchant in Durand. He is now retired. In politics, he votes with the Republican party and has been Treasurer of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company. In religious matters, he is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



AUSTIN COLTON. We are pleased to present to our readers the following account of the life of this gentleman, sketched by himself in fulfillment of a resolution passed by the Rockford Society of Early Settlers, about the year 1878, calling for personal reminiscences of every member, to be placed on the file of the society.

"Austin Colton was born in the town of Northampton, Hampshire County, Mass., January 30, 1817, and is a descendant of the sixth generation from George Colton, who came from the vicinity of Birmingham, England, about 1860. My progenitors from George Colton bore, in the following order, the ancient Scriptural names of Isaac, Benjamin, Aaron and Reuben, the latter being my father's name, and the list plainly denoting a patriarchal religious reverence, and why, in finding a name for me, the grand old Bible line should have been abandoned, I cannot divine, unless it was in special admiration of that unflinching champion of Calvinistic dogmas, Dr. Austin, who created a current of commotion in the Christian world about that time and toward whose doctrines my parents were somewhat inclined.

"My father, Reuben, like many others when struggling against severe pecuniary pressure, was seized with the notion that he could change, if not improve, his circumstances by emigration, and so, after finding his financial affairs considerably demoralized on the proclamation of peace with Great

Britain, following the War of 1812, took up his line of march from his home in Hartford, Conn., to Northampton, Mass. This was then a long way to emigrate, and the Connecticut River Valley was the only attractive region inviting the course of the emigrant. My father being a mirror-frame maker and gilder by trade, it was here that he again tried to lighten the burdens of life at his occupation, but with such a lack of proper materials and tools that I have heard my mother say he sometimes had to whittle out and joint even his best jobs with a pocket-knife.

"It was in the midst of such parental privations, and during that severe winter of 1816-17, that I first drew the breath of life. After rowing against the unseen tide of success until 1830, my father, in connection with a company of his neighbors, again conceived the idea that he could better himself and family by a removal to a Western home, which country was then designated as Ohio, Indiana and Southern Illinois (this northern part being then Indian Territory), famous for beauty and fertility. In 1830, he was sent out as an exploring agent for his neighbors. He worked his way in various modes through Northern Ohio and Indiana to St. Louis, and reported generally in favorable terms of the country he had passed. On returning a little further northward through the village of Niles, Mich., then about three years old, he was taken suddenly ill from fatigue and exposure, and there died, without being sufficiently conscious to disclose even his name or whence he came.

"The surprise and shock of this bereavement were the complete reversal of our family plans. I was then thirteen years of age and the eldest of three sons by the second wife of my father. At this period, my school days ceased and I had no further instruction in that line than what was gained by private application and experience. Instead of being directed Westward for farm life, I was dispatched Eastward fifty miles to Worcester, as an apprentice to the printing business, in the office of the Massachusetts *Spy*, a weekly patriotic paper established by Isaiah Thomas before the Revolution. It is yet prosperously published, being consequently more than a century old, and at that time my eldest half-brother was its managing

printer and partner. Thus early separated from the enjoyments of home by the necessities of a livelihood, it was the last I fully experienced of the joy and independence of that institution until lodged in one of my own creation in this delightful prairie land.

"After serving a seven-years' apprenticeship, during the most of the early part of which I was a mere "hewer of wood and drawer of water" for my more elevated associates, I attained my majority and was honorably graduated. Spending about two years working as a journeyman printer in Worcester and the city of New York, being employed in the latter place for a time in Harper's book establishment, and finding my health, which had never been robust, was more and more giving way by long, steady indoor confinement, I resolved to shape my course Westward for exemption from dubious Eastern prospects. Having no particular place selected as the end of my journey, I was drawn hitherward by a brother-in-law, whose glowing description of the place had aroused my eager desire to witness its beauties and resources. Mentioning my resolution to my friends, one of them, in deference to his views of its distance and possible desolation, ventured to remark that he did not suppose I "intended to go out there to live." To which I replied, "Certainly, or else to die," for in my then state of health, I considered the latter as probable as the former.

"I left friends and native State in April, 1839, for the Far West, as this region was then called, with all my earthly effects about my person or contained in a small, square, black trunk, among which might have been found two very useful as well as portable articles for pioneer duty, a helvessaxe and a hoe. I also had about \$100 in cash, the accumulated savings of my eight or nine years of Eastern toil. After a quick passage of thirty days, via New York City, North River, Erie Canal by boat to Detroit, thence across the State of Michigan by wagon and on foot to St. Joseph, and by schooner across Lake Michigan, I reached Chicago early in May, with the very economical reduction of about sixty per cent. of my capital. Tarrying there for two or three weeks in a plain wooden shanty called the Tremont House, and working in

the interval on the *Chicago American*, under the editorship of Mr. Stewart, but afterward transformed into the present *Journal*, I found a teamster from Rockford, named Albert Sanford, who agreed to bring me here within the lapse of four days for \$6, providing I would aid in lightening him over the measureless sloughs.

"Embarking on the doubtful voyage, I arrived here, only to find that my brother was about fourteen miles down the river, nearly opposite the present town of Byron. That evening I started on my tramp for that point, procuring my gingerbread supper at the baking institution of our then bachelor settlers, Wyman & Houghton, located on Main Street, near the present Northwestern Railroad bridge. Between nine and ten o'clock that night, I arrived opposite my brother's cabin, and was charitably paddled across the river in a dug-out by a settler named Norton. It was there on the fair banks of the Rock River that I first ensconced myself amid the bliss and beauties of practical "quatter sovereignty" for a few weeks. So charmed was I by the attractions of the country that I resolved to settle thereabouts. By invitation of a resident, I next visited the region of the Pecatonica River and, finding in the vicinity of what is now called Elton a group of settlers of the New England stamp, I was induced to take up a claim there. I began to ply the pioneer's vocation of log-building, fencing and farming, following it about four years without being burdened with excessive profits.

"At that time, I received a call from the publisher of the *Winnebago Forum* (which had been issued weekly for about six months by J. A. Wight) to come down to Rockford and take charge of his subscribers, numbering two hundred. My health had become well established and I was beginning to feel willing to cope with almost any difficulty or antagonism. At this post, I battled for nearly eleven years, laboring for the advancement of the best local interests of our charming city and county, but with what success I leave others to determine.

"I might revert to many pleasing, as well as painful, reminiscences of those different departments of life during those years, but they are too numerous,

and perhaps inappropriate to a personal sketch. Suffice it to say that that period (1843) witnessed our now model town with but the weak and irregular outlines of infancy, yet of growing strength, while our now first-class State was dragging her financial character and rich resources in the sluggish slough of debt and despond, with rank repudiation proclaimed by partisans. Those were also the days when to avow the superiority of railroads, water-wheels and steam engines for the swiftest and surest development of the material State, over the old-time notions of turnpike, plank roads, inland navigation and traffic on questionable streams, was to be esteemed little else than an impracticable theorist. Well do I remember that some years after this date, when, on such presumptions we were calmly awaiting the grave destiny of our town, some of the solid *savants* of its Government had undertaken to engineer a channel through the rocks forming the ford in Rock River, under where the present dam and railroad bridges now stand, at a cost of \$1,500, the more rapidly to pour into our hands the mighty wealth of other lands, under which our then expected wharves were to be burdened.

"About 1853, finding the incessant claims upon my time and strength were again beginning to tell upon my health, and foreseeing that the demands and responsibilities of my position must increase with the growth of the town and county; and also fully realizing the thankless predicament of the dual publisher and printer, as well as pecuniarily considering that I had long enough "written for glory and printed on trust," I concluded to abdicate my place at the first suitable opportunity. This soon occurred, and near the close of that year I disposed of my establishment to E. W. Blaisdell, Jr., who soon after changed into the *Republican* the old time-tried *Forum*, which had increased from about two hundred to six hundred subscribers. It may not be amiss to notice that while the *Forum* was the first successful paper published in this town, it was not the first started here, it having been preceded by attempts on the *Express*, *Star* and *Pilot*, all of which yielded after a trial of a year or less. For a period of about two years, I rusticated and reflected, and also reached

the second of the three eras in man's existence worth heeding, by finding and wedding, in May, 1856, my "better half," Harriet S. Fowler, only daughter of Royal Fowler, of Westfield, Mass. From this union there are now living three cherished sons and one daughter.

"From this time, I gradually promoted myself into the useful and invigorating, if not popular, calling of a farmer, and, having some wild acres lying uselessly outside the city limits, I set myself about the business of clearing the land, and for the last twenty years have humbly and obscurely yet cheerfully and healthfully followed up the pursuit until I have made or improved no less than six different farms since my residence in this county. This, if not having yielded more than the usual meagre money returns of such vocations, at least affords me the pleasurable pride of having been of some use to my fellow-men, according to the declaration of another that "He who causeth two blades of grass to grow where but one grew before, is a public benefactor."

"And now, having passed the three-score goal of life, and taking a retrospective glance over its variegated fields, fully realizing the rapid transition from that stage when myself and my now gray-haired brother settlers, were all a band of free acquaintances, strong in the impulses of youth or manhood's prime, in the noble endeavor to build up those institutions of public good now about us; when, on sight, the familiar term of greeting to me was "How do you do, boy?" to what it is now, threading our busy streets as a comparative stranger to the jostling multitudes, with perhaps the careless, as well as valueless, salutation from the later generation, or a careless loafer, of "How do you do, old man?" Conscious of fast nearing the most remote boundary of human life, when I reach the uttermost limit vouchsafed me, and yield my dust again to Mother Earth who gave it me, may I

"Go not like the quarry slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and
soothed

By an unflinching trust, approach my grave,
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

"Craving no sculptured shaft of marble or granite to emblazon virtues I may never have possessed, I would rather prefer a thrifty tree or shrub for my monument, as a living emblem of my love of nature when on earth; and no worthier inscription, chiselled by grateful memory on the heart's tablet of future generations when basking amid the privileges and pleasures we, as pioneers, helped to plant, than that of "An Early Settler."

The biographer wishes to add a few lines to the above. Mrs. Colton, whose life has been devoted to her husband and children, and who is highly esteemed, was born and reared in Westfield, Mass., and is a daughter of Royal Fowler, a native of the old Bay State who belonged to a substantial and old family of New England people. Mr. Fowler died in Westfield, Mass., when more than eighty years of age. His wife was Miss Harriet Smith, who was descended from an old family of seafaring people in New Haven. Mrs. Colton was carefully reared and educated at the Westfield (Mass.) Academy, and has been closely identified with the social, religious and charitable institutions of Rockford and is revered for the goodness of heart which has characterized her life. She is the mother of eight children, four of whom died in infancy. The living are as follows: Albert L., who married Edith Pitney, of Rockford, and resides on one of his father's farms; A. Lincoln, who resides at home and is engaged in the grain and feed trade; Miriam M., an amiable and accomplished young lady, who is also at home; Royal F., a practical civil engineer, formerly a student in Cornell University, and now associated with the Rockford Construction Company. Mr. Colton is held in highest esteem for the aid he has given to the upbuilding of Rockford, and he and his family are numbered among the most prominent residents of the county.



EDWIN J. SCHOOLCRAFT, proprietor and editor of the *Durand Weekly Clipper*, is a native of this place, having been born July 11, 1867. He is a son of James Schoolcraft, who was born in St. Armand, Canada, November 9, 1816. He was reared a farmer, and February 1,

1865, on removing to Franklin, Vt., was married to Sarah A. Rogers, who was born in that place June 28, 1830. Soon after his marriage, the elder Mr. Schoolcraft came to Illinois and located in Durand Township. Here he resided until 1882, when he removed to the village, where his demise occurred September 30, 1889.

The original of this sketch received his primary education in the district schools, which was afterward supplemented by attendance at school in the village of Durand. In 1888, he engaged to learn the printer's trade by working in offices in Durand, and Beloit, Wis. April 10, 1890, he purchased a printing outfit and commenced publishing *The Clipper* at Durand. The paper is a six-column folio and finds its way into many homes throughout the county. It is a newsy, neatly printed sheet and, although its owner is quite young in the business, he is becoming well known throughout this section as a gentleman of ability who is destined to make his mark in the newspaper world.

The parents of Mr. Schoolcraft were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and also belonged to the Independent Order of Good Templars, and bore a part in every movement which would upbuild their community. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Peter and Mary Schoolcraft, while on his mother's side they bore the respective names of John and Rebecca Rogers.



EDWIN C. LAWRENCE, as a farmer of large experience, great capability, and prudence in the management of his affairs, is considered one of the most successful of the well-to-do agriculturists who are active in pushing forward the material interests of Boone County in general and of Bonus Township in particular.

Cuba, Allegany County, N. Y., was the native place of our subject, where his birth occurred October 23, 1826. He is the son of John and Lydia (Sweet) Lawrence, the former of whom was a son of Isaac Lawrence, a native of Massachusetts. The grandfather of our subject, and his brother John, participated in the battle of Bunker Hill, where the latter was killed. Isaac died in Pompey, N. Y.,

in his sixty-second year. His good wife also passed away in the Empire State, when seventy years of age.

John Lawrence, the father of our subject, was born in Middlesex County, Mass., and remained at home until nineteen years of age, at which time he was married, and, removing to Onondaga County, N. Y., lived there until 1822. Later, making his home in Allegany County, he followed the calling of a farmer, and was quite prominent in local affairs, having served as Constable at a time when men were imprisoned for debt. In the spring of 1837, in company with a son, the elder Mr. Lawrence came to Boone County, where they purchased land, erected a log house, and in the fall returned East, and brought his wife and five children to their new home.

He of whom we write is residing at the present time on the farm which was taken up from the Government as early as 1836. He had two brothers who came here at that time, who helped in clearing the home farm. The father, in 1839, built a new house to take the place of the log cabin, and having brought a few household goods with him, the family were made quite comfortable. He landed here with but fifty cents in cash, but, going to work with a will, soon had the satisfaction of seeing his land doubled and trebled in value.

While residing in New York, John Lawrence was greatly interested in politics, and on coming to Boone County served as Justice of the Peace for a number of years, and also held other responsible positions. He was an old-line Whig politically, and, on the organization of the Republican party, voted for Fremont. He died on the home farm when eighty-nine years of age, leaving a family of nine children, and an estate which comprised ninety-eight acres. Mrs. Lawrence owns two hundred and thirty acres of valuable land which is also included in the home property.

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Lydia Sweet. She was born in Saratoga, N. Y., and departed this life on the old farm when eighty-six years of age. She was the daughter of David and Deborah (Stafford) Sweet, also natives of the Empire State, where they lived and died. The lady to whom our subject was married on the 29th



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of October, 1856, was Miss Charlotte Hurd, a native of Vermont. She died in Bonus Township when twenty-seven years of age, and February 7, 1867, Mr. Lawrence was married to Sarah Jane Bennett, whose birth occurred April 12, 1838, in Groton, Mass. She is a sister of J. H. Bennett, whose sketch will appear on another page of this work. By her union with our subject have been born four children, viz.: John S., whose birth occurred September 25, 1868; Charlotte M., who was born December 7, 1869; Mary L., who was born February 8, 1873, and James B., who was born September 11, 1871. The children have all been given good educations, two of them being graduates of the Belvidere schools.

Mr. Lawrence has expended more than \$2,500 in building his fine farm residence and accompanying outbuildings. In politics, he is a Republican, and held the office of School Director for a number of years. The father of our subject was a soldier in the War of 1812, and when mustered out was given a land warrant. The Lawrence family is of English descent, our subject being able to trace the record back to John Lawrence, who came over in the "Mayflower" in 1620. Mr. Lawrence has a high standing in the county as a thorough-going farmer and business man, and is greatly respected in the most cultured circles of this part of the county. His wife, who presides over his home, is sharing with him the esteem and regard of their neighbors.



JOHAN McDERMAID, a well-known manufacturer of Rockford, who for many years has been connected with the business interests of this city, was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, and is a son of Malcolm and Betsy (McEachin) McDermaid, both of whom were natives of the same county, and there spent their early lives. After their children were all born and reared, they came to this country, locating in Otsego, N. Y., where the death of the father occurred at the age of sixty-five years. His wife is still living in the Empire State, at the age of seventy, and is an intelligent and active old lady. She has been a life-

long member of the Presbyterian Church, as was her husband.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, whose portrait is shown on the opposite page. At the early age of twelve years, he went to sea, and for many years followed a seafaring life. He rose from the position of an apprentice-boy to an able seaman, and worked on a trans-Atlantic merchant vessel from 1858 to 1865, except when he was in the army. In the spring of 1863, he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Fourth New York Regiment, at Buffalo, and the following year was transferred to the naval service at Mitchell Station, Va., on the Rapidan River. He did service as a seaman on the Gulf Coast until September, 1865, when the ship was taken out of commission, and the soldiers discharged. The vessel "Otsego," on which he had first sailed, was blown up December 9, 1864, near the coast of South Carolina, and he was transferred to the United States ship "Mattabessett," on which he served until the close of the war. He had been made Captain of a gun as soon as he went on board the vessel "Otsego," and shortly afterward received promotion, being at the time of his discharge Captain of the foretop and drill-master.

After coming to this country, Mr. McDermaid was united in marriage to Miss Isabelle Ralston, who was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, and during her girlhood came to this country with her father, Andrew Ralston, who is now deceased. Her mother is now living in Caledonia Station, at an advanced age. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church, to which Mr. Ralston also belonged. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McDermaid have been born seven children: Lizzie, an intelligent young lady, acting as her father's secretary; William and Daniel, who are employed by their father; Robert, Mahel and Howard. The mother and her daughter Lizzie are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. McDermaid is an honored member of the Odd Fellows' society, with which he has been connected for a quarter of a century, and also belongs to G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. In politics, he is independent, voting for the man regardless of party affiliations. He first came to Rockford in 1865, where he worked at his trade of cooper, and

as a machinist for some time. It was in 1875 that he began the manufacture of churns, and for more than seventeen years he has now carried on business in that line. He patented the Boss Churn, and is now extensively engaged in its manufacture at Nos. 212 and 220 North Madison Street. He is also a stockholder in the Manufacturers' and Merchants' National Bank. Mr. McDermaid may well be called a self-made man, for since his thirteenth year he has been thrown upon his own resources, and whatever he has achieved in life is due entirely to his own efforts.



AUGUST ZIMMERMAN is a dealer in wines and liquors, located at No. 821 South Main Street, Rockford, where he has carried on business since September, 1873. Since that time he has been actively engaged on his own account. He had located in Rockford in 1866, but for seven years was employed by others. A native of Saxony, Germany, he was born on the 7th of July, 1814, his parents being Moritz and Catherine (Scharffenberg) Zimmerman, who were also natives of the same province in Germany and came of good families in that land. The father lived a quiet, unassuming life and passed away at the age of eighty-five years. His wife died when past the age of three-score years and ten. Like her husband, she was a member of the Lutheran Church. In their family were seven children, of whom two sons are yet living, August, and a brother Casper Frederick, who still resides in the Fatherland, where he follows the trade of a carpenter and millwright.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who spent his boyhood days under the parental roof in his native land, and at the age of twenty-one bade good-bye to his old home, preparatory to sailing for America. He left Bremen on the 19th of March, 1866, and on the 17th of April landed in New York, whence he came at once to Rockford, arriving in this city seven days later. He was then a single man, but here chose a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Christiana Fischer, who was born in

Germany, not far from the birthplace of her husband. She there grew to womanhood, acquiring a common-school education in her mother tongue, and, when a young lady, crossed the broad Atlantic, the first of the family to come to America. This was about 1867. Her father had died in Germany when little past middle life. Her mother afterwards came to this country and made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Zimmerman, until called to her final rest at the advanced age of eighty-six years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fischer were members of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman also hold that religious belief, and our subject is President of the congregation. Their union has been blessed with two children; one died in infancy, and one daughter, Emma L., born on the 1st of March, 1877. Socially, Mr. Zimmerman is an Odd Fellow, belonging to the subordinate lodge, the camp and the canton. He also belongs to the E. F. W. Ellis Blue Lodge No. 633, A. F. & A. M. He has made his fortune by close application to business, industry and enterprise, and is now the owner of a fine two-story building, 71x21 feet, located on South Main Street, also his comfortable residence on Tenth Street. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of Rockford, its growth and the promotion of its leading industries, and has a wide acquaintance in this community where he has made his home for more than a quarter of a century.



DANIEL SMITH, one of the pioneers of Harlan Township, but now residing in Winnebago Township, was born in Kintyre, Scotland, in May, 1830, the third son of Daniel and Mary (Montgomery) Smith. His ancestors were from Ayrshire, and his grandfather was a farmer who resided on leased land belonging to the Duke of Argyle, spending his last years on that estate.

The father of our subject was born on the home farm in Kintyre, February 11, 1791, and was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he followed in his native land until 1812. Himself and his

sister Janet were the only members of the family who came to America. In the year above-mentioned, a company of about one hundred was formed, who hired a vessel, which had formerly been used in the lumber traffic, and sailed from Campbellstown June 4, landing at New York on Independence Day following. They came direct to Illinois by the most expeditious route then known, via river, canal and Lakes to Chicago, and thence with team to Winnebago County. The father of our subject located in Harlem Township, and with his brother-in-law, James Montgomery, bought a tract of partially improved land, where he resided until his death, August 20, 1845.

Mary Montgomery, as the mother of our subject was known in maidenhood, was born in Kintyre, Scotland, January 12, 1795, the daughter of Robert Montgomery. She died on the old homestead May 31, 1872. Her son Daniel, our subject, was twelve years old when he accompanied his parents to America, and at the time of his settlement in Winnebago County it was sparsely settled and but little improved. Most of the people still lived in rude log houses, there were no railroads here, and Chicago was the nearest market and depot for supplies.

After remaining with his mother on the home farm until 1851, Mr. Smith located on a portion of the estate which he had inherited, and there resided until 1860. He then purchased a farm in Guilford Township, and during the twenty years in which he made it his home, was instrumental in bringing about many improvements in its buildings, cultivation and embellishments. In 1880, he sold the place and purchased the farm he now owns and cultivates. This is well improved and includes the northwest quarter of section 14, Winnebago Township, being a very valuable tract of land.

In 1860, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Agnes, daughter of James Smith, and a native of the same place in Scotland as her husband. Her grandfather, Hugh, lived and died in Kintyre, and her father, who was there born and married, emigrated to America in 1858, in company with his wife and eleven children, and bought a farm in Winnebago Township, where his closing years

were quietly passed. The mother of Mrs. Smith, whose maiden name was Martha Johnson, was born in Kintyre and passed away at the old home in Winnebago Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of six living children, whose names are respectively: James, Mary, Martha, Flora, Agnes and Robert. The religious membership of the family is in the First Presbyterian Church at Rockford, and in political matters Mr. Smith was a Republican until 1872, since which time he has been a firm adherent to Democratic principles.



GIDEON DEUEL, a native of the Empire State, has long made his home in Winnebago County, Ill. He was born in Washington County, N. Y., in 1820, and is a son of Job and Elizabeth (Ireland) Deuel, also natives of New York State, where they followed farming, as did their parents and grandparents before them. Job Deuel and Miss Ireland were married in Genesee County, N. Y., near Batavia, and the wife died there when about fifty years of age, leaving five children, three daughters and two sons, viz: Gideon, Mary, Clara, Eliza and Philip, all still living. The father sold his property, and bought one hundred and twenty acres in Alabama Township, Genesee County, on which he removed with his five children. He was again married, this time to Mrs. Sarah Holmes, who made a good wife and a kind mother to the little children depending on her, and who by her union with Mr. Deuel became the mother of one son, Wellington. This son is now the owner and occupant of the old homestead. The parents died in their native State, the father when eighty-four years of age, and the step-mother at the age of sixty-five years.

Our subject was reared to farm life, and, like the average country boy, received his education in the district schools. When twenty years of age, he came West to Winnebago County, and in the fall of 1840 began working for Darius Fish, in Cherry Valley, receiving \$13 per month for his services, the same being considered very high wages at that time. Mr. Deuel remained in this section for two

years, and then went to Laona Township, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which had been improved to some extent, but on which were no buildings, and for this he paid \$13 per acre. He paid out the ready money for this, having earned and saved it while working out. After this, he worked on the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad for Pearse, Keith & Clark, and continued this for two years. While at Bloomington, Ill., and while engaged in this work, he married Miss Emma Bowen, whom he had met at Cherry Valley. She was born in New England, and came West with her parents when a child. They were farmers, and died in Ogle County, Ill., leaving three daughters.

Mr. Denel and his bride went to Laona and settled on his farm, occupying at first a rude log house, but they were contented and happy. To the original tract, Mr. Denel added forty acres, but in 1862 he sold the entire farm at a considerable profit, and removed to Shirland Township, his present home, where he purchased a quarter-section, paying \$11 per acre for it. On this were two dilapidated log cabins, hardly tenable, and no barn. This purchase was a trust deed, which was sold at public sale, and Mr. Denel paying cash, \$1,760, became the owner. He soon erected a comfortable frame house, which has been the abode of the family since, and is still in good condition. In 1875, our subject erected a good barn 30x50, with sixteen-foot posts. This farm had only about twenty acres cleared, it being a timber farm, but now the one hundred and thirty acres of rich, tillable land, give little indication that at one time they were covered with timber. All this has been cleared by his own hands, and it represents a great many days of hard work. Mr. Denel now has two hundred and sixty acres of land in this county, worth from \$40 to \$50 per acre, and he is free of all debt. He has ever been public-spirited, and has contributed liberally to all worthy movements, assisting in building four churches and two parsonages, and aiding in all other enterprises.

The children who came to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Denel are William, a farmer of Missouri; Mira, now Mrs. Levi Card, resides on a farm near by; Ira A., a carpenter; May, now Mrs. Benjamin

Bennett, resides on a farm in Nebraska; Elmer, at home on the farm; and Eva, attending Rockford Academy. They lost two children in infancy. All the children have had good school advantages. Mr. Denel was called upon to part from his wife, the sharer of his joys and sorrows, on the 19th of November, 1891, when fifty-eight years of age. She was a member of the Congregational Church, and her husband has held membership in the same for years. Mr. Denel has held a number of local offices in the township, having been Commissioner of Highways for nine years, and School Trustee several years. He has carried on the farm principally by himself, for he let his boys branch out for themselves when they were quite young, and he has never kept a hired hand. He realizes that he has been abundantly blessed with health and strength, and probably no man in the county has worked harder in the past than he. Many a time in the past has he cradled five acres of grain per day, and although not by any means a large man, and now seventy-two years of age, he is still vigorous and active. He has been a Republican in politics, and his first Presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison.



JOHN GREENLEE, cashier of the People's Bank of Belvidere, was born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, Scotland, July 4, 1835. His father, John Greenlee, a pioneer Scotch settler of Winnebago County, was born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, August 18, 1791, and was a son of George and Martha (Wilson) Greenlee. The grandparents spent their entire lives in Argyleshire. The father of our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits and in addition to farming followed the stone mason's trade a portion of the time. He married Helen Brown, a native of Kintyre, and a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Ralston) Brown. In 1836, with his wife and six children, he came to America, sailing from Liverpool to New York, whence he came to Illinois. He found work as a stone mason on the aqueduct at Ottawa. His nephews, George and John Armour, then living in Ottawa, had previously visited

Winnebago and Boone Counties and gave a glowing description of the country, so that in December of that year, Mr. Greenlee accompanied them thither and made a claim to Government land in what is now Harlem Township, Winnebago County. After a short time, he returned to Ottawa, and in the spring of 1837 brought his family to the new home, becoming the first permanent settler in the locality known as the Scotch Settlement of Winnebago and Boone Counties. The family first moved into a vacant shanty until Mr. Greenlee could build a log cabin on his own place. They experienced all the hardships and privations of pioneer life, such as come to those who locate on the frontier. The father was very poor when he first settled in this locality, but his industry and good management brought him success, and he increased his possessions until he was owner of three highly improved farms. He lived upon his first claim until 1870, when he came to Belvidere and spent the remainder of his life in retirement. He died December 30, 1882. His wife passed away in 1865. They were among the founders of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Greenlee served as Ruling Elder for many years.

Our subject was one of eight children: Martha, Elizabeth, George, Charles, Jannett, John, Helen and Ann. He was only a year old when brought by his parents to Illinois, so that his earliest recollections are of the pioneer home. He received his early education in the public schools of Harlem Township and afterward attended a select school in Marengo. At a very early age, he began assisting his father in the labors of the farm and after attaining his majority came into possession of the old homestead, which he operated for two years, when he came to Belvidere and engaged in the hardware business with his brother Charles and his brother-in-law, James O. Gregory. He was afterward associated with his brother George and Robert Harvey, and continued in that line of business until 1889, when he sold out. Upon the organization of the People's Bank, he was elected Cashier, which position he has since held.

In 1861, Mr. Greenlee was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Elizabeth Brown, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Edward and

Elizabeth Brown, both of whom were born in Scotland. She died in 1870, in the faith of the Presbyterian Church, leaving two daughters: Helen and Elizabeth B. Mr. Greenlee has also been a life-long member of the Presbyterian Church, and since attaining his majority has been a stalwart Republican. He has filled various public offices of trust, has represented Belvidere on the County Board of Supervisors, and in 1886 was elected County Treasurer, serving one term. His official duties were ever promptly and faithfully discharged and won him the commendation of all concerned.



WILLIAM C. DE WOLF, Sr., who for many years was one of the successful agriculturists of Boone County, at present resides in Belvidere, where he bears the reputation of being one of its most public-spirited citizens. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in Springfield, Erie County, February 8, 1830. His father, Hiram De Wolf, hailed from Rutland County, Vt., where his birth occurred January 3, 1798. The grandfather of our subject, Edgar De Wolf, was a native of New York State and of French parentage.

Edward De Wolf was a farmer by occupation and removed from Rutland to New York State, thence later to Pennsylvania, where he was identified with the farming interests of the town of Conneaut, Erie County, until his decease. His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah Colson and also died on the home farm in Erie County. The father of our subject was reared in the Green Mountain State and New York and when a young man went to Erie County, Pa., and purchased a tract of timber land in Springfield. There he erected a house of logs, where the birth of our subject occurred, and a few years later built a more substantial and comfortable dwelling in which he was residing at the time of his death, July 6, 1872. The mother of our subject, who before her marriage was Miss Sibyl Coon, was born in New York State, in 1798, and died June 3, 1859.

He of whom we write was reared and educated

in Springfield, and after attaining his nineteenth year taught school each winter for nineteen seasons. In 1852, he went to Pittsburg, and, taking a course in the Pittsburg Commercial College, was graduated therefrom and then resumed teaching. The following year, he came to Boone County and spent the summer, going in the fall of that year to Cass County, Mich., and, returning to this county the following year, located on eighty acres of land which he had purchased from his father, and which was located on section 11, Spring Township. He began cultivating the soil, and, in the fall of that year going to Cass County, Mich., taught school.

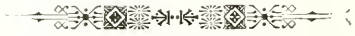
Our subject was married in Pennsylvania, in the spring of 1855, to Lulldah J. Strong, and that same year returned and settled on the farm which was his home until 1866. Going back to the Keystone State, he made his home there until November, 1867, at which time he again took up his abode in this county and purchased forty acres of new land on section 13, Spring Township, which he farmed until 1881; then renting his estate, he went to Genoa, where he spent a twelvemonth, and later, going to Kingston Township, De Kalb County, made his home on one hundred and twenty acres of land, located on section 20, until 1888, which year found him again in Belydère.

The five children born to Mr. and Mrs. De Wolf are Nancy E., who was born December 25, 1855, married Ernest L. Woodruff and resides in Rockford; Hiram S., born October 10, 1858, was drowned in Coon Creek, May 27, 1876; Frank L., born April 23, 1862, was graduated from the Genoa High School, from the Chicago Veterinary College, and from the Kansas City Medical College, and is now engaged in practice in Kansas City; William C., Jr., born November 1, 1865, was graduated from the Genoa High School, after which he began the study of law and was admitted to the Bar in 1887; he is now engaged in practice with the Hon. Charles E. Fuller and was married, April 4, 1888, to Clara Moore. Nettie was born August 19, 1868, and is now Mrs. Frank Parker, of Kingston, De Kalb County, this State.

Mrs. De Wolf was born in Girard, Erie County, Pa., February 16, 1832, and is the daughter of Leonard Rufus Strong, who was born in Vermont,

April 15, 1803. His father, also named Rufus, was born in the Green Mountain State, whence he removed to Girard, Pa., about 1828, and purchasing land, engaged in farming there until his death. The father of Mrs. De Wolf removed from Vermont to Girard in 1835 and purchasing a tract of timber land, cleared a farm from the wilderness, which he later sold and purchased other property, in this manner clearing and improving three farms in Girard Township. He spent his last days in the town of Conneaut, his demise occurring August 4, 1867.

The maiden name of Mrs. De Wolf's mother was Jane Silverthorn; she was born in Girard, Pa., May 15, 1810, and was the daughter of Abram and Jane (Hunter) Silverthorn, natives, respectively, of Vermont and Scotland, and the latter of whom is still living in Conneaut. In his political relations, our subject is a Republican and has been honored with the various township offices of Spring Township, Boone County.

 BENJAMIN F. UPSON. Since casting in his lot with the citizens of Winnebago County almost fifty years ago, Mr. Upson has been prominently connected with its development and has witnessed its growth from a sparsely-settled and unimproved country to the home of thousands of prosperous and enterprising farmers and business men. During the summer months, he occupies his pleasant home at No. 710 Kilburn Avenue, Rockford, but usually spends the winter seasons in Florida, where he has extensive interests.

For two years after coming to Winnebago County, Mr. Upson operated a farm near the county line on the south, and then, in 1850, removed to a tract of land in Seward Township, where he built a beautiful home and improved a splendid farm. Failure of health caused his removal to Rockford, where he has since resided. With his son Jesse B., he became the owner of the business of E. H. Skinner & Company and conducted the same with success for a number of years, but recently sold out. For some years past,

he has conducted a nursery and raised berries and small fruits extensively, both in Rockford and in Florida.

With the growth of Rockford Mr. Upson has been directly connected, and laid out ten acres in the northern part of the city on Horsman Street, known as Glenney & Upson's Addition, which has been platted into city lots. He is a stockholder in the Second National Bank, as well as financially interested in other institutions. In Florida, he is not only interested in nurseries, but also operates a sawmill and conducts a general mercantile business at DeLeon, where he owns valuable property.

Born in Mendham Township, Morris County, N. J., December 24, 1816, the early life of Mr. Upson was one of struggle against poverty, but his strong personality and persistence enabled him to overcome adverse fortune and crown his mature life with prosperity, honor and respect. In his youth, he learned the trade of a chairmaker, which he followed a short time. His father, Dr. Jesse Upson, a native of Connecticut, was for fifty years the most prominent physician in the township of Mendham, but came West to Indiana in 1838, and died the same year at Greenfield, aged eighty-two. He enlisted when only eighteen years old in the service of his country and served until the close of the Revolutionary War. His fellow-citizens called him to occupy many posts of honor, and he served as Justice of the Peace, and for ten years as a member of the State Assembly of New Jersey, and was influential in public matters. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Mary Dayton, accompanied her husband to Indiana and survived him several years, dying in Greenfield when very old. She was the daughter of the well-known Judge Dayton, whose son, Senator Dayton, died while Minister at the Court of St. James.

The only surviving members of this family are our subject and his sister, Mrs. Mary D. Cory, of Lima, Ind., the latter being seventy-nine years old. Benjamin F. was married in Illinois to Miss Lucy Bacon, who was born and reared in Massachusetts and came to this State when twenty-five years old. The marriage was blessed by the birth of one son, Jesse B. The latter married Miss Mary Sibley, who was educated at Terre Haute, Ind., and is the

mother of two children: Lent D. and Lucy H. The religious home of the family is in the Congregational Church, while the political affiliations of father and son are in sympathy with the principles of the Republican party. At an early day, Mr. Upson served as Justice of the Peace, and still retains in his possession a document bearing these words:

"To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

Know YE, that Benjamin F. Upson, having been duly elected to the office of Justice of the Peace for the county of Winnebago, I, Augustus C. French, Governor of the State of Illinois, for and on behalf of the people of said State, do commission him Justice of the Peace for said county, and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfill the duties of that office, according to law."

Jesse B. Upson is a young gentleman of superior education and has devoted especial attention to the study of the sciences. He is an acknowledged authority on the subject of conchology and has more than one hundred thousand shells of various specimens, including the finest collection of Northern Illinois. He is also a student of botany, and has given many other sciences careful study, having devoted twelve years to their research and gaining more than a local reputation in that direction. He is a member of the American Conchology Association, and other societies of a scientific and social character.



FRED H. MOFFATT. Among the many enterprises necessary to complete the commercial resources of a town or city, none is of more importance than that of the grocer, as being one of the main factors in the furnishing of our food supplies. Prominent in this trade is the establishment of Mr. Moffatt, located at No. 131 West State Street, where he carries a full line of staple and fancy groceries, and where he has built up a most valuable trade. All goods are procured direct from first hands, and from the extended experience of the proprietor, this house is able to compete in all respects with contemporaries. By meeting his payments promptly and by his sharp

trade in buying, which entitles him to jobber's prices, he is enabled to sell at the lowest prices. In connection with his retail trade he is prepared to do a wholesale trade in the fruit line.

Mr. Moffatt began his mercantile career in 1881, when twenty-one years of age, at No. 129 West State Street, known as the White Grocery Store, and was assisted in a pecuniary way by his kind and indulgent father, William Moffatt (see sketch). The general predictions were that he would fail, but there was never such a word in young Moffatt's calendar. The business is conducted with vigor and push, and patrons are accorded prompt and courteous service, while the stock is continually being replenished and kept choice and attractive. By his square dealing and honorable, upright conduct, he has made many friends, and although he met with many difficulties when first starting out, his friends stood by him, and at the end of a year he was able to move to a more desirable location, a few doors from his former establishment. Two years after he had started in business, he was entirely out of debt and in comparatively easy circumstances. In 1891, his business had increased to such an extent that he found it necessary to move the second time, when he located in a new building only a few doors from the original starting place and where he now has a flourishing trade. He is a gentleman possessing a full and complete knowledge of every detail of the trade, and customers have realized that at this house they may depend upon obtaining terms and inducements not readily to be duplicated elsewhere.

Our subject is a promoter of the Retail Grocers' Association, which was organized on the 11th of February, 1892, with Charles Burr President; George E. Olson, Vice-president; H. W. Burn, Treasurer; Albert Hollem, Financial Secretary, and Mr. Moffatt, Secretary. The object of the association is to keep up unity and good feeling among the groccymen of the city. The leading merchants of the city are united in this much-needed organization, and a better state of feeling exists among them. Mr. Moffatt is a young man, but he has great business acumen and is determined to make his business a grand success.

Our subject is a native of this city, born twenty-nine years ago, and he was thoroughly educated in the city schools, where he applied himself diligently to his books, with a determination that has characterized his movements ever since. He is the only son born to his parents and has always made the city of Rockford his home. He is public-spirited, takes a deep interest in all laudable movements, and is one of the promising young men of the city. No worthy enterprise is allowed to languish for want of support on his part, and he is a liberal contributor to churches, schools, etc. He is truly a progressive young man, and while he takes no active part in politics, his support is given to the Republican party. He is not in the least an office-seeker, but attends strictly to business and depends on honest and fair dealing. With his honesty, uprightness and fidelity to the interests of his patrons, he can not fail to succeed in whatever he undertakes.

The *Register-Gazette* gives the following notice of the marriage of our subject:

"Promptly at three o'clock this afternoon a quiet home wedding was solemnized at the spacious home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Morrill, at No. 1104 East State Street. It was the marriage of their daughter, Miss Nellie M. Morrill, to Fred H. Moffatt, and modesty and elegance characterized the nuptial event.

"This morning the house was turned over to Melcher, the florist, and in his usual artistic manner he trimmed the parlors with rare floral gems, making them present a very pretty appearance.

"At three o'clock, Mr. Moffatt and Miss Morrill stepped into the front parlor, where they were met by dignified Dr. Kerr, who pronounced the words which united the young couple for life, the ring service being observed. The bridal couple were unattended, and the affair was pretty and unostentatious all through. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the wedding party sat down to an elegant lunch and were offered many warm congratulations as they ate the choice edibles provided.

"Only the immediate relatives of the couple were present to witness the marriage, none of the many home friends of Miss Morrill or Mr. Moffatt being included in the guest list.



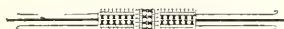
S. C. Thompson

"The bride was attired in a very handsome mode broadcloth traveling costume, and carried a bouquet of bride roses. She was indeed a lovely bride. Miss Morrill is so well known to social Rockford that little can be added that will be news to the general public. She is one of the most accomplished and talented musicians in the city and has delighted audiences with her selections upon many occasions. She is possessed of those qualities of mind and heart which win, as well as hold, warm friends. Her many admirers and pupils will be glad to learn that she does not intend to give up her music on account of her marriage, but will continue it as usual upon her return to Rockford.

"Everybody knows Fred Moffatt. He is one of the most enterprising and energetic young business men in the city, and has rapidly acquired a large trade. He has the best wishes of his hosts of friends.

"Mr. and Mrs. Moffatt left on the 4:29 o'clock train on the Central, this afternoon, for Chicago, to spend the honeymoon, and will be absent until the latter part of next week. Upon their return, they will for the present have rooms and board at the home of William Moffatt, at No. 902 North Court Street.

"Those present from out of town at the wedding were Miss Eloise Harford and Oscar Banghart, of Chicago, and Mrs. W. B. Dean, of Yankton, S. Dak., a sister of the bride."



STEPHEN O. THOMPSON. A high place among the farmers of Winnebago County must be accorded to the gentleman whose portrait accompanies this sketch, and who has made a competence by hard labor, prudent economy and business shrewdness. He is at present residing in Owen Township, where he is the owner of a fine tract of two hundred and eighty acres of land.

A native of New Jersey, Mr. Thompson was born on the banks of the Delaware River, August 15, 1818. As far as is known, his father, Lewis Thompson, was also a native of that State, where he worked at the cooper's trade. About 1825, he

moved to Hackettstown, where he purchased a farm, in addition to the cultivation of which he owned and operated a gristmill. He emigrated to Illinois in 1838, where he was numbered among the pioneers of Canton, Fulton County. He built a shop and carried on his trade there until his decease. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Chitester, was a native of New Jersey, and departed this life in Canton.

The parental family included ten children, nine of whom grew to mature years, and were named respectively: James, Alfred, Stephen O., Lewis, Joseph, Henry, Edmund, William and John. Stephen O. was reared and educated in his native State and made the overland trip with his parents to Illinois. There were no railroads in Fulton County for a number of years after their settlement, and the river towns were the principal depots for supplies. Our subject worked with his father, getting out staves and timber, and was employed in teaming until 1842. During that year, he came overland to Winnebago County, at a time when most of the surrounding country was owned by the Government.

On locating in this section, our subject purchased and entered land in what is now Owen Township. He was a single man at that time and made his home with a brother until his marriage, when he settled on the place of which he is a present occupant. November 29, 1845, he was united in marriage with Eliza Knapp. Mrs. Thompson was born in Ontario County, N. Y., August 17, 1818, and was the daughter of Stephen Abbott Knapp, a native of Branbury, Conn., and the son of Noah Knapp, also born in the Bay State, whence he later removed to New York, and died in Orleans County. Annis Abbott was the maiden name of his wife, and she, too, passed away in the above-named county. The father of Mrs. Thompson was a resident of Connecticut until after his marriage, when he removed to the Empire State, and for a few years made his home in Orleans County. From the town of Barre he removed to Genesee County, and in 1810 came to Illinois, accompanied by his wife and their family of five children. Mr. Knapp located in what is now Harrison Township, where he purchased and improved a farm. He and

his wife departed this life at the home of our subject. The maiden name of Mrs. Thompson's mother was Maria Fowler, and her birth occurred in Putnam County, N. Y.

The two children comprising the household of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are: Emily, who married Luke T. Hullett, and Dudley, who has been twice married. His first wife was Eva Cowan and his second, Mary C. Mutimer. He is the father of three children: Edward S., Carl J. and Fred M. Mrs. Thompson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In his political views, Mr. Thompson votes with the Republican party.



WILLIAM PINEGER, after a long life of usefulness, is now living retired in Belvidere. He is one of the well-known citizens of the community, and it is with pleasure that we present this record of his life to our readers. A native of Wiltshire, England, he was born January 26, 1835. His grandfather, William Pineger, was a farmer, and spent his entire life in Wiltshire. The father of our subject, who also bore the name of William, was reared upon a farm in Wiltshire, where he resided until 1849, when he crossed the broad Atlantic and came directly to Boone County, Ill. He spent one year in Garden Prairie, after which he removed to the town of Spring, purchasing an improved farm, upon which he made his home for some time. He is now living in Chicago, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. His wife, Ann Wheatley, was born in Ashton, Keynes, England, and was a daughter of Thomas Wheatley. She died in Chicago, in 1878. The family numbers nine children: Henry, Ann, William, Thomas, Elizabeth, Amy, Jane, Caroline and Martha.

The first fourteen years of his life our subject spent in his native land, and then sailed for America with his parents. They reached New York after a voyage of thirty-five days and went by way of the Hudson River, the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes to Chicago, whence they came by team to Boone County. Mr. Pineger aided in the operation of his father's farm until 1869, when he was

united in marriage with Anna E. Tripp, who was born in the town of Spring, Boone County, and is the daughter of Edwin and Betsy (Peters) Tripp. Her father was born in Somersetshire, England, February 12, 1812, and was a son of John Tripp, a farmer of that county. He was reared upon a farm until 1842, when, on the 14th of April, he wedded Miss Peters, a daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Lawrence) Peters, natives of Somersetshire. Her father was a farmer and dealer in live stock. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Tripp sailed for America, and after a voyage of six weeks landed at New York, whence they came direct to Boone County, Ill. They saw it in its pioneer days, and in those early years lived in true frontier style. Mr. Tripp improved a good farm of two hundred and twenty acres, upon which he made his home until 1880, when he rented his land and came to Belvidere, where he has since lived a retired life.

After his marriage, Mr. Pineger operated a rented farm for two years, and then purchased a part of the old homestead, upon which he resided until 1889. He was a successful farmer, industrious and enterprising, and the neat appearance of his place indicated his thrift and energy. Three years ago he rented his farm and came to Belvidere, where he built a pleasant and commodious residence on Pearl Street, where with his wife and daughter, Fannie A., their only child, he now resides, resting from all business cares.

Mr. and Mrs. Pineger were reared in the Episcopal faith; but the latter is now a member of the Presbyterian Church.



MOS B. LANNING. For many years, or since his location in this county, the reputation Mr. Lanning enjoys has been not only that of a most substantial and progressive farmer, but of an intelligent and thoroughly posted man in all public affairs. Although now in his seventy-sixth year, time has dealt leniently with him, and he is still in the enjoyment of comparatively good health, and takes as deep an interest in all public enterprises as in

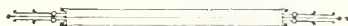
his more youthful days. He was originally from Yates County, N. Y., born March 10, 1816, and is the son of James B. and Sarah (Raplee) Lanning, both natives of New Jersey.

James B. Lanning's parents, Richard and Martha (Bigger) Lanning, were natives of New Jersey and Canada, respectively. They moved to New York State at an early day, and there received their final summons, both dying when about seventy-five years of age. They were the parents of four children. Mrs. Sarah (Raplee) Lanning's parents, Andrew and Catharine (Adams) Raplee, were natives of New Jersey, and died in Yates County, N. Y. On both sides they were honest, respected citizens, and farmers, so far as known. James B. Lanning with his wife and family moved to this county in June of the year 1842. He was one of the early settlers, and was prominently identified with the growth and development of Boone County until his death here, when seventy-seven years of age. His wife also died in this county when seventy-nine years of age. They were the parents of twelve children, three of whom are living at the present time. James B. Lanning and a brother were in the War of 1812, and in all probability some of the ancestors were in the Revolutionary War.

Amos B. Lanning remained with his parents until February 6, 1839, when his marriage with Miss Catherine Strond occurred at the home of the latter. She was born in Sussex County, N. J., on the 19th of July, 1818, and died in this county on the 8th of January, 1878. Her parents, Jacob and Maria (Probasco) Strond, were natives of New Jersey, and died in Steuben County, N. Y., when eighty and fifty years old, respectively. Jacob Strond was the son of Samuel and Catharine Strond, who were also of New Jersey nativity, and who died in Steuben County, N. Y., both when about ninety-eight years of age. As before mentioned, our subject came with his parents to Boone County, Ill., in the spring of 1842, and made all the journey by land, bringing his wife and household goods with teams. His father came by water. They were quite well off for pioneers when they landed here, and our subject took up forty acres of Government land, on which he has

resided nearly ever since. His first house was a very primitive affair, but in that log cabin, with his thrifty and cheerful wife, he passed many bright and happy years.

Politically, Mr. Lanning was formerly an old-line Whig, but upon the formation of the Republican party he transferred his allegiance to it and has ever since been a consistent and faithful supporter of that organization. He voted first for W. H. Harrison, then for Fremont and ever since with the Republicans. Mr. Lanning has held a number of local offices and is a worthy member of the Baptist Church, having held membership in that church since a resident of New York State. To his marriage were born two children, as follows: Sarah J., born in Illinois on the 11th of December, 1817, married E. S. Bowers, and both are now deceased. They left one daughter, Jessie, who was born in this county on the 6th of October, 1871. This daughter married Arthur J. Cheever, and they have a little daughter, Christie S., who was born on the 13th of March, 1891, and who is the delight and comfort of Mr. Lanning's declining years. She is a bright, sweet, winsome little thing. Our subject's second child, Daniel R., was born in this county on the 7th of July, 1849, and died when thirteen years of age. Mr. Lanning's grandson-in-law, Arthur J. Cheever, was born in Wisconsin on the 8th of January, 1864, and is working on the farm for our subject.



HON. FREEMAN GRAHAM, of Rockford, was born in Simsbury, Hartford County, Conn., October 11, 1806. His boyhood days were passed in his native place, where he received a common school-education, and served an apprenticeship of seven years in making cotton and woolen machines, becoming a practical machinist. In 1854, he came West, entered the employ of Charles Walker, of Chicago, and took charge of his iron works in Beloit, Wis., where he remained two years.

Receiving an offer of a larger salary, Mr. Graham came to Rockford and entered the employ of Mr. Emerson. He became sole manager of the

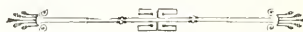
well-known firm of Emerson, Talcott & Co., manufacturers of farm implements, and in that responsible position was widely known as an enterprising and progressive business man. When the Rockford Cotton Mills were started under his direct supervision, he became part owner and retained his connection with that flourishing enterprise for many years. He also erected and owns the distillery now operated by his sons under the firm name of Graham Bros.

A man of thrift and large executive ability, Mr. Graham has aided in the upbuilding of Rockford and has always taken a deep interest in local affairs. While a resident of Connecticut, he served some years in the State Legislature and held the office of Justice of the Peace for many years. For five years he served efficiently and to the universal satisfaction as Alderman of the Fifth Ward, in which position he contributed effectively to the advancement of the city. An extensive traveler, as early as 1828 he went to South America, and spent one year in Yucatan, where he was interested in introducing a machine for dressing manila from the raw material into practical use, and he still has in his possession a certificate of grant from the Spanish authorities for his machine.

At the age of eighty-five years, Mr. Graham is quite active, retains the use of his intellectual and physical faculties, has never used eye glasses, and retains that sanguine and buoyant spirit characteristic of youth. On May 3, 1892, he celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of his marriage. The maiden name of his estimable and devoted wife was Julia Driggs, and she was born in Barkhamsted, Litchfield County, Conn., October 2, 1814, her ancestors being of Scotch origin. They have been the parents of seven children, the eldest of whom, Julia and Mary, died young. Byron is a distiller in Rockford, and he and his brother, Freeman, Jr., belong to the firm of Graham Bros. Cotton Mills Company. The former married Miss Mary Hight, of California, and the latter chose as his wife Miss Elizabeth Cammon. Julius, general manager of the firm of Graham Bros. Cotton Mills Company, married Miss Emily Brantenham. Julia is the wife of Henry Warner, who manages the

paper and cotton mills at Rock Island, Ill. David, the youngest son, is manager of the distillery. Mr. and Mrs. Graham attend the Episcopal Church and are highly esteemed in the city, where they have resided for so many years.

The father of our subject, whose name was likewise Freeman, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and followed the business of a clothier until he died in middle age. Grandfather William Graham, who was of Scotch parentage, was a prominent physician of the Nutmeg State. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Hannah May, was born in Connecticut, where she died at the age of eighty-four. Her father, John May, whose ancestors had been connected with the Colonial settlement of New England, attained to the great age of ninety-nine, at which time his death was caused by injuries received from falling down a flight of stairs. Our subject was the youngest, with one exception, of ten children, all of whom attained to mature years. One brother, Harvey, served through the War of 1812 as Sergeant. Of that large family our subject is the only survivor, the others having preceded him in death. Politically, Mr. Graham was originally a Whig, and subsequently became a Republican, and during the war was a staunch Union man.



DANIEL G. SPAULDING, Alderman of the Seventh Ward, is one of the prominent citizens of Rockford, where he occupies a pleasant home at No. 102 North Court Street. For many years he was one of the most successful and enterprising business men of the city, engaging as a grocer on West State Street until 1888, when he was succeeded in business by his son George D. and H. S. Crandall. He possesses a genial, companionable disposition, keen discrimination and the qualities of thrift which have contributed to his prosperity, and has taken an active part in everything which is conducive to the success of himself personally or of the city, having erected and improved fourteen fine residences, including six brick flats that are conveniently located.

A native of New Hampshire, Mr. Spaulding

was born in Acworth, November 25, 1839, and is the son of Nehemiah and Betsy (Hayward) Spaulding. After receiving a common-school education in his native village, he removed, at the age of eighteen years, to the growing West and sought a home in the bustling town of Rockford. When the Civil War broke out and threatened to engulf the liberties of our people, he enlisted in the defense of the Union, August 9, 1862, as a member of Company I, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, Capt. Irvin and Col. Jason Marsh commanding. With his regiment he proceeded immediately to the front and joined the Army of the Cumberland, meeting the enemy at Perryville, Ky.

Afterward the regiment marched into the enemy's country and fought at the battles of Stone River and Lookout Mountain, in which Mr. Spaulding participated actively, as well as in many engagements of minor importance. After a valorous service of nearly three years, during which time he was promoted to be First Lieutenant, he was honorably discharged, and going to Chicago, joined the United States troops in May, 1865, as First Lieutenant. Upon the Western plains, for nearly two years he did duty as a scout and suppressor of Indian outbreaks, after which he returned to Rockford in 1867.

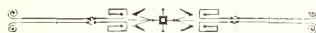
By his first marriage, Mr. Spaulding had one son, George D., a progressive young gentleman who carries on a real-estate business.

January 1, 1872, at Rockford, occurred the marriage of Mr. Spaulding and Miss Sophia R. Rannie. Mrs. Spaulding was born in Scotland and was a small child when she came to the United States with her parents, who located in this part of Illinois and here died. She received her education in the schools of the city and is a lady of culture and unusual ability. The marriage has been blessed by the birth of one child, Lulu, who is at home with her parents.

A prominent Republican, Mr. Spaulding has served as Supervisor of his ward and is the present Alderman. With his wife, he holds membership in the Presbyterian Church and aids those projects which will promote the welfare of the community, morally, religiously or educationally.

Mrs. Spaulding is President of the Woman's Relief Corps of this city and Vice-President of the State order, usually attending the State and national conventions of the order and aiding in its deliberations and decisions. In charitable work, she is foremost and is of a noble and devoted character.

Socially, Mr. Spaulding is an influential member of G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford; is a Master Mason, and an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having occupied all the chairs of Rockford Encampment, No. 44. He is now Vice-President of the Rockford Baking Company, a prominent concern established here in 1889, and of which he was one of the chief promoters. He is a stockholder in the Rockford National Bank, and has perhaps done as much toward advancing the various industries of Rockford as any other citizen.



GEORGE TULLOCK, one of the enterprising farmers of Owen Township, Winnebago County, has demonstrated the fact that perseverance and zeal will prevail to conquer circumstances and gain a competence for him who exercises those qualities. He now owns a good farm on section 34, upon which will be found all the improvements which reflect credit upon his thrift and judgment. Mr. Tullock was born in the parish of Rothiemay, Banffshire, Scotland, July 4, 1815, and is a son of George and Isabella (Cran) Tullock. The father was born in Nairnshire, and the mother in Banffshire. George Tullock was a contractor and builder by trade, but in later life settled upon a small farm, where he spent his last years, dying at the advanced age of eighty-five; the mother departed this life when forty-two years of age.

The two children comprising the parental household were Ann, who married Alexander Clark, and now makes her home with our subject; and George, of this sketch. The latter was reared and educated in his native parish and commenced at the age of sixteen years to learn the shoemaker's trade, serving an apprenticeship of three years.

In 1839, he set sail for America, leaving Glasgow on the vessel "Horace," commanded by Capt. White. He landed on American soil in September of that year, the voyage consuming ten weeks, and he came directly to Illinois. He worked at his trade in Chicago for two weeks and then found employment on a farm twelve miles northwest of the city. Nine months later, he moved to Will County, where he worked at his trade until the spring of 1841, at which time he settled on a farm and remained until the fall of the year, when he again went to Chicago and engaged passage with a teamster for Rockford. The roads being in a very bad condition, they were enabled to travel only twelve miles the first day, and our subject, thinking he could make better time on foot, walked the rest of the distance.

On his arrival in Rockford, George Tullock entered the employ of Daniel Dow, and worked at his trade until 1845. In the meantime, having made claim to a tract of Government land on what is now section 26, Burrill Township, he removed upon it and commenced the work of its improvement and cultivation. There being no railroads in the vicinity, he hauled his produce to Chicago, one hundred miles away, which journey generally occupied a week. Mr. Tullock in 1862 sold the farm just mentioned and purchased the tract where he now resides on section 34, Owen Township.

The original of this sketch was married, October 3, 1845, to Mary A. Milne. She was born in Kincardineshire, Scotland, and was the daughter of James Milne. She departed this life October 27, 1890, after having become the mother of nine children, viz: Margaret, William, Emma, Alonzo, Volney and George; those who are deceased are A. R.; Orlando, who died at the age of two years and eight months; and Henry A. when ten years and two months old. In his political views, Mr. Tullock votes the Republican ticket, and in religious matters is liberal. He served as Assessor of Burrill Township ten years, and of Owen Township twenty years. He has also been School Treasurer the same length of time. Our subject stands very high in the community, and is thoroughly honest and upright in all his dealings. A compliment

was paid his character by a Baptist minister who had been a neighbor of Mr. Tullock's for many years, and who when making his will named him as one of the executors. When asked why he did so after he had pronounced Mr. Tullock an infidel, he replied that he knew him to be an honest man.



PETER JOHNSON is one of the most enterprising business men of Rockford that Sweden has furnished to this country. He is now Superintendent, a Director and a stockholder of the Excelsior Furniture Company, which position he has held for six years, and much of the success of that company is due to his untiring efforts. He was born in Skona, Sweden, September 11, 1844, and is a son of John Hanson, who is yet living at the age of seventy-three years. His wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Pearson, died in 1890, at the age of sixty-nine years. Like her husband, she was a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church. The first of the family to come to this country was a sister of our subject, now Mrs. Carrie Munson, of Byron, Ogle County, Ill., her husband, Nelson Munson, being a large farmer of that county. A brother, Nels Johnson, who came to America after our subject, is now married and is employed as a mechanic by the Excelsior Furniture Company.

Our subject spent his childhood days in the land of his birth, and there learned the trade of a general mechanic with his father, who followed that occupation as his life work. At length he determined to try his fortune in America, and sailed from Malmo to New York City, from whence he came at once to the West. In Rockford, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary C. Carlson, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, in February, 1860, and came to the United States in 1888. Her mother died in Sweden, where her father is still living at quite an advanced age. Throughout his entire life he has followed the occupation of farming. Two sisters also reside in this country.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson has been blessed with two children: A. Clarence and Edith Hannah. The parents both hold membership with

the First Lutheran Swedish Church, and are highly respected people, who have many friends throughout this community. Their home is a pleasant residence at No. 1013 Fifth Avenue, where they have resided for some time. In his political affiliations, Mr. Johnson is a supporter of Republican principles.

Since coming to Rockford, in 1876, he has been connected with the furniture factories of this city, first with the Central Furniture Factory, and afterwards with the Forest City Furniture Factory, being with the latter for eight years. His experience, therefore, well fitted him to accept the position which he occupies with the Excelsior Furniture Company. He is also a practical mechanic and cabinet-maker, and thus thoroughly understanding the business, is capable of superintending those engaged in that work. He has carved out his own fortune, and the result shows that it was no unskilled hand that did the work.



WILLIAM H. WORTHINGTON is Treasurer of the *Republican* at Rockford, whose first issue was made April 10, 1890. The scheme of setting on foot a first-class Republican paper was undertaken by our subject, in company with other well-known men of the city, it being incorporated with the following officers: H. H. Robinson, President; S. A. Johnson, Vice-President; Will J. Johnson, Secretary, and W. H. Worthington, Treasurer; with H. O. Hilton, Managing Editor, and C. D. Allyn, City Editor. The company is formed of well-known young business men of this section and its backers represent a large amount of capital. From the beginning, the paper has been issued morning and evening, semi-weekly and weekly, and its wonderful growth has far exceeded the expectation of its promoters. Our subject is a native of Rockford, having been born here in 1854. He received a practical education in the common and High Schools of this city, and, having spent a great deal of his time in his father's drug store, became a student and graduated in pharmacy, giving his entire time and attention to

compounding drugs until he connected himself with the enterprise to which he gives his best efforts. His life has been a busy one and while yet in his prime he has shown his ability to manage with great skill the affairs in which he is interested.

The history of our subject's family in this city is of a character worthy of some special mention. In 1838, William Worthington, his father, came to Rockford when a young man and was recognized as one of its prominent business men and good citizens from the very outset. In 1843, he became the proprietor of a drug store on East State Street, which is to-day in the possession of the family and which is not only regarded as the oldest drug house, but the oldest permanent business firm in the city. The senior Mr. Worthington managed the business for some years on his own account, and later associated with him his sons, when the firm became Worthington & Sons, and later W. H. Worthington & Co. At the present time, it is known under the firm title of Worthington & Slaid, who do a thriving business at the old stand.

The death of William Worthington occurred in this city in 1886, and in his death Rockford lost an old settler, a worthy and upright citizen and a man loved by all who knew him. He lived to see the many changes that have been the means of making it what it is to-day—the leading inland city in the State. Mr. Worthington always took an active interest in everything that was calculated to benefit the city, and gave liberally of his income in the furtherance of all good measures. He was once in a position to become wealthy, but never clamored for more of this world's goods than just what was necessary to make him comfortable in life.

The father of our subject was born in Enfield, Conn., in 1819. Losing his parents when quite young, he grew up and was educated in Springfield, Mass., where the family were very prominent, many of its members being associated with leading enterprises in that city, one of the main streets bearing their name. Mr. Worthington was yet a young man when he came to Rockford where he met and married a worthy lady, who bore the name of Eliza Kellogg. She was born in Cuyahoga

County, Ohio, June 14, 1823, and was brought to this community by her parents in her girlhood days where she completed her education. She is yet living, is smart and active and one of Rockford's recognized matrons and good Christian women. Like her husband, she has done everything to encourage that which is progressive and good.

William H. Worthington of this sketch after becoming permanently settled in business, saw the need of a true helpmate and was united in marriage with Miss Adelle Shaw, May 30, 1879. The lady was born in the Wolverine State in 1854 and was quite young when her parents became residents of Rockford, where she was given a good schooling and has since become one of the leading ladies in social and religious circles. Her father, C. A. Shaw, now deceased, was for many years a prominent merchant of this city, but at the time of his demise was retired from active life, his death occurring when sixty-five years of age. His wife, who was formerly Miss Clarissa Stowell, died here when well advanced in years.

Our subject and his wife are members and active workers in the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church of Rockford.



SAMUEL M. PEARSALL, a retired farmer living in Poplar Grove, was born in Greene, Chenango County, N. Y., December 24, 1832. His father, John Pearsall, was also a native of the Empire State, where he resided until 1839, and then with his wife and four children came to Illinois, and located in Boone County, at a time when all the land was owned by the Government, and deer and other wild animals were very numerous. Mr. Pearsall purchased a claim to a tract of land in what is now Belvidere Township, on which there was a log house. He improved the farm, and resided there until about two years before his decease, when he disposed of his estate and lived a retired life, dying in March, 1865.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Clarinda Walker. She was born in

Chenango County, N. Y., and is the daughter of Samuel Walker, and is one of a family of seventeen children, all born of the same parents, eight girls and nine boys. All lived to become the heads of families.

Our subject is one in a family of six children, four of whom are living, namely: Albert L., Samuel M., Martha and Mary. He of whom we write was a lad of seven years when he came to Illinois with his parents, and was thus old enough to remember the incidents of the long journey, and the pioneer life in this county. He attended the district schools when they were taught in the log school-house, furnished in the most primitive fashion.

Samuel M. Pearsall remained with his parents until seventeen years of age, when he went to Iowa, making the journey with a team. The first winter he operated a threshing-machine, then began to learn the carpenter trade at Independence. He followed that trade most of the time for seven years, then returned to Boone County and worked at his trade for two years. He was then married, September 26, 1859, to Annie Candy, and removed to a farm near Poplar Grove. Mrs. Pearsall was born in Brantford, London District, Province of Ontario, Canada, June 27, 1838, and was the daughter of William V. Candy, who was born in Somersetshire, England, and was the only member of his father's family who came to America, making his advent into the New World in 1835.

The father of Mrs. Pearsall, on locating in this country, was married at Albany, N. Y., January 28, 1836, to Elizabeth Clark, and in the spring of that year removed to Canada and located at Brantford, where he died two years later. The mother, who afterward married Robert Dymond, still resides in Caledonia Township. She was born in Somersetshire, England, in 1810.

The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Pearsall, Charles Clark, was also a native of England, and came to America with his family in 1835. Spending that winter in Albany, he then removed to Brantford, Canada, where he purchased a farm which contained a sawmill. Mr. Clark operated the mill and superintended the improvement of



Yours always
W. Watson

his farm until the time of his coming to Illinois, where he departed this life in Boone County. The lady to whom he was married was Elizabeth Porter.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pearsall have been born two children who are living, namely: Eva, who is now the wife of W. E. Gorman, and resides in Poplar Grove, and Charles. James A., the second son, who was a conductor on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, was killed at Madison, Wis., May 6, 1883, when nineteen years of age. In his political relations, our subject is a Republican, and greatly respected in his community.



WILLIAM WATSON. The gentleman whose life sketch and portrait are here presented, died at his home at No. 611 West State Street, in October, 1881. He had come to this county many years before, and was a well-known and influential citizen. His birth occurred in Trenton, N. J. His father was a native of Scotland, and resided both in Glasgow and Edinburg. Having served an apprenticeship as a silversmith, while yet a young man he came to this country and settled in Trenton, N. J., where he was married. His death occurred in the prime of life, after which his widow with her family removed to Rochester, N. Y.

In that city, our subject was reared to manhood, and acquired a good education. Indeed, he stood so high in his class, that he received a complimentary scholarship to the State Normal in Albany N. Y., from which institution he afterward was graduated. He then engaged in teaching for some years in Western New York, after which he edited and published a mental arithmetic, at the request of the officers of the State Normal, who knew his ability as a mathematician. Throughout his life, love of study was one of his chief characteristics, and his large library contained the works of many of the best ancient and modern writers.

When a single man, Mr. Watson came West and in Flint, Mich., was joined in wedlock to Miss Lotie L. Goodrich, who was born, reared and educated in Potsdam, N. Y. Her father, Truxton A.

Goodrich, was reared in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and was one of its prominent citizens. At the breaking out of the late war, his eldest son, David A., who was only sixteen years of age, determined to enter the service, and not wishing him to go alone, Mr. Goodrich joined him, and in 1861 they enlisted in Company F, Ninety-second New York Infantry. A few months later the son sickened, and died May 30, 1862, in a Southern hospital, when less than seventeen years of age. His father survived him only about six months, and while doing detached duty, died in October, 1862, at the age of forty-three years. He was also buried on Southern soil. The loss of husband and son was a sad blow to Mrs. Goodrich, who, after six years of sorrow, was called to join the loved ones gone before. She was fifty-two years of age at the time of her death. Both husband and wife were among the original members of the Congregational Church in Potsdam, N. Y.

Mrs. Watson, wife of our subject, was carefully reared and educated. She has a brother and sister still living: Daniel J., who married Alice Furman, resides on a farm in Hortonville, Vt., and they have three children: Henry B., Lotta and Fred; Mary M. is the wife of Joshua Curtis, a farmer residing near Flint, Mich., and they have two sons: Caleb and Fred. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Watson were born three children, but Edith K. and Alice M. died in childhood; Fannie is a student in the public schools.

The year following his arrival in Rockford, Mr. Watson established the Rockford Insurance Company, of which he was Secretary for some years and chief manager. He served as Mayor of the city for one term, but was never an office-seeker. In politics, he was a Republican, prominent in the circles of his party, and took a deep interest in its success. He was a self-made man, but though he was forced to start out in life empty-handed, he won success by his own efforts. He was public-spirited, and spent his money freely for the advancement of any cause calculated to upbuild the community. His many worthy characteristics won him the confidence and esteem of all, and in his death it was believed the county had lost one of her best citizens. He was a man of fine literary

attainments, as the following lines attest. They were written after listening to a sermon in which the simile of the tunnel was used:

PASSING THROUGH THE TUNNEL.

As we steam toward the tunnel,
Gentle banks on either side
Swiftly rising, frown upon us
And the fading landscape hide;
And a sad and solemn stillness
Gives a gloom to ev'ry face,
As the train, a-thund'ring onward,
Rushes in the narrow space.

In an instant all is darkness!
And we hold the list'ning breath,
As the heart is leaping upward
To escape the threatened death;
While the darkness grows the darker,
And the gloomier is the roll,
And a thousand hideous fancies
Fiercely glare upon the soul!

Till a glimmer, seen before us,
Swiftly opens into day,
And the danger and the darkness
Are forever fled away;
And a fresher, sweeter prospect
Spreads in beauty to the eye,
With its smiling hills and valleys
And its waters rippling by.

So is death to ev'ry Christian,
As he passes through the vale—
As the shadows darken round him,
And the glooms of death prevail;
How the spirit sadly lingers
With the passing joys of life,
And how Nature dreads the passage,
And the Soul the final strife.

First the darkness, then the glimmer,
Then the glorious light is seen,
And the heavenly land discloses,
Dressed in one eternal green!
All along the shining valley
Is the Tree of Life displayed!
And the Stream of Life is sweetly
Flowing on beneath the shade!

On the verge are hills of beauty,
With eternal cedars crowned,
And within, from choirs of angels,
Heavenly music floats around!
Christian brother, at the tunnel
Let no heaving sigh be given,
For if earth is lost in passing,
You shall win the joys of Heaven!

Generous and sympathetic, he was ever a friend to those suffering from misfortune. Did want stare them in the face, his hand was open to help them; did the burdens of life, or the weight of years bow down upon them, his presence came like a benediction, and by his countless kind acts he brought gleams of sunshine through their gloom, and warmed their hearts as they moved down the rugged hills toward the Sunset Land.

Mrs. Watson still makes her home at her pleasant residence on the corner of West State and West Streets. She is an intelligent lady, true and faithful, and in social circles ranks high. With the Second Congregational Church she holds membership, and her life has been in harmony with her profession. To the poor and needy she is a faithful friend, and the distressed never seek her aid in vain.



EDWIN LANDER. Among the self-made men of Boone County none deserve greater credit than the subject of this notice, who is in possession of a comfortable amount of this world's goods, obtained by hard labor and good management, and is living retired on his estate on section 15, Spring Township. Like many of the prominent residents of this county, he is a native of England, having been born April 26, 1815, in Wiltshire.

Edwin Lander, of this sketch, determined to try his fortune in the New World, and, setting sail from Bristol in the vessel "Java," April 6, 1849, was eight weeks en route to this country. Landing in New York, he came direct to this county, where he purchased eighty acres of land. He later added to his possessions until he is now the owner of one hundred and fifty and one-half excellently improved acres.

Miss Mary Skitterey was united in marriage with our subject January 5, 1837. The lady was born in Somersetshire, England, September 14, 1812, and was the daughter of William and Ann Skitterey, both of whom died in their native England, the father when fifty-four years of age, and the mother in her sixty-seventh year. Mr. and Mrs.

Lander have four children living, as follows: William E., who was born in Somersetshire, October 22, 1837, is a farmer; Edward P., who also had his birth in England, February 2, 1813, is married and the father of three children; Eliza, who was born in Wiltshire, January 21, 1818, is residing at home; Susan A., born January 31, 1852, in this county, is the widow of W. H. Terry and the mother of four children. Another daughter of our subject, Mary, was married to Byron Johnson, and at her decease left four children.

He of whom we write was a son of William and Susan Lander, who lived and died in England at an advanced age. Our subject had a brother James, who came to America in 1816. His maternal grandfather was Edward Mathews, who followed the occupation of a farmer. Mr. Lander has four great-grandchildren, one of whom is nine years of age. He owns and occupies a pleasant home and, in company with his son William, was the first to agitate the subject and to build a creamery in this vicinity, which they have since sold.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Lander cast his first vote for Fremont. He is at present living retired, his farm being managed by his son William, in whose hands the acres are made to blossom as the rose. This son has been Treasurer of the Board of Highway Commissioners, and has held many other positions of trust, in which he has served with credit to himself and benefit to the community.



FRANK A. BAXTER, who is engaged in general farming on section 23, New Milford Township, is one of the representative citizens of Winnebago County, and a native citizen as well. He was born on the 15th of September, 1845, and is a son of John and Maria (Horton) Baxter, both of whom were natives of Ithaca, Tompkins County, N. Y. The father was a farmer and with his wife and seven children emigrated Westward, settling on twenty-one acres of land on section 30, New Milford Township.

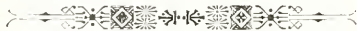
Our subject was the fifth son and seventh child.

He left home at the age of fourteen years and began working as a farm hand at \$6 per month, and for three months during the year worked for his board and schooling, for his father was poor and had a hard struggle to support the family. After working by the month for four years, he then began operating rented land and when twenty-four years of age purchased forty acres of land in New Milford Township, selling at a profit of \$350. He then bought eighty acres in Cherry Valley Township, upon which he built a house. A year later, he secured as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Helen Conkling, of that township, a daughter of James and Theresa J. (Martin) Conkling. Her parents were natives of the Empire State and were among the pioneers of this county. By their union have been born one son and four daughters: Bert, born January 12, 1873; Myrtle, June 10, 1874; Emma, June 26, 1876; Elsie, June 1, 1878, and Frankie, March 29, 1880.

Mr. and Mrs. Baxter resided in Cherry Valley Township for six years, when he sold his farm and removed to New Milford Township, purchasing one hundred and seventy-eight acres on section 25. He paid \$32.50 per acre for forty acres and \$26 per acre for the remaining amount. It was but slightly improved and he has since expended upon it \$4,200 in buildings, has planted a good orchard, and set out many fine shade trees, which are now growing. The land is also under a high state of cultivation, and this farm is one of the attractive and desirable places in the township. Mr. Baxter next purchased one hundred and forty-four acres, called the Mill property, adjoining the village of New Milford, and in March, 1891, bought and removed to his present farm of one hundred and ninety-four acres adjoining the village on the West. During all these years, he has engaged in general farming and for the past five years has also engaged in shipping cattle and hogs to the Chicago Union Stock Yards.

Mr. and Mrs. Baxter are members of the Methodist Church of New Milford and are genial, social people who have many warm friends throughout the community. They have given their children good educational advantages and have a family of which they may well be proud. Bert is now

attending the Rockford High School and Emma has fitted herself to enter the same school. In politics, Mr. Baxter is a Republican. He has never sought or desired public office and was much surprised when, in June, 1891, he received the appointment as Supervisor of his township to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Price Lewis. However, he will prove a faithful officer as he is true to every trust reposed in him. His business career has been a most prosperous one and for it he deserves great credit as it is the result of his own unaided efforts. He is a prominent and influential citizen of the community and is deservedly popular among his fellow-townsmen.



MRS. VALLONIA H. SHEDD, M. D., has for twenty-one years engaged in the practice of medicine in Rockford. Of those women who have made a name and fortune for themselves in the practice of medicine, none are more deserving of mention than our subject, who is known throughout the State as a skillful physician. She has made her home in Rockford since 1857, and is both widely and favorably known.

Dr. Shedd was born in Warsaw, Wyoming County, N. Y. Her grandfather, Edward Putnam, Sr., was a native of Vermont, and a kinsman of Gen. Putnam, of Revolutionary fame. He himself fought throughout the struggle for independence and lived to be ninety-two years of age. He married Rachel Reynolds, who was born in New England, of English descent, and reached the very advanced age of ninety-seven years. She was a prominent and well-educated woman, and her last days were spent in the West. Edward Putnam, Jr., the father of the Doctor, was born in Grafton, Vt., and with his parents removed to Warsaw N. Y., in 1810. Two years later, he married Rachel Hutton, who died at the age of forty-six years, after the birth of nine children. Mr. Putnam was the first merchant of Warsaw, N. Y., and the marriage of him and his wife was the second celebrated in Wyoming County. He continued business for many years in that city, and was one of its prominent residents. He served as magistrate for many

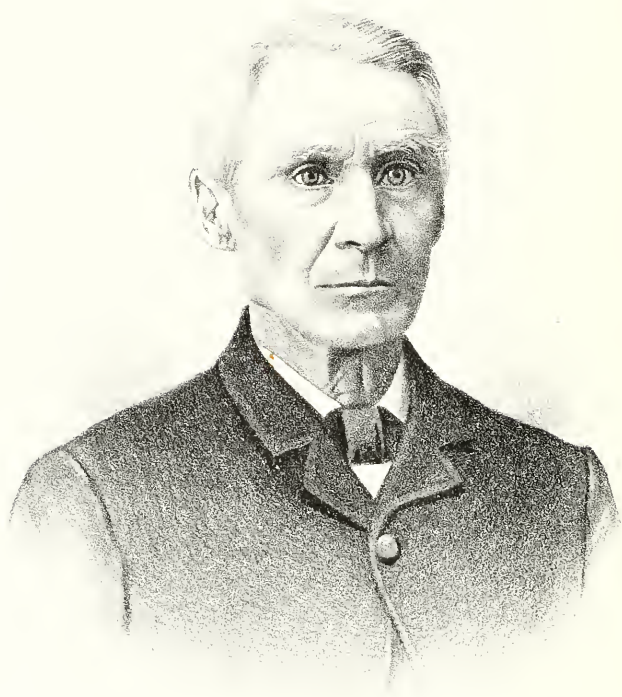
years, kept a hotel for many years, and was a leader of the people in all public matters. About two years prior to his death, he came to the West, and after residing for about eighteen months with his son in Wisconsin, came to Rockford. Six months later, he died at the home of his son Lucius, at the age of eighty-three years.

At the age of sixteen years, Dr. Shedd began teaching school, and for seven years followed that profession in her native State. In Warsaw, she gave her hand in marriage to David Shedd, a native of Vermont, who, when a young man, removed to New York. He was a molder by trade, and followed that business for some years after coming to Rockford in 1857. He was a quiet, unassuming man, upright in all the relations of life, and for his honesty and morality was highly esteemed. His death occurred in this city in September, 1881, at the age of seventy-one years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shedd were born four children: Henry C., a member of the firm of Putnam & Shedd, furniture dealers of Rockford; Julia, wife of Frank E. Trumbull, now a clerk in the Centennial Clothing Store, of Rockford, and an enterprising young man, who has spent his entire life in this city; Washington Irving, who died in childhood; and Helen Irene, deceased, who married Dr. T. A. Proctor, now of Rochester, N. Y.; she had been formerly married, and by her second union she left three daughters and a son.

By nature, Mrs. Shedd was fitted for the work in which she is now engaged, possessing natural ability in that direction. She first began doctoring her own family, but soon neighbors and friends requested her services, and at length the calls made upon her she found to be more than she could attend to. When the law went into effect that a doctor's license should be required, she secured one without trouble, and has since been engaged in the active practice of medicine. Her work has been very successful, and she has never lost one out of all the febrile cases which she has attended. She is now making a specialty of chronic cases, but, owing to increasing age and failing health, she cannot now attend to so large a practice as was formerly hers. She has reached the age of seventy-six, but with the exception of her hearing,





Yours Truly
D. E. Adams

which is partially impaired, she is still as well preserved as many much younger ladies. Her reputation has extended all over the State, and with it she has gained many warm friends who esteem her highly for her sterling worth.



HON. D. EMMONS ADAMS. The gentleman whose portrait and life sketch are here presented to our readers, has been a resident of Winnebago County since July, 1846. Born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., February 23, 1818, he is a son of Hiel and Mary (Newton) Adams, also natives of the above-named State and county, where they resided on a farm. The father died in 1843 in his fifty-fourth year and the mother passed away five years later, aged fifty-six years.

Our subject was one of a family of eight children, his brothers and sisters being Ezra, who resides in Laona Township, this county; Hiel, who departed this life in Rensselaer County, N. Y., in 1890; Elijah, who makes his home at Brodhead, Wis.; Emma, who married D. Waterbury, and died in Wayne County, N. Y.; Mary M., Mrs. John Chaloner, who resides in Rensselaer County, N. Y.; Sadie A., the wife of James M. Rockwell, who lives in Pontiac, Mich., and Sarah, Mrs. Samuel R. Young, who resides in Delaware County, Iowa.

D. E. Adams was reared to manhood on his father's farm, and after obtaining his education in the common schools, taught in the neighborhood. In 1842, he was married to Palmyra Houghton, who was born April 23, 1813, in Rensselaer County, N. Y., and died eighteen months after her marriage. August 9, 1845, Mr. Adams was united in marriage with Miss Palmyra Bills, who was born in Berkshire County, Mass., July 20, 1821. Mr. Adams came to Illinois in 1846, and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of section 29, Laona Township, on which were a few acres broken and a very rude log cabin. He then returned to the Empire State, and, in the spring, brought his wife and child with him to the new home.

Until 1886, our subject gave his attention to agricultural pursuits, and at that time was the owner of an estate comprising five hundred acres.

The tract upon which he resided included two hundred and eighty acres, the entire amount being under excellent cultivation and supplied with first-class farm buildings of every description. Selling out his property in the above-named year, he removed to Durand, where he now resides.

Starting out in life poor in this world's goods, the first employment secured by Mr. Adams was as a farm-hand at \$8 per month. He saved enough of his earnings to bring him West, and in every department of work has since been successful, being classed at the present time among the wealthy citizens of Winnebago County. To himself and estimable wife have been born four children: Roscoe E. was born May 17, 1846, and December 17, 1872, was married to Adella Stewart; he departed this life in August, 1885. Mary A. was born August 20, 1848, and is the wife of Charles R. Stewart, of Dickinson County, Iowa. Elma A. was born March 8, 1851, and is now Mrs. Thurrow W. Webster, of Durand. Charlotte G. was born September 19, 1852, and is the wife of Warren E. Filer of this place.

Our subject cast his first vote for William Henry Harrison, in 1840, and since that time has voted the Republican ticket. He has served his fellow-townsmen as Assessor and Collector nine years, and for a period of twelve years was Supervisor. He represented his district in the State Legislature in the Twenty-seventh General Assembly, which was the first under the New Constitution and hence was very important. He has always been interested in local politics, and has frequently represented his party as a delegate to county, district and State conventions.

Second to no other public interest has been the deep concern felt by Mr. Adams toward the progress of educational matters. He was the first School Trustee elected in Laona, his duty being to oversee the surveying of land and appraise the value of school land given by the Government for educational purposes. While living in Rensselaer he was a member of the State militia. His first commission was that of Captain and he subsequently received promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel and Colonel. In social matters, he is a charter member of Durand Lodge No. 302, A. F. & A. M.,

and is contributing liberally to the support of all schemes for the moral and material advancement of this township that meet with his approval.

REUBEN J. TOUSLEY. The superior accommodations offered by the Julien House has secured it a prominent place in the favor of the citizens of Belvidere and the traveling public. The hotel is a commodious building, containing fifty sleeping rooms, conveniently arranged and nicely furnished, and under the efficient management of Mr. Tousley has become known as one of the finest houses in Northern Illinois. Since he assumed its entire control, he has increased its accommodations by erecting an addition which is larger than the original building, and his capable supervision invariably secures the comfort and satisfaction of his guests.

Before giving in detail the principal events in the life of our subject, it will not be amiss to briefly mention his parentage. His grandfather, Reuben Tousley, was born in New England and for many years carried on an extensive trade with the West Indies, his occupation being that of a merchant. His death occurred at his home in Williamstown, Mass., of which place he was long a citizen. The father of our subject, Reuben Tousley, Jr., was born in Massachusetts, and was a small child when he was left fatherless. Soon afterward, his mother removed to Ellisburgh, Jefferson County, N. Y., and was there married a second time.

Coming West to Ohio at an early day, the father of our subject landed at Cleveland when it was a mere village. Thence he proceeded with a team to Medina County and, purchasing a tract of timber land, erected thereon a small house. A few years later, he removed to Streetsboro, Portage County, and there made his home until 1816, when he went to Wisconsin and secured a tract of Government land in Walworth County. The nearest market was at Milwaukee, thirty miles distant, and Mr. Tousley suffered the usual privations incident to pioneer life. After residing on that place for a number of years, he sold and purchased an improved farm in Jefferson County, Wis.,

where he lived until 1865. Afterward he resided for a time at Kenosha, Wis., but at the present time is making his home at Walker, Linn County, Iowa. His wife, the mother of our subject, bore the maiden name of Terzah Cook. She was born in Vermont and died in Jefferson County, Wis., in 1864.

In the pioneer home at Stone, Medina County, Ohio, the subject of this sketch was born November 28, 1831. In the public schools of Ohio he received his early education, which was advanced by attendance in the schools of Walworth County, Wis. At the age of eighteen, he commenced to teach, and in 1859 was clerk in the postoffice at Waukesha. His next position was with the Chicago & Milwaukee Railroad Company, with whom he remained for a few months and then accepted a position as commercial traveler.

In 1865, Mr. Tousley purchased the Julien House at Belvidere, and a year later resigned as commercial salesman in order to devote his entire attention to the hotel, of which, as above mentioned, he has made a complete success. With the exception of three weeks, he has been proprietor of the hotel continuously since his first connection therewith. A Republican in politics, he is staunch in his adherence to the party principles and is now serving his second term as Alderman. Socially, he is a member of Big Thunder Lodge No. 28, I. O. O. F., Belvidere Lodge No. 60, F. & A. M., Kishwaukee Council No. 883, Legion of Honor.

December 12, 1865, Miss D. Augusta, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Rogers) Traver, became the wife of our subject. She was born in Cortland County, N. Y., and belongs to one of the oldest families of the Empire State. Her father was born in Columbia County, N. Y., December 29, 1816, and when eight years old accompanied his parents to Yates County, that State, where he resided until eighteen. He then removed to Cortland County, and, when leaving home three years later, purchased a farm in that county and was there married, August 28, 1844, to Miss Elizabeth Rogers, who was born in Tompkins County, June 7, 1820.

After his marriage, Mr. Traver resided in Fulton County until 1857, when he sold his place and

removed to Wisconsin. After sojourning in that State for five months, he proceeded farther West to McGregor, Iowa, where for one year he was engaged as railroad contractor. He again removed, making his home in Clermont, Iowa, and engaging in different pursuits until 1865, when he came to Belvidere and in partnership with our subject purchased the Julien House. Ten years later, he sold his interest in the hotel and lived retired from business until his death, when sixty-five years old.

The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Tousley were John and Margaret (Rorabacher) Traver. The former was born September 22, 1788, and died in Cortland County, N. Y., April 14, 1866. The latter departed this life at the home of our subject February 16, 1878, at the advanced age of ninety-five years. The first representatives of the Rorabacher family in America came hither from Germany, bringing a large fortune with them, and became pioneers of Columbia County, N. Y., where one of their number was the founder of the iron works of Akron.

The mother of Mrs. Tousley was the daughter of Amos and Rachel (David) Rogers, the former a native of Connecticut who resided near Hartford until reaching mature years. Thence he accompanied his mother to Brattleboro, Vt., and from there went to Massachusetts. After his marriage in 1805, he resided in Berkshire County, Mass., until 1817, when he removed to New York and settled in Tompkins County. Later, he removed to Cortland County, where his death occurred March 14, 1855. He was the father of ten children, eight of whom grew to mature years, and six are now living, the youngest being sixty-eight years of age.

Amos Rogers, the grandfather of Mrs. Tousley, was the son of Samuel Rogers, who died at Brattleboro, Vt., when forty years of age. The family traces its lineage to John Rogers, the martyr, who was burned at the stake, which relationship they prove by authentic genealogy. Rachel Davis, as the grandmother of Mrs. Tousley was known in maidenhood, was born in the Bay State October 8, 1782, and died in Cortland County, N. Y., when eighty-six years of age. She was the daughter of

John and Mary (Nichols) Davis, natives respectively of England and Massachusetts.

Our subject and his excellent wife have two children: Herbert was married May 6, 1891, to Miss Helen L. Keeler, and is interested with his father in the Julien House; Reuben F. is engaged in the grain business and stock exchange at Rockford. The members of the family are well and favorably known in this city where they have resided for so many years.



WILLIAM MOFFATT, who has been engaged in general blacksmithing in Rockford since September, 1858, was born in Youngstown, Niagara County, N. Y., December 29, 1830, and until twelve years of age was reared in Canada, after which he went to the Empire State. His father, Capt. William Moffatt, was a native of Northumberland, England, and was of pure English descent. When a mere boy, he went to sea and at the age of nineteen became master of a vessel, a sea and lake ship engaged in the merchant trade. He became well known all over the Lakes from Buffalo to Chicago. At length, he gave up a sailor's life and turned his attention to farming. He died near Niagara, Canada, at the age of seventy-four years. His wife, whose maiden name was Ann Hayes, was a native of Massachusetts, and also died near Niagara, at the age of forty-four years. Both were well-known people in the community where they resided. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Richard and Charlotte (Wood) Moffatt, and the former's death occurred in Canada at the advanced age of eighty-two years.

William Moffatt, whose name heads this sketch, learned the trade of blacksmithing in Monroe, Livingston County, N. Y., and did work as a journeyman on his own account in the Empire State until his emigration Westward from Fowlerville. Before leaving the East, he was married in Youngstown, Niagara County, N. Y., on the 12th of July, 1854, to Miss Sarah J. Cannam, the Rev. Mr. Craig, the great temperance lecturer, officiating. The lady was born in Livingston County, of

English parentage. Her father and mother were both natives of England, and after their marriage came to this country. They located in Livingston County, N. Y., where Mr. Cannam became a successful farmer, and in that county they spent the remainder of their days, dying when well advanced in years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Moffatt has been born one son, who is yet living, Fred H., a successful grocery merchant, carrying on business on West State Street. Mr. Moffatt came with his family to Rockford in 1858, and has since engaged in blacksmithing with excellent success. His business is large, and to aid him he engaged Thomas Condon and others. Thomas Condon has now been in his employ for about twenty years. The latter makes a specialty of horse-shoeing and the others of fine repair work. Mr. Moffatt is himself a skilled workman, and by fair and honest dealing he has secured an excellent and constantly increasing trade, which has brought him in a good income and made him well-to-do. Both he and his son are supporters of the Republican party. Mr. Moffatt is public-spirited and progressive, true to all his duties, and is a good citizen. His shop is located at No. 109, and his pleasant home at No. 902 North Church Street.



OSCAR NORTON, one of the prominent merchants of Durand, located here in 1861, and is thus numbered among the pioneers as one of the leading citizens. A native of New York, his birth occurred in Oswego County, October 4, 1837. He is the son of Birdsill and Almira (Hartshorn) Norton, natives respectively of Massachusetts and Madison County, N. Y. Ephraim Norton, the grandfather of our subject, was also a native of the Bay State, where he was a farmer, and on removing to New York State lived to attain an old age.

Birdsill Norton was a cabinet-maker and carried on business in the town of Parish. He was born in 1805 and departed this life in 1845, when in the prime of life; his good wife, who lived to attain the advanced age of eighty-four years,

died in Syracuse, N. Y. They became the parents of seven children: Ephraim B., who follows the trade of a carpenter in the above-named city; Curtis M. was the second in order of birth; Ellen E., Mrs. Miller; our subject; Birdsley, and Dwight A., who died young. They are all residents of Syracuse, with the exception of our subject.

Oscar Norton in early life learned the trade of a cooper, to which he later added the occupation of a farmer. In 1861, he came to the Prairie State, and, locating in Durand, soon entered the employ of Andrew Ashton, for whom he clerked fifteen years. At the end of that time, he established in his present business and is now the oldest grocer in Durand, and by his courteous treatment of customers does about the largest business in that branch in the place.

The lady to whom our subject was married July 13, 1862, bore the name of Jane A., daughter of D. S. and Charlotte (Warren) Richards. She is a native of this place, her natal day being February 13, 1845. To them have been born seven children: Charles A., who was born May 2, 1863; James O., who was killed by a runaway team May 18, 1891, when in his twenty-sixth year; William B., who was born September 20, 1867; Lottie L., born July 22, 1871, is attending school in Chicago; Morton E., born January 3, 1874; Lawrence E., April 29, 1876, and Nina Nettie, April 26, 1880.

In politics, Mr. Norton votes with the Prohibition party, and has held the office of Town Clerk and Collector. With his wife, he is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has aided materially in the upbuilding of this community where he has resided so long.



MRS. CELIA O. THOMPSON, who is at present residing on section 14, Manchester Township, Boone County, is the widow of Ole Thompson, formerly a well-to-do farmer of this section. She was born in Norway, September 15, 1852, and was the daughter of T. Selland, also a native of Norway, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of Mrs. Thompson,



B. F. Banks

was Madella A. Opsanger, and they reared a family of eight children, five daughters and three sons.

Our subject is the third child and second daughter in order of birth, and has one sister and two brothers in this country. Edmund Selland is a successful farmer living in Sanborn County, S. Dak., where also a sister, Anne, Mrs. Charles Thompson, is residing. Nels Selland makes his home in Benson, Swift County, Minn., where he is engaged in mercantile pursuits in partnership with his nephew, M. C. Thompson, the second son of Mrs. Anne Thompson.

On June 12, 1877, our subject and her sister came to America together and three years later Miss Celia was married to Ole Thompson, of Manchester Township. To them were granted two daughters: Mary Amelia and Anne Eliza, aged, respectively, eleven and eight years. By a previous marriage, Mr. Thompson was the father of three children. He departed this life November 13, 1888, and his widow is now superintending the farm which was willed by him to his daughters.



BENJAMIN F. BANKS. Among the war heroes of this county, none probably had more interesting adventures or served more bravely than the gentleman whose portrait adorns the opposite page. He is at present residing in a pleasant home at Rockford, where his friends are as numerous as his acquaintances. A native of Maine, he was born in Parkman, Piscataquis County, March 17, 1839. His father was born in Hartford, Me., July 14, 1806, and his paternal grandfather, Joseph Banks, was also born in that State, a descendant of English ancestors.

Alfred Banks became the proprietor of a farm in Parkman, where he made his home until 1845. During that year he came to Illinois, accompanied by his wife and four children. The trip was made with teams, and six weeks were consumed on the way. The elder Mr. Banks purchased a farm in the town of Franklin, De Kalb County, where he cultivated the soil until two years prior to his decease, when he removed to Belvidere and spent

his last days. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Sarah Foster, and she was born in the Pine Tree State. By her union with Mr. Banks were born five children: Charles E., Sebastine S., Benjamin F., Sarah and George W.

Benjamin F. Banks was a lad of six years when he accompanied his parents to the Prairie State, and remembers well the incidents of the long overland journey and of pioneer life in De Kalb County. For a number of years after their location in that county there were no railroads, and Chicago was the principal market and depot for supplies. Our subject was reared to the duties of a farmer's lad, and, when old enough to start out on his own account, became an agriculturist.

In September, 1862, Mr. Banks enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Infantry, and served with his regiment until he was disabled. Joining Sherman's forces, he marched with them to the sea, and can give many an interesting account of that famous tramp. He was severely wounded at the battle of Kennesaw Mountain, and after being sent to the hospital at Nashville was granted a furlough and returned home. The following spring he reported for duty at Chicago, but was not accepted, on account of disability caused by injuries received while in the service. Returning again to the peaceful pursuits of farm life, he purchased a farm in De Kalb County, upon which he made his home until 1875, when, coming to Rockford, he purchased city property, and has since been numbered among the most prominent citizens of the place.

The marriage of our subject occurred April 19, 1869, at which time Miss Frances Eliza Chittenden became his wife. She was born in St. Joseph County, Mich., and was the daughter of Daniel Chittenden, a native of Wayne County, N. Y., where also his father, Benjamin, so far as is known, was born. The grandfather of Mrs. Banks was a cabinet-maker, and removed from Wayne to Chautauqua County, where his decease occurred. He had married Fannie Loper. The father of Mrs. Banks removed from the Empire State to Michigan in 1840, and purchased a tract of timber land in Constantine Township, St. Joseph County, which he cleared and placed under good cultivation. He

made that place his home until 1854, when he sold and removed to Iowa, making location in Bremer County, where he was one of the early settlers. He had traded his farm in Michigan for that property and resided in the Hawkeye State until his decease, which occurred in 1886.

The mother of Mrs. Banks was Phoebe, a daughter of James Ray, and a native of New York. She died on the farm in Bremer County in 1888, having borne her husband ten children, six of whom grew to mature years, namely: Ferdiando C., Benjamin, Frances E., Eugene, Daniel A., and Tina. Mr. and Mrs. Banks are the parents of six children, who bear the names of Bert F., Viola, Daisy, George, Pearl and Arthur E., respectively. Our subject is a Republican in politics, and socially is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R.



GEORGE CHAFEE, who is one of the most successful and prosperous farmers of Spring Township, Boone County, was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., August 16, 1811, his parents being David and Eunice (Chapman) Chafee. They were natives of Connecticut and departed this life in Onondaga County at the respective ages of seventy-five and fifty-two years.

Our subject remained at home until reaching his majority, meanwhile, however, engaging in teaching two terms of winter school. He then worked by the month for his brothers for a period of eight years, and in September, 1840, was married to Miss Lucinda Kinyon, whose birth occurred March 12, 1813, in Onondaga County, N. Y. She departed this life July 15, 1850, in the above-named county, in her thirty-seventh year.

The lady whom Mr. Chafee took for his second wife was Miss Lucy Waterman; she had her birth in Otsego County, N. Y., and died in Spring Township, this county, in her fortieth year. She became the mother of two children, only one of whom is living, Lillie K., now Mrs. E. J. Munn. This daughter was born September 7, 1855, on the home farm. The third marriage of Mr. Chafee occurred May 19, 1857, at which time Miss Annetta Smith, who was born in Herkimer County, N. Y.,

November 12, 1813, became his wife; she was the daughter of Richard and Rachel (Worth) Smith, who lived and died in the Empire State.

The first property which our subject owned was a small farm of twenty acres in New York State, which he disposed of in 1852, and came to Spring Township, this county, where he purchased a quarter-section of partially improved land, for which he paid \$14 per acre. He has since erected all the suitable farm buildings and made of his estate one of the finest in Boone County. It is thoroughly drained, Mr. Chafee having spent \$2,000 in laying tile over his farm. He is engaged in mixed farming, ranking among the well-to-do agriculturists in this section.

Mr. and Mrs. Chafee move in the best circles in their community and are universally respected for their sterling qualities and true neighborly kindness. In his political relations, our subject votes the Republican ticket, having served seven years in the capacity of Supervisor, as Commissioner of Highways for four years and also on the School Board. Mr. Chafee has a fine education, although he is a graduate from a country district school. He is a great reader and one of the active workers in educational affairs in the county. His first Presidential vote was cast for Andrew Jackson and, as before stated, he now votes for Republican candidates.

The adopted son of our subject, George D. Chafee, is at present living with him and is part owner in the home farm. He married Miss Jane, daughter of C. B. Lord, and has a family of three children.



JOHAN BARNES is one of those to whom Flora Township, Boone County, owes its present highly cultivated and developed condition. He came hither in 1866, and not only is he well known as a general dealer in all kinds of grain and live stock, but he has also come before the public as an official who has served with credit to himself and to his constituents. He was born October 20, 1847, in Vernon, Oneida County, N. Y., while his father, Richard Barnes, was born

in Kent County, England, in 1807. The grandparents of our subject were also natives of the British Isles where they spent their entire lives.

The father of our subject was reared in his native county and on emigrating to America in 1840 was accompanied on the journey by his wife and three children. Locating in Vernon, Oneida County, N. Y., he engaged in farming, and during the years intervening between his settlement there and 1866, had lived upon and cultivated several different farms. On the above date, he came to Illinois and resided for several years in Belvidere Township, this county. He was very successful in all his undertakings, and at the time of his decease in May, 1887, was the proprietor of a handsome estate. His last years were spent in retirement in Belvidere. He had been twice married, the maiden name of his second wife, who was the mother of our subject, was Elizabeth Cackett; she was born in Kent County, England, her parents being Richard and Lydia Cackett. Mrs. Barnes reared a family of seven children and is still living in Belvidere.

John Barnes of this sketch received his education in the primitive schools of Vernon, N. Y., and in 1866 came to Illinois with his parents, with whom he resided until his marriage. He then located on a farm one mile north of Belvidere, which was his home for ten years; at the expiration of that time he purchased his present property. The lady to whom he was married in 1872 bore the name of Jessie A. Wrate, a native of Westfield, Vt. Her father, Francis S. Wrate, was born in Cambridgeshire, England, where also his father, William Wrate was born and died. A brother of Francis S. Wrate, who bore the name of Albert, came to America and resided for a few years in Chicago. He is now living in Nottingham, England.

Francis S. Wrate was reared and married in Cambridgeshire, and in 1852, in company with his bride, embarked on a sailing-vessel, "The American Eagle," for the New World. For ten years he resided in Vermont and in 1861 came to Illinois and located a farm in Belvidere Township, this county. He later went to Geneva, Kane County, Ill., and is now building the Wrate Block there.

His wife was Jane, the daughter of John and Ann Jackson, who was born in the same shire as was her husband. They reared a family of four children. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes have one son, George R., who was born July 5, 1888. In politics, our subject is a Republican and at one time filled the office of Supervisor, and in other ways has aided materially in the upbuilding of his adopted township.



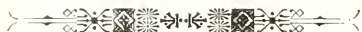
CARL L. C. EBBISEN is the editor and General Manager of the *Rockford Posten*, the well-known Swedish-American newspaper of Northern Illinois. It is issued every Saturday as a seven-column, eight-page paper, and our subject was made its editor in 1888. The *Rockford Posten* was incorporated with a capital stock of \$5,000, and the following prominent Swedish men of the city were selected as its officers: L. M. Noling, President; P. A. E. Peterson, Vice-president; A. P. Floberg, Treasurer; J. A. Alden, Secretary; and C. Ebbesen, editor and General Manager. It is the oldest Swedish-American newspaper in Illinois outside of Chicago. It has over three thousand circulation in the city and county, and is a live, newsy and well-printed paper, which is bound to succeed.

Mr. Ebbesen is a practical printer and newspaper man, having come to Rockford eight years ago and bought an interest in a newspaper run by the Rev. A. Lindskog, which he was obliged to abandon on account of insufficient backing. He learned the printer's trade in his native country of Sweden, where also he was reporter for a time. Four years after coming to the United States, he occupied the same position on the *Rockford Gazette and Morning Star* in this city. He was the originator and promoter of the first successful Swedish newspaper in the city.

He of whom we write was born and reared in Stockholm and was given an excellent education in the Grammar and High Schools of that city. In 1879, he emigrated to this country, and after spending four years in St. Paul and Minneapolis where he was employed on a newspaper of his native tongue, he made his advent into Winnebago

County. Mr. Ebbesen was married, while in Minnesota, to Miss Charlotte Palmquist, who was born, reared and educated in that State. Her parents were Swedish people, who located in Minnesota about forty years ago, and are still residing in Central City. Her father is a prominent farmer and citizen of that place and was for several years Deacon in the Swedish Lutheran Church. He served through the Rebellion as a private in a Minnesota regiment, and, unlike many of his comrades, escaped being either captured or wounded.

The wife of our subject was given a good education in the public schools, and remained with her parents until her marriage. With her husband, she is a member of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford. Our subject is a Republican in politics, and conducts his paper on Republican principles. He is a man possessed of intelligence and good judgment, and his reputation in the county is one of which any man might well be proud, providing, as in his case, the character is equal to the opinion of men.



JOHN SMITH, who is living a retired life at No. 606 George Street, Rockford, where he has made his home for seventeen years, was born on the 28th of May, 1813, about seven miles east of Glasgow, Scotland, and, when six years of age, was brought to America by his parents. John and Mary (Hood) Smith, both of whom were also natives of Scotland. After emigrating to America in 1820, the father began life as a farmer in Grenby Township, Shepherd County, in the Province of Quebec. He worked hard, and did quite a little toward developing a good farm amid the forests of that region. In 1817, he came with his family to this State, locating in Owen Township, Winnebago County, where he and his wife made their home until called to their final rest. The father died at the age of eighty-two, and his wife passed away in her seventy-fourth year. They were both members of the Congregational Church.

Our subject spent his childhood days in Canada, in the usual manner of farmer lads, and, after arriving at years of maturity, was there married to

Laura Webster, who was born in Vermont, of American parentage, but was chiefly reared in Canada. After the birth of five of their children, Mr. and Mrs. Smith determined to come to Illinois. They traveled by the Lakes to St. Johns, thence to Buffalo, from there around the Lakes, and overland to Cleveland, Ohio. Their money had given out when they arrived in that city, so they were forced to pause. Mr. Smith began cutting wood for Deacon Lyman, at twenty-five cents per cord. He was thus enabled to make about 81 per day, and in this way he procured enough to make it possible for them to complete their journey to Illinois. When they had reached Winnebago County, however, Mr. Smith was again empty-handed, but they began life in true pioneer style and bravely bore the hardships of the frontier. All went well until 1856, when, on the 9th of November, the wife and mother was called to her final rest. She left one son and four daughters, all of whom are yet living.

Mary, the eldest of these children, is now the wife of James Stewart, a retired farmer residing on Kilburn Avenue, this city; Lucena, is the wife of S. Young, of Falls City, Wis.; Abigail, widow of Benjamin Seaker, resides with her father; Priscilla is the wife of John Hoy, a retired farmer of Brownville, Minn.; John D., who was one of the boys in blue during the late war, is a dealer in machinery in Rockford. Mr. Smith was a second time married, in Beloit, Wis., his union being with Mrs. Jerusha (Hill) Ward, a native of the Empire State, born and reared in Wayne County, N. Y. She came to Illinois in 1856, with her first husband, John P. Ward, who died in December of that year. He left three sons and a daughter, all of whom are now deceased, with the exception of Mary, wife of H. Chiles, a banker of Sterling, Neb., and Eunice, who lives in Texas. One son, Ransom L. Ward, served in the army during the late Rebellion. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have one son, Adelbert, a mail carrier of Rockford, who married Ellen McGhee.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith are well-known people of this community and rank high in social circles. He was formerly a Republican in politics, but now supports the Prohibition party. With the Congre-

gational Church he holds membership. His wife belongs to the Christian Church. After coming to this country, he made farming his principal occupation for a number of years and purchased and improved one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, which he sold on his removal to the city.



JA. LUNDGREN, who has held the position of Secretary and Treasurer of the Skandia Plow Company of Rockford since 1883, is a well-known and successful business man of Rockford, and it was an important day for both the city and him when he located here. He was born in Sweden, April 22, 1853. His parents, J. E. and Christine (Joneson) Lundgren, are still living in their native land, both being about seventy years of age. His father has followed farming throughout his life. He is well known in his neighborhood as a respected citizen of sterling worth and good Christian character.

Under the parental roof, our subject spent the days of his boyhood, and when a young man came to this country, the first of the family to cross the Atlantic. He has since been joined by a brother and sister, the former, F. E. Lundgren, being a cabinet-maker by trade, and a stockholder in the Standard and Star Furniture Companies of Rockford. His sister Amanda only recently came to the New World.

J. A. Lundgren led to the marriage altar Miss Hildegard A. Wanstrom, who was born in Sweden, July 26, 1857, and in 1864 came with her parents to this country. Their union has been blessed with four children, but Laura died in infancy. Joseph T., Esther C. and Lawrence A., all bright, intelligent children, are still with their parents.

Our subject came to Rockford in 1870, when a young man of twenty years. He was empty-handed, but possessed an industrious and enterprising nature, and a determination to succeed, come what would. He had acquired a good education, and after working as a farm hand for two years, accepted a clerical position in Rockford. As before stated, he has been connected with the Skandia Plow Company as Secretary and Treasurer

since 1883. On the organization of the Central Furniture Company in 1879, he became its first Treasurer, and is still one of the stockholders. He has been President of the Standard Furniture Company of Rockford since its organization in 1885, is also a stockholder and Director, and is a Director in the Swedish Mutual Fire Insurance Company, the Skandia Coal Company, the Star Furniture Company, the Royal Sewing Machine Company, and the Rockford *Posten* Publishing Company. Mr. Lundgren's business career has been one of unalloyed prosperity, yet hard work has been the means of achieving this end. If he were not industrious and enterprising, he would not have won the success which has so richly crowned his efforts.

Our subject is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, whose life has been devoted to the interests of his adopted city, his church and his family. He is a member of the City School Board, and, in politics, is a stalwart Republican. He is also a staunch advocate of temperance principles, and one ever ready to aid in the bettering of humanity. His life has been well and worthily spent, and thereby he has won the esteem of all.



FRANK SHEIK. The life of this gentleman has been too short to give the biographical writer much to do in outlining it, but it gives the promise of filling an extended sphere of usefulness should life be spared. He is one of the prominent hardware merchants of Du-rand, where he has been in business for the past seven years, and during that time he has surrounded himself with friends whom he has gained by his upright character.

Born in Armstrong County, Pa., August 31, 1857, our subject is a son of Christian and Sarah (Troutman) Sheik, also natives of the Keystone State. The father was a farmer and in 1864 emigrated to Illinois and located in the village of Davis, Stephenson County, where he has since lived a retired life, being advanced in years. He has been three times married, the mother of our subject, who was his second wife, dying in 1874 at the age of fifty-two years. She bore him three

children: Frank; David, who resides in Janesville, Wis., and one who died in infancy.

Our subject came to the Prairie State with his parents and, when eleven years of age, left home to battle with the world on his own account. For six years he worked as a farm hand, at the end of which time he engaged as a dry-goods clerk at Durand, being engaged by several of the prominent merchants. He then launched out in the poultry trade, and in 1885 established his present business as a hardware merchant.

In 1884, Mr. Sheik and Miss Belle, daughter of Norman Judd, were united in marriage. The lady died seven weeks after her union, and in 1885 our subject chose for his second wife Mollie O., daughter of Humphrey and Calista Jennison, of Durand. She was born in this county, December 3, 1864, and has borne her husband two children: Harlan and Gertie. Mr. Sheik is a Republican in politics, and in local affairs has served as Treasurer of the Village Board and been a member of the Council. He is a go-ahead, enterprising citizen and is rapidly taking a position among the leading men of this community.



RILEY HALL. In the death of Mr. Hall, Rockford lost one of its oldest and most respected citizens. His life was one of usefulness, and in his demise the commercial and social world met with a serious loss. He embodied all those traits of character which endure men to their associates. He was broad minded, generous, kind hearted, true to his convictions and friends, and in every sense of the word an honest man. At the home which he established in Rockford he departed this life June 30, 1872, at the age of sixty-four.

Mr. Hall was born in Wallingford, New Haven County, Conn., April 1, 1808, the son of Reuben and Sallie (Miller) Hall. The father, who was a native of Connecticut, belonged to a thrifty New England family, and was extensively engaged in farming operations until his death at an advanced age. He was prominent in local affairs and was regarded with respect by all his associates. After

the death of his first wife, by whom he became the father of eight children, he married Keziah Beach.

The next to the youngest in the parental family was Riley, who was reared and gained his education in Connecticut, becoming thoroughly familiar with farming pursuits when he was a mere lad. In his early manhood, he removed to the South, taking with him a large number of books, which he succeeded in disposing of at a handsome profit. In the early part of the '30s, he came West to Illinois and purchased a tract of land in Ottawa, also property in Sycamore, which he entered from the Government. A few years later, he came to Winnebago County, where he purchased a large amount of property in Rockford Township, three miles from the city. There he improved nine hundred acres, of which he remained the owner until his death, and he also improved five hundred acres in Winnebago Township, becoming known as one of the largest and wealthiest property owners in the county.

In the progress of the Republican party, Mr. Hall took an active part, but would never consent to hold official positions, although he contributed in every other way within his power to the promotion of the welfare of the party to whose principles he adhered. He was united in marriage in the township of Rockford to Mrs. Janette (Holcombe) Holcombe, on the 14th of November, 1865. She was born in Hartford County, Conn., the daughter of Alexander and Tryphena (Thrall) Holcombe, natives of the same county as herself. Mrs. Hall was married to Talcott Holcombe August 3, 1834. He passed away August 3, 1847. To this union were born five children: two died in infancy; Ellen M., born April 29, 1838, died February 17, 1879; Caroline E., born June 7, 1841, married September 16, 1873, Thomas H. Brown; Thomas G., born June 7, 1846, died July 11, 1882; he served his country during the War of the Rebellion in Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Regiment. Mrs. Hall's parents resided on a farm in Connecticut until after the birth of their children, when they removed West to Geauga County, Ohio, and there engaged in improving a farm until the death of Mrs. Hol-

combe at the age of sixty-five. Afterward, Alexander Holcombe came to Illinois in 1854, and died in Winnebago County when three-score and ten. He was a successful man, a Whig in politics, and a member of the Episcopal Church. Prior to his removal from Connecticut, he served for fifteen years as Justice of the Peace.

When the Holcombe family removed to Ohio, the daughter Janette was sixteen years old, and she grew to womanhood in the Buckeye State, where she was united in marriage to Talcott Holcombe. The wedded life was terminated by the death of Mr. Holcombe in Trumbull County, Ohio, at the age of thirty-six years. Five children were born of the union, only one of whom now survives, Caroline E., wife of Thomas Henry Brown, a farmer of Rockford Township, and the mother of two children: Hermon H., who died, aged fifteen, and Pembroke. Mr. Brown was born in Benson, Vt., and was a son of Arthur and Jane (Dugan) Brown, also of Vermont. He came to DuPage County, Ill., in 1843, at the age of nine years, and to Rockford in 1856.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall became the parents of one child, Milie A., who died when fifteen years old. Mrs. Hall and her daughter, Mrs. Brown, are attendants at the Christian Union Church and sympathize with the progressive teachings of Dr. Kerr. Mrs. Hall resides with her daughter at the old homestead, No. 104 North West Street, Rockford.



ALONZO SMITH. The subject of this sketch was born in Madison County, N. Y., November 3, 1821. His father, Clark Smith, was born in Pennsylvania, March 31, 1780, and died January 17, 1852. He was married, November 3, 1816, to Mrs. Sabrina (Maurice) Morrow, who was born in New York State, March 7, 1789, and died July 31, 1870. Five children were born unto them, whose names were: Mary, James, Alonzo, Clark and Dwight.

Reared to farming pursuits, our subject naturally chose agriculture as his life occupation on starting out for himself. In 1845, his parents removed from Ohio to Illinois and, locating in Laona

Township, Winnebago County, there resided until called hence by death. Our subject had received a fair education and followed the profession of a teacher in the Buckeye State, and also after coming to Illinois. However, he devoted his attention principally to farming, and by persistent energy and intelligent management, had secured a handsome property at the time of his death.

November 13, 1851, Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Ann McClintic, who was born in Port Gibson, Ontario County, N. Y. She had one brother, Samuel, and seven sisters: Mary, Sarah, Nancy, Eliza, Mahalia, Thirsey and Lucinda. Her father, Samuel McClintic, was born in Hillsborough, N. Y., in 1790, and died at Solon, Ohio, in 1862. Her mother, Sarah Merdow, was likewise a native of Hillsborough, N. Y., who was born in 1794, and died in 1830, at Port Gibson, N. Y.

When a child of three years, Mrs. Smith was taken to Michigan by her father, and resided in that State until nineteen years of age in the family of her brother-in-law, Price B. Webster, at which time she accompanied his family to Winnebago County. Here she met and married Mr. Smith and with him made her home on sections 34 and 35, Laona Township, until the spring of 1889. Mr. Smith then removed to Durand and purchasing a lot in the village, erected thereon a substantial residence, in which he resided until his death, February 3, 1892. His farm comprised one hundred and forty-one and a half acres, on which he had erected all the necessary buildings, and was successfully engaged in general agriculture.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith were born two children: Charlie M. and Lettie E. The son, who was born March 1, 1853, was married, April 12, 1875, to Mary Sarver, whose birth occurred October 23, 1853, and they became the parents of two children, Ethel M. and Carrie B. They resided in Laona Township until February 18, 1886, at which time they removed to Creighton, Neb., and there he was engaged in the combined occupation of farmer and liveryman at the time of his death, October 3, 1889. The daughter Lettie resides with her mother. She was given a good education in the schools of Laona and Durand Townships, in which places she has taught twenty terms.

In political matters, Mr. Smith voted with the Republican party until 1876, and afterward cast his ballot for the man whom he considered would best fill the office, regardless of party ties. In township affairs, he was very popular and was made the recipient of all positions within the power of the people to bestow, including the office of Supervisor which he held a number of years. He took an interest in public improvements of the county, and in the leading topics of the times, and received from his fellow-citizens the respect to which his virtues entitled him.



MICHAEL JOYCE (deceased). Nature seems to have intended Mr. Joyce for a long and more than ordinarily useful life, but, alas for human hopes and expectations, when but little past the prime of life his career was closed forever. Of great energy and much ability, he was not long in securing a comfortable home, and in every way he was a most worthy man, a kind father and a considerate husband.

Like most of the residents of Rockford, Mr. Joyce was of foreign nativity, born in County Tipperary, Ireland, in 1836, and he was but a small boy when his parents and the family emigrated to the States. They settled in the old Bay State. The father, John Joyce, was also a native of County Tipperary, Ireland, and was a tiller of the soil all his life. He remained with his family in Massachusetts until in the '50s, when he went to Wisconsin and there continued his former occupation in Green County until his death on the 23d of December, 1875, when well along in years. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Burk, died one week later. She was born about the same time and in the same county as her husband. All their lives had been passed as devoted members of the Catholic Church, and they were worthy and most excellent people. They were the parents of two sons and four daughters, the sons now deceased.

After he grew up, our subject became a me-

chanic, and when his parents moved to Green County, Wis., he accompanied them, and subsequently was married in Janesville, of that State, to Miss Maria Torpey, who was born in Galway, Ireland, August 15, 1844. She was a daughter of John and Mary (Cunningham) Torpey, natives of County Galway, Ireland, in which county they were married. After the birth of three children, the parents came to the United States, early in the '50s, and settled in New York State, where Mr. Torpey was engaged as a section boss on a railroad in that State. A few years later, they moved to Madison County, Wis., and then to Footville, of that State, where Mr. Torpey passed the closing scenes of his life, his death occurring in January, 1892, when eighty-two years of age. He was a healthy and well-preserved man almost to the last. His wife is yet living, is quite well, and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Joyce, in Rockford. She is now eighty years of age and is a member of the Catholic Church. Her husband was also a member of that church. They were the parents of eight children, four sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to mature years.

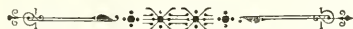
Michael Joyce remained in Wisconsin a short time after his marriage, and in 1863 came to Rockford, Ill. He followed his trade for a number of years and about 1878 associated himself with James Walsh in the liquor and grocery business at No. 201 South Main Street. A few years later, they dissolved partnership. Mr. Joyce embarking in business on his own account, and he was very successful, subsequently purchasing a large business house, a three-story brick, on South Main Street, the same being very valuable at the present time, and in a fine location. He also purchased a fine residence at No. 1005 Third Avenue. Failing health caused him to retire from business in 1877, and on the 18th of October, 1888, he passed away.

After his death the business was taken up by his sons, Edward and John, and has been carried on successfully ever since, under the management of the wife and mother, Mrs. Joyce, who shows decided business ability. She is the mother of thirteen children, two of whom are deceased, Isabella and Lillian. Those living are: John W., with



Otto Lammert

the brother in the business left by the father; Henry M., now of Chicago; Edward P., in the business left by the father; Mary, George J., Frank M., Margaret E., Agnes E., Laura C., Joseph P., and Charles B., all but one at home. All the family are members of the St. James Catholic Church, and the father was a Democrat in politics while living.



OTTO CRONWELL. The prosperous merchant-tailoring establishment at No. 310 South Main Street, Rockford, has been conducted by Mr. Cronwell since 1887 and the enterprise is attended with marked success. The proprietor is a first-class practical cutter and tailor, and the garments produced are remarkable for their elegance of fit, quality and durability. He is perfectly honorable in all his dealings and treats his customers with equity and fairness.

Mr. Cronwell was born near Skane, Sweden, on the 23d of August, 1862, and passed his youth in his native land. In 1881, he emigrated to the United States with his brother August, and during the same year came to Rockford, where for a time he was engaged with a mitten company. Later, he filled the position of Superintendent for the glove and mitten department of the Rockford Mitten Company. Subsequently, he succeeded his brother, August Cronwell, who is now on Seventh Street in business as a merchant tailor. Another brother, C. Alfred, who was the first of the family to come to this country, is a mechanic and resides in California. Two other brothers, N. Ivar and Barnhardt J., are tailors in Chicago. A sister, Ida C., wife of Nils Nelson, now resides on Fourth Avenue, Rockford, and two other sisters, Selma and Hulda, are also residents of this city. There is one sister in Sweden, Esther N.

The parents of these children, Johanes and Kjersti (Pearson) Cronwell, are now residing in their native country, Sweden, and the father owns a large shoemaking establishment, working from four to five hands all the time. Both hold membership in the Lutheran Church.

Otto Cronwell chose his life companion in the

person of Miss Mary Roslin, a native of Sweden, born October 22, 1862. She came to this country in 1882, to join her parents, who had crossed the ocean sixteen years previously, and settled with them in Byron, Ogle County, Ill. The father and mother passed away in that county. To Mr. and Mrs. Cronwell have been born three interesting children: Agnes V., Ruth A. and Martha. Mr. Cronwell and his wife are well liked by all acquainted with them and are prominent young people of the city. Both are members of the Swedish Mission Church. In politics, our subject advocates the principles of the Prohibition party. He has made most of his property since coming to Rockford, and, aside from his business on Main Street, is the owner of a good home at No. 1013 Kishwaukee Street, besides other property on Seventh Street, one of the leading Swedish business streets in the city.

A portrait of Mr. Cronwell is presented in connection with this sketch of his life.



AUGUST PETERSON, one of the self-made men and a leading citizen of Rockford, was born in Sweden in 1854, and there his parents spent their entire lives, passing away when about sixty years of age. They were both members of the Swedish Lutheran Church. Those of the family who are now residents of this country are D. R., whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; G. A., a merchant of Wakefield, Neb., and Augusta M., wife of F. A. Wall, a contractor and builder of Rockford.

Our subject spent his early life in his native country, but when a lad of fifteen summers bade good-bye to home and friends and crossed the briny deep, sailing from Gottenburg in June, 1869. The vessel at length dropped anchor in the harbor of New York, whence Mr. Peterson came to Chicago and afterward to Rockford, where for some time he attended the schools in this place. After attaining to mature years, he chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss E. Amanda Johnson, a native of this city and a daughter of S. A. Johnson, whose life record appears elsewhere in this volume. She acquired her

education in the Rockford schools and is an accomplished and cultured lady. The family circle numbers Mr. Peterson, his wife and three children: Edna B. A., Ruth E. and Eleanora C.

Since the Central Furniture Company was established in 1879, Mr. Peterson has been one of its stockholders and for the past three years has been its Secretary and Treasurer, S. A. Johnson being the President. One hundred and twenty-five men find employment in the factory which is located on Water Power. Other interests also engross the attention of our subject. For five years he was a commercial traveler and in that way has seen much of this country. He is now a stockholder in the Rockford Chair and Furniture Company, the Rockford Mantel and Furniture Company and the Star Furniture Company, of which he is a Director and Treasurer. He is likewise a member of the Swedish Building and Loan Association. During the twenty-three years of his residence here, he has lived a life that has won him the respect and esteem of all and gained him many friends. He has proved a valued citizen of the community and one who has taken an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of Rockford. His business career has been a successful one, and as the result of his own industrious efforts, he has acquired a good competence.



HORACE J. ROLASON, who is classed among the well-to-do agriculturists of Winnebago County, has been a resident here since December, 1855. A native of New Jersey, he was born April 27, 1827, in Sussex County, and is a son of William and Eveline (Corellius) Rolason. The Rolason family in the United States are descended from Charles Rolason, who came to America from Liverpool, England, many years ago. That gentleman made his home in Boston, where he was married and reared a family of two sons and one daughter: Isaiah, Henry and Mary.

Isaiah Rolason, the grandfather of our subject, was a farmer and a patriot in the Revolutionary War. He reared a family of eight children who

bore the respective names of John, Peter, William, James, Mary, Katie, Anna and Sarah, the two latter twins, and died at an advanced age in Sussex County. Of those children, William, the father of our subject, was born December 31, 1788, and on reaching mature years chose the occupation of a farmer. He served six months in the War of 1812, being stationed at Hoboken, N. J. The elder Mr. Rolason resided in his native State until his decease, which occurred June 2, 1836. His wife survived him many years, passing away in 1861. They were both members of the Congregational Church, in which denomination the father was an Elder.

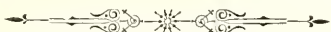
The original of this sketch was one in a family of four children, his brother and sisters being Asa, who died in Mansfield, Pa.; Maria, who married Benjamin Crain, resides in Sussex County, N. J.; and Martha, Mrs. Henry Cole, who passed away in the above-named State and county. Horace J. was given an education in the common schools and was reared to the occupation of a farmer, which business he has followed successfully his entire life. January 1, 1853, he was married to Mary Jane, daughter of John and Phoebe Van Sickle. She was born in Sussex County, N. J., October 24, 1835, and has become the mother of five children: Ella, born April 5, 1854, married David Place and makes her home in Durand where she has a family of two children, Jesse E. and Vida; Ida was born March 14, 1856; Lillie, born Oct. 12, 1858, married Eugene Hoyt and is the mother of a son, Ralph E.; John V. was born August 24, 1861, and Horace B., September 12, 1865.

Mr. Rolason made several trips to the West before locating here and in 1850 purchased land in Richland County, Wis., which he sold in the spring of 1856 and then removed to Illinois, passing the winter in Peatonica. In the spring, he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he improved and resided upon until May, 1881, at which time he came to Durand. His first possessions in this county included one hundred and forty-three acres adjoining the village, to which he has since added until he is now the proprietor of an estate including two hundred and seventy-two broad acres. He is engaged in mixed husbandry and by

a proper rotation of crops reaps a handsome income from the soil.

In political affairs, our subject votes with the Republican party, although he is in full sympathy with the temperance movement. He has held many of the local offices and socially is a member of Durand Lodge No. 302, A. F. and A. M. He is connected by membership with the Presbyterian Church, in which body he is an active worker.

Mr. Rolason, in company with his sons, is interested in breeding Poland-China hogs, Jersey and Durham cattle and road and draft horses in which they are meeting with more than ordinary success.



HERMON THAYER. This gentleman, who has done much for the growth and development of Winnebago County, is at present residing in Rockford, while at the same time he superintends the operation of his farm in Rockford Township. He has made his home in the city since 1855, and is now taking his ease, so far as labor for sustenance is concerned.

The natal day of our subject was November 17, 1829, and the place of his birth Springfield, Vt. His father, William Thayer, was born in Rockingham, Windham County, Vt., while his father, who also bore the name of William, was a native of Taunton, Mass.

The grandfather of our subject removed from Taunton to Rockingham, Vt., in 1790, where he purchased a tract of timber land, erected a log house and cleared his farm, making that place his home for a number of years. He later removed to Springfield, where he established a tannery, continuing in that line of work until his decease. The old home in Rockingham is now occupied by Mrs. Sarah Albee, a sister of our subject.

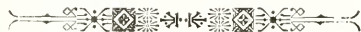
William Thayer, Jr., learned the trade of a tanner and currier from his father, which he prosecuted in Springfield, but later, in 1833, returned to Rockingham and settled on the old homestead, where he engaged in farming and lived until his decease. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Joslyn; she was born in Walpole, N. H., and was a daughter of Peter and Sarah (Kidder) Johnson.

Our subject was reared and educated in his native State, where he resided until 1835, at which time he came to Winnebago County, and commenced life here working out on farms by the month. Very soon, however, he was enabled to purchase property of his own, and became the possessor of forty acres in Owen Township. Being single, he did not locate on his purchase, and two years later disposed of it, and in 1861 bought a farm of two hundred and fourteen acres on sections 3 and 4, Rockford Township, upon which he made his home until 1881, at which time he moved into the city. He later purchased an adjoining seventy-five acres in Owen Township.

Miss Harriet Whitney and Hermon Thayer were united in marriage October 18, 1866. The lady was born in Rockingham, Vt., August 6, 1831, where also her father, John G. Whitney, was born in 1808. Her grandfather, who also bore the name of John, was, it is believed, a native of Rockingham, and the great-grandfather, the Rev. Samuel Whitney, hailed from Taunton. The latter-named gentleman was a minister in the Congregational Church, and one of the pioneers of Rockingham, where he was pastor of the church of that denomination. The maiden name of his wife, the great-grand mother of Mrs. Thayer, was Goldsbury; she was a native of England. The grandfather was reared and educated in his native town, and was a farmer by occupation; he died when a young man. His wife, who before her marriage was Phebe Locke, was born in the same town as was Mr. Whitney, and was the daughter of Ebenezer Locke, a native of Taunton, and one of the early pioneers of Rockingham, where he improved and resided upon a farm until his decease. The father of Mrs. Thayer learned the trade of a shoemaker, but after his marriage purchased a farm three-quarters of a mile from the village of Saxton's River and farmed for two or three years, when he sold and located upon the old homestead which he inherited from his father, where he sojourned for the succeeding ten or twelve years. At the end of that time, disposing of the estate, he became the proprietor of another tract of land near the village of Saxton's River, and, living there a few years, later bought another farm, which he occupied until, on account

of old age, he sold. He now resides with his daughter, Mrs. Mary Weston, at Upper Meadows, in the Connecticut River Valley. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of Mrs. Thayer, was Harriet Harlow; she was born in Springfield, Vt., and was the daughter of David and Betsey (Stocker) Harlow. She died in 1831, and Mr. Whitney married Crissana Bailey.

The wife of our subject was reared and educated in her native town, and later attended the academy at Saxton's River. She commenced teaching school when eighteen years of age, and remained with her parents until her marriage in 1864. Two children, William W. and Mary W., have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thayer. In politics, our subject casts a Republican vote. Mrs. Thayer, while on a visit to her father at Upper Meadows, Connecticut River, Rockingham, Vt., passed away from this life, April 1, 1892.



L EVI G. HAYWARD. Agricultural pursuits have formed the chief occupation of this gentleman, and the wide-awake manner in which he has taken advantage of every method and idea tending towards the enhanced value of his property has had considerable to do with his success in life. Mr. Hayward was born in Weybridge, Vt., September 25, 1814, and was one of six children born to Edwin and Lucy A. (Warner) Hayward, the former a native of North Bridgewater, Mass., and the latter of Cornwall, Vt. Mrs. Hayward's parents were Dan and Eliza (Goodrich) Warner, of Cornwall, Addison County, where the father of our subject followed farming until his death. Mrs. Hayward still survives him, and resides with her daughter in Chicago. Although she numbers seventy-four years, she is still vigorous and bright mentally. Mr. Hayward's paternal grandfather was Asaph Hayward, of North Bridgewater, Mass., where he followed the cabinet-maker's trade, and where he reared a large family of children. He died at Weybridge, Vt., when about ninety years of age. His wife's maiden name was Polly Drake, and she was of the same place. She was also about ninety years of age at the time of her death.

When Grandfather Hayward removed from Massachusetts to Vermont he went horseback and carried the tall eight-day clock, by which the sun rose and set for many years, so the neighbors said, and when he inquired the way of a man, the latter said, "You are the first man I ever saw carrying his own movement." This old relic still exists. Our subject has in his possession the family record, in his father's writing, and recorded with a quill pen.

The father of our subject followed the occupation of a farmer all his life, and accumulated a handsome competency. He died on the 4th of June, 1854, when fifty-one years of age, and left a widow and six children, three sons and three daughters, viz.: Azel D., Harriet F., Levi G., Laura A., Miner W., and Susan M., all now living but the eldest, Azel D., who died in the United States service, having been a volunteer from Roscoe. He was in the Seventy-second Illinois Infantry, served three years, but was taken sick with a fever and died at Natchez, Miss., July 23, 1864, when but twenty-five years of age. The mother of these children came West from Vermont in the fall of 1855, settled on sixty acres in section 3, Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, and paid \$60 per acre for this. Her eldest son was then fifteen years of age, and she took particular pains to give each one every advantage for an education, sending them to academies and colleges. As before mentioned, the eldest son was in the Civil War, leaving Beloit College to enlist. The home place is now occupied by Miner W.

Levi G. Hayward was also in the Beloit College when his eldest brother enlisted, and he was left to take charge of the farm. Since then agricultural pursuits have been his chosen calling and he has met with a fair degree of success. He was married in Cornwall, Vt., March 10, 1868, to Miss Sarah J. Baxter, whose parents died when she was a child. Mr. and Mrs. Hayward continued on the homestead for four years, and then purchased a farm of one hundred and thirty-two acres adjoining that farm, paying \$50 per acre for it, but going in debt for most of the land. By economy and industry they soon paid off the indebtedness, and now own some city property. Mr. and Mrs. Hayward are



Z. A. CAMPBELL.

members of the Congregational Church of Beloit, in which he has been Deacon for eleven years, and, in politics, he is a staunch Republican. To their marriage have been born four children, two sons and two daughters: L. Grace, Edwin B., Henry H., and Ruth P. The eldest child is a Sophomore in Mt. Holyoke (Mass.) College, and the remainder are at home.



ZENO A. CAMPBELL. Although our subject has passed to the land beyond, he is remembered by the citizens of Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County, as a man of a progressive and enterprising spirit, as well as a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of that section. His death October 31, 1891, was deeply mourned by those among whom he had lived and labored during his entire active life.

A native of this county, our subject was born January 14, 1843, and was therefore still in life's prime when his death occurred. His father, who was born in 1812, is still living; his mother, whose birth took place February 10, 1820, passed from the scenes of earth October 31, 1891. Their family numbered four children, namely: Zeno A., Adeline A., Arba Z. and Louis.

After passing his boyhood days in much the usual manner of farmer lads amid rural scenes, alternating study in the pioneer schools with work at home, Mr. Campbell was married, December 29, 1864, to Miss Kate C. Hulse. This lady was born in Rock Run Township, Stephenson County, Ill., February 20, 1842, and is a daughter of Henry and Susan (Glynn) Hulse. Her father was born in 1818, and departed this life in Iowa, in 1848; her mother is still living. For further particulars in regard to their lives, we refer the reader to the sketch of Joshua Hulse, found on another page of this volume.

Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, of whom the following may be mentioned: Walton H., born in Winnebago County, December 26, 1866; Merton D., born October 9, 1876; and Vida, June 15, 1883. The eldest son was married to Miss Nellie, daughter of David Mitchell, and

they are the parents of two children, David M. and Jeanie.

In politics, Mr. Campbell was a strong Republican, and held many positions of trust among his fellow-townsmen. He was a general farmer by occupation, making a specialty of stock-raising and keeping on his place some splendid animals. In his agricultural operation, he introduced modern methods, and the latest improved machinery, hence success rewarded his efforts. Socially, he was a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and enjoyed the acquaintance of the best citizens of Pecatonica Township.

In connection with this sketch of the life of Mr. Campbell, we present his portrait to our readers.



A. T. TORBERT, a retired farmer residing in Rockford, claims Pennsylvania as the State of his nativity. He was born in Bucks County, not far from Philadelphia, in 1834, and is one of seven children, five of whom are yet living. The parents were James and Mary S. (Simpson) Torbert, who spent their entire lives in Bucks County, their native place. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Torbert served as Elder for some years. His wife was a member of the Simpson family, from which U. S. Grant was descended. The grandfather, James Torbert, Sr., was a native of Bucks County, and was of Scotch lineage. He married a Miss McNair, who was similarly descended, and both died in the Keystone State, when well advanced in years. They, too, were adherents of the Presbyterian Church.

Our subject is the only member of the family residing in Illinois. The days of his boyhood were spent under the paternal roof and in attendance at the public schools, and when a young man he emigrated Westward, to try his fortune upon the broad prairies of Illinois. He located in Ogle County, and in Rockford was united in marriage with Miss Jane E. St. John, who was born in New York, and came with her parents to this State in 1855. Her father, L. St. John, who was a successful farmer, is now deceased. His wife, whose

maiden name was Mary A. Pollock, died in Winnebago, at about the age of seventy-eight years. She was a member of the Methodist Church and the mother of four children: Mrs. Torbert of this sketch; James, who is married and follows farming in Rockford Township; Mrs. Annie Mellen, of Winnebago County; and Mary, who resides in this county.

Four children have also graced the union of our subject and his wife: Ettie, wife of William Sommers, who is operating the Torbert homestead in Ogle County; Mary, wife of Walter Howland, of Rockford; Belle, wife of John Delbridge, a farmer of De Kalb County, Ill.; and Edith, at home.

Mr. Torbert has been a resident of Illinois since 1855. He resided in Winnebago for some years and then removed to Ogle County, where he purchased his first land in Dement Township. From a humble position he has worked his way upward to one of affluence. By his industry and enterprise he placed his land under a high state of cultivation, thus making it very valuable, and in connection with general farming he engaged in the breeding of Norman horses. He is now a member of the Creston Horse Company, which owns some fine Normans, and he yet has in his possession some five hundred acres of valuable land in Ogle County, which yields him a good income. Recently, he came to Rockford, and now resides at his beautiful home on West State Street, enjoying the rest which he has so truly earned and richly deserves.



JAMES O. GREGORY, a retired hardware merchant of Rockford, is a native of Delaware County, N. Y. He was born in 1821, and was the fourth in a family of six sons and three daughters, but he and Jehiel, a retired druggist of St. Paul, Minn., are the only two brothers now living. The parents were Aaron and Mary (Bailey) Gregory, the former a native of the Empire State, and the latter of Connecticut. The grandfather, Abijah Gregory, was born in Connecticut and was of English descent. He married Miss Mollie Thorp and afterward removed to New

York, where he died at an advance age. His wife survived him some years and passed away at the age of eighty-seven. Both were members of the Baptist Church.

The father of our subject was a farmer in early life and afterwards carried on business in New York City as a butter commission merchant. In 1842, he emigrated to Illinois, whither his sons had come the year previous, and located in Harlem Township. During the succeeding summer, he was accidentally killed while trying to stop a run-away team. He was then fifty-three years of age. His wife survived him some nineteen years and died in Roscoe, Ill., at the age of seventy-two. They held membership with the Methodist Church and were a worthy and respected couple.

The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm in Delaware and Ulster Counties, N. Y., and was subsequently employed for three years as a salesman. He first came to Winnebago County when eighteen years of age, with his brother Harvey. They entered land from the Government in Harlem Township, built a small log cabin and began to make improvements, subsequently converting it into a fine farm. In 1868, however, our subject abandoned agriculture and with two brothers-in-law, John and Charles Greenlee, purchased a stock of goods and established a hardware store in Belvidere, under the firm name of Greenlee Brothers & Co. They continued business until 1871, when Mr. Gregory sold out and the following year came to Rockford. In 1873, he began business as a hardware merchant of this city on West State Street, where he carried on operations for twelve years, when he was succeeded by Mr. Van Arnhem, an old settler, still engaged in that trade. Mr. Gregory is now a stockholder, and was formerly a Director, of the Rockford Woolen Mills; he also owned stock in the Rockford Watch Company and was one of the promoters of the Chicago & Iowa Railroad, now owned by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, but does not now own stock in that enterprise.

Mr. Gregory was married in this county to Miss Janet Greenlee, a native of Argykeshire, Scotland, born near Campbelltown, in 1832. She is a daughter of John Greenlee, who was born at Kintyre,

Argyleshire. The grandfather, George Greenlee, spent his entire life on a farm in that county and died at the age of eighty years. His father, John Greenlee, reached the advanced age of ninety years. The family was one of prominence and had the coat of arms of a baron. In the fifteenth century, the ancestors emigrated from France to Scotland, and there became Presbyterians. John Greenlee was the only son in a family of five children. He became a well-informed man and throughout his life followed farming. He married Miss Helen Brown, of the same county, and after the birth of most of their children they emigrated to America, in 1836, sailing from Liverpool to New York. They came to Illinois and purchased unbroken land on the dividing line between Winnebago and Boone Counties, in Caledonia Township. Mr. Greenlee built a log cabin and became the founder of the Scotch settlement in this community. He was very prominent in public affairs and proved himself a valued and highly-respected citizen. He did much for the development and upbuilding of the county and well deserves mention in this volume. He and his wife were among the founders, and were charter members, of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church. Mr. Greenlee was an Abolitionist and a Republican and took an active part in political affairs, but never sought preferment for himself. His high Christian character and sterling worth won him the love of all. He died December 30, 1883, at the age of ninety one years and four months, leaving a host of friends. His wife died in March, 1865, at an advanced age.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gregory have been born five children, but two are now deceased. John, a promising young man, was employed as a commercial traveler for a large wholesale house in Chicago at the time of his death; Mary died in childhood; Helen M. is a graduate of the Rockford Seminary; Wilbur J., a graduate of the Rockford High School, and also of the classical department of the Michigan State University, was Cashier of a bank in Arapahoe, Neb., for four years and is now Cashier of the Manistee County Savings Bank of Manistee, Mich.; Elizabeth Greenlee, the youngest, a graduate of the Musical Conservatory of Rockford, is now engaged in teach-

ing music. The Gregory family is one prominent in social circles, and the young people take quite an active part in society matters. The parents are both members of the Court Street Methodist Church, and in politics, Mr. Gregory is a Republican. They reside at their pleasant home at No. 601 North Horsman Street, and are highly esteemed people of this city.



WILLIAM A. BOYD, M. D. This gentleman, who stands high in the professional and social circles of Winnebago County, is at present residing in Rockford, where he is held in high esteem by all who know him. He was born in Linlithgowshire, Scotland, December 11, 1841, and is the son of John Boyd, who was also born in that shire, as was his father, John Boyd, Sr. The latter-named gentleman was a descendant of Lord Boyd, of Kilmarnock, who espoused the cause of Charles Stuart, in consequence of which his estate was confiscated and he was beheaded.

The grandfather of our subject was a farmer and spent his entire life in Scotland. The maiden name of his wife was Janet Ellen Boyd, who although bearing the same name was no relation; she departed this life in Scotland. John Boyd, Jr., learned the trade of a shoemaker, which business he carried on for upwards of forty years, spending his entire life in his native land. In 1839, he embarked on a vessel bound for America, which was wrecked and eighty lives lost; he never attempted the voyage again. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Janet Allan; she was born in the same shire in Scotland as was her husband, and there spent her last days. She was the daughter of John and Janet Allan and bore her husband the following seven children: Margaret, John, Janet, George, William, Marion and Mary. Of these, Janet, George, William and Mary came to America.

William A. Boyd of this sketch was reared in his native shire and remained with his parents until reaching his eighteenth year, when, March 27, 1861, he set sail from Liverpool on the steamer "City of Edinburgh" and landed in New York the

following month. He remained in Brooklyn six weeks, then came West to Wisconsin, where his uncles, McNair, James and Thomas Boyd, resided. He worked for the former-named gentleman until October, when he enlisted for three years in the First Wisconsin Infantry. Among the important battles in which he was engaged were Stone River, Chickamauga, and all the engagements of the Fourteenth Army Corps, up to and including the siege and capture of Atlanta. He was appointed Orderly-Sergeant in 1864, and was honorably discharged at the expiration of his term of service, when he returned to Milwaukee and attended school for three months. January 30, 1865, however, he enlisted in the Ninth Regiment United States Veterans and served his adopted country until January 30, 1866.

At the close of the Civil War, the original of this sketch returned to his native land, where he remained two years amid the scenes of his boyhood, but, feeling that he could gain both fame and fortune for himself, he again came to Milwaukee, determined to make a success of his life in the New World. He was appointed letter-carrier, and continued in the service of the Government in different departments for ten years, during that time being appointed to the position of Superintendent of carriers. He resigned that office in 1878, in order to devote his time and attention to the study of medicine, it being his desire to become a physician.

Dr. Boyd began his medical studies under the instruction of Dr. Willis Danforth, of Milwaukee, and in the fall of 1878 entered the Chicago Homeopathic College, being graduated in the fall of 1880. He commenced the practice of his profession at Baraboo, Wis., where he remained for two years and then came to Rockford, where he has since been a continuous resident. In 1880, Dr. Boyd was married to Mary A. Leamon, a native of Ohio.

The Doctor is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and is also prominently connected with the Illinois and State Homeopathic Associations. He is a member of Star of the East Lodge No. 166, A. F. & A. M., Winnebago Chapter No. 24, and Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T. He is at

the present time Health Commissioner of Rockford, and for four years was a member of the Board of Pension Examiners. Dr. Boyd stands very high in social circles and is the incumbent of the position of President of the Burns Club.

In regard to the Doctor's politics, we extract the following from an interview published in the *Gazette*. "No sir, I am not a Democrat" said Dr. Boyd to the reporter. "I have a liking for the term Mugwump, which our Republican friends invented for us last year. I think I am a Mugwump in politics, medicine, and religion. If in politics to be a Mugwump is to prefer principle above party, and integrity of character rather than political regularity, then I am a political Mugwump. If in religion to be a Mugwump is to prefer honest investigation, rational conclusions, and that which goes to the making of better men and women, then I am a Mugwump; and in medicine, if to be a Mugwump is to prefer that which seems to be for the best interest of the patient without stopping to inquire to what school it belongs, then I am a Mugwump in medicine."



AXEL DAHLQUIST, who represents the Rockford Painting and Decorating Co. of No. 111 South Third Street, has followed this business for the past three years, and for about two years he was Secretary of that company. He came to Rockford in 1873, was for six years a groceryman of Seventh Street, his being the first grocery on that now busy street, and he has ever been one of the live, thorough-going business men of the city. Since that time he has been engaged in painting and decorating. For one year after coming to this country he was with Mr. Almena, the prominent State Street painter.

Axel Dahlquist was born in Wester Gotland, Sweden, November 10, 1845, and was but fourteen years of age when he went to Stockholm to serve a five-years' apprenticeship at his trade. When twenty-six years of age, he bade farewell to home and friends, crossed the ocean to the United States, and arrived in New York City on the 8th of



GEORGE A. PETTENGILL.

August, 1872. He was then a single man, and the first of his family to come to America. His parents, Adam and Eve Dahlquist, died in Sweden, both when about sixty-seven years of age. They had been members of the Lutheran Church for many years. A son and daughter of this worthy couple were brought to this country by our subject, and the former, A. T. Dahlquist, is now a photographer of Duluth, Minn. The daughter, Minnie, married Frank Long, and now resides in Rockford.

Our subject was married, in 1873, to Miss Lotta Bargo, a native of North Land, Sweden, born December 12, 1845. She was left fatherless when young, but her mother is still living and is the wife of Thomas Haves, whom she married in Chicago, Ill. The father was a sailor, and died of cholera in Southern waters. Children have been denied Mr. and Mrs. Dahlquist, but they have adopted two: Gus, who is at home, and a carver by trade, and May M., a bright little girl of eight. Mrs. Dahlquist is a devout member of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Dahlquist is a sound Democrat in politics. He is also a member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Select Knights.



GEORGE A. PETTENGILL, deceased, a prominent farmer for many years of Durand Township, Winnebago County, held an important place among the business men of his section and materially aided in placing it on a sound financial basis. He was born in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19, 1820, and was the son of James and Betsey Pettengill, for a further sketch of whom the reader is referred to the biography of John F. Pettengill.

In the fall of 1837, our subject followed the tide of emigration toward the Mississippi Valley, and came alone to Chicago, being the first member of the family circle who came West. After spending the winter in Chicago, he proceeded thence to the Fox River, where he was employed during the summer of 1838. His next removal was to Durand, where he was married, January 1, 1848, to

Sibyl Herring. He with his wife located on section 22, which he had entered from the Government, and began the work of placing it under good cultivation. So successful was he, that at his death, which occurred March 19, 1890, he owned one hundred and seventy-five acres of excellent land, which bore all the improvements in the way of substantial buildings and useful machinery that are generally to be found on estates of men of enterprise. Mr. Pettengill was for many years a staunch Republican but during the latter period of his life supported the Prohibition party, in whose ranks he was an untiring and influential worker. He was held in high esteem throughout the community and his friends will notice with pleasure the accompanying portrait.

The two children born to Mr. and Mrs. Pettengill are Warren G., born February 21, 1854, who married Miss Grace A. Coulton and has three children: Martha Sibyl, Charlie and Ralph A.; and Granville, born October 1, 1864, married Mary Gary and is the father of three children: Everett G., Averill J. and Sibyl Kate. Mrs. Pettengill was born in Waterford, Me., May 13, 1827, and is the daughter of John and Mercy (Haskell) Herring. Her father had his birth in New Gloucester, Me., February 19, 1788, in which State his father, Benjamin Herring, was a pioneer. The father of the latter-named gentleman was a sea-captain, who on one of his trips took his son Benjamin with him. The latter, who was then quite a lad, begged hard to be taken home, and resolved then and there never to leave dry land again. He obtained a handsome fortune in farming pursuits, and died at the age of eighty-four years.

The father of Mrs. Pettengill was a mechanic and came West to Illinois June 30, 1838. Purchasing a tract of land in Durand Township, he there made his home until his decease, which occurred when ninety years of age; the mother departed this life in her eighty-third year. The record of the brothers and sisters of Mrs. Pettengill, all of whom were born in Oxford County, Me., is as follows: Julia, born January 10, 1814, married Frederick Krune, and died in Iowa; Mercy H., born October 4, 1815, became the wife of Price B. Webster and died in Durand. John R., born March 30,

1818, was a prominent man in Winnebago County, and was the first surveyor in and around Durand, spending the winter of 1838-39 in that occupation. A Republican in politics, he has been the recipient of many positions of trust and honor, and is at present an influential citizen of Ransom City, N. Dak. George H., whose birth occurred July 13, 1820, departed this life in Wichita, Kan.; Granville, born May 27, 1823, makes his home in Colorado; and Benjamin, who was born June 30, 1825, resides in Iowa, where he has been successfully engaged in farming pursuits. George and Granville owned good farms in Durand and were successful farmers.



JAMES McAFFEE was originally from the Keystone State, born in Bradford County in August, 1827, and his father, Alexander McAffee, was also a native of that State but was born in Northumberland County in 1798. The elder Mr. McAffee married Miss Jane McCarty, of Lycoming County, Pa., born at Muncy in 1800, and one of thirteen children. The result of this union was nine children, four sons and five daughters, two of whom died in early childhood. Of the seven that grew to adult years, only four now survive, and they are Amanda, now Mrs. Henry A. Falmestock, at Waverly, Iowa; Mary A., widow of Melvin J. Wood, resides in Roscoe, Ill.; Edwin, a farmer of Audubon County, Iowa, and our subject, who is the eldest of the family. The parents of these children came West from Pennsylvania in October, 1838, made the journey with teams, and landed in Roscoe on the 31st of January, 1839. While on the way to this State, they were in Michigan, near South Bend, Ind., for a short time, and the father and his brother John came on to Roscoe Township, where they bought a claim of four hundred acres one-half mile from the (then) village of Roscoe. They paid \$400 for this tract, and, although fifteen acres had been cultivated, there was no house on it. They immediately erected a double log house and then returned for the family. Here the father passed the remainder of his days, dying of an abscess in March, 1852, when not quite fifty four years of age. His wife remained a widow

and survived him twenty-six years, keeping the family together until about 1870, when she went to live with her daughter. About this time, the old place was sold for \$4,500. Mrs. McAffee died in March, 1878, when about seventy-eight years of age, her death occurring in Iowa, where she was visiting her daughter.

James McAffee, subject of this sketch, and his brother Edwin were volunteers in the Civil War. The former enlisted in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry as a Sergeant, August, 1862, and was discharged for disability in January of the following year. He and his brothers and sisters were all fairly educated, and our subject, being a man of observation and study, has not allowed his ideas to rust out, but is well informed on all subjects and is thoroughly apace with the times. After the death of his father, he carried on the farm and was married to Miss Abmeda McCausland, of Ridott, Ill., but a native of Canada. Her father was William McCausland. Mrs. McAffee passed away in 1856, leaving one daughter, Meda, who is a resident of Iowa at the present time. Mr. McAffee's second marriage was to Miss Margaret L. Cross, a native of Roscoe, born in that city (or rather town at that time) in 1839. Her father, Robert J. Cross, was a native of Newburgh, N. Y., but moved to near Detroit, Mich., in 1825 and thence to Coldwater in 1830. Five years later, he came to Roscoe, Ill., where he became a successful agriculturist. He was quite a prominent man in the county and held many positions of trust and honor. He was the first County Commissioner appointed in 1836 and was the first County Treasurer appointed by the County Commissioners, serving in that capacity for three years. In 1846, he was elected by the Whigs of Winnebago County to represent them in the General Assembly, and in 1846 and 1847 he was a colleague of Judge Church to revise the Constitution of the State. In 1872, he was a member of the convention to again revise the State Constitution. He was a profound thinker, a deep reasoner, and one of the ablest men the county has ever had. He died in February, 1873, when sixty-nine years of age, and was at that time a member of the General Assembly from Winnebago and Boone Counties. His

wife and four children still survive him. One son, John, is in Kansas; Margaret L. became the wife of our subject; William Henry is a Congregational minister of California, and Lewis is a farmer of Iowa. The mother of these children was born July 21, 1812, and, although nearly eighty years of age, is as bright mentally as ever, but her physical condition is not of the best.

Mr. and Mrs. McAfee have been farmers in this section nearly all their lives and settled on the present farm, consisting of one hundred and thirty-five acres, which formerly constituted the home place of Mr. Cross. Their union has been blessed by the birth of three children, two daughters and one son: Hannah J., now Mrs. P. W. Ralston, residing in Chicago, her husband being a civil engineer; Julia E., now Mrs. Ernest I. Worcester, of Chicago, her husband an architect, and James C., a civil engineer working on the Columbian Exposition grounds, Chicago. Mr. McAfee is virtually a retired farmer, although living on the farm, which he has rented out for a number of years. He was born and reared a Democrat, but since 1860 has affiliated with the Republican party, although he is free to vote for the best man always.

George Reed is synonymous with public spirit, progress and honesty. He was born in Westfield, Mass., May 26, 1824, the son of Samuel F. and Patience (Sibley) Reed. His father was born in Mansfield, Conn., and died in Granville, Mass., when seventy-seven years old. For seventeen years, he was agent for and connected with the D. B. Cook Publishing Company, of Hartford, Conn., but later engaged in the grocery business, and for a time was a contractor. While employed in the last-named occupation, he built the bridges and aqueducts on the New Haven and North Hampton canal, long since in disuse, and the New Haven & North Hampton Railroad built on its bank. So far as is known, the Reed family was first represented in America by three brothers, who came from England about 1650.

The mother of our subject was born in Willington, Conn., and departed this life at the home of her son, aged eighty-eight years. Her parents, Moses and Patience (Yeomans) Sibley, were natives of the Nutmeg State, the father dying when eighty-four years, and the mother when seventy. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a farmer, and during the last years of his life was a pensioner, having served in the Revolutionary War. He and his wife reared a family of eight children, all of whom are deceased.

The family of which our subject is a member consisted of six daughters and three sons. George Reed, of this sketch, remained at home until arriving at his majority, when he removed to Hinsdale, Mass., and there worked out by the month on a farm for two years. In 1847, he came West, and in the month of June reached Boone County, where he visited a short time with his brother, Charles, in Ohio Precinct, which, upon adopting township organization, was called Spring. Thence he proceeded to the northern part of Winnebago County, where he remained two years, working by the day and month at odd jobs, for fifty or seventy-five cents per day.

In 1849, Mr. Reed returned to Spring Township, where he had purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land of the Government, to which he has since added until his estate comprises five hundred and twenty-five acres, divided into two splendid

HON. GEORGE REED. The subject of this sketch is well worthy of extended notice in this volume, for his life at home and among the law makers of Illinois is a model which any young man might emulate with profit and honor. He has practically retired from farm work and resides at his beautiful country home, the improvements on which have been brought about by his own hands, even to the planting of every tree and shrub. His home farm is very efficiently managed by his son Frank, while another estate of two hundred and seventy-five acres, one mile and a half distant, is successfully managed by his son Fred. In addition to his public service, he gives his attention to the management of two creameries, which he superintends with excellent success.

Throughout Boone County the name of the Hon.

farms about one and one-half miles apart. He has also a fine creamery plant, located near the center of the town, at which he receives an average of ten thousand pounds of milk daily throughout the entire year. He also has a third interest in the Belvidere Butter and Cheese Manufacturing Company in Belvidere, which he manages successfully, and is the owner of a commodious residence and desirable lot in Belvidere. In addition to these interests, he is a stockholder and Director in the People's Bank of Belvidere.

On coming to Boone County, Mr. Reed had no moneyed capital, and borrowed the wherewithal to purchase a land warrant, paying fifty per cent. for the money. The warrant called for one hundred and sixty acres but he only received one hundred and twenty acres (for the reason that there was not another contiguous forty acres) and cost him \$108 and interest. He secured the money before the note became due, and, walking to Chicago, paid the indebtedness, after which he returned home on foot through the mud.

October 10, 1849, Mr. Reed was married to Miss Eliza A. Wait, who was born in Warsaw, now Middleburg, N. Y., August 23, 1828. Further mention of her parents, Henry and Polly Wait, will be found in the biography of her brother, W. H. Wait, on another page. When the young couple commenced housekeeping, they had no furniture nor any money to make purchases, but Mr. Reed being quite handy with his saw and hammer, procured some scantling and constructed their first bedstead, also made a table, and benches for chairs. After harvest, he hauled a load of wheat with oxen to Chicago, and selling it for fifty cents per bushel, brought home some needed furniture, which was highly appreciated by his estimable wife, to whom he accords her full share for their success in life.

The four children born to our subject and his wife are as follows: Fannie E., born September 6, 1850; Franklin P., November 9, 1852; Frederick A., January 8, 1855; and Albert E., who was born July 8, 1857, died May 9, 1863. Frederick A. married Miss Caroline Wiggers, and they have become the parents of five children, four of whom are now living.

Mr. Reed has always taken an active interest in

affairs pertaining to his vocation. For twenty years he was a Director on the County Board of Agriculture, serving as its President for eight years, and advancing its welfare materially during his administration. In 1886, he was elected to the office of Vice-president of the State Board of Agriculture for the Fifth Congressional District, and was re-elected in 1888, in which position he served with credit to himself and honor to the district. In 1890, he was elected Director in the Illinois State Dairymen's Association, of which organization he is now a member.

In 1876, with a number of other farmers, Mr. Reed aided in the organization of the Belvidere Farmers' Mutual Fire and Lightning Insurance Company as a township company with four towns. Later, the law was changed, and it was re-organized into a county company, and is now one of the most prosperous companies in the State, having at present nine hundred members, with \$1,589,548 at risk. Mr. Reed has been a Director from the organization of the company, and its President for the last ten years. At the annual meeting, January 6, 1891, the Secretary, Henry W. Avery, Esq., made the following statement, which will be of interest to the reader:

"The farmers of Little Boone as a whole, and the members of this Insurance Company in particular, have reason for congratulation that they are represented this year in the State Legislature by one of their number, the honored President of this organization, who to-day takes his seat as a peer among the law-makers of this great State of Illinois, one who can ever be trusted for honesty, integrity and nobility of character, whose words and votes are in harmony, and who can always be counted upon for right, justice, temperance and humanity."

In politics, Mr. Reed is a Republican, and has held nearly all the offices in his town, such as Overseer of Roads, Commissioner of Highways, School Director for twenty years, Town Clerk and Supervisor and member of the County Board twelve years, serving as Chairman of the latter a number of times. He was elected to the State Legislature in 1890, and served on the Committee of Agriculture, Warehouse, Public Charities, County and Township

Organization and State Municipal Indebtedness. His vote is recorded on many good laws of the State, and he has introduced several important bills, one of which was with reference to creating the office of Food and Dairy Commissioner, and prescribing the duties of such an officer; also to prevent the coloring of oleomargarine in imitation of butter, and to prevent the making and selling of filled cheese in imitation of full cream cheese.

Mr. Reed may be justly termed "self-made," his only schooling having been obtained in a country district school; hence, too much credit cannot be accorded him for the position which he now occupies in social and business circles, and which was obtained through his own ambition and perseverance. He has a keen appreciation of the high honor his friends have conferred upon him, and feels under greater obligations since they have re-nominated him for the Legislature. He has no opposition, and it may safely be predicted that he will be re-elected to the position which he has so capably filled.

We cannot better close this sketch than by the following high compliment to the worth of Mr. Reed, which was published in a recent issue of the *Northwestern*: "Mr. Reed is a man of the people, a man of sound judgment, and one who may be relied upon to guard the interests of the masses. His record in the last Legislature will bear the closest scrutiny. He was found on the right side every time when the votes on important measures were taken. With a clean record, and the experience of one session to his credit, he will enter upon the duties of a second term with undoubted recognition, and will be placed in position to exert a wider influence with satisfactory results to himself and his constituents."



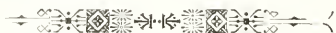
LEVI P. H. MUNRO, who is engaged in general farming on section 1, New Milford Township, is a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Winnebago County. He was born on the 30th of June, 1828, in Troy, N. Y., and is a son of Levi and Esther H. (Carmichael) Munro, both of whom

were natives of the Empire State. His parents came to Illinois in July, 1838, and settled on one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 1, New Milford Township. The land was then worth about \$1.50 per acre and is now valued at \$300 per acre. It lies just outside the city limits of Rockford and is a very desirable property. The father died January 3, 1875, at the age of seventy-four years, and his wife was called to her final rest August 29, 1857, at the age of fifty years. They had three children: Harriet A., wife of Isaac Rowley, a farmer of Guilford Township; Levi, of this sketch; and Milton C., now of Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Our subject was a lad of only ten years when with his parents he came to this country. His educational advantages were very limited, for the schools here were few and of an inferior order. On the breaking out of the late war, he and his brother enlisted, December 6, 1861, for three years' service as members of Company E, First Illinois Light Artillery. From Camp Douglas in Chicago they went to Cairo, Ill., and on the 27th of March embarked for Pittsburg Landing. They took part in the terrible battle of Shiloh, where our subject was placed on the caisson to deal out the ammunition, his officer saying that his head would prove level in the emergency. He was wounded but stood at his post until ordered to fall back. His brother was at gun No. 4. The battery held an exposed position in front of Beauregard who made the most determined and desperate effort to capture the guns but did not succeed. Mr. Munro was discharged on account of disability, resulting from his wound and exposure, December 6, 1862, and at the same time his brother was mustered out. The latter almost lost his life and would have done so had it not been for the faithful nursing of Levi.

Mr. Munro has never married but has a pleasant home on the old farm and is recognized as one of the leading agriculturists of the community and a valued citizen, as well as an upright man. In politics, he is a supporter of Republican principles and, religiously, holds the faith of the Baptist Church but is not connected with any congregation. For several years he has been a

member of G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. For more than half a century he has resided in Winnebago County and can well remember many incidents of his pioneer days. The journey to Illinois was made by the Erie Canal and the Lakes to Chicago, and thence by ox-team to this place. The farm products were marketed in Chicago, where wheat brought only forty cents a bushel and pork from \$1 to \$2 per hundred. Those days have now passed away and in the years which have followed Mr. Munro has acquired a handsome competence and is now the owner of a very valuable property.



WHIPPLE JILSON, now deceased, was one of the most prominent citizens of Rockford. An influential man, he exercised a power for good in this community which will long be felt though he has passed away. He was born in Elbridge, Onondaga County, N. Y., in 1819, and was a son of David Jilson, of one of the leading families of Massachusetts. In his native State our subject was noted for manhood and in Weedsport, N. Y., married Miss Caroline Bayles, a native of Cayuga County, and a daughter of Aaron and Lydia (Edmister) Bayles, natives of New Jersey. The latter were married near Chenango, N. Y., where they resided for some years, after which Mr. Bayles became a grain dealer on the Canal. He subsequently located in Weedsport, where he did business as a merchant and became very wealthy. He and his wife spent their last years with their daughter, Mrs. Jilson. Mrs. Bayles' death occurred at the age of eighty-one years and the husband and father was called to his final rest at the age of eighty-seven. Both were members of the Baptist Church. A brother of Mrs. Jilson founded the first college in Milwaukee and later established the Bayles Business College, of Dubuque, Iowa, the first in that city. Her only sister, Mrs. St. Johns, is living in Rockford and she and Mrs. Jilson are the only survivors of the family.

With his wife and children, Mr. Jilson came to Rockford in 1855, and as a partner of E. St. Johns embarked in the grocery business. After some

years, he became sole proprietor, and at length sold out, removing to Ogle County, Ill., purchasing a farm near Byron. After operating his land for some years, he returned to Rockford and established a tailor and repair shop, to which business he devoted his energies throughout nearly the remainder of his life. He accumulated a good property and was well-to-do at the time of his death.

It is meet that when a good man dies some tribute should be paid to his memory. Mr. Jilson was essentially a self-made man, and adversity seemed only to draw out the latent energy and force of his character, which he concentrated with renewed effort on the work in hand. Truth, industry and uprightness were cardinal points in his creed and his word was as good as his bond. From his infancy he was crippled but he did not allow this accident to stand in his way. When a young man he joined the Baptist Church but afterwards became a liberal thinker. He possessed an inexhaustible fund of wit and humor, which made him a pleasant and interesting companion, for he was also a great reader and well informed. His life was above reproach, his morality of the highest character. He never used tobacco or intoxicating liquors in any way, and ever exerted his influence in behalf of temperance on those lines. He also voted with the Prohibition party for many years. In early life he was a staunch Abolitionist and his home in New York, during slavery days, was a station on the Underground Railroad, where he helped many a slave on his way to Canada and freedom. His first Presidential vote was cast for James G. Birney, the Abolition candidate. To the poor and needy he was ever ready to lend a helping hand and he had the respect of both young and old. In 1891, he was stricken with the grip and after a week passed away.

Mrs. Jilson has since her husband's death resided on West State Street, and has successfully managed the property left by him and her parents. She is a most estimable lady and ranks high in social circles. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jilson were born three children. Carrie P. became the wife of Charles Lundgren and died leaving four children: her two daughters, Ethel and Carrie, now living with their grandmother, Mrs. Jilson, and two sons,

Frank and Lewis, residing in Indiana. Harriet Helena is the wife of Lewis A. Weyburn, a manufacturer of Rockford, by whom she has two daughters, Blanche and Jennie. Harry married Lida Mellon and occupies a position with the firm of Emerson, Talcott & Co.



CHARLES HASKIN. The results of unflagging perseverance, prudent economy and investment and good habits, probably find no better exponent in the city of Rockford than in the above-named gentleman who is residing at No. 405 East Street. He is what may be truly termed a self-made man, having started at the bottom round of life and now ranks among the substantial citizens of the county. He has always taken an active interest in all public enterprises, and is an ardent advocate of both church and school. He is now living retired in the city, and with his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which body he joined in his youth. As soon as it was possible to do so, Mr. Haskin organized a class in Harlem, which was composed of eight members who congregated in a log house on section 29. Our subject was made Steward of the church, which position he held for thirty years. He was also a teacher of the Bible Class for many years. On coming to Rockford, he transferred his membership to the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church, where he is one of its active workers.

Born in Washington, Berkshire County, Mass., March 14, 1817, our subject is a son of Amos Haskin, a native of Salisbury, Conn., from which place his father removed to Washington, and operated a gristmill for a number of years. The grandfather made his own tombstone, working on the inscription, with the exception of the date of his death. His remains and those of his wife lie buried in the cemetery in that place.

Amos Haskin was very young when his parents removed to Washington, where he was reared and married to Lovisa Bille, who was a native of that place and the daughter of William Bille. She is buried by the side of her husband in the same

cemetery in which the grandparents of our subject are interred. Charles, of this sketch, was the youngest member of the parental family of ten children, and his father being in limited circumstances, he commenced when quite young to make his own way in the world, his first employment being working on farms in the neighborhood. He later learned the trade of a stonemason, and when sixteen years of age was able to superintend the work. Soon after reaching his majority, he commenced contracting in Lee, Mass., where he resided until 1841, the date of his coming to Illinois. He was accompanied on the journey hither by his young bride, and on locating in Winnebago County found the greater part of the land west of Rock River was still owned by the Government. He purchased eighty acres on the east side, and later rented an improved farm and began housekeeping in a log cabin. Three years later, Mr. Haskin purchased a partially improved farm of one hundred acres on section 29, paying therefor the sum of \$700. He erected a temporary frame house on the place, in which his family lived while he cleared and further cultivated the property. Chicago was the nearest market where he could get cash for the farm produce, and as there were no railroads the trip was made with ox-teams. The following year our subject purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie land on section 31, still owning, however, his property on section 29, on which latter tract he erected a good set of buildings and resided until 1882, when he left it in charge of his son and came to Rockford.

August 29, 1841, in Jefferson County, N. Y., Miss Mary W. Atwood became the wife of our subject. She was a native of Hinsdale, Berkshire County, Mass., having been born November 21, 1819, and was a daughter of the Rev. Phineas and Huldah (Haskell) Atwood, also natives of the Bay State. Mr. and Mrs. Haskin, of this sketch, have had four children: Amos, Emily L., Wright and Daniel. Amos enlisted in Company A, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and gave his life in the service of his country, dying at the age of twenty-two. All were members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church. The father of Mrs. Haskin was a son of Hezekiah and Lydia (Heath) Atwood, and

removed from that State to New York, where he resided for a number of years. In 1844, he came to Winnebago County, and, settling in Harlem Township, improved and lived upon a farm until his death, when eighty-six years of age. He joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in his younger days, of which denomination he was a local preacher and later an ordained Elder. The mother of Mrs. Haskin was the daughter of Roger and Mary (Webster) Haskell; she also died in Harlem Township when in her ninety-third year. The son of our subject has been twice married, his first wife being Frances L. Hall, by whom he has two children: one who died young and one living, Emily Fern. His present wife is Florence Poulton. In politics, our subject is a Republican, and has filled various offices of trust in the township, having served as Justice of the Peace, Assessor, Highway Commissioner and member of the School Board.



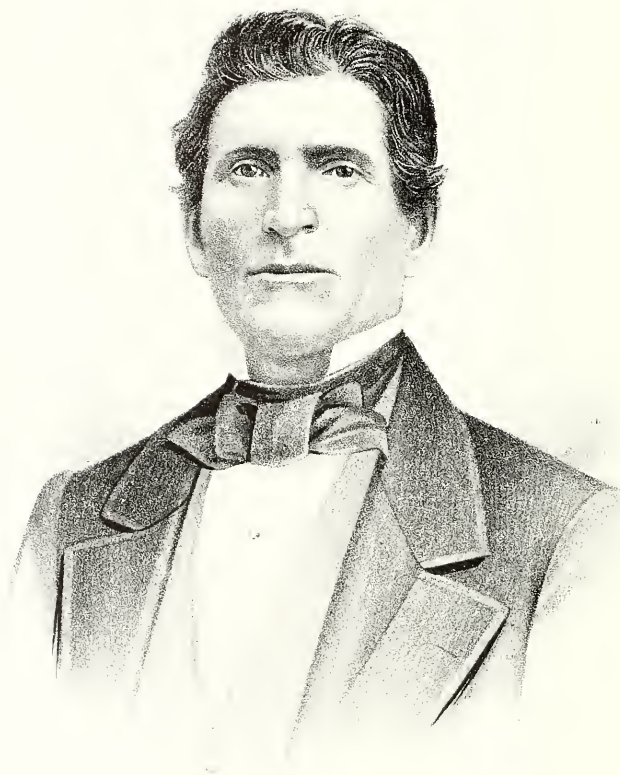
THOMAS W. EVANS has for many years been a leading farmer of Winnebago County and now resides on his pleasant home which is situated on a hillside on section 26, New Milford Township. He is a native of Steuben Township, Oneida County, N. Y., and is a son of John J. and Anna (Williams) Evans, who were natives of Wales. His grandfather, John Lee Evans, was born in Carnarvonshire, Wales, and there died in early life, leaving a widow and four children, the youngest of whom was the father of our subject. John J. Williams married in Wales and came at once to America, sailing from Liverpool to New York, where he arrived after three months. He commenced life in limited circumstances but at his death owned one hundred acres of valuable land. This worthy couple lost one daughter, Margaret, who died at the age of twelve years. Three of their children grew to mature years, Janet, John and Thomas. The mother died in July, 1839, at the age of sixty-one years, and Mr. Evans was afterward married again. By the second union he had two sons and three daughters, but John and Josephine died at the ages of ten and twelve years respectively. The living are David, Margaret and

Phoebe. The first was a volunteer soldier in the late war, serving as Standard Bearer of the Third New York Battery. At the close of the war, he went to Topeka, Kan., and for three years was Superintendent of Schools. He was afterwards City Attorney of Great Bend, Kan., and Supervisor of the United States Census for the northern district of that State. He was called to Washington by that department and is now in the Navy Department there. Phoebe resides in Ransom, Oneida County, being the widow of James Griffith. Margaret is the widow of Paschal Enos and is Postmistress at Kingsville, Ill.

Our subject is the only survivor of the first family. In the fall of 1843, he left New York and spent the winter in St. Louis, Mo., working at the carpenter's trade until the succeeding spring, when he came to Rockford and erected many buildings in that city during the next five years. On the 4th of July, 1848, he was united in marriage with Caroline Crill, daughter of Henry and Betsy (Brooks) Crill. Unto them were born eleven children, seven sons and four daughters, six of whom grew to mature years, while five are yet living: Belle, wife of Russell Barrows, a farmer of New Milford Township; John O., who operates the old homestead in Monroe Township, Ogle County; Henrietta, wife of J. C. Thompson; Gene Paul, a farmer of Ogle County; and Thaddeus Wilber at home.

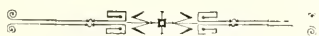
Mr. Evans first located in Ogle County and was one of the organizers of Monroe Township. He served as its first Assessor and was Justice of the Peace for six years, when he resigned and removed to Rockford. His first wife died April 28, 1874, at the age of forty-four years, and he was again married, September 30, 1875, in Utica, N. Y., his second union being with Laura E. Lewis of Steuben, Oneida County, N. Y. They have one daughter, Mattie Lois, a bright maiden of fourteen summers.

Mr. Evans continued to reside in Rockford until 1856, and then returned to the old farm in Ogle County, where he had purchased five hundred acres of Government land at \$1.25 per acre. His first purchase where he now lives was a hundred-acre tract, to which he added until he had six-



BENJ. KILLBURN

hundred acres. It is now occupied as three farms by his children. In 1880, he purchased his home farm, comprising two hundred and forty-five acres which pay to him a golden tribute for his care and cultivation. The pleasant home is beautifully situated on a hillside and commands a good view of the surrounding country. Mr. and Mrs. Evans rank high in social circles and are genial, companionable people who have many warm friends in this community. Our subject has been blessed with prosperity and is now enjoying a well-deserved competence acquired through his own industry, good management and enterprise.



THOMAS W. CARRICO. Probably no resident of Rockford has been more closely connected with its growth from an unimportant village to one of the most enterprising cities of Northern Illinois, than the gentleman whose life sketch is herewith presented. Although not a native of the city, Beverly, Mass., being his birthplace, and June, 1830, the date thereof, the most of his active life has been passed within its limits, and for many years he has resided in his beautiful home at No. 913 Kilburn Avenue.

The parents of our subject, Thomas and Mary (Raymond) Carrico, were natives of New England, born and reared in Beverly, Mass. His paternal grandfather, Benjamin Carrico, was a mechanic, and his maternal grandfather, who was a merchantman, traded with southern islands in mahogany and other choice woods. Our subject is the only child, with the exception of a daughter, Mary, deceased. After the death of his mother, which occurred when he was quite small, he was tenderly cared for by an aunt, Mrs. W. F. Parish, of Beverly. His father removed to Ohio, and some time in the '40s proceeded thence to Logan, Iowa, where he married again and remained until his death in 1881.

In the spring of 1854 Mr. Carrico came West to Rockford, where three years later he was united in marriage with Miss Mary L., daughter of Benjamin and Eleanor (Maynard) Kilburn, natives of Massachusetts, who had come to Rockford in 1837.

After their marriage, the young couple located at once on a tract of land comprising one hundred and sixty acres, which he purchased from the Government, and which was located a short distance from the present post-office, but at that time considered out in the country. Mr. and Mrs. Carrico were married in a house that stood on the site of their present home, where she was also born. The stone quarry and sand-bed, which have since proved so valuable, are now in the thickly-settled part of the city.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Carrico, one of whom died in infancy; Frank K., died in 1890 of consumption, aged thirty years; and Mary E., wife of John Salter, Jr., of Chicago, died in 1891, at the age of twenty-seven years, leaving two little daughters to the care of the bereft grandparents. The six children are bright and beautiful, the comfort of their grandparents as well as the solace of their father. Fred K., the youngest son, now thirteen years old, lives with his parents. Mrs. Carrico is one of seven children, of whom she alone survives. Her father died in 1861, but her mother, at the advanced age of eighty-one, still survives, and makes her home with Mrs. Carrico.

Mr. Carrico is still carrying on a large business in building stone and sand. Politically, he affiliates with the Republican party, and although he belongs to no sect or creed, preferring liberty of thought and belief, yet he is an ever-willing supporter of reformatory measures, and has a neat little mission chapel on his beautiful grounds.

Benjamin Kilburn, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, was born in Belchertown, Mass., in 1808, and was one of the very earliest of the pioneers of Rockford, there being but two or three residents here at the time of his arrival. He lived through the period of transition from the wild waste to the flourishing city, and was always interested in anything that tended to the advancement of the place. Although he passed away in the prime of life, when only fifty-two years old, his influence was widespread, and he left a name that is imperishable in the annals of Rockford. Kilburn Avenue, a beautiful street, is named in his honor, and the old residents still remember Mr.

Kilburn, to whom they always refer with affection. We are glad to hand his portrait down to posterity, so that coming generations may look upon the features of one of the pioneers of Rockford, who contributed so effectively to its progress.



DAVID C. COWAN, a general merchant at Poplar Grove, Boone County, was born in Fall River, Mass., January 1, 1851. He is the son of Robert Cowan who was born in Buteshire, Scotland, where also his grandparents were born and spent their entire lives. Robert Cowan was the only member of the family who came to America, emigrating hither when a young man. He was engaged in the cotton mills in Fall River and Berman, R. I., residing in the East until 1818, at which time he came to Illinois. Making a short stay here, he returned to New England, and in the spring of 1851 came with his family to Boone Township where he had purchased land. There was a log house on the place, in which the family resided and here Mr. Cowan engaged in farming until his decease.

Our subject's mother, who bore the maiden name of Mary Carment, was a native of Glasgow, Scotland, and the daughter of Alexander and Elizabeth Carment. She is at present residing in Poplar Grove and is the mother of four children: Robert; Mary E., Mrs. E. B. Ball; David C., and Emma J., the wife of Arthur G. Edgell. Our subject was an infant when his parents removed to the Prairie State and received his education in the district schools of this vicinity. When nineteen years of age, he began teaching school, being thus employed for three terms. At the expiration of that time, he entered the State Normal School at Normal, Ill., and after a course of two years was again engaged as a teacher at Bulkley, Iroquois County. Three years later, he came to Poplar Grove, this county, and in company with his father-in-law engaged in the lumber business and later as a hardware merchant.

In 1884, Mr. Cowan went to the Territory of Dakota and pre-empted a tract of Government land in Clark County, and after a residence there of one

year returned to this place and engaged in the mercantile business. He carries a large stock of general merchandise, and by his courteous treatment of customers is well liked by all who know him and has a good share of patronage.

Julia Webster, who was born in this county, became the wife of our subject in 1872. She is the daughter of Willet S. and Mary J. (Wheeler) Webster, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two children: Mabel A. and Frank C. Mr. Cowan is a member of Poplar Grove Lodge A. O. U. W. and is a demitted member of the Masonic lodge at Buckley. A Republican in politics, he cast his first Presidential vote for Hayes, and in local affairs has served as a member of the County Board of Supervisors for six years, five years as County Superintendent of Schools, and as a member of the Republican County Central Committee, has often represented his party in county and district conventions.



ALSON H. KEELER, editor and proprietor of the *Belvidere Northwestern*, a weekly newspaper, was born in Belvidere Township, Boone County, March 13, 1854. His paternal grandfather, Martin Keeler, a native of Connecticut, went with his brother Joseph to Cortland County, N. Y. Both purchased land in the town of Truxton, cleared and developed farms, and there spent the remainder of their days. Martin married Anna Woodruff, who was born in Fabius, Onondaga County, N. Y., and died on the home farm.

Warren Keeler, father of our subject, was born on that farm June 12, 1821, and by purchasing the interest of the other heirs became owner of the old homestead, upon which he resided until 1849, when he sold out and emigrated to Boone County, Ill. He bought a tract of land of two hundred and twenty-five acres in Belvidere Township, of which one hundred and twenty-five acres were broken, the remainder being covered with timber. The improvements consisted of a log house and frame barn. Mr. Keeler there engaged

in farming until 1878, when he sold that land and resided in the town of Spring until 1888, since which time he has lived a retired life in Belvidere. He was married, January 11, 1841, to Delotia Keeney, who was born in Fabius, N. Y., July 21, 1818. The family numbered five children: Felicia B., Horatio, Mary A., Alson H. and Emma L. The parents are both members of the First Baptist Church and are highly respected people of Belvidere.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was Champion Keeney, a native of Connecticut, and a son of Simon Keeney, who was born in the same State and removed to New York in 1796, becoming one of the early settlers of Fabius. In the midst of the forest, he developed a farm and went through all the experiences and hardships of pioneer life. While he worked upon the farm, his wife spun and wove the cloth used in clothing the family. Her maiden name was Polly Bates. The grandfather of our subject was only two years old when his parents emigrated to Onondaga County. He married Esther Daniels, a native of that county, and for many years there followed farming. His last days were spent in retirement in the village of Fabius, where he died at the advanced age of ninety-one. He served in the War of 1812, and his widow is one of its pensioners.

We now take up the personal history of our subject who acquired his early education in the country schools and supplemented it by study in Belvidere and at Beloit College. In the autumn of 1874, he went to Butler County, Iowa, where he engaged in teaching through the winter, and in the spring of 1875 returned to Belvidere and opened a real-estate and insurance office with R. W. Coon, publisher of the Belvidere *Northwestern*. Mr. Keeler afterward became connected with the paper as reporter and compositor, and later was foreman of the office and local editor until 1888. In that year he resigned his position and went to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where he spent two years, after which he was foreman and city editor of the *Waukegan Gazette*, of Waukegan, Ill., for two years. He then purchased the *Northwestern*, of which he is now sole proprietor.

Mr. Keeler was married, September 23, 1880, to

Edith A. Swasey, who was born in Portsmouth, N. H., and is a daughter of Samuel and Edith A. (Holmes) Swasey. They have one son, Lawrence S., born December 23, 1882. The parents are both members of the Presbyterian Church. Since casting his first Presidential vote for R. B. Hayes, Mr. Keeler has been a staunch Republican. Socially, he is a member of Belvidere Lodge No. 60, A. F. & A. M.; Kishwaukee Chapter No. 90, R. A. M.; Big Thunder Lodge No. 28, I. O. O. F., and several other of the secret benevolent societies.

In the spring of 1892, Mr. Keeler was elected a member of the City Council, representing the Third Ward, and was also in the same spring elected a member of the Board of Education of the South Belvidere School.

Under its present management, the *Northwestern* has not only been enlarged but has been improved in every way. The circulation has been greatly increased, and the liberal patronage which it now receives is well deserved. In January, 1892, Mr. Keeler removed to his own new office building on South State Street. He undoubtedly occupies one of the finest buildings used for newspaper publication in Northern Illinois. It was built for this purpose, and is a handsome two-story brick building, conveniently arranged, and supplied with all the accessories of the modern office. It has a complete outfit for a job office, and its machinery is run by water power.



AUGUST BLOMBERG, a prosperous business man and stockholder in the Forest City Baking Company, recently organized at No. 609 Seventh Street, was formerly engaged in the bakery business here but sold out to this company. He was born in Sweden, September 22, 1847, and learned his trade there after reaching his fourteenth birthday. In September, 1879, he came to the United States, and subsequently to Rockford, where he established a bakery on Seventh Street. He met with unusual success and has accumulated a handsome competence. Previous to coming to Rockford, he was engaged in the bakery business in New York City, Bos-

ton, and other cities of the New England States. He is the owner of much valuable property in Rockford, and is a stockholder in the Excelsior Furniture Company. Mr. Blomberg expects to visit his native country in 1892, but will return and take charge of the Forest City Baking Company.

Mr. Blomberg is the only one of his relatives in this country. His father, John Blomberg, is still a resident of Sweden, and is seventy years of age. He served his country faithfully as a soldier for thirty-four years. He is a prominent man in his native province and is highly respected. The maiden name of his wife was Cathrina Bengston and she died in her native country many years ago. She was a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and Mr. Blomberg holds membership in the same at the present time.

Our subject is a public-spirited citizen and takes a deep interest in all local matters. He is a worthy member of the Zion Lutheran Church, and in politics supports the principles of the Republican party. To his marriage with Josephine Bangston were born three interesting children: Charles A., John H. and Fred.



HUMPHREY TRIPP. The citizens of Pecatonica know Mr. Tripp as not only a successful man, with large landed interests in various States, but they know him as something more, a man who is earnestly striving in all honorable ways to make the world better for his presence in it. He began life poor, and in all that the phrase implies, is the architect of his own fortune, of which he contributes constantly and generously to foster education, promote the interests of the people and relieve suffering. Orphaned at the age of sixteen, he early became self-supporting, and with no moneyed capital, but with plenty of determination and perseverance, worked his way to prosperity.

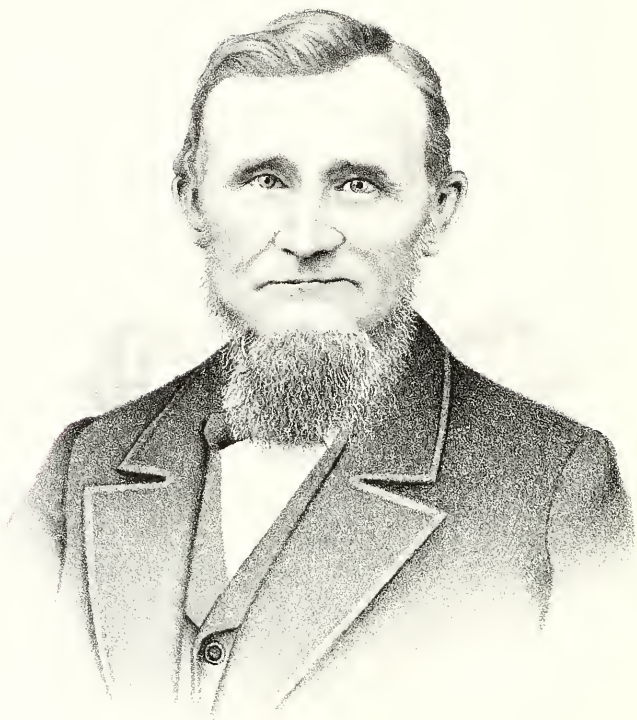
A Canadian by birth and parentage, our subject was born in Oxford, May 20, 1830. His parents, Michael and Rebecca (Sissan) Tripp, were born in New Brunswick and had a family of eight

children. The mother died in Canada when only thirty-eight, but the father survived until he was about sixty, when his death occurred in Indiana. Humphrey passed his boyhood in Canada whence he removed to the States in 1855, taking up his residence in Pecatonica. From the first, he was successful in his various enterprises, and it may be said of him that he never knew the meaning of the word "failure."

November 13, 1866, Mr. Tripp was married to Cynthia A., widow of Jacob Manderville, who died in Pecatonica at the age of forty years. Mrs. Tripp was born in New York, July 20, 1826, the daughter of Abel and Betsy (Buell) Buell. Her father was born in Connecticut and died in Delaware County, N. Y., at the age of seventy-six years; while her mother was born in Connecticut and passed away in Pecatonica at the ripe old age of ninety-one years. Abel Buell was one of the brave soldiers who, during the War of 1812, contributed his services to the defense of his country, and after his death a pension was granted to his widow.

The members of the Buell family, with the exception of one brother, were staunch adherents of Democratic principles, and they were uniformly men of uprightness and honor, highly esteemed wherever they resided. Mrs. Tripp was one of nine children, three of whom are now living. She is a lady whose kindness of heart and generosity are recognized by her large circle of acquaintances, and she also possesses large executive ability and excellent judgment, which enable her to assist her husband in his business transactions by her sound and active co-operation.

Mr. Tripp believes that the best interests of the Government are subserved by Protection, hence is firm in his allegiance to Republican principles. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and is prominent in both orders. In his religious connections, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which his estimable wife also belongs. Mr. and Mrs. Tripp are stockholders in the shoe factory at Pecatonica, own considerable valuable village property, including business blocks and residence lots, and, besides this, are the



H. F. Peterson

owners of more than thirteen hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land in Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota and Illinois, so that their attention is closely occupied by their landed interests.



HANS F. PETERSON. In a city of the rapid growth and development which has characterized Rockford, the importance of the line of industry in which Mr. Peterson is engaged cannot be over-estimated. To the contractor and builder in effect, conjointly with the architect, belongs the task of imparting to the city that appearance of solidity, wealth, refinement and comfort which at once stamps its citizens as progressive and enterprising.

Mr. Peterson has been a resident of Rockford since 1859, and during that time has met with success in his business. He is a skillful and reliable workman, and has erected many fine homes in the city, besides numerous business blocks. He has a beautiful residence at No. 105 Baker Street, and is one of the most prominent and highly respected residents of Rockford.

The parents of our subject, Peter and Christina (Hansen) Swanson, passed their entire lives in Sweden, and died when fifty-two and seventy-two years of age, respectively. They were members of the Swedish Lutheran Church. Of the seven children born to them, three are yet living in Sweden, all of whom are married. Our subject and a sister, Charlotte, were the only members of the family to come to the United States. She became the wife of Peter Johnson, and died in Rockford when about middle age. Her husband is still residing in this city.

Our subject was born in Jonkoping, Sweden, on the 14th of October, 1847, and there learned his trade of mason and contractor. He was married in that country to Miss Eva C. Samuelson, a native of the same province as her husband. Her parents passed their entire lives in Sweden, and she grew to womanhood in her native land. After the birth of one son, Oscar, now deceased, Mr. and Mrs. Peterson took passage for the United States,

arriving in this country soon after. They lived for one year in Geneva, Ill., where Mr. Peterson followed his trade, then came to Rockford, and here he has resided ever since. In 1888, he had the misfortune to lose his estimable wife, who possessed many virtues of mind and heart. At the time of her decease she was sixty-six years old. She was a member of the Lutheran Church, to which her children also belonged.

Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were the parents of six children, but lost four: Carl A., an infant unnamed, Oscar F. and Alexander F. Those living are Mary, an accomplished and educated young lady, who is at home, and Samuel, a brick-mason by trade, who is also at home. Mr. Peterson was one of the first members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, of Rockford, and has been Trustee of the same. In politics, he upholds the principles of the Republican party, and has been Supervisor of his ward, the Second, for four years.

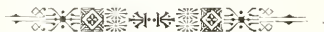
A portrait of Mr. Peterson accompanies this sketch.



HENRY H. ROBINSON, a real-estate dealer of Rockford, is a typical business man of this day and age of the world, wide-awake and enterprising, his entire life characterized by thrift and push. He was born in 1845, and in 1847 the family made a permanent location in Rockford, Ill. In March, 1850, the father crossed the plains to California in company with a number of the prominent citizens of Rockford, and about six months later landed at San Francisco. He died soon afterward at Mud Creek, near Hangtown, and was buried by his friends in that far-off place. His wife was called to her final rest in 1870. She was a member of the Congregational Church. In the family were two sons and a daughter: Mary H., wife of Dr. E. P. Catlin, of this city; Norman S., who married Addie K. Davis, of Chicago, and is a prominent citizen, now living a retired life in Eugene, Ore.; and H. H., of this sketch.

Indolence and idleness are utterly foreign to the nature of our subject. At the age of nineteen, he left home and went to California where he spent

one year. He has traveled considerably and has thereby become a well-informed man, at the same time gaining an excellent knowledge of men and their manners. After his return to Rockford, he engaged in the hardware business for some years and then turned his attention to real-estate dealing. From the beginning, he has met with excellent success. For about two years past, he has been in partnership with Mr. Haines. They deal in real estate in the West, in Chicago, other parts of the country, and especially in Rockford. Mr. Robinson is also a Director in the Third National Bank, and a stockholder in many other enterprises which add to the life and business prosperity of the city. He was Secretary of the first Street Railway Company, the road being built in 1880, the first car being run on the 14th of March of the following year. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Rockford Hospital and of the executive committee of the Rockford Seminary. Of the Young Men's Christian Association, he is a prominent member and has held a number of its offices, being President at this writing. He is a friend to all educational and moral interests and never withholds his support from any enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit.



JOHAN L. WITBECK, proprietor of the Flora Meadows Stock Farm, in the township of Flora, Boone County, was born in Athens, Greene County, N. Y., February 19, 1812. His father, Isaac T. Witbeck, was also born in that place, where he ranked among the well-to-do citizens.

The father of our subject was reared and educated in his native town and resided there until 1853, when he removed to Chicago and was engaged in the manufacture of carriages, wagons, plows and other kinds of vehicles and agricultural implements, as a member of the firm of H. Witbeck & Co., which was one of the largest manufacturing houses in the city at that time. He continued in the business about four years. Then, on account of ill-health, he sought a country home and, coming to Belvidere, lived there one year,

and then purchased a portion of the farm where our subject now resides. After occupying that place a few years, the elder Mr. Witbeck removed to the village and resided there until his death. In politics, he was a Republican and held various offices of trust, representing both Flora and Belvidere Townships on the County Board of Supervisors. He was one of the organizers of the First and Second National Banks, and also one of the Directors in the former institution.

Our subject's mother, Miss Miranda Onderdonk, was born in May, 1816. She became the mother of four children, three of whom are living, viz: Tunis, John L. and Abraham O. Her only daughter died in her fifth year. He of whom we write received his early education in the schools of New York State, supplemented by attendance in the city schools of Chicago, and later in Belvidere. He took a commercial course at Bryant & Stratton's College in the Garden City, and after his marriage located on the farm which he now owns and occupies, where he devotes much attention to the breeding of fine stock. He has upwards of sixty head of well-bred horses, including draft and trotting stock. In the former, Clydesdales are his favorite breed, and in the latter Hambletonians and Mambrinos.

In 1861, John L. Witbeck and Miss Marietta Olney were united in marriage. Their children are, May, now Mrs. Jesse Wheeland, who lives in Belvidere and has one child; Olney married Jennie Bennett and lives in Belvidere; Alice, Ethel and Isaac T. Mr. and Mrs. Witbeck are members of the Presbyterian Church, and in his political relations our subject votes the Republican ticket. His wife was born in Girard, Branch County, Mich., and was the daughter of Daniel T. Olney, who was born September 22, 1816, in Saratoga County, N. Y. The first ancestor in America was Thomas Olney, of Hertfordshire, England, who came to America with his family in 1635, in the ship "Planter," and located in Salem, Mass. A year later, that gentleman was appointed Surveyor, and was granted forty acres of land on Jeffrey Creek, now in Manchester, Mass. He was a freeman the same year and was early imbued with the views of Roger Williams. March 12,

1638, he was excludcd from the Colony of Massachusetts, and a year later from the church in Salem. He went to Narragansett Bay and located on the west side of Seekonk River and, with eleven others, founded a colony called Providence, purchasing their rights from the Indians.

Thomas Olney was one of the founders of the First Baptist Church of Providence, and at one time was acting pastor and prominent in public affairs. The next in line of descent also bore the name of Thomas, and was born in England in 1632. His son, William, was born in Rhode Island, June 25, 1663, and the next in line was his son William, who was born October 6, 1694. Nathan Olney, the son of William, Jr., was the next in line and was born November 20, 1720, in Rhode Island. That gentleman was the great-great-grandfather of Mrs. Witbeck. He emigrated from Providence to Saratoga County, N. Y., between the years 1765 and 1770, and was one of the first settlers of the county, where he resided until his decease in 1778.

The maiden name of the wife of Nathan Olney was Elizabeth Goodspeed. She was born in Rhode Island and died in Saratoga County, N. Y. The great-grandfather of Mrs. Witbeck, Stephen Olney, was born in Rhode Island January 31, 1758. He cleared a farm from the wilderness in Saratoga County, upon which he died in 1833. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Irish. The grandfather of Mrs. Witbeck, Thomas Olney, was born in Saratoga County, in October, 1784. After his marriage, he settled in the town of Northumberland, purchased a partially-improved farm, and lived there until 1836, then went to the Territory of Michigan, where he was one of the early settlers in the town of Girard, Branch County, and there his decease occurred July 22, 1861. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Taylor; she was born in Connecticut, and her father, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Witbeck, was a native of Connecticut and a soldier in the Revolutionary War, dying at the advanced age of one hundred years. The grandmother of Mrs. Witbeck died at Girard, Mich., in February, 1886.

Daniel T. Olney was reared in his native State and was twenty years of age when he went to

Michigan and engaged in the mercantile business at Girard. In 1848, he came to Illinois, and now lives retired in Belvidere. In 1843, he was married to Adelia M. Ames, who was born in Burlington, Vt., and was the daughter of William Ames.



THOMAS LLOYD. No State in the Union affords better encouragement to a man who desires to devote himself to agricultural life than does Illinois. Its resources are almost inexhaustible and the climate is adapted to the cultivation of various crops. Our subject is one who has found success in the line of agriculture and now follows general farming and stock-raising. His birth occurred in England in 1836 and he was one of eleven children born to Thomas and Charlotte (Kemp) Lloyd.

The father of our subject, Thomas Lloyd, was a Welshman, born in the year 1792, and when seventeen years of age he was drafted for a soldier. This was not at all to his taste and he took "French leave" and went to England, where he met and married Miss Kemp. He was a stone cutter by trade and followed that trade in England until 1810, when he became convinced that he could better his condition very materially by crossing the ocean to America. In the above-mentioned year, he left his wife and children and took passage for the United States on the brig "Europe" which landed him in New York after an ocean voyage of six weeks. He then went earnestly to work to accumulate means to send for his wife and five children and found employment on the Erie Canal for two years. When the canal was finished, he began working for a man, one Brayton, with whom he remained for some time. About a year and a half after his residence in this country, he sent for his little family and met them at Havana, Schuyler County, N. Y. In the spring of 1844, he came with his family to Chicago, by water, and he and his eldest son William took one hundred and seventy-three acres of Government land which they soon deeded. Here he passed the remainder of his days, dying in 1867 when seventy-

five years of age. He was a hard-working, industrious man and no one in the community was more highly esteemed. He was among the early settlers of Winnebago County and soon became inured to the hardships of pioneer life. The sterling qualities of his nature would not permit him to relinquish his hold upon the advantages that he here saw before him. His wife followed him to the grave on the 27th of November, 1879, when seventy-nine years of age. They had been the parents of eleven children, five of whom reached mature years: William; Mary, Mrs. John Lovesee, who died in Wisconsin when sixty-five years of age, leaving a family; Martha became Mrs. Irish and died in Kansas; Thomas (our subject), and Amelia, Mrs. Henry Lovesee of Roscoe.

The original of this notice was reared to manhood in the locality where he now lives and acquired a knowledge of the three R's in the district school. He has been a life-long farmer and has brought the whole strength of his mental ability to bear upon his life work. He was married on the 23d of September, 1880, to Miss Ellen Brayton, a native of Byron, Ogle County, Ill., born November 29, 1852. Her father, Russell C. Brayton, was a native of Canada, who died in Manchester, Ill., in 1889, when eighty-four years of age, and her mother, whose maiden name was Susan Gurnee, was a native of New York. They were the parents of eleven children, nearly all the younger members alive at the present time.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd became the parents of four interesting children but three are deceased: Mary, died March 14, 1888, when three years of age; Thomas E. died February 27, 1891, when fourteen months old, and Alma, who died suddenly on the 3d of March, 1891, when not quite four years of age. They have one child living, Charlotte S., who was born June 18, 1882. She is a bright, pleasant little girl and the hope and pride of her afflicted parents. Although Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd started with limited means they are now the owners of two hundred and fifty-four acres of choice land and have one hundred and seventy acres under cultivation. They do general farming, and keep a small dairy of eight or ten cows, selling the cream at Argyle. They keep about thirty

head of horses and horned cattle, and are among the substantial people of the locality. Mr. Lloyd is independent in his political views and votes for the man rather than the party. He is a member of the Methodist, and his wife a member of the Baptist, Church.

CHARLES W. JOHNSON, of New Milford, is a native of Clarkson, Monroe County, N. Y. He was born April 13, 1829. His father, Williams Johnson, was born at Haverstraw, N. Y., December 29, 1799, and was a son of Theo S. Johnson, a farmer, who died in 1848, at the age of seventy years, leaving three sons and four daughters. He was twice married and by the first union he had five children: Williams, father of our subject; Zebulon, who was born April 13, 1801, and is residing upon a farm in New York, which has been his home since 1825; Mrs. Sarah Bonnell, of Alexander Bay; Rebecca and Clarissa, who are now deceased. The two brothers were married at the same time to Sallie and Matilda Paddock respectively and as partners engaged in farming until two years before the death of Williams, which occurred December 3, 1886, at the age of eighty-six years, in Spencerport, N. Y., where he had gone two years previous. His wife died December 29, 1891, at the age of eighty-three, in the same place.

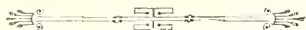
Charles W. Johnson of this sketch acquired a liberal education and at the age of twenty-five years, in the fall of 1852, came West on a visit. Two years later, he again came to Illinois and purchased lands in Ogle and Winnebago Counties, making his home in New Milford Township. His farm now comprises two hundred and forty acres and has increased from \$10 to \$65 per acre in value. On the 8th of May, 1857, he married Phebe Jane Horton, of Tompkins County, N. Y., daughter of Levi D. and Susan (Polhamus) Horton, natives of the Empire State. They came West in 1843 by teams and after four weeks settled in New Milford Township, Winnebago County. They had a family of seven children. Mrs. Johnson acquired her portion of education under the in-



O. W. Hargg

struction of Misses Caroline and Eliza Miller, in the parlor of Esquire Miller.

Our subject and his wife resided upon a farm for some twenty years and in 1876 rented their land and made a visit to the East, since which time they have been residents of New Milford. Their home has been blessed with three children: Charles S., who was born March 12, 1859, graduated in music under Prof. Hood in 1879, and from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, where he is still living. He is a fine performer on both the piano and organ. Susan Marilda was born November 3, 1865, and is now the wife of William Hill on the old homestead. Nellie Eusebia Huntley, born December 11, 1875, is now a student in the Allen Seminary, of West Newton, Mass. The family is one held in high regard and holds a high social rank. Mr. Johnson was first a Whig and then voted with the Republican party for twenty-five years but is now a Prohibitionist. The upright life he has lived has won him many friends and he is numbered among the prominent and enterprising citizens of New Milford.



OW. HAEGG, a real-estate dealer and investment broker and merchant of Rockford, who has resided in the city since 1869, claims Sweden as the land of his birth. His parents, S. J. and Charlotte (Lindstrom) Haegg, are still living in that country, where they are prominent people and active members of the Lutheran Church. The father is a manufacturer of furniture.

Mr. Haegg, was only sixteen years of age when he came to Illinois, with nothing to depend upon but his own efforts. He began clerking in a dry-goods house, and, meriting promotion, steadily worked his way upward. Later on, he purchased a farm in the vicinity of Rockford, on which he resided for three years. In 1880, he removed to the city and organized the Skandia Plow Company, of which he was Secretary and Director for some years. This company started with a capital of \$25,000, which has since been increased to \$200,000, and has now capacity for the employment of two

hundred men. From the beginning, the work has prospered and the plow company is now one of the leading industries of the city.

Mr. Haegg was also a promoter and organizer of several other prominent manufacturing institutions, among which are the Excelsior Furniture Company, the Rockford Desk and Furniture Company, and the West End Furniture Company, with which companies he is connected as an officer and Director. He also aided in organizing the Swedish Building and Loan Association. He was one of the organizers of the Rockford Brick Company in 1882, of which he has since been Secretary. This company owns seventy-five acres adjoining the city limits, West Rockford, which has recently been platted into city lots and is now a very valuable tract. Mr. Haegg also purchased twenty-five acres in the southeast part of the city, and later organized the Rockford Manufacturing Company, with a capital stock of \$200,000. This land was platted into city lots for the benefit of the company and is known as Manufacturers' Addition. He is also interested in the Phoenix Furniture Company, Rockford Electric Manufacturing Company, Rockford Paint Manufacturing Company and Rock River Planing Mill Company, and owns a large interest in the Electric Light Manufacturing Company of Belvidere, Ill.

In addition to other interests, Mr. Haegg was one of the organizers and is Vice-president of the West End Street Railway Company, which operates a road of fourteen miles in the city. The latest enterprise with which he is connected is the People's Mantel and Furniture Company, which was recently organized, with \$100,000 capital, and is located on Haegg Bros.' Southeast Addition. This addition comprises one hundred acres and is most beautifully located on the bank of Rock River, adjoining the finest park grounds in the city.

As a real-estate dealer, Mr. Haegg does a large business, owning two additions in the West End, one addition in the North End and two additions in the East End. He also owns and conducts one of the most popular dry-goods stores, having one of the most prominent locations in the city.

Mr. Haegg was married in Rockford to Mrs. Clara Wigell, a native of Sweden, who was

brought to Rockford during her infancy. Her father, Lars Johnson, was an early emigrant from Galesburg, Ill., to Pike's Peak, and there died, leaving some valuable mining possessions. Mrs. Mary C. Johnson, Mrs. Haegg's mother, came to Rockford after her husband's death, and is still living in this city. By her former marriage, Mrs. Haegg had one son, Oscar J. Wigell, manager of the branch house of Lyon, Potter & Co., of Chicago, of whom mention is elsewhere made. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Haegg were born five children: L. Vernon, a stenographer in the Architectural Metal Works, of Beloit, Wis.; Lillie E., O. Vincent, Harold W. and Florence E.

In the Young Men's Christian Association of this city, Mr. Haegg is a prominent member and Director, and served as a delegate to Europe to the World's Conference of that association. Himself, wife and children are all members of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is an active worker in all that pertains to the welfare and best interests of the people. He has led an upright and honorable life, devoted not to self alone, but to good works, and has been blessed with prosperity, and at the same time has won the confidence and high regard of those with whom he has been brought in contact. His portrait is presented in connection with this brief review of his life.



I SAAC UTTER died at his home at No. 211 S. Winnebago Street, May 7, 1888, at the age of four-score years. He was well known in this community and this work would be incomplete without his sketch. A native of the Empire State, he was descended from an old and prominent family of New York, where his parents spent their entire lives. He was there reared to manhood and became a successful mechanic. He established a woolen mill in Warsaw, N. Y., which he operated for some years, and then sold out, emigrating to Rockford in 1852. He here formed a business connection with Orlando Clark, one of the early settlers of Rockford, who died in Portland, Ore., and began the manufacture of farm implements. This connection was continued for several years,

when Mr. Clark withdrew and Levi Rhodes became a partner of Mr. Utter. For twenty-one years they were engaged in the manufacture of paper, Mr. Utter afterward continuing the business with his son. Mr. Utter and Mr. Rhodes were two gentlemen possessed of qualities essential to success, and by their industry, perseverance and good management won a well-deserved prosperity. Both are now deceased, and in their deaths the county lost two of its best citizens.

Mr. Utter was a man of sound, reliable judgment and gave his support to all enterprises calculated to prove of benefit to the community or promote the general welfare. He was a stockholder in the People's Bank, the Winnebago National Bank and a Director and stockholder in the Second National Bank. A man of great determination and energy, whatever he undertook he always carried forward to a successful completion, and this characteristic in his life proved one of the most important factors in securing him prosperity. He took no very active part in political matters, but was a staunch supporter of Republican principles and never failed to cast his ballot with that party. He also held membership with the Christian Union Church.

Mr. Utter was twice married. In New York he wedded Miss Eliza Smith, who was born in that State, March 28, 1810, and died in this city October 26, 1871. She too belonged to the Christian Union Church and was a most estimable lady. At her death she left six children: Charles, who married Anna Clark, is a member of the Utter Manufacturing Company and the Paper Manufacturing Company; Morris L., who married Mrs. Mary J. (Hitchcock) Simpson, is now living a retired life on S. Church Street; Harriet is the wife of William Trowbridge, a successful landscape and portrait artist of Chicago; Harris B., who wedded Elizabeth Adams, is President of the Utter Manufacturing Company, of Rockford; Mary E. is the wife of Milton Fraley, Secretary and Treasurer of the Utter Manufacturing Company; and Fidelia L. resides in Rockford.

Mr. Utter was again married, in 1873, his second union being with Miss Lydia A. Rush, who was born in Somerset County, Pa., and is a daughter of Hon. John and Margaret (Hanna) Rush, also

natives of Pennsylvania. They were reared and married in Somerset County, began their domestic life on a farm and unto them were born twelve children. Mr. Rush was for a number of years the representative of his district in the Pennsylvania Legislature, elected by the Democratic party, and took quite a prominent part in politics. In 1852, he came with his family to Rockford, Ill., where he engaged in keeping a hotel and became owner of the large block where the magnificent hotel now stands. His death occurred September 28, 1857, at the age of seventy-one years. He was a member of the Baptist Church and for a long time served as its Deacon. His wife survived him only two weeks, dying on the 11th of October. She was six months his junior and she too was a member of the Baptist Church. Of their twelve children, Mrs. Martha McCall and John are now deceased; Jacob is married and follows farming in Fayette County, Pa; Alexander married Sarah Fry, who is now deceased, and is living in Fayette County; Mary, widow of James Fry, resides in Boone, Iowa; Reuben married Charlotte Mitchell, who is now deceased, and he is now living retired in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; James, who wedded Sabina Mitchell is a fruit farmer of Maryland; Jane is the wife of Jacob Hazlett, a retired farmer of Rockford; Sarah is living with a sister; Margaret resides at No. 710 W. Mulberry Street, and Rebecca is living with Mrs. Utter.

Mrs. Utter and her sister are members of the Christian Union Church. She has continued to make her home in Rockford since her husband's death, and owns one of the most beautiful residences of the city, located at No. 211 S. Winnebago Street.



WILLIAM HALLEY. There is probably no family in Owen Township better known for intelligence and character than that which is represented by the name just given. Our subject was born in the village of Markinch, in Fife-shire, Scotland, on the 4th of June, 1818, and came of a class of people noted for their integrity, honesty and uprightness. His father was one of

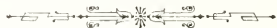
the foremost men in the manufacture of linen, his principal business being in preparing webs for the weaver. He was the father of seven children, all of whom he sent to America before he settled there himself. In 1813, while on his third voyage to this country, he was drowned in the St. Lawrence River, near Montreal. His wife, the daughter of David Mackey, who was a miller by trade, died about 1828, when our subject was ten years of age.

Our subject sailed for America with an elder brother when fifteen years of age, and after a voyage of eight weeks landed in Montreal. From there they went immediately to Newbury, Vt., where our subject remained five years (with the exception of one and a half years spent in Boston), and during the time worked at the tailor trade, which he had learned in his native country. In the spring of 1838, he became impressed with the idea that he could do better in the West and he started alone for Illinois, reaching Rockton, of that State, on the 12th of June, after spending four weeks on the way. At this time, the State was sparsely settled, a few pioneers living along the stream and in the timber, and the towns were just starting. For two years Mr. Halley spent most of his time in farm work, but in the spring of 1840 he opened a tailor shop in the village of Rockton, at first as a working tailor, but subsequently he purchased a stock of cloth and some ready-made clothing. He had a good trade from the beginning, for, being a skillful workman, he found plenty of patrons who recognized his worth, and he continued his trade in that city. His was the second tailoring establishment in the county, and he was the first tailor who brought and kept for sale tailor's goods.

The marriage of our subject, in 1846, united him with Miss Christina Mackey, a native of the same part of Scotland, and to them have been granted three children, all of whom are living. In 1860 Mr. Halley and family moved on section 4, in the Township of Owen, and engaged in mixed stock and grain farming at which he was fairly successful. Our subject is the owner of over eleven hundred acres of as fine land as any in the country. He put the first tile draining in the town of Rockton; previous to that time there had been very

little draining done in the county. In all, Mr. Halley used about fifteen car loads of tile, making about as many miles of drain. He has also held a number of local offices and has filled them in a very creditable and satisfactory manner. He filled in succession the offices of Township Clerk, Justice of the Peace, Assessor and Supervisor. His eldest son, William, married Miss Sarah Armstrong, his daughter Anna married John Wishop, and Edwin R. married Miss Ida A. Cowan, and all are settled on farms in the vicinity.

Mr. Halley was the first of his relatives to come West but he was soon followed from the East, and from Scotland, many of them coming to Winnebago County, there being about one hundred in this vicinity while many are in Southern and Western States. Of Mr. Halley's brothers and sisters, John, the eldest, has no living children; Ann married William Gilmore and they had four sons and six daughters all living but one son William; Jean married Alexander Patterson, and they have two sons and two daughters living; Margaret married Thomas Farmer, and they have seven sons and two daughters living; David has four sons and two daughters living, and Robert, the youngest, one son and three daughters.



JAMES S. TERWILLIGER, Cashier of the First National Bank of Belvidere, was born in Preble, Cortland County, N. Y., March 26, 1822. His paternal grandfather was a native of Holland and the founder of the family in America. By occupation he was a farmer and spent his last days in Preble, N. Y. Green Terwilliger, the father of our subject, was born in Greene, Chenango County, N. Y., April 20, 1798, and was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he followed throughout his entire life. He died on his farm in Preble Township, September 11, 1879. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Martha Pearsall, was born in New York, June 1, 1796, and died August 5, 1863. The five children of the family were Simmons, James S., Riley, Maria and Philetus.

Mr. Terwilliger, whose name heads this record,

acquired his early education in the district schools of Preble. At the age of fourteen, he left the parental roof and walked to Camillus, where he found employment in a woolen mill and there remained one year. He then spent the succeeding year in a mill at Marcellus Falls, after which he entered Homer Academy and prepared himself for teaching. He then taught school during the winter season and the remainder of the year he devoted to the study of law with his uncle, Gardner Knapp, at Hooper's Valley, N. Y., and was admitted to the Bar in the city of Syracuse, where he resided until 1847. That year witnessed his emigration to the West. He came by way of the Welland Canal and Great Lakes to Chicago and thence went by stage to Beloit, Wis., where he remained a short time, after which he came to Belvidere. A short time afterward he formed a partnership with George Kretsinger and practiced law for a few months, when he accepted a position as clerk in the office of the Circuit Clerk, where he remained for about three years. He was then elected Justice of the Peace, but after a time resigned and accepted a position as clerk in the Fuller & Lawrence Bank, where he remained until 1859. With three others, in the spring of that year, he started for Pike's Peak. They had three horses and a wagon and plenty of provisions for the journey. They traversed the State of Iowa, crossing the Missouri River at Plattsmouth and thence went on across the plains, over which deer, antelope and buffaloes roamed in large numbers. It was on that journey that Mr. Terwilliger killed his only buffalo. As prospects were not very good at Pike's Peak, the young men sold their team and soon returned home. Our subject remained in Boone County until the breaking out of the war, when he went to Springfield and was engaged as clerk in the mustering office for about one year.

In 1848, Mr. Terwilliger was united in marriage with Emily Mitchell, who was born in New Hampshire November 23, 1822, and died October 21, 1887, leaving a daughter, Florence, who was born September 12, 1851, became the wife of D. C. Hollenshead, and died December 17, 1885, leaving one child, Iolene, who makes her home with her grandfather. In November, 1888, Mr. Terwilliger wed-

ded Elizabeth (Rightor) Martin. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, as was also his first wife, but his second wife holds membership with the Baptist Church. They are highly respected people and have many warm friends in this community. In early life he was a Democrat but since the organization of the Republican party has been one of its staunch advocates.

On his return from Springfield, Mr. Terwilliger became connected with the banking interests of Belvidere and when the First National Bank was organized in 1865, he was made Assistant Cashier and later Cashier, which position he has held for over twenty years. In 1890, he became one of the organizers of the Second National Bank, of which he is a Director. His faithful service as Cashier of the First National has won him the confidence and warm regard of his employers and he is held in high esteem throughout business circles.



LEWIS PATTERSON, another old and much-esteemed citizen of Winnebago County, was born in Canada, on the 16th of February, 1818, and is the son of Jonathan Patterson, a native of New Hampshire, born March 20, 1780. The elder Mr. Patterson moved to Canada with his bride, Lydia (Parker) Patterson, he at the age of twenty-one and she when twenty, and they purchased land and began farming. There eight of their thirteen children were born. In 1820 they sold out and moved to Ellisburgh, Jefferson County, N. Y., settling on a small farm. In 1831, they moved to Cuyahoga County, Ohio, near Cleveland, resided there about eight years and then moved to Harrison Township, Winnebago County, Ill., where they purchased one hundred acres, paying \$100. Mr. Patterson died on his farm on the 20th of March, 1815, on his sixty-fifth birthday, leaving a widow and eleven children. Eight of the thirteen children born to this worthy couple were sons, and five daughters, but two sons died in early youth. The paternal grandfather of these children, Jonathan Patterson, Sr., was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and served several years as a private. The maternal grand-

father, Caleb Parker, of Brattleboro, Vt., was a Captain in the Revolution. Both came out of the war unharmed. The mother of our subject survived her husband many years and died at the home of her daughter in Minnesota, in 1865, when eighty-four years of age.

The original of this notice has been a life-long farmer, and has been a resident of Harrison Township since 1839, over half a century. As he grew to manhood, he received but little schooling, and when twenty-one years of age, he wedded Miss Emily Blackburn, of the Buckeye State, daughter of John and Jane (Beers) Blackburn. Their marriage was celebrated in May, 1839, and they took the wedding trip to Illinois, the father and an elder brother of our subject, Dr. Almond Patterson, going ahead of the family in March. Our subject sent the household goods to Chicago by way of the Lake, and then he and the rest of the family, five in number, including the mother, made the trip with a team. They were thirty-two days en route but had a very pleasant journey and escaped the mud of the Maumee Swamps. Our subject and wife commenced housekeeping on the claim of one hundred and sixty acres, which Mrs. Compton now owns, but within two years they sold this and purchased forty acres near where they now reside. About thirty years later, or in 1876, they bought their present farm of eighty acres and erected a good, comfortable residence on this.

Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have lost two sons; one, John A., enlisted with the Boys in Blue and died in the Rebel prison at Macon, Ga., in 1862, probably of starvation. He enlisted at Harrison in the fall of 1861, with the Fifty-fifth Illinois Infantry, Company C, and was captured on the first day of the battle of Shiloh. He was taken to Montgomery, Ala., on Sunday and had nothing to eat until the following Tuesday morning. He was in that state until his sad ending. George C., another son, who fought bravely for the Old Flag, volunteered in August, 1862, in the Seventy-second Illinois Infantry, Company B, under Capt. Curtiss, went at once to Vicksburg, Miss., and was under fire at that siege for forty-seven days. The next engagement was at Natchez, Tenn. He served two years and four months in the ranks and only had a

short furlough when he was sick with fever. He was killed at Franklin, Tenn., November 28, 1861—shot dead while in action. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have two children left: Frederick W., who is at home conducting the farm. He married Miss Erdell Kilbourn, a native of Oneida County, N. Y., who came to Illinois with her grandmother, Thorne, when a child. Her parents were Daniel and Kate (Thorne) Kilbourn. Marion, the daughter of this worthy old couple, married Elmer Richie, a farmer, and resides in Floyd County, Iowa. She has two daughters and one son. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have five grandchildren: Emily K. and Flora J. Patterson, the son's children, at home. Emily is a young lady of twenty-two years, and Flora J. a sweet, pretty child of two years, the joy and pride of her grandparents. Marion is a graduate of the Durand School and is of a literary turn of mind, writing much for the press. She also delivered some very able addresses. Mr. Patterson has served the township as Justice of the Peace, Assessor, and Collector, and is an unserving Republican in politics. He has retired from active labor, and for the past twenty-five years his health has not been of the best, but his mind is still clear and bright as of old. Mrs. Patterson is a member of the United Brethren Church and is still quite active and strong. She was one of the heroines of the war, gave up her sons and fain would have gone herself as nurse.



ANDREW HOLMQUIST, a successful merchant tailor doing business at No. 205 South Third Street, enjoys a wide reputation for first-class workmanship and style. He has a valuable and complete stock of both foreign and domestic goods which is made up to order in the latest fashions, well trimmed and finished and warranted to give satisfaction.

Mr. Holmquist came to Rockford in the spring of 1861, and was for a time, a tailor on the bench. Later, he became a custom cutter, following this for a number of years, and then opened a store at No. 407 East State Street. This was in 1884, and three years later he located in the Holland House block

with a Mr. Hepburn, with whom he continued in business for two years. He then opened up his present establishment and has since been successful. He owns a fine house at No. 513 Walnut Street, and is one of the substantial, progressive men of the city.

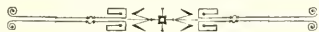
During the latter part of the war, he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-first Illinois Infantry, from Rockford for one hundred days, but was in service for four months. After being honorably discharged he returned to this city.

Born in Jonkoping, Sweden, March 15, 1835, he there attained his growth and received his scholastic advantages. He also learned his trade in that country, and was the first of the family to come to the United States. He sailed from Gottenburg to New York City, and from there to Chicago, Ill., where he remained six months. From there he came to Rockford, and has since been joined by a brother, Swan J., who married, and is now a retired carpenter, residing at No. 302 Seventh Street. A sister, Mrs. John Shult, died in this city. The parents died in their native country, Sweden; the father, Andrew Swausen, when ninety-eight years of age, and the mother, whose maiden name was Mary Samuelson, when sixty-five years of age. The father followed the occupation of an agriculturist. Both were worthy members of the Lutheran Church. The only daughter living Sarah, widow of John Mathewson, is now a resident of the native country.

Andrew Holmquist was united in marriage to Miss Inga Sophia Abrahamson, a native of Jonkoping Lan, Sweden, born February 6, 1842. When twelve years of age, she came with her parents, John and Anna (Nelson) Abrahamson, to the United States, and with them located in Rockford. Mr. Abrahamson was born in 1816, and died in Rockford in the fall of 1891. His wife had died a number of years previously, when little past middle life. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal (Swedish) Church during the latter part of their lives. They left three children: Mrs. Holmquist; Albert, a designer in the Rockford Mantel and Furniture Company, and August, a painter for George Brown, in Galesburg, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Holmquist became the parents of

five children, one, Oscar, dying when seven years of age. The others are Albert J., book-keeper in the Winnebago National Bank of Rockford, who married Miss Hilda Olson, of Rockford, and now resides on Third Street; Fred A. H. is book-keeper for his father. Both are well educated. Esther A. and Minnie G., both at home. Mr. Holmquist and family are members of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a local preacher. In politics, he and his sons advocate the principles of the Republican party.



WILLIAM KERR, born in the parish of Old Deer, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, is a son of George Kerr, also a native of that place. He is at present residing on an excellent tract of land located on the State Road in Winnebago Township, six miles west of the court house.

The father of our subject followed his trade of a tailor in the village of Fiterangus, Scotland, where he made his home until 1835, and then with his wife and five children came to America, setting sail from Aberdeen in the vessel "Carleton" in the month of April, and landed at Quebec six weeks later. The elder Mr. Kerr located near the town of Cornwall, where he prosecuted his trade until 1838, when he came to Illinois and settled near Lockport, Will County. Residing there till the summer of 1841, he came to Winnebago County and entered a tract of eighty acres of Government land in Guilford Township, in addition to which he purchased fifty acres adjoining. He erected a good set of farm buildings on the place and there made his home until his decease. His wife was also born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, and prior to her marriage was Helen Legg, daughter of George and Barbara Legg. She also departed this life on the home farm in Guilford Township.

The five sons and one daughter comprising the parental household were George, William, Alexander, Charles, James and Helen. He of whom we write was quite young when he made the trip to America with his parents, and was a lad of ten years when he commenced working out. When the family came to this county it was very sparsely

settled; deer and other wild game roamed at will through the forests, and the marketing of grain was done at Chicago. William Kerr resided with his parents until their decease, and still continued on the old homestead until 1867. In 1852, having visited Iowa, he entered a tract of prairie land in Clayton County, and a tract of land in Allamakee County, making the round trip to the Hawkeye State with a team. Mr. Kerr never located on his Iowa land, but in 1867 sold his prairie tract and purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies.

In 1864, Miss Ellen Ralston, also a native of Argyleshire, Scotland, became the wife of our subject. She sailed from Campbelltown in 1812 with a Scotch colony, which located in Holland and vicinity. Mrs. Kerr was the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Andrew) Ralston, and departed this life January 4, 1892. The two children born of her union with our subject are Amelia and George William. The family of Mr. Kerr are all members of the Presbyterian Church of Winnebago, and are highly esteemed by all who know them.

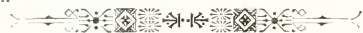


JOHN BLAKE. A well-regulated farm in Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County, is the home of the gentleman above named, the estate being located upon section 5. Our subject was educated in the public schools in his township, and received from his father a thorough understanding of agriculture which he chose as his life work. The one hundred and forty-three acres of land which he owns are improved by the use of the best fertilizing agents and a proper rotation of crops brings its owner handsome returns.

Born in Franklin County, Vt., March 31, 1813, our subject is a son of John and Phylura (Campbell) Blake. He was married in the fall of 1841 to Miss Miranda Barker and to them have been born six children: Milan A. is married and has five children; Harlow E. is also married and the father of six children; his wife, who bore the maiden name of Lydia Corwin, is the daughter of Captain

and Betsey (Hulsey) Corwin, who came to Winnebago County in 1840; Andrew S. Blake is married and the father of four children; Hervey J.; Mary A. is Mrs. A. H. Moore and the mother of three children, and Sarah A., who married Frank Anshouts and resides in Iowa.

Mr. Blake of this sketch cast his first vote for William Henry Harrison, and is a firm adherent of the Republican party. In religious matters, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is active in all measures which have for their object the upbuilding of his community. He is of English descent on his father's side, three brothers having come to this country from England, and his ancestors on the maternal side of the house are Scotch. Mr. Blake has held many offices of trust within the power of the people to bestow and is regarded by them as an upright and honorable man.



DAVID CARPENTER. The farming community of Rockton Township, Winnebago County, recognizes a worthy representative in the subject of this notice, who for a number of years pursued the even tenor of his way on a well-developed farm of one hundred and sixty-four acres. In 1863, however, he removed to the village, and has since that time lived retired from work of any kind. He was born in Adams, Mass., in 1808, and is the son of Nathaniel Carpenter, who was born October 29, 1764, in Rehoboth, Bristol County, Mass. He departed this life in October, 1842, when seventy-eight years of age.

The father of our subject emigrated to Rockton, this county, in the spring of 1836, starting from Stillwater, Saratoga County, N. Y., in May of that year. The party, which was composed of our subject, his young bride, aged father, his brothers John and Nathaniel, and four sisters, were shipwrecked en route, near Ripley. The maiden name of our subject's wife was Julia M. Pettibone; she was born in July, 1814, in Stockholm, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and is a daughter of Luman and Almira (Rudd) Pettibone, natives, respectively, of Vermont and New York.

Our subject was heavily bereaved in 1833, by the death of his mother, who died at Hoosiek Falls, N. Y. The parental family included twelve children, two of whom are still living: Mary C., Mrs. John Bachelder, makes her home in San Francisco, Cal. A sister, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, died in Rockton in 1892, when eighty-two years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter have buried one son, Philo Pettibone, who died when eighteen months old. Another son, Lyman N., has been a resident of Lovelock, Nev., since 1865, where he is a prominent and wealthy business man. The son was married to a Miss Nellie Lovelock, whose father was the founder of that place. During the late war, he was a volunteer from Plover, Wis., going to the front as Second Lieutenant. He participated in many important battles of that period, but was prevented by sickness from being present at the battle of Shiloh; he was taken prisoner at Altoona.

An adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter, Anna Phidelia Lippitt, entered their home when eight years of age, and was given an excellent education in the Rockton schools. In 1856, she married C. B. Ayer, of Chicago, and is at present residing at Beloit, Wis., where her husband has charge of the Water Works. Our subject is not only respected by his associates, but by all who know him, for his uprightness and ability, while the members of his family are likewise regarded with favor by their acquaintances.



hON. JOHN RUSH, deceased, one of the early settlers of Rockford, was a native of Somerset County, Pa. His father, Jacob Rush, was also born in Somerset County, and died on the old Rush homestead in that community at the advanced age of ninety-seven years. He was a prominent man all through the War of the Revolution, and was highly respected by all who knew him. By occupation he was a farmer, which business he followed throughout his entire life. His wife was also a native of Somerset County, and there they resided until called to their final rest at an advanced age.

The subject of this sketch was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads in the county of his nativity, and, after attaining to man's estate, was joined in wedlock with Miss Margaret Hanna, who was born in Little York, Pa., and was descended from an old family of the Keystone State. They became the parents of twelve children, and, with the exception of John, who died at the age of sixteen years, and Mrs. Martha McCall, all are yet living. Jacob is now a retired farmer of Falls City, Pa.; Alex is living a retired life in Brownsville; Mary is now Mrs. Fry, of Boone, Iowa; Martha, deceased, was wife of William McCall; Reuben is living a retired life in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; James makes his home in Friendsville, Md.; Jane is now Mrs. Hazlett, of Rockford; Lydia is the wife of Isaac Utter, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; and Sarah, Rebecca and Margaret are living in Rockford, having a pleasant home on Mulberry Street.

Mr. Rush followed farming in Pennsylvania for some years. He was one of the most prominent and influential citizens of his county, and twice represented his district in the State Legislature, being elected by the Democratic party. He proved a faithful officer, giving great satisfaction to the people. At length, he determined to leave the East and seek a home in Illinois. Accompanied by his family, he came to Rockford, and engaged in keeping a hotel, being for eighteen months proprietor of the Rock River House. After that time he lived a retired life until called to his final rest. He died at his home on South Main Street, the present site of the new Nelson House, on the 27th of September, 1857, at the age of seventy-one years. He was a man of sound judgment, of kind and happy disposition, and won friends wherever he went. In early manhood, he became a member of the Baptist Church, to which he was ever faithful, and served as Deacon and Church Clerk for a great many years. His wife survived him only two weeks, when she, too, was called to her final home. Like her husband, she was a consistent member of the Baptist Church, and had the love of all who knew her. Mr. Rush was a prominent member of the Masonic order for a great many years and was buried with the honors of

that order. All of the children, who reside in Rockford, are members of the Christian Union Church, with the exception of Mrs. Hazlett, who is a Baptist. The Misses Rush are intelligent and cultured ladies, and have many warm friends throughout this community, where the family has been widely and favorably known since 1852.



AUBREY A. SNYDER. One of the best-known residents of Winnebago County, is he whose name appears at the head of this sketch and who is the incumbent of the responsible office of Supervisor of Rockton Township. A native of Livingston County, N. Y., he was born October 28, 1812, in Springwater Township, and is the son of Nelson F. Snyder, whose birth occurred in the town of Scipio, N. Y., May 21, 1820.

The grandfather of our subject, Benjamin F. Snyder, was a pioneer of Springwater Township, whence he came when a young man from Scipio and followed the occupation of a farmer. His wife was, prior to her marriage, Miss Amanda Cole, and to them were born five sons and one daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Snyder died on the home farm, the father in 1853; the mother's death occurred a week before. Their children are all deceased with the exception of Dewitt C. Snyder, who is living retired in Springwater Township. He is a man of influence and prominence in his county and has been Representative from his District.

Nelson F. Snyder was a tradesman, carpenter and builder, and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Polly C. Ingoldsbly, was married when eighteen years of age and died in her thirty-first year when our subject was a boy. She reared seven children: James F., our subject, Eugene B., Charles H., an infant daughter who died unnamed, Charles H. (second), and Allie R., now Mrs. W. W. Walker, of Wayland, Steuben County, N. Y. Three of the sons were volunteers during the late war, James being the first to enlist, becoming a member of Company B, Thirteenth New York Infantry, in April,

1861. He enlisted for a service of two years and was killed at the second battle of Bull Run. Our subject was very desirous of joining the army but at first could not obtain the consent of his father. Later, however, he received his permission and joined the same regiment of which his brother was a member and was mustered out with the title of Second Sergeant. His term of service expiring, he was discharged March 13, 1863, and re-enlisted in the Twenty-first New York Cavalry in September, 1863. The regiment made a rendezvous at Troy, N. Y., and went into winter quarters at Blandinsburg, going the following spring to the Shenandoah Valley. Eugene B. belonged to Mack's Black Horse Battery of New York, whose service was in Louisiana. After the surrender of Lee, and the Grand Review at Washington, the Twenty-first Cavalry was sent to Ft. Collins, Colo., to look after the Indians. Mr. Snyder was mustered out at Denver with the commission of Second Lieutenant, July 1, 1866.

During our subject's four years and four months of active service in the Union Army, he had two horses killed and his clothing torn with bullets, even to the cap on his head, at Ft. Royal. He was confined in the hospital but a few weeks at David's Island, L. I., and as soon as convalescent was given charge of the Iron Guard. This was during his first service.

On the death of his mother, Mr. Snyder went to Michigan and made his home with his uncle, D. C. Ingoldsbly, at Oakland, with whom he remained until seventeen years of age, when he returned home and enlisted in the army, as above related. In 1866, he went again to his father's farm and the following year came to Rockton, where he has resided since that time, having established a fine reputation as carriage painter, decorator and paper hanger. His first work was with M. B. Morgan, and, having a natural taste and talent for that line of work, soon excelled his employer and succeeded him in the business.

Mr. Snyder was married, November 18, 1869, to Cora L. Stiles, a native of Rockton and the daughter of Erastus L. and Marantha (Capron) Stiles, whose sketch will be found on another page in this volume. Our subject and his wife have

buried one daughter, Alta, who died when two years and four months old. Their living children are Alma F., Murray S., Minnie Lee, Roy N. and Luetta. Our subject purchased his snug little home on the south side of the Rock River in 1882. He cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln while a soldier and has since been a strong and firm adherent of that party. He served in the position of Town Collector several years, City Marshal six years and is now serving his fifth term as Supervisor. The subject of this sketch has made some specimens of oil painting and cabinet bric-a-brac, which shows much natural genius.



RW. BARNES has been a resident of Rockford for nearly forty years, and during that time he has won the confidence and esteem of nearly every one. He is at present proprietor of the city scales, located on South First Street, and is also a prominent real-estate dealer. He came to Rockford in 1853, and, in partnership with C. A. Huntington, an ex-School Commissioner, and for many years a prominent man of that city, opened a stationery and book store. This business was very successfully carried on until 1857, when a severe fire swept over the city and the company lost \$20,000. As might be supposed, this was quite a misfortune to Mr. Barnes, but he went to work with great earnestness, and, to some extent, retrieved his fallen fortune. He has taken a deep interest in every movement for the upbuilding and prosperity of the city, and assisted liberally with his means to build the Kenosha Railroad (now the Northwestern Railroad) in Rockford. He, as well as others, lost in this matter. Mr. Barnes has ever been industrious and enterprising, and what he has accumulated in the way of this world's goods is the result of his own good fighting qualities. He was born in Burlington, Vt., in 1831, and was there reared and educated. His father, Capt. Jackson Barnes, was born in Ferrisburg, Vt., and died when only forty-five years of age, after a short illness. The latter followed the occupation of a farmer, and met with substantial results in this pursuit. He was a Captain

of a company in the War of 1812, and took part in the battle of Plattsburg. His father, Joshua Barnes, was also from the Green Mountain State, and was a Quaker in religion, devoting much of his time to religious work. The latter was also a farmer. Jackson Barnes was married in his native State to Miss Judah Wing a descendant of old Quaker stock, and the daughter of John and Sarah Wing, both of whom were devoted Quakers all their lives. Mrs. Barnes survived her husband many years, and died in 1884, when very old. R. W. Barnes was married in Burlington, Vt., to Miss Mary J. Gray, who was born, reared and educated there, and who comes of good old New England stock. To Mr. and Mrs. Barnes was born one child, who died when but a few years old. They have an adopted child, Nettie, who is now the wife of Frank Stewart, and who resides in Rockford. Mrs. Barnes is a member of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Barnes is a staunch Republican in his political principles.



GEORGE G. LINDBLADE, who is engaged in raising vegetables and small fruit at the corner of Sixteenth Avenue and Kishwaukee Street, where he owns so valuable land, has lived in this city and on Kishwaukee Street nearly all his life. For many years he has followed his present business and has met with much encouragement.

Born in Princeton, Ill., January 9, 1861, he was but two years of age when he was brought to Rockford by his parents, and he was here educated in the public schools and the business college. He was one of eight children, six of whom are yet living: Augusta, wife of J. P. Johnson, a tailor for the G. R. Atkinson Tailoring Company; George G., our subject; Emma D., Minnie; C. William and Henry E. C. William is a carver by trade and is now in the furniture factories of Rockford. Henry E. is completing his education in the Illinois School of Pharmacy at Chicago, and will graduate with the Class of '93. Elizabeth died in infancy, in October, 1855. Another sister, Jennie E., died at her home in this city October 28, 1889, when thirty-

four years of age. From the time she was nine years of age she had been an invalid, but during all that time she displayed a true Christian spirit and a sweet and cheerful disposition. She possessed all those qualities that make a grand and noble woman, and was universally loved and admired.

"Dead, and where now are those earnest, loving eyes

Which kindled in so many eyes the light?

Have they departed from our earthly skies

And left no ray to illuminate the night?

Shall she thus die and waste away

And no fond hope be left?

Is there no sweet, confiding ray for bosoms all bereft?

Yes, yes, an earnest trust."

J. August Lindblade, the father of the above-mentioned children, was born in Jonkoping City, Sweden, March 22, 1830, and came of pure Swedish ancestry. His father was a goldsmith, and J. August learned this trade while growing up without help, for his father had died when J. August was but nine weeks old. The latter was reared by stepfathers, and when twenty-one years of age, he enlisted in the regular army, serving three years, but participating in no active engagements. He was married in his native city to Miss Emily S. Anderson, whose birth occurred in Jonkoping, November 18, 1832, and who was reared and educated in that city, as was also her husband. Following their marriage, they came to the United States, in June, 1853, and were very much pleased with the green trees and lovely flowers of this country, after the wintry and desolate aspect of the one they had left.

They settled at once in Kane County, Ill., and there Mr. Lindblade worked in Elgin, Geneva and St. Charles. In May, 1855, he located in Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Ill., but subsequently moved to Princeton and thence to Rockford, where the father died on the 11th of May, 1889. He was a worthy and much-respected citizen and a noble, warm-hearted man. During the last years of his life he followed the blacksmith's trade. He was a great lover of President Lincoln, and when the Civil War broke out, being a natural-born soldier, he was among the first to enlist in defense

of the Union. He helped raise a company and served ninety days with it. Afterward he enlisted in the Sixty-ninth Illinois Infantry, and served his country faithfully until he was honorably discharged as First Sergeant. After returning to Princeton, he went back on a visit to Sweden, but after again coming to this country he settled in Rockford. Socially, he was a worthy member of the G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., a Master Mason, and was one of the Ancient Order of United Workmen at the time of his death.

His wife, who is now living in Rockford, is sixty years of age, but time has dealt leniently with her and she is yet quite active. Her father, Lars Anderson, who was born in Wester Gothland, but reared in the Province of Smoland, Jonkoping Lan, Sweden, was for years an overseer of the wharfs of Jonkoping City. His wife died in Sweden. Later, Mr. Anderson came to the United States with his daughter, Mrs. J. August Lindblade, and now resides in Rockford. On the 29th of September, 1892, he will have reached his eighty-sixth mile stone. He and his family were members of the Lutheran Church, but since coming here he has been identified with the Methodists.

Our subject was married in Chilton, Wis., March 28, 1889, to Miss Mary E. L. Cressy, a native of Calumet County, Wis., where she passed her girlhood and received her education. Her parents, Ithiel and Luraney (Coy) Cressy, were natives of Vermont. The father was a farmer and died in the prime of life. The mother is still living and makes her home in Chilton, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Lindblade are prominent young people of South East Rockford, and are well respected.



HENRY C. WILSON died at his home, at No. 809, South West Street, Rockford, April 14, 1891. He was one of the old residents of the city, having come here in 1854, and was extensively interested in the grain business, being thus engaged for a period of ten years. It was during that time that he purchased improved property on the South Side, which he

built up and rented to tenants, and has thus added greatly to the development of this then unoccupied section. He was an interested witness of the advancement and growth of the city and County, and few, if any, of the residents of Rockford have been more successful in a business way than was the subject of this sketch.

While a resident of Rockford, Mr. Wilson was interested in a general store at Independence, Iowa, for five years, and for two years had quite an income from the manufacture of lime. He served as Alderman of the Fifth Ward for six years, on the Democratic ticket, and always took an active part in all measures that tended to the upbuilding of the city. It is due to his push and enterprise that the streets in the Fifth Ward were macadamized and that the lights thereon were improved.

Our subject was born in Hampden County, Mass., September 1, 1827. His father and grandfather were born in the same county, where the former gentleman, Andrew Wilson, lived and died. His father, who bore the name of Col. Justin Wilson, was an officer in the State militia, and was probably in active service in the War of 1812. He was a farmer in his native State, where he resided until 1855, then coming to Wmnelago County, died in Rockford November 8, 1864, when in his seventieth year, having been born March 25, 1794. The lady who became his wife was also a native of the Bay State, and bore the maiden name of Samantha Baird. Her disease occurred at Independence, Iowa, July 16, 1869, firm in the faith of the Congregational Church.

Henry C. Wilson was one of two children born to his parents, and received a practical education in his native State. He was married in Berkshire County, Mass., to Miss Abbie E. Baird, who was born in the Township of Becket, that State, May 14, 1828. She was given an excellent education at the schools in Pittsford and Mount Holyoke Seminary, and was the daughter of Kendall and Lucinda (Chaffee) Baird, also natives of the Bay State, where families of that name resided prior to the Revolutionary War. Mr. and Mrs. Baird died in their native State at the respective ages of sixty-four and sixty-seven years. The wife of our subject was one of the eldest of their family of six

children, one of whom is deceased. A sister, Mrs. Kellogg, now lives in this city.

Mrs. Wilson has, with her son, since the death of her husband, managed the business in a most intelligent and profitable manner. Two of the four children born to her are deceased: Edgar H. and Prentice B.; the former dying when thirty-two years of age, and the latter in his fifth year. Those living are Egbert T., at home, and George F., who manages the business left by his father. He holds a prominent place in local affairs, and has held the office of Supervisor of the Fifth Ward for the past four years. He is a staunch Democrat, in the ranks of which party he is an active worker. He married Emma Minzinger, who is a native of this county, where she is quite a leader in social matters, and a noble and high-minded woman.



SAMUEL WOOD was born in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, England, February 25, 1812, and died in Belvidere, Ill., December 10, 1887. He was three times married. Unto him and his first wife, formerly Miss Mary Drinkwater, of England, were born two sons: Joseph and Frederick. After the death of his first wife, he married Miss Amelia Sulley, and they became the parents of a daughter, Mary Amelia. In 1851, accompanied by his wife, daughter and younger son, Mr. Wood emigrated from England to Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, where his wife died soon afterward.

In Syracuse, N. Y., Mr. Wood was married, February 9, 1851, to Miss Lucy Angeline Stiles, who survives him. In October of the year following his marriage, Mr. Wood came with his family to Illinois, where he purchased a lot eight rods square in Belvidere, on the corner of what is now Logan Avenue and Whitney Street. With the aid of his son Fred, and his father-in-law, Mr. Stiles, he at once erected a house, 16x24 feet, and, having established his family comfortably, began an active business life, engaging in buying and shipping produce. During the progress of the Civil War, he went to Vicksburg with a quantity of butter,

and also for the purpose of visiting his son Fred, who was in the army.

Mr. Wood also dealt considerably in real estate, buying and selling some valuable property in the center of the city on the South Side. For several years, he was in the grocery business on State Street and during part of that time was proprietor of a lunch room. For some eighteen years, he owned the city scales. Beside his city property, he owned a farm four miles south of Belvidere, which, after managing for seventeen years, he sold six months before his death. Until two months and seven days prior to his demise, he resided in the house first erected by him, to which he added as needs and opportunities presented. His last enterprise was the erection of a double brick house on Whitney Street, where he died.

In his church life, Mr. Wood always endeavored to be useful. Reared an Episcopalian, he was converted and joined the Baptist Church at his old home in England. The stone church in which he was baptized still stands, and a photograph of it was shown at his funeral. After coming to America, he united by letter with the Second Baptist Church, of Syracuse, N. Y., and brought his letter from that place to Belvidere, uniting with the First Baptist Church and remaining in its fellowship for ten years to a day. Then, with his wife and daughter, he became a constituent member of the South Baptist Church at Belvidere, and was appointed a Trustee at its organization, October 26, 1865.

In July, 1866, Mr. Wood was elected Chairman of a Church Building Committee, which erected a beautiful edifice, dedicated September 12, 1867, but unfortunately, was burned down December 19, 1871. Steps were at once taken to rebuild, but Mr. Wood, observing that even after the foundation was on the ground there was a seemingly unnecessary delay, called on one of the Trustees to inquire the reason, and was surprised on being informed that the Trustees did not feel warranted in beginning to build with the present subscription. As they had no time to attend to the matter, they had decided to rent or buy the Christian Church. "Not build," ejaculated Mr. Wood, "and go into the Christian Church! where is our room to grow?"

It will not hold our present membership." Then as if impelled by some irresistible power, he added, "I will undertake to build the church if I can have Elder Fulton with me to help raise the money." He sketched an agreement, and on the following morning met the Church Board and submitted it to them. They accepted his proposition and at once passed over into his hands all plans and specifications. He began the work earnestly and enthusiastically, while the pastor as faithfully labored to raise the needed funds. At last, they completed the substantial brick building which now adorns Logan Avenue.

November 16, 1870, Mr. Wood was elected Clerk and Treasurer of the church, serving in that double office until the winter before his death, when he resigned the office of Treasurer, but continued to serve as Clerk until summoned to the Church Triumphant at 3:30 A. M., December 10, 1887. The funeral services were held at the church, conducted by Rev. E. C. Stover, and the remains were interred in the family lot at Belvidere Cemetery.

Lucy Angeline Stiles was born in Winfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., June 3, 1823, and spent her early years alternately in the homes of her parents and paternal grandparents. From the age of twelve until she was twenty, she resided altogether with her grandparents. She was converted at seven years of age, and at the age of twenty years united with the Baptist Church at Salisbury, Herkimer County, N. Y. Returning soon afterward to her parents, she united with the Baptist Church in Cazenovia, Madison County, N. Y. After completing her education at Oneida Conference Seminary, she taught several terms and then engaged in millinery and dressmaking. Removing from Cazenovia to Syracuse with her parents, she united with the Second Baptist Church, and was there married to Samuel Wood, removing soon afterward to Belvidere. For ten years, she held membership with the First Baptist Church and from that time onward held membership with the South Church.

The elder son of our subject, Joseph, was born October 10, 1832, came to America about 1868, and is now engaged as a cabinet-maker in Rock-

ford. His wife bore the maiden name of Martha Jones. Fred, the younger son of our subject, was born in Bullo Pill, Parish of Aure, England, February 12, 1838, and remained at home in business with his father and clerking in the grocery store of S. Bennett until he enlisted in the army. At the close of the war, he embarked in business at Chicago and had a fair prospect of success as a commission merchant, but in the great fire lost everything excepting the clothes that he wore. His father sent him supplies with which to replenish his wardrobe, but they were stolen before they reached him. Nothing daunted by misfortunes, he erected a shanty on the ruins of what had been his place of business and once more resumed the business which he still conducts. He was married, May 1, 1878, to Miss Della May, who was born in Rockford, this State, October 11, 1857. This estimable lady died October 14, 1885, leaving one daughter, May, who was born in Chicago, March 3, 1879.

The only daughter of our subject, Mary A., was born July 30, 1845, in Bridgewater, Somersetshire, England, and came to America when a mere child. She attended school for a time in Syracuse, N. Y., and made good progress in the graded schools of Belvidere, and was graduated from the Rockford Female Seminary in 1867. She taught successfully several years, closing her work in that line where she was graduated. As a teacher, her characteristics were conscientiousness and thoroughness. Persevering and unassuming, she also accomplished much earnest work for the Master through the medium of her pen. Such was her devotion to her work that she was always overtaxing her energies. One of her pupils writes: "She possessed fine literary tastes. In her school discipline, she kept the machinery of government out of sight, but the most wayward was subdued by her unvarying gentleness, her earnest persuasions and sometimes by her tears. Her work as a teacher was always done prayerfully, quietly and subject to the Master's approval."

She early became a Christian, joining the First Baptist Church at Belvidere. With her parents and sixty-five others interested in the organization of the South Belvidere Baptist Church, she

aided in founding and enlarging the new church. In early life began her longings for mission work, and in the spring of 1874 she offered her services to the Board and was accepted. Strong in her attachments, few could more truly appreciate the blessedness of home and the refinements of social life. She was an only and tenderly beloved daughter. As the time of her departure drew near, she attended farewell services in Rockford, Milwaukee, Belvidere and Chicago. Her father went East and parted with her on shipboard. She sailed on the steamer "Bolivia," September 19, in company with other missionaries, stopped for a visit with friends in the South of England, and arrived in Nellore January 2, 1875. She at once commenced the study of the Telugu language. In March following her arrival, she went to Ramapatam, where her interests were to center.

At Ramapatam Mission Chapel, India, Miss Mary A. Wood was married to Rev. Alfred A. Newhall, the ceremony being performed by Rev. D. Clough, D. D. Dr. Newhall was born January 7, 1844, in Cambridgeport, Mass. During the short missionary career of Mrs. Newhall it was hers to witness the horrors of a terrible famine. She died October 9, 1877. Loving hands robed her for burial, and after a brief funeral service, conducted by Rev. D. Downy, her remains were borne to Nellore Cemetery and laid to rest under the shadow of a margosa tree. Her husband has since erected upon the grave a low monument of polished black granite, bearing this inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Mary A. Wood, wife of Rev. A. A. Newhall, missionary at Ramapatam." After seven years, Mr. Newhall married again, his wife being Miss Marie Menke, and they have one son, Freddie. In the autumn of 1890, they returned from India and are now in the pine regions of North Carolina in quest of health, at a place known as Southern Pines.

Some brief mention of the ancestry of Mrs. Wood will be of interest to the reader. Her great-grandfather Stiles died suddenly, while sitting in a chair at the table. Her grandfather Stiles, born May 10, 1780, married Lucy Ives, who was born January 15, 1782, and they became the parents of seven children. David Stiles, father of Mrs. Wood,

was born December 20, 1801, and died April 8, 1868. Elizabeth Bredenburgh, mother of Mrs. Wood, was born September 15, 1802, died April 17, 1855, and was buried near Syracuse, N. Y.

Taking a further glance at the descent of Mrs. Wood, we find that in 1644 three brothers emigrated from Holland to America, who were by name Peter, Jacob and Hendrick Marse Vroman. Peter settled on Long Island, where he married Volchin Peters about 1650. They had a family of two children and became well-to-do, accumulating property in New York and Long Island. They made a joint will, dividing their property to their children and the Dutch Church. Jacob returned to Holland during 1644, and about six years later was elected Lord Mayor of Leiden. He owned a large vineyard in Leiden and a block of buildings in Amsterdam, besides a number of ships. His death occurred in Leiden about 1680. His property was sold and the money put in the Orphans' Chamber of Holland, where it will remain until the heirs in America call for it and prove their descent.

The third brother, Hendrick, settled in Albany, N. Y., whence he removed to Schenectady, N. Y., about 1646, and two years afterward was married there. He and his wife, who were Mrs. Wood's grandparents in the fifth generation, had two children: John, born in 1650, and Adam, in 1652. The last-named married Engelica Bloom in 1677, and they became the parents of six children. His wife and youngest child were killed by the Indians February 8, 1690, and he died at his plantation in Scholarie, N. Y., February 25, 1730, aged seventy-eight years. His second son, Wanter, was born in 1680, and married Maritie Hollenbech, September 24, 1708. Their family consisted of twelve children, and Isaac, who was the sixth in order of birth, married Dorothy Vanbuskirk September 24, 1744. They had eight children. Rachel, the eldest, was born October 24, 1745, married John Farrell, and became the mother of two children. One of these, Dorothy, was born August 3, 1763, and on May 25, 1788, married William Bredenburgh, a Methodist minister, who was born May 8, 1763.

The sixth in the family of eleven children born to William and Dorothy Bredenburgh was Eliza-

beth, who became the wife of David Stiles March 31, 1822, and died April 17, 1855. They were the parents of eight children, namely: Lucy Angeline, Ann Eliza, Amanda Maria, David, Jr., Harriett C., William Philo, Betsey Amelia, and George Washington. Ann Eliza, who was born May 18, 1825, married Willard M. Hudson, August 22, 1846, and they had two children: George M. and Herbert; Amanda Maria, born March 12, 1827, married Alfred Darrow, September 1, 1855, and they had four children: Flora Adell (deceased), Josephine, Walter (deceased) and May, now Mrs. E. Hoyt. David, Jr., born August 26, 1828, was married, in 1849, to Miss Esther Tuller, who was born April 26, 1833, and they had four children: Dewitt Monroe, Ella Zepherine, Hattie Amelia and Ida Lorette. Harriett C. Stiles, who was born March 24, 1830, was married, February 17, 1851, to Wesley Peck, who was born in Hamilton, Madison County, N. Y., September 25, 1831. Their family consisted of four children: Ellen Harriett, Anna Bell, Lillie May, and Charles. William Philo, born February 16, 1832, married Syrine Helmer, and they had three children: Ida, Anna Maria and D. May. Betsey Amelia, born March 12, 1834, died in infancy; George Washington, born February 6, 1835, died in Belvidere, September 19, 1856.



HARRY M. JOHNSON is Secretary and Treasurer of the Rockford *Star* Printing Company, which was established in 1888, and publishes the Daily, Semi-weekly and Weekly *Star*. Mr. Johnson first became associated with the business as City Editor and Business Manager, but owing to the demands made of him in the office, he now gives his entire time to the business end of the enterprise, and under his management of the *Star* it has steadily grown in circulation and power.

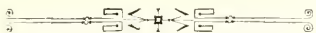
Mr. Johnson has been connected with newspaper work, in one capacity or another, all his life, beginning when a boy as a carrier. After graduating from the High School, he became reporter for the Rockford *Register*, when nineteen years of age, and was associated in that capacity with the paper

for six years. Recognizing his ability, he was offered an interest in the stock company being organized to found a new morning daily in Rockford and the position of manager of the enterprise, which he accepted. He now controls more of the stock of the company than any other stockholder in the concern. The paper was first issued March 20, 1888, as the *Morning Star*, and has always been a strong Democratic organ. It is a seven-column quarto, neatly printed, and has a large circulation throughout the county.

Our subject has been a resident of Rockford since 1872, coming here when a boy from Wisconsin. His birth occurred in that State, near Madison, Dane County, in 1863. His father, William W. Johnson, was a native of Pennsylvania, where also the paternal ancestors of our subject were born for four generations back. The father of our subject left his native State when a young man, going to Wisconsin, where he became a pilot, plying on the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers in the interest of the lumbermen. Later, he became a resident of Dane County, whence he removed to Rockford in 1872, and was employed in the manufacture of piano stools in this city. Later, he was one of the organizers and first Superintendent of the Co-operative Furniture Company. At the present time, however, he is engaged as a contractor and builder.

The parents of our subject were married in Wisconsin, the maiden name of the lady being Elizabeth P. Briggs. She was born in Michigan, her father, Isaac Briggs, being a native of the Green Mountain State and a veteran in the War of 1812. His father was one of the Green Mountain boys who fought in the Revolutionary War. He was known as Dr. Briggs, and after having attained to his majority came West to Michigan, settling on an improved farm near Schoolcraft. Owing, however, to the prevailing epidemic of chills and fever, he disposed of his farm at a sacrifice and moved with his family to Wisconsin, where he spent his last days in Dane County. He had one son, M. J. Briggs, who was a soldier in the late Civil War, enlisting as a private when eighteen years old, and being mustered out with the commission of Lieutenant.

He of whom we write was married, in Rockford, to Miss Carrie May Ashton, a native of Durand, this county, but reared and educated in this city. She is a daughter of Andrew Ashton, a prominent dry-goods merchant, having stores in Rockford and in Durand. She is a most intelligent lady, being a well known contributor to many of the famous papers of the land. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have one child, W. Ashton Johnson.



ANDREW G. ORTLUND, a member of the firm of Carlson, Ortlund & Co., dealers in gents' furnishing goods, hats, caps, etc., claims Sweden as the land of his birth. He was born in the Province of Westmoreland, on the 6th of December, 1860, and is a son of Andrew and Augusta Ortlund, both of whom are residents of Evanston, Ill., and members of the Lutheran Church. The father is now seventy-two years of age, and his wife has reached the age of three-score years. All of the brothers of our subject and his sister reside either at Rockford or in Evanston, having come to this country since Andrew emigrated.

Mr. Ortlund, whose name heads this sketch, acquired his education in the common schools of his native land and there learned the butcher's trade. At the age of twenty years, he bade good-bye to his old home and family and in the month of June, 1880, started for America, sailing from Gottenburg to New York City. He went from thence to Amburg, N. Y., where he resided for nineteen months. It was in August, 1882, that he left the Empire State and went South, spending some time in the vicinity of New Orleans, after which he went to Cuba. Later, he returned to this country and made a location in Evanston, Ill., where he resided for six years. During that time, he learned the trade of a laundryman and in his own interest established business, which he carried on for five years before coming to Rockford. The year 1890 witnessed his arrival in this city. He formed a partnership with Mr. Carlson, as a dealer in gents' furnishing goods, hats, caps, clothing, etc., and the following year a change in

the firm caused the change in the business title to Carlson, Ortlund & Co. Their store is located at No. 525 Seventh Street and they are now doing a good business, having built up an excellent trade which is constantly increasing.

In Evanston, Ill., Mr. Ortlund was joined in wedlock with Miss Matilda C. Johnson, who was born and reared in Sweden, and while a young lady left the old home for the United States, to which her parents afterwards emigrated. They are still residents of Evanston. One child graces the union of our subject and his wife, a daughter, Minnie M. The parents are both members of the Swedish Methodist Church, and although they have resided in this city but a short time, are already well known and have made many friends, their excellencies of character having won for them the high regard of those with whom they have come in contact. In his political affiliations, Mr. Ortlund is a Republican.



JOHN H. BENNETT, an agriculturist residing in Belvidere, claims the old Bay State as the place of his birth. He first opened his eyes to the light of day in Groton, Middlesex County, July 7, 1835. His grandfather was a lifelong farmer, and spent his last years in Groton. The father, James Bennett, was born in that town, where he acquired his education, and was reared to manhood. He wedded Mary Shattuck, also a native of Groton, where they resided until 1839, when, with their four children, they came to Illinois. The journey was made by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes to Chicago, and thence by teams to Boone County, which they found to be a sparsely settled region, almost on the borders of civilization. Mr. Bennett purchased a tract of land near the locality known as the Lone Tree, in Flora Township, built a house, and there made his home for four years, when he sold, and purchased the farm on the north side of the river, a portion of which is now included within the city limits. There he carried on his chosen occupation until his death, which occurred

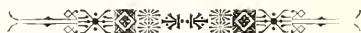
in 1868. His wife long survived him, and passed away January 23, 1892. They had a family of six children: James Augustus, Samuel, John H., Sarah J., George S. and Charles. Samuel is now deceased.

Our subject was only four years of age when, with his parents, he came to Illinois. He literally grew up with the country, and has been an eye-witness of its development and progress from almost the beginning. He has seen the growth of Belvidere from a hamlet to a city of five thousand, while some of the villages of importance had not yet sprung into existence when he came here. There were no free schools in those early days, and his father, who was determined to give his children an education, employed a teacher, who taught two terms in his own home. John afterwards attended a subscription school in the city. He aided in the arduous task of developing the wild land, and remained with his father until he attained his majority, but on his twenty-first birthday he left the parental roof, and started out in life for himself. He found employment upon a farm, where he remained until fall, when he borrowed a sum of money, went to Chicago, and pursued a course in a commercial college of that city. In the spring he returned, and entered the employ of his father, and in July, 1857, started for Minnesota. After three months spent in that State, he returned home and engaged in chopping wood for his father through the winter, after which he was in the employ of his brother Samuel as a salesman for three years.

On the 31st of October, 1862, Mr. Bennett was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Sarah Maria, daughter of George and Mary Vickery, and a native of Pennsylvania. They have two children living: Frank and Anna. The parents are both members of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, and in politics our subject is a Republican.

Mr. Bennett made his first purchase of land in Caledonia Township. There was a water-power on the place, and a sawmill, and he built a grist-mill, which he operated in connection with the other, while at the same time he engaged in raising stock. He there resided for about ten years,

when he sold that farm and purchased land in Belvidere Township, which he operated until 1882, when he again sold and bought the farm he now owns and occupies, adjoining the city limits. He is an industrious and energetic agriculturist, and the neat appearance of his place, with its many improvements, indicates his thrift and good management. He may well be termed a self-made man, for his success is due entirely to his own efforts.



LEWIS SHIRLEY, who is now living a retired life in Cherry Valley, Winnebago County, was born March 1, 1820, and was a son of Joseph S. and Elizabeth (Keith) Shirley, both of whom were natives of Huntingdon County, Pa. His father was born March 25, 1793, and removed to Ohio about 1810, with his parents. He married Elizabeth Keith, in Morgan County, Ohio, in 1814, and unto them were born six children: Peter; Nancy, wife of Jacob Cline; Lewis, of this sketch; George, who resides near Waterloo, Iowa; Ruhama, wife of William Mervin; and Julia, who married William Witter. The daughters are all now deceased.

The subject of this sketch removed from Ohio to La Porte County, Ind., with his parents, in 1837, and three years later came to Illinois, locating near his present home. The family crossed the prairies with teams in the fall of 1840, and the father purchased a tract, comprising one hundred and twenty acres, in Winnebago County. Their market was Chicago, and Mr. Shirley remembers to have taken a load of pork and a load of wheat to that place on one occasion, when the net proceeds of the two were only \$40. The family bore all the hardships and privations of pioneer life, such as fall to the lot of those who make homes on the frontier.

On the 6th of January, 1843, Mr. Shirley was united in marriage, in this county, with Lucinda Keith, daughter of Balser and Lucy (Smith) Keith. They have buried two children, who died in infancy, and six children, three sons and three daughters are now living, namely: Elizabeth A., born October 31, 1844, now the wife of Capt.

William Van Wert, of DeKalb County; Silas W., born June 26, 1818, of Cherry Valley; Lucretia E., born January 6, 1850, of Cherry Valley; Phoebe Jane, born April 2, 1852, wife of William Thompson, of De Kalb County; George B., born November 28, 1855, of Cherry Valley Township; and Lewis E., born March 13, 1861, also of Cherry Valley.

Mr. Shirley has engaged in farming ever since coming to this county, and has opened and improved several hundred acres. At one time he owned fifteen hundred acres in different farms. The homestead comprises five hundred acres of highly improved land; the large barns, the out-buildings, and the commodious residence were erected thereon in 1878. The place is now owned by his son George B., who married Nellie Whitmore; Silas W. married Julia Taylor.

In politics, Mr. Shirley has been a Republican since the organization of the party and has taken an active interest in its upbuilding. He has always been interested in the Methodist Church. His wife died November 1, 1888, at the age of sixty-eight years, one month and fifteen days, and was buried at Flora Cemetery. She belonged to the Free-will Baptist Church, of Cherry Valley, and was a most estimable lady. Mr. Shirley is a self-made man. When he started out in life to fight its battles, he had nothing to aid him, but has steadily worked his way upward to a position of affluence and is recognized as one of the enterprising and successful agriculturists of the community.



WILLIAM T. MELTON. A high place among the farmers and stock-raisers of Winnebago County must be accorded the gentleman above named, who has made a fortune by hard labor, prudent economy, and business shrewdness. He has experienced all that is known to a poor man who makes a settlement in a new country, and among the many disadvantages has been enabled to lay by a handsome competence and is at the present time occupying a beautiful home on section 8, Owen Township.

That part of England which is known as Lin-

colnshire has furnished this country many of her best citizens and most enterprising farmers. To it we are indebted for the subject of this sketch, who was born in that far-away land, May 13, 1814. His father, William B. Melton, was also born in that shire, as was also his father, George Melton. The latter-named gentleman was a farmer and spent his entire life in England.

William B. Melton was a lad of eight years when he commenced to earn his own way in the world, being in the employ of a wealthy gentleman for some time. He later was engaged in training horses for the track, for sale, etc., and in May of 1851 sailed from Liverpool, for America, accompanied by his wife and four children. They landed in New York six weeks later, when Mr. Melton came directly to Rockford, which was at that time a small but flourishing city. He purchased a small house and entered the employ of the Chicago & Galena Union Railroad, now the Northwestern Railroad Company, and worked for them in Rockford for two months. He then went to Ridott, Stephenson County, where he was engaged for ten years as bridge tender of the same company. The elder Mr. Melton then purchased land and engaged in farming until his decease, October 3, 1890. His wife, prior to her marriage, was Mary A. Wilmer and still makes her home on the old farm.

He of whom we write celebrated his eighth birthday while on the ocean en route to America. His father being in limited circumstances, he commenced when quite young to earn his own living, making his first money by carrying drinking-water for the railroad employes and which amounted to fifty cents per day. He later worked out on farms by the day and month until 1864, when, on the 30th of August, he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, being mustered in at Camp Butler. He served his country for one year on detached duty, and being taken sick in June, 1865, received his honorable discharge. For a time after his return home, Mr. Melton was in very poor health, and going to Iowa worked on a farm for a twelvemonth, at the expiration of which time he returned and took charge of the home farm until 1868. Then in

company with his brother-in-law, he rented and operated a farm for two years and then purchased eighty acres, which are included in his present farm, and to which he has since added eighty acres adjoining. The entire tract is well fenced and improved with a good set of buildings, not the least among which is the comfortable farm residence.

William T. Melton was united in marriage to Elizabeth Mayers, January 12, 1870. Mrs. Melton was born in Stephenson County, this State and has become the mother of four children: Alvin William, Mary Luella, George F. and Edward S. Socially, our subject is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and with his estimable wife is respected as a thoroughly upright and honest citizen.



PETER G. BAUDER. Among the venerable and highly esteemed residents of Rockford, we are pleased to mention the name which appears at the head of this paragraph, that of a man who was born in the town of Mendon, Montgomery County, N. Y., near what was known as the Mohawk Flats, in December, 1818. His father, George U. Bauder, was born in the same town, and his grandfather, Uriel, had his nativity in Germany, and was, as far as is known, the only member of the family who ever came to America. He crossed the seas in Colonial days, and served America as a soldier during the Revolutionary War. Montgomery County, N. Y., became his home, and there he bought a large tract of timber land, in the town of Mendon.

In the days when the grandfather of our subject settled in New York, there were no canals or railroads, and Indians were numerous. He cleared quite a farm, and lived there until his death, after which his son inherited his property in that place, and, buying other land there, built a sawmill, which he carried on in addition to farming, residing there throughout all his days. He served in the War of 1812, following in the example of his patriotic father. He had married Maria Dunkle, a native of Mendon Township, whose father, Peter Dunkle, had come to America from Ger-

many before the Revolutionary War, and who had also fought in the War for Independence. He subsequently bought large tracts of land in Mendon Township, and resided there until his death. His daughter, the mother of our subject, lived to the venerable age of ninety-four, and ended her days upon her son's farm.

Peter Bauder was reared and educated in his native town, and after he grew to man's estate bought a tract of land near the old home, and farmed there until 1851, during which year he came to Winnebago County, reaching New Milford on the 16th of October. He had visited Illinois in the earlier part of that year, and had bought two hundred and fourteen acres of land on the south side of the Kishwaukee River, and a house and lot in the village of Kishwaukee.

Our subject was married, August 11, 1839, to Julia A. Allen, who was born in White Creek, Rensselaer County, N. Y., January 29, 1819. Her father, Hugh Allen, was a native of the same place, a son of an Englishman, Ebenezer Allen, who came to America and settled in Rensselaer County during the War of 1812. The Indians were then very troublesome. Mr. Allen and a neighbor were set upon by Indians one day while they were engaged in splitting rails, and the red men demanded that their prisoners follow them. Mr. Allen asked them to wait till he finished splitting his log, and induced the Indians to take hold of the log and pull it apart. While their hands were thus engaged, and their fingers in the crack, he knocked out the wedge and the log came together, thus making the Indians his prisoners. Later he was taken prisoner by Indians, and spent some time in bondage, but finally escaped, and his last years were passed upon the farm in Rensselaer County.

The father of Mrs. Bauder lived in Rensselaer County until 1823, and then removed to Otsego County, where he bought land in the town of Cherry Valley, and there resided until a few weeks before his death, which took place at Mendon. His wife was, before her union with him, Miss Eleeta Lee. She was born in New York State, of French ancestry, being a daughter of Samuel Lee, and died at Ft. Plain, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Bauder resided in the village of

New Milford after coming to this county, and then built a house upon the farm and removed there, making it their home until 1878, when Mr. Bauder decided to give his farm to his son, and removed to Rockford, where he has resided ever since. He has devoted himself largely to handling real estate, and attending to business of that nature. He has three children living: Judson J., George M. and Franklin M. Mrs. Bauder is a devout and earnest member of the Baptist Church, and is highly esteemed in the social and church circles of Rockford.



ANDREW N. NELSON, Assistant Superintendent of the Forest City Furniture Company, has for nineteen years held his present position, which fact shows that he has been true to every trust reposed in him and has faithfully discharged his duties. He was born near Smoland, Sweden, on the 13th of September, 1850, and is the second child of the family. His parents were Nelson and Swenborg (Hollenbeck) Nelson. The father was a carpenter and cabinet-maker, and is still living at the age of seventy-two years. His wife died about two years ago, at the age of sixty-six. Like him, she always adhered to the Lutheran Church.

When quite a young lad, our subject learned the trade of a cabinet-maker, and at the age of sixteen went to sea, sailing as a ship carpenter, and as second mate for five years. He sailed on the waters of the Atlantic and many of the European seas and touched at most of the ports in that continent. He crossed the Atlantic to America in 1871, with the determination to try his fortune in this country. Four years previous, his brother, L. P. Nelson, had come to the United States and located in Chicago, where he yet resides. The first eighteen months after his arrival in this country, Andrew Nelson spent in the State of Michigan and then came to Illinois, locating in Rockford.

It was in this city that our subject led to the marriage altar Miss Emily Eskelson, who was born in Southern Sweden and when a maiden of sixteen summers crossed the briny deep. She afterward

returned to her old home, but again came to this country in 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are prominent and intelligent young people and favorably known in this community.

Mr. Nelson has resided in Rockford since the 9th of April, 1872, and, during all the succeeding years, has filled the position which he now occupies. The Forest City Furniture Company owns a large factory on Railroad Avenue and is one of the largest furniture enterprises of the city, doing an extensive and constantly-increasing business. Our subject is also a stockholder in the Excelsior Furniture Company, and in other local enterprises, and is recognized as one of the wide-awake and energetic business men of this city. He certainly deserves great credit for his success in life, which has been achieved entirely through his own efforts and since coming to Rockford. Socially, he is a member of the Odd Fellows' society, and in politics is a supporter of Republican principles, but has never sought or desired public office, preferring to give his attention to his business interests, in which he has met with signal success.



JAMES BLACKLAWS. Among the prominent agriculturists of Rockford Township, Winnebago County, we take pleasure in mentioning Mr. Blacklaws, who was born in Kincardineshire, Scotland, January 10, 1833. His father, William Blacklaws, was a native of the same shire in Scotland, where he carried on agricultural pursuits, and spent his entire life. The maiden name of his wife was Margaret Milne, also a native of Scotland, and who, upon emigrating to America, departed this life in this State.

The original of this sketch was seventeen years of age when he accompanied his mother to the New World, they setting sail from Aberdeen in the month of August, 1850, embarking on a sailer commanded by Capt. Pease. After a tedious voyage of five weeks and two days, they landed at Quebec, soon after which they came to Winnebago County, via the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario to Lewistown, N. Y., where they boarded a train which conveyed them to Buffalo, then by

way of the Lakes to Chicago, thence by railroad to Elgin, which was then the Western terminus of the road. The remainder of the journey was made with team.

James Blacklaws, on making his home in this county, engaged to work out at \$9 per month on farms. He was very industrious and economical, and after being engaged in various kinds of work, purchased a well drill, which was one of the first ever used in this county, and which he operated together with a harvesting machine. After his marriage, our subject located on the farm where he has since resided, and which, by a proper rotation of crops, is made to yield handsome returns.

The first marriage of Mr. Blacklaws occurred in 1859, at which time Jessie (Raney) Simpson, became his wife. She was born in Scotland and departed this life August 21, 1866. In 1870, our subject was married to Ellen Walsh, who was born in the North of Ireland, of Scotch parents. The three children born to Mr. Blacklaws by his first marriage were Henry W., Albert and Lewis. The eldest son married Mattie Felch; he was born in February, 1860, and died August 21, 1891. Lewis married Stella Atkinson; Albert died November 29, 1892. The present union of our subject has resulted in the birth of four children, namely: Nellie, Mattie, James and Walter.

Mrs. Blacklaws, who was a member in good standing of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, in which body she was an active worker, died December 13, 1891. Our subject, who is interested in all measures which tend to the upbuilding of his community, votes the straight Republican ticket.



PETER LARSON, who is engaged in farming, and also carries on the dairy business on section 30, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, has for eighteen years resided in this locality, and devoted his energies to his present work. He owns forty acres of land under a high state of cultivation and well improved, and in addition to general farming, is engaged in dairying, keeping on hand forty-five cows for this pur-

pose. He came to Illinois from Michigan, where he was engaged in mining for two years after coming to this country.

Mr. Larson was born in Skona, Sweden, May 23, 1848, and grew to manhood in his native province on a farm. His father, Lars Nelson, spent his entire life in that land as an agriculturist, and passed away at the age of sixty-eight years. His wife, who was born March 21, 1820, is yet living on the old homestead in Sweden. She has been a life-long member of the Lutheran Church, as was Mr. Nelson. In their family were six sons and a daughter. One son, Ola, and the daughter, Anna, are both married, and own farms in Sweden. Five sons are living in this country, and all follow agricultural pursuits. Lars is a farmer of Guilford Township; Peter is the next younger; Nels is also a farmer of Guilford Township; and John and Samuel likewise make their home in that township. The brothers are all successful farmers and industrious and enterprising men, and, with the exception of the first mentioned, all are married.

It was in Rockford that Mr. Larson was joined in wedlock to Miss Charlotte Anderson, a native of Sweden, who, when a young lady, bade good-bye to her old home, and crossed the water to America, where all of the family have since found homes. The father, Charles Anders Rapp, is living on a farm near Donaldson, Marshall County, Ind., at the age of seventy years. He is widely known in his community, and is a member of the Lutheran Church, as was his wife, who died in 1890, at an advanced age. Their family numbers two sons and two daughters, who are yet living: John A. Blomquist, who is married and is employed as a tailor by the firm of Johnson & Wanstrom, of Rockford; Mrs. Larson, of this sketch; Gust, a milk dealer, who is married and resides on Charles Street, Rockford; and Sophia, wife of John Samuelson, a resident farmer of Marshall County, Ind.

Mr. Larson is regarded as one of the enterprising and successful farmers of this community, and is a public-spirited and progressive citizen. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, and he and his wife are members of the Swedish Mission Church of Rockford. Six children grace their union, and the family circle

yet remains unbroken. They are as follows: Anna C., J. V. Herbert, Harry L., Lillie E., Elmer and Rosa V., all of whom are still under the parental roof. In addition to his other business, Mr. Larson is connected with the American Furniture Company, which was organized with a capital stock of \$100,000.



WORTMAN COMPTON. In the history of our late war, the name of our subject will be found as not having borne an unimportant part in that eventful struggle. He enlisted August 9, 1862, for a three-years' service in Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and remained with his regiment until the close of the war. He is at the present time residing in the city of Rockford, successfully engaged at his trade of a carpenter and joiner.

Burnett Township, Somerset County, N. J., was the native place of our subject, his birth occurring July 27, 1830, he being the son of Reuben Compton, also a native of that State, where James Compton, the grandfather was born. The latter-named gentleman was a farmer by calling, and spent his entire life on a farm in Burnett Township. The father of our subject bought the old homestead, upon which he resided until 1857, when he sold it and came to Winnebago County, purchasing a tract of land in Owen Township, on which was a small house and a few acres broken. He placed the entire farm under good tillage, and made his home upon it until 1875, when his decease occurred. His wife, Mrs. Elizabeth (Powellson) Compton, was also a native of Somerset County, N. J., and was the daughter of John Powellson. She died on the old farm in Owen Township, in 1884, having become the mother of six sons and one daughter, viz: Nathan, James, Mary, Wortman, Henry, Samuel and John.

Samuel Compton, a brother of our subject, served as a member of Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and was killed in the battle of Missionary Ridge, where he was color-bearer. John was wounded at Pittsburg Landing, being a member of the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, and died

from the result of his wounds at the hospital at St. Louis. Our subject participated in many of the important battles of that period, being present at Stone River, and was with Sherman on his Atlanta campaign, engaging in the various battles of that memorable march, including the siege and capture of Atlanta. After the fall of that city, he was under the command of Thomas in pursuit of the Rebel Gen. Hood, and thus fought at the battles of Franklin and Nashville. In the charge at Kennesaw Mountain, Mr. Compton's gun was broken in his hand, in consequence of which he was slightly wounded by a splinter, but with one other exception entirely escaped the fate of many a poor soldier. At another time, while the command were sleeping on the ground without even the shelter of a tent, one of the horses broke loose and ran over Mr. Compton, giving him a severe scalp wound. He received his honorable discharge in Kentucky, in June, 1865, and, returning home, resumed his trade of a carpenter.

Our subject was reared in his native State, and when eighteen years of age learned the trade of a carpenter, serving as a journeyman for two years, and in 1855 came to Illinois, and purchased twenty-five acres of land in Harrison Township, Winnebago County, where he worked at his trade until entering the army. In 1868, however, he sold that farm and purchased the old homestead in Owen Township, on which he erected a good set of frame buildings, and otherwise improved the farm, on which he resided until 1886, which was the date of his coming to Rockford.

In November, 1852, Mr. Compton was married to Mary Vanderhoof, a native of Somerset County, N. J., and the daughter of Henry Vanderhoof, who, as far as is known, was also born in New Jersey. He died when Mrs. Compton was fourteen months old. The maiden name of her mother was Rachael Vail; her birth also occurred in the above-named county and State. On the death of Mr. Vanderhoof, she was married to Cornelius Vanddyke, a patriot of the War of 1812. They came to Illinois in 1860, settling in Winnebago County, where the mother died at the home of Mrs. Compton.

To our subject and his wife have been born two

children, Agnes and Whitefield. The daughter is the wife of Archibald Armstrong, to whom have been born two children, Charles E. and Mary L. Whitefield married Nellie Johnson, and is the father of four children: Maud B., Mabel C., John W. and James H. Mr. and Mrs. Compton are members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject being a Grand Army man, is connected with the *Nexus* Post No. 1. In politics, he is a Republican.



CHRISTOPHER MYERS. Among the many enterprising and prominent citizens of Peconia will be noticed a number of retired farmers, and it therefore gives us pleasure to mention Mr. Myers, who rented his fine property and removed to the village in 1887, where he has a pleasant home and is surrounded by all that goes to make life enjoyable.

A native of Germany, our subject was born in Mecklenburg, April 23, 1813, being the son of John and Elizabeth (Schoknecht) Myers, who hailed from the Province of Mecklenburg. The father came to the United States November 6, 1857, and made his home for a time in Milwaukee, Wis., whence he removed to Stephenson County, this State, and passed his last days on his farm, dying at the age of fifty-nine years.

Christopher Myers was one in a family of six children born to his parents, only one of whom is deceased. He remained at home until eight years of age, when he was occupied for three years as a shepherd boy, and three years more in watching cattle. At the expiration of that time, he returned home and soon afterward crossed the water to the New World. He resided in Wisconsin until 1860, when he came to Illinois and was employed in working on farms by the month. He then rented a tract, and on New Year's Day of 1868 was married to Miss Ireni Atwood, who was born November 29, 1811, in Owen Township, Winnebago County. The lady is a daughter of Patten and Anna Atwood, of whom a sketch will be found in another portion of this work.

To Mr. and Mrs. Myers have been born eight

children, three of whom are living, namely: Mabel A., whose birth occurred May 14, 1871; Walter C., who was born April 14, 1879; Clifford P., who was born July 2, 1880.

The first land of which our subject became the owner was an eighty-acre tract, to which he later added fifty-five acres, one hundred and fifty-one and one hundred and twenty acres, at different times. Ten acres of his estate is timber land and twelve is city property, on the latter of which is located his fine residence. He is deservedly proud of his present financial standing, as he commenced in life a poor boy and knows that his accumulations have been the result of persistent industry and wise management.

Mr. and Mrs. Myers are attendants of the Congregational Church, and in politics our subject is a Republican, casting his first vote for U. S. Grant. He is not interested in politics other than to cast his ballot at election times. He is one of the enterprising men of the community and has stock in a shoe factory, which is one of the leading industries of the village. In social matters, he is a Mason, holding the office of Junior Warden in A. W. Rawson Lodge No. 115. He is also connected with the United Workmen and the Eureka Camp of Modern Woodmen.



DAVID C. LEWIS. For many years the commercial and agricultural interests of Winnebago County were prominently and successfully represented by Mr. Lewis, who is now a retired merchant residing in Winnebago. He is a native of the Buckeye State, and was born in Milan, Huron County, February 4, 1823. His father, David, was born in New England, and was a pioneer of Ohio, where he located about 1820, residing for a time at Sandusky, and removing thence to Milan.

From Ohio, the father of our subject removed to the then Territory of Michigan, and resided at Detroit for a time, thence returned to Milan, Ohio, where he operated a distillery. In 1838, he again sought a home in Michigan, and located in St. Clair County, where he died during the same year. His wife, whose maiden name was Nancy

Champion, was born in New York State, the daughter of Selden and Huldah (Hart) Champion. Her first marriage united her with Stephen DeGate, who died in St. Clair County. She came to Illinois in 1846, and spent her last days in Winnebago County.

Orphaned by the death of his father when he was fifteen, our subject gained a maintenance for himself by fishing and trapping, and later engaged in lumbering. He remained in Michigan until 1845, when, accompanied by his wife, he took passage on a boat at Pt. Huron and sailed on Lakes Huron and Michigan, landing at Racine, whence he walked to Winnebago County. At that time Rockford was a small village, and the surrounding country was sparsely settled, some of the land being in the possession of the Government. For one year Mr. Lewis found employment upon a farm, after which he worked at the carpenter's trade for a short time.

In 1848, Mr. Lewis purchased eighty-five acres of Government land, for which he paid \$90, and, locating there, he continued to follow his trade while he hired men to cultivate the soil. In 1852, he removed to Rockford and followed his trade one year, later opened a restaurant, of which he was the proprietor for one year, and then returned to the farm. In 1860, he erected a building on the corner of Main and Benton Streets, and for twenty-six years was successfully engaged in mercantile pursuits, building up a splendid reputation as a reliable dealer and upright man. During a portion of that time he was in partnership with A. G. Rainey, but the remainder of the twenty-six years was alone. Meanwhile, he supervised his lumber interests until 1876, when he sold out to Mr. Parsons; and, in addition to other duties, was the proprietor of the Winnebago Hotel for four years, having altered and added to the hotel, which he conducted under a highly improved management. In 1891, he erected a brick block, the finest structure in the village, and, in addition to his city property, is the owner of two good farms.

The marriage of Mr. Lewis in 1845 united him with Miss Lucy Burt, a native of London, Canada, and they have two children: E. Chandler and Etta H. The former married Etta Burgstresser;

and has five children: Mabel, Minnie, Grace, Stella and Eddie. Etta married George Ades, and has two children: Lewis and Floyd. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in his political affiliation he is a Prohibitionist. Through the exercise of prudence and industry he has arisen from a position of poverty in his youth to one of affluence in his declining years, and now, with his estimable wife, can enjoy all the comforts and many of the luxuries of existence.



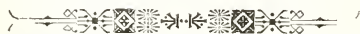
GUSTAF JERNBERG, a stockholder and Director of the Rockford Manufacturing Company, in which he has been pattern-maker and mechanical draughtsman since the company was founded in 1890, has been a resident of this city since 1878 and is one of its foremost citizens. He began here in the last-named year for the well-known manufacturer, N. C. Thompson, with whom he continued eight years, and later was with Savage & Love, with whom he remained eighteen months. After this he embarked in the pattern-making business on his own account. He subsequently became connected as a stockholder with the present company and has since invented the Imperial Mower, which is manufactured exclusively by this great manufacturing company. He also owns a fine home at No. 301 South Fourth Street, designed and erected by his own hands, and a well-improved farm of eighty acres, with buildings, on section 2, of Cherry Valley Township.

Sweden is his native land, and he was born in Wester Moreland Province, on the 18th of March, 1849. He was there reared and educated, and was taught his trade, serving an apprenticeship of a few years. He, with his brother Eric, was the first of the family to come to the States. The latter is now married to Miss Christina Carlson, and is cultivating the soil in New Milford Township. The parents and other members of the family came to this country in 1869, and located in Marquette County, Mich., where they resided until 1875. They then came to Illinois, settled in Milford Town-

ship, Winnebago County, where the father, John E. Jernberg, died in 1888, when sixty-five years of age. He was a Lutheran in religion, and a Republican in politics. His wife, who is still living, and sixty-two years of age, finds a comfortable home with her daughter, Mrs. John Odhner. She is also a member of the First Lutheran Church.

Gustaf Jernberg, the second in order of birth of eight children, five sons and three daughters, all of whom are living and married but one son, was a resident of Ishpeming, Mich., for ten years after coming to the United States, and followed his trade of pattern-maker. Just ten years after reaching this country; he came to Rockford, and has been a resident of this flourishing city since. He was married in Chicago, Ill., to Miss Axelina W. Holmgren, who was born in Easter Gothland Province, Sweden, November 8, 1857, and who came to this country and settled in Marquette County, Mich., with her parents in 1873. The father, Andrew Holmgren, was born in Easter Gothland, Sweden, he was also his mother, Anna L. (Sjoberg) Holmgren, and after coming to Michigan, they settled in the improved regions of that State. There the father followed the occupation of a mine mechanic. Later, they came to Rockford, and here the father died when sixty-one years of age and the mother, when fifty-four. They were reared to the Lutheran faith. They have one son, John Holmgren, who is a resident of Traverse City, Mich.

Mr. and Mrs. Jernberg's union has been blessed by the birth of one daughter, Huldah V., who was born December 25, 1878, and who is a cultivated and refined young lady.



WILLIAM FORBES. There are few citizens of Rockford who are better known, and certainly none are more highly esteemed, than Mr. Forbes, who occupies a pleasant home at No. 1106 Rock Street, and is retired from the active labors which occupied his close attention in life's prime. Coming to this city in 1851, he has since been closely identified with its best interests and has watched with

keen sympathy its progress and development. By industry and energy, and through years of labor at his trade, that of a moulder, he accumulated a goodly amount of this world's comforts and is numbered among the prosperous citizens of the place.

A native of Scotland, Mr. Forbes was born in Perthshire, August 17, 1826, and belonged to a worthy Scotch family, whose members figured extensively in the history of that country. His father, Alex. Forbes, lived and died in Perthshire, his death occurring when he was about seventy years old. By trade he was a weaver. He married Miss Margaret Smith, who was born in the Lowlands of Scotland, and who, surviving her husband, emigrated to America, in company with her children, in 1849. The voyage was made in a sailing-vessel from Glasgow to New York City, after which the family settled in New York Mills, where the mother died at an advanced age. She was a Presbyterian in religious convictions, and her husband was also identified with that Church.

The family of which our subject is a member consisted of seven sons and one daughter. The last-named, the eldest in the family, makes her home with our subject, and is now eighty-four years old. The other children have passed away. In his youth, William Forbes served an apprenticeship to the trade of a moulder in a foundry at Troy, N. Y., at the completion of which he came to Rockford, and here established his permanent home. He was married in New York City to Miss Rebecca Henderson, who was born and reared in Wilmington, Del., and died in Rockford in 1872, at the age of fifty-two. At her demise she left three children, namely: Mary, wife of Clark S. Gilbert, a ranchman in California; Margaret, wife of Frederick McPherson, a surveyor, who resides in California; and Alex, who is a moulder by trade, and has charge of a foundry at San Francisco, Cal., his home being in Oakland, that State.

The second marriage of our subject took place in this city, and united him with Mrs. Barbara (Shaw) Barr, who was born in Argyleshire, Scotland. She was first married to James Barr, an engineer, who passed his entire life in Glasgow, dying there in the prime of life. After emigrating

to the United States in 1871, Mrs. Barr came to Rockford, and was here married to Mr. Forbes, in 1874. Of her first marriage one child survives, James Barr, M. D., of Foley Springs, Ore. In their religious connections, Mr. Forbes and his estimable wife are faithful members of the Presbyterian Church, and, politically, he is a staunch adherent of Republican principles.

For three years during the late war, Mr. Forbes served in defense of the Union, enlisting as a member of Company G, Second Illinois Light Artillery, Col. Mathews commanding. For two years the regiment was incorporated with the Army of the Tennessee, and participated in many engagements, among them those at Memphis and Vicksburg. After serving with valor for three years, Mr. Forbes was honorably discharged at Springfield, and returned once more to his home in Rockford. Since the war he has suffered greatly from rheumatism, caused by exposure on the battle-field, in camp, and during long marches, and receives a pension as a slight compensation for services rendered the Government. His war record is one of which his descendants and friends may justly feel proud, and his conduct in affairs of civic life has been characterized by equal fidelity and honor.



GEORGE W. WUNDER, who is now living a retired life in his pleasant home at No. 610 State Street, Rockford, was born on the 4th of July, 1827, in Bavaria, Germany, and is a son of Michael and Louisa (Karner) Wunder. His father was a German farmer and died at the age of sixty-three years. His wife died in 1886, at the age of eighty-four, and up to the time of her death was bright and active. Both were members of the Methodist Church. They had only two sons, our subject and Martin, who is six years his junior, and now owns and occupies the old homestead in Bavaria.

George W. Wunder spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native land, but at length determined to try his fortune in the New World, and on the 28th of August, 1854, landed in New York, having crossed the Atlantic from Bremen

on a sailing-vessel, which after forty-two days reached its destined port. In 1884, he returned to his native land on a visit, but is well content that his home is in America, for he has here met with prosperity. He had only \$5 in his pocket when he reached Chicago to which he came immediately after landing in the United States, and thus almost empty-handed, he began life in the New World, but has worked his way up to a position of affluence.

It was in December, 1859, in Chicago, that Mr. Wunder formed a matrimonial alliance with Miss Louisa Cattley, who was born in the Canton of Berne, Switzerland, and came to the United States in 1854. To her husband she had proved a true helpmate and faithful companion. They have one child, a daughter, Carrie, now the wife of Fritz Spahr. He is also a native of the Canton of Berne, Switzerland. In that country, he grew to manhood and learned the trade of a jeweler. When a young man, he came to America in 1877, and for five years was employed in the watch factories of this city, since which time he has been engaged in the saloon business on East State Street. He and his wife reside with Mrs. Spahr's parents.

After residing in Chicago for two years, Mr. Wunder came to Rockford in 1856, and for some time was engaged in the lumber business, after which he engaged in farming in Rockford Township on his own account. At length, he returned to the city, and did business for the old lumber firm, in whose employ he had formerly been, and to that work devoted his energies until 1860, when he went to California by way of New York and the Isthmus of Panama. In that State he engaged in business for some years and was quite successful, but failing health caused him to return, and in 1864 we again find him in Rockford. He then rented land for some years, and with the money saved during that time he began dealing in sand. Two years later, he embarked in the dairy business, to which he devoted his energies for four years, when he sold out and for two years lived retired. Subsequently, he was engaged in buying and shipping horses, and in 1876 became a wholesale dealer in beer and also did a retail bottling

business, which he carried on until 1890. His efforts being crowned with success, and thereby acquiring considerable capital, he is now enabled to live a retired life, resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. In politics, he is a Democrat and is a member of the Germania Society.



THERON G. PIERPONT. Nowhere can more beautiful farms be found than in the Prairie State, and no sections of it are any more attractive than Winnebago County. On section 20, Rockford Township, lies a body of land comprising one hundred and sixty productive acres, which, under the hand of a progressive and intelligent farmer, produce abundantly.

Mr. Pierpont had his birth in North Haven, Conn., April 21, 1851, and his father, Guy Pierpont, who was also a native of that State and place, was the son of Giles and Sallie (Bassett) Pierpont. The father of our subject was reared and educated in the Nutmeg State, and came West to Winnebago County in 1857, where he purchased a farm two miles from the Court House, and there resided until his death. His wife, prior to her marriage, was known as Jerusha Gaylord; she was also a native of Connecticut and is at present residing in Rockford.

The original of this sketch was six years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to the Prairie State, and, after receiving his primary education in the district school, attended a select school taught by Prof. Lowinsbury. Theron S. was reared to farm life and has, since coming to Illinois, lived on the old homestead. He was married, in 1878, to Helen M. Blakeman, who was born in Stratford, Conn., and was the daughter of Benjamin Blakeman, also a native of that State.

The two children comprising the household of Mr. and Mrs. Pierpont are Birdseye B. and Eleonore (twins). The parents are influential members of the Second Congregational Church, and in his political relations our subject votes the Republican ticket. The father of Mrs. Pierpont,

Benjamin Blakeman, was born in Stratford, Fairfield County, Conn., and was a son of Treat and Annie (Birdseye) Blakeman. Her father came to Illinois in 1856, and, locating in Rockford, has since been prominently identified with its business interests, being now President of the Blakeman & Dobson Manufacturing Company. The maiden name of the mother was Caroline Fairchild, who was also a native of the same State and county as was her husband. Mrs. Pierpont finished her education at Vassar College, at Poughkeepsie, after graduating at the High School of Rockford.



K NUT BELTING. a successful dealer in real estate, is a gentleman of thorough experience in that line, both as a means of speculation and permanent investment. He came to Rockford in 1882, established a cigar store and news stand on a capital of \$20, was very successful, and his valuation at the present time is \$10,000. He owns a fine double business house with flats above, at the corner of Fourteenth Avenue and Ninth Street, also some good residence property, and has in process a new business building fronting on Fourteenth Street, where he owns seventeen valuable lots, all in a growing part of the city. Mr. Belting is a man full of energy and business, and his prospects for the future are very bright. He owns stock in the Rockford Manufacturing Company, was a promoter of the Skandia Exchange, and is a public-spirited, enterprising citizen.

Mr. Belting was born near Skona, Sweden, October 26, 1851, attained his growth there, and was engaged as an employe in a grain-dealing establishment at Helsingborg, where he remained for a number of years. Subsequently, he went to Stockholm, where, for a number of years, he was superintendent of the largest bakery of the place, it being the one that baked the bread for the royal family. He was thus engaged for four years and then became a commission merchant. He met with much success, but the collapse came and he, with others, lost all. One month later, he concluded to

try his fortune in a new country, and in 1882 he sailed for the United States, landing in Philadelphia in May of that year. From there he went to Chicago, Ill., and thence to Michigan a few months later; after a short experience in lumber camps of that State, he came to Rockford, where he started in the tobacco and news-dealer business, as above mentioned. He is a self-made man, and all his accumulations are the result of hard work and perseverance on his part. He is the only member of his family now in this country, and has no relative here on either side.

His father, Carl Belting, died in Sweden in 1875, but the mother is still living on the old home place in her native country, and is now over sixty years of age. She has been a life-long member of the State Church, and her husband was also a devout member of that church. She has four children in Sweden, two sons and two daughters, viz.: Nils, married, and is a dry-goods merchant; Rev. Eric, a preacher in the Lutheran Baptist Church, single; Johanna, wife of Manges Lichtie, who is Principal in the High School at Lund; and Botilda, single, at home.

Our subject selected his wife in the person of Miss Hilda C. Palmgren, a native of Sweden, born in 1862, and their nuptials were celebrated in that country. She was the only one of her family to come to the United States. Their union has been blessed by the birth of four children: Elvira V., Edwin B., Knut and Harold.



T
 HOU'R MUNTHE, a successful real-estate dealer and insurance agent, doing business at No. 519 East State Street, Rockford, was born in the province of Smoland, Sweden, January 14, 1847, and comes of a good family, who trace their ancestry back through a long line of nobility to the ninth century. His father, Victor Munthe, spent his entire life in Sweden, dying at the age of fifty-five years. He was a prominent citizen of his native province and the owner of a large estate. His father was Judge of the province of Smoland. The mother of our subject is still living and makes her home at the city of Stockholm, at the age of

seventy-one. She has been a life-long member of the Lutheran Church, as was also her husband. Two sisters of the family are still living in Sweden: Hedvig, wife of Lieut. Edward Brietholtz, of Smoland, a Lieutenant in the standing army, and Matilda, wife of Carl Sunblade, a successful merchant of Stockholm.

Our subject is the only son of the family. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent in his native land, and when a young man he sailed from Gottenburg to New York City, whence he came to the West. He made his first location in Chicago and afterward went to Michigan, where he worked for a time and then came to Rockford in 1868. He was married in this city to Miss Maria Peterson, who was born, reared and educated in Smoland. With her parents, she came to this country, the family locating in Rockford, where Niles and Christina Peterson now reside. They are members of the Mission Lutheran Church. Mr. Peterson is a tailor and followed that business for a number of years but is now living a retired life.

When a young man, Mr. Munthe had learned the trade of a glove and mitten maker and to that work devoted his attention for some years. For twelve years after coming to Rockford he was connected with the H. W. Price Glove and Mitten Company, being foreman of the large business during the latter half of the time. He then established the Rockford Mitten and Hosiery Company, doing business alone for two years, when a company was incorporated and he continued a member of the firm for three years. On account of failing health, he then sold out and went to Oregon, and for three years engaged in business as a tanner and glove maker in the city of Portland. He then returned to Rockford and during the past two years has been successfully engaged in business as a real-estate and insurance agent and Notary Public. He is agent for the Nelson Addition to Rockford and is one of the owners of the River View Addition. His business career has been a successful one and he is now one of the prosperous citizens of Rockford.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Munthe have been born four children: Oakey V., who is working at the machinist trade in the Nelson machine shops; Fritz W.,

Ida M. and Steena M. The parents are both members of the Congregational Church, and Mr. Munthe is a Royal Arch Mason of Rockford. He has long been a supporter of the Republican party and an ardent worker in its interests and has served as Alderman of the Sixth Ward for two years.



RAYMER SARVER is a farmer of large experience, great capability in managing his affairs and is considered one of the most successful of the well-to-do agriculturists of Durand, who are active in pushing forward the material interests of Winnebago County. Mr. Sarver is residing on section 33, and is the son of Henry and Eleanor (Houk) Sarver. He was born in Harrison Township, this county, December 3, 1819, and was reared to farm pursuits, which calling he has made his life work.

He of whom we write and Miss Lois Campbell were united in marriage December 29, 1875. The latter was born in this township, March 17, 1857, and is the daughter of David Samuel Campbell, whose native place was Grand Isle, Lake Champlain, Vt. and the date thereof March 24, 1815. He was a son of Samuel and Grace (Plum) Campbell, the former of whom was born October 8, 1762, and the latter March 21, 1775. Mrs. Grace Campbell was a daughter of Samuel Plum and was married in 1793. The Campbells are of Scotch ancestry.

Our subject's maternal grandfather was a lad of twelve years when his mother died, he being the ninth in order of birth in a family of ten children, his brothers and sisters being Philura, who was born February 21, 1794, married John Blake and died in this township, July 24, 1884; Lucinda, who was born February 27, 1796, married Kinsley Hines and died at her home in Chicago, February 9, 1868; Martha, who was born February 1, 1797, became the wife of a Mr. Ferguson; William, who was born February 13, 1799, was drowned while residing in Vermont in 1833; Samuel, who was born July 6, 1801, departed this life at St. Albans, Vt., September 1, 1871; Zeno, who was born March

7, 1808, died in Fairfax, Vt., December 31, 1891; Zimri, who was born July 7, 1810, was residing in Rock County, Wis., at the time of his death in May 1860; Zeri, was born February 7, 1812, and Jeremiah, who was born April 5, 1818, died in this township, April 25, 1884.

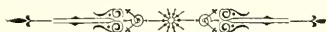
After the death of his mother, David S. Campbell went to New York State and lived with an uncle, William Campbell, where he learned the trade of a potter, and at odd times worked on the farm. In 1836, he came to Illinois, and locating one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 33, Durand Township, he improved the same, and when twenty-four years of age returned to Vermont, where, February 16, 1840, he was married. With his young bride, Mr. Campbell started for his new home, landing at his claim April 28, 1840. Here he resided until 1885, during which time he became the proprietor of three hundred broad acres and then traded farms with Mr. Sarver, his son-in-law, where he is residing at the present time. His wife died October 31, 1891, after having become the mother of six children, two of whom died when young. Adelaide L. was born January 11, 1811, and died October 28, 1844. Zeno A. was born January 14, 1843, and died October 31, 1891. Adeline A. was born January 30, 1847, married D. J. Stewart, Jr., and resides in Rockford. Arba Zeri was born November 27, 1852, and makes his home in Pecatonica Township. Lois L., the next in order of birth, is the wife of our subject. Earl D., born January 1, 1861, died eight days later.

The Republican party claims our subject as one of its most active workers. He has been Assessor of Durand Township since its organization and is consequently the oldest Assessor in the county if not in the State. He was one of the organizers of the Durand Fire Insurance Company and was active in all measures which tended to promote the best welfare of his community. Socially, he is a member of the United Workmen. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell are Spiritualists in belief.

After his marriage, the original of this sketch located on section 34 of this township, where he owned ninety-five acres of good land, which in 1885 he traded for his present farm, which comprises two hundred and twenty broad acres. To

our subject and his wife have been granted a family of six children: Milford, who was born May 1, 1879, died on the 27th of that month and year; Wesley Martin, born May 15, 1880; David Floyd, born August 31, 1883; Harry, January 8, 1886; Ray Vaughan, born January 30, 1887, died January 17 of that year, and Carl Walton was born April 28, 1891.

Mrs. Sarver's mother, whose maiden name was Erixna Barker, was born in Swanton, Vt., February 10, 1823 and was the daughter of Asa and Mollie (Marrs) Barker, both of whom were born in 1781. The parents resided in Swanton until early in the '40s, then came to Illinois and made settlement in Laona Township, where the father died May 14, 1869, being preceded to the land beyond by the mother, whose demise occurred in 1864. Asa and Mollie Barker were the parents of eleven children, ten of whom lived to be over sixty-five years of age. They bear the respective names of Nancy B., Edwin N., Harriet, Elvin, Garrard, Schuyler, Arba, Miranda L., Norman D., Erixna and Eliza L.



BARTON B. GATES, who at present makes his home in Rockton Township, Winnebago County, is largely interested in the limekiln at Rockton, where Mr. Gates, with his characteristic energy, push and fair dealing, has built up a fine and paying business, having had full charge of it for some years. The bed of lime rock is the best of rock and seemingly inexhaustible. With their present capacity of two large and improved kilns, they burn from one hundred and forty thousand to one hundred and fifty thousand bushels of lime per year, for which they have a convenient market at the paper mills here and in Beloit.

A native of Macomb County, Mich., our subject, who was born November 7, 1832, is the son of Gideon and Lucy (Blinn) Gates. The parents were natives of Wethersfield, Conn., and soon after their marriage went to Bloomfield, N. Y., where they were keeping hotel at the time of the Morgan (Masonic) excitement. They later came to

Michigan during the pioneer days of that State and ranked among the well-to-do citizens of Macomb County. The parental family included four sons and three daughters, the eldest being born in New York in 1812, and the remainder of the family being born on a farm near Romeo, Michigan. In 1843, the father moved to the village, where the children were given the advantages of the common schools, and where Mr. Gates was one of the first teachers in the school house, which he had helped to erect.

In 1854 and 1855, Gideon Gates came to Rockton, this county, where he purchased five hundred acres of land, known as the Gibson farm, for which he paid \$13,500. The following spring his wife, with the family, which included Wilber B., our subject, John B. and Hubert B., came to the new home. The initial B., which accompanies the names of several of the children, stood for Blinn, the mother being desirous to perpetuate her maiden name. Of the family, two are now deceased: Jane, who had married Mr. L. D. Owen, passed away at Romeo, Mich., in 1882, and Wilbur, who was born in New York State, died in November, 1889, aged seventy-seven years. Hubert is living retired in Owosso, Mich.; John is a farmer in Oakland County, that State. The parents died when ripe in years, the father in 1864 and the mother in 1866.

Barton B. Gates was married when twenty-three years of age in Brighton, Mich., to Miss Ellen Bingham, the date of the ceremony being January 9, 1855. The lady was born in England, and was a daughter of Allen and Johanna (McColliff) Bingham. In the fall of 1867, Mr. and Mrs. Gates removed to Rockton Village, this county, where the mother of the latter died, February 14, 1871, and the father in July, 1881, at the respective ages of sixty-four and seventy-six years.

Our subject was engaged in the grocery business for a time in Rockton, but later disposed of it, and in company with J. W. Cowles embarked in the milling business, buying the Rockton Stone Mill, for which they paid \$15,000. This they enlarged, adding two run of stone to the four which the mill already possessed, and were successfully engaged in that line of business until April, 1879,

when it was destroyed by fire. While thus engaged, Mr. Gates and his partner obtained jointly a one-third interest in the linekiln then owned by parties of Lanark, Carroll County. Our subject later bought out his partner's interest, and has since continued to manage affairs in company with his partners at Lanark.

He of whom we write has held the office of Commissioner of Highways for the past twenty-three years. His wife is a member of the Congregational Church, but he is pledged to no religious denomination.



FRANK L. WINNE, of Belvidere, was born in the town of Bethlehem, Albany County, N. Y., on the 12th of April, 1832. The family is of Dutch descent. The grandparents of our subject, Henry and Sarah (Groosbeck) Winne, spent their entire lives in Albany County as farming people. The father of our subject, John H. Winne, was also a native of Albany County. He learned the trade of a shoemaker and followed that occupation some years. In 1852, he left his home in the East and emigrated to Boone County, Ill., purchasing land in the town of Spring, where he engaged in farming for some years. He afterwards moved to Butler County, Iowa, and purchased a farm upon which he spent his last days. He married Christina Winne, who, though of the same name, was no relation. She was born in the town of Bethlehem, as were her father and grandfather, Francis and Adam Winne. Her death occurred in Butler County, Iowa, on the home farm about 1877, passing away eleven years before her husband was called to his final rest.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who spent the days of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, and was early induced to the labors of the farm. He remained at home until his marriage in August, 1862, when Miss Keziah Sager became his wife. She was born in Greene County, N. Y., July 5, 1832, and was a daughter of Garrett W. and Elizabeth (Winne) Sager. Her grandparents, William and Hannah

(Brunk) Sager, spent their entire lives in Albany County, N. Y., where Garrett W. was born and reared. In the town of Bethlehem he married Miss Winne, also a native of that county. They removed to Athens, Greene County, where he purchased a farm and made his home until 1852, when he came with his family to Illinois, locating in the town of Spring, Boone County. Purchasing a farm, he made his home thereon for some years, and on selling out came to Belvidere. He spent his last days in the home of our subject, his death occurring in June, 1876. His wife survived him only a short time, passing away on the 8th of November, 1876.

Mr. and Mrs. Winne began their domestic life upon rented land, and then purchased a farm in Belvidere Township, where they made their home for two years. They then came to the city of Belvidere, where they have since resided. They are highly respected people of this community and well deserve representation in the history of their adopted county. Socially, Mr. Winne is a member of Belvidere Lodge No. 152, A. O. U. W., and in his political affiliations is a Democrat.



ROBERT SWAIL, who is extensively engaged in the cultivation of small fruits, making a specialty of strawberries and raspberries, is residing on a pleasant farm in Flora Township, Boone County. He was born at Longueuil opposite Montreal, Canada, November 1, 1835. His father, John Swail, was born in Cumberland County, England, and the grandfather, William Swail, came from Westmoreland County, England.

The great-grandfather of our subject also bore the name of William and like his son was born in Westmoreland, England, where he was reared and married. In early life, he went to the West Indies and was never after heard from. His wife was left in England and lived to be over one hundred years of age. The grandfather of our subject was the only son of his parents and was reared to manhood in Westmoreland. He was married to Mary Borbeck, a daughter of very wealthy parents, who

disowned her because of her marriage with Mr. Swail. The couple resided in Cumberland County until 1839 and then with their three sons and two daughters emigrated to America and located on a farm on Mt. Royal. The grandfather was very successful in all his undertakings and at the time of his decease was in good circumstances. The five children included in their family were named respectively: Ann, Sarah, Rachel, John and William.

John Swail, the father of our subject, when reaching mature years commanded a ferry boat plying between Montreal and Longueuil. He later, however, located on a farm at Mt. Royal and spent the remainder of his days there. His wife bore the maiden name of Esther Hannah; she was born in County Monaghan, Ireland and spent her last days on the home farm in Canada. Robert of this sketch pursued his early studies in the public schools at Longueuil and later was a student in the select school at Montreal. When nineteen years of age, he commenced farming on his father's estate and continued to be so employed until 1860, when he came to Boone County. In the fall of that year, he went to New Orleans, where he remained until the outbreak of the Civil War. His sympathies being with the North, Mr. Swail returned to Boone County and located on the farm he now occupies on section 3, Flora Township.

Robert Swail was married, November 27, 1861, to Harriet Feakins, who was born in Cherry Valley, Otsego County, N. Y., May 19, 1841. Her father, William Feakins, was born in London, England and came to America after reaching his majority. He was married in Cherry Valley, N. Y., where he lived until 1856 and then, coming to Boone County, located in Belvidere Township, and was engaged in farming until his death. He had married Catherine Allen, a native of Cherry Valley, N. Y., and who now lives in Belvidere.

A family of eleven children have been granted our subject and his wife, namely: Sarah, Esther, Alice, Charles, William, Mabel, Frank, Archibald, Bertha, Ida and Hazel. Mr. Swail is liberal in his religious views, while his wife and three daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a Democrat in politics and actively interested in all township affairs. He was engaged in general

farming for about twenty years, then finding that he could realize handsome returns from raising vegetables, he has since been extensively engaged in that branch of agriculture. His farm is pleasantly located three and one-half miles from Belvidere and is improved and operated in a manner which indicates the enterprise of its owner.

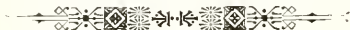


JOHN H. LARSON is a representative and well-to-do farmer and stock-raiser of Winnebago County, residing on section 35, Guilford Township. That farm has been his home for five years but his residence in this county covers a period of almost twenty. Like many of his fellow-townsmen, he is of Swedish birth. He was born in the province of Skona, on the 12th of April, 1856, and in the usual manner of farmer lads was reared to manhood, no event of special importance occurring during his youth. In company with his brother, Peter Larson, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work, he had formed a desire to seek a home in the New World and together the young men crossed the Atlantic to America. It was an important day for them when they had thus determined, for they have here met with prosperity and found pleasant homes. They are active and energetic people, well deserving the success which has crowned their efforts.

As a companion and helpmate on life's journey Mr. Larson chose Miss Anna G. Oberg, their union being celebrated in Rockford. The lady was born in Sweden, in 1863, and when quite young came with her parents to the United States, and located in Rockford. A sketch of her father, John P. Oberg, is given on another page of this work. Mrs. Larson is the eldest living child of the family. She was reared in Rockford, acquired her education in the city schools and is an intelligent and estimable lady, who has indeed proved a true helpmate to her husband. Their union has been blessed with five children, four of whom are yet living: George H., Flora O., Grace M. R. and John. Arthur A. died in childhood.

Mr. Larson began work in this country as a

miner in Marquette County, Mich., where he was employed for eighteen months. At the expiration of that time, he began farming in Flint County, Mich., and in the spring of 1873 came to Rockford. Since that time, he has been a resident of Winnebago County and has made farming his chief occupation in this locality. About five years ago, he purchased his present farm and now owns and operates one hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, which pays a golden tribute to the care and cultivation he bestows upon it. His success in life has all been due to his own efforts and his possessions are as a monument to his thrift and enterprise. In connection with general farming, he engages in stock-raising and is succeeding admirably. Mr. Larson is recognized as a public-spirited and progressive citizen and manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the county and its upbuilding. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican, and himself and wife are members of the First Lutheran Church.



WARREN H. GRAVES. Since settling upon the farm on section 15, Rockton Township, Winnebago County, Mr. Graves has devoted himself assiduously to its cultivation, with so much success that the estate is now one of the best in the county. At the time of its purchase for \$2,100, it was improved by a small house and thatched shed, and comprised a quarter of the section, but the residence has been enlarged until it is now a commodious and conveniently arranged abode, while in 1883 a barn was erected, 42x60 feet in dimensions. The original purchase has been added to until now the farm includes two hundred and thirty-three acres, and the neat appearance of buildings and highly-cultivated soil give evidence of the thrift and progressive spirit of the owner.

Mr. Graves was born in Hoosick Falls, Rensselaer County, N. Y., October 29, 1833. There is no definite record of the progenitors of this family prior to David Graves, who was born of English parentage, October 5, 1728, and passed his entire life in New England. His grandson, Timothy

Graves, engaged as a tiller of the soil in Connecticut, where his son, also named Timothy, was born, January 1, 1751. The latter emigrated from the Nutmeg State to New York in an early day, and settled on a farm in Rensselaer County, where his son, Timothy, Jr., was born in August, 1803.

The mother of our subject was Frances, daughter of William and Jerusha (Rich) Thomas, and was born November 15, 1810. She died March 4, 1849, leaving two children, our subject and Frances E., the widow of Charles Platt, and a resident of Wichita, Kan. Afterward, the father of our subject was a second time married, choosing as his wife Miss Margaret A., daughter of Jacob and Christine Stover, of Pittstown, Rensselaer County, N. Y. Mrs. Margaret A. Graves was descended from German ancestors on her father's side, and was born February 26, 1820. She became the wife of Timothy Graves, Jr., November 6, 1851, and unto them were born two children; Jacob A. and Hattie A., the former a farmer residing on the old homestead and the latter a teacher by profession. Timothy Graves, Jr., died May 31, 1881, aged seventy-eight years. His widow resides on the old homestead at Hoosick.

After gaining a good education in the academy near his home, our subject left the parental roof to respond to his country's call for defenders of the old flag, and enlisting at Hoosick in June, 1861, became a member of Company 11, Thirtieth New York Infantry. In the first engagement of the regiment, which was at the second Battle of Bull Run, he was incapacitated for duty for three months by having his left thumb shot off. At the close of the term of service, he was honorably discharged, in June, 1863, and returned to his home in the Empire State. He got a pension of \$8 per month from the Government.

In the fall of 1866, Mr. Graves removed to Illinois, and for a time was employed on the farm of J. P. Farnsworth. January 21, 1867, he was married to Miss Clara A. Farnsworth, who was born in Eaton, Province of Quebec, September 27, 1832. Her father, Samuel, died at the age of sixty-six years, and her mother, whose maiden name was Tabitha Barlow, died in April, 1869, at the age of seventy-four, leaving eight children, of whom Mrs.

Graves is the youngest. Hon. John F. Farnsworth, of Washington, D. C., a cousin of Mrs. Graves, was a General in the late war, and a member of Congress from St. Charles, Ill., for ten years. Gen. E. J. Farnsworth, her second cousin, was a Brigadier-General in the Civil War, and was mortally wounded at the battle of Gettysburg.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Graves settled on the farm where they still reside, and to the improvement of which they have devoted their energies. They have two surviving children, and lost two in infancy. Walter T., the only son, received a good education at the academy, and is a young man of sturdy integrity and unusual mechanical genius. Nettie C. is a student in the Rockton schools, and is an accomplished young lady. Politically, Mr. Graves is a Republican. He and his wife attend the Congregational Church, although Mrs. Graves was reared in the Episcopal faith. In addition to general farming, Mr. Graves devoted considerable attention to stock-raising, and is successful at that occupation. He usually keeps fifteen or twenty cows on the place, and sells the milk to the cheese factories. He is a man of honor and commendable public spirit, and his position is among the most progressive farmers of the community.



JAMES KELLY. To have the esteem of one's fellowmen, and especially of those who know you most intimately, is a worthy ambition in the breast of any honorable man. We may truly say that Mr. Kelly has attained this high place, as he has held the office of Assessor of Caledonia Township, Boone County, for eighteen years. He is well spoken of by all who know him and has attained a broad and true friendship with many. He engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 15, Caledonia Township, and is one whose ability, energy and enterprise have made him prominent and prosperous.

A native of Scotland, our subject was born July 17, 1825 in Argyleshire, while his father, John, and his grandfather, James Kelly, were born in Argyleshire. The grandfather of our subject

was a farmer and spent his entire life in his native land, as also did his wife, who bore the name of Euphemia McDonald. John Kelly was reared to manhood in Scotland, where he was married and followed farming until 1852, when he emigrated to the New World and located in Cincinnati, Ohio. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Kelly, also a native of the same shire as was her husband, and the daughter of Donald and Barbara Kelly. She survived her husband many years and departed this life at the home of her son, Duncan S., in Caledonia Township, this county.

Our subject was the fourth in order of birth of a large family of children, his brothers and sisters being Barbara, Agnes, Mary, John, Jennette, Charles, Jane, Duncan and Marion. He remained in his native land until 1850, when in June of that year he set sail from Glasgow on the vessel "Sarah" and landed in New York after a voyage of five weeks and six days. He went immediately to Ohio and, locating in Washington County, commenced working out on farms by the month. Being economical, he saved his money and purchased two hundred acres in Belpre Township, which he operated until 1869, and then selling out came to this township, and engaged in farming on his own land until 1886, since which time he has resided on his estate one-half mile east of the village. He is retired from active work of any kind on the farm and gives his attention to his official duties.

In 1857, Mr. Kelly and Miss Elizabeth Brown were united in marriage. The lady, who was born in Kintyre, Scotland, was the daughter of John and Ellen Brown, and died January 17, 1858. November 28, 1860, our subject and Miss Ellen J., daughter of Joseph Potter, were united in marriage. The lady was born in Belpre Township, Washington County, Ohio, while her father was born in New England. Mr. Potter was a blacksmith but after coming to Stark County, Ill., engaged in farming until his decease. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Cunningham; she died March 6, 1884.

By our subject's union with Miss Potter four children were born: Elizabeth, Charles, Mary and Ella L. The eldest is the wife of Clement Clark, and has one daughter named Eva Ella. The family

of our subject are all members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church. In politics, he is a Republican and is well fitted to occupy the prominent positions of which he has been the incumbent.



SENECA ASHTON. It is no doubt owing in a great measure to Mr. Ashton's Quaker ancestors that he is indebted for his gifts of frugality, industry, and uprightness, as well as many other estimable qualities, which have gathered around him much that makes life enjoyable. He was born in Livingston County, N. Y., January 29, 1830, and is one of eight children, all but one now living, born to the marriage of Sidney Ashton, Sr., and Miss Eliza Downs. The father was born in the Keystone State and there resided for many years, but subsequently moved to the Empire State and from there to Illinois, where his death occurred when eighty-eight years of age. He came of old Quaker stock and was a man of quiet, dignified habits, and one who held the esteem of all. His wife was born in Vermont and moved with her husband to New York, where her death occurred when but fifty-six years of age. She was also highly respected.

Of the children born to this worthy couple nearly all selected agricultural pursuits as their occupation in life. Seneca Ashton is no exception to this rule and is well posted on all matters relating to tilling the soil. He remained under the parental roof until he had reached mature years, and on the 6th of February, 1852, he was wedded to Miss Elizabeth Miller, who was born in Livingston County, N. Y., June 11th, 1831. Her parents, Barkley and Catharine (Smith) Miller, were natives of the Jersey State, but after marriage moved to New York State, where they passed the closing scenes of their lives, the father dying at the age of sixty-seven and the mother when eighty-three years of age. They were the parents of ten children, all of whom grew to mature years, and most of whom became tillers of the soil. Mrs. Ashton's Grandfather and Grandmother Smith were natives of New Jersey, and there died when extremely old people.

Mr. and Mrs. Ashton's happy union was blessed by the birth of one child, a son, Like M., whose birth occurred in Livingston County, N. Y., January 15, 1854. The latter was reared in his native State, received his education there, and in Boone County was married to Miss Augusta P. Allen, daughter of A. H. Allen (see sketch). To this union has been born a son, Ray L., who was but an infant when his mother died. Ray Ashton was born in Boone County, Ill., on the 13th of January, 1884, and is a bright, intelligent lad.

After his marriage, Mr. Ashton remained in New York State until 1875, when he sold out and came to Illinois. He bought his present farm of one hundred acres with improvements, and on this he has made his home up to the present time. He is ambitious and enterprising and has accumulated sufficient to render his future years comfortable and free from all worry or care. In politics, Mr. Ashton and son affiliates with the Democratic party, and his first Presidential vote was cast for James Buchanan. Mr. Ashton had two uncles in the War of 1812, and both drew pensions until their deaths.



ORSON TRUMAN, one of the prominent contractors and builders of Rockford, was born in the town of Wort, Allegany County, N. Y., June 21, 1840, and is the son of John Truman, who also hailed from the Empire State. The latter-named gentleman was a blacksmith by trade, and later was engaged in the manufacture of edged tools. After his marriage, he settled in Wirt, Allegany County, where he prosecuted his trade until 1845, then accompanied by his wife and seven children, he started for the Territory of Wisconsin.

On making his home in the Badger State, the father of our subject purchased a tract of land in Lima Township, Rock County, for which he paid \$3.33 per acre. Twenty broken acres and a log house constituted the only improvements of the place, the rest of the land, excepting a small marsh, being timber. The family took up their abode in the rude cabin, and the father at once set about the improvement of his property. The country round about was very sparsely settled, and as the

greater portion of the land was still owned by the Government, Mr. Truman entered a large tract adjoining his farm. He erected a blacksmith shop, and, in addition to superintending the operations of the farm, worked at his trade until 1852, when, the railroad being completed, the station was placed on his farm, and he appointed its agent. The place was named Lima, and there Mr. Truman resided until his decease.

Our subject's mother was known in her maidenhood as Maria Holcomb; she was also a native of New York. Orson, of this sketch, was a lad of five years when his parents removed to Wisconsin, where he was reared and educated. He aided his father in developing the home farm and in the shop, and on the death of the father succeeded him as station agent, in which position he continued until 1861.

In August of the above-named year, our subject enlisted in Company G, Thirty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry. Joining his regiment before Petersburg, he served in the First Brigade, First Division, Ninth Corps of the Army of the Potomac, with which he remained until the close of the war. Then marching to Washington, D. C., he participated in the Grand Review, and was honorably discharged at Camp Randall, Madison, Wis. Mr. Truman at once returned to Lima, and for one year was engaged in the produce business. At the end of that time he went to Muskegon, Mich., where he remained only a few months, however. Again making his home in Lima, our subject commenced work at the trade of a carpenter, at which he was engaged until March, 1869, when he went to Iowa and lived until the fall of that year, thence coming to Rockford, and continuing as a journeyman in that city until 1873. Mr. Truman then formed a partnership with L. H. Child; they continued as carpenters and builders together for three years, since which time our subject has carried on the business successfully alone, and has been instrumental in erecting some of the finest residences and business blocks in Rockford.

Miss Adeline D., daughter of M. A. and Lydia Child, was married to our subject, February 14, 1862. To them have been born six children, two of whom are deceased; those living are Effie M.,

Willis C., Mina E. and Harry C. A Republican in politics, our subject cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. Socially, he is a member of Forest City Lodge No. 12, A. O. U. W.



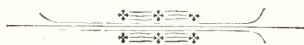
NELS P. NELSON, who is engaged in general farming on section 2, New Milford Township, Winnebago County, claims Sweden as the land of his birth. He was born January 25, 1851, and is a son of Nels and Ida (Johnson) Parsons, who were farming people. They lost three sons in childhood. The children who grew to mature years were Peter, Anna, Ida, Carrie, John and Andrew.

Our subject acquired a good education in his native land, and was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads. He left home at the age of fifteen years, and began to make his own way in the world. On attaining his majority, he bade goodbye to his native land, and in October, 1872, crossed the broad Atlantic, landing in New York, whence he came at once to Rockford. In this county he worked by the month on a farm for Charles Shirley, and for five years was employed in that capacity for different farmers of the neighborhood. He was then employed for two years by Allen Needham. Becoming acquainted with Miss Mary, the daughter of his employer, their acquaintance ripened into love, and in February, 1878, they were united in marriage. Her parents, Allen and Eunice (Lombard) Needham, were natives of Massachusetts, whence they removed to Cleveland, Ohio, where they resided for about five years, when in 1856 they came to Rockford.

The young couple began their domestic life upon a rented farm in Boone County, where they resided for two years, after which Mr. Nelson operated a part of his father-in-law's farm. In 1881, he made his first purchase of land, becoming the owner of eighty acres in New Milford Township, a part of his present farm. Two years later, he bought an additional eighty acres, paying \$8,000 for the quarter section. Since that time, he has devoted his entire energies to its cultivation and improve-

ment. He is engaged in general farming, but sells nothing except rye, feeding his crops to his cattle, hogs and horses. He keeps on hand from fifteen to eighteen cows, and sells the milk to Rockford dealers. He is an industrious and enterprising man, sagacious and economical, and by his own efforts has worked his way upward to a position among the substantial farmers of the community.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have been born six children, three sons and three daughters: Frances, born December 18, 1878; Anna, January 6, 1881; Eunice M., March 11, 1881; Roy, April 19, 1886; Wilbur, April 20, 1888; and Dwight, September 11, 1891. The daughters are all in school, and are quite proficient in their studies, and Frances is studying music. Mr. Nelson is a friend to education, and to all that can benefit and upbuild the community. In politics, he is independent, holding himself free to support whoever he pleases, regardless of party affiliations, and at the last election was the only man in New Milford Township to vote for the Labor candidate. His life has been well and worthily spent in the faithful discharge of the duties devolving upon him, and he is highly esteemed for his sterling worth.



CALEB ALLEN STARR. This gentleman needs little introduction to the people of Winnebago County as he has been a resident of the county since April, 1855. He is universally popular in both social and business circles in Durand where he is the owner of a well-equipped drug store and is possessed of the energy and enterprise which seldom fail to win. He was born in Deerfield, Franklin County, Mass., March 3, 1822, and is a son of Oliver and Lavina (Allen) Starr, natives respectively of Middletown, Conn., and Deerfield, Mass.

In 1832, Dr. Comfort Starr came from England, and, settling in Boston, founded the Starr family in the United States. The grandfather of our subject, William Starr, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and in early life was a ship carpenter and later followed the occupation of a miller.

He removed from Middletown, Conn., to Greenfield, Mass., and after making his home there twelve years, became a resident of Deerfield, that State, where his decease occurred when in his seventy-fourth year.

The father of our subject was born in 1791 and was three years of age when his parents removed to the Bay State. He was reared to the occupation of a miller by his father and later learned the trade of a dyer and clothes-presser. In 1855, he came to Illinois, and in Laona Township, this county, settled on a farm, where his decease occurred when seventy-nine years of age; his good wife, who bore him four children, was seventy-seven years of age when called hence.

The brother and sisters of our subject were Oliver, Eliza A. and Eunice. Eliza A. makes her home in Chicago, where she is an artist and also a literary character. She became a Catholic when quite young and is recognized as a noted writer in works published by that body. Eunice A. became the wife of C. W. W. Wellington and makes her home in Chicago with her sister. Oliver died when fifteen years of age. Caleb A. Starr of this sketch was reared to farm pursuits and received his primary education in the district schools, which was supplemented by an attendance at an academy. For five years he was engaged as a sailor, at one time going to Calcutta.

On leaving the sea, Mr. Starr engaged in farming in the Bay State, and in 1848 was married to Susan G. Childs, the daughter of Samuel and Electa (Gates) Childs, and a native of Deerfield, Mass. In 1855, our subject came West and in partnership with his father purchased a farm of one hundred acres in Laona Township, Winnebago County, which he operated for twenty-two years. He then came to Durand, and engaging in the drug business, has since represented that trade in this State. William W. Starr, the eldest son of our subject, was born in Deerfield, Mass., January 9, 1851. He was four years of age when brought to the Prairie State by his parents, and passed his early life in Laona Township, this county, where he attended the common schools. In 1870, he went to Chicago and took drawing lessons under the instruction of his aunt, Eliza A. Starr. Two years later, he went

to Boston and attended the Lowell Institute of Art, where he remained for about six years. He then accompanied his aunt on a tour through Europe, spending about one year in Rome, studying the old masters.

Returning to the United States, William W. Starr became a crayon artist in Grand Rapids, Mich., which business he followed for two years. In 1880, he went back to Chicago, where he also prosecuted that branch of his art, very soon, however, resuming modeling, which study he began in Boston and pursued in Rome. In 1889, he came to Durand, since which time he has given his whole attention to his work as a sculptor. He has made a bust of Henry M. Wilmarth, of Chicago; a bust of Dr. N. S. Davis, of that city, and reliefs of Dr. Braynard and wife, who also make their home in the Garden City.

Mary H. Starr, the second child of our subject, is Mrs. Charles M. Blaisdell, of Chicopee, Mass. She is also a portrait artist, and in pursuit of her study has traveled over the continent of Europe, spending two years in Paris. The second daughter, Ellen G., is one of the founders of the Hull House, a well-known benevolent institution in Chicago. She has also visited Europe. The youngest child of our subject, Albert C., is engaged in the cotton-broking business with his brother-in-law in Chicopee, Mass. He was a member of the first class that passed the examination under the new pharmacy law at Chicago.

Our subject in early life a Whig, now casts his vote in favor of the Republican candidates.



JOHAN SCHAD, who carries on agricultural pursuits in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, was born on the 6th of January, 1822, in Bavaria, Germany, and is a son of Frederick and Catherina (Koch) Schad. The family numbered eight children, five sons and three daughters. The father died March 6, 1841, at the age of forty-six years, and the mother was called to her final rest in December, 1850. Mr. Schad, our subject, was a conscript soldier in the Germau army for fourteen years. He entered the

service at the age of twenty-two, and was succeeded by his son Max. His pay was ten cents per day while a private, but he was promoted to the rank of First Sergeant, and received thirty cents. A photograph of him taken at the age of thirty-three shows him to be a very young-looking man. His military coat bears all the badges of his promotion from the rank of Corporal to Sergeant. He never participated in war, as his service was during a period of peace.

In March, 1858, Mr. Schad was united in marriage with Paulina Schmidt, of Augsburg, daughter of Powell and Johanna (Klein) Schmidt. They were married on his leaving the army, and at once sailed for America from Hamburg on the 1st of May of that year. Their voyage was a tempestuous one. One storm lasted from Sunday night to the following Friday noon, and they were driven back three hundred miles. After forty-two days spent upon the briny deep, they arrived at New York City on the 14th of June, and a week later started for Rockford, where we find them on the 28th of the same month. They commenced keeping house on the Cherry Valley road, now Charles Street, of Rockford, near Second Avenue, and during that year Mr. Schad bought a lot on Third Avenue. He built them a snug little home on that lot, which is now occupied by fine brick flats, and there they resided until March, 1863, when they removed to a farm of eighty acres in New Milford Township, Mr. Schad operating the same for five years upon shares. Having in the meantime accumulated some capital, he then purchased eighty acres of land in Ogle County, which he operated for eleven years, when he traded it for his present home on sections 4 and 5, Cherry Valley Township, a farm of one hundred and forty acres, highly improved and cultivated. He carries on general farming, and is quite successful. His wife is considered one of the finest butter-makers in the county. They do not have a large dairy, but keep on hand about six cows, and have made as high as twelve hundred pounds of butter per year. Mr. and Mrs. Schad have seven children, but Paulina, a young lady of eighteen years, is now the only one at home. One son, William, resides in Rockford. They also lost one son, Frank, who

died at the age of two years. The parents are members of the German Lutheran Church. Mr. Schad is independent in politics, voting for the man whom he thinks best qualified for the office, regardless of party affiliations. He is an intelligent and well-informed man, a valued citizen, and has the high regard of those with whom he has been brought in contact.



JOHIN BROOKS, who is engaged in mixed farming in Spring Township, Boone County, was born in Somersetshire, England, April 5, 1821. His parents, James and Ann (Cole) Brooks, were also natives of that shire, where they died at the respective ages of eighty-five and seventy years. The parental family included eight children, two of whom are still living in England.

Our subject was married in his native country, January 22, 1857, to Eliza Price, who died in this county, June 3, 1876, after having become the mother of four children, two of whom are living: Robert P. is married, and the father of two children; the daughter, Minnie J., is married and also has two children. Mr. Brooks took for his second wife Mrs. M. Hathaway, their marriage being celebrated November 29, 1877; she died in 1887 in her sixtieth year.

The present wife of our subject was formerly Mrs. Lucena R. Sprague, a sister of Thomas Farley, in whose sketch the family history will be found. Mrs. Brooks' first marriage occurred in November, 1874, with Mr. Austin G. Sprague, who was born in Ohio. His decease occurred in 1863, while a member of Company D, Twenty-fourth Iowa Infantry. By that marriage she became the mother of four children, namely: Charles A., Ella D., Lotta L. and James A.

After leaving England, our subject spent three years in Australia, and in the spring of 1857 came to America and almost directly to Spring Township, this county, where he purchased eighty acres of land. His estate now includes two hundred finely improved acres, upon which he has erected some of the finest farm buildings to be

found in the county, not the least among which is his comfortable residence. His wife went West in an early day, and took up a quarter-section of land in Ford County, Kan. Her son and daughter also entered land, upon which they resided one year. The children born to our subject by his first marriage were educated in the Lawrence (Kan.) University.

Mr. Brooks has traveled extensively, and has visited almost every country on the globe. With his wife, he is a member of the Baptist Church, in which denomination he has been Deacon for a number of years. In politics, he is a believer in and supports the principles of the Republican party, but aside from casting his vote during elections, is not interested in politics. While residing in Australia, he worked in the gold mines, and speculated in fruits. He has also visited South America and made a fourteen thousand mile trip on a slow sailing-vessel.

Mr. Brooks is what may be termed a self-made man, as his present handsome property is the result of his early years of persistent industry and wise investments. Aside from carrying on his farm, he owns stock in a creamery. His present beautiful residence was erected in 1880, and is finished in a manner which indicates its inmates to be people of means and culture.



SAMUEL JONES, deceased, is a native of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., his birth occurring April 13, 1821. He was a son of John and Nancy Jones, the former of whom came from England to the United States when our subject was an infant of two years. Settling at once in Canada, he resided there until emigrating to the States about 1847, at which time he made his home in Rockford, where his death occurred January 11, 1892.

The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Nancy Eldridge, was a native of Rhode Island, and also departed this life while residing in Rockford. Samuel remained at home until twenty-seven years of age, when, being a fine workman, he was engaged in building railroad bridges. In 1841,

he entered a tract of land containing one hundred and sixty acres, which he brought to a good state of cultivation and made a permanent location upon in 1853.

The lady to whom our subject was married, June 16, 1853, was Miss Adelia Campbell, and her birth occurred March 31, 1827. She was the daughter of David and Sarah Campbell, natives of Franklin County, Vt., who, in 1836, took the trip to Indiana, accompanied by his wife and eleven children. There Mr. Campbell lived until 1837, when he became a resident of Guilford Township, this county. He had purchased a squatter's claim of three hundred acres, upon which he erected a log cabin, and there the family resided for the following six or seven years, and there the mother died. The father of Mrs. Jones followed the occupation of a farmer, and was thus enabled to reap a handsome income. He died previous to his wife.

Of the ten children born to our subject and his wife, seven are living: Viola E., Mrs. R. H. Hinch, has four children; Almira J., who is married to William Johns, has two children; George S., who is married, is the father of four children; Frank C. is the next in order of birth; Della R., Mrs. Fred D. Teachout, has two children; William A. and Mary, are at home. Mrs. Jones still resides on the old homestead which is operated by her son, William A. Two of her brothers fought in the Union Army, one of whom, John, died at St. Louis. Hiram, now deceased. Our subject was a firm adherent of the Republican party, in politics, and in church matters was a devoted member of the Congregational Church.



JAMES HINKLEY, deceased, was for many years a prominent resident of Rockford. He was born in Posey County, Ind., November 19, 1829, and was descended from an old and prominent New England family, to which ex-Gov. Hinkley of Massachusetts belonged. Otis Hinkley, the father of our subject, was a native of Cape Cod, Mass., and when a young man emigrated Westward, settling in Indiana, where

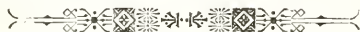
he married Eliza Henderson, a southern lady. She died in Posey County in middle life, and Mr. Hinkley afterward married an English lady, who survived him some years. She was an intelligent woman of marked character, and was held in high esteem by all. The father of our subject died in Posey County, Ind., when well advanced in life. In politics, he was a Democrat and a strong opponent of slavery.

James Hinkley, of this sketch, spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm, and before he had attained his majority, fitted out an ox-team and crossed the plains to California in 1849. After six months of travel, he arrived at his destination and spent three years in the mines, returning by way of the Isthmus with considerable experience but not much gold. He then gave his attention to agricultural pursuits and on the 9th of November, 1856, was married in Posey County, near his old home, to Miss Harriet Andrews, who was born in that county, October 8, 1832, and is a daughter of Anson and Elizabeth (Butler) Andrews, natives of Connecticut and Massachusetts, respectively. Their wedding, however, was celebrated in Posey County, whither they had removed when young. Mr. Andrews there purchased Government land from which he developed a farm, making it his home throughout the remainder of his life. He passed away at the age of seventy years. In politics, he was a Whig and later an Abolitionist. His wife afterward came to Rockford and died at the home of her son, John Andrews, when past the age of three-score years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hinkley were born six children, but two are now deceased: George, who died in childhood, and Ella, a graduate of the High School of this city, who died at the age of eighteen. Anson, who wedded Allie W. Meech, of Rockford, is now engaged in fruit growing in Washington County, Ill.; Arthur, who married Harriet Hinkley, is operating the canning factory of this city; H. Otis is a successful florist of Rockford, and Ralph W. is a stenographer and type-writer of this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Hinkley began their domestic life upon a farm in Indiana, where they resided for two years, when they came to Illinois. After two years

spent in Washington County, near Dubois, they came to Rockford and purchased property in the city limits. Mr. Hinkley engaged in fruit growing until he became connected with the firm of Upson & Skinner in the canning business. He was afterward in partnership with his brother-in-law, John Andrews, and subsequently became sole proprietor. He put up goods of a superior order and in this business met with splendid success. Mr. Hinkley was a straightforward, upright man and was recognized as one of the valued citizens of Rockford. His integrity was above question and he had the respect of all who knew him. He died while on a visit to his son Anson, in Washington County, January 8, 1891, at the age of sixty-two years. His wife is still living at the old home. She is a most estimable lady and has many friends throughout this community.



JAMES PORTER. This gentleman, though born across the ocean, was one of the early pioneers of Winnebago County, having been a resident here for half a century. He has given the best efforts of his life to agricultural pursuits, and as a reward for his industry has a splendid farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 6. He has won his way to his present honorable station in life without the aid of wealth or influential friends, and is consequently a self-made man.

Our subject was born in Banffshire, Scotland, April 24, 1817, and is a son of James and Jane (Gregor) Porter, natives also of Scotland. The father departed this life in his native land in 1844, soon after which our subject emigrated to America with his mother; she died at his home two years later. Our subject was one of two children born to his parents; his sister Isabella became the wife of Alexander Milne, and makes her home in Burritt Township, this county.

James Porter was reared and educated in his native shore. Having heard glowing accounts of the new world, he decided to emigrate hither, and set sail April 15, 1843, on the steamer "Anna Mary." After a tedious voyage of five weeks and one day,

he landed on American shores, and came directly to Illinois via the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario to Rochester, thence by way of the Lakes to Chicago, where he procured a team which conveyed him to Winnebago County. At that time this section was sparsely settled, the greater portion of the land being still owned by the Government. Deer and other wild game were plentiful, and although the markets were far distant, the early settlers did not suffer for fresh meats.

Our subject made a claim to a tract of Government land, which is now included in his present farm. There he erected a log house and commenced to work at clearing and improving his farm. There being no railroads in this vicinity for years, he hauled the products of his farm to market to Chicago with a team. The old log cabin has since given way to a beautiful stone residence, and also a stone barn, which add greatly to the attractiveness of the estate. His farm is beautifully located just five miles from Rockford, and bears all the improvements which stamp it to be in possession of a man of progressive ideas, and means to carry them out.

Barbara Kirtton became the wife of our subject in 1843. She was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two children, James and Margaret. In their church relations, Mr. and Mrs. Porter are active and influential members of the First Presbyterian Church. Our subject has been very successful in his farm work, and secured a competence as a product of personal industry and good judgment put forth in a field wisely selected.



ROBERT GRENLUND, a practical and enterprising farmer and stock-raiser, who owns and operates sixty acres of well-improved land on section 27, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, was born in Wester Gothland, Sweden, February 26, 1849. His parents never left their native land. His father, Peter Anderson, there followed the occupation of farming until his death, which occurred at the age of sixty-nine years, having survived his wife some

time. She bore the maiden name of Sarah Eysrill and died at the age of fifty-two. With the Lutheran Church that worthy couple held membership. In the family were two daughters and two sons: Sophia, wife of John Lind, a farmer of Pecatonica; Carrie, wife of E. Medine, a resident of Moline, Ill.; and John, now deceased.

In the usual manner of farmer lads our subject spent his childhood days under the parental roof, and when a young man of nineteen years he bade good-bye to home and friends and crossed the Atlantic to America. This was in the fall of 1868. He sailed from Gottenburg to Hull, England, thence to Liverpool, and crossing the briny deep landed at New York City. He came on at once to Illinois, locating in Winnebago County, joining his brother John, who had previously located here. For some time, he made his home in Rockford and did work as a farm hand through the county. He afterward worked in the furniture factories of that city and after sixteen years, in 1886, purchased his present farm with the capital he had saved from his earnings. In connection with the cultivation of his own land, he also operates other lands adjoining his farm. His land is under a high state of cultivation and well improved with good buildings such as are necessary for the care of his stock and grain, and which are found upon a model farm.

Mrs. Grenlund bore the maiden name of Augusta Bodine. She was a native of Sweden and was reared in the same locality as her husband. With her parents and other members of the family she came to the United States in 1869, locating upon a farm. E. P. and Katie Bodine, her father and mother, spent their last days in Rockford, the former dying at the age of fifty-five years and the mother in her seventieth year. They were upright, honorable people, highly respected by all and were members of the Lutheran Church. The wife of our subject is the only member of the family now living. Her only sister, Anna, became the wife of John Grenlund and died in 1886. The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed with four children: August E., who aids his father in the work of the farm; Godfred L., who is clerking for the Union Drug Company of Rockford; and Emily S. and Joseph, who are at home. The parents

are both members of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford, and in politics, Mr. Grenlund is a Republican. He has served as School Director for his district, and is a man well and favorably known in the community where he resides.



WILLIAM SLATER, who is engaged in general merchandising in Cherry Valley, was born in England, in 1824, and is a son of John and Mary (Nixon) Slater. His father was a manufacturer of brick. Our subject went to sea at the age of fourteen years on a merchantman and sailed from London to various ports in Russia, Australia and the East and West Indies. He made three voyages to the United States, two to Quebec and one to St. John, New Brunswick. After fourteen years spent upon the high seas, he sailed from his native land at the age of twenty-seven to New York, accompanied by his wife and one son.

Mr. Slater was married in 1850 to Sarah Proctor, daughter of Henry Proctor. They had an eventful voyage and arrived in Rockford on May 15, 1853. They had no definite destination, but as the railroad terminated there they stopped at that place and began housekeeping at once. In that city, they resided for five years, during which time Mr. Slater was in the employ of the old Galena Railroad as watchman. In the spring of 1858, he came to Cherry Valley in the employ of the railroad company as bridge tender and built a small house on railroad lands. After ten years he opened a saloon, which he carried on for four years, when he quit that business and converted the buildings which he had erected in 1870 into a grocery store. A partnership was then formed with his eldest son and for twenty-two years this has been the leading grocery house of Cherry Valley. In 1880, they added a stock of dry-goods, boots and shoes, hats, caps and clothing. Their stock is valued at \$10,000 and their annual sales amount to at least \$30,000.

In 1860, Mr. Slater was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died in the spring of that year, leaving two children: William J., who mar-

ried Phene Hale, daughter of Squire Hale, one of the pioneers of Cherry Valley, who died many years ago. He is his father's partner in business and is an enterprising man. The other son, Henry P., has for the past five years resided in the West and is now in Salt Lake City, Utah. One daughter died in infancy in Rockford.

Mr. Slater was again married, his second union being with Emma Proctor, his first wife's sister. They had seven children but have lost one son, Arthur, who died at the age of seven years. The living are Fred, Charles; Sarah, wife of Dan Packard, of Cherry Valley; Amelia, Jessie, wife of Mart Fuller, of Englewood, Ill.; and Emma completes the family. The children have all received good educational advantages and the family is one widely and favorably known in this community, its members being held in high esteem. In politics, Mr. Slater has been a life-long Republican and his eldest son has for nine years been the Town Treasurer of the school fund.



JOSEPH S. DAVIS was numbered among the honored pioneers of the county. He was engaged in farming on section 11, Guilford Township, where he owned and operated eighty acres of valuable land. It was once a timbe ed tract, but through the industry of the owner it has been transformed into a rich and fertile farm, now under a high state of cultivation, supplied with a good set of farm buildings and highly improved.

Our subject was born near London, Canada, and was the sixth child of Thaddens and Catherine (Kirkland) Davis, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Joseph was a lad of but twelve years when he came with his parents to Illinois. He remembers well many incidents of the long and tedious journey made across the country with teams. The family arrived in Rockford, July 6, 1839. At that time, the greater part of the land was still owned by the Government, deer and other wild game were very plentiful, and the work of civilization seemed scarcely begun. With the family, Mr. Davis shared in the experiences

and hardships of frontier life. He resided with his father, assisting him on the farm until he attained his majority, when he began earning his own livelihood, working by the month as a farm land. For four years, he devoted his energies to that occupation and then began learning the carpenter's trade, which he followed for three years. Subsequently, he purchased eighty acres of land on section 11, Guilford Township, and began farming on his own account. In 1863, he purchased the farm on which he now resides and, as before stated, has made it very valuable. He is a successful agriculturist, a man of good business ability and his success is the just reward of his own efforts.

Mr. Davis was married, June 1, 1870, to Mrs. Almira Manning, daughter of Heman Campbell, a native of Vermont, and a son of David Campbell, who emigrated from the Green Mountain State to Illinois in 1836, and became one of the first settlers of Guilford Township. He secured a tract of Government land on section 24, and began the development of the farm, on which he made his home until his death. He married Sarah Jones and she also spent her last days on the old homestead. The father of Mrs. Campbell was reared in Vermont and there made his home until 1836, when he removed to Indiana. A year later, he came to Illinois and purchased a claim in Durand Township, Winnebago County, the improvements on which consisted of a log cabin. That house was the birthplace of Mrs. Davis. After living there for a short time, Mr. Campbell traded that farm for a tract of timber and prairie land in the same township, from which he developed a fine farm. He also erected good buildings, made many other improvements, and there resided until his death on the 24th of August, 1884.

Almira Campbell first became the wife of Charles Manning, who was born near London, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, and was a son of Joseph J. and Catherine (Swart) Manning. He came to Winnebago County with his parents, and for a time was engaged in the mercantile business at Cherry Valley. At the time of his death in 1864, he was clerking in Belvidere. Mr. and Mrs. Manning had two children: Lee, who died at the age of fourteen years; and Mary, who is now the wife of Alfred

Purdy, and the mother of two children: Belle and Bertha. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have one son living, Elmo. Their first-born, Earl, died at the age of eighteen years.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Davis was a Republican and had served as Township Collector and School Director. He had always taken an interest in educational affairs, and was a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who gave his support to every thing pertaining to the welfare of the community. He had the confidence and high regard of all with whom he had come in contact and was one of the prominent early settlers of the county. Mr. Davis departed this life May 20, 1892.

 **G**EORGE STEVENS, one of the well-to-do farmers, and a progressive citizen of New Milford Township, Winnebago County, residing on section 31, is a native of Boston, Mass. He was born on the 18th of March, 1856, and at the age of four years was brought by his parents to Illinois, the family settling near his present home. In the usual manner of farmer lads, he was reared to manhood, and has followed agricultural pursuits almost continuously since. At the age of twenty-two years, he was united in marriage to Miss Abbie Rothwell, daughter of William and Nancy (Bartleman) Rothwell, who was born June 31, 1859, and was reared in this neighborhood. Her father was born in Kishwaukee, February 19, 1838, and was one of the first native settlers of this locality; his parents came from Massachusetts to Winnebago County about a year prior to his birth.

Mr. and Mrs. Stevens began their domestic life upon the farm of sixty acres which is yet their home, although it now comprises one hundred and ninety-four acres of valuable land. Many excellent improvements have also been there made and a comfortable residence, good barns and other out-buildings have been erected, including a milk house, ice-house, etc. While these add to the value and convenience of the place, they also stand as monuments to the thrift and enterprise of the

owner. In connection with general farming, Mr. Stevens is engaged in dairying, keeping from twelve to fifteen cows for this purpose, sending the cream to a neighboring shipper. He possesses considerable mechanical genius, and owns a portable engine, which he runs himself on his own farm in shelling corn, grinding feed, sawing wood, etc., and sometimes furnishes power for his neighbors in manufacturing.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Stevens has been blessed with three children, and the family circle yet remains unbroken. Harry was born November 18, 1881; Clara B., February 21, 1885; and Alma, January 21, 1891. The parents are both members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. In politics, Mr. Stevens was a Republican until his views on the temperance question led him to join the ranks of the Prohibition party. He has ever been a staunch temperance worker, and is recognized as one of the best temperance singers in this locality, his inspiring songs along that line doing much for the work. Viewed from a financial standpoint, also, his life has been a decided success. He started with very limited means, but by perseverance, industry and economy, and the assistance of his estimable wife, whom he recognizes as an efficient helpmate, he has obtained a handsome competence, his farm alone being worth at least \$15,000. In addition to this, for the past two years, he has dealt successfully in farm machinery. The farm on which he resides is owned by himself and his father.

 **I**SAAC M. MCCOY, a retired farmer living in Belvidere, was born in Washington County, Ind., on the 23d of July, 1816. His father, James McCoy, was a native of Pennsylvania, and a son of William McCoy. When a young man he went to Kentucky, where he met and married Nancy Lane, a native of that State. Subsequently, he removed to the Territory of Indiana, becoming a pioneer of Washington County, where he secured a tract of Government land, and erected the log cabin in which our subject was born. Clearing and improving a farm, he made it his home until

1832. About 1816, he was ordained a minister of the Baptist Church, and preached in different parts of Washington and Jackson Counties. In October, 1832, he rented his farm, and removed to Salem, where he engaged in teaching during the week, and on Sunday attended to his ministerial labors. His death occurred in July, 1833, of cholera, and his wife and one son died the same month. In the family were twelve children.

Isaac M. McCoy was a young man of seventeen years when his parents died. He resided with his brother in Marion County until December, 1835, when he started on foot for Illinois, walking to De Kalb County. This part of the State was then in almost its primitive condition, the work of up-building and progress having hardly been begun. He found a family living in a log cabin near the dividing line between De Kalb and Boone Counties, with whom he made arrangements to board at \$2.50 per week. He made a claim adjoining that upon which his landlord was living, and in the winter engaged in splitting rails at \$1 per hundred. The next summer he built a log house upon his land, and began the improvement of a farm.

On the 28th of November, 1838, Mr. McCoy was united in marriage with Cynthia Ann Penwell, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of Reuben Penwell, with whom she came to Illinois in June, 1836. The young couple began their domestic life in the cabin home before mentioned, living in true frontier style. Their home was blessed with a family of seven children: James Vincent, Sarah, Esther, Mary, Amanda, Carrie E. and Fred. All are still living, with the exception of the eldest, who was born in 1840, and died in 1886.

Mr. McCoy continued his farming operations, and ere many years had passed, had transformed the wild land into rich and fertile fields. When the land came into market in 1839, he entered eighty acres, and by purchase afterwards extended the boundaries of his farm until it now comprises two hundred and thirty-three acres, the greater part of which is under a high state of cultivation, and well improved. He made it his home until 1863, when he came to Belvidere, where he resided

for some time. He afterwards again spent a period of seven years upon his farm, but is now living retired in Belvidere. In 1888, he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died in the month of June. They were both members of the Christian Church in De Kalb County, but after coming to Belvidere, joined the Baptist Church. Mr. McCoy is an honored pioneer of this region, and of its growth he has been an eye-witness from almost the beginning. His life has been well and worthily spent, and he has thereby won the high regard of his many friends and acquaintances.



JOHN FLEMING. This gentleman, though born across the ocean, was one of the early pioneers of Winnebago County, having been a resident here for thirty-five years. He makes his home at the present time on one hundred and sixty acres, located on section 3, Owen Township, which he cultivates in a most thorough and profitable manner. Mr. Fleming was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, in January, 1828, and is a son of Neil and Marian Fleming, both natives of that country, and who, in coming to America in 1855, located in Canada. After a residence there of two years, they came to Boone County, Ill., and lived for a short time in Caledonia, whence they removed to Roscoe, and later to Owen Township, this county, where they died.

The parental family of our subject included nine children: James, Alexander, Flora, John, Donald, Mary, Marion, Neil and Robert. James, the eldest son, was married in Scotland, and, on coming to America with his family, died in Argyle, this county; Alexander, who made his home with our subject and a sister, died a single man; Flora married Alexander McDonigal, and departed this life in Owen Township; Donald passed away in Rockford, where he resided for many years; Mary married James Ryburn, and at the present time resides in Rockwell, Cerro Gordo County, Iowa; Marion makes her home with our subject; Neil died when a young man, in Winnebago County; and Robert lives in Pleasant Valley Township, Cerro Gordo County, Iowa.

John Fleming of this sketch was given a good education in his native shire, and accompanied his parents, in 1855, on their removal to America, setting sail from Glasgow in June, on the sailing-vessel "Chieftain." The party landed at Quebec, and our subject immediately found employment in a harvest field, twenty miles north of Toronto. He was later employed by the month on a farm, and in 1857 came to Illinois, the following year locating in Winnebago County. In 1864, our subject purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies, on which he has placed good and substantial improvements. He has never married, and his sister Marion keeps house for him. They are both members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, and are held in high esteem by all who know them.



CHARLES C. COONS. Nothing gives the patriotic biographer more pleasure than to tell the story of the life of one of our "brave boys in blue," who sacrificed all that he held dearest upon the altar of our country. The gentleman whose name appears at the head of this paragraph is one whose record as a soldier is of interest to every one who opens the covers of this Record.

Mr. Coons is one of the prominent business men of Rockton, where he is engaged in a prosperous lumber and coal business in company with the Keeler Lumber Company. He is a native of this State, having been born June 9, 1843, in Rockford. He is a son of Thomas M. Coons, who was born in 1814, near Culpeper, Va., where he was reared to agricultural pursuits and resided until his removal to Indiana. After a stay of a short time in the Hoosier State, the elder Mr. Coons came to Illinois at a very early day.

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Rebecca Reed. She was born in Winnebago, this county, and departed this life leaving two sons and one daughter, the brother and sister of our subject: William M., who died at Rockton in 1876, and Clara C., now Mrs. A. R. Hart, of Clinton, Iowa. Soon after the death of his mother,

our subject was taken to the home of an aunt in Will County, and when eight or nine years of age was brought to Rockton by his father, where he has since resided. In early life, he worked on a farm, and in 1861, when nineteen years of age, enlisted in Company G, Forty-fourth Illinois Infantry, under Col. Knoblesdorf and Capt. L. M. Sabin.

Our subject enlisted as a private for three years and was sent with his regiment to St. Louis, Mo., in which State his first engagement took place at Springfield. The next battle of his regiment was fought at Pea Ridge, Ark.; then followed the battle of Corinth, Miss., the next conflict of note being at Perryville, Ky., October 8, 1862, in which the regiment lost heavily. At Murfreesboro, Tenn., Mr. Coons was taken prisoner with two hundred others and confined for three months in Libby Prison. His confinement in prison was the hardest experience of the war, and when he was exchanged found he had lost eighty-eight pounds of flesh during that three months. He joined his regiment in time to participate in the battle of Chickamauga, in which conflict he was seriously wounded in the left thigh and hip joint. He was taken to Cumberland Hospital, at Nashville, Tenn., where he remained one year less a few days. During that time, he was a great sufferer from rheumatism, and the following fall, his term of service having expired, he was discharged, but in February, 1865, re-enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, and in September of that year was discharged, at the close of the war.

Returning home to Rockton, Mr. Coons operated his father's farm for the following two years, and June 13, 1867, was married to Miss Rebecca Hunt, who was born in England in 1845. She was the daughter of Robert and Jane Hunt, who, on emigrating to this country, located in Connecticut, and later came to Illinois, when Mrs. Coons was ten years of age. Our subject and his wife have ever since their marriage made their home on this place, with the exception of two years spent on a farm in Minnesota. They have become the parents of the following children: Winnie, who died when two years of age, in 1872; Mabel, Cecil

and Orville. Cecil, who is now residing in Clinton, Iowa, was graduated from the Rockton High School in 1890, with the honors of his class. This bright and promising young man has displayed a rare taste for drawing and portrait painting, having produced some fine pictures without any instruction whatever.

In their religious faith, Mr. and Mrs. Coons are members of the Methodist Church. Our subject, who is a Republican in politics, has been for the past twelve years a comrade of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford.



SAMUEL MORSE. That a lifetime spent in pursuing one occupation will in the end result in substantial success, where energy and perseverance are applied, cannot for a moment be doubted, and such is found to be the case with Mr. Morse, who from boyhood has given attention to agricultural pursuits. This adherence to his chosen calling, coupled with strict integrity, honesty of purpose, and liberality in directions, have placed Mr. Morse among the honored and much esteemed citizens of the county.

A native of New York, he was born in Ridge-way Township, Orleans County, on the 21st of November, 1827, to the marriage of John and Hannah (Davis) Morse. The father was born in the old Bay State, but seeing the advantages to be derived from locating on the fertile prairies of Illinois, he came to this State in 1840, and selected a suitable location, to which he brought his family the following year. He brought his family overland, but shipped his household effects by the Lakes. He was about a month in making the journey, and after reaching this State he erected a small frame house, in which he and his thrifty and industrious wife resided for twenty years. They then erected a fine brick residence, and in this received their final summons, the father dying at the age of seventy-five, and the mother when eighty-six years of age. The latter was a native of New Hampshire, and a most estimable and worthy lady.

Of the nine children born to the above-men-

tioned couple, three are now living. The Morse family have followed the occupation of agriculturists for the most part, but some have been prominent mechanics. This family is of English origin. Samuel Morse received the rudiments of an education in his native county, and received the finishing touches after coming to Boone County, Ill. At an early age, he manifested a desire to follow agricultural pursuits for a livelihood, and as he had every chance to perfect himself in this pursuit on his father's farm, he naturally has continued to follow this until the present time. In those pioneer days, he was obliged to work hard, and all his father's marketing was done in Chicago.

Our subject has remained under the parental roof all his life, and after the death of his parents he bought out the other heirs, and now owns one hundred and twenty acres in this township. He also owns one hundred and forty acres in Bonus Township, this county, and is one of the foremost tillers of the soil in the community. He was married in 1876 to Miss Sarah F. Cleveland, who was born in Boone County, Ill., and whose parents, Henry W. and Sarah F. Cleveland, were early settlers in this county. Her mother is still living in this county, but the father died several years ago. Although his father was a Democrat in his political views, our subject's first Presidential vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln. Mr. and Mrs. Morse are classed among the representative citizens of the county.



FRANK WAGNER has for over thirty years been a resident of this county, and since coming here attained an honorable position among its industrious and progressive citizens. He is a well-known resident of Rockford, having acted as Superintendent of the West Side Cemetery for a period of twenty-five years. Our subject is of German birth and breeding, born in Mareh, 1830, in Prussia. He is a son of Adam and Mary Wagner, natives also of the Fatherland, where the elder Mr. Wagner spent his entire life. The mother, however, came to America with four

of her children, and, locating in Wisconsin, resided there until her death.

The brother and sisters of our subject were Charles, Amanda and Christina. He was reared and educated in his native land, and there served an apprenticeship as landscape gardener. Desiring to come to America, Mr. Wagner set sail from Berlin in 1856, and after a voyage of eight weeks landed in Vermont. Coming directly to Illinois, he resided for two years in Aurora, since which time he has been identified with the interests of Rockford.

Anna Barbara Henry, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, was married to our subject in August, 1863. She was the daughter of Michael and Anna Maria (Schramm) Henry, also natives of that place, where their decease occurred. Mrs. Wagner came to America in 1860, landing in Plymouth, Mass., where she joined the family of her uncle, John Henry, with whom she made her home until September, 1862, which was the date of her coming to Rockford. Her union with our subject has resulted in the birth of three children: Carrie Anna, born in 1864, died in November, 1888; Frank W., born in 1865, departed this life in January, 1888; Lizzie, the only member of the family living, with her parents is a member of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church.



RODMAN, JOHN BUDLONG. The credit for a large share of enterprise which helps to make Rockford one of the most prosperous of cities in the United States, belongs to the gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch, and who is President of the Royal Sewing Machine Company. He is also a stockholder of the Standard Furniture Company, the Bit and Tool Company, the Excelsior Furniture Company, and the Rockford Manufacturing Company, in which latter organization he is Director. Indeed, almost every advantage that the town enjoys, from a business point of view, is owing in a greater or less degree to his push and energy. He is very popular with the people, and has made a financial success of his various undertakings.

The original of this sketch was born in Rodman, Jefferson County, N. Y., February 18, 1833. He is the son of Clark Budlong, who was a native of Herkimer County, that State, his birth occurring in 1801. His father, Green Budlong, was a native of Rhode Island, and of English ancestry. The latter-named gentleman removed to the Empire State as early as 1800, and was one of the pioneers of Herkimer County, purchasing a tract of timber in Litchfield, a portion of which he brought to a good degree of cultivation. At that early period there were neither railroads nor canal near his home, and Albany was the nearest market and depot for supplies. On removing from Herkimer County, which he did in 1805, he became a resident of Jefferson County, making his home in the town of Rodman, where he cultivated a tract of land which had been given him by his father, and where he made his home until his decease. Clark Budlong, the father of our subject, was reared in Jefferson County on the home farm, and when starting out in life for himself, purchased a tract of timber land near the old home. In addition to farming, he operated a sawmill for a time, and at the time of his death, which occurred in 1841, owned and operated a hotel at Rodman.

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Mary Lucas; she was born in Middletown, Conn., in 1806, and was a daughter of John W. and Esther (Stowe) Lucas, natives of the Nutmeg State. The mother now resides with our subject, having attained to her eighty-sixth year. John Budlong was the only child of his parents, and was given an excellent education in the Rodman Seminary, which was later supplemented by attendance at the Jefferson County Institute at Watertown, and the Adams Institute, also in that county, and the Falley Seminary at Fulton, Oswego County. He commenced teaching school when in his eighteenth year, and in 1853 went to North Carolina, where he was engaged as a pedagogue for a twelve-month at Eadington. Thence he went to Gaytown, where he taught for one year, thence to Texas, where he was similarly engaged for the same length of time in Washington County. Coming North, he engaged as a teacher in Missouri, and in the fall of 1860 returned to his native town.

teaching school and studying law. In 1860, he was elected Justice of the Peace, and in April, 1861, on the outbreak of the Civil War, enlisted in Company G, Thirty-fifth New York Infantry, being commissioned Second Lieutenant on the organization of the company. One year later, he was promoted to be First Lieutenant, and the Captain of his company, J. H. Haddock, being on detached service, Lieut. Budlong was in command of the company, with which he continued until the expiration of his term of service.

On receiving his honorable discharge, our subject returned home, soon after which time he purchased the plant of the *Northern New York Journal*, at Watertown, which he edited until 1867, at which time he disposed of his office, and, coming to Winnebago County, purchased a farm of one hundred and eighty acres adjoining the city of Rockford.

The city grew rapidly, and in 1889 Mr. Budlong platted a portion of his farm, and at the present time there are upwards of forty dwellings and four manufacturing institutions on his farm. Miss Minnie G. Smith, who was born in Lorain, Jefferson County, N. Y., August 7, 1840, became the wife of our subject, June 14, 1865. Mrs. Budlong is the daughter of Philander Smith, whose native place was Worth, Jefferson County, N. Y., and his father, Henry Smith, hailed from Nelson, N. H., moving from that State to New York in 1808, where he was one of the early settlers in the town of Worth. He continued to reside there a short time, when, in order to give his children better advantages for an education, he moved to Ellisburg, and when his object was accomplished, purchased a farm near Canillus, where they resided for a number of years. Mr. Smith departed this life at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Kingsly, at Arlington Heights, this State. The maiden name of his wife, the grandmother of Mrs. Budlong, was Fannie Wilson. She also died at the home of Mrs. Kingsly. The father of Mrs. Budlong followed the occupation of a farmer during the earlier part of his life, his decease occurring at Oak Park, Ill. The maiden name of her mother was Adeline Meacham; she was born in Pulaski, Oswego County, N. Y., April 20, 1820 and is the lineal descendant of Miles Standish, who was born in England

in 1584, and married Barbara Standish in 1623, and came to America in the "Mayflower" in 1620. He died in 1656, leaving three sons: Alexander, Miles, Joseph, and a daughter, who died young. Joseph was the lineal ancestor of Mrs. Budlong. His son, Samuel, was the next in line; he married Deborah, daughter of George Gates, and resided in Preston, Conn. The next in line was their son Thomas, who was born in 1721, and married in 1750 to Mrs. Sarah Williams, a widow. Their daughter, Lucy Standish, was the next in line. She married Isaac Meacham, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Budlong; he was a native of New England, where he cultivated a farm, and passed from this life in Pulaski, Vt. The grandfather of Mrs. Budlong, Simon Meacham, was born in Paulet, Vt., whence he removed to Pulaski, Oswego County, N. Y., where he was among the pioneers of that locality, improving a farm, upon which he spent his last years. His wife was Sarah Harmon, who was born in Paulet, Vt., and died in Pulaski, N. Y. The mother of Mrs. Budlong is at the present time residing at Oak Park, Chicago.

Philander Smith left money to be used as his wife thought best for missionary purposes. She has established the following schools and hospitals: Philander Smith College for colored people, at Little Rock, Ark.; Philander Smith Hospital; a hospital at Nankin, China, where she has also established a home and school for girls, and a boys' boarding school in India; also the Philander Smith Biblical Institute, for the purpose of training native ministers. She is now building a chapel and school for girls at Muttra, India, besides doing a great deal in this country.

To our subject and his estimable wife have been granted five children, namely: Standish S., Winthrop M., Mary A., John W. and one deceased. Winthrop and Mary are students at Oberlin, Ohio, while John is prosecuting his studies in the Rockford High School. Mr. and Mrs. Budlong in church affairs are connected with the Centennial Methodist Episcopal denomination. Our subject is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and is thoroughly representative of the progressive element of this section. He has given the best efforts of his life to commercial pursuits, and as a

reward for his industry has a high standing in financial circles. His career has been one eminently worthy and useful in the community in which he resides, and his neighbors and friends unitedly bear testimony to his sterling worth, integrity and valuable services. Our subject has been elected Supervisor of his township, and has also been a member of the Legislature.

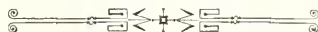


JONAS HAKANSON, retired, was originally from Sweden, his birth occurring in Wester Gothland Province, on the 3d of April, 1819. He came of a good class of Swedish people, who were tillers of the soil for generations, and his father, Hocken Johnson, also followed that occupation. The latter came to the United States one month after our subject, and two years later died in St. Charles, Ill., when sixty-two years of age. His wife, whose maiden name was Martha Brunard, came to the States two years later than her husband and survived him about twenty-four years, dying at the home of her son, our subject, in Owen Township, when eighty-four years of age. Both were life-long members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Jonas Hakanson was reared in his native country and early in youth became familiar with the arduous duties of the farm. He was there married to Miss Mary Christianson, who came of similar ancestors, and the young couple immediately took passage for the United States. They were seven weeks and one day on the water, and after landing came to the State of Illinois. This was in the year 1852. After coming to this State, they located for a time in St. Charles and there Mrs. Hakanson died of cholera two weeks later. Mr. Hakanson's second marriage occurred in St. Charles, Ill., in 1853, to Miss Mary Johnson, also a native of Wester Gothland, born October 31, 1823. Her parents died in Sweden, and in 1852 Mrs. Hakanson came alone to the States and settled in St. Charles, Ill. Two years later, she was married to Mr. Hakanson and has borne him five children: David, single, died at the age of about thirty-two; Matilda married August Lumberg, a farmer of Owen Town-

ship; Louisa, wife of Gust Wanstrom, a carpenter and mechanic of Rockford; Albertena married William Haff, a machinist in the Nelson Knitting Factory, and Helna married Henry Wanstrom, a carpenter of Rockford.

After his second marriage, or in 1855, Mr. Hakanson came to Winnebago County and settled on a small piece of land in Owen Township. He added to this from time to time until he finally became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land. This he sold to his son and in 1879 moved to Rockford, of which city he has been a resident since. He built a comfortable residence at No. 406 South Fourth Street and now enjoys the comforts secured by previous years of toil



ALFRED ANDERSON. In giving a history of the manufacturing and business interests of the city of Rockford, it is necessary that due mention should be made of the Union Furniture Company, which adds so much to the development and progress of the city. A prominent cabinet-maker and stockholder in this enterprise is Mr. Alfred Anderson who was one of its promoters, and who is a gentleman of thorough training. He is a stockholder in the Chair and Furniture Factory, the Royal Sewing Machine Company, and many other enterprises.

Like many of the representative citizens of Rockford, Mr. Anderson is a Swede, his birth having occurred in Wester Gothland Province, on the 19th of April, 1849, and, like all his countrymen, he is thrifty and industrious. He took up the carpenter trade in youth, under his father, John Wegren, who passed his entire life in Sweden, dying when sixty-five years of age. The latter followed the occupation of a blacksmith, carpenter and farmer. His wife is still living, is in her seventy-fourth year, and now resides in Sweden. She is a member of the Lutheran Church and her husband also held membership in the same. Of the two sons born to this union our subject is the younger. His brother, John R. Anderson, is now with his mother in Sweden and is a tiller of the soil. John married Miss Clara Anderson.

As our subject grew to manhood, he received a good practical education in the common schools of his native country, and in 1872 or 1873 came to the United States. For about eighteen months he was in Southern and Central Illinois, but on the 6th of January, 1874, he came to Rockford and followed his trade here until 1876, when he took up cabinet-making. He was married in Rockford to Miss Ella Peterson, a native of this city, born September 8, 1854, and the youngest daughter and child of Peter and Mary (Brisman) Peterson, natives of Wester Gothland Province, Sweden. After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Peterson resided on a farm in their native country until six children were born, three of whom died there, and then, in 1852, the family came to the United States, landing in Boston on the 4th of July of that year. They came West to Elgin, where two children were born, twins, and two months later came on to Rockford. The father died in Rockford on the 25th of November, 1889, when eighty-six years of age. He was quite active up to almost the last and was an intelligent and worthy citizen. His wife is still living, and though seventy three years of age, time has dealt leniently with her and she is still quite active. She has a comfortable home with her son, P. A. Peterson (see sketch). She is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

Mr. Anderson adheres strictly to the principles of the Republican party in his political views, and in religion he and Mrs. Anderson are worthy members of the First Lutheran Church. The fruits of their union have been two very bright boys: John R., born June 17, 1879, and Pearl A., born May 21, 1881.



WILLIAM P. BUCHAN, who is engaged in general farming on section 6, Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, was born in Ontario County, N. Y., in 1814, and is descended from an old Maryland family. His boyhood days were spent in his native State and there he acquired his education. Hoping to better his financial condition, he came to the West in 1848,

and, with the exception of a few months, has since resided in this county. In Cherry Valley Township, Mr. Buchan was united in marriage with Mrs. Susanna J. (Stilson) Rowley, who was born in Broome County, N. Y., and with her parents came to Illinois in 1844, settling in Rockford. Her father, Harley Stilson, was a native of Connecticut and in New York he married Retta Burton, also a native of the Nutmeg State. Subsequently, they came to the West and for two years resided in Rockford, where Mr. Stilson followed his trade of carpentering and bridge-building, at which he had worked in the East. He helped to build the first bridge that spanned the Rock River at Rockford and also the first Court House. This was in 1845. Later, he purchased a farm near Rockford and there he and his wife spent the remainder of their days. He was born January 17, 1800, and died in March, 1874. Mrs. Stilson, who was born February 17, 1803, passed away in April, 1876. They were both members of the Methodist Church, and were worthy people. Three of their children are yet living, of whom Mrs. Buchan is the eldest. Her brother, Nathan L., is a carpenter of Elgin Ill., and a prominent member of the Masonic order. Her sister, Mrs. Lucy L. Burt, resides in Lake City, Iowa, and by her marriage has become the mother of the following children: John, Jane E., Sarah, deceased, Kate L., Retta, Lucy J., Frank E., William, Charles and Thomas.

An uncle of Mrs. Buchan, Rev. James W. Burton, came to this State with her father, and on the 18th of March, 1850, started for California. He crossed the plains with teams, and after engaging in mining for some time, again began preaching. He was one of the first Methodist ministers in that State, and died while serving as pastor of the church of Woodland, when about forty years of age, leaving a wife and four children. His widow afterward again married. Of his children, Retta J. died at the age of twenty-six years; Thomas H. married Georgia Best, of Dixon, Ill.; Frank wedded Ida Fowler, of California, and they live in California; Eliza L. is the wife of Isaac Wicks, of Fresno, Cal.

Prior to her marriage to Mr. Buchan, his wife wedded Franklin Lewis, who started to California

in 1850, and died on the way in the prime of life. She then married Daniel Rowley, who died a few years later. By the first union she had two children: Sarah A. and Philo E., and by the second marriage was born one daughter, Retta J., but all are now deceased.

Mr. Buchan is an enterprising and successful farmer and a well-to-do citizen of this community. His home farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of arable land, highly cultivated, and he also owns one hundred and four acres of land near the city limits of Rockford, together with twenty-five acres of timberland in Guilford Township and a ten-acre timber tract in Cherry Valley Township. He is a Republican in politics, and himself and wife attend the Centennial Methodist Church of Rockford.



MARK DAY. This gentleman, who is residing one-half mile from Rockford, was born in Essex, Chittenden County, Vt., November 28, 1840. He is a son of Childs Day, who was born in the above-named county and town, March 29, 1794. His father, David Day, was born in West Springfield, Mass., May 2, 1758, and was the son of David Day, who in turn was a son of John Day, who was born in Springfield, July 5, 1698. His father, also named John Day, was a son of Thomas Day, who, in turn, was a son of Robert and Sarah (Cooper) Day.

The first ancestor of our subject to come to America was Robert Day, who settled in Newton, now Cambridge, Mass., in 1634. The genealogy of the Day family records that he was one of the company of one hundred pioneers, who, with their pastor, the Rev. Mr. Hooker, penetrated the wilderness of Massachusetts in 1636. The second wife of Robert Day was Editha Stebbins, sister of Deacon Edward Stebbins. The great-grandfather of our subject removed from Massachusetts to Essex, Vt., where he was one of the earliest settlers and where his death occurred in June, 1795, when in his sixty-third year. The grandfather of our subject was one of the pioneers of Essex, and, clearing a farm from the wilderness, there spent his last days.

He served as a patriot in the Revolutionary War for seven years and was very prominent during the conflict and afterwards was a pensioner of the Government. The maiden name of his wife was Aseneth Childs; she died on the old home farm in the town of Essex.

Childs Day, the father of our subject, was reared and married in his native town and remembers when there were no railroads in the vicinity of his home, and how all the transportation was carried on by means of teams, he being employed for a number of years to drive a team between Montreal and Boston. He later purchased a farm near the old home, where he spent the remaining years of his life in quiet retirement. He served as a patriot in the War of 1812, and was prominently connected with all local affairs. The maiden name of his wife was Mahala Collins; she was born in Lebanon, N. H., and was the daughter of Henry and Fannie (Aldrich) Collins.

The original of this sketch received his education in the pioneer schools of his district and remained with his parents assisting his father in carrying on the farm until their decease. On the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted, August 19, 1862, in Company D, Thirteenth Vermont Infantry, and in July, 1863, received his honorable discharge. During his term of service, he participated in the battle of Gettysburg, and was engaged in numerous skirmishes. He continued to reside in his native State until 1864, then emigrating to Winnebago County, purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. It is an excellently improved tract, having thereon all the necessary buildings and machinery, which make of it a first-class estate. It is further made more valuable by its proximity to Rockford, being only one-half mile distant.

Mary E. Winch became the wife of our subject in 1874; she was born in Aurora, Cayuga County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Walter Winch, who was a native of Brownville, Jefferson County, that State. Her grandfather, John Winch, hailed from Massachusetts and on the removal to New York, located in the above-named county, where he departed this life. The maiden name of his wife was Amelia Gage. The father of Mrs. Day early in life learned the trade of a tinner and later

that of a jeweler, which business he carried on in Aurora, N. Y. He later removed to Auburn and in 1875 emigrated to San Francisco, Cal., where he is successfully engaged in the jewelry business. He was married to Rosanna Campbell, who was born in Auburn, N. Y., and is the daughter of John and Amanda Campbell.

To Mr. and Mrs. Day has been born one son, Herbert W. They are both active members of the Second Congregational Church, and in his political relations, Mr. Day votes the straight Republican ticket. Socially, he is connected with Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and is held in high esteem by all his neighbors and friends.



HENRY CURTIS. In studying the genealogical tree of the Curtis family, we find that they came originally from England and were prominent in their different callings in that country. The subject of this sketch was born in Hampshire, England, March 30, 1813, to the union of Stephen, Jr., and Elizabeth (Poor) Curtis, natives of Hampshire and Lincolnshire, respectively, where both received their final summons, the father dying at the age of eighty, and the mother when about seventy-five years of age. Stephen, Jr., was a farmer and had followed that occupation all his life. To his marriage was born a large family of children, eleven of whom lived to be grown, two died in infancy, and four are now living. The paternal grandfather, Stephen Curtis, Sr., passed his entire life in Hampshire, England, and he and his wife died there when quite aged. Elizabeth Poor, mother of our subject, was one of two children born to Edward Poor and his wife, natives of Oxfordshire, England. Her parents moved to Hampshire, England, and there engaged in the nursery business, Edward Poor being known as head gardener.

The subject of this sketch remained under the parental roof until about ten years of age, and then for three years worked for his board and clothes with an uncle, James Curtis. After this he was engaged in teaming for an old Quaker, with whom he remained until eighteen years of age, and then

took passage on the vessel "Process," landing at Quebec, Canada, six weeks later. He remained in Eastern Canada, worked on a farm for about four years, and after saving \$200 started for the fertile soil of Illinois. He came by stage and steamer to Montreal, and canal to Kingston, thence by the Lakes to Queenstown and by carriage to Chippewa, after which he took the steamer "Thomas Jefferson" at Buffalo to go to Detroit, but changed on to the "Michigan" and came by it to Chicago. He walked from that city out to Boone County, and made his first appearance in that county in June, 1836. He at once settled on his present farm, erected a log cabin 16 x 20, and in this he made his home until 1876, when he moved into his present fine large house.

Mr. Curtis was married in Canada in April, 1835, to Miss Mary Atkinson, who was born in Lincolnshire, England, on the 26th of July, 1804, and was the daughter of Robert and Ann (Ross) Atkinson, natives also of Lincolnshire, England. Her parents died in East, or Lower, Canada, when extremely aged people; they were the parents of seven or eight children, all now deceased, the youngest having died in this county in the winter of 1891. When our subject reached Chicago on his way to this county, he left his wife, who had accompanied him thus far, in Chicago, and he started out on foot for Boone County. The country was almost a wilderness then and he followed surveying lines and blazed trees until he came to this county. Very few neighbors were here then, but game abounded on all sides. After selecting a suitable location and getting everything in readiness, he returned in the fall of 1836 to Chicago for his wife, whom he brought to his pioneer home. Of the four children born to this worthy couple, three are yet living, as follows: Elizabeth, born March 11, 1838, married George Williams and became the mother of five children; William H. II., born August 26, 1840, and Thomas, born June 6, 1843. When locating in this county, our subject took up one hundred and sixty acres of land and has resided on this ever since. Mr. Curtis is a Republican in his political views and his first Presidential vote was cast for W. H. Harrison. He named his son after this President.

This son, William Henry Harrison Curtis, was born in Spring Township, Boone County, Ill., on the 26th of August, 1840, as above mentioned, and after attaining his growth was married to Miss Maritta D. Handy, who was born in this county on the 7th of November, 1847. This union has been blessed by the birth of five children, as follows: Clarence L., born in Milton, Pa., on the 28th of March, 1872; Lois M., born in Pennsylvania., November 25, 1874, attending school; Mabel M., born in this county, May 31, 1878; Clyde W., born in Pennsylvania, April 3, 1882, and Grace D., born in Pennsylvania, July 27, 1884. Mrs. Curtis is a daughter of John and Celinda M. (Shattuck) Handy. Her father was a native of Ohio and came to this county in 1835. He took up Government land, but sold out late in life and moved to Wisconsin, where he died on the 7th of March, 1850, when forty years of age. His wife died in this county on the 1st of April, 1864. (See sketch of C. B. Lord for further particulars of Mrs. Curtis.) Mrs. Curtis' eldest sister was the first female child born in Boone County. Mr. Curtis, like his father, is a Republican, and his first Presidential vote was cast for Lincoln. He has held a number of the local offices of the county and is now Supervisor. The family attend the Methodist Church. William H. H. Curtis was in Company B, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, as a private and came out with the rank of Lieutenant. He was in the service three years, up to the 17th of September, 1865. His brother George enlisted in Company I, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, was wounded at Nashville, and died from the effects of the same at Louisville, Ky.



GEORGE PETERSON, the well-known manufacturer of all kinds of foundry supplies, under the title of the Union Foundry & Machine Company, located at Nos. 404 and 410 Cedar Street, is one of the most enterprising and thorough-going business men of the city. His factory is well equipped and he has been proprietor of the same since August, 1887. He was formerly President of the old corporation, which was organized in May, 1881, under the same name as it is now

operated. Mr. Peterson became a member of the firm and its President in August, 1883, and four years later sole proprietor. He is President, his wife, E. Peterson, Vice-president and his daughter, J. B. Peterson, Secretary and Treasurer. The business has been well and successfully carried on and is crowded with work, although about thirty men are employed all the time.

Mr. Peterson has been a resident of Rockford since 1854 and is well and favorably known in the county. He learned the trade of a machinist at an early age, has followed this all his life, and has met with substantial results. Aside from the foundry, he is interested in outside enterprises of Rockford, and has a fine residence on South West Street, in the Fifth Ward.

Born in New York City, Mr. Peterson came to this State when a young man and what he has accumulated in the way of this world's goods is the result of his own good fighting qualities. His father, John Peterson, was a native of Sweden, and came to this country when but fourteen years of age and in the latter part of the last century. He became a ship-rigger and was killed by falling from the ship's rigging which he was putting on at the wharfs of New York City. He was then fifty-nine years of age, and was a quiet, industrious man. His death was a great blow to his wife and family. He had always resided in New York City, but his wife afterward followed her children to Rockford, Ill., where her death occurred at the home of her son, Frederick Peterson, when eighty-seven years of age. Her maiden name was Mary Kirfus and she was born in Philadelphia in 1802. She was of German ancestry and the daughter of Christian Kirfus, who was a baker by trade. The latter died in New York City when seventy years of age. His wife had come to Rockford at an early day and died here when eighty-nine years of age.

Our subject was one of six children, five of whom are living at the present time and all married. He selected his wife in the person of Miss Eliza Vibbard, a native of Rockford Township, this county, and their union was solemnized in Rockford. Her parents, Thomas and Phebe (Scott) Vibbard, were natives of the Green Mountain State and after marriage came to Rockford Township

where the father cultivated the soil. Later, or in 1867, they moved to Iowa, Delaware County, and there the mother died when sixty-nine years of age. Mr. Vibbard subsequently returned to Rockford and has since been domiciled with his daughter, Mrs. Peterson. He is now eighty years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are prominent society people of Rockford, and Mrs. Peterson is a Methodist in her religious belief. Mr. Peterson is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party. They have had four children, but one, Gertrude, a bright little girl, died at the age of ten years. Those living are: Carrie M., wife of William G. Shapley, a baker of Rockford; Jennie B., at home, and Secretary and Treasurer of her father's manufactory, and Maud, in the High School.



WILLIAM NETTLETON, who is pleasantly located on section 36, Le Roy Township, Boone County, is the proprietor of one hundred and twenty-seven acres of land, which his good judgment has placed under excellent cultivation. He is a native of this county and township, his birth having occurred in 1853, while his father, Danforth Nettleton, was a native of Genesee County, N. Y., and was born in 1804.

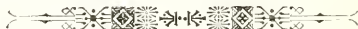
The father of our subject was left an orphan when a lad of seven years, and was bound out to his godfather until reaching his majority. He was then married to Miss Maria Grovenberg, by whom he became the father of five children. Mrs. Nettleton died, and the lady to whom the father was married in Le Roy Township, March 19, 1849, was Miss Margaret Postlethwaite. She was born in England, September 7, 1823, being the daughter of James Postlethwaite, and bore her husband four children, namely: Maria; William, our subject; Ella, now Mrs. James Black, of Washington; and Minnie, who married Frank Vickers, of Poplar Grove.

Danforth Nettleton departed this life February 13, 1891, when eighty-seven years of age. He came to this locality in 1812 and took up a quarter-section of Government land, which was his perma-

nent abiding-place. Our subject was married, September 15, 1875, to Rilla Nash, of Chemung, McHenry County, Ill. The lady was the daughter of Sidney and Caroline (Carpenter) Nash, natives of New York, who came to Illinois early in the '40s, where they were married; they have a family of six children, and make their home in McHenry County.

The five children born to our subject and his wife are as follows: Clarence B., born in 1876; Frank in 1878; Mabel in 1880; Bertha in 1882 and Joy in 1883.

In politics, our subject is a Republican, and in social matters, a Modern Woodman. He is engaged in general farming, and keeps on his place about twelve dairy cows. The half-brothers and sisters of our subject are Fannie, Mrs. Jonathan Leonard, of Washington State; Jane S., who married John Rice, of Chillicothe, this State; Densie, the wife of Edwin Walker, also of Chillicothe; James A. and Elias H., both of whom were soldiers in the Civil War, the latter of whom died of measles when in the service; James A. is a farmer in Kansas, and is married to Cecil Leonard.



JAMES HESTED, one of the extensive farmers of Winnebago County, residing on section 27, Cherry Valley Township, claims England as the land of his nativity. He was born in Kent County in October, 1825, and is the son of William and Sarah (Eldredge) Hested. They were both born in the same locality and emigrated to this country about 1830, bringing with them their three sons and one daughter. They settled in Rensselaer County, N. Y., where for eighteen years Mr. Hested operated a rented farm. There the mother died, leaving a family of seven children. The father afterwards removed to Bradford County and bought a farm, upon which he spent his remaining days, dying at the age of sixty-five years, in the summer of 1857.

Our subject was the third child of the family. He left the parental roof at the age of fifteen years, and since that time he has made his own way in the world. He began as a farm hand at \$5 per month, and worked eight months, then

worked for his board while he went to school for four months, paying his own tuition. After clothing himself he had \$20 left. His time was spent in this way for seventeen years, his wages being increased to \$15 per month, which was considered good pay at that time. He lived with Andrew Ryan in Rensselaer County for ten years, and his employer being old and infirm, he managed the farm as though it was his own property. On leaving New York in April, 1855, he came to the West, locating in Winnebago County, and was employed upon the farm of J. H. Fake. He brought with him about \$1,000, which he had saved from his wages in the East, and this he loaned at ten per cent. Other men were loaning money at twenty-five per cent, and considered him a greenhorn, but he lost nothing by his efforts to aid others. In 1859, he purchased his first farm, a one hundred acre tract on section 14, Cherry Valley Township, and in 1868 bought eighty acres more, selling the next year, and clearing \$1,800. In 1871, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 27, Cherry Valley Township.

January 24, 1861, Mr. Hested was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary J. Boltazer, who was born in Pennsylvania, January 24, 1836. They began their domestic life upon the farm in the spring of 1861, and to the work of developing and improving his land our subject devoted his entire attention. The small house and barn have since been replaced by a commodious residence and ample outbuildings. He has laid about a thousand rods of tiling, and the quarter-section which he owns, with its rich and fertile fields, is considered one of the best farms in the community. It is worth at least \$60 per acre. The home is situated on an elevation and commands a fine view of the surrounding country.

In 1884, Mr. Hested was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 23d of April, leaving a family of four children: William E., who is operating a two hundred acre farm of his father's in Carroll County; Minnie E., wife of William Blair, of Irene, Boone County; Harry V., who aids in the cultivation of the home farm, and Edwin, who is attending school at Dixon. For a number of years Mr. Hested was a staunch Republican in poli-

tics, but is now a stalwart advocate of the Prohibition party. His life has been well and worthily spent, and owing to his persistent industry, enterprise and good management, he has made a handsome competence which places him among the substantial citizens of Winnebago County.



ERASTUS L. STILES, who is at present residing in the city of Rockton, is engaged as Station Agent. He was born in Gibson, Susquehanna County, Pa., August 8, 1820, and is a son of George Stiles, a native of Windham, Conn., where his birth occurred about 1782. The latter-named gentleman was a tanner, currier and shoemaker, which different trades he followed, with the exception of the time spent in the War of 1812, during his entire life. He participated in the battle of New London, soon after which he secured a substitute, and returned home.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Elizabeth Lincoln. The parents were married at the old brick church in Windham, soon after which they removed to Pennsylvania, where the mother died February 25, 1853. The father of our subject departed this life December 22, 1854, when seventy-two years of age. Our subject was the fifth in a family of five sons and two daughters, only two of whom are living, his youngest brother residing at Factoryville, Pa.

Erastus L. Stiles, when fifteen years of age, left home and engaged to work at the shoemaker's trade, which he had learned from his father. He emigrated to Pocatonia, where he remained for a time, and in September, 1855, came to Rockford, where he engaged to work for Lewis Holmes. In October, 1856, he was given the position of Station Agent on the Racine & Miss. Railroad, which occupation he has followed under different corporations since that time. Mr. Stiles has been ill during the past six weeks (April, 1892), which is the longest vacation he has had for many years.

The lady to whom our subject was married at Brooklyn, Pa., in June, 1841, was Miss Marantha Capron. She was born in Hartford, Pa., and was the daughter of Wheaton and Daidane (Aldrich)

Capron, also natives of the Keystone State. To Mr. and Mrs. Stiles have been born eight children, three of whom are deceased, namely: Ella, who died in infancy; George, who passed away when twenty-seven years of age, at Rockton, leaving a wife and one son; and Charles K., who died in December, 1890, in a hospital at Chicago, in his thirtieth year. Those living are Arthur G., Oscar T., Cora, Durand and Herbert. Arthur enlisted when eighteen years of age in Company D, Fifty-first Illinois Infantry, during the late war, which was known as the Lead Mine Regiment, it being commanded by Col. Smith, of Galena. He served for a time under Sherman, and when being sent back to look after Hood, was wounded at the battle of Franklin, Tenn., where he was taken prisoner and confined for six months in Andersonville Prison. He served his country faithfully and well for four years, and receives from the Government a pension of \$8 per month.

Mr. Stiles votes for the best man during election times, regardless of party, and is as free in religious matters as in politics. He has been twice elected Clerk of his township, and for several years was Corporation Clerk.



HENRY G. DAVIS, M. D., a practicing physician and surgeon of Rockford, claims Wisconsin as the State of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Rock County on the 26th of December, 1860. His paternal grandfather, Jeremiah Davis, is yet living in Rock County, at the age of ninety. The father of our subject, Jeremiah Davis, Jr., was born in Herkimer County, N.Y., and was reared to manhood on a farm in that locality. With his father, he came West, and a marriage ceremony performed in Rock County united his destiny with that of Miss Jane Goodrich, also a native of the Empire State, who came West in her girlhood days. Her father, Joseph Goodrich, was an early settler and prominent farmer and merchant of Rock County. He was also the founder of Milton College, a Seventh-day Baptist School, of Milton, Wis., and established the

churches of that denomination in the county. He died in Milton in 1870, having reached the allotted age of three-score years and ten. His wife, whose maiden name was Nancy Maxon, had passed away some years previous. She also was a prominent member of the Seventh-day Baptist Church. As Mrs. Davis was a mere girl when her parents emigrated Westward, she was reared and educated in Wisconsin. In the year 1861, the parents of our subject removed to Ogle County, Ill., and settled at what is now Davis Junction. When the railroad was built through that locality, the father established the town of Davis Junction and afterward improved a very large property, upon which he made his home until 1881, when he came to Rockford and is now living a retired life at No. 206 North Second Street. His wife has proved a true helpmate to him, and they are a worthy and estimable couple. In their family were six children, all yet living and four are now married.

Our subject is the only one who follows a profession. When he was only a few months old, his parents removed to Ogle County, where he resided until coming to Rockford. At length, he determined to make the practice of medicine his life work, and to that end entered Hahnemann Medical College, of Chicago, from which he was graduated in the Class of '83. He established practice in Monroe, Ogle County, where he continued to reside until 1889, which year witnessed his arrival in this city. He formed a partnership with Dr. W. A. McDowell, and opened an office at No. 112 South Main Street. The firm existed for about a year, since which time Dr. Davis has been alone in practice and has removed his office to the William Brown Building.

The lady who bears the name of Mrs. Davis was in her maidenhood Miss Georgie Hogle, a native of Chicago and a daughter of George Hogle, a prominent stock dealer of that city. Her parents were both born in the East and are quite prominent people in the circles of society in which they move. The marriage of the Doctor and his wife was celebrated in Chicago, and has been blessed with one son, Harry H. They are well-known and leading people of this community, who hold a high social position. They attend the Sec-

and Congregational Church, and in politics the Doctor is a Republican. He is already enjoying a liberal patronage and has a reputation which many an older physician might well envy.



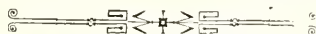
PONTUS PETERSON is a stockholder in the Swedish Brewery Company, which was established in 1890, and does business in southeast Rockford. A native of Sweden, he was born in Verland, May 3, 1838. His father died in Sweden at the age fifty-six years, after which his mother came to America and died in Rockford at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Helburg, in 1891, at the age of seventy-seven years. She was a most estimable lady, a true wife and mother, and lived a consistent Christian life.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood in his native land, where he learned the trade of a brewer and also served as book-keeper for a leading bank for some time. He received excellent educational advantages, having been a student in a leading conservatory of music. He possesses musical talent of a high order and has devoted much time to that art and its enjoyment. He was the first of his family to come to this country, the year 1867 witnessing his emigration. He had already married before leaving his native land, his union being with Miss Ida E. Ekblad, who came of an old Swedish family. Her father lived and died in his native land, passing away at an advanced age. He was at one time quite wealthy and was a prominent citizen of the community in which he resided. His wife is now living with her daughter in Indianapolis, Ind., at the advanced age of eighty-one years. Like her husband, she is descended from an old and well-known Swedish family.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have been born nine children as follows: Robert W., an engraver in the Rockford Silver Plate Company; Gertrude L., who is employed in the S. B. Wilkins Knitting works; Hubert, who is also an engraver for the Rockford Silver Plate Company; Benjamin, Agnes, Elsie, Lillie, Harry and Thomas, all of whom are yet at home. The family reside at No. 198 Catherine

Street, where they have a pleasant and commodious residence.

Mr. Peterson came to Rockford in 1867, and has here made his home continuously since. For twenty years he devoted his life to the art of music, teaching both vocal and instrumental. His talent in this direction is much above the average. He was a member of the Forest City Band, has been connected with other musical societies and is interested in everything pertaining to the art. As before stated, since 1890 he has been connected with the Swedish Brewery Company, of which he is a leading stockholder, and to the promotion of that industry he now gives his time and attention.



NIRAM C. BURROUGHS. The magnitude of the commercial interests of Rockford is the subject of frequent remark on the part of visitors to this progressive city, and among its most prominent establishments is the firm of Burroughs & Thomas, undertakers and burial directors, located at No. 109 North Main Street. They carry a full line of burial cases, and white and black hearses, and by energy and enterprise have gained an enviable reputation with the public. The business was established by Mr. Burroughs in January, 1882, and four years later was transferred to the present place of business, while the firm of Burroughs & Thomas was organized in February, 1890.

Mr. Burroughs is also one of the original stockholders and at present a Director in the Rockford Burial Case Company, which was established in 1882, and commenced business the following year. This company has met with marked success and is one of the representative institutions of the city, its reputation being extended throughout the surrounding country. Since Mr. Burroughs came to Winnebago County in 1874, he has been closely connected with its history, first as a farmer for nine years, later as a confectioner for three years, and afterward as a funeral director and undertaker, and in these various relations has won the confidence of the people with whom he has been brought in contact.

A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Burroughs was

born in Erie County, August 21, 1839, and was only five years old when he accompanied his parents to Melleny County, Ill. Two years afterward, the family removed to Ogle County, where our subject grew to manhood upon his father's farm. When twenty-two years of age, he enlisted in the service of the Union as a member of Company G, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. Capt. Bacon and Col. Marsh commanding. The regiment was incorporated with the Army of the Cumberland and fought at the battles of Perryville, Ky., Stone River and in many skirmishes with the enemy. Mr. Burroughs was detailed for special duty part of the time and was for three months confined to the hospital on account of sickness.

At the expiration of his term of service, Mr. Burroughs returned to Ogle County, where he engaged in farming for nine years. In that county he was married to Miss Angeline A. Campbell, who was the first white child born in the township of Linnville, Ogle County, her birth having occurred in 1839. She was reared in her native township, on the farm which her father improved from the raw prairie. Mr. and Mrs. Burroughs are the parents of one child: Lavina, wife of W. W. Sawyer, a druggist of Rockford, and the mother of one child, Harold. Politically, Mr. Burroughs is an independent Republican, and socially belongs to the G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford, is a Master Mason, belonging to Blue Lodge No. 102, at Rockford, Subordinate Lodge, No. 140, I. O. O. F. and Knights of Pythias, No. 36.

Mr. Burroughs belongs to a very worthy family whose members have been upright citizens and enterprising and successful men. His grandfather, Charles Burroughs, was a native of New York State, who removed to Erie County, Pa., and there followed the occupation of a farmer until his death at the age of fifty-two. Prior to his removal from the Empire State he was married to Lucinda Cunningham, who survived him some years, coming West after his decease and passing away in Floyd County, Iowa, at the age of seventy.

This worthy couple were identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and were the parents of thirteen children, most of whom were farmers. The eldest, C. C., was born May 30, 1816, in New

York, and was twenty years old when his parents removed to Erie County, Pa. Upon attaining to his majority he started out in life for himself and for a time was a teacher, and later commenced to farm, being thus engaged in Pennsylvania and Ogle County, Ill. At the age of fifty years he retired from agricultural pursuits and is passing his declining years quietly at his home at No. 801 West State Street, Rockford. In his political and religious views, he is independent and liberal, and enjoys splendid health notwithstanding his age. His wife also survives at the age of seventy-one and with him enjoys the esteem of all with whom she has come in contact during a long and useful life.



ROLLIN G. WHITMAN, Postmaster of Belvidere, was born in Belvidere Township, Boone County, Ill., January 18, 1847, and is a son of Hiram and Clarinda (Hanchett) Whitman, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of Dr. F. S. Whitman, on another page of this work. His education was acquired in Belvidere, and when not attending school he assisted in the labors of the farm, remaining under the paternal roof until he had attained his majority.

At the age of twenty-one, Mr. Whitman bade good-bye to his old home, and started for the West. He went to Caldwell County, Mo., locating in Hamilton, where he purchased a large tract of land, and engaged in the real-estate business. He also dealt in live stock, became quite a prominent and influential citizen of that community, and for seven years served as Postmaster of Hamilton. He continued to reside in that city until 1886, when he returned to Belvidere, and was employed as time-keeper in the June Factory, which position he continued to fill until January, 1890, when he was appointed Postmaster of Belvidere by President Harrison.

A marriage ceremony performed in 1874 united the destinies of Mr. Whitman and Miss Florence E. Moss, and their union has been blessed with two children, a son and daughter: Frank S., Jr., and Mary M. The parents are leading young

people of this city, who rank high in the social circles in which they move, and are held in warm regard by their many friends.

In politics, Mr. Whitman is a staunch supporter of Republican principles, and served as a member of the Central Committee of his party in Caldwell County, Mo., and was also Delegate to the Republican State Convention. While residing in Hamilton, he also served as President of the Village Board, and is now proving himself an efficient and popular Postmaster. Socially, he is a member of Eden Lodge No. 190, I. O. O. F., and of Hamilton Encampment, and belongs to La Fayette Garrison, K. G., of Belvidere.



JOHAN ANDREW, an extensive farmer of Caledonia Township, Boone County, is a native of this State, having been born in May, 1850, in Winnebago County. He is the son of John Andrew, Sr., one of the pioneers of the last-named county, who was born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, Scotland, and was the son of David Andrew. The father of our subject was engaged in farming on leased land in Scotland, where he remained until 1840, at which time he came to America, accompanied by his wife and three children. The party set sail from Greenock in June, and landed in New York after a long and stormy voyage of some weeks. They came directly to Illinois by way of the Hudson River and Lakes, and located in Winnebago County at a time when this section was sparsely settled, and all kinds of wild game were plentiful. The family moved into a log house with the family of Mrs. Andrew's sister. The father soon purchased land extending on both sides of the county line, and immediately began the work of improving his estate, which was his home until his death, in 1862.

The parents of our subject were married in Scotland, the maiden name of the mother being Mary Brown. She was also born in Kintyre, and was the daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Ralston) Brown, and is still living, residing on the home farm with her son Thomas, at the advanced

age of seventy-eight years. The ten children included in the family were Elizabeth, David, Charles, Janet, Mary, Margaret, Hugh, John, Thomas and Jane. The parents were members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, with which they identified themselves on its organization.

John Andrew was reared and educated in Harlem Township, and resided on the home farm until his marriage, when he settled on the farm which is his present place of residence. His estate includes two hundred and sixty-nine acres, which is improved with modern buildings, and ranks among the very finest in the county. In 1876, Mr. Andrew was married to Barbara McMillan, who was also a native of Kintyre, Scotland, and was an infant when she was brought to America by her parents, Mathew and Agnes (Kelly) McMillan, of whom an extended sketch appears elsewhere in this work.

Our subject and his wife have four children: Mary B., Mathew J., Louis and Thomas J. They are also members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, and are classed among the well-to-do residents of this county.



GUSTAVE SWEMBERG. Prominent among the successful business men of Rockford stands the name that heads this sketch, a first-class stone-cutter, who resides in a comfortable home at No. 703 North Second Street. He is a persevering, energetic business man, and what he has accumulated in the way of this world's goods is the result of hard work and good management.

Born in Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, on the 13th of January, 1834, he there passed his boyhood and learned his trade. In the year 1884, he bade farewell to the land of his birth and crossed the ocean to the United States. He came immediately to the Sucker State and located in Rockford, where he has followed his trade ever since. He is one of the honest, industrious citizens and is universally respected.

Miss Johanna Samuelson, whom he married in his native country, was born in the year 1836 and by

her marriage has become the mother of the following children: Charles, a cabinet-maker of the Skandia Furniture Company, of Rockford; Albert, a glove cutter in Chicago; Erick works in the watch factory of Rockford; Ernest, at home; Hilda, a seamstress for the Rockford Clothing Company; Belle, wife of Oscar Larson, a fruit dealer on Seventh Street, and Hanna, a book-keeper for the Skandia Furniture Company, of Rockford. Mr. Swenberg and wife are members of the First Lutheran (Swedish) Church of Rockford, and are liberal contributors to the same. In politics, Mr. Swenberg closely adheres to the principles of the Republican party. He is a useful citizen and a stirring business man.



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN RICHARDSON has the honor of being a native of Roscoe, Ill. He lived for twenty-two years on the old homestead, on section 33, Roscoe Township, but has now resided on section 22 for the past thirty-three years. He was born May 8, 1837, and was the first male child born in Winnebago County. His father, Benjamin Richardson, was born near Gloversville, N. Y., and in his youth learned the trade of a blacksmith. When quite a young man, he invented a machine used in pulling up stumps. He afterwards engaged in blacksmithing, possessing both mechanical and inventive genius, which made him quite successful. He was married at his home and thence emigrated to Michigan when twenty-five years of age. Three months later, he started for the Rock River Country of Illinois, of which he had heard glowing descriptions, and was so favorably impressed, that he immediately returned for his wife and two children. Purchasing an ox-team, he started with his family for Illinois, arriving in Roscoe in the autumn of 1836. He made a claim of eighty acres of timber land and eighty acres of prairie, south of where the depot now stands, and turned his attention to blacksmithing. He soon built up a good trade and he followed that occupation for many years with excellent success, his labors being much

in demand. His first dwelling was a log cabin, which he built with the help of his neighbors. This was burned several years later and he built a concrete house. Other settlers had tried this, but failed to make a substantial house. Mr. Richardson, however, was successful and the old house is yet standing. His wife died in Roscoe, in 1844, leaving five sons and three daughters, but the youngest child, an infant, did not long survive her.

The children were Charles, Abigail, Benjamin F., Emily, James, Josiah and Mary. James and Josiah were volunteers in the late war, the former a member of the Nineteenth Chicago Zouaves. Josiah served in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry and was three times wounded. He enlisted as a private, but when discharged was Captain of a colored company. His last wound, which was in the thigh, was received near Richmond. He returned home disabled and when he rejoined his regiment, the war was just over and he was mustered out, in 1865. He died in Pueblo, Mexico, where he went for his health. James returned home at the close of the war and his death occurred not long afterward.

Our subject was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of frontier life. He aided in the arduous task of developing a farm, and his education was acquired in the old pioneer schools. In September, 1862, on the day when Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, he married Libbie A. Gregory, of Harlem Township, who was born in New York and is a daughter of Samuel and Maria (Bathrick) Gregory, both of whom were natives of the Empire State and came to Illinois in 1846, when their daughter was a young lady.

Mrs. Richardson died at the old homestead, March 28, 1887, at the age of forty-five years, leaving eight children, four sons and four daughters, the youngest a babe of four months; one daughter, Carrie, had died at the age of two years. The living are Coradell, Franklin A., Fannie Maria, Mary Elizabeth, Kate Anna Belle, Clifford Benjamin, Walter Samuel and James Erwin. All of the children are at home except Cora, who is the wife of James McMickin, of Nebraska; Frank A., and Fannie M., wife of Edwin Goldthwait. The last two reside in Durand, Ill. The children

have all received good educational advantages, thus being fitted for the practical duties of life.

Mr. Richardson voted the Republican ticket until 1884, since which time he has been a Prohibitionist. He has been a life-long member of the Methodist Church, to which his wife belonged, and has lived worthily and well. He is recognized as one of the substantial farmers of Roscoe Township and is one of the honored early settlers.



ARCHIBALD HUTCHINSON, who resides on section 25, Le Roy Township, Boone County, by his progressiveness and natural ability, has become one of the representative people of the township. In addition to general farming, he makes a specialty of stock-raising, keeping about fifty head of horned cattle and thirty-five head of horses on his place constantly, being the owner of "Allego," a fine young stallion which he purchased in 1887.

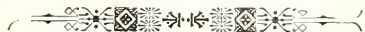
Our subject was born in County Armagh, Ireland, in 1813, where also his father, James Hutchinson, was born, and a well-to-do farmer. Our subject's mother, prior to her marriage, was Sarah Copeland, and by her union with Mr. Hutchinson became the mother of six children, of whom our subject was the youngest. She departed this life at middle age, the father living to be a very old man.

Archibald Hutchinson was reared on the home farm, and when reaching his majority established a home for himself, and married Agnes Davidson, a native of the county where his birth occurred. They lived on the home farm until the summer of 1866, at which time they set sail from Liverpool on the steamer "City of Baltimore," and landed on the shores of the New World after a voyage of two weeks. They immediately came West to Boone County, where our subject purchased one hundred and twenty acres of improved property from Ephraim Robinson, for which he paid \$25 per acre.

The five sons and two daughters born to our subject and his wife are James, who married Margaret Shanks, of this county, and has a family of

five children; Ann, who died in August, 1891; Hannah, now Mrs. Thomas Davidson, who is the mother of three children, and resides in McHenry County; David, who married Martha McChure, is the father of two children, and engaged in farming in this county; William, who is a physician of Iron Mountain, Mich., being a graduate of Rush Medical College, Chicago; Robert, who married Minna J. Herriek, is a physician, and has two children; and Archie, who remains at home with his aged parents.

Mrs. Hutchinson is in good health, and has reached the age of seventy-eight years, while her husband is one year her senior. Our subject rented his farm in 1883, and moved to Capron, where he lived until 1890, and then took up his abode on the farm of his son Archie, which comprises three hundred and nineteen acres. The estate was purchased in 1887, and cost \$50 per acre. One hundred and sixty acres are given to a fine burr oak pasture and live woodland, and it is a model of agricultural neatness and productiveness, its good features in this direction being beautified by the taste and judgment of its owner, who finds that the best methods and the latest improvements in agricultural ways are those that bring him in the largest returns.



EDWIN L. LAWRENCE, Supervisor of Belvidere, was born in Cuba, Allegany County, N. Y., September 9, 1833. He is descended from a New England family whose members bore an important part in Colonial history, and his great-grandfather participated in the famous battle of Bunker Hill, where two of his brothers were killed. For particulars with reference to the paternal grandfather of our subject, the reader is referred to the sketch of E. C. Lawrence on another page.

The father of our subject, Hon. Luther W. Lawrence, was born in Chenango County, N. Y., April 19, 1808, and learned the trade of a tanner, currier and shoemaker. He was married in his native State, where he resided until 1837. In 1836, he first visited Illinois and selected a claim to a

tract of land in what is now Bonus Township, and after erecting a log house there returned to the Empire State. In the fall of 1837, with his family and parents, he returned, making the journey overland with a pair of horses and a wagon, and spending six weeks on the road. The dimensions of the log house which he had built were 18x24, and seventeen persons spent the following winter in that house. He improved a farm, erected frame buildings, and remained there until his death, in July, 1886.

In his political belief, Mr. Lawrence was first a Whig and became a Republican when that party was formed. In 1854, he was elected to the Legislature and had the honor of being the first Republican ever elected from Boone County. He served in that position for three terms, and for twelve years was Judge of Boone County. In his religious belief, he was a Baptist and a pioneer preacher in that denomination. It has often been said of him that he had exerted a greater influence in formulating public opinion, both religious and political, than any other man in Boone County, and the fact that since 1856 it has been the banner Republican county of the United States is largely due to the speeches made by him in all classes of gatherings, from mass meetings to the evening gatherings at rural schoolhouses. As an orator, he was eloquent and concise, stating his premises and forming his arguments in such a manner as to produce conviction and force his auditors to enthusiastically join in his conclusions. His enunciation was so clear and distinct that in the largest outdoor meetings not one word was lost to his listeners. By actual test on a still evening, the line of his argument could be followed at the distance of one-half mile, yet his voice never failed him and he never complained of weariness.

The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Elvira Chamberlin, was born in Cazenovia, Madison County, N. Y., and died May 2, 1891. She reared seven children: Alonzo D., Edwin L., Harriet E., Sarah A., Lucia, Esther M. and Luther C. Our subject was four years old when he accompanied his parents to Illinois, and at that time most of the land in the northern part of the State

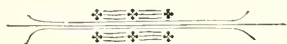
was owned by the Government. Deer and other wild game abounded, and the country was sparsely settled. He attended the first free school ever taught in Boone County, and gained a common-school education, which he afterward extended by a careful course of reading.

When twenty years old, our subject entered the employ of the Wisconsin Central Railroad Company, remaining for one year in the capacity of a civil engineer and making the preliminary surveys for a proposed road that was to extend from Richmond, Ill., to Columbus, Wis. Later, he was employed by the Illinois Central Railroad Company in making surveys in the southern part of the State until 1855, when he was elected County Surveyor, and devoted his attention to the duties of that office in connection with farming until September, 1861.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Lawrence enlisted in Company F, Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry, being mustered in as Second Lieutenant, and was promoted to be First Lieutenant, April 8, 1862, for meritorious conduct at Pittsburg Landing. Among the battles in which he participated were Ft. Donelson, Shiloh and Median Station. He was slightly wounded at the battle of Shiloh and was hit with a spent ball at the battle of Median Station. He served for one year, when he was compelled to resign on account of ill health. Returning home, he resumed the peaceful calling of a farmer and continued thus occupied until 1871, when he accepted the position of Superintendent of the farm connected with the Illinois Industrial College (now the State University) at Champaign, Ill. The farm at that time contained four hundred acres. In 1874, one hundred and eighty acres, comprising the Horticultural Farm, were added to the place, and one year afterward one hundred and sixty acres more. Mr. Lawrence added \$20,000 in permanent improvements and stock to the farm, and continued in its charge until 1881, when he resigned, and, returning to Belvidere, located at his present home, where he has since engaged in raising small fruits.

The marriage of Mr. Lawrence, in 1856, united him with Miss Mary E., daughter of Daniel W. and Precepta (Austin) Lawrence, and a native of

Cuba, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence have five children: Nettie E., Kate, Mamie, Gertrude and Neva W. Since the formation of the Republican party, Mr. Lawrence has adhered to its platform and principles, and has served in various positions of trust and honor. He has served seven years on the County Board of Supervisors, has been nine times elected to the office of County Surveyor, has served by appointment as City Engineer, and has been twice elected a member of the City Council, holding that office at present. In addition to these positions of trust, he had served for eight years as a member of the Board of Education. He is a charter member of Hurlbut Post No. 164, G. A. R., and has been Quartermaster since its organization. He is a man whose strict probity is never questioned, whose unusual capabilities are acknowledged by his fellowmen, and whose life has exemplified the fact that industry and enterprise, coupled with an honorable disposition and business tact, will bring success to the fortunate possessor.



HENRY PORTER, a retired farmer residing in Belvidere, is of English birth. He first opened his eyes to the light of day in Norfolk County, March 9, 1828. His father, Thomas W. Porter, was born in Norfolk County, December 13, 1803, and was a son of James W. The maiden name of his mother was Winels. He learned the trade of a miller, which he followed for a few years, and then engaged in farming. In November, 1833, accompanied by his wife and four children, he sailed from Liverpool and, after a voyage of six weeks, landed at New York. He located three miles from that city and engaged in farming for a year, after which he spent one year in Hamburg, Erie County, and then removed to Buffalo, where he engaged in the grocery business until July, 1838. He then made his way to Boone County, Ill., and made a claim of Government land in what is now Bonus Township, purchasing it when it came into market at Chicago. The first home of the family was a log cabin, and he improved a

farm upon which he resided until 1866, when he came to Belvidere, where he resided until called to his final rest February 22, 1882. His wife, whose maiden name was Charlotte Lane, was born in Norfolk County, England, and died in Belvidere, November 20, 1873. Their family numbered nine children: Thomas W., Henry, Charlotte L., Annie M., Robert, James W., Elizabeth P., Washington, and Fred. Robert served in Company A, One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, from February 2, 1865, to June 24 of the same year. Washington enlisted in 1862 in Company B, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served until after the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged. He participated in a number of hard-fought battles, and was wounded in the engagement before Guntown.

Our subject was a lad of only ten summers when with his parents he came to Illinois. Deer and other kinds of wild game roamed over the prairies at will, and the greater part of the land was owned by the Government. There were no schools for a time, and after his father built a frame house the old Porter log cabin was used as a school-room. It was supplied with the usual primitive furniture, and in such schools our subject acquired his early education. As soon as he was old enough he began to aid in the farm work and cut the grass with a scythe, and the grain with a cradle. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-two years of age, when he came to Belvidere and entered the employ of the Galena Union Railroad Company, now the Northwestern. A year later he went to Rockford, where he engaged in buying grain until 1853, and then went to California by way of the Isthmus route, landing at San Francisco twenty-six days later. For about four and a half years he was employed on a ranch in Sacramento, and then returned to his old home.

On the 4th of March, 1858, Mr. Porter married Annie E. Roper, who was born in Suffolk County, England. Her parents, Sion and Mary Sepha (Clark) Roper, were natives of Suffolk, and came to America in 1851, locating in the town of Spring, Boone County, where Mr. Roper purchased a farm and resided until called to his final home. His widow now lives with her son-in-law, T. W. Por-

ter. Unto our subject and his wife were born three sons, who are yet living: Fred A., Thomas W., and Leslie J. Frank, their first child, died in his twenty-eighth year; and Spencer W., the second son, died at the age of three years.

On his return from California, Mr. Porter bought a farm at \$25 per acre, upon which were a log house and stable. He erected a good set of farm buildings, made other improvements, and extended the boundaries of his land until he now owns two hundred and sixty-four acres. In August, 1891, he began the erection of a pleasant home at the corner of Julian and South Main Streets, Belvidere, which he has occupied since the following spring. Himself and wife were reared in the Episcopal Church, but joined the Congregational Church of Garden Prairie. In politics, he is a Republican, and has served as a member of the County Board of Supervisors.



GILES P. RANSOM, M. D., a practicing physician of Roscoe, was born in Clarence, Oneida County, N. Y., January 13, 1824. Tradition says that the family was founded in America by three brothers, who emigrated to this country from England. The grandfather of our subject, Daniel Ransom, was born in New England, and removed from Vermont to New York in an early day. He followed farming throughout his entire life, and died in Wyoming County. The Doctor's father, Daniel Ransom, M. D., was born in Windham County, Vt., and in early life gave his attention to the study of medicine. He commenced practice in Oneida County, N. Y., whence he removed to Erie County, and later to Pennsylvania, spending eight years in Union City, that State. In 1844 he came to Illinois and engaged in practice in Belvidere, until failing health caused him to abandon his life work. He died at the home of our subject in Roscoe, in 1870, at the age of seventy-six years. His wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Willard. She was born in Wethersfield, Conn., and was a daughter of Simon Willard. She, too, spent her last days at the home of our subject, and was called to her final rest in

1874. In the family were six children: Erasmus D., Alzina, Giles, Cynthia, Samantha E., and Loretta M.

Our subject acquired his early education in the district schools of Pennsylvania, and by private instruction was fitted for teaching. When a mere youth, he decided to come to the West, and in the spring of 1843 joined a party of emigrants en route for the Rock River Valley of Illinois. He walked the greater part of the distance to Belvidere, and after arriving at his destination secured a position to teach a three-months' term of school at Poplar Grove. At the close of the term, before he had received his pay, he went to the post-office, where a letter was awaiting him with the usual twenty-five cents postage charge due upon it. He had not the money, but from his friends secured twenty-three cents and was allowed to take his mail. In that way he made the acquaintance of Dr. Ames, the Postmaster, and by him was soon afterwards employed as Deputy Postmaster at Belvidere. During the winter, he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Ames, and in January, 1845, went to Roscoe, where the Doctor had preceded him. There he served as Postmaster, and soon afterwards commenced practice. In 1850, he was graduated from Rush Medical College of Chicago, and has since devoted almost his entire attention to the practice of medicine. In 1862, he enlisted in the United States service as Assistant Surgeon of the Second Illinois Light Artillery. After a year he resigned, on account of ill health, returning to his home in Roscoe.

The Doctor was united in marriage with Mahala Jents, in March, 1860, and unto them have been born six children, five of whom are yet living: Wilmot L., a practicing physician of Rockford; L. Elizabeth, wife of Penn Walker, a practicing physician and the proprietor of the Sanitarium near Rockford; Grace married Clarence Shaw, son of Dr. Shaw of this place, and lives in Nebraska; Arthur L., a telegrapher, and station agent of Roscoe.

The Doctor is a Democrat in politics, and socially is a member of Roscoe Lodge No. 75, A. F. & A. M. Himself and wife are members of the Methodist Church, and he also holds membership with the Army and Navy Medical Association of

Illinois. He is one of the oldest physicians in years of continuous practice in the county, and ranks among the best of his professional brethren. He has ever been a close student of the profession, and has enjoyed a large and lucrative practice. (Our subject has been called hence since the above was written. His demise occurred April 22, 1892.)



WARREN C. ROWAN, late of Belvidere, was born in Batavia, Genesee County, N. Y., March 2, 1826. He is a son of William Rowan, who was born in Washington County, N. Y., and spent his last days in Kirkland, De Kalb County, Ill. The mother of our subject was also a native of the Empire State and, like her husband, departed this life in De Kalb County, Ill., at the age of forty-five years.

Our subject was one in a family of nine children, six of whom are living. He remained at home until eighteen years of age, and aided his father in conducting the home farm. When striking out for himself, he purchased timber land in De Kalb County, Ill., from which he cut and sold the timber. He was the owner of the farm until thirty years of age, when he sold the place and purchased property in the town of Belvidere.

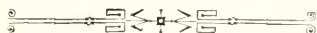
The lady to whom our subject was married in Beloit, Wis., was Miss Lavina Caswell. She was born in Belvidere, and departed this life in Boone County, when forty-six years of age, having become the mother of three children, Jay and Perry, deceased, and Lovina, who makes her home in this township. Mr. Rowan was married again, this time to Miss Rose M. Iles, by whom he became the father of one son, Warren C., who was born in Belvidere, October 3, 1888.

The wife of our subject was born in England, April 11, 1854, and was the daughter of Richard and Eliza A. (Edwards) Iles, who were also natives of that country, and came to the United States in 1858. Mr. Iles purchased a tract of land of one hundred and twenty-seven acres in Belvidere, upon which he resided until his decease, when fifty-eight years of age; the mother died at the same age.

After his marriage, our subject removed to Bel-

videre, and was engaged in the real-estate business, which he found to be very profitable, and at the time of his death had accumulated a handsome fortune. He was a staunch adherent of Republican principles, but aside from casting his vote, took very little part in political affairs. He was a kind and devoted husband and father, and his friends were as numerous as his acquaintances. He was self-made, in all that that term implies, never having had a week's schooling after attaining his fourteenth year, and when eighteen years of age was competent to carry on a business for himself. He established a reputation for honest and fair dealing among his fellow-men, and his loss was keenly felt in the community where he had resided for so many years. He was a member of the Baptist Church, and departed this life at his beautiful home in Belvidere, September 11, 1888. He was liberal in the distribution of his means, and was a cheerful contributor to all worthy objects, the deserving poor never being forgotten by him. Mr. Rowan's youngest brother was a soldier during the late war, and was killed at the battle of Murfreesboro. He bore the name of Perry C., and enlisted when eighteen years of age to fight for his country's honor.

The Rowan family is of Irish ancestry, while the Iles were from England. Mrs. Rowan's parents were six weeks in crossing the Atlantic, being passengers on the sailing-vessel "Mayflower."



FRANK C. AND HENRY C. GILL constitute the well-known firm of Gill Brothers, dentists of Rockford, located at No. 223 East State Street. H. C. Gill first came to this city and began business with Dr. Noyes E. Babcock in 1875. That connection was continued until March, 1878, when F. C. Gill bought out Dr. Babcock and the partnership between the two brothers was formed. Dental parlors were established at their present location in 1871, and dentistry has since been practiced at that point. The Gill Brothers have convenient and pleasant parlors and have an excellent patronage which has constantly increased from the beginning and which is well merited, for they are

skilled workmen. The brothers both studied under Dr. Palmer, of Fitchburg, Mass., for two years, and their preceptor was known as one of the best dentists in the State. They both practiced in Massachusetts for a short time, then came West in 1869, locating in Freeport, Ill., whence they came to Rockford.

The brothers were born in Windsor County, Vt., and there received their early education. The father, Charles Gill, was a Vermont farmer and his sons were reared to manhood on the old homestead where he continued to reside until called to his final rest at about the age of seventy-five years. He lived a quiet, unassuming life and was well and favorably known in his community. His father, Amos Gill, was also a Vermont farmer, descended from an old New England family, probably of English origin. He died when more than eighty-four years of age. He had married Miss Sarah Bates, a native of Canada, who came to the United States during her maidenhood. She survived her husband a short time and was also about eighty-four years of age at the time of her death. Charles Gill married Miss Sophia Healy, who was born in the Green Mountain State, of New England parentage. After her husband's death, she came to Illinois and spent her last days in the home of her son. Dr. H. C. Gill, her death occurring in 1888, at the age of eighty-five years. She died in the faith of the Methodist Church, of which she had long been a member.

At her death, Mrs. Gill left four children, and Sophia, another daughter, had died at the age of four years. Ellen L., the eldest surviving member of the family, is now the wife of D. R. Judkins, a resident of Chicago; F. C. married Kate A. Wallace of Fitchburg, Mass., who was born, reared and educated in the Bay State. Two daughters grace their union: Lena K. and Grace W. Daniel O. is a grocer and a well-to-do citizen of Windsor County, Vt. He married Lucy J. Butterfield. H. C. wedded Ida C. Bunker, their union being celebrated in Kane County, Ill. Unto them were born three children, but Edward died in early life. Harry and Carl are still with their parents.

Another event in the life of Dr. F. C. Gill is worthy of mention. After removing to Massa-

chusetts, he enlisted in the Fifty-third Infantry, commanded by Col. Kimball, and was assigned to Company B, under Capt. Jonas Corey. The regiment was sent to the South, doing service mostly in Louisiana. They came in contact with the enemy at Port Hudson, where they kept them penned up for forty-four days before they surrendered. The regiment had enlisted for nine months but continued in the service for thirteen months, when they were discharged. The Doctor was on duty all of the time and when mustered out was serving as Corporal.

The brothers and their wives all attend the Christian Union Church, and in social circles they rank high. The Doctors are supporters of the Republican party. The senior member of the firm is a Knight Templar Mason and belongs to G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R. of Rockford, while the junior member of the firm belongs to the Blue Lodge. Among their professional brethren they rank high and a well-deserved prosperity is theirs.



EMIL SWENSON occupies the position of Secretary and Treasurer of the Star Furniture Company, and is also a stockholder and one of the Directors. He has made his home in Rockford since 1882, at which time he came with his family to America. He claims Sweden as the land of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Smoland, in 1864. He is the youngest child born unto Swan and Fredica (Olson) Nelson, who, in the year before mentioned, bade good-bye to their old home, and crossed the broad Atlantic, accompanied by all of their children. They came at once to Rockford, and are still residents of this city. With the Swedish Lutheran Church they hold membership, and are worthy and highly respected people. Five of their children are yet living, and all are married, with the exception of our subject.

Mr. Swenson was a young man of sixteen years at the time of his emigration to the United States. His education was acquired in his native land, and has been supplemented by reading and observa-

tion, which has made him well informed. By trade he is a cabinet-maker. He became connected with the Co-operative Furniture Company as a stockholder, and was also a worker in the finishing-rooms. Subsequently, he became connected with the Star Furniture Company, which was organized in 1890, and is now its efficient Secretary and Treasurer. The factory of this company is located on the corner of Eighteenth Avenue and Fourteenth Street, and therein are employed one hundred and twenty-five men. The success with which the company has already met, argues well for a bright future for this enterprise. It is certainly deserving of success, for its members are wide-awake, enterprising and experienced business men, and prosperity should be the reward of their efforts.

In religious belief, Mr. Swenson is a Lutheran, and, in political affairs, is a Republican. He has the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact, and is a prominent and well-known young man. His residence in the city covers only about ten years, but during that time he has made many acquaintances and gained a large circle of friends.



HENRY W. CONKLIN. To have the esteem of one's fellow-men, and especially of those who know you most intimately, is a worthy ambition in the breast of any honorable man. We may truly say that the gentleman whose name we place at the head of this sketch is well spoken of by all who know him, and he has attained to a broad and true friendship with many. He resides on a good tract of land, located on sections 28 and 20, Rockton Township, Winnebago County, where he has made a success of bee culture, keeping on hand twenty-four hives, from which he has made over \$300 a year. He also has on his place about fifteen milch cows, and by his ability and enterprise reaps a good income.

He of whom we write was born in Damascus, Wayne County, Pa., June 24, 1827. He is the son of Benjamin Conklin, whose birth occurred in the above county, August 27, 1783. The grand-

father of our subject, John Conklin, was an officer in the Revolutionary War, and after that was made County Judge. He was a man of wealth and influence in his community, owning large farms on the rich bottoms of the Susquehanna River. He was the father of five children who grew to adult age, of whom the father of our subject was the eldest.

The father of our subject was for many years an inn-keeper on the Newburg Turnpike Road, six miles west of Colecton, and was also a prominent farmer in that region. He lost a portion of his property by going bondsman for a sheriff. His wife, Miss Mercy Comfort, was a native of Orange County, N. Y., and bore him fifteen children, all but one of whom grew to adult age and, with two exceptions, came to the Prairie State. The first to come hither was Eliza, now Mrs. William Thomas. In 1839, our subject, in company with his mother and nine children, came to Winnebago County, starting from home on the 4th of June, and arriving in Rockford July 12. His father having died about three years previously, Henry W. at once secured work to aid in the support of the family and received \$12 a month for driving a breaking team.

Mr. Conklin became the proprietor of his first eighty acres of land in Harrison Township in 1854, for which he paid \$8 per acre, which property he later lost by a railroad swindle. November 28, 1856, Miss Alvalina Grover, a daughter of John and Sarah (Burbank) Grover, became his wife. Her parents were natives of New York and came West the same year, where they were engaged as farmers. Her father, John Grover, was of German descent. During the late war, our subject endeavored to enlist in the Union army two different times, but was in each case rejected.

In 1865, Mr. and Mrs. Conklin went West to Oregon, where they remained but a twelvemonth, returning by way of the Isthmus. In crossing the plains to the Western country, they had a very eventful journey, it being the year of the Indian hostilities. A brother of our subject lost two horses on the way, but the party reached their destination unharmed. Returning to Rockton, Mr. Conklin located on one hundred and seventy-

nine acres of improved property, which cost \$40 an acre, going in debt for all but about \$350. In 1883, he erected his fine barn, 40x60 feet in dimensions, and has besides all the sheds and out-buildings which are to be found on first-class estates.

The five children born to our subject and his wife bear the respective names of Dorsey T., Lemi H., James B., Rose E. and Eva E. Mr. and Mrs. Conklin are living a retired life, the home farm being operated by their son James B. The children have all been given good school advantages, Miss Eva having returned recently from the Rockford Academy. Our subject has always been a Republican in politics, but at the present time leans toward Prohibition. Although not a member of any denomination, he gives liberally to the support of all churches and receives and deserves the best wishes and kindest regards of his numerous friends and acquaintances.



ARTHUR F. LUNDY, more familiarly known as Frank Lundy, was originally from Canada, born on the 1st of July, 1860, and is one of the wide-awake, thorough-going young tillers of the soil in the county. Although he has not as yet amassed any great amount of wealth, he has the progressive spirit, and the push and energy that cannot fail to bring success in the near future. His father, William N. Lundy, M. D., was born on Grand Island, N. Y., March 4, 1819, and grandfather Lundy was for years a farmer on Grand Island, where he settled at a very early period, while it was still called the Queen's Bush. William N. Lundy first came to Roscoe, Ill., in 1840, when only twenty-one years of age, but he later returned to his native State. When our subject was six years of age, the parents came to Roscoe, where they made a permanent settlement.

Arthur F. Lundy was the only son and youngest child born to his parents, there being eight children in all, and seven of whom were daughters. Those deceased are: Helen E., Mrs. Henry

Lampman, who died in Rockton when twenty-four years of age; Dorcas, wife of Edwin Love-see, M. D., who died in Topeka, Kan., aged nineteen years, and Dora Lundy, who died in Roscoe, aged twenty-two years. The living children are: Rozella A., now Mrs. Charles M. Trimmer, of Owen Township; Mary E., Mrs. John L. Sage, of Williamstown, N. Y.; Anna M., Mrs. Dr. Buckenridge, of Beloit, Wis., and Sarah A., Mrs. F. B. Cummings, of Roscoe.

Our subject left the parental roof when thirteen years of age, and began the battle of life on his own responsibility. He worked by the month on the farm of Phillip Atwood, and received as compensation \$12 per month for the first year, or until he broke his arm. The second year he worked for John Atwood, received \$16 per month, and, after this, was employed for different farmers, but managed to attend school during the winter months. On the 25th of June, 1881, he was married in Madison, Wis., to Miss Emma E. Grant, a native of Illinois, and the daughter of Thomas W. and Almira (Dawson) Grant, natives, respectively, of New York and Ohio, but who came West to Boone County, Ill., at an early day.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Lundy worked for wages the first summer, and, in December, 1882, went to Kansas, where they bought a farm of eighty acres in Marshall County. Two years later, they sold and subsequently settled in Phillips County, of that State, where they bought a relinquishment of one hundred and sixty acres. This they sold four years later, and they then settled in Almena, Norton County, where Mr. Lundy was engaged in conducting a meat market. He bought a house and some real estate in the city, but only remained here one year, when he emigrated to Missouri, settling twenty miles North of St. Joseph. He rented a small farm and engaged in teaming for one year, when he returned to Roscoe. This was in February, 1890, and here he has made his home since. He rented the A. Collier farm one year, and, in 1891, he rented the L. M. Taft farm of two hundred acres for five years on shares. Mr. and Mrs. Lundy have two sons: J. M., born in Marshall County, Kan., June 7, 1883, and Fred W., born in Phillips County of that State, July

25, 1886. These bright boys are in school. Mr. Lundy has been a Republican, but is not a strict partisan, and will vote with the Prohibitionists. He and Mrs. Lundy are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Roscoe.

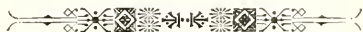


STEPHEN BLACHFORD. There is, perhaps, no family in Spring Township, Boone County, which is more highly respected than the one represented at the head of this sketch, and who are pioneers of this section. Our subject, who had his birth in Hampshire, England, August 18, 1813, is the son of Francis and Elizabeth Blachford, also natives of the British Isle. The parents emigrated from their native land in 1834 in the vessel "Crocus," and, after a voyage of six weeks, one of which was spent off the coast of Cape Ray, where the vessel was swamped, they landed in Quebec. There Mr. and Mrs. Blachford lived for four years, and then came to the States by way of the Lakes to Detroit, and from there with teams and on foot to this county, our subject and a brother having to walk the distance of four hundred miles. They arrived in this vicinity nine days ahead of the rest of the family, and when they were all comfortably housed, Stephen and his father hired out to work by the month. He of whom we write, in company with his father, took up a claim of four hundred and twenty acres of land to prove, for which they had to borrow the money and pay an interest of one hundred per cent.

Mr. Blachford of this sketch was one of seven children who came to Boone County with their parents. March 4, 1839, he was married to Maria Bump, who was born in New York, and was a daughter of Thomas and Phoebe (Brewer) Bump, who died in Pennsylvania. She had six brothers and sisters, all of whom are living, with one exception. Mr. and Mrs. Blachford have become the parents of five children, one of whom is deceased. They are named, respectively: Caroline S., now Mrs. F. Curtiss; Louisa, who married Francis H. Curtiss; Thomas, the husband of Anna Lawman;

Maria, now the wife of James Wan. The children are all established in homes in this county.

The father of our subject was eighty-four years of age when he died, and his mother eighty years old. He was a Democrat in politics, and took an active interest in local affairs. Our subject's share of the old homestead consists of one hundred and forty-six acres, which he cultivates in a profitable manner. In an early day, the farm products were marketed in Chicago and Milwaukee, and at one time pork sold at twenty shillings per hundred. The only house in the vicinity of Belvidere, in 1835, was the one erected by our subject and his father, on their farm. The hardships which the family endured during that period are beyond the comprehension of the present generation, but they bravely suffered and endured to pave the way for those who followed, and to make their settlement in the West a pleasure.



MILES S. RAY, of Belvidere, claims New York as the State of his nativity. He was born on the 10th of December, 1806, in Amenia, Dutchess County, and his father, Augustus Ray, was a native of the same town. The grandfather, Stephen Ray, and four brothers came to America from England. He was a farmer by occupation, but spent his last years in Amenia. His wife long survived him, and died in Sharon Valley, Litchfield County, Conn.

The father of our subject was reared upon a farm, and resided in Amenia until 1809, when, with his wife and six children, he became a resident of the town of Thompson, Sullivan County, and was one of its pioneers. He went there as a land agent, and surveyed and sold a portion of seventeen thousand acres. He erected a double log house in the midst of the forest, and built six sawmills in different parts of the tract. He there resided until his death, in March, 1812. He married Acy Crane, a native of Litchfield County, Conn., who died in March, of the same year. They had seven children: William, Theresa, John C., Cornelius and Cornelia, twins, Miles S. and Emily.

Our subject was only seven years old when his parents died. He found a home with Andrew Comstock, a farmer of Monticello, Sullivan County, with whom he remained until twenty years of age, when he began to learn the carpenter trade, which he followed for ten years. With the money he had earned in that way, he then purchased a farm in the town of Fallsburgh, Sullivan County, and engaged in its operation until 1856, when he came to Illinois and cast in his lot with the early settlers of Boone County. He purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Flora Township, and made it his home for a few years, when he removed to Belvidere, where he is now living retired.

In December, 1835, Mr. Ray was united in marriage with Ellen E. Hardenburgh, who was born in Fallsburgh, in 1812. Her father, Thomas R. Hardenburgh, was a native of New Jersey, and her grandfather, Johannes Hardenburgh, who was a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church, was born in Holland, it is thought. They were the owners of the Hardenburgh Patent, and Thomas inherited four thousand acres of that tract of land, and engaged in farming. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ray were born seven children: Mary E., now Mrs. B. Arbuckle, Thomas, Henrietta, Sarah, Hylah, Louisa and John. The mother was called to her final rest in 1873. She was a most estimable lady, and many friends mourned her loss.

Mr. Ray cast his first Presidential vote for Andrew Jackson, and has since been a staunch advocate of Democratic principles. His life has been well and worthily spent, and by his faithful performance of duty he has won the confidence and high esteem of all with whom he has come in contact.



NELS LARSON, a farmer and dairyman, residing on section 12, New Milford Township, is a representative citizen of Winnebago County, where he has resided for a quarter of a century. He was born in Sconey, Sweden, on the 16th of September, 1841, and is a son of

Lars and Ida (Swansen) Olson, natives of Southern Sweden, where they were reared and married. In their native land, they made their home until 1867, when, accompanied by their children, they bade good-bye to Sweden, and crossed the Atlantic to America, landing in New York City. Thence they came Westward, reaching Rockford in June of that year. The parents and children all began life in this country as farming people. The father died in New Milford Township, at the home of his son, our subject, on the 11th of June, 1887, and was then past eighty years of age. He was twice married, and his second wife is yet living with her son, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. They were life-long members of the Lutheran Church, and were worthy, respected people. Our subject has one brother and two half brothers. The former, John Larson, is a resident farmer of Ogle County. The latter are Olof and Peter. The first-named is a shoe-maker and the latter a tailor, and both reside in Rockford.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the usual manner of farmer lads, and at the age of twenty-six years, accompanied his family on their emigration to the United States. In Rockford, he chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey, Miss Ida Olson, who was born in Blaken, Sweden, in 1848, and is a daughter of Olaf and Sarah (Manson) Owkinson. The father died on his farm in Sweden at the advanced age of eighty-five years, and his wife passed away at the age of seventy-three. They were farming people, and both were members of the Lutheran Church. Unto our subject and his wife has been born one son, Henry W., a promising young man, yet at home.

After coming to this county, Mr. Larson worked as a farm hand for a time, and then rented land for some time, spending five years upon a rented farm in Jo Daviess County, Ill. He has resided upon his present farm since 1881, where he owns seventy-five acres that pay to him a golden tribute for the care and cultivation he bestows upon it. In connection with general farming, he carries on the dairy business, and is meeting with good success in this undertaking. He is a straightforward, upright business man, whose word is as good

as his bond. In politics, he is a Republican. Himself and wife were among the first members of the Emanuel Lutheran Church of Rockford, and are active workers for its interests. They give their support to all worthy enterprises, and well deserve mention among the best citizens of New Milford Township.



ORVILLE S. COHOON, a well-known and enterprising farmer of Boone County, residing in Flora Township, section 12, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Green Township, Erie County, October 29, 1833. His father, John Cohoon, was born in the town of Milo, Yates County, N. Y., March 20, 1812, and passed the first eight years of his life in his father's home on the banks of Seneca Lake, whence he removed with his parents to Erie County, Pa.

The paternal grandparents of our subject, Steward and Charity (Culver) Cohoon, were natives respectively of Connecticut and England. The grandfather moved from his birthplace to the State of New York at an early day and was an officer in the War of 1812. He married Miss Charity Culver for his second wife and in March, 1820, removed from Yates County, N. Y., with ox-teams and sleds, and settled with his large family in Erie County, Pa., becoming one of the pioneers of the highlands and dense forests of that county. He remained there until his death, which occurred at Gospel Hill about 1840. His wife died in Columbia County, Wis., January 10, 1855, at the advanced age of eighty-seven. The paternal great-grandfather of our subject, Nathaniel Cohoon, was born in Connecticut, and tradition says that his parents were Hollanders. He died and was buried in Mill Creek Township, Erie County, Pa., in January, 1827.

John Cohoon, father of our subject, was married February 10, 1831, to Miss Fanny Wait, and their three children are all living at this date (1892): Orville S., Justina M., and Arlington R. Mrs. Fanny Cohoon was born July 26, 1806, and died October 2, 1876. She was a faithful, devoted wife and a true and loving mother. Her family and

domestic cares were the pleasure of her life and she won the regard of all whom she met. Her life was that of a practical Christian and during her more than seventy years of life she never attended a theatre or circus.

The first-born of the family is the subject of this sketch, who is only a little more than twenty-one years younger than his father. His early education was acquired under some difficulties, for in those early days the enforcement of the School-rate Bill threw the payment of the teacher's salary almost entirely upon the man who had a large family. He remembers the scenes of pioneer life and the hardships of existence amid primitive surroundings. Twenty-five cents postage was charged on letters, which were folded instead of being placed in envelopes. At the age of eighteen, he taught one term of school in Erie County, Pa., and then in 1852, with his father, removed to Porter County, Ind., where he resided one year and taught school one term.

June 17, 1853, Mr. Cohoon arrived in Belvidere, Boone County, Ill., and embarked in business as a merchant, continuing thus engaged for about two years. In the summer of 1855, he engaged in the carpenter's and builder's work, during which time he erected several houses in South Belvidere. He built the first house, with the exception of one building known as the old Otis Caswell farm house, and one car shanty standing on the present site of the South Baptist Church, east of Pearl Street and south of Logan Avenue, and which was located on the corner of Whitney and Second Streets. In the spring of 1856, he took a course in Bacon's Mercantile College at Madison, Wis., which was among the pioneer business institutions in the country. During the remainder of that year, he was engaged in closing up a large amount of property interests for his father.

The marriage of Orville S. Cohoon, March 16, 1857, united him with Miss Juliett R. Wooster, of Beloit, Wis., and the young couple located on the farm he now owns and occupies on the 8th of April following. Mrs. Juliett Cohoon died April 4, 1864, and was buried at Beloit, Wis. Our subject continued thereafter in agricultural pursuits, which had previously occupied his attention, and

followed literally the injunction given by Solomon that after you have taken hold of the plow "never look back." He divided and subdivided his farm into fields of convenient size, suitable for the pasturage of stock and the raising of grain, and also aided in opening roads and building bridges and embellished his farm with substantial barns and a neat residence, and notably with trees and shrubbery.

In all his labors our subject has received the efficient aid of his devoted wife, to whom he was married January 26, 1865. She was formerly Miss Anna H. Field, of Whitmore Lake, Mich., and was born at Niagara Falls, N. Y., October 9, 1829. Having no children of their own, they have reared two children, a boy and a girl, who are now married and have families of their own. Their farm and home is their paradise, and they have ever retained their faith in the great Master Spirit of the Universe as the Master of the situation, in whose hands they rest their ease with perfect assurance that after the acts of this life have been played, the next will be on a grander scale, filled with opportunities that all may reach, and that on the shores of eternity there will be no friction of mind and heart, but all will be peace and happiness forever more.



ANDES F. ENGSTROM, agent for the C. W. Prescott Nursery, of Marengo, Ill., and gardener of Rockford, has resided on a small but very productive farm near the city limits for the past seven years. He makes a specialty of small fruits and vegetables, and is well paid for his time and trouble.

Previous to coming to Rockford, Mr. Engstrom had been a resident of Malta, De Kalb County, Ill., and was a maker and dealer in boots and shoes. He came to this country in 1857, resided for a short time in Geneva, this State, and then for twenty-eight years was a resident of Malta. In 1884, he came to Rockford, where he has carried on a successful business ever since.

He was born in Jonkoping, Sweden, August 17, 1832, and in connection with agricultural pursuits,

with which he became familiar in his youth, he was taught the shoe-maker's trade. He took passage for America, and, after five weeks and two days, or on the 10th of October, 1857, he landed in Boston, Mass. From there he came to Geneva, Ill. He was the first of his family to touch American soil. Since then, he has been joined by a sister, Mrs. P. A. Peterson, who resides at No. 1106 Second Avenue, Rockford, and whose husband is foreman of the West End Furniture Company.

The parents of our subject passed their entire days in Sweden, the father, Isaac Gustavson, having died when forty-six years of age, and the mother, Anna E. Engstrom, when considerably younger. The father was a shoemaker and farmer, and was twice married, his first wife being the mother of our subject. The second wife is also deceased.

Andes F. Engstrom joined the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church the first week after coming here, and has been Deacon in the same for the past twenty years, and Trustee for many years. He holds membership at De Kalb, Ill., and is an active worker in the church. While at Malta, he was a member of the Town Board for two terms, also a member of the School Board as Director for years, and has held other local positions. He has ever been a sound Republican in politics, and is a strong advocate of the principles of that party.

Miss Wilhelmena C. Swasen, whom our subject married in Malta, Ill., was originally from Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, born in 1842, and came with her family to the United States in May, 1852. The family first settled in Chicago, but moved from there to Geneva three years later, and thence to Malta, after a residence of about the same length of time. There as a family they resided for some time. Her parents, J. George and Mary (Johnson) Swasen, now reside near their daughter, Mrs. Engstrom, of this notice. They were both natives of Wester Gothland, Sweden, and the father followed the trade of a shoemaker nearly all his life. Life-long members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, they are well respected, and although seventy-seven and eighty-one years of age, respectively, both enjoy comparatively good health. The father is a Republican in politics. Of the six chil-

dren born to this much-esteemed couple, only Mrs. Engstrom is now living. A brother, Dr. Alfred, a promising young physician of Chicago, died when twenty-nine years of age. The others were John, Josephine, Mary and Joseph, all of whom died when under ten years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Engstrom are the happy parents of five interesting children: Anna M., wife of Oscar Hall, who is a member of the firm of Engstrom & Hall, merchants, at No. 324 State Street, Rockford; Theodore V., a partner of Mr. Hall, married Miss Florence Beatty, a daughter of Rev. Robert Beatty, of Rockford; Lillian C., at home; Alfred A., studying law at the Northwestern University at Chicago; Ebenezer W., at home, attending High School. All are intelligent, bright children.



HORACE O. SEARS has witnessed the great change wrought by the hand of man in bringing Boone County from a state of nature to its present condition as one of the richest and most highly-developed counties in Northern Illinois. He is at present residing on section 36, Bonus Township, and may well take pride in what he has done to aid in producing this wonderful result. He is what may be termed a self-made man, loved and respected by all who know him.

Born in Bristol, Ontario County, N. Y., October 1, 1819, our subject is a son of Alden and Delaney (Vincent) Sears, the former of whom was born in Dighton, Mass., in 1770, and died in the above-named town and county in New York, February 28, 1829. The mother was a native of Rhode Island, and passed away in Bonus Township, this county, August 27, 1841. The first ancestor of our subject who came to the United States in 1639, bore the given name of Richard, and spelled his name Saers. The mother of our subject came to Boone County in company with her seven sons and three daughters, all of whom are deceased with the exception of our subject, who was the youngest in the family. On coming hither, they stopped for four months at Lockport, this State, and on making settlement in Boone County, bought

claims, aggregating over one thousand acres, on four hundred acres of which our subject resides. The brothers commenced industriously the work of clearing the new farm and erecting thereon the finest set of buildings in the county. It has since been divided, however, each of the sons being the owner of a fine estate.

Horace O. Sears remained at home with his mother until her decease, when, May 12, 1842, he was married to Harriet A. Ames, whose birth occurred April 9, 1820, in Colechester, Chittenden County, Vt. Mrs. Sears was the daughter of William and Polly Ames, also natives of the Green Mountain State, who emigrated to this county as early as 1834, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mrs. Sears had twelve brothers and sisters, only six of whom are living.

Mrs. Harriet A. Sears departed this life at her home December 6, 1877, having become the mother of four children, viz.: Henry O., who was born March 22, 1843, died when fourteen years of age; Edward C., born March 29, 1845, married Miss Jennie McGlashen, and is the father of a son and daughter; Charles A., born November 27, 1846, married Miss Belle Sisson, and is the father of one child; Theron M., born April 7, 1849, married Sarah Culbertson, and is the father of nine children.

He of whom we write has been the incumbent of various positions of honor and trust, having held the office of Supervisor for the past four years. He is a Republican of the strongest type, having voted for William Henry Harrison, and his grandson. He is an active and earnest worker in the Congregational Church, as was also his wife, which denomination they joined soon after its organization in this part of the county. He has worked his way up to a position of competence, all through his own efforts, he having been well-equipped for the struggle, with energy, determination and a good capacity for skillful labor, besides being a man of steady habits, thorough conscientiousness and unswerving integrity. He is now spending the evening of his life in quiet retirement, surrounded by the comforts which are the result of his toil in former years.

A more loving and kind father, estimable neigh-

bor and honorable man than Horace O. Sears is not to be found within the confines of Boone County. His great misfortune was the loss of his noble and true wife who has preceded him to the land beyond, her death having occurred December 6, 1877.



CHARLES E. HALLOCK, President of the village of Pecatonica, has for a number of years been prominently identified with its business and political affairs, and is the proprietor of a large furniture establishment. He occupies a leading position in his line of trade and maintains a high reputation for uprightness, commercial enterprise and progress, while his success makes more prominent every year the honorable policy for which the establishment is conspicuous.

The father of our subject, Reuben Hallock, was born near Albany, N. Y., May 20, 1804, and came West to Illinois in 1836, the journey being made on the Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence by the Lakes to Chicago, and thence with cattle to Ogle County, where he entered land from the Government and engaged in its cultivation until 1872. He was united in marriage with Miss Harriet A. Sperry, who was born January 1, 1814, in New York, and they became the parents of ten children, five of whom are still living.

In 1872, Reuben Hallock traded his Ogle County property for land in Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County, which is now owned by our subject and comprises one hundred and forty acres. At the home which he there established the father died at the age of seventy-seven. He was a man of the utmost probity, firm in his convictions and a staunch adherent to the principles of equity and justice. In his politics, he was first an old-line Whig and afterward voted the Republican ticket until Gen. Hancock was nominated for the Presidency, at which time he supported that famous general. His wife survived him until 1890, when she passed away at the home of our subject, aged seventy-six.

Charles E. Hallock was born in Byron Township, Ogle County, Ill., July 31, 1856, and is of Scotch descent. He remained at home until his

father's death, after which he bought out the interest of the other heirs in order to gain possession of the old homestead. The farm with all the stock thereon was willed to Charles E., the youngest son, but he was to pay the other children a stipulated sum, which is now paid. His marriage, May 23, 1882, united him with Miss Ella R. Ryan, who was born in Pecatonica, Ill., January 5, 1861, the daughter of Stephen and Catherine Ryan, residents of Rockford. One child has been born of the union, Stephen C., who was born March 6, 1891.

After his marriage, our subject remained on the old homestead until August 1, 1886, when he was appointed Postmaster of Pecatonica, and removed to the village, where he has since resided. He served efficiently as Postmaster during the administration of President Cleveland, meanwhile also carrying on his furniture business. He holds an interest in the shoe factory at Pecatonica, and is a stockholder in the Rockford *Daily Star*. His wife is a member of the Catholic Church and he is liberal in his religious views. Socially, he is identified with Eureka Camp No. 50, M. W. A.



WALTER TRUMBULL. This gentleman, who is one of the influential citizens of Rockford, was born across the ocean in Roxburghshire, Scotland, his natal day being May 22, 1815. His parents were Walter and Ellen (Oliver) Trumbull, also natives of Scotland, where they passed the remainder of their days. They reared a family of six children, of whom our subject was the only one that settled in America.

Walter Trumbull was reared in his native land and resided under the parental roof until reaching his eighteenth year, at which time he came to America in company with a neighboring family, setting sail from Liverpool and landing on the shores of the New World thirty-nine days later. He located in Delaware County, N. Y., and there learned the trade of a carpenter. In 1838, he went South to Georgia, and in Augusta followed the trade of a millwright during the summer months and spent the winter season in the mountains. Five years later, he re-

turned to the Empire State and with the exception of visiting the South two or three times was a continuous resident there until 1855, which was the date of his advent into Rockford, when he purchased the home which he has since occupied. His residence is pleasantly located on the southeast corner of State and Fifth Streets, and the family of Mr. Trumbull ranks among the best residents of the city.

The original of this sketch was actively engaged as contractor and builder until 1889, since which time he has lived in retirement, enjoying the results of his early toil. In 1846, he was married to Elizabeth A. Chase, who was born in Delaware County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Edward B. and Julia (Goodrich) Chase. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Trumbull, Walter Chase, was a native of New England, and a prominent citizen of Delaware County, where he was elected its first Sheriff. To our subject and his estimable wife have been born three children: Charles, deceased; Frank E. and Carrie E. The son married Julia Shedd, and Carrie is now Mrs. George L. Brown and the mother of two children, Arthur T. and Frank H. Mr. and Mrs. Trumbull are active members of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, and in politics, our subject, though formerly a Whig, now votes the Republican party.



DAVID PERRY, retired, owns a comfortable home at No. 1013 Charles Street, Rockford, also a fine double flat on Eighth Street, and is one of the city's prosperous citizens. He was originally from New York, his birth occurring in Cayuga County, of that State, in 1825, and he became familiar with the duties of the farm at an early age. He is a son of Ozias Perry, and the grandson of Ozias Perry, Sr., the latter a native of the Green Mountain State, and for seven years a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Mr. Perry married a Vermont lady, Miss Esther Marvin, of an old New England family, and after the birth of several of their children, the family emigrated to Cayuga County, N. Y., where they arrived at a very early period. They opened up a

farm in the wilds of that county, and there passed the closing scenes of their lives, both dying when about eighty years of age. They were life-long members of the Presbyterian Church. Their son, Ozias Perry, Jr., was one of eleven children, all now deceased, and was but a boy when his parents emigrated from Vermont to New York State. He grew to manhood in Cayuga County, and was there united in marriage to Miss Eliza Merchant, a native of New York State, and of Dutch descent.

After marriage, Ozias Perry, Jr., and his wife resided in Cayuga County until all their children were born, and then, in 1849, the family came to Illinois, settling in Cherry Valley. They opened a new farm, made many improvements on it, and there the parents passed the closing scenes of their lives, the mother dying on the 11th of April, 1876, when sixty-nine years of age, and the father in 1890, when eighty-nine years of age. The latter was a Universalist in his belief, and both were worthy people. Of the five children born to them all are living, and all are married and have families. Two sons reside on farms in Iowa, and two daughters are living in Belvidere, Ill.

David Perry, our subject, was the eldest of this family, and reached his twenty-first year in his native county. Two years after his parents had settled in Winnebago County, he followed them, and was married in Boone County of that State, to Miss Charity Van Alstine, a native of Montgomery County, N. Y., born January 7, 1832, and the daughter of John N. and Jemima (Tymeson) Van Alstine, natives also of the Empire State, and of Dutch stock. Her parents passed their entire lives in Montgomery County, and the old home is still in the hands of the family. They were members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Van Alstine was the son of Rev. Patriot Nicholas Van Alstine. The former had one son, Cornelius Van Alstine, who served in the United States Navy as Lieutenant Commander, and was on a coasting vessel. He was a West Point graduate, and served his country with great bravery, winning many laurels for his courage and gallant conduct. Another son, Deloss Van Alstine, was also in the Civil War, enlisting in the Ninety-second Illinois Infantry, and serving in many of the prominent

engagements. Mrs. Perry, wife of our subject, is the youngest but one of the four children now living.

After his marriage, Mr. Perry began farming in Cherry Valley, and by his industry and good management, soon became the owner of much valuable property. He owns two hundred and eighty acres in the valley, all well improved with two sets of buildings, and he also owns six hundred and forty acres of fine land in Pocahontas County, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Perry are the parents of two children: Clark married Miss Alice Lamb, and now resides on the farm in Iowa; he has five children: Ella M., David R., Jessie M., Ethel and Frank. The other child, a daughter, Ella F., married L. Keith, and they have one child, Flora June; they reside in Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Perry are members of the Christian Union Church, and Mr. Perry is a Republican in politics.



CHARLES W. HIZER, a retired farmer residing in Rockford, and one of the early settlers of the county, was born in Oneida County, N. Y., on the 13th of October, 1830, and is one of five children whose parents were Adam and Lucy (Shepard) Hizer, both of whom were natives of the Empire State. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Henry Hizer, was a shoemaker by trade, but during the greater part of his life followed farming in Herkimer County, where he died at the age of sixty years. The parents of our subject emigrated to Illinois, locating in Winnebago County, where they resided for many years. The father died in Ogle County, at an advanced age, and the mother, who survived him twelve years, died in New Milford Township, this county, when about eighty years of age. They were adherents of the Methodist Church, and were highly-respected people. All of their children are yet living and have married.

Charles W. Hizer, whose name heads this record, was reared upon his father's farm, and resided in the Empire State until emigrating to Illinois some thirty-five years ago. He was married in Lewis

County, N. Y., the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Starkweather, a native of Lewis County, and a daughter of Palmer and Anna Starkweather, who were born, reared and married in New York. Mrs. Hizer's parents came to Illinois and lived with their daughter, Mrs. Hizer. The father died while visiting in his native State, and the mother passed away at the home of her daughter, in this county.

On coming to Illinois, Mr. Hizer located upon a farm in Burritt Township, Winnebago County, where he improved and developed eighty acres of land. He afterward removed with his family to Rockford Township, and the farm which he purchased is still in his possession. It is a one hundred and thirty-acre tract of valuable land under a high state of cultivation, and well supplied with good buildings. In addition to this, he also owns fifty acres near the city. He was an enterprising and successful farmer, and in the pursuit of his business, acquired a valuable property, which now enables him to live a retired life. After many years devoted to agriculture, he came to Rockford about seven years ago, and has since rested in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. In politics, he is independent, voting for the man whom he thinks best qualified to fill the office, regardless of party affiliations.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hizer have been born six children, four of whom are yet living: Willard S., a successful florist and botanist, is now carrying on a greenhouse; Celia, Eusebia and Charles are still at home; Fred and Sarah are deceased. The family is one well known in this community, and worthy of the high regard in which it is held.



DAVID ANDREW, a retired farmer, living at his pleasant and beautiful home at No. 803 North Court Street, Rockford, was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, July 2, 1837, and was the second in order of birth in a family of eleven children. He is of pure Scotch origin. His father, John Andrew, was born in Argyleshire and there wedded Miss Mary Brown, who came of a good Scotch family. After the birth of three of their children, they joined a number of families

who were emigrating to America. They sailed from Greenwich in 1840, and after six weeks landed at New York, whence they went by way of the Lakes to Chicago, and came overland to Winnebago County, where John Andrew began life upon a new farm, which is still the home of his family. He was then in limited circumstances, but through his own efforts became well-to-do. In those early days, however, he had to bear many hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. He hauled many a load of grain to Chicago, which was then the nearest market of any importance. His death occurred at the age of fifty-one years. His wife is yet living at the advanced age of four-score years, and is well preserved both mentally and physically. She makes her home with her youngest son, Thomas. Like her husband, she has been a life-long member of the Presbyterian Church. Of the children, one died at the age of eighteen years, but the other ten are still living and have all married.

Mr. Andrew, of this sketch, was brought to Illinois when only three years of age, and upon his father's farm in Harlem Township, he was reared to manhood in the usual manner of farmer lads. After attaining to mature years, he chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Lizzie Brown, their union being celebrated in Hamilton County, near Cincinnati, Ohio. The lady was born in that locality of Scotch parentage, being a daughter of Alex and Margaret (Brown) Brown, natives of Scotland. Her parents were married in that country and immediately afterward crossed the Atlantic, settling near Cincinnati, where Mr. Brown followed farming until his death, at the age of eighty-one. His wife now lives with a son and daughter, and is eighty-three years of age.

Mrs. Andrew was educated at College Hill, Ohio, and is a cultured and most estimable lady. By her marriage she became the mother of two children, but John, the only son, died at the age of seven years. The daughter, Maggie B., is still at home. As before stated, they reside at No. 803 North Court Street. The Andrew household is the abode of hospitality, and its members rank high in social circles. The parents and their daughter are members of the Presbyterian Church of this city.

When Mr. Andrew entered upon his business career, he located at Argyle Station, where for twenty-five years he carried on business as a dealer in grain, lumber, and coal. His surplus earnings he has invested in real estate and now owns some good property in Boone County, also in Rockford. He was very successful in his undertakings, and as the result of his enterprise met with a well-deserved prosperity. He was recognized as one of the leading citizens of his township, prominent in all public affairs, and a leader among his fellow-countrymen. Since the month of November, 1888, he has lived a retired life in Rockford.



FRANK A. FISCHER, who from early life has made his own way in the world, and by his own efforts acquired a handsome property, has, since 1886, dealt in wines and liquors at Nos. 103 and 105 East State Street, his establishment being one of the finest of the kind in the city. His life record is as follows: He was born in Saxony, Germany, July 15, 1848, and comes of a wealthy and prominent family. His father and grandfather, both of whom bore the name of William, were successful and extensive lumbermen, further mention of them being made in the sketch of Berhard Fischer, on another page of this work. In the family were six brothers, all of whom grew to manhood and became wealthy. One died very recently in New York, leaving a large estate.

Frank obtained a good education in his native land, and at the age of fourteen began clerking in a hardware house. Four years later he sailed for America, taking passage at Hamburg, and at length landed in New York. It was in 1867 that he arrived in Rockford, where he has since made his home, and been actively engaged in business, a part of the time as a partner of his brother. Not only is he a dealer in wines and liquors, but he is also a stockholder in the Merchants' and Manufacturers' National Bank, and owns an interest in the Electric Manufacturing Company, of Rockford. He possesses good business ability, is enterprising and industrious, and by his untiring efforts has accumulated considerable property.

In Rockford, Mr. Fischer led to the marriage altar Miss Minnie Strese, who was born in Jefferson City, Wis., and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Strese, both natives of Germany. A short time after their marriage they emigrated to this country, locating in Jefferson City, where they are now living. The daughter was there reared and educated, remaining at home until her marriage. She is one of a family of six children. After their marriage, Mr. Fischer brought his wife to Rockford, and they hold a prominent position among the people of his nationality in this city, having a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Fischer takes quite an active part in social affairs, especially with the Germania Society, of which he is an influential and leading member. He has also taken considerable interest in political affairs, but is connected with no party, voting for the man, regardless of party affiliations.



REV. GARRET R. VANHORNE, D.D., the presiding elder of Dixon District, was born in Franklin Township, Bergen County, N. J., June 30, 1841. His father, John Vanhorne, was a native of the same county and township, and the grandfather, Barney Vanhorne, was also born there, and was of early Dutch ancestry. He was a farmer, and spent his entire life in his native town. He was a member of the Dutch Reformed Church, and reared his children in the same faith.

The father of our subject was reared upon a farm, and learned the trade of a tanner, following that for a time, but finally bought a farm in the township of Franklin, N. J., and after that carried on farming until a few years before his death, when he retired from active life, and spent his last days in the city of Paterson, N. J., where he breathed his last October 19, 1891. The father of our subject married Martha Terhune, who was a native of Franklin, N. J., and was born May 25, 1822, living until June 11, 1881. The parents of our subject both joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in early life, and the father served as

Steward, Trustee and Class-Leader; also as Superintendent of the Sunday-school. The children who are still living are Cornelius, Catherine, our subject, Sarah, Albert and Rachel. One child, John, died at the age of three years.

Our subject received his early education in the public schools of the town of Franklin, and at the age of sixteen began to learn the trade of a bricklayer, serving three years thereat, and then left his trade, and in the fall of 1859 entered Garrett Biblical Institute, at Evanston, Ill., and remained there until August, 1861. This young man, like thousands of others, threw down his books at the call of his country, and took up a musket. He enlisted in Taylor's Battery of Light Artillery, of Chicago, being the first student to enlist from his school. He was in the battle of Frederickstown, Mo., and later fought at Belmont, the first battle in which Grant was commander. Receiving a wound there, he was sent to the hospital at Cairo; typhoid fever afterward set in, and he was for eighty-two days under the surgeon's care, and finally received his honorable discharge on account of physical disability, by order of Gen. Halleck, and went home to New Jersey.

After fully recuperating, Mr. Vanhorne joined the Newark Conference, and officiated as a minister of the Gospel until the fall of 1861, when, his health again failing, he returned to Illinois in the fall of 1865, when he joined the Rock River Conference. He has been a member of that organization ever since, and has preached at the following places: Oregon, Minooka, Plainfield, Rochelle, DeKalb, Dixon, on Michigan Avenue, Chicago, and in Rockford. While in charge of the church in the latter-named city, our subject was instrumental in erecting the present handsome edifice. After serving as pastor of the Centennial Church of Rockford for three years, he was appointed the Presiding Elder of the Rockford District, and served in that capacity for five years, when he was appointed Presiding Elder of the Dixon District, and is the incumbent of that position at the present time, serving his third year.

Miss Jennie A. Munroe became the wife of our subject in 1865. She was born in Brownville, Jefferson County, N. Y., October 18, 1847, and is

a daughter of George Munroe. Her father, who was born in Lanark, Scotland, was the son of Daniel and Jane Munroe, also natives of that country. They came to the United States in an early day, and located in Watertown, N. Y., where the grandmother died. Mr. Daniel Munroe came West to this State in 1849, making a location in Will County, where he purchased a farm near Wilmington, and made that place his home the remainder of his life. The father of Mrs. Vanhorne was very young when accompanying his parents to America. He was married in the Empire State to Sarah, daughter of Henry and Charity Henze, natives of New York, and of German descent.

George Munroe, the father of Mrs. Vanhorne, continued to reside in New York until 1849, at which time he came to the Prairie State, and purchased a farm near Florence, Will County. There he followed his trade of moulder for two winters, and then farmed until November, 1861, when he was elected Sheriff of the county, serving his full term. Removing to Joliet, he opened up in the grocery business, doing a large retail trade, and later took in as partner his son George, the firm name being George Munroe & Son. In addition to the grocery business, Mr. Munroe operated extensively in real estate, which business netted him a fine income. He was very prominent in his locality, and departed this life September 5, 1890. In politics, he was in early life a Democrat, but on the organization of the Republican party, joined its ranks. He served in the responsible position of Treasurer of Will County. He was widely and favorably known throughout the community, where he was held in high esteem.

Mr. and Mrs. Vanhorne have become the parents of three children, Eva M., Jennie and George. The elder daughter became the wife of Oscar J. Wigell. He of whom we write cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, since which time he has voted the Republican ticket. The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by McKendry College, of Illinois, in 1888.

The Rev. Garret R. Vanhorne was elected and served as reserve delegate to the general Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1888.

When Dr. Vincent was elected Bishop, he was appointed to fill that vacancy in the conference. In social matters, he is a Master Mason, and is connected with the Royal Arch Masons at Oregon. He is also a member of Sycamore Commandery, and of the Forest City Lodge No. 12, A. O. U. W. He is a Grand Army man, and holds membership with Nevius Post No. 1. He is Chaplain of the Third Regiment, Illinois National Guards, and is the second oldest chaplain in the State.



EDMUND SNOWDON. A pleasantly located and fertile tract of land on section 15, Burritt Township, Winnebago County, is owned and occupied by the subject of this sketch, who is now giving his attention to its cultivation. Born April 30, 1836, in Yorkshire, England, he is a son of Daniel and Ann (Gambel) Snowdon, also natives of the above-named county, where they spent their entire lives as farmers.

Edmund Snowdon was the only member of the parental family to come to America, prior to which time he received a limited education in his native country. He commenced to work out at the age of nine years, and in 1855 sailed from Liverpool in the vessel "Webster," landing at New York after a voyage of six weeks. Going at once to Fulton County, N. Y., Mr. Snowdon was employed on a farm there for a year, and then came to Winnebago County, where he was engaged to work on a farm in Harlem Township, for three years. Desiring to see something of the far West, he went to California, via the Isthmus of Panama, and worked on a ranch for the three succeeding years, and on returning to York State was engaged as a farm hand for another twelvemonth. Finally, making a permanent location in Winnebago County, Mr. Snowdon bought a farm, upon which he is residing at the present time, and which then contained eighty acres, since which time, however, he has added ninety acres adjoining, all of which is pleasantly located on the Trask Bridge Road.

The lady to whom our subject was married, April 3, 1865, was Miss Pathenia Sophia Fell, and to them have been granted three children: Belle A.,

Cora L. and Millie G. Mrs. Snowdon was born in Cheshire, England, where her father, William Fell, was born September 6, 1806. Her grandparents, William and Sophia Hartley Fell, spent their entire lives in that shire. William Fell learned the trade of a hand-weaver, at which he worked until ten years of age, when he entered the cotton mills in Cheshire, and worked until 1843. Then, with his wife and three children, he crossed the ocean to America in the sailing-vessel "Patrick Henry," landing at Castle Garden after a voyage of thirty days. Going immediately to Rhode Island, Mr. Fell made that State his home for three years, and then came to Winnebago County, which was at that time very sparsely settled. He located in Durand Township, purchasing a tract of forty acres, upon which he erected a log house, and commenced at once to improve the farm. He erected good buildings on the place, and there resided until 1890, when he removed to the home of our subject and his wife. The maiden name of Mrs. Fell was Sarah Barningham, a native of Yorkshire, England, who died on the home farm in 1868.

A career honorable alike to himself and to the community in which he resides, Mr. Snowdon has shown those valuable traits of character without which success is unattainable.



ROBERT BAUCH is Superintendent, Director and stockholder of the Desk and Furniture Company of Rockford, which business is located on North Second Street, at what is commonly known as Knightville, where it was established in 1889. Since that time, Mr. Bauch has held the above-mentioned positions, and through his able management the business has been productive of the best results. He was formerly Superintendent of the Rockford Cabinet Company, of which he was the founder, and which was established in 1886. He has now under him about one hundred men, and the success of the business is characterized by his push and energy, and good judgment and executive ability. He is an old,

tried and practical workman, and has been actively engaged in business for the past twenty-five years. He was for some time employed as a practical workman and mechanic with the large furniture factory of A. D. Seam & Co. (now the Cream City Furniture Company), of Milwaukee, Wis., and it was while in that city that he learned his trade. Since that time, he has given his best efforts to his business, and with substantial results. He invested his money and takes a deep interest in the Skandia Furniture Company, also the Diamond Furniture Company, and is a Director and stockholder in both, besides holding his present position with the Desk and Furniture Company, to which he gives his personal supervision. His whole energy and time are devoted to the furniture business, and he keeps well posted in all matters relating to the same.

Mr. Bauch comes of Teutonic stock, but was born, however, in Milwaukee, Wis., in 1854. He was there reared and educated, receiving a practical training in the city schools; he was naturally a practical mechanic and designer, and had also a wonderful command of languages, speaking English, German and Swedish, besides understanding others. This is of great importance in his business, and renders his services of much value.

He was the eldest of eight children, five sons and three daughters, born to Gottlieb G. and Paulina (Falke) Bauch, natives of Germany. The father was reared in his native country, and there learned the weaver's trade. Soon after his marriage, he came to the United States and first located in Milwaukee, where they had some trouble in making a living, but after a time he began at his trade, and possessing much natural ability, soon came to the front. He became Superintendent and Manager for Niedner & Co., extensive weavers for many years in the Cream City, and after continuing with them for some time, he began business on his own account. During the Civil War, he served with a Wisconsin regiment, and was in many prominent engagements, receiving a wound in one of them that rendered him a cripple for life. Subsequently, Mr. Bauch took up a soldier's claim at Butternut Creek, Wis., and there passed the closing scenes of his life. He had been a sufferer from la grippe, and after

recovering somewhat, although still very weak, took a drive behind a spirited young team, that finally got beyond his control; the carriage was upset, and he so seriously injured, that he died in March, 1889, when about seventy-three years of age. He came of a long-lived stock, and his father, who died about six years ago, was nearly one hundred years old. The mother of our subject is still living, and makes her home with a son, Oscar, a dry-goods merchant of Milwaukee. She is now, March 13, 1892, fifty-eight years of age. She is a member of the German Lutheran Church, and her husband was also connected with that church. Of the children born to their marriage, all are living, and four are married.

Robert Bauch, of this notice, is the only one residing in Rockford. He was married in Rockton, Ill., to Miss Flora E. Springer, a native of Maine, born July 25, 1854, and the daughter of George W. and Rosanna (Gaptill) Springer, both of German nativity. The father was a shoemaker by trade, who is now deceased, his death having occurred in Rockton in 1887. His widow is still living, resides at Beloit, Wis., and is seventy-six years of age. Of the eight children born to this worthy couple, Mrs. Bauch was the youngest in order of birth. One son, George Springer, was a soldier in the Union army, and was killed while defending the Stars and Stripes.

Mr. Bauch and his wife are both working members of the First Congregational Church of Rockford. Their union has been blessed by the birth of three children, two of whom are living: Robert G. and P. A. Florence died in infancy. In politics, Mr. Bauch is a strict Republican.



CARL O. ASPROOTH, baker and confectioner, of Rockford, Ill. One of the salient features of the business men in the cities of Illinois is their energy and push, or, as the Americans put it, "go-aheadtiveness." Rockford is no exception in this respect, but affords a striking example of the truth of the assertion, and Mr. Carl O. Asprooth furnishes us with a striking case in point. He owns a fine business building at No.

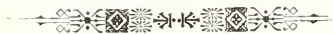
106 Kishwaukee Street, the same being 22x80 feet, with a basement, storerooms, and two flats above, the whole of his building being the north half of Union Block.

Mr. Asprooth, like many of the representative business men of Rockford, is of foreign birth, and first saw the light of day in Jonkoping, Sweden, December 15, 1816. He learned his trade in his native country, and when about twenty years of age, came to the United States. His father, Daniel Asprooth, died in his native country in 1891, when seventy-four years of age. He was a Lieutenant in the regular army of Sweden, and was a pensioner for twenty years before his death. He was a prominent man. His father was a native of Finland, and a Finland soldier. After the war with Russia, the latter came into Sweden, where he became a Swedish soldier, and where he died. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Hedwig Rosenquist, is still living in Sweden, and although seventy-six years of age, is quite active and spry. She and her husband were members of the State Church of Sweden all their lives.

Carl O. Asprooth was the third in order of birth of nine sons born to his parents, six of whom are yet living. Two are in Sweden: Rev. Conrad L., a Lutheran minister, married, and Martin, a railroad station agent, at Franas, that country. He is also married. The other brothers are in this country. Daniel B. works for our subject; Otto William is now residing in the northern part of California, and is a wood-dealer, and Frithof is a letter-carrier of Rockford. The latter married Miss Emma Bowman. Carl O. came to Rockford in 1867, and followed the baker's trade for different individuals until 1874, when he branched out in business on his own account, on East State Street, continuing there until recently, when he came to his present commodious quarters. This building was built especially for his purpose, and is complete in every department. The stock is complete in every detail, and of the best quality, which in no small measure is due his extended trade. He is a stockholder in the Rockford Manufacturing Company, the Rockford Baking Company, and is interested in other local matters.

Mr. Asprooth was married, in this city, to Miss

Selma Ekblad, a native of Wester Gothland, Sweden, born in 1854. She came with her sisters to the United States in 1869, and has since resided in Rockford. Her father died in Sweden a number of years ago, and after his death his widow came to the States. She is now a resident of Minneapolis, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Asprooth had born to their union seven children: Ellen H., Fred T., Segred L., Eksell, Oscar, John, and Mabel.



WILLIAM H. RANDALL, known throughout Northern Illinois as one of the prominent horse-dealers, has invested much money in imported equines, and a lover of horse-flesh would be pleased with the fine animals to be seen on his place. He is ranked among the wealthy citizens of Winnebago County, and is at present residing in Durand, where he is held in excellent repute.

A native of this county, our subject was born in Pecatonica Township, October 24, 1855, and is the son of Henry J. and Calista C. (Walker) Randall. His early life was passed on a farm, and his education was obtained in the schools of Durand and Rockford, he having been a resident of the former place since seventeen years of age. The father of our subject was a dealer in horses, which, before the days of railroads, he drove to California, and had the honor of shipping the first car-load of horses over the Union Pacific Railway.

William H. Randall was thirteen years of age when his father sent him alone to California in charge of two car-loads of horses, which business, he has been engaged in since sixteen years of age. In 1875, he formed a partnership with Herbert L. Norton, with whom he is still associated. The firm purchases horses in various parts of Illinois and Iowa, and for the last four seasons have bought many horses in the St. Louis market. Their principal shipments have been to the Dakotas, where they have established an enviable reputation, and are doing a large and lucrative business, Mr. Randall being engaged in buying, and his partner in selling, the animals. They own some fourteen hundred acres of land in Dakota, and for five years,

carried on a banking business at Hamilton, N. Dak., at which place they also own a hotel and livery. Messrs. Randall and Norton have a one-third interest in the town site of Hamilton, which has a most desirable location, and have aided materially in its upbuilding. The firm are the proprietors of a stock ranch on Mouse River, North Dakota, and are largely interested in race, running, and trotting horses, owning "Wanderoo," a famous running horse.

The original of this sketch, in 1887, was married to Miss Mary, daughter of Judge E. G. Allen, of Sterling, this State. Mrs. Randall was born in that place in 1865, and by her union with our subject, has become the mother of one son, Edgar, who was born in November, 1888. In social matters, our subject is an Odd Fellow, being identified with both the Subordinate Lodge and Encampment. In addition to the numerous interests in which he is engaged, he has in his possession a large stock farm, near Durand. He is a man who has made his way in the world, has large experience in his branch of work, and is far-seeing and prudent in the management of his affairs. To-day, he is considered one of the most successful and wealthy horsemen in this part of the State, and we predict that in the near future he is destined to reach even a higher round in the ladder of fame as a horse-breeder.

Mr. Randall is President of the Durand Driving Park Association. They have one of the best half-mile tracks in the State.



PUTNAM B. DICKERMAN, a well-known farmer of New Milford Township, Winnebago County, residing on section 15, first opened his eyes to the light of day in Jewett, Greene County, N. Y., July 7, 1840. His parents, Joel and Eunice (Bailey) Dickerman, were also natives of the same county. His grandfather, Joel Dickerman, Sr., was born in Connecticut, and died at the age of eighty years, leaving two sons and two daughters: Amelia, wife of Lucius Pond; Joel, father of our subject; Worcester A. and Catherine, widow of Addison Ramsey, deceased.

The grandmother died at the home of our subject, September 6, 1866, at the age of eighty-one years.

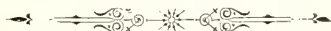
Putnam Dickerman acquired a good English education, and between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one years, engaged in teaching in the winter season, and in farming through the summer, but on the 1st of August, 1862, he left the plow and enlisted in the One Hundred and Twentieth New York Infantry. He participated in the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg, where two-thirds of his company were killed, while after the battle but three responded to the roll-call. He took part in thirteen engagements altogether, including, besides those mentioned, the battle of Mine Run, the battle of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Strawberry Plains and Boydton. The engagement there was short but serious. The troops were once in great danger of being captured, but under cover of night succeeded in making their escape. Mr. Dickerman was sent by his Colonel to the hospital, on account of ill health, and returned home in February, 1865. He rejoined his regiment in April, but soon afterward Lee surrendered, and he was mustered out at Kingston on the 8th of June. He went into the service as Fifth Sergeant and came out as Second Lieutenant. He was ever a faithful soldier, always at his post of duty, and may well be proud of his army record.

Mr. Dickerman was married in Jewett, N. Y., September 12, 1865, to Emily F. Peck, of that city, daughter of Munson and Mary Peck, both natives of Jewett. Both her paternal and maternal grandparents were from Connecticut. The Peck family were farming people, and were Presbyterians in religious belief. Her father died in Massachusetts in December, 1883, at the age of sixty-two. Her mother is still living at the age of seventy. Their only son, Alfred, died in January, 1871, at the age of twenty-three years. The two daughters are Emily, and Martha, wife of William Hasty, of Berkshire County, Mass.

The wedding tour of Mr. and Mrs. Dickerman was their journey to Rockford, Ill. In the autumn, they settled upon a farm of three hundred and forty-eight acres, which he and his father had purchased at \$30 per acre. Since that time, he

has made about \$2,000 worth of improvements on the buildings, until now his barns and other out-buildings are models of convenience. He also raises a good grade of stock, and the farm seems complete in all its appointments. The home is a pleasant residence and is surrounded by well-tilled fields, which yield a golden tribute to the owner. He has given almost his entire time and attention to his business, yet has served as School Director and Path Master, and is Steward in the New Milford Methodist Church, in which he is an active member.

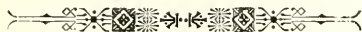
Mr. and Mrs. Dickerman have lost one son, Frank, who died at the age of fifteen months. Three children are yet living: Alfred, who was educated in Rockford and Beloit, and is a resident farmer of this community, wedded Fannie Holdridge, of New Milford; Mary has been a student in the Rockford Academy; and Burton, who is now eighteen years of age, is a student in the Rockford High School, from which he expects to graduate.



MINER W. HAYWARD. In Winnebago County are to be found several farmers who have reached a high degree of prosperity by the persistent pursuit of a chosen calling, and the exercise of prudence and foresight in the conduct of their affairs. Among these none deserve the notice of the biographical writer more than the gentleman with whose name we open this paragraph. He is at present occupying a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres, lying on section 3, Roscoe Township, where he devotes the greater portion of his time and attention to the growing of cereals, which, when marketed, bring him in handsome returns. He also keeps ten or twelve milch cows on his place, and sends the milk to a creamery in the vicinity.

A native of Vermont, our subject was born January 27, 1849, in Weybridge, and was a son of Edwin and Lucy A. (Warner) Hayward. Miner W. was the fifth child and third son in the parental family, his brothers and sisters bearing the respectful names of Azel D., Hattie F., Laura A.,

January 15, 1834, when eighty-four years of age. He participated in the War of 1812, as did also the father of Mr. Mitchell, the latter of whom was a pensioner of the Government.



ISAAC D. MILLER. We herewith present the sketch of a prominent and retired farmer, whose home is in the city of Belvidere. He is a native of Burlington, Bradford County, Pa., and was born December 26, 1827. He is a son of Isaac and Beulah (Morley) Miller, the father born in Bennington, Vt., where he was a farmer. He was very prominent in local affairs, and served in the responsible position of Justice of the Peace, and after coming to Boone County in 1842, was Supervisor for seven years.

On locating in the Prairie State, the elder Mr. Miller bought three hundred and twenty acres of land, for which he paid \$4 per acre, and a part of which is the present property of our subject. The father erected all the necessary buildings on the farm and removed to Belvidere in 1865, where he resided until his death, April 14th, 1868, when seventy-five years of age. His wife, who is a native of Connecticut, departed this life on the home farm November 29, 1863, when in her sixty-sixth year. She was the daughter of Isaac and Beulah Morley, whose demise occurred in Pennsylvania, the former having been a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Isaac D. Miller remained at home until his marriage, January 1, 1852, at which time Miss Caroline Akin, who was born in Crawford County, Pa., November 5, 1833, became his wife. Mrs. Miller is the daughter of Andrew and Marian (Graves) Akin. Her father was born at Mt. Upton, Chenango County, N. Y., March 8, 1810, and spent his boyhood days in his father's home. He attended school regularly until old and strong enough to work on the farm, after which his attendance was limited to the winter seasons. Like many other farmer boys he "mowed and hoed and held the plow and longed for one-and-twenty." The winter previous to his seventeenth birthday, he taught a large district school, in which at least

one-third of the pupils were older than himself, but notwithstanding that fact, the youthful teacher succeeded in giving satisfaction to the patrons of the school. His salary was \$12 per month, and he boarded around among the people. He continued to work on the farm during the summer and teach in winter until he was of age.

At Erie, Pa., October 11, 1832, Mr. Akin was married to Marian, the youngest of nine children born to Deacon Amos Graves and his wife. After his marriage, Mr. Akin's first undertaking was building a grist and saw mill in Sparta, in the adjoining county of Crawford, Pa. The country was new and sparsely settled, and the mills proving an unprofitable investment, he sold his interest and began the study of law. After practicing the profession about one year, he was compelled to abandon it on account of inflammation of the eyes.

Having concluded to come West, Mr. Akin, accompanied by his family and father and mother, removed to Belvidere, Ill., where he rented a new house just built by Alex. Neely, across the street from the old "Towner Hotel." The following spring he rented a farm on Bonus Prairie, known as the Keith farm, and during that year raised one thousand five hundred bushels of corn, which he tried to dispose of, but failed to obtain an offer on it even at twelve and one-half cents per bushel, so he abandoned it to the rats. Later, Mr. Akin removed to Pigeon Woods, Kane County, where he remained two years, engaged in farming pursuits and serving as Justice of the Peace. Thence he removed to Elgin, where he engaged in the grocery business with success until his store was burglarized by a band of Mormons, who escaped with his most valuable goods.

In January, 1852, Mr. Akin removed to Chicago, and while there acted in the capacity of Justice of the Peace and Police Justice. When the Legislature changed the name of the latter office to that of Police Magistrate, and made it subject to election by the people, he was continued in the position for seven years in succession. Having been admitted to the Bar, he entered the practice of law in partnership with Hon. Solon O. Thacher (now of Lawrence, Kan.), and continued

in practice for one year. Later, with J. P. Mather, he concluded to erect a saw and grist mill in Council Grove, Kan. Accordingly, he bought machinery for both mills, and sent his son, C. G., to Kansas to commence the work of building. The mills were completed in 1862, and two years later Mr. Akin removed his family to the Grove. Disposing of his interest in the mills in 1864, he engaged in farming for a time, and afterward, with his sons, C. G. and Henry C., entered into the mercantile business at the Grove. They were very successful for two years, until the Union Pacific Railroad was finished to a point a few miles north of the Grove, which ruined the trade.

Removing to Wilson County, Kan., Mr. Akin erected a steam saw mill and a water power grist-mill, and about the time they were finished he was appointed Registrar of the United States Land Office at Augusta, Kan. His next removal was to Chanute, Kan., where he bought a large steam grist mill and ran it for a year and a half. Again selling out, he returned to Chicago and purchased a flouring mill situated at Homewood, in Cook County, but when repairs had been completed and business commenced, his youngest son, Charles M., who was associated with him, was instantly killed as he was getting off the car at Homewood. Shortly afterward, Mr. Akin disposed of the business and returned to the city.

In July, 1879, Mr. Akin left Chicago and went to Sioux City, Iowa, where his son Henry C. was residing and in business. Hoping to benefit his health, he traveled extensively by steamboat up the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers, and returning to Sioux City, spent two years there. On account of failing health, he came to Belvidere to live with his daughter, Mrs. Isaac D. Miller, with whom he made his home for nine years. He is now (1892) residing with his son H. C. at Omaha. His wife, who was born at Sherburne, N. Y., July 27, 1812, departed this life at Guilford, Kan., when sixty-two years old, and was buried in Topeka, that State. Their children were as follows: Carlos G., deceased; Eugene L., formerly of Kansas, now deceased; Henry C., of Omaha, Neb.; Charles M., deceased; Caroline Miller, of Belvidere; Harriet Marvin, of Chicago; and Emma C. Singleton, of Fredon-

ia, Kan. In politics, Mr. Akin was first a Whig, and when that party dissolved became a Republican, which party he still supports.

To our subject and his wife the following three children have been born: Lillie, Mrs. Charles Agor, is the mother of two children, one of whom is deceased; Ida married William Bowley, and Nellie became the wife of Melvin Dorn, a prominent merchant of Belvidere, and she and her husband reside with her parents at Belvidere. Mr. Miller lived upon the old homestead until 1891, when he purchased property in the village, and is now enjoying the results of his industry and perseverance. He and his wife are prominently identified with the Baptist Church. Socially, he is a member of Belvidere Lodge No. 60, A. F. & A. M., and Kishwaukee Chapter No. 90, R. A. M. In 1852, he built the Little Thunder Mills, doing all of the mechanical work himself, and operated the same for a period of thirty-two years with marked success. Under the old process his mill stood at the head, having taken the premium on flour at the Boone County Fair three times in succession, in competition with the mills of this county.



HON. DAVID HUNTER, a well-known and popular farmer of Guilford Township, Winnebago County, residing on section 15, was born in Perry, Wyoming County, N. Y., January 15, 1836. His father, James Hunter, was born six miles from Belfast, Ireland, and was of Scotch descent. When a young man, he came to America, and resided in Oswego, N. Y., whence he removed to Perry, Wyoming County. He learned the trade of hand-weaving in his native land, and in Perry followed that occupation. In 1844, he came to Illinois, accompanied by his wife and five children, and settled in Guilford Township, upon the farm which is now the home of our subject. He developed a good farm, and here made his home until his death, which occurred in 1869. His wife bore the maiden name of Ann Aikens. She was also a native of the Emerald Isle, and when young came to this country, settling in Canada, whence she removed to New York. After her

husband's death, she resided in Rockford, until called to her final rest December 31, 1891. She was of a charitable disposition and possessed a kindly Christian character, and those who knew her best loved her most. She took a deep interest in public affairs, especially those calculated to up-build humanity, and was a consistent member of the First Congregational Church. She reared the following children: David, of this sketch; Belle, who is Principal of the Ellis School of Rockford; Mary J., a teacher in the public schools of St. Louis; Dr. Sarah, of St. Louis; and Benjamin, a prominent farmer near that city.

Our subject was eight years old, when, with his parents, he came to Illinois. His educational advantages were limited, being those of the common schools, and he was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life. He remained under the parental roof until May, 1861, when he enlisted in Company C, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry. He served three years, participating in all the engagements of the regiment, and was discharged in May, 1864, on the expiration of his term of enlistment. He then spent a few weeks at home, after which he accepted a position in the Quartermaster's Department at Nashville, serving in that capacity until July, 1865, when he returned to the North and resumed farming on the old homestead.

In 1872, Mr. Hunter was united in marriage with Sarah L. Gunsolus, who was born in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, and is a daughter of James S. and Sophia Gunsolus, pioneers of this community. Their union has been blessed with the following children: Benjamin, Joseph, Robert, Annie, Mary, Edith, Gertrude and Harriet.

Mr. Hunter cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln and has since been a stalwart supporter of Republican principles. He has filled various offices of trust with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. In 1884, he was elected a representative from this district, and was one of the hundred and three who voted for John A. Logan for United States Senator. So well did he fill the office that at the expiration of his term he was re-elected, and once more, in 1890, he was the people's choice, and is the present representa-

tive of his district. This third election shows his popularity, and the trust reposed in him by his fellow-citizens. Socially, he is a member of Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., and also belongs to Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M. In addition to his farming interests, he is a Director of the Third National Bank. A pleasant, genial gentleman, he is highly esteemed, and has many warm friends throughout the community.



THOMAS BROWN, deceased, was born in Campbellton, Scotland, February 28, 1807, and died on his farm in Caledonia Township, Boone County, October 4, 1889, respected by all who knew him. In his native land he remained until twenty-five years of age, when he crossed the broad Atlantic, and joined his brothers and sisters who had previously come to this country, and located near Cincinnati, Ohio. He there made his home for fourteen years, after which he came to Illinois, and purchased an unbroken tract of land in Caledonia Township, Boone County, where he began the development of a farm. He then returned to Ohio for his parents, who had also located in this country, and the family finally became residents of Boone County, where the father and mother of our subject spent their last days. The former, however, died just three weeks after reaching his new home. His wife survived him some years, and died at an advanced age in Boone County. They were active members of the Presbyterian Church, and highly respected people. They had quite a large family.

After coming to Illinois, Thomas Brown met and married Miss Margaret Ralston, their wedding being celebrated in Harlem Township, Winnebago County. She was born in Massachusetts, September 11, 1834, and is a daughter of William and Ella (Greenlee) Ralston, natives of Scotland. After the birth of four of their children, they emigrated to America in 1834, crossing the Atlantic in a sailing-vessel. After some time spent in Massachusetts, they removed to Hamilton County, Ohio, and in 1848 came to Illinois, where he purchased

a tract of wild land in Harlem Township, making it a fine farm, upon which he and his wife spent their remaining days. His death occurred in 1870, at the age of seventy-six years, and Mrs. Ralston died four years later, at the age of sixty-seven. They led busy and useful lives, and when quite young, united with the Presbyterian Church. They became prominent workers of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, which they helped to organize. Their family numbered three sons and six daughters, of whom two sons and three daughters are yet living.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown were quite prominent people of Boone County, and he was very successful in his business affairs, but afterward lost a great many thousand dollars in a bank failure of Rockford. This materially diminished his fortune, yet he left a considerable property to his widow. In politics, he was a Democrat, and was honored with most of the township offices. He was an earnest worker and faithful member of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, which he served as Elder, and Mrs. Brown is a faithful member of the same congregation. Since her husband's death, Mrs. Brown has come to Rockford and built a fine home at No. 603 North First Street, where she is now living quietly. This worthy couple reared two adopted children: Edward Blowers, who married Mary Bamasqua, and is now carrying on a cheese factory in Capron, Boone County; and Eliza Blowers, now the wife of Henry Farmers, a machinist residing in Belvidere, Ill.



HENRY MILLER, now deceased, is numbered among the early settlers of Rockford, and well deserves representation in this volume. A native of Cayuga County, N. Y., he was born at Union Springs, in 1814, and came of an old family of that State. His parents were well-to-do people, of German lineage, who lived and died on a farm in the county of his nativity.

In the usual manner of farmer lads, our subject was reared to manhood, and in Cayuga County he resided until his emigration to Illinois in 1856. For a time after locating in Rockford, he carried

on a grocery store and eating house, then gave up the latter, and devoted his entire attention to the grocery business, in which he met with signal success, acquiring a large property. Later in life, he sold out his store and invested his money in real estate, and in the banking business. He was a sagacious and far-sighted business man, industrious and enterprising, and by the exercise of these characteristics, won prosperity, leaving at his death a large property to his widow.

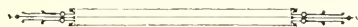
Mr. Miller was married in Auburn, N. Y., to Miss Susan B. Rude, who was born in that city in 1820, and there spent the days of her maidenhood with her parents, Amos and Phoebe (Bayles) Rude, the former a native of New York, and the latter of New Jersey. They both came of wealthy and highly respected families. After their marriage, they resided in the Empire State, and Mr. Rude died in Auburn, at the age of seventy-two years. He had been connected with various enterprises, and was quite a prominent politician, a staunch advocate of the Democracy. He was a man quite liberal in thought, and of decided opinion when once his mind was made up concerning any question. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Rude came West, and died three years later at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Miller, in Rockford, at the age of seventy-five years. In religious belief, she was a Methodist.

Under the guidance of her parents, Mrs. Miller was reared, becoming an intelligent and cultured lady. She possesses good executive and business ability, and since her husband's death has managed all his affairs. She is a member of the Christian Union Church, and a liberal thinker on religious questions. She has the warm esteem of many friends, and the respect of all who know her.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Miller were born three children, all now deceased. William H., born in 1840, was the founder of the Keokuk Business College, a very successful institution. His death occurred December 26, 1881, in Keokuk, Iowa. His wife, whose maiden name was Minnie Gilbert, died just exactly four years before her husband, leaving three children: Frank, who resides with his grandmother, and is employed in the Winnebago National Bank, of Rockford; Sarah, wife of James

Joslyn, Assistant Cashier of the Rockford National Bank, and Harry, now learning the machinist trade with the John Barnes Manufacturing Company. Sarah E., the second child in the Miller family, became the wife of Horace A. Towne, and died in Hannibal, Mo., January 12, 1870. Her husband resides in Minneapolis, Minn., and is ex-Superintendent of the Northern Pacific Railroad. May C., the youngest of the family, was the wife of James T. Joslyn, and died in Greeley, Colo., October 26, 1889, leaving two sons, Burtis T. and Fred M.

Mr. Miller, whose name heads this record, took quite a prominent part in public affairs, and was a worthy citizen. In politics, he was a Republican, and was a member of the Christian Union Church. After a well and worthily spent life of over three-score years and ten, he passed away at his home at No. 306 North Main Street, on the 13th of November, 1884.



JOHAN SEAL. We find our subject supplied with all the comforts, and many of the luxuries of life which are the result of the habits of thrift and industry to which he was trained from boyhood, and which have followed him through his latter years. He was engaged in farming until 1882, since which time he has resided in Rockford.

A native of Hunterdon County, N. J., our subject, who is the son of Robert and Sarah (Force) Seal, was born December 31, 1824. His parents were also natives of New Jersey, and being in limited circumstances, John was compelled to earn his own living when quite young, engaging to work on a farm when eleven years of age. At the end of nine months, he made a contract to remain a year longer, and was to receive \$3 per month for the entire period. At the expiration of that time, he entered the employ of Peter Yawger, a farmer, and remained with him until reaching his majority.

After his marriage, the original of this sketch commenced life on a rented farm at Round Valley, N. J., whence a year later he removed to Charles-

ton, same State, and lived on rented property for the five succeeding years. Mr. Seal then bought that farm, and was engaged in its cultivation until 1855, when he disposed of it, and, coming to this county, purchased a partially-improved tract of one hundred and twenty acres in Winnebago Township. Upon this farm he made his home until coming to Rockford, as before stated, in 1882. In the meantime, he added to his purchase, planted fruit, shade and ornamental trees, and erected a good set of frame buildings.

Mr. Seal, of this sketch, was married October 31, 1846, to Miss Jane Belles, a native of Warren County, N. J., who departed this life in 1849. Our subject was again married in November of that year, to Elizabeth Creager, who was born in the State and county of his nativity, and was the daughter of George and Charity Creager. Mr. Seal is the father of two children by his first marriage: Sarah, the wife of Joseph Mitchell, of Lyon County, Minn., is the mother of five children, viz: Lizzie, Nellie, Lydia, Agnes and Belle. The son, Peter, married Amanda Phelps, and has two children, Sarah and Camilla. Mrs. Mitchell's daughter Lizzie is now the wife of George Pervis, and is the mother of a daughter, Ada.



OGDEN HANCE. This highly-respected citizen of Pecatonica enjoys the distinction of having been the first white child born in Winnebago County, his birth having occurred October 21, 1836, in Pecatonica Township. His early home was in one of the first log cabins erected in this portion of Illinois, whither his father, Thomas Hance, had removed in 1834. He is therefore well known throughout the county, and his life has been characterized by such honor and uprightness as to secure for him a high place in the regard of his fellowmen.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Adam Hance, resided in the vicinity of Sandusky, Ohio, where he reared his eleven children. In his family was a son Thomas, who, seeking a new home in the great West, visited Northern Illinois, in the fall of 1833, and was so delighted with the splen-

did soil and pleasant climate that he determined to make it his permanent home. Accordingly, he went back to the Buckeye State for his wife and child, and with them he returned in 1834 and settled in Pecatonica Township, where he entered a tract of land from the Government and spent his remaining years. He departed this life at Pecatonica, July 13, 1886. His wife, whose maiden name was Phoebe DeWitt, was a native of Ohio, where she was married in 1831; she survived her husband several years, passing away July 19, 1889.

The family of which our subject is a member comprised seven children, six of whom still survive. They were reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which their parents belonged. The sons were early initiated to hard work, aiding their father in his labor of clearing and cultivating the farm. Those early years witnessed many hardships, for upon making settlement here Mr. Hance was so poor that he could not pay for his claim until he had earned money by plowing furrows around different claims, to thus gain a start for himself. A few years before his demise, he retired from active labor, and surrounded by the love and tender care of his children, and in the enjoyment of the competency which his arduous labors had accumulated, he passed the twilight of his life. Politically, he was a Democrat, and served as Supervisor and Assessor for twenty years.

The lady who, August 17, 1862, became the wife of Ogden Hance, the ceremony being performed by Judge Miller, at Rockford, was known in maidenhood as Amanda V. Armstrong and was born in Washington, Richland County, Ohio, September 29, 1839. Her grandparents, William and Elizabeth (Kennie) Armstrong, were residents of Ohio until their death. Her parents, James and Catharine (Shoup) Armstrong, removed from Ohio to Stephenson County, this State, in 1841, and entered land from the Government. Twenty-five years after making settlement there, they moved to Iowa, where they died, the father, May 24, 1884, aged seventy-seven years, three months and one day, and the mother, October 4, 1872, aged fifty-four years, four months and thirteen days. They were the parents of eleven

children, seven of whom are still living. Mr. Armstrong served as Justice of the Peace for a period of more than twenty-five years, and was the first school teacher, and also taught the first singing school at Rock Run, this State.

Mr. and Mrs. Hance are active in charitable works, and she is especially interested in the W. C. T. U., of which she is a member. They have two children, Edgar L. and Myrta F. The former was born August 26, 1863, and was graduated, June 16, 1886, from the Chicago Union Law School. He now resides in Chicago, where he has been practicing his profession for five years in the office of Kerr & Barr. Myrta F., born in Pecatonica Township, May 5, 1868, married S. B. Niles, October 15, 1885, and has one daughter, Rue V., who was born May 29, 1887.



JOHN STEVES, who has been a resident of Winnebago County since 1846, is at present residing in Durand and was born May 19, 1820, in Montgomery County, N. Y. He is a son of Jacob and Mary (Young) Steves, also natives of the Empire State, while his great-grandfather, Jeremiah Steves, hailed from England, coming to America in the Colonial times and locating at Sing Sing, N. Y. He reared a large family of children, a number of his sons being soldiers in the Revolutionary War.

John Steves, the grandfather of our subject, was born at Sing Sing, N. Y., and when attaining mature years married Margaret Miller. They resided in Montgomery County, whither he had removed when a young man. In early life, he followed the trade of a cooper, but in 1830, removing to Onondaga County, began farming and died in his eighty-fourth year. He was the father of one son and three daughters, viz: Margaret, who married Abram Vosburg; Mary, the wife of Henry Voorhees; Eliza, who died unmarried, and Jacob, who was born in 1799, in Montgomery County, N. Y.

The father of our subject was reared on the home farm and in after life was more than ordinarily successful in agricultural pursuits. He was married in his native county, whence he removed

to Onondaga County in the spring of 1824. There he made his home until his removal to Illinois in 1857, and on coming directly to Durand Township purchased property, to the operations of which he gave his personal superintendence. After making his home here for some ten or twelve years, the elder Mr. Steves removed to Vinton, Benton County, Iowa, where his demise occurred when in his eighty-fifth year; he was followed to the better land by his good wife, who died a year later.

John Steves of this sketch had two brothers and three sisters, namely: Sarah Ann, Catherine, Mary, Fletcher and Dempster. He was four years of age when his parents removed to Onondaga County, N. Y., where his early years were passed on the farm. Although the schoolhouse was a long distance from his home, he attended as regularly as he could, and when fourteen years of age entered a boarding-school, where he prosecuted his studies for a few winters.

The lady to whom our subject was married in 1843 bore the name of Julia A. Paddock, and was a native of Western New York. Three years later, the young couple emigrated to the Prairie State and made their home upon land which Mr. Steves purchased near the city of Rockford. He was the owner of a large foundry and machine shops in that city, which branch of business he managed in a most successful and profitable manner. In 1849, the family came to Durand, where our subject purchased a gristmill, the only one of that kind in the place and which is still in his possession. Although having quite a little sum of money when he came to Illinois, by paying strict attention to his milling operations he has acquired a handsome competency.

To Mr. and Mrs. Steves have been born four sons and four daughters: Cynthia J., the widow of Lieut. Caperton, makes her home in this place; Mary E., Mrs. Henry Burrell, lives in Freeport; Julia E., who married Fred Miller, is a resident of Woodward, Iowa; Sarah Grace, at present Mrs. Will Bear, makes her home at Hot Springs, S. Dak.; Jacob E., who enlisted in the late war, died at White Station, near Memphis, Tenn., while in the service; John H., a resident of St. Helena, Cal., is conducting a successful business as a hardware

merchant and plumber; Nathan P., who is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, resides in Wisconsin, and Charles S., who died in 1888, at the age of twenty-eight years, at Langdon, N. Dak.

The original of this sketch has been an active worker and student all his life and is the author of several articles which have been published. From about the year 1880, his attention has been attracted to the social, industrial and governmental problems, on which subjects he has since studied and written. In 1840, our subject, though not of age, was in sympathy with the Whig party. Four years later, he voted for James G. Birney, the Abolition candidate, and on the organization of the Republican party was an active worker in its ranks until 1880, since which time he has ceased to support political parties. His parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which denomination several of his children are also connected.

As before stated, Mr. Steves still owns his mill, in addition to which he has a small farm near the village and a large stone store building in that place. In 1862, he went to Wisconsin and while there a mob gathered to discipline a man who was considered disloyal. Our subject talked to the people in the victim's behalf, when the mob immediately surrounded him and demanded that he should take the oath of allegiance. He had no objection to taking the oath, but did not deem it necessary, as he was a loyal citizen of the State of Illinois, and disputed their jurisdiction. The mob then rode him on a rail, and later, to vindicate himself, he had twelve of the men arrested and after a trial in the United States Court was awarded a verdict of \$5,000.

Mr. Steves has thought and written in relation to certain problems involving human welfare, in which he has challenged the truthfulness of traditional theology; he also has questioned the economy and the validity of current governments, and has arrived at definite conclusions regarding the cause and the remedy for the social ills so generally prevailing.

To make mention of some of the causes more nearly fundamental, he would group with hereditary sovereignty *all official* sovereignty, including the legislative, the judicial, the financial or capital-

istic, as responsible for the administration of the public order, or disorder, as such sovereignty inevitably involves the elements of human slavery, by the grant of special privileges and franchises to certain persons, corporations and classes, thus creating and imposing inequitable and grievous disabilities and burdens upon the disfranchised, practically and in substance alienating personal rights, in sheer violation of the doctrine of the Declaration of American Independence.

From the foregoing noted principle of governmental sovereignty as parental, there proceeds monopoly—as of lands and other facilities, and powers of extortionate taxation as tribute to the favored, as involved in general trade and commerce. He charges that our system of exchange, as commercial and as competitive in proceeding by personal contract, is emphatically a false system, in which it is impossible to trace or to execute or conform to a line of equity, or to maintain justice. Under it life becomes a system of special opportunity and of chance, ignoring merit—personal success, so-called, depending frequently upon personal cunning and moral recklessness.

As contributive to the errors already noted and specified, a most potent factor is money as a medium of exchange, its use in a manner hiding or tending to obscure the correct basis of valuation as pertains to personal service and to property, hence, perforce, comes personal failure, poverty, crime and misery. We give the following as Mr. Steves' remedy for injustice and public misgovernment:

Let sovereignty be recognized as inherent in the individual citizen, connecting therewith the obligation of individual, personal self-support. Let society, that is the law of association, be and become a mutuality, a conference, a division of labor as a productive service; that is, a co-operation upon a basis of strict equity, holding the land and nature's resources entirely as a common heritage, as a birthright, a life right in a title inalienable. Let the social law pertain only to practical production and industry, discarding entirely all dictatorial proclamations, decrees and statutes, except such as are related to industry and which are of mutual benefit and universal necessity. Let the title-ship of the land, the capital stock, the tools, the fixed

and surplus properties, be and remain in the people collectively as one association—to be called, if you so please, "The State." Let all productive service be nominally chargeable to the State under such equitable and economical adjustments as to be in fact substantially a personal self-service, the principle of self-support and of reciprocity to be maintained by such methods as even to embrace the support and education of the children and youth, the care of the sick and aged. In the system Mr. Steves proposes, individual income in the law of distribution is made to depend upon productive service, say nominally to the State, rendered upon a time basis, and the amount of such service, after an exacted minimum to cover, to balance and to answer to benefits received in a personal consumption due to health and civilization, to be entirely optional or subject to individual personal election.

A system of government so radically unlike any now existing or those of the past, is worthy to be distinguished and known by a representative and a characteristic name, and as such, Mr. Steves suggests the term *Ochlocracy*, by Webster defined "a government by the multitude," qualified as a pure democracy, in a personal self-government. A government organized to protect the citizen in his rights, in his liberty, upon a basis of simplicity, of morality, of economy, of humanity, aimed and adapted to the development of the physical, the intellectual and the moral nature and needs of mankind.



THOMAS R. JACKSON, a highly respected citizen of Belvidere, is a native of Portland, Me. He was born October 23, 1827, and is one of eight children, whose parents were Charles and Ann (Hager) Jackson. The father was born in North Yarmouth, Mass., October 10, 1779, was reared in his native State, and learned the trade of paper-maker. After his marriage, he settled in Portland, Me., and at one time owned two ships. He resided in Portland until 1838, when he emigrated to Illinois, accompanied by his wife, and entered a tract of Government land in Marengo Township, McHenry County, upon which he built

a substantial log house, 18x24 feet, and two stories in height, one of the best homes in this section of the country at that time. He continued to reside upon that farm until his death, in 1873. His wife passed away the year previous. Their children were Charles, Hiram, Cranston, Nathan, William, James, Amos and Thomas. Cranston was the first of the family to come to Illinois, whither he emigrated immediately after leaving college in 1837. He located in what is now Boone County, and was followed by all of his brothers, who settled in Boone or McHenry Counties.

It was about 1840 when Thomas Jackson came to Illinois, in company with his brother Nathan. At that time, this region was very sparsely settled, much of the land was still owned by the Government, and deer roamed at will over the prairies. There were no railroads, and the farm products were hauled to Chicago. There was no mill nearer than Peatonica, and it required two days to make the trip to and from that place. Our subject remained with his parents until their deaths, and continued to reside on the old homestead until 1883, when he went to Humboldt County, Iowa, where he purchased a farm, and made his home for one year. On selling out, he returned to the old homestead in Marengo Township, and engaged in its cultivation until 1891. He owned one hundred and twenty acres of fine land, under a high state of cultivation, and well improved with good buildings and the other accessories of a model farm.

On the 16th of May, 1850, Mr. Jackson led to the marriage altar, Miss Sarah A. Brush, who was born in Truxton, Cortland County, N. Y., October 14, 1830. Her father, Joseph Brush, was a native of Danbury, Conn., and the grandfather, Richard Brush, spent his entire life in the Nutmeg State. The father learned the trade of shoemaker, and followed it for a time, but spent his leisure hours in studying. When a young man, he went to New York City, where he studied law in the same class with Martin Van Buren, and then began the practice of the legal profession in Truxton. In 1832, he went to Smithport, McKean County, where he practiced for one year, after which he removed to LaFayette, and engaged in keeping hotel and in farming. He also served as Post-

master, and there made his home until 1846, when he became a resident of Charlon, Geauga County, Ohio. In 1858, he emigrated to Illinois, purchased a small tract of land in Bonus Township, Boone County, upon which he built a home, and there resided until his death, in 1861. He had served in the War of 1812, and was a prominent citizen. His wife was Sarah Partlow, in her maidenhood. She was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Seymour and Susanna (Purdy) Partlow. She spent her last years in Bonus Township, and departed this life in 1882.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson have a family of six children; these three are living: Daniel Leone, Berlin S., and Willie R. Those deceased are Harvey B., who died February 17, 1876, aged seventeen years, seven months, and twenty-one days; Eugene died November 12, 1888, aged twenty-two years, ten months and two days, and Jessie L., wife of Franz E. Tripp, died April 18, 1891, aged twenty-seven years, six months and one day. The family continued to reside upon the farm until 1891, when Mr. Jackson sold out and came to Belvidere. He purchased property and built a home in the locality known as Riverside, and is there living a retired life. He is a consistent member of the Free Methodist Church, has taken an active part in its interests, and done much for its upbuilding and advancement. In sentiment, he is a strong Prohibitionist, but is not connected with that party or any other political organization.



THOMAS P. KETTLEWELL, a well-known citizen of Rockford, was born in the village of Scruton, Yorkshire, England, August 22, 1818. His father, Thomas Kettlewell, was born in the same place, as was also the grandfather, Richard. In 1835, the father came to America, bringing with him his wife and nine children. They set sail from Liverpool May 13, and, having spent nearly two months upon the ocean in a sailing vessel, "The Columbia," they landed in New York July 3, later crossing Lake Erie to Port Stanley. He bought a farm in Southold Township in that

part of Middlesex now included in Elgin County, Canada, and resided there for a number of years, after which he came to Rockford and there made his home until death ended his career.

The mother of our subject was known in maidenhood as Mary Pinckney. She was born in the village of Scruten, Yorkshire, England, and was a daughter of Ralph and Fannie Pinckney. Her life ended at the home of her son in Rockford in 1873. Her nine children were Mary Ann, Thomas, Richard, Fanny, Margaret, Jane, Susannah, Ralph and William. Thomas Kettlewell was seventeen years old when he came with his parents to America, and he remembers well the long ocean voyage. He resided with his parents in Southold until his marriage, after which he rented a farm in Westminster Township, Elgin County, Canada, where he made his home until 1850, when he came to Illinois by way of lake and railroad to Elgin, which was then the Western terminus of the railroad.

Having reached Rockford by team from Elgin, he engaged in farming for two years, and then for some time carried on butchering and stock-dealing, and has been active in this line of business from that time on. He was married, July 3, 1844, to Susanna Horton, who was born in Southold, Elgin County, Canada, April 12, 1824. Her father, Peter Horton, was born in New Jersey and was a son of Samuel Horton, who was also a native of the same State, but migrated from there to Canada, where he did thorough pioneer work, clearing a tract of timber land on Talbot Street and developing a farm from the wilderness, residing there until his death.

The mother of Mrs. Kettlewell was, before her marriage, known as Margaret Ramsey, and after her marriage with Mr. Horton they lived upon a tract of timber land three miles from the old home, residing there until 1846, when they sold their property, and, coming to Winnebago County, bought a tract of land in Guilford Township, where Mr. Horton died in 1850.

Mr. and Mrs. Kettlewell have reared seven children, in whom they take great delight, and for whose future they have true parental solicitude. They bear the names of Mary, Mannie J., Eva,

Louis, William, Charles and Fannie, respectively. The political views of our subject are in accordance with the doctrines of the Republican party, and he is truly American in his sympathy with our institutions. Both he and his good wife are active and earnest members of the Presbyterian Church.



JOEL C. KLING, a retired farmer, residing near the end of Kishwaukee Street, is a good example of what can be accomplished in life when thorough determination to succeed in any calling is coupled with energy, perseverance and close application in the directions chosen. He came here in 1868 a poor man and a stranger, but by hard work and indomitable will-power has amassed considerable wealth, and is now classed among the substantial men of the county. He is a promoter and stockholder in the Rock River Planing Mill Company and President of the Swedish Brewing Company.

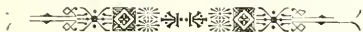
Our subject began life in Rockford as a carpenter, and followed that occupation for about ten years for E. Flemming, and subsequently became one of the incorporators and stockholders of the Co-operative Furniture Company, with which he remained about eight years. After this, he purchased one hundred and fourteen acres near the city, tilled the soil for six years, and sold this fine farm recently for \$23,500. He then invested in city property.

Mr. Kling was born in Wester Gothland, Sweden, November 28, 1836, and was taught the trade of a watch-maker there, following that until he came to this country. He was the third of his family who came to America, two brothers, Augustus and Swan, having preceded him. The parents died in Sweden, the father, Lars Kling, dying when seventy-seven years of age. He followed the trade of watch-maker all his life, and had seven sons who also became watch-makers. He was the father of twenty-two children by three wives, seventeen sons and five daughters, all of whom lived to mature years, and sixteen married. His second marriage resulted in the birth of twelve sons and one

daughter, of whom our subject was one of the younger. Nine sons and the daughter are still living.

Joel C. Kling was first married in his native country to Miss Mary Anderson, who accompanied him to the States and died here in 1871, when forty years of age. She left no children. She was a working member of the Swedish Lutheran Church. Our subject's second marriage was to Charlotte Johnson, who was born in Norkart Province, Sweden, on the 14th of February, 1842. Her father, John P. Johnson, followed the occupation of a mechanic, was a skillful workman, and died when seventy-two years of age. His wife died when Mrs. Kling was about twenty years of age, being herself about forty-three years old. Mrs. Kling was the only child, and when twenty-eight years of age came unaccompanied to the United States. Like her mother, she was a dress-maker by trade, and followed this until her marriage to Mr. Kling.

The six children born to this union are named as follows: Verna T., Ernest H., Tiekla T., Beta C., Herbert J., and Huldah G., all at home. Mr. and Mrs. Kling are members of the Emanuel Swedish Lutheran Church, and Mr. Kling is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party.



STEPHEN M. WARREN. Few people passing through Leroy Township fail to observe the valuable and well-appointed homestead which is pleasantly located on section 9, and denotes on all sides the hand of thrift and prosperity. By a process of careful cultivation and the exercise of cultivated tastes, the farm is now conceded to be one of the most desirable in this section of Boone County. The fields are conveniently laid off and enclosed with neat fences, and the farm buildings, erected in modern style, are all that could be reasonably required by the progressive agriculturist.

While Mr. Warren has devoted his energies to the establishment of a good home and has brought the one hundred and twenty acres on his farm to a high cultivation, he has not been unmindful of

the welfare of the people around him and has aided in all good works to the best of his ability. He possesses excellent judgment and a good practical education, and has been uniformly fortunate in his investments. His residence, which was erected in the fall of 1891, is one of the most commodious and attractive in the vicinity, and is furnished throughout in a manner indicating the refined tastes of the family.

Matthew Warren, father of our subject, emigrated from England to America in early manhood and was married, near Batavia, N. Y., to Grace, daughter of William Dullum, who came to Boone County about 1816, and purchased land near Poplar Grove, where he established a permanent home. His death occurred there in 1857, when he was in the prime of life. He and his wife had a family of four children, three daughters and one son; Anna, Henrietta P., Stephen M. and Ellen. Anna became Mrs. Jesse Dennis and died in Dakota in 1873, at the age of twenty-six, leaving one son, Warren; Henrietta is the wife of W. Wilson, of Flint, Mich.; and Ellen is now Mrs. George Ziegans, of Sharon, Wis.

A native of this county, our subject was born September 18, 1850. He was reared to farm life, and used his excellent education in the profession of a teacher, which he followed nine terms. He was also engaged for nine years in making cheese in factories, but has since engaged exclusively in farming and stockraising. He keeps a goodly number of fine cattle, his specialty being Holstein cows.

Mr. Warren has received the active co-operation of his wife, to whom he was married May 27, 1873. She was Miss Alida B., daughter of John and Cornelia (Walley) Prindle, natives of Massachusetts and New York respectively. They came West in the spring of 1842, two years after their marriage, making the trip in a covered wagon drawn by oxen. They first stopped at Kenosha, and from there came to Boone County, where he entered a tract of two hundred and sixty acres from the Government, to which he later added eighty acres. When he died on New Year's Day, 1891, at the age of seventy-five, he left his widow and four children comfortably provided for. Their son,

Franklin, enlisted in the Thirteenth Wisconsin Infantry at the age of nineteen years, and had served but three months when he died of pneumonia and his mortal remains are now resting in the cemetery at Sharon, Wis. The surviving members of the family are S. W., a grain dealer at Sharon; Juliette, the wife of W. H. Stevens, of Sharon; Martha J., who married C. S. Raymond, a commercial traveler of Keokuk, Iowa, and Mrs. Warren.

Our subject and his estimable wife are the parents of three children: Willis M., Mabel J. and Jesse E., who are receiving good educations in the schools of the neighborhood. Politically, Mr. Warren is a Republican, and is serving the third term both as Road Commissioner and School Director, in which positions he is doing effective work in behalf of the people.



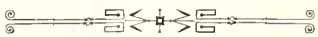
JOSIAH S. LEONARD, who is doing an extensive business as a dealer in hardwood lumber, is numbered among the enterprising citizens of Rockford. He established business in April, 1885, and from the beginning his trade has constantly increased, until it has now assumed extensive proportions.

Mr. Leonard is a native of Syracuse N. Y., and was there reared and educated. His grandfather, James Alex Leonard, was a native of New Jersey, and descended from New England parentage of English origin. After his marriage, he removed with his wife to the wilds of the Empire State, driving the teams overland, and settled upon a farm near Auburn, N. Y., which he purchased of the Government. He there made a home and developed a good farm, on which his daughter now resides. He and his wife there spent their remaining days, and were called to their final rest at an advanced age. It was there that John A. Leonard, the father of our subject, grew to manhood. He was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Sloan, who was born near Cooperstown, N. Y., and died at her home near Auburn when in middle life. Mr. Leonard passed away in 1873, at the age of sixty-eight years. He and his wife were members

of the Congregational Church. Their family numbered four sons and five daughters, seven of whom are yet living, and with one exception all are married.

Josiah Leonard, whose name heads this record, entered upon his business career in his native city at the age of twenty-two years as a lumber merchant. Subsequently, he emigrated Westward, locating in Chicago, where he spent some years, removing thence to Rockford, where he has since carried on an extensive jobbing business. With the exception of eighteen months spent in the South, he has given his entire time and attention to the business which he yet follows. He buys lumber by the car load, and sells chiefly to the factories. Mr. Leonard is recognized as a man of excellent business ability, sagacious and enterprising, and straightforward and upright in all things.

In Onondaga County, N. Y., our subject was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary M. Bostwick, who was born on Otisco Hill, N. Y., and there resided until twelve years of age. Her education was acquired in Syracuse, and in Homer Academy, of Homer, N. Y. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Leonard have been born six children: Levi D., who now assists his father in business; Hettie M., attending the High School; Anna L., Charlotte H., Anna B., and Ruth, all yet at home. The parents are both members of the Grace Methodist Church, and take an active part in its work and upbuilding, Mr. Leonard being Chairman of the Board of Trustees. In politics, he is independent, not bound by party ties. Himself and wife rank high in social circles, and have the warm regard of all with whom they have come in contact.



JAMES W. SCOTT, who is successfully operating a choice farm in Burritt Township, Winnebago County, was born on section 2, of that township, May 1, 1840. He is a son of James Scott, who was born in Richland County, Ohio, June 1, 1805, where his father, Joseph Scott, was one of the first settlers. The latter gentleman improved a good farm, upon which he resided for a number of years, and then

coming to Illinois spent the remainder of his life with his youngest son in this township. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Brown; she died in Richland County, Ohio.

The father of our subject was reared on the home farm, and on attaining mature years was married, June 20, 1826, to Miss Elizabeth Fisher. Purchasing forty acres of timber land twelve miles east of Mansfield, he erected thereon a log house, in which he lived with his family until 1836. Then removing to the Territory of Michigan, he located near Cassopolis, where he made his home for two years, then came to the Prairie State, the journey being made overland with two pairs of oxen and a wagon, the party including his wife and four children. The country round about Rockford was sparsely settled, and Government land sold for \$1.25 per acre. Mr. Scott, with his household, moved into a log cabin in company with a family named Manchester, with whom they lived for a short time. In the meantime, the father made a claim to the northeast quarter of section 9, Burritt Township, on which he erected a rude log cabin, and in it moved his family and resided until his decease, during the late war.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Miss Elizabeth Fisher; she was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, March 26, 1810, and is the daughter of Henry Fisher, a pioneer of that county, but a native of Pennsylvania. He was a teamster and was engaged in hauling goods from different points in Ohio to Philadelphia and Baltimore. Later in life, removing to Richland County, he purchased a tract of timber land, which he cleared and resided upon until his death. The maiden name of his wife, the grandmother of our subject, was Nancy Fuls, also a native of the Keystone State, who, on coming to Durand, Ill., died at the home of her son.

Mrs. Elizabeth Scott, the mother of our subject, is still living and makes her home with her son Charles, on section 6. She reared a family of eight children, of whom our subject was the fourth in order of birth. He was reared and educated in his native town and, with the exception of one year, has resided in Burritt Township all his life. He remained at home assisting his father until his

marriage, when he rented property for a twelve-month, and then purchased the farm where he makes his home at the present time, and which is located on the northeastern quarter of section 10, Burritt Township.

Miss Jane Steward and James W. Scott were united in marriage, October 15, 1862. The lady was born in Elgin County, Province of Ontario, Canada, and is the daughter of William Steward, who was, as far as is known, a native of the same locality. To Mr. and Mrs. Scott have been born two children: Edwin L. and Ella M. The son, who married Miss Clara Chapman, has two children: Elmer and Grace D. Our subject is independent in politics and is highly thought of by the entire community.



J HERVA JONES, Superintendent of the Rockford Manufacturing Company, has been a resident of this city since 1863, and is numbered among the early settlers of the county of 1846. He was born in Canandaigua, N. Y., August 20, 1827, and is a son of J. Herva Jones, Sr., a native of Hudson City, N. Y. The grandfather was a Scotchman and in his native land learned the trade of a marble cutter. After his marriage, he came to this country, settling in Hudson City, N. Y., where he followed his trade until his death in 1806.

The father of our subject spent his boyhood days in the Empire State, where he learned the trade of a cabinet-maker. In Canandaigua, he wedded Miss Mary Doolittle, who was born in Connecticut and was a descendant of Jason Doolittle, an English inventor, who made one of the first steam engines. It is said that on one occasion the engine got away from him when he was displaying it to some friends and completely demolished a shed. After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, they resided in New York until 1846, when they emigrated Westward, locating in Byron, Ogle County, Ill. In the fall of 1851, Mr. Jones went to Boston and took passage on board the "Telegraph," for Calcutta, in hopes that a trip to that country would benefit his health, but the

vessel was never afterward heard from. Mr. Jones was then fifty-one years of age. He was a life-long Methodist, and his wife, who survived him some years, was a consistent member of the same church.

The education of our subject was acquired in the schools of his native State, where he remained until 1846, when, with his parents, he came to Illinois. A year later, he settled in Rockton, Winnebago County. With his father, he learned the trade of a cabinet-maker in his youth, and since that time has been a practical mechanic and inventor. He got out his first patent as early as 1854, the machine being a hand corn-planter, the first of the kind patented. He came to Rockford in 1863, and has since been one of the prominent residents of the city. He now occupies the position of Superintendent of the Rockford Manufacturing Company, which manufactures all kinds of farming implements, including plows, harrows, sulky rakes and mowers, and makes a specialty of the famous "Farm King Sulky Plow." Mr. Jones has taken out some eighty patents on farm implements, one of the most important of which is the Standard Mower, about ten thousand of these machines being constructed annually by the Emerson & Talcott Manufacturing Company, of this city. They use a number of his patents, which have proved to be very successful and have found a ready sale. For twenty-five years, Mr. Jones was Superintendent of the Emerson & Talcott Manufacturing Company, but now gives the greater part of his attention to the superintendency of the Rockford Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Jones was married in Rockton to Miss Pauline P. Austin, who was born in Maine, October 4, 1832, and was brought to Rockton in 1838 by her parents, H. Sewell and Margaret (Packard) Austin. Her father is numbered among the early settlers of that locality and was the owner of a large and well-improved farm, upon which his death occurred, January 26, 1892, caused by la grippe. Had he lived until the following May, he would have been eighty years of age. He was a prominent resident of that community, and for some years had served as Supervisor of Shirland Township. He had been twice married, his two wives being sisters. The mother of Mrs. Jones

died when she was only a year old. By her marriage she has had two children. The elder, Herman A., a machinist in the employ of the Emerson & Talcott Company, wedded Louisa Switz, and they have two children, Charles and Mattie. May is now the wife of Uzal C. Osborne, foreman of the polishing department in the watch factory. They have one son, Fred.

Mr. Jones is a well-known resident of Rockford, prominent in public affairs, and progressive. By nature he is genial and wins friends wherever he goes. In politics, he is a stalwart Republican and has served as Supervisor of the Fifth Ward. His wife is an active member of the Christian Union Church. They have now a beautiful home at No. 606 North Church Street.



CLAUS G. PETERSON has been agent for the Illinois Central Railroad of East Rockford since February, 1890, and has filled the position with credit to himself and to all concerned. He came to this city from Auburn, Neb., but had formerly been a resident of this county, having been reared and educated in Cherry Valley Township. He was connected with a boot and shoe firm for some time, but on account of voice failure he went to California, where he remained four years, and where he regained his vocal powers. Returning to Rockford, he has made this city his home ever since, with the exception of two years spent in Nebraska.

Our subject is of foreign birth, Wester Gothland Province, Sweden, being his native country, and he was born on the 11th of May, 1849. When three years of age, he was brought to the United States by his parents, who landed in Boston on the 4th of July, 1852. They were three months in crossing the ocean and many of the passengers died of cholera, but the Petersons escaped with little sickness. They came on to Chicago, but found cholera prevalent in that city, and they then went to Elgin, Ill., where they remained three months. In 1852, they came to Rockford, and in 1856 the family moved to Cherry Valley

and made their home there until 1863, when they located in Cherry Valley Township, where they remained until 1875, and then came back to Rockford, where the father died in November, 1879, when eighty-six years of age. His name was Peter Peterson. His wife, who is still living and quite active for seventy-five years of age, resides with her son, P. A. Peterson (see sketch). Peter Peterson and his wife were early members of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford, and were classed among the representative Swedish-American settlers of the city.

Mr. Peterson of this notice was married in Rockford and is the father of one child, a son, Claus Varro, a bright, intelligent lad, who was born August 11, 1889. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of this city. Mr. Peterson is a strong advocate of Prohibition, and socially is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Blue Lodge. He is a hard-working, industrious citizen and a man universally respected.



GEORGE W. FLAGG. Descended from two old New England families, this gentleman has, in his personal affairs, manifested the frugality, industry and perseverance that are prominent traits in the Yankee character, acquiring thereby a fortune that has enabled him to bestow upon his children thorough educations, and to surround his family with every comfort. He occupies one of the handsomest farm residences in Seward Township, Winnebago County, and has identified himself with various movements which tend to the higher civilization and prosperity of his community, gaining thereby a reputation second to none as a public-spirited citizen.

Our subject was born in Heath, Franklin County, Mass., September 9, 1775. He is a son of Silas M. and Hannah Flagg, the former of whom was a native of Worcester, Mass., but who spent the greater portion of his life in Franklin County, where his demise occurred when forty-seven years of age. Mrs. Hannah Flagg was born in Windham County, Vt., and also died in the above-

named county in Massachusetts, when sixty-three years of age. Her parents were natives of New England.

Mr. Flagg, of this sketch, remained at home until 1856, when he came to Winnebago County, and lived for a time in Pecatonica. Thence he came to Seward Township, and two years thereafter went East and settled on the old home farm in Massachusetts. Returning, however, in 1859, he has since been identified with the interests of Seward Township. Miss Lestina Rugg became the wife of our subject, January 9, 1850. She was born in Franklin County, Mass., and was the daughter of Davis and Eunice Rugg, the former of whom was born August 20, 1786, in Leominster, Mass.; he departed this life in Seward Township, February 2, 1872. Mrs. Eunice Rugg was born October 17, 1790, in the same State and county as was her husband, and departed this life in Winnebago County, March 13, 1874. The wife of our subject was a member of a family of eleven children, five of whom are living. Her grandparents were also natives of the Bay State, of Irish descent.

To Mr. and Mrs. George W. Flagg have been born four children, two living: Henry E., who was born October 17, 1850, in Heath, Mass., was educated in Pecatonica College, and spent one year in Nebraska. Lillian A., who was born February 4, 1861, in Seward Township, is now Mrs. W. R. Stone, and the mother of one child. Our subject and his wife are members of the Congregational Church, and in their beautiful home entertain their many friends, who are as numerous as their acquaintances.



JOHAN N. PENWELL, a retired farmer, who now makes his home in Belvidere, has the honor of being a native citizen of Boone County. He was born in Flora Township, March 3, 1845. His father, Luke Penwell, was born near Connorsville, Fayette County, Ind., and his grandfather, Reuben Penwell, was a native of Indiana. He became one of the earliest settlers of Indiana, where he made his home until about

1840, which year witnessed his arrival in Illinois. He was also one of the pioneers of Boone County. He located at Blood's Point, secured a tract of Government land, and improved a farm, upon which he resided for some years. He spent his last days with his children, and died at the home of his daughter, in Noblesville County, Ind.

The father of our subject was reared in his native State, and when a young man came with his parents to Illinois. The removal hither was made overland, with ox-teams. They found Boone County to be very sparsely settled; all of the land was still in the possession of the Government, and deer and other wild game were very plentiful. There were no railroads here for several years after their arrival, and Mr. Penwell used to haul his grain to Chicago with ox-teams. He married Elizabeth Middleton, a native of the Buckeye State, and a daughter of John and Ruth Middleton, after which he located on land which his father had purchased. He made his home in Boone County until about 1858, when he removed to De Kalb County, and purchased a farm, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his time and attention until 1883, when he removed to the village of Kirkland, where he is now living a retired life.

Our subject is one of a family of four children. His education was acquired in the pioneer schools of his native county, which he attended through the winter season, while in the summer months he aided his father in the labors of the farm. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, when his father deeded him a portion of the old homestead, and he engaged in agricultural pursuits with excellent success until 1881, when he sold his farm and came to the city of Belvidere. He purchased property at the corner of Whitney and Fifth Streets, and for the past eleven years has spent his time in looking after his real-estate interests.

On the 27th of February, 1867, Mr. Penwell led to the marriage altar Miss Charlotte Leaman, who was born in Flora Township, Boone County, and is a daughter of George and Deborah Leaman, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Unto our subject and his wife has been born one

son, Charles Arthur. The Penwell household is the abode of hospitality, and its members rank high in social circles. In his political affiliations, our subject is a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Penwell were married nineteen years before their only child was born.



WILLIAM M. RICHARDSON, who is engaged in general mechanical work in the village of Roscoe, Winnebago County, was born in Spencer, Mass., in 1820. His parents, Benjamin and Judith (Mason) Richardson, were both natives of New England. The paternal grandfather, Benjamin Richardson, Sr., also belonged to an old New England family. The father of our subject was a blacksmith and a skilled workman in edged tools. He removed from Massachusetts to Hudson, N. Y., and there followed his trade until his death in 1828. He left a family of six sons and six daughters.

Our subject came to Illinois in 1846, his brothers, Benjamin and Washington, having preceded him some eleven years. He learned the blacksmith's trade with his father and opened his first shop in Roscoe in 1849, carrying on his smithy for a number of years. However, in the autumn of 1847, he returned to Massachusetts with the intention of remaining there, but changed his mind and again came to Illinois, bringing his mother with him; she spent her last days with him.

Mr. Richardson was married in Roscoe, in 1850, to Miss Lucy A., daughter of Walter and Orry (Cheney) Warner, the former of Wethersfield and the latter of Berlin, Conn. Her parents came West to Rockford in 1836. Mr. Warner made the journey in the early spring with an ox-team, and after locating a Government claim, sent for his family, who came on in company with two other families. Upon his farm, he there resided until his death. In 1839, he lost his wife, who died, leaving one son and four daughters: Lucy Ann, Frederick, Mary Jane, Josephine and Elizabeth. Mr. Warner was again married, his second union being with Miss Sarah Tucker, of Elgin,

Ill., a native of Virginia. By this marriage were born seven children, but three died in childhood. Washington, Wilber, Martha and Olin grew to adult age and two are now living: Wilber, of St. Louis, and Olin, of Chicago. The former was a soldier during the late war. The father died March 26, 1863, at the age of sixty-two years. His home and farm in Harlem Township still belong to his heirs. He came West with limited means, but died leaving a handsome estate.

Our subject and his wife have one child yet living, Alice, wife of H. B. Curtis, of Roscoe, by whom she had one child, Rubie, now a student in Beloit. For some time, Mr. Richardson owned and operated one hundred and two acres of land in Roscoe, but sold it after twenty years. He then engaged in the manufacture of plows in Roscoe for thirty years. Few men of his age are as youthful in appearance and in strength as he. Hunting has always been a favorite sport with him, and in early times after a hard day's work he would often go out in the evening and bring in from six to twelve prairie chickens. He still enjoys a day with his rod and gun as in former years. In political affiliations, he was first a Free-soiler, and is now a Republican. He and his wife have been members of the Methodist Church for forty-four years. They have traveled life's journey together for forty-two years and are a most worthy couple, held in high regard by all who know them.



CHARLES B. LORD, one of the early settlers of Boone County, now living retired in Belvidere, was born in Sherburne, Chenango County, N. Y., June 24, 1821. His father, Alfred Lord, was born and reared in Connecticut, and in that State married Jerusha Carrier, a native of Connecticut. They removed from the Nutmeg State to Sherburne, N. Y., where they made their home until 1827, when they became residents of Erie County, Pa. Mr. Lord bought a tract of timber land and moved into a log cabin which was then on the place. In 1836, he sold

that farm and took up his residence in Summit County, Ohio, where he made his home until 1839, when he came to Illinois. With his wife and four children, he started with a team and drove to Cleveland, where he embarked on a steamer, intending to land at Toledo, but a storm arose and drove them across the lake to the Canadian shore. They landed at Detroit and with a team drove to Aurora, Ill., where they remained until the fall. During the summer, our subject and his father started with a horse and buggy to seek a location, and visited different parts of Northern Illinois. In the autumn, the family removed to Boone County, where Mr. Lord made a claim of Government land in what is now Spring Township. At that time there were only about sixteen acres broken, and a log cabin constituted the improvements. The father at once began the development of the farm, but was called to his final rest about six years later. His wife died on the home farm in 1841. Their four children were Harriet, Charles, Sarah and Lucius.

Our subject was eighteen years of age when his parents came to Illinois. The country was sparsely settled and they had to undergo many of the experiences and hardships of frontier life. Charles resided with his father until about the time of his marriage, when he bought eighty acres of Government land at \$1.25 per acre, and on that commenced his career as an independent and successful farmer. As there were no railroads, he hauled his grain to Chicago, Milwaukee and Sheboygan. He made other purchases as his means accumulated until he was the owner of four hundred acres of fine land, one hundred and sixty acres across the line in De Kalb County.

In October, 1844, Mr. Lord wedded Clarissa Shattuck, who was born in Concord, Gauga County, Ohio, September 28, 1822. Her father, Erastus Shattuck, who was born in Connecticut, removed to New York and afterward to Ohio, becoming one of the early settlers of Concord, Gauga County. He there resided until 1835, when, with his wife and four children, he came to Illinois, making the entire journey overland with teams. He was one of the very earliest settlers of Boone County. At that time the Indians were

still in possession of their homes here, and the land was not surveyed. He purchased a claim, however, on which was a log cabin, in the building of which not a particle of sawed lumber was used. The roof was covered with shakes, the flooring was of white ash logs, and there were wooden hinges on the door, and a wooden latch. The chimney was made of earth and sticks. When the land came into market, Mr. Shattuck purchased it of the Government and upon his farm resided until his death. He married Ada Scoville, who was born in Connecticut and died on the old home farm.

Mrs. Lord is one of the oldest settlers in Boone County, and it is probable that no other lady has so long resided here. Both our subject and his wife have witnessed almost the entire growth of the county and are numbered among its honored pioneers. Their union has been blessed with five children: Oscar, Editha, Frank, Mary and Jane. The parents are now living retired, enjoying the rest which they have so truly earned and richly deserved.

JOHN BENSON, of the firm of Peterson & Benson, real-estate dealers at No. 601 Seventh Street, is one of the successful young business men of Rockford, and has real-estate interests in different parts of this thriving city. Coming hither in 1885, he was for some time engaged as clerk in a grocery store, but in August, 1891, embarked in the business which he has since conducted with ability and success. Prior to locating in Rockford, he had for two years resided in Geneva, this State, whither he had proceeded after emigrating to the United States.

Mr. Benson is descended from pure Swedish ancestry, and was born in Smoland, February 20, 1852. His parents, Christian and Johanna (Anderson) Benson, died at the ages respectively of seventy-six and seventy-two years. They were industrious and honorable, and occupied a high place in the regard of their acquaintances. Religiously, they were Lutherans. Our subject was single when he came to America, but was married at

Geneva, Ill., in 1883, to Miss Anna Peterson, who was born in Smoland, in 1853, and came to this country in 1880. They are the parents of two children: Oscar and Clara. Religiously, they are active members of the Swedish Mission Church and in all their deeds they are guided by the high principles of consistent Christians. In politics, he is an advocate of the cause of temperance and votes the Prohibition ticket.

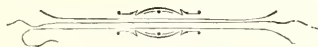
STEPHEN RYAN belongs to the class of mechanical builders who have aided in erecting the comfortable residences of Rockford, and in that way have advanced its interests in a material direction. Since he came to this city in 1882, he has not worked as actively at his trade as in former years, when he was also a contractor and builder as well as mechanic. In 1855, he came to Pecatonica, Winnebago County, and there followed his chosen occupation until he removed to Rockford, where he occupies a pleasant home at No. 409 North Avon Street.

Mr. Ryan belongs to that brave class who responded to their country's call for men to defend the Stars and Stripes and enlisted as a private in Company C, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, Col. Dean and Capt. McGuire commanding. He served with his regiment until peace was declared, being on detached service most of the time and doing duty as Sergeant over the Guard House of the Provost Marshal's office at Peoria and Alton, Ill. After serving one year in the service of the Union, he was honorably discharged and returned to Pecatonica, where he resided until removing to Rockford.

One hundred and twenty-five miles east of Halifax, in Nova Scotia, Mr. Ryan was born December 26, 1829. In his native town, Guysborough, he learned his trade and made his home with his parents, John and Bridget (Kelly) Ryan. They were natives respectively of Counties Carroll and Kilkenny, Ireland, and emigrated to Nova Scotia when young. The father, who was a farmer and an honorable citizen, died in Guysborough when, about fifty years old. His wife afterward joined

her son Stephen in Pecatonica and there died October 26, 1878, when sixty-nine years of years. They had eleven children, seven of whom still survive, our subject being the eldest.

The lady who became the wife of Mr. Ryan was Catharine Herlihy, and was born in Cork, Ireland, February 17, 1827, the daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Calazahn) Herlihy, also natives of the Emerald Isle. Mrs. Ryan was one of a large family, four of whom came to the United States, two now living, herself and her brother John, of Boston. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ryan have been born nine children, all but one of whom died young, namely: Eliza, Johanna, John, Emma, Stephen, and three that died unnamed. The only surviving child is Helen, wife of Charles E. Hallock, a farmer and dealer in furniture in Pecatonica, who is also prominent in political affairs as a Democrat and is at present serving as Mayor of his municipality. He and his wife are the parents of one child, Stephen. The members of the family are identified with the Catholic Church, in which they are prominent and influential.



HIRAM JUDSON SAWYER, a prominent citizen of Rockford and formerly Sheriff of Winnebago County, was born in Fredonia, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., December 5, 1821. His father, Earl Sawyer, was born in Rutland, Vt., and his grandfather, Joseph Sawyer, was also a native of the same State. The great-grandfather of our subject, Hooker Sawyer, was a native of England and emigrated to America in Colonial times with his brothers Joseph and Amos, the former of whom settled in Vermont and the latter in New Hampshire. Grandfather Sawyer was a commissioned officer in the Revolution and also in the War of 1812, where he served with valor.

Earl Sawyer was reared in the Green Mountain State, and after his marriage removed to New York, making the journey overland. As he had no team of his own, he rode with his uncle as far as Canandaigua, and from there proceeded with

James Wadsworth to Pike Village. Thence he and his wife drew their goods on hand-sleds to what is now Fredonia, Cattaraugus County, where he purchased a tract of heavily timbered land from the Holland Purchase Company. On this place he erected a log cabin, and at once commenced to improve and cultivate the land. There being no railroads nor canals, and consequently no convenient markets, the family subsisted on the products of their farm; the mother was accustomed to card and spin wool and flax, dressing the children in homespun made by her own hands. She was known in maidenhood as Polly Davis, and prior to her marriage made her home in New Hampshire. She reared thirteen children, nine sons and four daughters, and died on the home farm when past middle age. The father also spent his declining years on the old homestead, where he died about 1872.

Until he was twelve years old, our subject remained at home, but at that age went to Boston with his father, whom he assisted in driving horses to that city. While there, he made the acquaintance of some sailors, with whom he made arrangements to go out as cabin boy. During the night he slipped away from his father and went aboard the vessel. His father found him there soon afterward and consented to let him go to New Orleans. The ship was quarantined for twenty-four days after reaching that port, and during the time our subject became very homesick. The Captain's wife felt sorry for the lad and gave him \$6, with which he went ashore and soon secured passage on a river steamer bound for St. Louis. There were no railroads or canals in Illinois at that time and not even stage connection between Chicago and St. Louis. He secured a ride on a wagon loaded with furs, and in that way traveled to Chicago, then a military post containing one hotel, which was kept by a squaw. From Chicago, he secured a ride to Detroit, and thence on a sailing-vessel, the "Julia Palmer," to Buffalo, from which place he walked home.

After remaining on the home farm until 1843, Mr. Sawyer removed to Wisconsin, where he purchased land at Geneva Lake, Walworth County. He was soon elected Justice of the Peace and

served twelve years in that capacity and two years as Deputy Sheriff. In 1859, he went to Darien and established an opposition line of stages from Darien to Racine and from Racine to Beloit. While residing there, he engaged in boating on the Mississippi for several seasons, first as pilot and later as Master of the vessel. After running the stage for a few months, he sold out to the regular line, and moving to Rockton kept an hotel for one year, and then secured employment in the paper mills, where he remained until 1865. During the last-named year, he was elected Sheriff, and removed to Rockford, where, at the expiration of his term of office, he started a blacksmith shop. After carrying it on for one year, he entered the employ of Rhoades, Utter & Co., who were then building their paper mill. He continued in their employ four years after the mill was built, but has since devoted most of his time to his official duties. He was elected Constable in 1869 and has since served continuously in that position. In politics, he is a Republican.

In 1843, Mr. Sawyer was married to Miss Lorilla Baker, who was born in New York, and spent her last years in Darien, Wis. In 1863, Mr. Sawyer was again married, this union being with Elmira Lippitt, who was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., the daughter of John and Sallie Lippitt. He has two sons living: William Earl and Preston Denton.



WILLIAM JOHNS. No better representative of honorable manhood and prosperous agricultural life could be obtained within the bounds of Winnebago County than is to be found in the gentleman above-named, whose home is located on section 2, Rockford Township. It bears all the improvements in the way of machinery and buildings which stamp its owner as a man of energy and progressiveness. The home farm includes one hundred and sixty acres, in addition to which Mr. Johns owns property in another portion of the township, which aggregates, with the tract spoken of above, five hundred and fifty-six acres.

Our subject, like many of the prominent residents of this county, came from England, his birth occurring in Cornwall, March 3, 1832. His father, Thomas Johns, was also a native of that county, where his father, also named Thomas, as far as is known, spent his entire life. The father of our subject emigrated to America in 1851, and, locating in Winnebago County, purchased a tract of land on section 12, Rockford Township, where he was engaged in farming. Remaining there for a number of years, he sold his estate and removed into the city of Rockford, where he departed this life. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Lightfoot; she was also born in Cornwall County, and her decease occurred in Rockford.

The parental family of our subject included the following-named eight children: Jane E., Elizabeth J., Richard, Thomas, William, Priscilla, Mary and Ann. They all came to America with the exception of Thomas, who still resides in England. William Johns of this sketch was eighteen years of age when he came with his parents to the New World, setting sail from Plymouth August 3, and landing in Quebec after a voyage of nine weeks. The family came directly to Rockford, traveling via railroad, river, canal and Lakes to Chicago, and from that city by way of the railroad to Auntley Station, which was then the Western terminus of the road.

On his arrival in Rockford, Mr. Johns engaged with his brother in the butchering business, which they carried on with signal success for fifteen months, and at the expiration of that time began farming with his father. He was thus employed until his marriage, after which event he located on a farm, which is his present place of residence, and the improvements on which are among the best to be found in the county. As before stated, Mr. Johns' landed estate comprises five hundred and fifty-six acres, all of which has been accumulated by his persistent industry and good management.

Miss Ann Rodd was married to our subject in 1860; she was born in Beverly Township, Canada, and was the daughter of Joseph and Mary A. Rodd, natives of England. To them have been born eleven children, namely: Ella R., Frederick W., Fannie May, George Thomas, Lewis A., Charles

E., Luey M., Annie E., Edward J., Herbert J., and Roy C. Mr. and Mrs. Johns are active members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics, our subject votes the straight Republican ticket. He is widely and favorably known throughout this county, where he is ranked among its wealthy and prominent residents.



JAMES W. BRYDEN is a retired farmer residing at No. 1021 Mulberry Street, Rockford. He was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, July 22, 1830, and at the age of eighteen years bade good-bye to home and friends and came to America. He took passage from Liverpool, England, and after a voyage of seven weeks landed in New York City. He located in Delaware County, New York State, and afterward went to Scranton, Pa., whence he came to Rockford about 1856. Here he worked by the month in order to make a payment on the first land which he owned, a tract of sixty acres. He has been the architect of his own fortune and has builded well. When he came to this county he was empty-handed, but by his own efforts has acquired a handsome competence.

During the late war, Mr. Bryden enlisted as a teamster in the commissary department in the fall of 1861, and after two years of such service became a member of Company G, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, in which he remained until the close of the war, being then under command of Col. Funk, of Peoria. He was ever faithful to his duty and was a valiant soldier. For some time he lay sick in the hospital and was once crippled by being thrown from a horse, but otherwise escaped uninjured. He is proud of the fact, as well he may be, that he aided his adopted land in her struggle to preserve the Union, but having experienced the privations and trials of army life, has no desire again to see war.

Mr. Bryden was married in Beloit, Wis., to Miss Olive L. Hallstead, who was born in Luzerne County, Pa. May 23, 1846. When quite young, her parents, Samuel L. and Maria (Capwell) Hallstead, removed to Brown County, N. Y., and she

was only six years of age when they came West, locating in Harrison Township, Winnebago County, where both her father and mother are living. There he improved a good farm where he still makes his home, at the age of eighty-four years. He served through the Rebellion as a faithful follower of the Stars and Stripes. His wife, who is a member of the Methodist Church, is now seventy-nine years of age.

Unto Mr. and Mr. Bryden have been born five children: Cora B., widow of Henry Barkley; Fairy M., wife of Fred Gilmore, a farmer of Owen Township; William J., who wedded Nellie Stillwell and operates his father's farm; Minnie M., wife of Fred Seoonmakers, a resident farmer of Harlem Township, and M. Eveline, who resides at home. In politics, Mr. Bryden is a stalwart Republican, and socially, is a member of G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford. He came to this city from his farm in 1891, and is now living a retired life, enjoying the rest which he has so truly earned and richly deserves. He still owns one hundred acres of well-improved land in Owen Township.



DANIEL SCOTT, who resides on section 19, Guilford Township, is numbered among the honored pioneers of Winnebago County, few having longer resided in this community than our subject. He well deserves representation in this volume, as for many years he has been identified with the history of the county, its progress and its upbuilding.

Mr. Scott was born in the town of Machias, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and is a son of Reuben C. and Anna (Johnson) Scott, a sketch of whom is given in connection with that of Sylvester Scott, on another page of this work. Daniel was a lad of seven summers when with his parents he came to Illinois. He well remembers the incidents of the journey and of pioneer life here. At the time of the settlement, all the land was owned by the Government. The few settlers were living in log houses, there were no railroads and no conven-

iences. The nearest market was Chicago, where grain sold at fifty cents per bushel, and in some cases men could not get enough for their farm products to pay for hauling them such a distance. Mr. Scott resided with his father until the latter's death and is still living upon the old homestead, which also includes the claim made by the maternal grandfather. He aided in the arduous task of developing a new farm, but now has his reward in the products of rich and fertile fields. In connection with this, he has erected good farm buildings and has all the improvements and accessories found upon a model farm of the nineteenth century.

In July, 1848, Mr. Scott was united in marriage with Miss Nancy J. Hayes, a native of Canada, and a daughter of Samuel B. Hayes. Their union has been blessed with two children: Luther, who is living on the home farm, and Anna, now the wife of Harlow B. Rowley. Their pleasant home is conveniently situated a mile and a quarter east of the city limits and is the abode of hospitality. This worthy couple are held in the highest regard throughout the community where they have so long made their home. In politics, Mr. Scott is a Republican but has never been an office-seeker. He is numbered among the honored pioneers and has ever borne his part in the development and advancement of the county's interests.



JAMES A. NEWMAN. Like many of the prosperous and representative citizens of Boone County, Ill., our subject claims New York as his native State, and was born in Onondaga County on the 24th of April, 1824. He enjoys the reputation of being one of the best farmers in the township, and not only that, but he is an intelligent and thoroughly posted man on all public affairs.

His parents, John and Chloe (Atwell) Newman, were natives of the Green Mountain State, but the former died in New York State, and the latter in Kenosha County, Wis. They were farmers all their lives. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Enos Newman, was a Vermonter by birth, but

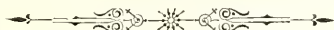
passed the closing scenes of his life in the State of New York, where he was one of the pioneers. On the maternal side, our subject's grandparents were Joseph and Clarissa Atwell. Of the eight children born to John and Chloe Newman, only one beside our subject is now living, Uriah, who is now ninety-one years of age.

Early trained to the duties of farm life, our subject became familiar with its every detail, and upon this training his success in subsequent years in a great measure depended. When eighteen years of age, he worked out by the month, and later rented land, and on the 10th of December, 1846, he wedded Miss Betsey Andrews. She was born in New York State, and there died when only twenty-eight years of age, leaving a bereaved and desolate young husband. Two children were born to this union, both sons: Lloyd, born in New York State, married Miss Anna Rogers, and has a daughter; he is now living in Chicago. John A., born in the same State, married Miss Mary Green, and has two children; he is a farmer.

Our subject's second marriage occurred on the 23d of February, 1850, to Miss Sarah A. Cook, a native of Oswego County, N. Y., born December 10, 1825, and the daughter of Ransom and Dolly (Ward) Cook. Her paternal grandfather, William Cook, was a native of Connecticut, and came to New York State at an early date. He lived to a good old age. Her ancestors were Revolutionary soldiers, and our subject's maternal grandfather also served in the Revolutionary War. Mrs. Newman was one of six children, and two are now living. To our subject's second union was born one child, Nellie L., a native of Kenosha County, Wis. She is now the wife of William G. Bennett, a prominent business man, and is the mother of one child, George N.

After his second union, or in 1852, Mr. Newman moved to Kenosha County, Wis., and there made his home until 1867, when he sold out and moved to Waukegan, Ill. Two years later, he moved to his present farm, which consists of three hundred acres, and on this he has made many and vast improvements in the way of buildings, fences, tiling, etc. He is one of the most progressive and thorough farmers of the township, as a glance over

his broad acres will show. He is a Republican, with Prohibition proclivities, and his first Presidential vote was cast in 1848, for President Taylor. Mrs. Newman is a member of the Methodist Church, and is also a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, in which she is deeply interested. Both are highly esteemed in the community, and are active in all good work.



MRS. MARY MORGAN, widow of Mr. Horace S. Morgan, is one of the most active and intelligent women in Boone County, Ill. She was born in Ontario County, N. Y., in 1843, to the marriage of James and Mariah (Bourne) Westrip, the former a native of England, and the latter of Albany, N. Y.

The father came to "the land of the free" when a young man, and was here married. Agriculture was his occupation in life, and in this he met with substantial results, being ever very industrious and progressive. In 1846, he brought his family to Illinois, and settled on one hundred and eight acres of Government land, where he made his home until his death, in 1851, when still a comparatively young man, being only about thirty-eight years of age. He left his widow and a son and four daughters, all living but one daughter. His wife is still living, and makes her home with our subject, Mrs. Morgan. She is now seventy-seven years' of age. Mr. Westrip was again married, the second time to Mr. Philemon Degroff, of Stenben County, N. Y., born in the year 1807. His first wife, Elizabeth Mass, of the same place, died in 1866, leaving five children.

She of whom we write attained her growth in Boone County, Ill., for she was only about three years of age when she was brought to this county, and here received her education. Her marriage took place in Beloit, Wis., in 1873, to Mr. Horace S. Morgan, who was one of the successful farmers of this part of the county. Mrs. Morgan had made her home with the family of Mr. Morgan for two years prior to her marriage, and afterwards she and her husband began the struggle of life on

their own responsibility. They were favored with success, and became prominently identified with the agricultural interests of the county. Mr. Morgan was ever public-spirited and upright, and in his death, which occurred in 1881, when seventy-two years of age, Boone County lost one of its representative citizens.

Mrs. Morgan's marriage was blessed by the birth of two children: Eudella M., born in October, 1874, and Wesley H., April 1, 1881. Both of her children have received good educational advantages, and she has trained them to be intelligent and independent in thought and action. The daughter has taken several terms of music lessons, and promises to be a fine musician. Mrs. Morgan has eighty acres of good tillable land, but rents the farm out. Her brother, James Westrip, is engaged in tilling the soil on the old homestead in Roscoe Township.



VICTOR ENGSTROM. The firm of Engstrom & Hall was organized March 1, 1888, and has since been conducting a very successful business at No. 324 East State Street, Rockford. Their stock consists of a full line of dry goods, the specialty being fine dress-goods and cloaks, and through courtesy and fair dealings all the members of the firm have become widely and favorably known. Their place is one of the oldest dry-goods houses in the city, having formerly been occupied by L. Moulthrop.

When Mr. Engstrom located in Rockford in 1883, he at once became connected with George H. Dennett as a clerk in a dry-goods store of the latter-named gentleman and was continuously in his employ until March 1, 1888, when he formed his present partnership. An active and energetic young gentleman, with excellent judgment and progressive ideas, he has gained success through his unaided exertions.

Born in Malta, this State, October 2, 1865, our subject is the son of A. F. Engstrom (of whom see biography), and is one of the five children of the parental family. He was married in Rockford to Miss Florence Beatty, who was born in Waukegan,

Wis., and reared in Rockford, receiving her education in the female seminary here. She has the rare gift of a voice of exceeding sweetness and purity, and is an active member of the Mendelssohn Club, a popular ladies' society, well known for musical ability. Her father, Rev. Robert Beatty, was for many years a minister in the Methodist Church, and with his wife, whose maiden name was Harriet Smith, is still living in Rockford. In their religious connections, Mr. and Mrs. Engstrom are members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal Church of this city. In politics, he is an active adherent to the principles of the Republican party.



SAMUEL BATES. Among the prosperous enterprises in Capron, Boone County, Ill., is that of Samuel Bates, dealer in farm machinery. Mr. Bates is a thoroughly practical, energetic man has been a resident of this county all his life, and is highly esteemed in all circles.

He was born in Boone Township Boone County, of this State, in about the first log house erected in this section, May 6, 1848, and here he grew to manhood and received his education. He is a son of Isaac and Phoebe T. (Tongue) Bates. (See sketch.) Until about sixteen years of age, our subject remained under the parental roof and assisted his father in the management of the farm. Not being particularly fascinated with the arduous duties devolving upon him while tilling the soil, he went to Beloit and began learning the blacksmith's trade, which he continued about six months. From there he went to South Bend, Ind., and was engaged in following his trade there for about five years, after which he located in Iowa. In both places he was very successful, and being a skilled workman and a reliable and straightforward business man he met with encouragement on every side.

At the end of one year in Moingona of the latter State, our subject returned to South Bend and followed his trade there for two years, after which,

in 1869, he located in Capron in the county where he first saw the light of day, and here he has remained ever since. He followed his trade in this county and town until 1887, when he sold out his business, and since then has been engaged as a dealer in farm machinery. Although but a short time has elapsed since Mr. Bates embarked in his present business, he has built up a most valuable trade and is prominently identified with the business interests of the place.

On the 27th of December, 1870, he was married to Miss Jennie Willott, who was born near Birmingham, England, on the 4th of November, 1851, and whose parents are Joseph and Maria (Gething) Willott, natives also of England. Mr. and Mrs. Willott came to the United States in 1867 and settled in Indiana, where Mr. Willott engaged as a mechanic. He is now manufacturing edged tools at Manitowoc, Wis., and is a prosperous and successful business man.

Our subject settled in Capron directly after his marriage. His union has been blessed by the birth of two children: Myrtle A. M., born here April 15, 1874, and Vivian S., born December 27, 1881. This is one of the pleasantest home in Boone County, and the domestic happiness found in this family circle makes a bright spot and is promotive of much true sociability. Mr. Bates is a Republican in politics, and his first Presidential vote was for U. S. Grant. He has held many local offices in the township, has been Supervisor since 1882 and has been a member of the School Board for some time. Mrs. Bates is a refined and cultured lady.



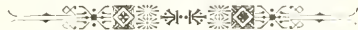
WILLIAM LEE. The pioneers of Boone County are a class of men who for sturdy integrity, thorough-going industry and undaunted enterprise, will compare favorably with any class of men whom we may name. They did not come to the West with the expectation of finding a royal road to fortune, but they did hope, however, and their hopes have been realized, to make a home in the wilderness, where they might place the feet of their children on the high road to independence and a comfortable competency.

Our subject, who is one of the oldest residents in the county, is residing on section 33, Flora Township. He was born in Burnside Township, Clearfield County, Pa., December 3, 1823. His father, William Lee, was born in Centre County, that State, where also the grandfather, Jacob, as far as is known, was born and reared. The latter-named gentleman removed to Clearfield County, where he purchased a tract of timber land and resided until his decease. The maiden name of his wife was Margaret Goodwin.

The father of our subject was a young man when he went to Clearfield County and was there married. He became the owner of a tract of land in Burnside Township, on which he erected a log house and resided for a number of years. There were no railroads in the vicinity of his home at that time, and the farmers lived principally off the products of their farm. In 1844, the elder Mr. Lee, with his family, came to Illinois, making the entire journey with teams, and after three weeks and three days landed in Ogle County. There they remained a few weeks and then came to Flora Township, where the father of our subject entered a tract of Government land, now included in the estate, which our subject occupies. There was a log cabin on the property, and this the family occupied for a few years, when a substantial residence was erected. There Mr. Lee departed this life in 1860, while his wife, prior to her marriage Miss Jane R. Gallaher, died while residing in Clearfield County, Pa. She was a daughter of James and Margaret Gallaher and was a native of the Keystone State.

William Lee was twenty years of age when he came to Illinois, and has since that time been an occupant of the home farm. His estate includes a quarter section, while in DeKalb County he is the owner of forty acres of land which bears good improvements. In November, 1843, he was married to Rebecca McKee, who was born June 18, 1822, in Blair County, Pa., and to them have been born eight children, four living: Thomas M., Joseph B., Millard E. and Mary C. Mrs. Lee departed this life, April 7, 1863, and the lady to whom our subject was united in marriage in 1865 was Harriet Taylor, a native of Noble County, Ohio. Three chil-

dren were born unto them: Emery U., Lillie and Oscar E. The mother died in August, 1889, and in February, 1891, Mr. Lee married Rosetta Perlin, also a native of the Buckeye State. In political matters, Mr. Lee votes with the Republican party.



JOANNA WELLINGTON, a most estimable lady, and the widow of Sparoe Wellington, was born in Canada in the year 1808, to the union of Joseph and Jane (Christohm) Silverthorne, the latter a native of Canada and the former of the United States, although he was taken to Canada when but two years of age.

Our subject passed her girlhood and youth in her native country, and was married in Toronto in 1830, when twenty-two years of age, to Mr. Sparoe Wellington, who was just twenty-seven years of age. In 1838, they determined to try the fertile and productive prairies of Illinois, and took passage on a vessel, coming by the Lakes to Chicago. From that city they came by team to Ogle County, and without means, and with a family of three children, settled in Ogle County. All the privations incident to pioneer life they experienced in their new home, and Mr. Wellington was engaged as a tanner, currier, harness-maker and shoemaker, also farming in that county for five years. From there they removed to DeKalb County, and there resided until 1854, when they came to Manchester, Boone County. When they came to Ogle County from Canada, the notorious bandit, Dave Driscoll, shot and killed John Campbell, who had come with them and had resided in the same house for some time. Mr. Campbell was Captain of the Regulators at the time of his death. Mr. Wellington took his first load of wheat from Ogle County in 1838, and received sixty cents a bushel in Chicago. He exchanged it for groceries, etc. Later, he took a load of fresh pork, and sold it for \$1 per hundred pounds, and after paying his expenses on the trip, did not have enough left to pay his man for one month's work.

The union of our subject and his wife was blessed by the birth of ten children, seven sons

and three daughters, five now deceased. Samuel B. Wellington enlisted the first year of the war, in Company B, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, under Capt. Haywood, and served nearly three years. He died with fever in the hospital at St. Louis, July 27, 1863, aged twenty-three years; Sparoe died January 6, 1892, aged thirty-six years. The living children are as follows: Thomas S., a farmer of Nebraska, married, and has seven children; William L. M., a ranchman of Colorado, has a wife and two children; Quincy Joseph, a book-merchant at Colorado Springs, is married and has one child; Jane married Mr. Orris Knox, a contractor and builder of Los Angeles, Cal.; and Frances, resides with her mother.

The father of these children was a hard-working, industrious citizen, and a man well liked and respected wherever he made his home. He was prominently identified with all movements regarded as worthy of consideration, and was a prominent member of the Methodist Church, in which he was a liberal contributor. In politics, he was a strong advocate and supporter of the principles of the Republican party. His death occurred in 1878, when seventy-five years of age. He left an estate of eighty acres, and property at Caledonia, and deeded eighty acres to his son, William L. M. He now rests with his departed children in Roscoe Cemetery. Mrs. Wellington is one of the pleasant, agreeable old ladies of the county, and is esteemed and respected by everyone. She enjoys good health, and her mind is clear and bright as in her best days.



BENJAMIN F. CUNNINGHAM occupies a beautiful home one mile south of Rockford, which is charmingly located on a rise of ground which commands an extended view up and down the river. It is in fact one of the most pleasant homes in Winnebago County, and our subject has brought it to its present condition, as when he located here there were but few improvements on the place. He is one of the pioneers of the county and has given the best efforts

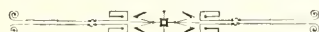
of his life to agricultural pursuits, and, as a reward of his industry, has a splendid estate in Rockford Township.

Born February 3, 1820, in Peterboro, Hillsboro County, N. H., our subject is a son of James and Sarah M. Cunningham. (See sketch of Samuel Cunningham.) Benjamin F. resided in his native town until 1839, when he came to Illinois, starting in the month of April and arriving in Winnebago County when Rockford contained only a few buildings, the most of them constructed of logs. Our subject joined his brother, Isaac N. Cunningham, who resided on a claim about one mile west of the town, and made his home with him for a twelvemonth, when he returned to the parental roof and remained until two years after his marriage. Mr. Cunningham then settled on his farm on section 6, which he sold in 1850, and the succeeding year lived on his brother's farm, during which time he purchased property in what is now Winnebago Township. Residing there for a period of three years, our subject on account of failing health moved into the city and in 1858 went to California via the Isthmus, the journey consuming twenty-eight days from New York to San Francisco. The first year, he was unable to do any kind of work, and when partially regaining his health, engaged in teaming from Sacramento to the mines, a distance of about one hundred miles. Mr. Cunningham remained in the Golden State two years, and, on returning to Illinois, made his home for a year in Rockford, then traded his property for a farm near Peatonica, and was there engaged in cultivating the soil until the spring of 1868, when he sold out and spent a few months in Rockford. The following year he located on the farm where he at present resides. In 1870, he made a second trip to California in search of health, and returned a year later, somewhat improved, but the climate here not agreeing with him, in the fall of 1873 he again went West and resided for six years.

March 14, 1844, the original of this sketch was married to Clarisa J. Mandeville, who was born in Somerset, Cayuga County, N. Y., April 1, 1822. Her father, Michael Mandeville, was a native of the same county, where his father, Jacob Mande-

ville, as far as is known, was also born. The grandfather was a farmer and spent his last years in the town of Sennett. The father of Mrs Cunningham was married in his native State, and resided in Cayuga County until 1824, when he removed to Genesee County and purchased a tract of timber land on a small clearing, where he made his home for two years. Going to Darien, Mr. Mandeville purchased property and operated a gristmill, tannery and shoe factory. He lived there until 1839 and then came to Illinois, being accompanied by his wife and five children. The father rented a farm one year near Rockford, then bought a tract of land in the same township, on which he erected a log house and lived until the spring of 1841. Later removing to Rockford, he lived retired until his decease. His wife, prior to her marriage, was Elsie Corey, a native of Sennett, N. Y., and the daughter of James and Sarah Corey; her decease occurred in Rockford.

One daughter, Jennie E., has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham and makes her home with her parents at the present writing.



CHRIST ORTLUND. The firm of Ortlund Bros. are proprietors of the Seventh Street Laundry, which was established December 1, 1891, and has since carried on a large and successful business. The members of the firm, our subject and G. A., are also contractors and builders of artificial stone pavements and sidewalks, an enterprise which since its inception in April, 1890, has steadily increased in magnitude and importance.

Prior to coming to Rockford, Mr. Ortlund resided for four years in Evanston, this State, where he located immediately after emigrating to the United States in 1886. He was born in Sweden, a country which has furnished a large number of enterprising and successful citizens to the city of Rockford, and in his native land received a common-school education. His parents, Andrew and Augusta (Olsen) Ortlund, recently came to the United States and now reside in Evanston, Ill., the father being seventy-two and the mother

fifty-nine years old. They are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and are people of worth and many generous impulses. Our subject takes an active interest in the public enterprises of Rockford and although he has resided here only a few years, is already widely known and honored.



DELOS H. DENTON, dealer in sand, stone and rubble, and a prominent business man of Rockford, was born in Durand Township, Winnebago County, July 31, 1840. He was the only son born to his parents (for further information in regard to whose history the reader is referred to the sketch of Homer Denton). When a mere child, he accompanied his parents to Rockford, where he was reared and educated, and has since made his home. Until recent years, he has been engaged in farming pursuits, but now devotes his attention to the business above-mentioned, in connection with which he has large real-estate interests.

In 1861, Mr. Denton enlisted in Company D, Eleventh Illinois Infantry, responding to the first call for men to serve three years. Much of the time he served in the Quartermaster's Department, and was with his regiment at Ft. Henry, Ft. Donelson, Shiloh and Vicksburg. On account of disability, he was honorably discharged, and, returning home, commenced again the pursuits of peace.

The lady who became the wife of our subject was born and reared in Canada, and came to Rockford with her parents, who were natives of Canada, of English parentage. Her mother still lives in Rockford, being quite aged, but the father is deceased. Mrs. Denton died in the prime of life, leaving one child, Mary, now the wife of Ellsworth Lockwood, the proprietor of the Central Book Store at Rockford.

The second marriage of Mr. Denton united him to Miss Ann Lambert, who was born in Prince Edward Island, and accompanied her parents, Henry and Betty Lambert, to the States in childhood days. Mr. Lambert served in the English army for about seven years. He and his wife were born, reared

and married in London, England, and now reside in Rockford, being quite advanced in years. Mrs. Ann Denton died at her home in this city in 1886, when about thirty-six years old. She was a good wife, devoted mother and kind neighbor. Her children were named Minnie B., William, Nellie, Hattie and Cora, respectively. All of them are at home, and are being educated in the schools of Rockford.

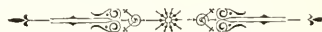


RRANK E. ZAHM is one of the enterprising young farmers of Winnebago County, and operates a finely-improved farm in Shirland Township. Having passed his entire life within the limits of the township where he now resides, he is well known by his fellow-citizens, among whom he occupies a prominent place. In connection with general farming, he is interested in stock-raising and usually keeps a large number of horses, cattle and hogs on the place. He has introduced modern machinery and every improvement which will conduce to success in his chosen occupation, and through good judgment and excellent management has become known as a prosperous and thrifty farmer.

The father of Mr. Zahm, Nicholas by name, was born in the Province of Lorraine (now included in Germany, but formerly owned by France), November 15, 1815. He was a son of Jacob Zahm, a native of the same place, and born of German ancestry. In 1828, Grandfather Zahm emigrated to the United States, and carried on farming operations until he was too old to engage in active labor.

The subject of this sketch was born in Shirland Township, April 22, 1856, and was the seventh in order of birth among a family of eight children, five sons and three daughters. On the farm which his father bought and located upon shortly before the railroad was built there, he grew to manhood, receiving a common-school education. In October, 1881, he was married to Miss Mary, daughter of Williston and Margaret (Miller) Beckham. Her father was born in Pennsylvania, in 1835, and her mother was a native of Vermont, born in October,

1840. They were married in Beloit, December 21, 1857, and became the parents of four children, namely: Frank, who died in infancy; Mary, who was born at the old homestead in Shirland Township, December 1, 1860; William, who married Mabel Herrick, of Beloit; and Lewis, whose home is in Rockford. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Zahm: Ethel B., born March 31, 1884, and Williston, a very bright and precocious child of three years. In his political affiliations, Mr. Zahm has identified himself with the Republican party, believing its principles best adapted to the welfare of the people.



OSCAR DAY. Having accumulated a competence through the exercise of good judgment and tireless perseverance as a farmer, Mr. Day is passing his declining years quietly at his home in Rockford. He was born of English descent, in the town of Essex, Chittenden County, Vt., March 28, 1828. From the family genealogy we glean the following: The first ancestor in this county, Daniel Day, came to America in 1634, and settled in Newtown, near Cambridge, Mass. He was probably one of the company of one hundred pioneers who, with their pastor, the Rev. Mr. Hooker, penetrated the wilderness in 1636, and founded homes for themselves amid uninviting surroundings.

The second wife of Daniel Day was Editha Stebbins, or Stebbing, a sister of Deacon Edward Stebbing. From them the lineage is traced down through successive generations to Thomas Day, the great-great-grandfather of our subject, and the son of Robert and Sarah (Cooper) Day. The first of the family to settle in Vermont was the great-grandfather, John Day, Jr., son of John Day, Sr., and he resided in the town of Essex until his death in June, 1795, at the age of sixty-three years. He was born in Springfield, Mass., July 5, 1698, and was a man of note in his community.

Grandfather David Day was born in West Springfield, Mass., May 2, 1758, and was a farmer by occupation, clearing from the wilderness of the town of Essex a farm which was his home until death.

He served through the entire period of the Revolutionary War, and was a pensioner during the latter part of his life, receiving \$120 per year. The maiden name of his wife, grandmother of our subject, was Aseneth Childs, and her declining years were passed on the old homestead at Essex.

Childs Day, father of our subject, was born in Essex, Vt., March 29, 1794, and was reared to agricultural pursuits, spending his entire life in the place of his birth. In his youth there were no railroads, and he was accustomed to team between Montreal and Boston, the two principal markets of New England. His last years were quietly passed on a farm which he purchased in the vicinity of his old home. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and a man of patriotic character and generous impulses, whose position in the community was one of honor and trust.

The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Mahala Collins, was born in Lebanon, N. H., the daughter of Henry and Fanny (Aldrich) Collins. She was an estimable lady, devoted to her husband and children, and sincerely mourned when she passed away at the old home in Essex. Oscar Day was reared and educated in his native town, and resided with his parents until 1848, when he proceeded West to Buffalo, N. Y., and worked at the trade of a carpenter for three years. In 1851, he went to California via the Isthmus of Panama, and landed at San Francisco, then a village of about four thousand inhabitants. Seventy miles distant were the mines of Eldorado, where he engaged in mining until 1856, and then returned home by the Isthmus and New York.

In June, 1856, Mr. Day came to Winnebago County, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres in Winnebago Township and resided until 1865. His next purchase was the farm he now occupies, which joins that portion of Rockford known as the Seminary Tract. Thirty acres of the estate have been laid out in city lots, while the value of the place has been materially increased by its proximity to the growing city.

The marriage of Mr. Day, in October, 1857, united him with Susan P. Mills, who was born in Cayuga County, N. Y. Her father, David Mills, was born in Albany County, N. Y., and her grandfather,

Abram Mills, was a native of the same county, and spent his entire life in New York State. Grandmother Day was known in maidenhood as Mary Foster, and was born in Ireland, of Scotch ancestry. David Mills, after his marriage, which occurred in Weedsport, N. Y., remained there for a time and then removed to Winnebago County, where he bought a farm in Winnebago Township and resided a number of years. Then retiring to Rockford, he lived quietly until called hence. His wife, Parmelia (Bayless) Mills, was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., the daughter of Aaron and Lydia (Edmiston) Bayless, natives of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Day attend the Congregational Church at Rockford, and are active in works of philanthropy and benevolence. In political matters, he is a Republican, and takes an intelligent interest in all the public issues of the day.



JOHN A. JAMES. Among the pushing, energetic and successful agriculturists of Manchester Township, Boone County, is the subject of this biographical notice. He was born in Genesee Township, Waukesha County, Wis., in 1850, and is a son of Charles James, a native of Wales, who came to America about 1845. The mother of our subject, prior to her marriage, was Miss Esther Edwards, also a native of Wales; she died in 1852, when twenty-nine years of age, leaving two sons, our subject, and an elder brother, Charles.

The original of this sketch was reared to farming pursuits, and March 23, 1881, was married to Miss Charlotte M., daughter of Samuel and Ann (Mason) Pye, both of whom were natives of England. The mother came to America in 1840, being preceded to the New World by her husband, who set sail from his native land in 1836. He remained at Geneva, N. Y., until 1840, when, in the spring of that year, he came to Rockford, and the same year bought a quarter-section of Government land in Manchester Township, Boone County. He was married here June 2, 1844, to Ann Mason. Her father died in this township in 1843, when forty-three years of age, and the

mother when in her sixty-eighth year, in 1859. They were inn-keepers in England. They also owned a farm of one hundred and eighty-seven acres of land in Manchester Township. They were married in 1821, and at their death left a family of five children. They came to Rockford in 1840.

Mr. and Mrs. Pye located in Boone County, October 31, 1844, where the father erected the second frame house in this vicinity, which is still standing. He was reared to farm life, which occupation he followed until his death. Their seven children bore the respective names of Joseph, Sarah Ann, Joseph Samuel, Charlotte M., Idella Gertrude, May Adelia and Alice Eva. Mrs. Pye departed this life September 25, 1877, aged sixty-two years. Her husband survived her a number of years, dying April 15, 1891, in his eighty-first year. He left an estate of one hundred and sixty acres, which was well cultivated, improved with good buildings, and well stocked. Mr. Pye was not interested in politics other than to cast a Republican vote during elections.

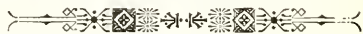


JAMES SUNDQUIST is a cabinet-maker in the employ of the Palace Folding Bed Company, also Superintendent, and resides at No. 202 Seventh Street. A native of Sweden, he was born on the 11th of April, 1841. His father, Hans P. Sundquist, lived and died a farmer in his native province, passing away at the age of eighty years. His wife died seven years previous, when about sixty years of age. Her maiden name was Sarah K. Larson. This worthy couple were both members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the land of his birth, and when quite young began learning the cabinet-maker's trade. Since that time, he has made his own way in the world. At length, he determined to try his fortune in America. A younger brother, Andrew, had already come to this country, in 1867. He married Miss Katie Larson, and is now a successful furniture dealer of Toulon, Stark County, Ill.

Mr. Sundquist, whose name heads this sketch, was united in marriage with Lena Anderson, a native of this country, born in Durand on the 9th of December, 1856. She was here reared and educated, her parents being Seavert and Maria Anderson, both of whom were natives of Norway. After their marriage and the birth of three of their children, they emigrated to this country, becoming residents of Rockford, but later removed to Durand, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Anderson was a jeweler by trade, but in this country followed various employments. His death occurred at the advanced age of eighty-one years, and his wife passed away at the age of seventy-seven. He was a supporter of Republican principles, and both were members of the Lutheran Church. Three children of the family are yet living: Martin A., a painter of Durand; Sophia, wife of Louis Blomquist, a tailor of Rockford; and the wife of our subject.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sundquist were born five children, four of whom are yet living: Edith F., Oscar E., Chester R. and James L. One daughter, Lorena F., died in infancy. The family is well and favorably known throughout this community. Mr. Sundquist is an expert workman, able to command excellent positions. After coming to this country, he resided for four years in Galesburg and Chicago, and on the 23d of September, 1872, arrived in Rockford. He has prospered since coming to this city, and is now the owner of some good property, and is interested in some of the manufacturing companies of this city.



ISAAC N. SHIPE deserves mention among the prominent farmers of Cherry Valley Township, Winnegago County. He was born in Culpeper, Va., April 3, 1842, and is a son of Abraham and Eliza (Reiley) Shipe, both of whom were Virginians by birth. His paternal grandfather was a native of Pennsylvania, and when young emigrated to the Old Dominion, settling in Howesville. He married Miss Windham, a native of that State, whose ancestors were leading men of the community. Col. Windham, of military fame,

was her brother. They reared a family of seven sons and four daughters, one of whom, Isaac, was the twin brother of the father of our subject.

Abraham Shipe married Miss Reiley, daughter of John Reiley. Her father was born in Virginia and was the son of John Reiley, of Revolutionary fame. Mrs. Shipe was first married to William Green, and unto them were born three sons and a daughter, all of whom are yet living and are heads of families. By her second marriage, she had fourteen children, four of whom died in early childhood, but five sons and five daughters still abide. The mother has thus had eighteen children. Mr. and Mrs. Shipe removed from Virginia to Washington County, Ohio, when our subject was a lad of fourteen years, and there resided until the spring of 1866, when they came to Winnebago County, Ill., with their family. In the fall of 1865, they made a settlement on section 19, Cherry Valley Township. The father died on Thanksgiving Day of 1878, and his remains were interred in the burial ground near the Starkey Schoolhouse. The mother is still living at the age of seventy-seven years and makes her home in Flora, Boone County.

No event of special importance occurred during the boyhood of our subject, which was spent under the parental roof, but in November, 1861, in Ohio, he enlisted in his country's service, and with a brother and three half-brothers went to the front. This was a large number for one mother to give to her country, but all were spared to her and returned uninjured. Mr. Shipe was a prisoner of war for some time, being held at Charleston, S. C., Castle Thunder, and at Richmond, where he was paroled in March, 1865. His average weight was one hundred and sixty pounds, but when he came out of prison he weighed ninety-three pounds. He now receives a pension of \$6 per month in recognition of his services. He proved a faithful soldier, was ever at his post of duty, and of his war record he need never be ashamed.

In October, 1872, Mr. Shipe married Miss Kate Hall, daughter of Thomas and Flora A. (Hunter) Hall, both of whom were natives of Belfast, Ireland, who emigrated to Canada in the spring of 1842, whence they came to Winnebago County, Ill., eight years later. Of their twelve chil-

dren, all grew to mature years, and only four have been called to their final rest. The father died April 19, 1856, and the mother is still living at the age of eighty-one years, her home being with her daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Shipe have one child, Nellie, a maiden of sixteen summers, who is attending the High School of Rockford. The family have many friends throughout this community and rank high in the circles of society in which they move. In his political affiliations, Mr. Shipe is a Republican. He is held in high regard by all who know him and is recognized as a progressive farmer and valued citizen of the community.



JOSEPH J. BRANTINGHAM. The publishers of this volume would fail in their object of presenting to their readers a review of the lives of the prominent citizens of the county were they to omit that of our subject, formerly one of the influential business men of Rockford, where he was a capitalist, money broker and real-estate dealer, and was largely interested in property in Chicago. He died in New York City, August 5, 1891, while on a pleasure trip through the East and his remains were brought home for interment in the cemetery of this city.

He of whom we write was born in or near New York City, October 28, 1834, and received an excellent education in his native place and in the business college of Chicago, having come West with his parents in 1855. Later, he removed to this county, where he occupied a high rank among its wealthy citizens and resided until his decease. He was not interested in political affairs other than to cast a Republican vote at election times. The lady to whom he was married in Rockford bore the name of Miss Ada Brice, and had her birth in Washington, Pa. She was an infant of two years when her parents came to the city, and received an excellent education in the public schools. Her father, Capt. James Brice, was also a native of the Keystone State, where he owned and operated a foundry in Washington. Disposing of his interests there in the latter part of the '40s, he came to this section and here resided until a few

years prior to his decease, which occurred in 1887, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He was in no sense of the word an office-seeker, preferring the quiet and happiness of his fireside to the turmoil of public life, but always voted with the Republican party.

During the late Civil War, Mr. Brice raised Company H, Ninety-second Illinois Infantry, at Rochelle, of which he was elected Captain, and went with his regiment to the South, where he was engaged in fighting for two years. At the expiration of that time, he received his honorable discharge on account of physical disability and returned home. During his entire service, he escaped accident, although he was in many hard-fought engagements, and at one time was offered a Colonel's commission, but declined to accept the honor. He was an active worker in the Grand Army of the Republic and his life record was such as to commend him to the respect and esteem of the entire community.

The maiden name of Mrs. Brantingham's mother was Miss Anna Miller; she was a native of Pennsylvania, and died when her daughter was an infant of two years. The lady whom Mr. Brice chose for his second wife is still surviving and makes her home in Tama, Iowa. To our subject and his wife have been born four children, who have been given good educations and fitted to fill honorable stations in life.



HORTON W. SERGENT. The highly cultivated farm owned and operated by Mr. Sargent comprises one hundred and forty acres on section 34, Flora Township, and is numbered among the best estates in Boone County. Since the present proprietor purchased the place in 1869, he has devoted his attention closely to its improvement, and has not only brought the soil to a high state of cultivation, but has erected a first-class set of farm buildings.

The Sargent family originated in England, whence the great-grandfather of our subject emigrated to America and settled in New England,

where he was engaged as a tiller of the soil. The grandfather of our subject, Timothy Sargent, was born in Vermont, it is thought, and was a farmer by occupation. About 1852, he removed from the Green Mountain State, and, settling in the town of Franklin, De Kalb County, Ill., bought a place, where he made his home until called hence by death. The maiden name of his wife was Abigail Allen.

Eli Sargent, father of our subject, was born in Mendon, Rutland County, Vt., and was reared to manhood in his native place. About 1834, he removed to New York State and settled in the town of Gaines, Orleans County, where he bought a tract of land partly improved, and engaged in its cultivation until 1858. In April of that year, he came to Illinois and located in Henry County, where he operated a rented farm for three years. His home was next established in Franklin Township, De Kalb County, where he remained a few years, afterward buying the farm on which our subject now resides. In 1877, he removed to Belvidere, where he now lives retired from active duties.

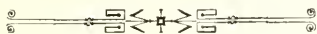
The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Hannah K. Hogle, was born in Ticonderoga, N. Y., the daughter of Robert and Polly (Allen) Hogle, and died in May, 1880. Three of her children are now living: Horton W., Ora J., and Celinda E., wife of Thomas Lane. The first-named was born in Gaines, Orleans County, N. Y., December 7, 1835. He was reared and educated in his native place, and in the fall of 1856 came to Illinois, having in his possession \$20 in cash and a pair of horses. It was during a time of financial depression that he located in this State and fifty cents per day was the highest wages received.

For a number of years, Mr. Sargent operated as a renter, and in 1869 purchased his father's farm, where he has since resided. His marriage, December 24, 1853, united him with Miss Mary J. Sleezer, who was born in Champion, Jefferson County, N. Y., and they are the parents of two children, namely: Edith H., who resides at home, and George Eli, who married Dora Heyward, and resides in Flora. The eldest child, Kittie, was born January 6, 1855, married Howard Shannon, and

died in April, 1876; Arrissa M. was born April 28, 1858, married Seth Sleezer, and died February 15, 1891, leaving one child, Frank W.

Martin Sleezer, grandfather of Mrs. Sergeant, was born in Germany, and, as far as known, was the only member of the family who ever came to America. He settled in Saratoga County, N. Y., where his son George was born and reared. The latter learned the trade of a mason and plasterer, and was thus occupied in Jefferson County, for a number of years. In the year 1854, he removed to Illinois and settled in Newark, Kendall County, where his death occurred in December, 1855. His wife, Polly (Woodward) Sleezer, was born in Providence, Saratoga County, N. Y., the daughter of Abraham and Susan (VanCurler) Woodward, and died in Gridley, McLean County, Ill.

In the social circles of Flora Township, Mr. and Mrs. Sergeant occupy a prominent position, to which their hospitality, upright lives and nobility of character abundantly entitle them. They have not been without their sorrows and misfortunes, but through them all they have retained their cheerfulness of heart and faith in mankind. They have won the confidence of all with whom they have come in contact, and have done their share in the advancement of every cause for the benefit of the community.



ROBERT GARRETT, who is living a retired life on his farm on section 15, Guilford Township, Winnebago County, claims Ohio as the State of his nativity. He was born in Lake County, May 17, 1832, and is of English descent. His grandfather, Patrick Garrett, spent his entire life on the Isle of Man, where Thomas Garrett, his father, was born and reared. He married Margaret Kewish, and she and her parents, Charles and Ann (McKnight) Kewish, were also natives of the Isle of Man. After their marriage, they emigrated to America, in 1827, sailing from Liverpool to New York, where they arrived after a voyage of nine weeks and three days. Mr. Garrett went directly to Ohio, but soon returned to

Buffalo, N. Y., where he spent a year. He then again went to the Buckeye State, and purchased thirty acres of timber land at \$16 per acre, upon which he built a log cabin, making it his home until 1838. At that time he came to Illinois. He found Rockford to be a mere hamlet in the midst of a sparsely settled country, most of the land being owned by the Government. He opened the first shoe shop in Rockford, and there followed his trade for two years, when he purchased the farm on which our subject now resides, and built a frame house, 18x24 feet, the family becoming its occupants in the spring of that year. He followed his trade, while his sons operated the farm, upon which he resided until his death, which occurred in June, 1873, at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife had passed away in February previous, when sixty-six years of age. In their family were six sons: William, John, Robert, Thomas and Benjamin, all residing in this county, and Charles, who died in Salt Lake City, in 1891.

Robert Garrett has resided in Illinois since he was a lad of six summers, and amid the wild scenes of frontier life was reared to manhood. After attaining his majority, he learned the trade of a carpenter and builder, and carried on that business until 1886, since which time he has lived a retired life. In 1863, he purchased a farm on section 15, Guilford Township, and it has since been his home. He now owns a well-improved farm, and is enjoying the rest which he has so truly earned and richly deserves.

Mr. Garrett was united in marriage, in 1862, with Dalia Hayes, who was born in this township, and is a daughter of Samuel Baker Hayes, one of the pioneer settlers of Winnebago County. He was born in Connecticut, whence he removed to the Province of Ontario, Canada, residing for a number of years near St. Thomas. He then emigrated to Illinois in the fall of 1838, and bought a "squatter's" claim, consisting of a tract of Government land on section 17, Guilford Township. When the land came into market, he purchased his farm at \$1.25 per acre. The log cabin which he there erected was the birthplace of Mrs. Garrett. Upon his farm Mr. Hayes resided until his death. He was three times married, his second wife being

the mother of Mrs. Garrett. Her maiden name was Catherine Govro. She was born in Canada, and was of French descent.

Two sons were born unto our subject and his wife: Dexter, the elder, married Louisa Haley, and they have one daughter, Maud; Lincoln wedded Alice Wilmot, and they have one child, Vera. The Garrett family is one widely and favorably known in this community. Mr. Garrett is a self-made man, who by his own efforts has steadily worked his way upward and acquired a handsome competence that now enables him to live a retired life. His sterling worth and strict integrity have won him high esteem.



LEVY L. CHANDLER was born in Chester, Vt., November 1, 1810, the son of Thomas and Isena Chandler, and was one of seven children included in the family circle. His marriage, which occurred June 24, 1869, united him with Miss Phebe A. Sheldon, who was born in Medina County, Ohio, August 13, 1821, the daughter of David and Anna Sheldon. For further particulars in regard to her family history, the reader is referred to the sketch of Ira J. Sheldon, found elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. and Mrs. Chandler make their home in a pretty residence in the village of Pecatonica, and are highly esteemed by the people of that community. Mrs. Chandler, in her religious convictions, is identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she is an active and faithful member.



KENYON REYNOLDS is now living retired at his pleasant home, No. 309 North Main Street, Rockford, surrounded by all the comforts of life. Coming here in January, 1865, in order to secure good educational advantages for his children, he has since made the city his home, and is identified with many of its interests. Prior to locating here, he resided in Randall

Township, Kenosha County, Wis., where he had settled on Government land and improved a fine farm. Later, he sold the place, and purchasing another farm, improved a splendid estate of nearly five hundred acres, which is now the property of his eldest son.

In his native place, Washington County, N. Y., Mr. Reynolds was reared to manhood. His father, John, and his grandfather, Oliver Reynolds, were both natives of Rhode Island and farmers by occupation. Grandfather Reynolds, accompanied by his family, removed at an early day to Washington County, N. Y., settling in Easton Township, where he cleared a farm from the thick forest growths. His death occurred when he was forty years of age, but his wife attained to a good old age. John Reynolds was a successful farmer and followed that occupation in Washington County, where he died in July, 1864, aged seventy-two years. His wife preceded him in death about six months. She was a faithful member of the Baptist Church, while he was a Quaker and reared in the Friends' Church.

The subject of this sketch was the fourth in a family of twelve children, seven of whom still survive. After coming to Wisconsin, Mr. Reynolds met and married Miss Anna E. McCommings, who was born and reared in Erie, Pa. Her father, Nathan McCommings, was born in Scotland, whence he emigrated to America with his parents and settled in Erie County, Pa. There he was married to Miss Mary Dewey, whose brother was the first white child born in Erie County. After marriage, Nathan McCommings and his wife settled in Erie County, where his death occurred at the age of about forty-five years. His wife afterward came to Wisconsin and died at the home of Mrs. Reynolds when fifty-nine years old.

Mrs. Reynolds is one of twelve children, ten of whom attained to mature years. She is a true friend, kind neighbor, and is ever ready to extend a helping hand to those in need or trouble. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds became the parents of four children, two of whom survive. Sarah died when twenty years old and another child died young. John Floyd, who owns and operates the Wisconsin homestead, married Carrie M. Slade, and they have

three children: Floyd, Anna and Clarence. The other son, Clarence, is a successful liveryman on Thirty-third Street, Chicago. His wife, whose maiden name was Kate Fellows, died leaving one child, Kenyon. In political matters, Mr. Reynolds is a Republican, true to the principles of that party. He and his wife are attendants at the Christian Union Church, of which they are prominent members.



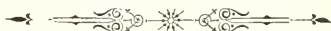
SAMUEL C. WESTERLING. Rockford is a well-known musical center, and among its inhabitants are to be found many whose tastes are correct and refined. There is, therefore, a tempting field here for the musical merchant whose stock bears the stamp of merit, and whose reputation as an authority cannot be questioned. In Rockford there are several prominent dealers in musical instruments, but foremost among them is Mr. Samuel C. Westerling, who, in addition to a large line of musical instruments, pianos, organs, etc., as fine as are manufactured in the United States, he handles a large line of sewing machines—a dozen different kinds.

This flourishing business is located at No. 429 West State Street, and he has constantly on hand a full line of the best instruments. The excellence of his stock has long since secured for him a name second to none. Mr. Westerling began business here in 1877, and he has a very extensive trade, which he has built up entirely himself, and his career affords an excellent example of what pluck and energy can accomplish under adverse circumstances and against keen competition. He came to this city from Freeport, Ill., where he had been in the same business for three years, and previous to that he had carried on the same business for nine years in Toledo, Ohio. He is a man of experience in this line of business, having sold his first machine on the 5th of June, 1852. He had adjusted the twenty-fifth sewing machine sent out by the old firm of Wheeler & Wilson, and what he does not know about sewing machines is not worth knowing. Almost his entire life has been devoted to this business. He was the chief promoter of

the Royal Sewing Machine Company, of Rockford, and an ex-Director and stock-holder in the same. Although he began at the bottom of the ladder in his business, filling all the different positions from office-boy to manager, special agent and dealer, he has now reached the topmost round and is now in a position to enjoy life.

Our subject is another of the many prominent citizens of Rockford who are of foreign birth, and, like the majority of them, he claims Sweden as his native country. He was born in Wester Gothland Province, but came to the United States when a small boy, and was reared in Chautauqua County, N. Y. His people left Gottenburg, Sweden, in the '40s, crossed the ocean in a three-mast vessel, and made the port of Boston after a number of weeks on the ocean. He was married in Ohio to Miss Anna E. Coder, who was born, reared and educated in the Buckeye State. Her parents came originally from Pennsylvania, and her mother is still living and a resident of Toledo, Ohio. Mr. Westerling is a Republican in his political views, and he and wife, although they attend church regularly, are not members. They have no children.

The original of this sketch takes great pride in the fact that he never had a lawsuit in business, being able to make satisfactory settlement without, and that he never had to discount a dollar.



GEORGE CLINTON HUTCHINS resides on section 9, Harlem Township. There is probably no other resident of Winnebago County who has lived so long within its borders as our subject, and this work would be incomplete without his sketch. He was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., March 20, 1833, and is a son of Nathan and Lavina (Olmstead) Hutchins, the former a native of Otsego County, N. Y., and the latter of Massachusetts. His father was reared to manhood upon a farm, and removed to Chautauqua County when a young man, becoming one of its pioneer settlers. Buying a tract of timber land from the Holland Purchase, he cleared and developed it, making a good farm, upon which he resided until 1833. In that year, he made a visit to

Illinois, and while here located a claim of Government land in Will County. He had made the journey on foot and in the same way returned to New York. The succeeding year, he came with his family to the new home which he had provided and there he continued to reside until 1838, when he came to Winnebago County, locating in Harlem Township. He purchased a tract of Government land and entered it at the land office in Galena and soon the work of development and improvement began. All of the experiences and trials of frontier life were experienced by himself and family. They used to pound corn and wheat in a mortar and thus secure flour, as there were no near mills or markets. Their grain had to be hauled to Chicago, and there their supplies were obtained. The death of Mr. Hutchins occurred on the old homestead in 1876, at the age of eighty-one years. He had made of his land a good farm and had acquired a considerable competence. His wife also spent her last days on the old homestead and was called to her final rest in 1874. In their family were four children: Henry, Erastus, George and Mary.

It was during the infancy of our subject that his parents came to Illinois and he was reared among the wild scenes of frontier life. At first there was no schools, for the settlers were widely scattered and many could not afford the expense of hiring a teacher. Mr. Hutchins attended the first school held in the neighborhood; one-half of a double log house was used as a place of meeting, the other portion of the building being occupied by a family. The seats were made of slabs, with wooden pins for legs, and similar wooden pins inserted in the wall with boards laid upon them served as desks for the larger scholars to write upon. As soon as he was old enough, he began aiding his father in the labors of the farm, and has often hauled the farm products all the way to Chicago. He has made agricultural pursuits his life work. He resided with his parents throughout their entire lives, caring for them in their old age, and now owns and occupies the old homestead farm, upon which he has lived since his infancy.

On July 11, 1859, Mr. Hutchins was joined in wedlock with Mary Steen, who was born near

Montreal, Canada, and is a daughter of James and Mary Ann Steen. Their union has been blessed with five children, four sons and a daughter: Byron J., Herbert G., Minnie and Harry, and Mark, deceased. The parents are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and their lives have been in harmony with their professions. In politics, Mr. Hutchins is a stalwart Republican. These worthy people have a very wide acquaintance throughout the community where they have so long made their home, and are held in the highest regard for their sterling worth.



LOVEJOY C. HALL, one of the leading business men of New Milford, who is engaged in general merchandising, has spent his entire life in this locality. He was born in New Milford Township, Winnebago County, October 28, 1852, and is a son of Thomas and Anna (Hunter) Hall, both of whom were natives of the Emerald Isle. In that land they were married, and about 1842 emigrated to America, sailing from Liverpool to Canada, whence they came to Illinois.

Our subject spent his childhood days under the parental roof, and at the age of fifteen began earning his own livelihood. Farming has been his principal occupation, but in 1889 he bought an interest in a New Milford store, and about the same time was appointed Postmaster by President Harrison.

On March 20, 1874, Mr. Hall was joined in wedlock to Miss Emma Seck, of New Milford, daughter of John and Eliza (Montgomery) Seck, who emigrated to Illinois from the East about 1857 and settled upon a farm on section 29, New Milford Township. The young couple began their domestic life upon a farm of one hundred acres, a part of which was the wife's property, while sixty acres were purchased by Mr. Hall. He erected upon it a good residence, commodious barns, put the entire farm under a high state of cultivation, set out evergreen and other ornamental trees, planted a nice orchard and made a pleasant home and a valuable and desirable farm. He there engaged in general farming and stock-raising until his removal

to the village, when he rented his farm and in partnership with Charles A. Chase bought out the general merchandise establishment of W. H. Gardner. In connection with their dealings in this line, they also handle farm implements, and sold twenty McCormick harvesters and ten mowers last season. Their trade in both branches of industry is constantly increasing and their liberal patronage is certainly well deserved. Mr. Hall is an enterprising and industrious business man and by careful attention to all the details of his business has won a well-merited success.

Our subject and his wife have one son and two daughters: Maud A., who was born November 25, 1876, is now attending the High School and also studying music; Inez, born October 23, 1880; and Eugene, born April 1, 1889. The parents rank high in social circles and their home is the abode of hospitality. They have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in this community, and it is with pleasure that we present their sketch to our readers.



EDWIN A. COVEY, a retired farmer residing in Belvidere, is one of the oldest native-born citizens of this county. He was born in Boone Township, May 29, 1843. His grandfather, Theodore Covey, was a native of New Hampshire, and the father, Stephen Covey, was born in Chester, Rockingham County, N. H., November 5, 1801. When young, he accompanied his parents to Vermont, and in early manhood removed to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., becoming one of the pioneer settlers of that region. He engaged in cutting timber, which was burned, and from the ashes was extracted potash, or black salts, as it was called. He removed from there to Chautauqua County, settling near Mayville, where he engaged in the manufacture of shingles until 1839, when, with his family, he came to Boone County and spent the winter in Belvidere. He then rented a farm east of the town for one year, after which he purchased a tract of land near Poplar Grove. Upon it was a log house, and a few acres of land had been broken. He lived

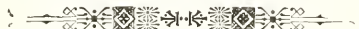
upon that farm until 1850, and afterwards bought and sold several farms. He was a resident of this county until his death, which occurred in Caledonia Township, August 21, 1885. His wife was in her maidenhood Miss Susan Jenner. She was born in Moriah, Essex County, N. Y., July 4, 1810, and is a daughter of Stephen and Betsy (Mather) Jenner. She was called to her final rest in August, 1882.

The first school which our subject attended was taught in a log house three miles from his home. At an early age, he commenced to assist his father in the labors of the farm, and remained with his parents until their deaths. He commenced farming for himself at the time of his marriage, and the farm upon which the young couple began their domestic life continued to be their home until 1890, when they came to Belvidere and built the home they now occupy.

On the 12th of September, 1862, Mr. Covey married Elizabeth J. Dimond, who was born in Brantford, Ontario, Canada, and is a daughter of Richard and Sarah (Luxton) Dimond. The father was born in the parish of Rexford, Devonshire, England, where James Dimond, the grandfather, spent his entire life. Richard learned the trade of a mason, which he followed in England until after his marriage to Miss Luxton, who was born in the same locality as her husband, and was a daughter of Hugh and Mary Luxton. After their marriage, they emigrated to Prince Edward Island, and four years later became residents of Brantford, Province of Ontario, where Mr. Dimond bought a tract of timber land, cleared a farm, and erected a good set of frame buildings. He there made his home until 1850, when, with his family, he came to Boone County and purchased a partially improved farm in Caledonia Township. His first home was a log cabin, but it was afterwards replaced by a stone residence. Mr. Dimond did all the work of building the house himself, even quarried the stone and burned the lime. His death occurred at the old homestead, July 27, 1886. His wife passed away in 1863. They had a family of five children: Mary A., Thirza, Josiah, Stephen and Elizabeth J.

Four children grace the union of Mr. and Mrs. Covey: Fred, Frank R., Ira J. and Arthur A.

Fred married Blanche Wheeler and has one child, Louis Stephen. The Covey household is the abode of hospitality, and its members rank high in social circles. Mr. Covey cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and has since been a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He has led a busy and useful life, and as the result of his industry, perseverance and good management, is now enabled to spend his declining days in retirement from labor, enjoying the fruits of his former toil.



GEORGE MANSON. This gentleman, although still a young man, has a fine reputation as a member of the agricultural community, and a citizen of whose worth no one is in doubt. He is a native of Winnebago County, having been born in Shirland, November 16, 1850. He is at present residing on an excellent estate in Shirland Township, his father, Nicholas Manson, who was born in Canada in 1811, making his home with him.

The father of our subject brought his wife and family of two children overland to this county in 1840, landing in Shirland after a voyage of six weeks. His wife, Caroline Holden, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1809, and after having borne her husband three children, departed this life in 1847. The lady whom he afterward chose for his wife was Eliza Eddy, of Troy, N. Y., and to them were born three children: Nicholas E. and James E. (twins), and George, our subject. The wife and mother passed to the world beyond, September 31, 1890, in her seventy-seventh year.

The father of our subject remained at home until attaining his twenty-fourth year, and when starting out in life, was possessed of a strong determination to gain a handsome competency. In addition to his splendid farm, he is the owner of a home in Shirland. He has been a life-long Republican, which is also the political faith of our subject, and is numbered among the leading citizens of Shirland Township. On locating in this county, he purchased forty acres of Government land, on which he placed a good hewed log house, and added from time to time to his estate, until in 1881 he

was the possessor of two hundred and forty broad acres, valued at \$25 per acre. His father, the grandfather of our subject, bore the name of James Manson, and was a native of Connecticut. He met his death by a run-away team when a young man.

The original of this sketch was married in Beloit, Wis., in 1874, to Miss Nettie J., daughter of Franklin S. and Elizabeth (Shrake) Hendee. Her father, who was a native of Goshen County, Vt., is now engaged in operating a farm in Wisconsin. The mother was born in Dresden County, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Manson have become the parents of four children, one of whom, an infant son, died unnamed. Mattie Belle was born January 28, 1876; Alma May, May 14, 1887, and George Noble, December 2, 1890.

Mrs. Manson's father, F. S. Hendee, is one of the extensive farmers of Rock County, Wis., owning three hundred acres there, besides a farm in Brule County, S. Dak. He came West in 1847, when seventeen years of age, and has built up a fine reputation as a man of push and enterprise. He has become the father of twelve children, one of whom is deceased.



HENRY LOVESEE. In the city of Berkshire, England, our subject was born in March, 1830, and his father, William Lovesee, and his grandfather, William Lovesee, Sr., were natives of that country also. Both father and grandfather were weavers by trade, the latter having his own loom in his house, but during his last days he was a farrier, or stock doctor. He was still vigorous and active when our subject left England with his parents in 1835, and could relate many interesting experiences and anecdotes. Our subject remembers hearing him tell about how he went to Newgate to witness the hanging of nine men for sheep stealing, that being the penalty in those days.

William Lovesee, Jr., followed his trade in a factory, manufacturing sail cloth, ropes, etc., but when steam was first introduced, he, with about three hundred other employes, was thrown out of work. He, being the eldest son born to his parents,

inherited all his father's land, only about twenty acres, valued at about \$30 per acre, and he sold his birthright in order to come to America. His father would not consent to his disposing of his property and coming to the United States unless he would consent to take with him his uncle John, who was a sailor, and the latter's family. This company numbered fourteen and they embarked from St. Catherine's Dock, London, on the "Cambrill," in the fall of 1835, reaching Pittsford, Monroe County, N. Y., late in November. The parish in which they lived in England fitted this company out for their adventurous trip, and when they landed in this country their means were limited to fifty cents. However, they had come here to stay and for some time they lived in an old shop, so open to the weather that our subject can remember seeing the stars shining through the roof. This little company remained in the Empire State about four years.

Henry Lovesee, at the youthful age of nine years, was obliged to begin the battle of life for himself, and being possessed of a wonderful amount of pluck for a little fellow, he began as a driver of horses on the Erie Canal and continued this for about one year. In the fall of 1837, he came by way of the Lakes to Chicago, where his brother John, who had located two years previously in the State of Illinois, met him with a horse and wagon. There were no bridges then between Chicago and Roscoe, Ill., where the brother lived, and they followed the Atkinson Trail, then the only white man's trail. They swam the Fox River near Dundee and after landing in Winnebago County, our subject went to work on a farm and followed this with teaming until twenty-five years of age.

Our subject selected his wife in the person of Miss Matilda Dodge, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Almeron and Sally (Baldwin) Dodge, the parents were natives of the Buckeye State, but early settlers of Roscoe, Ill., coming here in the '40s. Mr. and Mrs. Lovesee commenced house-keeping in section 34, on thirty-two acres of land that he had bought with his earnings, having worked six years for Benjamin Richardson. His first wife died leaving one daughter, Ellen, who

died when twelve years of age. Mr. Lovesee's second wife was Amanda Dodge, a sister of his first wife; she lived but about four years, leaving at her death one son, Francis, who grew up, married, and died when twenty-nine years of age.

Mr. Lovesee's present wife, whose maiden name was Amelia Lloyd, was a native of England and came with her parents, Thomas and Charlotte (Kemp) Lloyd, to this country when but six years of age. Our subject's last union resulted in the birth of four children, two of whom, a son and daughter, died in infancy. The two children living are Ellen, now Mrs. Thomas Lovesee, her husband being a distant relative, residing in Wisconsin, and Giles Henry, who is now fifteen years of age and is attending the school at home.

Agricultural pursuits have been our subject's occupation in life and in this he has been fairly successful. He added sixty acres to his original tract, and, as time passed by, he bought other tracts, seven different farms in all. About sixteen years ago, he felt the need of rest after the years of hard labor he had passed through, and retired, having done very little since then except to collect his interest. His vote is generally cast with the Republican party, but he is not such a strict partisan but what he can vote for good men on the other side. He is not a member of any church, but generally attends the Methodist. Upright and honorable in all his relations, Mr. Lovesee is one of the county's best citizens.

EPHRAIM WYMAN. The gentleman of whom it is our pleasure and privilege to here attempt a short sketch is the oldest living resident in point of settlement in Rockford, having come here September 20, 1835. He has witnessed with interest the gradual evolution of this section from its original wildness to its present prosperous condition of beautiful farms and thriving villages.

The original of this sketch was born in Lancaster, Worcester County, Mass., June 26, 1809. His father, Deacon Benjamin Wyman, was born on

the same farm as was his son, while his father, Nathaniel Wyman, hailed from Woburn, Middlesex County, Mass. The ancestors of our subject were English, and emigrated to America in Colonial times, settling in what was then West Cambridge, but is now Woburn. The grandfather of our subject was a farmer by occupation and departed this life in Lancaster.

Benjamin Wyman was reared on the home farm and received such advantages in an educational way as the district schools of his locality afforded. He spent his entire life on the farm where he was born. He was very prominent in church circles and was Deacon in the Unitarian Church at Lancaster. The maiden name of his wife was Lueretia Fair, who was born in Lancaster. Ephraim Wyman assisted his father in carrying on the home farm and attended school in his district. He remained under the parental roof until attaining his fifteenth year, at which time he went to Keene, N. H., where he served an apprenticeship at the baker's trade. Having become master of that art, he engaged in that line of business in Keene until June 11, 1835.

Desiring to know something more of the Western country, Mr. Wyman emigrated to the Prairie State via stage to Albany, where he boarded a train which conveyed him to Schenectady, N. Y., whence he traveled by canal to Utica, from there by stage to Buffalo, by lake to Detroit and by stage to Chicago. In that city, he engaged to work at \$1.25 per day, assisting to stake out lots three miles south of the Court House. He later assisted in laying out the road leading from Ft. Dearborn to Ft. Howard, Wis., being thus engaged until September, 1835. At that time, he purchased a horse and saddle in the Garden City and started for Midway, as Rockford was then called. When locating in this now prominent city, there were but six families in the vicinity, three on either side of the river. He continued to make this place his home, aiding in its development, until 1850, a part of the time being engaged in operating a bakery and boarding-house.

At the above-named date, Mr. Wyman started for the Golden State, where he remained for three years. Returning to Winnebago County, he again

resided in Rockford for two years, after which time he spent three years in his old home in Lancaster, Mass. Mr. Wyman has been a continuous resident in Rockford with the exception of the few years above recounted since 1835, and can thus relate many an interesting tale of life in the thinly-settled country.

In 1853, the original of this sketch was united in marriage in Lancaster, Mass., to Carolina Pearce. Mrs. Wyman was born in Waltham, Mass., and was the daughter of William and Mary (Hager) Pearce. In religious matters, our subject and his wife are members of the Unitarian Church, to the support of which denomination they are liberal contributors. Mr. Wyman has always voted the Republican ticket, believing that party to be in the right. He has been a hard and steady worker all his life, commencing with his bare hands at a tender age, and the ground work of his success lay in his practice of economy and thrift.



DAVID ATWOOD. After years of well-directed efforts as one of the farmers of Winnebago County, this gentleman has retired in affluence to the enjoyment of a comfortable home and the society of many friends in the city of Rockford. He is one of the pioneers of the county and was born in Middlefield, Berkshire County, Mass., June 11, 1824. His father, Phineas Atwood, was a native of Great Barrington, that State, and followed the trade of a blacksmith in connection with farming. He was a local Methodist preacher in Middlefield and Washington.

The grandfather of our subject, Hezekiah Atwood, was, as far as is known, born in Berkshire County, Mass. In 1842, he removed to Lewis County, N. Y., and, in 1845, came to Winnebago County, making his home for a twelvemonth in New Milford, and then became the proprietor of an estate in the town of Harlem, where his death occurred in his eighty-fifth year. His wife prior to her marriage was known as Huldah Hascall, a native of Peru, Mass., and the daughter of Roger and Mary (Webster) Hascall. Her decease occurred on the home farm in Harlem at the ad-

vanced age of ninety-four. The father of our subject served in the War of 1812, and with his wife was an active and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The following ten children were included in the parental household: Phineas, Harriet N., Mary W., Patience, David, Louisa, Jonathan, Hezekiah, Bradley S. and Sylvester. Our subject was given a good education and accompanied his parents on their removal to Lewis County, N. Y., and from there to Illinois in 1845, making the journey by way of the Lakes to Chicago, thence overland in a stage to Rockford. At that time Winnebago County was sparsely settled, and, as most of the land was still owned by the Government, he commenced life here working out on farms by the month. Two years later, however, he purchased a tract of wild prairie land in Harlem Township, for which he paid \$7 per acre. Cutting the timber on his farm, he drew the logs to Spafford & Gregory's Mill, at Rockford, and with the lumber made from them erected a frame house, 18x24 feet in dimensions, and a story and a half high. In that dwelling, he and his wife commenced housekeeping, moving in before there were either doors or windows provided, and which, when completed, was the most pretentious house in the neighborhood. Mr. Atwood hauled his corn to Beloit, twelve miles distant, which he marketed at twenty cents a bushel, and in this way made the money to pay for his farm. He was very successful and continued actively engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1888, when he left his sons in charge of the place and removed to Rockford, where he and his wife now live retired from active labor.

The lady to whom Mr. Atwood was married, November 15, 1848, was Miss Elizabeth Crill, a native of Starks, Herkimer County, N. Y., and the daughter of James Crill, who hailed from that county. His father, the grandfather of Mrs. Atwood, bore the name of Thomas and was born in Germany, coming to America as a soldier with Burgoyne, during the Revolutionary War. He was taken prisoner by the Colonists, with whom he was in sympathy, and later, taking the oath of allegiance, became a true and loyal citizen. Thomas Crill located in Herkimer County, where his death oc-

curred. The father of Mrs. Atwood was married in his native county, and in 1841 accompanied by his wife and nine of his ten children emigrated to Illinois, spending a few months in New Milford. He then went to Ogle County and purchased land in what is now Monroe Township, where he resided until his decease. He was a man of excellent judgment and was very successful in all his ventures, owning at the time of his decease upward of two thousand acres of land. In addition to superintending the cultivation of his various farms, he was engaged quite extensively in money loaning.

The mother of Mrs. Atwood bore the maiden name of Susan Givets, a native of Herkimer County, whose decease occurred on the home farm in Ogle County. Two brothers of Mrs. Atwood, Isaac and John, now own fifteen hundred acres of the old homestead. Another brother, Nelson, was an early settler of Concordia, Cloud County, Kan., where he was the proprietor of an hotel for a number of years and at present is residing on his tract of one thousand acres near Concordia. Mr. and Mrs. Atwood have two sons, James M. and Charles D. The former is the husband of Lillie Tuttle and has three children, Jennie, Calla and Harry D. Charles married Emma Shaul. They were married in Amsterdam, N. Y., in 1888. Mrs. Atwood is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which body she is an active and enthusiastic worker.



CHAUNCEY B. WILMOT. A prominent citizen of Rockton Township, Winnebago County, he whose name is at the head of this sketch has the interest of the community at heart and takes pride in everything that shall redound to the honor of the people with whom his lot is cast. His birth occurred in Oneida County, N. Y., September 7, 1836, his parents being Luther and Caroline (Broddock) Wilmot, also natives of the Empire State, the father being born in 1800.

Ebenezer Wilmot, the grandfather of our subject, was a wealthy agriculturist, who was born in Greenbush, N. Y., and died in his fifty-seventh year in Oneida County, that State. His wife bore

the name of Clarissa Rowley and became the mother of three children: Johanna, Luther R. and Adeline. Johanna, who married Lorenzo White, is now deceased, and Adeline, Mrs. Levi Merrill, died in Orleans County, N. Y., in middle life, leaving two sons: Gilford D. and Milton. Mr. Merrill was a volunteer soldier during the late war and died of fever while in the service.

The mother of our subject was the daughter of Nicholas and Eva (Campbell) Brodbeck, natives of Eastern New York, where they were well-to-do farmers in Oneida County and reared a family of six children: Julia, Chauncy B., William, Emily, Adeline and Josephine. William died in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1882; he had previously come to Rockton and in company with our subject carried on a farm. Luther R. Wilmot departed this life when seventy-three years of age in New York, and his wife, who still survives him, is in her seventy-ninth year and makes her home with her daughter Josephine near Oneida Lake.

The original of this sketch was trained in farming pursuits, and in the winter of 1862 came West, and for one season was engaged in farming in Wisconsin, soon after which he came to Winnebago County and operated a farm in company with his brother William. His marriage with Miss Amelia Keeney occurred in the spring of 1867. She died leaving a son, Lewis L., and an infant of four months.

The lady whom our subject chose as his second wife was Miss Fannie Darrow, of Oneida County, N. Y.; she departed this life within four years after her marriage. The present wife of Mr. Wilmot, to whom he was married in March, 1885, was Mrs. Cordelia A. Southworth, *nee* Baker. Her father, George Baker, was a native of New England and died at an advanced age, in Erie County, leaving a widow and four children. Mrs. Wilmot, by her first union, is the mother of two children: Merton R., now residing in Mayesville, Ark., and Frank E., a farmer in Shirland Township, Winnebago County.

He of whom we write purchased his present farm of two hundred acres in 1867, for which he paid \$16 per acre. He later added forty acres more, which cost him \$27 per acre, all of which is under

cultivation with the exception of seven or eight acres of excellent timber land. In the summer of 1890, he erected his fine large farm house, which cost \$2,000, and numerous substantial and neat outbuildings stamp its owner as a man of push and enterprise, with means to carry out whatever he undertakes. He is thoroughly honest in all his dealings and has been the architect of his own fortune, as he came to the county poor in this world's goods. He keeps a number of milch cows on his place, and he disposes of the milk at the Coon Creek Cheese Factory, of which organization he is a stockholder and Director. The factory, which has been in operation only two years, has won a reputation for turning out the best quality of cheese, and its originators have already found it be a paying investment.

Mr. Wilmot has been chosen to fill various local positions and for several years was Commissioner of Highways. Although inclining toward Democratic principles, he casts his vote for the best man regardless of party. With his wife, he is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church and his personal life is an example of uprightness and straightforward, simple honor. He is blessed with a good constitution and is still very active, although the hard labor on the farm is carried on by his son.

DUDLEY LYFORD Esq., more familiarly known in Winnebago County and Northern Illinois as "Dud" Lyford, is one of the most jovial and genial Granger Republicans in the State. He was originally from the Granite State, born in Canterbury, November 6, 1835, and the son of Thomas and Eliza B. (Greeley) Lyford, both typical New Englanders, the father born on the 14th of February, 1807, and the mother on the 8th of July, 1809, on the old Greeley Farm in Gilmanton Township, thirteen miles from Concord, N. H. They were married in their native State and there the father followed his trade, stone cutting, in connection with farming until his eldest child, our subject, was

seven years of age, when they sold the home there and emigrated to Roscoe Township Ill., arriving here in October, 1842. They came by land with teams, except from Buffalo, N. Y., to Indiana, and settled where Mr. Lyford now lives on part of his present farm, buying out the claim of one Dudley Greeley, who had come here from the East six years previously. Here Mr. and Mrs. Lyford resided and reared their seven children, viz: Dudley, Elizabeth, Joseph G., Alice H., Thomas, Anna A. and Charles C., all of whom now survive, with the exception of Thomas, who died in 1863, when fourteen years of age. The father was killed by a threshing-machine on the 13th of December, 1858, when fifty-three years of age. His wife survived him until June, 1874, and died when seventy years of age. They were honest, upright citizens, and gave their hearty support to all enterprises of a laudable nature.

Dudley Lyford was married in Rockton, April, 1862, to Miss Emma Harley, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Ancott) Harley, both natives of England. The parents came to this country when their eldest child, Frederick Harley, was an infant, and resided in New York City for some time, where the father followed the cabinet-maker's trade. Later they moved from the Empire State to Spartanburg, S. C., and still later, in 1847, to Rockton, Ill., making the entire journey by land with a horse. They started in the early spring and six weeks later reached Beloit, where the father followed his trade and also began dealing in furniture there. In 1836, he went to South America with a cargo of furniture and on the return trip encountered a heavy storm at sea and barely escaped with his life. He died at Rockton in the spring of 1856, when seventy-four years of age, leaving his widow and eight children. The mother received her final summons on the 1st of January, 1874. Of their children the following are now living: Elizabeth, now Mrs. John Harley, of Kansas; Benjamin M. Harley, in Kansas; William Harley, a farmer of Shirland, this county.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyford's union was blessed by the birth of a large family of children, four, three sons and one daughter, being deceased. Those living are: Helen (Nellie), Anna E., Marie, Kate,

Thomas W., Dudley, Custer C., and Emma A., the youngest now twelve years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Lyford are giving their children every advantage for an education, for the former realizes what it is to be deprived of early advantages. His wife is well educated and was a school teacher prior to her marriage. Mr. Lyford's first farm was two hundred acres, part of the old homestead, and to this he has added until he has about twelve hundred acres, a large and commodious residence, and ample barns and outbuildings. In connection with farming, he is quite extensively engaged in stock-raising, feeding cattle for the market. He also raises some blooded stock in sheep, cattle, hogs and horses, and in cattle he likes the Durham stock very much. Our subject takes much interest in elections and is one of the leading spirits in the Republican ranks of the country. He has held no office, but has assisted his party in every way and is a member of the Central Republican Committee of the township. Mr. Lyford has resided on his farm for forty-nine years, and if a sunny, genial disposition has anything to do with longevity, he will live there forty-nine years longer.



DANIEL WITTER, who came to Boone County in 1841, was actively interested in the up-building of Manchester Township, until his decease, March 2, 1868. He was born in Madison County, N. Y., about 1819, and was the son of John Witter, also a native of that county, his birth occurring in March, 1781. The father died in February, 1855, in Jefferson County, N. Y., having been married to Prudence Colgrove, by whom he became the father of ten children.

Our subject's share of his father's estate was \$150, and on coming West when a young man, he entered a claim of forty acres and purchased other claims to the amount of two hundred and forty acres. In January, 1849, he was married to Miss Sallie A., daughter of A. C. and Catherine (Ells) Adams, of New York. Mrs. Witter was the eldest in the family of three daughters, and was born in Delaware County, N. Y.

The parents of Mrs. Witter on coming West em-

igrated from Oxford, N. Y., and located four miles west of Beloit, soon after which the father rented property in Le Roy, this county. A year or two later, he entered a claim, but did not live upon it. He subsequently purchased forty acres in Manchester Township, and departed this life in 1872, leaving a widow and three daughters, viz: Sallie A., Polly, the widow of Joseph Stiles, and Ellen, Mrs. Horace Graham.

Mr. and Mrs. Witter became the parents of five sons and one daughter, of whom three are deceased: Albert, who died in 1885, leaving a wife and three children; John, who departed this life in 1882, and Ulysses Sherman John Adams, who passed away in his twentieth year. Those living are Adelaide, Mrs. W. Mayberry; Lafayette, at home, and Addis A., a traveling salesman of Madison, Wis.; the latter married Minnie Isham, of Delavan, that State.

The mother of Mrs. Witter is still living at Clinton Junction, Wis., at the advanced age of eighty years. The church home of our subject's wife is the Methodist Episcopal, in which denomination she is an active member. In company with her son, Lafayette, she is conducting a portion of the home farm in an intelligent and profitable manner.



HON. CHARLES E. FULLER, of Belvidere, who represents the Eighth Senatorial District in the Illinois Legislature, was born in Flora Township, Boone County. His father, Seymour Fuller, was born in Shaftsbury, Vt. The great-grandfather, Elijah Fuller, was a farmer and spent his last years in Shaftsbury. Solomon, the grandfather, was also a native of the Green Mountain State and a farmer by occupation. He removed to New York and spent his last days in Wyoming County.

Seymour Fuller was married in the Empire State to Eliza A. Mordoff, a native of Wyoming County, N. Y., and with his wife and one child he emigrated to Illinois in 1844, coming by the Lakes to Chicago and thence with teams to Boone County. He settled in what is now Flora Township and secured a tract of Government land, which he de-

veloped into a fine farm, upon which he still makes his home. In 1882, his wife was called to her final rest.

Our subject acquired his early education in the district schools, afterward was a student in the High school of Belvidere and spent one term in Wheaton College. In 1869, he commenced the study of law with Jesse S. Hildruff, of Belvidere, was admitted to the Bar in 1870, and at once commenced practice. He married Sarah Mackey, daughter of Hugh Mackey, of Cherry Valley.

Socially, Mr. Fuller is a member of Belvidere Lodge No. 90, A. F. & A. M.; the American Legion of Honor, and La Fayette Garrison, K. G. In politics, he has always been a staunch Republican. His first office was that of City Attorney, and in 1876 he was elected State Attorney of Boone County. Two years later, he was elected State Senator for the District composed of Winnebago and Boone Counties. In 1882, a new Senatorial District was formed, composed of Boone, McHenry and Lake Counties. This District had a holdover Senator, and in 1882 Mr. Fuller was elected Representative and re-elected in 1881. In 1888, he was elected Senator from the Eighth District for four years and is still holding the office. In 1884, he was a delegate to the National Convention and supported Gen. Logan for the Presidency until it was seen that he could not secure the nomination, when he voted for James G. Blaine. From a work entitled "Politics and Politicians of Illinois; A Succinct History of the State Covering a Period from 1808 until 1887," by D. W. Lusk, we quote the following from the account of the Thirty-fourth General Assembly:

"In point of ability, the Legislature compared very favorably with its predecessors in both the Senate and the House. In the Senate, the Democrats were particularly fortunate in having an array of able minds, and in some respects the remark is true of them in the House, but in neither body did any one man develop as their leader, as was the case on the Republican side. While there were many men of ability on the latter side, yet the leadership was conceded to Charles E. Fuller, and it is no flattery to him to say that he sustained himself ably and well in every conflict with the oppos-

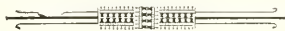
ing forces, and after the seating of Mr. Weaver and the election of Gen. Logan, the Republicans being in the majority in the House, he would have been chosen Speaker but for his own advice in opposition to making any change in the organization of the House. Mr. Haines, however, recognized the right of the Republicans to control, and voluntarily yielded the chair to Mr. Fuller whenever the Republicans desired or requested it, so that during the contests over the passage of the election bills and the greater portion of the time during the last weeks of the session, when most of the real Legislative work was accomplished, Mr. Fuller occupied the chair and was the virtual Speaker of the House. At the close of the session, Mr. Graham, Democrat, of Macon, presented the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

“Resolved, That members of the Thirty-fourth General Assembly return to Mr. Charles E. Fuller our hearty thanks for his courtesy while acting as Speaker and for the successful dispatch of the business of this House.”

From the same work, we also take the following extract: “Mr. Fuller was Senator in the Thirty-first and Thirty-second General Assemblies and Representative in the Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth; was Chairman of the Committee on Railroads; and member of the Committees on Judiciary, Retrenchment, Libraries, Civil Service and Rules, and Chairman of the Committee on the Governor’s Message. Mr. Fuller was no less a leader in this Assembly than in the Thirty-fourth, and early manifested a disposition to legislate in the interests of the many by introducing House Bill No. 1, to reduce the contract rate of interest from eight to six per cent. The Committee on Judiciary recommended that it ‘do pass,’ but finding on second reading that it would be defeated, he amended it so as to make the legal rate seven per cent., and in this form it passed the House but failed in the Senate. He secured the passage of a bill to abolish judgment votes, but it fared in the Senate the fate of the interest bill. The bill appropriating \$50,000 for a monument for Gen. John A. Logan was introduced by him. The act giving cities or villages power to license, tax or prohibit Cheap-John vendors was his. He drafted House Bill No. 701, one of the

most important of all the bills which became laws. He championed the Savings Bank Bill of the House and the General Banking Bill of the Senate, and secured important amendments to each, both of which became laws. The Farmers’ Insurance Bill, which originated in the Senate, was called up by him in the House, out of its regular order at each reading, and became a law. He had charge of Senator Crabtree’s Anti-Bucket-shop Bill in the House and secured its passage; he advocated the submission to a vote of the people the question of Prohibition; he voted for and supported with his power of eloquence Merritt’s Conspiracy Bill and Collins’ Anti-Dynamite Bill, and no member of the Thirty-fifth General Assembly exercised a more potent influence in the Legislature in the interests of the masses of the people than did Mr. Fuller.”

In the last session of the Senate, Mr. Fuller was Chairman of the Republican Senate Caucus, of the Joint Caucus and of the Republican Steering Committee. He was Chairman of the Senate Railroad Committee and introduced the Savings Bank Bill, which passed the Senate but met defeat in the House. He is one of the best-known men in the State, popular at home and abroad, and his position has been reached through his own ability. His fellow-citizens are justly proud of him and higher honors surely await him.



A E. GOODWIN, M. D., for many years a leading physician of Rockford, was a native of Vermont, having been born in Chelsea, August 11, 1827. Under great difficulties and despite poverty, he succeeded in obtaining an education, being urged forward by an earnest desire for knowledge. It was no easy matter then to obtain even a crude education, and it was with great difficulty that the obstacles in his path were overcome. As he grew to manhood, his thoughts turned toward medicine and he resolved to follow that profession.

Without means or influence, our subject set about obtaining a professional education. He studied at Johnson, Vt., sawing wood and teaching school to gain a livelihood. His course was

frequently interrupted by want of money, and it required some time to attain the desired end, but finally the course of study was completed and he was graduated with honors. He worked his way through the Berkshire Medical College, Pittsfield, Mass., and then devoted himself to the practice of medicine, opening an office at Clintonville, N. Y., where from the first he was successful.

At Clintonville, July 8, 1852, Dr. Goodwin was married to Miss Adelia E. Field, who survives him. In 1854, he removed to Rockford and ever afterward resided in the house on Jefferson street where he died. Coming here a stranger, his ability soon brought him a good practice and his conscientious attention to his business held his patients after he won them. During the Civil War, he enlisted as Surgeon in the Eleventh Illinois Infantry and was afterward appointed Surgeon of the One Hundred and eighth Illinois. He was wounded in the stomach at Vicksburg and in after years suffered greatly from this wound. He was a staunch Democrat and an earnest temperance advocate. At the last municipal election held in his life time, he was conveyed to the polls in a hack to vote for anti-license, and that was the last time he ever left his home. The immediate cause of his death, which occurred at Rockford May 14, 1889, was Bright's Disease.

Besides his wife, the Doctor left one daughter, Nellie T., wife of Robert Rew, the well-known attorney of Rockford. Another daughter, Carrie, died during childhood. Dr. Goodwin was an able physician, a thoughtful man and a good citizen. He filled many important offices of a public character, serving on the Board of Education for a number of years, as a member of the Library Board for two years, and in other positions of trust. He represented the District Medical Association at various places in the State, and the American Medical Association at St. Louis, Philadelphia, St. Paul, Chicago and Washington. At the time of his death, he was President of the Winnebago County Medical Society. He was tireless in his profession, reading extensively and keeping abreast the times. He paid the closest attention to his cases and neglected no precaution, however slight, to further the interests of his patients.

Years ago, Dr. Goodwin took a trip abroad and

increased his medical knowledge by visiting the hospitals of Europe, as well as broadened his knowledge by sight-seeing and travel. He was the physician of many of Rockford's oldest families, and possessed their confidence to a marked degree. The close personal attention which he gave his cases made him a great favorite. As a man he was well posted on current events and was a companionable and genial gentleman. As husband and father, physician and trusted friend, he was highly regarded in life, and in death was mourned by all who knew him.



ISAAC C. TUTTLE, now living retired in Pecatonica village was born in Antrim, Hillsboro County, N. H., September 11, 1820. His parents, Jacob and Betsey (Cummings) Tuttle, were natives of Massachusetts, the father being born February 6, 1767, and his wife May 25, 1778. They both died in Antrim, N. H., at an advanced age. The paternal grandfather, who was born August 29, 1738, died when seventy-seven years of age; his wife, who was, previous to her marriage, Miss Submit Warren, died when fifty-five years of age, having been born March 12, 1742.

The mother of our subject was the daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth (Trowbridge) Cummings. His marriage occurred November 11, 1816, at which time Miss Louisa I., daughter of Daniel and Hannah (Kidder) Lowe, became his wife. The father was born in Greenfield, N. H., and died at Antrim, aged seventy years. His wife, who was also a native of the Granite State, was seventy-two years of age at her death.

Mrs. Louisa Tuttle was born in Antrim in the above-named State, November 21, 1821. Her union with our subject has resulted in the birth of ten children, six of whom are living: Henry C., who was born August 9, 1847, is married and the father of two children; Jacob E., who was born April 11, 1851, is also married and has five children; Harriet L., whose birth occurred January 5, 1853, married Fred Elson and has a family of three children; Daniel P., born February 27, 1856, is unmarried; Frank S., born February 10, 1857, is mar-

ried and has four children; George L., who was born October 29, 1858, is married and the father of one child.

Mr. Tuttle remained at home until his marriage, when he went to live on a portion of his father's farm. He has given his children excellent educations, thus fitting them to become good and useful citizens. In March, 1862, he left New Hampshire during a terrible storm and coming to Illinois purchased a farm of sixty-four acres in Pecatonica Township, to which he later added eighty acres and there resided until removing into the village, in May, 1889. He is the owner of considerable real estate in Pecatonica and is enjoying to the fullest extent the fruits of his early toil and industry.

The grandfather of Mrs. Tuttle, Simon Lowe, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War for seven years. The father of our subject was very prominent in public affairs and was elected to the State Legislature on the Democratic ticket in 1836, being the incumbent of that position for a period of sixteen years. He held many local township offices, and was otherwise interested in all measures which tend toward the upbuilding of his community. Socially, he of whom we write is an Odd Fellow belonging to Lodge No. 173, in which he held all the chairs. Mrs. Tuttle is a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and a lady highly respected for her many good works.



GEORGE TROXELL. Few of the citizens of Rockford have been more prominently identified with its progress, and perhaps none have been more deeply interested in its welfare, than the gentleman above named. He was instrumental in securing the watch factory in its present location, and labored indefatigably to secure the many railroads now here, as well as the various manufacturing interests of the city.

Mr. Troxell was born in Easton, Northampton County, Pa., August 18, 1803, of which place his father, also named George, was a native. The grandfather of our subject was born in Germany, whence he emigrated to America, and settled in

the village of Easton. He had learned the trade of a baker, and established himself in business at Easton, where he spent the remainder of his days. George Troxell, Sr., learned the trade of a millwright, which he followed many years, and spent his entire life in Easton. His wife, Catherine, was there born, of German ancestry, and in the village where she was born, closed her eyes to the scenes of earth.

At the age of sixteen, our subject commenced to learn the trade of a millwright, and worked under his father as an apprentice until he was twenty-one, after which he continued in business with him. The work proving too hard for him, he formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, Mr. Hummel, and engaged in the mercantile business, at Easton for two years. Afterward he established the same business at Mt. Bethel, where he built up an extensive trade, and carried a general line of dry-goods, groceries, hardware, cutlery, drugs, paints, and, in fact, almost anything in daily use. In addition to this, he erected a tannery, and carried on farming operations.

In 1851, Mr. Troxell sold his interests there and came to Illinois the spring of the next year, locating in East Rockford, and investing extensively in real estate. At that time, there was but one railroad in Rockford, and he turned his attention to securing another line, his efforts being rewarded in due course of time. It is largely due to the exertions of Mr. Troxell and his co-workers that Rockford has grown from a village of three or four thousand to a city of about thirty thousand.

In September, 1827, Mr. Troxell was married to Maria Yohe, who was born in Easton, Pa., the daughter of John and Rebecca Yohe; she died March 23, 1851. The second marriage of our subject united him, June 23, 1852, with Mary A. Smith, who was born in Mt. Bethel, Pa. Her father, Samuel Smith, was also born in Northampton County, Pa., whence he removed to Illinois in 1856, and purchased a farm in Stephenson County, where he resided until his death. Of the first marriage of Mr. Troxell, five children were reared, namely: Edwin Y., Carrie (Mrs. Robert Angelman), Edwin A., Emma and Sylvanus. Two children blessed the second marriage: Willis S. and

George A. In his political belief, Mr. Troxell joined the Republican party at the time of its organization, but is now a Prohibitionist. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which they are active workers.



ALEXANDER SARVER. Two and one-half miles northwest of the City of Rockford lies a farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres, the property of the subject of this sketch. Here he engaged in general farming and stock-raising, in which he has been more than usually successful, and is now numbered among the most progressive agriculturists of Winnebago County. His entire life has been passed in this county, where he was born, in Harrison Township, September 30, 1847.

It is thought that the paternal grandfather of our subject was born in Germany. For many years he resided in Pennsylvania, removing thence to Illinois, and spending his last days in Harrison Township. Henry Sarver, father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, and removed from Bedford County, that State, to Illinois in 1845, settling in Harrison Township, and entering a tract of three hundred and twenty acres of Government land. For a time, he made his home with the family of Mr. McCoy, then resided in a building that had been erected for a schoolhouse. Later, he put up a log house on his land, which in time was replaced by a more substantial frame residence, in which he remained until his death. For some years after he settled on the place, there were no railroads near, and Chicago being the nearest market, the farmers were accustomed to drive to that town with ox-teams.

Until he was twenty-one, our subject remained in the paternal home, but at that age commenced life for himself on a rented farm. After operating for one year as a renter, he bought eighty acres in Owen Township, upon which he began his career as a successful farmer. Seven years after purchasing the place, he sold it, and bought one hundred and sixty-eight acres in Burritt Township. He added to the acreage of the farm, where he carried

on agricultural pursuits until 1889, and then purchased the farm he now occupies. He still owns the estate in Burritt Township, and gives his personal attention to the management of both places.

In January, 1869, Mr. Sarver was married to Miss Sarah A. Fell. Her grandparents, William and Elizabeth Fell, spent their entire lives in England. Her father was there born in Lancashire, August 6, 1806, and was the only member of the family who ever came to America. In his native land he learned the trade of a cloth-dresser, and in 1842 set sail from Liverpool, landing at New York City, and proceeding thence to Rhode Island. He worked at his trade in that State and Massachusetts for two years, and then came to Winnebago County and settled in what is now Durand Township, of which he was a pioneer. Securing a tract of Government land, he built the log house in which Mrs. Sarver was born. He still has a home upon the farm which he has improved, although most of his time is spent with his children. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Barningham, was born in Yorkshire, England, the daughter of Job and Elizabeth (Flint) Barningham; she died in 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Sarver are the parents of three children: Nellie, William and Edith. Nellie married Theodore Dickerson, and they have one child, Vera. William married Dora Allen.



PETER A. PETERSON. The city of Rockford can certainly be congratulated upon the high standard of enterprise and ability displayed by its leading business men, prominent among whom is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. As Superintendent of the West End Furniture Factory and as a stockholder and Director in that enterprise since its organization in July, 1890, Mr. Peterson has bent all his energies to advance its interests and is well qualified for the position he now holds.

This factory, which is one of the flourishing institutions of the city, has a capacity of one hundred or more, and gives employment to about seventy-five men. The President, Austin Colton,

Vice-president, Frank Hoagland, and Secretary and Treasurer, Herman Lind, are popular in leading business and financial circles, and are very widely and favorably known. The establishment has all the modern improvements and turns out first-class work.

Mr. Peterson claims Sweden as his native country and first saw the light of day in Smoland Province, June 17, 1845. There his youth was passed and there, when but a small boy, he began learning his trade, having from an early age been master of tools as a cabinet-maker. Thinking that greater inducements were afforded in America, he took passage for this country in 1868, and after following his trade in Chicago and other cities, he finally came to the thriving city of Rockford, of which he has since been a resident. He has prospered in all his business ventures since living here, and is interested in a number of the prominent enterprises of the city. He is a stockholder and Director in the Mechanics' Furniture Company, which employs one hundred men, and owns real estate in the city. He has a tasty and neat residence at No. 1106 Second Avenue, and most of the time since 1875, when he first settled here, he has followed the trade of a cabinet-maker. His parents, P. M. and Eliza (Monson) Peterson, worthy and much-esteemed citizens of their native province in Sweden, passed their entire lives there, the father engaged as a tiller of the soil. They lived to be quite old people, both about eighty years of age, and all their lives were members of the Lutheran Church. An elder son, Adolph Peterson, who had also been filled with a great desire to settle in the broad, free land of America, came here previous to our subject, and is now engaged as a mason in De Kalb, Ill.

The original of this sketch selected his wife in the person of Miss Anna Engstrom, who was born in Jonkoping Lan, Smoland Province, Sweden, January 5, 1850. She remained in her native country until eighteen years of age and then crossed the ocean to this country to join her brother, A. F. Engstrom, who made his advent into this country a number of years previously. (See sketch.)

Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are the happy parents of

two bright children: Jennie V., and Herbert T., both now at home. Worthy and exemplary members of the First Lutheran Church, Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are popular young people of the city, and have a wide circle of friends. Mr. Peterson is an ardent supporter of the principles of the Republican party.



HORACE D. HOPKINS is an intelligent and enterprising man, very popular in Rockton, in the best circles of which place his family moves. At the present time he occupies the honored position of Alderman of the Fourth Ward and for a number of years has served in the capacity of School Director. He became a resident of this place in 1883, since which time he has been engaged as foreman in the coal, wood and lumber yards of Peet & Keeler.

Born April 9, 1841, in Orleans County, N. Y., our subject is a son of Luke and Eunice (Himan) Hopkins, the latter of whom was born on the Mohawk Flats in 1801. The father was a native of Vermont, but removed to Eastern New York, where his marriage took place in 1830. He was in early life a Custom House officer on Lake Champlain, and when our subject was a lad removed to Lenawee County, Mich., where the family were residents for two years, and in 1855 came to Roscoe, Winnebago County. They made this place their home for several years and then returned to the Wolverine State, leaving their son, our subject, in this county.

December 22, 1869, the original of this sketch and Miss Hannah Moore were united in marriage. The lady was a native of England, and the daughter of Stephen and Sarah (Wait) Moore. Mr. Hopkins is the youngest child of his parents, having two sisters, Martha, Mrs. Isaac Lapp, of New York, and Helen, Mrs. James Lowe, of Hudson, Mich., with whom the mother resides at the age of ninety-one years. She is well preserved in body and mind and has done some fine needle work recently. Her husband died in Hudson, Mich., in 1887, in his ninety-fourth year, three years prior to his decease being totally blind.

Our subject learned the trade of a carpenter when about twenty-three years of age, but on moving to Rockton abandoned that line of work. His home is one of culture and refinement and with his wife he is held in high esteem by those to whom his character and attainments are known. They are the parents of four children: Guy M., Luther B., Helen M. and Mary B., and all remain at home with their parents. Our subject is a member of the Masonic order, and is a stalwart Republican.



MRS. PATIENCE (ATWOOD) LYMAN, who resides on section 30, Harlem Township, Winnebago County, was born in the town of Peru, in Massachusetts, on the 5th of August, 1822, and comes of an old and highly respected family of New England. Her grandparents were Hezekiah and Lydia (Heth) Atwood. Her father, Phineas Atwood, was born in Great Barrington, Mass. He learned the trade of a blacksmith, and in addition to farming followed that occupation in the Bay State until 1842, when he removed to New York, where he spent three years. He then came with his family to Illinois, making the journey by the way of the Lakes to Chicago, where he purchased a team and then came on overland to Winnebago County, where his sons, David and Jonathan, had located the previous year. He spent three years in New Milford, and then made a settlement in the town of Harlem, where he bought a tract of land and improved a farm, upon which he resided until called to the home beyond. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and married Hulda Haskell, who was born in Peru, Mass., and was a daughter of Roger and Mary (Webster) Haskell. She died on the home farm at the advanced age of ninety-four years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Atwood were consistent members of the Methodist Church and were highly respected people, who had the confidence and esteem of all with whom they came in contact.

Mrs. Lyman spent the days of her maidenhood in Massachusetts, and acquired her education in the public schools of her native State. She was a young lady of twenty-three years when she came

to Illinois in company with her father and mother. She always resided with her parents and cared for them in their old age. In November, 1877, she became the wife of Joseph Allen Lyman, also a native of the Bay State, born in April, 1808. His parents were Joseph and Caroline (Atwood) Lyman. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and engaged in farming in Hinsdale and Becket, Mass., for many years. At length he came to Illinois, in 1877, settling in Winnebago County, and spent the remainder of his days on the Atwood homestead. By a former marriage he had two sons: Edwin and Sheldon. He died on the 7th of April, 1885, respected by all who knew him.

Mrs. Lyman still owns and occupies the old homestead, upon which she has resided for about forty-six years. She has witnessed the growth and development of this county since a very early day and well deserves mention among its pioneer settlers. At the age of fifteen years, she united with the Methodist Church and has since been one of its faithful and consistent members, an earnest worker in the Master's vineyard. She was also for many years a teacher in the Sunday-school and is a life member of the missionary society of her church.



OSCAR HALL. Among the prominent mercantile establishments of Rockford may be mentioned the firm of Engstrom & Hall, dealers in a fine line of dry goods, at No. 324 East State Street. Since the inception of the business in March, 1889, the firm has built up a large trade and gained a good reputation for reliable dealings and courtesy to their customers. Mr. Hall has been a resident of Rockford since 1874, and was one of the original stockholders in the Central Furniture Company, with which he was connected as assistant foreman and salesman, and for a time was commercial agent.

Mr. Hall was born in the Province of Smoland, Sweden, December 2, 1855, and there grew to manhood, meanwhile learning the trade of a cabinet-maker and receiving a practical education in the

public schools. In 1874, he emigrated to America, embarking on a vessel at Gottenburg, touching some of the ports of England, and landing at New York City. His parents, John P. and Caroline Hall, still reside in Sweden, and, although advanced in years, are hale and active. The father was a Swedish soldier, and served in the regular army. A sister of our subject, Matilda, resides in Rockford; another sister, Laura, is now living in Ogle County, and is the wife of Alfred Peterson. A brother, August N., formerly of Rockford, is now a clerk for Wanamaker & Brown, of Chicago.

The lady who became the wife of our subject was formerly Miss Anna M. Engstrom, who was born in Malta, De Kalb County, Ill., March 15, 1853. She is a graduate of both the schools of Malta and Rockford, and completed her education in Chicago, where she was graduated in music under the German Professor Conrade. She has since devoted her time largely to that art, and is a skilled musician and successful instructor. In politics, Mr. Hall is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the First Swedish Lutheran Church, and are prominent in the social circles of Rockford.



JOHN NIDO. Since coming to Rockford in 1867, Mr. Nido has probably been the best-known machinist of the city. Possessing remarkable ability as a mechanic and machinist pattern-maker, he has gained success in that occupation, and his skill is universally recognized. Some time after locating in this city, he became connected with Mr. Nelson in the knitting-machine business, and has for several years been at the head of the machine shops of the Nelson Knitting Machine Company, as well as the maker of the machines.

Born in Stockholm, Sweden, June 26, 1834, Mr. Nido was reared and educated in the city of his birth, and received there his early training as a mechanic. From early boyhood, he worked as a pattern and model maker, in which he soon acquired great skill. He was the only one of the parental family who emigrated to the United States, and it was in 1865 that he crossed the At-

lantic and commenced to work in Dunkirk, N. Y. He also resided in Chicago for a time before he came to Rockford, where, as above stated, he arrived in 1867.

In this city Mr. Nido was married to Miss Clara Johnson, a native of Sweden, who emigrated to America in her young womanhood. Mr. and Mrs. Nido have two children: Blanda and Herman, who are at home. In the public affairs of the day, Mr. Nido takes an intelligent interest, and is a staunch adherent of the principles of the Republican party.



ALLEN RICE. Through the exercise of unflagging industry and judicious investments, Mr. Rice has become prosperous and now lives retired at No. 305½ Mulberry street, where he is surrounded by all the comforts which contribute to happiness. His home has been in Winnebago County since 1856 and during the first eight years of his residence here he cultivated a farm in Harrison Township, later located near Rockford, and finally removed to this city about twenty years ago.

The early home of Mr. Rice was in Washington County, N. Y., where he was born April 3, 1817. After attending school there when opportunity offered, he removed at the age of fourteen to Genesee County, which remained his home until he came West to Illinois. His father, Jonathan Rice, was born in the same county as himself, likewise his grandfather, Abraham. The last-named served in the War of 1812 when a young man. He married Miss Eda Deuell, a native of Washington County, one of whose brothers was a soldier during the War of 1812. The worthy couple passed their entire lives in Washington County, and among their children was Jonathan, father of our subject.

Jonathan Rice removed to Genesee County and there died at the age of fifty-two years. His children were twelve in number and six still survive, all of whom married and reared families of their own. In Genesee County, N. Y., our subject was married to Miss Lydia Mead, who was born in Northampton Township, Fulton County, N. Y.,

August 17, 1835. She was reared and received her education in Genesee County, which was for many years the home of her parents, Charles and Polly (Peirce) Mead, natives of Fulton County. Mrs. Mead died in Fulton County in the prime of life and her husband passed away at the age of sixty years. They were sincere Christians and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They were the parents of six children, four of whom are now living.

For thirty-five years Mr. and Mrs. Rice have lived and labored together for their common welfare and prosperity, and have reaped the reward of their labors in the possession of a competency and the universal esteem of the community. Their only child, Harris H., married Fannie Nearmen, and lives in Rockford. By a former marriage, Mr. Rice became the father of two sons: Charles E., who is a farmer in Storm Lake, Iowa; and James A., who is a speculator in Chicago. During his residence in Harrison Township, Mr. Rice served as Supervisor and Justice of the Peace, and in his political adherence is independent, casting his ballot for the candidates whom he deems best qualified to represent the people.



A C. BURPEE is the senior member of the firm of Burpee & Son. They have the largest retail furniture and undertaking establishment in Illinois outside of Chicago. The business was founded by our subject in 1856, at Nos. 108 and 110 West State Street, where he is still located. The first year he was alone and then he admitted to partnership William Werner. After three years, that connection was discontinued and the firm of Burpee & Groneman did business from 1869 until 1871, after which Mr. Burpee was alone for fifteen years, when the present company was established. The store which they occupy is forty-four feet front and is two hundred feet deep and has a five story front. At night it is lighted with electricity. There are passenger and freight elevators and all the appointments of a modern furniture store, and the stock which they carry is both

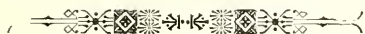
extensive and of fine make. As before stated, they have a very large trade and their establishment is one of the leading ones in the city. In connection with the furniture department, they also carry on the undertaking business, having large supplies in this line, together with a fine hearse. A. C. Burpee is a stockholder in the Rockford Burial Case Company, of which he has been a Director for five years. He is also a stockholder of the Rockford Silver Plate Company, a stockholder and Director of the Rockford Cattle Company, and is also interested in other corporations.

Mr. Burpee came to Rockford from Lima, N. Y., where his birth occurred August 10, 1822. His father, Samuel Burpee, was a native of Charlestown, Mass., where he was partially reared; he also lived in Worcester County. In Sterling, he learned the furniture business and on the 16th of June, 1816, removed to Lima, N. Y., where for forty-two years he was proprietor of a furniture store. Subsequently, he became a resident of Beloit, Wis., where he died ten years later, at the age of eighty-three. He was well known in the East as an anti-slavery and temperance worker, and was an Abolitionist when there were only five others in Livingston County, N. Y. He signed the first temperance pledge which he saw, and never broke it. The church once took up his case on account of his slavery and temperance principles. He debated those questions throughout Livingston County, N. Y., and was once threatened by a mob, but strong in the right, he bravely stood and neither fear nor favor could alter his belief or course. He afterward became identified with the Republican party. In religious belief, he was a Presbyterian. His wife, whose maiden name was Esther Crosby, died in Lima, N. Y., at the age of sixty-eight. She was born in New Hampshire and was a daughter of Capt. Alpheus Crosby, a commissioned officer and brave soldier of the Revolution, who died on his farm amid the hills of the Granite State. Two of his sons, Alpheus and Asa, came to Rockford in 1849, and were prominently connected with the early history of this city.

In Lima, N. Y., Mr. Burpee of this sketch learned the trade and business of a furniture dealer and undertaker and was engaged in that line for three

years in LeRoy, N. Y., prior to coming to Rockford. He was married in Monroe County, N. Y., to Miss Harriet M. Baldwin, the accomplished daughter of Gordon and Lydia (Fitch) Baldwin. Her father was a prominent and well-to-do farmer of Monroe County, who, in 1857, came to Illinois, dying in Iroquois County when past the age of sixty years. His wife was born in Hinsdale, Mass., and died in Iroquois County at an advanced age. Both were active and consistent members of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Burpee have taken an active part in all public affairs, are prominent members of society and are faithful workers in the Second Congregational Church. In politics, Mr. Burpee is a Republican. Their union has been blessed with five children; at home; Harry B., who graduated from the Rockford High School and spent a year in Europe, studying in the colleges of London and Paris, married Della C. Trufan, of Rockford, and is now his father's partner; Herman N., of Seattle, Wash., is State Agent for a type-writing company, also for the Holly Water Works Manufacturing Company and in the works in Seattle; Florence is the wife of McGregor Huffman, who is employed in the Winnebago National Bank, of Rockford; and Stanton is a book-keeper in the Rockford National Bank. The family is one of prominence in this community. Mr. Burpee is one of the leading and progressive business men of the city, sagacious and far-sighted, and has done much for the upbuilding and growth of Rockford, where he has so long made his home.



JOHN R. WELLS. In the ranks of the substantial farmers of Winnebago County this gentleman is worthy of prominent consideration, having by economical living and frugal management acquired a fine property, which brings him a comfortable income. He is at present residing on section 1, Seward Township, and has by his good conduct acquired an honored position among his fellow-townsmen.

The town of Mesina, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., was the birthplace of our subject, his natal

day being February 20, 1837. His parents were Reuben and Jane Wells, the former of whom was a son of Reuben, Sr., a native of Vermont, and an old Revolutionary soldier. Tradition has it that two brothers of the Wells family came to the United States from Wales, but just at what date is not known. The father of our subject was born in Middleboro, Vt. and came West with his wife and eight children in 1841. He had been married in 1818 to Jane Roberts, who was born in Plattsburg, N. Y., and was the daughter of Abram Roberts, who died in this county at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Jane Wells, when in his eighty-first year; his wife departed this life in New York.

The Wells family in Winnebago County are prosperous agriculturists. Our subject had an uncle, Levi Roberts, who was Aide-de-camp to John McDonald at the battle of Plattsburg, and drew a pension from the Government, having been wounded by a horse falling upon him. The mother of our subject passed away in this county, March 20, 1885. She bore her husband ten children, five of whom are living. The father of our subject died on the old home farm in this county, in February, 1850. His tract was a "squatter's" claim, thirty acres of which were broken, and erected thereon was a log cabin. One hundred and sixty acres were included in the farm, for which he paid \$200. The father went from Vermont to New York with no earthly possessions other than the clothes he wore and an axe, and his possessions on coming to this county were two horses and a wagon.

After the death of his father, our subject remained at home until sixteen years of age, when he worked out by the month for two years, and then went to Iowa, where he was engaged in breaking prairie lands. Returning home, he remained until 1861, when he crossed the plains to California, and was engaged eight years in mining and market-gardening. Coming again to the Prairie State, Mr. Wells purchased a farm, upon which he makes his home at the present time, and has been successfully engaged in cultivating the soil since that time.

Miss Adel E., daughter of Roswell and Mary Clark, became the wife of our subject in March,

1870. The lady was born in New York, December 30, 1851, and died at her home in this county, March 1, 1889. She had become the mother of three children: Ernest E., who was born December 8, 1870, and is attending the business college at Rockford; Gertrude R., born September 1, 1873, is a very charming and accomplished young lady, being a graduate of the Winnebago High School, and Bernice M., who died in infancy.

A Republican in politics, our subject cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. His wife was a prominent member of the Women's Relief Corps, and is otherwise interested in many ennobling and elevating works. Mr. Wells is a self-made man in the truest sense of that term, as he started out in life empty-handed, and is now one of the well-to-do farmers of the county.

Roswell Clark, the father of Mrs. Wells, was born in Andover, Vt., where he was reared on a farm, and accompanied his parents on their removal to New York State in 1831. Settling in Wyoming County, he purchased a tract of timber land, cleared a farm from the wilderness, and resided there until 1857, when he came to Illinois, and two years later purchased a farm at Twelve Mile Grove, Seward Township. Here his decease occurred in 1884. His wife, prior to her marriage, was May Walton, a native of Massachusetts, and the daughter of John Walton. She is now living near Pecatonica, having become the mother of four children: Amelia H., Alonzo W., Elbert J., and Dell E.



GUST FLODELL, of Rockford City, Ill., follows the business of a news-dealer, than which in the wide range of industrial pursuits there is not a more interesting occupation, for upon him the education of the masses and the enlightenment of the citizens of this country in a large manner depend. Mr. Flodell, the successful Swedish news-dealer located at No. 310 East State Street, has been in business in this city, in his present line, for ten years and carries a fine stock of the very best class of Swedish literature. He is a gentleman of energetic and accomplished

business habits, and is prompt and reliable in all transactions. He came to Rockford in 1869, and in 1874 opened a meat market on East State Street which he carried on for six years. After this, he was in one of the furniture factories of the town, but subsequently opened a book store, and in 1888 he was associated with W. T. May in the jewelry business in the same room he had occupied as a book-seller. He is the leading steamship ticket agent of the city and represents all the leading trans-Atlantic steamship lines. Aside from this, he is a promoter of the Skandia Furniture Company, a stockholder of the same, and at present holds the position of Vice-president of that organization. He is also interested in the Union Grocery Company and is a promoter of the Central Furniture Company, also the Mantel and Furniture Company, and the Skandia Brick Company, of which he is President. He is a stockholder in the Brown Brick Company and a stockholder and promoter in a number of other enterprises. Mr. Flodell has been one of the leading business men in this city since his residence here, and has ever taken a decided interest in local matters. In politics he is a sound Republican. In religion he is an active member of the First Lutheran Church, of which he has been an official member. He has been very successful as a business man, and owns, beside his various interests in the city, a good home at No. 903 Third Avenue.

Mr. Flodell is a native of Sweden, born in Wester Gothland Province on the 12th of March, 1845, and was the first of his family to come to the United States. His father, Gustave Flodell, was born in 1808 and was a tiller of the soil until his death in 1857. The latter's wife survived him until 1872, and at the time of her death was quite aged. Both were members of the Swedish Lutheran Church. Two of their daughters are residing in the old country, Mrs. Anna Anderson and Mrs. E. Johnson.

Gust Flodell selected as his companion in life Miss Eva Peterson, a native of the same province as her husband, her birth occurring in 1838, and their nuptials were celebrated in Rockford on the 1st of April, 1870. She came to the United States in 1869, and became a resident of Rockford. Her parents died in Sweden, the mother, Bertha Peterson, in 1880 and the father, Peter Peterson, the fol-

lowing year, the latter when just eighty years of age. They were Swedish Lutherans in their religious belief. The father had always followed the occupation of a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Flodell have no children. Both are well respected in the city, and are intelligent, worthy people.



LOUIS SANDINE of Rockford, like many of the leading furniture men of this city, was born in Sweden, his birth occurring in the southern part of the country on the 22d of October, 1858. His father, Peter Pearson, was born in 1823, and is yet living, a hale and hearty old gentleman, who throughout life has followed the occupation of farming. He has also been a life-long member of the Lutheran Church, to which Mrs. Pearson also belonged. The death of his wife occurred in September, 1891. She was born in 1831, and bore the maiden name of Kjersti. Our subject was the first of the family to come to this country, but has been followed by three brothers: Nels, John and Mangnes. None are yet married and all are employed by the Rockford Mantel and Furniture Company of this city.

In the land of his nativity, Mr. Sandine spent the days of his boyhood and youth and acquired a good education in the city schools of Stockholm. Believing that this country offered better advantages to young men just starting out in life than the old countries, he determined to seek a home in America, and crossed the briny deep in 1881. He did not tarry long in the East but came at once to Rockford, Ill., and has since been connected with the practical work of different furniture companies, giving to the different branches his special attention. He therefore became well acquainted with the business in all its details and is well qualified for the responsible position of trust he now holds, that of Secretary and Treasurer of the Mantel and Furniture Company. The company was organized in 1890, and he has since held his present office and is also one of its Directors and a stockholder. When the new additions to the factory are completed, it will contain over 150,000 square feet and will furnish employment to at least three hundred men.

It will be one of the largest manufactories of the city and now does a more extensive business in the manufacture of mantels than any other corporation in the country. Their mantels, of which they make a specialty, are adjustable and thus can be used in any place.

A marriage ceremony performed in Rockford united the lives of Mr. Sandine and Mrs. Amanda Sahllin, who was born in Central Sweden and was reared and educated in the city of Stockholm. The year 1880 witnessed her arrival in the United States, since which time she has made her home in Rockford. By her former marriage she became the mother of two children: George and Elvera. By her second marriage an interesting family of four children have been born: Esther E., Louis A., Charles Otto and Agnes I. The parents are both members of the Zion Lutheran Church, of which Mr. Sandine is Secretary and one of the Trustees. In politics, he is independent. He is a straightforward business man, energetic and industrious, and has become well-to-do.



NELS T. THOMPSON is carrying on a successful business as a merchant tailor at No. 113 West State Street in Rockford. He opened this establishment in January, 1887. He carries an excellent line of goods, and his work is always first-class, so that he is able to retain his patrons and secure many others. His trade has constantly increased and he is now doing a flourishing business.

Mr. Thompson was born near Chrestenaham Laen, Sweden, April 22, 1831, and is a son of Jonas Høe, who was a carpenter by trade, and in connection with that occupation also followed farming in Sweden. He came to this country late in life and spent seven years in the home of our subject, where his death occurred at the age of seventy-four. His wife died in Sweden when about sixty-two years of age. In the family were three sons and a daughter, our subject being the eldest; Louisa is the wife of Gustaf Gustafson, a cabinet-maker and stockholder in the Chair and

Furniture Factory of this city; John is married and is a skilled cabinet-maker employed by the Forest City Furniture Company; and Olof is a cabinet-maker with the Standard Furniture Company. He married Mollie Swenson.

Our subject is a self-made man. He began life at the early age of ten years, when he commenced learning the tailor's trade, working as a journeyman until he came to this country. He took passage on board the three-mast sailing-vessel "Merimac," which left Gottenburg in March, 1854, and after forty-nine days dropped anchor in the harbor of Quebec, Canada, whence Mr. Thompson came at once to Illinois, making his first settlement in Chicago, where he spent four years. At the expiration of that time, he came to Rockford, in 1859, and has since made his home in this city. He did journeyman work as a tailor here until 1878, when he began business as one of the principal stockholders in the Merchant Tailor Stock Company, with which he was officially connected for some time as Secretary and Treasurer. He later withdrew from that concern and has since been alone in business as a merchant tailor at No. 113 West State Street.

Mr. Thompson was married in Chicago to Johanna Wall in October, 1858, but she died of consumption in Rockford in 1873. There are no living children from this union. He was again married in this city to Miss Emma Peterson, a native of Sweden, born in 1844. When a young lady, she came to this country, to which her parents had emigrated in 1853. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have been born seven children: George W., a graduate of the Business College of Rockford, now employed as book-keeper for the Union Furniture Company; Laura, engaged in the millinery business; William, a graduate of the Rockford Business College and book-keeper for the Mantel and Furniture Company; Fannie, Mary, Hattie and Blanche, all yet at home.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Thompson is a Republican, and, socially, is a member of the Masonic lodge of this city. He is also a stockholder in the Peterson Land Syndicate, having an addition of three hundred and eleven acres near Rockford, and is interested in the Rockford Mantel

and Furniture Company, the Royal Sewing Machine Company, the Rockford Planing Mill Company and other corporations. Although he started out in life so young, and has had many difficulties to overcome, he has steadily worked his way upward to a position of affluence. He resides at his pleasant home at No. 709 Elm Street.



GEORGE H. BALDWIN. There is in the development of every successful life a principle which is a lesson to every man following in its footsteps, a lesson leading to a higher and more honorable position than the ordinary. Let a man be industriously ambitious, and honorable in his ambitions, and he will rise, whether having the prestige of family or the obscurity of poverty. These reflections are called forth by the study of the life of Mr. George H. Baldwin, whose reputation as an honorable, upright citizen is not merely local, but extends over a wide scope of country.

Mr. Baldwin is a native of the Empire State, born near Rochester in 1836, and was but a year old when he was brought to Illinois by his parents. His father, Thomas Baldwin, followed the life of a mechanic, and our subject's youthful days were divided between assisting on the farm and in attending the common schools, in which he received a fairly good education for that early day. In connection with his farming operations, the father also followed the trade of a carpenter and under his supervision our subject became quite proficient with the tools.

In 1859, and in Roscoe, Ill., our subject was married to Miss Jane Kerr, a native of Roscoe and the daughter of Charles and Ann F. (Meas) Kerr, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of England. Her parents were married in Canada and came thence to Illinois about 1839. The father was a heavy contractor on the Illinois Canal and was situated at Lockport, near Joliet. His wife died near Roscoe about 1879, when fifty-five years of age, and three months later he followed her to the grave, dying at the same place when seventy-two years of age. They were the parents of eleven

children, three sons and eight daughters, all of whom are living and the heads of families. They are scattered through four States. The eldest of this family is fifty-six years of age and the youngest twenty-nine. Four of the children reside in Roscoe.

Our subject and wife have resided in Roscoe since their marriage, and in that town all their children were born. They buried two infants, and now have six sons and one daughter living, viz: George E., now twenty-nine years of age, married Miss Jean Sands, and resides on the old homestead; he has two children. Fred Baldwin, a butcher of Rockford, married Miss Cora Frost; Giles H., single, is a machinist at Beloit; Willis C., single, also a butcher; Glenn C., single, is engaged in the dairy business; Grace A., is attending school and James R., a bright schoolboy.

Mr. Baldwin has just been elected Assessor, in which capacity he served twenty-one years and has been School Director since his majority, also for some time Trustee in the church of his choice, the Methodist. Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin removed from their farm where they had a most charming and pleasant rural home in 1889, and purchased a good house and lot in Roscoe. They are well known and respected in this county and are prominent in all public enterprises. Mr. Baldwin is a member of the Modern Woodmen, and is an earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party.



JOHAN T. SAVAGE is a member of the well-known and prosperous firm of Savage & Love, successful jobbing manufacturers, pattern and model makers, making a specialty of pulleys, shafting, etc. This firm threw its doors open in June, 1874, at No. 640 South Main Street, and have scored a success beyond their most sanguine expectations. The business was originally started in a small part of the large building they now occupy, but from the first they met with success. Energetic, reliable, conducting their business on the most elevated plane of mercantile honor, and practically conversant with it in all its details, their firm has become the representative one in its line in the city. From fifteen to twenty men are

employed all the time, and a large amount of first-class work is turned out daily. Messrs. Savage and Love are skilled mechanics and machinists, and the latter became familiar with his trade, as a pattern and model maker and millwright in this city during his boyhood.

Mr. Savage was born in Quebec, Canada, but when nineteen years of age came to the States, where, on the 1st of January, 1864, he enlisted in the Seventh Maine Battery, and served as artificer most of the time until the close of the war. He was in the Army of the Potomac and participated in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, and other prominent engagements. He was honorably discharged at Augusta on the 25th of June, 1865. One year after returning from the war, he came to Rockford and has since been joined by two sisters, both now married: Annett, wife of D. A. K. Andrus, a book dealer of Rockford, and Jane, wife of C. G. Smith, a house painter and decorator.

The parents, Joseph and Sophronia (Shepherd) Savage, were natives of Canada and were of Scotch-Irish descent. They passed their entire days in Canada, the father engaged as a tiller of the soil, the latter dying at the age of seventy-two, and the mother at the age of fifty-seven. They were members of the Episcopal and Baptist Churches, respectively.

When he first entered the United States, Mr. Savage, our subject, located at Portland, Me., but on the 24th of May, 1866, he came to Rockford, Ill. He had learned the carpenter and the joiner trade and was thus engaged until the present firm was established. Since then he has developed other branches of business as a pattern and model maker.

The subject of this sketch was married in his native country to Miss Sarah J. Wallace, who was born and reared in the Province of Quebec and who is of English descent, her father, Job Wallace, being a native of Newcastle, England, and a farmer by occupation. The latter came to Canada when a single man and there married Miss Eleanor Wormwood, a native of Canada. They were Methodists in their religious views.

Seven children have blessed Mr. and Mrs. Savage's union, viz.: Fred A., a clerk with his father;

Percy A., a paper hanger and decorator of Mason City, Iowa; Bruce W. A., a paper hanger and decorator, resides at home; Max, Carl, Kenneth and Rex, the four last also at home. Socially, Mr. Savage is a member of G. L. Nevins Post No. 1, G. A. R., and has filled most of the offices in the same. He is also a member of the Woodmen, Workmen and other orders. In politics, he is a Republican. He and Mrs. Savage attend the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the latter holds membership in the same.



WILLIAM H. GILMAN, deceased, who was well known as a teacher, lawyer and banker, was born in Bristol, N. H., February 1, 1807, and was a son of Nicholas and Nancy (Holt) Gilman. He was reared and educated in his native State, where he engaged in teaching for a time. When a young man, he went to Canada, there studied law, was admitted to the Bar and commenced practice in the town of Sherbrooke, Province of Quebec, where he remained until 1837. He then came to Illinois, accompanied by his wife.

They came by way of the St. Lawrence River, canals and Lakes to Chicago, where a horse and buggy were purchased, and they drove on to Belvidere. At that time, there was not a bridge across any of the streams, and the land in Northern Illinois was all owned by the Government. Mr. Gilman made a claim and erected a log cabin, in which he and his wife began life in the West in true pioneer style. For some years deer and other wild game were plentiful. When the land came into market, he went to Galena and entered his claim at the land office. For two years, he resided upon his farm and then came to Belvidere, where he embarked in the practice of law. A few years later, he went to Chicago, purchased property and built a home. He then took a contract to build a portion of two railroads then in process of construction. The family resided in Chicago for two years, then returned to Belvidere, where our subject resumed the practice of the legal profession and

later engaged in banking until his death, which occurred on the 7th of October, 1877.

Mrs. Gilman bore the maiden name of Juliet Walker. Their union was celebrated December 11, 1834, in Peacham, Vt. The lady was born at that place, April 15, 1808, and is a daughter of Joel and Alice (Houghton) Walker, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Keene, N. H. Her father was a pioneer preacher and there engaged in mercantile pursuits for some years, and was also Postmaster at that place. He came to Illinois in 1839, and, purchasing land in Boone County, engaged in farming for some years, after which he came to Belvidere and lived retired throughout the remainder of his life.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gilman were born six children, three of whom are yet living, a son and two daughters: Helen A., wife of H. P. Peck, a resident of Beloit, Wis.; William H., who married Sarah E. Williams, and is living in Chicago, and Kate M., widow of Winnie J. Sager, who now resides with her mother at the old home. The family are all Presbyterians.

Politically, Mr. Gilman was a Democrat. He always took an active interest in public affairs and extended a helping hand to any enterprise calculated to benefit the city. He was instrumental in securing the location of the Northwestern Railroad to Belvidere, to which he donated five acres of land in the city. He was a liberal contributor to the various churches and was a public-spirited and progressive citizen, widely and favorably known in this community.



JAMES R. BARTLETT, who is at present residing in the city of Rockford, was born at Marlboro, Vt., August 24, 1819, and while an infant his parents removed to Cheshire County, N. H. His father, Jonas Bartlett, was also born at Marlboro, the date of his birth being December 25, 1798. He was a farmer by occupation and descended from a sturdy race of New Englanders.

Jonas Bartlett in 1818 was married to Miss E. Robertson, daughter of James Robertson, who was

reared in Cheshire County, N. H. The ancestors of Mrs. Bartlett, both paternal and maternal, were very prominent in educational and public affairs, some of them being legislators and statesmen. The parents of our subject in the spring of 1835 removed to Le Roy, Genesee County, N. Y., where they purchased a farm near a popular academy, in order that their children might have the best educational advantages.

He of whom we write is one in a family of seven children, all of whom are living, with the exception of E. L., who died in Chicago in the autumn of 1890, aged sixty-nine years. Those living are James R., Elias L., Lucy W., Nathaniel, Susan K., and Jonas. Our subject was a lad of sixteen years when he went to Le Roy, N. Y., where he worked on a farm during the summers and attended school in the winter seasons in the old academy which was known as the Old Round House. Prior to reaching his majority, he taught school for two years in Bergen Township, and after attaining the age of twenty-one, he followed the occupation of a teacher for some time. For four years he served as School Commissioner, during which time he introduced the first Webster's Unabridged Dictionary ever used in school. His father was a zealous Methodist, and although young Bartlett was strongly inclined to the Presbyterian faith, he worshipped with his parents and when quite young was a Class-leader.

September 19, 1841, Mr. Bartlett of this sketch and Miss Julia Ann, daughter of Lucius and Elizabeth Parks, were united in marriage. Her parents were natives of Rutland, Vt., and later locating in Le Roy, N. Y., resided there for some twenty years, where they were engaged in farming during the greater portion of the time. They came to Illinois in November, 1854, and settled in Rockford, where they have since made their home, with the exception of a few years spent in New Milford.

Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett have three children who are deceased, namely: George Lincoln, James R. and Mrs. Mary H. H. Talcott. The members of their family who are living bear the respective names of Franklin P., Frances E., Charles M., Cordelia J., now Mrs. C. N. Anderson, and Nellie C., a maiden lady who resides at Marshalltown, Iowa.

Mrs. Bartlett departed this life in December, 1882, mourned by a large circle of friends. Our subject has been connected with the First Congregational Church of Rockford for many years, and in his political relations is a zealous Republican.


 CAPT. JOHN B. NASH, a highly esteemed citizen of Rockford, is a veteran of the late war, where he won a good record for faithful service, though he sacrificed his health for his country. A native of Maine, our subject was born in Parkman, Piscataquis County, February 14, 1831, and is the son of John Nash, who was also a native of the Pine Tree State. The grandfather of our subject, Jonathan Nash, hailed from Massachusetts, whence he removed to Maine, being one of the pioneers of the town of Minot. Thence he removed to Auburn, Me., where he purchased a farm and resided until his decease, which occurred at the advanced age of ninety-three years. He served as a patriot in the Revolutionary War.

The direct progenitor of our subject was reared on the home farm, and after his marriage resided in the town of Parkman a few years, when he removed to Auburn and made that place his home until 1855, which was the date of his advent into Illinois. On coming hither, he located in De Kalb County, where he purchased a farm and resided for a number of years, thence removed to Rockford, where his death occurred at the age of eighty-eight years. Rachael C. Banks, the mother of our subject, was also born in Maine, and departed this life in Rockford.

John B. Nash was reared and educated in the Pine Tree State and there resided until 1851, when, like so many others afflicted with the gold fever, he went to California via the Isthmus of Panama. He was there engaged in mining and resided for four years, when he returned to Maine and soon after came to Illinois. He resided for a time in De Kalb County, and in 1862, on the outbreak of the late war, raised a company, and in the fall of that year was elected its Captain, the same being known as Company G, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Infantry. He was mustered in at Dixon on Sept-

ember 2, and served with his regiment until July, 1864, when his resignation was accepted on account of disability. Capt. Nash spent the following winter in Belvidere and then came to Rockford, which has since been his home.

Mary A. Williamson and our subject were united in marriage in 1858, and to them have been born three children: Earl L., Jay B., and Guy H., the first-born, who died in his thirtieth year. Capt. Nash is a prominent member of Nevins Post No. 1, G. A. R., and in politics votes the straight Republican ticket. For fifteen years he served as Assessor of Rockford, and for six years was the incumbent of the responsible office of Deputy-Sheriff. He is prominent in social matters, being a member of Rockford Lodge No. 102, A. F. & A. M., of which society he has been Secretary for fourteen years. He has also occupied that position for six years in the Winnebago Chapter No. 24, R. A. M., and for six years was Recorder in Crusader Commandery No. 17, K. T.



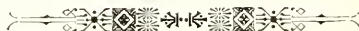
CYRUS B. JUDD, an extensive farmer and stock-raiser of Pecatonica Township, Winnebago County, has been a very prominent factor in its development in an agricultural way, and is the proprietor of a beautiful estate comprising two hundred and sixty-eight acres, of which one hundred and twenty-five were left to him by his father.

Mr. Judd of this sketch was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., June 11, 1839, and is the son of John B. and Louisa S. (Judd) Judd. John B. was residing at home at the time of his marriage, and on his father's death fell heir to the estate, to which he later added until he had one of the finest farms in the township. His father had been married in Messina, N. Y., and at the time of his removal to Illinois in 1854, he was accompanied by Cyrus B., who was an only child.

The lady to whom our subject was married December 26, 1860, was Miss Maria N. Kellogg, who was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., April 14, 1837. She was the daughter of Albert and Nancy

(McDonald) Kellogg, the former of whom was born in New Hampshire and died in the above-named county in New York. To Mr. and Mrs. Judd have been born two children: Laura B., whose birth occurred August 14, 1872, was graduated from the Pecatonica schools, and is now engaged in teaching in this township; Lucius J. was born June 17, 1879, and is prosecuting his studies in the district schools.

Mr. and Mrs. Judd attend the Congregational Church, of which they are members and active workers. He is a Republican in politics, having cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. Mrs. Judd is a very intelligent lady and while residing in New York taught school for seven years and was similarly employed for two terms in Burrill Township.



JAMES BLISS, an extensive farmer and stock-raiser of Owen Township, has been a very prominent factor in developing and extending the large agricultural interests of Winnebago County. He was born in Troy, N. Y., January 22, 1822, and is the son of Christopher Bliss, who was born and reared in New England. Later, he went to New York State, where he served as Captain on a river steamer for some time, after which he engaged in the mercantile business in Savoy, Berkshire County, Mass., whither he had removed in 1822.

The maiden name of our subject's mother was Aelsah Denning; she was a native of Wethersfield, Conn., and was the daughter of Capt. John and Elizabeth Denning. Her father was commander of a vessel for some time, and when abandoning that line of work engaged in farming in Savoy, Mass., where he spent his last years. The father of our subject departed this life in 1827, and his widow, after again marrying, died in Westfield, Mass.

James Bliss of this sketch was an infant when his parents removed to Massachusetts, where he was reared to the age of fifteen years in Savoy. Then starting out in life for himself, he worked on a farm for a time, when he found employment as

clerk in a store for one year. Later, however, learning the carpenter's trade, he followed that line of work until his marriage, when he again began farming, purchasing a tract of one hundred acres in the town of Adams, Mass., which he cultivated successfully until 1863, the date of his advent into Winnebago County. He had visited this section in 1850, at which time he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land with a soldier's land warrant, for which he paid \$110. He now has one of the finest and best-improved farms in the county, which comprises two hundred and thirty-two acres.

The lady to whom Mr. Bliss was married bore the maiden name of Lydia Fife. She was born in Berkshire County, Mass., and died on the farm in Owen Township in 1863. Our subject was then married to Miss Annie M. Colton, who was born in Westfield, Mass., and departed this life in 1882. The present wife of Mr. Bliss, prior to her marriage, was Miss Amanda Henderson. In religious affairs, our subject is a member of the Baptist Church, and occupies a prominent position among the wealthy farmers of this section.



AMORY HAMILTON ALLEN, one of the extensive land-owners of Boone County, residing in Belvidere, claims Maine as the State of his nativity. He was born on the 16th of May, 1816, in that part of Cumberland County which is now included in Androscoggin County. The family is of English origin and was founded in America by Samuel Allen, of Bridgewater, Somersetshire, who came to America, accompanied by his wife, Ann, in 1620, and settled in Braintree, Mass. Their son Samuel was born in 1632, and became a large land-owner in Braintree and Bridgewater. He married Sarah Partridge and unto them was born Josiah Allen in 1677. He wedded Mary Reed and their son William was next in the line of descent. He was born in 1726, and was the great-grandfather of our subject. His wife bore the maiden name of Susanna Packard. Abel Allen, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Bridgewater, Mass., in 1760, and removed thence to what is now the town of Auburn,

Androscoggin County, Me., becoming a pioneer of that locality. Throughout the remainder of his life, he there engaged in farming. His wife was Mary Dillingham, who was born in Massachusetts, and was of English descent.

The father of our subject, Lebbeus Allen, was born in Cumberland County, Me., July 4, 1792, and learned the trade of a carpenter following it in connection with farming. He married Joannah B. Nash, who was born in the same town as her husband in 1791, and was a daughter of Jonathan and Anna (Bird) Nash, natives of Worcester and Dorchester, Mass., respectively. He was a Revolutionary soldier and participated in the famous battle of Bunker Hill. For a few years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Allen resided in the town of Auburn and in 1822 removed to the town of Hebron. Upon the farm which was there purchased, they both spent the remainder of their days. The father died September 8, 1872, and the mother in November, 1873. They had eight children: Amory H., Mary, Lebbeus, William N., John H., Charles A., Bernard B. and Melvin A.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent in the town of Hebron. He seemed to possess a natural taste for mechanics but remained at home and assisted his father in the farm work until twenty years of age, when he served a short apprenticeship to the carriage-making trade and then began business for himself in Buckfield, Oxford County, Me., where he continued to operate until 1846. He then sold out and engaged in the manufacture of rakes for three years, after which he engaged in the manufacture of powder for about four years. We next find him engaged in general merchandising, which he carried on in connection with the manufacture of boots, shoes and clothing until 1866, when he disposed of his business interests in the East.

Mr. Allen has been twice married. On the 18th of May, 1839, Zilpha Cushman became his wife. She was born in Buckfield, Me., was a daughter of Caleb and Mary Cushman, and was a lineal descendant of Rev. Mr. Cushman, the Pilgrim. She died November 17, 1865, leaving four children, who are yet living: William Wallace, Joanna B., Walter F. and A. Hamilton. Frances had died at the age

of seven and a half years and Augusta became the wife of L. Ashton and died at the age of twenty-five years, leaving one son, Ray. Mr. Allen was again married, February 8, 1870, his second union being with Abigail Sampson, who was born in Androscoggin County, Me., and is a daughter of Seth and Deborah (Record) Sampson, both natives of Maine. Her paternal grandfather, Abel Sampson, was a native of Massachusetts, but her maternal grandparents, Daniel and Abigail (Damon) Record, spent their entire lives in the Pine Tree State. The father of Mrs. Allen was for many years Justice of the Peace and served in other offices. He spent his entire life in Maine and died at the age of eighty-four years.

In 1866, Mr. Allen came with his family to Belvidere, and purchased a farm in the town of Flora about five miles from the city. He there engaged in farming and dairying and introduced the first Jersey stock into this section of the country. In 1886, however, he rented his farm and, removing to Belvidere, has since lived a retired life. In politics, he is independent. Within the past two years, he has devoted much of his time and attention to art and has painted many beautiful pictures of landscapes, flowers, animals, etc. It is a pleasant way in which to spend his leisure time and he thereby also furnishes beautiful adornment for his home. Although he began life in limited circumstances, he has worked his way upward and has acquired a competence which now enables him to enjoy a well-earned rest.



OSCAR BERGQUIST, who is now living a retired life at his pleasant home on the corner of Fifth Street and Fourth Avenue in Rockford, is numbered among the early settlers of this city of 1855. He has witnessed almost the entire growth of the place, and has been prominently connected with its business interests. As he is widely and favorably known in this community, we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers.

Mr. Bergquist was born in Vermland, Sweden; August 6, 1826, and is a son of Capt. Carl Axil

Nacler, who came of French descent. For many years, he was connected with the army, and for his services and bravery received prominent recognition from the Swedish Government, being given a star and two gold medals. He died at the advanced age of seventy years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Katie Anderson, was a Swedish lady, and was called to her final rest at the advanced age of eighty years. They were both Lutherans in religious belief.

Mr. Bergquist, whose name heads this record, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native province, and there learned the painter's trade. Desiring to try his fortune in America, he crossed the Atlantic in 1854, being the first of his family to come to this country. He sailed from Christiana, Norway, and, after a voyage of eleven weeks and three days, landed in Quebec, Canada, whence he made his way to Chicago, where he spent one year working at his trade. The following year, he came to Rockford and began business as a painter. As he was a good workman and straightforward in business, he received a liberal patronage from the beginning, which constantly increased until he had acquired a handsome competence.

Mr. Bergquist was married in this city in 1855, to Miss Anna B. Mork, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, May 26, 1828, and is a daughter of Larson Mork, a private soldier in the regular Swedish Army, who after some years of active service, retired on a pension and died at an advanced age, in 1855. His wife survived him until 1895. Their daughter came to this country in 1853, landing on the 21st of October in Boston, where she made her home for a year. The vessel in which she sailed was nine weeks upon the bosom of the Atlantic, and on the voyage sixty of its two hundred and fifty passengers died of cholera. Her brother, John Larson, had come to the United States a few months previous.

For thirty-seven years, Mr. and Mrs. Bergquist have lived and labored together, and their upright lives and sterling worth have won them the high regard of all they have come in contact. They now have a pleasant home on Fifth Street and Fourth Avenue, and he also owns one other good

residence on the same block. Mrs. Bergquist was formerly a member of the Lutheran Church, but now belongs to the Methodist Church. They were parents of nine children, five of whom died in early infancy, and C. Gustave, William E., Ebba J. and Ebba W., all died in childhood.



MRS. MINERVA LEWIS, relict of Alfred Lewis, who was a successful tiller of the soil in Illinois for many years, was originally from the Empire State, born in Monroe County, near Rochester, in 1803. She is a lady in every sense of the term, and one whose refined presence and noble qualities of mind and heart have endeared her to a large circle of friends. Her parents, Philander and Wealthy (Parks) Barret, were natives of New England, and came when young married people to Monroe County, N. Y., when the country was wild and unsettled. Mrs. Lewis remembers that they said they saw leeks six inches high on the 16th of March. They came in a one-horse wagon and brought Mrs. Barret's parents with them, Christopher and Sarah (Mansfield) Parks, both natives of New Hampshire, where Mr. Parks had followed farming until quite aged. They died in New York State, the father when sixty years of age, and the mother at the very unusual age of over four-score, her grandmother living to the age of ninety-nine. She retained her faculties to the last, and when dying said to her son Christopher, "I am going," immediately afterward expiring; the grandfather Parks died at the age of sixty years. They were the parents of a large family of children.

Mrs. Lewis is one of fourteen children, and her father died on the farm he had taken up in New York State in 1814, when forty-four years of age. His wife survived him many years and died in 1849, an octogenarian. Mrs. Lewis was married January 25, 1827, in Monroe County, N. Y., on the farm where she was born. Her husband, Alfred Lewis, was nearly three years younger than herself, and was a blacksmith in his earlier days. He learned his trade when seventeen years of age,

but only worked at this seven years, when he moved to Huron (now Erie) County, Ohio, and purchased a farm of one hundred acres of prairie land. To this he added from time to time until at the end of twelve years he owned a section of land. This he then sold and took in part payment a small farm in Wisconsin, near Clinton, but he located in the northwest corner of Roscoe Township in 1844, making a claim of several hundred acres. He immediately went to work improving this and put one hundred acres in wheat. Many of Mrs. Lewis' neighbors' farms were part of this claim, and when Mr. Lewis died, in 1871, he owned but forty acres, on which Mrs. Lewis is now residing, and ten acres of timber three miles east of Roscoe. He erected many buildings, and the cobblestone house in which his wife is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Helen Enos, was erected by him in 1854. He was an honest, upright, worthy citizen and was universally respected. His death occurred on February 14, 1874, when sixty-eight years of age.

Of the thirteen children born to this respected couple, eight died in infancy. Those who reached mature years were Maj. Alfred Lewis, who was born in 1828, married in Roscoe Miss Diana Brown, and in 1850 went to California during the gold fever excitement, going overland. He remained in that State until 1865, although he had visited his aged parents in the East, and then volunteered in the army. He served as bugler and died the victim of camp fever, with eleven of his comrades. He is buried in Arizona. The other children are Minerva Jane, now Mrs. J. J. Mosher, of Nebraska; Martha Ann, now Mrs. Kendrick Scovill, of Nebraska; Emily P. Mrs. Sherwood Moss, with whom our subject is now living; and Helen, now Mrs. Leonard Enos. Mr. Moss was a cavalryman and served through the entire war.

Mrs. Lewis has been a member of the Baptist Church since a young girl, and her husband, the principal part of his life, was a Deacon in this church. In politics, he was an Abolitionist and a Republican. Although quite aged, time has dealt leniently with Mrs. Lewis, and she bids fair to live many years longer. She is an excellent lady in every respect, and has passed her days in following

the precepts of the Golden Rule, and may the sunset of her life be peaceful and happy, as it has every prospect of being. This venerable lady has sixteen grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. Mrs. Enos has three daughters: Cora M., Cicely W., and Alice B., aged sixteen, fourteen and five years, respectively. Miss Cora is a junior in the High School.



DANIEL SILLARS owns and operates one hundred and seventy-nine acres of land on section 25, Harlem Township, and is one of the representative farmers of Winnebago County. He claims Scotland as his native land, his birth having occurred in Kintyre, Argyleshire, in April, 1833. His father, Duncan Sillars, was born in the same locality and was reared to agricultural pursuits. He wedded Mary McWilliams, daughter of Alexander McWilliams, and unto them were born six children: Alexander, Archibald, Agnes, Duncan, Daniel and Mary. Archibald resides in New Zealand, and the other members of the family are now living in America. The mother died in her native land and there the father remained until 1854, when he crossed the broad Atlantic to America, taking passage on board the "John Hamilton," which sailed from Greenwich on the 17th of June. He was accompanied by three of his children. He landed at Quebec after a voyage of seven weeks and thence came directly to Illinois, settling in Guilford Township, Winnebago County, where he rented land and engaged in farming. His death occurred in 1869.

The subject of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the county of his nativity and acquired his education in its public schools. He was a young man of twenty-one years when, in 1854, he accompanied his father on his emigration to America. On locating in this county, he commenced life for himself, working as a farm hand by the month. As the result of his industry and economy, he was soon enabled to lease a farm, and for thirteen years he operated rented land. Having acquired some capital during that time, he, in 1869, purchased the farm which he now owns and

occupies. Within its boundaries are comprised one hundred and seventy-nine acres of arable land. His home, a comfortable residence, is in the midst of good outbuildings, such as are found on a model farm, and these in turn are surrounded by well-tilled fields, whose neat appearance indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner.

As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, Mr. Sillars chose Miss Janet Andrews, a native of Argyleshire, Scotland, and a daughter of David and Janet (Howie) Andrews. Mrs. Sillars came to America in 1852; after living six months in Ohio, she removed to Illinois, and located in Guilford Township. The parents are both dead. They were the parents of thirteen children, of whom ten are still living. Our subject's marriage was celebrated January 28, 1869, and their union has been blessed with five children, two deceased. The three daughters are Nettie, Agnes and Elizabeth. The parents and their eldest daughter are members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian Church. The Sillars household is the abode of hospitality and the members rank high in social circles.



CHARLES E. BENGTON is a member of the firm of Bengtson Brothers, dealers in cigars, tobacco, snuff, sporting goods, etc. They have a fine and well-arranged store located at No. 619 Seventh Street, where they have been engaged in business for some time. They started on a small scale, but as their trade increased they have had to enlarge their capacity, and are now doing an extensive business, being wholesale dealers in snuff. Their's was the first business of the kind started on the famous "Phoenix" Street. For five years, they have carried on operations under the title of Bengtson Brothers, Fred Bengtson being the partner of our subject.

The Bengtson family came to Rockford in 1866. Charles E. was born in Sweden on the 9th of January, 1863, and was therefore quite small when with his parents he crossed the Atlantic to America, the family coming on at once to Rockford. The father, Andrew Bengtson, died in this city when little past middle life. His wife still makes

her home with her sons in Rockford, at the age of sixty years. She is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, to which Mr. Bengtson also belonged.

Our subject has spent almost his entire life in this city. He was here reared to manhood and acquired his education in the public schools. Since attaining his majority, he has voted with the Republican party, of which he is a stalwart supporter, and socially he is a member of the Knights of Pythias Society on the East Side. On embarking in business, he chose the enterprise to which he yet devotes his energies. The Bengtson Brothers are wide-awake and industrious young men, ambitious and persevering, and are already winning a well-deserved prosperity. Their trade yields them a good income and is constantly increasing. In connection with their other interests, they also own seventeen furnished rooms in a flat immediately over their store. They are also stockholders in the Royal Sewing Machine Company in this city, and have interests in other local enterprises, and in real estate. Mr. Bengtson, who has so long resided in this city, is well known, and among his wide circle of friends are many who have been his acquaintances since boyhood.



JEREMIAH CAMPBELL. This well-known pioneer of Winnebago County was identified with its most progressive measures, and was one of the influential citizens of Durand Township. He was a worthy representative of a patriotic and honored family, some of whom early founded homes in America. His paternal ancestors originated in Scotland and were prominent in many of the wars during the early history of this country, one member of the family having been a noted Captain in the War of 1812.

The parents of our subject, Samuel and Grace (Plumb) Campbell, were natives of St. Albans, Vt., where the last-named entered into her final rest. About 1838, Samuel Campbell moved to Winnebago County (whither he had been preceded by a son) and here spent the twilight of his life, passing away in 1844 at the age of eighty-two. His

son Jeremiah was born April 5, 1818, in Grand Isle, Vt., and came to Illinois in 1837, entering one hundred and sixty acres of Government land and engaging in clearing and cultivating the place.

The first marriage of our subject united him with Miss Lois B. Hoyt, June 30, 1839, and one child was born of the union, a son, Edward, who married Kate Smith; he resides in Durand Township, and is the father of three children. October 19, 1843, Jeremiah Campbell was again married, choosing as his wife Miss Cynthia E. Hoyt, a sister of his first wife. This lady was born in St. Albans, Vt., November 11, 1828, a daughter of Heman and Susan (Franklin) Hoyt. Her grandparents, Jonathan and Lois (Bradley) Hoyt, were natives of Connecticut, and were pioneers of St. Albans, Vt., where they spent the closing years of their lives. Heman Hoyt came to Winnebago County January 3, 1837, his family having arrived here the preceding October. He died in this county near the place of his first settlement, at the age of seventy-three, and his wife died at the same place when fifty-six years old.

When Jeremiah Campbell left St. Albans, Vt., he went to Wayne County, N. Y., where he remained some time with a sister, and after her death accompanied his brother-in-law to Michigan. He came to Winnebago County with his father some time later, the journey being made with a one-horse wagon. As he had no capital, he was obliged to operate Government land, but as soon as he had accumulated sufficient money he purchased a farm and constantly increased his landed possessions until he acquired a large property. During the early days of his residence in this county, Chicago was the nearest market and post-office, and the intervening country was sparsely settled. Mr. Campbell was a Republican, but not a partisan politician, and his place in the esteem of his fellow-men was so high that his death, April 25, 1884, was widely mourned.

The family of our subject consisted of four children: Romeo II., born September 15, 1844, is married and has five children; Eva M., born December 21, 1854, married Louis Goodrich, and they reside in Nebraska. One child is deceased. Frank B. was

born July 25, 1846. He was married December 29, 1870, to Miss Belle Adams, who was born in Livingston County, N. Y., October 31, 1852. They have three children living, as follows: Lula A., born April 11, 1881; Ralph E., March 2, 1885; and Roy, April 19, 1888. The mother of this family, Mrs. Cynthia Campbell, still survives in the enjoyment of good health, and makes her home in Durand Township. The members of the family enjoy the respect of their large number of acquaintances, and their position in the community is among the best people.



OLE R. TILLERSON. No one is to be more complimented on the perfect method and order with which their agricultural affairs are conducted, than he whose name is given above. He is a farmer, one of the most successful ones of the county, and, although of foreign birth, he has ever taken a deep interest in the progress and development of his adopted country. Mr. Tillerson was born near Vosbergen, Norway, on the 29th of August, 1823, and his father, Trond Tillerson, who was a carpenter by trade, was also a native of that country. The elder Mr. Tillerson was married in Norway to Miss Tilda Tillerson, and they became the parents of six children, one daughter dying in Norway when a small child. Three sons and two daughters grew to adult years and came to America. In 1848, two years after our subject came to America, the parents crossed the ocean and died on this side of the Atlantic, with their son, Ole Tillerson, both when about seventy-three years of age. All these children are now deceased except our subject.

After his marriage, which occurred in Norway, to Miss Martha Myra Tillerson, in 1845, our subject, with his bride, took passage on a sailing-vessel at Bergen, and, after an ocean voyage of forty-six days reached New York City. From there they went to Milwaukee, by river, canal, and the Lakes, and were about two weeks in making the trip. After reaching that city, they went with ox-teams to their present home, and the following year Mr. Tillerson bought one hundred and twenty acres of Gov-

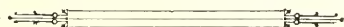
ernment land. He had but \$80 in money and one cow, and, his claim costing him \$160, he had to borrow, paying fifty per cent. interest. (We might mention here that the man who charged this high rate of interest died in the poor-house.) Mr. Tillerson erected a rude log house and resided in it for about two years, when he was joined by his parents, and he and his father bought forty acres, upon which both resided for some time. Our subject lost his wife on the 9th of July, 1863. Their union had been blessed by the birth of eleven children, five daughters and six sons. One son died in infancy, and in the fall of 1853 they buried two little girls, Carrie and Emlene, both dying inside of two weeks, of typhoid fever. There were six persons prostrated in the house at one time with this disease.

On the 15th of September, 1868, Mr. Tillerson married Miss Christe Sleen, from Vos, Norway, who came over in 1866, and the fruits of this union have been nine children. They lost one daughter, Emma, a student of Rockford Seminary and a very promising young lady. Her death occurred on the 26th of January, 1892, and she would soon have graduated at the Seminary. She was a young lady of more than usual promise, and her sunny, pleasant disposition won her many friends. The living children are as follows: Ceril, now an invalid in Chicago; Martin, Andrew, Ella, Annie, Sarah, Kanut, and Dena, all at home. Mr. Tillerson has eight children living by his first wife: Henry, a hardware merchant of Chicago; Tilda, in Chicago; Thomas N. runs a stock ranch in New Mexico; Lewis is a merchant in Dakota; Martha married Mr. O. Olonson, a painter of Chicago; Ellis owns a sheep ranch in Dakota; Betsy is in Chicago; and Frank, a carpenter of Chicago. All but Frank are married and doing well in business.

Mr. Tillerson has now four hundred and forty acres of land and forty acres of second-growth timber. He raises all the small kinds of grain; raises ordinary stock, and milks from twenty-five to thirty-five cows, sending the milk and cream to the factory. Mr. Tillerson has always voted the Republican ticket, and was elected Supervisor, but did not qualify. He has been administrator for estates reaching many thousands of dollars, and guardian

for six minors in one estate and two in another. He is highly esteemed in the community, and his honesty and uprightness are unquestioned. Honorable and upright in all his dealing, he has been entrusted with the finances of several estates, and is in every way worthy of the trust reposed in him. He and Mrs. Tillerson and their children are members of the Norwegian Lutheran Church, and are the founders of this church in the northern part of the township. Although they brought but little of this world's goods to this country, they respect the word of God and place their faith and trust in God, and have become prosperous and happy. Mrs. Tillerson's aged mother, now seventy-three years of age, has been with her on a visit since June, 1891, and, as much as she loves her daughter, her only child, and her grandchildren, she sighs and longs for her mountain home in Norway.

Although Mrs. Tillerson is not what one would call an educated lady, she is still more intelligent than many college-bred ladies, and has taught her children the Norwegian tongue, besides instructing them in many other useful ways. Mr. and Mrs. Tillerson's greatest and most earnest wish is that their children will always respect the word of God, and be considerate of the poor and suffering. While the early death of their daughter was a sad blow, and a trouble that seems hard, very hard, to bear, they still think that the cloud has its silver lining, and that "a good God reigns over all." Her funeral was one long to be remembered on account of the large concourse of friends who paid their last respects to the dear departed one.



CHARLES MAYER. Among the prosperous citizens of Rockford, who have here accumulated a goodly fortune, may be mentioned the subject of this sketch. He was born on the river Rhine, at Nierstein, Hesse-Darmstadt, March 8, 1851. In his native land he grew to manhood, and, when eighteen years old, in 1869, enlisted in the Hessian Pioneer Company, Ninth Army Corps, his division general being Prince Ludwig, now Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt. He served throughout the Franco-Prussian War, and

was honorably discharged, January 6, 1872, as Corporal of his company. Mr. Mayer participated in the battle of Carzellio, August 14, 1870, and four days afterward took part in the battle of Gravelotte, the greatest engagement of that well-known war. He was also present at Metz, Orleans, South of Paris, and Le Mans, including several minor engagements, making fourteen in all. He was particularly fortunate, for he was neither wounded nor taken prisoner, and was always on duty. For four months he served as advance guard, and is justly proud of his military record, having served his country with fidelity and valor.

At the close of the war, Mr. Mayer returned to his home, and at once commenced making preparations to emigrate to America. March 10, 1872, he left his home and took passage from Hamburg on the steamer "Harmonia," Capt. Meyer commanding, and landed in New York City on the 28th of March, after a voyage of eighteen days. Two sisters and two brothers had preceded him to the United States. The younger brother, Ferdinand, lives in Wisconsin and is a grain-buyer; Albert is a barber in Rockford; a sister, Mrs. Baumgartner, is the wife of a baker of New York City. The father of this family, Cornelius Mayer, was a miller and wine-maker on the Rhine, and died in his native place when forty-six years old.

The grandfather of our subject, Jacob Mayer, served under the first Napoleon, and participated in the battles of Leipsic and Austerlitz, as well as other prominent places. He died in the '40s, when quite full of years. He had married a Miss Zeigler, whose brother Henry fought with Napoleon at the battle of Moscow and in other engagements. The mother of our subject, who was formerly Miss Eva Schmitt, was born, reared, and passed her entire life in Hesse-Darmstadt, dying in 1859, at the age of forty-four. In her religion she was a Catholic, while her husband was a Protestant. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Jacob Schmitt, was a member of the Hessian parliament for years, and was a prominent citizen of Nierstein.

When Mr. Mayer came to Rockford in 1873, he had only \$6.50, but by prudence and energy has become well-to-do. He is the owner of a fine prop-

erty of two acres, with two houses, his business property, a valuable lot at No. 108 East State Street, and a two-story residence at No. 712½ Elm Street. The business in which he is successfully engaged is that of a wholesale dealer in beer and a retail bottler of the same, at Nos. 1310 and 1312 Charles Street. He is a stockholder in the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Bank, the Nelson Hotel, and the Rockford Driving Park.

The lady who became the wife of our subject in Rockford was Louisa Stricker, a native of Wurttemberg, who accompanied her parents to the United States and settled in Belvidere. Her father died in 1872, when sixty-eight years old; his wife died January 9, 1881, in her seventy-first year. They were members of the Lutheran Church. Mrs. Mayer is a loving wife, and devoted to her three children: Carl H., Amelia R., and Harry G. Socially, Mr. Mayer is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. For the past seven years he has served as President of the Rockford Germania Singing Society. He is a public-spirited man, always interested in the welfare of the city, and contributes liberally to the poor and needy.



CLAUS H. ANDERSON is engaged in general farming on section 9, Cherry Valley Township, where he operates three hundred and sixty-five acres of good land. Throughout his entire life, he has engaged in agricultural pursuits. He claims Sweden as his native land, his birth having occurred on the 7th of July, 1851. Mention is made of his family in the sketch of A. J. Anderson on another page of this work. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent in the land of his nativity, no event of special importance occurring during that time. In 1875, he came with his parents to this country. They sailed from Gotenburg to Liverpool, England, whence they crossed the Atlantic to Boston, Mass., and thence came to Rockford, where the father and step-mother of our subject are now living, both being well advanced in years.

Mr. Anderson, of this sketch, since locating in this county, some seventeen years ago, has followed farming. For eleven years, he was engaged in that pursuit in New Milford Township and is now a leading agriculturist of Cherry Valley Township. He has been quite successful in his business career and has steadily worked his way upward, overcoming the obstacles in his path, until he is now well-to-do. He may well be termed a self-made man, for his prosperity is the result of his own efforts, good management and close application to business.

Mr. Anderson was married in the city of Rockford, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Farb, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, in 1853, and came to this country when a maiden of about sixteen summers. She took up her residence in Rockford, and her parents afterward crossed the Atlantic, becoming residents of Winnebago County. They purchased a farm in Rockford Township, where they are now living, both being well advanced in years. Mr. Farb had served in the standing army of Sweden a good many years before he came to America.

The union of Mr. Anderson and Miss Farb has been blessed with five children, and the family circle yet remains unbroken. They are as follows: Alma J., Edward H., Charles G., Otto H. and Edna J. The parents are both members of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford and are enterprising and industrious citizens, well and favorably known in this community. They take an active interest in all that pertains to the general welfare and the upbuilding of the county. In politics, Mr. Anderson is a Republican but has never sought or desired official preferment.



WILLIAM NELSON. If in the city of Rockford there is one business more successful than all others, and attracting wider notices from other cities, it is the Nelson Knitting Company, of which the subject of this sketch is Director, and Superintendent of the Machine Department. The company furnishes steady employment to five hundred persons, and such is the demand for their goods that the full capacity

of the plant is run night and day. The five thousand dozen pair of hose, which is the daily average, find a ready sale in every part of the United States, and have a reputation which is excelled by the products of no other manufactory.

This enterprise, which has been steadily and rapidly increasing in magnitude since 1870, is the outgrowth of the genius of the inventor, John Nelson (of whom see biography), the father of our subject. With reference to the Nelson Knitting Machines, it may be truthfully said that no invention of the kind equals them. In addition to his interests in this manufactory, Mr. Nelson is a Director in the Rockford Folding Bed Manufacturing Company, and in the Manufacturers' National Bank. He is also Vice-president of the Forest City Knitting Company, another prominent factory, located on the east side of the Rock River and employing about three hundred men. This is a successful industry and a valuable acquisition to the manufactories of Rockford.

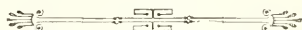
Among the noteworthy additions to the city of Rockford, and one which is looked upon with special pride by the people, is the elegant new hotel, containing five hundred rooms, erected in a modern style of architecture and complete in every appointment. The house, which is called the Nelson House, in honor of its chief promoter, is unexcelled by any other hotel in the State outside of Chicago, and is probably one of the best throughout the entire Northwest.

These and other enterprises, including landed additions to the city and their improvement, have received the hearty support and active encouragement of Mr. Nelson, besides his financial assistance. The shrewd and careful way in which he has conducted his business affairs proves him to be a man of much natural tact and ability, and he is likewise the inheritor of some of his father's mechanical ingenuity, which enables him to conduct and manage the great machinery developed by his father. A stranger is impressed with the accuracy and perfection of the complicated machines, as well as by the skill which oversees and guides the whole.

William Nelson was born in Rockford, October 29, 1857. He received his education in the com-

mon schools and made the best use of his advantages in that direction. Not many years ago, he returned to his father's native land, Sweden, and there took for a wife one of the fair daughters of that country, Miss Oleva Olson, who was born and reared there. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have a beautiful home in the best residence portion of Rockford, and with their two children, Louisa and Elsie, are surrounded by all the comforts which increase the pleasures of life.

Being of a social nature, Mr. Nelson has taken especial interest in the order of Masonry and is a Royal Arch Mason; a member of the Knights Templar, or Commandery Degree, of this city; the Scottish Rites Consistory, of Freeport, Ill., and the Shrine of Chicago, making him a Thirty-second Degree member of the order.



WILLIAM J. COX. On a fertile and well-developed farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty-five acres on section 15, Burritt Township, Winnebago County, Mr. Cox pursues the even tenor of his way, gaining the good-will of his fellows and winning maintenance from the soil. He was born in New Jersey, March 16, 1843, and is the son of William Cox, a native of Hampshire, England, where the grandparents of our subject spent their entire lives.

William Cox was reared and married in England, setting sail from Liverpool with his young bride November 3, 1841, and landing in New York December 24, of that year. They made their home in New Jersey for five years, at the end of which time the father of our subject removed to Genesee County, N. Y., and in 1851 came by way of the Lakes to Chicago, thence by team to Rockford, in which city he lived for six months. He later came to Burritt Township, where he purchased forty acres on section 14, only six of which were broken. Mr. Cox soon entered forty acres more from the Government and again added to his estate eighty acres, upon which he resided until 1876, when he moved into the city of Rockford and departed this life April 10, 1891.

November 3, 1841, the parents of our subject

were married in England, the mother being Ann Radford, daughter of James Radford. Her father came to the New World and lived with his children until his decease. The mother of our subject still resides in Rockford and has reared the following ten children: William J., Mary A., Alfred, Charles, Maria, Alonzo, Carrie, Frank, Joseph and Vern. Alfred served during the late war as a member of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry and died in the service.

Our subject was nine years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to the Prairie State and here he assisted his father in developing a new farm until reaching his twenty-second year. During that time, however, he had become the owner of eighty acres which are included in his present farm and to which he has since added until his estate comprises one hundred and sixty-five acres. It is well improved with good buildings, and besides that tract Mr. Cox owns considerable timber land.

The date which united the fortunes of Miss Annie Smith to those of our subject was March 16, 1870. The lady was born November 23, 1845, in Bedfordshire, England, where her father, James Smith, the son of Mark and Elizabeth Smith, was born. The father was married in Bedfordshire to a lady who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Bettle, a daughter of William Bettle. Mr. and Mrs. Smith had the following children: William, Mark, Susan, Thomas, George, Sarah, Alfred, James, Elizabeth, and Mrs. Cox. The latter, together with William and Mark, are the only members of the family who came to America. Our subject and his wife have one son, William G.



GEORGE R. ATKINSON, a well-known merchant tailor in Rockford, has his fine parlors located over the Golden Eagle Clothing Store, on the corner of West State and North Main Streets. He has been engaged in this branch of work since January 1, 1871, and does the most extensive trade in the city, giving employment to from eighteen to twenty men. Mr. Atkinson came to this city September 10, 1864,

when he engaged to work for David Wallock & Co., who are retired business men, now residing in Chicago. Our subject acted as cutter for that company for seven years, and during the last two seasons of his service received the largest salary ever paid to a cutter in the Western country.

As before stated, in 1871 our subject lunched out in the merchant tailoring business on his own account, and beside numbering among his customers the best citizens of Rockford, he receives orders for work in the different States from Maine to California, which fact in itself indicates his ability as a skilled workman and business man. George R. Atkinson was born in Cumberland County, in the North of England, September 19, 1835, and was a lad of eleven years when he was bound out as a tailor's apprentice until reaching his majority. When seventeen years of age, however, he decided to leave his master, and his mother borrowing the money to pay his passage to the United States, he, in September, 1853, boarded a sailer at Liverpool, which landed him in the city of New York six weeks later, where he engaged to work at his trade. He was the eldest of three children born to his parents, and is the only member who makes his home in America. His father, Joseph Atkinson, was a wool-weaver by trade, and died in the prime of life, when our subject was three years of age. His wife, who survived him a number of years, died at the old home in Cumberland, England, in July, 1881. She was a very estimable lady and an active worker in the Dissenters' Church. Mary A., the only sister of our subject, died when only three weeks old, and his brother Thomas, who is one of the four oldest engineers on the London & Northwestern Railroad in England, will soon receive a pension from the company which he has served so many years with never an accident.

The lady to whom our subject was married in Boston, Mass., was Miss Julia A., daughter of Col. J. C. Harper, who was a well-known and prominent Mason in Wilson, Franklin County, Me., where he was born. Mrs. Atkinson was only two years of age when her mother died, and when ready to enter school received an excellent education, and is now one of the intelligent and cul-

tured ladies of Rockford. She has become the mother of two children, George and Julia, who are both deceased.

Mr. Atkinson, of this sketch, is prominent in Masonic circles, having taken the Thirty-second Degree. He is also a member of the Shrine of Medina Temple in Chicago, is connected with the Scottish Rites of Freeport, also with the Crusaders' Commandery No. 17, Winnebago Chapter No. 24, and Blue Lodge Eastern Star No. 116. He is also connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which order he holds a high place.



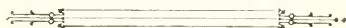
JOHIN S. BATE has been identified with the interests of Rockford for the past six years, where he is carrying on his trade of carpenter and contractor. He makes his home at No. 1001 Ashland Avenue, where he owns valuable property and has erected a comfortable residence. He came to this section from Cherokee County, Iowa, where he had been engaged as a farmer for four years.

The original of this sketch was born in Wayne County, Pa., April 27, 1853, and was there reared to man's estate. His father, Robert Bate, was born in Cornwall County, England, where, on attaining manhood, he followed the occupation of a farmer. He was married in his native country to Miss Prudence Arthur, who was also born in the same county as was her husband, and who accompanied him soon after their union to the United States in the latter part of the '30s. They arrived in New York City after a tedious voyage of seven weeks, and going at once to Pennsylvania located on a farm in Wayne County, where the father is still living, being in his sixty-eighth year. His wife departed this life in 1866, leaving a family of ten children, of whom our subject is the sixth in order of birth, and the only one who makes his home in Illinois. The parents of our subject, who were Episcopalians in religion, were known and respected for the honesty and sincerity of their character, and possessed the friendship of the best citizens in their community.

Young Bate, of this sketch, came to Illinois in

1876, and was later married to Miss Lucretia Kapp, who was born and reared in Burrill Township, Winnebago County. She was the daughter of Ashley Kapp, a well-to-do farmer of the above-named township, and departed this life at her home in the city of Rockford, July 16, 1890. She was a devoted member of the Baptist Church, and left at her decease one child, Robert Ashley. A daughter, Lucretia L., died when fourteen months old.

The lady whom Mr. Bate chose as his second wife was Anna A. B. Seegert, who was born in Chicago, July 2, 1870. Her early life was passed in the Garden City, where she received an excellent education in the public schools. Her father, Morris Seegert, was a native of Mecklenburg, Germany, and came to America in the '50s. He is at present living in Chicago, where he is a retired boot and shoe merchant. His wife was also a native of the Fatherland, and was about twenty-one years of age when she came to this country, being the first of her family to make her home in the New World. She was a working member of the Congregational Church, and reared a family of seven children. Mr. Bate stands well with his fellow-citizens, and is a sound Republican in politics. With his wife, he is connected with the Baptist Church, of which he has been a member for fifteen years, and a Deacon for the past two years.



JOHIN Z. RYDBERG. The varied experiences which have fallen to the lot of this prominent citizen of Rockford entitles him to more than passing notice. As a sailor before the mast, and, in later life, a soldier in defense of the Stars and Stripes, he gained a wide knowledge of men and things, which makes him a pleasant companion and entertaining conversationalist. A Swede by birth and parentage, he is nevertheless intensely American in his ideas, and has cherished a fond affection for the flag of our country since, when a boy of ten, he first saw it at his home in Gottenburg.

Mr. Rydberg was born in Sweden, September 22, 1833. He emigrated to the United States in 1852, and was a sailor on a merchant vessel out of

the port of Boston, from which city the ship sailed on the waters of the Atlantic and through the Southern Ocean, passing the equator four times and touching the South American ports. In the course of the voyage, Mr. Rydberg also sailed on the Mediterranean Sea, and anchored at Palermo, Sicily, besides other ports. At the request of his mother, he withdrew from the marine service after being thus engaged two or three years, and coming to the States located in Chicago, where he remained for a short time.

Coming to Rockford in 1857, Mr. Rydberg has since made this city his home. When the Rebellion broke out, he enlisted in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, as a member of Company K, and in the fall of 1862 accompanied his regiment to the Army of the Cumberland, Sheridan's Division, Fourth Army Corps. He participated in the battles of Perryville, Ky., Stone River, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Buzzard's Roost, and other minor engagements. At New Hope Church, he was wounded in the right ankle from the bursting of a shell, and was saved from what would have been a fatal wound by his ammunition box, which stayed the enemy's ball. Enlisting as a private, he was promoted to Corporal, in which capacity he was discharged at Nashville, Tenn. in the fall of 1865, after three years' service.

Returning to Rockford, Mr. Rydberg has since been connected with the progress of this city and has been identified with its foremost interests. He has served for some time as City and Town Collector, and is now Notary Public, besides which he holds the position of Secretary of the Swedish Mutual Fire Insurance Company. In politics, he is a Republican. For some years, he has served as Deacon in the Swedish Lutheran Church and is at present Superintendent of the Sunday-school.

In Chicago our subject was married to Miss Matilda Blom, a native of Sweden, who accompanied her parents to the United States in 1853 and with them settled in Chicago. Her father, who was a life guard to King Charles Oscar, died in Chicago, when more than fifty years old, and her mother also passed away in that city. Mr. and Mrs. Rydberg have had eight children, three of whom are deceased, namely: Lydia, Charlotte and Benjamin.

Charles, who married Laura Nelson, of Rockford, resides in Chicago; Olive is the wife of Paul Battemstron, a business man of Chicago; Emma married L. W. Keil, a jeweler of East State Street, Rockford; Joseph, who resides at home, is an engraver in a silver plate company; and Ebon is clerking for his brother-in-law in Chicago.



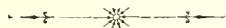
ROBERT H. FARRANT. A farm of moderate extent, but well-improved and managed, and located in Roscoe Township, Winnebago County, is the home of the subject of this notice. The estate is supplied with a full line of well-built edifices, which afford adequate shelter for stock, and storage for the products which are yielded by the land, or manufactured upon it. The owner of this comfortable home is of English lineage and birth, his parents being William and Caroline (Hutchings) Farrant, wealthy farmers in England, the former of whom died when our subject was an infant of three months.

He of whom we write was born in Devonshire, England, September 29, 1822, and is the youngest of seven children born to his parents. The eldest son, Mark, died when young; the next son was William, the heir to his father's vast estate. Mrs. William Farrant died in her native land in 1864, at the advanced age of ninety-six years. Robert H., of this sketch, left home when ten years of age, and went to Dublin with a brother-in-law to attend school, and there learned the upholsterer's trade. In the spring of 1839, he embarked on a sailing-vessel, "The New York," from Liverpool, and after a pleasant voyage of thirty days, landed on the American shore, in company with his brother-in-law, Robert Conner.

The original of this sketch made his home in Salem, Mass., for some twelve years, where he was engaged at his trade, and in 1854 came West to Gallipolis, Ohio. In December of 1863, he was married in Janesville, Wis., to Miss Almira, daughter of Daniel Goldthwait, whose birth occurred in Danvers, Essex County, Mass., and who was a potter by trade, which was the calling of his father before

him. The family trace their ancestry back four generations, to John, Daniel and David Goldthwait, who came to this country in an early day. The father of Mrs. Farrant emigrated to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1834, but soon returned to his native State, where his decease occurred at sixty-four years of age. He was followed to the better land fourteen years later by his good wife, who bore the maiden name of Susan Curtis.

To Mr. and Mrs. Farrant has been born one son, his natal day being March 12, 1866. They located in Roseoe Township, this county, in May of that year, where they purchased sixty acres of improved farm land, to which they have since added seventy acres. The former tract was purchased from William and David Randall, who emigrated from England, and entered the land from the Government in 1844. Our subject has been engaged in the upholstering business at Beloit, Wis., much of the time since locating here, during which time he rented his property. He is now managing affairs himself, and cultivates the soil in a most intelligent and profitable manner. In early life an old-line Whig, Mr. Farrant became a Democrat at the time Stephen A. Douglas was nominated for the Presidency. His son, Henry Ross, was a student at Beloit for a number of years, but was compelled to abandon his studies on account of his health, and is now at home cultivating the farm.



EDGAR N. LINCOLN, who was the owner and occupant of a fine farm on section 3, Flora Township, Boone County, was born in Bonus Township, July 12, 1842. His father, Jedediah Lincoln, was born in Middletown, Conn., where he was reared and educated, and on leaving his native State went to Pennsylvania and made his home for two years in Erie County. In 1839, he came West to Illinois, locating in what is now Bonus Township, this county, and entered a tract of Government land. There he resided for three years, when, disposing of that property, he purchased land in Flora Township, where his death occurred October 26, 1888.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject

was Marion Nichols, a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., and the daughter of Phineas Nichols. Her father, who was also a native of the Empire State, when reaching mature years removed to Ohio, and later came to Boone County, where he was classed among the pioneers. He was a man of considerable means, and invested his money in Government land in Bonus, Caledonia and Flora Townships. He only resided here a few years, however, and, returning to the Buckeye State, there passed his remaining years. The maiden name of his wife was Esther Gore. The mother of our subject died at the home of her daughter in Iowa, October 17, 1889. She reared a family of five children, viz.: Phoebe E., Oscar J., Edgar N., Alice M. and William P.

Edgar N. Lincoln attended the pioneer schools, and assisted in conducting the farm until September 4, 1862, when he enlisted in Company G, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served in the Union ranks until February, 1863, when he was honorably discharged by special act of Congress. He re-enlisted the same day, however, in Company D, Mississippi River Marine Brigade, and served with that command until January 22, 1865, when the command was disbanded.

November 15, 1866, when our subject was married to Ellen H. Moss, he located upon a portion of the old home which he now owns and occupies. He has made excellent improvements upon the place and has the pleasure of knowing that his farm is one of the best cultivated in the county. Mrs. Lincoln was born in Spring Township, this county, while her father, Asa Moss, was born in 1818, in Washington County, N. Y. His father, who also bore the name of Asa, removed from Washington to Chautauqua County in 1820, and resided there until 1836, at which time he came to Boone County, and made one of the first settlers in Belvidere Township. He secured a tract of Government land, improved his farm and made it his home until his decease. The maiden name of his wife was Sally Shirwood.

The father of Mrs. Lincoln was reared in Chautauqua County, and when a youth of eighteen years, came to Illinois with his parents, and secured a tract of Government land in Spring Township.

After his marriage, he sold his property, and, removing to Belyidere Township, purchased a farm which he occupied some years, and then lived retired in the city of that name until his decease, November 1, 1888. His wife was known in her maidenhood as Alvira Stewart. She was born in Erie County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Hosea and Phoebe (Aldrich) Stewart, natives also of the Empire State, where their decease occurred. Mrs. Moss came to Illinois with her brother Mathew, in 1843. She now makes her home with Mrs. Lincoln.

The following are the four children of Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln: Carrie A., wife of Fred McCoy; Rosa N., Gracie E. and Walter E. The parents are both members of the South Side Baptist Church, and, in politics, Mr. Lincoln is a Republican.



LEROY L. KIDDER, who was born in Medina County, Ohio, February 12, 1832, is the son of Benjamin and Jane A. (Palmer) Kidder. The father was born in New Hampshire and died in Pecatonica when seventy-four years of age. While a resident of Ohio, he was engaged in the lumber business, which he sold out in 1854, and coming to Illinois purchased a farm in Seward Township, Winnebago County. In politics, he was in early life a Free-soiler and later joined the ranks of the Republican party. Religiously, he was a Congregationalist.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Joseph Kidder, also hailed from New Hampshire and came West to Ohio in 1816, where he died when seventy years of age. The grandmother also died in the Buckeye State in her seventy-second year. Benjamin Kidder at one time walked from New Hampshire to Ohio on a pleasure trip. Mrs. Jane A. Kidder was born March 5, 1810 at Glens Falls, N. Y., and was a daughter of Hamner and Deborah (Lewis) Palmer. Her father came to Ohio in 1814, where he combined the occupation of a merchant and farmer and passed his last years, dying at the age of ninety-four years. His wife also died in Ohio in her fifty-fifth year. Mrs. Kidder departed this life at Akron after having become the mother

of nine children, three of whom died in infancy and four are now living. An uncle, Joseph Kidder, was a patriot in the War of 1812, and a brother of our subject, Benjamin Franklin, during the late war, was a member of Company K, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry.

Le Roy L. Kidder attended the schools taught in the old log cabin and remained at home until eighteen years of age. He then went West and engaged in mining in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, also in transferring goods from one camp to another. Later, he became a large cattle dealer in the West and in 1861, returning to Pecatonica, rode a mule the entire distance. Purchasing land in Seward and Pecatonica Townships, he added to his tract until he became the owner of four hundred acres of excellent land.

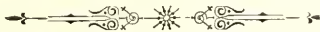
January 1, 1868, Mr. Kidder was united in marriage to Miss Celia Searls, who was born April 17, 1843 at Hinckley, Ohio, and is the daughter of Gilbert and Elizabeth (Halsted) Searls. The father was a native of New York, and on coming to Seward Township in 1858, here passed his last days, dying when forty-nine years of age. His wife, who was also born in the Empire State, is still living and makes her home in Pecatonica.

Mrs. C. Kidder is one in a family of eight children, seven of whom are living. By her union with our subject six children have been born, three of whom are deceased. Those living are: Nellie E., who was born June 25, 1868, is a graduate of the Pecatonica schools, and at the present time is conducting one of the best millinery stores in the place. Ernest R. was born July 10, 1876, and Lewis L., July 27, 1878. After his marriage, our subject removed to the village of Pecatonica, where he was engaged in the hardware business for two years, at the end of which time he resided for four years on his farm. He then returned to the village, took in as partner a Mr. Marston, and conducted a general store under the name of Kidder & Marston for two years, when our subject purchased the interest of his partner and operated the business alone for ten and one-half years. The firm style then became Kidder & Swartz and his present fine store building was erected. He of whom we write is interested in the shoe factory in

this place and gives liberally of his means to the furtherance of all good objects.

Our subject and his wife attend the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Kidder is connected with the Woman's Relief Corps and Legion of Honor. He of whom we write is a member of the Masonic fraternity in Pecatonica, in which lodge he has filled the positions of Secretary and Warden. He is also a member of Lodge No. 173, I. O. O. F., and has filled the principal chairs in that body three or four times. The Ancient Order of United Workmen claims him as one of its active members, as also does the Legion of Honor. In politics, our subject is a Republican. He was Assessor of his township for a number of years, for ten years served as President of the School Board, and was President of the Village Board for one term.

The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Kidder were Daniel and Phoebe (Fisher) Searls. Her father was born June 3, 1811, in Greene County, N. Y., where also the mother's birth occurred, March 19 of the same year. She was the daughter of James and Phoebe (Jameson) Halsted, her father born March 21, 1775, on Long Island, and died August 28, 1854, in Hinkleley, Medina County, Ohio, when seventy-nine years of age. Daniel Searls was born in April, 1775, and also passed away in Hinkleley, Ohio, in his seventy-ninth year, while his wife, whose demise occurred in the above State, was eighty years of age at the time of her death. Our subject's maternal great-grandfather was held a prisoner by the Indians for a number of months and on making his escape was nearly starved to death.



THOMAS W. COLE. The high standard of excellence which marks the popularity of any business house is maintained by the firm of Cole & Day, dealers in all kinds of fancy and staple groceries, located at No. 307 West State Street, Rockford. The present firm was established in November, 1879, and carries one of the largest stocks in the city and is rapidly increasing its business beyond its previous scope by honest treatment of patrons and strict integrity.

Since 1865, Mr. Cole has been identified with

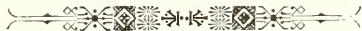
the business interests of Rockford, and for some years was a tobacco dealer, later served as County Treasurer for six years and was Township Collector for two years. At present, he is Alderman of the Seventh Ward and as a strong Republican takes an active part in political matters and is prominent in public affairs. His fellow-citizens have repeatedly called him to official positions of honor and trust, which he has invariably filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned, and has been especially active in all matters pertaining to the growth of the city.

Mr. Cole is a native of New York City and was born November 9, 1838, but has been a resident of Rockford since he was eighteen months old and has seen this city grow from a straggling village with a small population to a prominent position among the best cities of the State. When the Civil War broke out, he enlisted for three months in the early part of 1861 and served during the period of his enlistment as a member of Company D, Eleventh Illinois Infantry. In July, 1862, he reenlisted in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry as a private in Company D, Capt. Douglas and Col. Marsh, commanding.

After organization, the regiment marched at once to the South and was assigned to the Twentieth Army corps, in the Army of the Cumberland. Among the engagements in which Mr. Cole participated were the battles of Perryville, Ky.; Stone River (after which he was made First Sergeant), Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Dalton, Buzzard's Roost and Resaca. At the last-named place, the Seventy-fourth took a very prominent part, and Mr. Cole, in the thickest of the fight, was wounded in the right elbow by a ball from the enemy's guns, which confined him to the hospital for six months. Meanwhile, he was sent back to Rockford, where his arm was amputated in November, 1864.

April 3, 1872, Mr. Cole was united in marriage with Miss Alice Mentzer, who was born in Rockford, January 11, 1849. She was reared and educated in this city, of which her parents were early settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Cole are the parents of three children, Frank C., William J. and Lulu, all of whom are at home. Mrs. Cole takes an active in-

terest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the women of the city, and has for many years been a prominent member of the Woman's Relief Corps. Mr. Cole is a member of G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, and has occupied the Chair of Quartermaster of the post.



JM. SOUTHGATE, a retired business man of Rockford, occupies a pleasant home at No. 310 South Second Street. He has been a resident of this city since 1853, and has therefore been a witness of much of its development, aiding materially in its growth through his exertions. In his youth, he learned the trade of a tinner, and was thus engaged for some years, but in 1862 embarked in the grocery business, in partnership with his father-in-law, C. A. Shaw. Afterward, he carried on the business under the title of Southgate & Hudson, following which he was alone for three years, and then for ten years the firm was known as Southgate Bros., J. M. and V. M. being associated together. After many years spent successfully as a merchant, our subject retired from active business life in 1891, and is now enjoying the fruits of the toil of former years.

Mr. Southgate was born in Bridgewater, Windsor County, Vt., and belongs to a substantial New England family. His father, Thomas, a native of the Green Mountain State, died when forty-four years old, leaving his wife with four little children to care for. He was a farmer by occupation, and a man of upright principles and the utmost probity. His wife, whose maiden name was Deleena Marsh, was born in Vermont, of worthy parents, and was reared to womanhood in her native State. After the death of Mr. Southgate, she was married to Samuel Harwood, a native of New York, and afterward made her home on a farm in Orleans County until her death, when about four-score years old.

In Rockford, Mr. Southgate of this sketch was married to Miss C. Jennie Shaw, who was born in Lapeer County, Mich. Her parents, Calvin A. and Clara M. Shaw, were natives, respectively, of Rutland and Middlebury, Vt., and after their marriage in the Green Mountain State, removed to Michigan,

settling in Lapeer County, and improving a good farm there. Afterward, Mr. Shaw became a merchant, and in 1857 came to Illinois, engaging in business at Rockford, in partnership with Mr. Brockway, whom our subject succeeded. Mr. Shaw, later, sold his interest in the store to Mr. Hodson, and lived retired until his death, in 1879, at the age of seventy years. He was prominent in the politics of the city, and a strong adherent of the Republican party. He was an active member of the Presbyterian Church, and served as Elder. His wife, who was a noble woman and a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church, died in 1887, when seventy years old.

The family of which Mrs. Southgate is a member consisted of three children, the others being C. Adel, wife of William H. Worthington, of whom see biography; and L. Kate, whose husband is a clergyman in the Presbyterian Church at Vincennes, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Southgate have two sons: Harry, married Edith Wettstein, of Rochelle, Ill., and is book-keeper in the Rockford Shoe Company; Clate R. married Daisy Harbough, and they reside in Rockford. In their religious connections, our subject and his wife are members of the First Congregational Church, of which he is a Trustee, and also Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday-school. Politically, Mr. Southgate is a Prohibitionist, and a believer in reform along temperance lines.



BON. SELDEN M. CHURCH, who is one of the prominent citizens of Rockford, was born in East Haddam, Middlesex County, Conn., March 4, 1804, and is the son of Lazarus Church, who, as far as is known, was also a native of Connecticut. His father, the grandfather of our subject, bore the name of Ira Church, and emigrated from the above-named State to New York in 1801, where he spent his last years in Monroe County.

Lazarus Church was reared to man's estate and married in Connecticut, whence he removed the same year as did his father to New York making the journey overland with his wife and family.

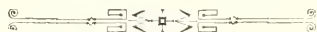
He located in what is now Monroe County, where he purchased a tract of heavy timber land about twelve miles from the present site of Rochester. Residing there a few years, he later took up his abode in Avon, Livingston County, where he carried on his trade of a blacksmith. He was living in that place during the War of 1812, and on one occasion joined an independent company and went to the rescue of the city of Buffalo. The father of our subject resided in the Empire State until 1847, when he came West and, locating in this city, here spent his last days, dying August 8, 1852, when seventy-four years of age.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Miss Catherine Brockway, and like her husband, she was a native of Connecticut. She was the daughter of Abner and Catherine (Marvin) Brockway, and departed this life in Rockford. She reared a family of four sons, namely: Selden M., Ulysses F., Ira and William L. He of whom we write was an infant when his parents removed to New York, and, when old enough to attend school, received his education in the pioneer log schoolhouse near his boyhood's home. He commenced when quite young to make his own way in the world, being variously employed in New York until January, 1835, when he came West with a team, stopping for a while at the then village of Chicago. From there he went to Geneva, now the county seat of Kane County, where he was employed as clerk in the store of a Mr. Herrington, who was one of the first settlers in that place. During that summer, he visited Rockford, his business being to subpoena a witness, the journey being made on horseback. In that early day, Winnebago County was not organized, and the now prosperous and wealthy city of Rockford contained but two buildings.

Mr. Church, of this sketch, remained in Geneva until the fall of 1836, when he came to this city, and for many years was one of the most active and influential citizens, until the infirmities of old age compelled him to retire from business and public life. He was one of the originators and organizers of the Rockford Water Power Company, and for some time served as President of the Rockford Insurance Company, and as Director of the Winnebago National Bank. He was elected

County Clerk in 1840, being the third incumbent of that position, and in 1849 was elected County Judge, in which capacity he served for eight years. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1847, and was made a member of the General Assembly in 1862. He was appointed a member of the State Board of Public Charities in 1868, and was one of the Commissioners designated by the Government to locate the bridge at Rock Island.

The lady to whom our subject was married, in 1831, was Pamela Stevens. She died in 1832, and the lady whom Mr. Church chose as his second wife, in 1845, was Mary (Turner) Preston, who was born in Cumberland County, Me., and was the daughter of James and Nancy (Tombs) Turner, and widow of Samuel D. Preston. Our subject has one daughter living by his first marriage, Katherine, now the widow of Theodore A. Keeler. She is the mother of two children: Jennie and Katherine. Mrs. Church had one daughter by her union with Mr. Preston, who bears the name of Mary.



WILLIAM L. HARBISON. Prominent among the citizens of Rockford stands the name of Mr. Harbison, who has for years been closely identified with the progress of the city, and especially of the Fifth Ward, which he is serving as Alderman. In October, 1881, he established a mercantile business at No. 816 South Main Street, where he has a large store, stocked with a full line of goods. Among the public-spirited citizens, stanch Republicans, and successful business men of the city, he occupies a prominent place, and is deserving of representation in this volume.

A native of the North of Ireland, and of Scotch-Irish parentage, our subject was early orphaned by the death of his mother. His father, Mathew Harbison, afterward came to America, in 1849, and engaged for some years as a miner in California. He made his home in the Golden State until his death, at Valley Ford, in 1888, aged eighty-five years. Our subject, after his mother's death, was taken into the home of his uncle, James Harbison,

with whom he came to America in 1850, when fourteen years old. He remained for some time in New York City, and served an apprenticeship as clerk for six years. His Uncle James removed West to Ohio, and died in that State in middle life.

In the spring of 1856, Mr. Harbison came to Rockford, where for some years he was engaged in business as a contractor. Since he organized his present business, in 1881, he has been the sole proprietor, and has erected the substantial store-building he now owns and occupies. He was married in this city to Miss Anna A. Raymond, who was born in Vermont, and came to Illinois when quite young, accompanying her parents, Lemuel and Laura (Wilkinson) Raymond. They settled on a farm in Winnebago County, and after bringing it to a high state of cultivation, retired to Rockford, where Mr. Raymond died at the age of seventy-six years.

Mrs. Harbison was reared in the parental home and was for some years a teacher, following that profession with success. Six children were born to her, four of whom are deceased, three dying in infancy, and Frank L., when a promising young man of about twenty-one years. Omer A. is at present clerking in his father's store; Howard W. married Susan I. Tisdale, who was educated in Rockford, and was engaged as a teacher prior to her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Harbison are attendants at the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are highly esteemed throughout the community.



JOEL BURBANK, the efficient and popular Sheriff of Winnebago County, was elected to office in the fall of 1890, and in the discharge of his duties he has proved himself worthy of the trust reposed in him. His entire life has been spent in this community. He was born in Harrison Township on the 12th of May, 1845, and is a son of Eli Burbank, one of the early settlers. His father was a native of Massachusetts and was descended from an old New England family. When a youth, he removed to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where he grew to manhood upon a farm and

married Miss Amanda Grover. They came West in 1835, and secured a tract of Government land in Harrison Township, whereon Mr. Burbank made his home until the early part of 1891, when he came to Rockford to live with his son, and his death occurred at Sheriff Burbank's home on the 17th of April. He lived the quiet, unassuming life of a farmer, was a worthy and valued citizen and had the respect of all who knew him. In politics, he was a Republican, and was a member of the United Brethren Church. His first wife died in Harrison Township of a fever that was prevalent in an early day. In Wisconsin, Mr. Burbank was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Anna Woodlee, *nee* Smith, who was born in Kent County, Del., December 26, 1809. Her first husband died in Pennsylvania in the prime of life, and when a young widow she came to the West. Mr. and Mrs. Burbank lived together as man and wife for fifty years. She is yet living and makes her home with her son. She retains her memory to a remarkable degree, but is now suffering from a broken hip and the infirmities which declining years bring. She is a member of the Free-will Baptist Church, and a lady held in the highest regard by all who know her.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Burbank were parents of ten children, some born of the first and some of their second marriage. There are three children of the Burbank family yet living, two sons and a daughter: Amanda, now the wife of D. H. Ellis, of Rockford; Joel, of this sketch, and Thomas, who wedded Mary Hulett and is a member of the fire department of Rockford.

Our subject has spent his entire life in this county. Under the parental roof, he was reared to manhood, the days of his youth being passed in the usual manner of farmer lads, attending the district schools in the winter season and working at home through the summer months. He has also followed agricultural pursuits during the greater part of his life, in fact, until his removal to Rockford in 1891. He still owns his fine farm, which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He has been an influential and worthy citizen of the community in which he has resided, and for some years served his township as Col-

lector. He was also Constable for fifteen years and Deputy Sheriff for six years. On questions of national importance, he always supports the Republican party, but at local elections votes independent and as an independent candidate ran for Sheriff in the fall of 1891.

In Green County, Wis., Mr. Burbank led to the marriage altar Miss Charlotte Davis, who was born June 4, 1859, in Spring Grove Township, that county. Her parents were David M. and Frances (Boughton) Davis, natives of Pennsylvania and New York, respectively. When young people, they came West and were married in Green County, Wis., beginning their domestic life on a farm in Spring Grove Township, where the father is still living at the age of sixty-two years. His wife died in November, 1881, at the age of forty-four. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Baptist Church, to which Mrs. Davis also belonged.

Mr. and Mrs. Burbank are now residents of the city of Rockford. They are genial, whole-souled people and have many friends throughout the community where they have so long resided. Mr. Burbank is proving a capable officer.



JOEL E. CRONK, a retired farmer of Belvidere, is a native of Dutchess County, N. Y. He was born September 17, 1830, and is a son of Enoch Cronk, who was born in New York, March 11, 1804. The father was reared in Dutchess County, and wedded Mary Denney, who was born in that county, June 28, 1806. They removed to Tioga County in 1837, and Mr. Cronk purchased a tract of land in company with John Thorne. He made his home in that locality until 1845, when he sold out, and bidding good-bye to the East, came by the way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes to Boone County, Ill., being one of its early settlers. Here he lived for a year, and then purchased a tract of wild land in Bonus Township, at \$2.25 per acre, and also bought some of the Government land at the same time, at \$1.25 per acre. On the latter, he built a frame house, 12x20 feet, and made it his

home until 1868, when he sold, and purchased a farm on Squaw Prairie. He afterward bought a home in Belvidere, where he resided until his death, on the 1st of November, 1881. His wife died in November, 1887. They reared a family of three children: Abbie J., Richard, and Joel E.

As soon as old enough, our subject began to aid his father in the farm labors, and, on coming to Illinois, assisted in the arduous task of developing the wild land. In 1852, however, he left home, and made an overland journey to California. He started on the 10th of April, and on the 21st of September reached his destination. For a time, he engaged in mining, and then went to Scott Valley, where he carried on a ranch, in connection with his brother Richard, until January, 1853. He then went to Etna Mills, where he was employed in a sawmill until autumn, when he returned home by way of the Isthmus of Panama and New York. Here he at once began to buy stock for a return trip across the plains, and started on the 11th of April, 1854. For five years, he engaged in farming and stock-raising in Siskiyou County, after which he made a visit of a few months to his old home. In January, 1860, he once more went to California by way of the Isthmus route, and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits and in stock-raising for six years, when he returned to Illinois and settled on the homestead in Bonus Township. Upon that farm, he resided until 1881, when he purchased his present farm, a portion of which is within the city limits of Belvidere.

On the 19th of May, 1866, Mr. Cronk was married to Miss Lottie Boomer, who was born in Ellisburgh, Jefferson County, N. Y., and is a daughter of Allen Boomer, also a native of Ellisburgh. The latter became a sailor when quite young, and afterwards was Captain of a lake vessel, which he sailed for seven years. During that time, he visited Chicago, then known as Ft. Dearborn, a small hamlet, containing only a few log houses. He was offered eighty acres of land, which is now in the heart of the city, at a nominal price, but, thinking it too swampy to become valuable, would not purchase it. In 1841, he became one of the early settlers of Stephenson County, where he resided for two years, when he purchased a claim on Garden Prairie,

Boone County. The farm which he there made continued to be his home until 1869, when he came to Belvidere, and lived retired until his death, in 1875. In the War of 1812, he had served as a drummer-boy. He married Niobe Franklin, a native of Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., and a daughter of Abel Franklin, a second cousin of Benjamin Franklin. Mrs. Boomer is still living, and makes her home in Austin, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Cronk are members of the Free Methodist Church, and are highly esteemed citizens of this community. They have a family of ten children: Florence J., Eugene, Wakeman H., Niobe M., Castellio, Lottie E., Mittie E., Benjamin B., Louis A., and Ruby W.



SILAS B. MERCHANT belongs to that sturdy, honest and independent class, the farmers of Illinois, and is now engaged in cultivating an estate comprising one hundred and twenty acres of land—twenty acres of timber, and the balance well adapted to the purposes of general farming. He was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., in 1836, but his father, Arlo J. Merchant, was a native of Connecticut. The elder Mr. Merchant worked at his trade, that of blacksmith, all his life, and also followed agricultural pursuits on a limited scale. His father, Enoch Merchant, was also a blacksmith by trade, and moved to Tompkins County, N. Y., with his family of three sons and two daughters, at an early date, there passing the remainder of his days.

Arlo J. Merchant married Miss Eliza Olmstead of Tompkins County, N. Y., and after residing there until 1854 they sold out and came to Illinois, locating in Rockford in the fall of that year. They came by rail and brought fifteen of their seventeen children with them, two remaining in New York State. They subsequently settled in the village of Winnebago and there the father passed away within a year afterward, being only forty-six years of age. His widow afterward married M. J. Upright, who received his final summons a few years previous to her death. They had moved to Rockford, Iowa, and there her death occurred on the 27th

of June, 1890, when in her eighty-fifth year. She was quite active and vigorous until within a short time of her death. Of the seventeen children born to this much esteemed and respected lady, ten are still living and heads of families. Mrs. Upright, formerly Mrs. Merchant, sent ten sons to the volunteer army during the war for the Union, and one son to the regular army after the close of the war. One of the ten sons serving in the Union army died in service, one was killed in action, one was killed by the accidental discharge of a cannon, two were promoted from privates to commissioned officers, and these, with five others, were honorably discharged at the close of the war. This is an extraordinary record, and the more notable because neither the mother nor her sons sought either notoriety or recognition from the Government. However, her case was brought to the notice of Congress in February, 1879, by the following letter from the Hon. George W. McCrary, then Secretary of War.

War Department, Washington, Feb. 11, 1879.

To Hon. N. C. Deering, House of Repts.

Sir:—I have considered the petition of Mrs. Eliza Upright, of Butler County, Iowa, praying for the discharge from military service of her son, Norman M. Merchant, Battery B, Fourth Artillery, which petition was presented by you, and is concurred in by numerous citizens. The discharge of this soldier is asked by the petitioner, who says that she is seventy-four years old, on the ground that she had ten sons in the Union army during the Rebellion, and the one above named, her eleventh and youngest son, has served for over five years in the regular army. She furnishes the names of her sons and a statement of the organizations in which they served: Enoch Merchant was Corporal Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Volunteers, and was honorably discharged September 20, 1865, died in Sycamore, Ill., January 19, 1892; Aaron Merchant was private in Company G, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, and was killed at Island No. 10, December 26, 1862, by the accidental discharge of a cannon; George W. Merchant was a private in Company C, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteers, afterwards a Lieutenant, and was honorably discharged September 26, 1865. He resides in South Dakota. DeWitt C. Merchant was a private in Company C, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteers, and was killed in action July 22, 1864, at Atlanta; Silas B. Merchant was a private in Company G, Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteers, was

promoted to First Lieutenant, and resigned September 25, 1864. He lives in Manchester, Boone County, Ill. Abel L. Merchant was a private in Company C, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteers, came home on a furlough and died in Winnebago, Ill.; David O. Merchant was a private in Company C, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteers, and was honorably discharged June 10, 1865. He lives in Le Mars, Iowa. Lewis H. Merchant was a private in Company G, Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteers, and was honorably discharged September 26, 1864. He lives in Kansas. Arlo J. Merchant was a private in Company G, Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteers, and was honorably discharged September 25, 1865. He lives in Rockford, Iowa. James B. Merchant was a teamster in the employ of the Quartermaster's Department. He lives in Lanark, Ill. Norman M. Merchant enlisted March 3, 1873, as a private in Company B, United States Cavalry, and was discharged March 11, 1878, by reason of expiration of term of service. He again enlisted May 4, 1878, and was assigned to Battery B, Fourth Artillery, and was discharged in accordance with his mother's request.

On the last week of the third session of the Forty-sixth Congress, a bill was passed to pay to Mrs. Eliza Upright, of Rockford, Iowa, a pension at the rate per month allowed to parents for the loss of children upon whom such parents were dependent. The action in bringing her before Congress seems to have been prompted by a desire to do her honor, as well as to testify in a substantial manner the appreciation of the Government.

Silas B. Merchant was the eighth child and seventh son born to this worthy mother of many worthy sons. He was reared on the farm until eighteen years of age, after which he began for himself and learned the carpenter and joiner's trade. He followed this until the breaking out of the Civil War, when, in August, 1861, he enlisted in the Forty-fourth Illinois Infantry, Company G, and served all through the war. He enlisted as a private and returned to his home bearing the rank of First Lieutenant. He was wounded in the arm and breast at the battle of Chickamauga and was home for eighty days, after which he returned to his regiment. He served three years and four months and on the whole rather enjoyed army life. He lives over those days in memory.

Returning to his home, Mr. Merchant purchased eighty acres of land for \$1,800, going in debt

about \$800. He was married in September, 1866, to Miss Maggie Gray, of Manchester, and they settled at once in their present home. To the original tract they have added forty acres and now have a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres, on which are ample barns and out-buildings, as well as a comfortable and pleasant dwelling. Mr. Merchant raises all the ordinary crops of the section, has some good stock, and keeps a small dairy of six or ten cows. In the month of October, 1880, Mrs. Merchant died, leaving him with four children, two sons and two daughters. They had buried one infant son. Those now living are: Ida M., now Mrs. Henry Westrip, who resides on a farm in Murray County, Minn.; Fred S. married Miss Beatrice Ellsworth and is engaged in farming in this county; Della E., a young lady at home, and Hayes B., who was born the day Rutherford B. Hayes was elected President.

Our subject was again married, September 15, 1886, this time to Mrs. Mary L. Lovesee, *nee* De Graff, of Roscoe, and this union has been blessed by the birth of two daughters, the joy and pride of the household: Cora Belle, born April 2, 1888, and Edna May, born January 11, 1890. This is one of the pleasantest rural homes in the township, and Mrs. Merchant makes a model step-mother. By her former marriage she became the mother of two children: Fanny, who died in her fifth year, and a son, Charles A., who is now fourteen years of age. Mr. Merchant has been Road Commissioner for twelve years, and belongs to Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford. He is a representative citizen and an honorable, upright man.



CURTIS R. BRIGGS, one of the prominent citizens of the village of Winnebago, was born in Sardinia, Erie County, N. Y., March 14, 1823, and is the son of Albert Briggs, who was born in the town of North Greenwich, Kent County, R. I. in which State his father, Ephraim Briggs, was also born. The grandfather later in life went to Western New York, where he purchased land for each of his sons in the town of Sardinia, and there spent the remainder of his life

with his children. The maiden name of his wife was Miss Nancy Burlingame, also a native of Rhode Island. The father of our subject was one in a family of nine children and was reared and educated in his native State. He began teaching school when a very young man, and on going to Chenango County, N. Y., was married in Sherburne, after which he removed to Erie County, where he was one of the pioneers of Sardinia. He made his home upon the tract of land which had been given him by his father and erected a log house, in which he established his family until a more suitable structure could be built. There were no railroads in the vicinity at that time and as the markets were far distant, the inhabitants lived mostly off the products of their land. Residing there until the year 1838, the parents of our subject started for the State of Illinois with their family of six children, making the entire journey overland, and July 2, of that year, arrived in Dixon, which at that time was little more than a hamlet. The following day, they went to Grand Detour and occupied a vacant log cabin which they found for a few weeks, during which time the father was engaged in seeking a suitable location. Visiting this county, he purchased a "squatter's" claim to two hundred and forty acres of land in what is now Winnebago Township and for which he paid \$750.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Zaviah Jewell, who was born in Dudley, Worcester County, Mass., and was the daughter of Jesse Jewell. She reared a family of seven children, namely: Paulina, our subject, Gleason, Irena, Irvin, May A. and Byron W. She was a most worthy lady and departed this life at the home of her youngest son. He of whom we write was a lad of fifteen when he came to Illinois with his parents, and remembers well the incidents of the overland journey and the many incidents and inconveniences to which they were subjected in their new home. He hauled the first load of wheat to Chicago ever taken from Winnebago Township and was given thorough training in farm pursuits. The lady to whom he was married bore the maiden name of Rachael Wood, of New York. She was the daughter of Joshua Wood, who was born in Massachusetts, and after many years of happy married life, died June

8, 1874. The lady who became the second wife of Mr. Briggs was Mrs. Narcissa (Folsom) Moore. Our subject joined the Methodist Episcopal Church when eighteen years of age, and in politics votes with the Republican party.



RUSSELL W. MORGAN, whose sketch now claims attention, is one of the representative farmers of Bonus Township, Boone County, and a gentleman highly respected alike for his business qualifications and upright character. He was born in Erie County, N. Y., October 5, 1842, and is the son of Erastus and Nancy (Spaulding) Morgan, for a further sketch of whom the reader is referred to the biography of Jacob Mabie, on another page in this volume.

Russell W. remained at home on the farm until reaching his majority, when he went to Oil Creek and worked out by the day or month for three years. Coming to this section in 1866, he purchased one hundred and ten acres of land to which he later added three hundred and ten acres and is now one of the solid and influential agriculturists of the county. He was married, in December, 1869, to Sarah A. Bogardus, who was born in Cortland County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Israel R. and Irene (Brown) Bogardus. To them have been born three children, namely: Fred B., who was born April 17, 1874, was educated in the Belvidere schools, and resides at home; Frank R. and Glenn, the former of whom was born in August, 1879, and the latter, June 30, 1882.

He whose name heads this sketch has always been a Republican in politics and cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln for his second term as President. He has been honored with the offices of Road Commissioner and School Trustee, the duties of which he has filled in a creditable manner. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, and in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Mrs. Morgan is an active worker.

Mr. Morgan is a self-made man in the true sense of that term and has now one of the finest farms

in the county and devotes his attention to mixed agriculture. His wife's father, Israel Bogardus, was born in Cortland County, N. Y., and is still living, making his home with his children. He came to Boone County in 1848, in company with his wife and four children. His wife, who was also a native of the Empire State, died in this county when thirty-nine years of age.



FRANK G. MORGAN is a wholesale dealer in flour, feed, pressed hay and all kinds of seeds at No. 502 West State Street. He has carried on business for himself since November 1, 1886, the last four years of that time being located at the above address. From the beginning his trade has constantly increased, and by his industry, perseverance and fair and honest dealing he has worked up an excellent business.

Mr. Morgan has the honor of being a native of Winnebago County, where his birth occurred January 24, 1857. His paternal grandfather, John Morgan, a native of Livingston County, N. Y., followed the trade of a wagon-maker throughout his life. He married a Connecticut lady, Miss Betsy Hazen. His death occurred in Livingston County, but his wife passed away in Rockton, Ill. J. George Morgan, father of our subject, was a native of Livingston County, N. Y., and there wedded Miss Mary Doolittle, who was born in Ontario County. Soon afterward he emigrated with his young wife to Illinois, locating in Winnebago County in 1855, and was engaged as a successful farmer until his death. He was also an extensive railroad contractor, both before and after coming to the West. His death occurred in Shirland, in 1872. Mr. Morgan belonged to the Methodist Church, and in politics was a Republican. His wife is still living in Rockford at the age of fifty-seven years, and is a member of the Baptist Church. This worthy couple were the parents of six children who are yet living, three being now married.

Our subject received the educational advantages afforded by the common schools and Rockford Business College, after which he engaged in teach-

ing for some time. He was joined in wedlock in this city with Miss Carrie Case, who was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., April 19, 1857, and when quite young came with her mother to Illinois. Her father, Charles Case, died in Chautauqua County. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Fitch, is yet living in Shirland Township, and is now the wife of Sebastian Fickes, a farmer of that community.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Morgan have been born two children: Mae C., and Clara F. The parents are both members of the Court Street Methodist Church and are held in high esteem for their many excellencies of character. At local elections, Mr. Morgan votes with the Prohibition party and on questions of National importance supports the Republican party. He has made his home in Rockford since 1877, and the property which he now owns has all been acquired since that time. For eight years, he was in the employ of J. G. Chick, a flour and feed dealer, after which he began business on his own account and has since successfully carried on trade in that line. He ranks high in business circles and is regarded as one of the valued citizens of the community.



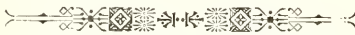
GILBERT F. SMITH, who is at present residing in the village of Pecatonica, was born in Geauga County, Ohio, April 8, 1827, and is the son of John P. and Maria (Ferriss) Smith. The father, who was born in Massachusetts, died in Ohio when seventy-seven years of age. He was a pioneer farmer in the Western Reserve, where his father located in an early day. The maternal uncle of our subject, Edwin J. Ferriss, was a prominent man in Ohio, making his home near Cleveland.

Gilbert F. Smith, of this sketch, remained under the parental roof until reaching his majority, when, in 1848, he came to Stephenson County, this State, and purchased land with a soldier's land warrant; the land cost him only seventy-five cents per acre. The lady to whom he was married, September 27, 1849, was born in Mt. Vernon, Ohio, and bore the maiden name of Helen M. Shaw.

She was the daughter of Joseph Shaw, who was born in Manchester, England, on Easter Sunday, in 1793. He emigrated to America when about twenty-five years of age, and was employed as a workman in a cotton factory in Massachusetts until 1829, when he went to Ohio and engaged in a woolen-mill. Thence, in 1853, he came to Illinois and became a farmer in Stephenson County, where he was residing at the time of his decease in his seventy-first year.

He of whom we write was one of a family of nine children, five of whom are living. By his union with Miss Shaw were born the following children, viz.: Devoisan A., who was born in Ohio, October 25, 1851; Alice G., who was born in Stephenson County, this State, February 11, 1853, is married, and has one daughter; Herbert S., who is also a native of the above county, was born November 23, 1855, and makes his home in Texas; Ella M., likewise born in Stephenson County, as was also Flora R., who is engaged in teaching school in Peatonica.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith are not connected with any religious denomination, but contribute of their means to the support of all. In politics, our subject is a Republican, casting his first vote for J. C. Freemont. He has been prominent in local affairs, and served for some years as an efficient member of the School Board.

 **C** J. HEDLUND, a successful and popular merchant tailor at Rockford, was born in the Province of Wester Gothland, Sweden, September 22, 1852. When he was eleven years old, he commenced to learn the trade of a tailor, at which he was employed prior to emigrating to this country. His parents, Andrew and Clara (Anderson) Hedlund, were born in Wester Gothland, Sweden, and belonged to good old families of that province. After the birth of seven children, the parents emigrated to America and proceeded to Rockford, whither they were followed by our subject in 1869. The father pursued various avocations until his death in 1885, at the age of sixty-one years. His wife still makes her home in Rock-

ford, where she is highly respected, and a valued member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, to which her husband also belonged.

In a family of eight children, our subject was the eldest son, and was reared in the parental home. He was married to Miss Christina Johnsen, who was born in Sweden February 9, 1850. In the spring of 1870, she emigrated to the United States and settled in Rockford, whither her parents and the other members of the family had removed the year before. She is the daughter of John and Anna (Larson) Swanson, who are now living on a farm in Jackson County, Minn., and are in prosperous circumstances. They are adherents of the Lutheran Church and are worthy people, esteemed by all who know them. Their family consists of four children, two sons and two daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. Hedlund are the parents of four living children, and have lost one by death. The surviving children are named: Julia, Arthur E., Ellen G., and Anna C. In politics, Mr. Hedlund is a Republican, and socially is an active member of the Ancient Order of Modern Woodmen. He is a stockholder in what was formerly known as the Merchant Tailor Stock Company, but is now operated under the title of Marsales & Holmin.

 **H**ENRY HARRISON CUSHMAN was born in Paris Township, Oxford County, Me., August 23, 1813. His parents, Caleb and Thankful (Spaulding) Cushman, were also natives of the Pine Tree State, and died at Paris, Oxford County, the father at the age of seventy-six, and the mother when eighty-three years old. Three children comprise the parental family, namely: Henry Harrison, of this sketch; Cynthia E., who married Charles F. Cummings; and Clementine A.

The paternal grandparents of our subject, Caleb and Sylvia (Sampson) Cushman, were born in Maine, and in that State spent their entire lives, engaged in agricultural pursuits, the grandfather passing hence at the advanced age of eighty-three and his wife when forty-five years old. There were

several branches of the Cushman family, some of whom took an active part in the Revolutionary War, and were among the early settlers of Paris, Oxford County, Me. They traced their "title clear" to Robert, who came to Plymouth in the ship "Fortune" in 1621, but did not remain in this country, returning to England as agent for the Plymouth Colony, and dying while in that service. While in Plymouth, he preached the noted lay sermon on "The Sin and Danger of Self Love."

The maternal grandfather of our subject, Benjamin Spaulding, married Miss Polly Carrot, November 29, 1764, and died October 14, 1811. His wife was born January 31, 1740, and died October 4, 1819. The children born of this marriage were as follows: Patty, born September 14, 1765, married Joseph Robinson; Rebecca, born November 10, 1766, married Benjamin Heald; Benjamin, born August 15, 1768; Leonard, born February 13, 1770, married Margaret Warren; Elizabeth, born January 18, 1772, became the wife of John Fletcher; Abel, born October 15, 1777, chose as his wife Phebe Prosten; Esther, born October 28, 1779, became the wife of Alexander Thayer; Stephen, born August 13, 1782, and Thankful, born August 16, 1787, married Caleb Cushman December 26, 1808. Caleb Cushman passed from earth February 7, 1863, and his wife departed this life June 14, 1870.

Our subject was the seventh generation from the famous Robert. He passed his youth in his native State, and at the age of twenty-four, in company with several young men from Paris, Me. (one of whom was Hambridge Dean, who settled in De Kalb County), decided to go West, and, bidding farewell to the New England States, home and friends, they journeyed toward the setting sun in 1837. The trip was made partly by water, and after landing at Ottawa, Ill., he purchased four yoke of oxen, two wagons and two cows, after which he pushed on to De Kalb County.

After searching for some time for a suitable location, Mr. Cushman finally purchased four hundred acres of productive land in De Kalb County, where he made his home until the fall of 1837. He then bought land of the Government, in Flora, Boone County, on which he erected a dwelling

house, barns, and made other improvements. There he and his wife reared their family and made their home until the death of the wife, about fifty years after coming hither. He made many improvements on the place, and on looking over the well-cultivated fields and good buildings, one could scarcely realize that it was a wild, uncultivated tract of land destitute of buildings when he first settled on it. He still owns part of the old farm in De Kalb County.

A man of very generous impulses and strictest honor, Mr. Cushman is most esteemed by those who knew him best. Before stricken with disease, he possessed great physical vigor, strength and activity. The companion who cheerfully assisted him in the struggle for a livelihood, and who stood faithfully by his side in adversity and disappointments, was known in maidenhood as Sarah Bateman, and became his wife in Rockford, May 10, 1840. She was the daughter of Jonathan and Polly (Russell) Bateman, and was born in Yates, Niagara County, N. Y., December 1, 1818, her ancestors being of English birth.

The parents of Mrs. Cushman were natives of Vermont, the father born in 1762 and the mother twenty years later. Their marriage was blessed by the birth of seven children, namely: Stephen, who married Lydia Shaver; Lovina, Mrs. Michael Shaver; Joana, who married Samuel S. Gregory; Truman; Sarah, wife of Henry H. Cushman; and two children who died in infancy. Mr. Bateman was a merchant, and engaged in buying and selling horses. In 1815, the family removed from Vermont to New York, where the mother died at the age of forty-four and the father when sixty-seven years old, leaving their daughter Sarah an orphan at the age of eleven. Subsequently she came West with her sister, Mrs. Samuel Gregory, and settled in their pioneer home at Rockford in 1836, when she was eighteen. Many are the incidents she would afterward relate of their wild prairie home in the little log cabin, which at times accommodated as many as thirty persons, and was situated on what is now known as Woodruff's Addition to Rockford.

After her marriage, Mrs. Cushman removed to Flora, Boone County, where she remained until her death, April 18, 1889. She was the mother of

four children, namely: Edna C., born February 15, 1841, married Walter S. Lucas, of Flora, Boone County; Mariette, born November 22, 1845, married Quincy Jones, of Waverly, Iowa; Sarah Jane, whose birth occurred December 9, 1848, became the wife of Isaac N. Witt, of Spring Township, Boone County; and James, born in 1853, died in infancy. There was also an adopted daughter, Helen Chase, who was born December 5, 1858, and was married to Frank J. Anderson, of Herndon, Guthrie County, Iowa. The daughters were reared and educated in Boone County, and all reside in the vicinity of the old homestead.



EDMUND WHITTLESEY, who has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits, is at the present time making a specialty of bee culture on his splendid farm on sections 5 and 8, Seward Township, Winnebago County. He is a native of Stockbridge, Berkshire County, Mass., his birth occurring June 17, 1811. His father, Solomon Whittlesey, was born April 30, 1786, in the above-named county, where also his father, Eliphalet, was born in 1772. The latter-named gentleman married Comfort Waller, by whom he had eleven children; he spent his last days in Massachusetts.

The first of the name of Whittlesey known to have come to America was John W., who crossed the ocean in 1650, and was engaged as a tanner at Saybrook, N. Y. The father of our subject came West to Ohio in 1817, and, locating in Lorain County, cleared a tract of land, upon which he resided until his decease, which occurred when eighty years of age. Edmund was one of the four children born to his mother, but his father, by a second marriage, became the parent of seven children.

He of whom we write resided at home until reaching his majority, and in 1835 came to Rockford, where he resided for a twelvemonth, and in October of the following year removed to Seward Township, where he was in the employ of his prospective father-in-law for two years. Later, he took up a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of Government land, and May 6, 1839, was married to

Miss Susan Vance, who was a native of South Charlestown, Clark County, Ohio, her birth occurring February 17, 1820. Mrs. Whittlesey was the daughter of Joseph C. and Jane E. Vance, the former born November 13, 1780, in Kentucky, and the latter July 26, 1785, in the same State. Mr. Vance died in Winnebago County, September 11, 1841, while his good wife, who survived him a number of years, departed this life in Ohio, in April, 1882.

Mrs. Susan Whittlesey departed this life at her home March 26, 1885. The family is very prominent in public life, there being many professional men in the family. Our subject had a half-brother in the late war, and his father participated in the War of 1812. To Mr. and Mrs. Whittlesey have been born three children: Mary O., born July 29, 1845; Edmund V., November 5, 1859; and Joseph H., June 6, 1848. Our subject has five grandchildren: Susan E., Walter E., Olive, Derwent and H. R. Crane. With his wife, he is a member of the Congregational Church, and in township affairs has been Justice of the Peace for a period of forty-three years. He has also held the office of Supervisor for twenty-one years, and of Assessor and Treasurer of the township for thirty-nine years.



MRS. ELSEY WYMAN, who is at present residing on section 31, Manchester Township, Boone County, was born in Bennington, Vt., where also her father, William Potten, was born. Her mother, who bore the name of Cynthia Burgess, was a native of Hoosick, N. Y., and died in 1844, when sixty-one years of age. The father departed this life in 1826, when in his thirty-ninth year, leaving his widow with six sons and three daughters, of whom Mrs. Wyman and her brother Washington, who makes his home in South Haven, Mich., are the only survivors.

The original of this sketch came from New England to Manchester Township in 1851, making the journey to Chicago by water, and from that city walked to this county, this part of the journey consuming two days. She was married when sev-

enteen years of age, in Bennington, Vt., and the journey to this county above described was made in company with her husband and four children. Mr. and Mrs. Wyman first located upon a rented farm, and two years later purchased eighty acres of land, for which they paid \$7 per acre. After various removals they, in 1884, purchased the present estate upon which our subject is residing, and which includes a quarter-section of excellent land. The place is improved with all the necessary buildings and farm machinery, and is well cultivated by its owner.

Mr. Wyman departed this life in December, 1886, when in his seventy-fourth year. The four children who are deceased are: Orson, who at his death, in 1860, left a wife and three children, as did also Calvin, who died in 1876. Jeanette departed this life in 1849, when nine years of age, and George died in 1842, at the age of five years. Those living are Jane, Mrs. Sherwood Ellsworth, now living in Manchester, and Charles, a farmer in Iowa. Mrs. Wyman has ten grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. Her son Charles was a volunteer soldier in the late Civil War, enlisting from Rockford in 1861, and becoming a member of the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry. He served faithfully and well during the entire struggle and participated in many important battles, among which was Gettysburg, where he had the index finger of his right hand shot off.

Miss Carrie Wyman, an adopted daughter of our subject, married Edwin Fallow, who assists Mrs. Wyman in conducting the farm.



CHARLES A. LINDERMAN. The farm which Mr. Linderman now owns and conducts in such an enterprising and industrious manner embraces one hundred and thirty-two acres, forming one of the neat, comfortable homesteads of this township. The improvements on it are convenient and complete, and, no doubt, one reason of his success in this calling is the fact that from his earliest youth he has been familiar with the duties of farm labor. He was born in Erie

County, N. Y., May 8, 1833, and his father, Henry Linderman, was also a native of the Empire State, born in Tompkins County in 1800. The grandfather of our subject, Cornelius L. Linderman, was born in Germany, March 29, 1756, and his parents were also natives of that country. Cornelius L. Linderman came to America at an early date and followed farming in Tompkins County, N. Y., where he was one of the pioneers. He married Miss Anna Young, and they became the parents of fifteen children, seven sons and eight daughters, of whom but one died young, fourteen becoming the heads of families. The mother of these children died in Erie County at a ripe old age and her husband, too, lived to be extremely old, dying when in the nineties.

The father of our subject, Henry Linderman, was the thirteenth in order of birth of the above mentioned children, and after reaching mature years, he selected as his companion in life Miss Diana Hamel, a native of New Jersey, of German descent, and their nuptials were celebrated in Erie County, N. Y., about 1823. They commenced life on a farm there, but sold this when coming to Illinois, in November, 1843. Their children were all born in New York State and accompanied them to the Far West. They were six weeks in making the journey and had a very rough trip, encountering many storms and much cold, disagreeable weather, which made it very unpleasant for them, as they went with a team of horses. After reaching Illinois, they bought eighty acres of land from Mr. Linderman's brother, William, who had preceded him about six years, and as it was covered with a thick growth of timber our subject immediately set to work clearing it. In this he was assisted very much by his sons, who had become large enough to do considerable work. On this farm the father died February 26, 1876, when in his seventy-sixth year, leaving his widow and five children an estate of one hundred and forty acres in cultivation, all well stocked, and good buildings. The mother passed away on the 8th of March, 1881, when seventy-five years of age. Their children were named as follows: William, born March 1, 1824, a farmer in Iowa; Elizabeth A., born December 11, 1826, married William L. Adams, a

farmer in Iowa; Cornelia, born September 13, 1830, Mrs. Nelson Hill, is now a resident of Beloit, having retired from a fine farm in Manchester Township; Charles A. (our subject); Cornelius, born March 20, 1836, died in Manchester Township, when twenty-two or twenty-three years of age, and George W., born May 4, 1838, married, and resides in California. He purchased one thousand four hundred acres in the Sacramento Valley.

On the farm in Manchester Township our subject grew to manhood, and on the 28th of December, 1857, he was married to Miss Mary Jane Grout, daughter of Theodore and Ann (Little) Grout, the father born in Addison County, Vt. in 1799, and the mother in Cumberland County, England, January 15, 1813. In 1849, Mr. and Mrs. Grout came to Illinois from Ohio, where Mrs. Linderman was born in Perry, Lake County, October 13, 1839, settled in Winnebago County, and here the father died in June, 1874, when seventy-five years of age, leaving a wife and a son and daughter. The son, John D. Grout, was born at Saybrook, Ashtabula County, Ohio, January 9, 1843, and was a soldier in the Civil War, serving the entire time. He never received a wound, but his health was never so good afterward, on account of exposure, etc. He enlisted in Company H, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, and came out an Orderly. The daughter is now Mrs. Linderman. The mother of these children is now seventy-nine years of age, and her mind is clear as of old and she enjoys comparatively good health.

Mr. and Mrs. Linderman settled on sixty acres soon after marriage and have since added to this until they now have one hundred and thirty-two acres of excellent land. They built a large and commodious barn, in 1873, 76x50 and 60x24 with basement, and in 1890, their fine large house was erected. Mr. Linderman is engaged in general farming, raising all the cereals, and is also engaged to some extent in raising horses, having at the present time about fifteen head of fine animals. His marriage resulted in the following children: Cornelius A., born July 9, 1860, married Miss Tina Wright, and is now an employe on the railroad at Beloit; Carrie I., born February 20, 1864, attended the Seminary at Rockford; Fred S., born

May 10, 1877, is at home on the farm, and Maggie Ann, born July 2, 1881, is a very bright, intelligent little girl. They have lost four children, a daughter, Cora D., died February 17, 1883, when not five years of age, and a son, H. Irving, died on the 20th of February, 1883, when twenty-one years of age, both of scarlet fever. Two children died in infancy.

Our subject is a strong advocate of Republican principles, and belongs to the Masonic order of Beloit, Wis.



SEYMOUR A. BLAKE. This gentleman who is one of the prominent farmers of Durand Township, Winnebago County, is also President of the Bank of Durand. He is one of the old and honored pioneers of this section, having been born in Georgia, Franklin County, Vt., March 12, 1832, and came to Winnebago County when fourteen years of age. His parents, John and Philura (Campbell) Blake, were also natives of New England, and in 1846 came to Illinois and located in Durand Township. There the father entered a tract of land, which he later traded for improved property, and pursued farming until his decease at three-score and ten years of age. His good wife died in her ninetieth year.

The ten children included in the parental family are John, Sarah Ann, Samuel, Philura, Stephen, William, Phidelia Abigail, our subject and Hester A. Seymour A. was reared on the home farm and resided under the parental roof until his marriage. The lady to whom he was married in 1858 bore the name of Cordelia Hoyt, the daughter of Hiram Hoyt. She was born in Georgia, Vt., in 1832, and after her marriage located with her husband on the old homestead, which Mr. Blake carried on in the interest of his father. He later purchased the property and made it his home until 1886, when, in order to get nearer town and church, he sold out and purchased his present place, which adjoins the village of Durand. His estate includes two hundred and forty acres of land, all in one body, and is excellently improved with first-class and substantial buildings.

Mr. and Mrs. Blake have had no children of their own, but have performed the part of parents to several whom they have adopted. In his political belief, he is a Prohibitionist and an advocate of woman's rights. He formerly supported the Republican ticket. In religious affairs, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which denomination he was instrumental in organizing in this township, and for the past quarter of a century has been Sunday-school Superintendent, and at the present time is the incumbent of the positions of Trustee and Steward.



CHARLES A. NORTON, cashier of the bank of Durand, is a man of unquestioned business ability, and in years is still on the sunny side of thirty, having been born May 2, 1863, in Durand. He acquired a good practical education in the common schools, which was later supplemented by attendance at the Rock River Seminary at Mt. Morris, this State. He is the son of Oscar Norton, one of the well-to-do merchants and progressive citizens of the village, and whose sketch will be found on another page in this volume.

When eight years old our subject bought a small box of jewelry and started out as a pedlar through the surrounding country, and, being successful in that kind of work, continued to be so employed for the next five years, when not in school. During the last two seasons, he had a team and wagon, and besides carrying jewelry had a stock of notions which he gave in exchange for rags, etc. He met with more than ordinary success in his undertaking, and thus early in life became well versed in business principles. He later began clerking for his father and in one corner of the store had a stock of his own, consisting of books and stationery. In 1884, he purchased the hardware business of Mr. Morey and combining the same with his books and stationery has since continued in the hardware trade, and has to-day a fine building, which is stocked with a complete line of shelf and heavy hardware.

In December, 1891, the Bank of Durand was organized with the following-named gentlemen as

officers: Seymour A. Blake, President; Oscar Norton, Vice-president, and Charles A. Norton, Cashier. The bank has a capital of \$10,000, and since its establishment our subject has acted in the capacity of Cashier and Manager. January 17, 1883, he was united in marriage to Alice L., daughter of Seymour A. and Cordelia (Hoyt) Blake, who was born in this county, January 28, 1863.

In politics, the original of this sketch votes with the Prohibition party. He has been the incumbent of various positions of trust, having held the offices of Township Clerk, Village Treasurer, and is the present School Treasurer and also Notary Public. He is a member of Durand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and in religious matters in identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which denomination he is Steward, Secretary, a teacher in the Sunday-school and President of the Epworth League.



WILLIAM H. OILL, the owner of a finely-improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Cherry Valley Township, and one of the prominent citizens of Winnebago County, has resided upon the place which he still owns and occupies since 1855, having purchased the land the year prior to his removal hither. He was born twelve miles west of Niagara Falls, in the province of Ontario, August 2, 1820, and was reared to farming pursuits.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Nicholas Oill, was born in Germany, and when a young man came to America, he and a brother being among the Hessian troops who were hired for service in the Revolutionary War. After the contest was over, he settled in Canada, where he died upon a farm in Ontario. John N. Oill, father of our subject, was a native of the above-named province, and there spent his entire life, dying upon the old homestead where the family had lived for years. A man of honor and enterprise, and a believer of reform in politics, his death at the age of sixty-four years was mourned by all who knew him.

The mother of our subject, Margaret (Johnson)

Oill, was born and reared near the old Oill homestead. Her father, James Johnson, was a native of Pennsylvania, and at an early day removed from that State to Canada, where he died when past the years allotted to man. Mrs. Margaret Oill was a good and kind woman, and lived to be more than eighty years old. She was the mother of five sons and three daughters, all of whom still survive.

In his native province, our subject was married to Miss Hester A. Snure. This lady is the granddaughter of John Snure, who came to America from Germany prior to the Revolutionary War and improved a farm from the heavy timber in Ontario. He died of injuries received by being thrown from a horse. He was a member of the Dunkard Church, and a true Christian, known as a noble man and a hero in the battlefield of life.

The father of Mrs. Oill was John Snure, Jr., whose entire life was passed on the old Snure homestead, in the province of Ontario. His wife, whose maiden name was Lydia Clark, was born in New York, and survived her husband for some years, coming to Rockford after his demise, and spending her remaining days with Mrs. Oill, in Cherry Valley Township. She was an active member of the Christian Church, to which her husband also belonged, and died in that faith at the age of seventy-six years, in 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Oill have no children of their own, but have reared five children, all of whom are married. Mrs. Oill is a prominent member of the Christian Church at Rockford, and has been identified with that denomination since 1844. In his political affiliations, Mr. Oill is a Republican, and ardently devoted to the principles of the party.



SAMUEL B. MEREDITH, who resides in the city of Rockford, has made farming his life occupation and since 1852 has been one of the leading agriculturists of Winnebago County. As he is well and favorably known throughout this community, we feel assured that this sketch will prove of interest to many of our readers. He was born in Millerstown, Juniata

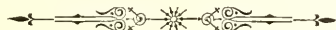
County, Pa., on the 18th of June, 1819, and is a son of David Meredith, who was born in Lancaster County, Pa., and is of Welsh descent. The father learned the trade of a blacksmith, and when a young man removed to Millerstown of his native State, where he followed that occupation for some years. He then purchased a farm in the Rock River Valley, four miles from Millerstown, and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he there carried on until 1852. In that year, he came to Illinois and spent his last days in the home of his son Thomas. His wife bore the maiden name of Jane Black and she spent her entire life in the Keystone State.

No event of special importance occurred during the childhood of our subject which was passed in Pennsylvania and under the parental roof. It was in 1852 that he decided to seek a home in the West, hoping to better his financial condition by so doing. He came at once to Illinois, locating at Rockford, which was then the Western terminus of the railroad. After a few weeks spent in the city, he purchased forty acres of land in the town of Byron, Ogle County, for which he paid \$800. He sold it, however, about ten months later and purchased ninety in Winnebago Township, this county for \$2,500. He made a number of improvements during the few years of his residence on that place, and then sold it, soon afterwards becoming owner of a one hundred and eighty-two acre farm in the same township, upon which he made his home until 1865, when he came to Rockford Township and bought his present home, although he did not sell his farm in Winnebago Township until a few years later. He also bought a farm in Leaf River Township, which is still in his possession.

Mr. Meredith has been twice married. In the Keystone State, at the age of twenty-three, he was joined in wedlock with Margaret Donley, who was born in Pennsylvania and died on January 6, 1865. In 1867, he led to the marriage altar Mrs. Mary Johnson, *nee* Harmon, a native of Suffield, Conn. born on the 3d of June, 1818. Her father, Jehiel Harmon, was also born in Connecticut and there resided until 1845, when he, accompanied by his family, came to Illinois. They started with a team and drove to Westfield, Mass., whence they

went by railroad to Albany and by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, where they took a Lake steamer for Chicago. The journey from there to Winnebago County was completed by wagons, and in Winnebago Township Mr. Harmon joined his son Simeon, one of the early settlers of the county. His death occurred here the following year. His wife survived him some time and departed this life in Centerville.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Meredith has been born one daughter, Nancy, now the widow of Henry Roberts of Winnebago Township. She has four children: Jessie, Blanche, Samuel and Ethel. The family is one favorably known throughout this community where they have so long resided and the Meredith household is the abode of hospitality. Our subject has led a busy and useful life, and his industry has met with a well-deserved reward in the shape of a good competence. Mr. Meredith affiliates with the Democratic party.



A S. CHARN, stockholder, Director and custom cutter of the Globe Clothing Manufacturing Company, of Rockford, one of the most valuable and profitable enterprises of the city, was one of the promoters of the business and is noted for his ability, both technical and practical. He has been the custom cutter since the organization of the business in 1890, and is proficient and skillful in his work. This company has prospered in every way since starting, employs thirty to forty men, has five commercial men on the road all the time, and now stands on a solid foundation.

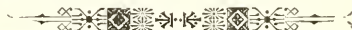
In Sweden, his native country, where his birth occurred in Wester Gothland Province, March 7, 1854, Mr. Charn received a good practical education and was married to Miss Sophia Anderson, who is also a native of that province. After the birth of two children, or in 1880, he brought his family to the States and settled in Rockford, where he subsequently learned his trade. Since their residence here four more children have blessed their union: Simon A. works in the Union Furniture Factory, of Rockford, as carver; Mary E., Esther

D., Hannah L., Huldah V. and Victor E., all at home. After learning his trade, Mr. Charn carried on a successful business on his own account until the present company was organized. When he brought his family to this country, his brother Benjamin came with him and settled in Rockford. The latter married Miss Jennie Landen, of Jonkoping, Sweden, who came to this country at the same time.

The father of our subject, A. J. Kjern, came to this country a year after his sons and has since been a resident of Rockford. He is engaged as tailor in the factory above mentioned but was formerly with the old and well-known firm of Johnson & Wanstron. His first wife, and the mother of our subject, died in the spring of 1891, when seventy-nine years of age, and he has since taken a second wife.

Mrs. Charn's parents died in Sweden; since her residence in Rockford she has been joined by two brothers, Gus and Samuel Floberg, the latter now a farmer of Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Charn are domiciled at No. 1702 Seventh Street, corner of Sixteenth Avenue, and are surrounded by all the comforts of life. Both are members of the Lutheran Mission Church, and he leans towards the Prohibition party in his political preference.



M A. J. GEORGE S. ROPER, of Rockford, was born in Worcester County, Mass., January 28, 1832. When seven years old, he accompanied his parents, Joseph and Maria L. (Mendell) Roper, to Western Pennsylvania, where he received his education in the common schools. In 1848, he attended a select school taught by George Clark, and at the age of eighteen commenced to teach, being thus engaged for two years, and later clerking in a store for two years. While residing in Westmoreland County, Pa., he was married to Miss Louisa B. George, who was there born and reared.

In 1854, accompanied by his family, our subject came to Illinois and settled in Springfield, where for one year he clerked in a dry-goods

store and for the same period was book-keeper for S. M. Tinsley. Afterward, he formed a business connection with Edward R. Ulrick & Co., lumber dealers, and later was admitted to the firm, his headquarters being at Alton, where the business was carried on under the firm name of Ulrick & Roper. In 1859, he returned to Springfield and commenced in business as a boot and shoe dealer. In the following year, he organized the first Republican Glee Club, which sang the first glee songs in that part of the State.

At the commencement of the Civil War, our subject entered the Commissary Department under Col. John Williams, and when the Government relieved that gentleman, he was assigned to a place in the Quartermaster's Department under Gen. Wood. At the time Gen. Grant took command of the Twenty-first Illinois Infantry, our subject accompanied him to the old Fair Grounds at Springfield, and thereafter enjoyed the friendship of the hero of Vicksburg. By special request of Gen. Grant, our subject was given a position in the Commissary Department with the rank of Captain, and was ordered to join Gen. W. T. Sherman at Louisville, Ky. Thence he was sent to the staff department of Gen. George H. Thomas, where he continued until after the battle of Stone River.

Immediately following the battle of Mill Spring, Ky., our subject was promoted to Major and received a commendation from Gen. Thomas which was decidedly complimentary, for while the great General gave all the officers and men special credit for doing their duty he said: "If one was entitled to credit more than another for the success of the Northern troops, it was Capt. Roper." The newly-appointed Major continued on the staff of Gen. Thomas until he became connected with the First Division of the Fourteenth Army Corps, under the command of Gen. Spry, of Kentucky.

In the re-organization of the army after the battle of Chickamauga considerable change was made, and the Third Division of the Fourteenth Army Corps opened the charge, it being the duty of Maj. Roper to arrange the positions. November 24, 1863, he was sent to Nashville to inspect the horses, and was afterward appointed overseer and inspector of the military railroads of the

Northwest. May 24, 1864, he was appointed on the staff of Gen. McCullom, with headquarters at Washington, and remained in that capacity until February 6, 1866, when he was mustered out with the rank of Colonel.

His military duties ended. Maj. Roper located in St. Louis, whence he soon removed to Alton in 1867, and for twenty years made that city his home, engaging in the insurance and real-estate business. His first wife died in Springfield, leaving three sons, viz: Mahon F., who died, leaving a wife and two children; George P., who married Kate Butterworth and resides in Rockford, where he is manager of the Van Wie Gas Stove Company; and Edward N., who married Miss Martha J. Robin, of Chicago, and is now manager of the Central Map, Survey & Inspection Company, of Chicago. The second wife of the Major, whose maiden name was Almira S. Baugs, and who was formerly principal of the schools of Springfield, died in Alton five months after marriage. The present wife of our subject was formerly Miss Roxy G. Conklin, of Jackson County, Mich., and is a leader in the social circles of Rockford, being especially prominent in the Woman's Relief Corps. Religiously, she is identified with the Christian Union Church as one of its devoted members. The only child born of this union, Charles S., died when five months old.

Maj. Roper is President of the Van Wie Gas Stove Company, of Rockford, which was organized in 1890, and is numbered among the most flourishing enterprises of the city. For more than ten years he has been Secretary of the Manufacturers' and Merchants' Mutual Insurance Company, which was organized February 11, 1881, by James Ferguson, and does an extensive business in this part of Illinois. Socially, Maj. Roper is a Master Mason, a Knight Templar, belonging to Rockford Crusader Commandery No. 17, the Supreme Council, Freeport Consistory and Medina Temple, of Chicago. He is also identified with the Illinois Commandery of Loyal Legions and has been present at many of the National Assemblies. As might be expected, he is a prominent worker in the G. L. Nevius Post No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford. He holds membership in the Chris-

tian Union Church and is active in aiding religious causes.

A staunch supporter of the Republican party, Maj. Roper has for years been closely connected with local and State politics, and is a member of the State Central Committee, and was Chairman of the County Committee during the last Presidential campaign, that of 1888. For more than twenty-five years he has not been absent from any of the State Conventions, excepting those held while he was in the service of his country, and he has also frequently attended National Conventions. A man of great vigor of thought and firmness of purpose, he has at all times the courage of his convictions and is ready to defend to the last the principles of justice and right.



JOHN BOYD. This well-known citizen of Rockford passed away January 26, 1892. He was a pioneer of the city, having come hither in 1843, and for a time clerked for Mr. Marsh. He then left the city, but returned in 1848, and entered the employ of Mr. Horseman, a dry-goods dealer. In 1856, he resigned that position, and in September of that year embarked in business for himself as a merchant, under the firm name of Boyd & Baxter.

Some six years later, Mr. Boyd commenced to travel for a lamp supply company of Chicago, in which position he remained for more than twenty years, enjoying the unlimited confidence of his house and becoming well known throughout a wide scope of country. On account of ill health, he resigned his position in 1888 and retired from active business. He was intimately associated with Rockford and its people and not only maintained a deep interest in the development of the city, but contributed untiringly to the promotion of its welfare.

Mr. Boyd was born in Chatham, Columbia County, N. Y., September 16, 1828, and was reared in his native place, receiving his education there and in Catskill and Erie Counties. He was the son of George Boyd, a native of Belfast, Ireland,

who in turn was the son of Thomas Boyd, whose death occurred near Belfast, Ireland, when he was quite old. By occupation, he was a farmer, and was descended from Scotch-Irish ancestry. His wife was of a similar lineage and was the daughter of an officer in the British navy, who served during the Revolutionary War and was at Charleston, Mass., when the tea was thrown overboard into the Boston Harbor by the Colonists.

In the Emerald Isle, George Boyd grew to a vigorous manhood and became familiar with farming pursuits. In his native county he was married to Miss Sarah Russell, an intelligent lady and a native of the North of Ireland, her ancestors having been prominent citizens of Belfast. After the birth of their first child Thomas (now deceased), George and Sarah Boyd emigrated to the United States in the early '30s and settled in Columbia County, N. Y., where the father followed his trade of a saddler. After living in New York State for some years, they came in 1846 to Rockford, where Mrs. Boyd died July 5, 1852, at the age of fifty-six years. Her husband survived until the fall of 1860, when he departed this life at the age of seventy years. After the death of his first wife, he was again married to a Rockford lady who is now deceased.

In his religious convictions, Mr. Boyd was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and, politically, adhered to the principles of the Democratic party. Only two of his children are now living: Col. Wesley, of Kokomo, Colo., and Mrs. John A. Davis, of Chicago. Col. Wesley Boyd served throughout the Rebellion and at its close was honorably discharged as Colonel of the Fifty-second Illinois Infantry. A brother-in-law of our subject, Maj. Samuel Pearson, of Chicago, also served throughout the Civil War as a member of an Iowa regiment.

In Fredonia, N. Y., October 3, 1851, the marriage of John Boyd and Miss Elizabeth A. Moore took place. Mrs. Boyd was born in Monroe County, N. Y., November 14, 1831, and received an academic education in Fredonia. Her parents, Josiah and Elizabeth (Roots) Moore, were natives respectively of Fabius and Hamilton, N. Y., and were married in the former village. Mr. Moore

followed the occupation of a farmer until his death, which occurred in Fredonia in 1860, at the age of sixty-three years. In his political belief, he was a Whig, and religiously, was identified with the Baptist Church. After his death, his widow came to Wisconsin, where she died at the age of four-score years. She was an active member of the Baptist Church and the daughter of Rev. P. P. Roots, a prominent Baptist minister and an evangelist of fame. He was born in 1765, and died in New York State, September 26, 1828. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Keep, died some years afterward at the age of eighty-four years.

The grandfather of Mrs. Boyd, Josiah Moore, Sr., was born in Connecticut in 1765, and married Miss Abigail Dewey, their union being solemnized at Harrington, Conn. They became early settlers of Fabius, Onondaga County, N. Y., and their son, Josiah, Jr., was the first white child born there. Mrs. Boyd is the fourth among six children, all of whom survive but the eldest son. She is a lady of prominence in Rockford, takes an active interest in all charitable measures, and is highly esteemed in social circles. Mr. and Mrs. Boyd became the parents of four children, only one of whom is living. Mary E., Eva J., and Addie died when small. John M. is a commercial traveler for the Rockford Watch Company, with headquarters in this city. He married Julia R. Berg, whose former home was in Grand Rapids, Mich. Mrs. Boyd sympathizes with the progressive views of the Rev. Dr. Kerr, and is identified with his church, the Christian Union, at Rockford.



JOHN BROWN takes a leading part in the agricultural interests of Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, where he has a good estate on section 12. He was born in Ohio, October 11, 1832, and is the son of Jacob and Mary (Keith) Brown, natives respectively of New Jersey and Ohio. His maternal grandparents, Peter and Maria Keith, were born in Germany, and, on coming to the United States, died in this township when very old.

He of whom we write was two years of age

when his parents came to Illinois, the journey being made overland to Ogle County, where they resided for one year, and then took up their abode in Winnebago County, where the father died in the spring of 1868, and the mother three years later. Our subject was one in a large family of children and received his education in the schools of that early day. When ready to establish a home of his own, he was married to Miss Hannah M., daughter of William P. and Sarah (Fowler) Packard, natives of New York, who came to Illinois when she was eleven years of age. Locating in Cherry Valley Township, Winnebago County, in the spring of 1847, Mr. and Mrs. Packard here made their home until their decease, the father dying in May, 1891. The mother, who preceded him to the better land by a number of years, left at her death nine children.

To our subject and his wife have been born twelve children, all of whom are living with the exception of Clifford S., who died in 1878, when two and one-half years old. Mr. Brown when starting out in life for himself purchased a quarter-section of prairie land in Boone County, which he later sold, and, in 1867, purchased his present estate of nine hundred and twenty-two acres, for which he paid \$10 per acre. With the exception of one hundred acres in timber, this vast amount of property is under good cultivation, and with its handsome farm residence and comfortable out-buildings, is one of the finest in the county. Mr. Brown gives the greater part of his attention to stock-raising, and from the year 1878 to 1888, in partnership with B. S. Sanborn, made large shipments to the city markets. He is now, however, conducting his affairs alone, and raises and feeds annually about one hundred head of cattle, two hundred head of hogs, and keeps constantly on his place from twenty-five to forty of the finest horses. He has the distinction of shipping the first load of cattle from Cherry Valley Station in the fall of 1853, which sold in Chicago markets for two and one-half cents per pound. He cuts about one hundred and fifty tons of hay from his place, and has large crops of cereals.

The subject of this sketch, in the spring of

1850, went across the plains to California, the journey consuming five months and eight days. After remaining there for two years with fair success, he returned home, and has since been identified with the interests of Winnebago County, being one of its most prominent and wealthy farmers. In politics, he votes independently, reserving his right to vote for the man who, in his judgment, will best fill the office.



JOSEPH GARDNER. This gentleman represents one of the oldest living pioneers in Winnebago County, having come to this region as early as 1838. The long years which he has spent here have given him an extended acquaintance throughout the county, where he is well known as one whose years have been spent in industry and good citizenship.

Born across the water, in Warwickshire, England, our subject is the son of John P. Gardner, a native of that shire, as was also his father, John P., Sr. The grandfather was a farmer and spent his entire life in his native place. John P. Gardner, Jr., learned the trade of a baker, which he followed in the village of Ox Hill, Warwickshire, and there departed his life. The maiden name of his wife was Charlotte Roddis; she was a native of England, where her death occurred in the village of Ratley.

The original of this sketch and his brother William were the only members of the family to come to America. The brother located near Hot Springs, Ark., where he resided till his death. Joseph learned the trade of a tailor in Newbold, Worcestershire, at which he served an apprenticeship of three and one-half years. In 1834, he set sail from Liverpool on the vessel "Inez" and landed in New York after a voyage of six weeks. He was engaged as a "jour" in Rome, N. Y., for a time, then going to Rochester was similarly engaged for a year. In 1837, our subject went to Michigan and was one of the early settlers in Schoolcraft, Kalamazoo County, where he began business at his trade. In the fall of the following year, however, accompanied by Horatio Blakeman, he came to Illinois, Mr. Blakeman owning the horse which con-

veyed them hither, and our subject the wagon. He located in Rockton, Winnebago County, and a couple of months after coming down to Rockford, was engaged as a journeyman tailor for some time and later established in business for himself, having one of the first shops of that kind in the place. A few years later, he retired from active work.

The lady to whom our subject was married was Mrs. Catherine Weyl, *nee* Courtwright. She was a native of Pennsylvania and departed this life in Rockford. Mr. Gardner was again married in this city, this time to Mary A. (Riches) Smith, a native of Friesenfield, England, and the daughter of James and Mary (Uperaft) Riches and widow of George Smith, to whom she was married in England, coming to America in 1853. Locating in New Jersey first, Mrs. Gardner afterward came to Winnebago County, and made her home in New Milford, where her husband died November 23, 1865. By that union she became the mother of two children, who died in infancy; by the former union of Mr. Gardner he was the father of one son, Henry, who died when a young man of twenty-three years.



PETER J. HOLMQUIST. Now living in retirement at his pleasant home at No. 409 Catlin Street, Rockford, this gentleman is surrounded by the comforts which he accumulated by the exertions of former years. Since 1868, when he located in this city, he has been recognized as one of its most prominent Swedish citizens, and has a wide acquaintance throughout this section of country. After coming hither, he entered the employ of N. G. Thompson, and for seventeen years was engaged in the painting department. Since severing his connection with the manufactory, he has not engaged in active work.

In Sweden, where he was born March 6, 1833, Mr. Holmquist was reared and married. Accompanied by his wife and their three children, he emigrated to America, embarking on a ship at Gotenburg and landing in Quebec, Canada. Thence he proceeded to Rockford, where he arrived June

3, 1868. Since coming here, he has been joined by two brothers: John, who resides on Kishwaukee Street, and Gust, whose home is also in Rockford. The parents, John and Carrie (Johnson) Larson, spent their entire lives in Sweden, where a sister of our subject, Mrs. Andrew Swenson, is yet living.

The lady who became the wife of our subject was born in Sweden, July 27, 1827, the daughter of John and Carrie (Larson) Peterson. Her father, who was a farmer, died when forty-four years old, and the mother at the age of sixty-seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Holmquist had three children, only one of whom survives, Minnie, the wife of John A. Stenvall, and the mother of five children. The deceased are Gust, who died in Rockford, July 6, 1887, aged twenty-seven years and seven months, leaving a wife (now deceased) and a son Frank; and John P., whose death occurred May 31, 1881, aged twenty years and seven months.



DEXTER A. K. ANDRUS. The book and stationery store located at No. 107 North Court Street, Rockford, is one of the successful business houses of the city, and was established by Mr. Andrus in June, 1884. Prior to its inception, he had been engaged for three years as editor of the *Daily News*, but owing to his sickness during a portion of the time, he lost heavily on account of the bad management of the business. For a few years, he also published a monthly periodical called *Our Home* and became quite well known in literary circles.

The father of our subject, Isaac Andrus, was born in Vermont in 1796, and when five years old, was orphaned by the death of his father, Isaac Andrus, Sr. He grew to manhood in New York and enlisted in the War of 1812, serving until its close as a member of the New York Regiment, which fought the British bravely at Lumley's Lane. After the close of the war, he was married to Miss Sophronia Knowlton, who was born and reared in Chautauqua County, N. Y. In 1842, he removed to Illinois and settled in the then little hamlet of Rockford, where he established a general store in connection with his son-in-law, William Van Ar-

man. In 1857, the partnership was dissolved, and Mr. Andrus afterward embarked in the boot and shoe business, in which he was engaged for some years, until he retired from active labors. He was an Alderman, and took an active part in local politics. For a time, he was a member of the Baptist Church, but upon the organization of the Christian Union Church he became identified therewith, as did also his wife.

Our subject was reared to manhood in Rockford, where he was married to Miss Carrie E. Hazelteen, who was born in Luzerne County, Pa., and died three years after her marriage. The second union of Mr. Andrus united him with Mrs. Annette (Savage) Downes, an accomplished lady, who was born and reared in the East. They are the parents of two children, Dexter E. and Annette S. In politics, Mr. Andrus is independent. During the late war, he enlisted in response to the call for one-hundred day volunteers. Socially, he belongs to the Order of Red Men, of which he is Past Great Sachem; he is also identified with the Order of Chosen Friends, the Knights of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America.



ALVIN A. WELLS. It gives us pleasure to include in this volume a biographical notice of one whose life has been spent in the quiet performance of duty, and who, without filling any prominent position in public affairs, has gained the esteem and confidence of his neighbors and friends. Mr. Wells is a native of this county, and is the possessor of a comfortable, neat and pleasant home on section 3, Seward Township.

The original of this sketch was born October 15, 1844, and is the brother of John R. Wells, a prominent agriculturist of this county, whose sketch will be found on another page of this work. He is a son of Reuben and Jane Wells, the former of whom was born in Middleboro, Vt., in 1775, and in 1841, desiring to try his fortunes in the Western country, came to Illinois with his wife and eight children. The mother of our subject was known in her maidenhood as Jane Roberts, the daughter

of Abram Roberts, who died at her home, after having attained the age of eighty-one years.

On August 30, 1864, Alvin A. Wells enlisted in the late war by joining Company C, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry. He served his country faithfully and well for nearly a year, and on receiving his honorable discharge, July 8, 1865, returned home and engaged in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. The lady who became his wife March 12, 1868, was known as Miss Alice Holecomb, the daughter of Hiram and Mary Holcomb. She was a native of Winnebago County, and departed this life June 27, 1870.

October 6, 1884, Mr. Wells and Miss Sarah E. Branan, who was born January 8, 1854, in this county, were united in marriage. The lady is the daughter of George and Paulina Brannon, who came from Ohio to this county in 1842. The father was born May 29, 1817, and departed this life October 26, 1891, in this county. His wife, whose maiden name was Paulina Gates, was born April 18, 1823, and is still living. He of whom we write is a Republican in politics, and is a prominent member of Ellis Post No. 320, G. A. R., at Pectonica. Mr. and Mrs. Wells are the parents of one child, a daughter, whom they have named Alice.



J C. GARVER. The firm of Garver & Fisher, attorneys-at-law at Rockford, was established in 1890, and the members are already recognized as among the most extensive and successful practitioners of Winnebago County. Mr. Garver was admitted to the Bar in 1871, and five years afterward was elected to the office of State's Attorney, holding the position for eight years. He was well qualified to discharge the duties of the office with tact and ability, as he possessed unusual legal erudition and had the advantage of carrying on his studies with Gen. Keifer, of Springfield, Ohio.

Born in Winnebago County, Mr. Garver was here reared and educated, his home being with his father until he attained manhood. He then established a home of his own, and now, with his

wife and the five children that have been born to them, occupies a warm place in the regard of the people of Rockford. Politically, he is a Republican, and is interested in all public enterprises which he believes calculated to promote the progress of the community.



FREDERICK LUND. Our sketch of the different enterprises of Rockford would be manifestly incomplete without some brief notice of one of its most prominent jewelers. We refer to the emporium of Frederiek Lund, of No. 311 East State Street, which has been in operation for a number of years, and to-day one of the most important houses of the kind on State Street, in point of value of its stock and its varied and comprehensive character. Mr. Lund is one of the representative business men of the city and now resides in his handsome residence at No. 306 South Fourth Street. He owns valuable property in the city, is a stockholder and Director in the Union Grocery Company, and is prominently identified with the business interests of Rockford.

Mr. Lund's native country is Norway and he was born on the 31st of May, 1830. As he grew to manhood, he learned the jewelry trade, and for some time was engaged in business in Tromsøe, Norway. Thinking that broader fields were open for him in America, he left the land of his birth and sailed for this country, landing first in Quebec, Canada. Four months later, he came to Rockford, and has been a resident of this city for the past quarter of a century. He worked for two years and a half as jeweler for a State Street firm and then began on his own account. Although the first of his family to come to the States, he has since been joined by two sisters, both now residents of Chicago. They are Mrs. Anna Olson, a widow, and Mrs. Oveda Oberg. The father, Ole Lund, was a merchant tailor of Norway, and died in that country in middle age. The mother, whose maiden name was Magdalene Boyson, received her final summons in Norway in 1886, when eighty-two years of age.

When about thirty years of age, our subject was

married in his native country to Miss Hannah Bohmer, whose birth occurred in Tromsø, Norway, in June, 1843, and who after coming to this country was followed by her father and mother, her brother coming two years before. The mother died in Chicago in 1890, when sixty-six years of age. The father, Fred Bohmer, is a shoe-maker and dealer in Chicago, and is sixty-eight years of age. Mrs. Lund's brother, Olof Hanson, is foreman for the well-known jewelry merchant, Spaulding, of Chicago.

Mr. Lund's marriage has resulted in the birth of nine children, two of whom died when young. Those living are Mary, wife of Martin Christopherson, who resides in Rockford and her husband works in the Rockford Desk and Furniture Company, of which he is a stockholder and Director. Fred, Jr., was engaged in the office of the Waltham Watch Company, Chicago, and is now in the jewelry business at Missoula, Mont.; Henry, book-keeper with Holland, Ferguson & Co., abstractors; Clarence clerks in his father's store and Leila is at home.

In politics, Mr. Lund is a strong advocate of the Prohibition principles and is not at all averse to speaking his sentiments. He is a member of different local social orders, and he and Mrs. Lund are active members of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church. For many years, Mr. Lund has been the Swedish Cemetery Committeeman.



JOHN A. R. JOHNSON. Among the well-known Swedish citizens of Rockford is this gentleman, who for some time was a farmer in New Milford Township, but since 1891 has resided in this city. He was born in Smoland, Sweden, December 17, 1835, and is the only member of the parental family who has ever emigrated to America. He took passage at Gottenburg, July 10, 1854, on a three-mast schooner, which landed him at Quebec, Canada, after a voyage of thirteen weeks and four days. The trip was uneventful and tedious, and our subject was not sorry when the ship dropped anchor at Quebec.

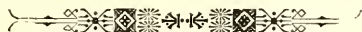
From that city Mr. Johnson came to St. Charles,

Ill., and there resided until he came to Rockford in 1857, meanwhile following his trade of wagon-maker. After coming to this city, he was married to Miss Clara Anderson, who was born in Wester Gotland, June 3, 1840, the daughter of John and Mary Anderson, natives of Sweden. After all their children were born, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson emigrated to the United States, taking passage at Gottenburg, in 1852, on a two-mast sailer, landing in New York City after a monotonous voyage of seven weeks. The family came as far West as Buffalo, where they resided two years, coming from that city to Pecatonica, where they remained for a time in the village, and afterward bought land in the township of the same name. The father died in October, 1882, when more than three-score years old. His wife, who is now eighty, makes her home in Pecatonica.

Mrs. Johnson is the second of three children, the eldest of whom, Charlotte, is the wife of P. G. Hollen, of Rockford. The youngest, John, is a farmer in Pecatonica. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of four children, two of whom are deceased. Ida R. died when an accomplished young lady of twenty years, and Mattie C. passed away when thirteen years old. Fred G., an intelligent and popular young gentleman, is connected with the Rockford Burial Case Company. Elmer R. is at home. For thirty-five years Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have been members of the First Lutheran Church, in which the former served as Trustee for eight years, and as organist for fifteen years. In his political belief, he is a strong Republican.

At present, Mr. Johnson is engaged at his trade of wagon-maker, in the Peter Sames Wagon and Buggy Factory. He was one of the promoters of, and is now a stockholder in, the Skandia Plow Company, having served for some years as Vice-president and Treasurer. After his removal hither in 1857, he worked at his trade for some time, then removed to his farm in New Milford Township, and there remained engaged in cultivating its eighty acres until he again came to Rockford, in the spring of 1891. Although of foreign birth, he loved the country of his adoption, and during the Civil War enlisted in Company H, First Illinois Infantry. With his regi-

ment, he participated in a number of engagements, including Shiloh, and other battles of less importance. After serving about one year, he was taken ill, and confined to the field hospital for two months, after which he was honorably discharged on account of disability.



SAMUEL I. CHURCH, who departed this life in 1886 in Rockford, was born in Monroe County, N. Y., June 11, 1815.

His parents were Lazarus and Catherine (Brookway) Church, for a further sketch of whom the reader is referred to the biography of the Hon. S. M. Church. Prior to coming to Illinois, which he did in 1848, our subject was married to Miss Silence Richmond, who was born in Camillus, Onondaga County, N. Y. Her father, Sylvester Richmond, was a native of Herkimer County, that State, and removed about 1856 to Ripon, Fond du Lac County, Wis. He spent his last years at the home of a daughter, passing away September 7, 1886, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. He married Electa Bell, who was born in Chester, Mass. Her father, Aaron Bell, removed from the Bay State to New York in 1810, where he was one of the pioneers in the town of Camillus, and died in 1845. The grandmother of Mrs. Church was prior to her marriage Miss Abby Eggleston, of Chester, Mass.

The wife of our subject resided with her parents until her marriage, and in 1848 accompanied him on his removal to Illinois, the journey being made by way of the Lakes to Chicago and by teams to Rockford. There was no Government land for a radius of ten miles around Rockford, but the school section near by being vacant, when it came into market Mr. Church secured a quarter-section and engaged in farming. He made his home for many years in the city but later removed to the farm, where his decease occurred in 1886. The place is embellished with good farm buildings, the most noticeable among which is the commodious frame house, which contains all the conveniences of the modern style of building. Mrs. Church still resides upon the old place.

The five children born to our subject and his

wife are Alice Emmagene, Sylvester Richmond, Samuel I., William Arthur, and Theodore Bell. Alice E. married A. E. Paul, of Chicago, in which city Sylvester R. makes his home. The youngest son, who was born January 5, 1855, was a student in Rush Medical College and would have graduated with the Class of '81, but his ambition was cut short by his death in September, 1880. Samuel I. and William A. died in infancy. Our subject in early life was a Whig, but has voted the Republican ticket since the formation of that party, and in public life served his fellow-townsmen as Sheriff of the county for two years. The daughter, A. Emmagene, is a graduate of the Ontario Female Seminary, of Canandaigua, N. Y.; Sylvester R. is a graduate of the National Business College, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.



MAHLON PIPER, whose very productive farm is located on section 13, Le Roy Township, Boone County, where he has resided for the past eighteen years, was born September 12, 1839, where Rockford now stands. His father, Daniel Piper, was a native of Ohio, from which State he emigrated to La Salle County, Ill., and located on what is the present site of Ottawa. The trip was made overland in 1827, at which time he was accompanied by his young bride, who was born in 1810, near Richmond, Va., and bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Jones.

The father of our subject, on locating in this State, made claim to a tract of land on the bottoms of Willow Creek, and for a number of years was engaged in buying and selling claims in La Salle, Boone and Winnebago Counties. Mr. and Mrs. Piper came to Rockford about 1835, and located where our subject was born. During their residence there "Long John" Wentworth was a boarder in the family, and was a firm friend of Daniel Piper. The father was engaged for some time in hauling goods from Chicago to Galena, and in 1844 located on his claim, which consisted of one-half section, where he was residing at the time of his decease.

Eight of the ten children born to the parents of our subject are still living, namely: Sarah, Mrs. Mallory, of Iowa; Eleazer, a retired farmer at Capron; Mahlon, our subject; Elizabeth, Mrs. Charles Burton; Amanda, Mrs. Ward; Ellen, Mrs. David Groesbeck; Harriet, Mrs. Andrew Anderson, and Benton. He of whom we write enlisted, August 18, 1862, in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry. His father, who was then sixty-two years of age, was mustered into Company E, of the same regiment, and served his country for six months. He was then sent to Overton Hospital at Memphis, Tenn., and later, reaching home, died within four days, in his sixty-third year. His widow is still surviving and makes her home in McHenry County, being in her eighty-second year.

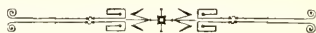
Our subject served two years and eight months, and obtained a leave of absence to return home and vote for Lincoln during his second term, in 1864. He was never wounded, but was confined in the hospital for a short time with sore eyes. He was an active participant in many engagements, among them the siege of Vicksburg, which lasted more than forty days; the Red River expedition, at which time the regiment marched out on thirty days' rations and was absent ninety days; also the Guntown raid, and numerous battles of minor importance.

Returning home March 20, 1865, our subject was married, in June of the following year, to Mahala Burton, of McHenry County. She is the daughter of Billings and Harriet (Sweazey) Burton, natives of New York State. Three children have been born to our subject, of whom the eldest child, Minnie, died in her third year; Clara, who was born in 1871, is the wife of Conrad Englehardt, a farmer in this vicinity; and Fred, who was born June 17, 1882, is at home with his parents.

In 1866, our subject purchased twenty acres of the old home farm, to which he added thirty-three more, and there made his home for three years. Then, in company with three other gentlemen, he proceeded overland with teams to Iowa and Nebraska. Returning to Illinois in 1871, he purchased his present farm of forty acres, for which he paid \$1,200. He has resided here since, with

the exception of two years spent on his father-in-law's farm. He has filled many positions of trust in the township, for eleven years was Highway Commissioner, and in politics casts a straight Republican vote.

Mr. Piper is an extensive apiarist, having about one hundred swarms of bees, in the raising of which he has been successful in the past seven or eight years. Mrs. Piper's grandmother, Nancy Burton, is ninety-one years of age, and still enjoys good health. She was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., and reared a family of sixteen children.



JONAS R. ANDERSON, Vice-president, stockholder and Director of the Central Furniture Company, of Rockford, is actively connected with one of the most prominent concerns of the city, the other officers being: President, S. A. Johnson; Secretary and Treasurer, August Peterson; Superintendent, J. Gust Johnson. After coming to Rockford, in 1854, Mr. Anderson was for eighteen years connected with F. H. Manning, and later was a promoter of the Central Furniture Company, with which he has since been identified.

Our subject was born in Smoland, Sweden, June 22, 1833, and when ten months old was orphaned by the death of his father, Andrew Pearson. His mother survived many years and was about seventy-five years old at the time of her demise. The first member of the family to leave Sweden was Jonas R., who took passage at Gottenburg and landed at Quebec, Canada, proceeding thence to the States. Since locating in Rockford, he has been joined by a brother, Charles, who died here; also a sister, Martha, wife of John Johnson, who died about ten years ago.

In Rockford, Mr. Anderson was married to Helen Stockenburg, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, in May, 1829, and was the first member of her father's family who emigrated to this country, coming hither in 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are influential members of the First Swedish Lutheran Church at Rockford, and for some years

he served as Trustee and Deacon. They were the parents of five children, two of whom are deceased. Jennie died when a small child, and Jennie (second) passed away when eighteen years old. She was a skilled musician and a graduate of the city High School. Sarah C. is the wife of the Rev. John Endston, a Swedish Lutheran clergyman of Minneapolis; Andrew J. is represented elsewhere in this volume; Amanda is at present part owner of a store in Wakefield, Neb.



WILLIAM S. P. HITCHCOCK. The excellence of the soil of Winnebago County for the uses of agriculture has been demonstrated by the pioneers, who cleared the land of its primeval forest growth, turned the first furrows in the soil, and gradually brought the land to a high state of improvement, until to-day this county ranks second to none in the quantity and quality of its products. Mr. Hitchcock devotes especial attention to the raising of small fruits and vegetables, a department of agriculture to which little attention has been paid until quite recently; he is also carrying on a general farming business in Seward Township.

In noting the ancestry of our subject, we find that his paternal grandfather, Ira Hitchcock, was a native of Connecticut and a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He married Miss Hannah Hitchkiss, and among their ten children was Ebenezer, who was born in Vermont, November 23, 1787. He grew to maturity in the Green Mountain State and was married to Miss Abi Button, a native of New Hampshire. They became the parents of ten children, all of whom have passed from earth except our subject and one sister. The parents are deceased, the father having died in Ogle County, Ill., and the mother in Winnebago County. They were pioneers of this section of country, having removed hither in 1847 and purchased forty acres of school land, which they afterward traded for the farm where our subject resides. The place had been originally entered from the Government by an older brother some ten years prior to the settlement of the father thereon.

Our subject was born in Massena Township, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., October 25, 1817. He grew to manhood in the Empire State, and on attaining to his majority commenced to work by the month on a farm, continuing in that occupation for six years. On Christmas Day, 1845, he was united in marriage with Miss Martha Hudson, who was born in Montreal, Canada, March 12, 1820. Her father, Samuel Hudson, died in Massena, N. Y., at the age of seventy-five, and her mother, whose maiden name was Polly Abbott, died in Winnebago County when about seventy-five. They were the parents of eleven children, five of whom survive.

Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock have six children, as follow: Louisa M., born December 14, 1846, married Alonson Wells, and they have five children, reside near Pecatonica; Julia S., born September 4, 1849, is the wife of C. T. Simpson and resides in Cedar Falls, Iowa; Sophronia, born March 9, 1852, was united with George Wright, and they are the parents of five children, reside in Pecatonica; George, born August 25, 1854, is married and the father of two children and resides in Los Angeles, Cal.; Eva, born January 11, 1858, is at home with her parents; Amanda, born March 20, 1861, became the wife of Orlando Hall, and they have two children, resides in Linn County, Iowa. The children have all received excellent educations and are highly esteemed throughout the communities where they reside. In his political belief, Mr. Hitchcock was an old-line Whig, casting his first ballot for William H. Harrison for President, and has been a Republican since the organization of the party.



OSCAR G. WELLS, who has been a resident of Pecatonica Village since 1857, is one of the prominent and influential men of this section. He is the owner of a pleasant home in the village, where he is greatly respected for his honest and upright life. A native of Seward Township, Winnebago County, Ill., our subject is the son of Jesse and Lavina (Everett)

Wells. The father was an old settler in this region and died at his home in Seward Township, July 21, 1891, when over ninety-one years of age.

Mr. Wells of this sketch on reaching his majority was married, March 2, 1879, to Mary Patterson, who was also a native of this county, having been born March 26, 1860. She was the daughter of William and Sarah A. (Dean) Patterson, whose sketch the reader will find on another page of this volume. The three children born to our subject and his wife are Claud W., born August 15, 1880; Maud S., August 29, 1883, and Bernice M., April 11, 1885. He is an extensive hay merchant in the village and also the proprietor of two farms, one containing forty acres and the other one hundred acres of land. Mr. and Mrs. Wells are Universalists in their religion, and our subject belongs to the I. O. O. F. Lodge No. 173 and also to the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics, he is a true-blue Republican, and has served for a number of terms on the School Board.

William R. Patterson, the father of Mrs. Wells, was born November 11, 1822, in Finnis, County Down, Ireland, and is the son of John and Jane (Roan) Patterson, the former of whom died when about thirty-five years of age and the latter in her forty-seventh year. He came to America in 1845 and at Oriskany, Oneida County, N. Y., worked at the mason's trade, but in his own country was a linen weaver.

The lady to whom Mr. Patterson was married June 25, 1848, was Miss Sarah A. Dean, whose birth occurred February 27, 1819, in Otsego County, N. Y. She was the daughter of Amos and Jane (Chatterton) Dean, and was a cousin of Jay Gould. The Chattertons were Quakers and lived and died in the Empire State. The Dean family were commercial and professional men, and a sister of Amos married a Gould and Jay Gould is supposed to be a grandson or a son of that lady. Mrs. Wells is one in a family of seven children, three of whom are living: Jane D., who is married and has two children; Isabella P., who is married and the mother of six children.

The father of Mrs. Wells in 1856 came to Winnebago County, where he has since resided, engaged at his trade of a mason. He purchased a farm,

which he later disposed of at a good profit. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson are Episcopalians in religious matters. The father cast his first vote for Gen. Scott and has since that time voted with the Republican party. While residing in New York, he was a member of the Odd Fellows' lodge. Mr. Patterson, when en route to the New World, was nearly seven weeks sailing from Belfast to New York and on that trip passed through one of the greatest storms known to those days. For a period of three days and nights, he with over three hundred passengers was kept in the hold of the vessel with the hatch nailed down and not a morsel to eat. At the end of that time, when they were permitted to come out, it was found the vessel was leaking and Mr. Patterson with other passengers was forced to pump water for over ten days. He was accompanied to this country by a brother, from whom he was never separated until the latter was called hence.

"Another old settler gone" was heard throughout Winnebago County when Jesse Wells, the father of our subject, breathed his last. It might be truly said of him that he lived in the hearts of men while on earth and his memory will forever remain fresh in the hearts of the countless hundreds who knew and loved him dearly. His name was synonymous with all that was good, pure, noble and honest, and he was as much a stranger to corrupt methods of doing business as purity is a stranger to impurity. He stood out among his fellow-men as one absolutely self-made, and his memory must forever stand as a silent witness as to what straightforwardness and an honorable career can do for a man.

Jesse Wells was born in New York, June 2, 1800 and when a lad of ten years his father died, thus throwing him on his own resources. He went out to work to help support his mother and brothers and sisters. Small indeed was the salary a boy could earn in those days, but this boy, no matter how small his income or salary, managed to live within it. He proved that labor and merit could and would be rewarded, as in 1825 he was married to Miss Aseneth Bennett. To them were born a family of nine children, all of whom are deceased, with the exception of one son who is an extensive

farmer in Iowa. The partner of his early joys and sorrows died at Ridott, this State, in 1811.

The father of our subject was a pioneer in two Western States, as he first came to Ohio in 1834 and there farmed successfully until 1842, when he removed to Stephenson County, this State. In the town of Ridott, he entered an immense tract of land and later bought and in other trades acquired a large property in Winnebago County, which is located in Seward and Pecatonica Townships. In 1854, he removed to the farm in the former place, where his decease occurred when ninety-one years of age.

The second marriage of the elder Mr. Wells occurred in 1846, at which time Miss Lavina Everett, a native of Pennsylvania, became his wife. They became the parents of eight children, two of whom are deceased. That Jesse Wells was a grand success must be conceded when it is known that without any schooling and not a dollar of assistance from any one, he left an estate valued at over \$100,000. That fortune was made by a strict integrity, and a thorough knowledge of economical principles.



HENRY H. HOVEY. There is not within the city of Rockford or vicinity a more cozy and conveniently-arranged home than that of Mr. Hovey, who is well known as one of the prominent citizens of the county. He was born in Warsaw, Wyoming County, N. Y., January 29, 1824, and is the son of David Hovey, whose birth occurred in Tolland County, Conn., March 19, 1783. So far as known, the paternal grandfather of our subject was a resident of Connecticut during his entire life, and he was at one time Sheriff of Tolland County.

David Hovey was reared in his native State, and after his marriage removed to Western New York, accompanied by his family, the removal being made with teams. He drove an ox-team with the household goods, while his wife, with her twin daughters, drove a one-horse buggy. Locating in Warsaw, he bought a tract of timber land of the Holland Purchase Company, and thereon erected a log cabin, in which our subject was born. This

contained an unfinished loft, and one of the first recollections of Henry H. is that of climbing a ladder to his bed in the loft, where in the winter season he would often find snow on the bed covers.

At that early day railroads and canals were unknown, and the nearest market was at Rochester, forty miles distant. On the farm which he cleared, Mr. Hovey, Sr., remained until his death. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Wealthy Palmer, was born in Mansfield, Conn., April 26, 1785. Her father, Elias Palmer, was born in Connecticut, and was a descendant of one of two brothers who emigrated from England, and were numbered among the first settlers of Stonington, Conn. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a farmer and spent his entire life in the State of his birth. Mrs. Wealthy Hovey survived her husband many years, spending the closing days of her life at Warsaw. She reared six children, namely: Martha and Mary (twins), Lucius A., V. R., Henry H. and Julia M.

At the time of his father's death, our subject was quite young, and he afterward assisted his brothers in cultivating the farm until he was fourteen. At that age he commenced to work in a woolen mill, where he served an apprenticeship of four years and then did "jour" work for two years. In company with his brother V. R., he later bought a sawmill in Allegany County, and this they operated for a time. Returning to Wyoming County, he cultivated the home farm and resided there until 1867, when he removed to Marengo, McHenry County, Ill., and for ten years thereafter traveled in the interest of the Union Mutual Life Insurance Company, receiving a salary of \$2,500 and expenses per year.

Resigning his position, Mr. Hovey built a hay-press at Hinckley and engaged in buying and shipping hay for two years, and then, selling out, returned to Marengo. During the same year (1877) he exchanged his property there for a farm close to the city of Rockford, and here he has since resided. In 1889, he sold all but thirteen acres of the place to the "boomers," and upon the property still in his possession has erected a comfortable residence, where he lives retired.

December 16, 1844, Mr. Hovey was married to Nancy S. Willey, who was born in Vermont, and they are the parents of two children: Frances M. and Lucius A., Jr. Frances married George Wilson and they have one child, Henry H. Lucius married Salina Blackman, and they, with their three children, Lucia A., Julia N. and Vine R., reside in St. Charles, Kane County. Mr. and Mrs. Hovey are active members of the Baptist Church. Politically, he is a staunch Republican. During the time that he was traveling, he purchased a farm in Kane County, beside land in Iowa and Minnesota, and still has in his possession a large tract in the last-named State.



SAMUEL C. WITHROW. In the line of fine carpets, draperies, brass goods, etc., etc., the city of Rockford stands second to none, a fact in which its citizens may well take pride in these days of intense competitive effort. In this age of refinement, wealth, and enterprise, the demands of all classes for artistic productions are more exacting than ever before, and in no branch of trade is this more evident than that in which the firm of Withrow, Baird & Co. is engaged. This firm make a specialty of interior decorating, the same introduced lately, and are located in the Stewart Block, where they have a fine room, 135x44 feet. Withrow & Baird have been in business together since April, 1889, and have, until quite recently, been located at No. 122 South Main Street, where, besides doing a decorating business, they carried a large and full line of dry goods. Seeing the need of a house in Rockford that would make a specialty of interior decorating, they established themselves in the most favorable location for the business, and have been rewarded by the signal success they have achieved.

Mr. Withrow has been actively engaged in business in this city for many years, while Mr. J. N. Baird, who came here from McGregor, Iowa, where he was engaged for a number of years as a dry-goods merchant, has only resided here since 1889. During that time, however, he has impressed

the people as a man of sound judgment, excellent taste, and much energy. Mr. Withrow came to Rockford in June, 1861, and engaged in the dry-goods business on his own account, but at the end of ten years, having a true artist's eye for harmony of colors and beautiful effects, he connected with his business a line of house decorations, which he carried on jointly and successfully with his former business until 1892. Since that time, the firm has established the latter line of business entirely. With the exception of a Mr. Dennett, who is still in business in this city, Mr. Withrow is the oldest dry-goods merchant in Rockford. The honorable and equitable methods of this gentleman and his partner inspire the utmost confidence, and their energy and enterprise are reaping a well-merited reward.

Our subject came to this city from Cincinnati, Ohio, where he had a thorough training as a seller of dry-goods, in both the retail and wholesale departments, being connected for some time with the old dry-goods firm of Shaw, Buel, Barber & Co., and having a natural aptitude for that business, he has been unusually successful. He was born in London, Madison County, Ohio, and there passed his boyhood and received his education. At an early age, he began clerking in a dry-goods store in his native town and subsequently went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he remained, actively engaged in business, until coming to this city.

Prominent in all enterprises of a laudable nature, Mr. Withrow is particularly so in educational and religious matters, having been one of the greatest, if not the greatest, Sunday-school worker in the county. Out of the thirty years he has been a resident of this city, twenty years have been spent as Superintendent of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church, and he has been an official member of the same for years. He has been a delegate to the State Sunday-school Convention a number of times, and when the National Convention met at Newark, N. J., he was one of the delegates from this State. He has been an energetic worker in this direction, and has been in every church and schoolhouse in the county. He gives new impetus and life to old Sunday-schools, and organizes new ones: he seems never to tire, and

still the good work goes on. A staunch Republican in his political views, Mr. Withrow works hard for his party, and is a live man in all local affairs.

The parents of our subject, Robert and Ann (Carr) Withrow, were natives of Madison County, Ohio, and there passed their entire days. The father was a prominent farmer of his native county, but the last twenty years of his life were spent as a shipper of cattle. He died when seventy-seven years of age. His father was a Virginian, of English descent, and became an early settler of London Township, Madison County, Ohio, where he took up and improved Government land. He assisted in building the old National Road, and was a prominent man in his day. The wife of Robert Withrow died when seventy-two years of age. Her parents had come to Ohio from the Old Dominion at an early day, improved Government land, and were well known to the people of that county. Both the Withrow and Carr families

were Methodists in their religious views, and were Whigs and Republicans in politics.

Samuel Withrow was married in Peoria, Ill., to Mrs. Sallie Irwin, *nee* McFarland, a native of Pittsburgh, Pa., who came of Scotch-Irish ancestors, inheriting her thrift and industry from the former, and her wit and sociability from the latter. She was reared and educated in her native city, and was there married to Maj. S. C. Irwin, who was in an Ohio Regiment, and who was killed at the battle of Lookout Mountain, when in the prime of life. He received his regular promotions, was a brave and gallant officer, and fought bravely in defense of the Union. He left no children.

Mr. and Mrs. Withrow are without children of their own, but they have adopted one son, christened Fritz, who is now in the fruit business in Galt, Cal., and who is a promising young man. Mr. and Mrs. Withrow are prominent in social and religious matters, and are pleasantly located on Remington Bluff, south of the city.





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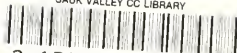
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