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

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

UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS LIBRARY
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
ILL. HIST. SURVEY

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

A STANDARD HISTORY

OF

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY ILLINOIS

An Authentic Narrative of the Past, with Particular Attention to the Modern Era in the Commercial, Industrial, Civic and Social Development. A Chronicle of the People, with Family Lineage and Memoirs

---

J. R. STEWART
Supervising Editor

Assisted by a Board of Advisory Editors

VOLUME II

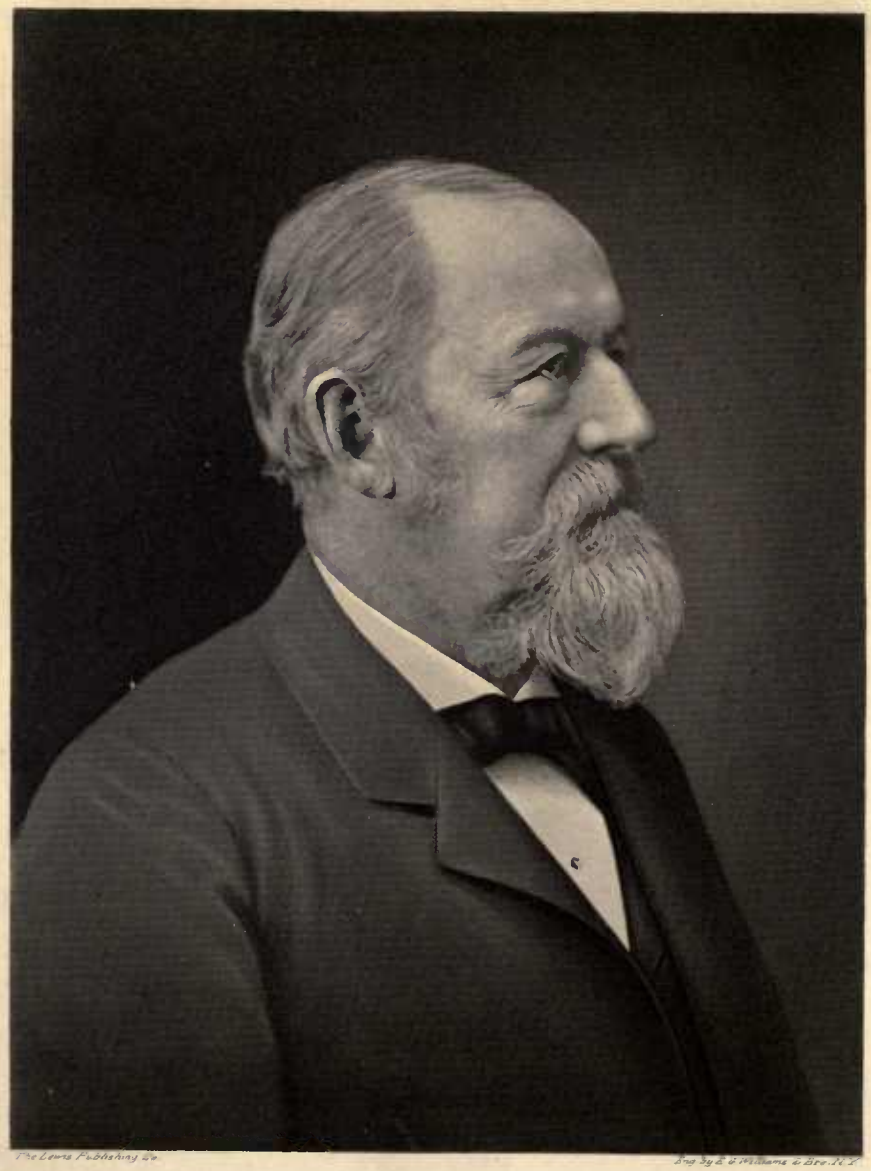
ILLUSTRATED

THE LEWIS PUBLISHING COMPANY
CHICAGO AND NEW YORK
1918

I.H.S.

ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SURVEY

977.364
St 4s
v. 2
cop. 3



The Lewis Publishing Co.

Eng. by E. G. Williams & Bro. N. Y.

J. O. Cunningham

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

JUDGE J. O. CUNNINGHAM. The publishers and editors of this work feel that only a meager tribute can be paid to the memory of Champaign County's most beloved citizen in the following brief review of his life. Judge Cunningham was a great historian. He contributed liberally to historical literature, was himself the author of a History of Champaign County, and in the closing months of his life he gave generously from the riches of his great collection and from his experience and memory in an advisory capacity to the compilation of the present work.

Joseph Oscar Cunningham was born at Lancaster in Erie County, New York, December 12, 1830, and died at his home, 922 West Green Street, Urbana, on April 30, 1917, when in his eighty-seventh year. He was a son of Hiram Way and Eunice (Brown) Cunningham. Some of his early life was spent in northern Ohio, where he attended Baldwin Institute at Berea and also Oberlin College. In June, 1853, at the age of twenty-two, he came to Champaign County, and from that time forward his home was at Urbana. He had previously taught in the village school at Eugene, Indiana, but a month after his arrival at Urbana became associated as one of the proprietors and editors of the Urbana Union. He was a member of this firm of Cunningham & Flynn until 1858, and in August of that year became associated with J. W. Scroggs in the publication of the Central Illinois Gazette at Champaign, a village then known as Western Urbana.

In April, 1855, Mr. Cunningham was admitted to the bar. In 1859 he received his law degree from the Union Law School of Cleveland, Ohio. After his admission to practice it is said he never missed a single term in court for forty-seven years. He was admitted to the Supreme Court of the United States in 1880. He was a member successively of the law firms of Sim & Cunningham, Cunningham & Weber and Cunningham & Boggs. He finally retired from active practice in 1905.

The title by which he was so long known in Champaign County was a mark of respect, though it was based actually upon official service as judge of the Champaign County courts. He was elected to that office on an independent ticket in 1861 and served four years. At the time of his death he was the only surviving member of the original Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois. He was first appointed a trustee by Governor Oglesby in 1867, and was reappointed by Governor Palmer in 1871. For six years he served as a member of its executive committee. The university always claimed much of his time and interest, and for fifty years he was its devoted friend. Another institution which claimed some of his services was McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois, which he served as trustee during 1897-98.

Judge Cunningham was a member of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1896 and 1900. He was a member of the Mississippi Valley Historical Society and the Illinois State Historical Society. He distinguished himself by his ability as a collector and writer

on historical subjects and delivered many addresses before the State Historical Society and before Masonic and legal associations. On June 27, 1900, he delivered an address at Norwalk, Ohio, before the Firelands Historical Society on the occasion of its forty-fourth annual meeting. He was one of the founders and was vice president of the Illinois State Historical Society, and two of his most notable addresses were read before that society in 1902 and 1905. In collaboration with William C. Jones he prepared Jones & Cunningham's Practice, a volume on County and Probate Court Practice, the first edition of which was printed in 1883. Second and third editions were issued in 1892 and 1903. His History of Champaign County was published in 1905. After the publication of that work he continued to gather many new matters and data bearing upon the local and general history of Champaign County.

Judge Cunningham had been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1866. A permanent monument to his memory is the result of his donation in 1894 to the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Illinois Conference of the home in which he and his wife had resided for twenty-five years. This is a large place on Cunningham Avenue, north of Urbana, and was donated to the church to be used as a home for homeless children. The building, with a tract of fifteen acres, valued at $15,000, now has the name of the Cunningham Orphanage. The missionary society instructs and trains the children of the home.

When the Urbana Park Commission began its work of preserving beauty spots in Urbana, Judge Cunningham made the city a present of fifteen acres of land adjoining Crystal Park Lake and now comprising that portion at the north end of the park which is distinguished by a beautiful winding drive and boulevard.

Judge Cunningham was married at Bainbridge, Ohio, October 13, 1853, to Miss Mary M. McConoughey. Judge Cunningham was for a number of years master of Urbana Lodge of Masons and also a member of the Urbana Knights Templar Commandery. He began voting as a Whig, subsequently was a Republican, but from 1873 was an independent, though a pronounced advocate of the principles of the Prohibition party.

It would be impossible within the scope of this article to describe all the interests and associations that made Judge Cunningham a part of Champaign County. In conclusion should be quoted the words of one of the local papers used at the time of his death:

"The end of a long and fruitful life, the life of a friend of the immortal Abraham Lincoln, came at 11:30 o'clock Monday night when a two weeks' illness resulted in the death of Judge J. O. Cunningham, one of the oldest and best known citizens of Champaign County.

"As Judge Cunningham had lived, so did he die, surrounded by his beloved books, a library such as none other in the State and probably in the United States, containing as it does some of the rarest old historical works obtainable, collected during a long life of research along historical lines. Some of the rarest volumes in the collection have to do with the life of Mr. Lincoln, who was a close friend of Mr. Cunningham in the pioneer days of Champaign County when Mr. Lincoln came to Urbana to attend the court.

"A number of years ago Judge Cunningham had a large room added to the rear of his residence as his library, and during his last illness he had his bed in this room, and at his request the last obsequies over his body were observed there.

"In the death of Judge Cunningham one of the greatest minds of the State is sealed forever. During his life scholars from many places of learning, sat at the feet of Judge Cunningham to draw from the immense

storehouse of his memory details of local and State history forgotten by other minds as old as Judge Cunningham's but more feeble. Not only was he familiar with intimate bits of information regarding the life of the greatest American statesman, but he made it a part of his life to remember details of history of his home city and was able to tell many Urbana people things that they did not know about their own forebears, details that would have been lost had it not been for Judge Cunningham's interest in preserving them. Many of his recollections of days long gone are preserved in historical works compiled by Judge Cunningham."

WILLIAM W. EARNEST. Firmly intrenched in the American heart is the public school system, which, while not perfect perhaps, is continually being improved, largely as the result of the efforts of conscientious, intellectual leaders. The city of Champaign in its superintendent of schools has a well qualified, constructive man, a graduate of the University of Illinois and a thorough teacher as well as executive. He is William W. Earnest, who has occupied this responsible office for the past nine years.

William W. Earnest was born in Mississippi, October 1, 1863, one of a family of three children born to his parents, who were John W. and Julia J. (Woolley) Earnest. Both parents were natives of Illinois, the father born in Sangamon and the mother in Greene County. Both are now deceased, the death of the father occurring in 1902. He was one of the argonauts who, in 1850, went to California in search of gold, of which he found enough to pay for his time, and he had many interesting experiences and adventures. From California he returned to Illinois, but afterward went to Mississippi and was engaged in managing sawmills there at the outbreak of the war between the states and found it impossible to escape from a situation embarrassing to a northern man until the opening of the Mississippi and Yazoo mines in the spring of 1864. Later on he followed the peaceful pursuits of agriculture in Macoupin County, Illinois.

William W. Earnest attended the public schools of Greenfield, and after completing the high school course and a college course in the Valparaiso University he was engaged for a number of years in teaching in country and village schools and in the management of the Western Normal College of Bushnell, Illinois, as well as in the superintendency of the city schools of Macomb. Afterward he entered the University of Illinois, from which institution he was graduated in 1908, shortly afterward accepting the superintendency of the city public schools of Champaign.

In many ways Mr. Earnest has proved his superior qualifications, not the least of these being his record for constructive service, he being in the lead in all hopeful and vitally important movements in relation to the efficiency of the schools. He is not only a man educationally trained but one of broad mind, social understanding and civic responsibility. He is popular with the teachers under his management and enjoys the confidence of parents and pupils. In his political affiliation Mr. Earnest has always been a Republican but practically takes little part in advancing the interests of any office seeker. Fraternally, he is a Mason and a member of the Presbyterian Church. In meeting Mr. Earnest the visitor receives an impression of strong individuality, conscientious acceptance of responsibility and unusual modesty as to his achievements.

EDWIN S. SWIGART, a former mayor of the city of Champaign, is a thorough business man, and his reputation as a successful manager of large and important interests was one of the chief reasons why the people of Champaign desired him as their mayor.

A native of Illinois, he was born near Farmer City in DeWitt County, December 11, 1861. His parents, Jacob and Rebecca (Davis) Swigart, were both born in Ohio. Jacob Swigart, who was born in 1827 and died in 1907, removed to DeWitt County, Illinois, in 1847. Rebecca Davis was taken to DeWitt County in 1837, when a small child, and she is still living, being now one of the oldest settlers of that county. Jacob Swigart followed farming during his active career, and became well known in politics and business affairs. In 1868 he was elected a member of the State Legislature.

In a family of nine children, Edwin S. Swigart was the sixth in order of birth. His early advantages were those of the common schools of DeWitt County and for three years he was a student in Lombard College at Galesburg. He had considerable experience as a farmer, and after his marriage in 1885 he remained on the home place for a year.

Mr. Swigart was one of the organizers of the Creamery Package Company, then located at Morrison, Illinois, and for a time he gave this business his entire time and energies. The company has since grown to very large proportions, and now has its main offices in Chicago. For six years Mr. Swigart was associated with his father in the management of a private bank at De Land, Piatt County. In May, 1896, with J. W. Armstrong and J. W. Orr, Mr. Swigart bought an interest in the Citizens Bank of Champaign. This is now the Citizens State Bank. He was actively associated as one of the bank's managers for three years. Mr. Swigart now has numerous business interests, especially in farm lands, and owns some of the best and most profitable acreage in Champaign and Piatt counties.

In 1900 he was supervisor of the census in this congressional district. He was first elected to the office of mayor of Champaign in 1903, and his creditable work in that office was fresh in the minds of the people when in 1915 he was again chosen to the same position. He served until May 1, 1917, when the commission form of government was adopted by the city.

On September 3, 1885, Mr. Swigart married Miss Nellie Lapham, a native of Whiteside County, Illinois. They are the parents of two children: Alta C., wife of D. T. Hoskins, Jr., of Lincoln, Nebraska; and Faith, still at home. Mr. Swigart is a Republican in politics and is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Louis Arthur Busch. The legal profession of Champaign County and the civic government of Urbana have a worthy representative in the person of Louis Arthur Busch, state's attorney. A native of the city of Urbana, he has passed his entire life here, and his career among its citizens is looked upon as particularly worthy, as he has trod the hard self-made road to success and has triumphed over a number of discouraging obstacles which have arisen in his path. A member of the legal brotherhood since 1908, he has made rapid advancement in his calling, and since 1912 has been the incumbent of the official position which he now occupies.

Louis Arthur Busch was born June 4, 1886, at Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, and is a son of Carl T. and Carolina S. (Hank) Busch. His father was born in Prussia, Germany, and was a child when brought to America in 1868, the family originally locating at Champaign, where he was reared and received his education in the public schools. Upon his removal to Urbana, in young manhood, he embarked in the furniture business, and continued to be identified with that enterprise during the remaining years of his life, his death occuring June 8, 1896. Mr. Busch was a Democrat in his political views, but not an active participant in politics. He religious faith was that of the Lutheran Church, in which his children were carefully reared. Mrs. Busch, who survives her husband

and resides at No. 411 West Main Street, Urbána, was born in Germany, July 3, 1861, and was brought to the United States by her parents in 1868. She has been the mother of seven children, as follows: Carl C., William L., Mrs. Emma (Busch) Lange, Mrs. Minnie (Busch) Baker, Louis Arthur and Mrs. Bertha (Busch) Foesterling, and Henry, who died as an infant.

After completing the curriculum of the graded schools and spending one year in high school, Louis Arthur Busch, then a lad of fifteen years, became identified with the furniture business, to which he had been given an introduction some years before in his father's store. He had lost his father by death when he was ten years of age, and he therefore had not enjoyed the privileges in an educational way which would have otherwise been his. However, he was desirous of obtaining a good education, having set his ambitions upon a professional career, and through his industry and continued effort managed, in 1905, to enter the University of Illinois, as a special student. For three years he took law and preparatory studies, and in 1908 duly completed his course and was graduated, whereupon he entered upon the practice of his profession at Champaign. Being earnest and industrious, he not only gained for himself a good clientele, but attracted to himself the attention of a number of representative men, who saw in him good official timber and eventually persuaded him to allow his name to be used as a candidate for the office of state's attorney. To this office he was duly elected December 2, 1912, and in the same position he has continued to serve to the present time. He has proven a most excellent official, his value to the community being enhanced by his comprehensive knowledge of his calling, his conscientious performance of his responsibilities and the fearless manner in which he attacks the duties of his office. Among his professional associates, Mr. Busch bears a good reputation as an adherent of the best ethics of the law, as a valuable fellow counsel and as a worthy opponent.

On February 2, 1910, Mr. Busch was united in marriage in Shelby County, Illinois, with Miss Laura Wascher, who was born at Champaign, Illinois, August 5, 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Busch are the parents of two sons and one daughter, namely: Arthur, who was born November 1, 1912; Robert, born March 6, 1914; and Barbara, born December 24, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Busch are members of the Lutheran Church, and Mr. Busch belongs to the church council and is active in its work. His political support is given to the candidates and policies of the Democratic party. During Governor Richard Yates' administration he was appointed law clerk of the House of Representatives for two terms. As a fraternalist he holds membership in the local lodges of the Masons, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias.

G. W. Hartsock. The record of a true and upright Christian gentleman, a man of more than ordinary business acumen fortified by years of industry, is that of G. W. Hartsock, who with his noble wife is now spending years of retirement at their home on Belle Avenue in the City of Rantoul.

Mr. Hartsock was born in Greene County, Ohio, son of David and Sarah J. (Cornell) Hartsock, both natives of Ohio. His grandfather, Sylvanus Cornell, was a soldier of the War of 1812 under General Harrison, and for many years he drew a pension until his death. G. W. Hartsock had a district school education. He was one of the following family of sons and daughters: Jessie L., Sylvanus, Ruth A., Elizabeth, Flora, Eli and G. W. Flora and Eli are both deceased.

As a young man G. W. Hartsock, hoping to obtain better conditions in the region of cheaper lands, made a visit to his uncle at Clinton in DeWitt

County, Illinois. His investigations extended as far as Rantoul, where he was particularly impressed with the outlook, and he bought eighty acres of land at $13.50 an acre. Having made this purchase he went back to Ohio and then came on with a covered wagon and his only companion was "Dash," an English terrier dog. This dog was a most faithful animal and in a way was the foundation of Mr. Hartsock's fortune. Mr. Hartsock had a French neighbor who possessed a large store of grain, but much of it was being destroyed by the rats. He succeeded in persuading young Hartsock to exchange the English terrier for twenty bushels of rye, and thus the ownership of the dog changed hands and the rye was put to good use by Mr. Hartsock.

Soon after starting from his Ohio home Mr. Hartsock met the man who had made his wagon. This wagonmaker volunteered the information that within three months the youth would be back at home asking for bread and butter from his parents. To this the young pioneer rejoined: "Jake, sink or swim, survive or perish, I'll never do that. I'm going to stay." While a boy at home Mr. Hartsock was very much attached to his mother and had to bear considerable ridicule on that account. Some of his companions also called him "General," and said they wondered at his willingness to leave home, though they admired his pluck.

On June 5, 1871, Mr. Hartsock laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Miss Emogene Soper. She was born in Lake County, Illinois, a daughter of Orange P. and Jerusha I. (Abell) Soper. Her grandfather, Remember E. Soper, was also a soldier of the War of 1812. After a very determined courtship Mr. Hartsock had won the consent of this young lady to become his wife and they started away from the vicinity of Gifford for Urbana, the county seat, to obtain a license and get married. After making the trip they learned that the only minister in town was away at the conference. Finally, after hunting around some time, they discovered Mr. McElroy, a minister of the Methodist Church, who solemnized their bonds.

The young couple began housekeeping in the northwest quarter of section 26 of Harwood Township. They had hope and faith, unlimited industry, and the years have fully justified them in all their plans and ambitions. Their means enabled them to buy another eighty acres, then forty acres, and they finally bought six acres adjoining the town of Rantoul. Mr. Hartsock's landed estate now comprises 240 acres of as fine land as can be found in the State of Illinois and worth $250 an acre.

Seven children were born into their home, two of whom died in infancy.

Sylvanus L. Hartsock, the first child, is now deceased. He married Anna Lapham of Indiana and she survived with two children, Charles Walter and Esther Ruth.

Olive M., the oldest of those living, is now Mrs. Reynolds and the mother of the following children: Lula L., Hurley, Emogene, Volney, Gladys, George, Flossie, Teddy, Orange, Lucy May, Belzoria, Velma Doris, and Floy Myrul and Loy Bural, twins, but Loy Bural is deceased. Orange and Lucy May are both now deceased. Lula is married and has a child named Marvin, and Emogene is also married. Gladys is now Mrs. Leon Conley and Hurley E. is a soldier in the United States army in the First Cavalry, Troop D, and stationed with his troop at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming.

The next child, Asa, died in infancy. David O. lives in Pocahontas County, Iowa, and by his marriage to Tillie Gehrt of Peoria has two children, Raymond and Hazel.

Sarah A. Hartsock is the wife of Isaac Funkhouser and has a son, Marion.

Caroline E. is the wife of R. L. Carr, and they live on an eighty-acre

farm belonging to her father in Champaign County. Their children are two in number, Evelyn and Layton.

Amos S. Hartsock, the youngest child, is a farmer in Pocahontas County, Iowa. He married Sadie Shaveland and has a bright little son named Harlan, now four years of age.

Mr. G. W. Hartsock has been a sturdy supporter of the Republican party for fully half a century. His first presidential vote was given to Stephen A. Douglas. He has reared his sons to support the principles which he has believed right and just and to respect and honor all those things which are the essential elements of good citizenship and good character. Mr. Hartsock has been public spirited in all his community actions, has served as road commissioner and school director and his liberal prosperity has not been for himself alone, but for the benefit of the community in general. Since retiring from the farm he and his good wife have enjoyed the comforts of a pleasant home in Rantoul.

Perhaps the most distinctive feature of their long and worthy lives has been their devotion to church and Christianity. Mrs. Hartsock was the first to join the Christian Church at Gifford, while Mr. Hartsock and their two children followed her into the church the next fall. At that time the people of the Christian denomination worshiped in a schoolhouse. Mr. Hartsock soon took the lead in circulating a petition for the building of a church at Gifford. This petition met with hearty response and in a few years they were able to dedicate a fine church and the little organization has been growing in all the years. Mr. Hartsock has served as an elder and trustee and has ordered his entire life to conform to the principles of true Christian manhood. After coming to Rantoul he encouraged the building of an addition to the local church, and gave $300 for that purpose. He has filled the office of elder and trustee in the Rantoul church and is now one of the elders. For many years Mr. Hartsock and wife have made it a rule to pay out one-tenth of their income for church purposes, and the payment of this tithe has constituted one of the most enduring satisfactions of their lives. Along with active work in the church Mr. Hartsock has given equally ardent advocacy of the cause of temperance, and he has never neglected an opportunity to work for the fulfillment of that cause. The record of such a man is above all value and estimate as an example and a source of good to his community and particularly to his children and descendants.

James A. Talbott has not only achieved that success represented by large land holdings and rich and prosperous farms, but also the riches of friendship and community esteem. All this is well indicated by the title affectionately bestowed upon him and most people know him as "Uncle Jimmie" Talbott. Mr. Talbott and his family reside in Harwood Township, in section 36, near Gifford, but his farm possessions spread over a large area and include 1,600 acres of choice Illinois soil.

Mr. Talbott is a native of West Virginia, and was the fourth of eight children born to J. V. and Sarah (Parsons) Talbott. He is of English stock on both sides and the families have been in America for many generations. Mr. James A. Talbott grew up in West Virginia and attended a school known as the Wise school, from the name of the land owner there. He was still young when his parents, in April, 1865, left West Virginia, soon after the surrender of Lee's army, and migrated to Illinois. They heard the news of Lincoln's assassination on arriving at Danville. J. V. Talbott bought ninety acres of land in Middle Fork Township in Vermilion County, paying $25 an acre. The family encountered many hardships and privations. J. V. Talbott had always suffered somewhat delicate health

and the change of climate not agreeing with him he died in 1866, after about a year of residence in Illinois. He was a man of fine character, and in the brief time spent in Illinois had acquired a large circle of friends. His widow afterwards visited relatives in California and was taken ill and died in that state. When James A. Talbott was thirty years of age he married Ruthie LeFever. Mrs. Talbott at her death left four young children, named Charles V., Lucy A., Frank W. and Earl P. These children were educated in the Corliss district schools of Champaign County. Mr. Corliss had leased the ground for the school for a period of twenty-five years, and after the lease expired the name was changed to the Talbott school, in honor of this Talbott family.

For his second wife Mr. Talbott married Mrs. Eliza J. LeFever. She was born in Marion County, Ohio, seven miles from the city of Marion, daughter of Charles L. and Mary (Duckweiler) LeFever. Her father was a native of Germany and her mother of Pennsylvania.

After his marriage Mr. Talbott began housekeeping on a farm of eighty acres, for which he paid $20 an acre. It was prairie land in the midst of sloughs and without improvements. He bought the land from J. C. Sheldon. Here he began the sturdy work of improvement, erecting a small house, planting trees, and in the course of time has developed one of the attractive farm homes which stands as a monument to his industry.

Mrs. Talbott first married Isaac LeFever. They lived at Sugar Grove in Champaign County. By her first husband Mrs. Talbott has two children: Minnie A. and Ross W. LeFever. Minnie is the wife of Louis Schmitt, a farmer in Iowa, and their three children are named Florence, Ray and Loren. Ross LeFever is a farmer in Harwood Township and by his marriage to Effie George has a daughter, Beula May.

Of Mr. Talbott's children by his first marriage Charles V. is a farmer in Vermilion County. He married Laura Smith and has two children, Asher and Hattie. Lucy A. is the wife of Emanuel Rowe, a Harwood Township farmer, and has a son, Orene. Frank W. Talbott also lives in Vermilion County and married Ollie Shellenbarger. Their children were Ethel, Grace, Walter, Ray, Carl, Roy and Ruth. Mrs. Ollie Talbott died at the birth of her daughter Ruth. Earl P. Talbott is a resident of Champaign County on a farm. He married Bertha Harper and has a daughter, Viola.

Mr. and Mrs. Talbott give their active support to the Methodist Episcopal Church at Gifford. In politics he is a stanch Democrat and believes that President Wilson is the man of the hour and entitled to the full confidence and support of a united country. Mr. Talbott served fourteen years as school director, two years as road commissioner, and at one time was elected justice of the peace, but on account of his business duties was obliged to decline the honor.

Mr. and Mrs. Talbott have co-operated in their efforts to rear their children to useful lives and instill in them the principles of loyal American citizenship. They have a most hospitable home and are well known throughout the county. One of Mr. Talbott's close friends was the late Judge Cunningham, who, he says, was one of the finest judges and citizens Champaign County ever had.

Mr. Talbott's success as a farmer needs no special demonstration. He has shown consummate ability in getting the most out of the soil without destroying its fertility and has built up a large estate of 1,600 acres. In 1872 he located a half section of land near Wichita, Kansas, and he has traveled widely over the different states and is thoroughly acquainted with agricultural conditions elsewhere as well as in Champaign County.

Mr. and Mrs. Talbott may now be found enjoying the comforts of a

fine home a mile and a half north of Gifford. They look back upon days well and profitably spent. Mrs. Talbott was for nine years a widow after the death of her first husband and after her marriage to Mr. Talbott she took care of his orphan children, kept them in school, and her own children and her husband's grew up in congenial companionship. Mrs. Talbott was a close friend of Mr. Talbott's first wife and she and Mr. LeFever stood up with the couple when they married.

HEBER JUDSON MOREHOUSE. In acknowledging the valuable services of Mr. Morehouse as a member of the advisory board of editors in this publication, the publishers are but doing justice in presenting an appropriate sketch of his career. Mr. Morehouse has been a resident of Champaign County for over forty years, has always taken a keen interest in the county's affairs and can speak with authority on the many varied developments of his time, especially in and around Mahomet.

Mr. Morehouse was born in Ionia County, Michigan, May 18, 1856, a son of Albert F. and Sarah C. (Freeman) Morehouse. He was next to the youngest in a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters, five of whom are still living. He is the only member of the family in Champaign County.

His father was born in Newark, New Jersey, in 1818 and died in 1901. He had limited education and as a youth was apprenticed to learn the trade of carpenter and joiner. He became an expert carpenter and he also possessed that judgment and energy which made for a successful business career. He married at Troy, New York, and afterwards moved west to Portland, Michigan, where he did a large business as carpenter and contractor. Many houses in that section of the state still stand to testify to his skill and ability. He acquired considerable farm and town property and was also a popular citizen. For forty years he filled the office of justice of the peace and at the time of his death he was secretary of his Masonic lodge and had filled that office for many years. He was also chairman of the Michigan State Historical Society, and his son Heber now has the gavel presented his father by the society. He was one of the leading members of the Baptist Church and a deacon. His death occurred in Portland, Michigan, and he and his wife both rest in the local cemetery there. His wife was a native of New York, but finished her education in the Female Academy at Bennington, Vermont. She was born in 1818 and died in 1900.

Heber J. Morehouse spent his early youth in Ionia County, Michigan, and while there had the advantages of the common and high schools of Portland. It was in 1875 that he came to Champaign County and took up the vocation of agriculture. For sixteen years he was one of the successful teachers of the county.

On October 17, 1876, he married Miss Laura E. Abbott. They are the parents of five children, one son and four daughters, all living. Myrta E., the oldest, was educated in the Mahomet High School and for six years was a teacher in the country and city schools of that county. She is now the wife of Charles W. Dale, editor of the St. Joseph Record in Champaign County. Their three children are Ralph E., Virginia and Kent. Both are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Sylva W., the second child, is a graduate of the Mahomet High School and is the wife of Frank O. Benson, cashier of the Iola State Bank at Iola, Kansas. Their children are named Jesse C., Laura E. and Frank M. Nelle R., who graduated from the Mahomet High School and from Brown's Business College at Champaign, was an able assistant to her father in his business for some years, but is now the wife of E. W. Morrison, a farmer in Mahomet Town-

ship. They have a youthful son, Heber J. The only son of Mr. Morehouse is Chester A., fourth in order of birth. Further reference to his career is made in the following paragraphs. Mary, the youngest child and daughter, pursued her studies in the Mahomet High School and is the wife of Clark I. Pfiester, a farmer at Mahomet. Their two children are Paul M. and Charles W. Mrs. Pfiester is a member of the Baptist Church.

Chester A. Morehouse has for some years been actively associated with his father in business. He received a good educational training in the local high school and is also a graduate of Brown's Business College. He is a young man of more than ordinary business ability and also takes an active part in the affairs of his home town. He is superintendent of the Baptist Sunday school and an active member of that church, and is also scout master of the local organization of Boy Scouts, numbering about thirty. In July, 1916, he took the military training at the Plattsburg camp at Lake Champlain, New York, and on November 16, 1916, he stood a successful examination at Chicago for a commission in the Reserve Corps. He was the seventieth man commissioned in the Central Department and now enjoys the rank and title of captain in the Quartermaster's Corps of the United States Army. Fraternally he is affiliated with Mahomet Lodge No. 529, I. O. O. F., Camp No. 2247, Modern Woodmen of America, which he is serving as consul, and is a member of Sioux Tribe No. 313 of the Improved Order of Red Men at Urbana. He is a Republican, and cast his first vote for William H. Taft. He married a popular Urbana girl, Miss Roma Renner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Renner of Urbana. Mrs. Morehouse was born in Champaign and is a liberally educated and cultured young woman. She graduated from the Thornburn High School with the class of 1906, and afterwards specialized in vocal and instrumental music, studying a year under Professor Beresford in Chicago. She is one of the most finished contralto singers in Champaign County.

Mrs. H. J. Morehouse was born in Champaign County, October 2, 1858, a daughter of Stephen C. and Mary E. (Rea) Abbott. She was reared and educated in this county and had a high school training. Mrs. Morehouse is an active member of the Baptist Church and was formerly director of its choir.

In 1892 Mr. Morehouse engaged for a short time in the manufacture of tile and brick, but from that entered the real estate, loan and insurance business, and for years his office at Mahomet has been the medium for many large transactions in those lines. For twenty years he has held a commission as notary public. Mr. and Mrs. Morehouse own about 300 acres of rich land in Champaign County and also have their comfortable home and other properties in Mahomet. When Mr. Morehouse came to Mahomet forty-two years ago his cash capital was very limited, but by strict economy and good business management, and with the aid of his capable wife, he has been blessed with a goodly competence. In 1898 he engaged in the undertaking business, buying the interests of J. C. Pittman at Mahomet. In the same year he was given a diploma in a school of embalming and he and his son Chester have since conducted the leading business of this kind at Mahomet.

In politics Mr. Morehouse is a stanch Republican and for years has filled official places in the town and village. He is a member and clerk of the local camp of Modern Woodmen of America and is a member and director of the Court of Honor at Mahomet. He has always been one of the leaders of the Baptist Church, has served as deacon and treasurer, and takes especial pride in the fact that he has had one class in the Sunday school for thirty-six consecutive years.

A. P. JOHNSON. Among the learned professions there are, probably, none that demand so much tact, judgment, patience, natural executive ability and specialized knowledge as that of the educator. The individual who enters into this field, selecting it as his chosen life work and calling, must be prepared to make many sacrifices, to endure numerous disappointments, to often spend himself for others without apparent return of gratitude, and to give the best years of his life often without the emoluments that equal efforts would in all probability bring in any other profession. It is a vocation for which there are no weights and measures. The material with which it deals is the youth of our land upon which impressions are often eternal and which affords the man who would serve the race an opportunity than which there are none greater. Of the men of Champaign County who have dedicated their lives to this work, one of the best known is A. P. Johnson, superintendent of the public schools of the city of Urbana.

Born December 16, 1863, in Sussex County, Delaware, A. P. Johnson is a son of Benjamin and Sarah (Smith) Johnson. On both sides of the family he is descended from English ancestors, and his ancestors lived for many years in Delaware, where both his parents were born. Benjamin Johnson was a farmer by vocation and in 1873, feeling that the fertile fields of Illinois would yield him a fortune, he came to this state and settled on a farm in Mahomet Township, Champaign County, where the remainder of his life was passed in the tilling of the soil and the raising of crops and cattle. He was a good farmer and expert judge of cattle, an honorable man of business and public-spirited citizen, and a man who had the confidence and respect of his fellows. His death occurred in 1907. In his political affiliation he was a Republican, and he and Mrs. Johnson, who died in 1880, were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. There were six children in the family, namely: Charles, who is engaged in farming in Michigan; Mary, Stewart and Eliza, who are all deceased; A. P., of this notice; and Willard, who is a railroad locomotive engineer and makes his home at Decatur, Illinois.

A. P. Johnson was ten years of age when brought to Illinois by his parents, and here his education was commenced in the public schools. When he was seventeen years of age he began to do a man's work in the fields, at a monthly wage, although he continued his studies during the winter terms, and when he was nineteen years of age had so far progressed that he entered upon his career as an educator. While he was engaged in teaching in the country schools of Champaign County, during the winter months, when he could spare the time, and during vacations, he furthered his own education by attendance at the Illinois State Normal University, the Indiana Normal School, the University of Illinois and the University of Chicago, although at no time did he give up his teaching. Thus he was enabled to pay his own way through for a comprehensive education, while at the same time he was enlightening the minds of the youths of his community. In 1900 Mr. Johnson was made superintendent of the schools of Gibson City, a position which he retained for six years, and in 1906 was called to Urbana to act in the same capacity. He has retained this position ever since, a matter now of eleven years, and from the start has sought to better conditions in every way and advance the educational standard. A thorough student of the science of education, and possessed of a natural instinct for child psychology, Mr. Johnson has made his schools a living, growing organism responsive to the best in both the teacher and the pupil. Mr. Johnson is a Republican, but not a politician. He is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of the Knights of Pythias, and an attendant of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which he joined in his youth.

Mr. Johnson was married August 20, 1890, to Miss Effie J. Obenchain, of Compromise Township, Champaign County, and to this union there has been born one daughter, Mary Fern, a graduate of the University of Illinois, class of 1916, in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and a graduate of the School of Music, University of Illinois, class of 1917. The Obenchain family has resided in Champaign County since 1854, when Edward S. Obenchain brought his wife overland in a wagon from Indiana. Here they passed their entire lives, Mrs. Johnson's father dying February 17, 1914, and her mother following him to the grave March 15 of the same year. For a number of years they lived in Compromise Township, where Mr. Obenchain was a successful farmer, but in later years went to Penfield, where he was in the grain business. In his declining years he returned to Urbana, and here passed away. During his day he was one of the prominent men of his locality, and served for some years in the capacity of supervisor of Compromise Township.

Lewis D. Oliver. Bankers and financiers have been happily compared to pendulums of commerce and progress, and it is very true that they furnish the stability and the steadiness chiefly required for the business world. Every financial institution acquires estimation and influence in its community largely through the character and reputation of the men whose names are most intimately associated with the undertaking.

One of Champaign County's most prosperous banks is the First State Bank of Fisher and the success and prosperity of that institution are in no small degree a reflection of the personal integrity and business standing of its vice president, Lewis D. Oliver. Mr. Oliver has been identified with Champaign County many years, and his activities have been of such character as to merit the confidence reposed in him by a large community.

He was born in McLean County, Illinois, January 20, 1857. He is the fifth in a family of seven children, five sons and two daughters, born to Jackson and Clarissa (Courtright) Oliver. Four of these children are still living. Henry is a retired agriculturist living at Hennessey, Oklahoma, is a Democrat in politics and is married. Leroy P. is a resident of Morristown, Indiana. John W. is an agriculturist, live stock breeder and dealer living at Ottawa, Kansas.

Jackson Oliver was born in Ohio in 1817, grew up in that state, was educated in the common schools, and took up and successfully pursued for many years the vocation of agriculturist. He died in 1900. Politically he was a Democrat. It was in 1854 that he removed to McLean County, Illinois, and bought land which was the basis of his farming activities for many years. His religious home was the First Presbyterian Church. His wife was born in Ross County, Ohio, grew up in that state, and also was a Presbyterian. Her death occurred in 1896 and both she and her husband are buried at Leroy in McLean County, where a beautiful monument stands sacred to their memory.

Lewis D. Oliver had a common school education. He began his active career in the environment where his youth was passed, and acquired a very thorough knowledge of farming and stock raising in McLean County. In 1891 Mr. Oliver removed to Fisher in Champaign County, and from this locality he continued his interests and activities in the live stock industry for fifteen years. Mr. Oliver has sent many carloads of fat stock out of eastern Illinois and did much of his shipping direct to Boston, Massachusetts, through various Chicago commission houses, including Clark, Bowles & Company, the National Company and Rice Brothers. In live stock circles Mr. Oliver came to be rated as one of the most successful in Champaign County.



THE FOUNDER OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK, CHAMPAIGN, TOGETHER WITH PORTRAITS OF HIS SON, HENRY HICKMAN HARRIS, AND GRANDSONS, B. F. AND N. M. HARRIS

He has been active in banking at Fisher since 1906, when he became cashier of the Farmers Exchange Bank. The president of that institution was George W. Busey. Mr. Oliver continued as cashier until the incorporation of the First State Bank on April 23, 1913, when he assumed the post of vice president. He now gives much of his time to the management of the bank's affairs. His business interests also include extensive land holdings in Shelby and Vermilion counties, where he owns a total of 680 acres. His home at Fisher is one of modern style and architecture and possesses every convenience. Mr. Oliver is also interested in the Farmers Grain Company's elevator at Fisher.

In September, 1883, he married Miss Mary Phillips. Two children, both sons, have been born to their union. Walter was educated in the Fisher public schools and is now cashier of the First State Bank. While cashier he also took a business course at Brown's Business College at Bloomington, Illinois, and has thoroughly fitted himself for his duties as a banker. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Fisher. Edgar P., the other son, still at home, was educated in the common schools, and is assistant cashier of the First State Bank of Fisher. He is also a member of the Methodist Church.

Mrs. Oliver was born in McLean County, Illinois, in 1863, a daughter of D. F. and Margaret Phillips. She was educated in the common schools. She takes a very active part in the Methodist Episcopal Church, is a member of the Ladies' Aid Society and the Foreign Missionary Society.

Politically Mr. Oliver is a man of his own mind and listens to the dictates of his own judgment when it comes to casting his ballot. He is affiliated with Castle Hall Lodge No. 305 of the Knights of Pythias at Fisher, and is the present chancellor commander. Mr. Oliver is a trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was a member of the building committee when the beautiful church edifice was erected in 1912, at a cost of $10,000. This is one of the modern churches of Champaign County and would be a credit to any locality.

Benjamin Franklin Harris. Love of land, of peace and industry, cardinal virtues in the lives of men and nations, were ever present influences in the long life of the late B. F. Harris of Champaign County. To say that he left "a good name" as a legacy to his family, is to state only part of the truth. It was a strong name, one that is vital today, and the memory of it has an inspiration to all those who have the resolution and the will to labor in order to secure worthy places in their respective spheres.

Without disparaging the remarkable material achievements associated with the name in Champaign County, there is need to emphasize the wonderful virility of the family stock and its permanence. America, and this is particularly true of the Middle West, can show comparatively few families who can take root and grow and flourish generation after generation in one spot. In fact mobility in population has been exalted in some quarters almost to a virtue. Of the Harris family five generations have lived in Champaign County, beginning with the father of B. F. Harris, Sr., and coming down to his great-grandchildren. More important still, each generation has amplified and expanded the interests of the preceding. The word virility is as applicable to the family today as it was when Champaign County was on the frontier.

In 1916 there was held a simple ceremony at the University of Illinois, which attracted wide newspaper publicity even at a time when politics and a world war were the absorbing topics of conversation.. This was the hanging of the portrait and the name of B. F. Harris in the University Hall of Fame. It was a signal and worthy honor paid to this greatest of

Illinois farmers and stockmen. During this ceremony an address was read by Mr. B. F. Harris, the grandson, which contains as fully as any brief article could, the experiences and achievements of this Champaign County pioneer. In the preface to his address the grandson said: "No intimate acquaintance of his active years is either living or physically able to speak of him here—wherefore I trust you will not feel that there is a lack of modesty in a grandson attempting a brief sketch and those personal allusions that must go into the permanent record." From this address it is possible to compile a brief biography and a more or less imperfect estimate of the real character of the man. While his life contained some events of the dramatic quality, it was continuously and exceedingly rich in those elements of manhood which constitute noblemen in all ages.

Benjamin Franklin Harris was born December 15, 1811, on a farm in the Shenandoah Valley near Winchester and Harper's Ferry, Frederick County, Virginia. At the age of fifty-three he had retired from an extremely active business life, but was keenly interested in business and public affairs for forty-two years more and was still strong in mental and physical vigor when he passed to the Great Beyond in his ninety-fourth year on May 7, 1905.

He was the second of ten children of William Hickman and Elizabeth (Payne) Harris. His mother was an own cousin of Dolly (Payne) Madison.

The family was of Scotch English extraction and Quakers and in this country became fighting Quakers, then Methodists. His great-grandfather William Harris with two brothers from England settled on the eastern shore of Maryland in 1726. His grandfather Benjamin Harris died and his will is recorded at Winchester, Virginia.

B. F. Harris grew to manhood on his father's Virginia farm, attending the country schools until sixteen years of age. At that time President Jackson's attitude towards the United States banks so seriously affected values that wheat declined from a dollar and a half to fifty cents and Virginia farm lands to less than one-third its former price. These declines so affected the father's obligations that he and his brothers each with a six horse team went into the "wagoning" or freighting business and for three years "wagoned" freight over that section and out through Pennsylvania and as far west as Zanesville, Ohio. This work they did in order to recoup their father's losses. On March 20, 1833, the Virginia farm was sold at forty per cent of its original cost. In a one-horse gig and a two-horse carry all the Harris family set out for Ohio, arriving at Springfield, April 8th and nearby purchased and settled upon their new farm.

Within the same year B. F. Harris commenced business for himself, buying and driving cattle overland to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and there disposing of them to cattle feeders.

In 1834 more than seventy years before his death, B. F. Harris started for Illinois by way of Danville, then through the present site of Sidney and Urbana (where was but one cabin) and on to what is now Monticello in Piatt County. During the ensuing year he began to accumulate farming lands in Piatt and Champaign counties and to buy cattle through all this section and as far south and west as Mount Vernon, Vandalia and Springfield. For several seasons he bought for feeding purposes all the corn for sale in Macon, Sangamon and Champaign counties. Each year for nine years he drove these cattle overland by way of Muncie, Indiana, and Springfield and Columbus, Ohio, into Pennsylvania and then to New York and Boston, where they were sold. Subsequently St. Louis and Chicago furnished a market, requiring a thirty day trip, and still later the railroads broadened the outlet.

When B. F. Harris came to this section of Illinois no stream was bridged, and only eleven families were on the Sangamon from its source to the limits of Piatt County. Fifteen years later not a half dozen men had erected their cabins a mile from the timber limits—the deer and Indians were still at home there. It was the frontier, with all freight by river or team. In 1840 B. F. Harris visited Chicago, a town of two thousand people, on stilts in a swamp. Nineteen days were required for the round trip and the corn and wheat he teamed there sold for twenty and thirty cents a bushel respectively. Fifteen years after he came, not twenty-five per cent of the land in this county had passd from government ownership and the first railroad came twenty years later. The first public religious services in the western section of this county were held in his cabin. Promptly he had hewed and built the first church, 22x24 feet, and later converted into a permanent school. When it was necessary he built the larger church, Bethel, dedicated by his brother-in-law, General Granville Moody. For many years his home was the shelter of all itinerant preachers through this section. He writes that "the church business was looked after as well as any other business; I never lost anything by looking after the church and school."

In those years it was customary to furnish farm laborers with whiskey daily, but he always refused to do this and instead added twelve and a half cents to each man's daily pay.

B. F. Harris brought the first sawmill, mower, reaper, carriage, organ, brick, cook stove, to Champaign County. He never sought public office nor did he fill such office except in pioneer days as justice of the peace and supervisor, and as such helped hew the first courthouse. As justice of the peace he performed the few early marriages, dispensing simple justice on the one hand and calomel on the other. He came in the day of ox teams and lived to ride over his farm with his son, grandsons and great-grandsons in an automobile. He voted for nineteen presidential candidates, beginning with Henry Clay.

For nearly three quarters of a century he bought, fed and sold five hundred to two thousand head of cattle annually. He established the First National Bank in Champaign in 1865, but of that institution and his connection therewith a separate article must tell. B. F. Harris was one of the chief movers in the plans to raise Union troops in Champaign County, to locate railroads, to oppose bond repudiation, and to induce the location of the great State University.

Personally he was a sociable man, fond of his friends and companions, and was full of anecdote and reminiscence, growing out of a remarkable experience. Peter Cartwright, Abraham Lincoln, David Davis, Isaac Funk, John Gillet and many other well known men were his friends and guests. He and Lincoln were long time friends and at the outset of the war he went on to Washington to encourage him in his stand. He was the guest of the President and at Lincoln's request attended a cabinet meeting and discussed the war situation with them.

For all these things the true import of his career and its lesson was that life may be what we have the courage to make it—that the "will to labor" with true zeal will bring results, and that the chiefest of these results are "the character" and "simplicities." Distinguished as he was in Champaign County, Illinois, and the nation, B. F. Harris acquired the true distinction of breadth, nobility and simplicity of character.

As a livestock man B. F. Harris was preeminent. The Pittsburg Livestock Journal speaking of his death referred to him as the "grand old man of the livestock trade—the oldest and most successful cattle feeder in the world." This praise was well deserved. The New York Tribune in

October, 1853, referred to his prize winning drove of cattle averaging 1,965 pounds, displayed at the New York World's Fair, then in session. His most famous herd consisted of a hundred cattle, the finest and heaviest hundred cattle ever raised and fattened in one lot by one man. These were weighed on his farm by Doctor Johns the president of the State Board of Agriculture on May 23, 1856, and the average weight of a hundred was 2,378 pounds. Hundreds of visitors came from neighboring states to see these cattle. In the following February he sent twelve of these cattle to Chicago and the bunch averaged 2,786 pounds. A firm of Chicago butchers paraded these stock about Chicago's downtown streets. These were his conspicuous early achievements, but every few years he took cattle prizes or topped the market, and less than a year before his death his cattle received the highest prices for the season in the Chicago market.

Writing editorially in the Champaign Daily Gazette, May 8, 1905, J. R. Stewart said:"

"The death of a man devoted almost wholly to the private affairs of life will seldom attract the attention of so wide a circle of people as will that of B. F. Harris of this city. The reason is first that he lived to a remarkable age and second that he was a remarkable man. His long life journey was begun in 1811. He had few of the aids on which young men now so much rely. He had to rely on himself, a resource which seems never to have failed him, and one in which he had unlimited personal confidence. Life for him in its early age was not an easy battle. Nature, however, had furnished him with an extraordinary physical and mental equipment.

"Everything to which Mr. Harris put his hand flourished. His judgment was so trustworthy that he made few business mistakes. He applied himself to real things and eschewed what men now call speculation. He did business on a cash basis and was never in debt. Operating on these, his chosen lines, he was a rich man long before his race was run, and he enjoyed a period of ease and entire freedom from anxiety much longer than falls to the lot of most men who are accounted fortunate in the world. An equally remarkable and gratifying thing was the retention of his wonderful faculties to the end of his life.

"Thus came to his last account a man of extraordinary qualities in whatever light we may view him. He knew this portion of the state from the period of its rude, frontier aspect and he had a large share in its development into what we can see today. Every man has a niche to fill. No man could fill his better than B. F. Harris did. Measured fairly, we may say that nature does not often produce such a man. It will be long before this region sees another in all respects his equal."

Another tribute that deserves quotation was that of Andrew S. Draper, former president of the University of Illinois.

"Everyone recognized the fact that he had sterling qualities of heroic mold. He did things in days and circumstances when the doing of things required stalwart men and when the doing also made men still more stalwart. In this way the fine physical frame and splendid moral character with which nature endowed him were developed and seasoned to an extent which made him a notable man in the Mississippi Valley. It was a small number of such men as he who laid the foundation of the history of the Middle West, that great region of our country which is the richest in the resources and the most prolific in productivity. It is doubtless within the fact to say that no man within a hundred miles of you—if, indeed, in the State of Illinois, has been so richly entitled to be permanently and gratefully remembered. I am sure that it will be so for the common feeling of the people will have it so."

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

The significance of his life as a farmer and its weighty contribution to the dignity of that calling, were happily expressed by the Breeders' Gazette as follows:

"In literature, art, professional life, or politics a man with a record of achievement equal to that of the late Benjamin Franklin Harris would deservedly have numerous biographers. Many a man has been made the subject of bulky biography who might not measure up to him on any score. This is not because the most inviting and interesting personalities are found outside the farmer's calling, but largely because until recent years agriculture as a vocation had not been adequately appreciated by the public. It had not been sufficiently dignified to become the source of life histories. Other professions have furnished the candidates for the Plutarchs, and contributed the heroes and heroines famous in fiction. Farming has been drawn on principally for Philistines. Its great men, its geniuses, its Harrises have been overlooked by almost all writers worthy of putting their useful lives into books.

"It is gratifying to all friends of agriculture that this vital and honorable occupation at last has begun to take its rightful place in the list of man's employments. For the extremely gradual process which has wrought such a wholesome change in the popular estimate of farming, we are indebted to men of the Harris type—farmers whose lives and work are a convincing reply to all the derogatory references ever made to agriculturists and their business."

And the grandson in his address chose to find in this the proper significance of the occasion. He said: "Out of the sentiment and spirit expressed by the Breeders' Gazette has come the Hall of Fame—this desire on the part of the men of Illinois to put agriculture and the farmer in the high place that is theirs—to make him and all our citizenship realize that the farm is the greatest place that God ever made on which to live honest, helpful, wholesome lives—lives to be reckoned with, and without which we would not be here or elsewhere."

Benjamin Franklin Harris was married June 17, 1841, to Elizabeth Sage, daughter of Colonel Harley Sage of Circleville, Ohio. He brought his bride to Champaign County and they located in their log cabin on the western limits of the county. On April 27, 1844, in this cabin their only child Henry Hickman Harris was born. Some years later B. F. Harris married Mary Heath of this county, the only living child of that marriage being Mrs. D. A. Phillippi of this city.

Henry Hickman Harris, who followed in his father's footsteps as a farmer and cattle feeder, and who, accepting the character and principles which his father had introduced into the First National Bank of Champaign at its founding, took it upon himself to apply these principles and broaden them for forty years, was born on the Sangamon River farm in Champaign County, where his father first settled.

He was born on April 27, 1844, and lived seventy useful years, passing away July 15, 1914.

Henry H. Harris was a stalwart citizen and under his skillful hands the fortune of his father had greatly increased and he had managed his varied interests and affairs, including the First National Bank in which he succeeded his father as president, in such a way as to justify his stewardship, and all that came to him in the way of fortune and influence. His good judgment and wise administration carried the bank successfully through several financial panics. He was one of the organizing members of the Illinois Bankers Association and served as its president in 1908-09.

He was for many years a member of the city council of Champaign

and to his aggressiveness and good judgment the city is indebted for many of its best improvements. He served for a number of years as president of the Champaign County Fair Association and established that organization on a sound financial basis, having taken it in a bankrupt condition.

While he was a man of decided opinions and a patriot, he was of a rather retiring disposition, never accepting any political office and refused some possible opportunities to become a public servant. He was especially helpful to young men, recognizing business acumen and honesty, and encouraging it in a substantial way.

Henry Hickman Harris married Melissa Megrue, who was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, April 19, 1846, and is still living at Champaign. To them were born two sons, B. F. and Newton Megrue Harris, respectively president and vice-president of the First National Bank and worthy sons of a worthy father.

Benjamin Franklin Harris, grandson of the late B. F. Harris and son of Henry Hickman Harris, was born on the old Harris farm in Champaign County, where his father was also a native, on September 30, 1868. He had of course liberal advantages during his youth and every incentive to make the best of his personal talents. Besides the common and high schools he attended the University of Illinois 1887 to 1889, and in 1892 was graduated from the law department of Columbia University. The law was only part of his preparation for life, not a profession. He returned home to assist in the management of farm lands and business enterprises, and he has continued the work of his father and grandfather as livestock farmers and bankers. From 1892 to 1899 he owned and developed and consolidated all electric street railway, lighting, power and gas plants in the twin cities. He succeeded his father as president of the First National Bank of Champaign, and in 1911-12 he served as president of the Illinois Bankers Association and has identified himself actively with many of its most important committees. He has also served as chairman of the Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers Association, and president of the Conference Committee on agricultural development and education of all state bankers associations. It was he who inaugurated the banker-farmer movement in 1908, and as the organizer of the Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers Association he held the post of chairman for five years. Mr. Harris also organized and edited the Banker-Farmer Magazine, which has a nationwide circulation.

In addition to his part in this notable movement Mr. Harris has a further distinction which is likely as time goes by to become greater than any other. This is the distinction of being "the father of the county agent movement," which has rapidly spread all over the country until the county agent or agricultural adviser can be found in practically every progressive agricultural county in the country. While the need of systematic advice and cooperation between state and federal government and the individual farmer has been long recognized, it was Mr. Harris who definitely formulated the plan for such cooperation in the person of the county agent, and the great agricultural journals, including the Breeders' Gazette, the Prairie Farmer and others, have taken pains to emphasize Mr. Harris' leadership and the credit due him for inaugurating this movement.

Mr. Harris has for many years been active in the propaganda in Illinois for securing the adequate supervision of private banks by the state government. He has written and spoken on banking and agricultural subjects and in that field he is without question one of the most competent authorities in America today. He served three terms as president of the Champaign Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Harris is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, belongs to the University, the Union League and South Shore Country clubs of Chicago and is a member of the Methodist Church. He married December 5, 1895, Miss May Melish of Cincinnati, and to them were born Henry H. Harris, William Melish Harris, B. F. Harris, Jr., and Elizabeth Harris. He is vice-chairman of the Illinois State Council of Defense.

NEWTON M. HARRIS, vice-president of the First National Bank of Champaign, was born in that city July 27, 1872, a son of the late Henry H. Harris and a grandson of B. F. Harris, Sr. He was liberally educated, being a graduate of Yale University with the class of 1895, and for fully a quarter of a century has been actively identified with the interests of the Harris family as farmers, stock raisers and bankers. During his father's life he shared the responsibilities of vice-president with his brother of the First National Bank, and still fills that post.

Newton M. Harris married Mary Bruce Burnham, of the well known Burnham family of Champaign County elsewhere referred to. Mr. and Mrs. Harris are members of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches, respectively. Their three children are Bruce, Barbara B. and Mary Julia.

Mr. Harris is a member of the Sons of American Revolution and is a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHAMPAIGN. In celebrating its semi-centennial the First National Bank of Champaign issued a handsome booklet under the title "The Story of an Institution which is Fifty Years Old," written by Mr. Louis M. Tobin. This story with some condensation properly belongs in the History of Champaign County. The bank is entitled to it, and the public likewise.

"It was founded by B. F. Harris. It has been carried on by his descendants upon his principles. It has become more than a bank—it is an institution. That is what I would say if I had to write the story of the First National Bank of Champaign in a single, crisp paragraph.

"The story of the First National is more than a mere chapter of material success. It is the reflection of the character of the men behind it. It is a personal story, because the bank was founded by B. F. Harris. A son and a grandson have followed him as its head. The third generation of his family owns it. It is the 'Harris' bank in fact. For fifty years it has reflected the principles and character of its founder."

The historian of this bank must inquire: What have these fifty years meant to the community that has dealt with this bank? What has been the public spirit of this bank? To answer these questions it is necessary to go back to the beginning, the Champaign of 1865, then hardly more than a frontier hamlet, with a population of fourteen hundred. B. F. Harris had decided to establish a bank. The decision in itself was not remarkable. Almost any one in that young community who desired could call himself a banker and open a bank. The importance of the decision was in the character of the man who made it, and in the kind of bank that he decided to establish.

Banking in Champaign in 1865 was a precarious business—for banker and depositor alike. Those were the days of "wildcat" currency, issued at the will of the banker, curtailed only by his credit at the printer's. The farmer and merchant encountered not only exorbitant interest rates but also faced constantly the prospect of bank failures. The legal interest rate was ten per cent, but real interest rates ranged from two to five per cent a month. Two banks in Champaign County had recently closed their

doors, and in 1862 another bank had opened at Champaign, but it was operated on much the same old lines and in a few years it shared the fate of its predecessors.

"B. F. Harris was not satisfied. A man of large interests he wanted a bank where his own money would be safely administered. A man whose character had been marked by deeds for the general good, he wanted a bank where the money of the people would be free from hazard. He knew that there must be another kind of banking from the current system. Men living here today will tell you that above everything else this pioneer abhorred the general custom of exacting as large an interest fee as could be secured from the needy borrower. Had B. F. Harris done so, there would have been no criticism. It was an accepted custom. But when he loaned his own money, he accepted the legal rate of interest, nothing more.

"A national banking act had been passed, creating national banks under laws and regulations practically unchanged today. While many of the moneyed men of the county regarded the regulations imposed by the Government as an unjust interference with their business, the law did appeal to B. F. Harris. It was the kind of bank he wanted for his own money and for the people's money. He called together the men of the community he considered most likely to be interested. A charter was secured from the United States on January 30, 1865. It was signed by a man who counted B. F. Harris as a friend—'A. Lincoln.' It was numbered 913.

"The new bank was located on Main Street in a frame building on the site of the Kuhn Building. The big 'cannon' stove defied the cornbelt winter. Around it often grouped the men of Champaign. A small safe, innocent of combinations, was the most important accessory. That safe is still preserved at one end of the banking room of the First National Bank Building.

"It was not the intention of B. F. Harris to be the active head of the new bank. His interest had been to see a safe institution established. He was content to have another—Harry Thomas—serve as president. But in a year he took over the presidency. Some of the stockholders irked under the restrictions of the National Banking Act, pointing out the larger profits being made by the private banks and disliking the unexpected appearance of the bank examiner. But B. F. Harris set his foot down flat. The bank was to keep on its sober path. It was to charge only the legal rate of interest. It was to earn only reasonable dividends to its stockholders. It was to go along slowly and surely. It was to serve the community—not to speculate on its funds or exact a heavy profit from its necessities. That was to be the policy of the First National. The disgruntled stockholders parted company. B. F. Harris took over the presidency. Within three years there were three private banks competing with the First National. But as Judge J. O. Cunningham's History of Champaign County states, the First National 'came to the front as the first financial institution of the county.'

"By 1872 the bank was moving into a new building of its own on its present site. So well was the policy of honest profit and service paying. And Time, the great adjuster, soon demonstrated that the theory of the other banking school was wrong—the three private banks ingloriously passed out of existence.

"The Harris policy came to mean that a bank was to be conducted on a theory that it had a public service to perform. That the best personal service was based on 'safety first' even if that expression was yet to be invented. That it was well to put stress on the character, rather than the wealth of the prospective borrower.

"In 1873, at the great panic, when all other banks in this locality had to close their doors, the young Henry H. Harris had refused to close. He knew that a bank which wouldn't give you your money when you wanted it and needed it, wasn't doing its public duty. And Henry H. Harris, then much older, knew that in 1907—during that brief financial flurry when the 'clearing house certificate' was born. The First National stood like a rock, refusing to use the certificates or drafts, paying cash on demand, and loaning to its regular customers at its invariable rate of six per cent. Never has the First National failed to meet all obligations in cash on demand. That's a pretty big thing to say for fifty years. The First National can say it truthfully."

In many ways the First National has exercised its influence as a trustee of the community welfare. About twenty years ago, when the University of Illinois was in dire financial straits owing to the peculations of the University treasurer, Henry H. Harris sent a message to the trustees requesting them to send their warrants to the First National and that they would be cashed freely without discount until the state government had come to the aid of the university. The only memento of this favor is in the form of a letter from the secretary of the Board of Trustees of the University expressing their gratitude for the assistance rendered by the bank to the school during its recent financial trouble.

"The Harrises have always been practical farmers. The bank as a matter of course long ago recognized the importance to the community of good agriculture. It has always cooperated with the farmer. Its officers could talk intelligently with him about his problems—whether of financing or farming. They showed their faith in the future of county land long ago by acquiring many acres. Today the First National is naturally and logically the bank of the Champaign County farmer."

It has also proved an institution in time of need to the farmer. This was well illustrated during the dry year of 1913 when the farmers found it difficult to secure money to carry on their business or make necessary improvements. B. F. Harris, then vice president, sent out a circular letter which contained the following message: "We have so managed our affairs that despite the drought we are loaning and will loan at the same six per cent rate we have loaned for years. There is no better borrower than a good farmer. We are glad to cooperate with him." Thus the Harrises have the right to call the First National the "six per cent bank." It has been the "six per cent bank" not only in fair weather but in bad.

The building occupied by the bank in 1872 served its purpose until about 1900 when it was remodeled. Then followed further growth and development and in 1910 the bank's business had assumed such proportions that the building was torn down and was replaced by a magnificent five story structure, in type and character and architectural design unsurpassed in the state as a banking home.

Henry H. Harris, strong son of a strong father, did not live to see the bank celebrate its golden anniversary. The third generation took the rein. Another B. F. Harris became president. His brother Newton M. Harris is vice president. Hazen S. Capron is the cashier, following the long service of the late G. A. Turell.

There is an atmosphere of efficiency about this bank. The men who run it are men of big interests as has been said—men of large measures—of broad minds—they are able to think big. They are more than bankers. The Harrises have made successes in other undertakings, for they have diversified interests. The knowledge gained by handling their own varied holdings has been profitable to customers of the bank who come for counsel.

In concluding this sketch of the oldest organized and continuous bank-

ing business in Champaign County a brief table of statistics may be appended, not to fortify the statements made above but as an illustration of what results flow from character and integrity in banking as in everything else. This table is a statement of deposits at the ten year intervals from the day the bank opened for business.

January 30, 1865 - -	$ 7,359.65
January 2, 1875 - -	114,022.62
January 2, 1885 - -	248,437.37
January 2, 1895 - -	460,875.23
January 2, 1905 - -	831,399.54
January 2, 1915 - -	1,626,274.38

CHARLES B. JOHNSON, M. D. Valuable work in his profession and an unusual variety of experience contribute to make the career of Dr. C. B. Johnson one of note in Champaign County, where he has lived for the past forty-six years. Doctor Johnson is a veteran Union soldier, is grandson of a Revolutionary soldier, and during the half century since he came out of the Northern army he has been in the active practice of medicine and is still a competent member of his profession and one of Champaign County's most useful citizens.

Doctor Johnson was born at Pocahontas in Bond County, Illinois, October 8, 1843. His grandfather, Charles Johnson, was a native of North Carolina, and went with the troops of that state to battle against the British armies and the Tories in the times of the struggle for independence. Doctor Johnson's father was James Johnson, an early settler in Illinois and a farmer. In 1849 he went out to California when that was the mecca of gold seekers and adventurers from all parts of the world, and he died soon after his arrival on the gold coast. James Johnson married Elizabeth Jane Volentine.

Doctor Johnson spent his early life on a farm, attended the public schools, and early showed a tendency and desire for studious pursuits.

On August 7, 1862, he enlisted in Company F of the One Hundred Thirtieth Illinois Infantry. He was with that regiment in all its campaigns, marches and battles for more than three years. He was finally mustered out in August, 1865, several months after the close of actual hostilities. On coming out of the army in 1865, Doctor Johnson continued the medical studies he had previously begun, and in 1868 he began practice at Chatham in Sangamon County, Illinois. In 1871 he removed to Champaign County and soon afterward, in 1872, he completed the regular course of study in the Medical College of Ohio, now the medical department of the University of Cincinnati, from which he was graduated with the M. D. degree.

For the past thirty-eight years Doctor Johnson has practiced with home and offices in the city of Champaign, and he has become widely recognized as one of the leading physicians of the county. For many years he served on the Champaign County Pension Board, and he has recently accepted the appointment as medical member of one of the Champaign County exemption boards. He was a member of the Illinois State Board of Health for eight years, from 1897 to 1905, and for two years was president of the board.

Perhaps the work to which he has been most devoted in recent years has been that of the Champaign County Anti-Tuberculosis Health League. He is now president of this League and is also a member and president of the Board of Directors which has in charge the construction of the Champaign County Tuberculosis Sanitarium. In politics Doctor Johnson has always been staunchly aligned with the Republican party.

Doctor Johnson married January 1, 1874, Maria L. Lewis, of Chatham, Illinois. Their children are: Lewis W., born April 15, 1875; Charles Sunderland, born May 12, 1877; James Edward, born March 10, 1879; Fred Volentine, born December 3, 1880; Alice Sarah, born February 26, 1884; and George Thompson, born March 6, 1886. The children all grew up in the atmosphere of the university city and they are all graduates of the University of Illinois.

Doctor Johnson has devoted considerable time to literary pursuits, and has just published a very commendable book entitled "Muskets and Mediums," which is receiving a flattering patronage, and promises to fulfill every expectation of its author. He is an active member of the State Historical Society and is much interested in local history.

THOMAS M. LYMAN gave many consecutive years to the management of an Illinois farm, and through hard work and intelligent management obtained the financial competence which enabled him a few years ago to retire from business and enjoy the comforts of a good home in the city of Champaign.

Mr. Lyman was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, February 6, 1866. His parents, Bernard and Mary (McLennan) Lyman, were both natives of Ireland. His father came to America as a young man about 1854, lived for a time near Eaton, Ohio, and subsequently removed to Vermilion County, Illinois. He farmed a few years near Ridge Farm and made his farm in Champaign County the scene of his productive labors for many years. He died in Champaign County in 1904 and his wife passed away in 1902. Their children were: Lucinda, wife of John Martin, living in Adams County, Nebraska; John, a retired farmer in Champaign; Mary Jane, who died in childhood; Bridget, who married John W. Early, both now deceased; Thomas M.; William, deceased; Catherine, deceased wife of James B. Hagan; and Mary, wife of William McMahon, of Champaign.

Thomas M. Lyman was born in Vermilion County but was reared and educated in Champaign County. The country schools supplied his early instruction. He lived in the wholesome atmosphere of a farm and that was the vocation he took up when he started to make his own way in the world. Mr. Lyman was a progressive farmer until April, 1914, when he retired and removing to Champaign bought a fine home in that city.

He was married January 29, 1895, to Miss Ellen J. Curtin. Mrs. Lyman was born in the city of Chicago, daughter of Michael and Ellen (Clancy) Curtin. Both parents were natives of Ireland. Her father came to America before the Civil War, first locating in Massachusetts and afterwards going to Chicago, where he was connected with the Allerton Packing Company for many years. He died in November, 1894, and Mrs. Lyman's mother passed away in December, 1903. They were the parents of ten children: Jeremiah, Thomas, Patrick, William, all deceased, and the fifth child, a son died in infancy; Ellen, wife of Mr. Lyman; James, of Chicago; John, of Chicago; Mary, wife of William P. Ward, of Champaign County; and the tenth and youngest, a daughter, died in infancy.

To Mr. and Mrs. Lyman were born nine children: Mary A., now a student in the University of Illinois; Bernard A., a member of the freshman class of the State University; Helen J., deceased; Margaret, deceased; Julia Laurentine, deceased; Thomas M., deceased; Monica Lucile; Thomas Mark; and Frances L.

Politically Mr. Lyman has always been a democrat. For nine years he served as road commissioner and is now a member of the drainage commission and has served in that capacity for ten years. He is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the

Catholic Knights of America, and he and his family are devout members of Holy Cross Catholic Church.

W. R. COLE is one of the former prominent business men of Champaign County now living retired. He and Mrs. Cole occupy a very attractive home on Belle Avenue in Rantoul. Mrs. Cole is a member of an old and prominent family of Champaign County, and is a sister of one of the foremost physicians and surgeons in the world, Dr. D. A. K. Steele, one of the founders of the University of Illinois medical department. Mrs. Cole and her brother both taught in the school at Rantoul and they are of a family of teachers, preachers and lawyers.

A native of Canada, W. R. Cole was born at Adolphostown, a son of Conrad B. and Sarah Ann Cole. He was only an infant when his mother died. He grew up and received his early education at Nappanee, Canada, and at the age of twenty-six, in 1870, came from Kingston, Ontario, to Rantoul, Illinois, to visit his brother, L. B. Cole, who was at that time a coal, grain and lumber merchant. He assisted his brother in the business for several years.

In 1872 Mr. Cole married Mary E. Lavinia Steele. She was born at Grandcote in Perry County, Illinois, daughter of Rev. Daniel and Mary Leatham Orr (Anderson) Steele. Her parents were natives of northern Ireland. Rev. Daniel Steele came to America in 1851, locating in Ohio, and in 1868 removing to Rantoul. He was a Presbyterian minister and for a number of years filled a pulpit in Rantoul. As the result of a runaway horse he sustained an injury which crippled him through his later years. He took up the drug business and employed Mr. W. R. Cole, and they were associated until his death on January 5, 1891. He was a man of exceptional character and ability and for many years was closely identified with Rantoul. His fellow citizens showed their confidence in his judgment and integrity by electing him to a number of offices. Mrs. Cole's mother died February 13, 1899, at the advanced age of eighty-four years, two months and nineteen days. She was a noble character, and her many kindnesses endeared her to a large circle of friends.

Mrs. Cole has only her one brother, above mentioned, Dr. Daniel Atkinson King Steele, who was born in Delaware County, Ohio, March 29, 1852. He was graduated in medicine from the Chicago Medical College in 1873, and in 1906 was given the honorary degree LL. D. by the University of Illinois. He was one of the founders in 1882 and since 1894 has been president and professor of principles and practice of surgery and clinical surgery in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the medical department of the Illinois University at Chicago. In 1907 he also became president of the University Hospital and for many years was professor of clinical surgery in the Post-Graduate Medical School. He is attending surgeon to various Chicago hospitals, was president of the Chicago Surgical Society in 1907, was president of the Chicago Medical Society in 1884-85, and by his skill as a surgeon and his researches in medicine his name is known world wide in the profession. He married Alice L. Tomlinson of Rantoul, September 7, 1876. She is a college trained woman and a cultured writer. Doctor and Mrs. Steele made a trip together around the world in 1912.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cole continued to reside in Rantoul. There were born into their home four children, named Mary Maude, Alice Bell, Lilly Lavinia and Daniel Thomas. Mary Maude graduated with honors and as valedictorian of her class from the Rantoul High School and then continued her studies in the University of Illinois, graduating as valedictorian of her class in that institution. As a result of her unusual ability she was given a scholarship and $400 to continue her studies and has attained the master's degree. She taught one year in the Rantoul High

School and had taught several terms before finishing her education. She is now the wife of George Harvey Scott, who was a member of the same class in the Rantoul High School and was also in her class at the University of Illinois. Mr. Scott is now professor of mathematics in a college at Yankton, South Dakota, and has filled that chair for the past sixteen years. Mr. and Mrs. Scott have five children: William Arthur, Franklin Daniel, Irving Cole, Mary Elizabeth and Clara Lavinia. Irving C. died in infancy. William A. was a member of the United States army while guarding the Mexican border, was promoted from corporal to sergeant, and is now in the detail of the United States army destined for early action in France. Franklin D., the second son, has distinguished himself as a youthful orator and has won prizes in high school and college oratorical contests at Yankton, Vermillion, Brookins and Mitchell, South Dakota.

Mr. and Mrs. Cole lost their second and third children. Alice Bell died at the age of thirteen months and Lilly Lavinia at the age of eleven years. The youngest child, Daniel T. Cole, entered the medical department of the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1900, and was graduated in 1905. He is now a successful physician practicing at Odell, Illinois. He was recently appointed, with the rank of first lieutenant, to the Medical Reserve Corps of the United States army. He is now located with the Medical Reserve Corps at a base hospital somewhere in France. Dr. Daniel Cole married Miss Ethel Martin of Rantoul, and they have a daughter, Mary Lois.

For thirty years Mr. W. R. Cole was successfully engaged in the drug business at Rantoul. Then desiring a change and having acquired a financial competence, he exchanged his business property for land in Saline County, Illinois. Since then he and his wife have enjoyed the comforts of a good home at Rantoul. They are members and liberal supporters of the First Congregational Church and for a number of years he has been a deacon. In politics he is a stanch Republican.

Mrs. Cole is one of the cultured women of Champaign County. She and her husband have traveled a great deal and have seen much of the beauty and grandeur of American scenery. She has always been interested in literature, especially poetry and history. It has been a task spread over many years to neatly compile some scrap books of the choice bits of information and literature which she has come across in her reading and these books already find increasing value with the passing years. Mr. and Mrs. Cole have been closely identified with Champaign County and their lives have meant much to the welfare of the little city of Rantoul, where they now reside and can look back over many years of happy associations and of good work well done.

Joseph Fultz, now living retired at Rantoul, has had a career filled with labors and ministrations of kindness, and has done what good he could as he went through the world. The practical side of his career has been as a farmer, and for a number of years he served as a local minister of the Methodist Church, a work of inestimable value which cannot be measured by any ordinary human standards.

Mr. Fultz was born in Washington County, Indiana, a son of Frederick and Mary Fultz, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Indiana. Frederick Fultz was twice married, had eight children by his first wife and seven by the second. Joseph Fultz was the youngest of the first family. He was carefully reared, had a common school education and became a farmer even before he reached his majority.

At the age of twenty-one Joseph Fultz married Mary Bottorff, daughter of James and Lydia Bottorff, both of whom were born near New Albany, Indiana. James Bottorff was of German parentage. After their marriage

Joseph and Mary Fultz began their wedded life on a farm in Washington County, Indiana, and farming was the work which Mr. Fultz pursued in order to provide the advantages and home life of his growing family.

Eight children were born to them, Lewis B., Herman, Ernest, Elsie, Orval, Grover, Goldie and Vesta. All were students in the district schools of Indiana. Herman Fultz married Anna Oliver, located at Salem, Indiana, and had seven children, named Gertrude, Audrey, Ina, Helen, Ruby, Everett and Fred. Lewis B. Fultz, who lives at Mount Pleasant, Michigan, married Viola Bennett, and their children are Chester, Glay, Wayne and Dale. Ernest Fultz, whose home is at Milford, Illinois, married Lottie Hilt, their five children being Claude, Howard, Glen, Carl and Derrel. Elsie married Elmer Bates, their home being in Michigan, and their three children are Marvel, Robert and Murriel. Orval is the wife of Louis Chaney, and they have a son, Victor. Grover married Roma Burkhardt, they live on a farm near Rantoul, and their four children are Clare, Dana, Dorothy and Erma. Goldie is the wife of Henry Sullivan, their home being on a farm near Rantoul, and their one child is Mildred. Vesta is the wife of Ed Gauntt, and they have a farm near Ludlow, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Fultz strained every effort and made many sacrifices in order that their children might be well reared and well trained for the duties and responsibilities of life. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fultz are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Fultz served as church trustee for a number of years. He was a township supervisor in Indiana, and politically he formerly voted as a Democrat but latterly has been a strong and ardent Prohibitionist and foresees in the near future the bright day when America will be committed to temperance, not only locally but nationally.

Mr. Fultz's father donated land for the first Methodist Episcopal Church in his neighborhood in Washington County, Indiana. The passing years have witnessed three different churches built on the same plot of ground. In 1916 they dedicated a fine chapel. Perhaps the brightest memories of Joseph Fultz are the twelve years of service he gave to the church as local pastor. During that time he not only preached from the pulpit but visited the sick, comforted the dying, baptized the converts, attended funerals, solemnized marriages, and found a host of Christian deeds ready for performance. His good wife shared with him in all these labors, and many a home has blessed their presence.

Samuel P. Atkinson. Perhaps Champaign has no more sturdy and progressive citizen than is found in Samuel P. Atkinson, manager of the S. P. Atkinson Monument Company. He is a thorough American, with a backing of colonial ancestry and Revolutionary stock; and is a veteran of the great struggle which prior to 1914 the people of the United States has called the saddest page on the world's history. Mr. Atkinson is a vigorous and able business man, but he is much more, for he has the true welfare of his city at heart and is zealously working to advance movements that will be of the greatest permanent benefit to the whole community. His entire life has been a busy, useful and interesting one.

Samuel P. Atkinson was born in Central Ohio, November 26, 1844. His parents were Peabody and Marenda (Elliott) Atkinson, both of whom were descendants of Revolutionary heroes and natives of New Hampshire. The old Atkinson homestead situated ten miles from Concord, New Hampshire, was the cause of a pilgrimage made by Samuel P. Atkinson in 1916, and in the vicinity, with other kindred of generations gone, rest the ashes of his grandfather, Joseph C. Atkinson. To Peabody Atkinson and wife seven children were born, namely: Henry and Mary, both of whom are

deceased; Joseph, who is living in Ohio; George, who is deceased; Samuel P.; and Annie and Nettie, both of whom are deceased. The father of the above family died from an accident in August, 1863, and the mother passed away in 1866.

Samuel P. Atkinson completed his junior year at Marietta College of Ohio, and entered the senior class at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, from which he graduated with high honors in June, 1866.

In 1864, when the need of soldiers was the greatest, he with his two brothers, leaving their widowed mother alone upon the farm, enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving in the Army of the Potomac in Maryland and Virginia. When this regiment was mustered out more men were missing from its ranks in killed, wounded or prisoners of war than any regiment which left Licking County, Ohio, during the Civil War. Six soldiers in the Revolutionary War, three in the War of the Rebellion and six thus far in the present world's conflict is the quota from the Atkinson family for voluntary military service.

After completing his collegiate course Mr. Atkinson went to Attica, Indiana, where he remained one year engaged in teaching school. On April 20, 1868, he came to Champaign and soon became interested in farming, and for twelve succeeding years cultivated his fields in the summer months and taught school in the winter seasons. In the spring of 1880 he left the farm and engaged as salesman for J. W. Booker in the monument business at Champaign. In 1881 he became a partner in the business. He continued until 1884, when he sold his partnership interest to Mr. Booker and embarked in business for himself, purchasing the monument business of Falls & Bagley. The S. P. Atkinson Monument Company is now located in the commodious building erected by Mr. Atkinson in 1904 at No. 106 South Neil Street. He has occupied other excellent locations, for the first four years at the corner of Taylor and Neil streets, where the Citizens' Bank is now located, after which he purchased the Flatiron Building, in which the Champaign Gazette is located, and which he still owns, but removed to his new site in 1904.

Mr. Atkinson has had a long and honorable career as a successful business man, and has been interested in many of the city's most stable enterprises. He has been a director in the Champaign Building and Loan Association, of which George W. Harwood is and has been the secretary, and attributes his success in a business way to this sure and safe way of acquiring a home and a competence.

On August 8, 1894, Mr. Atkinson was united in marriage with Miss Emma Schultz, who was born in Champaign, Illinois, and they have two sons. Donald is a graduate of Champaign High School and attended the University of Illinois two years. He enlisted in the Ambulance Corps of the Regular Army June 7, 1917, and is now in training at Allentown, Pennsylvania, preparatory to service in France. Joseph, the other son, is a member of the Champaign High School, class of 1919. The family belong to the Congregational Church. In politics Mr. Atkinson is a Progressive Republican, and believes in clean politics and a progressive city. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Elks, the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery Mason.

HERMAN SCHWANDERMAN has his farm home in section 17 of Harwood Township, with postoffice at the village of Ludlow. He has contributed to the development and farm improvement of that locality for a number of years and he represents that sterling and industrious stock of people that came out of Germany.

Mr. Schwanderman was born at Dewey, Illinois, a son of Leopold and

Rebecca Margaret (Behrens) Schwanderman. The parents were both born in Germany, came to America in early life and married in this country. They had only two sons, twins, Herman and Henry, the latter died at the age of seven months.

On December 25, Christmas Day, 1902, Herman Schwanderman married Ruth Mary Dodson of Monticello, Wayne County, Kentucky. She was the oldest of the thirteen children of James R. and Harriet (Simpson) Dodson. Among her family Mrs. Schwanderman was always called "Mollie."

Mr. and Mrs. Schwanderman married in Kentucky, and their wedding trip was the journey north to Champaign County, where Mr. and Mrs. Schwanderman located in the home of his parents. They took charge of the farm of eighty acres and gave the tenderest care to Mr. and Mrs. Schwanderman during the rest of their lives. This farm is the result of the accumulations and the hard work of Father and Mother Schwanderman after they came to America. The elder Schwanderman, who was born at Strassburg, Germany, died July 17, 1910, at the age of seventy-two, while his widow passed away December 12, 1911. They were people of splendid character, industrious, good home makers, supporters of church and morality, and endeared themselves to their community in Champaign County by numerous acts of kindliness and neighborliness.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Schwanderman have five children: George Leopold, James Clarence, Oliver Herman, Eliza Ray and Leland Glenn. They are a happy family of five boys, the oldest being thirteen years and now in the seventh grade of the public schools. Mr. and Mrs. Schwanderman are taking great pains to give them the best of advantages and the older ones are in the Griswold school.

Mr. Schwanderman's ability as a farmer needs no comment. His well kept fields and his sleek stock show the care and enterprise of the thrifty agriculturist. In politics he is independent, voting for the best man. He was reared and has always retained his membership with the German Lutheran Church at Dewey, while Mrs. Schwanderman is a Baptist, the faith in which she was reared. Mr. Schwanderman believes in keeping up good schools and in giving the best of instruction to his children and is now filling a place on the local school board.

William B. Keusink is one of the younger business men of Champaign, has been a resident of the city most of his life, and since 1910 has conducted a very successful drug business.

He was born at Bloomington, Illinois, September 20, 1879, a son of William and Elizabeth (Lynch) Keusink. His father was a native of Schenectady, New York, and his mother of Utica, New York. William Keusink for a number of years conducted a laundry business in Champaign County, but is now living retired. He and his wife had two children, William B. and Wilhelmina, the latter the wife of H. C. Johnson, of Champaign.

His early education William B. Keusink obtained in the grammar and high schools of Champaign. After some preliminary experience he definitely determined on a vocation as a pharmacist and entered the University of Illinois Pharmacy School in Chicago, where he was graduated in 1904. Returning to his home city he became a pharmacist with a local drug house until 1910, and at that date went into business for himself at the corner of West University Avenue and South Neil Street. He has a fine store, well equipped, and has always emphasized and sought in every way to improve the service of the pharmacy department.

Mr. Keusink is a Republican in politics. He is a Thirty-second Degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the Mystic Shrine, belongs to the

Elks Lodge and the Country Club, and is a member of the Episcopal Church. He married November 21, 1910, Miss Hazel M. Elliott, who was born at Arcola, Illinois. They have one child, Virginia Morse.

ALEXANDER CRAIGMILE. Of the men whose ability, industry and forethought have added to the character, wealth and progress of Champaign County none deserves better mention than Alexander Craigmile, a veteran of the Union army, long and successfully identified with agriculture, and now with his good wife living retired in a comfortable home at Rantoul.

His public spirited citizenship has stood every test of time and service. Forty years he has known Compromise Township, and during that time has again and again been chosen to fill places of trust and responsibility. He was elected to serve as assessor, collector, supervisor and road commissioner, and is now on his second term as justice of the peace at Rantoul, having been re-elected in April, 1917. He gave the best of his ability to the various offices, and his work in civil office has been characterized by the same fidelity which he displayed when following the flag of the Union during the Civil War. Mr. Craigmile is now commander of Seaver Post No. 253 of the Grand Army of the Republic at Rantoul.

He is of Scotch nativity and ancestry, and was born near Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1843. When a child he immigrated with his parents to Upper Canada, and in 1852 the family came to Illinois. When Alexander Craigmile was twenty-one years of age he enlisted at Chicago in Company D of the One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and marched away to the sound of the fife and drum to protect his country's flag. He saw active service for upwards of a year and was finally mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, in October, 1865. Some idea of the service rendered is noted in quoting the contents of the Christmas card which Mr. Craigmile received in 1916 from Comrade C. C. Dudley of Minneapolis. This card reads: "To the playmates of my boyhood days, who knew no care or responsibility, and whose only burden was the long hours in the class rooms in Naperville Academy and who later put our names to the enlistment roll of Company D, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and saw Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Dalton and Memphis, and then every man went his way to the sterner duties of life. To my old associates in business and friends in church and college and old comrades of Phil Kearney Post No. 7, who walked with me side by side, sharing one another's joys and sorrows. To my new friends of later days in Minneapolis, whose kind hospitality has made our stay so full of gladness and cheer; I wish you all a joyous Christmas and a glad New Year. To the friends of a lifetime I count friendship one of the chiefest enjoyments of my life, a comfort in time of doubt and trouble, a joy in time of prosperity and success."

Mr. Craigmile is a son of Alexander and Jean (Mitchell) Craigmile. He received his early education in Ontario, Canada, in DuPage County, Illinois, and finished his work in Naperville Academy. After the war he came to central Illinois, and in 1868 made his first purchase of land near where the present town of Gifford stands, but before a railroad was built through that section.

Mr. Craigmile laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Miss Agnes Calder. She was born in Canada, a daughter of William and Mary Ann (Hempey) Calder. Her father was born in Scotland and her mother in Bristol, England. William Calder was a brave soldier of the British Empire and was in the armies of her majesty fourteen years.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Craigmile started life on a farm of 254 acres at Gifford. There the young Scotch couple demonstrated the possession of those sterling characteristics so familiar to the people of the

land of the hills and heather. Though they started on the bare prairie, they gradually surrounded themselves with comforts and improvements, and have long since accumulated a fine estate. For his first land in Champaign County Mr. Craigmile paid only $11 an acre, and any of his possessions now are worth many times that sum. He has been both a farmer and stock raiser.

The children born into their happy home are named A. H., Erva J., Mary, Archibald, Eunice and Charles. The training and education of these children have been always close to the hearts of Mr. and Mrs. Craigmile. The first school they attended was near Gifford, and the parents encouraged the boys and girls to make the best of their time and opportunities, and subsequently gave them the advantages of the great University of Illinois at Urbana. Mary and Charles both graduated from that institution with honors, and Mary became a popular teacher in Champaign County in the district schools at Penfield and the Rantoul High School. Charles Craigmile specialized in civil engineering and is now employed by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway, with headquarters at Lincoln, Nebraska. He is a progressive American boy and makes friends wherever he goes. A. H. Craigmile was a successful teacher for ten years and for two years was principal of the Gifford schools. He also taught in Alberta, Canada. The children fitted themselves for useful occupations in which they might exercise the best talents of their characters. Many pupils have received instruction from the Craigmile children, and as teachers their record is enviable and worthy. The oldest child, A. H. Craigmile married Miss Clara Williams of Rantoul, and they now reside at Dauphin in Manitoba, Canada. Their two children are named Mary W. and Robert Alexander. Erva J. Craigmile is the wife of W. S. Smith, and they live at Armstrong, Illinois. Their two children are named Emile Jean and Charles Craigmile. Eunice Craigmile married J. F. Clark, a Rantoul attorney, and is the mother of two daughters, Elizabeth and Janis.

For the past ten years Mr. and Mrs. Craigmile have had their home in Rantoul. Both attend the Methodist Episcopal Church, and fraternally Mr. Craigmile has affiliations with the Grand Army of the Republic, and Mrs. Craigmile belongs to the Woman's Relief Corps. Their comfortable home is on Belle Avenue, and here they dwell in peace and may look with pardonable pride over the backward stretch of years from the time they married and started to make a home until now their children are grown and they have grandchildren.

General Samuel T. Busey. A soldier, banker, a patriot and public-spirited citizen, the late General Samuel T. Busey was without question one of the ablest factors in the history of Champaign County and was widely known and his leadership gratefully acknowledged throughout Illinois.

Necessarily the name Busey is one that frequently recurs throughout the pages of Champaign County history. The family was founded here by Matthew W. Busey, father of General Busey. Matthew W. Busey was born in Shelby County, Kentucky, May 15, 1798, a son of Samuel and Catherine (Siegler) Busey. When he was a small boy they removed to Washington County, Indiana, where he learned the brick mason's trade. From 1823 until 1847 he followed the business of contractor and builder.

It was in 1832, eighty-five years ago, that Matthew W. Busey first visited the region of eastern Illinois, including Champaign County. This was then a part of Vermilion County. During this visit he entered land from the Government on the site of what is now a part of the city of Urbana. In 1836 Matthew Busey brought his family to Champaign County and lived there from that time until his death on December 13, 1852. He



S. T. Busey

married in Washington County, Indiana, Miss Elizabeth Bush, who was born in Shelby County, Kentucky, March 6, 1801, and died in Champaign County in 1880.

General Samuel T. Busey, the sixth child of his parents, was born at Greencastle, Indiana, in 1835. He was only an infant when the family removed to Champaign County and he grew up in almost a frontier community and had the advantages of such schools as were maintained here seventy or eighty years ago. His early experiences were those of his father's farm, but in 1856, when a little past twenty years of age, he entered merchandising. That was his active work until 1862, when he sold his business and prepared to assume the responsibilities of a patriot and defender of the flag.

Obtaining a commission from the war governor, Richard Yates, he recruited a company and with it went into camp at Kankakee August 6, 1862. When the company organized he was elected captain. On the organization of the regiment he was elected colonel. His company was Company B, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. On the 22d of August, 1862, the regiment started south for Columbus, Kentucky, which was then the base of supplies for Grant's army operating about Corinth. He afterwards joined the field forces at Bolivar, Tennessee, and subsequently was with Grant at Coffeeville, Mississippi. In 1863 Colonel Busey led his regiment to join Grant's army in the rear of Vicksburg. His regiment was closer to a rebel fort than any other regiment on the entire fourteen miles, they occupying the extreme left of the command. They arrived at Chickasaw Bayou the night Grant drove the Confederates into the Vicksburg stronghold. After that city surrendered Colonel Busey was the first Union officer to enter. His able services again and again attracted the attention of his superiors, but he refused promotion to the rank of brigadier-general in order that he might not be separated from his comrades in the old regiment. Subsequently he was offered command of the post at Natchez, Mississippi, but he declined this for the same reason. On January 1, 1865, leaving Memphis with his regiment, he was the first to report to General Canby at New Orleans, went from there to Pensacola, Florida, later to Pollard, Alabama, and then moved down to Fort Blakeley, the last stronghold in the rear of Mobile. This fort was carried by assault on the 9th of April, after a ten days' siege. Colonel Busey's regiment was the first to enter the works and it suffered greater loss than all the rest of the command. Colonel Busey was the second man to surmount the works, and his companion was killed and he himself wounded. He recuperated from his wound in the hospital at New Orleans, and it was June before he was able to rejoin his command. He went to Texas and was mustered out for discharge at Galveston and was given his honorable discharge at Chicago, August 6, 1865. Subsequently, on the recommendation of Generals Andrews, Steel and Grant, for his gallantry in leading his regiment in the assault on Fort Blakely, he was commissioned brevet brigadier-general, and by active and meritorious service perhaps not one of Illinois' brigadier-generals more completely deserved this honor.

The war over, General Busey resumed civil life in the role of a farmer in Champaign County. In 1867, in company with his brother, Hon. Simeon H. Busey, he organized what is today known as Busey's State Bank at Urbana. General Busey afterwards bought his brother's interest and associated with him his nephew, Matthew W. Busey, in the management and direction of the bank's affairs.

General Busey finally retired from active business affairs and lived quietly at his home in Urbana until his death on August 12, 1909. Politically he was a Democrat, one of the best qualified leaders of his party in

this section of the State, and had the distinction of defeating Hon. Joseph G. Cannon for Congress.

Mrs. Mary E. Busey, widow of the late General Busey, has long been identified with the life and affairs of her home county, and through her repeated elections to the post of trustee of the University of Illinois is one of the most widely known women of the State. Her maiden name was Mary Elizabeth Bowen. She was born in Delphi, Indiana, June 21, 1854, a daughter of Abner and Catherine J. (Trawin) Bowen. Her father was born in Dayton, Ohio, and her mother in Calcutta, India. Mrs. Busey's paternal grandparents were Enoch and Elizabeth (Wilson) Bowen, both natives of Pennsylvania. Her great-grandfather, David Bowen, was born in Pennsylvania. Her maternal grandparents were John and Mary (Webber) Trawin, and they and her great-grandmother, Sarah (Brett) Webber, were all natives of England.

Mrs. Busey was educated in Vassar College, and on December 25, 1877, at her parents' home in Delphi, Indiana, she married General Busey. For forty years she has been a resident of Champaign County, and not only shared with her husband the many social distinctions paid them, but is active also in the responsibilities of home and the community. She is an active member of the Presbyterian Church and has served on the board of trustees for more than twenty-three years. For several successive terms she has also filled the post of trustee of the University of Illinois, having been re-elected in 1916. She is identified with the patriotic order, the Dames of the Loyal Legion and the Woman's Relief Corps.

General and Mrs. Busey had three children. Marietta was married April 7, 1909, to Guy A. Tawney, who is head of the Department of Philosophy in the University of Cincinnati, Ohio. Professor and Mrs. Tawney have two children, George Busey, born July 7, 1912, and Elizabeth, born February 4, 1916. The daughter Bertha lives at home with her mother in Urbana. Charles Bowen was married June 6, 1911, to Louise Carter of Dallas, Texas, and they now reside at Urbana. They have one child, Charles Bowen, Jr., born November 15, 1915.

Matthew Wales Busey. Of the native sons of Champaign County who have been factors in the development of the county's resources, one of the most prominently known is Matthew Wales Busey, president of Busey's State Bank at Urbana. As one of the leading bankers of his section he has contributed to the advancement of the agricultural interests of Champaign County, and in his capacity of private citizen has ever been found ready to lend encouragement and support to the movements which have made for progress in his fertile and enterprising part of the State.

Matthew Wales Busey was born at Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois. December 7, 1854, being a son of Simeon Harrison and Artimesia (Jones) Busey. His paternal grandfather was Matthew W. Busey, who was born in Shelby County, Kentucky, May 15, 1798, a son of Samuel and Catherine (Siegler) Busey. The family removed to Washington County, Indiana, when Matthew W. Busey, the elder, was still a youth, and there he learned the trade of brick mason, later becoming a contractor and builder, a business which he followed with success from 1823 to 1847. In 1832 he visited the region of Champaign County, which was then a part of Vermilion County, and entered land from the United States Government on the site of what is now a part of the city of Urbana. In 1836 he removed with his family to Champaign County, and continued to make this section his home during the remainder of his life, his death occurring here December 13, 1852. Mr. Busey had married Miss Elizabeth Bush while residing in Washington County, Indiana, in 1821. She was born in Shelby County,

Kentucky, March 6, 1801, and died in 1880. She was the mother of eight children, Simeon H., John Simpson, Samuel Thompson, Mathew D., Mary C. Kirkpatrick, Sarah A. Sim, Elizabeth F. McClain and Louisa J. Romine, all of whom survived their parents.

Simeon Harrison Busey was born October 24, 1824, at Greencastle, Indiana, and was twelve years of age when brought to Champaign County, Illinois, where, as his father had at that time taken up farming and stock-raising, the youth was reared in an agricultural atmosphere. He also had influences that were an incentive to the highest degree of effort to realize his individual capacity. His father was an active member of the Baptist Church and had served as a colonel in both the Illinois and Indiana State Militia, was for two terms a member of the State Legislature and had also acted as judge of the County Court. Simeon H. Busey, as he grew older, adopted farming and stock-raising, and eventually acquired extensive holdings in the rich farm lands of this section and did his work on a large scale. The competence he thus acquired led him into the financial and industrial development of a new country and he assisted in the organization of the First National Bank of Champaign. Soon afterward, however, he disposed of his interest in that institution and in 1868, with his brother, Colonel Samuel T. Busey, organized Busey's Bank at Urbana, with which he was connected until a short time prior to his death, which occurred at Urbana, June 3, 1901. He was a born financier, and upon entering the banking business soon became known as such, and his judgment was much sought and relied upon in business matters.

On September 22, 1848, at Greencastle, Indiana, Simeon H. Busey married Miss Artimesia Jones, and brought his young bride to the Illinois home which he had prepared for her and where the young people soon became important factors in the social and intellectual life of the community. Artimesia Jones was born at Greencastle, Indiana, October 26, 1826, was reared in that State, and after a residence at Urbana of nearly sixty-six years she passed away July 18, 1914. Her father, John Wesley Jones, was born in England, November 16, 1794, and married Alice Allen, who was born October 20, 1798. They were married in Indiana.

Nine children were born to Simeon H. Busey and wife: John Wheeler Busey; Matthew W.; George W. Busey, who is president of the First State Bank of Fisher, Illinois; James B. Busey, a farmer and a banker at Mahomet; Alice J. Freeman, wife of Gus T. Freeman of Urbana; Ann Augusta Morgan, a resident of Urbana, Illinois; Elizabeth Frances Riley, wife of Ozias Riley of Champaign; Lucy Ann, who died in infancy; and William H. Busey, who died aged forty years.

Simeon H. Busey was a member of the First Baptist Church of Urbana, was a charter member of the local Masonic Lodge, and in politics a Democrat. He served as a member of the State Legislature and besides his local banking connections was one of the organizers and a director of the Bankers National Bank of Chicago up to the time of his death. He was one of the active workers in securing the location of the University of Illinois at Urbana, as well as in securing the location of the railroad running from Peoria to Indianapolis, now part of the Big Four System.

Matthew W. Busey was well educated for his work in life, both theoretically and practically. He attended the Urbana schools and in 1875, at the age of twenty-one, became bookkeeper in the bank of Busey Brothers. In November, 1879, he bought his father's interests, and in 1888 became president of Busey's Bank, a position he has held until the present date, almost thirty years. He is also president of the Ogden Bank of Ogden, Illinois, the Exchange Bank of St. Joseph, Illinois, and the Commercial Bank of Champaign. Mr. Busey has in many ways used his position and

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

influence as a banker to promote agricultural prosperity and the solution of the many problems connected with the betterment of country life in America. He has acquired extensive interests in Champaign County farms and also owns a large amount of land in Mississippi and other sections of this State. In 1905 Mr. Busey was appointed treasurer of the University of Illinois. He has also been a member of the executive committee of the Illinois Bankers' Association.

On November 15, 1877, at Tolono, Illinois, he married Miss Katherine W. Richards. She was born at Warm Springs, Virginia, October 20, 1857, and was educated at the State Normal University at Normal, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Busey have two children. Paul Graham Busey, the son, was born at Urbana October 5, 1880, was educated in the public schools, the University of Illinois, the Art Institute at Chicago, and is now vice-president of Busey's State Bank, with his home at Urbana. He married Miss Clara Blanche Black, of Urbana, and they have one child, Patricia Blanche. Virginia Busey, the daughter was born at Urbana, November 4, 1883, and was also liberally educated, attending the Urbana public schools, the University of Illinois, the National Park Seminary at Washington, D. C., and Smith College. She is now the wife of Dr. James F. Churchill, of Chicago, and they reside at San Diego, California. They have one son, Robert Busey.

Mr. Matthew W. Busey is a Democrat in his political affiliations, but his business interests have been so extensive that he has not found time to enter actively into politics. He is well known in fraternal circles, being a thirty-second degree Mason, a member of the Knight Templar body and Medinah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. of Chicago, Illinois. He is also a member of Urbana Lodge, B. P. O. E. When a young man he served his time in the National Guard.

Bert Rayburn. Champaign County with its high-priced lands is distinctively the field for the highly efficient farm manager. That is the work and position of Mr. Bert Rayburn. By long experience he has proved his capability in handling the soil and resources of Champaign County in a manner productive both to himself and the owners of the land. Mr. Rayburn has acquired a considerable stake as a land holder himself, but his chief experience has been as a renter and farm manager.

A native of Champaign County, he was born in Mahomet Township, September 24, 1872, a son of Lee and Dora (Christian) Rayburn, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Kentucky. The Rayburns were pioneers in Champaign County, where Grandfather John Rayburn located about 1856. He was a farmer, and farming has been the regular occupation of the family through three generations. Mr. Lee Rayburn spent many years in that vocation and is now living retired at Champaign. He was at one time road commissioner of Scott Township. He and his wife had thirteen children: Estella, living at Champaign, widow of William Herriott; Bert; Leonard, a farmer in Mahomet Township; Joseph, Pearl and Nellie, all deceased; Myrtle, at home; Ethel, wife of Charles Keller of Urbana; Mabel, wife of Thomas Barker, a farmer in Scott Township; Cecil, a Scott Township farmer; J. W. of Scott Township; Lee and Elsie, still at home.

Mr. Bert Rayburn had a thorough training as a farmer during the first twenty-one years of his life, which he spent at home. In the meantime he acquired a substantial education in the local schools. At the age of twenty-one he continued working a year for his father and then rented ninety acres in Scott Township, which he managed two years. He then went to a larger farm, consisting of 265 acres, and had that place under his control

for five years. His next experience was in the implement business at Bondville for a year, and removing to Mattoon, Illinois, he farmed a 240-acre place two years and for one year was in Iroquois County, farming 200 acres.

In 1909 Mr. Rayburn took the active management of the large Burnham estate in section 2 of Champaign Township. This has long been one of the noted farms of Champaign County, and for eight years Mr. Rayburn has rotated the crops on this 270 acres and has handled it both as a general farming and stock-raising proposition. Altogether he has 367 acres under his direction, including ninety-seven acres of his own located in Hensley Township. Mr. Rayburn pays successful attention to all the varied departments of farming, and if there is any one specialty it is his dairy of fine thoroughbred Holstein cows. Politically he is a Republican and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

On February 20, 1895, Mr. Rayburn married Eva E. Shaffer, who was born at Ludlow, Illinois. They are the parents of six children: Fern, who was born March 23, 1896, and died in November, 1899; Glenn and Gladys, twins, born August 10, 1897; Harold, born in 1899 and died in 1901; Vernon, born in November, 1903; and Feryl, born May 3, 1910.

William D. Burton is a Champaign County pioneer, was a farmer during his more active years, and since moving to Champaign has done much for the betterment and improvement of that city.

Mr. Burton was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, January 28, 1830, a son of Elijah and Deliah (Dimmitt) Burton, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia. His father was a farmer and both he and his wife died in Knox County, Illinois. There were nine children: Malinda J., who died in California; Harvey, deceased; William D.; Henry, of Grant's Pass, Oregon; Sarah, John and George, all deceased; Oliver, who lives in Iowa; and Hiram, of Colorado.

William D. Burton was reared in Ohio, and first passed through Champaign County when on his way to Iowa. The following year, 1858, he returned to Knox County and later to eastern Illinois and located on a farm four miles north of Mahomet in Champaign County. He still owns a hundred acres of the land which he developed and cultivated in that section. In 1892 he came to Champaign, was real estate agent for some years, and invested in local property, including his own home and other parcels of real estate. Mr. Burton was the man who set out all the trees in the East Side Park addition.

On March 20, 1856, he married Mary Abbott Wright, who was born in Licking County, Ohio, October 16, 1829, and died at her home in Champaign February 15, 1917. Mr. Burton has two children: Eliza is the wife of Dr. J. I. Groves, of Champaign; Dora is the wife of F. J. Foote, of Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Burton is a Republican, has been affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows since he was twenty-one years of age, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Thomas J. Colvin. One of the substantial commercial enterprises of Urbana, with forty years of successful and reliable business history back of it, is the meat market conducted by Thomas J. Colvin. When Mr. Colvin entered upon his career in this venture, he had little to back him save the experience he had gained as his father's assistant, his ambition, determination and industry, but out of these he has developed a paying and prosperous business, which has become so well known at Urbana as to be accounted a necessary commercial asset. The proprietor, with a supreme faith in the future of the city, has invested heavily in real estate holding here, so that he is one of the substantial property owners of the

place. Both in his own interests and those of the city, he has always staunchly supported measures making for local improvement and civic betterment.

Thomas J. Colvin was born February 14, 1858, in Scott County, Indiana, and is a son of John and Catherine (Goben) Colvin. His father, a native of County Down, Ireland, came to the United States in young manhood and engaged in working at the cabinet-maker's trade in Scott County, Indiana, where he met and married Catherine Goben. She died there in 1860, and in 1867 Mr. Colvin brought his family to Champaign County, Illinois, and settled on a farm in the vicinity of Tolono. He became one of the leading citizens of his community, won an honorable standing in business life, and finally became interested in public affairs and was well known as one of the staunch workers in the ranks of the Democratic party. Under both of President Cleveland's administrations he served Tolono as postmaster, and eventually was chosen mayor, in which office he was serving at the time of his tragic death. On the day of his demise a fire had broken out, and Mayor Colvin, hastening to the scene of the conflagration, was struck and instantly killed by an Illinois Central train, the approach of which he had failed to note because of an umbrella which he was carrying. His death was considered a great loss to the community, in the interests of which he had labored so faithfully. There were five children in the family of John and Catherine Colvin, namely: Martha, of Los Angeles, California, the widow of Ebenezer Gordon; Mary Jane, who is the wife of B. B. Salberry, of San Francisco, California; John M., a resident of Spokane, Washington; Thomas J., of this notice; and Edward, who enlisted in the army when a mere youth, and of whom the family has completely lost track.

Thomas J. Colvin was educated in the public schools of Tolono, and as a youth assisted his father in conducting a meat market at that place. When he had $100 saved, at the age of nineteen years, he embarked upon an independent venture, which, starting in a necessarily small way, rapidly developed into a substantial house. In 1882 he bought the business establishment which he now conducts, and which is accounted one of the leading markets of the city, it having been built up through a policy of honorable conduct, honest representation and straightforward methods of doing business. In investing his profits Mr. Colvin has been loyal to his home city, and now has numerous holdings in a realty way, business and residential. His standing in business circles is of the best, and as a citizen he has contributed freely of time, ability and means in furthering worthy projects. Mr. Colvin is a Democrat, but not a politician.

In December, 1882, Mr. Colvin was united in marriage at Urbana to Miss Sadie Marks, who was born in Champaign County, and to this union there have been born three children: John T., who is associated with his father in the market business, one of the enterprising young business men of Urbana; Don Otto, who is now residing in Arizona; and Ernest M., whose place of residence is Middletown, Ohio.

Isaac E. Hess. Successful merchandising is a business that is necessary in a community that desires to expand and progress, but all merchandising is not, by any means, successful. When poor stocks are offered to the public and indifferent salesmen reluctantly show the wares, the business is not very likely to interest any one very long, but, on the other hand, the first class store, filled with dependable, up-to-date goods which are brought to the attention of customers by courteous employes and sold at honest prices, is a very helpful factor in building up the name and promoting the

prosperity of a town, village or a city. In order, however, to be a successful merchant, a man must have many of the qualities that make for success along any line, and foresight, shrewdness, knowledge of details, good judgment and integrity are some of these. Occasionally the real mercantile spirit descends in a family from father to son and a case in point may be mentioned in referring to Philo, that bustling little city in Champaign County, where the name of Hess has been thoroughly identified with the mercantile business for the past forty-two years.

Isaac E. Hess, who is the leading general merchant at Philo, Illinois, was born at Parkville, in Sadorus Township, Champaign County, Illinois, September 3, 1871. His parents were George W. and Erzilla Jane (Dodson) Hess, the former of whom was born in Ohio and the latter in Kentucky. In his earlier years George W. Hess was a farmer. He came to Champaign County and located in Sadorus Township in 1858 and engaged there in agricultural pursuits until 1875, when he moved to Philo and established himself in the general mercantile business there, but his career as a merchant was short, as his death took place August 25, 1876. His widow survived him many years, the date of her death being May 4, 1915. They were the parents of the following children: Ella W., who is the wife of Martin Ellars, Ironton, Ohio; William S. Hess, merchant at Homer, Illinois; Samuel, who is general passenger agent for the Wabash Railroad at Decatur; Fred C., who conducts a drug store at Villa Grove; George D., a resident of Champaign; and Isaac E.

Isaac E. Hess attended the public schools and was graduated from the Champaign High School in the class of 1887. In the meanwhile his older brothers had carried on the mercantile business established by the father at Philo, and he became a clerk in the store and soon began to cherish the ambition to make the business his own, which ambition he was able to gratify in 1898 when he bought the entire interests of his two brothers and then took charge. Mr. Hess has a fine modern store, with a carefully assorted stock and does a substantial business, his patronage not being confined to the town but coming from a large outlying territory. In thus being able to keep the people's money in circulation at home, Mr. Hess has assisted the community, for it is distributed in other lines of trade together with his own and the benefit has been mutual and general.

As a successful merchant Mr. Hess fills a place of usefulness and no small distinction in Champaign County, but it is for other reasons that he is widely known over the state and has a growing list of admirers in many sections of the country. If Champaign County should ever create a Hall of Fame there would certainly be a niche somewhere for Isaac E. Hess. He would deserve that place, not because he has been a successful business man, but because of his quiet and sustained interest and study for many years of Illinois bird life. Curiously enough, Mr. Hess' services as an ornithologist is known and appreciated by more people outside Champaign County than within it, though this is due merely to the fact that a very restricted number of people in any one given locality are real nature lovers and students. In recent years at different times articles on Mr. Hess' work have appeared in many newspapers, including the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the Chicago Record-Herald, and various down-state journals. It would not be possible in this article to quote even a few of the many appreciations that have been written concerning his practical work as an ornithologist or his character as a bird poet and philosopher. In April, 1913, the Decatur Herald said editorially: "No naturalist that we know anything about makes his subjects of more gripping interest to the reader or clothes it in a finer philosophy than Isaac Hess of Philo. The Herald considers itself fortunate in being able to present to its readers Mr. Hess' series of bird articles. Mr. Hess could not be drily and formally scientific if he

tried. He would make an ornithological catalogue fascinating and put humor into an appendix of a work on pterodactyls. It is the happy mission of Mr. Hess to open the mental eyes of his fellow men to the things they have seen, but do not notice; a talk with him—and a walk through timber, along a river bottom, or a ride along a country road has a new significance."

Some months before this editorial appeared the Decatur Herald published a full page article, illustrated, under the title, "Philo's Bird Lover, Philosopher, a remarkable combination of business man and interpreter of nature, student and champion of his feathered friends, to whom it is good to listen." It is only doing justice where justice is due to quote some of the paragraphs from this very interesting special correspondent.

"Perhaps it was because of Philo's trees affording so many opportunities for songsters' nests that Isaac Hess became an ornithologist. Every country boy, he believes, is more or less an unconscious naturalist up to a certain age. He is interested in the wild life about him, learns to know the names of the birds, something of their haunts and habits, and then distractions come in; further development is arrested. Mr. Hess started in as other boys have done, only in his case there was no break in his study of birds through the crowding in of other interests. Though a busy man, he has continued to be a student in his favorite subject and has become a well recognized authority on the birds of central Illinois, a writer of note on ornithological subjects, and the author of papers and pamphlets, one of which is used as the basis of a course in the University of Illinois.

"Sound him on almost any phase of his favorite subject, and Mr. Hess invariably will respond: 'I have a pamphlet on that,' or 'I am now preparing a paper on that very thing.' One is brought to a realization of his capacity for hard work by records of the Illinois Academy of Science, articles in the Bird Magazine and other popular and scientific journals to which he contributes, and in the almost countless letters and articles in newspapers by which he has sought to disseminate the information that he has acquired and make it of use to those about him.

"Mr. Hess' single greatest achievement was the gathering of data on 104 different species of birds found in a ten-mile radius from his home, which data was published in 1910 and remains the most complete and authoritative work of its kind in central Illinois. Not only did Mr. Hess make his way through swamps, over hedges and along the rough course of Salt Fork Creek and the Embarrass River, often creeping on hands and knees and lying for hours at a time scarcely daring to breathe lest the knowledge of his presence should disturb some little feathered home builder, but he collected the eggs of ninety-four different species, which collection occupying cases in the rear of his store, is one which bird lovers come far to see.

"Take into consideration the fact that for years Mr. Hess kept an earliest nesting record of the birds that visited this radius, and one has an idea of the size of the task. Mr. Hess also has a most complete collection of mounted birds, although most of his hunting is done with glass and camera rather than with gun, and he much prefers birds living to birds dead.

"No matter how well a genius may write he seldom writes as well as he talks. You would be interested in Mr. Hess' work on Breeding Birds or his paper on the Passing of Our Game Birds, but you will be a good deal more interested to sit down with him for an hour and hear him discuss birds, for it is then that you get Mr. Hess' philosophy as well as absorbingly interesting information which he has picked up first hand. You may not be a bird lover, but the probabilities are that after one of these talks with Mr. Hess your eyes will be opened to things that you never have seen before and your thought directed into new channels.

"For one thing Mr. Hess is teaching the farmers in Champaign County what birds are their friends and are deserving of their protection for the good they do in devouring weed seeds and insects. He has taught them, for instance, that the Red-Tailed Hawk that voloplanes so gracefully on strong pinions high in air has no designs on the henhouse, but is looking for the field mice which his wonderful eye discloses to him in the grass 100 yards below him. The true name of this hawk, Mr. Hess says, should be the Farmers' Friend, and he is a wholly different bird from the smaller low-flying thief that darts over the fence, seizes a chicken, and is off with it before a gun can be sighted.

"Many of his acquaintances fail to understand the work he is doing and cannot understand his willingness to put in days of hard labor to secure a new specimen or discover some new traits in his friends, the birds. But in this respect perhaps he does not suffer so much from lack of appreciation as other geniuses of different bent, for there is in every human a love of nature, but even if they did not care to follow Mr. Hess into realms of ornithological bliss they would still listen to him so entertainingly does he talk on birds—or any other topic.

"Broad, fair-minded, and seeking always to find the best, rather than the other in his fellow men, Mr. Hess has inoculated most of his followers to some extent with his spirit and no matter how delicate the subject, nor how widely different may be the views on any question at his store clearing house of public opinion, there is always that spirit of good fellowship and respect for feelings in the discussion.

"One might gather the impression from this sketch that the subject of it may be a genius but not a business man. Perhaps the reader has visions of a topsy-turvy stock in an untidy, neglected store, but the opposite is true. Nowhere will be found a more tidy and up-to-date dry goods store and some of the commercial journals to which Mr. Hess has contributed his ideas on stockkeeping and bookkeeping have paid him the highest compliments, venturing the opinion that writer must have an ideal store, which it is. And this is also true of his home, for he is married to a woman who shares his love of nature. They have a pretty home and a very pretty baby girl. Living so many years so close to nature has made Mr. Hess an optimist. He accepts the Creator's plan and believes with the poet that 'All's right with the world.' To not everyone is given that ability or the desire to emphasize the good and minimize the bad."

Mr. Hess is a member of the scientific associations, the American Ornithologists' Union, Wilson's Club, and Illinois Academy of Science. For three years he was a special writer for the Decatur Herald, preparing a series of 157 articles on bird life, and this series is now running in the Quincy Whig. He was one of three authors compiling work on American birds to be published in the German language under auspices of the royal family of Germany when war interfered with all plans. At the present time Mr. Hess is engaged on a book, "Illinois Birds," the publication of which will be eagerly anticipated by his many friends and admirers all over the state. Mr. Hess has lectured nearly everywhere in Illinois before university clubs, farmers' institutes, Boy Scout clubs, high schools, women's clubs, Milliken University at Decatur, the University of Illinois and the Patterson Springs Chautauqua. These lectures and addresses are illustrated with slides from photos of his own taking of Illinois birds "in situ." Some time ago Mr. Hess was offered the position of instructor of the Nature Class Summer School in the University of Illinois.

Not all of Mr. Hess' studies of bird life have been through the medium of camera and field notes. He has expressed himself many times in poetry, and it will not be out of place to include his verses on "The Upland Plover":

But for notes of Whippoorwills
Not a sound of spring so thrills
Ear and heart and sets me list'ning,
Like the weird and plaintive whistling,
Of the dainty Upland Plover—
Wild, elusive meadow-lover;

When o'er May-day breeze is floating,
Soothing, whistled Plover-noting,
I am seized of great desire
Born of hidden motive, higher
Than the sordid dollar chasing;
Sluggish blood, aroused, is racing
Through my veins; forsaking duties
I'm away with Nature's beauties;

Slyly slipping through the sedges—
Creeping, peeping, behind hedges
To the fields where I discover
Haunts of winsome Upland Plover;
In the fields of scented clover
Bobolinks are bubbling over;
Meadow-larks are tuning madly;
Dickcissels are off'ring gladly
Sweetest anthems of thanksgiving;
All lute of the joys of living.

But to me the sweetest ear-sounds—
Satisfying full-of-cheer sounds,
Sirens from the mated lover
Of the patient setting Plover;
Rising like a flash from cover
Poised on flutt'ring wings to hover
In mid-air above his treasure
He, to show the world his pleasure,
Sounds his message (song epistle) —
Voloplanes down with his whistle.

Mr. Hess married, May 23, 1894, Miss Florence Adams, who was born in McLean County, Illinois. Their daughter, Edith Constance, was born March 8, 1912. For many years Mr. Hess has been a member of the Order of Odd Fellows and attends the lodge at Philo. Although a sound Republican in his political sentiments, he is by no means a politician, nor is he illiberal in his attitude on general public questions. Among other business interests he was at its inauguration and conventions secretary of the Florida Fruit Lands Company, which divided 180,000 acres of everglades.

Thomas E. Smith. The name Thomas E. Smith is at once associated with the wealthy and successful business men of Champaign. Success did not come to him like manna from the skies, but was earned by the hardest kind of effort. He gained some of his early experience as a pioneer on the Northwestern prairies of the Dakotas and Montana. For many years Mr. Smith has been in the meat business at Champaign and is now proprietor of two large cold storage plants and handles his business on a wholesale scale.

He was born near Potomac, Vermilion County, Illinois, January 13, 1862. His parents were William H. and Emily (Copeland) Smith, the former a native of England and the latter of Vermilion County, Illinois. William H. Smith was brought to America when an infant, his parents locating on a farm in Vermilion County, where he grew to manhood and thereafter until his death was a successful dealer, buyer and shipper of live stock. His widow is now living in Paxton, Ford County, Illinois, having married as her second husband Lynn Corbley. William H. Smith and wife had eight children: Charles S., of Kansas City, Missouri; Alice, wife of William Palmer, of Los Angeles, California; Thomas E.; Anna, deceased; Clara, widow of Lincoln Armstrong, living at Terre Haute, Indiana; William S., who occupies the old home place in Vermilion County; Lillian, deceased; and John R., in the meat business at Champaign.

Such advantages as the district schools were able to afford Thomas E. Smith availed himself of when a boy, but he was only fifteen when he began the battle of life for himself. His first experience was on the farm, and on account of failing health he soon went out to Minnesota. He spent two years there and then going to South Dakota took up a claim. It would be a long story to recount all his experiences while in the Northwest. He broke the virgin prairie lands with ox teams, and hauled his supplies on a stone boat drawn by oxen from Huron, South Dakota, eighteen miles from his settlement. It required a courageous spirit and an unlimited determination to survive the life of that period in the far Northwest. Mr. Smith finally sold his claim in South Dakota and for a time was a cattle rancher in Montana.

On May 1, 1884, having returned to Illinois, Mr. Smith engaged in the retail meat business at Champaign. That business has grown apace. He proved an adept not only in the service which a retail trade demands but in all other departments of the business, both buying and selling, and his interests have consequently assumed a large scale. In 1916 he built a cold storage plant four stories high and 80x195 feet in ground dimensions, absolutely fire proof, of brick and cement construction. This plant is adapted to the manufacture of ice and the handling of all kinds of meats and produce for cold storage. Mr. Smith also has another cold storage plant in Urbana, though not so large as the Champaign plant.

While building up his business he has not neglected the general welfare of the community. He served two terms in the city council, and for nine years was a member of the school board and during that time was chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee. Mr. Smith is a Republican, is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Woodmen of the World, and though not a member gives his active support to the Christian Church.

On March 17, 1890, Mr. Smith married Amanda Gibson, a native of Jasper County, Illinois. They are the parents of five children: Gladys May, a teacher in the public schools at Champaign; Florence E., who died in August, 1915; Cleone, Harold T. and Alice, all at home.

ARTHUR ROBINSON STEWART'S chief work in Champaign County has been as an unusually competent and capable farmer. It is one of the larger and better managed places in Champaign Township where he has put into practice the accumulated wisdom and experience of many years as an agriculturist and stockman. Mr. Stewart and family are well known socially in their country community and also in the city centers of the county.

He was born in Ross County, Ohio, July 25, 1855, but in the same

year was brought to Champaign County by his parents, Samuel G. and Jane (Evans) Stewart. His father was born in New York State, April 4, 1816, and his mother in Ohio on December 28, 1820. After coming to Champaign County Samuel Stewart located land in Somers Township, and gave his time and toil to the improvement and cultivation of that farm for many years. His death occurred May 10, 1891. His wife had died August 26, 1867, and both were buried in Champaign. There were nine children: Esther, who died April 3, 1908; William, who became a Union soldier and died while still in the service at Memphis, Tennessee, October 20, 1863, being then little past twenty-one, since he was born January 14, 1842; Martha Ann, born October 28, 1843, died December 12, 1881; Mary E., born March 10, 1845, died July 15, 1893; Jane A., born September 5, 1846, is still living in Champaign County; Robert E., born April 12, 1852, resides in Oregon; Emma D., born March 10, 1854, is the wife of George Lyman of Portsmouth, Arkansas; Arthur Robinson; and Walter N., who was born January 25, 1858, and lives at North Yakima, Washington.

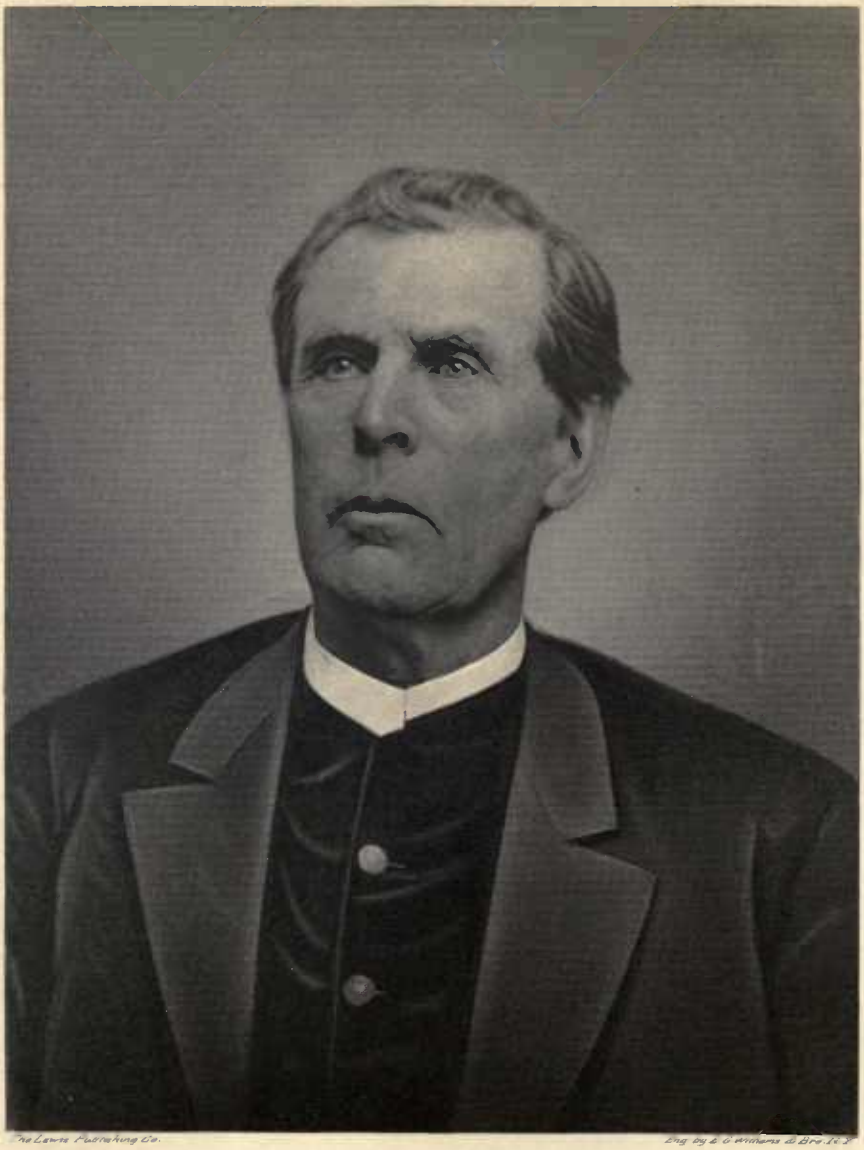
In addition to the early training he secured in the common schools, and the practical experience on his father's farm, Mr. Stewart attended the agricultural department of the University of Illinois for about two years. He remained on the old homestead in Somers Township, and subsequently was associated with his brother in managing the home farm of 200 acres. Later Mr. Stewart bought the interests of the other heirs in the farm, and retained its ownership and management until 1911, when he sold the farm to the Illinois Central Railway Company as a site for shops. Mr. Stewart then bought the old Beasly farm of 160 acres in section 1, Champaign Township. This gives him a large and productive place to manage, and he has handled it largely as a dairy proposition, having a herd of mixed Holsteins and Jerseys.

He has not neglected the public welfare while attending to his private interests and for one year served as township assessor in Somer Township. He is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Congregational Church and Mrs. Stewart belongs to the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

On September 4, 1900, Mr. Stewart married Margaret Nesbaume Roper, who was born in Ohio, daughter of Charles and Amelia (Nesbaume) Roper, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart have four children: Lyman Roper, who was born June 18, 1902; Charles Robert, born November 11, 1903, and died October 3, 1904; Donald Judson, born January 25, 1906; and Catherine Elizabeth, born February 23, 1909.

Alvin E. Huckins is head of the leading clay products business of Champaign County. A mechanical engineer by profession, Mr. Huckins has been identified with several large industrial corporations in the United States, and now gives his time and energies to a plant at Urbana which is capable of turning out any form or class of product from clay. It is a big business, and Mr. Huckins is considered one of the big business men of this community.

He was born in Chicago, July 31, 1884, and as a young man made his way through difficulties to success. His parents, Clarence L. and Flora E. (Ryans) Huckins, were both natives of Canada and both are now deceased. His father was for many years in the wholesale tobacco business in Chicago. Mr. Huckins was the youngest of their five children, the others being: William A., of Miami, Florida; Albert C., of Chicago; Webster Lee, of Chicago; and Luella R., wife of Walter Quinn, of Chicago.



The Lewis Publishing Co. Eng. by L. C. Williams & Bro. N.Y.

Mark Cowley

Mr. Huckins had a grammar school education in Chicago, and sold papers in order to pay his way through the English High and Manual Training School of that city. He also did night work in an architect's office and subsequently had some valuable experience with Pierce, Richardson & Neiler, a prominent firm of consulting engineers. For a year and a half Mr. Huckins was assistant superintendent of the American Spiral Pipe Company of Chicago.

In 1903 he entered the College of Mechanical Engineering at Champaign, and had two years of technical training. In 1905 he took the position of superintendent of the Abendroth & Root Manufacturing Company of Newburgh, New York. He was there about three and a half years and then removed to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where for a short time he was connected with the Standard Asphalt and Rubber Company.

Returning to Chicago in 1909, Mr. Huckins became associated with J. W. Stipes in the Sheldon Brick Company. For several years he was connected with that corporation, and in 1912 he bought the Sheldon Brick Company's plant at Urbana. This is one of the largest plants for the manufacture of clay products in this section. It has a capacity of forty thousand bricks a day or ten million a year. The company manufactures bricks of every type and size and for every purpose and a large line of other clay products. Mr. Huckins is vice president for Illinois of the National Brick Association and is secretary of the Illinois Clay Manufacturers Association. He is an ex-president of the Chamber of Commerce of Champaign. Mr. Huckins is a Republican, a member of the Masonic Order, and of the Rotary Club.

He was married November 7, 1906, to Miss Clara Gere, a native of Champaign. They have two daughters and a son: Helen, born March 18, 1911; Clara Beth, born February 21, 1915, and Alvin E. Huckins, Jr., born June 11, 1917. Mrs. Huckins is a daughter of the late George W. and Mary H. Gere, her mother still living in Champaign. George W. Gere was a prominent attorney at Champaign, and represented a number of large corporations, including the Illinois Central Railway, the Big Four Railway Company, the Illinois Traction System, and some years ago was candidate for governor of Illinois on the prohibition ticket. Mrs. Huckins is the only surviving child of her parents, her sister Eva having died a number of years ago.

Mark Carley was one of the founders of the city of Champaign. His name appears again and again in connection with the early annals of that city and of Champaign County, and always he appears as a man of force, of almost unlimited enterprise and of a public spirit that was in keeping with his many successes in private life. He knew much of the world by experience and had come to Champaign County soon after returning from an excursion to California during the great gold excitement on the Pacific Coast. His own life was to a large degree the expression of those forces accumulated and inherited by him from a notable American ancestry.

The Carleys were staunch and patriotic New Englanders. Mark Carley was born at Hancock in Hillsboro County, New Hampshire, August 24, 1799. He was a son of Elijah and Agnes (Graham) Carley and a grandson of Joseph and Sarah (Washburn) Carley. He was thus related to the Washburns whose names appear frequently in New England history, and from the same family came the Washburns who were conspicuous in the early days of Illinois. The Carleys were of Scotch-Irish ancestry. They settled in America long before the Revolution, and one of the cherished possessions of the descendants is a discharge paper signed by George Washington and granting release from the Continental Army to Jonathan Carley,

an uncle of the late Mark Carley. By kinship and social ties the Carleys were closely connected with many of the leading families of the New England states and also in the states of New York, Kentucky, Ohio and Illinois. Among such families were the Stevensons of Vermont, prominent in Colonial and Revolutionary history, the Harrimans, the Fisks, the Lawsons and the Kendalls. There were also the Goulds and Boutons of Chicago. Louise Carley Lawson, a sister of Mark Carley, acquired marked distinction as an artist in her generation. She was the wife of Professor L. M. Lawson, dean of the Medical College of Ohio and later of the Medical College of Lexington, Kentucky.

When Mark Carley was eleven years of age his parents removed from New Hampshire to Vermont. He grew up in the hills of that State and his education was confined to the practical branches of learning taught in the public schools and to such experience as he could acquire. As a youth he learned the trade of carpenter and millwright. At the age of twenty, leaving home, he spent a brief time in the province of New Brunswick and then set sail for New Orleans. The vessel carrying him was wrecked and the passengers landed at Savannah, Georgia. From there he crossed to Havana, Cuba, and finally arrived at New Orleans April 24, 1820. In Louisiana Mark Carley had an extensive experience building mills and cotton gins. While there he learned to speak fluently the language of the French Creoles.

In 1830, during one of his visits to the North, he married Abigail Wetherbee Stevens. In 1837 Mark Carley established his home in Clermont County, along the Ohio River, in southern Ohio. There he acquired large interests as a land holder, farmed them, and also engaged in boating on the Ohio River.

In 1850 Mark Carley left his property interests in southern Ohio and crossed the plains to the gold fields of California. Here his qualities of leadership made him a marked man among the fearless and democratic element of that State. He was chosen judge of the Minors' Court and was prominent in regulating public affairs in the district where his own operations were.

In 1853 Mark Carley came to Champaign County and located at Urbana. He erected the first dwelling house in the city of Champaign, and also constructed the first grain warehouse there. He introduced the first steam engine for the operation of his elevator. A number of other business enterprises and buildings were the direct result of his enterprise and capital, and several buildings are still standing in Champaign as a monument to this pioneer. Some years later Mark Carley built the fine old homestead at 134 West Church Street, which is now occupied by his granddaughter, Martha Kincaid Weston.

Mark Carley was an ardent Whig and admirer of Henry Clay. Among the heirlooms left by him is an ivory snuff-box which was presented to him by the great Kentucky statesman. He naturally gravitated into the Republican party when that was formed, and the most distinguished visitor who ever graced the old homestead at 134 West Church Street was Abraham Lincoln.

Mark Carley lived vigorously throughout a long lifetime. He was nearly eighty-nine years of age when he passed away at his home in Champaign, February 3, 1888. His wife died November 12, 1871. They were the parents of three children: Mrs. Mary A. Carley Kincaid; Mrs. Isotta Carley Mahan of Kenwood, Chicago, but now a resident of Los Angeles; and Graham Carley, who was an important capitalist and man of affairs and died in Hyde Park, Chicago, Illinois, in 1893.

Mary A. Carley, oldest child of the late Mark Carley, was born in Cler-

mont County, Ohio, and was married in Ohio in August, 1851, to the late Dr. Samuel W. Kincaid. Dr. Kincaid was born at West Union, in Adams County, Ohio, July 15, 1823, a son of Judge John Kincaid. His brother, Hon. W. P. Kincaid, for several years represented his Ohio district in Congress. The Kincaid family is descended from the Lairds of Kincaid of Stirlingshire, Scotland. The first Kincaid in America was Captain John Kincaid, who located in Virginia in 1707. He was a native of the north of Ireland, while his wife, Margaret Lockhart, was born in Scotland. Their son, Captain James Kincaid, was a gallant Revolutionary soldier and married a niece of James Wilson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Dr. S. W. Kincaid was liberally educated in the schools of Cincinnati, and entering the Medical College of Ohio was graduated M. D. with the class of 1853. Soon afterward he removed to Ohio and began practice at Tolono in Champaign County. In 1855 he removed to Champaign, then known as West Urbana, and was a prominent figure in professional circles for a number of years. He finally retired from practice and returned to his old boyhood home in Ohio, where he died. Mrs. Kincaid died in Champaign, February 3, 1907. She was the mother of four children: Annie, Carley and Frank, all deceased; and Martha K.

Martha Kincaid is the widow of Charles Weston, who graduated from the University of Illinois as president of his class of 1876 and subsequently was elected auditor of the State of Nebraska. Mrs. Weston, as already mentioned, occupies the old homestead of her grandfather and has many of the family heirlooms connected with the Carley lineage. She is a cultured woman and has long been prominent in musical affairs in Champaign. She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and of the Colonial Dames, and is eligible to the Mayflower Society as well. Mrs. Weston's mother was also a member of the Colonial Dames.

Solomon Mercer, whose recent death was deplored by a host of friends, had been identified with Champaign County from the period of early youth, and had borne the heat and burden of the day during his early efforts at establishing a home and improving a farm. His later years were years of comfort and the growing esteem of his friends.

Mr. Mercer was born in Monroe County, Ohio, at Millwood, a son of Aaron and Mary (Cecil) Mercer. His father was a native of Virginia and his mother of Ohio. The father left Virginia in early youth, settling in Ohio, and there he married and his children were born, consisting of five sons and three daughters. Solomon Mercer received his first instruction in the public schools of Monroe and Logan counties, Ohio. He was still a child when his parents came to Illinois, and after two years in Vermilion County located in Champaign County, where the children continued their education at the Blue Grass school. Aaron Mercer was a very industrious man and worked hard and faithfully to provide for his family. By occupation he was a carpenter, built a large number of the early homes in Champaign County, and was very ingenious in the use of tools, being able to make all manner of furniture and also burial caskets. In a new country his services were in great demand and were much appreciated. He and his wife lived in Champaign County until they died.

When Solomon Mercer was twenty-five years of age he married Miss Mary Wyman. She was born in Ohio but when a girl came to Illinois with her parents, and grew up and was educated in Vermilion County. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Mercer took a rented farm in Kerr Township, and were renters for four years. They possessed industry and thrift, and besides supplying the simple needs and comforts of the home they were able to accumulate something for the future. They possessed that spirit which

has been described by the poet as "that delightful discontent which the hope of better things inspires within us." Thus at the end of four years they felt justified in buying 320 acres of land at a price of less than $40 an acre. They did not pay for the entire tract at once, but every year saw them a little further along the road to independence and in time they had the farm clear and improvements that enhanced its value several fold.

Into their home came four children: William L.; Allie, who died at the age of six years; Charles and Addie. Mr. and Mrs. Mercer from the first made ample provision to furnish these children with an education and with means of advancement to honorable position in the world. The children first attended the Sugar Grove school and afterwards finished the course of the Paxton High School. Addie graduated with honors from that school and all three children have made a creditable record. William is now a traveling salesman for the iron works at Galion, Ohio. His natural good nature makes him popular in the work and he travels all over the United States. He married Fannie Martin, and they have one daughter, Dorothy. Charles Mercer married Jessie Molsbury and they live in Clark County, Ohio. He is the proprietor of an elevator. Their four children are named Chester, Opal, Marion and Harold. Addie Mercer is the wife of J. W. McCall of Gibson City, Illinois, where Mr. McCall is superintendent of the canning factory.

Mr. Mercer, as was his wife, was an active member and liberal supporter of the Congregational Church at Paxton. On October 2, 1916, the death angel visited the home and took away the good wife and mother, after they had walked side by side along life's road for fifty-four years, sharing each other's joys and sorrows, and on the first anniversary, October 2, 1917, Mr. Mercer died. Mrs. Mercer was a good wife, a kind and loving mother and a splendid neighbor. Her funeral service was conducted by Rev. Mr. Webster, minister of the Congregational Church at Paxton, and a large concourse of friends and relatives gathered to pay their last tribute of respect. After the death of his wife Mr. Mercer made his home with his sister, Martha Morain of Penfield, widow of Isaac Morain. Mr. and Mrs. Morain were married in Champaign County and he died here in 1861.

Mr. Mercer had always been distinguished by public spirit and his fellow citizens showed their confidence in his judgment by electing him as township supervisor. He was an ardent prohibitionist and the rapid progress of that movement in recent years made him hope to see prohibition extended over the entire United States, if not the world. Mr. Mercer was one of the loyal friends and admirers of the late Judge Cunningham, who was so helpfully associated with the compilation of this work until his death.

Arthur C. Singbusch, now city electrician of Champaign, is a man of thorough technical training and wide experience in his profession, and his proficiency is due to a combination of practical work in various industries and to the advantages afforded by the great technical schools of his native city.

Mr. Singbusch was born in Champaign October 13, 1882, a son of August C. and Anna (Wascher) Singbusch. His parents were both born in Germany, the father coming to America when about ten years of age. For twenty-five years August C. Singbusch was in the grocery business at Champaign, though with various other interests on the side, and now except for occasionally writing some insurance he is practically retired. He and his wife had only two children, Arthur C. and Elsa.

Arthur C. Singbusch graduated from the grade schools of Champaign and for two and a half years was a student in the engineering college department of the University of Illinois. His first business experience was

with the firm of Root & Vandervoort, manufacturers of gas engines at Moline, Illinois. After two years with that company he returned to Champaign for the purpose of bettering the technical side of his training and took a short course in the steam engineering department of the University. He was next employed by the manufacturing company of Curtis & Singbusch, in which his father was a partner. This firm conducted a jobbing shop for the manufacture of auto supplies and foundry castings. Mr. Singbusch remained with them a year and once more returned to the University, where for about three years he was an employe in the electrical engineering department.

About that time the Singbusch family moved to Enid, Oklahoma, and Arthur was in the electrical business in that city for four years. Returning to Champaign, he spent four years with Caldwell & Company, electrical contractors, and in 1915 was called from this work to the office of city electrician, to which he was appointed by Mayor Swigart. He had every qualification for the office and has thoroughly justified the expectations entertained of him when he entered upon his duties. In politics Mr. Singbusch is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge and of the Congregational Church. On April 27, 1910, he married Miss Hazel Scott, of Enid, Oklahoma. They were married at Enid, and are the parents of three children, Carl, Dorothy and Elsa Louise.

Joseph Clinton Wampler Pittman. The passage of sixty years or more has removed from Champaign County the greater number of its earliest pioneers, although through worthy descendants their names are preserved and their memories perpetuated. It was sixty-one years ago, in 1856, that Joseph C. W. Pittman was brought into this section of Illinois, being then a child of seven years. In his home community of Mahomet Mr. Pittman is known as a man of most substantial resources and of that influence that springs from strong character and worthy motives. His early life was one of toil and the meeting of adverse conditions presented by a comparatively new country and his success is due to that good fortune which is a result of industry and honorable activities.

Mr. Pittman was born in Butler County, Ohio, February 24, 1849, the eighth in a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters, whose parents were George H. and Eliza (Bake) Pittman. Only three of these children are still living, Mary, Joseph C. and Jacob D. Mary, who was well educated and taught school in Mahomet Township three years, is now living at Rockwell City, Iowa, widow of J. L. Stearns. Jacob D., a retired agriculturist at Mahomet, married Miss Mary Abbott.

George H. Pittman was born in New Jersey, but was taken when a child by his parents to Ohio, where he grew up, was educated in the common schools, and lived in the Buckeye State until after his marriage. All his children were born in Ohio and on moving to Champaign County he continued his career as a renter, and by the hardest kind of work he provided for his family and always performed to the best of his ability the duties laid upon him as a citizen and neighbor. He was an old-line Whig and from that became a Republican, and he and his wife were very active in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He served on its official board. His death occurred in Mahomet about 1895 and his remains now rest in Riverside Cemetery, where an appropriate monument stands to mark the spot. His wife was born near Middletown, Ohio, was reared and educated there and died about 1897. She was a fine type of courageous pioneer woman and gave the best of her life to the service of her home and children. The name Pittman is of English stock.

Joseph C. W. Pittman secured his first educational advantages in Mahomet Township. His privileges were somewhat limited and most of

his training was the result of experience and observation. At the age of twenty-one he started out to make his own way in the world, without any cash capital and with nothing to rely upon except a disposition for honesty and industry. For six years he rented and farmed and then accepted an opportunity to buy 107 acres in the northwest part of the township. He went in debt for the greater part of the purchase price and finally traded the land for another farm, and that, too, he sold. He then bought 280 acres in Mahomet Township, and on this he assumed a debt of $5,000. He carried these obligations and disposed of them as rapidly as possible and in the course of time his substantial success was assured. Many improvements have been made on his farm, including a new residence, four different barns, substantial fences and other improvements. About 1907 he bought eighty acres more and added a forty-acre tract in 1912. His homestead in Mahomet Township now includes 340 acres of the rich and fertile soil of that region. Besides this he has 240 acres in Calhoun County, Iowa, and is interested as a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Mahomet and in the Champaign County Fair Association.

On December 12, 1876, the Centennial year, Mr. Pittman married Miss Mary E. Boyer. Their marriage was blessed with the birth of four children, three sons and one daughter, and all of them were carefully trained and educated both at home and in school.

Claude E., the oldest, was educated in the Mahomet High School and spent two years in the Illinois State University. For the past six years he has been a salesman of agricultural implements for the John Deere Company, with home and headquarters at Indianapolis. He married Miss Clara Prather, who received her education at Anderson, Indiana, and is a daughter of Calvin W. and Arabella (Summers) Prather. Their home is now brightened by the presence of one daughter, Louise. Claude Pittman is a Republican, a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and his wife is a Presbyterian.

Mabel G., the only daughter, is the wife of Archie Herriott, a practical agriculturist in Mahomet Township. Their two children are named Harold and Frank. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Mahomet.

Elmer D., the second son, supplemented his training in the common schools by a two years' agricultural course at the state university and is now applying his knowledge and experience as a farmer in Mahomet Township. He is a member of the Masonic order at Mahomet and he and his wife are active Methodists. He married Miss Ruth Bishop, and their son has been given the name J. C. W., Jr.

Cecil, the youngest child, is a graduate of the Champaign High School and is now successfully devoting himself to farming in Mahomet Township. He married Miss Blanche Bell and their two children are Viola and Catherine E. They have membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mrs. Pittman, the mother of these children, was born in Champaign County, December 25, 1850, a daughter of George and Mary E. Boyer. Her parents died in 1872 and 1874 respectively. Mrs. Pittman was a graduate of the Mahomet High School and also of the Illinois Woman's College at Jacksonville. For nearly forty years she was a loyal wife, a devoted home maker, and expressed her many kindly qualities and good deeds in her community and among her friends. Her death on January 25, 1915, was a great loss not only to the family but to the entire community.

Mr. Pittman has been a loyal Republican since casting his first presidential vote for General Grant forty-five years ago. At different times he has served as a delegate to county conventions and has filled many places of honor and responsibility. For nine years he was road commissioner, was township supervisor six years, has been one of the men in his

section of Champaign County to advocate consistently and unselfishly the cause of good roads, and has also accepted every opportunity to advance the interests of the local schools. He is now and has been for four years school treasurer of Mahomet Township. Mr. Pittman is also one of the prominent Methodists of his section of the county, was a member of the building committee when the present Methodist Church at Mahomet was built, is a member of the church official board and for over twenty-one years has been superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Sunday school and is yet superintendent. For four years his brother DuBois was superintendent of this same Sunday school. He gave up that position when he went to the war as a Union soldier and died from the effects of a wound received in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain during the Atlanta campaign.

Those movements which have been undertaken for the advancement of his home county have always found Mr. Pittman a capable and effective co-operator. His is a name everywhere spoken with respect and due loyalty for a man whose life has been so consistently honest and honorable. In 1917 Mr. Pittman made a trip back to his old home in Ohio, and after an absence of sixty-one years revisited the old scenes and landmarks of his early childhood and of his parents' early associations. One of the things that interested him most was the towpath of the old canal that went and his mother of Ohio. The father left Virginia in early youth, settling standing and people are living in it at the present time.

Evarts Boutell Greene has been Professor of History in the University of Illinois since 1897, and from 1906 to 1913 was dean of the College of Literature and Arts. He has been connected with the State University twenty-three years, is well known as an historical author and editor, and is a member of an old American family that has furnished many useful men and women to the arts and professions.

He was born in Kobe, Japan, July 8, 1870, a son of Daniel Crosby and Mary Jane (Forbes) Greene. The late Daniel Crosby Greene, who died September 15, 1913, was one of the pioneer American missionaries in Japan and was long considered an authority on Japanese life and affairs. He was born at Roxbury, Boston, February 11, 1843, and was a member of a Massachusetts Colonial family. His parents were Rev. David and Mary (Evarts) Greene. A brother of D. Crosby Greene is Roger Sherman Greene, who made a brilliant record as a soldier in the Civil War and in 1870 was appointed a justice of the Supreme Court of Washington Territory and has practiced law and taken a prominent part in public affairs in Seattle for the past forty years. D. Crosby Greene was graduated from Dartmouth College in 1864. In 1862 he served as a private in the Seventh Squadron of Rhode Island Cavalry. In 1869 he entered upon his work as a missionary in Japan and his home and activities were in that country the rest of his active life. He was president of the Asiatic Society of Japan in 1896 and 1901-02, and was lecturer on Japan in Harvard University in 1908-09. He was author of the Chinese New Testament, prepared for Japanese readers, 1878; Course of Study for Students of the Japanese Language, 1903; was joint translator of the Japanese New Testament; revised and brought up to date Ritter's History of Protestant Missions in Japan, 1898; and was editor of the Christian Movement in its Relation to the New Life in Japan. He was married to Mary Jane Forbes in 1869. Besides Evarts Boutell Greene two other sons have gained distinction, Jerome Davis and Roger Sherman Greene. Jerome Davis Greene was secretary of the Rockefeller Foundation 1913-16, and is also a member of the International Health Commission of the General Education Board, the Board of Overseers of Harvard University. Roger

Sherman Greene was in the consular service in South America, Japan and Russia, subsequently consul general at Hankow, China, and since 1914 has been resident director in China of the China Medical Board for the Rockefeller Foundation.

Evarts Boutell Greene was a student in Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, from 1885 to 1888, and graduated from Harvard University in 1890, A. M. in 1891, and with the Doctor of Philosophy degree in 1893.

From 1890 to 1893 he was assistant in history at Harvard and during 1893-94 was Harris Traveling Fellow of Harvard University and a student in the University of Berlin. In 1894 he became assistant professor of history in the University of Illinois, was associate professor during 1895-97, and since 1894 has been head of the history department. Mr. Greene has been president of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library since 1910. In 1913 he was appointed a member of the Illinois State Centennial Commission, was a member of the Centennial Building Commission which in 1916 purchased the site of the Centennial Building, and as chairman of the publication committee of the Illinois Centennial Commission has had general supervision of its historical publications. Since 1913 he has been secretary of the Council of the American Historical Association, and was a member of the Council from 1908 to 1911. He is corresponding member of the Chicago and Minnesota Historical Societies and of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts and member (1917) of the National Board for Historical Service, Washington.

Mr. Greene as an author has the following works to his credit: The Provincial Governor in the English Colonies of North America, 1898; The Government of Illinois, 1904; Provincial America, 1905; was joint author with C. W. Alvord of The Governors' Letter Book, 1818-1834, and with C. M. Thompson of the Governors' Letter Book, 1840-53; American Interest in Popular Government Abroad, 1917. His contributions have also frequently appeared in historical and educational periodicals.

Rollo Stewart Bassett is a lumberman of wide and thorough experience in both the manufacturing and business ends of the industry, and for the past ten years has been district manager of the Alexander Lumber Company, with headquarters at Champaign.

Mr. Bassett was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, March 9, 1872, a son of Charles F. and Bertha (Stewart) Bassett. His father was born in Cincinnati and his mother in Newport, Kentucky. His father is an old time lumberman, is an honored veteran of the Civil War, having served three years in the armies of Burnside, and is still living at Cincinnati, being connected with the National Flag Company of that city. His wife died at the age of forty-two. There were four children: Rollo S.; Edna, deceased; Newton, of El Paso, Texas; and Ferris, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Rollo S. Bassett attended local schools at Cincinnati, and at the age of sixteen began working with his father in the lumber business. Later he attended high school and also the Art and Mechanical Institute of Cincinnati, where he perfected himself in mechanical designing and illustrating. Mr. Bassett at the age of twenty-two went to Chicago and was connected with a wholesale milling concern in that city until 1908. In that year he came to Champaign as his headquarters, and as district manager for the Alexander Lumber Company his territory covers Rantoul, Villa Grove, Penfield, Royal, Mansfield, Sidell, Champaign and Decatur.

Mr. Bassett was married September 13, 1893, to Miss Ethel Sibley Benham, of Cincinnati. Their two children are Stewart Sibley and Mar-

garet Benham. Mr. Bassett is an accomplished musician, and while in Chicago he served as organist for the First Congregational Church. He is now deacon in the First Congregational Church of Champaign. Mr. Bassett is a Knight Templar Mason and in politics is a Republican.

J. E. Nye. By reason of long residence in Champaign County, for a period of sixty years, by the ability shown in varied undertakings and by the honesty and high character of its members the Nye family is one of the best known in the county and the name is everywhere spoken with respect and esteem which are their due.

Of this family is J. E. Nye, who came to Champaign County when a boy of two years of age and is now able to take life somewhat at leisure in one of the fine country homes south of the village of St. Joseph.

He was born in Gallia County, Ohio, April 7, 1855, a son of Arius and Rebecca (Gardner) Nye. Both parents were natives of Ohio and the Nye ancestry goes back to the New England states. The grandfather, Nial Nye, served as a colonel in the War of 1812. Arius Nye brought his family to Illinois in 1857, arriving in Champaign County in the month of September. He had three children, J. E., Louis E., now deceased, and Mary E., Mrs. S. N. Prather of Deland, Florida. These children were educated in the Allen school of Champaign County.

J. E. Nye grew up in this locality and was well trained to habits of industry in addition to the lessons he learned from school books. On December 9, 1879, at the age of twenty-four, he married Miss Ella E. Ford, who was born in Union County, Ohio, youngest daughter of William J. and Catherine (Birely) Ford. The Ford family came to Illinois in September, 1860, first settling on a farm near Mansfield in Piatt County, but in the fall of 1863 moving to Urbana. There were three children in the Ford family, Sarah E., Louis E. and Ella E. They received their early educational advantages in the Marriott school north of Urbana and also at the Allen school, in which vicinity Mr. Ford had bought a farm.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Nye they rented a farm in Somer Township during the spring of 1880 and having the equipment of industry and energy they worked to such good advantage that year that they were then able to buy forty acres of land for their own. They paid $30 an acre, subsequently adding another forty acres. They had confidence that their labors would be rewarded and were not afraid to undertake responsibilities beyond their immediate resources. Later they sold their first farm at a good profit and bought a place in section 4, Somer Township, two miles south of Thomasboro.

Mr. and Mrs. Nye had four children, one son and three daughters. The son and the daughter Nettie E. died in infancy. The other two daughters are Kate and Maude. They were well educated in the local district schools, the high school at Thomasboro and the Urbana High School. Kate finished a course in Brown's Business College. She is now the wife of Albert Stonestreet, a prosperous farmer in Kerr Township. Mr. and Mrs. Stonestreet have one child, Leslie, born June 24, 1908. He is now attending the public schools at Penfield, and is taking his education very seriously and is showing much proficiency in his studies. He rides back and forth from home to school on his black and white pony, Prince, which is the gift to him from his Grandfather Nye. This pony is the cherished companion of the boy and it performs its part well like a faithful friend in carrying its young master back and forth to school. The daughter Maude married Walter C. Wood, a practical farmer who lives on part of Mr. Nye's estate. Mr. and Mrs. Wood have two sons, Paul and Maurice, the former born May 20, 1913, and the latter April 13, 1915, both fine boys and great favorites of their grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Nye lived at Thomasboro twelve years, then at Urbana five years, having in the meantime sold their Thomasboro property, and they then bought their present farm of 240 acres in sections 27 and 28 of St. Joseph Township. Mr. Nye for years has been successfully engaged in the raising of Poland China hogs and Plymouth Rock poultry, and handles only thoroughbred stock. His farm is known as the Timber View Farm and in point of improvements and general value it ranks as one of the very best anywhere in Champaign County.

Mr. Nye is a stalwart Republican, having cast his first vote for Hayes in 1876. He is a public spirited citizen, served as justice of the peace while living at Thomasboro and has always been willing to take his place in the ranks and fight for any cause that reflected the welfare of the community.

David B. Wright was born in Millerstown, Pennsylvania, March 26, 1867, a son of John B. and Elmira (Cox) Wright, both of whom are natives of Pennsylvania. His father, who died in Missouri, enlisted in the Forty-second Pennsylvania Infantry and served until the battle of Gettysburg. He and his wife had five children: William I., deceased; James A. of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; David B.; Minerva, widow of John L. McKinsie of Champaign; and John B., deceased.

When David B. Wright was seven years of age he was sent to a soldiers' orphans' home in Pennsylvania, where he remained until he was sixteen. After that he continued as a teacher in the orphans' home for one year. While there, in addition to literary studies, he had learned the marble cutting trade and he worked at it for three years at Newport, Pennsylvania, and subsequently was in business at another town in that state.

In 1889 Mr. Wright came out to Champaign County and located at Mahomet. For about four years he was employed on farms, and then capitalized his experience and invested his modest means in a place of 100 acres in section 17 of Champaign Township. That farm has since been the object of his constant endeavors at improvements and he has found himself well situated in later years, commanding the resources of a good farm and having every comfort that one could desire.

On February 18, 1892, Mr. Wright married Tillie Jahr, who was born at Mahomet in Champaign County. They have two children: Almeda Zay, who is now attending the Illinois Woman's College at Jacksonville, and Helen Esther, a high school girl.

Politically Mr. Wright has been a Republican since casting his first vote. He is now assistant supervisor of highways. He is also deputy assessor and has served as president of the board of school trustees and as district commissioner of ditches. In Masonry he is district inspector of the Royal Arch Masons and was high priest of the Champaign chapter. The badge of jewels presented to him as high priest is an article he prizes highly.

Oliver B. Dobbins. As a lawyer Oliver B. Dobbins has gained some of the better distinctions and successes of the profession. He has been in practice in the profession in Champaign County twenty-three years. His ability is sought in cases of more than ordinary importance. During his career Mr. Dobbins has appeared in more than a hundred cases in the Supreme and Appellate Courts of the state. Of such cases he has succeeded in winning at a ratio of three out of four, and at one time he secured favorable decisions in twelve successive appeals. An individual distinction of which any lawyer might be proud is that he procured the largest judgment ever rendered in Champaign County in an action for

fraud—sixty thousand dollars. Mr. Dobbins has made a specialty of organizing and representing drainage districts, having organized and appeared as attorney for fifty such districts. His work in that line now covers a dozen counties.

As a public leader Mr. Dobbins' name is synonymous with high ideals and the better element of local citizenship. In national politics he has always been a Democrat, and has also been closely identified with anti-saloon work. In 1896 as county chairman of the Democratic party he had the honor of piloting the party to its first county victory in fifty years.

From 1913 to 1915 Mr. Dobbins was mayor of Champaign. That administration will have a notable place in a subsequent survey of the city's history. A body of business men interested in the welfare of Champaign obtained a petition signed by six hundred persons to induce Mr. Dobbins to accept the nomination as leader of an independent movement to clean out the dives and joints with which the city was infested. A voluntary subscription of $800 was pledged for the campaign. Mr. Dobbins was elected by an overwhelming vote, exceeding that of the regular Republican and Democratic candidates combined. People did not have to wait long to find out what he would do in office. His was a truly reform administration. It was marked by a continuous and unrelenting fight to make the city clean. During that fight one of his policemen was murdered and the chief of police was shot. His administration was not confined entirely to the moral benefit and uplift. There also ensued an immense amount of public improvement, particularly noticeable in police and fire departments and in street improvements. Mr. Dobbins' name appears as mayor on either the ordinances or warrants for pavements laid on sixteen streets of the city.

Oliver B. Dobbins was born at Gallatin, Tennessee, December 6, 1870, and is of old Southern and Revolutionary stock. His great-grandfather Dobbins fought with the Carolina Rangers under the leadership of Marion in the Revolutionary War. His grandfather, Henry Dobbins, was born at Gallatin, Tennessee, in 1798, was a planter in that state, and died there in November, 1870. He was a whig and a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Foster Dobbins, father of the Champaign lawyer, was born at Gallatin, Tennessee, May 19, 1838, grew up there, and served one year in the Confederate army during the war. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Murfreesboro, was confined for a short time at Nashville, and on being paroled came North and taught school at Toronto until the close of hostilities. In February, 1871, he settled with his family at Bushnell in McDonough County, Illinois, in 1875 removed to Gibson City in Ford County, and 1876 to a farm in East Bend Township of Champaign County. He was actively engaged in farming there until 1899, when he removed to Urbana, where his death occurred in April, 1908. In politics he was a Whig until the war and after that a Democrat. His religious affiliation was with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Foster Dobbins married Margaret Beard, who was born at Gallatin, Tennessee, December 8, 1844, came to Illinois in 1871 and died in Champaign County, October 30, 1881, when her son Oliver B. was ten years of age. She was a daughter of Henry and Hannah (Sloan) Beard. Foster Dobbins and wife were married at Nashville, Tennessee, in 1866, and became the parents of seven children, five of whom are still living.

Oliver B. Dobbins had three uncles, brothers of his mother, and one paternal uncle, who were killed during the Civil War.

Mr. Dobbins was six years of age when the family removed to Champaign County. He attended the common schools, and in 1888-89 was a

student in the Illinois State Normal University at Normal. Four years of his early career were spent as a teacher in Champaign and Ford counties. From 1892 to 1894 he attended the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where he was graduated in the law course in June, 1894, and on his degree of LL. B. was admitted to practice. On the 24th of June in the same year he opened his office at Urbana with Spencer M. White, under the firm name of White & Dobbins. After seven years this firm was dissolved and Mr. Dobbins removed to Champaign, where in 1891 he formed a partnership with J. L. Ray as Ray & Dobbins. Mr. Ray retired on account of ill health in 1914 and Mr. Dobbins has since practiced with his brother D. C. Dobbins, under the firm name of Dobbins & Dobbins.

Mr. Dobbins is a member of the Presbyterian Church, belongs to the Champaign County Country Club and the Champaign Club, and is a Mason and Elk. He was married December 15, 1897, to Miss Edith Leonard, who was born at Elliot, Illinois, July 13, 1874. They have three children: Ray F. Dobbins, born November 26, 1901, and a junior in the Champaign High School; Dorothy, a freshman in the same school, born September 4, 1903; and Leonard, born September 26, 1907, attending the grade schools.

H. M. Morris has long been a resident of Rantoul and is proprietor of a beautiful home and a large greenhouse at the north end of the village. Mr. Morris has a creditable record as an old soldier of the Union, though he was a very young man when the war was in progress. His life has been a busy one and he and Mrs. Morris have well earned the esteem and the comforts which they now enjoy.

He was born in Ohio, a son of Edwin and Mary (Benson) Morris, both natives of Ohio. The Morris ancestors were pioneers in Ohio from the State of Connecticut. H. M. Morris was seven years of age when his mother died and his father afterwards married again and in 1864 brought his family to Illinois. H. M. Morris secured his early education in the public schools of Ohio and subsequently attended school in Champaign County.

While living in Ohio his ardent patriotism shone forth, and though he was much younger than the accepted age at which enlistments were taken he managed to get into the army and went to the front. He was finally taken prisoner and paroled. He was eighteen years of age when his father came to Illinois and located on a farm near Rantoul. Still the war was in progress and the nation's trials and difficulties were not yet ended. Mr. Morris then accepted another call to service, this time in a three months' regiment. He went out in February, 1865, for a second term of duty and marched away to the music of the fife and drum and was on duty in Tennessee and Kentucky until the war came to a close.

In 1868 Mr. Morris laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Miss Harriet Myers. Mrs. Morris was born at Dansville in Livingston County, New York, daughter of Peter and Theresa (Gardner) Myers. In 1856 the Myers family came to Illinois. The family consisted of two sons and two daughters, Horatio, Charles, Helen and Harriet. Horatio Myers was one of the ardent young patriotic citizens of Champaign County, and in the fall of 1860 he was employed in the Gazette office at Champaign and had enrolled as a member of the "Wide Awakes" organization for the defense of the Union and as factors in the campaign in which Mr. Lincoln was elected for the presidency. While attending a mass meeting at Middletown (now Mahomet) a great flag pole was raised and when it fell he was struck down and killed, and thus the candle of life of a brave and enthusiastic young citizen was extinguished. The other son of Mr. Myers, Charles, died of brain fever at the age of sixteen. Peter Myers

was a prominent and influential man in Champaign County, especially before and during the war. He was a stanch abolitionist and used his influence to keep up and maintain Union sentiments. Mrs. Morris' sister Helen married George Condit, and her death occurred about ten years ago.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Morris located at Rantoul, where he was employed by his father-in-law, Peter Myers, in the lumber and grain business. The young people had the qualities of thrift and enterprise and as rapidly as possible assembled about themselves the things which have given them independence, comfort and opportunity to serve others and the community as well as themselves. Mr. Morris was for seven years postmaster of Rantoul.

Some years ago he secured his present home on Ohio Street on the north side of the village, and there erected the commodious greenhouses by which his enterprise is chiefly known throughout his large community. He raises flowers and fruits and for twenty years has conducted a very successful business in that line. His home is a most attractive place, combining the facilities of country and town. In their dooryard stand some large shade trees, rare shrubs and flowers.

To Mr. and Mrs. Morris were born seven children, Charles, Roy, Mabel, Keith, Helen and two daughters, Fern and Rose, who died early. The children that grew up were educated in the Rantoul High School, Charles, Keith and Helen graduating. Charles, Mabel and Keith were successful teachers in Champaign County and Charles taught in several other counties of the state. Mabel became a student at Normal, Illinois, and Roy was for a time in Oberlin College in Ohio. Charles Morris married Mary Lindsey and now lives at Kilbourn, Wisconsin. Their three children are named Claud, Keith and Wendland. The son Claud is married and has three children, great-grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Morris, they are named Robert, Geraldine and Mary.

Roy Morris is an ice cream manufacturer at Havana, Illinois. He married Miss Eleanor Ray of Arcola.

Mabel Morris is the wife of Prof. H. P. Little, a graduate of the University of Illinois and former superintendent of schools at Momence. Professor Little died, leaving his widow and six children. These children are Elizabeth, Morris, Harriet, Harold, Edith and Florence. Harriet is deceased, dying before her father. The oldest, Elizabeth, is the wife of Samuel Yates and has a son, Philip.

Keith Morris is employed by the Short Line Railroad and lives at Rantoul. He married Frances Lindsey and has two sons, Lindsey and Richard.

Helen Morris married Stafford Miller, a railway conductor living in Chicago. Their four children are Robert, Jeannette, Merritt and Stafford, Jr.

Mr. Morris has always been a member of the Congregational Church. Mrs. Morris is a very able and enthusiastic devotee of the Church of Christ Scientist of Boston, and has studied thoroughly and mastered the principles of that faith and practiced it most intelligently. She has won her children to the same views and her daughter and daughter-in-law are Science practitioners.

Politically Mr. and Mrs. Morris support the Republican party, but both have voted the Progressive ticket. Mrs. Morris believes in the progressiveness of the human family and it is her opinion that an age which has contributed so many splendid figures to science and industry should not be deficient in men of leadership in politics. Mr. and Mrs. Morris have always endeavored to fill their places as true and honorable citizens and their lives have consequently meant much in the community. Both now and in generations to come the descendants will always be proud of the record Mr.

Morris made as a boy soldier of the Union. His subsequent life has been equally creditable and honorable and the record in detail of Mr. and Mrs. Morris would show countless duties well performed and responsibilities faithfully and unselfishly borne by each.

CHARLES F. HAMILTON. The business life of Champaign owes much to the enterprise and energy of Charles F. Hamilton. He first became identified with the city in the lumber trade, and while he has numerous interests elsewhere he has always remained loyal to this city and it is not only to him a home but a place where his many well considered investments have contributed much to local improvement and benefit.

Mr. Hamilton is a native of Macoupin County, Illinois, where he was born November 26, 1864, a son of Julius and Virginia L. (VanDeventer) Hamilton. His parents were both natives of Virginia and of old Colonial stock. Julius Hamilton came out to Illinois in 1856, first locating in Cass County, and in 1861 establishing a home in Macoupin County. For many years he was one of the most extensive lumber dealers in the state, operating a string of yards throughout the state. In the fall of 1880 he removed to Champaign and from this city he subsequently directed his interests and he died here January 21, 1903. His wife is also deceased and they were the parents of three children: Mary, Lizzie and Charles F.

Charles F. Hamilton acquired a good education, but most of it out of school and by active contact with men and affairs. When only fifteen years of age he started work in his father's lumber yard. In a few years he was able to relieve his father of many of the heavier responsibilities of the business, and they continued actively associated until 1890. In that year Mr. Hamilton went to Watseka, Illinois, and for three years was in the lumber and coal business for himself. Returning to Champaign in 1893, he again became his father's associate as a lumberman. For ten years Mr. Hamilton was manager of the Walker Opera House at Champaign. In later years many of his investments have been made in California. Much of his time has been spent at Los Angeles, where both of his children live. In 1915-16 he erected a large three-story brick building at the corner of Park Avenue and Neil Street.

On July 3, 1884, he married Miss Mary Rugg, daughter of Daniel Rugg, who was one of the pioneers of Champaign County. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton have two children: Julius R., a successful young physician, practicing at Los Angeles; and Florence, wife of Samuel J. Tilden, of Los Angeles.

JOHN FIOCK. Behind every fine farm, home and industry of Champaign County lies a story of sacrifice and strenuous personal endeavor. It has required the labors of an army of men and women to make Champaign County what it is today, and this publication performs its greatest service when appropriate credit may be given to those men who effected some share in the transformation.

Doubtless one of the most interesting of these stories of personal struggle and effort is that of Mr. John Fiock of St. Joseph Township. Mr. Fiock was born in Morgan Township of Harrison County, Indiana, March 6, 1847, a son of Charles and Elizabeth (Helfrer) Fiock. His father was born in Germany and his mother in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in which city they married. Soon after their marriage they started to find a new home in the wilderness of southern Indiana. When they first located in Harrison County they had two neighbors, ten miles away. Their home was in the woods, and they had to clear the land for the planting of the first few acres. Charles Fiock put in and cultivated his first five-

acre crop of corn with a grubbing hoe. In the meantime another neighbor located near by, and together, with the use of such crude implements as they had, they fabricated a wheelbarrow. This was the only vehicle they had to transport their produce and bring back supplies from New Albany, a distance of eighteen miles. On the wheelbarrow they loaded a few chickens and a few dozen eggs, a rope was tied to the wheelbarrow, and one of them pulled and the other pushed until they arrived in town, covering a most rugged stretch of land on the way. Later these two men manufactured by the same toilsome process a wagon. Not a single strip of iron entered into the construction, even the wheels being of wood. Several of the neighbors combined to purchase an old gray mare, and this community asset was a possession of which all were very proud. This old horse drew the wagon back and forth to market. That is one instance of pioneer difficulty, and the entire story would take a long time to tell.

When John Fiock was three weeks old his mother died, and his father subsequently married again, and by both wives had seven children. When John was a school boy the nearest schoolhouse was three miles away and the term was usually three months a year. Thus he had limited opportunities to acquire a knowledge of books, but he made the best of them. On Sunday morning the entire family would attend religious services and the afternoons were spent at Sunday school. The boys and girls of the neighborhood up to the age of eighteen would come to the Sunday school barefooted. The girls wore "cornstalk shakers" and they took a good deal of pride in this simple home-made adornment. The Fiock family were devoted members of the German Evangelical Church, and all the children grew up in that faith.

From early boyhood John Fiock had to struggle with poverty and harsh conditions, and though he grew up in a community of wholesome and neighborly people, it was hard work that made existence possible. In 1875 he laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Miss Mary Denhart. She was also a native of Harrison County, Indiana, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Zimmerman) Denhart. Her father was a native of Iowa and her mother of Germany. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fiock located on forty acres in Blue River Township of Harrison County, having bought that land for $8 an acre. They lived there for ten years. The land was rough and the quality of soil very poor, and after ten years Mr. Fiock found that it was impossible to make a living there.

Seeking the better lands of Illinois, he came to Champaign County and got off the train at St. Joseph August 17, 1875. His entire stock of cash capital consisted of 35 cents. With him came his wife and five children. Fortunate indeed was he in making the acquaintance of Isaac T. Leas, who proved a Lord Bountiful to the Fiock family and vouched for Mr. Fiock when he bought his cook stove and other necessary furniture, and also gave him work and encouraged and helped him in many ways, manifesting the true spirit of brotherly love. For two years Mr. Fiock rented land of Mr. Leas. At the end of that time he began looking around for another place to rent. One day in St. Joseph he saw a bill announcing the sale of seventy-seven acres of unimproved land. Being very anxious to locate in a permanent home, he endeavored to get in touch with the owner of the land. The price fixed for this tract was $26 an acre. Mr. Fiock did not even have the money to buy a postage stamp so that he might write to the land owner at Champaign. In this emergency he gathered some eggs, took them to the village of St. Joseph, and tried to trade them in goods, reserving only 2 cents for a stamp. The merchant refused to give him the 2 cents, but for a man of his spirit and determination he refused to let such a small matter as a postage stamp

stand in his way. He then secured what he calls "a cross tie ticket" and walked the entire twelve miles to Champaign. The owner of the land when interviewed refused to rent, but said that he would make it possible for Mr. Fiock to buy the land. The next thing to do was to raise the first payment. Mr. Fiock returned home, sold a colt, and returning to Champaign made his first payment of $60. The agreement was that in thirty days he must pay $40 more or the contract would be void by afternoon of that day.

At 11 o'clock in the morning on the day the contract expired Mr. Fiock again returned to his old friend and benefactor, Isaac Leas. Finding Mr. Leas at home, he said: "Mr. Leas, if I do not raise $40 I lose my land today." Mr. Leas was building a fence. He was not a man of many words or of hesitation. "We have not much time," he said, and sticking his ax into a stump, went at once to the house, told his good wife to prepare lunch and directed Mr. Fiock to grease the buggy. The horse was soon hitched up and they drove at full speed to the office of Mr. Mahan, owner of the land. Already a family was waiting to buy the land and offered $100 more than Mr. Fiock was to pay. Mr. Leas told the agent to write out a check, this was was given to Mr. Fiock and he was directed to hand the paper into the window of the bank and he was soon in possession of the coveted $40. The payment was made and the contract secured. This was a red letter day in the history of the Fiock family, and it is not strange that for Mr. Leas' part in the transaction and for numerous other kindnesses they hold his memory in lasting gratitude.

The following day the Fiocks moved to their new possession and thus entered upon a new and better period of existence. In the Fiock family from the oldest to the youngest the name of Leas is spoken with a reverence that amounts to a benediction. Another incident of this family's early days in Champaign County is concerned with their first flock of chickens. It consisted of six hens and a rooster, and Mr. Fiock put in a long day of toil to pay for each fowl. Poultry raising has always been a feature of his farm industry and he and his wife still have a large number of chickens at their home.

The contract for the first purchase of his farm provided that $200 should be paid on the principal every year in addition to the interest, and Mr. Fiock worked strenuously to raise that amount, and when he did not have it all his good neighbors loaned it to him, and thus he gradually paid for the land and bought more besides until he had an estate of 133 acres. For some of this he paid as high as $100 an acre. Those days of toil and struggle have long since passed, and the Fiock family have long enjoyed the fruits of prosperity in this garden spot of Illinois. Their land has been transformed by cultivation, by the planting of many trees, the building of a commodious home and the installation of many comforts and conveniences.

Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Fiock, and besides the struggle they had in providing a home they deserve the greatest credit for rearing and training this young household to lives of fruitful endeavor and worthy principles. The children were named George, Charles, Lizzie, Eddie, Anna, Mag, Louis, Joseph, Frank, Jacob, who died at the age of two years, and William. These children attended the Argo and Bowers schools. George, a farmer living in Fort Wayne, Indiana, married Viola Gibbink, and their children are Pearl, Earl, Olive, Grace and Mildred. The son Charles married Blanche Mapes, and they have three children, Beulah, Grace and Clyde. Lizzie is the wife of Charles Bartus, and they have a large family, consisting of Gertrude, Clara, John, Russell, Charles, Chester, Floyd, Ernest, Frank, Elmer and Dan. The son Eddie is a

machinist at Indianapolis, and by his marriage to Hattie Mohs has two children, Clarence and Earl. Anna married John Brittenham, and their two children are Marie and Charles. Mag is still living at home with her parents. Louis married Leona Swearingen and has two daughters, Neva and Morine. Joseph married Sadie Denhart and has one child, Verbal. Frank married Anna Worley and has a daughter, Gladys. William Fiock, who manages his father's farm, married Cynthia Worley and has a small son, William Virgil.

From the time these children were born Mr. and Mrs. Fiock carefully studied and worked out the problems involved in their rearing and training and have been splendidly rewarded by the upright and honorable men and women who have gone out from their home to the active responsibilities of the world. While Mr. and Mrs. Fiock were reared as German Evangelical Church members, their children all attend the Christian Church in St. Joseph.

In politics Mr. Fiock is a Democrat, and for thirty years has belonged to the Modern Woodmen of America. He has shown much public spirit as a citizen, has served as road supervisor and has done all he could to carry forward community improvement. They are completely justified in enjoying the fruits of their well spent years, and they are most pleasantly located in a home north of St. Joseph. Mention should be made of a most interesting family heirloom possessed by Mr. Fiock. It is a pocketknife which is more than 200 years old and is still in a good state of preservation. It was hand made in Germany near the River Rhine and was given to Mr. Fiock's father by Grandfather Fiock. It contains a good solid blade, a small saw, a punch and also an instrument resembling a lance, used for bleeding horses. Mr. Fiock's father with this implement carved out all the furniture he used when he began housekeeping in the woods of Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Fiock believe in getting all the pleasure of life possible, and in the beautiful month of September, 1917, with one of their sons and wife made a 2,000-mile auto trip through Canada, visiting his sisters and relatives at Ridgeway and Stevensville.

J. O. Alexander. It is now nearly half a century since Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Alexander laid the foundation of their home and fortune by their marriage and during all that time they have lived in the vicinity of Rantoul, have been materially prospered and have also fulfilled that great duty of bearing and rearing children to usefulness and honor in the world's work.

Mr. Alexander is one of the honored old soldiers of Champaign County. He was born near the Sangamon River in Illinois, a son of Henry and Polly Alexander. He grew up on the farm and had a district school education. He was twenty-four years of age when the war broke out and he soon afterward enlisted in Springfield in the One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Infantry. He saw three years of active service. He went to the front at Cairo, then to Memphis and on to Vicksburg, and altogether fought in thirty distinct engagements. He was wounded in the breast and wrist and was mustered out at Memphis.

In October, 1868, he married Sarah Hamm. Mrs. Alexander was born in Indiana, a daughter of John and Harriet Hamm. They started housekeeping seven miles west of Rantoul and lived and prospered as farmers until they removed to their present comfortable home on Main Street in the village of Rantoul.

The children born to their marriage are: Charles; Ollie, now Mrs. Schwarts; Mrs. Edith Swayze; Harry; Mabel, deceased (she was Mrs. Mabel Green); Mrs. Nettie Thayre; Mrs. Inez Messenger; Gertrude; and

Ada E. The children were well educated, most of them finishing in the Rantoul High School. Ada became a successful teacher, taught two years in the district schools of this county, two years in Mansfield and for the past three years has been connected with the Rantoul High School and is still a member of its faculty of instruction. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander also have the solace and comfort of grandchildren and one great-grandchild. The great-grandchild is Claude Alexander. Their son Charles has three children, Roy, Fay and Lessley. Ollie's children are Harold, Alton, Freda and Fern, twins. The children of Edith are Mabel, Gwendolin (deceased), Clyde, James, Eugene, Bernice (deceased), Harry, Evelyn and Melvin. Nettie is the mother of Russell. Inez has one child, Horace. Don and Dale are sons of Mabel, who is deceased. Harry has two children, Evalyn and Melvin.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander are active members of the Baptist Church at Rantoul. Politically Mr. Alexander is a Republican. Mrs. Alexander during her girlhood knew Champaign County's great pioneer Henry Sadorus. She talked with him many times and she thus stands as a link connecting the modern present with the very early times of this section.

Boyd S. Blaine. A position of public trust is necessarily indicative of the man who fills it. When the duties of an office demanding a keen intellect, a never failing integrity and a capacity for hard and continuous labor are, for years, discharged so satisfactorily that popular vote confers them successively upon the same person, it is to be assumed that the individual thus chosen is possessed of those qualities which make for the best arrangements in our official life. In this connection we may mention the career of Boyd S. Blaine, one of Champaign County's best known officials. When he entered life on his own account it was with the desire to become a leader in the business field, but circumstances so shaped themselves that he went from one public office to another until he finally disposed of his business ambitions and since 1912 has held the responsible position of circuit clerk and recorder. While it would be interesting to know how far Mr. Blaine would have gone in business circles, the people of Champaign County can be assured that they would have benefited in no greater degree through the work of another man who would have filled the post now occupied by the present efficient clerk and recorder.

Boyd S. Blaine was born on a farm in Champaign Township, Champaign County, Illinois, August 20, 1868, being a son of James and Catharine Blaine. His parents, natives of Pennsylvania, came to Champaign County in October, 1865, and located on an unimproved farm situated in the township of Champaign, where their son Boyd S. was born. The father continued to follow farming and stockraising during the remainder of his active career, and made such a success of his operations that he was able to retire in 1888. Mr. Blaine was known as a good citizen and an industrious agriculturist, and when he died, in January, 1913, the community lost one of its representative men. Mrs. Blaine had passed away in 1894. Of their seven children four are still living: J. M., a resident of Champaign; Ada, who is the wife of John A. Scott; Melda, of Champaign, and Boyd S., of this review.

Boyd S. Blaine was given good educational advantages in his youth which would have fitted him for almost any vocation which he might have cared to follow. After securing his preliminary training he entered the Champaign High School, from which he was duly graduated in 1888, and at that time became a student at the University of Illinois. He attended that institution during 1888 and 1889, and then began to work on his own account as a mail carrier at Champaign. At the same time he was

devoting his spare time to the carpenter trade, it being his intention to eventually become a builder and contractor. In this trade he spent some six years and had established some standing in the direction of his ambition, when, in December, 1896, he accepted an employment that changed the whole trend of his career. At the time mentioned he began some special work in the recorder's office of the courthouse as a copy clerk, a position which he retained until January 1, 1903. His efficiency and fidelity having attracted attention, he was then appointed deputy circuit clerk, an office which he held until December, 1912, when he was elected circuit clerk and recorder, and his first term proved so satisfactory that in 1916 he received the re-election. As before noted, Mr. Blaine has established an excellent record in handling the affairs of his office and is accounted one of the county's most dependable public servants.

On June 14, 1905, Mr. Blaine was united in marriage with Miss Nelle Griffith, of Rankin, Illinois, daughter of George and Viola (Werts) Griffith, prominent people of Rankin, where Mrs. Blaine's father is serving in the capacity of postmaster. Mr. and Mrs. Blaine have no children. They are members of the Presbyterian Church and have been liberal in their support of its movements. Mr. Blaine's political views make him a Republican, and he has long been considered one of the hard workers in his party's ranks in Champaign County. He is affiliated fraternally with the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Masons, in the last named of which he has reached the thirty-second degree and is a Knight Templar and a Noble of the Mystic Shrine.

J. A. R. Koch. "God's finger touched him and he slept," was the almost universal thought in St. Joseph Township upon the death of J. A. R. Koch, who died suddenly at the home of his son Frank in the Mayview community August 9, 1917. Mr. Koch was one of the county's prominent, influential, useful and progressive citizens. Every activity in his life was employed directly or indirectly for the general welfare, and his every heart throb was in sympathy with the righteous aspirations and efforts for elevation and improvement among his fellow men.

His was the type of material success of which America is most proud. He came to Champaign County over half a century ago, poor and practically friendless, made a competence for himself, provided for others, and wrought a strong impress upon the moral and religious institutions of his community. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, September 21, 1844, a son of Adam and Mary Ann (Gigher) Koch. His father was a native of Adams County, Pennsylvania, and his mother of the city of Philadelphia. There were seven children, six sons and one daughter, Reuben, Malcolm, Adam, Alfred, Edward, J. A. R. and Mrs. Annetta C. Hudson, all of whom are now deceased. Alfred and Adam gave their lives to the cause of the country during the Civil War, the former dying in a Southern prison and the latter in a Southern hospital. Edward, the oldest son, was drowned. J. A. R. Koch was the youngest of the family and was twelve days old when his father died. His mother was subsequently married twice and she died in Ohio, leaving two sons, Benjamin Oyler and Fred Hulshy, by her other two husbands.

J. A. R. Koch had a strenuous career, beginning when he was between six and seven years of age. At that time he provided for his own support, working on a farm at $2 per month. He had industry and persistence, and through his early experience with hardship and difficulty he retained to the end of his life a sympathy and kindly feeling for the poor and oppressed and in many ways helped them to better lives.

On November 3, 1864, Mr. Koch arrived in St. Joseph Township of

Champaign County. He had left a sweetheart behind him in the old Buckeye State, and on January 19, 1868, he went back to reclaim her. When he left Ohio he was poor but too proud to ask the young lady to marry him until he could provide a home. On returning he told her of the splendid State of Illinois and of its many favorable opportunities, and she was glad to exchange her name from Suzanna Foor to Koch.

Returning to Illinois with his young bride Mr. Koch worked as a farmer, and in February, 1881, settled near Mayview, where he bought his first land for $25 an acre. Later he paid $50 and $85 an acre for other lands, and in the course of time he found himself surrounded with ample prosperity. His home had always an atmosphere of Christian virtue and friendship. For many years Mr. Koch made it a rule to employ principally those who had no home of their own, endeavoring to make them feel that though deprived of home they could find Christian sympathy and kindness which goes so far toward smoothing out the rugged pathway of life. Many have gone in and out from the Koch home carrying the happy remembrance of the parental kindness of these two worthy people.

While in Ohio Mr. Koch was a member of the Evangelical Church. Among the valued possessions brought with him from that state was the letter from his church which he presented to the Methodist Episcopal organization at Mayview, which then worshiped in a schoolhouse. Being known as a young man of promising industry and of splendid religious faith, he soon found introduction into the hearts and homes of many of the pioneer families. He always kindly recalled the welcome he received in the homes of the Kirkpatricks, the Buseys, and other prominent families, and the friendship he thus formed endured to the end.

Mr. and Mrs. Koch went about the improvement of their home diligently and made it one of the most attractive spots in St. Joseph Township. They were always interested in the work of the community, and while they had no children of their own they found room in their hearts and home for three orphan children, whom they adopted and to whom they gave their own name. Mr. Koch had reared in his home Mary Oyler, daughter of his half brother. One other of his farm hands had lived with him for seven years. Christopher and Elizabeth McCrughen had died in Champaign County, leaving seven orphan children, and Mr. Koch was appointed guardian for them. He and his wife subsequently adopted two of the boys, A. F. and J. C., and the daughter, E. J. They legally assumed the Koch name in 1893. Thus a good home was provided for them, and the boys grew up industrious and capable citizens, handling the duties of their father's farm for many years before his death.

Mr. Koch built a nice house and barn on the corner of his farm for his son Frank, and built also another one like it on his farm three and a half miles southeast of the old home for the other son J. C. Koch. A. F. Koch married Eva R. Smith, and they have three children, Raymond H., Elva Marie and J. A. R., Jr. He does a large business in raising Holstein cattle, and his "Black and White Dairy Farm" is widely known. His dairy products are shipped to Champaign.

The other son, J. C. Koch, has also inherited and is owner of a part of the Koch homestead in St. Joseph Township. He married Susie Alt, and their four children are Clifton A., Genevieve A., Frances A. and Clarence D.

Nearly ten years before his own death Mr. Koch was called upon to mourn the passing of his beloved wife on December 3, 1907. She was a woman of many virtues, kindly, sympathetic and charitable, and had been in sympathy with her husband in their love for orphan children. In fact so many fatherless and motherless and friendless found shelter in their

home that it was often called "The Orphans' Home." The Koch homestead was the abode of hospitality in the best sense of the word, and it is said that no needy person ever applied for help there who went away empty handed.

The late Mr. Koch was a public spirited citizen, and for thirty-six years served as a school director. He endeavored to secure the best of instruction for the children of the community. He was a personal friend of many of the best citizens of Champaign County, including the late Judge Cunningham and Colonel Busey.

His name is especially associated with the Mayview Methodist Episcopal Church, in which the funeral services were held preceding his interment in Mount Olive Cemetery. He was instrumental in building that church and was for many years a trustee and a member of its building committee. Many of his old neighbors said that Mayview would never have another church when the old one passed out of use. Mr. Koch assumed individually the responsibility for getting the congregation in a new home, and when he first proposed building he was told that it might be possible to build a house of worship but it would always be burdened with a heavy debt. He himself headed a subscription paper with a generous sum and then started around and found many loyal hearts to respond, so that as a result the church was dedicated not only free of debt but with more than $100 in the treasury. On the day of dedication the bishop who presided stated that never before in his experience had a country community accomplished a building program so successfully. Today this church stands as a monument to the enterprise and liberality of the late Mr. Koch.

David Bailey. In the latter part of 1854 or the early part of 1855 Mr. Bailey moved to Monticello, Illinois. After a short sojourn there he came to Urbana, and in March or April, 1856, moved to Champaign, where for a number of years, in connection with W. B. Bailey, he conducted a small country store in a frame building that he erected on the site now occupied by the Robeson Department Store.

David Bailey was one of the thirteen men who founded the First National Bank of Champaign, in 1865. Application for organization was made to the government in January, 1865, and certificate was issued in April, 1865. The thirteen men signing up were in the following order: J. S. Wright, J. H. Thomas, W. M. Way, Hamilton J. Jefferson, B. F. Harris, J. S. Beasley, David Bailey, Daniel Gardner, W. C. Barrett, Simeon H. Busey, S. P. Percival, J. G. Clark and A. E. Harmon. Each took fifty shares, making a capital of sixty-five thousand dollars. David Bailey disposed of his interest in the bank some time in the '70s.

In 1882 he, with other men, founded the Champaign National Bank. The nine men signing the organization certificate and present at the organization were: Edward Bailey, 110 shares; Wm. S. Maxwell, 100 shares; Jas. C. Miller, 150 shares; Bernard Kelley, 40 shares; David Bailey, 60 shares; Isaac S. Raymond, 10 shares; Geo. F. Beardsley, 10 shares; Francis T. Walker, 10 shares; James B. McKinley, 10 shares. In this bank he held his holdings until his death. During his residence in Champaign, Mr. Bailey was several times elected a member of the Board of County Supervisors of Champaign County; also served as school trustee. He was a public spirited citizen, contributed liberally, yet wisely, to every worthy enterprise, whether secular or religious. His giving was not ostentatious, but it may be said that among his gifts was a lot now occupied by the Baptist parsonage, he being a member of that society, and the ground now occupied by the city building.

Mr. Bailey gave up his residence in Champaign about 1877, and after traveling for a season, finally located in St. Joseph, Missouri, where he remained until after the death of his wife in 1879. Subsequently he lived for a short time in New York City, and then returned to the home of his boyhood in New Hampshire, where he spent most of his time, though frequently visiting his old home and friends in Champaign.

On the 22nd day of March, 1882, he married Miss Harriet Hazelton, of Methuen, Massachusetts. Two weeks later he followed her remains to the tomb. He was then married to his third wife, November 1, 1886, she being Mrs. Mary B. Ewings, who survives him.

In Champaign, in 1897, he had erected a new residence on the site occupied by the old home into which he had moved in 1856. The new home had just been completed and occupied by him when he was called from this life December 17, 1897, it being his intention to spend the closing days of his life in the city to which he had contributed so much toward the upbuilding.

Mr. Bailey was a man of magnificent physical presence, and it may be truly said that he carried within his breast a soul worthy of so splendid a habitation. He sought no man's praise, satisfied to have the approval of his own conscience, and he was immovable in his adherence to justice and right. Once his duty was made plain, nothing could swerve him from it. Yet under a stern exterior beat a great, big, kind heart, as those who knew him best can testify.

He was a manly man, and that means much. His character was developed in pioneer days, and while his early opportunity for acquiring an education was very limited, yet by extensive reading, observation and travel, he became a well informed and polished gentleman. The life and labors of such as he have made possible the greatest comfort and beauty in the world at present. His heart beat warm for the oppressed and distressed, and his purse opened probably with as great frequency as any other in Champaign to alleviate the suffering of his fellowmen. Yet it was done so modestly that only in rare instances did any but the beneficiary know of his beneficence.

David Bailey was born in Salem, Rockingham County, New Hampshire, August 2, 1814, of poor yet honest parents. His father was a farmer and a shoemaker. There were nine children in this New England home—three sons and six daughters. The children attended district school about three months in the winter season. David had no further scholastic training. When a boy of twelve years he was put out to work for a neighbor to help lift a debt that was pressing his father.

After spending a number of years on a farm, the subject of this sketch entered a country store at Haverhill, Massachusetts, as a clerk, but did not long remain there on account of poor health. He soon drifted to Boston, or, rather, to Charleston, just across the Charles River from Boston, where for a time he occupied a position as clerk in the state penitentiary.

Late in the '30s he decided to come West, and came to Danville, Illinois, making the trip by canal and stage coach. At Danville he secured a clerkship in a general country store. While there he became acquainted with Miss Hannah Finley, to whom he was married on February 9, 1841, and to this union were born five children, three sons, who survived their father, namely, Edward, David and Ozias, and two daughters, Abiah, who was the oldest of the family and died in early childhood, and Susan Bailey Slayden, who died at Waco, Texas, some years before her father.

After spending some time in Danville, Mr. Bailey went to Bloomfield, Edgar County, Illinois. There he accepted a position on salary, but later,

having saved a little money, he formed a partnership with his brother Ozias (who had recently come West) under the firm name of O. & D. Bailey.

The Bailey peddling wagon soon became well known throughout the section between the Wabash and Sangamon rivers. The brothers also operated a small pork packing establishment at Clinton, Indiana, shipping their product by flat boat to New Orleans.

While on one of these trips Mr. Bailey first met Abraham Lincoln, also J. S. Wright, who was afterwards the first cashier of the First National Bank of Champaign.

CAPTAIN EDWARD BAILEY is president of the Champaign National Bank, an institution which has become noted as one of the most conservative in the United States and as a leader among the great banking institutions of Illinois. He was one of its founders.

He was born at Bloomfield, Edgar County, Illinois, September 8, 1843, a son of David and Hannah (Finley) Bailey, concerning whom mention is made on other pages. His early education was obtained in subscription schools at Bloomfield.

In the last part of 1854 or early in 1855 his parents moved to Monticello, Illinois, thence to Urbana, Illinois, and in the spring of 1856 to Champaign, where he attended the public schools. In 1858 and 1859 he was a student at Atkinson Academy, Atkinson, New Hampshire. In the fall of 1860 he entered Douglas University in Chicago. This was the nucleus of the old Chicago University, which still later was founded and chartered as the University of Chicago.

When the Civil War broke out in 1861 an independent military company was formed in this school. As a member of that company Edward Bailey learned the regulation drill and became very proficient therein. When Stephen A. Douglas died this company had the position of honor in the funeral procession and at the grave.

In 1862 he enlisted in Company K, Sixty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was elected first lieutenant by the company. After serving out that enlistment he returned home and at the request of his parents attended commercial school. He also clerked in a dry goods store owned by his father and W. B. Bailey. In 1864 Edward Bailey enlisted in his country's service again, this time as a member of Company B, One Hundred Thirty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The company elected him captain, and in that capacity he served out the enlistment.

At the conclusion of his army service he clerked in a dry goods store in Champaign and later held a similar position at Ridgefarm, Vermilion County. Afterwards he was clerk for the firm of Richards & Brother in Champaign, in which business he had a small interest.

In 1868 he was married to Josephine S. Richards, who had come to Champaign with her parents from the State of Maine. To this union three children were born: Fred Sumner Bailey, who is vice president of the Champaign National Bank; Josephine Belle Bailey; and Ange Bailey.

In the fall of 1879 Mr. Bailey, Mr. W. S. Maxwell and Mr. James C. Miller organized the private banking company of Bailey, Maxwell & Miller. In 1882 they applied for authority to organize the Champaign National Bank, with capital stock of fifty thousand dollars. In this they were joined by six other stockholders, all of whom were present at the organization of the bank. A board of directors was elected and when the board organized Edward Bailey was elected president and has been president ever since, a period of thirty-five years, making him one of the senior bank presidents in the state.

L. FORNEY WINGARD is a successful lawyer at Champaign, has been in active practice over fifteen years, and besides his accumulation of professional interests he has identified himself in a public spirited way with the work of the community.

His family have lived in Champaign County for a great many years. Mr. Wingard was born at Champaign June 3, 1875, a son of Benjamin F. and Mary C. (Forney) Wingard. His father was born in Indiana, son of David Wingard, who came to Champaign County in 1859. Both the father and grandfather were in the jewelry business at Champaign. Mr. Wingard's mother was born in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, and is still living in Champaign County. There were three children: Anna, at home with her parents; L. Forney; and Roy, a traveling salesman.

L. Forney Wingard was graduated in 1893 from the Champaign High School, and then took the regular academic course in the University of Illinois, where he graduated A. B. in 1898. For his law course he entered the Northwestern University Law School in Chicago, and began active practice in 1901. He is director and assistant attorney of the First State Trust and Banking Company at Urbana, Illinois.

For seven years Mr. Wingard served as secretary of the Champaign Board of Education. In 1915 he was elected alderman from the fifth ward, and was one of the last board of aldermen until the commission form of government was put into effect. Mr. Wingard, who is unmarried, is affiliated with the Masonic Order, being a Knight Templar and Shriner, a member of the Sons of Veterans through his father's service as a Union soldier, and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

WILLIAM STONESTREET, who for for many years was identified with the agricultural enterprise of Kerr Township, was head of one of the most industrious and honored families in that section of Champaign County, and the name is one that is spoken with the greatest respect and esteem, due to the many worthy virtues manifest in their home and lives.

Mr. Stonestreet was a native of Kerr Township, a son of Adam and Nancy (Stonestreet) Stonestreet. His parents were both natives of West Virginia and were among the pioneer settlers of Champaign County, arriving in 1853.

The late William Stonestreet married Mary E. Clifton. She was born in Champaign County, next to the youngest in a family of eight children of Jackson and Jane (Allsop) Clifton. Mrs. Stonestreet was educated in district school No. 9, the Obenchain schoolhouse.

After their marriage Mr. Stonestreet began his career on land belonging to his mother, and which he subsequently inherited. He and his wife had industry and enthusiasm and gradually their efforts were crowned with pleasing success.

Into their home were born six children, two of whom died in infancy. The other four are named Andrew Adam, Ira Elmer, Emma Jane and Charles Gilbert. The children have received the best of advantages in the local schools, known as the Stonestreet school, while Gilbert is now a student in the high school at Penfield. Miss Emma took besides her literary instruction piano lessons from Miss Alice Gordon.

It was after a career of years of strenuous and successful labor that Mr. Stonestreet passed away August 27, 1909, after a brief illness. He was a man who commanded and enjoyed the high respect of the community wherein he long resided and was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. After his death Mrs. Stonestreet, left alone, continued the responsibilities of the old farm, and has shown unusual executive ability in the management of the farm as well as the home. She has

devoted herself to the rearing of her children and already sees the fruits of her instruction and the lessons she has endeavored to impress upon them. Her older sons have already assumed the management of the farm and the well kept condition of the place indicates their ability and industry. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Stonestreet has been able to buy forty acres additional land and now has a very complete and well equipped farm of eighty acres, worked by her sons. The family also farm 120 acres of rented land. Mrs. Stonestreet believes in enjoying the good things of life and owns a car in which she and her family find much recreation in tours about the county and in visiting their many friends. Mrs. Stonestreet deserves the greatest credit for what she has accomplished. She bravely faced the duties of life and has proved herself one of the noblest of American women. Politically she is a stanch Republican, having grown up in the atmosphere of that party. She is active as a member and supporter of the Penfield Methodist Episcopal Church and her children are attendants of the Sunday school. Each year finds her in greater comfort, since her sons and her daughter are gradually relieving her of many of the heavy responsibilities in connection with the farm. Her daughter Miss Emma is a cultured girl who does much to assist in the home work. Her sons, as they grow to manhood, have manifested a lively interest in home duties and have proved a comfort to their mother and a credit to themselves and the community.

English Brothers. Former students of the University of Illinois, where both were thoroughly trained in the technical branches of their profession, the English Brothers, Richard Caleb and Edward Carey, Jr., have for the past sixteen years been general contractors and structural engineers at Champaign, with offices in the Lincoln Building, they have developed a splendid prestige and reputation and their clientage constitutes a business that is one of the largest and most valuable of its kind in this section of the state.

Of the two brothers Richard Caleb English, the older, was born March 1, 1873, at Jonesboro in Union County, Illinois, while Edward Carey, Jr., was born November 19, 1876, at Anna, in Union County, Illinois. Their parents were Edward Carey and Marga Ann (Hartline) English, the former a native of St. Johns, Newfoundland, and the latter of Union County, Illinois. Both parents are now deceased. The Hartline family came from Rowan County, North Carolina, and have been residents of the State of Illinois since 1798.

It was in 1898 that the English brothers came to Champaign County as students in the University of Illinois. Edward C. was graduated in 1902. In the previous year they had engaged in business together as general contractors and builders, and with maturing experience they have extended their work to cover a large field and they have an immense amount of capital and equipment and a perfected organization for carrying out the most involved contract of construction. Both are practical engineers and have fully deserved their success.

Politically they are active democrats and in fraternal affairs are members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Columbus, the Country Club and the Rotary Club. They and their families are members of the Holy Cross Catholic Church. Richard C. English married Miss Agnes M. Hughes, a native of Deland, Illinois. Their three children are Mary, Richard and Edward. Edward C. English married Harriet Whitney Aylmer, a native of St. Louis. They also have three children, Edward, Aylmer and Susan.

One of the most important pieces of work recently completed by English

Brothers is the Aviation Field, Rantoul, Illinois. This contract for the United States of America was taken May 28, 1917, and completed in six weeks at a total expenditure of $750,000. In the words of Howard Coffin, chairman of the National Board of Production of the United States of America Aviation Board, "In the erection and completion of Chanute Field, Rantoul, Illinois, all records in government contracts have been broken."

EDWARD V. MORE. Of the families of Champaign County whose industry and activities of life have contributed materially to the prosperity and upbuilding of the community one of the most highly respected is that which bears the name of More, and which has a worthy representative in Edward V. More of Rantoul. Mr. More, who is engaged in the fire insurance business at this time and whose energies have taken him into other fields of endeavor during a long and uniformly successful career, was born in St. Joseph County, Michigan, and is a son of James R. and Louisa M. (Lee) More, natives of the county of Delaware, New York. The paternal grandfather was Henry More, a native of the Empire State.

The More family is of sound and honorable English stock, but traces its ancestors back for a number of generations in this country, where its members have been conspicuous in numerous lines of human effort. One of the prominent family connections was Colonel James Fry, the following facts regarding whom have been taken from the archives of the State of Massachusetts: In a list of the men chosen for the expedition against Crown Point, April 15, 1756, agreeable to the order of his excellency William Shirley, Esq., was Colonel James Fry of Andover, who was engaged April 19, 1775. It was reported in the Provincial Congress, May 20, 1775, that commissions be issued to officers of Colonel Fry's regiment, and that Colonel Fry receive orders to make a disposition of his forces about Boston, dividing the army into three divisions, consisting of two brigades each, and forming a brigade in General Putnam's division. Colonel Fry was also among the minute men who marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775, from Andover to Cambridge. Colonel Fry was born at Andover, Massachusetts, in 1710; died January 8, 1776; married, November 20, 1734, Elizabeth Osgood. Their daughter, Joanna Fry, born in 1737, died 1767, married Thomas Farrington. Their son, March Farrington, had a daughter, Betsey Ann, who married Henry More, Jr., and their son was James R. More.

James R. More was born at Delhi, New York, May 17, 1829, and was married October 26, 1852, to Louisa M. Lee, their children being: Edward V.; Ella Lee, who married John A. Pillars, had two children, Charles Adrian and Antoinette; Charles A. Pillars married Harriett Estes, and their daughter, Dorothy Lee, married William J. Taylor; Henry; Anna Helen, who is now Mrs. Tubbs; Bessie F., who died in infancy; Fred; and Nellie Lee, now Mrs. Parr. James R. More in his vocations alternated between farming and school teaching and writing fire insurance. He was for many years an educator in Michigan and also followed that occupation after his migration to Illinois, where, in 1859 and 1860, at Rantoul, he taught school. He died March 28, 1916, after an honorable life, respected and esteemed by the community. Mrs. More, a loving parent, faithful wife and affectionate and loyal friend, "whom none knew her but to love her, none named her but to praise," entered into rest December 23, 1912.

Edward V. More was still a child when brought from his native place of Florence, St. Joseph County, Michigan, to Rantoul, Illinois. Here his father commenced teaching, and Edward V., a child of three years, was a privileged character in the schoolroom, where he would add to the amuse-

ment of the pupils by bringing his blocks and saying his letters. He was extraordinarily bright and progressive in his studies and in a few years could "spell down" the entire school, which he frequently did, thereby giving much pleasure to his parents, as well as to his aunt, Pauline More, who was also a teacher in the Rantoul school at that time. When he became a student in the Rantoul High School an event occurred that brought out the strong traits of character in the boy which, in later years, have been forcibly manifested in his various activities. At the time mentioned, the weather having become suddenly excessively hot, the students in the graduating class held a council and decided that the teacher should dismiss the school and accordingly called upon him with a demand that he do so. When he finally stated that he could not graduate the class unless they took another four weeks of study and the final examination, they deliberately took their books and walked out of school. Not so with young More, however, although his fellow pupils tried their utmost to win him to their way of thinking. He had just as strong ideas on the subject as they did and lived up to his determination to stay with his studies, and for four weeks longer pluckily remained at his desk, eventually passing his examination with credit. His teacher gave him his examination questions on slips of paper and he was required to answer them on the blackboard, which extended all around the room. He secured 100 in geography, 100 in history, 98 in grammar, and proportionately good marks in his other studies.

After his graduation Mr. More obtained employment with his uncle, J. A. Benedict, who conducted a general merchandise store and who proved a stanch and loyal friend, assisting and encouraging the youth and showing him numerous kindnesses that caused him to ever feel the greatest gratitude in after years. He remained with his uncle for ten years, or until the elder man's death, when he went into the United States Railway Mail Service on the Illinois Central between Chicago and Centralia, being thus employed for three years. Later he held a position in the great department store of Marshall Field & Company at Chicago, and subsequently in the office of the Santa Fe Railroad at Streator, Illinois, following which he went to Auburn, New York, and established himself in business as the proprietor of a photographic studio. Returning to Rantoul in 1892, Mr. More embarked in the fire insurance business with his father, a field in which he has met with a satisfying measure of success, being the representative of several old-line companies and having built up an excellent business at Rantoul and throughout Champaign County. He is well known in business circles, where he has established a reputation for fidelity and integrity.

Mr. More has always been public spirited and interested in those things which promote the well being of a community. As proof of the confidence of the public in his judgment and ability, it may be stated that he filled the office of village clerk in a most satisfying manner for thirteen years, and for several years was also police magistrate. Politically he had always been a Republican until 1912, when, under the leadership of Theodore Roosevelt, the great Progressive party movement was inaugurated, and Mr. More gave his support to the new organization. Fraternally he is affiliated with the local lodge of the Masonic order, of which he is a past master. His religious affiliation is with the Episcopal Church.

The More family has contributed in liberal manner to the history of Champaign County, possessing those admirable and sterling traits of character ever found in those whose deeds in life have helped brighten the way for others. The family has also given to the world some strong and talented characters, among them the noted sculptor, Charles Adrian Pillars, a nephew of Edward V. More, who is the only one ever having the honor of placing a marble statue in the Hall of Fame in the Capitol at Washing-

ton, District of Columbia, that of Dr. John W. Gorrie, M. D., which stands next to that of Frances E. Willard. The latter was chosen by the State of Illinois, and the former by the State of Florida. Gorrie was the inventor of artificial ice before the Civil War, and his invention was considered of such great value in alleviating the suffering of the thousands of victims of yellow fever that the State of Florida chose him as its representative, and Mr. Pillars was commissioned to make the statue.

Edward V. More is the owner of a pleasant home at Rantoul, where he has the esteem of the community not only as a man who has led an honorable and useful life, but as the representative of a family the characteristics of which have stood for straightforward dealing and honorable conduct in all of life's avenues of endeavor.

ARTHUR SHERIDAN is one of the live and enterprising real estate men of Champaign, and has been broker and agent for some extensive blocks of central Illinois farm lands and has handled a number of important transactions in that field. He is also well known in local politics and is one of the citizens of Champaign who can be counted upon for effective exertion of public spirited service.

Mr. Sheridan was born in Champaign, September 16, 1874, a son of Patrick and Catherine (Sullivan) Sheridan. His father was a native of County Mayo and his mother of County Cork, Ireland. Patrick Sheridan came to America about 1850, living in New York State for several years and in 1854 coming to Champaign County. He was long and successfully identified with mercantile pursuits in this county and died here in November, 1892. His widow survived him until March, 1894. They had seven children: John, Maria and William, all deceased; Anna, custodian of the State Home at Geneva, Illinois; Dominick and Elizabeth, deceased; and Arthur.

Arthur Sheridan grew up in Champaign, attended St. Mary's Parochial School, but at the age of fifteen gave up his studies and books to earn his own living. For three years he worked on a farm, and for about four years was connected with McFadden & Company in the feed business. He subsequently acquired interests in the livery business and in other local enterprises, but since 1904 has devoted his principal time and attention to handling real estate, particularly Central Illinois lands.

Mr. Sheridan is an active Democrat, was Seventh Precinct committeeman eight years, and secretary and treasurer of the county central committee six years. He is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and is a member of the Catholic Church.

On October 29, 1902, he was married to Miss Mayme Connelley of Springfield, Illinois. They have no children.

DALLAS SPRAGUE has for many years been a resident of Champaign County, and his fine farm and home are located in Compromise Township, in section 8. He is one of the best known citizens of northeastern Champaign County and his own record and that of the family deserves a prominent position in this publication.

Mr. Sprague is a native of West Virginia, born at Moundsville, on the Ohio River, in Marshall County, twelve miles below the city of Wheeling. His parents, John J. and Jane (Hull) Sprague, were also natives of the same state.

When Dallas Sprague was about twenty-seven years of age, having acquired his education in his native state, he came to Illinois to seek better opportunities and began farming in Grundy County. Soon afterward he met and married Suzan Severson. Mrs. Sprague has the industrious capa-



J. R. Esworthy and Family.

bility characteristic of her ancestry. She was born at Bergen, Norway, a daughter of Seward and Suzan Severson. She was reared and educated in her native country and at the age of twenty-six came with a number of young friends to America to find and utilize the splendid opportunities of this country. From New York she traveled by railroad to Chicago and from there to Morris, Illinois. Being an industrious young woman, she readily found employment and while thus engaged made the acquaintance of Mr. Dallas Sprague. This acquaintance ripened into an affection which brought about their marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Sprague continued to live in Grundy County for three years and then removed to Champaign County, which has been their home now for many years. They first rented a farm near Gifford, working it sixteen years and for another six years rented from Mr. Thomas McQuaid. While they were living on others' property Mr. and Mrs. Sprague not only made a comfortable living but were looking ahead to the future. Being naturally economical and thrifty, they finally acquired the capital with which they bought the 123 acres in their present farm, situated two miles southwest of Penfield. They have in many ways beautified and improved their farm, and have commodious buildings for all purposes and uses.

Five children have been born to them, William, Sylvia, John, Bertha and Joe. Mr. and Mrs. Sprague have been very much concerned with the proper education and training of their children, and besides sending them to the district schools they gave them the advantages of the Penfield High School. Bertha graduated from the Penfield High School. William Sprague married Ida Otis, and their two children are Dallas and Florence Marjorie. The daughter Sylvia is now the wife of Thomas Harper and has two children, George and Suzan. Bertha Sprague married Harry Peterson and has a son, Lawrence. The sons John and Joe are still at home and assist their father in the management of the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Sprague are active members of the Baptist Church at Gifford. The Baptist faith has had the allegiance of the Sprague family for many years. In politics Mr. Sprague is generally a Democrat, but is a man of broad views and supports the principles and candidates rather than party. He is a strong advocate of temperance and will be one of those who will readily support the amendment for nation-wide temperance when it is submitted in the State of Illinois. As one of the representative farmers he enjoys the confidence of the public and for thirty years has served as director of the public schools in his district and has also served as road commissioner. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Gifford. Mr. and Mrs. Sprague maintain a most hospitable home and have endeared themselves to their community by their neighborly acts of kindness. Mrs. Sprague deserves much of the credit for the family well being and fortune, since she has stood beside her husband with counsel and assistance through all the years of their married life. With a family grown to manhood and womanhood Mr. and Mrs. Sprague are now living in comfort in their fine country seat in Compromise Township and express great loyalty to the county of Champaign, which has been their home for so many years.

J. R. Esworthy, whose country home is on Rural Route No. 15 out of St. Joseph, has spent the greater part of his active life in Champaign County. He began here almost empty handed and that he now owns one of the larger and better improved farms of the county is a distinct tribute to his hard working industry and persistent efforts.

Mr. Esworthy was born in Union County, Ohio, May 14, 1849, son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Good) Esworthy. His father was born in Mary-

land, of which state the grandfather was also a native. The mother was a native of Pennsylvania. J. R. Esworthy was the second of five children. He acquired his early education in a country school near Nashport in Muskingum County, Ohio. From Muskingum County the family removed to Putnam County in northwestern Ohio, then to Missouri, and finally to Illinois, locating near Potomac. It was in that locality of Vermilion County that J. R. Esworthy came to manhood, having in the meantime completed his education in the public schools and having received a classical training as a farmer and husbandman from his father.

At the age of twenty he took upon himself the responsibilities of a home maker by his marriage to Miss Serena Shoaf. Mrs. Esworthy was born in Indiana, daughter of David and Catherine Shoaf. The first year after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Esworthy spent at his father's home and the next year they rented a farm in Compromise Township in Champaign County. They possessed the energy and determination that are sure to bring success in the long run and from what they earned and saved as renters they were able to make the first payment on a small tract of twenty-three and a half acres in East Stanton Township. They agreed to pay $10 an acre for this land. It was their home for fifteen years and during that time they steadily prospered. For two years they rented and lived on J. S. Kilbury's farm, and then moved to land which Mr. Esworthy bought in section 30 of Ogden Township. This tract consisted of 178 acres, but had no improvements worthy of the name. Today that farm is one of the best in Ogden Township, and its improvements are the work and creation of Mr. Esworthy's labors and intelligent management. The farm has many fruit and shade trees which they set out, commodious buildings, and altogether constitutes a country place which anyone might be glad to own.

Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Esworthy, one of whom died in infancy. The others were James E., Sarah A., Lula M., C. D. and Maude M. They enjoyed while growing up the advantages of the local district schools, while Sarah was for ten terms a student in the deaf and dumb institution at Jacksonville, Illinois.

The son James E. is now successfully engaged in farming east of Ogden on part of his father's land. He married Keturah Johnson and their seven children are Nora, John, Glen, Melvin, Raymond, Donald, Burton. The daughter Sarah married Clarence Houston of Springfield, Illinois, and her two children are Clara Daisy and Neta Marie Houston. Lula M. Esworthy married David Stayton, who died leaving one child, Jessie Ray, and for her second husband she married William Sallee of Lebanon, Indiana, now a farmer near Fithian, Illinois. Mrs. Sallee has one child, Earl. C. D. Esworthy is a prosperous young farmer living on his father's place in Ogden Township. He first married Maud Bass, who died, leaving one child, Grace, and his second wife was Ora Valandingham. The daughter Maud married Lewis Alexander, a farmer in Carroll County, Illinois. They have six children, Chester, Pearl, Ora, May, Earl and Lloyd.

Besides the land which he acquired and developed many years ago Mr. Esworthy's success has brought him much additional holding and he is the owner of 384 acres. For many years he has been one of the noted stock raisers in eastern Champaign County, both cattle and hogs. Three times in one year his hogs topped the market at Indianapolis both in price and quality. One year he shipped a Poland China hog raised on his farm that weighed 960 pounds. The finest two-year-old heifer ever shipped from the market at St. Joseph was one raised on the Esworthy place.

Mr. Esworthy's greatest sorrow was when death separated him from his beloved wife and the companion of his many years of struggle and

increasing prosperity. Mrs. Esworthy died in March, 1916. She had endeared herself to the entire community by her kindliness and neighborliness, and as a home maker she shared the credit with her husband for the prosperity they enjoyed. For the past six years Mr. Esworthy's home has been brightened by his widowed daughter Sarah and her children. Sarah's husband was killed as a result of an accident at Springfield when he was struck by a street car.

His fellow citizens have more than once shown confidence in Mr. Esworthy's public spirit and judgment, and for nine years he filled the office of school director and has always been a stalwart champion of the drainage system in his part of the county. He took the lead in advocating drainage long before there was any popular support for it. Through his work the first ditch was constructed, and while much opposition was encountered at first, many of those most determined against it are now thoroughly converted and have many times praised the work which Mr. Esworthy did as a pioneer in this direction.

In matters of politics Mr. Esworthy lends his support to the principles of the Democratic party. He is an admirer of President Wilson, and especially of the wise and conservative policy which he has maintained in international relations and in the effective use of America's army and navy and economic resources to secure a just settlement of the world war on a basis of lasting peace and popular welfare. Mr. Esworthy has lived in close touch with progressive ideals, has made his own life a factor in progress, and can take a great deal of personal satisfaction in what he has done for himself and the community and what mankind generally has accomplished during the years that he has been a personal witness of the world's history.

William H. Coffman, justice of the peace, is one of the old timers of Champaign County, went from this locality into the War of the Rebellion, from which he returned a captain, and for more than half a century has been a farmer, business man and public official. Though his years now number fourscore, he is still looking after the duties of his office as justice of the peace and also handles considerable insurance.

He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, June 13, 1837, a son of Noah B. and Elizabeth (Lamb) Coffman. His father was a native of Virginia and his mother of Ohio. Noah B. Coffman spent his life as a farmer. In 1852 he removed with his family to Piatt County, Illinois, and on March 1, 1861, arrived in Champaign County, where he continued farming until his death in 1863. His widow died in 1872. Of their nine children William H. was the oldest. The others are: Aaron F., deceased; Mary C., who has never married and lives at Champaign; David H. of Champaign; Lucinda F., Elizabeth and Peter J., all deceased; Samuel C. of Fullerton, Nebraska; and Thomas D. of Oakland, California.

Judge Coffman was fifteen years of age when the family came to Illinois, and his education was acquired in district schools both in Ohio and in this state. He lived on the home place with his father until he was twenty-four years of age. He had managed the farm for his brothers and sisters until he was twenty-two and then farmed it on his own account for a couple of years.

When his country needed him he did not hesitate to break home ties and business associations, and in September, 1861, he enlisted in Company I of the Tenth Illinois Cavalry at Champaign. He went out as a private, but on September 23d was promoted to sergeant; on October 24, 1862, to second lieutenant; on March 15, 1863, to first lieutenant, and on May 10, 1864, was given his commission as captain. He was always in the same company, going out as private and coming back at its head. He was mus-

tered out at San Antonio, Texas, and was given his final pay and discharge January 6, 1866, more than four years after his first enlistment.

His record as a soldier is one in which he can take due pride and satisfaction, and his descendants after him will always cherish that part of his record.

Captain Coffman returned to Champaign County from the war and began farming. He followed that actively until 1872, when he removed to Bondville and became a merchant. He also acted as agent for the Illinois Central Railway Company at that place. He was a business man at Bondville for eight years, and on selling out he returned to his farm. In 1893 Captain Coffman gave up farming as his active vocation and removed to Champaign. In 1894 he was elected to the office of justice of the peace, and besides the duties of that office he at one time conducted an extensive real estate and insurance business. He has gradually given up real estate dealings and now only writes insurance and attends to his official duties.

Captain Coffman has been a loyal Republican almost throughout the life of that party. He is an active and well known member of the Grand Army post and his church is the Methodist Episcopal. In February, 1868, he married Miss Margaret M. Allen, who was born in Hardin County, Kentucky, and died there April 30, 1909, after they had been married more than forty-one years. There were two children: Birch D. of Chicago; and Jessie C., widow of George Gregg of Champaign County.

Mrs. Jane Patton. To live beyond the age of ninety is in itself a distinction. But in the case of Mrs. Jane Patton, whose home is out in the country in Kerr Township, many more substantial things and associations are connected with her long life. She is one of the notable women of Champaign County. Children and grandchildren have a source of pride in referring to their relationship to this venerable woman whose life began so early in the nineteenth century and has never ceased to bear the fruit of good deeds and wholesome influences.

Her maiden name was Jane Cade. She was born in Fountain County, Indiana, May 3, 1824, and has the distinction of having been the first white child born in that section of Indiana. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. William Cade. They were honored pioneer settlers of Fountain County, and during the War of 1812 her father had fought in the American army. He was long active in politics. She was born when James Monroe was still President of the United States. The Erie Canal was still in process of construction and not a single mile of railroad had been laid in the United States. Indiana was only eight years old and Illinois had been a state for six years. She was in her twenties before the Mexican War was fought and was well on toward the middle period of womanhood when the Civil War closed. Mrs. Patton grew up in her native county and had to depend upon the meager opportunities of the district schools at a time when they were supported by the subscription plan and when there was no public system of education anywhere in the West.

It was on December 10, 1844, that she married David Patton. They began their married life in Vermilion County, Illinois, where Mr. Patton acquired 480 acres of Government land. In time he came to be one of the largest land owners and most extensive farmers in eastern Illinois. At his death he owned 2,000 acres in Ford, Champaign and adjoining counties, and his integrity of character and business judgment were respected and esteemed wherever known. David Patton was called to final rest February 29, 1880, more than thirty-seven years ago. Since her husband's death Mrs. Patton has continued to live on the old home farm in Kerr Township. While the early current of her existence took her through the rough experiences of pioneering, she has lived for many years in the

quiet calm of peaceful surroundings and with inclination and opportunity for doing good to all around her. Mrs. Patton has distinguished herself for superior business and executive ability. She and her young husband started life with a splendid stock of energy, and it was their mutual labors and co-operation that brought such abundant prosperity to their hands.

In the early days of her life in Illinois Mrs. Patton could look from the door of her humble home for miles out on the prairie. Not infrequently she would see as many as twenty-five deer in a single drove. There were wild turkeys and abundance of every kind of game, nature having provided bountifully for the needs of the early pioneers while they were subduing the prairies and changing their productiveness to other forms. Mrs. Patton was constantly busy with the cares of her household and with the rearing and training of her children. She sent these children to the district schools, the Kuder, Flagg and Sugar Grove schools, and later afforded them every opportunity to get better training in colleges of different cities.

The eight children of Mrs. Jane Patton were: William T., Samuel H., Martha, Lafayette, Charles D., Frank, Ida and Mary Allie. Martha married J. W. Flagg of Vermilion County. Charles D. died at the age of twenty-seven on February 23, 1884. Ida is the wife of C. A. Lamb of Ford County. Mary Allie has given many years to the profession of teaching.

William T., the oldest child, was for many years a farmer on the home place and finally moved to Paxton, where he died in January, 1903. He married Fannie Flagg, and their children were Ada, David A., Charles D., Carrie and Elsie. Their daughter Ada is librarian at Champaign.

Samuel H. Patton, the second son, died August 19, 1895. He married Grace Kirkley of Paxton.

Martha, wife of J. W. Flagg of Paxton, has two children, David Ross and William.

Lafayette Patton, who is one of Champaign County's leading agriculturists, occupies a farm adjoining that of his mother in Kerr Township, the two places being in sections 4 and 5. He married Ella McHenry. Their children are: Freddie, who died at the age of two years; Alfred Ray; Samuel H.; Harry and Ruth. Alfred Ray, the oldest child of Lafayette Patton and grandson of Mrs. Jane Patton, was graduated from the law department of the University of Illinois in 1910 and is now an examining attorney for the Chicago Title and Trust Company and resides at Wheaton, Illinois, where he owns a half interest in the DuPage County Abstract and Title Company. Harry Patton, his brother, specialized his education in the School of Mines in Denver, Colorado, and enjoys the distinction of being the youngest supervisor in Champaign County, a bright, energetic young man whose popularity has won for him rapid advancement. He is now in the field artillery at Fort Sheridan, Illinois. Samuel H. Patton, the other son of Lafayette Patton, completed his education in the University of Michigan and while a student there met Opal E. Trott. He was a Kappa Sigma fraternity man and she was a Delta Gamma sorority member. They were married at her home in Saginaw, Michigan. She was born at Buffalo, Ohio, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Spaid) Trott, also natives of Ohio. After their marriage Samuel H. Patton and bride went to New Mexico, where he held a position under the United States Government as civil engineer in the construction of the great Elephant Butte Dam, one of the greatest irrigation projects in the United States. He was afterwards a civil engineer in the employ of the Government in New York under Secretary McAdoo and was subsequently sent by the Government to the island of Hayti, where he engaged in railroad

construction. For three years he was a civil engineer engaged in locating railways in the Central American countries of Salvador and Guatemala. From there he returned to Champaign County and has since been successfully identified with practical agriculture in partnership with his brother Harry on their father's estate of 700 acres. These two young men are fine types of educated and scientific agriculturists, young men of high principles and thoroughly capable of making a success in their chosen vocation. Ruth Patton, the daughter of Lafayette Patton, was educated in the Illinois Woman's College at Jacksonville, and after graduating there entered the University of Chicago, where she took special work in domestic science and art. She is a cultured young woman and at present is living at home and assisting in the management of the home.

Frank Patton, the other son of Mrs. Jane Patton, is now deceased. He married Okie Mendenhall. Ida Patton, who married C. A. Lamb and has her home at Champaign, is the mother of the following children: Nellie Bly, Charles Augustus, Jr., Allie Bie, Edith Jane and Hallie Eunice. The children were all liberally educated in the University of Illinois. Nellie B. Lamb is an instructor at Breckenridge, Minnesota. Charles Augustus, Jr., is bookkeeper and assistant manager of Lloyd's University Store at Champaign. Allie Bie is filing clerk in the registrar's office at the University of Illinois. Edith Jane graduated from the University of Illinois in 1916, and during the following year was in the State University of California at Berkeley, and in May, 1917, returned to Illinois with her master's degree. For two years she had taught English in the high school at Martinsville, Illinois. Hallie E. Lamb is pursuing the classical course in the University of Illinois.

Thus nearly all of Mrs. Jane Patton's grandchildren have had college and other liberal training and are young people whose attainments and character are properly a matter of pride to their grandmother.

Mrs. Jane Patton has always shown a great ability to accomplish things. Her life has been an exceedingly practical one, busy and filled with usefulness. While devoted to her home and children and grandchildren, she has shown an active interest in public affairs and in many subjects that do not claim the attention of most people. A few years ago she found time to write a pleasing book of memoirs, including the genealogy of her family and also the story of her own life and experiences in early days. This is a contribution to real history and when the book was published she afforded a delightful surprise to her family and many old neighbors and friends by having delivered 104 copies to as many homes, not only in Champaign County, but in widely scattered communities of the United States.

Mrs. Patton proved herself a most loyal friend of the soldiers who went to the front during the period of the Civil War. Some of the surviving veterans of that struggle have again and again referred to their gratitude to Mrs. Patton for her kind deeds and her loyalty. Since she was sixteen years of age she has been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1914 she was instrumental in the building of a fine little chapel of the church, costing $4,000, and half of which sum was contributed by herself. She also bought and presented to the church society the site occupied by the edifice, which is destined for years to be a center of religious worship in that community and stands as a monument to her liberality and generosity. It is now more than seventy years since Mrs. Patton was married and started out a brave and loyal young woman beside her husband in their mutual task of carving a home and fulfilling their duties and responsibilities. She has gained a crown of glory by her deeds and her ministrations to others, and now at the age of ninety-three is taking a well earned rest, and peace and serenity are the companions and attendants of her last days.

JOHN CECIL SOMERS is one of the youngest bankers of Champaign, and his career and experience have been worked out in one institution.

When he was seventeen years of age he entered the Commercial Bank of Champaign, and by doing the duties which lay nearest and making himself generally useful to his superiors and to the bank's best interests he was promoted through clerkships until he now has entire administrative management of the bank and is one of its stockholders.

Mr. Somers was born at St. Joseph, Illinois, January 26, 1887, and is barely thirty years of age. His father, John W. Somers, was born and reared in Somers Township of Champaign County and died at St. Joseph in 1906. He was a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church. His father, Waitman T. Somers, was a native of Virginia and an early settler in the farming districts of Champaign County. His wife was Mary Young. John W. Somers married Elizabeth Ann McDonald.

John C. Somers received his early education in the St. Joseph High School and left that to enter the Commercial Bank at Champaign. He has devoted himself with singular fidelity to one line of business and that accounts for his early success. He is a Republican, without official aspirations, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and has attained the Knight Templar degrees in Masonry and is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Champaign Country Club.

On January 24, 1908, at Champaign, he married Miss Hazel C. Scott, who was born at Mahomet, Illinois, September 4, 1888. They have one son, Albert George, born September 24, 1912.

J. W. REMLEY. The winning of a comfortable prosperity after many struggles with fortune and the establishment and provision for a home and place as an honored and influential citizen of his community is short measure of the accomplishment of J. W. Remley, who for many years has been identified with Champaign County.

Mr. Remley is proprietor of the Pleasant Vale Stock Farm in Harwood Township, in section 14. He was born in Ross County, near Chillicothe, Ohio, a son of Alexander and Cutright Remley. His parents were also natives of Ohio. There were five children in the family and they were educated in district school No. 4 of Springfield Township in Ross County.

When J. W. Remley was sixteen years of age, in March, 1875, his mother died and later his father married again. At the age of twenty-three J. W. Remley left home for Indiana. When he reached Indianapolis he was persuaded by his sister to come on to Champaign County, Illinois. When he first came here it was with the intention of remaining only a year, but he became so well satisfied with the country that it took a hold upon him as a permanent residence.

Two years after coming to Champaign County Mr. Remley established a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Amelia A. Reynolds. She was born in Knox County, Illinois, five miles north of Oneida, daughter of Hanford and Antoinette (Roberts) Reynolds. Her father was a native of New York and her mother of Indiana. Her mother came to Illinois with her people at the age of eight years and was married in Knox County, and when Mrs. Remley was one year of age the family came to Champaign County.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Remley rented land four miles north of Gifford in Harwood Township. They remained five years on that place and while those were years of considerable self-denial and of struggles to make both ends meet, they were altogether extremely happy. At the end of five years Mr. and Mrs. Remley bought eighty acres, a portion of the

land they had rented, comprising the northeast eighty of section 14. Mrs. Remley's father had bought this tract when she was one year old. Subsequently Mrs. Remley received as her share of the inheritance other land, so that the estate now comprises 200 acres, under the name Pleasant Vale Stock Farm. This name was given to the community by Mrs. Remley's mother when she first settled here.

As a stock farmer Mr. Remley is widely known in Champaign County. He raises chiefly Percheron horses of French imported stock. He has had a large number of these splendid animals.

Mr. and Mrs. Remley are the parents of Hanford Alexander, Orizada Alice, Maple Almond and Minnie Melvina. One other son, Amasa Roswell, died at the age of three years. These children were educated in the Pleasant Vale school. Orizada also took a four years' correspondence course from the institution at Kimberline Heights, Tennessee. Hanford A. Remley married Anna Belle Bailey of Rantoul, and they have a bright young daughter, Esther Irene, now six years of age. Their home is two miles north of Rantoul on a farm. Orizada A. is an agriculturist east of Paxton, and married Allan J. Davis. They have two sons, Oscar Remley and Herchel J. Maple A. Remley married Laverna Riblet, and they are practical farmers on a portion of the Remley estate. They have a young son named Devalson. Minnie M. Remley married Allan Dennis, and they live at Oxford, Indiana. Their three sons are named Mahlon Ray, Leon Allan and Orville Roswell.

Mr. and Mrs. Remley are active members of the Mount Olivet Church of Christ, a country church in Ford County. In politics Mr. Remley renders support to the Republican party, and is thoroughly progressive in his attitude. He feels that politics and the law should keep pace with the other marvelous improvements in the world. He also believes that the best laws ever formulated for this country had their birth in the Republican party. In citizenship he has been honored with those positions of trust and responsibility that furnish large opportunities for service, and was for six years assessor, township school trustee six years, and school director twenty-seven years. He and his two sons are active members of Camp No. 1047 of the Modern Woodmen of America at Gifford and he has been through all the chairs of that order. Mrs. Remley is a member of the Royal Neighbors of America. Mr. and Mrs. Remley have been closely identified with the life and times of Champaign County for many years. They have always kept a most hospitable home and are people implicitly trusted for their integrity and their high mindedness.

Mrs. Remley is a member of the Reynolds Family Association. This association traces its ancestry back to the year 1634, when the first of the Reynolds family came to America from England. No one is eligible to membership in the association except those of the name who can prove that their ancestors came to this country before 1660. Mrs. Remley's father was educated in New York, and was a successful teacher in that state and in Illinois and also was a practical surveyor and a most capable farmer and business man. During the last two years of his life he suffered impaired health and had his home with Mr. and Mrs. Remley until his death, September 26, 1917.

John E. Gallivan is a native of Champaign County, but his name is widely known over this entire part of the state. He is now serving as deputy state fire inspector.

Mr. Gallivan was born at Ivesdale, Champaign County, August 18, 1860, son of Patrick T. and Anne (Doyle) Gallivan, both natives of Ireland. His father was born in County Kerry and his mother in County Wexford. Patrick T. Gallivan at the age of fourteen came to this country with his

parents, Thomas and Margaret (Ferriter) Gallivan, who first located in the East and gradually kept moving westward until they reached Michigan. Patrick Gallivan eventually came to Ivesdale, Champaign County, and at the age of fifteen was driving a team in railroad construction work in that locality. At the same time he used some of his leisure time at night to educate himself. He remained with the railroad work on the Great Western, now called the Wabash, until that line was constructed through to Danville. After that for four years he worked for the Wabash in the railroad yards at Danville, and was finally appointed foreman of the section at Ivesdale in Champaign County, a position he held until 1867. In the meantime, hard working and thrifty as he was, he had invested his earnings in a 240-acre farm in Champaign County, and in 1867 he was ready to occupy it and make it the principal source of his living. He continued farming on that place until 1890. when he retired to Ivesdale, where his death occurred March 25, 1912. This honored old timer was at different periods township supervisor, member of the council and school treasurer. He was largely instrumental in settling the Catholic communities in Ivesdale and Colfax townships. At one time he was in the grain and elevator business in that community. His widow still lives at Ivesdale, at the age of eighty-two, and is in splendid physical health and in full possession of her mental faculties. There were eight children: John E.; George of Ivesdale; Margaret, wife of James E. Dugan of Indiana; Thomas J. of Urbana; Mary, wife of J. A. Fallon of Chatsworth, Illinois; Catherine L., who is unmarried and is an osteopath at Ivesdale; Daniel of Salt Lake City, Utah; and Anna, wife of Ora Curtis of Clinton, Indiana.

The youth of John E. Gallivan was one of hard work and lack of opportunities beyond those he could secure for himself. The first school he attended was in an attic in a log house in Ivesdale, and for three years he studied under James M. Graham, now congressman from the Springfield district. At the age of twenty-one he began railroad work and was employed in the train and yard service continuously for thirteen years.

Having married and having the responsibilities of a family, Mr. Gallivan gave up railroading and engaged in the furniture and undertaking business at Ivesdale for six years. From Ivesdale he removed to Champaign, and developed a large and prosperous business as a real estate dealer. He handled real estate altogether for twelve years. For the past four years he has served as deputy state fire marshal and has charge of eighteen counties in the central part of Illinois. Mr. Gallivan is an active Democrat, a member of the Knights of Columbus and of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

He married at Bloomington, April 28, 1886, Miss Alice M. Jones. They are the parents of seven children: Anna and George, now deceased; Lillian, bookkeeper for the Twin Ice Company at Champaign, Illinois; John and Thomas, twins, the former located at Indianapolis and the latter deceased; Lyle, a student in the University of Illinois; and Milo, a student in St. Mary's High School.

WILSON CONNER. One of the homes of Kerr Township to which special attention should be directed in this publication is that of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Conner in section 28, near Penfield. Mr. Conner is a man of sterling worth and character, has lived in Champaign County the greater part of his active life, and has won for himself an enviable prominence as a farmer, public spirited citizen and a worker in behalf of every worthy cause.

He was born in Ohio, a son of John and Mary Ellen (Riggleman) Conner, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Virginia. The father died when Wilson was a small child, and a little later the widowed

mother brought him to Champaign County, where he spent his boyhood and secured his education in the Kuder school. When he was ten years of age his mother died, leaving him an orphan, and he sorely missed her counsel and protecting care.

He has thus made his way against the tide of circumstance from early years and did not have a home of his own until the age of twenty-nine, when he married Miss Alice Mantle. Mrs. Conner is a native of Champaign County, a daughter of Isaac and Mary (Kuder) Mantle. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Conner moved to Vermilion County, Illinois, and began life on a rented farm. With youth, ambition and energy, the future stretched away in charming prospect, and they wisely improved their advantages and opportunities until they were able to return to Champaign County and buy 101 acres in Kerr Township. Mr. Conner paid $35 an acre for this land and today it is worth $175 an acre. Here his enterprise has proved productive and he and his good wife have the credit for practically making one of Champaign County's best farms. There were no buildings or other improvements on the land when they bought it, and successive years have witnessed the erection of commodious house and barn, the planting of fruit and shade trees, and the wise conservation and use of the soil. While general farming is the main business carried on, they have a fine orchard, including choice varieties of cherries, peaches and plums and a large amount of berry fruits.

Into their home were born three children, one of whom died in infancy. The surviving daughter is Mary Ellen Gladys Conner. Both her grandmothers had the name Mary. The son is McKinley Solomon, whose first name was for the illustrious President and the second for his uncle, Solomon Mantle. These children attended the Kuder school, Mary graduating from the eighth grade and receiving the honorary diploma for admission to the high school. Besides giving them the usual school advantages Mr. and Mrs. Conner have made musical instruction a feature of their culture. Mary spent several years under the instruction of Mrs. J. Kirkpatrick of Champaign. Both children have developed fine talent for music, McKinley having become a proficient performer on the violin. With his sister to accompany him the Conner home is never at a loss for special concerts and there is seldom a time in the work of the farm when music is neglected. Mr. and Mrs. Conner have wisely endeavored to give their children the benefit of a musical education, and that is a strong cord to bind their children to the home. Undoubtedly one of the great problems of country life might be solved if all parents were as liberal in affording advantages and entertainment to their children as Mr. and Mrs. Conner.

Mr. and Mrs. Conner are members of the United Brethren Church of Penfield and the children are active in the Sunday school. The name bestowed upon the son indicates Mr. Conner's politics. He has been a steady supporter of the Republican party, and with his wife has endeavored to inculcate thorough American principles in their children. Several years Mr. Conner served as road commissioner. He and his wife have been true home makers in Champaign County and their lives have been a contributing factor to the progress and prosperity of this region.

S. C. Tucker, the present mayor of Champaign, has long been identified with Champaign in business affairs and in politics, is also a former mayor of the city and a former city treasurer, and is that type of man whose energy means something in the constructive administration of a city's affairs.

Mr. Tucker was born in Saybrook, Illinois, January 9, 1871, a son of Sylvester and Sarah (McDaniel) Tucker. His father was a native of Ohio and his mother of Illinois. In 1882 the Tucker family removed to

Champaign County, where Sylvester Tucker followed his trade as a carpenter until his death. They were the parents of eight children: Ollie of Champaign; Ida, wife of C. W. Warner of Jackson, Mississippi; W. G., who lives in Champaign and is an engineer with the Illinois Central Railway; S. C.; A. J. of Sheridan, Wyoming; Margaret, deceased; Charles J. of Champaign; and L. E. of Champaign.

S. C. Tucker was eleven years of age when his parents removed to Champaign County, and he finished his education in the local high school. He began his business career as clerk in a grocery store and later was with the firm of Maxwell & Mollet for about nine years. He then engaged in business for himself on East University Avenue and conducted one of the well stocked stores along that thoroughfare for five years.

In the meantime he was elected city treasurer, an office he filled two years; from 1909 to 1911 he was the capable mayor of Champaign, being elected to that office on the Republican ticket. After Champaign adopted the commission form of government Mr. Tucker's name was prominently mentioned in connection with the office of mayor, and he was elected for that position. In 1903 Mr. Tucker removed to the corner of Church and Neil streets, where he conducted his place of business for fifteen years, and in June, 1917, moved to the opposite corner from where he had been located for so many years.

He was married in October, 1897, to Miss Florence Ballentine, a native of Toledo, Ohio. She died June 4, 1915, leaving three children, all at home. named Marion, Claude and Creed. Mr. Tucker married for his present wife Mrs. Emma Collison, widow of Fred Collison of Rantoul, Illinois. Mrs. Tucker is an active member of the Christian Church, while Mr. Tucker is a Methodist. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Woodmen of the World.

JOHN E. GEHRT. Upon the success and welfare of the cultivators of the soil rests the true destiny of any nation. Nowhere does the agricultural element represent such qualities of business success and energy as in Champaign County, and one of the men who have claimed this county as their home and have gained unusual fruits from their effort is Mr. John Gehrt, whose home is in section 33 of Harwood Township.

Mr. Gehrt is a native of Stark County, Illinois, a son of John M. and Catherine (Best) Gehrt. Both parents were born in Germany, came in early youth to America, where they married, and were pioneer farmers in Illinois. The father is still living, at the ripe age of eighty-three, in Stark County. His good wife entered into rest October 20, 1913.

John E. Gehrt was one of their eight children. He grew up on his father's farm in Stark County and acquired a public school education there. On January 18, 1899, he married Miss Matilda Streitmatter, who was born in Peoria County, Illinois, a daughter of William F. and Mary (Munk) Streitmatter. Her parents were also natives of Germany, but were married in this country.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Gehrt began housekeeping on land owned by his father near Dillsburg. Mr. Gehrt has 233 acres there, and through his efficient management he has created a home which many city people might be proud to own. At an expense of $3,000 he has remodeled his house into a perfectly appointed residence, and has added many other improvements to the farm, including a large corn crib that cost $1,200 to build. The home has a complete water system, running hot and cold, heated by hot water, and a private electric light plant has been installed to furnish light. These conveniences, with the telephone and the rural free delivery, give the Gehrts practically all the advantages enjoyed by

city people. Mr. Gehrt is a successful stock farmer and keeps a number of Polled Durham and Shorthorn cows and ships large quantities of cream. For a number of years his fields have averaged sixty bushels of corn to the acre. Mr. Gehrt owns a fine Buick car, and this is one of the chief sources of pleasure to the family. Both he and his son are thorough automobile mechanics and can repair as well as operate their car.

Mr. and Mrs. Gehrt have two sons: Rollin L. and Arthur R. Both are studious and active boys and Rollin has completed the eighth grade of the common schools and has spent two years in the Rantoul High School. Mr. and Mrs. Gehrt are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rantoul and both sons are members of the Sunday school there. Politically Mr. Gehrt is a Republican and is a stanch believer in the great destiny of that party. He has served several years as director of the local schools and is always willing to lend a hand in forwarding all community improvements.

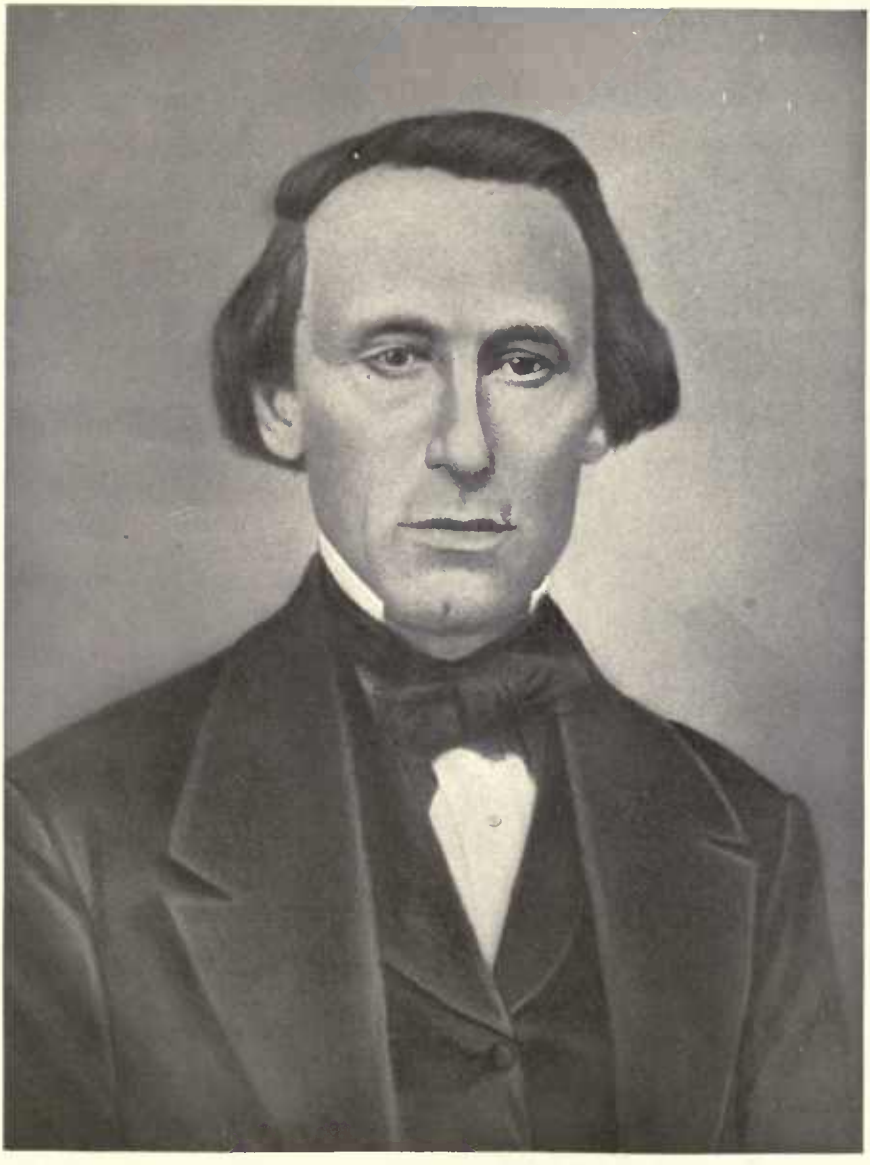
Edwin P. Babb. The Babb family came to Champaign County in 1853. Five years later, at the home of his parents on a farm in North Ogden Township, Edwin P. Babb was born November 9, 1858. His life career has been one of commendable industry and accomplishment, has been liberally rewarded, and for a number of years he has lived retired in one of the comfortable city homes of Champaign.

His parents were Milton and Elizabeth (Littler) Babb. Milton Babb was born in Grant County in what is now the state of West Virginia, grew up there, took up the occupation of farmer, and subsequently became a merchant. He owned a half interest in a large store in West Virginia, but on account of failing health removed to the west. Champaign County was still comparatively new and undeveloped when he located in North Ogden Township in 1853. Coming from the rough and semi-mountainous district of West Virginia he seemed to recognize the value of the rich land in Champaign County, and invested all the money he could secure in the farming district and kept purchasing new property until at the time of his death on January 22, 1868, he owned a thousand and fifty acres. He lived only long enough to accomplish part of the development of this land.

In the early years the Babb family lived isolated compared with the modern facilities and conveniences of the country districts of Champaign County. There were no telephones, no free delivery of mail, no pike roads, and the nearest postoffice to the Babb home was Danville, twenty-five miles away. Only at considerable intervals did a member of the family go there for the mail and other supplies. The nearest church was seventeen miles distant. Milton Babb was a very useful man in his community. He built the first schoolhouse in that section on his own land and paid for the building out of his own pocket. Later, when the district school was formally organized and established, he was reimbursed for the expense of this schoolhouse. Another incident that is recalled is his hiring a man at steady wages and furnishing him with a gun and ammunition to keep the deer out of his cornfields. That indicates how numerous the deer were at the time. Nearly every night the wolves howled about his doorstep.

Elizabeth Littler Babb was born near Circleville, Ohio, and lived to a good old age, passing away in 1910. She was the mother of four children; Edwin P., the oldest; Alice J., deceased; James E., a prominent corporation attorney of Lewiston, Idaho; and Charles D., a banker at Homer, Illinois. The mother of these children married for her second husband James Yeazel. The two children of that union are Milton J., of Danville, and Frank, of the Province of Ontario, Canada.

Edwin P. Babb grew up in Champaign County, attended the district



Milton Babb

school near the old homestead, and at the age of twenty-one took charge of the home farm. He was only ten years of age when his father died and being the oldest son responsibilities were early thrust upon his shoulders in advance of his age. He continued the management of this farm until the property was divided among the heirs. He then engaged in farming on an extensive scale and made a specialty of raising Percheron horses and Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Babb still owns a fine farm, on which he keeps a tenant. In 1904 he removed to Champaign, and lived in a beautiful home at 401 Prospect Street.

Mr. Babb married October 8, 1884, Miss Emma Conkey, who was born at Homer, Champaign County. Her parents were Dr. William A. and Virginia (Sadler) Conkey. Her father, a native of Massachusetts, came to Champaign County when a boy. All the money he had was two dollars and a half, and he invested this in a town lot at Homer. He possessed a genius for versatile accomplishment and effort, and was always able to adapt himself to circumstances. He took up the study of medicine, completing his education at Louisville, Kentucky, and on returning to Champaign County practiced successfully for nine years. He also served as supervisor of his township and commissioner of highways. As his family grew up he bought a farm and was engaged in farming until his death. Dr. Conkey married on May 31, 1849, Virginia Sadler. She was born in Virginia, November 20, 1827, and her family were early settlers in Vermilion County, Illinois, locating there in 1840. Dr. Conkey and wife had nine children: Aubert J., of Homer; Byron M., deceased; Francis, deceased; Lucy, wife of Mathew Spencer; Bruce T., deceased; Carl A., of Homer; Emma, Mrs. Babb; Frank M., of Homer; and Fred B., of Howe, Indiana. Dr. Conkey died December 2, 1908, and his wife passed away March 4, 1904.

In politics Mr. Babb is a Republican. He is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Champaign. He and his wife have had two children. Harry C., who was born January 17, 1886, lives at Champaign and is a traveling salesman. He married Lulu Goodman, and his three children are Dorothy Louise, born May 10, 1909; Harry C., who died at the age of eight months; and James Carlock, born April 29, 1915. Mr. Babb's only daughter, Jennie Kate, born March 1, 1888, died February 3, 1893.

C. Maxwell Caldwell. As a general electrical contractor C. Maxwell Caldwell has more than made good in Champaign, and a few years ago he established his business in a two-story building which in point of equipment and service is without question the best small plant in the state, Chicago not excepted. He is in the general electrical contracting business and also handles supplies and does manufacturing in that line. It is the only business of the kind in central Illinois.

Mr. Caldwell was born in Logan County, Illinois, September 7, 1879, a son of A. M. and Letitia (White) Caldwell. His father was born in New Holland in Logan County, Illinois, while his mother was a native of Ohio. In 1902 A. M. Caldwell removed to Champaign and for fifteen years he was live stock representative for the Chicago Live Stock World. He is now looking after a plantation of 3,000 acres in Arkansas, and is taking life somewhat leisurely. He and his wife have eight children: Grace, wife of Guy Stewart of Champaign; Emma, wife of George Bates of Great Falls, Montana; C. Maxwell; Richard of Champaign; B. John, who is associated with his brother in electrical contracting; Eva, also in business in her brother's firm; Marie and Neil, both still at home with their parents.

C. Maxwell Caldwell, preparatory to his active business career, had the

advantage of training for three years in the University of Illinois. He then went on the road as a traveling salesman for the Chicago Live Stock World in the advertising department, and gave that up to establish his present business.

Mr. Caldwell was married August 6, 1908, to Harriet Woodcock, a native of Champaign. They have two children: John Maxwell and Betty Jane. In politics Mr. Caldwell is independent. He is a member of Western Star Lodge No. 240, A. F. & A. M.; Champaign Chapter No. 50, R. A. M.; Champaign Commandery No. 68. K. T.; Mohammed Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.; is a member of Champaign Lodge, B. P. O. E.; a member of the Champaign Rotary Club, the Champaign County Country Club, the Champaign City Club, and a member of the Champaign Chamber of Commerce. He and his family worship in the Methodist Episcopal denomination.

THOMAS MCQUAID. Three generations of the McQuaid family have devoted their industry and their active years to the business of farming and the affairs of their community in Champaign County. The founder of the family here was Thomas McQuaid, Sr., now deceased, while Thomas, Jr., is owner of the old homestead in Compromise Township, but its chief responsibilities are now in the hands of his son John McQuaid.

Thomas McQuaid was born at Rantoul, a son of Thomas and Catherine (Moiland) McQuaid. He was one of two children, his sister being Ellen. Thomas McQuaid, Jr., was educated in the Rantoul High School, and in 1884 married Anastatia Gordon. She was born at Aurora in Kane County, Illinois, a daughter of John and Mary Gordon.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McQuaid located on the old McQuaid homestead and took the active management of the farm. His parents lived with them until they passed away. Thomas McQuaid, Sr., was a native of Ireland and came to America in 1848. He married in Michigan and on coming to Illinois bought 240 acres in Champaign County. He had all the characteristics of those worthy people who come from the land of the Shamrock, and he earned his prosperity and left in his farm a splendid monument to his industry. It was Thomas McQuaid, Sr., and wife who set out the many trees which now make a complete grove around the homestead, and it is one of the finest tree plantations in the county.

After the death of his parents Thomas McQuaid, Jr., continued to live on the farm, and the well kept fields show the character of his work as a husbandman.

Mr. and Mrs. McQuaid had three children: Catherine Agnes, Emily and John J. Death came into the home and removed both of the daughters, so that the only surviving child is John McQuaid.

Mr. John McQuaid, one of the most progressive young farmers of Champaign County, began his education at Penfield, and in 1905 his parents moved to Champaign in order that he might have the very best training for the serious duties of life. In 1912 he graduated A. B. from the University of Illinois, and on leaving college he entered the service of the First National Bank of Champaign. He remained there three years and gained an experience invaluable to him for his future years. In 1916 he assumed active management of his father's farm, and both of them now spend their working hours on the farm but retain their home in Champaign. Mr. Thomas McQuaid is an active Democrat, and he and his family are members of the Catholic Church at Champaign. While they enjoy the comforts of a good town home, the old homestead is endeared to them by many associations and tender remembrances. Every visitor to this choice spot of Champaign County is attracted by the stately old trees, the broad, fertile fields, and the many evidences of successful cultivation and management. The farm con-

sists of 560 acres, and in quality of soil it is not surpassed by any other similar tract of land in the state. The companionship of Mr. and Mrs. McQuaid has been one of rare felicity and a happy combination of talents and qualities that have made their years most happy and productive. Mr. John McQuaid, the son, though the only child of well-to-do parents, was not content merely to use the means which were so liberally supplied him. He made a splendid record as a student in the University of Illinois and has shown capability and wisdom in every business undertaking. He is a young man of exemplary and temperate habits, and his life has already justified the sanguine expectations of his family and friends.

Frank G. Russell came to Champaign after an extensive business as a meat merchant both in local houses and on the road, and now enjoys high financial rating and a successful business as proprietor of the Chicago Market Company, dealers in meats and packing house products. Mr. Russell was born in Terre Haute, Indiana, October 1, 1888, a son of William and Emma (Braiser) Russell. His father was born in Burlington, Iowa, and his mother at Terre Haute, Indiana. Both are now living at Danville, Illinois, where his father for many years has been in the sign business. There were three children: Louis, associated with his father at Danville; Frank; and Harry, who is in the employ of his brother at Champaign.

Frank G. Russell was educated at Danville, and at the age of eighteen entered the American Bank & Trust Company at Danville, where for about three years he had a practical training in bank work and general business which has proved of inestimable value to him in subsequent years. From the Danville bank he went to Terre Haute and became assistant bookkeeper with Dowdall & Baker, wholesale meat dealers. He was with them two years in the offices and then about a year traveled on the road as their representative. This house eventually put him in charge of the market at Champaign, which he opened in 1912, and in 1915 he bought the business and continues to make a splendid success of it under his own management.

In June, 1914, Mr. Russell married Nellie Ice, a native of Champaign. Mrs. Russell by a previous marriage had four children, Mariam, Madge, Helen and Dorothy. In politics Mr. Russell takes an independent attitude.

Jacob Moudy. The community of Ludlow in Champaign County pays special honor and respect to Jacob Moudy and his family. Mr. Moudy has had a long and active career. His years have been spent with benefit to himself and also to his family, friends and neighbors, and he has done something to make every community with which he has been identified a little better and to elevate the standards of life and morality.

Mr. Moudy is a son of Peter and Elizabeth Moudy, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. In the early days they migrated from Pennsylvania down the Ohio River, traveling on a flatboat to Cincinnati. Later they went still farther west to Illinois, making this journey in the old-fashioned prairie schooner. Peter and Elizabeth Moudy had eleven children, Jacob being next to the youngest.

When Jacob Moudy was twenty-three years of age the war cloud arose over the land and he enlisted with the boys in blue and went to the front at Columbus, Kentucky, on the Mississippi River at Columbus Ford. Later his command was moved to the Little Obion River in Tennessee, and he was employed there chiefly in guard duty and in protecting railroads. With the close of his term he went to Chicago and was mustered out, but was still desirous of continuing his service to his country and sought to get enrolled in the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Regiment, where two of his cousins were fighting. He was unable to get enrolled because

about that time he was taken with the fever. Returning home to Danville, Illinois, he was married two years later to Miss Mary Villars.

Mrs. Moudy is a daughter of Oliver and Mary Villars of Vermilion County, Illinois. Her Grandfather Villars was a native of Pennsylvania and her maternal Grandmother Timmens was a native of England. Oliver and Mary Villars migrated from Ohio to Illinois. Mrs. Moudy was a small child when her mother died, and she was reared in the home of her grandfather, who was a minister of the Gospel. She was carefully trained and given a wholesome equipment for the duties of life.

After his marriage Jacob Moudy began housekeeping in Ford County, Illinois. His home was eight miles east of Paxton, where he was successfully engaged in farming. A year later he sold his farm and removed to Chicago, and took up the trade of carpenter. He was employed by the Illinois Central Railway in the passenger department, a position secured for him through an old friend. While there he received a telegram to return home, as his brother was dangerously ill. After his brother's death, which soon followed, he yielded to the earnest wish of his father, whose feeble health unfitted him for work, and returning to Danville, took active control of the old homestead. Some years later Mr. Moudy returned to Ford County and resumed farming there, and with the exception of seven years' residence in Missouri he and his family have lived in Ford and Champaign counties to the present time.

To Mr. and Mrs. Moudy were born eight children, four sons and four daughters. Their names are Luther, Oscar, Lisha, Lewis, Hannah, Leota, Dona and Cora. The children obtained their early education chiefly in the district schools of Ford County. Luther, who is a farmer with home at West Salem, is married and has two sons, Wilbur and Earl. Oscar, also a farmer at West Salem, married and has a daughter, Dorothy. Lisha, after the death of his wife, bought property near West Salem in order to afford better educational advantages to his son and daughter, Wayne E. and Mercedes. Lewis resides in Akron, Ohio, where he is employed in an automobile factory, and he has two children, Berdine and Herschel. Hannah is the wife of Ed Ketchum, a carpenter whose home is at Clarence, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Ketchum have five children, Oscar, Mary, Milo, Allen and Clarence. Leota married Clarie Hupp, who is a grain merchant at Cullom, and their two children are Raymond and Marlin. Dona married Charles McHaley, a hardware merchant at Rankin. Their three children are Marvin, Opal and Laura Etta. Cora is the wife of Homer Funkhouser, a farmer near Penfield. Mr. and Mrs. Funkhouser have seven children named Merle, Doris, Eugene, Christine, Margaret, Lenore and Emery. Mr. and Mrs. Moudy are very proud of their children, their grandchildren and especially of their great-grandchild, Emerson Shoemate. This great-grandchild is a son of Elmer and Mary (Ketchum) Shoemate, and a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ketchum, above mentioned. Mr. and Mrs. Shoemate reside at Ludlow and he is employed with the grain elevator there.

Mr. and Mrs. Moudy deserve much credit for rearing and bringing their children to places of usefulness and honor in the world. Mr. Moudy in politics has always voted with the Democratic party. He takes pride in the fact that he supported William Jennings Bryan for the presidency three times, and with that great Nebraska commoner has always stood strongly for temperance principles. He believes that a joyful day awaits America when King Alcohol is dethroned. Mr. and Mrs. Moudy first united with the New Light Church and subsequently with the Christian denomination. They are able to take pardonable pride in their past, which they may review without regret. Mr. Moudy is now at an age when he

may enjoy the leisure of well earned retirement and can feel that duty has been well performed. It is especially a satisfaction to know that in early life he marched away with the boys in blue carrying a gun for the protection of his flag and Government, and in subsequent years he lived to see his country peaceful and united and growing and developing upon the sure foundation of unity and freedom.

CHESTER W. LITTLE. One of the fine country homes which bespeak comfort and the enjoyment of the good things of life well earned is that of Mr. and Mrs. Chester W. Little, located four and a half miles southwest of Rantoul on one of the rural routes radiating from that city.

Mr. Little has had a long and active career as an agriculturist and is still busy with his fields and his live stock, and has in his children most capable assistants both in the home and on the farm. Mr. Little was born at Collison Station in Vermilion County, Illinois, a son of John and Charlotte (Coon) Little, both of whom are now deceased. They were born in Ohio and came to Illinois in early youth. Their children were named Thomas, George, Samuel, Jane, Chester and Benjamin. These children grew up in Vermilion County and acquired an education in the Gray district schools. The sons were reared to the same profession as their father, that of agriculture, and all of them have demonstrated their capability.

Chester W. Little married Elizabeth Thayer, who was born in Champaign County, one of the ten children of Milo and Mary (Wright) Thayer. Mrs. Little was educated in the Union Center district school.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Little started life on a place a mile and a half northeast of Thomasboro. Mr. Little owned eighty acres there, having earned that by his work as a wage earner in early life. The Little family moved when he was young to Champaign County, and he spent his boyhood in the early times of this section. When he was a boy very few of the pastures were fenced, and the neighbors followed the practice of driving their stock together, herding them on the prairie, the responsibility of herder usually falling upon some active and vigilant boy. Chester Little got his full experience of that work. Thus he spent many hours on the prairies alone with the stock, and while there he improved his opportunity to observe nature and also formulated that practical working philosophy which has stood him in good stead for all the subsequent trials and problems of life.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Little went to work with zeal and energy, and the passing years have abundantly rewarded them. Into their home came three children, one son and two daughters, Florence, Chester and Hazel. Mr. and Mrs. Little from the first took the greatest of pains to educate these children for useful work in the world and as true types of American citizens. The children attended the Union Center School and Florence and Chester both finished the eighth grade there and subsequently attended Brown's Business College at Champaign. The girls are still studying music, piano, at home.

After selling his first place Mr. Little bought 200 acres southwest of Rantoul, and there the best work of his life has been done. He remodeled the house, built commodious barns and other outbuildings, has planted fruit and shade trees, and has made one of the attractive features of the landscape. Mr. and Mrs. Little have also accomplished the one thing that many farmers neglect, and that is making the home attractive to their children. Thus the young folks have of their own volition remained at home instead of seeking opportunities outside, and the family by their co-operation have demonstrated again the truth of the phrase, "In union there is strength."

Politically Mr. Little has always been an ardent Republican, believing

that the best laws and policies have emanated from that party. He is a man of public spirit, served on the school board a number of years, and has done all he could to obtain community institutions and improvements in line with advanced standards. There are many city homes that do not equal the Little place in point of facilities. They run the farm with improved machinery, have installed a complete water system around the house, having hot and cold running water within the home, and they also have two automobiles in which to enjoy life and better carry out the business of farming. Thus for many years the lives of the Little family have been closely identified with Champaign County. The Little home is one noted for its hospitality and in the character of its members the family is one well entitled to the respect they enjoy.

JOHN CLARK. It is a grateful distinction to have spent half a century in one community, and when those years were filled with worthy accomplishment and with that old-fashioned spirit of loving kindness, such a career becomes one deserving of admiration and worthy of perpetuation in any history of a county in which it has been spent. The venerable John Clark, who died August 21, 1917, was a resident of Gifford. He came to Champaign County in 1868. He lived far beyond the fourscore mark, and his activities and those of the family have been a notable contribution to the upbuilding of Champaign County.

He was a native of Scotland and when he brought his bride to this country it took fifty-two days to cross the ocean. Now only the space of a breath serves to bring us into touch with remote continents. Thus he witnessed and experienced that remarkable age of scientific achievement by which the world has been rewrought and made to respond to entirely new influences and new principles.

John Clark was born in Forfarshire, Scotland, April 2, 1830, a son of William and Mary Clark, both natives of Scotland. There were four children. Thomas and Alexander are now deceased. Isabella is still living in her native land, the wife of David Freeman. John Clark grew up and acquired his early training in the habits of industry and frugality in Scotland, and there he laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Miss Jean Butters. She was born in Kirrmour, Scotland, September 16, 1827. Two of her sisters continue to live in Dundee and a brother, David, in Australia. John Clark and wife were married at Glasgow, and the day following their marriage they turned their faces toward the New World and embarked on the Java, a 300-foot packet, sailing to New York. On arriving in that city John Clark found employment and worked for two years in a sugar factory. In 1855 he came west to Chicago and subsequently lived at LaGrange, Illinois, until they removed to Champaign County in 1868. When they came to Chicago John Clark had only $6. Five dollars he paid for the rent of a house and thus they faced the world with brave hearts and courageous spirits but with only $1 in cash.

To their marriage were born five children, one of whom died in Chicago and was buried there. The others were named Alexander, Robert B., John A. and Elizabeth. Elizabeth is the wife of Alfred Jenkinson.

After coming to Champaign County John Clark through industry and economy was able to purchase eighty acres of land, paying $8 an acre. That land today is worth many times what he paid for it. Gradually his prosperity grew with the passing years, and Mr. Clark owned 320 acres in Illinois and also had 220 acres in Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark always used their means so as to promote their own comfort and happiness and the pleasure of those around them. In January, 1886, they returned to Scotland for a visit to the hills and



MR. AND MRS. JOHN CLARK
Taken on Their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary.

heather of their native land, and spent four months in the Old World. They sailed from New York on the steamer Oregon, which on its return trip sunk. How vastly improved transportation was in the interval which had passed since they first came to the New World was indicated by the fact that they were only nine days in going from Chicago to Dundee, Scotland.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark instilled the principles of honesty and integrity in the character of their children and did all they could to prepare them for worthy citizens. They reared their sons as farmers, believing that the man who tills the soil can always face life independently. Their oldest son, Alexander, is a farmer two miles east of Gifford, located on his father's old homestead. He married Isabel Minnis, a native of Wisconsin, and their children are Jeanne, Emma, whose name at home has always been "Bonnie," John, Nellie, now deceased, and Robert. These children were educated at Penfield. Bonnie graduated from the high school there and was a successful teacher in Champaign County before her marriage to John Bryan. Mr. and Mrs. Bryan live at Wolcott, Indiana. John Clark, son of Alexander, married Inez Reynolds, and their child, John, became a great-grandchild of Mr. John Clark. Robert is now a student in the Gifford High School, and Jeanne lived with her grandfather at Gifford until his death.

Robert Clark, the second son of John Clark, married Sarah Rupp, and they have a child, Edith.

John A. Clark, the third son, married Dora Hummel, and their five daughters are named Lena, Julia, Dora, Rosella and Orvilla.

Mr. and Mrs. John Clark lived to see Champaign County converted from almost a virgin district into one of the garden spots of the world. Along with the material success that rewarded his efforts Mr. John Clark found himself the repeated object of esteem on the part of his fellow citizens, who elected him road commissioner for fifteen years, and also school director. In politics he was first, last and always a Republican. He said: "We never find a Democrat a Scotchman." It was his opinion that the best principles of good government had their birth in the Republican party. Mr. Clark was long affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He and his wife were very active members and liberal supporters of the Baptist Church at Gifford.

The greatest sorrow of his life came on June 1, 1916, when his beloved wife and companion was claimed by death. Mrs. John Clark was a true mother in Israel. The affection of a large community was given her during her life and hundreds of sorrowing friends gathered to pay a last tribute of respect when she died. It could be said of her that none knew her but to love her and none named her but to praise.

After the death of his wife Mr. Clark was comforted by the presence of his granddaughter, Jeanne Clark, who as housekeeper, counsellor, secretary and adviser, cherished him constantly as he faced the setting sun of life. It was a worthy career on which he could look back. He never shirked work or responsibilities, and his days were days of toil, of useful endeavor, and guided by a constant aim to live according to conscience and the divine revelations.

On May 23, 1903, Mr. and Mrs. John Clark celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Ten years later, in 1913, their sixtieth anniversary was celebrated. This was a notable occasion and 187 guests sat at the banquet which was served in the opera house. In the Clark home is a photograph of the assembled guests who gathered on his lawn at Gifford. Such occasions have a greater significance and value than many of the events which attract more newspaper publicity.

ELIZABETH CLARK JENKINSON, daughter of the late venerable John Clark of Gifford, whose career has been fully sketched in preceding pages, resides on one of the fine farming estates around Gifford and some special mention should be made of her family.

She is the wife of Mr. Alfred Jenkinson, who was born at Lacon, Illinois, a son of Benjamin and Mary A. (Willy) Jenkinson. Benjamin Jenkinson was born in Yorkshire, England, and his wife in Leicestershire, England. They immigrated to America at an early day and were married at Lacon, Illinois, in 1857. Of their ten children Alfred was the oldest. The children all attended district schools in Marshall County, Illinois, and experienced the hardships incident to pioneer life. The Jenkinson family lived in a log house, and their efforts served to reclaim a portion of Illinois soil to cultivation.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Jenkinson began their wedded life on his father's estate half a mile north of Gifford. Here Mr. Jenkinson has found ample opportunities to prove his ability as a farmer and his business judgment has enabled him to acquire a farm of 200 acres.

Their family consists of four children, Clemens J., Mary Isabel, Jessie Virginia and John Benjamin. The education and training of these children were a primary consideration of Mr. and Mrs. Jenkinson from the beginning. They sent them to the local district schools and also to the Gifford High School. John took a three years' high school course in Rantoul. The other three children are all graduates of the Gifford High School, while Jessie taught in her home school and also the Martin and teachers of Champaign County. Isabel taught two terms at the Weber School. The daughters Isabel and Jessie proved popular and successful Reynolds schools.

Clemens J. Jenkinson married William Lohmiller, a farmer living on a place adjoining Mr. Jenkinson's. They have four children: Elizabeth J., Jessie Pauline, Mary Clemens and John Alfred.

Mary Isabel Jenkinson married Harry Hamilton, bookkeeper with a lumber firm at Hoopeston, Illinois. They have five children: Laura Elizabeth, Harry Leland, Kenneth Franklin, Mary Isabel and Margaret Helen.

John Benjamin Jenkinson, a railroad man living in Chicago, married Margaret Miller, and they have a child, Jean Clark, named after her great-grandmother.

Jessie Virginia Jenkinson is the wife of George Corbley, a farmer living near Paxton, Illinois. They have one child, Virginia.

Besides his success as a farmer Mr. Jenkinson has in many ways proved his public spirit as a factor in the community. He served as school director over twenty years, also as road commissioner and township treasurer. He is loyally identified with the Republican party, and he and his family attend the Baptist Church in Gifford. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. Jenkinson takes an active part in local social affairs and is a member of the Social Science Club.

JOHN A. CLARK. Among the numerous families of Champaign County whose activities have contributed materially to its upbuilding and the promotion of its best interests that of Clark stands prominent.

Now living retired at Rantoul, Mr. John A. Clark spent the best years of his active career as a successful farmer, and he reared and liberally provided for his family through the fruits of his toil in the fields of this county.

Mr. Clark is a son of John and Jean (Butters) Clark, both of whom were born and reared among the hills and heather of Scotland. John Clark's heart was won by a Scotch lassie and he succeeded in persuading

her to change her name. The young people were possessed of characteristic energy and progressiveness, strong traits of the native Scotch. It was their ardent desire to cast their lot with the New World, concerning which they had heard wonderful stories. On the day following their wedding, when the festivities of the occasion were scarcely ended, John and Jane Clark started for America. The future was rainbowed with promises, and seen through a rosy tint of bright anticipation they courageously undertook to carve out their own fortune. After landing in New York they lived there two years and then removed to Cook County, Illinois, and still later to Champaign County. From time to time children came into their home until the house echoed with the cheerful laughter of four bright Scotch-American girls and boys. They were named Alexander M., Robert B., John A. and Elizabeth W. Clark.

John Clark, Sr., spent his life as a farmer and in time acquired a fine estate and a luxurious home, surrounded with productive land. He finally retired from active duties and removed to Gifford, where he entered into rest August 21, 1917, honored and esteemed.

John A. Clark married Dora Hummel, daughter of Phillip and Catherine Hummel, both of whom are natives of Germany and came to America at an early day. This good couple were possessed of the usual German energy and thrift. The Hummel children were Phillip and Mary (born to the father's first union in Germany), Henry, Chris, Will, Mrs. Anna Roberts and Mrs. Dora Clark.

John and Dora Clark began their wedded life on a farm near Penfield, Illinois, and in that section of Champaign County their industry and energy soon brought ample reward. Into their home were born five daughters and one son. The son died in infancy, but the disappointment of this loss was recompensed somewhat by the lives of the five daughters who grew to the flower of womanhood. These daughters are named Pauline, Julia, Dorothy, Rosilla and Orvilla. The daughters first attended the Stone Street district school, later the high school at Penfield, from which both Dorothy and Rosilla graduated with honors, the former in 1909 and the latter in 1911. Dorothy Clark, in order to fit herself for a position of usefulness, went to Urbana and learned the dressmaking trade from Mrs. Maxfield and is now successfully engaged in that occupation. Mrs. Clark endeavored to rear her daughters as diligent and faithful home makers, and it has been her satisfaction to see the splendid proofs of her work in the efficiency with which these young people have gone about their duties. Pauline Clark married John Oehmke, a farmer near Penfield, and they have two children, Dorothy and Myron. Rosilla Clark married Lloyd Wise, and it is permitted to say that he was a wise man to secure such a worthy companion. He is a successful farmer, and they reside on the Clark estate at Penfield, where Mr. and Mrs. Clark had their home for thirty-five prosperous and happy years. Mr. and Mrs. Wise have a daughter, Gwendolyn. The remaining three daughters, Julia, Dorothy and Orvilla, still reside with their parents. For seven years Dorothy lived with her Grandparents Clark at Gifford, where she attended high school.

In politics John A. Clark has always been a stanch Republican. He and his brothers learned the principles of that political faith from their father in boyhood days. The strongest characteristic of his life aside from the hard sense he has employed in his business affairs is the public spirited attitude he has taken into his relations with the community. That he possesses the full confidence of his fellow citizens scarcely needs proof in a community where he has been known for so long. His counsel and advice have been sought frequently in the administration of public affairs. He served as school director, and whether officially or as a private citizen

he has done all he could to promote the upbuilding of the local schools. He has also been road commissioner, township central committeeman for many years, and was township supervisor until he removed from his old neighborhood. His experiences and opinions have been helpful and have been appreciated. Mr. Clark is a true American, of that type which has colored and made glorious the annals of this country.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark with their daughters are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Penfield. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and both he and his wife are members of the Court of Honor. Formerly Mrs. Clark and daughters were Pythian Sisters. In 1917 Mr. and Mrs. Clark retired to Rantoul, where they have a pleasant home on Grove Avenue. They are still active, and the wisdom of experience enables them to enjoy these years even more abundantly than the past. They have contributed their share toward the enrichment of American life, have reared their daughters and trained them carefully for the emergencies and duties of the world, and it is not strange that they enjoy the esteem and admiration of a host of friends.

Paul J. Strahle is one of the younger business men of Champaign, is active and aggressive, and has already acquired a secure position as a unit in the commercial community.

A native of Champaign, he was born February 20, 1892, the only son and child of John G. and Catherine (Dawson) Strahle. His mother was born in England and died at Champaign, March 1, 1912. John G. Strahle is also a native of Champaign County, was for a number of years a tailor by trade, but is now associated with his son in business.

Educated in the public schools of Champaign, Paul J. Strahle early evinced a strong inclination and tendency for mechanical pursuits and he served an apprenticeship which in itself constituted the equivalent of a technical university course. For a time he was in the engineering department of the Cadillac Company at Detroit, also with the Studebaker Company, and from there removed to Dayton, Ohio, and had a thorough course of training in the engineering departments of the Delco plant. Mr. Strahle is an expert electrician and is master of practically every technical detail connected with the construction, assembling and repair of automobiles. In March, 1915, he engaged in business for himself at Champaign in electrical supplies and garage. He is now manager and proprietor of the Willard Service Station there. Mr. Strahle is unmarried. He is a Democrat in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Jesse Meharry. One of the largest farming estates in Champaign County is that of the Jesse Meharry family, now managed and operated by the sons of the late Jesse Meharry. Mr. Meharry was a notable figure in Champaign County affairs, not only as a land owner, farmer and stockman, but as a public spirited citizen.

He was born in Montgomery County, Indiana, October 9, 1835. He was of Scotch-Irish and Welsh extraction. Concerning his ancestry it is said that during the reign of "Bloody" Queen Mary his forefathers escaped by going to Ireland. After several generations some of the family located in Pennsylvania, near Connelsville. Later they moved to Adams County, Ohio.

The parents of Jesse Meharry were Thomas and Eunity (Patton) Meharry. Thomas Meharry was born April 27, 1799, in Adams County, Ohio. Eunity Patton was born in Brown County, Ohio, August 16, 1802. They married in December, 1827. Soon after their marriage the young people moved to near Wingate, Indiana, in Montgomery County, where they lived the remainder of their lives. He was a man of splendid business

ability and acquired a large amount of land not only in Indiana but in Illinois. Thomas Meharry died January 29, 1874. He was the father of seven children: Mrs. Jane P. Dick, William, Mrs. Ellen Martin, Jesse, Mrs. Polly A. McCorkle, Abraham P. and Isaac.

Jesse Meharry was raised on his father's farm in Indiana, attended the local district school and spent two years at Asbury, now DePauw University, at Greencastle, Indiana. He taught the local district school for two winters. He cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont in 1856, and voted for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He remained loyal to the Republican party throughout his life.

Jesse Meharry came to Champaign County in 1862, herded and fed cattle on the prairie between Mattoon and Rantoul for three years. In 1865 he took up his permanent residence in Philo Township on a tract of land of 640 acres which was raw prairie. There he occupied himself in bringing his farm to a high state of cultivation and in feeding and raising live stock. In 1893 Mr. Meharry moved to Tolono, Illinois, where he held residence till his death.

Mr. Meharry served his fellow citizens as supervisor of Philo Township for eleven years and was a commissioner of highways in Philo Township for several terms. He had been a member of the Republican County Central Committee since 1888, serving a longer term than any other member ever had served.

On June 4, 1887, Mr. Meharry united with the Tolono Methodist Episcopal Church. He served over forty years on the official board and acted as Sunday School Superintendent for twenty-two years. He was a member of the building committee when the new church was erected.

He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, Illinois, for the seven years prior to his death.

On February 27, 1873, Mr. Meharry was married at New Lenox, Illinois, to Miss Addie A. Francis, the daughter of Abraham and Mary A. J. (Davison) Francis, and of this union the following children were born: Jesse Erle, George Francis, Edwin Thomas, and Paul Francis.

Jesse Erle Meharry was born near Tolono, Illinois, December 31, 1876, and was graduated from the Tolono High School in 1895, and from the University of Illinois in 1899. He was married to Katharine I. Hay of Carmi, Illinois, September 22, 1916. He is a farmer and breeder of Poland China hogs, his herd being classed with the best six herds of Poland Chinas in the United States.

George Francis Meharry, born at Tolono, Illinois, June 12, 1880, was graduated from the Tolono High School 1899, and from the University of Illinois 1905. He was married to Miss Sophie Mary Voss of Champaign, Illinois, February 27, 1912. He is engaged in farming.

Edwin Thomas Meharry, born near Tolono, Illinois, November 30, 1881, was graduated from the Tolono High School in 1900, and from the University of Illinois in 1906, and is a farmer by occupation.

Paul Francis Meharry was born March 23, 1888, near Tolono, Illinois, was prepared in the Tolono High School and the University of Illinois Academy, and finished his education at the University of Illinois. He was married to Miss Stella Blanche Dougherty of Fairmount, Illinois, on February 3, 1914. He follows farming.

Leo H. Bireline, one of the youngest business men of Champaign, is successfully engaged in the metal roofing business, an industry which he learned during his youth, his father being also connected with the same line of business.

Mr. Bireline was born in Danville, Illinois, June 19, 1894, a son of Henry and Emma (Diehl) Bireline, both of whom were also natives of

Danville. His parents are still living at Danville and his father conducts a roofing and sheet metal works in that city. There were five children in the family: Catherine Ellen, wife of W. A. Meck of Danville; Robert, who is associated with his brother Leo in business at Champaign; Leo; Florence and Emily, both at home with their parents.

Leo H. Bireline grew up in Danville, attended the city schools, spent two years in high school and finished his education in Brown's Business College at Danville. There he took a bookkeeping and general business course, and with that equipment and with the experience he had acquired under his father he came to Champaign to take charge of the local branch of the sheet metal and roofing business. This business in its subsequent growth now requires all his time and active attention. The headquarters of the business is a large building 25x125 feet, with ample facilities for a perfect service in their particular line.

Mr. Bireline married Ruby Bodine, a native of Kingman, Indiana, but reared in Danville. They have one child, Margaret. Mr. Bireline is a Republican in politics, is a thirty-second degree and Consistory Mason, and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He and his family are members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church.

Peter Peterson. For many years the late Peter Peterson was a resident of Champaign, was a quiet and industrious business man, acquired considerable property and made his name influential and honored in this community.

A native of Sweden, Mr. Peterson was born in 1848. He was twenty-one years of age when he left his native land and came to America in 1869, soon afterward locating in the city of Champaign. He had received his education in Sweden and was well fitted for a life of activity. He engaged in the dray and transfer business at Champaign, and conducted that actively for nearly forty years. He was in the full vigor of his powers almost until the last, and his death occurred in Champaign in August, 1909.

He was married in 1871, at Champaign, to Marian Christina Olson. She was born in Sweden and came to Champaign in 1870. Mrs. Peterson is still living, but an invalid and has lost the power of speech. She has one of the comfortable homes of Champaign, owns considerable property, and her constant attendant in her declining years is her daughter, Mrs. Sophie J. Parr. The only son of Mrs. Peterson, Charles J. Peterson, lives in Chicago, Illinois.

Mrs. Sophie J. Parr was born in Champaign. She is a highly educated woman and has long been identified with public school work in Champaign. She graduated from the University of Illinois in 1893, and for sixteen years has been a successful teacher. For the last three years she has been principal of the Colonel Wolfe School at Champaign. Mrs. Parr is the widow of the late Louis J. Parr, who was a successful architect and practiced during his active life in Peoria, Illinois. He was graduated valedictorian of his class from the University of Illinois in 1897. Mr. Parr died in December, 1907. Mrs. Parr has two children: Harold Leslie and Marie Christine, both at home with their mother. The late Mr. Parr was an active member of the Congregational Church.

Joseph Kerr. One of the oldest and most honored names in Champaign County is that of Kerr, and its substantial qualities are fittingly commemorated by that name being assigned to one of the prosperous townships. It is in section 5 of this township that Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kerr reside and have their fine country home. Mr. Joseph Kerr has for many years been a hard

working and prosperous farmer and has a great deal of real accomplishment to his credit.

He was born in Kerr Township, a son of Samuel and Betsy Ann (Taylor) Kerr. His father was born in Ohio and his mother in Kentucky. Samuel Kerr, who was of Scotch-Irish stock, was one of the earliest pioneers of Champaign County and the first settler in the Sugar Grove community. He located there when his nearest neighbor was six miles away. The country was a raw and unbroken prairie. There were no railroads nor towns, and the Kerr home was a nucleus around which other settlers gradually gathered and began the development of one of the finest sections of the entire county. Samuel Kerr was not only a hard working pioneer but a man of splendid character, and it was for him that the township was named.

Mr. Joseph Kerr grew up in this county, attended the local schools, and started life independently when he married Emma Bradshaw. Mrs. Joseph Kerr was born in Fountain County, Indiana, a daughter of Thomas and Nancy (Daily) Bradshaw. She was only two years of age when her father died. Her mother then married again and moved to Champaign County, locating on the land which now constitutes the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kerr. Mrs. Kerr was the youngest of ten children. She secured her education in the Sugar Grove district school.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kerr started housekeeping on the place of her stepfather, David Morehouse. Mr. Morehouse had bought the land, consisting of eighty acres, from the Government at $1.50 an acre. At this time the land could hardly be bought for $175 an acre. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr had good ideas, sound ambition and industry, and these qualities have taken them far along the road to success.

Into their home came four children. One of them died in infancy. The three who grew up are Nancy Belle, Rosa Lee and Joseph Foster. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr took great pains to give them the best of advantages both at home and in school. They first attended Sugar Grove School, where Mrs. Kerr was educated, and the daughters also attended school at Rankin, and Nancy took further courses in the Wingate High School in Montgomery County, Indiana. She fitted herself for teaching and followed that vocation for several years at the Strayer School, the Campbell School and the Trickle Grove School. She is now the wife of Milton Strayer, formerly a farmer but now living in Onarga, Illinois. The daughter Rosa Lee married Thomas McIntosh, a carpenter living at Henning, Illinois. They have a bright and attractive daughter, Leta Ilene, now thirteen years of age and entering upon her work in the eighth grade of the public schools. The son, Joseph F. Kerr, is a successful agriculturist in Eaton County, Michigan. He married Cora McHaley. Their daughter, Agnes Cleo, is only eighteen years of age but has graduated with honors from the college at Olivet, Michigan, and has done some most creditable work in school, her record being a matter of pride to her parents and grandparents.

Mr. Joseph Kerr is one of the public spirited citizens of Champaign County. For six years his neighbors kept him in the office of road commissioner and for twenty-five years he was a school director. He believes that the best in schools are none too good for this rural district. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr attend the Methodist Episcopal Church at Pleasant Grove and are liberal supporters. Politically Mr. Kerr is a stanch Republican and has cast his vote for the principles of that party since early manhood. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr have spent their lives in Champaign County and have made their work and example count for good in the uplift of the community. Their home is one of generous hospitality and a distinct influence in the community. They are able to look back upon days and duties well spent and performed, and they may look back without regret and to the future without fear.

WILLIAM H. ZORGER, M. D. For thirty-one years Doctor Zorger has practiced his profession in DeWitt and Champaign counties. He is a talented physician, has the advantage of long and thorough experience, and has been trained in the best schools of this country and by extensive observation and study here and abroad. His able assistant and partner not only in life but in his profession is his wife, who is one of the pioneer women of the state to take up medicine as a profession and is one of the best equipped specialists in Champaign County.

Doctor Zorger was born in DeWitt County, Illinois, September 5, 1860, a son of Jacob S. and Margaret (Miller) Zorger. His father was born in York County, Pennsylvania, and in 1833 removed to Monticello, Illinois. He established a mill, which for a number of years was the only mill to supply flour and meal to a large section of country. The mill was sold to Mr. Collins in 1858, and he in turn sold it to Mr. McIntosh, and for many years it was known as the McIntosh Mill. Jacob S. Zorger died at Weldon, Illinois, in 1902, and his widow is still living there. Of their ten children five are living, and Doctor Zorger was the fifth in order of birth.

Doctor Zorger spent his early life in his father's home, had ample comforts and had the advantages of the common schools, but his preparation for his profession he had to acquire largely through his own efforts and earnings. Three years he taught in the district schools of DeWitt County. He then spent a year in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Chicago, and in 1886 graduated from the medical department of Drake University at Des Moines, Iowa. Doctor Zorger received his diploma on the 20th of March and almost immediately began practice in his native county. In 1888 he removed to Champaign County and after five years at Sadorus he moved to the city of Champaign.

On July 3, 1887, Dr. Zorger married Miss Annie L. Swan. She is a daughter of Alexander and Rebecca (Marvel) Swan. Her father was born in Scotland and her mother was a native of DeWitt County, Illinois. Her father came to America in 1857, locating on a farm near Waynesville, DeWitt County, Illinois. He was one of ten children and eight brothers came to America, he being now the only survivor of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Swan had four children, three of whom are still living, and Mrs. Zorger is the oldest.

Mrs. Zorger was educated in the common schools of Elm Grove, Illinois, afterwards attended the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, and taught school four years before her marriage. Their marriage was not only a mating of personalities but of professional inclinations. Mrs. Zorger went into a drug store and learned pharmacy. This experience was followed by her attending the Woman's Medical College at St. Louis, now known as the University Medical College of Missouri. She was graduated M. D. in 1894 and then joined her husband in practice at Champaign. In 1901 Dr. Zorger and wife went abroad and spent a year in Europe, where they attended clinics and courses in many of the most celebrated medical centers. She took up the special study of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, while he emphasized post-graduate courses in surgery.

Dr. Zorger is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, while Mrs. Zorger is active in the Pythian Sisters, the Court of Honor, the Tribe of Ben Hur, the Royal Neighbors, the Maccabees and by virtue of her ancestry is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She has also made herself an effective and influential member of the Woman's Club of Champaign and Urbana. They attend the Unitarian church, and Dr. Zorger in politics is a Democrat.

Louis William Schluter. A splendid farm and country estate two miles east of Gifford represents the toil and effort and expenditure of character and industry on the part of the Schluter family covering a long period of years. The present manager of that farm, and one who knows full well how to get the best out of the soil, is Louis William Schluter, a young and progressive farmer whose activities have brought him commendable prominence among the agriculturists of this section. Mr. Schluter's home is in section 36 of Kerr Township.

He is a native of Champaign County and a son of John William and Gesche (Fecht) Schluter. His parents were both born in Germany but came to America when single and were married in this country. They first located in Adams County, Illinois, and then came to Champaign County. They possessed the sturdy characteristics of the German fatherland, and by energy and economy secured the comforts of their simple home and gradually expanded their holdings to the possession of a very splendid estate. For a long time John W. Schluter worked for wages of $13 a month. There came a time when he was able to buy his first land, and he gradually accumulated more until his estate consisted of 480 broad acres, improved with excellent buildings, shade trees, and altogether constituting one of the most attractive farms in Champaign County. He and his good wife had a large family of children, one of whom died in infancy, another at six years, while Martin passed away at nineteen. The surviving children are John, Harm, Catherine, Anna, Louis and Antje.

The parents did much for the education and training of these children, sending them to the Pleasant Valley school and also to the German school at Flatville. The family were for many years members of the German church at Flatville, but at present all of them attend the German Lutheran Church at Gifford.

Louis W. Schluter grew up on the home farm and learned lessons of industry from his parents, acquiring the fundamentals of a literary training in the local schools. In 1913 he married Miss Annie Sjoken. Mrs. Schluter was born in Germany, daughter of John and Margaret Sjoken, natives of the same country. When she was twelve years of age the family immigrated to America. She was educated partly in the schools of Germany and partly in Champaign County.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Schluter located on his father's estate and he assumed active management and has made good as a crop raiser and general farmer. Some years he has raised crops of 6,000 bushels of corn and 5,000 bushels of oats and is one of the young men who responded vigorously to the call for increased food production in the year 1917. Besides a large equipment of farm machinery he has some very fine horses.

Mr. and Mrs. Schluter have two bright young children, William, born in July, 1914, and John, born in July, 1916. In politics Mr. Schluter while usually a Republican is quite careful in the matter of casting his vote for the man and the principles he believes best suited for good government and progress. He is a splendid type of American citizen and it is his conviction, based upon experience, that no greater country exists in the world for the poor man who is ambitious and willing to work. Mr. Schluter has served as school trustee of Kerr Township. Having stepped into the position vacated by his father and having assumed the large responsibilities of managing the farm, he has neglected none of the rich opportunities thus presented, and has kept up the fields and all the details of the homestead and is a man of mark among the younger agricultural element of Champaign County. Standing by him through all his labors is his good wife, who is endowed with the solid virtues and the methodical industry characteristic of her German forefathers, and they have already gained many of those things which constitute success, while there is still a large future before them.

David G. Fisher, now living retired at Champaign, began farming in this county nearly half a century ago. He realizes as few men still living do the difficulties and the handicaps to which farming was subject in those early years, and he has also realized along with extensive experience financial independence and the success which is the object of all ambitious men.

Mr. Fisher was born in Fulton County, Illinois, December 3, 1839. His parents, Frederick and Sarah (Fouts) Fisher, were both born in Clark County, Indiana. When they went to Illinois in 1833 they passed through Champaign County, but sought what to them seemed a better location in Fulton County. There they lived prosperously the rest of their days as farmers and both of them died in that county. Their children were: Jacob, John, Henry, Cynthia, all now deceased; Mary, who still resides in Fulton County; Sarah, wife of Marion Kimberland, of Missouri; David G.; Clara, deceased; Isabel, living at Canton in Fulton County, widow of Jacob Fouts; Elizabeth, deceased; Ellen, wife of Thomas Beets, of Kokomo, Indiana; and Fred L., of Canton, Fulton County.

David G. Fisher was reared and educated in Fulton County. He left home at the age of twenty-four and bought a farm of 140 acres near Canton and was busy with its cultivation and management until ill health compelled him to give up his enterprise in the country and remove to town, where for three years he conducted a livery business. On selling out his interests in Fulton County Mr. Fisher came to Champaign County in the month of February, 1868. Land was then comparatively cheap and he bought a splendid place of 640 acres in Tolono Township. That was the scene of his efforts as a practical farmer and stockman and he continued to reside on his farm until 1900, when he sold and invested his capital chiefly in real estate property in Champaign. In 1907 Mr. Fisher built a fine two-story brick house at 119½ South Neil Street. He now gives his time to the management of his private affairs and is a citizen of whom the people of Champaign County think most highly. In politics he is a Republican and is a Knight Templar Mason.

Mr. Fisher was married May 23, 1863, to Mary Ellis, who died in 1906. She was the mother of the following children: Kate, Robert and Hattie, all now deceased; Fred, a farmer near Fort Wayne, Indiana; and Pearl and Myrtle. On July 28, 1911, Mr. Fisher married Serena (Hinds) Graves, a native of Champaign County. Her death occurred November 8, 1916. By her first husband she had two children: Gertrude, deceased; and Ethel, wife of Fred Becker of Champaign.

William Tomlinson. One of the oldest residents of Champaign County is Mr. William Tomlinson, whose home is at Penfield in Kerr Township. Mr. Tomlinson has experienced more than the average trials and ordeals of existence and he is well entitled to the esteem and respect that he enjoys in his community.

Mr. Tomlinson was born in the Village of Franklin, near the City of Indianapolis, in Marion County, Indiana, a son of Robert and Rachel (Sheets) Tomlinson. His parents were both born in Indiana and his Grandfather Sheets was of German descent. Mr. Tomlinson was one of eight children, seven sons and one daughter. When he was a child his father died and a little later his mother passed away at Carlyle on the Mississippi River.

William Tomlinson came to Vermilion County, Illinois, with his uncle, Elisha Crawford, in 1849, when ten years old. He came to Champaign County in 1852, and arrived here a poor and friendless boy with no money and with nothing except his own determined ambition to stand him in good stead while making a way in the busy world. For a year he worked for a farmer at $6.50 a month, and his hours of employment were from sunup to

sundown. When Mr. Tomlinson came to Champaign County there were no railroads and very few towns. The nearest market place for mail and other supplies was Danville or Urbana. The young man had instead of money a boundless supply of push and energy, and he has used his industry to secure the living which he believed the world owed him.

At the age of twenty-two he married Miss Lydia Carter. She was born in Vermilion County, Illinois. After his marriage Mr. Tomlinson bought eighty acres on the middle fork of Vermilion River, paying $7 an acre. There he started the task of founding a home of his own. Not long afterwards his plans were temporarily shattered when his young wife passed away at the birth of her first child. Mr. Tomlinson married for his second wife Mary E. Walker. Four children were born to their marriage, three sons and one daughter, John, Albert, Andrew and Rachel. These children were educated in the Kuder school. Again death visited the family and the mother passed away, leaving her youngest child only thirteen days old. Mr. Tomlinson again took upon himself the duties of a homemaker as well as a farmer, and proved both father and mother to his children. Some of the time he depended upon a housekeeper, but for months at a time he did his own housekeeping. For his third wife he married Ellen Rigleman, who died within two years. For his next wife he married Miss Louisa Lingo. A son and daughter were born to that marriage. The son while plowing corn in his father's field was killed by a stroke of lightning. The daughter, Effie, is now the wife of Harry Shumate and they live in Penfield. For his last wife Mr. Tomlinson married Mrs. Ellen Bates, who died about twelve years ago.

Few citizens of Champaign County have been so severely tested as Mr. Tomlinson. With remarkable fortitude he has withstood the vicissitudes and trials of existence and everyone must wonder at his endurance and admire his faithfulness to family and children.

His son John married Mahala S. Chenoweth and they live in South Dakota and are the parents of two children, George and Nellie. The son Albert married Erma Deidrich, and their four children, Alberta, Russell, Earl and Marlin, with their parents, all live in the home of Mr. William Tomlinson, and he takes great delight in these grandchildren. Andrew Tomlinson, the third child, now deceased, married Alta McClaren, and her children are Rosetta, Raymond, Merle and Arthur. The daughter Rachel married Mr. Gray, now deceased, and she lives at Penfield, the mother of three children, Orin, Elden and Grace.

During the passing years Mr. Tomlinson added to his land until his estate now comprises 130 acres, his home being about the center of the farm. His house is located on a fine bluff overlooking a rich valley of fertile bottom lands, with the Vermilion River sweeping gracefully around a border of trees. Thus he can live like a king, monarch of all he surveys, whose right there is none to dispute. He has for years been recognized as one of the successful and energetic farmers of Champaign County and the earth has yielded abundantly to his labors. He is a man of great public spirit and a thorough American in every sense. For a number of years he served as road commissioner of his district and also as a school director. Politically he is a stanch Republican. He cast his first vote for President Abraham Lincoln. Though a boy at the time, he has recollection of the stirring campaign when Polk was candidate for President in 1844, and he acquired his first knowledge of political issues in that time. Mr. Tomlinson's life has been closely identified with Champaign County. Coming here an orphan boy, he worked hard for his daily bread, and his industry has been steadfast through all the years of vicissitude and change and today he lives in a beautiful home, surrounded with children and grandchildren, and none will begrudge him his comfort and prosperity.

ALBERT C. BURNHAM. Even the most casual visitor in Champaign is accustomed to associate the name Burnham with that city, where two of its most prominent institutions bear the name. It is true in a broad sense that the good or evil men do in their days lives after them, but seldom does this continuing influence take a better form of concrete benefit than in the Burnham Athenaeum Library and the Julia F. Burnham Hospital in Champaign. They are memorials with a purpose, and a reaction for good day after day upon the lives of thousands in the community which the late Albert C. Burnham did so much to enrich and improve.

There was little significance attached at the time to the quiet advent of Albert C. Burnham into the law office of J. B. McKinley as a student in the spring of 1862. He was practically unknown, but at the end of thirty-five years of labor as a lawyer, banker and business man his work was firmly entrenched in the esteem and the business fabric of the community.

Albert C. Burnham was born at Deerfield, Michigan, February 20, 1839, and died at Champaign, September 13, 1897. He had the training of a Michigan farm boy. His early education was from the public schools. During the years 1860-61 he taught school during the winter months in Iroquois County, Illinois. He possessed a studious, thoughtful nature, and he began life with a solid foundation of practical knowledge and integrity of character. After completing his studies with Mr. McKinley at Champaign he was admitted to the bar and became junior member of the law firm of McKinley & Burnham. From the first this firm had influential financial connections. Through its instrumentality a large amount of eastern capital was brought west to invest in farm securities in and around Champaign. The Middle West was not then overflowing with wealth as it is today, and the money brought in by this firm was greatly needed and was wisely expended in the improving and upbuilding of many farm properties. Mr. Burnham continued to be actively associated with the law firm until 1876.

From the law he then transferred his energies to the banking house of Burnham, McKinley and Company. In 1876 J. R. Trevett and R. R. Mattis were taken in the firm, Mr. McKinley retiring, and the business continued under the title Burnham, Trevett & Mattis. Mr. Burnham was senior member of this widely known financial house until the time of his death.

It was Mr. Burnham's fortune and privilege to witness a marvelous development in Champaign County in the course of his active career. That development was primarily based upon the increasing agricultural resources. While not a tiller of the soil himself he wisely employed the forces of capital in agricultural development, and his banking house was always justly considered an integral part of the business and industrial structure of his home community. He was public spirited in every sense and was equally interested in the educational and moral development of his county.

It was his long cherished plan to add something to the cultural elements in his community that led him two years before his death in 1897, to give to the city of Champaign a magnificent lot in the heart of the business district, accompanied by the gift of fifty thousand dollars to be expended for the erection and maintenance of a library building. This gift has taken practical form in the Burnham Athenaeum. It is a library, and one of the real civic centers of the town. It is a monument to the memory of this sturdy banker and noble citizen, and thousands have benefited from the service it affords and will continue to so benefit for years yet to come.





MR. AND MRS. ALBERT C. BURNHAM

In 1866 Albert C. Burnham married Miss Julia F. Davison, who was born in New York City, April 16, 1839. Mrs. Burnham died in New York City October 25, 1894. She was reared and educated in the public schools at Newark, New Jersey, and lived in the east until she came as the bride of Mr. Burnham to Champaign. Mrs. Burnham, while ever devoted to her home, had many other interests through which she expressed her character and culture. She was devoted to her church, was charitable, and throughout her life was a prominent figure in local society. For years she served as secretary of the State Board of Charities, and held that position at the time of her death. She was one of the first women to serve on the public school board at Champaign and was also a member of the Champaign Art Club. It was a memorial to her good works as well as a testimonial of his own appreciation of her companionship and character that Mr. Burnham after her death erected the Julia F. Burnham Hospital, which was formally opened March 5, 1895. The hospital has been in existence more than twenty years. As a public institution it is one of the most important in Champaign County. While its annual revenues come largely from the pay patients, it is also a practical charity, inasmuch as a large part of its service is rendered free. During the year 1916 nearly fifteen hundred patients were admitted, with a daily average of thirty-four. A number of cases are treated free, especially children's cases. It is a noble institution, and stands as a memorial to a noble woman.

Robert Davison Burnham is the only surviving son of the late Albert C. Burnham, long prominent as a pioneer lawyer and banker at Champaign and whose career is more fully noted on other pages. Robert Davison Burnham learned banking with his father, but for many years has been actively engaged in the farm loan business, with offices in the First National Bank Building.

He was born in Champaign, February 19, 1872, one of the five children of the late A. C. Burnham and wife. Three of these children died in infancy. Mr. Burnham was the oldest and the second in age was Mary Bruce, now wife of Newton M. Harris.

Mr. Burnham was liberally educated, though he did not complete a university course. He attended the University of Illinois and also the famous college preparatory school at Lawrenceville, New Jersey. He left school to take a position in his father's office in the Burnham, Trevett & Mattis Banking Company. He was well trained in the details of banking, but in a short time left his father's office to form a partnership with his brother-in-law, Newton M. Harris, in the farm loan business.

Mr. Burnham has the public spirit of his honored father, has been a member of the Park Commission of Champaign, and is now serving on the Public Library Board. He is a member of the Episcopal church. December 4, 1895, he married Miss May Wilcox, a native of Champaign. Their three children are Robert D., Jr., Sidney Wilcox and Albert C.

Elna A. Robinson. During a long and active career Mr. Robinson has been prominently identified with Champaign County both in a professional and in a business way. His success in business has enabled him to retire and enjoy a financial competence and he is now a resident of the city of Champaign.

Mr. Robinson was born in South Reading, Vermont, December 15, 1839, a son of Ebenezer, Jr., and Adeline (Williams) Robinson. His father was born at South Reading, Vermont, September 30, 1809, and died July 5, 1849. He was married January 4, 1837, to Miss Williams, who was born

December 19, 1814, and died July 18, 1894. They had three sons, Elna A., Stillman and Albert A.

Stillman Robinson is well remembered at Champaign and in University circles and was one of the leading engineers of the country. He was graduated as a civil engineer from the University of Michigan, and from the age of twenty-five to twenty-eight was assistant on a United States lake survey and from twenty-eight to thirty-two years of age was assistant engineer with the faculty of the University of Michigan. From the age of thirty-two to forty he was professor of mechanical engineering and physics in the University of Illinois. He then accepted the chair of mechanical engineering with the Ohio State University, where he remained until he resigned in 1895. In 1896 he was given the degree D. Sc. and in 1899 was made professor emeritus in mechanical engineering at the Ohio State University. During the years 1880-84 he was inspector of railroads and bridges for the State of Ohio. He was also engineer supervising the construction of the famous Lick telescope in California. His death occurred at Columbus, Ohio, in 1910.

Albert A. Robinson was born October 21, 1844, and became a civil engineer. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan, and followed railroading all of his active life. He was vice-president and general manager of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, president of the Mexican Central Railway for nine years, and he is now living retired at Topeka, Kansas.

Elna A. Robinson secured a substantial groundwork of literary training, and from seventeen until he was twenty-one was a machinist apprentice. In 1870 he entered the University of Illinois and was graduated in 1875 with the degree Mechanical Engineer. For the next four years he remained as an assistant in the mechanical engineering department of the University. Mr. Robinson in 1878 formed a partnership with E. M. Burr in the general machine construction business. This partnership continued until dissolved in 1899, when Mr. Robinson took the plumbing end of the business and continued it successfully until he sold out in 1915 and has since lived retired. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Baptist Church.

On April 27, 1861, Mr. Robinson married Miss Melora M. Smith, who died August 16, 1885. They were the parents of five children: Sarah Ann, Addie Eva and Gertrude Minnie are all now deceased. Gertrude M. became the wife of William L. Troyer and she left two children, Fannie F. and Mabel. Inez Mary is the wife of A. Boyd of Urbana and their children are Bert B., George A., Wilber A., Neil D., John R., Jay, Blanche, deceased, and Ruth. Fannie Nettie is the wife of Thomas Inskip, of Champaign, and has had three children, Thomas, deceased, Francis R. and Clarence E. Mr. Robinson married for his second wife Mrs. Semphronia E. (Stage) Jenks, who was born in Iowa.

Francis M. Avey. Of the men whose ability, industry and forethought have added to the character, wealth and progress of Champaign County none stands higher than Francis M. Avey, now living retired at Rantoul, which has been his home for over forty-five years. Among other enviable distinctions Mr. Avey is one of the honored survivors of the great war of the rebellion, and he was a member of the first regiment that marched away from Illinois to fight in the South. His entire career has been in keeping with the high standards of patriotism which caused him to enter the army as a youth.

He was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, January 24, 1835, and is now past four score. He is a son of Daniel and Hannah (Van Hise) Avey, the

former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Maryland. Francis M. was the third of five children. His father was a farmer, and F. M. Avey grew up and obtained his early education in Butler County, Ohio.

As a boy he heard much of the country of Illinois and Indiana, and at the age of sixteen his ambitions prompted him to go out to Fountain County, Indiana, where he had a brother. There he began an apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade. Having learned the trade, he took his accomplishments into western Missouri. At that time western Missouri was a scene of the terrible border ruffian warfare which went on with more or less regularity until after the close of the Civil War. It was not a safe territory for a man who came from a free state and had the convictions of Mr. Avey. The first time he applied for work he found a big black slave working in a shop. This slave had been hired out by his master. In competition with such labor Mr. Avey could make no progress, and he soon left the country which had disgusted his ideas of liberty and freedom, and came to Illinois. In the vicinity of Decatur he hired out to a man, and for five months drove four yoke of cattle to a breaking plow. From there he went to Vermilion county and for two years was employed in a blacksmith shop at Georgetown. Then occurred in 1860 the election of Lincoln as president. In the disturbed condition that followed Mr. Avey went to Indiana and there became acquainted with a business man who had recently returned from Mattoon, Illinois. He reported that a company of soldiers were being raised at Mattoon, and the two boys hurried to that point and enlisted at Lincoln's first call for 75,000 troops. F. M. Avey enlisted in the first regiment organized in Illinois, the Seventh Illinois Infantry, in Company B. He was in camp at Springfield, went from there to Alton, Illinois, and thence down the Mississippi to Cairo. The first time Mr. Avey saw the Rebel flag was at Cape Girardeau, Missouri, on the banks of the Mississippi. For three weeks he and his comrades were at Cairo, and then were returned up the Ohio River to Mound City, where at the expiration of his three months' service he was mustered out on August 25, 1861.

Later Mr. Avey helped recruit some men, and in February, 1862, enlisted at St. Louis. For three months he was on duty as a patrol in St. Louis. In April, 1862, he and his comrades were organized into a company, and he was elected its second lieutenant. Three months later he was promoted to first lieutenant, and for one year he served as post adjutant of a military post. He was then made ordnance officer, in charge of the ordnance department, and filled that position with efficiency and fidelity until his term of enlistment expired. He was mustered out at Benton Barracks in St. Louis April 15, 1865.

While on duty in the ordnance department he was under the command of Major Colendar, a major in the regular army. Their associations were very pleasant and were the basis of a lasting friendship. On being relieved from duty and while waiting for transportation Mr. Avey started to spend the day in camp, and on arriving saw the flag at half mast. That was the first intimation he had of the assassination of the beloved President Lincoln. Mr. Avey was stationed at Rolla, Missouri, when Lincoln was re-elected in 1864. At that time Illinois soldiers were not allowed to vote in Missouri, but Mr. Avey's regiment was the Fifth Missouri Cavalry, and all of them marched in a body and voted for Lincoln amid the cheers of the multitude. The women, he reports, were especially bitter. They called them Lincolnites, black Republicans and other appropriate names. But the brave boys in blue did not hesitate to express their sentiments and convictions.

After being mustered out of the army with this honorable record Mr. Avey came to Champaign County, and in February, 1868, he married Miss Alice Bryan. Mrs. Avey was born near Mahomet, Illinois, a daughter

of John and Melinda (Busey) Bryan. Melinda Busey enjoyed the distinction of being the first bride in Champaign County. Her wedding was celebrated in a log cabin in Urbana. She and her husband became the parents of ten children, but the three who grew up were Alice, Lillis and Edward. Alice Bryan obtained her education in Urbana, and while her people lived in the country she boarded at the home of Colonel Busey's mother. Later the Bryan family removed to Urbana and were prominent people themselves and numbered among their friends the best people of the city, including the late Judge Cunningham. Alice Bryan's grandfather, Isaac Busey, and Mr. Webber donated the land for the county seat at Urbana, Mr. Busey giving thirty acres and Mr. Webber twenty acres. This gift still stands as a memorial to their public spirit.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Avey lived in Champaign, where he worked at his trade, but in March, 1871, they removed to Rantoul. He then built the house on Sangamon Avenue where he has continuously resided for over forty-five years. For many years Mr. Avey conducted his blacksmith shop, and to furnish employment during his later years of retirement and leisure he kept the news stand at Rantoul.

Mr. Avey's only son and child is Arthur Avey, who was born December 7, 1868. He attended the Rantoul High School and at the age of sixteen entered the Bryant & Stratton Business College at Chicago. For the past twenty-six years Arthur Avey has been associated with the P. V. Palmer Wholesale Cloak House at Chicago. The only interruption to this regular service was while he was in the Spanish-American War. When he enlisted for that service his employer said: "Mr. Avey, if you are gone ten years remember your position awaits your return." Arthur Avey enlisted for that war in the first Illinois regiment that started from Chicago. He went to Santiago, Cuba, and was in the several engagements around that city until the Spanish commander surrendered. Mr. Arthur Avey thinks that Colonel Roosevelt was the finest officer in the war. He commends him especially for his interest in the soldiers. When the boys were in the trenches Roosevelt was always looking after their welfare, and his kindness and thoughtfulness, as well as his bravery, endeared him to the heart of every American trooper. Mr. Arthur Avey married Miss Mamie Flood of Chicago. Three children were born to them: Francis Marion, who was named for his grandfather and is now deceased; Anna Dorothy and Howard Francis. These two children take a great deal of pleasure in their periodical visits to Rantoul to their grandfather and grandmother.

Mr. F. M. Avey has lived to vote for every presidential candidate of the Republican party since it was organized, beginning with John C. Fremont. In many ways besides the part he performed as a gallant soldier he has given evidence of his public spirit and his usefulness in the community. For twenty-seven years he served as treasurer of the Village of Rantoul, for four years was a justice of the peace, and has also been village clerk and a member of the town council. For thirty years he was secretary of the Masonic Lodge, and as proof of their esteem his fellow members of the fraternity presented him with a beautiful gold headed cane, on which are engraved the words: "F. M. Avey from Rantoul Lodge No. 470, A. F. & A. M., Secretary, 1885 to 1915." Mrs. Avey possesses as a valued souvenir a fine white bedspread, which was purchased by her grandfather, Isaac Busey, in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1807.

Howard Ross, has built up a large business as a retail meat dealer in Champaign, learned his trade in that city, and by good management and by making it a point to offer the best of service and goods he is now one of the leaders in his line in the county.

Mr. Ross was born near Savoy, Illinois, August 29, 1874, a son of David I. and Mary Elizabeth (Bowers) Ross. His father was born in Newburgh, New York, and his mother in Indiana. David Ross came to Champaign County about 1869. He was an active farmer here until 1882, when he moved west to Topeka, Kansas, and followed the drug business in that city four years. After returning to Champaign County he lived retired until his death on January 21, 1890. His wife died in Topeka, Kansas, in 1888. There were five children: A son who died in infancy; Howard; Grace, wife of Bert Thrasher, of Berryton, Kansas; Ella, wife of Ralph Yingling, of Kansas; and the fifth, a son, died in infancy.

Howard Ross spent part of his early boyhood in the State of Kansas. He was educated in local schools, and when fourteen years of age he got a job driving a grocery wagon at Champaign. A year later he found work with a meat market driving a wagon, and after about two years he went in the shop to learn the trade. Altogether he put in twelve years with this firm, Dallenbach & Boyle. He became an expert at the block, was a valuable man to his firm, and at the same time acquired a thorough knowledge of the financial end of the meat business. With this experience, and with such capital as he had been able to accumulate, he opened a small shop for himself in 1901. Later he removed to his present location at 105 South Neil Street, and besides the business he owns a half interest in the building.

Mr. Ross married June 9, 1897, Miss Minnie Sinz, a native of Champaign County. Mr. Ross is a Republican in politics, and served as fire and police commissioner under Mayor Coughlin. In Masonry he is affiliated with the Lodge, Chapter, Council and Knight Templar Commandery at Champaign and is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Chester Garfield Reynolds is one of the enterprising young farmers of Harwood Township, his well cultivated and managed farm being in section 14 of that township, not far from the Village of Gifford.

Mr. Reynolds was born in that township in 1881, the next to the youngest of the fifteen children of Hanford and Antoinette (Roberts) Reynolds. Two of the children died in infancy.

A conspicuous factor in the early days of Illinois was Father Hanford Reynolds, who was born in Westchester County, New York. He was a surveyor by profession and followed that calling in the early days, laying out the City of Geneseo, Illinois. Before the war he also sold fruit trees in Missouri. He had a varied and active experience throughout the Middle West and came to Champaign County about 1866. In his early travels in Missouri he would come upon what was called a grocery store at every cross roads. Whiskey was one of the chief commodities sold in such stores. When he came to Champaign County the nearest railroad to his home was Ludlow. The land was all prairie, and deer and wild game of all kinds abounded. He hauled lumber from Ludlow to build a small house and moved in before the roof was completed. There were so many ducks, geese and brant in the country that he had to hire men to shoot them in order to keep the birds from eating his crops.

Chester G. Reynolds attended the Pleasant Vale Schoolhouse, also sometimes called the Reynolds School. The name Pleasant Vale was given to the school by his mother.

Success attended the industrious labors of Hanford Reynolds and wife, and they built a fine two-story brick house to replace the humble home in which they had first lived. They also planted many shade trees and in course of time had one of the most attractive places in the county. Hanford

Reynolds was in this county early enough to buy an entire section of land at $10 an acre. This land did not have a tree or bush, and it was his planting, continued over a course of many years, that gave the land its present pleasant aspect.

Hanford Reynolds also bought 1,400 acres in Sunflower County, Mississippi, about 1905, at $12 an acre. One of the conspicuous features of this land was a grand cypress tree twenty-seven feet in circumference. There were many oaks six feet in diameter. One large tree had all the bark peeled off by bears. Mr. Reynolds conducted a sawmill, and the logs were so large that a groove had to be cut in some of them in order to make them pass the saw six feet in diameter. It was in the same territory where Roosevelt did his bear hunting. The canebrakes were twenty feet high and so thick that a man could hardly get through them. Hanford Reynolds took his wife and son Chester to that locality and remained nearly two years. The climate did not agree with the family and they were finally obliged to leave. Mr. Chester Reynolds says that he did not enjoy living where chill tonics were sitting around on the shelves in every house. On that southern plantation they tried raising cotton and cleared up considerable land, burning timber that would be exceedingly valuable today. While there Hanford Reynolds organized the Christian Church, and some of the hardest characters in the neighborhood were converted, and the church stands as a monument to his high character and public spirit.

Mrs. Hanford Reynolds died at Rantoul in 1910, on her return from Mississippi. She was a noble woman, and exemplified the best virtues of the home maker and the kindly neighbor.

For a number of years Chester G. Reynolds has looked after the management of the old home estate known as Cloverdale. He has a tenant on the farm and this family keeps house for him. He gives active supervision to the 120 acres, and the well tilled fields show the care bestowed upon them. Mr. Reynolds has also taken great pains to keep up the home place, and has cultivated and cared for the flowers which his mother so much loved. He has also carried out many of the ideas published in the bulletins of the Illinois State University on beautifying country homes. His home is surrounded by generous plantings of such ornamental shrubs as witch hazel, golden elder, sumacs, butterfly bush, snowberry, etc.

Mr. Reynolds is a man of broad views, was reared a Republican, and in the main gives his support to the candidates and principles of that party. His parents were active members of the Christian Church known as Mount Olivet in Ford County.

F. C. Amsbary, superintendent and manager of the Champaign Waterworks, has been superintending waterworks plants in different parts of the country for upwards of thirty years. It has in fact been his regular profession, though some of his younger years were devoted to railroading. Mr. Amsbary has numerous connections that identify him with the substantial interests of his home city.

A native of Illinois, he was born at Pekin, January 24, 1863, a son of William Wallace and Harriet E. (Harlow) Amsbary, both of whom are natives of New York State. William W. Amsbary moved to Champaign in 1907, and for several years was connected with the waterworks here. He died in 1911, and his widow is still living at Champaign. Their five children are: George E., of Urbana; F. C.; Wallace Bruce, of Chicago; Don H., of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Cordelia, still at home with her mother.

When F. C. Amsbary was four years of age his parents removed to Delavan in Tazewell County, Illinois. He attended the local schools there,

and at the age of fifteen he left home and worked as clerk in a store at Tremont in the same county for two years. He then went to Peoria and acquired his initial experience in railroad offices, where he remained about three years. He was next at Council Bluffs, Iowa, in the Chicago Northwestern Railway offices a year and a half, then for two years a railroad clerk at Burlington, Iowa, and returning to Pekin, Illinois, engaged in the grocery business for two years.

Mr. Amsbary began his career as a waterworks superintendent at Pekin, Illinois, in 1888. After two years he went to Wichita, Kansas, and had active charge of the waterworks in that city for three years. For nine years he was superintendent of waterworks at Little Rock, Arkansas, and in 1899 came to Champaign, where he has since been active manager and superintendent of this public utility.

Mr. Amsbary was married at Pekin, Illinois, April 16, 1890, to Addie A. Aydelott, a native of Pekin. They have five children: Helen A., Harlow A., Harriet E., Addie E. and Frank C.

Mr. Amsbary served as president of the Champaign Chamber of Commerce in 1912, is now president of the Champaign Club, and of the Rotary Club and is a director in the Loan and Investment Association, is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Champaign Country Club and the Rotary Club. His church is the Presbyterian. Politically he is a Republican. For three terms he served as president of the Champaign Board of Education, and has always taken a keen interest in all local institutions.

William Keusink was for many years actively engaged in business in Champaign, but is now living retired in that city. His family came to Champaign County before the Civil War.

Mr. Keusink was born in Schenectady, New York, August 19, 1856, a son of Benardus and Wilhelmina (Hall) Keusink. His parents were both natives of Holland, where they were married, and soon after their marriage they immigrated to America. About 1860 they came to Champaign, where the senior Keusink followed his trade as a machinist in the employ of the Illinois Central Railway Company. His death occurred in April, 1869. His widow survived him until July, 1913. Of their twelve children, six survived the father, and William Keusink was the third in age.

William Keusink grew up in Champaign, attended the local schools, and in 1872, at the age of sixteen, began to learn the cabinet maker's trade. He followed that as an occupation until 1884, and then entered the laundry business. For twenty years Mr. Keusink conducted the leading laundry of this city, known as the Champaign Steam Laundry Company. He sold out in May, 1914, and has since retired and has merely looked after his private interests.

On June 28, 1879, he married Elizabeth Lynch, who was born in Cooperstown, New York, a daughter of William and Catherine (Lennon) Lynch. Her parents were both natives of Ireland, were brought to the United States as children, and lived first in New York City and afterwards in Utica, New York. The Lynch family removed to Champaign in 1875, but after three years returned to New York State, where Mrs. Keusink's father died in September, 1911, and her mother on May 5, 1913. Mrs. Keusink was the oldest of six children.

Mr. and Mrs. Keusink have two children: William B., a druggist; and Wilhelmina M., wife of H. C. Johnson, of Champaign. Mr. Keusink is a Republican in politics and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He served about twenty-five years in the Champaign volunteer fire department.

LELAND S. FOWLER, of the Penfield community of Champaign County, is one of the young and progressive agriculturists of this section. He has the management of his father's fine farm and he took hold of the business with such vigor as to bring results that are surprising even to himself.

Mr. Fowler was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, and is a son of U. G. and Etta (Wolf) Fowler. His parents were also born in Illinois. There were two sons of the parents, Wylie M. and Leland S. Both of them were educated in the high school at Urbana and the state university.

On October 22, 1914, Leland S. Fowler married Miss Atha Wood. She was born at Gifford in Champaign County, daughter of E. A. and Laura (Rowland) Wood. While the Fowler family had two sons there were two daughters in the Wood family, Edythe and Atha. Miss Atha graduated from the Gifford High School, from the Champaign High School, took up the study of domestic science in the University of Illinois, and also received much musical instruction.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fowler started life on his father's farm and he now has under his direct management 740 acres. The Fowler residence is one of the finest in the country district of Champaign County, a country home that does credit and is a monument to the industry of Mr. U. G. Fowler. His father built up an estate of approximately 1,450 acres in this part of Illinois.

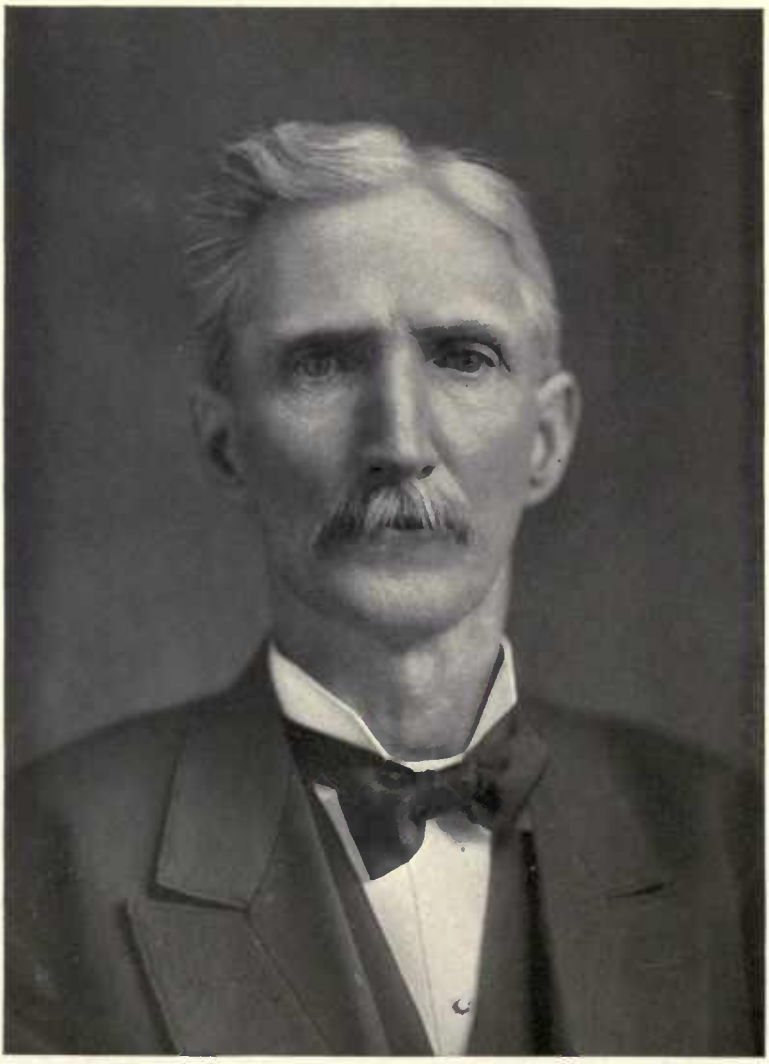
Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have a bright and attractive young daughter, Beth Louise, now two years of age, also a son, Harold Wood, born July 29, 1917. Mr. Fowler enjoys the complete confidence of his community and has been elected and has served three years as township assessor. He and his wife are active members and supporters of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Penfield, and in politics he is a Republican and a member of the Masonic Order. He and his wife are among the cultured and successful younger families of Champaign County and have already gone far to the attainment of that success which is the object of every worthy ambition.

THOMAS A. LITTLE. One of the most interesting homes of Rantoul is that of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Little in the extreme northeast quarter of the town. They live there enjoying a happy combination of both the rural and the urban facilities. They have sufficient ground to afford Mr. Little an opportunity to indulge his favorite pastimes of agriculture, not without considerable profit, and they also have sufficient means to live comfortably without fear of the future and enjoy their many friends.

Mr. Little was born in Licking County, Ohio, in 1851, a son of John and Charlotte (Coon) Little. His parents were natives of Ohio, and his mother was of an old and prominent family of that state. In 1916 Mr. and Mrs. Little attended the annual reunion in Ohio of the Coon family and spent two weeks in and around Newark renewing old acquaintances.

Thomas A. Little was educated in the district schools of Vermilion and Champaign counties, Illinois, and became a practical farmer. He was also engaged in a mercantile business in Rantoul, from the spring of 1872 to 1905. At the age of thirty-five he married Lizzie Cole. Three children were born to their union, two of whom died in infancy. Lewis C., the only one to grow up, proved a boy of fine capacity and of studious ability. He was graduated with honors from the Rantoul High School in 1905, having done his last two years of work in one, in addition to clerking in a store both morning and evening. From there he went into a law office to study law, and was well on the way to a professional career when he died. He was only nine years of age when his mother passed away.

Thomas A. Little subsequently married Mary J. Lindsey, who was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, a daughter of David H. and Sophronia



John J. Pera

Lindsey. Mrs. Little was only a child when her mother died. She was educated in the Collison district school and also at Danville. After Mr. and Mrs. Little married they took up their home in Rantoul, where he engaged in a mercantile business until 1905. Since then he has been handling insurance and also has a collection agency.

A few years ago Mr. Little determined to establish a home for himself combining the country with the town, and with that end in view bought five and a half acres in the northeast part of Rantoul. He has a large white house as his home, and has planted shade and spruce trees, which in time will make the place a perfect bower. One feature of his farm is a strawberry patch with over 4,000 plants. Mr. Little raises poultry successfully, and has used the Philo system. His land occupies high ground and commands a fine view in all directions.

Mr. and Mrs. Little attend worship in the Methodist Episcopal Church, though Mrs. Little is a member of the Christian denomination. Politically he is a stanch and progressive Republican, and was a loyal supporter of Roosevelt. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and served as recorder of the Court of Honor for ten years. Mrs. Little is a member of the Rebekahs.

JOHN I. GROVES, M. D., was born in Cass County, Illinois, May 2, 1854, a son of Isaac and Mary E. (Coal) Groves. His father was born in England and his mother in the State of Maryland. Isaac Groves was for many years an active minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1878 he removed to Champaign, and died there December 12, 1906. By his first marriage he had two children, Elizabeth J., wife of Hugh Mitchell, of Fisher, Illinois; and Harriet A., wife of Thomas M. Foster, of Dickens, Iowa. Rev. Mr. Groves' second wife died March 22, 1905. She was the mother of two sons: Dr. John Groves; and Charles W.

Doctor Groves remained at home with his father until he was twenty years of age. In the meantime he had acquired a substantial education, and he then took up teaching and followed that profession for four years in country districts. For three years he was a teacher in Vermilion County, Illinois. He then entered the Hahnemann Medical College in Chicago, from which he was graduated M. D. in 1880, and spent seven years in the practice of medicine in Indiana and Illinois. His first practice was done in Indiana, and after two years he removed to Gibson City, where he practiced for four years before coming to Champaign, and since locating here he has devoted his time to real estate interests. Doctor Groves has membership in the Homeopathic Medical Society, and was a charter member of Hesperon Lodge No. 123 of the Knights of Pythias of which he is a Past Chancellor Commander. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, in which he has served as Venerable Consul, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Doctor Groves was married in September, 1883, to Grace F. Groves, who died October 4, 1885. On February 17, 1887, he married Miss E. Lynne Burton. They have one child, Evangeline Eunice, who graduated from the University of Illinois with the class of 1912.

JOHN J. REA. A member of the Champaign County bar for thirty-seven years, John J. Rea has during this period risen to be one of the most forceful attorneys of his native community, and at this time occupies a recognized position of eminence among the legists of Urbana, where his entire professional career has been passed. While his later years have been crowned with success, Mr. Rea is fully acquainted with the rough and stony paths which the young aspirant so often finds it necessary to

trod, for in his own youth he found no royal road to success, but was forced to carve out his own destiny and to make his own opportunities. Determination and persistency triumphed in the end, and the reward has been commensurate with the labor.

John J. Rea is a product of the farming district of Mahomet Township, Champaign County, where he was born on his father's farm October 11, 1852. His father, John J. Rea, was born in Lewis County, Kentucky, and first came to Champaign County as early as 1836, in which year he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of government land in what later became Mahomet Township. He did not remain here at that time, but returned to his Kentucky home, where he lived during the next thirteen years, and while there was united in marriage with Miss Sarah P. Henderson, also a native of Lewis County, Kentucky. She was a daughter of the late Judge Henderson. In 1849 they came to Champaign County and located on the farm which Mr. Rea had bought years before, and there the father passed the rest of his life, his death occurring March 5, 1863. He had by that time put a large part of his land under cultivation and was on the high-road to success, but death came to him when he was still in middle life, with his work unfinished. Mrs. Rea survived her husband for many years, dying at Ludlow, Champaign County, in November, 1909, when ninety years of age. She was one of the best known and most highly respected ladies of her part of the county. There were eight children in the family, as follows: Mary E., who died in 1907; Robert, whose death occurred in 1860; Sarah E. and Louisa A., who are both deceased; Thomas H., of Mahomet; Alice A., deceased; John J.; and William T., also deceased.

John J. Rea remained on the home farm until he was fifteen years of age, and during this time attended the country schools during the winter terms, his summers being spent in assisting on the farm. He then began attending school at Mahomet, and spent one year at Mount Pleasant, now Farmer City, when, being compelled to contribute to his own support as well as to that of the family, he secured a position as clerk in the general store of P. H. Scott at Mahomet. Mr. Rea remained in Mr. Scott's employ for three years, but by that time, having given it a thorough trial, found merchandising distasteful to him, and began teaching in the country schools, where he advised the youthful mind for three or four years. In the meantime he had become interested in the subject of law, and after about eighteen months of study, during hours that could be spared from his school work, on March 16, 1879, he located at Urbana and entered the law offices of Somers & Wright. He was duly admitted to the bar of Illinois in June, 1880, and soon thereafter formed a law partnership with Judge Sim, of Urbana, but after two and one-half years this association was mutually dissolved, and since then Mr. Rea has been engaged in practice alone. He now has one of the best law clienteles in the county and is acknowledged to be a shrewd and capable attorney, the elasticity of whose mind, combined with keen faculties of perception and analysis and a mastery of the principles of the common law, have made him a striking and successful advocate. If there is a close legal point involved in any issue his examination of the authorities bearing upon it is exhaustive. From the time he accepts a case until he has carried it to the highest tribunal, his client's interest comes before all else, and perhaps this quality of fidelity has done as much as anything else to win him confidence and patronage. During the administration of President Cleveland, Mr. Rea was offered several important positions, one being that of chief clerk of the auditor's office in the Treasury Department at Washington, D. C., and another that of federal attorney looking after the claims

of the Indians made for services of their ancestors during the Civil War, but both of these offers he refused, preferring to devote himself to the responsibilities of his constantly growing private practice. Mr. Rea is a staunch Democrat. He has served five years as supervisor of Urbana Township and three years as city attorney of Urbana, and has always shown marked executive and official ability. His fraternal connections include membership in the Masons, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America.

On April 5, 1882, Mr. Rea was married to Miss Minnie H. Fugate, who was born in Illinois, and to this union there have been born two children: Thurston Wayne, now managing editor of the Urbana Courier, who married Alydia Conkwright and has three children, John J. III, Myrtle Ellenor and Robert Wayne; and John Carlysle, whose death occured January 5, 1901.

Fred Hess. On the roster of the energetic men who are discharging the duties connected with public positions in Champaign County is found the name of Fred Hess, whose incumbency of the office of county clerk goes back over a period of more than six and one-half years. The county clerkship is an office which carries with it some of the heaviest responsibilities and most onerous duties, the important character of which demand the presence and labor of a man of strong intellect, who can combine accuracy with industry and fidelity. The fact that Mr. Hess has retained the office during the long period that he has should be sufficient proof that he is possessed of the qualities mentioned, or at least that he has satisfied the people in this respect. He is one of the native sons of the county who have made excellent records in public life.

Fred Hess was born in the city of Champaign, Illinois, May 19, 1871, and is a son of Isaiah H. and Sarah A. (Hardin) Hess, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Pennsylvania. His father was still a young man when, in 1857, he left his native state and came to Illinois. As a youth he had learned the trade of plasterer, and after following this occupation as a journeyman for a number of years developed into a contractor in the same line, and for a long period carried on a large and successful business at Champaign. His death occurred October 12, 1875, when he had reached only a little past middle age. Among the older residents of Champaign are a number who remember him as a man of his word, an excellent workman and a good citizen. Mrs. Hess survived her husband until August 16, 1889, and also passed away at Champaign. They were the parents of nine children, of whom five passed away before the birth of Fred, the others being: William H., deceased; Amelia M., who is a resident of Champaign; Jessie A., who is deceased; and Fred.

Fred Hess was only a little more than four years of age at the time his father died, but the mother managed to give her children satisfactory educational advantages, and lived long enough to see her youngest son graduate from the Champaign High School, with the class of 1888. He was an ambitious and enterprising youth, and as soon as he had completed his education started in search of employment. His first business experience was with a grocery at Champaign, but after one year he decided his talents and tastes did not lie in this direction, and he transferred his services to the office of the Wilcox Abstract Company, where he remained some eight years. Here he gained valuable experience that fitted him for the next position that opened for him, that of deputy clerk in the Champaign County clerk's office, a position which he retained during two administrations. His advancement up to this time had been sure and steady, and he was now ready to take a further step, which he made when, in

November, 1910, he was the successful candidate for the office of county clerk. He accordingly took up the reins of office in December of the same year, and since that time has continued as the incumbent of the office. The work of this department in the county administration entails a comprehensive amount of detail labor, including the issuance of marriage licenses, the keeping of records of births and deaths, assisting at tax sales, and making redemptions from same; receiving all tax levies and computing county, state and all city, village, district and other municipal taxes. As clerk of the County Court, the county clerk keeps a record of insane, pauper support, feeble-minded, inheritance tax and other cases. Nearly all special assessment cases are recorded in this office. The foregoing by no means entirely covers the duties of the clerk in full, but is sufficient to show that the incumbent needs to be a man of ability, and that when he is retained in office for six years that he has carried on his duties in a capable manner.

Mr. Hess was married June 11, 1904, to Miss Maud Lloyd, a native of Ohio. They have no children. Mr. Hess is a Republican in his political views. He is fraternally connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias and the Masons, and in the latter belongs to the Blue Lodge and Chapter and to Danville Consistory. He has numerous friends in all these orders, as well as in political and official life.

William L. Sturdyvin. A resident for more than forty-five years in Champaign County has made William L. Sturdyvin one of his community's best known citizens, and the honorable and industrious life he has led has given him a substantial place among his people. The years have dealt kindly with him and with his efforts, and he and his good wife now reside in a comfortable and hospitable home in Rantoul. Theirs is one of the fine residences facing the park in Rantoul, and stands on a street corner about two blocks from the interurban station.

Mr. Sturdyvin is a native of Illinois and was born in Tazewell County, twenty-two miles south of Peoria. He is a son of Obadiah and Cynthia (Musick) Sturdyvin. His parents were born in Ohio and in pioneer times migrated to Illinois, locating south of what was then an Indian trading post consisting of a single log cabin on the site of the present vigorous City of Peoria. In the Sturdyvin family there were the following children besides William L.: Grant, Abraham and James, deceased; Steven, Allen and Robert; and two deceased daughters. The children were able to attend school in their pioneer district of Illinois only about three months a year. The Sturdyvins lived forty-five miles from Springfield, and in the early days there were only two houses on the entire road. Besides farming the father kept a tavern and one of its guests at different times was Abraham Lincoln, then an obscure Illinois lawyer. William Sturdyvin has boyhood recollections of the great emancipator. One time he heard him plead a case in law court, and has a distinct recollection of the shrewd and effective arguments used by the Illinois statesman.

Mr. Sturdyvin married Catherine Wallace. She was born in the land of the shamrock, Ireland, a daughter of Edward and Anna Wallace. When she was two years of age her parents immigrated to America. There were no steamships crossing the Atlantic at that time and the family spent two months on the water. Mr. and Mrs. Sturdyvin began their married life in Tazewell County on a rented farm. They had hope, courage and enthusiasm, and hardships and difficulties were not sufficient to daunt their buoyant energy. From Tazewell County they removed to Bureau County, Illinois, but after a short time returned to their former home and in 1871, the year of the great Chicago fire, came to Champaign County. Here Mr. Sturdyvin

bought 160 acres of land, for which he paid $15 an acre. It was raw prairie and in time was converted into a fertile and productive farm under his individual labors. He afterwards bought other land, at a much higher price, and still owns a farm estate of 200 acres.

In the meantime children came into their home. Their family, named in order of birth, are: Anna, James, George, Mamie, Edward, Joseph and Carrie. Two children died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Sturdyvin had a keen appreciation of their responsibilities to their children and in order to fit them for life's responsibilities sent them to the district schools and later to the high school at Rantoul. Joseph and Carrie both graduated from the Rantoul High School and taught school several years. Anna finished her education in Champaign, and also became a successful teacher. She married Edward O'Donnell, now deceased, and her children are Frank and Joseph. James Sturdyvin married Catherine Delaney of Bellflower, and has children named Evylin, Earl and Agnes. George, a real estate man at Champaign, married Kate Harney. Mamie is the wife of James E. Leonard. Edward, a piano dealer at Champaign, married Nellie Gunning, and their children are Leonard, Marie and Loretta. Joseph is in the undertaking business at Champaign and married Agnes Fitzgerald. Carrie is the wife of Thomas Callahan and lives in Rensselaer, Indiana.

Throughout his long and industrious career Mr. Sturdyvin devoted his best energies to farming. About seventeen years ago he retired from his country place and bought his present home in Rantoul. He and his wife are active members and regular attendants of worship at St. Malachi's Catholic Church, and their children were baptized in the same faith. To their children they have given the best of educational advantages and home training and have endeavored to make them true and loyal American citizens. Mr. Sturdyvin has always appreciated the glory and dignity of America and has told his children many times that every one coming to this country ought to appreciate the nation and the flag which waves over it.

Mr. Sturdyvin has served as school director and also as road commissioner, and in addition to his work as a farmer he has taken contracts for grading and building thirty-six miles of improved highway in the county. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Sturdyvin is characterized by hospitality and an atmosphere of cheer and comfort. They have lived long and worthily and have witnessed the transformation of Champaign County from a vast prairie district into one of the garden spots of the world.

Theodore L. Block. To accomplish as much as Theodore L. Block accomplished in Champaign County demands not only phenomenal energy but a ruggedness and integrity of character that in no small degree accounts for the esteem in which he is held as a citizen as well as a business man.

Mr. Block was born in Poland, October 3, 1850. He is a son of William and Minnie (Cornelius) Block. Several generations before he was born the ancestor of the family moved from the district bordering on the Baltic Sea into Poland, and thereafter the family was identified with the agricultural interests of that unhappy country until William Block sold his possessions there and immigrated with his family to America in 1857. On the 18th of May in that year they landed in New York City and proceeded directly West until they arrived in Champaign County. Here William Block bought a farm three miles south of Sidney, and though a stranger in a strange land he was successfully identified with farm management and local affairs. He spent the last fifteen years of his life retired at Champaign, where both he and his wife died. Theodore L. Block was the only child of his mother, and his father by a previous marriage had a son August, who is still living at Sidney in Champaign County.

Theodore L. Block was six years old when the family came to America, and he practically grew up in Champaign County and profited by attendance at the local schools. At the age of twenty-one he showed his energy and ambition by renting a farm from his father and entering actively into the ranks of agriculturists. One success led to another, and by years of toil, accompanied by shrewd business management, Mr. Block was in a position where he might have retired with a liberal competence a number of years ago. He did in fact retire from active farming in 1901. However, his business interests have been wonderfully prospered, and at the present time he owns 760 acres of the fertile soil of Champaign County, while in Vermilion County in this state he owns 390 acres and 1,440 acres in the State of Arkansas. He is also half owner in a bank and elevator at Indianola in Vermilion County. In 1902 Mr. Block built his fine home at 301 East Park Avenue in Champaign and he lives there with his family and has every material comfort and every congenial association which he could desire.

Mr. Block married Mary P. Block, a native of Germany. They are the parents of five children: Clara D., wife of L. E. Hartzig, of Lafayette, Indiana; Richard A., of Indianola, Illinois; Rosa A., wife of Rev. George S. Gerhold, of Hamilton, Ohio; Edgar W., of Indianola, Illinois; and Nora A., wife of Roy Zenke, of Indianola. Mr. Block is independent in his political affiliations. While living in the country in Champaign County he was a school director for over thirty years. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and his church is the German Evangelical.

J. H. Blue. Many years have passed since Mr. and Mrs. Blue took up their residence in Champaign County and began their careers as progressive farmers, and at the present time they live in the comforts of a good town home at Rantoul. In the meantime their children have grown up, most of them have married and have homes of their own, and Mr. and Mrs. Blue are able to take the greatest satisfaction out of the large family circle that surround them.

Both of them are natives of Germany. J. H. Blue was born in the little Town of Leer on the River Ems near Hanover, Germany, one of the seven children of Henry A. and Alma J. (Buscher) Blue. His father was a sailor and lost his life at sea. At the age of thirteen J. H. Blue asked permission of his school teacher to leave school and begin an apprenticeship as a sailor. The family lived on the sea coast and the activities of the sea naturally appealed to all the boys of that district. Some time later he and a young Scotchman came to America for the purpose of entering the United States Navy. The North was then engaged in the struggle with the South over slavery. They landed at Boston from the sailing vessel Kensington, and the first news they heard was that peace had been declared, General Lee having surrendered his sword to General Grant. The boys then shipped as ordinary seamen on a full rigged schooner from Boston to Philadelphia, carrying a load of coal. On returning to Boston the captain was so pleased with their services that he offered to ship them as able seamen. The Scotch boy left for other work, but Mr. Blue remained and sailed with his captain for eight months up and down the coast from Philadelphia to Baltimore. His last voyage was made from Baltimore to Rio de Janeiro, South America. He carried on his out voyage a load of flour, which was exchanged for coffee on the Brazil plantations.

In the meantime his brother Anton Blue had come to America and located at Thomasboro in Champaign County. He wrote to J. H. Blue describing the fine country of eastern Illinois and requesting the pleasure of a visit. J. H. Blue then came to Champaign County, but his preferences were for the eastern states.

In the meantime, in 1876, Mr. Blue had married in Germany Miss Lena O. Saathoff, who was born in Germany in 1850, a daughter of Oltman and Luecka B. (Ammerman) Saathoff. In that year Mr. and Mrs. Blue came to America and went direct to Champaign County. For twenty years Mr. Blue and his wife lived as renters but prospered greatly owing to the possession of habits of thrift and industry characteristic of their countrymen. Later they bought eighty acres of land four miles south of Rantoul, paying $70 an acre. Mr. Blue had only $200 to make his first payment, but in a few years had his home paid for and finally, in order to provide greater scope for the efforts of his growing sons, traded the eighty acres for 173 acres.

Mrs. Blue is the mother of eleven children, named Oltman, Henry, Louis, Alma, Jane, John, Ben, Herman, Anthony, Fritz and Dee. They were all educated in the district schools of Champaign County. Oltman married Angel Thompson, and they live on a farm in Champaign County. Their four children are John, Anna, Lena and Bertha. Henry married Katie Hineberger, and their family consists of Alma, Mabel, Lee and Clarence. Louis married Bertha Cook, and her two children are Elden and Glenn. Alma is the wife of William Meuser and is the mother of three children, Minnie, Herman and Gertrude. Jane married Gustave Meuser, and their children are Augusta, Albert, Rosa and John. John Blue married Alma Hanson. Ben Blue married Lucy Brucker and has two children, Chester and Opal. Herman married Rosa McClelland and has one child, William. Anthony took for his wife Ola McClelland, and their two children are Ruby and Kenneth. Fritz Blue married Anna Nelson. Dee, the youngest of the family, is the wife of Herman Nylen, a barber at Rantoul, and they have one son, Johnnie Morton Nylen.

Mr. and Mrs. Blue are active members of the German Evangelical Church at Flattville and their children were baptized in the same church. Politically they are active supporters of the Republican principles and vote the Republican ticket. Mr. and Mrs. Blue have known the usual trials and hardships of people who must struggle to gain a living and establish a home, but their energy has brought them ample success. In 1913 they wisely started to retire from the farm and bought a beautiful and attractive little home in the northwest quarter of Rantoul. They have lived to see many changes occur in Champaign County and have themselves contributed something to the wonderful transformation that has occurred on these Illinois prairies in the past forty years. Both of them are fine types of the American citizens, appreciative of the greatness of this country and extremely loyal to the flag. In 1900 Mrs. Blue and her son Louis went back to Germany to visit the old home, and later Mr. and Mrs. Blue enjoyed a similar trip. They crossed the ocean both times on the liner Barbarossa. Inevitably they compared the scenes of their youth and their native country with America and they came home with loyalty to their adopted land increased and strengthened.

Joseph E. McGurty is one of the successful business men of Champaign, where in the past seventeen years he has built up a large livery enterprise and also a well conducted automobile business. He comes from the country district and was a farmer prior to his business career.

Mr. McGurty was born at Colfax, Illinois, December 11, 1869, a son of Hugh and Sarah (Reagan) McGurty. Both parents were natives of Ireland. His father when six years of age went with his parents to Canada, locating near Montreal, where he grew up, and about 1859 he came to Illinois and soon afterward located on a farm in Champaign County. In 1861 he enlisted in the Union Army, in Company E, Ninety-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served three years and six months. He lived

a long, useful and honorable life and died at Champaign, June 2, 1897. The widowed mother is still living in Champaign. There were six children: Anna, of Champaign; Catherine, at home; John, deceased; Joseph E.; Agnes, at home; and James, deceased.

Joseph E. McGurty grew up on the farm, was educated in the local schools, and was a practical farmer on the old homestead until he was twenty-five years of age. For three years he had some mercantile experience in the department store of F. K. Robeson, and then engaged in the livery business at Champaign. In 1909 Mr. McGurty put up a large barn, 60x130 feet, and two stories. It contains a complete equipment of horses and he has gradually perfected a first class automobile service.

Mr. McGurty is a Republican in politics and was for two years street commissioner of Champaign under O. B. Dobbins. He and his wife are members of the Church of the Holy Cross, and he is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, the Woodmen of the World, the Royal Arcanum, the Sons of Veterans and the Mystic Workers. He was married August 12, 1902, to Miss Anna McGraw, a native of Champaign County. Her parents, James and Ann (McGraw) McGraw, were both born in Ireland and are both now deceased. Her father was for many years employed as a machinist and boiler maker in the Big Four Railway shops.

Thomas Gordon. As a farmer and farm manager Thomas Gordon is easily one of the leading figures in Champaign County. He has acquired and developed and superintends through his tenants and managers an estate of 975 acres in Compromise Township. For a number of years Mr. Gordon has lived in the Town of Penfield, and goes out from there almost daily to look after his business affairs.

Mr. Gordon is a native of Aurora, Illinois, a son of John and Mary (Whalen) Gordon. Both of them were natives of Ireland and came to America in early life. When Thomas was about ten years of age they settled in Champaign County, where their family of five sons and three daughters were educated in the local schools.

In 1906 Thomas Gordon gained a capable companion and helpmate for himself in the person of Miss Blanche Hobbins. She was born at London, Canada, daughter of Daniel and Julia (Farmer) Hobbins. Her father was a Canadian farmer and there were just two daughters in the family, namely, Mary and Blanche. Mary is the wife of Mr. Crunican of London, Ontario. Mrs. Gordon has a cousin, Sergeant R. J. Farmer, who is a graduate of the London Medical College, and is now in the English Navy on the Salmon. Mrs. Gordon was eleven months old when her father died and her mother, desiring to give her daughters the best of advantage, sold the farm and moved to the City of London, Canada. Her daughters were pupils in St. Peter's separate school and from there entered high school and later were students in the London Collegiate Institute while Mr. F. W. Merchant was principal. Mrs. Gordon graduated with honors in 1899, and having taken special training with a view to becoming a teacher went to North Dakota and taught at Elm Point, Freement and Crystal. At Crystal she was assistant principal in the high school under W. R. Decker, the principal. She had the satisfaction of seeing the entire class successfully pass their examinations, a fact she was congratulated upon by the board. After completing her last term there and before returning to her home in Canada she stopped in Champaign County, Illinois, to visit her uncle, Cornelius Clifford. While there she met the young man Thomas Gordon, and their acquaintance ripened into matrimony. They were married in St. Lawrence Church at Penfield in September, 1906. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Quirk, a warm personal friend of Mr. Gordon, both young men

being of the same age. Father Quirk came from Ottawa, Illinois, to solemnize his friend's marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon then located in Penfield, a location that allows Mr. Gordon to superintend his several farms with the greatest convenience, at the same time allowing his family the advantages of town life.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon are the parents of five children, four sons and one daughter, John Anthony, Daniel Nicholas, Thomas Cornelius, Lawrence Ignatius and Mary Angela. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon are active members and liberal supporters of the Catholic Church. In politics Mr. Gordon is a Democrat and a great admirer of President Wilson, believing him to be the man of the hour and the American best fitted to guide the nation through the strenuous and critical times of the present. Mr. Gordon has served a number of years as school director and has done everything in his power to make the schools what they should be as institutions for the education of the future generation. It was his good fortune to secure for his wife a woman of thorough education, culture and refinement, and she has been a big factor in his success and standing in the community. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon have a home of noted hospitality, and they enter heartily into all social and community affairs. Mr. Gordon's parents have long since passed away, but the name remains today, as always, one entitled to the complete respect of the community with which it has been identified for so many years.

Archie Ernest Strode. One of the important industries of Champaign is the tent and awning business which for a number of years has been carried on by the Strode family. The owner and proprietor of the business at present is Archie Ernest Strode, who gave up his active trade as a boiler maker to take charge of this business at the time of his father's death.

Mr. Strode was born in Bristol, England, May 11, 1879, but was brought to this country when a child of about four years. His parents, George and Elizabeth (Frank) Strode, were both natives of England. His father died March 4, 1915, and his mother in 1901. The family came to Champaign in 1883, and George Strode established the present tent and awning business in 1905. There were five children in the family: Frank, of Champaign; Celia, widow of Thomas Dodsworth of Champaign; William, who died in 1892; Bessie, wife of W. E. Lott, of Flint, Michigan; and A. E. Strode.

In 1895, at the age of sixteen, and after completing his education in the local schools, Archie E. Strode began learning the boilermaker's trade. He still has his card of active membership in the Boilermaker's Union. He spent about four and a half years in the shops of the Illinois Central, one year with the Santa Fe, and two years with the Big Four Railway Company. He was not only a successful and able workman, but also gained a thorough knowledge of the business end of the work. He finally entered the service of the Kennicott Company, construction engineers, and traveled over thirty-eight different states for that firm, representing them even in old Mexico. After giving up traveling, Mr. Strode returned to the service of the Big Four Railway Company, and was in their shops from 1907 until November, 1911. He then went into business with his father and at the time of the latter's death took active charge of the tent and awning business, which he developed to one of the considerable industries of the city.

On January 29, 1908, Mr. Strode married Laura Gundlock, a native of Champaign. They have one son, Orvil George, born March 5, 1910. Mr. Strode is independent in his political actions. He is a member of the Foresters, the Federation of Labor, the Labor Day Association, belongs to the Chamber of Commerce and his church home is the Episcopalian.

ABRAHAM GRAHAM. The quiet life and substantial accomplishments of the farmer have been the lot of Abraham Graham, who is now living in the town of Penfield, retired from the strenuous labors which marked his early youth. Mr. Graham has been identified with Champaign County almost half a century, and his life record is one that will be read with pleasure by his many friends and acquaintances as well as by his family. He long ago accumulated sufficient to protect him against the days that are to come, and the respect in which he is held is no less than his material accomplishment.

Mr. Graham is a native of the Emerald Isle, born in County Monaghan, December 27, 1838, a son of Hugh and Sarah (McMahon) Graham. He was the third of nine children, six sons and three daughters. He acquired an education in his native country and at the age of nineteen determined to take advantage of the wonderful opportunities of America. Accompanied by a cousin, Miss Rosa Martin, he sailed on the ship Aurora and five weeks and three days later arrived at Castle Garden, New York. From there he went to Providence, Rhode Island, and for nine months during the panic of 1857 worked in lumber yards. He then became a farmer at Glencove in Queen's County on Long Island, but three years later came west to Illinois, stopping first at Buffalo. Later he joined a cousin at Illiopolis and worked on a farm there for several years.

On February 26, 1867, Mr. Graham married Miss Anna E. Welsh. She was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Adam and Mary (Craten) Welsh. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Graham began life near Illiopolis, and two years later, in 1869, came to Champaign County and located in that part of the original Kerr Township that is now Compromise Township. Here with the characteristics of industry and perseverance which he inherited from his Irish forefathers, Mr. Graham began work and energetically developed a permanent home. His first purchase was eighty acres of raw prairie land costing $10 an acre. At that time the entire township had only one schoolhouse. With the passing of years there came many notable improvements, including commodious buildings. Mr. Graham set out 107 apple trees and numerous native forest trees. The latter are now lofty trees and stand as a monument to his long and prosperous life in this section.

Eight children were born to their marriage: Sarah A., Mary E., Ella, Catherine, Francis, Celia, Gertrude and Nora E. The daughter Gertrude died at the age of twenty-two. Sarah A. married Thomas Buck, a farmer of Compromise Township, and their nine children, seven sons and two daughters, are named Francis, Joseph, Arthur, Edward, Harold, Mary, James, Charles and Helen. Mary E. Graham became the wife of James McKeon, and they live near Rantoul. Their children are Ellen, Anna, Marie, James, Loretta and Gertrude. Ella Graham is the wife of James Kelley, and is the mother of Michael, now a United States soldier, William, Anna, Cletus, John, James, Paul and Joseph. Catherine Graham married John Harney, and their children are Thomas, Wilfred, Margaret, Edward, Emmett. Francis Graham married Emma Buck, and their children are Agnes, Gertrude, Maude, Francis, Thomas, Raymond and Gilbert. Nora E. Graham is the wife of Bannis Mahew. Her children are Floyd, Idell, Ruth, Russell, Arthur and Charles. Celia Graham has never married and since her mother's death in 1884 has remained at home and is now her father's capable executive in the management of the home. Mr. Graham is the patriarchal head of a large household, including forty grandchildren. During all these years since his wife's death Mr. Graham has lived among his children and friends and has so lived as to make his influence a factor in the community without which things would not have been as they are

today. Having reared a family of capable children and seeing his grandchildren growing up true types of American boys and girls, he can properly feel that his life has been a success. In politics he renders support to the Democratic party and it is his belief, shared in by so many other thousands of Americans, that President Wilson is the man for the position and will safely bring the ship of state through troubled waters. Mr. Graham has always been a Catholic and is a liberal supporter of the church at Penfield. Having come to Champaign County a young man with little capital and having made a success here, he is attached to the county by the strongest ties of loyalty and affection.

J. S. Mason, M. D., who was graduated in medicine over twenty years ago, has found his time and abilities more and more taxed as a competent physician and surgeon, and in that field he ranks among the foremost in his section of the state. Doctor Mason is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, an honor conferred only upon surgeons of distinctive rank and attainment.

He was born at Newark, Ohio, May 22, 1868, a son of Jacob W. and Elizabeth (Smith) Mason, both natives of Ohio. His father came to Vermilion County, Illinois, in 1881 and followed farming all his active career. There were six children: J. Smith, a lumber dealer and hardware merchant at Oakwood, Illinois; Frank M., a physician practicing at Rossville, Illinois; Dr. J. S. Mason; Leora, living at home and a school teacher; Archie R.; and Etta Florence, at home with her parents.

Doctor Mason grew up on a farm, attended country schools, and when about eighteen years of age began teaching in the country. This vocation he followed five years and in the meantime took special courses in a Normal school and acquired a first grade teacher's certificate. It was through his individual earnings that he paid his way until graduation from medical school. He took up the study of medicine privately, and afterwards entered the Northwestern University School of Medicine at Chicago, where he was graduated M. D. in April, 1894. Doctor Mason practiced five years at Penfield, Illinois, and about six years at Rantoul, but since 1906 has been located with residence and office in Urbana.

Doctor Mason formerly served as Champaign County Medical Society's president and is now president of the Twin City Clinical Medical Society. He is a Mason, Knight of Pythias, Elk, a Democrat in politics and a member of the Baptist Church.

February 16, 1897, he married Lena O. Warner, daughter of Ed. B. Warner. They have four children: James Bryant, Edward William, Elizabeth and Robert Stephen.

Samuel Henson Little. Among those substantial people of Champaign County with whom industry has been the keynote of their lives and successes a family of special interest is that of Samuel H. Little. Mr. and Mrs. Little are now retired from the active responsibilities of farming and reside in a comfortable brown cement block home on Sangamon Avenue in Rantoul.

Mr. Little was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, a son of John and Charlotte (Coon) Little. His parents were natives of Ohio, and after coming to Illinois they spent their lives as farmers. Samuel H. Little was educated in the district schools of Champaign County.

At the age of twenty-six he married Miss Jessie Babb. Mrs. Little was born in Staffordshire, England, a daughter of Charles and Eleanor Babb, of a well known family represented in Champaign County. Mrs. Little was educated in the district schools of this county and attended high school at

Rantoul. After their marriage they moved to Vermilion County and for three years were farmers on rented land. They then returned to Champaign County and continued renting for five years, and by the exercise of their native thrift and good judgment had by the end of that time sufficient capital to buy a farm of 120 acres. For this land they paid $71 an acre. Then followed other years of industry and with increasing prosperity until they had accumulated an estate of 243 acres five miles southwest of Rantoul.

This large farm was acquired at the same time that children and other responsibilities were absorbing much of their energy. Six children were born into their home, three of whom died in infancy. Those still living are Nellie, Arthur and Roscoe. These children were educated in the Gray district school. Nellie married Earl Fletcher, a farmer nine miles south of Rantoul. They have three young daughters, Alice, Edna and Louise. Arthur Little is a practical young farmer and manages his Grandfather Charles Babb's place two and a half miles east of Rantoul. Arthur Little married Edith Putnam of Condit Township, and their two sons are named Charles and Ray. Roscoe lives on and is manager of his father's homestead. By his marriage to Mabel Johnson of Rantoul he has two children, Ruth and Paul Henson.

Mr. and Mrs. Little took great pains with the education and early training of their children and instilled into their minds the principles of integrity and industry and fitted them for good citizenship.

Mr. and Mrs. Little are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rantoul, and their children are of the same faith. They have always done all they could to promote and support church affairs, especially at Beulah Chapel. Earl Fletcher, their son-in-law, was chosen superintendent of the Sunday school there, and altogether they have aroused a spirit of Sunday school work which now gives a membership of 110 and is one of the best Sunday schools in the county.

Mr. Little has served as school director, and has worked for the benefit of good education in his community. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World. In 1914 Mr. and Mrs. Little decided to remove from their farm to Rantoul, and they are now taking life somewhat at leisure in their comfortable residence on Sangamon Avenue. Mrs. Little is a pleasant, cultured woman, has distinguished herself as an excellent home maker, and is especially fond of flowers. She inherits this love from her English grandmother, whom she remembers as a dignified white haired English matron owning a fine estate in England and with gardens of fine cultivated flowers.

Charles Babb, while for many years a resident of Champaign County, is a cosmopolitan citizen, has traveled extensively over the New and Old World, and has not only earned but has learned the wise use of financial independence. He is now living retired in a commodious and beautiful home at Rantoul and is one of the large land owners of Champaign County.

Mr. Babb was born in Staffordshire, England, son of John and Margaret (Whyte) Babb. He grew up in his native country and in the year of the Chicago fire, 1871, came to this country with his wife and three children and located in Champaign County, six miles north of the city of Champaign. His three children were named Arthur, Jessie and Margaret. In Champaign County he engaged in farming, and possessing character and energy, he was soon on the high road to prosperity. At the present time Mr. Babb owns 535 acres of splendid soil in the vicinity of Rantoul.

After he came to America another child was born and was given the name Anna.

The good wife and companion of his early life in America was taken away from his side twenty-one years ago. Her maiden name was Eleanor

Bunting, and she was also a native of England. Mr. Babb saw to it that his children had the best of educational advantages, and they attended the school at Thomasboro and also at Rantoul. The son Arthur, who died twelve years ago, married Alice Merchant, and he left two children, Jessie and Florence. The second child, Jessie, married Samuel Little, and their children are Nellie, Arthur and Roscoe. The daughter Margaret married Charles Merchant, and they live in Walnut, Bureau County, Illinois. Their two children are Bessie and Ira.

In 1897 Mr. Babb married Mary Taylor. Mrs. Babb was born in Kincardine, Scotland, daughter of John and Helen (Gordon) Taylor. At the age of thirty-four Mrs. Babb came to America, but she is a world traveler and has always been delighted with ocean voyages. She enjoys the distinction of having crossed the Atlantic thirteen times. Mr. Babb is also a thorough sailor and in 1917 he and his wife had planned another pleasant trip to Europe, but were hindered by the war.

Mr. Babb is a born sportsman. When he goes to England he takes the greatest delight in participating in hunting trips and spends the seasons with some of his friends who own fine estates in the old country. Mr. and Mrs. Babb are active members of the Episcopal Church, liberally support the church causes, and Mr. Babb in politics is a Republican. He believes in supporting the principle rather than the party strictly as a party organization. Mrs. Babb also gives her support to the party which has produced Lincoln, McKinley and Garfield.

Eleven years ago Mr. and Mrs. Babb removed from their farm to Rantoul and have a commodious home a block south of the Illinois Central Depot. Mr. Babb's former extensive operations as a stock buyer made him widely known over this section of Illinois, and much of his business was transacted through Rantoul. Having worked hard in the prime of his career he is now able to enjoy with satisfaction his pleasant home on Kentucky Street and has hosts of friends in Illinois as well as in his native land. On the walls of their home at Rantoul are hung many fine views of Scotland and England, including representations of some of the large estates which they have visited. One of these is "Lumber Grange," owned by Mr. Babb's nephew, Alfred Wood. It is one of the stately old homes of England, has rustic fences covered with rambling roses, and is a place which would delight the eye of the sportsman and the landscape painter. Other views show the estates known as "The Croft" and "Littleover." Mr. Babb has collected many articles of interest both to themselves and their friends, and they have the parlor of their home furnished with finely carved Japanese furniture.

Peter Stewart Campbell came to Champaign County when he was a small boy, learned the trade in one of the shops of the county and for many years has been identified either with a newspaper establishment or with a printing shop of his own. He now has one of the principal job printing houses of Urbana.

Mr. Campbell was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, April 18, 1868, a son of Archibald B. and Christina (Stewart) Campbell. He was one of seven children, named as follows: Alexander, deceased; Jennie, wife of G. L. Baker, of Champaign; Mary, widow of Robert Leslie, living at Pittsfield, Illinois; John and William, both deceased; Peter Stewart; and Archibald, of Tolono.

The father of these children was a drainage contractor and died in Scotland in 1872. The following year the widowed mother brought her family to America, and soon located near Tolono, where she lived until her death in 1916. Peter S. Campbell received his education at Tolono

and in 1881 began learning the printing trade. He served his apprenticeship in Champaign County and in 1887 went to Wichita, Kansas, where he spent about a year as a printer. On returning to Champaign County he became connected with the Urbana Herald, and was with that journal nine years. For a short time he was with the Champaign News, and then opened a shop of his own but sold out after six months. Then followed a relationship for nine years with the Urbana Daily Courier. On leaving the Courier Mr. Campbell opened a shop of his own and now has all the facilities as well as the experience for first class work in general commercial printing.

He was married May 20, 1891, to Elizabeth Brown, of Rantoul. They have three children: Raymond B., William V., and Eleanor Pauline. Mr. Campbell is a Republican, a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Improved Order of Red Men, and he and his family worship in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

George Driskell. One of the farms that lend distinction and dignity to Champaign County as a center of the great Illinois corn belt is that of Mr. George Driskell in section 33 of Kerr Township. Mr. Driskell has been a farmer all his life, and he knows the business as only one can know it through years of practical experience and common sense application of his energies to the task at hand.

Mr. Driskell was born in Warren County, Indiana, a son of Hiram and Anna (Black) Driskell. There were six children in the family, four sons and two daughters, Roland, George, William, one that died in infancy, Julia Ann and Hannah. Hiram Driskell was also a farmer, and brought his family to Champaign County when George was nine years of age. The family located on a farm at Sugar Grove in Kerr Township and the children attended the Sugar Grove school. Hiram Driskell and wife lived in this locality the rest of their lives.

On February 12, 1871, Mr. George Driskell married Miss Samantha Mercer. They had been sweethearts for some time, but their parents opposed their attention and planned a different future for them. The young people thought they knew best, and determined to take the issue in their own hands. In the early winter of 1871 they attended a party at the home of a neighbor named Pattens. All the young people of that district were present. On the following day, instead of returning home, George and Samantha drove to Champaign and were married at the hotel. On returning home they received the blessing of their parents, and their long and prosperous married life shows that they made no mistake in this vital decision.

Mrs. Driskell was born in eastern Ohio, a daughter of Aaron and Polly (Cecil) Mercer, her father a native of Virginia. Their ancestors were formerly from Scotland. Her parents were married in Ohio and there were five sons and three daughters: Solomon, William, James, Joseph, Henry, Martha, Nancy and Samantha, who was the youngest. When Samantha was a small child the Mercer family came to Illinois and located in the Partlow settlement of Vermilion County. The children attended the Sugar Grove school and the Flagg school. Samantha finished her education in a school for young ladies at Paxton, Illinois, when Mrs. Buckley was principal.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Driskell started out for themselves on eighty acres which he inherited from his father. They located in their new home in the month of June, the month for brides, and they went at their task as home makers with youth, enthusiasm, courage and ambition. They lived there ten years and then removed to a part of Mr. Driskell's

father's estate, and also bought adjoining land. At the present time the Driskell farm comprises 240 acres, and through his care and management many notable improvements have been made. The house has been remodeled, a large barn has been built, and there is ample equipment for carrying on such a farm as a business. Mr. and Mrs. Driskell have planted many trees, flowers and shrubs and their home stands out as one of the picturesque spots in Kerr Township. Mr. Driskell's work has chiefly been as a grain grower and stock raiser. He has raised hogs on a large scale, some years as high as 150 head. One year the cholera struck this region and he lost over 100 hogs through this disease.

A high degree of public spirit has characterized all of Mr. Driskell's activities in the community. He is widely known all over Champaign County, which he served fifteen years on the board of county commissioners. During that long public service he had a part in the building of nearly all the bridges along Middle Fork Creek, the largest being the Mercer bridge, and also the one east of his home. These bridges are a credit to the entire county. Mr. Driskell has also served on the school board and has helped make his district one of the best in the county. Mr. and Mrs. Driskell attend the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a stanch supporter of the Republican party, but is a man of broad views and believes that the special national executive is entitled to the support and confidence of every true American. Mrs. Driskell has done all she could to forward the prohibition movement in the county and state, and it is one of her most ardent hopes that nation-wide prohibition will be an accomplished fact in her lifetime. From such facts as have been here related it is possible to understand Mr. and Mrs. Driskell's high position in Champaign County, and it is not without good reason that they take pride in their country home, their family and the worthy influences that they have been able to set in motion for the benefit of the community.

George Skinner is one of the prosperous farm owners and well known citizens of Champaign County, now living retired at Urbana, and for his success the credit is due almost entirely to his individual efforts and his steadfast honesty and integrity.

Mr. Skinner was born in Somersetshire, England, January 29, 1850, and was about four years of age when he accompanied his parents, Robert and Anna (Rich) Skinner, to America. The family first located near Elk Grove, northwest of Chicago, and in 1873 they moved to the vicinity of Homer in Champaign County, where Robert Skinner spent his last years and died in 1883. Robert Skinner and wife had four children: Amelia, who died in 1888; Rhoda, who died in 1913; George; and Henry, now a resident of Los Angeles, California.

When George Skinner was fourteen years of age the family removed to Shelby County, Illinois, renting a farm there three years and after another year at Arcola they went to a rented farm south of Homer, where George Skinner remained five years. In the meantime his father had suffered a severe accident by a fall on the ice and he and his brother assumed many of the responsibilities connected with the management of the farm and the domestic upkeep. Mr. George Skinner eventually acquired land of his own and by systematic improvement and development continued his land holding interests until he is now owner of 204 acres, constituting one of the best farms in Champaign County. Mr. Skinner has made his success by raising corn and oats, cattle and hogs. In 1893 he bought a fine home at 921 West Green Street in Urbana, where he is now living retired. In 1900 he bought another farm of 124 acres in St. Joseph Township.

Mr. Skinner was married December 29, 1887, to Mary Havard, a native of Illinois, whose parents came from Wales. Mr. and Mrs. Skinner have one son, John E. Skinner, who is now attending the Camp Ground School at Biloxi, Mississippi. Mr. Skinner is a Republican, has served on the Board of Supervisors of Ayres Township, and has filled other minor township offices. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

HUGH A. KIRK. While it cannot be claimed for all Champaign County farmers that they live up to the opportunities afforded them, there are some of them whose progress and prosperity are well worth noting and whose modern methods have in the last few years almost revolutionized the industry. One of these wide-awake and progressive agriculturists is Hugh A. Kirk, whose finely cultivated fields are a credit to Harwood Township and whose thoroughbred stock have made his name known all over the county.

Hugh A. Kirk was born in Champaign County, Illinois, and belongs to an old pioneer family of this section. His parents, James and Alice Kirk, were born in Ireland. The mother passed away some years ago, but the father survives, although the weight of years is heavy upon him. He is surrounded by loving descendants who tenderly minister to his wants. He was one of the early members of the Catholic Church at Ludlow, reared his children in that faith and they have always followed its teachings.

Hugh A. Kirk attended the parochial schools at Philo and St. Joseph, and the Paxton High School, and still later took a course in Brown's Business College. He has made a special study of scientific agriculture and has proved the value of such a course on his farm of 240 acres. His land has been made to produce abundantly through intelligent cultivation and he has been equally successful in other farm industries. He owns the magnificent black imported stallion Keota General, and raises Aberdeen cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs. Additionally he gives a great deal of attention to his valuable full blood Orpington chickens. For the proper accommodation of this exceedingly valuable stock, Mr. Kirk has made wise provision. On his farm a certain system is followed, the old haphazard way of carrying on agricultural operations being obsolete here. Aside from all this the farm is well situated and well watered and drained, and through the introduction of modern comforts much of the old-time drudgery is a thing of the past. Fine shade trees are a part of the landscape and Father Kirk can remember when he set them out as saplings.

Mr. Kirk was married in the Catholic Church at Ludlow on June 7, 1916, Father Drumming officiating, to Miss Marie Deany, who was born in La Salle County, Illinois, and is a daughter of Daniel and Mary Deany, the former of whom was born in New Jersey and the latter in Illinois. They have one son, Harold Hugh Kirk.

In politics Mr. Kirk is a Democrat and fraternally belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters. The family is one that has always been held in high esteem in this section, its members being solid, representative people.

U. G. NORMAN has found his work in life and has rendered his chief service during his residence at Champaign as a building contractor. Some of the principal buildings of the city have been erected by him.

A resident of Champaign County most of his life, he was born in Wayne County, Indiana, April 14, 1867, a son of John Scott and Eunice A. (Stover) Norman. His father was a farmer, and in 1869 removed to Champaign County, locating on a farm ten miles from Urbana, where he was engaged in general farming and in looking after the responsibilities

and duties of a good citizen until his death in 1897. The mother died in 1912.

The sixth of his parents' children, Ulysses G. Norman grew up in the country, attended the local schools, and was at home on the farm until he was twenty-two. Then for a year he farmed, and having acquired in the meantime a practical knowledge of carpentry he made his first venture in the building business by the purchase of a plat of land which is now known as the Norman Addition, and on which he built apartments and residences. After this initial success and experience he removed to Champaign in 1889 and now for nearly thirty years has been engaged in business as a contractor and builder. Among the more notable structures he has erected are the Dr. Howard Building, the Gazette Building and a number of the better residences.

Mr. Norman married Miss Minnie Osborne, a native of Champaign County. Mrs. Norman was a teacher in the city schools of Champaign for five years and taught in the country a similar length of time. She is a daughter of Robert and Margaret (Henley) Osborne, her father a native of Ohio and her mother of Tennessee. Both parents are now deceased. Her father was a farmer and building contractor. Mrs. Norman was next to the youngest of the family of six children. To their marriage have been born four children: Louise E., Helen Grant, Margaret A., and Hartwell Osborne. Mr. Norman is independent in matters of politics, and he and his wife are active in the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he is serving as a steward.

Daniel Mooney, proprietor of a fine and valuable farm in section 18 of Compromise Township, came to America from Ireland about the close of the Civil War, and has had a long and active career in America for more than half a century.

He was born in the north of Ireland, a son of Peter and Mary (Graham) Mooney. His parents died in the old country when Daniel was about twenty years of age. He had the usual education given to Irish boys, and about the time his parents died, having heard much of the opportunities of America, he came to this country, first joining his cousin, Patrick Grimes. From New York he came on to Illinois, having friends in Sangamon County, and was soon working at farm labor at wages of $20 a month. One of the great events with which he associates his coming to America was the assassination of President Lincoln at the close of the Civil War.

Central Illinois was by no means so attractive or beautiful as old Ireland, but Mr. Mooney had the true Irish grit and determination and determined to make the best of his circumstances. While working as a farm hand on the raw prairie there were many unpleasant things to contend with, including mosquitoes and flies, fever and ague. He was industrious, and in a few years felt justified in taking the next serious step in life.

At Lincoln in Logan County, Illinois, he married Miss Margaret Kearney. After their marriage they rented land in Logan County and were soon making a good living for themselves and their increasing household. Five children came to them, Peter, Daniel, Margaret, Lydia and Anna. When Anna was ten months old the beloved mother entered into rest. Thus left alone in the world, with five orphan children, Mr. Mooney had many additional trials and responsibilities.

He married for his second wife Mary Nolan, a native of County Tipperary, Ireland. In the meantime Mr. Mooney had bought eighty acres in Compromise Township of Champaign County, and here his best successes as a farmer and business man have been realized. In the course of time his

estate grew to 240 acres, and it was improved with commodious farm buildings and home, by the planting of fruit and shade trees, and the entire tract now stands as a monument to his industry.

By his second marriage there were three children, two sons and one daughter, named Mary, Michael and John. The children were all educated in the district schools, Mary subsequently continuing her studies in the Sisters school at Champaign, while Michael took a course in the Catholic College at Kankakee.

The record of the children who have married is as follows: Peter Mooney married Anna Buck, and their three daughters and one son are named Stella, Kate, Daniel and Mary. Margaret Mooney is the wife of John O'Donnel. Lydia married Russell Fitten and has four children, John, Frances and twins. Anna Mooney is the wife of Spence Raymer. Mary Mooney married John Coffey. Michael Mooney by his marriage to Rene Lynch has two sons, Patrick and Eugene. The sons Daniel and John are still at home with their father and have active charge of the management of the farm, whose cultivation and thrifty appearance testify to their progressiveness and energy in this business.

Mr. Mooney is one of the public spirited citizens of Compromise Township and has filled the offices of road commissioner and school director. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church at Penfield and in politics he is a Democrat of broad views and liberal in support of all good causes. His friends and acquaintances in Compromise Township recognize in him a thorough gentleman and a man of absolute integrity, whose word is as good as his bond.

Frank Kern Robeson. Of the many business establishments in Champaign County perhaps none has a wider connection with the families of this section of Illinois and a better reputation due to many years of successful business relations than the Robeson Department Store, founded and built up by the veteran merchant Frank Kern Robeson, who has the distinction of having developed the first real department store in the city of Champaign.

While his success and position in the community are now so well established, it is noteworthy that Mr. Robeson did not always have an easy course and one free from obstacles. He was born in the state of Pennsylvania. His parents, Alexander M. and Jane (Kern) Robeson, were natives of the same state. Their ancestors had come to America prior to the Revolutionary War. Both the Robesons and the Kerns were engaged in the great iron industry of Pennsylvania until a short time before the Civil War.

In 1863 Alexander M. Robeson and his family moved to the pineries of Northern Michigan. During the next winter they and four other families endured the hardships of frontier life. When navigation closed in the fall there was no communication with the outside world except mail every two weeks brought in on sledges drawn by dogs. When navigation opened in the spring the Robesons took the first boat, a sailing vessel, that left for Bay City, and thence proceeded by rail and by stage over corduroy roads to Rensselaer, Indiana. Rensselaer, now the county seat of Jasper County, was then a sparsely settled section in swamps and with no railroad communications. The Robesons became farmers in that vicinity.

Many of the boyhood recollections of Mr. F. K. Robeson are of the old Indiana farm. He lived on the farm until past sixteen, and was educated in the country and county seat schools. His first experience in business was as clerk in a store at Logansport, Indiana.



L. R. Robertson

One of the strongest points in personal character is ability to recognize and seize opportunity. After Mr. Robeson had been clerking about two years he was offered a partnership in a store to be opened at Danville, Illinois. He accepted the offer, and thus came to Illinois and was at Danville nine months. He prospered there, but then went to Decatur, Illinois, and formed a business partnership which in eleven months time brought him near to the brink of disaster and he lost in it nearly all the money he had saved.

It was after this experience and when just past twenty-one years old that Mr. Robeson came to Champaign, where he arrived in April, 1874. Here he opened a store on Neil Street in the first block north of Church Street. What he lacked in capital he made up in energy, pluck and business judgment. The small stock of merchandise grew with the growth of population, his success was soon recognized in the community, and there has never been a time when his business and his personal character has not been recognized as important assets in the city. About forty years ago Mr. Robeson moved to the David Bailey building. The store has a frontage at 219-221 North Neil Street, and the building runs back to a side entrance at 113-115 West Church Street.

For many years his store has demanded more commodious quarters. To meet this demand for more room and more up-to-date housing, Mr. Robeson in the fall of 1915 began preparation for the construction of a new store building at the corner of Church and Randolph streets. The building is 132x132 feet square, five stories and basement, modern throughout, and as nearly fireproof as possible to make it. It is a steel frame building with pressed brick walls. This is the largest store building in this section of Illinois, and in every feature it attests the rugged character and sterling integrity of the man responsible for it.

Besides this large department store Mr. Robeson has extensive agricultural interests, owning land in Champaign County, in South Dakota and in Iowa. A part of his land he rents out and a part he farms himself, employing his own help and directing the farm operations. His business as a farmer has been no less successful than as a merchant.

Mr. Robeson married in 1897 Miss Hortense M. Bartholow, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Bartholow, and a native of Champaign County. Dr. James M. Bartholow is a prominent physician of Urbana. After leaving college he enlisted in the Civil War and served until the close of that conflict. In 1869 he began his practice at Philo in Champaign County, but removed to Urbana in 1885. Dr. Bartholow was married May 28, 1867, to Florence Ford, of Macon City, Illinois. They had two children, Otho, a minister in New York; and Hortense, Mrs. Robeson. Mr. and Mrs. Robeson have two children: Frank Kern, who followed his high school graduation with a course at college, and Florence Louise Robeson.

Mr. Robeson is a Knight Templar Mason, also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. His public spirit as a citizen has always been prominent. He enters whole heartedly into any plan for the general benefit of the community. Mr. Robeson is a man of broad intelligence and pronounced convictions, and is never afraid to let his opinions be known. He stands for all that is best in community life, in business and in politics. He served on the building and finance committees that erected and paid for the University Place Church of Christ. For twenty years he was a member of the Republican County Central Committee and for ten years was chairman of that organization. He never sought public office, but on two occasions was induced to accept official honor, once in the City Council as alderman from his ward, having been elected without opposition,

and again as a member of the State Board of Equalization for a term of four years. Though repeatedly urged to accept other official positions he always declined. He prefers private life, his home, his business and his farm. In many ways Mr. Robeson is an ideal citizen. His friends are legion. Not even his most intimate friends are aware of the extent of his good works and good deeds. The keynote to his success has been hard work. He personally mastered the smallest details of merchandising, and from the details has risen to the power of constructive planning and the supervision of extensive interests.

THOMAS H. LEATHERS, who for a number of years has stood second to none among the competent dental surgeons of Champaign County is an instance of a self-made man who came almost to the age of manhood without schooling or education and by sheer force of will and ambition qualified for a profession requiring a high degree of skill and intelligence.

Doctor Leathers was born in Glensborough, Kentucky, June 30, 1870, son of William and Mary (Royalty) Leathers. His parents were both born in Kentucky, were thrifty farming people but of modest means. The mother died at the age of thirty-one and the father is now living in Montana. There were only two children, Doctor Thomas being the older, while his brother, Alfred, is manager of the Standard Oil plant at Nashville, Tennessee.

The childhood of Thomas H. Leathers was spent on a Kentucky farm, also in the logging camps, and when he was seventeen years of age he began his education. He determined to get an education and he worked constantly to pay his tuition and his support while in school. He first attended school at Palmyra, Illinois, and subsequently completed a four years course in the Danville Normal in Indiana. When he had made up for early deficiencies in the way of a literary training, he entered the Louisville College of Dentistry at Louisville, Kentucky, and in 1898 passed the State Board after two years of work and was graduated in 1899. For three years Doctor Leathers kept his main office at the corner of Fourth and Jefferson streets in Louisville, but practiced throughout the contiguous country district. In 1902 he came to Champaign, and his reputation as a dentist has been steadily growing throughout the past fifteen years. Doctor Leathers now maintains one office and besides his individual skill and attainments he has surrounded himself with every modern equipment and appliance by which the skill of the dentist is immeasurably enhanced.

Doctor Leathers is a man of thorough education and culture and besides extensive travel in this country has been abroad in Europe. In politics he is independent, is a member of the Masonic Order and the Benevolent and Protctive Order of Elks, and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was married August 28, 1900, to Minnie M. Crawford, a native of Champaign County.

PATRICK CONNOR. Every one in the Rantoul vicinity of Champaign County knows the home of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Connor. It is located in section 19, five miles northwest of Rantoul and near the schoolhouse to which Mr. Connor sent his own children and with which he has been officially identified. This is a fine farm, comprising 320 acres, and from the road the large white house is almost screened by the fine trees which surround it and most of which were planted and set out by Mr. Connor's own hands.

All these worthy and creditable possessions are the result of Mr. and Mrs. Connor's self-sacrificing efforts in early days and continued good management at the present. Mr. Patrick Connor was born at Richmond,

Virginia, a son of Patrick and Catherine (Kane) Connor, who were natives of Ireland and came to America soon after their marriage in order to better their conditions in the New World. From Virginia they moved to Peoria County, Illinois. Their three children were Mary, Hannah and Patrick.

Patrick, the only son, attended school in Peoria County, and soon after reaching manhood, in 1885, he married Mary Sullivan. Mrs. Connor was born in Logan County, Illinois, third in a large family of children born to Daniel and Catherine (Buckley) Sullivan. Mrs. Connor was six years of age when her parents located in Champaign County, and she obtained her education in the Ludlow Center school.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Connor lived on the old Connor homestead in Condit Township for seven years. They were ambitious for the future and had the energy and enthusiasm of young people, and thriftily put aside some of the surplus from each year's efforts until they were able to buy the nucleus of their present estate, consisting of 160 acres five miles northwest of Rantoul. For that quarter section they paid $65 an acre.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Connor were born nine children, two of whom died in infancy. The others were named Catherine, Mary, Irene, John, Patrick, Madaline and Helen. These children were educated in the nearby school, the Locust Grove school. Catherine was also a student in St. Joseph's Academy at Bloomington, and Mary was a pupil in St. Mary of the Woods at Terre Haute, Indiana. Irene graduated with honors from the Rantoul High School and fitted herself for teaching, being engaged in that work for two years in the Independence school in East Bend Township. Catherine is now the wife of John Murray, a farmer in East Bend Township, and their three children are named Anna Gertrude, Mary Louise and Connor. The other children, Mary, Irene, John and Patrick, remain at home and assist their father and mother in the management of the farm. All are bright and energetic boys and girls and have a good future before them. Three of the children are students in the Donovan Memorial School of Rantoul conducted by the Dominican Sisters.

Mr. and Mrs. Connor attend St. Malachi's Catholic Church at Rantoul, and their children were baptized and confirmed in that church. Politically he votes the Democratic ticket. Proof of his public spirit is found in the fact that he was elected for a number of years as school director and has been frequently honored with the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens. Mr. and Mrs. Connor have done all in their power to prepare their children for efficient lives. Realizing and appreciating the value of music as a source of true culture they have given their daughters musical as well as literary training.

Mr. Connor has achieved a position among the first of Champaign County's farmers and stockmen. He now has 320 acres of land, and among his improvements is a silo with a capacity of ninety tons. He has gained something more than a county-wide reputation as a breeder and raiser of Aberdeen Angus cattle. In the off crop year of 1916 Mr. Connor raised 4,500 bushels of corn, and at this writing still has most of it in his cribs. The market value of corn is now close to $1.60 a bushel. The Connor home has always been characterized by its generous hospitality. Mr. and Mrs. Connor have with all their hard work found time to perform their community duties and neighborly responsibilities, and have every reason to be proud of their home and the possessions they have gathered around them. Reference has already been made to the attractive feature of the fine trees in the door yard. These trees, planted by Mr. Connor himself, are maples, catalpas, box elders and a row of fine black walnut trees which now bear abundantly. All these things add to the real pleasure of life, and none are better qualified to enjoy such possessions than Mr. and Mrs. Connor.

ROGER E. ZOMBRO is one of the live and enterprising business men of Champaign, and after a number of years of practical experience as an employe graduated into the ranks of independent merchants and now conducts one of the most popular men's furnishing goods stores of the city, drawing his trade from the best classes of people.

Mr. Zombro was born at Midland City, Illinois, October 16, 1880, a son of Jacob W. and Mary M. (Cheney) Zombro. His parents were both born at Mechanicsburg, Ohio. Jacob Zombro spent the last twenty years of his life in the insurance business, and he died at Weldon, Illinois. The mother died at Champaign in July, 1916. They were the parents of five children: Minnie, wife of B. F. Peltz, of Clinton, Illinois; James B., of Logan, Utah; Janette, wife of J. H. Alsbury, of Maroa, Illinois; Edna, wife of George Reddick, of Clinton, Illinois; and Roger E.

Mr. Roger E. Zombro began life with a fair equipment of education. He attended the common schools and lacked only three months of graduating from the high school at Weldon, Illinois. On account of poor eyesight he had to give up his studies, and soon afterward, at the age of fifteen, he began acquiring a mercantile experience as an employe of William Gushard & Company at Decatur, Illinois. He was in that company's dry goods establishment four years and then transferred his employment to McPherson, Edwards & Company in their dry goods store at Springfield, Illinois. After about two years at Springfield Mr. Zombro came to Champaign in 1901 and was successively connected with the dry goods stores of E. C. Willis, F. S. Robson and W. Lewis & Company. With a wealth of experience, with credit acquired by his knowledge and ability, and with some capital Mr. Zombro in 1909 opened his men's furnishing store at 604 East Green Street, and has been continuously in that location with a rapidly growing trade.

On August 11, 1916, he married Miss J. Ethel Lediendecker, who was born in Champaign. Mr. Zombro is now precinct commissioner, is a member of the Country Club, the Civic Club, the Rotary Club, is a Republican in politics, and is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

ALEXANDER FUNKHOUSER. Some men go through the world, subject to its various experiences, doing their work well and accumulating property, but after all is said and done they apparently have not placed the proper emphasis upon life as living and have not accentuated the many interests which lie around them. Of those families of Champaign County that seem to have realized most adequately the breadth and fullness and depth of life and its possibilities perhaps none deserve mention more than the household of Alexander Funkhouser. Mr. Funkhouser is a prominent farmer near Rantoul, and his activities have been closely identified with Champaign County since boyhood days.

He is a son of James and Rachel Funkhouser, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The original ancestors of the Funkhousers were three brothers who emigrated from Holland to America in early days, and their descendants still have the sterling qualities that marked the family back in Holland. James and Rachel Funkhouser had only two children, Alexander and Sarah.

Alexander Funkhouser was born two and a half miles from Greensburg in Decatur County, Indiana. He was eight years of age when he came with his parents to Champaign County. They arrived in this county October 19, 1857. Here the family experienced the various hardships and privations incident to their day. They possessed powers of endurance and were always willing to sacrifice present comfort for the sake of future

good, and thus they surmounted seemingly insurmountable barriers and came to take their place in the ranks of the sturdy tillers of the soil whose business in life is to make old mother earth yield her rich increase. The passing years have shown that their labor was not in vain.

Young Alexander Funkhouser went to work in earnest to assist his father in cultivating the new farm in Champaign County. His first employment was in dropping corn. In those days such a thing as tiling fields was not known. The water frequently filled all the ditches and remained there a good part of the spring and early summer, and in order that the corn might not rot it had to be carefully dropped and covered on top of the furrows. Also as a barefooted boy he herded cattle on the Thomasboro flats, keeping a sharp lookout for the snakes that infested the place. He would quench his thirst by drinking water through a straw or reed from the numerous holes made by the cattle's feet. That way of drinking was a common custom in early days, and is said to have explained the reason why the inhabitants of Illinois were called "Suckers."

As the boy grew to manhood he had an earnest purpose for the future and laid the foundation of his own home and fortune by his union with Miss Adie James. To visit these good people in their home today, which possesses all the marks of a plenteous comfort, and see their fine sons and daughters and witness the cheery atmosphere of home life, one would quickly decide Mr. Funkhouser had not made any mistake in the choice of his life's partner.

Adie James was a daughter of Thomas J. and Almeda James, both natives of Indiana. The old home of the family was near Terre Haute. They early migrated to Champaign County. Thomas James died in Stanton Township of Champaign County. To their marriage were born fourteen children, and the seven still living are Adie, Mrs. Funkhouser; Alice, Cary, Lizzie, Chauncey, George and Hugh. The children of the James family all derived their education from the district schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Funkhouser took up their joint partnership as farmers. Through the strictest economy and by long continued saving they were able to purchase their first land, which consisted of eighty acres. To this they added from time to time until they now own 160 acres in Rantoul Township, 160 acres in Ford County and 150 acres in Vermilion County.

Into their home and to gladden their hearts have come twelve children, eight sons and four daughters. Their names were: Effie, Allie, Homer, Isaac, Charles, Etsel, Otis, Clinton, Frederick, Earl, Lena and a daughter that died in infancy. Charles is also deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Funkhouser gave their children all the advantages to be obtained in the country school district and later sent them to high school at Rantoul.

The daughter Effie was for four years a successful teacher in Champaign County and married an educator, G. E. Wright, and they now live in Des Moines, Iowa. They have a child, Cecil, a bright and energetic boy, who for two years filled the position of page in the Statehouse at Des Moines. He is an independent little fellow and began his business life as a newsboy and since the age of ten years has done his own banking.

Allie is the wife of L. F. Ledderboge, a resident of Bloomington, Illinois, from which city he travels as representative for the Portable Elevator Company. They have two sons, Lloyd and Clifford.

Homer married Miss Cora Moudy, and they live at Gerald, Vermilion County. The town of Gerald takes off eight acres from their farm. Their children are named Merle, Doris, Eugene, Lenore, Margaret, Christine and Emory.

Isaac Funkhouser married Sadie Hartsock, and he lives on the old Funkhouser farm. They have a son, Marion.

Etsel, who lives in Somer Township, married Julia Tracy, and they have one son, Richard Alexander, who was born on his grandfather's birthday and was given the name of his grandfather.

Otis, who is a farmer near Gifford, married Evelyn Bailey.

Clinton is a farmer near Rantoul and married Opal Mulvany.

Lena is the wife of Claud Ziegler, and they live on a farm in Ford County. Their daughter was named Mabrie Wilson.

Frederick married May Colwell. Earl remains at home.

As the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Funkhouser married and left home the parents wisely exerted themselves so as to give proper opportunities to their sons and keep them at home and busy as long as possible. They therefore rented a 400-acre ranch, the old Richard estate near Rantoul, and that has proved a very wise arrangement, since it gives ample opportunities for the boys to practice agriculture and work out their destinies for themselves without going away from home.

The family are active members of the Christian Church at Rantoul, and in politics Mr. Alexander Funkhouser is a strong Democrat and believes the present incumbent of the White House is not only the man of the hour but the man whom destiny has marked out to be one of the greatest factors in the settlement of the problems of the world. Mr. Funkhouser is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World, and all his sons who have reached the proper age have membership in the Odd Fellows lodge and all are enthusiastic workers in that fraternity. A portrait shows the picture of the father and seven sons wearing the regalia of Odd Fellowship, and this photograph indicates that the father as well as the sons have attained the stations of past grand masters. Mr. and Mrs. Funkhouser have lost no opportunity to lead exemplary lives before their family and instill in them principles of manly conduct and true American citizenship. Their hospitable home for years has echoed ringing laughter and merry voices of boys and girls, and it has been a center for the social gatherings of the neighborhood. Mrs. Funkhouser is a fine type of the American woman who believes in rearing her boys to fill places of usefulness in the great busy avenues of life and finds little satisfaction in the glories of war, which she believes is not the true field for American manhood.

The jovial spirit of Alexander Funkhouser is contagious. Neither he nor his wife believe in growing old in spirit, and they always have a cheerful word for everyone. In 1916 Rantoul held a Halloween carnival pageant. All the participants were garbed in costume. Among them was a jolly old black mammy, gaily decorated in the bright colors so dear to the race. Her appearance on the street amid the revelers was hailed with hearty delight. She looked as though she had just emigrated from a southern plantation. Many guesses were made as to who she was. It was the signal for added mirth and pleasure when it was discovered that she was Mrs. Alexander Funkhouser, a gray-haired grandmother, with her heart young as in her girlhood days. At that carnival Mr. and Mrs. Funkhouser received a fine prize for having the largest family.

William O. Smith. For more than half a century a resident of Champaign County, William O. Smith is known to the people of this section as a man who did his brave and efficient duty in the Civil War, as an active and industrious farmer, and as one who in all the relations of a long and busy life has lived up to the best standards of citizenship. He is also known through his children, a number of whom now occupy worthy and honorable places in community affairs.

Mr. Smith was born at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, January 5, 1839,

a son of S. B. and Mary Ellen (Sheperd) Smith. His father's native home was near Harper's Ferry, Virginia. William O. Smith was one of a family of five sons and two daughters. In 1846, when he was seven years of age, the family removed to Sangamon County, Illinois, and rented a house in Sheldon's Row in the city of Springfield. For two years they had the distinction of living in the same house with Abraham Lincoln and his wife. The house was a double apartment, the Smiths occupying one side and the Lincolns the other. S. B. Smith served eighteen years as justice of the peace in Sangamon County.

Mr. W. O. Smith as a boy attended the Lake Creek District School in Sangamon County. After leaving the common schools and working for a year he realized the need of more education and saved and earned the money necessary to give him a course in the Springfield High School.

While in high school he was invited to join a debating club. The rules of the club were that members should be called upon for extempore speeches, limited to fifteen minutes on any given topic. Failure to make a speech made the member subject to a forfeit or fine of twenty-five cents.

When young Smith was first called upon for such an ordeal the chairman reached in a box, as was the custom, drew out a subject for the speech and handed it to the young man. Much to his suprise the slip contained the one word, soap. That was a test of quick thinking and ready wit. Another factor was that young Smith was not troubled with many quarter dollars in those days, and he promptly waded into his subject. He elucidated every phase and fact concerning soap, and much to the amusement and delight of the audience. Finally the time was up and the president had to ring him down. About sixty-five years later Mr. Smith met in Springfield one of his old schoolmates, who after mutual greeting laughingly asked "Smith, how is soap in Champaign County?"

Mr. Smith was a young man of twenty-two when the war cloud broke and deluged the country with hostilities. Filled with enthusiasm, he enlisted in his country's service at Springfield in 1861 and became a member of Company I, Twenty-ninth Illinois Infantry. This regiment it has been frequently said was the regiment that "put down the rebellion." He signed his enlistment papers August 7, 1861, at one o'clock in the afternoon. He immediately went home and bid his mother good-bye and next morning ate his breakfast at Cairo, Illinois. For nearly three years of his service Mr. Smith was employed as a United States scout. He was in many of the principal engagements, including Fort Donaldson and Fort Henry, Pittsburg Landing or Shiloh, Black River, and many other scenes of carnage and bloodshed that have never effaced themselves from his memory. Even yet he shrinks from talking about the terrific side of war. It is only such men who can completely realize the tremendous sacrifices that were made in making this country a free and united people. He became a corporal in his company and was subsequently promoted to the post of deputy to a general. Finally General Grant took him to his headquarters and employed him there for two years. Some years later, when General Grant was in his second term as president, Mr. Smith visited Washington. Desiring to see his old general he presented himself at the door of the White House. The soldier on guard asked him to present his card. This Illinois veteran was not prepared with visiting cards and consequently was told that the President could not see him. It chanced that the President was close by, and recognizing the voice of the old soldier called him in and gave him his warm and characteristically kind greeting. They spent some time talking over old days in the army.

Mr. Smith was one time taken prisoner but was paroled. Eleven days

after the expiration of his term of enlistment he was mustered out at Natchez, Mississippi, and received his honorable discharge at Springfield August 27, 1864. He was under Capt. Samuel H. Russell, the brave soldier who subsequently accompanied General Custer on the expedition against the Indians in the Northwest and fell another victim to the frenzy of the red men under Sitting Bull in the massacre of 1876.

After the war Mr. Smith engaged in farming in Champaign County and in 1865, at Mahomet, married Miss Louzsa Rea. Five children were born to them: Ida Lillian, Grace Eleanor, Jessie R., William O., Jr., Mary Ellen. These children were well educated in the Ludlow schools and the Paxton schools. W. O. Jr., after his education in these institutions studied law at Normal University three years, graduated, and has since practiced as a successful young attorney. He married Martha Whitcome and has one child, Raymond. The daughter Ida married Charles Hammerlin, and their children are Charles, Lew, Vera, Myrtle, Chester, Dewey, Rex and Clara. Grace E. is the wife of Charles Coon. Their children are Flossie, Bede, Carl, Lois, Lillian, Glen, Jay, Marian and June. Jessie R. is the wife of Charles S. Wallace. Mr. Smith now makes his home with this daughter, Mrs. Jessie Wallace, at Champaign. By a former marriage Mrs. Wallace has one daughter, Lou Iris, who married T. H. Doty, and they have one child, Robert Hurrel Doty. This great-grandchild, a great comfort and the pride of his great-grandfather, was born November 17, 1913. The daughter Mary E. married William Clark, and their children are William, Robert, Laurel, Evelyn, Richard and Opal. The Clark family reside in Urbana.

After a happy home life of nearly a half a century Mr. Smith's companionship with his beloved sharer of joys and sorrows was terminated in the death of Mrs. Smith on March 30, 1914. She was a loving mother and true and noble wife. Mr. Smith is a kind hearted and most hospitable man, and his long experience has made him the delightful companion of both old and young. One of his aims has been to make a new friend each day, and his motto, oft repeated and a constant abiding principle with him is "he who is armed with right is thrice doubly armed and need have no fear."

George L. Watson. There are pioneer names in Champaign County that so essentially belong to the development and progress of this section of Illinois that no history would be complete without reference to them. One of these names is Watson, and a worthy bearer of it is found in George L. Watson, a leading citizen and the owner of a large body of finely improved land situated in section 16 of Harwood Township.

George L. Watson was born in Champaign County, Illinois, and is a son of Joseph and Rachel E. (Simpson) Watson, the latter of whom was born in Ohio. Joseph Watson was born in Ireland and was a son of William N. and Ellen (Patrick) Watson, born in County Kildare. The father belonged to the old order of Orangemen. When Joseph Watson was three months old his parents immigrated to America and finally settled at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and later in Ohio. At that time there was a fine old custom prevailing whereby a son who remained with his parents and did a son's duty until he was twenty-one years old was then released from all responsibility, was given a horse and bridle and saddle and a God-speed and was sent out to test his own physical and moral strength with the world. When he reached his majority Joseph Watson received these gifts and bravely started out to find opportunity for himself. It was something of an undertaking in those days because of so many unknown dangers to be faced, but he started on his way from Ohio and traveled by horse-

back to Iowa, in the meanwhile paying his own way by labor and keeping his eye out for a desirable section in which to locate, finally deciding that Illinois would suit him best of all others. After his marriage, which took place in Indiana, he moved with his wife to Champaign County, Illinois. There were many hardships and no doubt he often remembered the story his father had told of his pioneer days in Ohio, when the loss occasioned by his horse, his one valuable possession at the time, caused him much distress. The horse had wandered away into the great surrounding wilderness and Grandfather Watson had to leave his wife alone in the little cabin for three days while he sought the animal and found it miles away. Such stories were not unusual and doubtless many like accidents happened to Joseph Watson in Champaign County. Here, however, he became a man of settled estate and public usefulness and his name is recalled with feelings of respect and veneration. Of his six children George L. was the youngest in order of birth.

George L. Watson attended the public schools and grew to manhood in Champaign County. The Watsons had relatives who lived in Indiana, and it was while visiting them that Mr. Watson met the lady who subsequently became his wife, and on December 31, 1889, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Josephine Short. Her parents were James and Amanda (Kemp) Short, the former of whom was a prominent farmer in Fountain County, near Hillsboro. He died from the effects of a fall when aged eighty years. He was a son of Aaron Short, of whom the story is told that it was through his plucky deeds that the name "Hoosier" was ever afterward applied to Indiana, in which state he lived. It is said that at the early day when the canal around the Ohio River was in course of construction in southern Indiana, all classes were to be found among the workmen. According to prevailing custom there was plenty of whiskey on hand and consequent frequent brawls. On one occasion a number of these half-drunken workmen decided to attack Aaron Short, the big Virginian, Virginia being his native state. He was a Hercules, six feet tall and brave as a lion. He fearlessly faced his foes and one after another went down under his powerful, sledge-hammer blows. He had never studied any science of fighting but had a system of his own that had always proved effective. When he had seven men groveling in the dust at his feet it is said that he straightened himself, and swinging his brawny bare arms, yelled, "Who's here?" as much as to say, "Who is next to tackle me?" His companions, it is told, laughingly abbreviated the remark and named him "Hoosier," and applied it to the state he lived in.

During the first five years of their married life Mr. and Mrs. Watson lived on the farm of an uncle, Nelson Watson, Sr. They were industrious, frugal, ambitious and energetic, and soon found themselves able to purchase eighty acres of land situated in Harwood Township, four and a half miles south of Ludlow. In five more years they bought eighty acres more and at the end of another five years purchased an additional eighty acres. At a later date Mr. Watson inherited ninety-six acres from his father's estate and then purchased the interests of the other heirs, making his farm 360 acres. Mrs. Watson owns eighty acres in Indiana, a part of her father's estate. General farming and stock raising have been carried on, Mr. Watson continuing actively superintending all his industries until within recent years, since which time his son, Clarence Everett, has taken over the management and is ably continuing his father's methods and policies.

Mr. and Mrs. Watson have had six children, namely: Laura E. and Raymond E., twins, who died in infancy; and Clarence Everett, Nora Esta, Fannie Josephine and George Joseph. Not only have these children had

social advantages but their education has been carefully looked after. Clarence, Nora and Fannie all completed their eighth grade work in the Harwood Center district school on the same day and proudly brought home to their gratified parents their grade diplomas and also honorary diplomas for school attendance for eighteen months without once being absent or tardy. Subsequently Nora entered the Paxton High School and was creditably graduated therefrom in 1913. She is a very ambitious as well as intellectual young lady and has spent three years in Eureka College, preparing for educational work. The other children are doing equally well. Fannie has completed her first year, at the time of writing, in the Ludlow High School. Joseph, although only eleven years old, has no intention of being outdistanced by his sisters, and he, too, received a diploma for punctuality and attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. Watson, in their desire to give advantages to their children and also to add to the attractions of home, have recognized the great place that music holds and the daughters have been carefully instructed and show talent in this direction. In 1915 Mr. Watson erected the fine residence that is the happy home. It is beautifully situated on a natural eminence, and is shaded by trees along the front and its attractive appearance elicits general admiration. Mr. Watson has also looked after the comfort of his family by installing a hot and cold water system, such as city residents enjoy and the house is lighted by gas. Rural life as Mr. Watson and family can enjoy it leaves little to be desired, for they have their mail delivered on the rural route and are connected in all directions through excellent telephone service.

Politically Mr. Watson is a Democrat and he voices his faith in President Woodrow Wilson as being the man to safely guide the nation through its present perils. Both he and son Clarence Everett are members of the Masonic fraternity, and Mrs. Watson is a member of the Eastern Star. Mr. Watson and family attend the Christian Church at Ludlow, afford it liberal support and take part in its benevolent and other missionary work.

William Sullivan has been a life long resident of Champaign County and has figured in business affairs as a printer, newspaper man, and in later years in the real estate and insurance business. He has one of the principal offices for the handling of real estate and insurance at Champaign.

Mr. Sullivan was born at Urbana Illinois, February 12, 1862, a son of John and Ellen (McCann) Sullivan. Both parents were natives of Ireland, the father born in County Cork and the mother in County Limerick. John Sullivan came to America about 1855, and in 1857 located at Urbana. Subsequently he removed to Champaign and built a tavern across the street from where the Illinois Central depot stands. This tavern was known as the Travelers Home. In many ways it had historic associations with the life of the times. The principal work outside of farming then going on in this district of Illinois was railroading. The Travelers Home became headquarters for the newcomers in this section of Illinois, and John Sullivan's acquaintance with officials of the railroad enabled him to secure first employment for a large number of these newcomers, many of whose families still remain in and about Champaign to this day. The other class of patronage upon which the Travelers Home relied for its prosperity was entertaining the emigrants then traveling across the country seeking new homes in the West. Most of these travelers came and went in wagons, and the wagon yard and stables were important adjuncts of the old hostelry at Champaign. John Sullivan was still proprietor of this hotel at the time of his death, January 16, 1871.

He was survived by his widow, whose death occurred January 27, 1905. Of their five children, William Sullivan is the only one now living. Two daughters, Anna and Elizabeth, and one son, James, died before their father, and Nellie afterward. She was the wife of George Boys and left two children, Lila and Nellie.

Besides the public schools of Champaign William Sullivan had the advantages of two years at St. Viator's College at Bourbonnais, Kankakee County. He attended this school after his father's death. He was only nine years of age when his father died, and after returning home from college he began learning the printer's trade with the old Times Printing Company. Later he was with the Champaign Gazette. In 1893, during the World's Fair year, Mr. Sullivan went to Chicago and was engaged in the tea and coffee business. The next year he returned to Champaign and resumed his connection with the Times in the printing department, and for ten years was reporter and city editor of that paper. He finally gave up the newspaper game to enter the real estate and insurance business, and he has been active in that line since 1904.

For many years Mr. Sullivan was affiliated with the Democratic party and took an active part in politics. During recent years he has been independent as to politics. For five years he served as secretary of the chamber of commerce, and has always taken his part in movements for the general good of the community. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Pythias and the Court of Honor. On March 18, 1891, he married Miss Frances M. Trenchard, a native of Piatt County, Illinois. Six children have been born to their union: William J., now actively associated with his father in business; Walter, deceased; Edna, at home; twins who died at birth; and Arthur T., also at home.

Thomas Buck. Among the intelligent and thrifty farmers of Champaign County one whose name belongs high on the list is Mr. Thomas Buck of section 28, Compromise Township.

Mr. Buck has spent most of his active life in Champaign County, but was born in Warren County, this state, a son of Eli and Catherine (Hogan) Buck. His father was born in Vermont and his mother in Ireland. When Thomas was four months old the parents moved to Champaign County, locating south of Gifford, where the children were all educated in the public schools.

Thomas Buck grew up to industrious habits and responsible manhood and at the age of twenty-seven married Sarah Graham. She was born in Logan County, Illinois, and her father, Abraham Graham, was among the early settlers of the state. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Buck started life as farmers in section 28, south of Penfield, and here their work has been tested and the best fruits of their lives realized. They have a splendid farm of 166 acres, an attractive home, and have done much to beautify the land and render it homelike as well as valuable for farming purposes. Mr. Buck's parents in their later years moved to Penfield, and his father died there, widely recognized as one of the good citizens and kind neighbors of Champaign County.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Buck were born nine children: Francis, Joseph, Arthur, Edward, Harold, James, Charles, Mary and Helen. They made up a household of bright, energetic young people, and this is one of the households which has contributed most generously to the new National American Army, since three of the sons have enrolled as soldiers, Francis, Joseph and Arthur. Joseph graduated from the Penfield High School and afterward spent one year at St. Viator's College at Bour-

bonnais, Illinois. From college he returned home and began a career as a farmer, having rented land. Francis Buck married Stella Collins, is a farmer living at Gerald, and has one son, Joseph Francis.

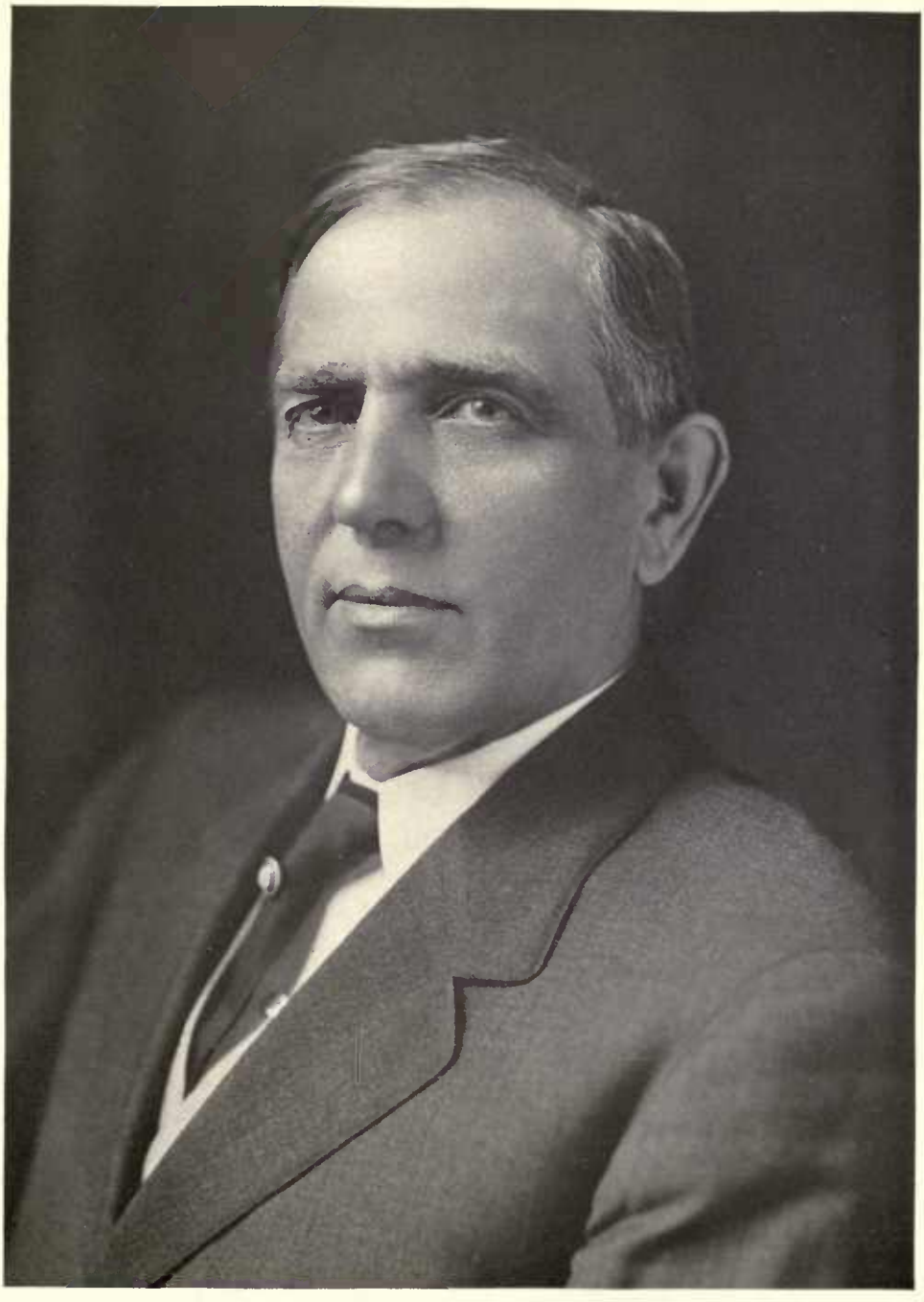
Mr. and Mrs. Buck are active members of the Penfield Catholic Church and are among its liberal supporters. In his political views Mr. Buck is a Democrat, and is a man whose record in Compromise Township well entitles him to the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens. He has been a member of the school board and wherever possible has exerted his influence in behalf of good schools, good roads and other improvements. He and his wife are active members of the Hibernian lodge at Penfield.

Louis Mittendorf. A number of the solid old business houses of Champaign perpetuate in their ownership old pioneer names of Champaign County, the undertaking establishment of Louis Mittendorf being a case in point. For more than sixty years the name of Mittendorf has been known and respected in this section, ever representing honest methods and sturdy industry, and every one who has business transactions with Louis Mittendorf can testify that he has dealt with an honest man.

Louis Mittendorf was born at Champaign, Illinois, June 13, 1860. His parents were Christian and Hannah (Schneber) Mittendorf, both of whom were born in Germany. Early in the '50s the father came to Champaign County in company with Emil Dunlap, for whom he worked for nine years as gardener and nurseryman and then went into the same business for himself, purchasing five acres of land north of the town. This he improved and brought to a high state of cultivation, making of it a very profitable market garden and utilizing every inch in his frugal, efficient way, thereby accumulating a competency. To his marriage with Hannah Schneber eight children were born, as follows: Frank, who is deceased; Lottie, who is the widow of William Kiler, of Champaign; Christie, who is the wife of Jacob Ort, of Wahoo, Nebraska; Reka, who is deceased; Annie, who is the wife of J. J. Dallenbach; Henry, who is deceased; and Louis and Charles, both of whom reside in Champaign. The father of this family died March 28, 1906, and the mother in 1908.

Louis Mittendorf resided with his parents, attending school as was convenient, and assisted his father until he was twenty-one years old, making himself very useful, as he had charge of the delivery of produce to customers in Champaign. When his father retired in 1897 he succeeded him and continued the business for ten years. He moved then to Champaign and in 1889 started a furniture and undertaking business and continued in both lines until 1914, when he sold the furniture department to C. A. Kiler and since then has confined himself entirely to undertaking. He has well appointed undertaking and funeral directing apartments at No. 134 West Park Street. For twenty-eight years he has sympathetically as well as efficiently served Champaign families, in the way that some time or other all families must be served, personally attending to all details, giving advice when it was welcomed and showing a friendly interest that often means so much in times of distress and grief.

Mr. Mittendorf was married August 22, 1906, to Miss Mary McConney, who was born in Indiana, a daughter of Norris and Mary (Walters) McConney, the former of whom was born in Ohio and the latter at Urbana, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Mittendorf have two children: John Porter, who was born June 10, 1907, and Mary Jane, who was born November 21, 1908. In politics Mr. Mittendorf is a Republican and fraternally he is identified with several orders.



Louis Miltendorf

CAPT. THOMAS JEFFERSON SMITH, of Champaign, is one of the few men still living in Illinois who made their first briefs and arguments in a court room prior to the outbreak of the Civil War. In many ways his has been a remarkable life. He began practice before the war, enlisted soon afterward and gave the best in him to the perpetuation of the Union, came out of the war with the rank of captain, and at once began practice at Champaign, where he has now lived for over half a century.

Captain and Mrs. Smith never had any children. They were devoted companions during the long journey they had together in this vale of tears, and while they began struggling young people, they lived to enjoy much and the memory of their companionship is the sustaining thing in Captain Smith's life today.

Future generations will know of the many ties that linked together Captain Smith and his wife because just recently Captain Smith has donated a fund of $215,000 to the University of Illinois for the erection of a building on the campus to be named the Tina Weedon Smith Music Hall. That building will be used exclusively as a home of music, and for years to come it will be a source of inspiration and a source of artistic culture to the thousands of students who yearly throng to this center of learning.

Capt. Thomas Jefferson Smith is a native of Virginia, having been born near Kingwood, in Preston County, July 4, 1836. His parents were Jacob and Cecelia (Shaw) Smith, both natives of Virginia. When Captain Smith was a small child his parents removed to Logan County, Ohio, locating on a tract of wild land and his father did the clearing necessary to make it a farm. In 1850 he removed to Bellefontaine, in Logan County, and lived there somewhat retired until his death in 1875. The mother of Captain Smith died in 1862.

The fourth in a family of nine children, Captain Smith grew up on an Ohio farm. He took part in the sports and pastimes of his rural community, and became strong in body and industrious from an early age. When he was only twelve years of age he was awarded the first prize in a plowing competition in which young men of twenty-one and twenty-two years of age were allowed to participate.

His early education was limited by the advantages of the local high school. He qualified as a teacher and taught in Ohio until 1858, when he removed to Clay County, Illinois. In Clay County he continued teaching for a year, and in the meantime had studied law in private offices and in his leisure hours and was admitted to the bar in 1859. In November of that year this young attorney was elected county superintendent of schools in Clay County. He was the first Republican to enjoy such a distinction in Clay County. It had been the saying for many years that no Republican could be elected to office there. Captain Smith made a good campaign and his qualifications were so thoroughly admitted that he was elected to the office by a majority of 240 votes. He filled the office of county superintendent for two years, finally resigning to enter the Union Army.

From his law office he went out in July, 1862, to become a soldier of the Union. He enlisted in Company F of the Ninety-eighth Illinois Infantry, and was in continuous service until the close of the war. He went through the various grades of sergeant, orderly sergeant, second lieutenant, first lieutenant until he became captain of his company, and for a time was on the staff of General Wilder. Captain Smith was mustered out of the army in April, 1865, at Nashville, Tennessee.

In the meantime, in 1864 he had married Miss Tina Weedon, a native of Woodbury, Tennessee, and they were married at Murfreesboro. Captain

Smith was then a poor young army officer, had as yet established no permanent connections in his profession, and after his marriage at the home of his bride he was in such financial straits that he had to borrow enough money from a southern gentleman to get him and his wife back North. Immediately after coming out of the army Captain Smith located at Champaign, Illinois, where his thorough ability and his personal popularity soon brought him a living practice. He has long been recognized as a successful lawyer, and has grown wealthy in the profession and in the various business interests he has acquired. Captain Smith is still attorney for and a director in the Champaign National Bank and is also attorney for the Wabash Railroad Company.

For nearly forty years Captain Smith and wife lived together, and the many bonds that united them were finally broken in her death on August 22, 1903. Captain Smith and wife spent much of their time in later years in travel, and they were all over Europe together. Captain Smith has always been active in the Republican party, and for four years was chairman of the Republican Central Committee. He is a member of the Masonic Order, the Grand Army of the Republic, the Country Club, and the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Louis Glenn Collison, vice president of the First National Bank of Rantoul, is one of the youngest bankers of Champaign County, and has attained a distinctive position in business affairs which would be creditable to many older men.

Mr. Collison was born at Rantoul, August 30, 1894, a son of the late Fred Collison and Emma B. Collison. His mother is now Mrs. S. C. Tucker of Champaign.

Mr. Collison was liberally educated, attending the grammar and high schools at Rantoul, spent one year in the University of Illinois and one year in Northwestern University at Chicago, and also had a business course in the Gem City Business College at Quincy. His father's death caused him to leave school and assume an active part in the management of his father's estate.

He first became connected with banking as bookkeeper and director of the First National Bank at Rantoul, and in the fall of 1915, soon after his twenty-first birthday, was made assistant cashier and has been vice president since January, 1917. Mr. Collison has been a director in the First National Bank of Thomasboro, Illinois, since the summer of 1914, and has been a director in the First National Bank of Gilman for over a year. Thus his position makes him a factor in the financial life of Champaign County and he also has some valuable farm land in this county.

Mr. Collison is a Republican voter, a member of the Masonic order, of the Champaign County Country Club and the Church of Christ. March 2, 1916, at the home of the bride in Philo Township, he married Hazel Ursula Guard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Guard. Her father was one of the early farmers of Champaign County. Mrs. Collison was educated in the Philo High School and also took a course in Brown's Business College at Champaign. While exceedingly busy with his private affairs, Mr. Collison has not neglected the public welfare and recently he was one of the local men who secured the establishment of the Chanute Aviation Field at Rantoul.

The name Collison stands among the worthy names of those whose integrity of character and public spirited enterprise have contributed no small share toward the splendid achievements of men in our community. To Champaign County's future success in the social, civic and economic enterprises it is highly important that our young men qualify themselves

for the duties of life as they are called upon to fill the positions of their worthy predecessors among the ranks of men, and it is highly gratifying to the friends of the Collison family that the present head of the family has taken his place in the social, religious and commercial world, thus making himself a recognized factor in the community interests of this great county, of which her sons and daughters have every reason to be justly proud.

FRED S. BAILEY, member of the well known Bailey family of Champaign, now vice president of the Champaign National Bank, was born at Champaign April 19, 1871, and is a son of Captain Edward Bailey, one of the founders of the bank who is elsewhere mentioned in these pages.

Mr. Bailey attended the common and high schools of Champaign, graduating from the latter in 1889, and continued his studies at the University of Illinois until failing health obliged him to leave. For a year he worked in Colorado for an uncle and having recovered his health returned to Champaign and entered the Champaign National Bank as a clerk. He has been through all the grades of service and is now vice-president of that institution.

Mr. Bailey is a charter member of the Elks Lodge at Champaign and in politics is a Republican. He was married August 12, 1901, to Miss Mabel Bennett, a native of Pontiac, Illinois. Her parents removed to Champaign in 1892 and her father was formerly agent of the Illinois Central Railway here and afterwards in the land business in Mississippi. Both her parents are now deceased.

MRS. SUZAN KIRK, widow of the late Bernard Kirk, is a Champaign County woman around whom center many associations and interests that betoken the spirit and achievements for which American life is most noteworthy. Mrs. Kirk was born in County Louth, Ireland, a daughter of Patrick and Ann (Casey) McGinnis. She was about fifteen years of age when her father died. While she was a girl in Ireland her cousin Mary Curley returned on a visit to the old country, and had much to say about the wonderful opportunities of the New World. It was these stories which largely decided Suzan to cast in her lot with the country across the water, and at the age of nineteen she set out and came alone across the ocean, landing at New York and going on to Chicago. She spent some time near Chicago, and while there met Bernard Kirk, also a native of the Emerald Isle and a son of Henry and Bridget Kirk. Bernard Kirk in the meantime had established himself in Champaign County and was in Chicago on business when he met Miss McGinnis. The acquaintance thus began continued with ripening affection until wedding bells sounded. The young couple possessed many of the virtues for which the land of Shamrock is noted, and began with vigor and enterprise the task of developing a 160-acre tract of land which Mr. Kirk owned in Champaign County. Their trip from Chicago to Champaign County was in the nature of a honeymoon.

Bernard Kirk had come to America with only $5 in capital, but steadily worked his way to a comparative degree of independence by the time he was married. Then, with the aid of a capable wife, progress was rapid, and the success of his career is measured in the extensive holdings of 715 acres of as fine land as the State of Illinois can show.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kirk were born the following children: Bernard, Patrick H., Anna, John Francis, Margaret Cecelia, Mary Loretta and Charles Joseph. Mr. and Mrs. Kirk did their utmost to train these children well both at home and in school. The children attended the Stone-street district school, while Margaret Cecelia finished her education in the Raymond school of Chicago. She is now the wife of Francis O'Toole, a

resident of Chicago and connected with the United States postal service. Mr. and Mrs. O'Toole have a little daughter, Frances. The daughter Anna Kirk married Bernard Murphy, who for many years was with the Chicago police force and died five years ago.

After many years of companionship and mutual sharing of joy and sorrow and prosperity, Mr. Kirk departed this life in February, 1908, after a brief illness of one week. He was a kind neighbor, a forceful business man and farmer, and had a record of which his family will always be proud. "Mark the perfect man and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."

Thus left alone Mrs. Kirk faced the duties of life in a manner that has won for her the admiration of a large community. She took the management of the estate with the co-operation of her children and has shown a fine executive ability in keeping matters straight and in improving the large property left to her. She has never left the old homestead, and lives today amid the scenes which are associated with her coming to Champaign County as a happy and carefree bride. The crown of her life is her children, whom she has seen grow up around her and whose lives have partaken of the spirit and character of their worthy parents. The sons have proved themselves successful farmers, and the way in which the large estate is handled is the best evidence of their training and ability. Mrs. Kirk with all her many cares and responsibilities keeps in close touch with the issues of the day, and like many other American women, she abominates war and feels that its sacrifices are unjust and uncalled for. Mrs. Kirk and family are active members and liberal supporters of the Catholic Church at Penfield. While there have been trials and vicissitudes in her life, Mrs. Kirk considers it a golden day in her existence when she left Ireland and came to America, and has never had a cause to regret her choice of the New World and the many pleasant and fruitful years she has spent here.

Joseph L. Hines. The first man appointed to carry the mail into the rural districts of Champaign County was the late Joseph L. Hines. Mr. Hines was for many years a resident of Champaign and his death, which occurred in that city November 15, 1910, removed an honored and respected citizen.

Mr. Hines was born in Hamilton County, Indiana, December 31, 1859, the youngest in a family of nine children born to Joseph and Elizabeth (LeMarr) Hines. He grew up and received his education in the country and was a farmer until his marriage. He then formed a connection as a traveling salesman with the Coal Brothers Pump Company at Greencastle, Indiana, and sold the goods of that organization over a large territory. After many years of this life Mr. Hines removed to Champaign County in 1893 and entered the livery business. About half a dozen years later, when the rural free delivery system was established, he secured the first appointment as a rural carrier and for a number of years made his journey daily up and down the roads of Champaign County, delivering mail to the farmers along the route.

Mr. Hines was married November 18, 1881, to Miss Lizzie B. McKinsey, a native of Indiana and the oldest of seven children of Jacob and Rachel (Moore) McKinsey. Her parents were also natives of Indiana. Since her husband's death Mrs. Hines has continued to live in Champaign, and in 1913 she built the handsome two-story and basement brick and tile apartment house at 105 South Randolph Street, where she still resides. Mr. Hines was an active Republican in politics. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hines: Fred J., now deceased; Margaret L., wife of

Charles A. Powers, of St. Louis; Edna, who died in childhood; and Kate, a resident of New York City and pursuing a course in voice culture.

REUBEN ROUGHTON. Among the many beautiful country estates which are to be found in Champaign County one of the most attractive and valuable is the farm of Reuben Roughton, which is located in section 27, Ludlow Township, one and one-half miles north of Rantoul. The owner of this property is one of the progressive agriculturists of the county, a skilled and industrious representative of his vocation, and a citizen who in many ways has contributed to the advancement of his locality. He was born at Attercliff, near Sheffield, England, but has been a resident of the United States since he was one and one-half years of age.

John Roughton, the father of Reuben Roughton, was born in England, where he received his education, and as a young man learned the trade of blacksmith, which he thoroughly mastered and which he followed for many years. In his native country he was united in marriage with Eliza Gilbert, who was born at Leicestershire, England, and they became the parents of ten children, all of whom died in infancy with the exception of Reuben. When this son was one and one-half years of age the family immigrated to the United States and first settled at Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, but in 1854 removed to Urbana, Illinois, and subsequently settled at Big Grove in Champaign County, where they were residing at the outbreak of the Civil War. John Roughton enlisted in the Seventy-sixth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, a famous fighting organization, under Colonel Busey. In the army it was soon found out that he was a skilled blacksmith and a mechanical genius as well, just the kind of man needed on hand on various occasions. Detailed to Jackson, Tennessee, a special order was obtained from General Grant to have him remain at that point and at Memphis to assist in the work of the ordnance department, where it was felt that he was of greater value than he would be at the front. In the latter part of his three-year service, however, he went to New Orleans and into Alabama, and took part in the victorious charge of the Union forces on Fort Blakeley. At the end of the war, with an admirable record for faithful service to his adopted country, John Roughton received his honorable discharge and returned to Champaign County. Later he became well known in public life and had numerous friends among the prominent men of his day and locality, among them Judge Cunningham. At various times he was called upon to perform public service, being elected official census taker from the township of Ludlow in 1880, and subsequently serving ten years as justice of the peace, five years as road commissioner and several years as overseer of highways. He was also secretary and superintendent of the Rantoul Maplewood Cemetery Association. Mr. Roughton pre-empted, upon his arrival in Champaign County, 160 acres of land in section 27, Ludlow Township, and there resided during the remainder of his long, busy and useful life. He made himself a beautiful home, where hospitality ever reigned, and built up an enviable reputation for solidity and sterling probity of character. He and his faithful helpmate were laid to rest in the same grave.

Reuben Roughton's parents were desirous that he should enter upon life's battles fully prepared by good educational advantages, and he was accordingly granted good facilities in this direction. As a youth he attended the public schools, subsequently was a student at the Urbana High School, and then went to Memphis, Tennessee, where his father was employed in the ordnance department of the Federal Government. During the first year of the existence of the University of Illinois, at Urbana, he studied in that institution, going there with Professor T. J. Burrell, and

after the completion of his studies returned to the homestead to assist his father in its work and management.

On January 27, 1876, Mr. Roughton was married to Miss Eliza H. Genung, who was born and educated at Rantoul, a daughter of E. N. and Julia A. (Shank) Genung. They began their wedded life on the home farm with his parents, and here there were born to them three children: Ada Maud, Roy John and Hazel N. The children were all given good educational opportunities, and Hazel N. graduated from the Rantoul High School with creditable honors. She married Ira Crane, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits near Rantoul, and has two bright and promising sons, Wendell Lowell and Maurice Roughton. Roy Roughton married Miss Mattie Lindsey, who was educated in the district schools and at Champaign and Rantoul, a daughter of Felix G. and Mildred Lindsey, and they have two children, Mildred Helen and John Addison. Mildred, who is in her second year of high school and expects to finish her course, is a studious and progressive young lady, with creditable ambitions. The first child of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Roughton, Ada Maud, after a brief illness with typhoid pneumonia, died when but eleven years of age.

The Roughton home is one which exemplifies the highest type of comfortable country dwelling. It is situated in a grove of beautiful maple, ash and evergreen trees, which Mr. Roughton planted as a boy, and one of the features of the farm which at once attracts the notice of the visitor is a mammoth brown boulder in the front yard of the home, which has probably rested there for ages, this curious rock formation now being set attractively in the midst of a circle of flowers and plants and covered with vines. The beautiful lawns and drives remind the visitor of the old English estates, the pride of Great Britain, and the other improvements have been so installed that they not only please the eye, but are also placed so as to give the greatest amount of practical service. Mr. Roughton carries on general farming and stock raising operations and has been very successful in both directions. He has been industrious in his work and modern in his methods, while his honorable dealings have served to impress the community with his integrity and probity. Politically he is a Republican, and he and Mrs. Roughton are members and liberal supporters of the Christian Church of Rantoul.

George L. Inman was for many years a business man of power and influence in Champaign County. He was accustomed to handling large things in a large way, and besides the New Inman Hotel at Champaign, citizens of the county have reason to remember him for many other influences and activities.

Mr. Inman was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, March 8, 1867, and was only a little past his fiftieth birthday when he died April 5, 1917. His death occurred at Cramer, Indiana, but he was laid to rest at Champaign, where he had his home for over a quarter of a century. Mr. Inman's mother, Emily Drake, was a direct descendant of the great English admiral, Sir Francis Drake. Mr. Inman was the youngest of six children, the others being: Mrs. Dora Orton, of Erie, Pennsylvania; Sylvester C., of Erie; Fred, of Erie; Herbert and Emily, both deceased.

George L. Inman grew up in Erie County, Pennsylvania, where his father was a lawyer, and he studied law under his father's direction as part of a liberal education, not for the purpose of practicing. His first important enterprise was promoting the publication of a paper called the Farmers Ledger, located at Danville, Illinois. In the interests of that publication he traveled extensively throughout the Middle West. About 1891 Mr. Inman came to Champaign and engaged in the real estate and

farm mortgage business. Mr. Inman is remembered by all with whom he came in contact as a man of great magnetism and personality. He had a host of friends, and also an extended business acquaintance. He did much to develop Champaign County. In Champaign he erected a large brick building at the corner of University Avenue and Market Street, and in 1915 he built the splendid six-story brick hotel known as the New Inman House, where he had his home and where his widow still resides. This hotel is at the corner of University Avenue and Walnut Street. Mr. Inman was independent in politics, and never found time for clubs or for church affairs.

His first wife was Minnie Swearingen, of St. Joseph, Champaign County. She died in 1899. On May 13, 1900, Mr. Inman married Nora Trumbull Stevenson. By her first marriage to Elijah Stevenson Mrs. Inman had two children: Arthur G., who lives at St. Louis, Missouri, and by his marriage to Madeline Fuller, a native of Erie, Pennsylvania, there are three children, Arthur G., Robert L. and Madeline. Mrs. Inman's second child, Elizabeth, is the wife of Jay C. Taylor of Champaign, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have a child, Croydon Stevenson, born September 6, 1916.

John J. Hanson, who has a splendid farm partly in Champaign and partly in Ford County, is one of that type of citizens who begin life without special advantages or the inheritance of means except ability to toil and make the best of an environment, and has proved himself one of the sturdy characters in this section of Illinois. His home is just beyond the Champaign County line in Ford County, opposite section 4 of Harwood Township. He gets his daily mail delivery over Route No. 3 from Paxton, Illinois.

Mr. Hanson is a native of Sweden but has spent most of his life in Champaign County. He is a son of Charles and Martha Hanson, and his mother died when he was two years of age. He then grew up in the home of his grandmother and also an uncle, who brought him to America when John was nine years old. He received the bulk of his education in the public schools at Paxton.

At the age of twenty-six Mr. Hanson married Miss Annie Danielson, who was born near Rantoul, daughter of G. and Hilda (Staff) Danielson. Her parents were also natives of Sweden and had a family of nine children. Mrs. Hanson was educated in the Gallagher school near Ludlow.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hanson started farming in Ford County, and four years later moved to the Danielson farm in Champaign County, where they remained eleven years. They had all the qualities which are requisite to making a success as farmers and as factors in the life and uplift of a community. From the fruits of their labors they bought their present fine farm, consisting of 200 acres, 120 acres lying in Ford County and eighty acres in Champaign County. In 1913 Mr. Hanson erected a fine country home at a cost of $4,000. This is one of the most pleasant and attractive country residences in that region. Mr. Hanson has installed a complete water system, furnishing water both hot and cold, and also a Delco electric lighting plant. These improvements, together with telephone and rural mail delivery, give the family all the conveniences of the city in the midst of attractive rural surroundings. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson have five children: Martha, Phoebe, May, Theodore and Ella. To properly educate these children has been one of the chief objects of Mr. Hanson. Martha, Phoebe and May have all finished the eighth grade of the public schools. They have also taken instrumental lessons in music, and music is one of the features of the Hanson family life.

Mr. Hanson's political support is given to the Republican party. His fellow citizens, having the utmost confidence in his judgment, have elected him to such offices as road commissioner and school director. This confidence is well placed, since he is willing to take from his own time what is necessary to keep up the standard of schools and also contribute to the good roads movement. As a farmer Mr. Hanson raises many bumper crops and in some years has had a harvest of 9,000 and 10,000 bushels of corn. The family also believe in enjoying the good things of life as they go along, and they have a fine five-passenger touring car which enables them to get over the country and visit friends at a distance. Mr. Hanson is one of the leading officials and workers in the Lutheran Mission Church at Paxton. For years he has filled the office of deacon, and is now church treasurer and a trustee. The pastor of this church is Rev. G. Nelson. The family attend worship in the same church and the children are members of the Sunday school.

Hon. Olin L. Browder. The office of chief executive in any community is a responsible one and the individual occupying it has resting upon his shoulders not only the numerous details of the management of a city, but also the accountability for its financial, commercial and moral integrity. In many cases, as he is so is his community, for it soon reflects his character and manner of dealing with large problems, and unless he keeps a firm grip upon the reins of government and forces his associates and fellow-officials to act as he believes is right and just his administration soon shows the effect of lax methods and unprogressive principles, and the community retrogresses. For this reason, of late years many of the more progressive cities have chosen for their chief executives individuals from the ranks of the solid business and professional men, for they have recognized the effect of example and action and know that one who has accomplished much in a financial or professional way is very apt to possess the qualities that make for successful handling of a city's governmental problems. An example of such a choice and of its beneficent nature is found at Urbana, the county seat of Champaign County, where Olin L. Browder, one of the county's most successful lawyers, filled ably for two terms the mayoralty chair. His term as mayor expired May 1, 1917.

Mr. Browder was born in Hamilton County, Illinois, September 4, 1879, and is a son of William A. and Harriet A. (Henry) Browder, natives of Washington County, Illinois. Mr. Browder's father has been for over fifty years a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with charges in various parts of Illinois, and in 1910 located at Urbana, where he now makes his home, as does Mrs. Browder. They were the parents of two children: Olin L., and a daughter, Ethel, who died in childhood.

The boyhood of O. L. Browder was passed in various parts of Illinois, as his father's vocation kept him moving from one territory to another, but the greater part of his early education was secured at Mount Vernon, Jefferson County. In order to secure more than a graded school course he worked his way through the high school at Mount Vernon, from which he was duly graduated, and in 1899 entered the University of Illinois. Here he again showed his independence, ambition and resource by paying his university tuition fees and paying for his board and lodging by working at whatever honorable occupation he could find, and in this way secured his degree of Bachelor of Arts. Still he was not satisfied, for his ambition was set upon a career in the law, and after several years he once again became a student at the University, from the legal department of which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1906, bearing with him his



Olin L. Browder

coveted degree of Bachelor of Laws. At that time Mr. Browder took up his residence and opened an office at Urbana, and here he has continued in the enjoyment of a constantly increasing practice, interrupted only by the demands of his official positions. Almost immediately upon his arrival he was appointed corporation counsel, an office in which he served under two mayors, following which he acted as alderman for two years. By this time the people of Urbana had become sufficiently acquainted with the hustling young lawyer and his methods to recognize that he would make an excellent man in the mayor's office, and accordingly, in 1913, they sent him to that position. His handling of the weighty matters that came up for consideration during his first term proved so satisfactory that in 1915 he was given the re-election, and continued as one of the best mayors the city of Urbana has ever known. He is a Republican in his political views, affiliates with the Knights of Pythias, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the movements of which he supports liberally. As a lawyer he is astute, shrewd and thoroughly versed in all departments of his profession, a stickler for ethics and a courteous opponent and valued associate. He represents the new and hustling element that has arisen in late years to add to the progress of Champaign County.

Mr. Browder married at Urbana June 29, 1905, Miss Nellie S. Taylor, who was born in this county. They have been the parents of three children: Sheldon, who was born in 1908 and died in 1912; Olin L., Jr., born in December, 1913; and William B., born September 6, 1916.

EUGENE H. RUSSELL is one of the younger business men of Champaign, and is successfully managing his mother's Belvoir Theater. The Belvoir stages high class theatrical productions and fills it with the best of the modern film productions. Recently there was installed in the theater a $5,000 Bartolo organ, and its music is now one of the important features and attractions of this fine house.

Mr. Russell was born in Champaign November 12, 1893, a son of Charles H. and Lizzie V. (Hamilton) Russell. Both parents were born in Illinois, his mother being a native of Carlinville. His father came to Champaign County when a young man and was in the hardware business for a number of years. Mr. Russell is a nephew of C. F. Hamilton, and the Hamiltons have been long prominent and wealthy citizens of Champaign County. This branch of the family history is taken up in more detail on other pages. Eugene H. Russell was the second in a family of four children. The oldest, Fenton, is now deceased. Virginia and Helen still live at home.

Mr. Russell, who is yet unmarried, was graduated from the Champaign High School in 1914 and then took a year in the agricultural department of the State University. For about four months he was connected with the Williams Garage, and he then took the active management of his mother's theater. She is owner of the brick building now occupied by the Belvoir. Mr. Russell is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

JOHN FRANCIS MCCABE. A man of broad usefulness and influence in the community was taken away in the death of John Francis McCabe. He stood high among all classes of people, was industrious, quiet in his manner, seldom attracting much attention beyond the borders of his own neighborhood, but wherever known was recognized for his sterling merits and his efficiency in everything he undertook.

Mr. McCabe was born in Logan County, Illinois, a son of John and Ann (Spencer) McCabe. His parents were natives of Ireland, coming to

America when young and marrying in this country. When John F. was a year and a half old they located in Champaign County. There were only two sons in the family, James R. and John F.

The McCabes were among the pioneers of Champaign County and acquired an estate of 520 acres. All of this was developed, cultivated and beautified through the efforts of the family. The home is in section 10 of Harwood Township and it is one that does credit to those who contributed to its development.

John F. McCabe married Mary Agnes Quinlin. She was born at Farmer City in DeWitt County, Illinois, a daughter of Michael and Mary (McKevitt) Quinlin. Her father was born in Ireland and her mother in Ohio and they were married at Lincoln, Illinois. Mrs. McCabe was the second of nine children. With her brothers and sisters she attended the public schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McCabe started out as farmers on the old McCabe homestead. Into their home were born eight children. One of them, Paul, died at the age of six years. The others are John J., Michael M., William Vincent, Francis R., Mary Ellen, Anna and Grace. Mr. and Mrs. McCabe from the first endeavored to give these children the best of home training and a substantial education. They attended the Burbank district school, and for the past three years John, Michael and Vincent have been students of the Donovan Memorial School at Rantoul. They attend the school daily, driving from the country to Ludlow and from there going by interurban.

Death has been a frequent visitor in the McCabe family. John McCabe, Sr., passed away in October, 1901, and his wife has also entered into rest, passing away January 25, 1916. On March 18, 1916, John F. McCabe, after a brief illness of one week of pneumonia and appendicitis, passed away. He was still young, with a promise of great accomplishment and achievement still before him, but had endeared himself to his family and a large community by his ability and kindness.

Mrs. McCabe since her husband's death has bravely taken up the duties of existence, and has been both father and mother to her children. She possesses unusual executive ability and having decided to remain on the old homestead has proved a splendid manager. This home is one made sacred to the McCabe family by many associations, and while looking after the many details of the farm Mrs. McCabe is also carefully rearing her family of children. They attend the Catholic Church at Ludlow.

Edward Rogers. The most capable, successful and prominent men in either public or business life are not always those who started out with the ambition to achieve something really great and famous, but in the majority of cases are individuals who at the outset have placed due valuation upon honesty, integrity and determination. Possessing these qualities as practically representing his entire capital Edward Rogers embarked upon his career in young manhood, and in the course of years has won a place for himself among the leading citizens of Champaign County. For a long period he has been identified with the official life of the community, having for some time been city treasurer of Champaign, and at the present is the incumbent of the responsible office of treasurer of Champaign County. His success, self-made, is indicative of the rewards attainable through a career in which proper respect has been given to honorable effort and worthy service.

Edward Rogers was born at Westboro, Clinton County, Ohio, December 31, 1869, the only son of Thomas J. and Adelia (Pearce) Rogers. His father, a native of Virginia, left the Old Dominion and went to

Ohio, and enlisted in the Union Army from West Virginia. He was later transferred to the Forty-seventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served bravely with that hard-fighting organization, which accompanied the forces of General Sherman in their memorable march to the sea. In the fighting which took place before Atlanta, July 22, 1864, Mr. Rogers fell wounded, and his injury proved of such a nature as to disable him from further duty and he was honorably discharged and invalided home. When he recovered he resumed his harness-making operations and continued to be engaged therein in Clinton County, Ohio, until 1877, in which year he came to Champaign County, Illinois. He is now retired from active labor and makes his home at Champaign. During a long and active career he has worked out a modest success, and in his declining years is able to enjoy the comforts earned by years of honorable labor. Mr. and Mrs. Rogers were the parents of two children: Edward; and Fannie, who is the wife of Frank Sabin, of Champaign.

When he had completed the course of study prescribed by the graded schools Edward Rogers entered the high school at Champaign, having been brought to this county as a lad of eight years. He was graduated in 1883 and for a time was engaged in farming, but like many farmer boys was attracted to the business of railroading, although, unlike the majority, he did not enter the train service. When he was twenty-one years old he became an employe of the Illinois Central Railroad as a clerk in the machinery department, and continued to be connected with that branch of the service until 1910, when he was made deputy county treasurer of Champaign County. In the meantime, from 1907 until 1909, he had served as city treasurer of Champaign, establishing an excellent record. In 1914 he was made the candidate of the Republican party for the office of county treasurer of Champaign County, and received a good majority at the polls. The people of the county who elected him have had no reason to regret their choice, for he has made a good and hard-working official who has placed the interests of the county above all others, and who has made his office one of the best governed of the section. It has been his aim and desire to keep the county finances in the best of condition and to conserve the interests of the tax payers in the greatest degree possible. Mr. Rogers is accounted one of the wheel-horses of the Republican party in Champaign County. He is well known fraternally, and belongs to the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Tribe of Ben Hur, and also holds membership in the Sons of Veterans.

On May 18, 1898, Mr. Rogers married Miss Elma Kelley, who was born at Leroy, Illinois, and they are the parents of three children, namely: Donald M., Vera L. and John K.

Carl Wilhelm Spoehrle. Since his arrival in Champaign County in 1873 the career of Carl Wilhelm Spoehrle has been one in which industry, integrity and fidelity have served to give him an ever-increasing success, a standing as a reputable and substantial citizen, and the respect of the community in which he has so long resided. At the time of his arrival he was in modest circumstances, and he found the new community in which he settled little more than a raw prairie. His own development from his former position to one of affluence has kept steady pace with the progress of the county to its present proud position among the leading agricultural centers of the state.

Mr. Spoehrle was born in Germany, a son of Gottlieb and Katherine Spoehrle, natives of that country, where their entire lives were spent. Carl W. was given an ordinary educational training by honorable parents

who were possessed of only moderate financial means, and in his youth showed himself ambitious to make something of himself. The opportunities in his native land, however, were not any too plentiful, and his future did not seem bright, so that when nineteen years of age he was glad to accept the invitation of his sister, Christina Magdalina, who had preceded him, to come to the United States. He accordingly took passage on a sailing vessel, and after a voyage of more than forty days arrived in America and immediately made his way to the home of his sister at Atlanta, Illinois. There he secured employment of an agricultural nature and, being intelligent and alert, soon picked up American customs and methods, as well as the language of this country. By 1873 he felt himself ready to enter upon a career of his own, and in that year came to Champaign County, which he found to consist of prairie land. For seven years he worked hard and faithfully, and with native economy saved his earnings, so that at the end of that time he was able to purchase his first tract of land, for which he paid $35 an acre. This was in the vicinity of the home of his sister, Mrs. Christina Summit, who did much to cheer and encourage him, and but for whose advice the entire trend of his life might have been changed. When still little more than a youth, with the ambition and venturesome spirit of young manhood, he was about to allow himself to answer the call of the great West, lured there by stories of the wonderful fortunes to be won by young men of energy and ambition. His sister, with her maturer wisdom, however, entreated the young man to remain in Illinois, and her judgment prevailed. Mr. Spoehrle has never had cause to regret his decision of remaining in the Prairie State, where he has found position, a comfortable competence, the friendship of his neighbors, the respect of his fellow citizens and the love and affection of those near and dear to him.

From the time that he became a landholder Mr. Spoehrle's industry increased in volume, and his ambition was encouraged. There was not a tree on his farm when he bought it, nor was there drainage of any kind, although there were plenty of sloughs. Setting to work, he planted trees, drained off the sloughs and put in up-to-date drainage, subsequently made other improvements and erected substantial and commodious buildings and a large, comfortable residence. Through his industry and the straightforward manner he had of doing business it was not long before he came to be looked upon as one of the substantial men of his community, a desirable and reliable citizen who added strength and worth to the locality's agricultural prestige. He has retained a young heart, and is cheery, kind and hospitable, and his pleasant home, located two miles south of Ludlow, is the scene of numerous gatherings of his many friends. In politics Mr. Spoehrle is a Republican, but he has not been an office holder, although always a supporter of good men and measures and of public spirited movements. He was reared in the faith of the Lutheran Evangelical Church in Germany, but after coming to America became a Methodist, and now belongs to the Ludlow Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is a liberal supporter. His farm consists of 140 acres, all under a high state of cultivation.

Mr. Spoehrle is unmarried, and his home is presided over by his niece, Miss Lydia Summit, a daughter of his sister Christina, who first persuaded him to come to this country and later to stay in Illinois. Mrs. Summit's other children are Scott, Sarah and Minnie, the last having been christened Wilhelmina, in honor of Mr. Spoehrle, whose middle name is Wilhelm. Lydia is not only housekeeper for her uncle; she is also counsellor and adviser to him, and manager of many of his affairs. Her presence in her uncle's household assures his visitors of the best cheer that could be offered by any household manager, and in Mr. Spoehrle's declining years she is a

source of great comfort to him. Miss Summit is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Ludlow, is active in good works and kind deeds, and is held in great esteem in the community by those who know her intelligent mind and large heart.

PATRICK MOLLOY. Among the honored names of Champaign County none stands higher in the records of honesty, thrift and community esteem than that of the late Patrick Molloy.

He was a native of Ireland. He came to America in early life and while living in Ohio met and married Catherine Gleason. She was born in Parish Gilbairn, four miles from Bursycane and ten miles from Nenagh, Ireland, a daughter of Patrick and Catherine Gleason. When she was fourteen years of age her parents came to America and settled in Butler County, Ohio, where she grew up and married.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Molloy came to Champaign County, when much of this district was raw and new, and located two and three-quarters miles northwest of Rantoul out on the open prairie. Much of the heavy development work had yet to be done and the country stretched around them for miles, affording an uninterrupted view clear to the Sangamon River, ten miles away. The future stretched equally before this energetic young Irish couple, rosy with bright promises. There they worked hard year in and year out, and in time had the satisfaction of ample possessions and sufficient for themselves and for their children.

Six children came into their home: Edward J., Daniel, Thomas, William, Mary and Alice Agnes. The children were educated in the Rantoul High School, while William finished a course in Quincy, Illinois.

William Molloy married Margaret Donovan, and their three children are Louise, Helen and William. Mary Molloy married Michael Walsh, now a retired farmer, and their children are Francis, Willie, Leo and Agnes, and one that died in infancy. Thomas married Jennie Cahagan of Bloomington, Illinois, and they live on the old home farm. Their one daughter is named Helena. The Molloy family experienced all the hardships of early life and the pleasures and incidents of increasing prosperity. Their home was noted for its kindness and hospitality and it is said that no person in need was ever turned away empty handed. The old people grew in the riches of esteem in their neighborhood and had many friends all over that section. Both were active members of St. Malachi's Catholic Church and their children were reared in the same faith.

Patrick Molloy died in 1905. After his death his widow removed to Rantoul and lived with her son Edward J. Edward J. and William A. Molloy are among the active business men of Rantoul and conduct a large real estate office.

JOHN C. DALLENBACH, M. D. Among the leaders in the medical profession at Champaign is a native son, Dr. John C. Dallenbach, who belongs to one of the old pioneer families of the county, which was founded by the grandfather, John Dallenbach, who came here when his son, John J. Dallenbach, was three years old. Few names in this section have been more continuously or justly held in esteem and the present representatives perpetuate the sterling characteristics of the older generations.

John C. Dallenbach was born at Champaign, Illinois, December ??, 1881. His parents are John J. and Anna (Mittendorf) Dallenbach, the former of whom was born in Ohio and the latter in Cook County, Illinois. When the grandfather, in 1857, came with his family to Champaign County he located on a farm in Champaign Township, but only for one year, moving then to Champaign and establishing the meat business, which

continued a stable industry of the city, until his descendants sold it in 1917, under the old family name, the grandfather being succeeded by his two sons, John J. and William C. Dallenbach. Of his parents' three children, Doctor Dallenbach is the eldest, his next younger brother, Karl M., being an instructor in psychology in Cornell College, Ithaca, New York. The youngest of the family, Louis E. Dallenbach, owns and manages a large chicken farm near Champaign. In 1917 he responded to the call of duty and became a captain in the artillery department of the Officers Reserve Corps and at present is in active service.

John C. Dallenbach secured a public school education at Champaign and was graduated from the high school in 1899, following which he entered the University of Illinois, taking the three year preparatory to the medical course and receiving his A. B. degree in 1906. He graduated from the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia in 1906. During 1907 and 1908 he led a busy student life of practical experience as resident physician of the Methodist Episcopal Hospital, Philadelphia. From there he went to the Far West and for four years was in active medical practice at Seattle, Washington, at the end of that time returning to his native place and here has been in practice ever since.

On November, 17, 1907, Doctor Dallenbach was united in marriage with Miss Reba B. Bryan, who was born in New Jersey. In his political views Doctor Dallenbach is a Republican and at all times is interested in local issues as they influence sanitation and good government. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons and the Elks. A physician's role at all times calls for a high order of courage as well as high ideals of service to mankind, hence Doctor Dallenbach doubtless would disclaim any particular bravery should occasion demand his professional services in his office of first lieutenant of the Medical Reserve Corps of the United States army. Certain it is that no more skillful or competent physician could be secured. In the summer of 1917 he was in the Medical Officers Training Camp, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis. At present he is surgeon of the Three Hundred and Thirty-second Field Artillery with rank of captain.

James A. Somers is a native of Champaign County and for many years, with his good wife by his side, has labored industriously and with good results as a farmer in St. Joseph Township. He has built up a splendid home and at the same time has acquired the esteem and confidence of a large body of the citizenship of Champaign County.

He was born in Somer Township of this county October 10, 1866, a son of John L. and Mary J. (Kirby) Somers. His father was a native of North Carolina and his mother of Indiana. The parents were married at Farmer City, Illinois, and spent the rest of their days in Somer Township of Champaign County. They were the parents of eight children, five sons and three daughters, James A. being the fifth in age.

He was well educated in the common schools of his native township, and grew up to a life of independent effort, with industrious habits early inculcated. At the age of twenty-eight, on March 3, 1895, he married Miss Minnie I. Grierson, daughter of Robert and Sarah (McDaniels) Grierson. Mrs. Somers was next to the oldest in a family of nine children, and was educated in the district schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Somers, possessing little capital, though with abundance of energy and enthusiasm, rented a tract of land in Somer Township and were tenant farmers a period of thirteen years. In that time, in addition to providing for their family and home, they were each



E. P. Little.

year laying something aside and planning effectively for the future, and they then invested their capital in eighty acres of land in section 28 of St. Joseph Township. This they made a permanent home and have greatly improved and beautified it since it came into their ownership.

Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Somers: Russell Ivan, Ross Donald and Florence Winifred. The only daughter died at the age of ten years. Mr. and Mrs. Somers appreciated the need of good education for their children and have encouraged them in every way to make the best of their talents. Both the boys attended the district schools in the country and afterwards attended high school at Urbana. Russell then entered the University of Illinois, where he specialized in the study of chemistry until his studies were interrupted by the call to duty for his country. He is now with Company K of the Three Hundred and Forty-ninth Infantry, stationed at Camp Dodge, Iowa. The younger son, Ross Donald, is still a student in the Urbana High School. Mrs. Somers is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically he is a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Somers are a splendid couple, who can look back upon a period of prosperity which their own efforts have earned, and they may take pardonable pride in the home they enjoy and the sturdy sons that are growing up to manhood's responsibilities.

EGBERT P. LITTLE is one of the old residents of Champaign County, having come here with his parents nearly fifty years ago. The business to which he successfully applied his efforts through many years was farming, but he is now living retired in the city of Champaign. Mr. Little prospered as a farmer and stock man, and his material circumstances have added to his own comfort and have also provided means and training for the careers of his children, in whom he takes special pride.

Mr. Little was born in La Salle County, Illinois, September 3, 1857, a son of John and Frances (Bassford) Little. His parents were New Englanders, his father a native of New Hampshire and his mother of Vermont. Both are now deceased. His father was for many years a farmer and was long identified with the agricultural interests of Champaign County. Of the nine children in the family four died in infancy. Addie A. is the wife of John Blair of Syracuse, New York; Leslie resides at Tolono in Champaign County. The next in age is Egbert P.; Luella is the eighth in the family and Linnie is the wife of Charles DeForest, of St. Joseph, Illinois.

Egbert P. Little was eleven years of age when he came with his parents to Champaign County in 1868. He grew up on a farm at Tolono, and was educated in the local district schools. He lived at home until his marriage, and then bought land and applied himself with all the vigor and enthusiasm of youth to the task of making a home and succeeding at his chosen vocation. Mr. Little continued active on the farm until 1908, when he removed to Champaign and bought his present home at 905 South Wright Street.

On March 19, 1884, he married Matilda Merry, a native of Champaign County and a daughter of Franklin and Catherine (Norton) Merry. Her parents were both natives of New York State and were quite early settlers in Champaign County, where they located on a farm in 1855. Both spent the rest of their years in this county and her father was killed by the kick of a horse. Mrs. Little was the second in a family of three children. The oldest was Cyrena, now living in Nebraska, the widow of Frederick Brown. The youngest is Charles D. Merry, of Urbana.

Mr. and Mrs. Little had five children, the fourth of whom died in infancy. Roger F., the oldest, is now a practicing lawyer at Urbana.

Leroy Louis, after graduating from the University of Illinois, taught in a high school three years, went abroad, spending about a year in Servia, and is now an associate editor of the Outing Magazine in New York City. Ethel Esther is a graduate of the class of 1917 in the University of Illinois, while the youngest child, Elmer P., is in the first year of the University. Mr. Little is a Republican in politics and has been casting his vote in allegiance to that party for forty years. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

CHARLES M. WEBBER. Since 1914 the postoffice at Urbana has been in charge of Charles M. Webber, and in the time that has elapsed since that date the people of the county seat of Champaign County have had no reason to complain of the mail service. Mr. Webber was for many years a business man and in the activities of commercial life found much to broaden him and to give him sound, practical ideas and love of system which have assisted him greatly in keeping the machinery of the postoffice in smooth running order. Also, he had previously held official position, so that he was not unfamiliar with the exigencies of public life, and in addition he had always been appreciative of the responsibilities and obligations of the public servant. These things have combined to make him a most excellent official and to win him the friendship and confidence of the people.

Mr. Webber was born October 20, 1869, at Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, and is a son of Robert A. and Mary E. (Waller) Webber. His father, also a native of the county seat, passed his entire life here and was widely known in business circles, his activities having invaded several lines of endeavor. His early experience was in mercantile fields, subsequently he became an abstracter, and during the latter years of his life he was secretary of the Citizens Building Association. His death occurred at Urbana February 5, 1905. Mr. Webber was an honorable man of business, in whom his associates had the greatest confidence, and a citizen who helped in various ways to make the community grow. Mrs. Webber, who survives him and still resides at Urbana, was born in Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Webber were the parents of nine children, as follows: George W., a resident of Urbana; Charles M., of this notice; Thomas B., a resident of Urbana; J. Clay, a business man at Rantoul, Illinois; David D., whose home is at Cleveland, Mississippi; James W., of Urbana; Miss Anna B., who resides with her mother; a son who died in infancy; and Elizabeth, also deceased.

Charles M. Webber attended the public schools of Urbana and was graduated from the high school with the class of 1887. Following this he had his first business experience in his father's abstract office, and when the elder man disposed of his interests in that business the son went to Rantoul, Illinois, where he joined his brother, J. Clay Webber, in the management of a retail drug business. Charles M. Webber remained in this line for only about fifteen months, however, and then sold his share in the business to his brother and returned to Urbana, where he was elected secretary of the Citizens Building Association, a thriving enterprise with which he continued to be connected in the same capacity until November, 1906, when he was elected to the office of county clerk. During the next four years he acceptably discharged the duties of that position, and when his term of office was completed opened an office at Urbana for the sale of real estate. This enterprise continued to occupy his time and attention until April, 1914, when he was appointed postmaster of Urbana by President Woodrow Wilson. Postmaster Webber has been earnest and energetic in his efforts to give Urbana and the surrounding country the



T. R. Hopkins

best of mail service, and that his efforts have been successful is shown in the prompt and expeditious manner in which the mails are handled and the general satisfaction among the people here in this regard.

On July 20, 1893, Mr. Webber was married to Miss Lola C. Gulick, of Mahomet, Illinois, a native of Champaign County, and to this union there have been born ten children, as follows: Robert Alfred, who is a member of the junior class at the University of Illinois; Joseph T., John Savage, Charles M., Jr., Marion Everett, Thomas Raymond, Dorothy L., Mary E., Martha C., and Byron W. In his political alliance Mr. Webber is a staunch and unswerving Democrat and has long been accounted one of his party's able workers in the county. He is fraternally affiliated with the Masons, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Court of Honor, and also holds membership in the Urbana Business Men's Association.

THOMAS R. HOPKINS. Modern business requires practical and thorough training in the same degree as the professions and sciences. In Champaign County there is no institution which affords a better curriculum and practical business education than the commercial college formerly known as Brown's Business College and now owned and administered by Mr. Thomas R. Hopkins, himself a thorough educator of long experience and a man who has trained hundreds of young men and women and given them a thorough preparation for entrance into business affairs.

Mr. Hopkins was born in Peoria County, Illinois, January 24, 1877, a son of Griffith G. and Anna (Collier) Hopkins. His father was of Welsh descent and a native of Ohio, and the mother was born in England. Griffith Hopkins came out to Peoria County, Illinois, many years ago and was first engaged in mining and subsequently in farming. He finally retired and died at Peoria. The children were six in number: Grace, who died in infancy; Jesse G., of Jerseyville, Illinois; Lucile E., wife of Frank C. Keach, of Los Angeles, California; Thomas R.; Chauncey J., deceased; and Maurice E., of Chicago.

Thomas R. Hopkins had a public school education in Knox County, Illinois, and for two years was a student in the Independent Normal at Dixon. For another year he pursued his studies in Knox College at Galesburg, and then became associated with Brown's Business College at Peoria as an instructor with Mr. Brown. On leaving that institution he spent a year as a teacher in Trenton, New Jersey. Locating here in Jacksonville, Illinois, he was employed as principal in Brown's Business College, and then spent two years in St. Louis in the same capacity. In 1907 he came to Champaign, where he bought Brown's Business College. He has maintained the school on a higher plane of efficiency than ever before and has surrounded himself with competent and expert instructors in the various lines.

Mr. Hopkins was married October 29, 1908, to Miss Mary West, a native of Knox County, Illinois. Their three children are Thomas Roscoe, Viola Helen and Anna Ruth. Mr. Hopkins is a Democrat in politics. He is a Royal Arch Chapter Mason, and is a member of the Board of Stewards of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

CLAUDE B. WARNER, A. B., A. M., D. D. S., was born at Morrison, the county seat of Whiteside County, Illinois, May 6, 1872, and is a son of Edward B. and Elizabeth C. (Bryant) Warner, the former a native of Saint Louis and the latter of Herculaneum, Missouri. Edward B. Warner was a well-to-do business man of Morrison, and also a prominent citizen in the public life of Whiteside County, being county treasurer for

a period of sixteen years, and for a like period a member of the board of equalization. His death occurred in 1891, while Mrs. Warner survived until 1916. They were the parents of seven children, as follows: Luella, who is the wife of F. C. Hitchcock, of Walden, Colorado; Arthur D., who is president of the Forest City Life Insurance Company at Rockford, Illinois; Dr. A. Lincoln, who is engaged in medical practice at Chicago; Bertha, who is the wife of Maj. R. M. Smith, U. S. A., of New York City; Dr. Eugene R., a practicing dentist of Denver, Colorado; Lena, who is the wife of Dr. James S. Mason, of Urbana; and Dr. Claude B.

Claude B. Warner was seventeen years of age when he graduated from the Morrison High School, and at that time, feeling that he would enter upon a professional career, as had several of his brothers, he started the study of law in an office in his home city. After one year thus spent he decided that the law was not his forte, and transferred his attention to the dental profession, in the office of his brother. Following this experience he entered the Northwestern Dental School, from which he was graduated with the class of 1894 and the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery, and at that time formed a professional partnership with Dr. J. A. W. Davis, of Galesburg. While residing in that city, Dr. Warner decided to further his education, and accordingly worked his way through Lombard College, securing the degree of Bachelor of Arts and later that of Master of Arts. Afterward Dr. Warner went to Avon, Illinois, and was there engaged in practice until 1906, when he came to Urbana.

On his arrival in Urbana, Dr. Warner established his dental office at 129 South Elm Street, where in conjunction with his brother-in-law, Dr. Mason, he erected an office building especially adapted to his work.

Dr. Warner has been honored many times by his professional brethren. He has served as president of the First District Dental Society, which includes one-third of this state, as president of the McDonough-Fulton County Dental Society, and as president of the Champaign-Danville District Dental Society. He has served as chairman of the Public Press Committee and Board of Censors of the Illinois State Dental Society. He is now serving as chairman of the Law committee and a member of the Executive council of the Illinois State Dental Society. He has served as chairman of the committee on Public Dental Education of the National Dental Society and is now chairman of the Law committee in that organization.

In his fraternal relations, Dr. Warner is a valued representative of the local lodges of the Masons, the Elks and the Eastern Star, and belongs also to the Phi Delta Theta fraternity and the Delta Sigma Delta dental fraternity, and to the University and Cosmopolitan clubs. On February 12, 1901, he was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Tonner, of Table Grove, Illinois.

Olof Olson on coming to America from his native land of Sweden had only three dollars in money, and was in debt for his transportation across the ocean. He has been a resident of Champaign County nearly twenty years, and it is truly remarkable what he has been able to accomplish in the way of accumulating property and in the rearing and founding of a splendid country home and a family of most industrious children. No small share of the credit for this distinctive success is due to his capable and energetic wife.

Mr. Olson was born in Sweden, a son of Olof and Ella Olson. He had a public school education in his native land. He was twenty-one years of age when he determined to take advantage of the opportunities of America, and alone crossed the ocean on the ship Arizona. After landing in New York City he went direct to Henry County, Illinois, and was soon paying his debts

and familiarizing himself with American traditions and customs and in time reached that place where he felt justified in having a home of his own.

In 1891 he married Miss Selma Norberg. She is also a native of Sweden, a daughter of Pierre and Marie (Dolstron) Norberg. Mrs. Olson came to America at the age of nineteen.

After their marriage they located on a farm west of Galva in Henry County, Illinois. They began with practically no money but had that hard working energy and thrift which are characteristic of the Swedish people. In spite of increasing expenses in the maintenance of the household, there was a steady accumulation against a rainy day and for the future, and success was only a question of time with them.

In 1898 Mr. and Mrs. Olson came to Champaign County and for fifteen years farmed as renters in Compromise Township. All those years they lived steadily on one farm, and that fact alone is a fine testimonial to their efficiency and general worth. Out of their slowly growing accumulations they were then able to buy eighty acres in Harwood Township and subsequently 135 acres in Compromise Township. These tracts of land they sold to buy their present fine farm of 320 acres in Compromise Township, formerly the Dickerson home in section 19.

In the meantime there had come into their hearts and home nine children: Emily, Elof, Albert, Fred, Selma, Oscar, Ella, John and Eric. All of them learned their lessons in the district schools, while Selma was a student in the Gifford High School. They made good records for themselves as students and they all speak and read English and Swedish and have a slight familiarity with the German language. The daughter Emily is now the wife of Henry Ackerman, and they have a son, Herman Ackerman.

Mr. and Mrs. Olson are active members of the Lutheran Church. In 1909-10 Mr. Olson served on the board of supervisors, and is a man whose judgment as well as action are entitled to the respect of the community. Politically he supports the Democratic party. As a farmer he has been highly successful with live stock, and has a large number of cattle, hogs and horses on his place. During the past year Mr. Olson received his record price for corn, selling it at $1.78 a bushel. He is one of the most reliable farmers and citizens of Champaign County. While they take just pride in their farm and their home and live stock, they have a greater pride in the boys and girls who have grown up under their roof. The boys are manly fellows, true types of Americans, and are dependable workers in the management of the homestead. Mr. Olson owns his own threshing machine and sheller, and when confronted with a big job of work he has the boys to depend upon, each one able to take his place in handling machinery or the work of the farm. Mr. Olson in all his years of experience with his sons has never heard one of them say, "I don't want to do that." They have grown up with the realization that the interests of the family are all mutual, and this is no doubt one of the secrets of the success of the family. Another fact that should not be omitted is that in all these years Mr. Olson has had the co-operation and support of a good Christian wife, who has aided and counseled him for over a quarter of a century and has borne the chief responsibilities of educating and training her children. The Olson family have one of the most complete and attractive country homes in the entire county. Well back from the road is situated the house, surrounded by a splendid grove of trees and shrubs, and the whole constitutes a park, as though the master hand of a landscape artist had created it. The atmosphere of the farm and the home is also one compounded of industry and wholesome living, and all of this Mr. and Mrs. Olson have as their reward for many years of persevering labor, and labor has been the source of it all, since Mr. Olson has never once indulged in the speculative game and has taken only his just compensation for work honestly performed.

Francis G. Jaques. One of the early and most prominent members of the Champaign County bar was Francis G. Jacques, who began practice here prior to the war and continued his work with unabating interest until his death on November 14, 1896.

Mr. Jaques was born in New York City January 5, 1839, a son of Robert Lee and Mary (Cooper) Jaques. Both parents were natives of New Jersey. Mr. Jaques was educated chiefly in New York City, studied law there, and also had a brief experience as a school teacher in Michigan. He came to Champaign at the age of eighteen, and was admitted to the bar before he attained his majority. His unusual talent, his thorough knowledge, and his well balanced character made him a successful figure in his profession and he was widely known and esteemed all over eastern Illinois.

On September 11, 1860, Mr. Jaques married Eliza J. Park, a native of Ohio. Mrs. Jaques survived her husband twenty years, passing away September 6, 1916. She was the mother of four children: William Park, of Urbana; Minnie, assistant cashier of the Urbana Banking Company; Robert Lee, of Lafayette, Indiana; and Fred S., deceased. The late Mr. Jaques was thoroughly independent in his political affiliations. He was a Knight Templar Mason.

Samuel Mason Gregg. The dignity of labor raises the farmer to a level of importance corresponding to that occupied by any class of producers. To labor long and faithfully, giving the best of one's ability and talent along any line of endeavor, is to fulfill the destiny of mankind and to make possible a happy, contented old age. Samuel Mason Gregg, one of the substantial farmers and highly esteemed citizens in the vicinity of Rantoul, has made his life one of constant industry and honorable labor, and though always busy he has never failed to find time to make friends or contribute to the welfare and advancement of his community.

Though a resident of Champaign County for many years, Mr. Gregg was born in Crab Orchard, a son of Samuel H. and Elizabeth (Singleton) Gregg. The parents were also natives of Kentucky, and during the childhood of Samuel M. Gregg removed to Illinois. Mr. Gregg had a common school education and was early trained to farming pursuits.

On April 11, 1878, he married Miss Emma Hitz, a native of DeKalb County, Illinois, and a daughter of Frank and Catherine (Shaffer) Hitz. Her father was born in Switzerland and her mother in Germany, and they came as unmarried young people to America. They were married in Rochester, New York, then moved to Kendall County, Illinois, from there to DeKalb County, and located permanently in Champaign County in 1864. Mrs. Gregg received her early educational advantages in the Maple Grove district school of this county.

After their marriage they started out as farmers, buying 160 acres in East Bend Township. One year later they moved to land owned by Mrs. Gregg's father, and then bought the 120 acres comprising their present homestead, located seven miles northwest of Rantoul. This land is in section 17. They took to their task as home makers the true spirit of the pioneers. The land they bought had no buildings, no trees to furnish shade, and there stretched before them a long period of years to be filled with the hardest kind of labor in order to make a home and provide for the increasing responsibilities of existence. Both were people of strong character and ample energy, and while their earlier years were characterized by strict economy they long since were able to provide a beautiful home and commodious buildings for all their purposes. Their home stands on an elevation with the land sloping gently away from all sides, and their house is now



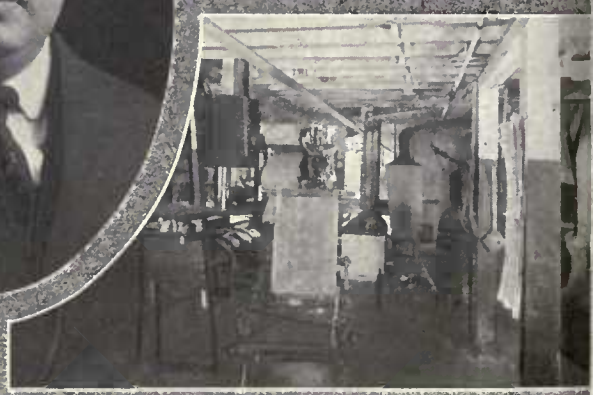
















Semi-Private Reception Office
Telegraph Office
Editorial Rooms
Composing Room

D. W. STEVICK

Publisher's Private Office
Business Office
Stereotyping and Press Room
News Building, Business and Editorial Entrances

surrounded with trees and shrubs, making a park like environment. More beautiful shrubs cannot be found in the large city parks.

Mr. and Mrs. Gregg have one son, Samuel Elza. He was educated in the local district schools and in 1908 graduated with honors from the Rantoul High School. Subsequently he entered the University of Illinois and took the mechanical engineering course, graduating in June, 1912. He then remained at home with his parents a year, and married Miss Etta J. Pontious, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Pontious. Mrs. Samuel E. Gregg was educated in the Rantoul High School and was also a student of a business college at Champaign, where she prepared for work as a stenographer. While it was the purpose and ambition of the son to follow mechanical engineering as a profession, his parents wisely persuaded him to locate near them, and he is now doing that most useful of all work, farming, and manages a 100 acre place a mile and a quarter southwest of the home of his parents. He is industrious and capable, and has the thorough technical education that makes him equal to all emergencies.

Mrs. Gregg and son are active members of the Christian Church at Rantoul. In politics he is a Democrat, and has served as school director. Mr. Gregg is one of the dairy farmers of Champaign County, and has a herd of twenty blooded Jerseys, beautiful and productive animals such as would constitute a fine asset to any farm. Mr. Gregg uses them for the production of cream, which is shipped to the Chicago market.

D. W. Stevick. The people of Champaign County appreciate the ability and the achievements of D. W. Stevick, chiefly through the medium of his newspaper, The Champaign Daily News. Progress has always been the keynote of Mr. Stevick's life. He has been inspired with "that delightful discontent which the hope of better things inspires," and this has given meaning and potency to his efforts as a newspaper man.

When he came into possession of The Champaign Daily News, he was well aware of the deplorable conditions existing relative to the strongly entrenched liquor forces, and had a thorough understanding of the stupendous task he was undertaking in combating them. He faced the issues squarely, and with an invincible spirit of confidence and hope undertook to lay bare the existing facts to the public, feeling they had a right to know.

As is always true in such matters, the bitterest opposition arose from the friends and supporters of the traffic. Ridicule, sarcasm and misrepresentation were all brought to bear upon the gallant young editor. Like a true soldier he met successfully every attempt of the enemy to discomfort him. With the heartiest support of the best class of the people in Champaign County, he demonstrated that when a people unitedly determined to stamp out existing evils they are bound to win. Mr. Stevick has raised the standard of civic righteousness and morality in the county of Champaign, and it can be said to the credit of the people that he has found an army of the best men and women in the county as loyal supporters. The state of Illinois can be congratulated in possessing such men as Mr. Stevick. Though a young man, Mr. Stevick has made an enviable record for himself. He has accomplished more in the brief years of his editorial experience than many men have accomplished in a lifetime. That he was successful is shown by the fact that he was but twenty-eight years of age when he acquired the ownership of The News, and was then one of the youngest publishers of a large newspaper in this country.

It has been said of our forefathers that in laying the foundation of this great republic they planted their bulwarks as they went—the church and the free school—and they builded better than they knew. Of Mr.

Stevick's accomplishment in a brief time, it can also be said that in this enterprise he has accomplished more than his most sanguine expectations led him to expect.

For this reason a brief history of his life will be interesting. He first saw the light of day February 7, 1887, in Hutchinson, Kansas, a son of William Henry and Jennie (Getter) Stevick. His parents were born in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, and soon after their marriage removed to Kansas, where the father engaged in the real estate business. They had four children, including three daughters. Farie Dell, the oldest of the daughters, is the wife of Prof. O. R. Skinner of Bloomington, Illinois. She was a graduate of the Conservatory of Music of Cincinnati, Ohio, and is now instructor with her husband in the O. R. Skinner School at Bloomington. The second daughter, Marie Ella, is teacher of art in the Skinner School at Bloomington. She is a very talented artist, and her work has received high praise by the discriminating art critics of Chicago and other art centers. The third daughter, Isabel, is vocal instructor in the Skinner School, and the wife of Harry K. Roush of Bloomington.

When thirteen years of age D. W. Stevick began making his own living. For two years he drove a delivery wagon and then found work as office boy and collector at the Daily Bulletin in Bloomington, Illinois. He was with that journal thirteen years, going to the top of the ladder of that newspaper. For years he was in full charge of the advertising, studying that phase of the business with such attention that he soon became an authority on the subject. The past and the present proves him to be a thoroughly ground newspaper man.

August 29, 1910, Mr. Stevick married Miss Helen M. Taylor, daughter of Wilson E. and Mary (Miller) Taylor. Her father is a native of Ohio and her mother of Indiana. They were the parents of three sons and one daughter: Roy, Gail, Joseph and Helen. The Taylor family for many years have lived in Texas. Mrs. Stevick went to Bloomington from Texas to attend the O. R. Skinner School, where she graduated in music. Mr. and Mrs. Stevick have one daughter, Marajen, a bright young lady of five years. Mr. and Mrs. Stevick are active members of the Christian Church. Politically he favors the principles of the Republican party, but is broad in his views and gives his support to the man who serves the public best. Fraternally he is a Knight of Pythias.

As a newspaper manager his work is entitled to great credit and undoubtedly a great future is in store for him. He has established an atmosphere of co-operative sociability in The Champaign Daily News, so that all subscribers feel they belong to one large family working for the good of the general public. The visitor observing the perfect order and system of The Daily News plant, and understanding its growth and development and its influence as a molder of public opinion, is reminded of the words:

"O what a glory doth this world put on
For him who, with a fervent heart, goes forth
Under the bright and glorious sky
And looks on duties well performed, and days well spent."

On the first day of September, 1915, E. R. Mickelberry and D. W. Stevick purchased The Champaign Daily News from E. B. Chapin. It was at that time Champaign's largest and best newspaper, but the development that was to come for The News could only be seen in advance by Mr. Stevick. The fifteen minute telephone news service from Springfield was increased fifteen minutes, a new linotype machine, many fonts of new type

and other equipment were added and the old machinery of The News thoroughly overhauled. Still more news was given to the people, later news, better news, and the already large circulation increased remarkably. Soon another linotype was purchased and the thirty minute wire service was changed to a longer service. The new owners could see no reason why the people of Champaign-Urbana and vicinity were not entitled to just as good a newspaper as other Illinois towns had been favored with for years; therefore the full leased wire of the International News Service was taken on, giving to the people of Champaign-Urbana and vicinity for the first time in history the world's news on the day it happened. Previous to this time almost all of the foreign news read by the people of this district was set up in Chicago and shipped to Champaign by express. In December, 1915, Mr. Stevick purchased his partner's interest and became sole owner of The News.

The News needed more room and the beautiful business lot located at 134-36-38 West Church Street was purchased and plans completed for a five-story building with a modern newspaper plant on the ground floor and a hotel above. Business changes, however, compelled The News to be moved earlier than it was possible to construct its new home, and the large four-story Miller building was purchased and there completed one of the most modern newspaper plants in the entire West. Another lintoype machine and a mammoth 32-page Goss press outfit were installed. New type throughout gave the appearance of The News a very noticeable brightness. The News continued to flourish in its new home. It was the constant aim of the publisher to improve the News, and on August 19, 1917, a new publication was added—The Champaign Sunday News. This Sunday newspaper was not a small country paper, but was builded on metropolitan ideas, having all the local news with the full leased wire report of the Associated Press, the best four-page colored comic section that American artists produced, features for women, continued stories, a page for the farmer and his family, a full-page sport page edited by one of the best sport writers in the country, puzzles and fairy stories for the children.

On May 4, 1917, Mr. Stevick was elected to membership in the Associated Press, quite an honor considering that it is a custom of this association to have but one member in a territory and that the Associated Press had had for many years a member in Champaign who used a small news report of that association. This member protested against the election to membership of Mr. Stevick, but the board of directors of the association overruled the objection. The Champaign Daily News then gave to the people of this vicinity for the first time the daily report of full leased wire service of the Associated Press. The News was also elected to membership in the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, one of the strongest associations in the world, and was also made a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations, and is the only newspaper in this district that is a member of all three of these organizations. Two years after Mr. Stevick purchased The Champaign Daily News it had changed from a two-linotype and a 12-page press equipped newspaper to six linotypes, a 32-page Goss press, the full Associated Press telegraphic wire news report, a member of A. N. P. A., 156 employes, its circulation greatly increased, located in its own building and had grown to be Eastern Illinois' greatest newspaper.

CHARLES F. OEHMKE, assistant postmaster of Urbana, has been continuously identified with the postoffice in that city for the past eleven years. He was formerly a successful teacher. He is a native of Champaign County, where he was born January 22, 1880. His parents were

John Fred and Elizabeth (Schultz) Oehmke, both natives of Germany. John F. Oehmke came to America at the age of seventeen and at once located in Champaign County. He had experience as a farmer, also in the marble works, and subsequently bought a farm, which he cultivated until his death in 1910. His widow is still living in Gifford, Champaign County. John F. Oehmke was honored with several township offices, and was a man of capable work and citizenship in this county. He and his wife had fourteen children: William, of Larchwood, Iowa; Louis Frank, deceased; Fred, of North Dakota; Louisa, deceased; Charles F.; Edward, of Larchwood, Iowa; John, a farmer of Penfield, Illinois; Henry, of Oklahoma City; Rose, wife of J. T. Michaels, of Oklahoma City; Emma, deceased; Martin, of East St. Louis, Illinois; Walter, of Detroit, Michigan; Minnie, still at home; and Frank, of Pomeroy, Iowa.

Mr. Charles F. Oehmke was educated in the common schools and had six months of high school training. He had also nine weeks of summer terms in the University of Illinois. At the age of seventeen he became a regular hand on the farm, and after three years in that occupation took up school teaching. He taught six years altogether, most of the time in the country schools, but during the last year in the Philo grammar school.

On July 13, 1906, Mr. Oehmke passed the civil service examination and since then has been connected with the Urbana postoffice, at first as clerk but now as assistant postmaster.

He married November 15, 1908, Miss Bertha J. Eyestone, a native of Champaign. They have two children: Irene and Charles McDonald. Mr. Oehmke is a Democrat in politics, a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Charles H. Watts. Educational work is very exacting in the demands which it makes upon its devotees. Ostensibly the duty of the instructor is to instill in each of his pupils a proper and practical working knowledge; but equally important is his correlative, though less direct, function of instilling character and worthy precepts through his unavoidable personal influence. The first duty calls for an individual of knowledge and specialized training; the second for a capable and conscientious person whose manner of life and mode of living provide a fit criterion for the younger generation. When a man combines the possession of these attributes with the exclusion of strongly detrimental characteristics, the early years of future citizens may be safely entrusted to his care. Such a man is Charles H. Watts, county superintendent of schools of Champaign County and the incumbent of this office for fifteen years. His entire career has been devoted to the instruction of the young and he has gained a reputation as an educator which extends far beyond the limits of his immediate home community.

Mr. Watts was born November 16, 1867, in Coles County, Illinois, and is a son of Sinclair and Martha (Holiday) Watts, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Indiana. The parents of Mr. Watts came to Illinois about the year 1860, and when the Civil War came on the father enlisted as a private in the Seventy-third Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for a period of one year. The rigors of army life were too great for him, and after an illness he was invalided home and honorably discharged because of disability. When he had recovered Mr. Watts, who had made a good record for bravery and faithful discharge of duty, resumed farming operations, in which he had been engaged up to the time of his enlistment. He was an industrious agriculturist, who prosecuted his operations energetically and directed them ably, and as a result won success in his farming activities. In 1895 he

retired from active pursuits and took up his residence at Champaign, where he now makes his home, Mrs. Watts having passed away in that city October 31, 1914. They were the parents of four children, namely: Charles H.; William, who is a resident of Ypsilanti, Michigan; Sadie, who is the wife of Clay Gaunier, of Alvin, Illinois; and Mrs. Ovanda Martin, a widow, living at Longview.

Charles H. Watts attended the public schools of Champaign County, Illinois, and divided his time in his youth between his studies and the work of the homestead property of his father. As he grew to young manhood he evidenced a studious nature, and when he was eighteen years of age was sent to Danville, Indiana, where he attended the Danville College, a private institution, for one year. At that time he entered upon his career as an educator, and for three years taught in the public schools, but, realizing the need of further knowledge of an advanced character, he resumed his own studies, this time in a private school at Ada, Ohio, where he remained for three years. Once more he took up teaching, and with his advanced knowledge progressed rapidly in his calling, so that he was soon known as one of the best educators in the county. This reputation naturally brought his name to the forefront, and when the election for county superintendent of schools of Champaign County came on in 1902 he was chosen for the office, which he has filled to the present time, having been chosen through consecutive elections. Mr. Watts has met with very agreeable success in his chosen line of work. From the start he has been exceptionally well fitted for the duties and responsibilities involved, and he has invariably given his best efforts toward the progress and advancement of Champaign County's schools. He has manifested a personal interest where some others might have shown only a business obligation, and has established in the hearts of his former and present students and co-workers a warm tenderness and respect.

Mr. Watts was married July 21, 1896, to Miss Blanche Irwin, a native of Champaign County, and a daughter of James W. and Margaret (Fisher) Irwin, the latter deceased, and the former now a resident of Longview, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Watts are the parents of two children: Helen, who was born April 30, 1897; and Harold H., born May 18, 1906. Mr. Watts is a Republican in his political tendencies. He affiliates fraternally with the Masons and Knights of Pythias, is also a member of the Sons of Veterans, and, with his family, belongs to the Presbyterian Church.

Fremont McMillen. After spending his early youth in Champaign County, Fremont McMillen made choice of the various vocations and professions and determined to become a farmer, a business in which he had been thoroughly trained as a youth. He has never had any substantial reasons to regret that early choice, since his years of labor have brought him profitable rewards, the esteem of a large community, and ample means for his family and those dependent upon him. Mr. McMillen has one of the fine farms in Champaign Township on Rural Route No. 3 out of Champaign.

Though a resident of Champaign County most of his life, he was born near Logansport, Indiana, June 15, 1856, a son of William and Rosanna (Henderson) McMillen. His parents were both born in Ohio. In 1859 they came to Champaign County and acquired a farm in section 4 of Champaign Township. Here the parents lived out the rest of their useful and honored lives, and both of them passed away in this county. There were nine children, the first, a daughter, dying in infancy; Franklin and Lucinda are also deceased; Susan lives at Logansport, Indiana, the

widow of F. Gotchell; Newton, Isabella and Lucretia are all deceased; Joseph lives in Grand Junction, Colorado, and the ninth and youngest is Fremont.

Mr. Fremont McMillen, after arriving at the age of twenty and after completing his education in the local schools, rented the home farm of 110 acres and continued its active management under his control until 1905. In that year he bought another place of 161 acres in the same section, and now has both farms under his ownership and management, including 271 acres. It is all in section 4 of Champaign Township. His efforts have been expended most profitably as a general farmer and in the dairy industry. In 1909 Mr. McMillen erected one of the fine country homes of Champaign County, a two-story residence with every modern facility and equipment.

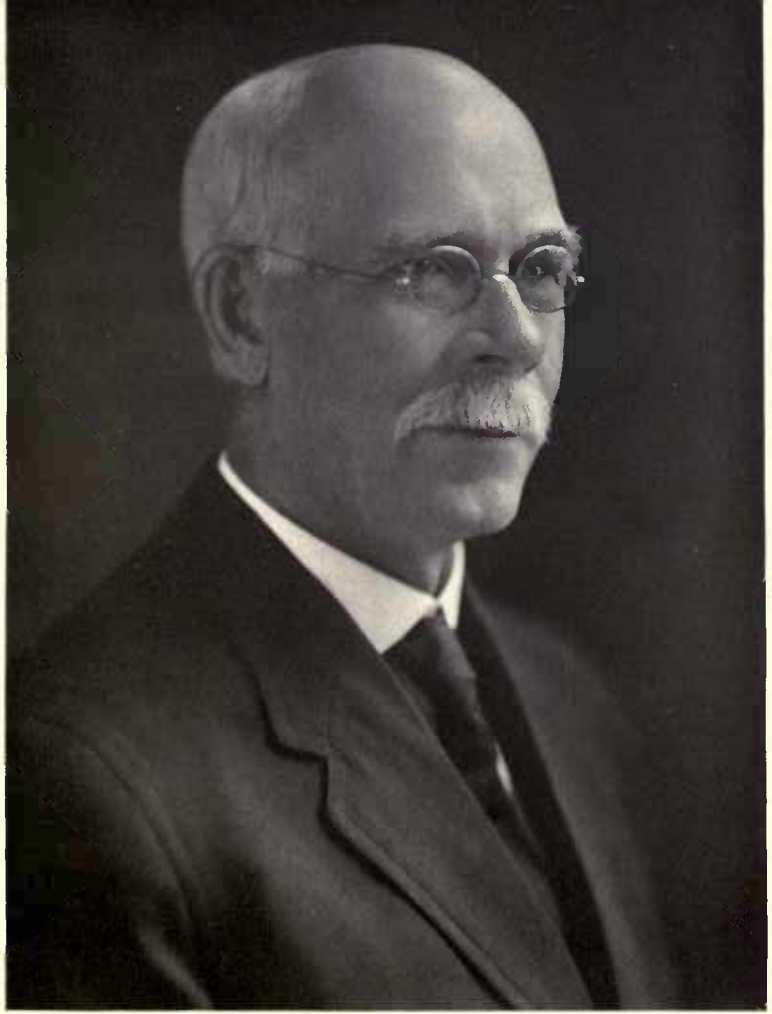
In June, 1888, he married Miss Laura Curtis. They have three children: Ethel, now deceased; Bessie, wife of William Ehler of Rockwell, Iowa; and Nellie, wife of John Schwengel, who occupies the old McMillen farm. Mr. and Mrs. McMillen are active members of the Presbyterian Church. He is a Republican. Mrs. McMillen has been prominent in the Woman's Club at Champaign, was registrar of the club and for four years was treasurer of its music and drama department.

Mrs. McMillen is a daughter of George F. and Elizabeth (Barnum) Curtis, her father having been a pioneer in Champaign County. Her mother died December 24, 1914. Mrs. McMillen was the oldest in a family of six children, two of them dying in infancy. Her brother Elmer lives in Champaign Township; her sister Elizabeth is the wife of Professor J. Sammes of the University of Wisconsin faculty; and her brother John W. is a farmer in Champaign Township.

Samuel L. Burwash. It was more than half a century ago, when he was a small boy, that Samuel L. Burwash first knew Champaign County. He was identified during his active career with the agricultural element. It is in agriculture that Champaign County has found its greatest prosperity during this period. Mr. Burwash was not an unimportant factor in that development. He prospered as did all the other progressive farmers of his time, and in recent years has enjoyed the fruits of his earlier toil and is now living comfortably in Champaign.

He was born in Eastern Canada, near Montreal, November 16, 1851, a son of Samuel and Lois (Barber) Burwash, who were also natives of Canada. His father was a farmer by occupation. In 1860 the family removed to Edgar County, Illinois, and during the three years spent there the mother died. From Edgar County Samuel Burwash moved to Champaign County, and continued here an active farmer until his death. He and his wife had eight children, the first two of whom died in infancy. Besides Samuel L., the others are: T. N., a retired physician at Champaign; Delia M., deceased; Milo B. and Carrie, both unmarried and living together in Champaign; and Ella, deceased.

Until he was twenty-two years of age Samuel L. Burwash lived in his father's home. An education suitable for his future needs was acquired in the local schools. In the meantime he had become a practical farmer by training and experience, and on leaving home he and his brother Milo rented land and were partnership farmers. In the meantime they worked the old homestead. This was their plan of business operations for a number of years. Still in partnership, they bought a hundred sixty acres and made a specialty of raising grain for the market. Their partnership continued with mutual profit and advantage for a number of years, after which Mr. Samuel Burwash went for himself and farmed in Champaign



Samuel L. Burwash



Margaret M. Burwash

County for a quarter of a century. In 1910 he was able to retire with a financial competence, and removed to Champaign. In 1914 he built a handsome brick residence at 714 West Green Street in Champaign, and has occupied that modern home since November of that year. Mr. Burwash has been a Republican since casting his first vote, and he and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Burwash was married November 15, 1885, to Miss Margaret McCullough, a native of Champaign County and member of an old and prominent family of this section. Her parents, Alexander W. and Elizabeth H. (Seylar) McCullough, were both born in Pennsylvania. Her father came to Champaign County in 1854, locating on a farm south of Urbana, and lived there until his death in January, 1899. Mrs. Burwash's widowed mother died July 19, 1909. In their family were nine children: James S. and Sarah J., deceased; Adeline C., wife of W. N. Ramey, of Missouri; Annie Elizabeth, widow of John Bond, of Tolono; Frank F., living in California; Mrs. Margaret Burwash; Albert C., of Urbana Township; Benjamin T., deceased; John, a resident of Urbana Township. Mr. and Mrs. Burwash have no children.

Augustus M. Evans. In the administration of the affairs of county government the duties of few offices are more important than are those of the sheriff. To occupy this position acceptably the incumbent must be a man of unquestioned courage, for even in the most law-abiding communities he is frequently called upon to face situations demanding quick, decisive and fearless action; he must possess no inconsiderate amount of detective ability, to be used in the solving of perplexing cases, and he must, withal, be a man of executive ability and force of character in order to inspire respect in his community. Champaign County is fortunate in the possession of a capable sheriff who measures up to the standard set above. Augustus M. Evans has held the shrievalty since 1914, and prior to that time had gained much experience in the office of deputy. He is a former newspaper man and well known to the people of the county who have watched his good official work with satisfaction.

Augustus M. Evans was born in Brown County, Ohio, May 22, 1867, and is a son of George M. and Elizabeth A. (Park) Evans, both of whom were born in the Buckeye State. The family came to Champaign County about the year 1868, settling first at Tolono, where George M. Evans followed the trade of carpenter. In 1882 he removed with his family to Champaign, and in that city continued to follow his chosen vocation up to the time of his death. Mrs. Evans also passed away in that city. There were three children in the family, namely: Charles G., who is now deceased; William A.; and Augustus M.

Augustus M. Evans was an infant when brought to Illinois by his parents, and the greater part of his schooling was secured in the public schools of Tolono. His real education came, however, after he had located at Champaign. There, in 1882, when he was fifteen years of age, he joined the force of the Champaign Gazette, and during the next twenty-nine years worked his way through various positions, seeing all sides of newspaper life and making a large acquaintance throughout the country. His experience in this connection brought him into contact with all kinds and manner of people and secured for him a wealth of information that has proved of the greatest value to him in his official work. Mr. Evans' connection with the Gazette office was severed in 1911, when he was appointed deputy sheriff. He remained in that capacity until 1914, when he became the candidate for the office of sheriff on the Republican ticket, and was successful at the polls, receiving a handsome majority. He has

discharged the duties of his office well, and during his administration Champaign County has been singularly free from the presence of criminals and evil-doers.

On November 12, 1890, Sheriff Evans was united in marriage with Miss Kate Sharp, who was born in Champaign County, and to this union there has been born one son: Harry S., who is serving in the capacity of deputy sheriff. Sheriff Evans is a stanch Republican and has for a long period been an active worker in the ranks of his party. He believes in the benefit and enjoyment to be derived from membership in fraternal orders, and is at this time affiliated with the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, in all of which he has numerous friends.

J. E. Fuller. The Fuller home is a mile and three-quarters southeast of Ludlow, in section 8 of Harwood Township. It is a home of comforts and superior improvements, and is the domicile of people whose character and activities tend to raise the general standard of community life in Champaign County.

Mr. Fuller was born in Michigan, son of Dexter and Elizabeth Ann (Curtis) Fuller. His parents were born in Massachusetts, moved from there to Ohio and finally to Michigan. J. K. Fuller was educated in Michigan schools, completing his training in a seminary at Spring Arbor in that state, where he graduated in 1884. Following that for a number of years he was a successful teacher both in Michigan and also in Champaign County.

Mr. Fuller married Miss Jennie Pearson. She was born in Mason County, Illinois, a daughter of Robert and Mary (Fletcher) Pearson, both of whom are natives of England, but came to this country when still single. Mrs. Fuller was the second in a family of five children. She attended the district schools, the college at Paxton, Illinois, and was married at the age of twenty-four.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fuller located at their present home place, and that has been their continuous residence ever since. Here they have 160 acres and the passing years have witnessed many improvements in their surroundings and have also endeared the home to them by many happy associations.

To their marriage were born five children. One died in infancy and the others are named Nanny, Robitine, Horace and Fred. To fit these children for the responsible duties of life Mr. and Mrs. Fuller sent them to the local district school, where all of them finished the eighth grade. The daughter Nanny became a student in the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, where she took the liberal arts course, specializing in English. The girls have also had piano instruction, and music is one of the features of the Fuller home. The daughter Robitine attended the high school at Paxton, where she graduated in 1915. She is now the capable helper to her mother in the home. Nanny taught her first school in Harwood Center during 1911-12, had the Martin school for two years, and then one year in the old home school district, the Gallagher school. Miss Nanny has been superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Sunday school at Ludlow. The son Fred is active in the work of the home farm. The other son, Horace, now lives in North Dakota, near Arthur. He married Sarah Van Schoyck of Ludlow. Mr. and Mrs. Fuller have always endeavored to carry out the principles of her father who taught his children strict loyalty to the flag and country which gave them protection. In church affairs the Fuller family are active in the Methodist Episcopal

Church at Ludlow and are liberal supporters of that organization. Mrs. Fuller and her daughter Robitine are both teachers in the Sunday school. In politics Mr. Fuller is a Democrat, and all of them have rendered support to the prohibition movement, Mrs. Fuller being active in the local W. C. T. U. Fraternally they are members of the Court of Honor, and Mr. Fuller and his sons belong to the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mrs. Fuller is not only a most capable home maker but has proved her executive ability as a farm manager. For a number of summers Mr. Fuller has lived in North Dakota, looking after his farm there, and during his absence Mrs. Fuller has assumed the active management of the home farm, being assisted by her son and daughters. The Fuller farm at Ludlow is appropriately called Maple Hurst. Recently the farm residence was remodeled into a modern home, and Mrs. Fuller superintended every detail of this work. They now have one of the most complete country homes of Harwood Township.

GEORGE C. FAIRCLO. Champaign County is rapidly becoming noted for the excellence of its roads, and at the present rate of progress will before long rank with the leading counties in the state in this direction. A number of years ago the people came to a realization of the fact that progress and prosperity, both in the country districts and in the cities and towns, depended largely upon the condition of the roads, but it has been only in comparatively recent years that steps have been taken to improve in the fullest degree the highways of this section. In this work one who has been and is very active is George C. Fairclo, who since December, 1913, has occupied the office of county superintendent of highways of Champaign County. A man of comprehensive training and broad experience, he has brought to his labors an energy and enthusiasm that have aided greatly in the accomplishment of big things, and some of his vim and spirit has been caught by the citizens, a number of whom have been awakened to existing conditions.

Mr. Fairclo is a product of the agricultural country of Illinois, having been born on a farm near Kingston in De Kalb County, May 13, 1877, his parents being Isaiah D. and Sarah E. (Parker) Fairclo. His father, a native of New Jersey, was a lad when he came from that State to Illinois, about 1850, and at that time located on a farm in De Kalb County. There he developed into a first-class agriculturist and developed a good property, accumulating at the same time a competence that allowed him to retire from active pursuits in 1896 and remove to Champaign, where his death occurred six years later. He was a Republican in politics, but did not take any active part in public matters, and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Fairclo, who survives her husband, makes her home at Champaign. There were two children in the family: Elizabeth Temperance, who is the wife of Shields A. Blaine of Champaign; and George C.

George C. Fairclo attended the graded schools of Sycamore, Illinois, and in June, 1905, graduated from the high school there. He grew up on the home farm, but it was not his intention to take up an agricultural career, as his inclinations ran in another direction, one which necessitated the securing of an advanced education. Shortly after he left high school he enrolled as a student of civil engineering at the University of Illinois, and graduated with his degree in 1902, but during this time, in order to pay his expenses, he worked three years in the service of the Illinois Central Railroad and for the Chicago-Wilmington-Vermilion Coal Company, in the capacity of engineer. After graduating from the university he worked for the Union Pacific Railroad from June, 1902, until September,

1903, at which latter date he was appointed city engineer of Urbana. He retained that office until May, 1905, when he became city engineer of Champaign, and remained as such until May, 1909. Mr. Fairclo then opened an office and engaged in private practice as a consulting engineer at Champaign, but in December, 1913, he was once again called into public service when elected county superintendent of highways for Champaign County. In discharging the duties of his position Mr. Fairclo has been conscientious and energetic. He has brought his wide experience to bear upon the problems facing his department in the improvement of highway conditions, and his achievements have undoubtedly proven an important factor in advancing the interests of the agricultural country, while at the same time contributing materially to the comfort and enjoyment of the motoring class, which has grown so greatly in numbers during recent years. Mr. Fairclo in his political affiliation is a Republican. He fraternizes with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and his religious connection is with the Presbyterian Church. His offices are located in the courthouse at Urbana.

Mr. Fairclo was married December 7, 1907, at Champaign, Illinois, to Miss Mabel Lindsay, who was born at Onarga, this state. They have no children.

Rev. Ernest Moehl. The wealth of Champaign County does not consist alone in broad lands and money and other material things, but in its people of sterling worth and integrity of character. Among those who have devoted themselves to the molding of character and the improvement of spiritual conditions is Rev. Ernest Moehl, pastor of the German Evangelical Church of Flatville.

Rev. Mr. Moehl was born in Hersfeld, near Cassel, Germany, a son of John and Dorothy (Auding) Moehl. His father was a teacher in the old country. The family consisted of ten children, seven sons and three daughters, Ernest being the oldest son.

He received his education in German schools, including collegiate training, and graduated in the spring of 1881. In the fall of that year he came to the United States, for the purpose of fitting himself for ministerial labors in America. He pursued his course in Wartburg Seminary at Mendota, Illinois, from 1881 to 1884, and in the latter year went to Nebraska, where he was ordained in the German Evangelical Church. His first charge was at Waterloo, Iowa, where he remained more than ten years.

While there he went to Mendota, Illinois, and married Miss Charlotte Fritschel. She was born in Iowa, a daughter of Sigmund and Margaret (Brottengeier) Fritschel, both natives of Germany. Mrs. Moehl was reared and educated in Mendota, Illinois, and they were married in the German church there. After their marriage they went to Iowa, and four children were born to them: Hedwig, Emma, Hilda and Erna. The two younger daughters are now attending the grade schools at Flatville. Hedwig and Emma received their education at Dubuque and Ottumwa, Iowa. Emma graduated from a seminary at Waverly, Iowa, and fitted herself for work as a teacher, which she has followed very successfully for a number of years. She is now teaching in the German school at Flatville, being instructor in German and English. She is a young lady of many accomplishments and assists her father as organist in the church. Hedwig is devoting her time to the home interests.

In October, 1895, Rev. Mr. Moehl removed from Iowa to Champaign County, entering a new field of work as pastor of the German Evangelical Church at Flatville. For twenty-one years he has gone in and out among

these good people as a preacher and an instructor on the important things of life, preparing them for a truer and better citizenship not only in this life but in that which is to come.

His congregation has grown and prospered and with prosperity there came a recognition of the need for a larger and better edifice in which to worship. Mr. Moehl laid this cause before his people, a committee was appointed, plans were carefully studied, and with the enthusiastic co-operation of his parishioners the work was begun and has resulted in a beautiful and imposing Gothic church building, which is one of the finest in Champaign County. It is built of Hytex brick and sandstone, cost $50,000 and was dedicated January 26, 1915. The broad steps in front lead to the main entrance, and the auditorium is reached through three glass folding doors. Over these doors on the stained glass is the inscription in German, "Beware your feet, if you come to the House of the Lord and come that you may hear." The auditorium is a wonderful work of art, containing many stained glass windows with life size pictures of biblical scenes and characters. One of the figures is Luther, another is Paul, and on a large south window is Christ represented in the home of Mary and Martha. There are mural paintings representing the shepherds at Bethlehem, Christ blessing the children, Christ walking on the water, while back of the altar are six paintings representing Easter scenes and the Apostles Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The pulpit is in the Gothic style to correspond with the architectural harmony of the building, and there is a fine pipe organ. A complete individual plant supplies electric light.

The first church of this congregation was erected in 1874 and stood until 1887. The second church was used from 1887 until 1914, and then a temporary structure during 1914-15 until the completion of the new building. Below the cornerstone of the present church is the cornerstone of the old one, containing the inscription of date of erections. The church has a membership of 135 families. It is the center of a lively picture on Sundays when automobiles bring the worshipers from near and far. There is a large Sunday school of interested children.

Rev. Mr. Moehl has conducted a German school during the years he has spent at Flatville for the benefit of the children of the church. There the Bible is taught daily, in addition to literary studies.

Rev. Mr. Moehl is a man of broad and liberal views and in politics is a Republican. He is a fine type of the American citizen and has always been proud of his American home and has made his work a factor in the building up of loyalty to country as well as in the education of his people for the other conditions of life here and later. Rev. Mr. Moehl's experiences since coming to America have been both pleasant and congenial, and here he has found his work and has never had cause to regret the influences that led him away from the land of his birth.

HARRY C. KARRER, M. D. Perhaps no call is so insistent in man as that of personal service to others. It is one of the beautiful elements of humanity; it lies at the root of religion and permeates every brotherhood organization.

The appeal for help made by the physically sick and maimed has led many a noble-hearted young man to prepare for and devote himself to the arduous profession of medicine, occasionally thereby to a large extent turning aside from the pleasures of the leisurely life that ample means might have afforded him, finding compensation in the knowledge of the facts of science and his ability to helpfully apply them. It can but be acknowledged that no body of men as a class give so much of themselves to others as do physicians and surgeons, and that individually few men of

this profession have ever been known to turn a deaf ear to suffering they could relieve. The city of Champaign has, among other advantages, a skilled and generous body of medical men, and an eminent representative is found in Dr. Harry C. Kariher, widely known in the state.

Harry C. Kariher was born at Chicago, Illinois, September 22, 1878. His parents were Harry and Mary E. (Sullard) Kariher, the former of whom was born at Delphi, Indiana, and the latter in the State of New Jersey. For many years the father was engaged in the drug business in Champaign, building it up to great importance and thereby amassing a large fortune. The handsome Kariher business block stands as a monument to his thrift and enterprise. Both he and wife were of the highest social standing and were beloved and respected by every one. H. C. Kariher, the elder, died in 1893 and his wife in 1895.

Harry C. Kariher attended the public schools of Champaign, graduating creditably from the high school, after which for two years he was a student in the University of Illinois. Having determined on a medical career, the young man then entered Rush Medical College of Chicago, from which great school he was graduated in 1903. He returned then to Champaign and engaged here in practice for one year and then took advantage of a favorable medical opening at Seymour, Illinois, and continued in that field for five years, returning then to Champaign, where he has large property interests to look after and a weighty practice that he never neglects, and in addition to these responsibilities is also county physician for Champaign Township.

Doctor Kariher has one of the beautiful homes of the city and a happy domestic circle. He married Miss Gwendolyn Roberts, who is a daughter of Humphrey and Sarah (Williams) Roberts, old residents here, and they have one child, Harry Cullen. Doctor and Mrs. Kariher are members of the Emanuel Episcopal Church. In politics he has always been identified with the Republican party, believing in the justice of its principles. He is interested in different scientific bodies, is a member of the Knights of Pythias and belongs to the Country Club.

Antony H. Blue. The poet who said, "Sweet are the uses of adversity," had a true understanding of life's meaning, since it is true that those are happiest who have lived most and have had experiences in which the sweet and the bitter have been mingled. It is the prosperity and contentment won by years of faithful toil, self-sacrifice and economy that Mr. and Mrs. Antony H. Blue enjoy in their beautiful home south of Thomasboro. Mr. and Mrs. Blue have lived in Champaign County since 1870. Years have brought their honest endeavors a full reward and besides their material possessions they present the picture of a true companionship, whole-souled personalities and hospitality and kindliness and generosity are everywhere in evidence.

Both of them are natives of Germany. Antony H. Blue was born in North Germany in 1845, a son of Henry A. and Alma Blue. His father was a sailor and in 1863 lost his life in a shipwreck on the North Sea. The ship went down and all hands aboard perished. The country where Antony H. Blue lived as a boy bordered on the North Sea and nearly all the inhabitants were either sailors or fishermen. In those occupations Antony H. Blue had a complete apprenticeship and grew up strong, sturdy and self-reliant, always ready to face the dangers and difficulties unafraid.

In October, 1869, he was married in his native land to Miss Eckeline Mayar, daughter of H. D. and Engel Mayar. She was also born in the north of Germany. It was in the nature of a wedding journey when

Antony H. Blue and bride set their faces toward the New World in the spring of 1870, crossed the ocean and came inland until they arrived in Champaign County. They located in Rantoul Township, and their home has never been more than two miles from where they first settled. They were among the early comers, and there were hardships and privations almost without end until their toils were rewarded with comforts beyond their fondest anticipations.

Ten children were born to their marriage, and five died in infancy. Those who grew up were named H. D., Henry, Alma, Carl and Albert. H. D. Blue is now a retired farmer at Webster City, Iowa. He married Maggie Carsons, and their children are Lena, Walter, Eleanor, Raymond and Maggie. Henry Blue married Minnie Shoneman, and he is also a farmer at Webster City, Iowa. His children are Leona, Tony and Arthur. Alma Blue married for her first husband Cordy Buscher, and by that union there were three children, Henry, Gertrude and Eveline. For her second husband she married Henry Eihusen, and they have two small daughters. They are farmers and live near Hastings, Nebraska. Carl Blue lives on the old homestead in Champaign County, and by his marriage to Fannie Mathers has one daughter, Lena. Albert Blue was living at Webster City, Iowa, when he died as the result of an operation for appendicitis at the age of twenty-seven. He married Emma Breidentkamp and left two children, Dorothy and Louise.

When Mr. and Mrs. Blue came to Champaign County they rented a tract of land to farm, and by severe application and economy they were justified in making a contract about a year later to purchase eighty acres at $13 an acre. They gave a mortgage to the amount of $1,100 at 10 per cent interest. This land was on the prairie, and during part of every year it was almost covered with water. The year they bought the land was the year of the great Chicago fire, and lumber was very high priced and hard to get. They contented themselves with very small buildings at first. Because of his early experience as a sailor perhaps Mr. Blue was not so much discomforted as many others would have been at the situation on almost a swamp. In times of high water he frequently took a boat and rowed between his farm and Rantoul. One advantage the swampy land possessed it was the rendezvous for countless ducks and other water fowl, and these birds furnished an abundance of meat for the table. Those early conditions have long since passed away. Land that was once an infertile swamp is now drained and is considered as productive as any farm land in Champaign County. Mr. Blue's efforts have brought him an estate of over 400 acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Blue are regular attendants and members of the German Lutheran Church at Flatville, and their children were all baptized in the same faith. Politically he has been a Republican from the time he was granted his first rights as an American citizen. In all things he has been public spirited and has served as a member of the school board and for the last twenty-two years has been president of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company and also agent for the North German Lloyd Steamship Line. Mr. Blue has been able to revisit the fatherland several times, and in 1901 he made an extended trip of two months, being accompanied by his wife, and they visited old scenes and revived many old acquaintances among people whom they had known when they were children.

ARTHUR T. WALLS. There are certain lines of business so necessary to the growth, life and comfort of a community that they have become standard, as it were, and fill a stable, definite place in the commercial world. They are solid and dependable and it is not unusual to find a

business of this kind descending from father to son, and very often the old established firm name is carefully preserved. Such is the case with W. W. Walls & Company at Champaign, dealers in lumber, building material and coal, the able manager of the concern being Arthur T. Walls, who is recognized as one of the city's alert and representative business men.

Arthur T. Walls was born in Fayette County, Illinois, February 2, 1874, and was thirteen years old when his parents came to Champaign. His father, William W. Walls. was born in Indiana and died at Champaign August 22, 1908. His mother, who bore the maiden name of Josephine Tiemann, was born in Pennsylvania and now resides at Warsaw, Indiana, being the wife of James B. Babcock, whom she married some years after the death of her first husband. Five children were born to William W. and Josephine (Tiemann) Walls, namely: Arthur T.; a son who died in infancy; William W., who is deceased; Katheryn, who is the wife of Harry Herrick, a well known business man of Champaign; and Glenn H., who is a resident of Champaign.

Arthur T. Walls attended the public schools until he was seventeen years of age and then became associated in a clerical capacity with his father's lumber business. When William W. Walls came to Champaign in 1887 he bought a partnership in a lumber business with M. E. Lapham and two years later bought Mr. Lapham's interest, at which time he adopted the firm name of W. W. Walls & Company, which still prevails. He proved an able and successful business man and conducted his affairs wisely and built up an honorable business reputation. At his death his widow, his two sons and his daughter formed a stock company, incorporating, and the business is so operated, with Arthur T. Walls as manager. He is well qualified, having passed his entire business life identified with this concern.

On December 9, 1896, Mr. Walls was united in marriage with Miss Ellen Yates, who was born at Homer, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Walls have one daughter, Gwendolyn. They are members of the Presbyterian Church and in all movements of social uplift and public benevolence take an interested part. In political opinion Mr. Walls has always been a supporter of progressive principles, but has never been willing to accept political honors for himself. He is universally popular with his fellow citizens and is especially valued as a member of the local body of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

James R. Wills. Special interest attaches to the career of James R. Wills of St. Joseph not only because of his long residence in that community but also for the fact that he is one of the honored survivors of the great struggle between the North and the South in the '60s. Mr. Wills was one of the productive farmers of this county for fully forty years, and then turned over the heavier responsibilities to a younger generation and with his good wife, who has traveled by his side for over half a century, is enjoying the comforts of a good home and the esteem of many friends in the village of St. Joseph.

Mr. Wills is a Kentuckian by birth, born in Clark County, son of Elijah and Ruth (Beall) Wills. The Wills family came to Illinois in 1855, first living in Edgar County and later locating at Urbana, where the mother died. James R. Wills received his education in the public schools of Kentucky and Illinois, and was twenty-three years of age when the war came on. He felt it a privilege as well as a duty to serve his country in that exciting time, and enlisted in Company K of the Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry. His company was organized from men from Urbana and Homer. The record of this regiment was a splendid one.

It served in Arkansas with General Sigel's division, was at the battle of Pea Ridge, at Sedalia (Missouri), Paducah (Kentucky), and in many of the leading campaigns of the Middle West. Mr. Wills was a natural musician and played the fife in the regimental band, though he also carried a musket and did valiant duty as a private in many battles. He was not possessed of a vigorous constitution when he went to the war and finally his health became so undermined that he was discharged on account of disability.

On May 6, 1866, about a year after the war closed, Mr. Wills married Miss Ella Crayne. A little more than a year ago they celebrated the golden anniversary of their wedding. Mrs. Wills was born in Covington, Indiana, June 20, 1848, a daughter of Levi and Elizabeth (De La Tourette) Crayne. Her mother was of French origin, as the name indicates, and the French words have a significance, "The keeper of little tower." Elizabeth De La Tourette was born near Franklin, Ohio. Her father, John De La Tourette, grandfather of Mrs. Wills, was born on Staten Island, New York, in 1795, and married a girl from Monmouth, New Jersey, where she was born in 1799, of Holland Dutch parentage. John De La Tourette and wife had six sons and six daughters, most of whom lived near Covington, Indiana. It was a splendid family and all of them are now deceased except one son, Schuyler De La Tourette, who remains at the fine old Indiana home, enjoying the comforts of a brick house that was erected many years ago. Schuyler De La Tourette was captain of a company in the Civil War. He is now eighty-three years of age, but his years rest lightly upon him and he retains much of the soldierly bearing of his youth.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wills located on his farm of 120 acres in Stanton Township. Mrs. Wills had grown up there, her father being among the pioneer settlers. The Wills farm adjoined the farm of Mrs. Wills' father, and they began life there when all was open prairie. In 1866 they built a commodious house and it was their home for forty years. Many improvements and adornments were made in this time, including the planting of fruit and shade trees, the cultivation and maintenance of fine fields of grain and pasture and the operation of a very successful farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Wills became the parents of one son and one daughter. Charles Clifton was born September 7, 1867, and Bertha Florence was born January 2, 1872. The education of these children was carefully looked after and they have proved themselves worthy and equal to all the emergencies of life. Charles is a prosperous farmer in Compromise Township of Champaign County, and is one of the men of judgment and capacity in that community, where he has served as school director and road commissioner and in other places of trust and responsibility. Charles Mills married Alta Eyestone and six children were born to them, three dying in infancy, those living being Ella, Florence and Harold. The daughter Florence Wills married Charles P. Lippe and they live in the city of Champaign. Mr. Lippe is a traveling salesman for a wholesale house of Decatur, Illinois. They have one son, Raymond W. This grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Wills has made a notable record for so young a man. He was president of his class when he graduated from the Champaign High School in 1910, then did three years' work in the University of Illinois, and is now employed in the First National Bank of Champaign. In 1906, forty years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wills left their fine farm and moved to the village of St. Joseph, where they built a cosy home in the north part of the town. They have beautified this place in many ways, and Mrs. Wills is never happier than when working with her flowers and

has made her lawn in summer time a bank of flowers enjoyed by all who pass that way as well as by herself.

In matters of politics Mr. Wills supports the Republican party. He and his wife have lived to see most of the changes of importance made in Champaign County, and through all the years they have been upheld by their intimate love and sympathy and by the consciousness of doing a good work for those dependent upon them and for their community.

SHELBY D. TAYLOR. A large tract of Champaign County's fertile acres have been developed and improved by Shelby D. Taylor, who still owns one of the valuable farms of the county, though for a number of years he has lived retired at Champaign.

Mr. Taylor came to Champaign County thirty-five years ago. He was born in Morgan County, Illinois, May 15, 1851. His parents, both natives of Kentucky, were George and Polly E. (Tucker) Taylor. His father was born July 20, 1805, and died September 23, 1886, and his mother was born August 15, 1807, and died January 22, 1894. Both of them died in Jacksonville, Illinois. George Taylor spent his active years as a farmer. He and his wife had ten children: Maxmillie, who was born January 6, 1831, and died in February, 1916; Edward A., born January 9, 1833, and died in February, 1912; Benjamin H., born October 2, 1835, and died October 26, 1892; William P., born December 22, 1837, now lives at Springfield, Illinois; Casabianca R., born December 2, 1839, is a resident of Jacksonville; Phoebe, born March 13, 1842, wife of George Scott of Norfolk, Virginia; Sarah F., born May 5, 1844, wife of Edward E. Telling of Champaign County; George Z., born September 20, 1846, died October 21, 1907; John H., born February 20, 1849, a resident of Mattoon, Illinois; and Shelby D., who was the tenth and youngest of these children.

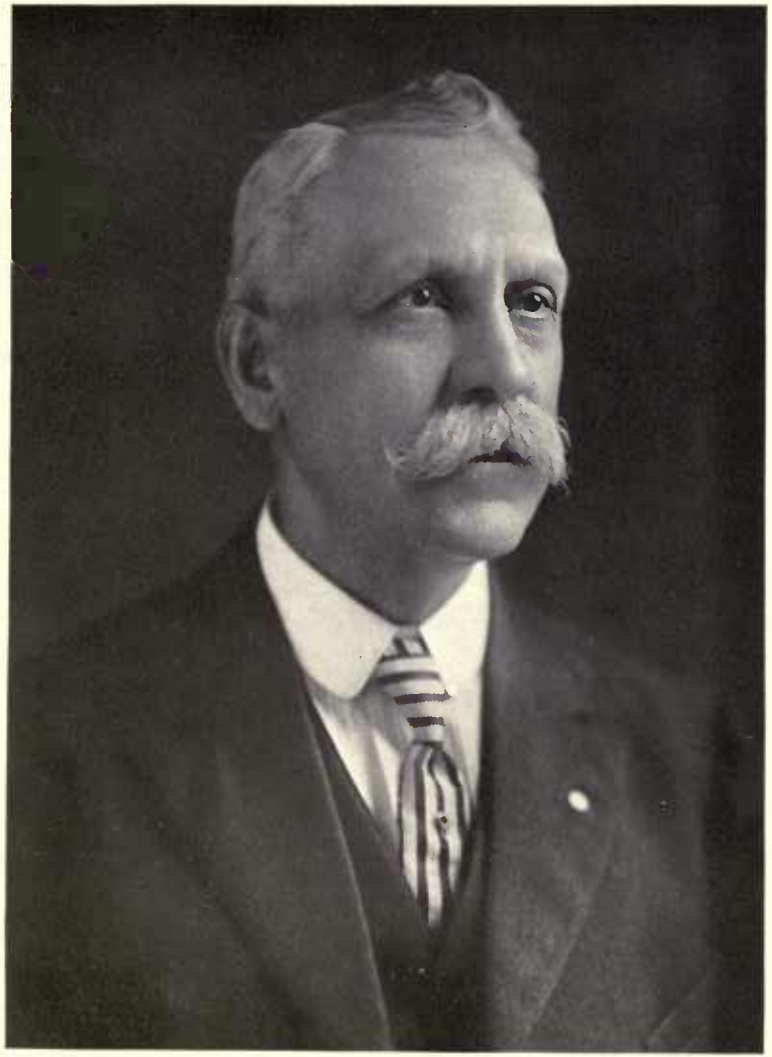
Shelby D. Taylor was reared on his father's farm in Morgan County, attended the public schools there, and his early experience was farm work. After his marriage he continued farming in Sangamon County about six years, and in 1882 removed to Champaign County, locating on a farm in Homer Township. From Homer Township he removed to Broadland, and on his farm of about 300 acres continued actively as a stock raiser and general farmer for many years, until he retired into Champaign.

Mr. Taylor was married March 27, 1882, to Mary L. Anderton. She was born in Morgan County, Illinois, daughter of William and Margaret (Seymour) Anderton, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Morgan County, Illinois. Her father was a farmer and died in 1865, and her mother lived until December 29, 1912. Mrs. Taylor was the oldest of three children. The other two are Bird W. of Franklin, Morgan County; and Levina, who died in 1900.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have no children of their own. They reared a little girl, Lela May Ladd, from the time she was left motherless at the age of eleven years. She is a daughter of James A. Ladd of Urbana. On October 2, 1916, this foster daughter married Leslie W. Faulkner of Champaign, and the young people still live with Mr. and Mrs. Taylor.

Mr. Taylor is a Republican in politics. While living in the country he served as township supervisor and as assistant supervisor in the city of Champaign. He has attained the thirty-second degree of Scottish Rite Masonry, and is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

JAMES B. RUSSELL. During his long and active career in Champaign James B. Russell made his impress on the financial life of the city and was a business man implicitly trusted, and the success he won in material



S. D. Taylor



Mrs Mary L Taylor

affairs was only a part of the splendid record of his entire life as a man and citizen.

Mr. Russell was born in the city of Philadelphia in October, 1837. At the close of a long and active career he passed away at his home in Champaign, November 4, 1914, aged seventy-seven. His parents were Jonathan and Sarah (Burt) Russell, the former a native of Philadelphia and the latter of New Jersey.

The late Mr. Russell was educated in the grammar schools of Philadelphia until he was sixteen years of age and then for a time attended an academy in New Jersey. When about twenty-one years of age he married and soon afterward he and his young wife came West to Champaign County. He bought land at Tolono and was getting well started and had considerable business interests when the war broke out.

Early in the war Mr. Russell went back to visit friends and relatives in New Jersey. While there he witnessed many of his boyhood friends joining the army, and he. too, caught the infection and, placing patriotism above all business and personal considerations, he enlisted in Company D of the Twenty-fifth New Jersey Infantry. Mrs. Russell in the meantime had remained in Champaign County. With the assistance of her neighbors Mrs. Russell sold off much of the farm stock and implements and returned to Philadelphia and New Jersey, remaining until the close of the war.

Mr. Russell served in the army ten months, and came out with the rank of sergeant. He and his wife returned to Champaign, and for a time he acted as station agent for the Illinois Central Railway Company, and then entered the prominent old banking house which later became known as Burnham, Trevett & Mattis. Mr. Russell was cashier for that bank a period of thirty years. Failing health compelled him to resign, and he lived retired for some time before his death.

He was a loyal and active Republican, and was called upon to serve in the office of city treasurer. He was also keenly interested in the welfare of his old comrades of the war and at one time served as commander of the Grand Army post. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Russell married Harriett Potter Holmes, a native of New Jersey, and daughter of John and Mary (Clark) Holmes. Both her parents died in Bridgeton, New Jersey. Her father was a prominent miller and owned a large mill in the town where Mrs. Russell spent her girlhood. Mr. and Mrs. Russell became the parents of three children: Mary, who died March 6, 1867; Jessie, who became the wife of Bert Spalding of Champaign, and she died September 27, 1904, leaving one son, Russell; and Winfred, born September 18, 1873, and died May 10, 1891.

Roger Frank Little. An accomplished member of the Champaign bar, Roger Frank Little is a native of Champaign County, acquired his legal education in the University of Illinois, and has been in active and successful practice for the past eight years.

He was born in Crittenden Township October 19, 1885, and is a son of Egbert P. and Matilda (Merry) Little. His father has lived in Champaign County since 1868 and for many years was a farmer, but is now living retired in the city of Champaign. Other details of the family history will be found on other pages.

Roger F. Little grew up in the country and was educated in the Tolono High School, where he graduated in 1902, after which he had one year in the preparatory school of the University of Illinois. Mr. Little spent six years in the literary and law department of the state university,

graduating A. B. in 1907 and LL. B. in 1909. After his admission to the bar he had two years of apprentice experience in the state's attorney's office, and in September, 1911, began practice with Judge Boggs. Their partnership was continued until Judge Boggs was elevated to the bench in the summer of 1914. Since then Mr. Little has practiced with Chancy L. Finfrock.

On March 14, 1911, Mr. Little married Miss Julia Bush, a native of Champaign County and a daughter of Jared D. and Ellen (Royal) Bush. Her parents now live in the State of Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Little have two children: Robert Bush, born May 6, 1915; and Richard Roy, born December 16, 1916.

Besides the attention demanded by his growing law practice, Mr. Little has found time to serve the public interests and spent two years on the city council. He is a Republican, a Mason and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

James Rowland. More and more as time goes on American people appreciate the sacrifices and heroism of that host of men who preserved the Union in the dark days of the '60s. It was a wonderful heritage left by them "Much more by far than all the crowns that Europe's monarchs ever wore, the heritage heroes left—a nation free from shore to shore." Comparatively few of the old veterans of that struggle still survive, and wherever they are found they enjoy increasing respect in proportion to their decreasing numbers.

One of them is Mr. James Rowland, whose country home is in section 6 of Harwood Township. Mr. Rowland was born in Washington County, Ohio, the youngest in a family of seven children born to William and Sarah (Chapman) Rowland. His parents' ancestors came from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and the Rowland family first had its home in the State of Maine and from there came to Ohio.

James Rowland was only three weeks of age when his mother died and has was reared in the home of a Mr. Fowler. He acquired an education in the Ohio public schools and at the age of nineteen enlisted to serve his country. The date of his enlistment was May, 1864, and he joined Company H of the One Hundred and Sixty-first Ohio Infantry. He enlisted at Hiramsburg in Noble County, Ohio, and went into the Army of the Potomac. He took part in the Lynchburg raid, where the Union troops sustained severe losses, and later was in the hard fighting in the Shenandoah Valley, where the gallant Sheridan came to the rescue of the hard-pressed Union forces and gained a victory that will always be celebrated in American history. Mr. Rowland remained with the army until the close of the struggle and was mustered out at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio.

Then, at the age of twenty, he came to Illinois with the Fowler family, and his first day in this state will always remain permanent in his memory, since it was the day the news of Lincoln's assassination was flashed over the nation and plunged its entire people into gloom.

At the age of twenty-one, in 1866, Mr. Rowland married Miss Elizabeth Davis, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Jacob Davis. After their marriage they settled on a farm in McLean County, Illinois, living there eighteen years, and then came to Champaign County, where they had their home for over thirty years. In Champaign County Mr. Rowland paid $45 an acre for a farm of 184 acres in Harwood Township. He established a good home here and by wise management and much hard work has created those circumstances which he now enjoys and which have enabled him to liberally support and provide for his family.

Five children were born to their marriage, four sons and one daughter. The oldest, Orloff, died at the age of six years. The second, Laura B., is Mrs. E. A. Wood of Gifford, and they have two children, Atha and Edith, the former the wife of Leland Fowler. The third child, Elmer A., is a concrete and monument worker at Champaign, and his children are Morris, Carl, Lola, Donald and Blanche. T. A. Rowland, the next son, is in the barber business at Sidney, Illinois. H. N. Rowland, the youngest child, is in the grocery business at Green Bay, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Rowland took much pains to educate their children properly. Elmer and H. N. both attended the seminary at Onarga, Illinois, and H. N. graduated from the Wesleyan University at Bloomington. The son Bert was a student in the high school at Farmer City, while Laura completed her studies in Paxton College.

Mr. James Rowland has for many years been identified with the Grand Army of the Republic and has attended many state and national reunions of that great patriotic organization and has souvenirs of those occasions in many of the badges which he wore. He has also an interesting record of public service besides the part he rendered as a soldier in the war. He served as school trustee, road commissioner, was assessor five years, and at one time was elected to the office of justice of the peace, but declined to fill it on account of other duties. He is a member of the Masonic order. In politics he is a Republican and has given his stanch allegiance to the party which kept the Union intact in the Civil War and has always furnished the country wise and strong government. After experiences of over half a century Mr. Rowland is today well preserved and active, and it is the ardent wish of his many friends in Champaign County that his years may be greatly extended.

Lindsey Corbly. The activities of Lindsey Corbly go far back into the pioneer history of Champaign County. He was here over sixty years ago and he endured the ordeals of life on the frontier. The years have visited his efforts with abundant prosperity. Material possessions have been only part of the riches of his experience. He has lived a life of honor, peace and industry, and now in his declining years, in his home at Paxton, he enjoys the esteem of both old and young.

Mr. Corbly was born at Garrard's Fort in Greene County, Pennsylvania, the third son of William and Rebecca (Stephens) Corbly, also natives of Pennsylvania. The records of the Corbly family go far back into pioneer days of the Pennsylvania colony. His grandfather, Rev. John Corbly, was a pioneer Baptist minister along the frontier line of western Pennsylvania. He was a native of England, but had come to America before the Revolution and first settled in western Virginia and afterwards in Greene County, Pennsylvania. He was instrumental in building the first church at Garrard's Fort. This was a log building and other edifices followed it, while in 1909 the congregation erected their fourth church home, a brick edifice dedicated that year and named the John Corbly Memorial Church. The name was fittingly bestowed to honor one of the most devoted churchmen of the West. The proposition had been long discussed as to some appropriate memorial to this good and worthy man, and it was finally decided to erect a church which would stand for years and recall his good deeds and unselfish labors.

Rev. John Corbly was three times married. His first wife was a cousin of President Tyler. The fate of his second wife will be mentioned presently. His third wife was a daughter of Colonel Andrew Lynn, who served with that rank in the Revolutionary War. It was his daughter Nancy Ann who married Rev. John Corbly, and she was the grandmother of Mr. Lindsey Corbly of Champaign County.

Mr. Corbly in his home at Paxton has a book, entitled "Chronicles of Border Warfare," published at Clarksburg, Virginia, in 1831. The pages of that work contain the record of a tragic incident in which Rev. John Corbly figured. It occurred on Muddy Creek, Pennsylvania, May 10, 1781. He and his wife and five children were on the way to church, the wife and children preceding, when a band of savages sprang up from the roadside and fell upon Mrs. Corbly and the children. The infant in the mother's arms was the first victim. The mother was then struck several severe blows, and not falling, was shot through the body by a savage who had chased her husband. A little son six years old and two girls, two and four years of age, were also victims of the savage onslaught. The oldest daughter concealed herself in a fallen log and witnessed all that transpired. She came out before the Indians had retired, and was caught and slain. The only survivors of the massacre were the father and the two younger daughters, who by careful nursing were restored. Both of them grew up, though one died later as a result of the horrible treatment she had received. The other lived, married and reared a large family.

From this and other facts it is clear that the Corblys took a prominent part in the early days of western Pennsylvania. During the Centennial year a paper was published devoted to the prominent pioneer families of Pennsylvania and the Corblys were mentioned in the record.

Mr. Lindsey Corbly's parents spent their lives in Pennsylvania and his father died in 1875 and his mother in 1855. Mr. Corbly acquired his education chiefly in the school of experience, and since the age of sixteen has made his own way in the world. For a time he worked for an uncle who had extensive interests as a live stock man in Ohio. While there he was paid wages of $7 a month. He soon became known as the "boss cattle driver" for his uncle. In those days live stock was never sent by railroad, but always driven overland. One of Mr. Corbly's early experiences was taking a large herd of stock from Missouri to Philadelphia. Much of the country in the Middle West was then wild and infested with lawless people, and he not only experienced many difficulties in getting his stock safely over the natural difficulties of the road but also had to watch closely against highwaymen who sought his money and life.

Mr. Corbly came to Illinois in 1853, locating in Champaign County, but two years later going to Vermilion County as a farmer. In 1863 he located in Kerr Township of Champaign County and gradually built up a large enterprise as a farmer and stockman. At one time he owned over 1,700 acres of land and his business as a land holder and stockman made his name familiar all over central Illinois.

Mr. Corbly has always manifested a public spirited interest in local affairs. In Kerr Township he served twenty years as township trustee, and was one of the members of the first election board at Gibson City and also a member of the first grand jury of Ford County. He was on the first board of commissioners who divided Ford County into townships and was a member of the board of supervisors when the University of Illinois located at Champaign. Politically he began voting as a Whig and became an original Republican at the formation of that party over sixty years ago. He has always been stanchly aligned with this party and has been convinced that the best and most enduring principles of real democracy are expressed through the Republican party. Mr. Corbly has had many notable friendships with leading statesmen and many prominent Republicans, including Joe Cannon, have visited his home. He has always been a great admirer of Lincoln and has had personal acquaintance with Generals Sherman, Sheridan and Halleck. The spicy sayings of Lincoln have been treasured by him and have no doubt had their influence upon his life. One of these

maxims which he has often quoted is "never trade horses while crossing the river."

On moving to Kerr Township Mr. Corbly selected land which would be especially available for his stock interests. There he reared his family, built fine farm buildings, planted shade trees, and many improvements in that section stand as a monument to his labors and early enterprise.

Since December, 1875, Mr. Corbly has been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He entered church work through the influence of J. D. Bodkin, now secretary of the State of Kansas, and Rev. James Goodspeed.

On February 24, 1856, Mr. Corbly married for his first wife Sarah Wood. She was born and reared in Vermilion County, Illinois, a daughter of Henry and Nancy Wood. Six children were born to this union, three of whom died in infancy. Those living are Henry L., William Sherman and James L. Henry L. Corbly married Julia B. Webber. He is now a retired farmer living at Paxton and his children are Mrs. Fay Flagg, Lindsey R. and Gladys. Lindsey Ross Corbly lives in Haywood Township and married Fay Goodwin of Ford County. Gladys Corbly is a sophomore in the Woman's College of Jacksonville, Illinois.

William Sherman Corbly married Mary A. Yule of Saybrook, McLean County, Illinois, and they reside at Paxton. Their children are: George Y. and Lynn S. George Y. is a farmer in Button Township of Ford County and by his marriage to Jessie Jenkinson has a daughter, Virginia. Lynn S. Corbly is a graduate of the University of Illinois, a successful practicing attorney in Champaign County, and married Marguerite Clark of Paxton.

James L. Corbly married Ellen Sheehan of Ludlow. Their children are Frank, Ralph, "Jimmie Lee," Owen, Ray, Elmer, Marguerite and Pauline (twins), and Irene. Of these Frank married Belle Jackson and they reside on a farm adjoining his father. Owen Corbly married Vesta Wampler and is also a farmer living near his father.

The mother of these children and first wife of Mr. Corbly entered into rest January 17, 1866, after ten years of married life. She was a good woman, a kind neighbor and a loving wife and mother. For his second wife Mr. Corbly married Mary A. Scholl. She was born near Saegerstown, Pennsylvania, daughter of Dr. Peter Scholl and Elizabeth (Woodring) Scholl of Crawford County, Pennsylvania. By Mr. Corbly's second marriage the children are Fred M., Laura F. and Evelyn. Evelyn is the wife of P. A. Kemp of Los Angeles, California, who is a state officer of the Court of Honor. They have one son, Lynn, twelve years old. The mother of these children passed away March 10, 1907. On June 24, 1909, Mr. Corbly married Mrs. Emily Wait. She was born and reared in Vermilion County, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Copeland, natives of Ohio.

The daughter Laura F. married Oscar H. Wylie, a prominent Ford County lawyer, at Paxton, Illinois, who has filled numerous important public offices and for eight years was prosecuting attorney of Ford County, proving to be a fearless, honest public official. For four years he was Circuit Court clerk and recorder, at the time being one of the youngest officials in the state. Mr. and Mrs. Wylie have the following children: Mac, Howard, Evelyn, Emily and Francis. Mac, Howard and Evelyn are all graduates of the Paxton High School, and Mac is a student in the law department of the Northwestern University and also spent three years in DePauw University, in which latter institution Howard is a student, and in the fall of 1917 Miss Evelyn proposes to enter. The two younger daughters attend the grade schools.

Ever since Mr. Corbly's eightieth birthday it has been made an occasion of great family interest, one feature being the presentation of an

immense bouquet of roses and chrysanthemums, his favorite flower, a blossom for every year, and another being the reading of a birthday poem composed by Mrs. Wylie. On the occasion of his eighty-fourth birthday, this tribute was so beautifully expressed and tenderly conceived that it deserves the prominence of an insertion in this history. In the midst of the loving family circle and with other friends present, Mr. Corbly listened to the following:

"Dear old father, with your beaming face,
Your kindly heart and whole-souled grace,
Your sterling worth as pioneer
Facing hardships without fear,
Always honest and square with the world,
Your banner for good ever unfurled,
That's a record worth while, I say,
For this, your eighty-fourth birthday.

"Also, dear father, sweet is to me
The memory of thy charity;
Thy childlike faith in God and man,
Surprised at evil where thou didst find;
Hating deceit with all thy heart
Because for you was the honest part,
That's a record worth while, I say,
For this, your eighty-fourth birthday.

"Again, dear father, I'll say to thee,
That when you face eternity,
I would thy mantle of Christian love
Of charity like that above,
Should descend on those you love the best,
That our lives with good deeds may be blest,
And that our children may also say
Our records were good on each birthday."

The record of Mr. Corbly has been such that no history of Champaign County would be complete without its incorporation. He has stood for the sound and worthy things of life in every relationship. On every side may be found witnesses to his unimpeachable integrity and financial responsibility. Some years ago after a fire in Paxton a few scattered leaves from the reports of the Dun and Bradstreet Mercantile Credit Agency were picked up. These gave commercial ratings of different citizens with credit attached of so many thousands of dollars to each one, and when the name of Mr. Corbly was mentioned the rating was fixed in the following significant language: "Good for anything he asks for." That his word has always been as good as his bond is not only expressive of his business integrity but to all those other qualities which are sum and substance of human character.

Mr. and Mrs. Corbly now occupy a pleasant and comfortable home on West State Street in Paxton. There they enjoy the confidence and esteem of a host of friends, and in the setting sun of his life Mr. Corbly has his good wife by his side, also has the solace of his children and the memory of a just and worthy career. It is an unusual retrospect which he enjoys. He has seen a great and magnificent country develop before his eyes and

with a most creditable share in its making on his own part. He has prospered, and at the same time has solved the intricate problems of experience, has reared and educated his children and has given them his own example as a guide to true and loyal citizenship.

ALEXANDER MAHAFFIE. An honored survivor of the great Civil War and a substantial retired farmer of Harwood Township is found in Alexander Mahaffie, who was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, in 1835. For many years Mr. Mahaffie has been a respected and esteemed resident of Champaign County and he has been identified with many of the things which have been beneficial to this section.

The parents of Alexander Mahaffie were William and Elizabeth Mahaffie, who moved from Ohio to Indiana when he was eighteen months old. There he grew to manhood and obtained a district school education. When the Civil War came on he demonstrated the sincerity of his patriotism by enlisting, at Loganstown, Indiana, and was mustered in at Laporte as a member of Company F, One Hundred Fifty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which regiment soon marched southward and took station at Nashville, Tennessee. During the time the regiment remained at Nashville Mr. Mahaffie, with many other soldiers, contracted measles, and as it prevailed in a malignant form in his case he was sent to the hospital at Nashville for treatment, but when able to return home was found incapacitated for further military service. When he enlisted he was a robust young man weighing 145 pounds, but when returned to his people he was almost a shadow of his former self and weighed but eighty pounds.

Before entering the army Mr. Mahaffie had visited Champaign County, Illinois, and also Ford County, and in the latter had invested in land, purchasing eighty acres, at $8.50 an acre. After coming back from the army he settled with his family on this place, having married in 1861, but later moved to Middletown in Logan County, and there his first wife died in 1866, and he returned to Indiana. After his second marriage he came back to Illinois and for many years has been a resident of Harwood Township, Champaign County.

In 1861 Mr. Mahaffie was married to Catherine Ann Foster, who died in 1866. They had two sons, Hiram Ellsworth and William Edgar. The former was named for the gallant young officer who was one of the early victims of the bitter feeling engendered by the Civil War and whose tragic death aroused the whole country and made of him a hero. Hiram Ellsworth grew to sturdy manhood, brave and resourceful like the gallant young Colonel Ellsworth, but met an accidental death on the railroad on which he was employed. William Edgar died at the age of twenty-two years. Mr. Mahaffie was married in 1874 to Elizabeth A. Scott, who died in 1905. They had one daughter, Sadie, who was born in Ford County, Illinois. She was educated in the public schools of Hoopeston and was graduated from Greer College in 1896. She returned home to take upon herself the direction of the household, as her mother was in failing health, and ever since has been a devoted daughter to her father as she was to her mother until the former's death. She married Robert M. Hodam, who was born in Ford County, Illinois, and is a son of James and Sarah (Harshbarger) Hodam, natives of Virginia, who came early to Illinois. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hodam: Lowell, Florence, Harold, Gladys, Claud and Helen, all of whom are being afforded the best of educational advantages. The family occupies a beautiful home, the comfortable residence being surrounded by fine old trees that were set out many years ago by Mr. Burbank.

Robert M. Hodam was educated in the public schools and educational institutions at Normal and Valparaiso. He is a man of large business interests, being manager of the Ludlow Elevator Company for seven years and

an experienced man in the grain trade. He is prominent also in public matters, has served as treasurer of Harwood Township and is also a member of the school board. Mr. and Mrs. Hodam are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and for the last three years Mr. Hodam has served as superintendent of the Sunday school. He is identified fraternally with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias. Mrs. Hodam is an enthusiastic worker in the Woman's Temperance Union ranks, an earnest and helpful member. She rejoices that a brighter day seems approaching because of the untiring labor of this great body of unselfish women, who have succeeded in encircling the world with the white ribbon of temperance. Mr. Mahaffie and his first wife were members of the Presbyterian Church, and he and his second wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He worships with the Methodists at present.

HON. THOMAS J. ROTH. Since 1906 the legal profession of Champaign County has been capably and honorably represented at Urbana by Hon. Thomas J. Roth, former judge of the County Court and a legist of the county for forty-three years. For the greater part of this period Judge Roth was located at Rantoul, but came to Urbana to assume the duties of his judicial office, and upon the expiration of his term remained at the county seat in the enjoyment of a constantly increasing practice.

Hon. Thomas J. Roth was born at Circleville, Pickaway County, Ohio, December 3, 1846. and is a son of Thomas B. and Esther (Ghrist) Roth. His paternal grandfather was a native of Holland who immigrated to the United States as a young man and located with his wife in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Thomas B. Roth, however, was born in Shamokin, Pennsylvania. Mr. Roth's mother's maternal grandfather, Charles R. Morris, was born in Maryland and his wife in New Jersey, and Mr. Roth's maternal grandparents, Jonathan and Mary (Morris) Ghrist, were both natives of Maryland, from which it will be seen that on the maternal side Mr. Roth's ancestry is distinctively American for several generations. As a young man Thomas B. Roth removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, where he lived for a number of years, but in 1856 removed to a farm near Oakland, Coles County, Illinois, making the trip in covered wagons which carried the household goods as well as members of the family, while Mr. and Mrs. Roth, with their youngest daughter, followed with a horse and buggy. From there the family moved to the Joseph Bradbury farm in Edgar County, Illinois, remaining there about twelve years.

Thomas J. Roth made his home with his parents until he was twenty-two years of age, and during this time did much to assist his father in the cultivation of the home farm. In the meantime he was receiving his education in the public schools of Edgar County, where he attended the Paris High School, and finally adopted the profession of teaching, a vocation which he followed for four years. While employed as an instructor he had become interested in the law and had spent some of his spare time in desultory reading in legal literature, but it was not until 1872 that he took up the matter seriously, in that year entering the office of Hon. J. A. Eads of Paris, Illinois, where he studied under this able preceptor for two years. He was admitted to the bar at Mount Vernon, Illinois, in June, 1874, and on July 13th of the same year located for practice at Rantoul, Champaign County. Probably Judge Roth had the usual difficulty experienced by the young lawyer in getting a foothold upon the ladder of success, but once his start was made his advance was rapid, and during the thirty-two years of his residence at Rantoul he arose to a position where he was recognized as one of the ablest and most eminent members of his profession in the county. In 1906 he was selected for



HARRY HERRICK

judicial honors when elected judge of the County Court of Champaign County, which necessitated his changing his residence to Urbana. At the expiration of four years of fine and dignified service on the bench he resumed his private practice, but remained at Urbana, where he has since represented some of the largest and most important interests of the county seat.

On June 24, 1875, Judge Roth was united in marriage with Miss Anna M. Eubank, who was born in Covington, Kentucky, April 14, 1848, and died June 6, 1913, and was laid to rest in Maplewood Cemetery, Rantoul, Illinois. Two sons were born to this union, namely: Sidney Roscoe, who died March 21, 1917; and Harold Denio, a successful lawyer of Champaign County, who is now serving as assistant state's attorney under Louis A. Busch. Mrs. Roth was very popular in the social and religious life of Rantoul and for twelve years served in the capacity of member of the school board there, succeeding her husband in that position. She was equally popular at Urbana, although not so actively engaged in affairs. Judge Roth is a Democrat. He has numerous business connections, one of which is with the Rantoul Water, Light and Power Company, of which he is president. Fraternally he is identified with the Rantoul Lodge of Modern Woodmen of America, and he and Mrs. Roth were members of the First Congregational Church of Rantoul.

HARRY HERRICK. The invention of the automobile not only brought a new element into business and social life, but in its subsequent development and improvement opened up other industries that have now become as essential to progress as the vehicle itself. The business of dealing in automobile supplies engages the attention of many wide awake business men all over the country. Champaign, with its wealth, culture, business enterprise and close contiguity to a rich agricultural section has, perhaps, a larger purchasing class interested in automobiles than many cities of equal size, and all these car owners are, to some extent, dependent on the local dealers in supplies. One of these business men is Harry Herrick, who is doing a large trade in this line and is particularly well qualified because of his practical knowledge of the construction and operation of all the leading types of cars.

Harry Herrick was born in the city of Chicago, September 9, 1877, and is a son of Dwight C. and Belle (Warner) Herrick, the former of whom was born at Baldwinsville, New York, and the latter a native of Chicago, Illinois. The Warner family located in Chicago early and the maternal grandmother of Harry Herrick was a passenger on the first passenger train on what is now the Chicago & Northwestern Railway that went out of Chicago. There were five children born to Dwight C. Herrick and wife in the old home in Oak Park, Chicago, namely: Harry; a son who died in infancy; Florence, who is the wife of H. K. Hoblitt, who is cashier of the State National Bank at Bloomington; and Burton S. and Warner, both of whom are residents of Bloomington. Until 1902 the father was in a clothing business in Chicago and then moved to Bloomington and continued in the same line there.

Harry Herrick attended the public schools in Oak Park and was graduated from the high school in 1897. He had determined on a business career and began by becoming a stock boy in a house furnishing company in Chicago, his fidelity and industry being rewarded by promotion, and for two years he was a traveling salesman for this concern. For some time after that he was connected with his father's business and then once more went on the road, this time for a clothing house and with a wide territory, his business travels taking him over Utah, Idaho and Wyoming.

Mr. Herrick continued in that line until 1909, in which year he came to Champaign and here embarked in the automobile business. Mr. Herrick was one of the pioneers in several business ventures in connection with rapid transportation, starting the first completely equipped garage at Champaign and also the first taxicab line. In December, 1909, he drove the first auto truck that ever came into central Illinois, the route being from Pontiac, Michigan, to Champaign. At present he is devoting his entire attention to the automobile supply business, having branch houses both at the Chanute Aviation Field, Rantoul, Illinois, and at Bloomington, Illinois. He is widely known in automobile circles and is president of the Champaign Automobile Club.

On April 4, 1903, Mr. Herrick was united in marriage with Miss Katheryn Walls, who is a member of an old Champaign family. She is a daughter of the late W. W. Walls, for many years a substantial business man here. Mr. and Mrs. Herrick have four children: Harriet, Robert W., Arthur James and Richard. Politically Mr. Herrick is a Republican, but he takes a more active part in business affairs than in politics, never failing, however, to give his support and lend his influence to every matter of good government. He is greatly interested in the subject of good roads. Fraternally he is an Elk, and he and wife belong to the Presbyterian Church.

CHANCY L. FINFROCK is one of the younger members of the Champaign bar and for the past three years has been associated in practice with Roger F. Little.

Mr. Finfrock was born in Urbana, May 19, 1892, a son of John H. and Jordena (Johnson) Finfrock. His father was born in Pennsylvania and his mother in Ohio. John H. Finfrock came to Champaign County in 1875. Locating at Urbana, he identified himself with his regular business as a flour miller and was one of the substantial citizens of that district until his death in July, 1896. The mother is still living in Urbana. Chancy L. is the only survivor of his parents' four children, the other three having died in infancy.

He was graduated from the Urbana High School in 1910 and then entered the University of Illinois, where he completed the law course and received his LL. B. degree in 1914. In September, 1914, Mr. Finfrock became associated with Mr. Little, and they have one of the well appointed law offices of Urbana, located at 109½ Main Street.

Mr. Finfrock is a Republican and a member of the Masonic order. He married, June 29, 1916, Miss Grace Dellenbach of Champaign.

GEORGE SCHOON, whose fine farm establishment is in section 32 of Kerr Township, has been a resident of Champaign County almost continuously since he was four years of age. He is a native of Germany, and inherits many of the substantial qualities which have made that people famous under every clime of the world.

Mr. Schoon's parents were Christian and Mary Schoon, and he was one of their two children, John and George. The parents, seeking better opportunities for themselves and for their children, immigrated to America when George was four years of age. Coming to Champaign County, they located near Penfield, and both the boys attended school here and grew up to industrious manhood.

Mr. George Schoon married Miss Mattie Booher. She was born at Blue Grass in Vermilion County, Illinois, a daughter of Benjamin and Frances (Harper) Booher. Her parents were both born at Darlington, Indiana, and settled near Sugar Grove in Champaign County on March 5, 1865. There

were thirteen children in the Booher family, Mrs. Schoon being about sixth or seventh in order of birth. With her brothers and sisters she secured her education in the Armstrong school.

Mr. and Mrs. Schoon were married Christmas Day, December 25, 1902. Mr. Booher was a kind and indulgent father, and it was one of his expressed wishes that all his daughters should marry from his home. Thus the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Schoon was made a matter of family celebration, and their wedding was witnessed by many relatives and friends, and altogether it was a scene of pleasure and good wishes which is still a pleasant memory to all participants.

For the first year after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Schoon worked on his father's farm until the father retired to Gifford. The young couple then continued on the Schoon homestead for a time, but for the past thirteen years Mr. Schoon has been the farm manager for Mr. A. A. Arms near Penfield. He has under his supervision 300 acres of land, and Mr. Schoon is widely recognized as one of the most productive farmers of Champaign County. He has found Mr. Arms a prince of a landlord, kind and considerate of the welfare of Mr. and Mrs. Schoon, and their associations have been both profitable and pleasant, each party endeavoring to do the best for the other and working for mutual interests and sharing the responsibilities of the farm.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schoon, two sons and two daughters, named Lena Alberta, Mary Frances, George Harold and Virgil Oakley. These are four bright, energetic children, all of them students in the Penfield school. Mr. and Mrs. Schoon have also given their daughters culture in music, especially the piano, and the girls have eagerly accepted this opportunity and are progressive and hard working students and show signal ability in their musical culture.

Besides general farming Mr. Schoon has been very successful as a stock raiser, particularly in the raising of horses, which seem to thrive under his management. His barns have sheltered a number of Percheron horses. He and his wife are people who believe in enjoying life as they go along, and besides their teams of horses they own a fine Studebaker car. Mr. Schoon believes in operating an automobile on the sane and safe plan. From time to time he and his family have enjoyed some very pleasant trips. Thus they have brought the joys of life into their country home, and the home is one which the children will hardly desire to leave for the attractions of the city.

On February 6, 1916, Mrs. Schoon's mother died very suddenly, and her death was a great shock to the family. Mr. and Mrs. Schoon are active members of the United Brethren Church at Penfield and their children are being reared in the same faith and are attentive members of the Sunday school. Fraternally Mr. Schoon is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World and the Knights of Pythias, and Mrs. Schoon is a member of the Royal Neighbors. These social orders have proved valuable factors in their lives and means of broadening life's activities. Mr. and Mrs. Schoon are among the most representative families of Champaign County, and their life's work has brought them many rich rewards. Mr. Schoon is a true American citizen, loyal to the land of his adoption, and has been fortunate in having his lot cast with Champaign County and in the broad opportunities that have come to him through a capable and efficient wife. Mr. and Mrs. Schoon may be found at their pleasant home northwest of Penfield, where they enjoy the confidence and esteem of their neighbors and have a most pleasing retrospect upon days well spent and duties well performed. In politics Mr. Schoon gives his support to the Republican party, but votes for principles rather than according to the strict dictates of partisanship.

CHRISTIAN SCHOON was for many years enrolled among the active and vigorous farmers of Champaign County, but from the fruits of his industry long continued he is now enabled to enjoy a life of comfortable retirement in his home in the Village of Gifford.

Mr. Schoon, like many other of the most capable men who have tilled and cultivated the soil of Champaign County, is of German origin. He was born at the Town of Reepshold in the Province of Hanover, a son of George and Sophia (Burns) Schoon. He was the oldest of three children, the other two being John and Mattie. Christian Schoon grew up and received his education in Germany and he served three years in the German army in the Seventy-eighth Regiment of Infantry, being a corporal. He was in the army while Emperor William, the first, was on the Prussian throne and while Prince Bismarck was counselor to the German Empire. This Emperor William was grandfather of the present Kaiser. Mr. Schoon obtained an honorable discharge from the army, and though he rendered faithful and loyal service to the land of his birth, since coming to America he has been equally loyal to the flag of his adopted land.

In 1875 Mr. Schoon married in Germany Miss Mary Monck. She was a daughter of George and Katrina (Ennen) Monck. Seven years after their marriage they determined to better their fortune by coming to America. They took passage on the ship Oder, which on a later voyage was lost at sea. After landing at New York they came direct to Champaign County and for twenty-one years they farmed for that prince of landlords, Azro Arms, on one of Mr. Arms' fine places near Penfield. Mr. Schoon is one of the men who made a success as a farm tenant, and was able eventually to retire with an ample competence for his needs. During all those twenty-one years Mr. Arms never asked him for a contract, feeling assured that he was dealing with an honest man. They depended upon each other's word and there was never a time when a misunderstanding arose which could not be quietly settled. Their relationship indicates how two congenial and honest men may get along in business affairs with mutual satisfaction and esteem.

Mr. and Mrs. Schoon are the parents of two children, George and John. Both were well educated in Champaign County, and besides what they learned in books they acquired habits of industry and principles of moral integrity from their parents. George is a successful farmer living on the A. A. Arms place near Penfield, and he married Miss Mattie Booher. They have four children, named Alberta, Mary, George and Virgil. John Schoon, who is a mechanic living at Gifford, married Elizabeth Johnson, and they have two children, Christian and Flossie.

When Mr. Christian Schoon came to America he possessed very little money. He was unable to speak a word of the English language, and it was fortunate indeed that his industry and good common sense early attracted the attention of Mr. Arms and brought about that long and continuous employment which has been mentioned. Mr. Schoon has always enjoyed the respect and confidence of his neighbors and friends, and is now serving his fifth consecutive term as a member of the school board and is clerk of the board. He believes in securing the best instruction for children, and has been instrumental in bringing the Gifford High School to its present high state of efficiency. His family are all active members and supporters of the German Lutheran Church at Gifford. Wherever the public has required his services Mr. Schoon has performed them with conscientious ability. At one time he served on the jury during Judge Cunningham's administration, and has always been a great admirer of that noble man.

On coming to America Mr. Schoon made a close study of political problems in this country, and determined to give his support to the Republican party and has always followed the principles he thus early acquired, though

he supported Mr. Roosevelt during the Progressive movement. Mr. Schoon gives much credit to his capable wife as a sharer in their mutual joys and sorrows and the accomplishments which now enable them to live without care and anxiety in their home at Gifford.

JOSEPH GORDON. Champaign County lost one of its most industrious and capable citizens in the death of Joseph Gordon at his fine country home in section 18 of Compromise Township on January 10, 1915. His home had been in Champaign County over forty years and his residence was a continuous record of well directed energy, wholesome influence in the community, of prosperity as a business man and of complete devotion to his family and home.

He was born in County Wexford, Ireland, a son of John and Mary (Whalen) Gordon. When he was twelve years of age the family came to America. There were five sons and three daughters, Joseph being the oldest. An education partly in the schools of Ireland and partly in the United States equipped Joseph Gordon for the serious battles of life.

On February 3, 1874, he married Miss Ellen McQuaid. Mrs. Gordon, who is still living at the old homestead, surrounded by her sturdy sons and capable daughters, was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, daughter of Thomas and Catherine (Milan) McQuaid. Her parents were also natives of Ireland. She was ten months old when they came to Champaign County, the McQuaids being among the pioneers of Rantoul, where Mrs. Gordon was educated in the public schools. She had one brother, Thomas.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Gordon started out to make a home for themselves and provisions for their family. Five miles from Rantoul Mr. Gordon bought eighty acres of land at $40 an acre. He possessed all the qualifications which the successful farmer requires. He and his wife had youth, energy, industry, and they were willing to sacrifice many conveniences in order to provide for the future. After five years on their first farm they moved to Compromise Township, and subsequently bought 160 acres three miles southeast of Gifford, which in course of time was developed into their permanent home. When they went there the land had very few improvements. There was a small three-room house but no fruit or shade trees. Mr. Gordon planted with his own hands many fruit trees and shade trees, and these now give the home one of its most attractive aspects.

Fourteen children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon. Their names in order of birth are: Charles N., Thomas F., Joseph E., Catherine G., Mary E., Anna E., Agnes T., William B., Margaret A., John R., Loretta F. and three others, Emily, James and John, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon early realized their responsibilities as parents and took strict pains to see that their children would have the best of educational advantages. Besides keeping them in the local schools, they gave them the advantages of the high schools at Gifford and Penfield. Charles completed his education in the Brothers School at Peru, Illinois, Anna was a student in St. Joseph's Academy at Bloomington, and Mary attended the Sisters School at Champaign. Charles N. Gordon, who lives at Penfield, is a merchant, proprietor of a large general store, married Ellen T. Collins, and for his second wife Ellen Dwyer. Their children are Frances and Eugene. Thomas F. Gordon, a farmer in Compromise Township, married Bessie O'Connor. Joseph E. Gordon married Catherine Nolan, and their children are Helen, Joseph, Paul, Mary, Emily, Rita and Charles. Catherine G. Gordon is the wife of Edward Nolan, and they live in Compromise Township. Their children are Mary A., Ruth and Josephine. Mary E. Gordon married John Nolan, a farmer. The other children are still at home. William B. is active manager of the farm, with the assistance of his brother John. Their well

tilled fields indicate the care bestowed upon them through many years and also the industry of these two brothers.

Mr. Gordon during his long residence in Champaign County became known not only as a very capable farmer but as a kind neighbor, a loving husband and a dutiful father. He was devoted to the welfare of the Catholic Church at Penfield and he and John Fleming carried the first petition to solicit funds for the building of the present church. In politics Mr. Gordon was an active Democrat. His sons have filled different positions of public trust, William B. having been trustee of the school board of Compromise Township, while Joseph E. has been supervisor and Thomas is now filling the office of township treasurer. Thus in many ways the name of the Gordon family has been identified with the substantial interests of Champaign County.

That Mr. Joseph Gordon was a farmer and business man of unusual ability and judgment is evidenced in the fact that at the time of his death his estate comprised 1,120 acres of the fertile lands of Champaign County.

W. M. Ealey, who has followed a varied and active career as a teacher, minister of the Gospel and as an earnest, hard-working citizen in whatever capacity life has called him, has for many years been a resident of Champaign County.

He was born near Brazil in Clay County, Indiana, May 18, 1853, a son of William and Wealthy (Hicks) Ealey, his father a native of Kentucky and his mother of Indiana. His mother was born August 30, 1834, and is still living at Urbana at the age of eighty-three. William Ealey went into the Union army from Indiana as a member of Company F of the One Hundred and Forty-ninth Indiana Infantry. After nine months he was discharged from duty on account of illness. He was a farmer by occupation, and in April, 1891, removed to Champaign County, Illinois, where his death occurred in August, 1895. Of his five children W. M. Ealey is the oldest. Clara J. is the wife of John Gibbens of Clay County, Indiana; Sarah A. is the wife of John Barnett of Saskatchewan, Canada; George, a resident of Clay County, Indiana; and Emma, wife of Albert Muncie of Brazil, Indiana.

W. M. Ealey grew up in Indiana, attended country schools and at the age of sixteen qualified as a teacher. He was actively engaged in the work of this profession for twenty years. He finally entered the ministry of the Christian Church and in 1889 removed to Urbana, from which point he carried on his work in the Gospel for a number of years until he retired about eight years ago. However, he has continued to preach funeral sermons and has officiated at more funerals than possibly any minister of any other denomination in this section of Illinois. In January, 1890, Mr. Ealey built the home in Urbana where he still resides, a two-story stucco residence.

He was married January 1, 1875, to Louisa Presnell, a native of Clay County, Indiana. They were married for over twenty-one years, and at her death on January 25, 1896, she left eight children: Minnie, who lives at Saline City, Indiana; Cora, wife of Angus McLean of Ohio; Homer, who for four years and four months was in the United States navy and is now living in Champaign; Elmer, foreman of a planing mill at Urbana; Edgar of Modesta, California; Effie, wife of George F. Hensel of Denver, Colorado; Grace, wife of Charles Tillotson of Urbana; and Miss Burdelle, an art teacher in the public schools of Urbana. On December 25, 1901, Rev. Mr. Ealey married Susanna H. Harris of Bellefontaine, Ohio, a daughter of Rev. J. G. Harris, a minister of the English Lutheran Church and one of the best educated men in the State of Ohio

in his day. Rev. Mr. Harris was a linguist, being the master of eight languages and preached in both English and German. He was of English descent.

Mr. Ealey is now serving his second term as township assessor. Politically he is a Republican and has been a member of the Masonic order for thirty-nine years and also belongs to the Eastern Star, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs and the Court of Honor. He is a faithful member of the Christian Church.

PHINEAS LAWRENCE WINDSOR, librarian of the University of Illinois, is one of the ablest men of his profession in the state. He is a native of Illinois, and had a wide experience in library work both in the East and West before he entered upon his present duties.

He was assistant in the New York State Library in 1899, and from 1900 to 1903 was in the copyright office in the Library of Congress. From 1904 to 1909 Mr. Windsor held the post of librarian to the University of Texas at Austin. He then accepted his present duties as librarian and director of the Library School of the University of Illinois.

In 1913 he was president of the Illinois Library Association, is a life member of the American Library Association and a member of its council from 1909 to 1913, and is a member of the Bibliographical Society of America. In 1904 he edited the Handbook of Texas Libraries and has been a frequent contributor to library publications.

Mr. Windsor was born at Chenoa in McLean County, Illinois, February 21, 1871, a son of Rev. John Alexander and Amy (Arnold) Windsor. He acquired a liberal education, graduating Ph. B. from Northwestern University at Evanston in 1895, during 1897-99 was a student in the New York State Library School at Albany, and during 1899-1900 was a student in the Albany Law School and a member of the staff of the New York State Library.

Mr. Windsor married, January 1, 1902, Miss Margaret Fursman Boynton of Lockport, New York. He is a member of the Delta Tau Delta College Fraternity, the Methodist Church and the University Club of Urbana.

L. H. BLUE. Hardly a more attractive rural home can be found in the entire scope of Champaign County than that of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Blue, situated on Rural Route No. 21 out of Rantoul and section 8, some seven miles from that city.

This home has been the product of Mr. and Mrs. Blue's united endeavors and industry since they married, and it is with a pardonable degree of pride that they enjoy its comforts and satisfactions. Mr. Blue was born near Rantoul and is a son of John H. and Lena (Satthoff) Blue, energetic and worthy German people who came to this country in early life. Mr. Blue was educated in the North View and Thresher district schools.

His happy marriage occurred in 1904, when Miss Bertha J. Cook became his wife. She was born in Champaign County, a daughter of Lyona B. and Mary E. (Parker) Cook. She was educated in the Amity school.

Mr. and Mrs. Blue after their marriage became renters on the old Hutchinson estate four and a half miles west of Thomasboro. A year later they removed to Ford County, and there farmed eighty acres of rented land for six years. Throughout they were possessed of the ambition to acquire a home of their own, and called to their aid the utmost thrift of their German stock and their native habits of economy. With money Mrs. Blue inherited from her father's estate and money saved by their several years as renters they bought eighty acres seven and a half miles northwest of Rantoul.

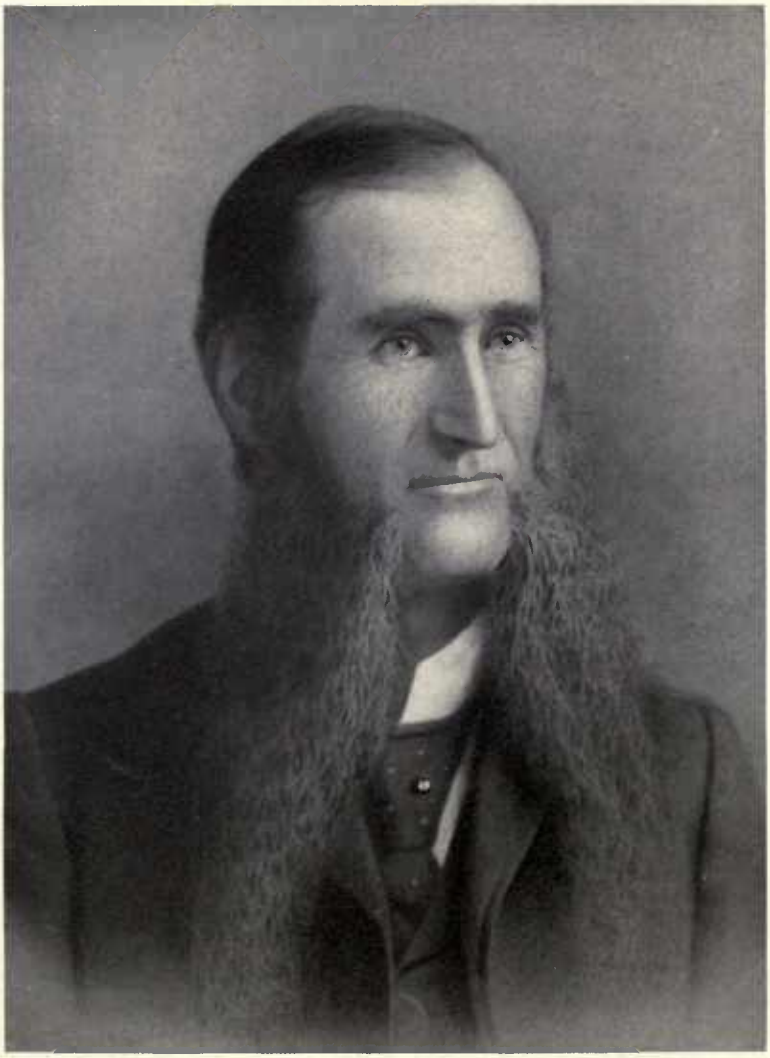
Their place is on the corner of cross roads and their home is beautifully situated on an eminence of land from which the ground slopes away in all directions. Their home in summer time is almost kept from view by a magnificent grove of maple, hackberry, butternut, walnut and evergreen trees. They have carefully studied and worked out a fine landscape gardening which would do credit to an artist in that field.

In this home Mr. and Mrs. Blue have enjoyed the happy companionship of their two children. Eldon Louis was born in 1907 and Glen Emerson was born in 1912. The family are active members of the German Lutheran Evangelical Church. Politically Mr. Blue is a Republican, and has manifested his public spirit whenever the occasion required his services. He is a member of the local school board and serving as clerk, and is also on his two year term as a road commissioner. Mr. Blue has been treasurer of the North Prospect Telephone Company six years, and is a director of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Dix Township in Ford County. This company is one of the large ones in central Illinois, and has $2,000,000 of insurance in force.

HON. ROY C. FREEMAN. The science of justice and statutory law both require keen perceptions, well trained minds and intellects beyond the ordinary, and each is a distinct branch of what is technically termed "law." The simple fact that an individual is admitted to the bar is of itself prima facie evidence of the possession of superior intellectual endowments, although some who pose as legists are unprincipled and others incompetent as such, in competition with the profession generally; but when lawyers are elected for office, especially the executive and judicial, those of the best reputation for honorable conduct and legal ability are generally given the preference. The career of Judge Roy C. Freeman, county judge of Champaign County, has been such as to demonstrate that he deserves membership in the latter class, and that he has fairly earned the honor which his position indicates and the confidence of the people of the county.

Roy C. Freeman is a native of Champaign County, having been born in Homer Township, on the farm of his father, July 13, 1880, a son of John T. and Jennie B. (Silkey) Freeman. His father has passed his entire life in Champaign County, where he has won his way to the ownership of a handsome property and a position among the leading agriculturists and stock raisers of this section, his home still being in Homer Township. In his native county he has gained the reputation of being a man of ability and resource, who is straightforward in living up to his business engagements and in discharging his civic responsibilities. Mrs. Freeman, who also survives, is a native of Tuscarawas County, Ohio. Roy C. is their only child.

Roy C. Freeman was brought up on his father's farm, but his early tendencies were shown to lie in the direction of a career other than that of an agricultural life, and he was given the necessary encouragement by his parents. His early education was acquired in the country schools following which he enrolled as a student at the high school at Homer, which he attended for three years, and from which he was graduated in 1898. He then entered the literary department of the University of Illinois, but in the fall of 1899 went to the University of Michigan, as a special student, taking literary work. His law work was started in the fall of 1900, and in June, 1903, he was graduated with his degree from the University of Michigan, and soon thereafter admitted to the bar of that state. Returning to Illinois, in October, 1903, he was admitted to the Illinois bar, and in December opened an office for the practice of his profession. The young legist was not long in attracting a good



PATRICK RICHARDS

clientele of representative people in the general practice of his calling, and after about ten years of successful professional business his name began to be mentioned as a judicial possibility. Finally he was persuaded to allow his name to be used in this connection, and in November, 1914, he was the successful candidate for the office of county judge. He took office in December of the same year and has remained in the same capacity to the present time. His record has been in harmony with that which he established as a lawyer, and in his office he has administered the law with the broadest intelligence and a keen regard for equity. The judge on the bench fails more frequently, perhaps, from a deficiency in that broad-mindedness which not only comprehends the details of a situation quickly and that insures a complete self-control under the most exasperating conditions than from any other cause; and the judge who makes a success in the discharge of his multitudinous delicate duties, whose rulings are seldom reversed, and before whom counsel and litigant come with an unshakable confidence, must possess that broad-mindedness referred to in in addition to well-rounded character, finely balanced mind and splendid intellectual attainments. From Judge Freeman's past record and the confidence in which he is universally held it is assumed that he is just such a jurist.

Judge Freeman was married August 16, 1905, to Miss Lillian A. Burdick, who was born in Champaign County, Illinois, and to this union there have been born three children: Beulah May, who died in 1910; and Gladys Irene and Hazel Bernice. Judge Freeman is a Republican. He has been interested in the success of his party and for some years has been active in politics. For about six years prior to his election to the county judgeship he served in the capacity of assistant state's attorney. As a fraternalist he belongs to the Knights of Pythias and to the Blue Lodge and Council of the Masons, being past thrice illustrious master of the latter.

Chester W. Richards. Members of the Richards family have been active figures in business affairs in Champaign County for over half a century. The name is especially identified with the First National Bank of Urbana, of which the late Patrick Richards was for many years president and of which his son, Chester W. Richards, is now vice-president. Chester W. Richards is a lawyer by profession, and has an extensive general practice in all the courts of this county.

The late Patrick Richards was born at Quebec, Canada, December 17, 1835, but soon after his birth his parents removed to Utica, New York. He was reared in that city, was educated in the public schools, and gained his first opening in the business world as a drug clerk. He was with a very large drug establishment at Utica and remained there several years. He not only performed the routine duties assigned him, but made his position an opportunity for thorough study and mastery of the details of the business. On reaching his majority he removed to New York City, and had further experience as a prescription clerk. His thrift also enabled him to save a few hundred dollars, and with this comparatively small capital he removed to Champaign County in 1862. His first location was at Tolono. Soon afterwards he opened a small stock of drugs and sundries in that village and employed all the resources of his skill and recent experience to build up a business. His choice of location was fortunate, since the surrounding country was comparatively new and there was a ready demand for his stock of merchandise. His store soon came to be recognized as the leading one of its kind over a large tract of country. His trade grew and at one time his stock inventoried at something more than $17,000.

He was also an active citizen and for several terms served as supervisor of his township.

In 1882 Patrick Richards sold out his drug business at Tolono with the intention of retiring. Retired life soon proved tedious, and removing from the village of Tolono to Urbana he acquired stock in and also some share in the management of the First National Bank, which was then, however, a private banking institution. With the incorporation of the First National Bank he became its president, and he held that position until his death on January 1, 1899. At his death the bank had a capital stock of $100,000, and was secure in its position as one of the leading financial concerns of Champaign County.

Patrick Richards was married May 22, 1865, to Amelia I. Morgan, daughter of W. E. Morgan and a native of Fleming County, Kentucky. They became the parents of three children: Gertrude, Clarence M., and Chester W.

Chester W. Richards was born at Urbana, July 28, 1883, about a year after his parents removed to that city. He was educated in the Urbana public schools, graduating from high school in the spring of 1902. Not long afterwards he took up the study of law in the University of Illinois, and received his degree LL. B. in 1906. Mr. Richards has been actively engaged in practice at Urbana since 1907. His law offices are in the First National Bank Building. From 1908 to 1911 he was corporation counsel of the city and since 1911 has been master in chancery of the Circuit Court of the county. Besides the duties of this position, the demands made upon his professional time and energy, and his official relations with the First National Bank, Mr. Richards was further honored and given further responsibilities when on April 17, 1917, he was elected mayor of Urbana.

He has always taken an active part in Republican party affairs, and is a member of the First Baptist Church, superintendent of its Sunday school, is a Knight Templar Mason and a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Richards married Miss Angie Casey of Chicago, daughter of Charles E. Casey. a broker of that city. They have two children: Chester William, Jr., and Elizabeth Ann.

DANIEL R. MCHARRY. Among the numerous families whose activities of life have contributed toward the upbuilding of Champaign County we are pleased to mention the name of McHarry.

William McHarry was a son of Daniel and Elizabeth McHarry, born in Strenraer, Scotland, in 1856. Daniel McHarry had preceded his family to America, became a soldier in the Civil War, and lost his life in the service. His family followed him to America when William was fifteen years of age. They came first to Mackinaw, Michigan, later moved to Chicago, and from there to Champaign County, where they engaged in farming.

William McHarry wedded Miss Maggie Tweedy, a native of the same place in Scotland. The two families, Tweedy and McHarry, immigrated to America together when Maggie was ten years of age. After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. William McHarry they began their wedded life two miles north of Rantoul, settling on prairie land. For a number of years they rented the land they farmed, and there this sturdy young Scotch couple began to carve out a future for themselves and found a permanent home. By practicing strict economy and being industrious they were finally able to purchase a farm for themselves. Three children came to gladden their home, which the fond parents named Nettie, now Mrs. Parker of Paxton, Illinois, Jessie and Daniel R. The children attended the district school, and later Daniel and Jessie became students of the high school of Rantoul,

graduating with honor. Later Miss Jessie became a student at the University of Illinois, graduating in 1911 in literature and art and attaining the degree of A. B. She then specialized in history and in 1912 took the degree A. M., after which she was employed as principal of the high school of Rantoul, filling in a satisfactory manner that position for four years. She was also employed as teacher in the high school of Pontiac, Illinois. At the present writing she is is carrying three courses in history and one in education at the university. When one considers the amount of work faithfully performed in that number of years, the good seed sown in the lives of our young students, thus fitting them for life's duties, we can in a measure appreciate the value and worth of one whose influence is thus far reaching, and say, "All honor to whom honor is due." Miss Jessie is an interested member of the Phi Beta Kappa, Kappa Alpha Pi Atheneum literary society of the university.

Daniel McHarry, the only son of William McHarry and wife, wedded Miss Geil Smedley, a daughter of Elmer and Sarah (Bundy) Smedley, natives of Indiana. She was born at Salem, Indiana.

The Smedley family migrated to Illinois when Geil was three years of age. The family consisted of two girls, Hallie and Geil. Geil received her education in the high school of Rantoul, graduating from the same. She is a cultured and winsome little wife. Daniel McHarry resides on the old McHarry estate, busily engaged in managing the farm. He is extensively interested in raising Shorthorn cattle and has some fine blooded horses. He is one of the progressive farmers of Rantoul. He believes a farmer should enjoy the useful things of life, and puts in practice these ideas. He farms his estate with an "International Titan" traction engine, making that engine do the work of eight horses, plowing, disking and preparing the soil for the grain. He also makes it do the heavy work of the farm, doing the belt work, running the ensilage cutter and filling the fine large silo which he built himself, having a capacity of seventy tons. He has also installed a smaller gasoline engine which runs the feed grinder, pumps all the water for the stock and farm purposes, and the ladies of the house think its best service in lightening labor is that of running the washing machine. He has a fine water system in the house, where hard or soft water may be had by simply turning a faucet.

Mr. McHarry is a true type of an American, and believes in enjoying the good and useful things of life. He owns a fine Auburn five passenger car, which he understands thoroughly and runs sanely, making it a pleasure for his family to enjoy. The McHarry family are attentive members of the Congregational Church and liberal supporters of the same. Politically Mr. McHarry supports the Republican party. He is broad minded, however, and believes in supporting principle instead of party, believing the man who will render the best service to the public is the one worthy of his support. The McHarry homestead has ever been noted for its hospitality. Their lives have been closely associated with Champaign County and they have experienced the joys and sorrows incident to the usual lot of humanity. In 1913 a great sorrow visited them in the death of the dear father, who entered into rest. He was a loving husband, an indulgent father, a kind neighbor and true friend.

The lives of the McHarry family have been such that it garlands the name with pleasing memories of deeds of kindness and helpfulness. The family may be found at their pleasant home two miles north of Rantoul. The widowed mother is comforted by the presence of her children and is able to look back over their lives with pleasure to days well spent and duties well performed.

WILLIAM L. GRAY, M. D. The professional services of Dr. William L. Gray in Champaign County cover a period of more than a quarter of a century. In the quiet performance of his duty he has attended a large private practice, and has likewise become well known through his work in behalf of local institutions and as a citizen. Doctor Gray is in the front rank of surgeons in this section of Illinois.

Doctor Gray was born in DeWitt County, Illinois, January 23, 1866. His parents were Worship and Mary Elizabeth (Salisbury) Gray. His father, who was born in County Cavan, Ireland, in 1833, came to America, and about 1863 located in DeWitt County, Illinois, becoming a farmer. He also for many years did an extensive business as a stock and grain buyer and shipper. His death occurred in 1905 when about seventy-three years of age. After coming to Illinois he married Mary Elizabeth Williams, a widow. She died in 1908. By her first marriage to Mr. Williams she had three children: Ella, wife of Silas Hand, at Champaign, well known in real estate circles; and Ira and Annie, deceased. Worship Gray and wife also had three children: Fred S., living in Florida; Doctor Gray; and Worship, now deceased.

Doctor Gray during his boyhood attended the country schools and also the graded school, and his higher education was largely the product of his own earnings and steadfast ambition. He entered the Keokuk Medical College, from which he was graduated M. D. in 1891. Immediately after graduating he began practice at Champaign and has been steadily identified with that city ever since. He has sought every opportunity outside the range of his personal observation and experience to improve his skill and ability. In 1898 he spent some months in the Post-Graduate Medical School at Chicago, was also in the clinics of the famous Mayo Brothers at Rochester, Minnesota, and has attended schools and hospitals in Boston and New York. In 1914 Doctor Gray went abroad for study and travel and was in London, England, when the great European war broke out.

For the first ten years after locating at Champaign Doctor Gray was in general practice, but has since specialized in surgery and in consultation. He has been surgeon of the Burnham Hospital at Champaign since 1895, and is district surgeon of the Illinois Traction Company and of the Bell Telephone Company.

On April 10, 1888, he married Miss Olive Anderson, a native of Champaign County. They are the parents of two children: Hubert W. and Muriel Olive. Doctor Gray served twenty years as a member of the Board of Education in Champaign, serving eight years of the time as president of the board, and for eight years was health officer. He is a member of the Masonic order and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

HOWARD WREAN. From the occupation of railroad engineer, which he followed for a number of years, Mr. Howard Wrean has turned to the quiet and productive resource of farming, with an excellent estate in section 6 of Harwood Township. Mr. Wrean is one of the competent agriculturists of Champaign County, and he and his family are people of many associations in this section.

Mr. Wrean was born near Ludlow, a son of George and Amelia F. Wrean, his father a native of Nova Scotia and his mother of Denmark. They married in Pennsylvania and were the parents of seven children, all of whom grew up and received their education in the public schools at Ludlow. When George Wrean came to Champaign County he located on a farm west of Rantoul and later bought 170 acres a mile and a half northeast of that town. Here his promising career as a farmer was cut short after a resi-

dence of only four years. He died suddenly in 1886. His widow survived until February 28, 1917.

Mr. Howard Wrean married Miss Frances C. Marquette. She was born at Philo, Illinois, a daughter of James and Cornelia (Ennis) Marquette, her father a native of Ohio and her mother of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. They married at Philo, Illinois. The Marquettes are of French ancestry, but the family has been in this country for a number of generations. Mrs. Wrean was one of two children. Her brother, Thomas Ennis, was given as his middle name the name of his mother's family. Mrs. Wrean was named Frances Coyle, the second name being given in honor of some special Quaker friends of her mother in Philadelphia. Mrs. Wrean was a small child when her father died, and was seventeen years old when she lost her beloved mother. Mrs. Wrean and her brother were educated in the Philo High School, where Mrs. Wrean graduated. She then took up educational work and for a number of years was a successful teacher in Champaign County. For one year she taught in Urbana and was also a teacher in the Ludlow High School. While at Ludlow in her work as teacher she became acquainted with Mr. Howard Wrean, and this friendship ended in their marriage.

They were married December 22, 1901, in Chicago, and they lived in that city for one year. Mr. Wrean was then an engineer on the Illinois Central Railway, and continued that work for two more years with home at Champaign. Later they went out to Idaho and bought a ranch near Idaho Falls, and from there returned to Champaign County and located on the old Wrean homestead near Ludlow. Here they have an attractive home and Mr. Wrean is making a great success as an agriculturist, chiefly with the crops of corn and oats. Some years he has threshed as high as eighty bushels of oats to the acre.

Mr. and Mrs. Wrean have one son, Joy Thomas, who is now fifteen years of age and is prepared for the second year of high school at Ludlow. Mr. and Mrs. Wrean are active members of the Presbyterian Church at Philo. Mrs. Wrean's brother is also a member of that church and their lives since childhood have been identified with that community. Mr. Wrean is a member of the Masons, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers and is a Republican in politics.

The lives of the Marquette and Wrean families have been closely identified with Champaign County for many years, and the people of that name have been known for their kindness, hospitality and general worth. Among the most valued personal friends of the family was the late Judge Cunningham, who until his death was actively interested in the preparation of this history of Champaign County. Mrs. Wrean has the vivacity of temperament and the energy betraying her French ancestry and is a splendid type of womanhood and a most capable homemaker.

William E. Schowengerdt, M. D. As even the layman finds wonder and interest in scanning the progress made by medical science from time to time, it is not remarkable that trained medical men should continue enthusiastic students and thereby still further deserve the faith and confidence of those who seek their healing ministrations. No men of any profession are so continuously students as are physicians, and the more competent and skillful they are the more closely do they devote attention to investigating the cause, prevention and cure of disease. They usually are real founts of wisdom; in fact, they must be. The city of Champaign has a very representative body of physicians and surgeons, and in the foremost rank stands Dr. William E. Schowengerdt, who has been identified with the professional, civil and social life of this city for two decades.

William E. Schowengerdt was born in Warren County, Missouri, September 16, 1872. His grandparents were both natives of Germany and were early settlers in Warren County, Missouri, where Doctor Schowengerdt's parents, Henry and Louise (Schoppenhorst) Schowengerdt, were born, the former in 1842 and the latter in 1846. The father during life was a farmer. His death occurred in Lafayette County, Missouri, January 2, 1909. The mother survives and resides at Higginsville, Missouri. They reared a family of seven children: Louis, who is engaged in farming at Higginsville, Missouri; William E.; Albert, a farmer at Higginsville; Ernest, a farmer at Mayview, Missouri; Lizzie, who is the wife of Henry Held, also of Higginsville; and Robert and Emma, both of whom live at Higginsville.

Sometimes an ambitious and talented youth has difficulty in impressing upon his family the strength of his inclination in the direction of choice of career, but Doctor Schowengerdt was more fortunate. From the age of twelve years and all through his school days he cherished a desire to study medicine, a course in college being a necessary preliminary. In his father, in his nineteenth year, he found a benefactor who enabled him to pursue the collegiate course by lending him enough money for the expenses of one year away from home, but with the understanding that this sum should be finally repaid, in justice to his other heirs.

Under these circumstances William E. Schowengerdt enjoyed a year of study in the Central Wesleyan College. located at Warrenton, Missouri. After returning home he entered upon the study of medicine under Dr. A. Braecklein of Higginsville, Missouri, with whom he remained a year and then entered the Missouri Medical College at St. Louis, from which well known institution he was most creditably graduated March 23, 1897. It was on the first day of the following June that Doctor Schowengerdt entered into medical practice at Champaign, Illinois, where he has continued active and successful ever since. In addition to attending to a large practice, for the past twelve years he has served as city health officer.

Doctor Schowengerdt was married April 28, 1897, to Miss Sophie Rabsahl, who was born in Missouri, and they have one son, William Henry, who was born in July, 1904. Doctor and Mrs. Schowengerdt are members of St. Peter's Evangelical Church. Although not unduly active in politics, Doctor Schowengerdt conscientiously supports principles he believes to be right, being affiliated with the Republican party, and at times has accepted official position in a professional capacity or as a member of the board of education. He is identified with a number of representative fraternal organizations, including the Masons, the Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen and the Order of Ben Hur.

Charles Birch. The farming community around Rantoul has no more progressive and public spirited citizen than Mr. Charles Birch, whose home is in section 21 of Rantoul Township. Mr. and Mrs. Birch have a model country home, and though still comparatively young they have surrounded themselves with ample comforts and have been able to liberally provide for a growing family of children.

Mr. Birch was born in Piatt County, Illinois, a son of Thomas and Jane (Thompson) Birch. His parents were natives of Ireland and came to this country in early life. Mr. Charles Birch received his education in the schools of Piatt County, and from early manhood has followed steadily and sturdily the vocation of farming.

On August 26, 1902, he married Miss Margaret Ward, a native of Champaign County. Her parents, Patrick and Mary (Williams) Ward, were also

natives of Ireland. Mrs. Birch received her education in Champaign. They started their married life at Bondville in this county, and being without capital to buy land of their own they rented a tract and farmed it six years. Both of them exhibited business capacity and were willing to live economically and simply in order to get a start. About eight years ago they bought 160 acres contained in their present farm. Their home is four and a half miles northwest of Rantoul. They have excellent building improvements and conduct their farm on a business like basis. They also own 180 acres in Moultrie County, Illinois.

The children born into their home are named Mary, Genevieve, Ward, William, Margaret, Ilene and John Joseph. These children have been well educated in the Ludlow Center School, and Mary, who completed the eighth grade, is now a student in the Rantoul High School. Mr. and Mrs. Birch attend the Catholic Church at Rantoul, and were both reared in that faith. Politically Mr. Birch votes as a Democrat. He is the type of man who believes in making his citizenship count for good to the community as well as for his own and family's prosperity. When a meritorious undertaking is broached he is sure to give it his unqualified support, and, so far as his means permit, his financial assistance. This has been proved on numerous occasions. He has a special interest in the oncoming generation and is willing to sacrifice something of his own benefit in order that the children may have adequate school advantages. He is serving as a school director and has been a justice of the peace and township collector. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Frank A. Parker, D. O. Among the different recognized schools of the healing art, the science of osteopathy has undoubtedly made notable progress within the last decade. Its principles have been found to be so sound and its cures of the ills of the human body so remarkably successful that its practitioners can show lists of satisfied patients each year increasing, from every walk of life. Among the leading osteopathic practitioners at Champaign no one is better known or more thoroughly relied on than Dr. Frank A. Parker, who has been engaged in the practice of his science here since 1906.

Frank A. Parker was born in Ford County, Illinois, November 6, 1866. His parents were Henry J. and Susanna (Walton) Parker, the former of whom was born in New York and the latter in Ohio. Both are now deceased. The father was a merchant and also was a farmer in Indiana.

The youngest of a family of twelve children, Frank A. Parker had no exceptional advantages in youth but grew to the age of eighteen years as a farm hand during the summer seasons, attending the common schools during the winters. This educational training was later supplemented with a course of instruction at Valparaiso, Indiana. He was ambitious and an agricultural life as a finality did not appeal to him. Therefore he went to Chicago, the great city that has been largely built up through the brains and strength of the country boys who have sought and found opportunity there, and for three years he was connected with one of the great express companies of Chicago, in the capacity of bookkeeper, in the meanwhile keeping wide awake for a better position. An opportunity finally came and he accepted a humble position with the Hammond Packing Company at Hammond, Indiana, with the promise of promotion if deserving, and there continued, rising step by step until he had become assistant purchasing agent. This rise represented nine years of such close and strenuous work that his health gave signs of failing and he found it advisable to sever his relations with the company in order to engage in some work that would give him outdoor exercise.

In the spring of 1904 Doctor Parker took up the business of writing

insurance in Champaign. In the meanwhile his attention had been called to the success which was attending the practice of osteopathy, in some special cases, and this led to increasing interest and finally to a determination to apply himself seriously to the study of the science. Therefore, in the fall of 1904, he enrolled himself as a student in the American School of Osteopathy, the fountain head, at Kirksville, Missouri, where he continued until he was graduated in 1906. He returned then to Champaign and opened an office and has been in active practice here ever since, his remarkable success testifying to his thorough knowledge as well as to the merits of his school of healing.

Doctor Parker was married August 20, 1898, to Miss Clara Mashino, who was born in Kansas, and they have two children, Griffith H. and Ruby Maurine. Doctor and Mrs. Parker are members of the First Baptist Church. Their home is in a very pleasant part of the city, their residence being at No. 133 West Park Avenue.

Although an independent voter, Doctor Parker is by no means an indifferent citizen; on the other hand, zealously working for city improvement, especially along sanitation lines, and for the general moral uplift that none so well realize the desperate need of as does the physician. He leads a busy and useful life, finding in his profession a congenial career, hence has but little leisure to give to social or fraternal activities, although for many years he has been a valued member of the local lodge of Knights of Pythias.

JOHN D. SELTZER, now living retired at Villa Grove, spent many useful and productive years in Champaign County. These years dealt pleasantly with him and in response to his energy and good judgment rewarded him with one of the finest farms in Raymond Township, which he still owns, and he is able to look back upon his past years with a great deal of satisfaction, born of practical achievement and the performance of the many duties that are assumed by public spirited citizens like Mr. Seltzer.

He is of old Pennsylvania stock and was born in Schuylkill County of that state April 6, 1843. His parents, Michael and Mary (Fryer) Seltzer, were natives of the same county. His father was a farmer, later engaged in the hotel business and for nine years served as superintendent of the Alms House in Pennsylvania. Going west, he lived about three years in Kansas, and through the inducement of his son John finally located in Champaign County. He and his wife had seven children: Francis and Abraham, both deceased, were Union soldiers in the Civil War; Rebecca, now deceased; Charles, also a veteran of the Union Army; John D.; Amanda; and Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Borda, living in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania.

John D. Seltzer grew up in his native state, but early in life came west to Illinois and spent a year and a half farming around Naperville in the northern part of the state. In 1871 he came to Champaign County. His advent into the county was attended by some interesting circumstances.

While living at Naperville he had acquired a handsome team of horses. He drove this team from Naperville south into Champaign County, and for a great many years it has been a matter of jest with his friends that he was overtaken when about a mile out of Urbana on his way to Tolono by the Champaign County sheriff and was accused of having stolen the team. Champaign County people were not as accustomed to such fine horses forty-five years ago as they are today, and Mr. Seltzer's team had been the object of much admiration while he was stopping in Urbana. A few wiseacres at Urbana decided that such a fine team could not have been justly owned and acquired by their driver, and the only other plausible explanation was that they had been stolen and were being driven away for disposal. The sheriff,

therefore, went in pursuit merely on this suspicion, but Mr. Seltzer soon convinced him and the deputy that they had an innocent man to deal with.

On settling in Champaign County Mr. Seltzer bought 160 acres of railroad land in section 30 of Raymond Township. For this land he paid only $12.50 an acre. Later he bought another quarter section for $15 an acre, and finally 160 acres more at $30 an acre. This last quarter section he sold some years ago for $120 an acre. Mr. Seltzer lived on his land, cultivated it to the staple crops, planted trees, tiled and ditched the low places, and left it to remove to Villa Grove in as complete a condition for practical and diversified farming as any other place in Raymond Township.

John D. Seltzer married Sarah Erb, widow of Richard Davis. She was the mother of one child by her first marriage, Charles Davis, a resident of Raymond Township. Mrs. Seltzer died February 26, 1908. She and Mr. Seltzer had five children: Elnora, widow of William Hays and living at Allison, Colorado; Amanda, wife of Jacob H. Joseph of Sidell, Illinois; Lydia, wife of Michael O'Neil of Longview, Illinois; John Franklin, who occupies the old homestead and is referred to in a later paragraph; Susie, wife of George W. Ewin of Villa Grove.

Mr. John D. Seltzer is an active Democrat. He was highway commissioner and for twenty years school treasurer of his district in Raymond Township. He belongs to the Grange or Patrons of Husbandry.

John Franklin Seltzer is the son who is capably managing the old farm in Raymond Township, and was born in that township on section 30 October 7, 1879. As a boy he attended the district schools, afterwards attended the high school at Champaign, and took a business college course in Danville. For nine months he had experience as a merchant at Fairland, and then returned home and took charge of the farm of 440 acres. He now has the active management of 280 acres and is also overseeing a large ranch of 400 or 500 acres in Montana. He is a busy farmer and stockman and has shown that he possesses much of the sterling ability in this direction of his father.

February 11, 1903, John F. Seltzer married Annie Kimmel, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Jacob and Amanda (Seltzer) Kimmel. Both her parents are now deceased. Mrs. Seltzer was one of nine children, the oldest and the youngest, both sons, having died in infancy. The second child, Robert, lives at Orwigsburg, Pennsylvania. The third child, a daughter, died in infancy. Her brother George is deceased and her sister Estella is the wife of Arthur F. Young of Orwigsburg, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Seltzer is the sixth in order of birth. Lottie is the wife of Newton Delbert of Orwigsburg, Pennsylvania. Andrew is the youngest of the living children.

Mr. and Mrs. John F. Seltzer had three children: Frank, who died in infancy; George K., born March 29, 1906; and John J., born October 20, 1907. John F. Seltzer is a Democrat, has attained the thirty-second degree in the Scottish Rite of Masonry, belongs to the Mystic Shrine and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

Howard Nash. The handling of real estate is a business of many angles and can scarcely be honorably and successfully carried on without a thorough knowledge of land values and also an understanding of many problems of law. Not every dealer, however, so carefully prepares himself for this line of activity as has Howard Nash, one of Champaign's most prominent real estate men, whose course in law and extended travels have been but a part of his education for what he early determined to make his lifework. His success along this line has certainly justified his foresight in preparing for the work.

Howard Nash was born at Mansfield, Illinois, May 26, 1876. His parents are Jesse and Martha (McKillop) Nash, both noted old Kentucky

families and very prominent in Lewis County, where the Nash family can be traced back for generations. During the Civil War both families were strong Unionists and the uncles on both sides served in the Union army. At the age of eighteen years Jesse Nash, father of Howard Nash, enlisted as a private in Company I, Fourth Kentucky Infantry, and was taken prisoner at Macon, Georgia, and was incarcerated at Andersonville. He possessed a strong enough constitution to survive the cruelties of that period of imprisonment, and saw four years of military service. In 1870 he came to Illinois and located in Piatt County, where he and his wife still live, he being a large land owner. For some years he was a railroad contractor, taking contracts for the building of the Wabash Railway, and later he invested in farm land and carried on agricultural activities until he retired. To Jesse Nash and wife the following children were born: Minnie L., who is a resident of Portland, Oregon; Howard; William S., who is an attorney in practice at Portland, Oregon; Bessie, who resides in Montana; Frederick A., who is a farmer in Piatt County, Illinois; Jessie M., who is the wife of Doctor Ruden, a resident of Montana; and Walter B., who is a resident of Montana.

Howard Nash attended the local schools and remained at home until he was twenty years of age, in the meanwhile planning a course of three years in Valparaiso College, having very definite and determined ideas on the subject of education. He demonstrated his courage and independence by working his way through college, after which he returned to Piatt County and began to teach school and at the same time filled in all spare time and vacations in studying law, his preceptor being Charles F. Mansfield of Monticello, Illinois. In thus broadening his understanding, Mr. Nash did not have the practice of law in view, but desired a legal education because of its helpfulness in other lines.

In 1902 Mr. Nash opened a real estate office at Mansfield and remained in business there until 1910, when he came to Champaign, and he is now located in the Trevett-Mattis Bank Building. As previously indicated, Mr. Nash has made a special study of land values, not only in Illinois, but on a much wider scale, traveling for this purpose over the country, making estimates and gathering information that has been of great benefit. His intelligent investigations have made him an expert, and operators all over the country consult with him and accept his opinion as to values.

On December 14, 1904, Mr. Nash was united in marriage with Miss Bertie M. James, who was born at Mansfield, Illinois, and they have three children: Lyle J., who was born in 1905; Lois, who was born in 1908; and Howard, born in 1912.

Mr. Nash is an ardent Republican and has attended every National Republican Convention since he was twenty years of age, not being interested as a seeker for office, but because he believes in the principles of the organization to which he belongs and enjoys the congenial political fellowship he finds in these mighty gatherings. He is a strict party man and has devoted much time to the welfare of his party. His name may be found as a contributor to benevolent movements and charitable organizations, and he is considered one of Champaign's leading public spirited citizens.

Joseph R. Pearson. Among the families that have helped forward the remarkable economic transformation by which the waste lands of Champaign County were reclaimed and converted into productive fields and a smiling landscape of happy homes, a place of prosperous usefulness belongs to those of the Pearson name represented by Mr. Joseph R. Pearson, whose home is in section 11 of Harwood Township. His postoffice is Ludlow.



Chas J Mullikin

Mr. Pearson was born in Mason County, Illinois, a son of Robert and Mary (Fletcher) Pearson. His father was a native of England but married in America, and from Mason County moved to Champaign County. When the Pearsons first settled here they had many unpleasant things to contend with. Much of the land was wet, covered with sloughs, and acre after acre had to be redeemed to cultivation at the expense of much labor and money. But Robert Pearson had the energy requisite for such an undertaking, and in course of time he not only had a fine farm, but became one of the extensive land owners in Champaign County, having an estate of 560 acres. He and his wife finally retired to a comfortable home in Rantoul, where this good old timer entered into rest in 1913.

Joseph R. Pearson was educated in the public schools, and was also a student in the State Normal University at Normal and in the college at Paxton.

He married Miss Clara J. Johnson, who was born in Champaign County, a daughter of Isaac and Alice (Belford) Johnson. Her father was a native of Vermilion County, Illinois, and her mother of Ohio. Mrs. Pearson was educated in the public schools, the high school at Gifford and Greer College at Hoopeston, Illinois. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Pearson began life on the old homestead of Father Pearson, and he has since had the active management of this splendid farm.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pearson were born eight children: Mary Alice, Robert J., Bessie Lenore, Eva Pauline, Lowell B., Glen Leroy, Donald Richard and Harold Fletcher. This is a family of bright and energetic children, true types of American boys and girls. They received their preliminary education in the Webber District School. Mary graduated from the high school at Paxton and Robert did two years of work in that high school. Lenore is still a student in high school, a member of the junior class, while Pauline recently became the proud possessor of a diploma from the eighth grade.

As a farmer Mr. Pearson is giving a good account of his energies and ability. His principal crops are corn and oats, and in an ordinary season he gets seventy-five bushels of corn to the acre. As a stock man he raises some fine Percheron horses of French imported strains and has a herd of Jersey cows, shipping cream to market.

The family attend worship at the Methodist Episcopal Church of Gifford, and the children are all active in the Sunday school. Mr. Pearson is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and in politics gives support to the Democratic party.

Thus the lives of the Pearson family have been closely identified with Champaign County since early times. Their industry has brought about the improvement of a considerable acreage and they are to be credited with success as homemakers and with that public spirit which flows from capable and upright people. Mr. Pearson's mother is still living in her home at Rantoul and spends the winters in southern climates, chiefly in Florida. Mr. and Mrs. Pearson are carrying the responsibilities of their farm, have a pleasant home and enjoy the confidence and esteem of a large community. Mrs. Pearson is an energetic and cultured woman and takes proper pride in her home and her happy family circle.

Charles J. Mullikin is a native of Champaign County, has been a farmer, merchant, real estate and insurance man, and all his activities have done him credit. He is one of the most influential Democrats of this section of Illinois, and is now serving his term as postmaster of Champaign. Mr. Mullikin was born in this county, April 4, 1867. He is a son of George C. and Nancy (Jones) Mullikin, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Kentucky.

The branch of the Mullikin family to which the subject of our sketch

belongs came from Scotland, first locating in this country in the early part of the sixteenth century, in the province of Maryland, as a part of the Lord Baltimore colony. James Mullikin, of whom the subject of this sketch is a direct descendant, was granted land in the province of Maryland for services rendered in bringing over emigrants to this country from Scotland; part of the land thus ceded was a fine tract in the forks of the Patuxent River near Baltimore. This tract was improved and became the original homestead of the family in 1668. The farm has never passed out of the family name and is now inhabited and owned by a Mullikin.

The Mullikins were owners of several plantations and numerous slaves throughout Maryland before the Civil War. The early generations were communicants of the Episcopal churches, but the later generations, however, were principally affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church. The early members of this family were tall, large formed, brawny men of fair and florid complexion, and as a family were possessed of superior intelligence and public spirit, most of them showing military tastes and many of them having held commissions in the Revolution and subsequent wars. The great-grandfather of our subject was born on the family homestead in Maryland, at the "Forks of the Patuxent," during the year 1767. In the year 1811 he sold to other members of the family his interests in the homestead, and with his family and household goods, enclosed in wagons, removed with his slaves and stock to Fleming County, Kentucky, where he located. In 1812 he enlisted in the War of 1812, being a member of the celebrated Squirrel Hunter "Riflemen" Company from Kentucky. After the war he proceeded from New Orleans, with other companions, through the wilderness on foot to his home in Kentucky. The grandfather of Charles J. when a young man came from Maryland to Kentucky with his father, served his country in the War of 1812, being made captain, and later he moved to Johnson County, Indiana, where George C. Mullikin, the father of our subject, was born. In 1865 George C. Mullikin, following the inherited spirit of his grandfather, removed in a prairie schooner from Johnson County, Indiana, to Piatt County, Illinois. George C. Mullikin was a type of character such as not only his children but a large community always respect and remember with grateful esteem. He spent one year in Piatt County, and in 1866 located on a farm in Scott Township of Champaign County. He was a practical, hard-working farmer. He had a rugged physique and constitution, and was as big in heart and sympathy as he was in body. He stood six feet tall and was large in proportion. His faithful wife left him in 1879, and at her death there were five young children. Seldom has a man met his responsibilities with such versatile resourcefulness, prompted by love, as George C. Mullikin did when his wife died, laboring in absolute poverty. As a tenant farmer he worked in the fields and kept the farm going as usual. At the same time he looked after all the duties of the household, caring for the young children, cooking for them, mending their clothes and performing all the housework which the older children could not do. Thus he kept his children together until they had reached self-supporting manhood and womanhood. It is not strange that his children came to regard him as more than a father, and with a veneration which will never depart from their memory. The death of this worthy citizen occurred March 19, 1914. The five children were: Joseph, a farmer in Champaign Township; Charles J., who was the second oldest; Mary, wife of T. H. Walker of Bondville, Champaign County; Austin of Illiopolis, Sangamon County, Illinois; and William, who died in infancy.

After all his children were old enough to look out for themselves George C. Mullikin married for his second wife Corrina J. Hunter, who survives him and now makes her home at Bondville, and is a woman of

admirable character, who cared for her husband to the very last and who is respected and loved by her step-children and her grandchildren as if she were their real mother and grandmother.

Charles J. Mullikin grew up on the farm, and besides the duties he learned and assumed at home he attended the local public schools. When he was twenty-one years of age his father gave him a team and wagon and a couple of plows. With that equipment he rented a small tract of land and farmed it a year. He then sold his interest, and about that time he married a popular young school teacher of the neighborhood. The young couple removed to Bondville, bought a home there, and Mr. Mullikin found a position with the local grain elevator for a year. From Bondville he came to Champaign, and for a year was a locomotive fireman with the Illinois Central Railroad Company. Returning to Bondville, he accepted financial help from his father and bought a general merchandise store. He was one of the leading merchants of that village for six years, and during that time he served as town clerk, and on February 27, 1893, was appointed postmaster of Bondville, about the time President Cleveland began his second term. In 1895 Mr. Mullikin traded his store for a farm in Indiana. He never occupied the farm or managed it personally, but instead engaged in the real estate and insurance business at Champaign.

In the past twenty years Mr. Mullikin has become one of the leading real estate and insurance men of the city. He has handled a very extensive business in that time. In 1896 he was elected an alderman from the Third Ward and from August, 1896, until January, 1898, served as assistant postmaster of Champaign, filling the vacancy caused by the death of the assistant postmaster. In 1900 he was elected mayor, giving the city's affairs a splendidly efficient and economical administration during his one term. He has also served as Democratic State Central Committeeman. In February, 1914, he was appointed postmaster of Champaign and is now giving all his time to the duties of that office.

On March 8, 1889, Mr. Mullikin married Elizabeth E. Lowman, who was born at Champaign, a daughter of Allison and Sarah J. (Lytle) Lowman. Both her parents were born in Pennsylvania and both are now deceased. Mr. Mullikin is affiliated with the Masonic order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He and his wife are members of the Congregational Church.

Charles H. Spears, M. D. While the success of the ethical physician does not permit of the analysis to which a career in other lines of business or in other professions might be subjected, there are many things that indicate the standing of the reputable doctor of medicine. His associations in medical circles, his length of practice, his training, all have a bearing upon his relative success. Measured by whatever standard, Dr. Charles H. Spears is one of Champaign County's foremost physicians. He has been in practice at the city of Champaign for upwards of twenty years.

Doctor Spears was born in Shelbyville, Illinois, April 22, 1873, a son of Henry and Rebecca (Warner) Spears. His father was a native of Ohio, moved from that state to Illinois, and was a farmer in both commonwealths. About six years ago he removed to Champaign, where he now lives retired.

Educated in the public schools of Illinois, Doctor Spears took up the study of medicine in the medical department of the University of St. Louis, where he was graduated in 1897. He then located in Pana, Illinois, where he practiced until moving to Champaign. So far as the practical demands upon his time and attention have permitted, he has neglected no opportunity to improve himself and gain the highest possible proficiency in his work. He took post-graduate courses in the Medical College of

Chicago and had much hospital service, specializing in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. He also studied along the lines of their specialties for one year in the hospitals of London, England.

After his return to the United States Doctor Spears resumed his practice in Champaign, where he has since been in practice. His finely equipped offices are in the Illinois Building, the finest building in the city. He has prospered in a business way and owns considerable real estate in Champaign and elsewhere.

Doctor Spears married Miss Nellie E. Ainsworth, a native of Champaign County. They have two sons, Charles and John. Doctor Spears is a Republican in politics, is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is also a member of the Champaign County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society, the Twin City Physicians' Club, is on the staff of Julia F. Burnham Hospital and also on the staff of the Julia F. Burnham Training School for Nurses, and is local oculist for the Illinois Traction System and the Illinois Central Railway.

JOHN MURPHY. A fine farm, a good home, an excellent family belong to John Murphy, one of the prominent residents of Kerr Township, his well cultivated acres being located in section 32.

Mr. Murphy is a native of Ireland, a son of Martin and Mary Murphy. He grew up in his native isle and was twenty-four years of age when, seeking the better opportunities of the New World, he immigrated to America and came direct to Champaign County. This section of the New World seemed to offer especial promise to young men of limited capital and unlimited energy and he soon found work as a hand.

It was after coming to this country that he married Miss Jennie Whalen. She was born in County Wexford, Ireland, daughter of James and Mary (Cullen) Whalen. She also was twenty-four years of age when she came to America with two cousins named Gordon. She was the first member of her immediate family to come to this country. She was ambitious and able to work and willing to do her part. She first came to Gifford, where she had cousins and friends, and the first friendly face she met after leaving her home in Ireland was her cousin, Joseph Gordon, who took her to his home, where she remained four years. While there she made the acquaintance of John Murphy, a young Irishman from the same part of Ireland, and in a short time they were married. They began housekeeping east of Gifford on the farm of Mr. Sunderland. They rented land from Mr. Sunderland six years, and there they laid the foundation for their permanent prosperity. They next moved half a mile south of Penfield, and for three years rented a farm from Mr. Benjamin. By that time through strict economy and thrifty saving they had accumulated enough to enable them to purchase 120 acres north of Penfield. In that locality they have made their home ever since.

Six children were born to them, and they lost one, Thomas Richard, in infancy. The others are, James, Mary, John, Margaret and Mildred. One of the first things Mr. and Mrs. Murphy thought about was the proper education of these children. They sent them regularly to the Stonestreet district school and afterwards to the Penfield High School. Miss Mary was graduated in 1916 from the high school and made a splendid record as a student. The subject of her graduating thesis was "The Value of Reputation," and many compliments were paid her for the manner in which she treated this subject and for its delivery. Besides her literary training she took music lessons from Mrs. Klein, and music has always been encouraged as a feature of culture in the Murphy home. The daughter Mary had an ambition to teach school but so far has been hindered in taking the examina-

tion on account of illness. The son James Murphy is living on his father's old farm. He married Esther Kelley, daughter of Patrick Kelley, present postmaster of Penfield. Mr. and Mrs. James Murphy have a little daughter, Mary Vivian, who at this writing is four months old. The other children of Mr. and Mrs. Murphy are students in school and Margaret has taken piano instruction from Miss Grace Gray.

Mr. Murphy has done his part toward maintaining high standards in the local schools and has served several years as a school director. The family are active members of the Catholic Church at Penfield, all the children having been reared and confirmed in that faith. In matters of politics Mr. and Mrs. Murphy are Democrats. In northeastern Champaign County the ability and success of Mr. Murphy's efforts as a farmer need no special mention. Farming with him is a business and crops always seem to prosper under his skillful touch. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy have developed a fine grove of trees on their farm, an attractive feature of the landscape, furnishing protection to the live stock both winter and summer.

A word should be said concerning the younger children in school. Margaret is now in the seventh grade and Mildred in the fourth grade. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy have done everything they could to encourage their children in obtaining the best of educational advantages. Their daughter Mary especially excelled in penmanship and was awarded a Palmer's certificate for skill in writing.

JOHN WALLACE MULLIKEN. It is said that the greatest incentive to ambition for young people who have not yet discovered their proper talents and place in life are stories of successful self-made business men. Any boy might be encouraged by reading something of the career of John W. Mulliken, one of Champaign's leading merchants.

Mr. Mulliken has been a resident of Champaign County for over sixty years. He came to the county when a boy of six and he had practically no opportunities to gain an education. This was partly due to the fact that good public schools did not exist during his youth and also because of the necessity which early put him in the ranks of wage earners. When he was only eight years of age he entered the store of Walker Brothers in Champaign to learn the undertaking and furniture business. He remained steadily with this firm until 1877. This partnership later dissolved, and Mr. Mulliken was taken into the new firm, which later became known as Walker & Mulliken. Mr. Walker died in 1905, and at that time Mr. Mulliken took over the entire business and is now conducting it as a furniture store, having abandoned the undertaking business. He has given Champaign its largest and most complete furniture establishment. He carries over $40,000 worth of stock and is able to supply every demand that reasonable taste requires.

He was extremely young when his father died, and he has always taken a great deal of satisfaction in having undertaken the support of the family after it was deprived of the father's care. As his work was better rewarded he borrowed $600 to buy his mother a little home. On this borrowed money he paid interest at 1½ per cent per month. It required four years of strict saving and hard work in order to pay off the debt.

Mr. Mulliken has always had musical talent and has done much to cultivate it. Even as a boy he was able to earn money on the side by playing in an orchestra. His employer, Mr. Walker, would let him off from business, knowing the uses to which he was putting his time. He used to play the tuba or the "bass," as it was called popularly, in the band, and in the orchestra his instrument was the double bass viol.

Mr. Mulliken was born in Steuben County, New York, March 9, 1849,

a son of Albert and Susan (Cook) Mulliken, both natives of the same county. Albert Mulliken was a lumber dealer in New York and he brought his family to Champaign June 15, 1855. Here for three years he was line agent for the Illinois Central Railway, and then embarked in the agricultural implement business, which he continued until his death on July 23, 1864. His widow survived him many years. There were eight children, John W. being the youngest. William is now deceased. Francis G. died at Duluth, Minnesota, January 1, 1917. at the age of eighty-four. Sarah is deceased. Clarence, deceased, undertook at the age of twenty years to copy the courthouse records of Champaign County, and he soon afterward enlisted in Company G of the Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, and died during the service. Edmund F. was also a soldier in Company G of the Twenty-fifth Illinois, was mustered out with the rank of sergeant-major and is now deceased. Herbert, deceased, enlisted in the Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry as band musician and served throughout the war. Helen, a twin sister of Herbert, is the widow of James C. Wright and lives at Champaign.

Mr. John W. Mulliken married September 10, 1876, Miss Josephine Danforth, a native of Union County, Ohio. She died in 1908, leaving two children, Albert D., an attorney at Champaign, and Phoebe, wife of Ellsworth Story of Seattle, Washington. Albert D. Mulliken married Pearl Mulberry, a native of Illinois, and they have two children, Wallace M. and Albert D. On July 10, 1911, Mr. Mulliken married for his present wife Jean Agnew, then a resident of Detroit but a native of Canada. Mr. Mulliken is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the Lodge, Chapter and Knight Templar Commandery of Masons, also belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and was a charter member of the Knights of Pythias lodge, but has given up that affiliation.

Henry C. Bear is one of the oldest residents of Champaign County. He went from Macon County as a brave and gallant soldier into the Union Army during the Civil War, returned after the war with his wounds and gave his energy to agriculture until his health would permit following that no longer, and now for many years he has been engaged in the grain business at Penfield. His is a record that deserves more than passing mention.

He was born at Mount Rock in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, a son of David and Maria (Yoter) Bear. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of Maryland. Henry C. was the oldest of their nine children and was fifteen years of age when the family came to Illinois, locating at Decatur in Macon County. Mr. Bear and his brothers and sisters were educated partly in Plainfield, Pennsylvania, and also in Illinois.

On November 17, 1859, Mr. Bear married Miss Lucetta Jane Likins. She was born in Marion County, Ohio, a daughter of John and Sarah (Cole) Likins, also natives of Ohio. Mrs. Bear was likewise fifteen years of age when her parents came to Illinois. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bear located in Oakley Township in Macon County and were quietly engaged in the peaceful vocation of farming for several years.

Not long after the war began Mr. Bear showed his practical patriotism by enlisting in Company A of the One Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois Infantry. He enlisted at Decatur, went south to Memphis, and was soon with General Sherman's great armies operating around Vicksburg. Mr. Bear had his first experience in the scenes of warfare at Chickasaw Bayou, the engagement in which General Grant nearly lost the day and would have been defeated had it not been for the coming up of General Sherman's troops. Mr. Bear was next at Arkansas Post under General McClelland and was at the capture of Fort Hinman, where the Federals captured 5,500

Rebels. He was then again with the troops in the investment and siege of Vicksburg and helped dig the canal across the river from Vicksburg at Young's Point. He was also a participant in the expedition up the Yazoo River to Black Bayou and was in the skirmish with the Confederates who tried to prevent the Union forces from securing several gunboats. Mr. Bear was a participant in those fruitless efforts of General Grant in the early months of 1863 to open up the Mississippi by means of canals and in the later movements by which Sherman and Grant's armies engaged the Confederates at Fort Gibson, Bolton, Raymond and other points in the rear of Vicksburg. He was also at Champion Hill and Black River Bridge and on the 18th of May he was one of Grant's forces that seized the Confederate stronghold of Haines Bluff. On the next day Grant ordered an assault on the Vicksburg works, intending to charge with the entire line. He changed his mind and countermanded part of the order. The batteries, however, gave the signal to charge and two divisions, one of which Mr. Bear was a member, stormed the fort and were badly used by the Confederate garrison. Mr. Bear was severely wounded in this charge and was sent to Van Buren Hospital, where he remained until that hospital was discontinued on August 20th. The patients were sent to a hospital at Keokuk, Iowa, and on June 1, 1865, after the war was over, Mr. Bear was honorably discharged. The surgeons were never able to find the bullet which wounded him and he still carries it in his body and it has been a source of more or less trouble to him ever since. Besides his own wound Mr. Bear while at Vicksburg had to suffer the loss of a younger brother, William W. Bear. His death was caused by severe exposure during a storm. Mr. Bear ministered to the comfort of this brother during his last illness, and obtained a coffin in which he was laid to rest on one of the great battlefields around the Mississippi stronghold.

After his honorable discharge Mr. Bear returned home. Mrs. Bear had in the meantime lived with her own and her husband's people and had endured bravely the sacrifices which every soldier's wife must make in time of war. Before he went into the army they had buried their first child, Minerva May. When he returned from the army his wife presented him with a little daughter, then a year old, which she had named Eugenia C. With his family reunited Mr. Bear took up the thread of life again as a farmer, and in the spring of 1869 located on a farm near Penfield in Champaign County.

Two other children were born to their marriage. Their names were Mary M. and Eudora. Eudora died at four years of age of typhoid fever. Mr. and Mrs. Bear gave their children the best of educational advantages, at first in the district schools and then in the Penfield schools. The daughter Eugenia married David P. Cox, and they now reside in Denver, Colorado. To their union were born three children, named Thomas Henry, Weaver B. and Mary J. The son Weaver died and was buried after they moved to Denver.

Mary M. Bear married G. W. Hadden. Mr. Hadden with Mr. Henry Bear is engaged in the elevator business at Penfield and Gerald. They own the two elevators, the one at Penfield having a capacity of 16,000 bushels, and that at Gerald 35,000 bushels. In the course of a year they handle a large amount of the grain raised and produced in this section. Mr. and Mrs. Hadden have one child, Stanley B. Hadden, a fine manly boy who finished the eighth grade of the Penfield schools and then pursued the full course in the University of Illinois, from which he graduated. On leaving the university he became associated with his father and grandfather at Penfield. In 1916 he was solicited to teach the Gerald school, and his success there caused his engagement for the year 1917-18 as principal of the Penfield school. His father, G. W. Hadden, had been a teacher for twenty-five years, and education has been something of a family profession. Stanley

B. Hadden married Miss Sylvia Renner of Urbana, daughter of Enos Renner of that city. One child was born, Jane Elizabeth, on November 8, 1915. She is now eighteen months old and Mr. Henry Bear is very proud of his great-grandchild.

The Bear family attend the United Brethren Church in Penfield and have for many years been liberal supporters of its cause. Mr. Bear was an early abolitionist and in the main has supported men rather than the party. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias. For the past thirty-six years he and his wife have lived in Penfield, since his wounds received in his country's service incapacitated him for farm labor. The Bear home has been one of hospitality and one of the centers of culture and good influence in this section of the county. Mr. Bear has spent nearly half a century in Champaign County and has never cared to be away from the county for any length of time. He went to the capital at Washington, D. C., to attend President Cleveland's inauguration. The great recreation of his life has been fishing. No walk has been too long and the sun has never been too bright to hinder him from such sport. He was also an early day hunter and killed a number of deer in Macon County. His friends once planned a birthday surprise party for him. Mr. Azro Arms was delegated to keep Mr. Bear busy at the elevator until the company had assembled. He induced Mr. Bear to shoot at tin cans thrown into the air. After numerous failures and a few successful shots Mr. Bear said, "This is only a waste of ammunition. I can't shoot these cans like you." Mr. Arms was somewhat of an expert in this sport. To keep the unwitting host a little longer he replied, "What do we care for ammunition? You are doing first rate; keep on and try again." Thus he was able to divert him until the company had assembled and then they went together to the house. On seeing the crowd Mr. Bear understood Mr. Arms' enthusiasm and he enjoyed the joke as much as the rest of the company.

His life has been noted for honesty of purpose and has been a long and commendable one. Of his good wife the following words may be appropriately recalled:

"It is a wonderful thing, a mother. Other folks may love you, but only your mother understands. She works for you, prays for you, watches over you, forgives you anything you may do, understands you, and the only thing unkind she ever does to you is to die and leave you."

George B. Franks. Considered as an art, landscape gardening is one that has a definite place in life, appealing to and satisfying that innate sense of the beautiful that all possess to some degree. Nature points the way and it is the precious gift of the landscape gardener to be able to reproduce, in limited space, her noble effects and most pleasing arrangement of tree, shrub and flower. The wonderful facility in this direction, as in other artistic talents, is largely an inherited gift, although to make it practical, of course, there must be much definite knowledge, mathematical and otherwise. Perhaps no university grounds in the country, and certainly none other in the State, have been as carefully and tastefully laid out as those of the University of Illinois and this admirable example of landscape gardening will long perpetuate the name of Franks, a name that has been identified here with flowers and gardening for almost a half century. The business, established in 1871 by the late Thomas Edward Franks, is prosperously continued by his son and partner, George B. Franks, the leading florist and very prominent citizen of Champaign.

George B. Franks was born at Champaign, Illinois, November 2, 1879. His parents were Thomas Edward and Annie (English) Franks, the former of whom was born in England and the latter in Ireland. Thomas Edward Franks was a nurseryman in England before immigrating to Canada, in

1865, after which he became a landscape gardener, first near Hamilton, Ontario, and then in Cook County, Illinois, and was associated with others in laying out Lincoln Park, Chicago.

In 1868 Thomas Edward Franks came to the city of Champaign, and here for three years he had entire charge of laying out and beautifying the grounds of the University of Illinois, a task he enjoyed and the result being admirable in every way. In 1871 Mr. Franks purchased property on the corner of Randolph and Vine streets, Champaign, and there started the first greenhouse in the city. In 1892 he enlarged the scope of his business, purchasing land at No. 204 East University Avenue, where he erected a nursery and greenhouse plant, and subsequently established a branch for raising cut flowers on North Goodwin Avenue. Both plants are of modern construction with every improved equipment known to the business, and there are in the older plant 15,000 feet of glass. Mr. Franks admitted his son, George B. Franks, to partnership in 1905, but continued an active factor in the business until 1911, when he retired. His death occurred October 8, 1916, having survived his wife since November 9, 1901.

George B. Franks attended the public schools at Champaign, and after completing the high school course expressed a desire for a business life, shortly afterward accepting a position in the State National Bank of Oklahoma, at Oklahoma City. The death of his mother in 1901 recalled him home, and because of his father's loneliness, he being the only child, he decided to give up his prospects in Oklahoma and remain with his father, his tastes also having considerable influence, for he has inherited the love for flowers and the understanding methods which have made both father and son successful along this line. He applied himself to the practical details of the business and gave his father valued assistance for four years and then was admitted to a partnership in the business of which he is now sole owner, and during the last five years of his father's life was the same to a large extent, being the active manager after 1911. When the Champaign Park Board was organized his father served as a member and Mr. Franks also has served three years as a member of this board.

On October 31, 1911, Mr. Franks was united in marriage with Miss Janet Styles, who was born in Missouri, and they have one son, who bears his grandfather's honored name, Thomas Edward Franks. Mr. and Mrs. Franks are members of the Episcopal Church.

In political life Mr. Franks has been quite active for a number of years and in 1910 was elected on the Democratic ticket alderman of the Third Ward, in which office he served with the greatest efficiency and public spirit until May 1, 1917, when the city adopted the commission form of government, when Mr. Franks was elected on the commission and is now serving as commissioner of public safety. He was the only man who was carried over from the old form of government in Champaign. He is well known in fraternal circles, belonging to Western Star Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Champaign Chapter and Commandery and Mohammed Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., at Champaign, and the Eastern Star, and additionally belongs to the Elks, the Order of Ben Hur and the Knights of Pythias.

JULIUS M. GEHRT has been successfully identified with Champaign County agriculture for a number of years, and is the owner and proprietor of a fine farm in section 33 of Harwood Township, near the village of Dillsburg.

Mr. Gehrt was born at Lawn Ridge, Illinois, a son of John M. and Catherine (Best) Gehrt. His parents were both born in Germany, came to America in early life, were married in this country and the father is

still living, at the ripe age of eighty-three, on his farm in Stark County, Illinois. The mother is now deceased. Julius M. Gehrt was next to the youngest in a family of eight children.

He grew up on his father's farm in Stark County and attended the public schools at Spear in that county. January 15, 1902, he married Miss Carolina Kuhn. Mrs. Gehrt is a native of Germany, born near the city of Berlin, and fourth among the five children of Philip and Elizabeth (Hoeltzel) Kuhn. The Kuhn children were named Philip, Salome, Fred, Carolina and Elizabeth. When Mrs. Gehrt was eleven years of age the family came to America and she and her brothers and sisters attended the public schools of Peoria and of Stark County, Illinois.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Gehrt located on a rented farm in Peoria County, but in 1903 they rented a place of 160 acres owned by his father near Dillsburg in Champaign County. Here their years have been prospered and they now have the active management of a place of 347 acres. Mr. Gehrt is a very methodical and progressive farmer and has introduced many practices approved by experience. He does much stock raising, and has a herd of fine Durham cows and ships large quantities of cream.

Mr. and Mrs. Gehrt are the parents of five children: Forest L., Elmer F., Ernest H., Alice May and Julius. The children are being educated in the Battles school district, and the oldest child, Forest, now twelve years of age, is just entering the eighth grade.

Mrs. Gehrt is an active member of the German Lutheran Church at Gifford and the children attend the Sunday school at Rantoul. Mr. Gehrt has proved public spirited in his community relations as well as progressive in his business as a farmer. He served several years as school trustee and in politics is a stanch Republican. He and his wife maintain a most hospitable home, and their relations with the community have been characterized by neighborly kindness as well as by hard work and the intelligence which has brought them a good home and substantial prosperity.

George W. Harwood is one of the oldest business men still in active service in the city of Champaign. He came to Champaign County soon after the Civil War, in which he had fought gallantly as a Union soldier, and during the greater part of his residence here has been in the real estate and insurance business. There is no man better informed on the changing values of real estate and with a more authoritative knowledge of realty conditions.

Mr. Harwood is of New England birth and ancestry, and was born at North Brookfield, Worcester County, Massachusetts, September 18, 1841. His parents, George and Angeline (Allen) Harwood, were also natives of Massachusetts, spent their lives there, and his father was a farmer in moderate circumstances. There were three children: Anna, deceased; George W.; and Ethan A., who still lives on the old home place at North Brookfield.

George W. Harwood had the training of the typical New England boy, grew up to habits of industry, learned the lessons of the district schools, and at the age of twenty enlisted in Company E of the Thirty-sixth Massachusetts Infantry. He saw three years of hard service. He was in some of the greatest campaigns of the war. At Jackson, Mississippi, during the Vicksburg campaign, he was wounded, and again was wounded at Campbell's Station in Tennessee. He went in as private and came out as first lieutenant. He was mustered out at Reedville, Massachusetts.

The first year after his army service he was an employe in a Massachusetts shoe factory. In 1866 Mr. Harwood came out to Champaign County,

and for five years was a practical farmer in Newcomb Township. He then removed to Champaign and ever since has been engaged in the real estate and insurance business. He has handled many large and important transactions in local realty and has also represented some of the standard insurance companies. Mr. Harwood is now secretary of the Champaign Loan and Banking Association. His offices are located at 21 Main Street.

His citizenship has always been straightforward and public spirited. He is a Republican, an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and belongs to the military order of the Loyal Legion. He and his family are members of the First Presbyterian Church. Mr. Harwood married in November, 1866, Miss Mary N. Harwood, a distant relative and a native of Kentucky.

J. W. McCULLOUGH has long been a resident of Champaign County. His life's activities have been expressed along different lines, as a successful agriculturist, a merchant, and in his later years, with greater opportunity for leisure, he is applying himself to the management, with his son, of a large business at Rantoul for the handling of grain, fuel and implements.

Mr. McCullough is a native of DeWitt County, Illinois, and a son of James and Mary Jane (Rusk) McCullough. His parents were born in Ohio and in the early days they came to Illinois, crossing the intervening country in covered wagons or prairie schooners. They located near Clinton in this state and the children attended district school. When J. W. McCullough was eleven years of age they came to Champaign County and located on a farm six miles southeast of Rantoul in the Kentucky settlement.

Here Mr. McCullough attended school and at the same time assisted his father on the farm. That was his routine of life until twenty-one, and then, in November, 1879, he laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Isella Boys. Mrs. McCullough was born in Ohio, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Boys. Her parents came to Illinois and she received most of her education in the Prairie Star School in Champaign County. This school has the reputation of having turned out many successful students, including a number of teachers.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McCullough started out as renters, and subsequently moved to his father's farm. The young people proved themselves possessed of energy and industry and they practiced economy until they were able to purchase eighty acres of land. From the farm Mr. McCullough eventually removed to Urbana and engaged in the grocery business, but then returned to his farm for three years, and finally located at Rantoul, where in connection with farming he began buying stock on an extensive scale. He was one of the leading shippers of live stock out of this county for a number of years. Subsequently he expanded his operations by handling grain, and now owns a large elevator at Rantoul with a capacity of 40,000 bushels. Grain to the average of 200,000 bushels per year is marketed through the medium of Mr. McCullough's enterprise. The passing years have brought a steady increase to his land holdings, and in the counties of Champaign, Ford and Lee he now owns altogether an estate of 850 acres.

Mr. McCullough and his fine family live in an attractive residence in Rantoul a short distance down the interurban track below the Methodist Church. A low stone fence separates the pleasant grounds from the street, and behind that fence is every evidence of comfort and liberal hospitality. Mr. and Mrs. McCullough have six children: Elsie, Irene, George, Frank, John and William. The parents have felt the responsibility of giving these children the best of home and school training and all have been educated in the high school at Rantoul.

George, who was also a student in the business college at Champaign, is active manager of his father's home farm. He married Miss Vera

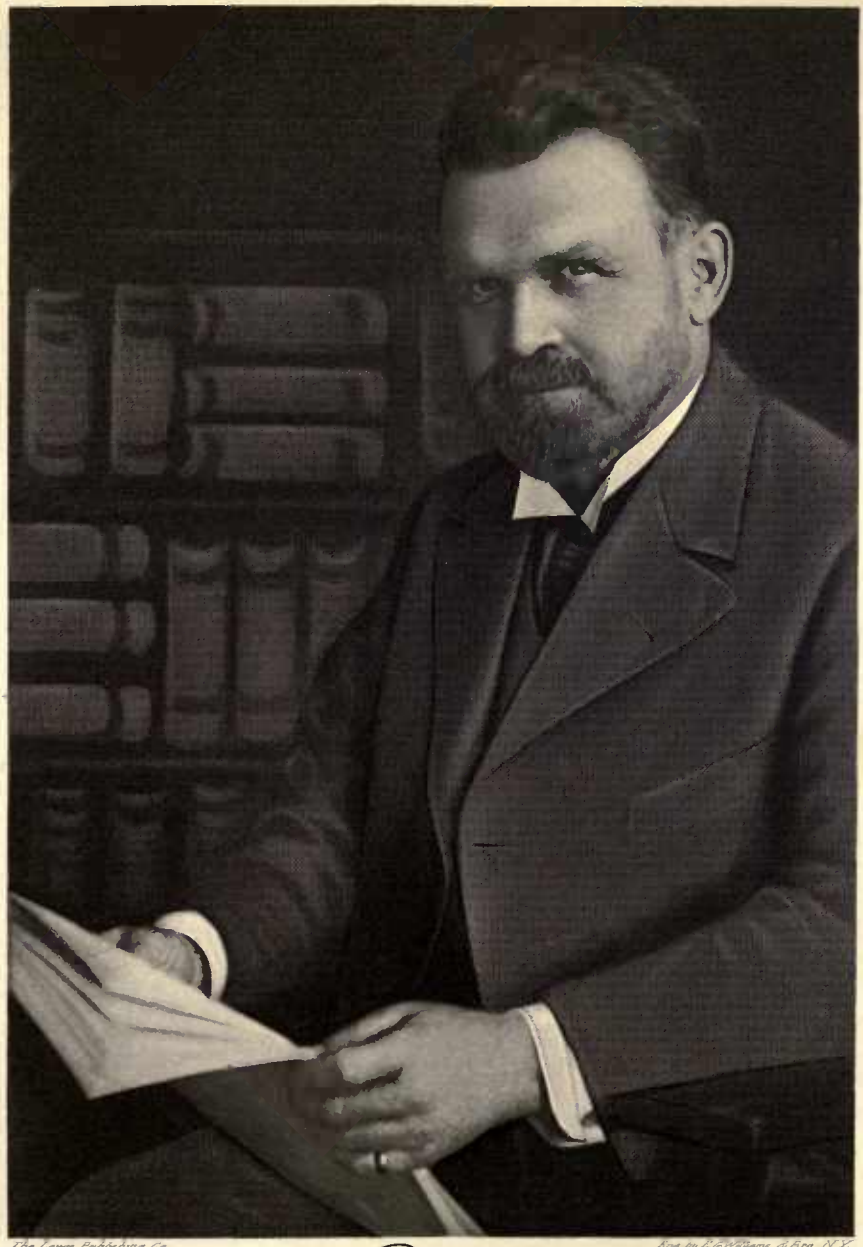
McCormick and they have two children, George and Ruth. The son Frank, who lives in a home adjoining that of his father, is manager with his father of the coal, grain and implement business conducted under the name McCullough & Son. Frank McCullough married Florence Carlson and they have a young daughter, Zella Jeanette, now three years of age. She has completely won the hearts of her grandparents.

Elsie McCullough married Clyde Gifford and they live on a farm four miles southeast of Rantoul.

Mr. and Mrs. McCullough are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically Mr. McCullough supports the principles of prohibition. He is a man broad in his views and believes that the individual can exert his influence best by supporting principles rather than a party and by exercising a discriminating choice among candidates for office. Mr. McCullough has served as supervisor and as school director and has done all he could to raise the standards of local education. Mrs. McCullough is a cultured and popular member of local society in Rantoul, and the family as a whole on account of their business energy, success and public spirit hold a high place in that community.

WILLIAM HARTFORD, D. O. The science of osteopathy, which has its fundamental principle in the theory that most diseases of humanity are traceable to malformation of some part of the skeleton, long since has passed the experimental stage and has become a widely recognized and sane factor in the alleviation of the suffering of mankind. A capable and enthusiastic promoter of this method of cure is found in Dr. William Hartford of Champaign, who has been engaged in practice here since 1899, and whose professional career has been one characterized by remarkably successful results. He is a native of Henderson County, Illinois, and was born December 6, 1856, a son of Winfield Scott and Lucetta Rebekah (Thomas) Hartford.

The family history of Dr. Hartford is a decidedly interesting one. In 1579 Sir John Hartford, son of Thomas Hartford, was knighted by Queen Elizabeth for brave and honorable service rendered in the wars of that period, and was given a province, or manor, in southern Scotland. While he had been born in Northumberland County, England, after being given this manor he settled in Scotland, where the family resided until during the persecution of the Church of Scotland by the ruler of England, when the younger members of the family were driven into northern Ireland and became what is known as Scotch-Irish. About 1730 James and Patrick Hartford, descendants of Sir John, who were attending college at Belfast, Ireland, as students, were enticed aboard one of the vessels lying in the harbor one Saturday afternoon, and before they were aware of it anchor had been weighed and the vessel had put to sea. They were impressed into service as cabin boys and on arising one morning Patrick Hartford, finding his brother missing, was informed that his brother had fallen overboard, had died after being taken from the water, and had subsequently been buried at sea. In reality, the brothers had been kidnaped to be sold in the New World as bond slaves, a not unusual custom of the day, and were only kept apart for that purpose, although Patrick Hartford never knew but that his brother was dead, and, in fact, both brothers died ignorant of the fact that the other was living. However, the grandchildren of each brother met in Henderson County, Illinois, in 1865. In giving their family history both told the same story, when William Hartford, grandson of Patrick, asked James Hartford, grandson of James, what his grandfather's given name was. He was told and was also informed that James had been landed at New York, while Patrick had been landed at Philadelphia. When the young men became twenty-one years of age they



The Lewis Publishing Co. Eng. by L.C. Williams & Bro. N.Y.

Wilford.

were released from their bondage, after which each married and became a citizen of the New World.

When the French and Indian war broke out, in 1763, Patrick Hartford entered the service of the Crown, under Major George Washington of the Colonial army, was promoted to the position of exchanging officer, and led a company of Colonial soldiers against the siege of Louisburg. In the exchange of prisoners on the western frontier, Patrick Hartford came upon a number of women and children who had been captured by the savages, and negotiated a trade with the Indians whereby he paid one quart of rum each for the prisoners, whom he safely conducted back to their families and friends in eastern Pennsylvania. In later years he met a young lady by the name of Jane McCammant, who had been stolen by the Indians when eight or nine years of age and held prisoner by them for a period of three years and nine months, when rescued. She was the daughter of a wealthy Scotch-Irish farmer in the Susquehanna Valley. She became his wife, and in later years, when they were talking over the exciting incidents of their childhood period and he had told her of his having been kidnaped and sold as a bond slave, she in return told him of her years spent in Indian captivity. When, in a reply to her husband's question, she said that she had been exchanged at a Detroit Indian station and gave the time, he exclaimed: "Why, you were not exchanged; I bought you free with a quart of rum from the Indians," and so it developed that she was one of the party of women and children that he had been called upon to rescue when he was exchanging officer for the British army. Nine children were born to Patrick and Jane (McCammant) Hartford, Dr. William Hartford being descended from the third son, John.

John Hartford moved to Canada in 1795, when his son William, the grandfather of Dr. Hartford, who had been born in Pennsylvania, was about six months old. He resided there until the period of the War of 1812, when he moved to Muskingum County, Ohio, where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away January 13, 1833. He married Betsy Patterson, whose family was of Scotch-Irish origin. Her father and four brothers, William, John, Alexander and James, enlisted for service in the Revolutionary War and when their terms of service expired re-enlisted, all being mustered out with honorable discharges at the close, with the exception of one brother, who was killed at the battle of Brandywine. This family were Covenanters, or Presbyterian, and Sceders—there were no atheists, no Universalists or Catholics among them.

At the close of the Revolutionary War, as a special inducement to secure settlers, Canada offered to give to each settler 200 acres of land and the privilege of choosing their own Legislature and making their own laws, as they were in the United States. A proclamation was issued to this effect, and as a result hundreds of poor men flocked into Canada, among them being John Hartford, who, as before noted, went there in the summer of 1795. He found, however, when he arrived that the laws were already made and that in order to secure the land he would be required to take the oath of allegiance to the king, this oath being set down by his son as reading as follows: "You do solemnly swear that you will bear true allegiance to King George III, and that you will forever disown and disdain any pardon from any foreign power, or dispensation whatever." This oath John Hartford refused to take, but bought a tract of a young man by the name of Gabriel Evans, who had taken the oath and secured the land, but who, in an altercation with a British officer, due to his failure to remove his hat when meeting him, had struck the officer (who had first knocked his hat off with his sword), and was thus guilty of treason and was compelled to flee the country. John Hartford bought his place by assuming his indebtedness for 1,000 rails which Evans had ordered split. The place

consisted of 188 acres, on which Evans had built a cabin and cleared four or five acres, and on this John Hartford settled with his family.

William Hartford remained on this property with his father until March, 1812, when he left home to learn the trade of blacksmith. In June of the same year the second war with Great Britain was declared, and his elder brothers were drafted into the British army. When the war broke out the governor-general of Canada ordered all who claimed allegiance to the United States to appear upon the Niagara River at Queenstown and there they would be sent over to Lewiston on the American side. William Hartford, who had returned home, was among those who appeared, but the transports were so busy with a great crowd that it made it look as though Canada were to be depopulated, and he did not succeed in getting across. At this time the battle of Queenstown occurred, in which General Brock was killed, and the commander-in-chief of the British fort cancelled the order and drafted every man from the age of sixteen to sixty years into the British service, ordering them to appear at the parade grounds at Terry Berry's cross roads at ten o'clock the next day. William Hartford evaded the service through losing his way to the point of meeting, for his sympathies were with the United States, where he had been born, but eventually he was seized by some British soldiers and taken to headquarters, where he was court-martialed and sentenced to be shot, but through the friendly intervention of a British officer, who was a friend of his father, was taken with a gang of prisoners to fell some trees to form a block house and was put to work by himself in an isolated spot, which was the cue for him to make his escape. He did so and arrived home that night about midnight, disguised as an Irish "paddy," with a halter on his arm as though looking for horses. His father gave him all the silver he had in the house, about $2.25, for Canadian bills were of no use to him in the United States, for which country he was heading. After numerous thrilling adventures, he finally reached his destination and found his way to the home of some relatives on his mother's side in eastern Pennsylvania. He was later arrested as a spy, but after satisfying the army of his loyalty he was allowed to enlist as a soldier in the War of 1812-14. He fought at Lundy's Lane under General Winfield Scott, and was at Fort Mackinac, Michigan, when its inhabitants were massacred by the Indians. With one or two others he escaped, and they subsisted on roots and bark and on rabbits which they killed with stones until they finally reached Niagara. They were never mustered out. William Hartford dared not go back into Canada and had no means of communicating with his father for three years, when a horse-trader, going up into that country, carried a letter from him to his father. He brought back a reply, and the father eventually sold his personal property under the hammer for ready cash and came to the United States, buying about three hundred tw acres of land eighteen miles north of Zanesville, Ohio, where he spe the rest of his days. William Hartford was married at the age of twenty-five years to Eliza James, and they became the parents of ten children, of whom Dr. Hartford's father, Winfield Scott, was the second born.

Winfield Scott Hartford was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, and received an ordinary education in the schools that the day and locality afforded. He was reared to the pursuits of agriculture and was still a young man when, in the fall of 1846, he passed through Champaign County and Urbana at a time when there was but a little tavern at that point, he being then on his way to Henderson County, Illinois. Doctor Hartford has heard his father tell how the land all around Urbana was bog land, and of how one could stand and shake the ground under his feet. Winfield S. Hartford accumulated land in Henderson County, where

he remained for four years engaged in farming, and at the time of selling out and leaving had over 400 acres. He returned to Ohio and remained that winter, and then prevailed upon his father to sell out his Ohio holdings and come to the west. William Hartford came through by wagon in 1852 and his first impressions of the country could not have been very favorable, for on the present site of the Flatiron Building, of Urbana, Champaign, his teams mired down, so that it took him a whole day to get his wagons out of that bog hole. Land values at that time were fifty cents an acre here, and it may be that he would have purchased property had he known what they would increase to, but instead he pushed on to Henderson County, where the family made their home for more than twenty years. In later years Winfield S. Hartford moved on to Adair County, and later to Springfield, Missouri, where his death occurred November 12, 1900, the mother, Lucetta Rebekah (Thomas) Hartford, a native of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, having passed away in Adair County, Missouri, November 5, 1867. To their union there were eleven children born: Eliza, who is the widow of Robert G. David, and resides at Cana, Kansas; Mary A., who is the widow of James Brooks, of Idaho; Sarah E., who is the widow of Alexander McLelland, of Miami, Oklahoma; Justice, who is deceased; Doctor William, of this review; John T., a resident of Missouri; Isaac J., of Manitoba, Canada; Elmira L., who is the wife of H. L. Walker, of Idaho; Martha R., who is the wife of Robert E. Bledsoe, of Oklahoma; and Abraham Lincoln and George Washington, twins, the former deceased and the latter a physician and a resident of Gibson City, Illinois. The mother died at the time the twins were born.

William Hartford remained with his father until he was twenty-one years of age, in the meantime receiving such education as the meager opportunities of that time afforded. At the time that he reached his majority he entered the State Normal School at Kirksville, Missouri, but remained at that institution only one semester, then returning home to begin teaching his old district school where he had first attended. For four years he remained in charge of that school, each year receiving an increase in salary as an appreciation of his capable services, and in the meantime returned to the normal school during the vacation periods, thus improving his own education all the time. He graduated from the normal school in 1886, and following this taught in the city school of Middle Grove, Missouri, for two years, then being elected county superintendent of schools for that county in 1888. At the expiration of his term he went to Saint Edwards, Nebraska, where he was superintendent of city schools for two years, and in 1892 was nominated as county superintendent of schools for Boone County, Nebraska, but on account of his wife's ill health was forced to decline the nomination. He then returned to Kirksville, Missouri, where resided an osteopathic physician whom he knew and in whom he had the greatest confidence. Physicians in Nebraska had given his wife up as incurable, but under the skillful treatment of this osteopath, Dr. A. T. Still, she fully recovered her health.

For some time Doctor Hartford had been carefully watching and investigating Doctor Still's methods of practice, and his success in curing his wife caused him to fully decide to enter the American School of Osteopathy. He made rapid progress and graduated in osteopathy June 22, 1897, almost immediately thereafter going to Clarinda, Iowa, to practice, only to find that there was a state law against it, but while there he made several remarkable cures. Subsequently he went to Ogden, Utah, opened an office and began professional business, but after thirty days was arrested for the practice of osteopathy. He was acquitted at his trial, but within fifteen minutes was again arrested, was again acquitted and was arrested

for the third time. He stood this trial before the judge of the Circuit Court and it lasted from 8:00 A. M. until 5:00 P. M. The judge took it under advisement for two weeks before making his decision, and during those two weeks the case was thrown out of court. It was at the instigation of the State Board of Physicians that he was arrested, and after his final acquittal Doctor Hartford sued this board for $10,000 damages, but the matter was compromised by leaving him to practice in peace thereafter.

A little later Doctor Hartford returned to Illinois, where he learned a law also existed against the practice of osteopathy. Later he went to Iowa and was instrumental in securing the passage of a law permitting the practice of osteopathy in that and other states, and in 1899 came to Champaign, Illinois, where he passed the examination of the State Board of Health. He opened an office in the annex of the Beardsley Hotel January 1, 1900, and remained in that office for three years, at the end of which time he removed to the Illinois Building. In 1912 he came to his present offices, in the First National Bank Building, where he is enjoying a large practice. His office is unexcelled in equipment, containing the most practical apparatus thus far discovered, as well as the latest periodicals and books bearing upon the subject which is enlisting his best energy and thought.

Doctor Hartford was married March 26, 1882, to Miss Hattie Sterrett, a native of Putnam County, Missouri, and to this union there have been born two children. The first, Dr. William Scott Hartford, of Los Angeles, California, is a graduate of the Chicago College of Osteopathy and Herring Homeopathic College of Chicago. In 1906 he located at Urbana, Illinois, where he had a large practice until 1916, and in that year disposed of his property interests and went to Los Angeles, California, where he is now located at No. 310 Story Building. Naoma Rebekah, the only daughter of Doctor and Mrs. Hartford, is a graduate of the Champaign High School, of the National Park Seminary, Washington, D. C., and of the University of Illinois, and for two years before her marriage was a teacher in the city schools of Champaign. She is now the wife of William L. Ashbeck, of Chicago, Illinois.

Politically Doctor Hartford is a Republican. His fraternal affiliations are with the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Guardians of Liberty, and, with the members of his family, he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Felix G. Campbell was a thoroughly practical and successful farmer before he took up the business of real estate, loans and insurance at Champaign, and in both lines his success has been noteworthy. He is still a farmer through ownership, though no longer a worker in the fields, and he now gives all his time to an extensive clientage in real estate and insurance.

Mr. Campbell was born in Preble County, Ohio, November 11, 1848, and was four years of age when his parents, John W. and Margaret N. (Dooley) Campbell, moved to Peoria, Illinois. His father was a native of Kentucky and his mother of Illinois. John W. Campbell spent his active career as a farmer, largely in Peoria County, and finally, when he and his wife retired, they went to live with their daughter Addie, at that time in Burton, Kansas, where both of them died. They were the parents of seven children: Mary E., David O., Charles L., Samuel, all deceased; Addie, wife of William H. Wilson of Wichita, Kansas; Felix G.; and George W. of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Felix G. Campbell grew up on an Illinois farm, attended district schools, and remained at home until he was twenty-four. At that date

he left home and lived on rented farms for about five years, when he bought eighty acres of his own and subsequently another eighty acres, this 160 acres constituting a very fine improved farm in Peoria County. Later Mr. Campbell bought 160 acres in Champaign County. He still owns both farms. In 1892 he removed to Champaign and for a quarter of a century has been handling real estate, insurance and loans. Mr. Campbell is an active Republican and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

On September 4, 1872, he married Miss Alice Gilbert, a native of Peoria County. They are the parents of four children: Walter G., deceased; Maude, at home; Ralph M., associated with his father in business; and Leland L. of Champaign.

CHARLES GORDON. Now enjoying the comforts of a home in Rantoul that is one of the best residences of that town, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon are able to look back with pardonable pride upon a long and active career spent in Champaign County. Mr. Gordon gained his success as a farmer. Industry, combined with good judgment, gave him a competency many years ago, and he is looked upon as one of the large land holders and substantial citizens of this section.

A native of Ireland, he was born in Wexford County, a son of John and Mary (Whalen) Gordon. A year and a half after his birth his parents came to America in 1857, and for the first nine years lived in Aurora, Illinois. From there they moved to Shabbona Grove in DeKalb County, and three years later, in 1869, came to Champaign County. Charles Gordon was the fourth in a family of five sons and three daughters. These children were all educated in the district schools of Compromise Township in this county.

Charles Gordon as he grew to manhood assisted his father on the farm and in 1886 he established a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Hanora Jackson. Mrs. Gordon was born in Morris, Ripley County, Indiana, fifth in a family of five daughters and four sons of John and Anna (Molloy) Jackson. She was educated in the high school at Rantoul.

Having inherited 160 acres of land from his father, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon located on that farm in Kerr Township after their marriage and put to the test the qualifications they had as industrious and economical young people. Their prosperity grew and in time they found themselves the possessors of a fine estate of splendid land, 640 acres. Mr. Gordon has often succeeded in his agricultural efforts where others have failed, and his friends say that he has a genius for making mother earth yield bountifully to every effort he puts forth.

In time there came into their home seven children, two sons and five daughters: John F., Joseph A., Alice M., Theresa M., Clara A., Rose A. and Nona M. From the first Mr. and Mrs. Gordon were ambitious that their children should have the best of educational opportunities. They first attended the Gordon district schools. Alice and Theresa were students in the St. Mary of the Woods at Terre Haute, which is one of the finest schools of culture and training in the Middle West. Theresa graduated with honors from that institution. John F. studied three years in St. Viator's College at Kankakee. Joseph Gordon began his higher studies in St. Bede's College at Peru, Illinois, and graduated from the college course at St. Viator's, and spent four years in St. Paul's Seminary at St. Paul, Minnesota. On finishing his philosophical and theological studies he was ordained a priest at Peoria, June 17, 1916, by Bishop Edmund Dunne. He was then appointed assistant pastor of St. Mark's Parish in Peoria under Father Burke. He has distinguished himself as a studious and consecrated young priest and has a large circle of friends. Clara and Rose

became students in the Villa de Chantal College of Rock Island and Clara graduated with the class of 1914. This class contained ten graduates. The daughter Nona is now a student in the Donovan Memorial School at Rantoul. Thus Mr. and Mrs. Gordon have largely succeeded in their task of educating their children and of preparing them for true and useful citizenship. Alice M. Gordon married Francis J. Klein, and they reside on part of the Gordon estate.

The Gordon family are active members of St. Malachi's Catholic Church at Rantoul. For twenty-seven years Mr. Gordon served as treasurer of his home school district and that old school has taken the name of the family and is now known as the Gordon School, the land having been donated by Mr. Gordon for school purposes.

In February, 1916, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon gave up the active responsibilities of managing their extensive landed property, and removing to Rantoul, built a fine residence at the corner of Belle Avenue and High Street. Here they have every comfort and convenience, and are also in close touch with their large circle of friends. Their son John F. Gordon has now assumed the chief responsibilities of managing the homestead farm in Kerr Township. He married Emma McEvelly of Minooka, Illinois. They have a young daughter four years old named Vivian Gordon.

John C. Kruse is one of Champaign's oldest business men in point of continuous service, having lived in that city for almost half a century. He has been an independent merchant for over forty-five years, and he has wisely looked after and directed the business training of his sons and assisted each one to get established in business.

Mr. Kruse is a native of Germany, where he was born July 23, 1840, son of John C. and Minnie (Martens) Kruse. His parents spent all their lives in Germany. John C. Kruse had that substantial training afforded by the public school system of Germany. His father intended that he should go to a seminary and qualify for the profession of teacher. His father was a cabinetmaker, and before the plan had been carried out with respect to the son's education he became so deaf that his son had to leave school and take charge of the business.

Thus when Mr. Kruse came to the United States in 1867 he had mastered a trade and had considerable business experience. He first located in Cleveland, Ohio, but after a year there moved to Champaign, Illinois. Being an expert workman, he found employment in the furniture factory of Walker Brothers, with whom he remained four years. Out of his modest savings he then engaged in a business for himself and has been one of the leading furniture dealers and undertakers in Champaign for so many years that few residents of the city can recollect when the name of John C. Kruse was not in the business directory. In politics Mr. Kruse has maintained an independent attitude for a number of years. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

On December 6, 1869, he married Miss Doris Busch. Nine children have been born to their union: Minnie and Otto, both deceased; Valdemar, in the furniture business at Champaign; Emil, deceased; Paul, in the electrical business at Champaign; Edgar, in the automobile business there; Carl, an electrician; Robert, deceased; and Albert, associated with his father in the furniture business. Each of these sons remained with their father until twenty-one years of age, receiving no pay except board and keep. On reaching manhood the father started each one in a separate business for himself, though retaining some financial interest in the venture. It was a splendid way to do and the results have well justified the plan.

ENGWARD BENGTSON. While good Americans today find it entirely unnecessary to refer to other countries in order to establish honorable standing, it is but natural that a kind feeling should ever be preserved for the land of one's ancestors, and especially may this be the case when attention can be centered on Sweden. That country has contributed nobly to the good citizenship of America, and in every part of the United States may be found men of Swedish extraction who have proved their dependable qualities. They are found in Champaign County among the representative citizens and progressive farmers. Here the Bengtson and Gilburg names have been held in the highest regard for very many years.

Engward Bengtson, one of the large farmers and successful cattle growers of Champaign County, was born in Ford County, Illinois, and is a son of Charles and Clara Bengtson. They were born in Sweden and came early to Illinois. They endured many hardships, as did all the early settlers, but they acquired property through their perseverance and industry and the father still lives to enjoy the comfortable surroundings which seem to be the rightful accompaniments of age. About 1900 they removed from their farm of 245 acres, situated in Harwood Township, to Paxton, Illinois, where the beloved mother passed away April 15, 1917, attended carefully, tenderly and scientifically by their daughter, Tillie Bengtson, who is a graduate nurse of Wesley Hospital, Chicago. She still maintains a home at Paxton to care for her venerable father. To Charles Bengtson and wife the following children were born: Alfred, George (who died December 3, 1916), Engward, Tillie and Carl.

Engward Bengtson attended the public schools and was a student in the Ludlow High School. He gave his father assistance on the farm, as was natural and proper, taking a deep interest in all the industries and advocating improvements when he found them desirable. When his parents left the farm and moved to Paxton he and his brother George took entire charge and Tillie became the housekeeper. The death of his brother and his own marriage made some change in the domestic arrangements, but he has continued to operate the land and has been exceedingly successful in this undertaking. Under his management the Bengtson farm has retained its old reputation for fine cattle, and perhaps no finer herds of Durham can be found in the county. He has had a continuous record for large yields, particularly in corn and oats, eighty bushels to the acre not being unusual in corn, and in 1915 he harvested 5,340 bushels of oats. He keeps well posted on agricultural matters and is not afraid of new ventures and has met with some success in his experiments with alfalfa. Although he has met with a gratifying amount of prosperity in his agricultural industries in Champaign County, as a good business man he thought it desirable to look over some other agricultural sections and in 1907 spent some time in the vicinity of Spokane Falls, Washington. It resulted in his contented return to Champaign County, firm in the opinion that this is, indeed, the garden spot of the world, a section that cannot be surpassed for rich farming land, equable climate and good neighbors.

In 1912 Mr. Bengtson was married to Miss Sylvia Gilburg, who was born in Benton County, Indiana, and is a daughter of Carl Oscar and Louise (Anderson) Gilburg, both of whom came early to Indiana and were married at Attica. They had the following children: Sylvia, Lena, George, Emma and John, all of whom were educated in the public schools of Fowler, Indiana. Even before the marriage of the son and daughter, the Bengtson and Gilburg families were very friendly and frequently visited each other. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bengtson settled on the old Bengtson homestead and have resided here ever since. They have one son, Edward Charles Bengtson, a handsome, sturdy little fellow of whom

parents and grandparents are justly proud. Mr. and Mrs. Bengtson attend the Swedish Mission Church at Paxton, Illinois. In politics Mr. Bengtson is a Democrat and a great admirer of President Woodrow Wilson, believing that he is the providentially selected man of the hour for the great responsibilities now resting upon him.

CHARLES B. WIGGINS. So indispensable has the automobile become to modern life that one is led to marvel that such great progress in manufacture and use could have been made in comparatively so short a time. Although the idea of self-propelled vehicles was entertained and to some extent proved possible long before 1886, when the first horseless carriage as a practical conveyance appeared on the boulevards of Paris, France, it presented so many impossible features that for years the venture was not regarded as feasible. When other motive power than steam became known to the industries, it required only the application of inventive minds to evolve the automobile, a rather crude affair even in the summer of 1898, when in the entire United States there were only eighty of these new vehicles. In comparison with the present the record is astounding, not only in the volume of automobile output, but in the improvements that each year adds to the utility, beauty, use and comfort of this wonderful invention. With the increased use of the automobile dawned a new prosperity in every land, business methods have been revolutionized, agriculture is carried on along new lines, social life has been pleasantly stimulated and even war is prosecuted with unheard of vigor because of automobile inventions. Thousands of far-seeing business men find profit in handling one or another of the special type of cars, and along this line an immense business is being transacted at Champaign by Charles B. Wiggins, who is the local agent for the well known Cadillac cars.

Although numbered with Champaign's most representative and solid business men, Charles B. Wiggins is not a native of Illinois. He was born near Circleville, Ohio, January 16, 1872. His parents are Henry J. and Rosalie (Eggleston) Wiggins, both of whom were born in Ohio. They now reside at Homer, in Champaign County, Illinois, where the father is engaged in a banking business. Three sons made up the family: Perley, who is associated with his father in the bank; Charles B., who belongs to Champaign; and Henry, who is deceased.

Completing his public school course by the age of sixteen years, Charles B. Wiggins for a time was connected with his father's bank. Later he went to the Arkansas Valley in Colorado, and near Rocky Ford bought a large farm and went into the business of raising sugar beets, an industry he continued for four years, and then took advantage of an excellent offer and sold out. He returned then to Illinois and re-entered his father's banking establishment and in the course of time became vice president of the bank and continued in the financial field until 1912, when he sold his interest and came then to Champaign.

In coming to this city Mr. Wiggins had a very definite plan in view and immediately set about putting it into execution. He immediately invested in valuable vacant property, on which he erected one of the finest business structures in this city, a four-story fireproof building which has a frontage of forty-six feet on Hickory Street and forty-six feet on Neil Street, with a depth of 100 feet. The entire building is devoted to the exhibition of the Cadillac cars. Out of the numberless makes of automobiles, each with special claims to attention, Mr. Wiggins selected the Cadillac, assuring himself first concerning the superiority which he has no difficulty in impressing on buyers when they view and investigate the merits of the magnificent display of cars provided in such an admirable setting by Mr. Wiggins.

On September 16, 1901, Mr. Wiggins was united in marriage with Miss Daisy Morrison, who is a daughter of Elisha A. Morrison, a well known resident of Homer, Illinois, and one daughter was born to them, Marion, who did not survive infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Wiggins are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mrs. Wiggins taking an active part in the benevolent work for which this religious body is notable.

Not only is Mr. Wiggins an alert and progressive business man, but is active also in all that pertains to public affairs, especially in his own city, and, elected on the Republican ticket, he effectively served as alderman of the Sixth Ward until May, 1917, when a commission form of government was adopted. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons and the Elks.

THOMAS B. WELLES, whose fine country home is in section 7 of Compromise Township, in the Penfield community, has gained an enviable position among the progressive and successful farmer citizens of Champaign County. The passing years have brought him a large degree of that material prosperity which is characteristic of this rich section of Illinois, the esteem of the community has increased in proportion to the length of his residence, and his fellow citizens have come to rely upon him as a leader in many of those movements which mark the enlightened progress of any locality.

Mr. Welles was born in Compromise Township and is a son of J. H. and Ann Sarah (Jones) Welles. His father was born in Connecticut and his mother in the State of Maine. They were industrious and thrifty people of Yankee stock, and were pioneers in Champaign County, moving here from Ohio in 1863. When they first located in Compromise Township all the surrounding country was a bare prairie and only four houses could be seen between their home and Rantoul. They had the characteristics of the real pioneers, and in the course of time they had their land under the plow, commodious buildings erected, many fruit and shade trees set out and much of their effort is represented in the present value and attractiveness of the old homestead.

Thomas B. Welles was the youngest in a family of eight children, two sons and six daughters. He grew up on the home farm, and secured his education from the nearby country schools. He gained a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Emma McHenry. Mrs. Welles was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, daughter of Joseph and Nancy (Watson) McHenry. Mrs. Welles was also well educated in the local schools. After their marriage they located on the old Welles homestead, and with 160 acres under his management Mr. Welles has made more than a comfortable living for himself and family and his farm shows the evidences of expert study and handling. For a number of years he has been noted among the breeders and raisers of Percheron horses in this county.

Mr. and Mrs. Welles are the parents of six children: T. Maxwell, Ralph J., Marian Frances, Margaret Alice, Helen Louise and Kate Elizabeth.

It has been Mr. Welles' desire to give his own children good educations, and with this object in view he has striven to raise the standards of the local schools and has served as a member of the board of directors. In politics he follows the example of his honored father and is a Republican. Mrs. Welles is a member of the Christian Church, but all the family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church at Penfield, where the children are in the Sunday school. Thus Mr. and Mrs. Welles with their family live on an old homestead which has a host of associations centering around the name and there they enjoy the good things of life and the years that are past are as grateful in recollection as the future is bright before them.

JOHN FREDERIC HESSEL. There are many avenues of honorable business open to men of education, initiative and talent, and it is a claim proudly made by the great University of Illinois that from her halls go out graduates thoroughly prepared for any career. Many of these young men of the thousands who have hopefully crossed her doorsill undoubtedly have proved the truth of this claim, and many have settled down under her walls, as it were, and through their achievements have reflected credit on their alma mater. In this connection may be mentioned a prominent business man of Champaign, John Frederic Hessel, who is a worthy representative of one of the sterling old pioneer families of Champaign County.

John Frederic Hessel was born at Champaign, Illinois, September 18, 1866. His parents were Gustavus Edward and Mary (Davorn-Dixon) Hessel, the latter of whom survives. She was born in Dublin, Ireland, of Irish and Scotch parentage, on April 4, 1841. In 1856 she was married to Gustavus Edward Hessel at Brooklyn, New York, and five children were born to them, of whom John Frederic is the only survivor. The others, who bore the names of Frank L., Cora Mae and Emma H., all died of scarlet fever on April 24, 1878, aged respectively six, ten and fourteen years. This heart-breaking domestic affliction was one that from lack of medical knowledge at the time was repeated in many a bereaved home.

Gustavus Edward Hessel was born at Freiburg, in the province of Saxony, Germany, October 6, 1836, and died in Illinois, August 10, 1881. His father, Frederick Hessel, owned vineyards and followed an agricultural life. Gustavus Edward came to the United States at the age of sixteen years and he found employment on a farm in the northern part of Champaign County. He found but little time to attend the public schools, but studied at night and found teachers to help him, and in that way acquired a fair knowledge of the English language. In 1855 he began the business of manufacturing harness and saddles at Champaign, then known as West Urbana, and through his industry, enterprise and good judgment developed a large concern that was known all over central Illinois. He was an active member of the Republican party in the county and always gave support to worthy movements of all kinds. He was one of the early members of the Order of Odd Fellows in this section and was a devout and generous member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

John Frederic Hessel attended the public schools and completed his education with two years in the University of Illinois, soon afterward embarking in the land and loan business, in which he has been interested ever since. He operates quite extensively in Northwestern lands and maintains offices at Champaign. At present he has a project of great public value in view, it being concerned with connecting the University of Illinois with the city of Champaign by means of a boulevard system and a high grade residential district. If this plan or another he may find more workable, should be successfully carried through, Mr. Hessel will have done a great thing for Champaign, for it would bring numberless benefits in its train.

While Mr. Hessel has never been particularly active in politics, he has felt a citizen's responsibility at all times. He is a Republican. In fraternal life he is identified with the Elks and the Knights of Pythias, and a wide acquaintance has given him many agreeable social connections.

WILLIAM KEAL. While Champaign County has long been noted for its material riches and its magnificent assets as an agricultural district, its real wealth consists in its men and women, its families and homes, their standards of comfort and civic and domestic virtues, and in those associations which afford color to the material background of existence.

Of those families that have longest been identified with the county

that represented by William Keal, a resident of Rantoul Township, has more than ordinary interest.

Mr. Keal was born in Prussia, Germany, and was seven years of age when he accompanied his parents to America. He is a son of Frederick and Louisa (Dahms) Keal. Altogether there were eight children, four born in America and four in Germany. Frederick and Louisa Keal possessed the substantial German characteristics of ambition and thrift. To better their fortunes they determined to come to America. After landing in New York they proceeded directly to Champaign County, Illinois, where Frederick Keal had two sisters living, Mrs. Peters and Mrs. Seams. For several years they lived at Champaign and worked largely as wage earners. Frederick Keal at one time farmed a portion of the land now included in the university farm. By the strictest attention to duty and by many sacrifices they were finally able to buy forty acres seven miles southeast of Rantoul. Mrs. Keal possessed energy and industry to as great a degree as her husband. In those early days Champaign County was noted for its production of broom corn. Mrs. Keal with other women did the heavy work involved in sorting the broom corn. The industry of herself and husband had its reward. After buying their first home they were able from time to time to add to their landed estate until they eventually owned 100 acres of as fine land as can be found anywhere in Illinois.

The names of their children were: Frederick C., deceased; William; Mrs. Sophia Wallen; Charles G.; Minnie; Louisa; Anna; and Lilly. The two last are now deceased. Lilly was Mrs. Tibbets, and she died in Urbana. All these children were educated in the district school at Maple Grove.

Mr. William Keal also attended school in the East Side High School at Champaign. His early experiences were as a farmer, and he had reached the age of twenty-three when, on December 25, Christmas Day, 1878, he laid the foundation of his own home and fortune by his union with Miss Frances M. Harris. She is a daughter of Marvin B. and Melissa Harris, the former a native of New York and the latter of Indiana. Marvin B. Harris moved from New York to the vicinity of Honey Creek, Indiana. The Harrises were of Scotch-Irish descent. In the family were three children, William, Albert and Frances. All were born at Honey Creek, Indiana, and for a number of years they had their home south of Terre Haute. Then the death angel came and took away the mother and after her death Frances Harris spent three years with her uncle, John S. Brookbank, who is still living at the age of ninety. Mr. Brookbank moved from Indiana to McDonough County, Illinois, thence to Warren County and finally to Champaign County. Eventually Frances returned to Indiana to live with her father, who had married again. Mrs. Keal's father served gallantly as a soldier in the Civil War. At the close of the war he returned home and married, in order that he might furnish his daughter a home. Later Frances returned to Champaign County and kept house for her two brothers on a farm until her marriage to Mr. Keal.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Keal began in Rantoul Township on a rented farm. In order to see more of the country they subsequently took a trip to Iowa, but their investigations proved to them that no country was quite so satisfactory as Champaign County. Returning, they bought eighty acres in Rantoul Township, and with that strict application, energy and good management which are the fundamentals of success as farmers they increased their prosperity from year to year. At the present time Mr. and Mrs. Keal have an estate of 280 acres, including some of the richest and most productive land of Champaign County.

Into their home were born four children: Rose B., Thomas A.,

Charles W. and John Harold. These children were all given the advantages of the local district school and subsequently the high school at Rantoul. Rosa B. Keal married Arthur Hadler, a farmer whose home is five miles west of Rantoul. Their three children are named William Harris, Henry Kenneth and Frances Caroline. Charles W. Keal married Stella Tweedy, and they live on a farm south of Rantoul. John Harold Keal married Cecil Cornelia Baker on May 29, 1917. They are living at the Keal homestead. Thomas is still at home with his parents.

Politically Mr. Keal has come to prefer the man to the party and is exceedingly broad minded in his attitude and views of public questions. He believes that the honors of politics should go as a reward for real service and that only the men of tested honesty and ability should be preferred for public positions. Mr. Keal is also a strong prohibitionist and looks forward to the time in the not far distant future when the state and nation will be irrevocably committed to the prohibition of the liquor traffic.

Mr. and Mrs. Keal and their children all attend the Christian Church. Mr. Keal was for many years an elder in the church. His community has bestowed upon him many marks of esteem and confidence, and for a number of years he served as a member of the school board and has done all he could to secure the best advantages not only for his own children but for those of his neighbors. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. They come in close touch with the social life of Rantoul, and their home is a place of unbounded hospitality for their friends both in the country and in the town. Mr. and Mrs. Keal reside on one of the fine places in the splendid agricultural district two miles south of Rantoul.

Before closing some mention should be made of a souvenir possessed by Mrs. Keal, which has some historic interest. It is a letter written from her great-grandmother to her grandparents. It was written at that picturesque spot of Lewiston in Niagara County, New York, and was dated January 26, 1828. The letter was written and was folded according to the old custom, without envelope, was sealed with sealing wax, and the rate of postage stamped upon it was 25 cents.

David H. Coffman is one of the older residents of Champaign County, went from this district to serve in the Union Army during the Civil War, and has turned his hand with credit and success to many undertakings, from farming to commercial lines. Mr. Coffman is now an honored retired resident of the city of Champaign, where in 1909 he built a substantial two-story home at 606 West Hill Street.

He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, October 1, 1840, a son of Noah B. and Elizabeth (Lamb) Coffman. His parents were also natives of Fairfield County and in 1859 brought their family to Champaign County, Illinois. Their home was a farm three miles north of the city of Champaign. Noah Coffman proved himself a successful farmer and stock raiser and continued to live in Champaign County until his death in January, 1864. The mother is also deceased. They had nine children: William H., of Champaign; Aaron F., deceased; Mary C., of Champaign; David H.; Lucinda Frances, deceased; Peter J., deceased; Samuel C., living in Iowa; Thomas D., of Oakland, California; and Sarah Elizabeth, deceased.

David H. Coffman was nineteen years of age when the family removed to Champaign County. His early educational advantages were those of the public schools of Ohio. He remained a practical assistant to his father on the farm until September, 1861. Already the war had broken



Harry A. Coffman

out and was raging in unlimited fury when he answered the call of patriotism and enlisted in Company I of the Tenth Illinois Cavalry. He was with that gallant regiment, whose record is so well known, for two and a half years. It was a hard service, and he was finally disabled and spent considerable time in a hospital at Little Rock, Arkansas. He was sent home on a sick furlough, and was discharged at Springfield, Illinois.

The war over, he resumed the quiet lines of civil affairs as a farmer on the homestead for about three years. He then bought a hundred and seventy acres near Savoy, kept it about a year, then sold out and farmed another year near Champaign. For three years Mr. Coffman lived in Springfield, Missouri, employed by the Missouri Pacific Railway as stationary engineer. He resigned that position to return to Champaign County, and at Bondville became associated with his brother in the grocery, grain and general merchandise business for three years.

For another period of about three years Mr. Coffman was in the monument business, and for one year was with C. W. Clark dealing in monuments, with their headquarters at Urbana. Mr. Coffman then took up the building and contracting business, which he followed for three years. He has always owned a farm during this period, and about that time he put his son in charge on the farm. The son remained on the property one year, and then both father and son began selling implements for the International Harvester Company. He finally closed out his business affairs and now gives his time only to looking after his home and investments. Mr. Coffman has been a regular supporter of the Republican party for a great many years. He is affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic and the Methodist Episcopal Church.

On December 28, 1876, Mr. Coffman married Sarah E. Ruhl, daughter of A. G. and Barbara (Vanderau) Ruhl, both of whom were natives of Germany. Her father came to America at the age of three years, the family locating near Marysville, Ohio. Later they went to Rockford, Illinois, and in 1857 established a home in Champaign County. He lived on a farm in Hensley Township, but about five years before his death removed to Bondville, where he lived retired. The children of the Ruhl family were: William, a resident of Kansas; Mary, deceased; Mrs. Coffman; Emma, deceased; Carrie, wife of Newton Taylor; Charles, deceased; John, of Mahomet; Martha, wife of Charles Pfiester, of Bondville; Lulu, wife of William McBride, of Iowa; Elizabeth, deceased; and Maud, wife of Robert Hill, of Cincinnati.

Mr. and Mrs. Coffman have one child, Harry A., who is a capable young man of varied experience and attainments, and he was born May 30, 1879. He continued his educational training in the district schools of Condit Township until he reached the age of fourteen, and then entered the grade schools of Champaign. He was also a student in the high school of Champaign, and then entered the University of Illinois and graduated from the law department of that institution in 1901. For one year after leaving the University he was engaged in farming, and then formed a partnership with his father in the implement business, that relationship continuing for three years. Mr. Coffman then accepted a position with the Luthy Manufacturing Company, and later became sales manager for the Hart Grain Weigher Company. He has remained with this company to the present time, and is now filling the office of secretary and general sales manager.

Harry A. Coffman married Jessie Trotter, of Champaign, a daughter of Jefferson and Eliza Trotter, also of this city, and they have become the parents of three children: Frances, Harriet and David, the latter having been named in honor of his grandfather, David H. Coffman. Mr. and

Mrs. Coffman are members of the Congregational Church, and he has fraternal relations with the Masonic order, in which he has attained the Thirty-second degree. He is held in the highest regard both in business and social circles.

WOLF LEWIS. The modern merchant is the man who knows what the people want and supplies the best facilities for meeting those wants. He acts on that solid commercial principle that real success is only a return for an adequate service rendered. Of Champaign merchants of this class there is no more conspicuous example than Wolf Lewis, whose department store in the large Illinois Building means to Champaign County about what the Marshall Field store means to the shopping public of Chicago. Mr. Lewis is a merchant almost by birthright, but has profited by a long and thorough experience and has been tested by the fire of adversity as well as by the stimulus of prosperity. Along with success in his private business ventures, he has combined a public spirit which has made him a factor in civic improvement and municipal betterment. He is looked upon as a man of the finest character and useful influence.

Mr. Lewis is a native of Poland, where he was born May 15, 1858, a son of Reuben and Eva (Lewis) Lewis, both natives of Poland. The mother died in Poland when her son Wolf was a very small child. Reuben Lewis then immigrated to the United States, located at Troy, New York, and engaged in the wholesale dry goods business. He had left his six children behind him in Poland, and did not send for them until he was well located in the New World. He spent the rest of his life as a successful business man at Troy, New York, where he died. His children were: George, now a resident of Chicago; Himan, deceased; Dora, widow of I. Schiller of Troy, New York; Wolf; Rosa, wife of Mr. Rosenthal of New York City; Samuel, a resident of Chicago.

Brought to this country when a small boy, Wolf Lewis grew up in Troy, New York, and acquired his early educational advantages there. The first thing to attract him away from home surroundings was the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia, in the year 1876. He spent a time at the exposition, and also came to know something of New York City during that year. He then returned to Troy, acquired some additional business training, and in 1879 went West to Chicago. Subsequently he and his brother George established a merchandise business at Marinette, Wisconsin, and he soon took over the store himself, while George returned to Chicago.

In 1897 Mr. Lewis sold his holdings in northern Wisconsin and removed to Champaign. Here he opened a stock of general merchandise in the old Odd Fellows Building, but subsequently removed to a new building, which was later destroyed by fire, and he and its other occupants suffered complete loss of their business. Not at all disheartened, Mr. Lewis opened another store in temporary quarters, and when the Illinois Building was completed he took a lease on the basement, first and second floors and a part of the third floor. The Illinois Building is in the heart of the shopping district of Champaign, and its tenants are all high class business concerns. Mr. Lewis has rapidly built up a department store enterprise that is one of the largest and most successful in Illinois.

Mr. Lewis is a Republican in politics. He is affiliated with the lodge of Masons and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, is a member of the Jewish Synagogue of Champaign and a member of the Champaign Country Club.

Mr. Lewis married for his first wife Lena Ruler. At her death she left one son, Leonard D., who is now treasurer of his father's company.

Mr. Lewis married for his second wife Ray Ruler, sister of his first wife. They have two sons, Herman, secretary of the W. Lewis Company, and Roy, who is now located in Chicago.

C. O. Nelson. A thriftier body of citizens the United States has obtained from no one country than from Sweden. While representatives of that land are not so numerous in Champaign County as in other sections of Illinois, to at least one family, that of C. O. Nelson, the county owes a tribute for what it has accomplished in the years that have passed. Mr. Nelson and his wife came to this county many years ago and began work on a tract of raw prairie land. Their possessions have increased and they now enjoy the comforts of one of the most beautiful country homes in the entire county.

Mr. Nelson was born in Lockneve, Province of Kelmar, Sweden, a son of Nels Magnus and Annie Marie. He grew up in his native land, and in 1872 married Miss Charlotte Nelson, who was born in the same province in Sweden.

For their wedding journey they crossed the ocean to America, landing in New York and going on to Paxton, Illinois, where they had friends and relatives from the old country. Here they started out to make a home and living, and for two years lived in Ford County, where Mr. Nelson worked at regular wages. While he and his wife did the duties that lay nearest them, they were also seeking a long look ahead and were making their present efforts conform to their future prospects. In time by economy they had accumulated enough to enable them to purchase forty acres of land in section 8 of Champaign County. For this land they paid $27 an acre. It was not a large farm, and the land had been little developed. It was prairie soil, and part of it was covered every year by water. They had a small house and a small barn. In those humble surroundings may be found the beginning of their present generous prosperity.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson moved to that farm in Champaign County in 1881, and since then year after year has seen some increase in their holdings. They subsequently paid $3,000 for eighty acres, and then bought 160 acres at a price of $10,000. They now own 360 acres of as fine land as can be found in the entire county.

In the meantime three children were born to them, Alfred Gustav, Carl Oscar and Hulda Marie. To these children Mr. and Mrs. Nelson gave the best possible educational advantages, at first in the district school of Maple Grove, while Alfred attended school at Gibson.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are active members of the Lutheran Church at Farmersville, and had their children baptised and confirmed in the same church. Politically Mr. Nelson is a stanch Republican. While they have endured the usual privations and vicissitudes of early settlers, their later prosperity tastes all the sweeter for what they went through to acquire it. In 1915 Mr. Nelson erected one of the most beautiful country homes in Champaign County. It is a ten-room modern residence, located four and three-quarter miles west of Ludlow, on Rural Route No. 30. Many city homes have not the complete facilities of this place. It has a water system operated by compression tank in the basement and with gasoline power. There is hot and cold, soft and hard water, and bathroom, and Mr. Nelson is now planning the installation of an independent electric light plant. The home is heated by a hot air furnace.

Mr. Nelson is a true type of the American citizen, and Mrs. Nelson is a fine example of the American mother. They came to this country empty handed, though with big and courageous hearts and with all the energy and courage required for success. Thus they may with pardonable

pride look back over the past. Mr. Nelson has demonstrated what a man can do by earnest, honest and efficient energy. Such a career commands the admiration of all who appreciate the value of the good, sound elements of life. America's most substantial citizens are made up of such people as Mr. and Mrs. Nelson. They have won prosperity for themselves, and in so doing have contributed something to the task which the world has to perform. As a farmer Mr. Nelson has distinguished himself by an ability to make mother earth respond with bountiful prodigality to his touch, and his ability and achievements in this direction are known and admired all over Champaign County. In the parlor of the home of these worthy people hang two paintings, showing the king and queen of Sweden, King Oscar and Queen Sophia. While Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have pleasant memories of their youth in Sweden, they have never had a desire to give up America and all this country means to them for the sake of returning to Sweden.

George Newton Cunningham. No one family name has been so long identified with the drug business in Champaign County as that of Cunningham. In almost pioneer times, in 1854, Albert Palmer Cunningham came West to Champaign County and located at Urbana, where he found employment in a bank and was later engaged in the drug business. He had a practical but no technical knowledge of pharmacy and he had a very successful establishment at Urbana for many years. In 1880 he removed his store to Champaign, and the business has been carried on by him or his sons in that city for over thirty-five years.

Albert Palmer Cunningham was born in New York State August 11, 1832, and died at Champaign October 12, 1893. He married Ophelia Jane Segar, who was born in Huron County, Ohio, May 26, 1835, and died June 23, 1896. Albert P. Cunningham was a man of note in Champaign County and at one time served as mayor of Urbana. He was a brother of Judge J. O. Cunningham. Albert Cunningham also was a gallant soldier in the Civil War, serving with Company G of the Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. He was mustered out as lieutenant of his company.

Albert P. Cunningham and wife had seven children: Frank, Addie and Herbert, all now deceased; Elmer S., born February 10, 1865, and a resident of Indianapolis; George N.; Clara B., born August 25, 1869, now wife of C. S. Bouton of Springdale, Arkansas; and Edwin Ralph, born July 29, 1873, and associated with his brother, George N., in the drug business at Champaign.

George Newton Cunningham, who became associated in the drug business with his father and has since continued the enterprise on a larger scale, was born at Urbana, Illinois, December 24, 1867. For three years he had the advantages of the University of Illinois and is thoroughly well educated. In 1888, at the age of twenty-one, he entered his father's store as a partner, under the firm name of A. P. Cunningham & Son. This title was continued until his father's death. Later his brother, Edwin Ralph, entered the business and together they have been able to broaden trade and build up a business which is now one of the most important in the city. The store had always handled sundries and stationery, but they made the stationery business something of a special department and also handled school books and school supplies. In 1916 they built a branch store at the corner of Wright and Green streets, near the university grounds. Thus they have made the trade of the university accessible. At that location they built a two-story modern brick building 60x132 feet, and besides their other business they established there the Illini Bank, of which George N. Cunningham is president and his brother manager.

Besides a general stock of stationery they carry magazines, current literature and a complete line of text books used in the university.

George N. Cunningham served one term as city treasurer of Champaign. He is active in the Business Men's Club, is a Republican, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Sons of Veterans. He was married August 9, 1899, to Miss Alice Miller, a native of Champaign, and daughter of Edward Payson and Augusta (Segar) Miller. Both parents are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham have two children: Eunice, born August 15, 1903; and Newton Miller, born April 17, 1908.

R. G. Morrison. A Rantoul residence almost palatial in its architectural design, size and comforts is the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Morrison in their retired years. Mr. Morrison is a veteran of the Civil War and fought gallantly for the preservation of the Union when the nation needed his services. His industrious efforts as a farmer brought him large rewards and though he began with very modest capital he acquired one of the handsomest estates of Champaign County.

Mr. Morrison was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, son of Mr. and Mrs. Abram Morrison, his father a native of Ohio and his mother of Pennsylvania. In the early days Mr. Morrison attended district schools in the vicinity of Zanesville, Ohio. The schoolhouse which stands clearest in his memory was an old log building. It had slab benches, a desk supported by pins driven into the side wall, and the instruction was as crude and limited as the furnishings of the building. Occasionally the pupils would attend school for six months in the year, though the usual term was three months.

He was only eighteen years of age when he enlisted at Zanesville for service in the Union army. He became a member of the Home Guard and was ordered with his comrades to Maryland, to Harper's Ferry, then to Baltimore, and he did service chiefly as a guard along some of the seacoast fortifications. He was mustered out and given his honorable discharge at Zanesville.

It was in April, 1870, that Mr. Morrison, then twenty-four years of age, drove across the country from Ohio to Champaign County. He brought with him his wife, whom he had married in Ohio, Miss Maggie A. Frazier. They located at Thomasboro in this county on land belonging to Mrs. Morrison's father. Mr. Frazier had given his daughter forty acres and Mr. Morrison bought from him forty acres more at a price of $1,000. The young couple had the energy and the courage to face life cheerfully and bravely for all the hard work it promised, and gradually their prosperity took on increasing measure until Mr. Morrison found himself possessor of 100 acres, containing some of the richest land in all Illinois. For many years he also engaged in the buying of grain at Thomasboro. Mr. Morrison has experienced the usual joys and sorrows that are the lot of the human family. After his prosperity had been assured his good wife passed away and he also saw his son, Lee F. Morrison, enter into rest at the age of twenty-four. Mr. Morrison married for his second wife Dolly George, who died in 1916. His present wife before her marriage was Mrs. Margaret Mulliken of Champaign, daughter of J. S. Grindley. She was educated in the Champaign schools. Mrs. Morrison has four sons and a daughter by a former marriage: Byron, L. Burns, Robert Burns, Helen Margaret and Clarence E. Byron is a graduate of the high school in Champaign and is now a stenotypist and is employed by a big lumber company in Mississippi. Robert is a student in the Military Academy of Mexico, Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. Morrison are members and liberal supporters of the Congregational Church. Politically he has always given his allegiance to the Republican party. He is affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic and his wife is a member of the Eastern Star. It was in 1912 that Mr. Morrison gave up the active superintendence of his farm and purchased his present magnificent home in Rantoul. Here he has surrounded himself with the comforts that are the products of his own work and lives to enjoy life in the fullness of years and the consciousness of duties well performed. He has always stood as a public spirited citizen of his community, and for many years served as school director and did much to improve the advantages of the schools in his own locality. He has also served as road commissioner.

HENRY T. SCHUMACHER has been one of the strong and resourceful members of the Champaign County bar for the past thirteen years. He has built up a large and profitable general clientage and his name and reputation are gradually being extended all over the judicial district and the eastern section of the State. Mr. Schumacher is a native of Illinois, born at LaRose in Marshall County, July 11, 1879. His parents, Adolph and Hannah (Steinke) Schumacher, were both natives of Germany. Adolph Schumacher came to America about 1858, locating in Marshall County, Illinois. For two or three years he lived in the city of Henry, but then removed to LaRose and was one of the very first to locate in that vicinity. He spent his active career as a farmer and died there in January, 1908. The widowed mother still lives at LaRose. Of their four children one died in infancy. Alvina, the wife of Edward Rechlin, lives at LaRose, Illinois. Louise is the widow of Conrad Henn.

The fourth in order of birth, Henry T. Schumacher, grew up on his father's farm and his early environment was the rural section of a prosperous Illinois community. In 1899, after completing the work of the common schools in his native locality, he spent two years in the University of Illinois. He then entered the law department of that university and was graduated in 1904 LL. B. Since then Mr. Schumacher has been in active practice at Champaign.

He is a Republican and has been interested to a considerable extent in politics, though not in such a way as to interfere with his profession. He is now serving as law clerk to the House of Representatives at Springfield. He is a member of the Masonic order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and he and his family are Presbyterians.

He married Miss Minnie Nuckolls, a native of Sangamon County, Illinois. They have four children: J. Willis, Margaret, Henry N., and Elizabeth.

JOHN H. WYNE. For more than forty-five years Champaign County has been the home of John H. Wyne, and those have been years of achievement in the material sense and also in the acquisition of the riches of community esteem paid him for his worthy life and the influence he has exerted for good.

Mr. Wyne was born in Jefferson County, Indiana, January 24, 1842, a son of William and Margaret (Rutledge) Wyne. His father was a native of Virginia and his mother of Tennessee. His father went to Indiana in the early days, and kept his home in that state on a farm until his death. He was twice married, and by his first marriage had eight children. By his second wife his only child was Mr. John H. Wyne.

The latter attended school in a hewed log schoolhouse with his half

brothers and sisters, and at the age of twenty-nine, in 1871, he came to Champaign County to visit his aunt, Marilda Thompson. In this county he found employment on farms, and was a steady worker for others until he was able to conduct a place of his own.

He was also twenty-nine years of age when he married, at Cincinnati, Ohio, Miss Mary Jane Thompson. The one child of that union is Miles Earl Wyne, who was named for his cousin, a prominent lawyer. Miles E. Wyne is a practical farmer in Harwood Township and married Nellie Clifton.

After coming to Champaign County Mr. Wyne worked steadily for a farmer, Mr. Philips, and from that labor saved enough to buy forty acres of land. That was the nucleus of his homestead and farm and his independent efforts have been richly rewarded. When his son was five years of age the beloved wife and mother passed away, and for his second wife Mr. Wyne married Rosa Rigdon, who was born in Parke County, Indiana, a daughter of William and Mellie (Carlin) Rigdon. There were seven children in the Rigdon family and they were all educated in the public schools. Mr. and Mrs. Wyne are active members of the Baptist Church at Rantoul and are among the workers and supporters in that church. Mr. Wyne is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He has served his community as road overseer and director of the local schools. Throughout Harwood Township Mr. Wyne is known affectionately as Uncle Johnnie Wyne. His is a most hospitable home, and he has proved a kindly neighbor, so that his name is one that is wreathed with kindly memories. He has always been ready to extend a helping hand where help was needed and the setting sun of his life finds him comfortably situated, with his son near by to relieve him of the heavier duties and cares of life. In politics Mr. Wyne is a stanch Republican. He was reared in a Democratic household, and as a boy he witnessed many of the evils of slavery, and came to have an abomination for that institution. The war and the assassination of President Lincoln turned him definitely into the ranks of the Republican party and he has been a voter for those principles for over fifty years.

George J. Babb is a native of Champaign County, and has made a good record as a practical farmer and business man, and his name stands equally high as a citizen whose support can be depended upon for those movements and enterprises which reflect the public good.

Mr. Babb was born in Hensley Township, September 30, 1871, a son of John and Ann (Deakin) Babb. His parents were both born in England. His father came to America about 1860, and after a brief residence in Ohio removed to Champaign County in 1861. He was a practical farmer, and lived in this county until his death in June, 1903. For several terms he served as supervisor of his township and he always had a following of loyal friends. He and his wife were the parents of four children: Ella, wife of John Stevenson of Geneva, Nebraska; Alice, wife of D. L. Bardwell, formerly superintendent of one of the high schools of New York City; Jessie of Champaign; and George J.

Mr. George J. Babb was educated partly in New York State and for one term was a student in the University of Illinois. His first business experience was as a farmer in the State of Nebraska. He remained in the West three years, and on returning to Champaign County took up farming and developed many substantial interests. He remained on his farm until 1904, when he removed to the city of Champaign, and is now president of the Farmers Grain Company at Thomasboro and also has a large grain ranch in Saskatchewan, Canada. When the city of Champaign

adopted the commission form of government Mr. Babb was one of the five candidates for the office of commissioner and was elected. He is now serving as commissioner of finance.

Mr. Babb was married February 7, 1894, in Nebraska, to Miss Jessie Sprout. Mrs. Babb is a native of Illinois. Their four children are: Walter George, John Howard, Elizabeth Margaret, and Helen Catherine, all of whom are members of the home circle. Mr. Babb is a Republican in politics, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Woodmen of the World.

ELI BUCK. The late Eli Buck was one of the fine, substantial and prosperous citizens of Champaign County. He established his home here in early days, and before his death his name was associated with the ownership of extensive and valuable farm lands and his character and activities were such as all must respect.

Mr. Buck was born in Vermont, a son of Gould and Valetta Buck. He married Miss Catherine Hogan, who still survives and makes her home in the village of Penfield.

Mrs. Buck was born in Tipperary, Ireland, a daughter of Michael and Mary (Ridden) Hogan. When she was quite small her father died and her widowed mother was left with nine children. When Catherine was nine years of age her mother crossed the Atlantic and settled in Connecticut. At the age of fifteen Catherine came to Illinois, and when she was twenty years of age she met Eli Buck at Monmouth, Illinois. Their acquaintance ripened into affection and culminated in marriage.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Buck located in Monmouth, where they remained thirteen years, and then, coming to Champaign County, settled within a mile of Gifford. At that time the town of Rantoul contained only nine small houses. Mr. and Mrs. Buck went sturdily to work to build up a home, and had eighty acres well improved when, as a result of failure of crops and other circumstances, they suffered financial calamity by which they lost all their property. Failing to be discouraged by this setback, they started all over again and in time they owned a fine farm of 160 acres in Compromise Township.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Buck were named Thomas Nathan, Joseph James, William Michael, George, Anna Valetta, Mary, Martin, Alice and Emma. The son Thomas Buck is a well-to-do farmer at Penfield, and by his marriage to Sarah Graham has children named Francis, Joseph, Artie, Eddie, Harold and Charles. Joseph Buck married Frances Downie, and their children are Leo, Esther, Margaret, Joseph, Gertrude, Francis, Catherine and George. George Buck married Theresa Hennesy. Anna Buck is the wife of Peter Mooney and is the mother of Stella, Kate, Mary and Dan. Mary Buck married Anthony Hannagan and has one child, Artie. Alice Buck is the wife of Henry Ellis, and her children are Frances, Loretta and John. Emma Buck, the youngest of the family, married Francis Graham, and their family of children consists of Agnes, Gertrude, Maude, Francis, Thomas, Raymond and Gilbert.

The Buck family are all members of the Catholic Church. It was in 1913 that Mr. Eli Buck was called to his final rest at the age of eighty-four. Though he attained advanced years he was a strong man both physically and mentally. He had an uncle who lived to be one hundred and two years of age. Mr. Buck was a kind and loving husband and father, and his name is greatly revered in the community where he spent so many years.

Mrs. Buck is still living, with her children around her, and she has reared them all to worthy lives. She is able to say what few mothers



Andrew Torquist.

can say, that during all her active associations with her children she never chastised them physically and when she spoke she was obeyed. This habit of obedience was one of the characteristics of the Buck home and is one that many families might emulate. Mrs. Buck still has in her home her son William Michael, a splendid young American, who, like the other children, was well educated and his life has been an honor to his parents.

ANDREW TORNQUIST when he came to America from his native Sweden in 1879 had as his equipment some experience in mechanical trades and also as a farmer. Otherwise his capital was extremely limited. An earnest purpose, hard work, and that wisdom that comes with experience, have put him far ahead in the game of life, and while he is not wealthy as wealth is understood at the present time he is financially independent and for all that he has he has given an adequate reward in service and practical value to the communities where he has lived.

Mr. Tornquist was born in Sweden, July 13, 1857, a son of Daniel and Carolina (Anderson) Tornquist, being their only child. When he was fifteen years of age his father died and the mother married again and is still living in Sweden. His father was a blacksmith and carriage maker. At the age of fifteen Andrew Tornquist had to take upon his shoulders unusual responsibilities. With such knowledge as he had picked up of his father's trade he managed to carry on the little shop and business and also managed the farming property of his father. At the age of twenty Mr. Tornquist left home and removed to the city of Stockholm, where he worked at the building trade as a carpenter and brick layer.

That experience continued for a year and a half and in 1879 he sought a home and better fortune in America. Locating in Chicago, he became a mechanical employe in the power shops of the Illinois Central Railway Company, but in 1881 removed to Donovan, Iroquois County, Illinois. There he bought a machine and repair shop, and was successful in business there for about twenty years. He also bought a farm of eighty acres, and is still owner of that property. After selling his first shop he engaged in the hardware business with A. C. Swanson, under the firm name of Tornquist & Swanson, for three years. Mr. Tornquist then traded his interest in this store for one hundred and sixty acres of land in Minnesota. In the meantime he had taken up contracting and building, and he continued that until he came to Champaign. He had also built another machine shop, and thus was a man of varied interests and affairs.

In 1903 Mr. Tornquist moved to Champaign. He bought ground on Springfield Avenue, and built a ten-room house after tearing down the small house that had formerly occupied the site. He sold this house and bought a cottage, later bought two lots in the Fairland Addition, building on one lot and selling the other. Still later he bought the home at 408 Chalmers Street where he now resides. In 1913 he acquired the property at 601 Chalmers Street and during the same year put up another house on that ground. In 1907 he made a trip to his old home in Sweden, remaining away three months and upon his return Mr. Tornquist accepted a position as mechanic in the farm and mechanic department of the University of Illinois.

He married in 1883, four years after coming to America, Matilda Johnson, also a native of Sweden. Three children were born to their union, the second, a son, dying in infancy. Charles Herman, the oldest, is a graduate civil engineer from the University of Illinois, and is now employed on an irrigation and power plant project in the State of Idaho. Alpha Caroline, the only daughter, was graduated in the domestic science department from the University of Illinois in 1917. Mr. Tornquist is a

Republican in politics. While living in Iroquois County he served as a member of the School Board six years. He is affiliated with Western Star Lodge, A. F. & A. M. of Champaign, Champaign Chapter, R. A. M., and Champaign Commandery, K. T., and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

CHARLES M. EAGLETON is one of the best known men of Champaign, where he has lived for over thirty years. His father died while in the service of the Union Government during the Civil War, and the son was thus early thrown upon his own resources. He has made good in the work and responsibilities that destiny has assigned him, and his name is spoken with respect throughout a large community of this rich and prosperous section of Illinois.

Mr. Eagleton was born in Jasper County, Illinois, October 24, 1858, a son of Alexander M. and Mary J. (Farr) Eagleton. His father was a native of Tennessee and his mother of Pennsylvania. Alexander Eagleton followed farming in Jasper County, enlisted from there as a volunteer in the Union army early in the Civil War and was soon assigned to manage a supply store for the army at Helena, Arkansas. He died while still at his post. His widow has survived him all these years and is now living at Newton in Jasper County, Illinois, at the age of ninety-one.

Next to the youngest in a family of eight children, Charles M. Eagleton had rather limited home comforts when a boy and he was not given the privilege of attending even the common schools with perfect regularity. Besides what he acquired in the common schools he attended a normal at Newton for two terms. In 1884 Mr. Eagleton came to Champaign, and having learned the carpenter's trade, followed it actively in this community until 1897. He was then elected to the office of constable and filled that position with credit and efficiency for seven years. He resigned to enter the real estate and insurance business and is still an insurance man, representing several of the well known companies and having a large clientage throughout the county.

He has always been interested in local affairs and in 1903 was elected alderman from the Third Ward. He was a member of the governing body of the city for eleven years, finally resigning. He was then appointed superintendent of streets, and gave most of his time to that important office until May 15, 1917, when the city adopted the commission form of government.

Mr. Eagleton married for his first wife Maggie Howell, who died, leaving him two children, Mena of Champaign, and Ruby, wife of Walter Ellis of Newton, Jasper County, Illinois. For his second wife Mr. Eagleton married Minnie Conroy, a native of Rushville, Indiana. They have one child, Charles M., Jr., who is now in the fourth year of the Champaign High School and is preparing to enter the University of Illinois.

Mr. Eagleton is a Republican in politics. He is one of the directors of the Champaign County Monumental Association and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Sons of Veterans.

ROBERT GROVES, now living retired at Sidney, when in his prime was regarded as one of the keenest and best judges of live stock in Champaign County. He has had a long and useful career, and one that is deserving of more than passing mention.

Mr. Groves was born in Rush County, Indiana, at the town of Fairview, September 17, 1839, son of Joseph and Nancy (Baker) Groves. The original Groves came from Havre de Grace, Maryland, and distributed themselves in the states of Kentucky and Indiana. A more remote origin

of the family is found in Holland, where Hans and Jacob, known in English as John and Jacob, Graff lived and emigrating from that country they bought land from William Penn in Pennsylvania. The name Graff became in time Grove. These two brothers married and settled in Pennsylvania and reared large families who in subsequent generations moved to Virginia, Ohio, Indiana and other states. From the first they were noted as progressive and ambitious men, and it used to be a common saying in Pennsylvania there was never a lazy Groves known. They excelled as hunters and were among the brave frontiersmen. On one occasion two Groves brothers, John and Mike, were returning with some young men from a deer hunt in Pennsylvania. They met a small war party of Indians, from whose belt hung the scalps of the Groves boys' parents and neighbors. The Indians by their grimaces indicated to the boys how the parents looked while being scalped. The boys hastened home, found the village in ruins and the bodies of their parents, and then and there vowed vengeance on the perpetrators of the massacre. With two companions the Groves boys followed the Indians three days and finally came upon the place where they were camped at night. The Indians had stacked their arms on the bank of a creek, and all were asleep except one left on guard. Mike Groves, who was able to speak the Indian language, instructed his companions to fire when he gave the signal in the words, "Surround them, boys." Creeping through the tall grass until he reached the place where the arms were stacked, he grabbed up all the guns and threw them over the bank into the creek, at the same time yelling in the Indian language, "Surround them, boys." He himself shot the guard while his companions fired, each one killing an Indian. The red men made a race for their arms, were fired on a second time, and being completely routed they ran for their lives. The white men followed them two days, and drove them entirely from that part of the country. This was the last Indian raid recorded in Pennsylvania, and the citizens were so grateful to the Groves boys that they named the township Groves Township in their honor. Thirty years ago the old creek was drained, and the old rusted flintlock muskets were recalled as testimony to this brave attack.

At one time Jacob Groves of Sugar Creek, Pennsylvania, was charged by a big buck deer which he had wounded. Having no time to climb a tree he grasped the enraged animal by the antlers, matching his strength against that of the wild beast. They fought round and round in the brush until they got close to a white oak sapling, and while holding on for his life with one hand the hunter twisted the sapling around the deer's neck, and slowly by inches brought the head to the ground and dispatched the animal with his hunting knife. He returned home too exhausted to carry the meat and with his clothing torn in shreds.

The grandfather of Mr. Robert Groves was a licensed Methodist Episcopal preacher and also a soldier in the War of 1812. Rev. William A. Groves of Oil City, Pennsylvania, was also a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and J. W. Groves and wife, Mrs. M. Groves, were ministers in the Advent Christian Church. Mrs. Groves was state evangelist in Ohio and Washington. They organized several churches in Pennsylvania and Ohio. At Mount Liberty, Ohio, they held a tent meeting, organizing a fine church of ninety-nine members. Mrs. Groves has engaged in evangelistic work from Buffalo, New York, to Vancouver, British Columbia, preaching in thirteen states in the Union and also in the Canadas. They have one son, Don Welcome Groves, now of John Day, Oregon. Mrs. Groves is author of an interesting book, entitled "Broken Links in Error's Chain," which has received some favorable press and pulpit comments. It is an argument against the mythological and traditionary per-

sonal Satan, shown to be purely a relic from the Dark Ages. The work accomplishes the commendable purpose of driving sin home where it belongs, the heart of man.

The family of Joseph Groves consisted of nine children, five sons and four daughters. They were all educated in the Fairview schoolhouse in Rush County, Indiana. Robert, who was the fifth in age, grew up in that Indiana district, and at the age of twenty-eight laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Sarah W. Ginn of Connersville, Indiana, a daughter of Gabriel and Hannah (Wood) Ginn.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Groves located near Fairview on rented land, but the next year moved to Wabash County, where they farmed for three years. In 1870 they came to Sidney, Illinois, and this has been their home for forty-seven consecutive years. During all this time Mr. Groves has been engaged successfully in buying live stock, and for many years shipped to market at Buffalo. He was considered one of the best judges of live stock in a section where live stock men rank second to none, and many have said that what Robert Groves did not know about stock was not worth knowing.

Into their home were born three children, Mabel, Howard and Carl. Mr. and Mrs. Groves gave them the best of educational advantages, including the Sidney High School. The daughter Mabel took up teaching as a life work, graduated from the Normal College, and is now living with her parents at Sidney. The son Howard was well embarked on a promising career when at the age of thirty-four he lost his life in a railroad accident at Litchfield, Illinois, July 3, 1904. At the time he was employed as a train dispatcher with home at Decatur, Illinois. He left a widow, formerly Miss Mollie Cook, and one son, Robert Cook Groves, who is now in the United States army in Battery F of the artillery at Long Island.

At the age of seventy-seven Mr. Groves carries his years gracefully, is hale and hearty, and takes a keen interest in all that goes on round about him, including the welfare and activities of his many friends. He has prospered in life and has always kept his character of integrity unsullied. He is widely and affectionately known as Uncle Robert Groves. He had a close and intimate acquaintance with many of the prominent men of Champaign County, including the late Judge Cunningham and Colonel Busey, and for a quarter of a century has banked with the Harris family at Champaign. Mr. and Mrs. Groves have for many years been identified with the Christian Church, but their daughter is a Presbyterian. Politically Mr. Groves is a stalwart Republican, having grown up as such and has never felt that his confidence in that party and its principles was misplaced.

Isaac Newton Wade. There are doubtless a number of men and women now in mature years who knew Isaac Newton Wade in Champaign County as a teacher. He was one of the early educators, and afterwards for a long period of years was a traveling salesman for a text book house. Mr. Wade is now living retired at Champaign, in which city he has had his home for the past forty-five years.

He was born in Lockland, Ohio, May 13, 1846, a son of Moses and Rachel (Ferris) Wade. His mother was a native of Mount Arie, Ohio, and died at Lockland. The father, who was born in Switzerland County, Indiana, became a merchant tailor, and died at Champaign, Illinois, at the age of eighty-five. Of their five children the first three died in infancy. The fourth was the late Arthur Elliott Wade, who died at Urbana in 1916.

The youngest of the family, Isaac Newton Wade, acquired a liberal education. He attended College Hill (General Sam Cary's College near

Cincinnati), and subsequently entered Hillsdale College in Michigan. He was graduated from Hillsdale in 1868 and has the degrees Master of Arts and Master of Science. While at Hillsdale he was a schoolmate and friend of the famous poet Will Carleton, who sang his way into the hearts of many thousands in the previous generation and whose poems are still read and appreciated. After completing his education Mr. Wade taught school in Ohio until 1870, when he came to Illinois and continued teaching in Douglas County. His work as a teacher in Champaign County was done at Sadorus, Rantoul and Toulon. He was also located for a time in the schools of Bement in Stark County. Mr. Wade has a life teacher's certificate for the State of Illinois, given him by the venerable Newton Bateman.

From practical school work Mr. Wade went on the road as a traveling salesman for a school book company. He represented the company over a large territory for thirty-six years, and finally retired on a pension from the company. Mr. Wade is a Republican in politics, is a Knight Templar Mason, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In Douglas County, Illinois, in August, 1870, he married Miss Nannie Brian. Mrs. Wade died at Champaign a number of years ago. There were three children: George Leonard, now living at Kansas City, Missouri; Thomas Brian, member of the faculty of the dental department of the Philadelphia Medical College; and Fred Alonzo, of Peoria.

William F. Evans has been identified with Champaign County for over twenty years, and he and his capable wife now enjoy the comforts and pleasures of a fine country home a mile and a half west of Rantoul and have near them their children and grandchildren and can look back with pardonable pride over many years well spent.

Mr. Evans was born in Franklin County, Ohio, in 1856, the third in a family of twelve children whose parents were Daniel and Isabel (Engle) Evans. His father and mother were also natives of Ohio. When he was nine years of age the family came to Illinois, locating a mile and a half west of Dewey. Here William F. Evans grew to manhood, attended the district schools and made himself proficient in those duties and responsibilities which are the portion of the industrious farmer.

When he was twenty-seven years of age, on December 31, 1883, he married Miss Sarah Belle Rider. Mrs. Evans, the only child of Jason L. and Mary (Forshee) Rider, was born in Michigan, twenty miles west of Detroit, and her parents were also natives of the same state. She was well educated in the public schools of Michigan and at the age of twenty-three, her mother having died and her father being lonely after the home was broken up, removed to Kansas, where his daughter joined him. It was while in Kansas that she met Mr. Evans, who in the meantime had gone out to the western counties of that state to take up a homestead. They were married in Hodgeman County.

For ten years Mr. and Mrs. Evans struggled with the adverse conditions of life in western Kansas. They had youth and enthusiasm and industry, though Mrs. Evans suffered much from ill health. Nearly all the experiences that the pioneers in western Kansas endured were a portion of the life of Mr. and Mrs. Evans. They lived in a stock-raising country, and Mr. Evans acquired a large herd of cattle. There were drouths, hot winds, crop failures, and twice they were burned out by prairie fires. In the great blizzard of 1886 they lost much of their stock. Through an accident Mrs. Evans suffered a severe injury to one of her feet, and about that time Mr. Evans decided to sell his stock in order that he might have more time to wait on his wife. When the stock was sold he put the money

in the bank. Then came the year of panic and hard times, 1893, and the treasurer of the bank absconded with all the money, including Mr. Evans' hard won savings. After that disaster he was left with his sick wife and with only his land and a few dollars in money.

Prospects were so discouraging that they determined to sell their Kansas interests and return to Illinois. In the meantime two children had come into their home, Frank Lee and Hazel Belle. For the return journey Mr. Evans fitted up a wagon into the model of the old type of prairie schooner. In this they made provision to live as comfortably as possible during their journey, and they spent fifty-one days on the return trip. They slept in the wagon, never once in a house, and finally arrived at Mr. Evans' old home in Champaign County. Here for one year he rented a farm near Dewey, later farmed for his father, and finally was able to purchase 160 acres, comprising the beautiful farm that he now owns near Rantoul.

In Champaign County Mr. and Mrs. Evans were fortunate in having superior educational advantages for their children. The son and daughter completed the course of the eighth grade and afterward were students in the Rantoul High School, where they graduated. The son took the agricultural course at the University of Illinois and is now a practical and scientific farmer on a place adjoining his father. He married Miss Mina Elsie Webster, a native of Champaign County and a daughter of Charles B. Webster. Two children are in their home, June and Paul Arthur. The daughter, Hazel Belle Evans, after graduating from the Rantoul High School, became a very successful teacher. She taught two years in the Hyde school, also at the Union Center school, and her unusual qualifications caused the school board to employ her to teach the higher courses in the district school, and thus she afforded the pupils the opportunity of carrying on high school work in a common school. She is now the wife of Edward Fanning Webster, a farmer living near Rantoul. Their household comprises three children, a son and two daughters, Charles William, aged six; Dorothy May, aged four; and Ruth Pearl, aged two.

Thus Mr. and Mrs. Evans have five lively grandchildren, who consider a visit to the home of their grandparents one of the greatest opportunities and pleasures. Mrs. Evans finds it a difficult matter to keep her cookie jar filled when her house is invaded by her grandsons and granddaughters, bringing with them all the sunshine of life.

In politics Mr. Evans is liberal in his views and believes in voting for principles instead of for party. However, he has long thrown the weight of his influence on the side of temperance and looks forward even within his own lifetime to the day when nation-wide temperance will be a reality.

LUTHER B. SOUDER is proprietor of one of the oldest dyeing and cleaning establishments in Champaign County. It was originally established by his father more than half a century ago, and he has perfected and modernized its equipment and service until its facilities are now unexcelled by any similar enterprise in the county.

Mr. Souder is a native of Champaign, where he was born January 4, 1878, a son of Samuel H. and Lottie A. (Taylor) Souder. His father was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and his mother in Marysville, Ohio. Samuel Souder came to Champaign County in 1856, and was first identified with farming. In 1866 he established at Champaign a cleaning business, and by careful and thorough work soon had a trade that was profitable and satisfactory to himself and the community. He was active in this business until his death, which occurred in Septem-

ber, 1915. His widow is still living in Champaign. Their four children are: Louise, wife of Oscar L. Davidson, of Indianapolis, Indiana; Luther B.; Jennie E., wife of C. A. Carlson, of Champaign; and Mary, deceased.

Luther B. Souder grew up in Champaign, attended the local schools, and as something that would be of benefit to him in his business he took a special course in art and design at the University. As a boy he worked in his father's establishment, and has succeeded to the proprietorship of the business.

He is a Republican in politics, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America. On September 2, 1904, Mr. Souder married Edna W. Hall, who was born in Paxton, Illinois. They have four children: Robert Hall, Luther Samuel, Eugene Phillip and Virginia.

JOSEPH WHITE. Among the numerous families of Champaign County, Illinois, whose industry and activities of life have aided in its upbuilding is that of White. Joseph White is one of the prosperous and successful farmers located east of Rantoul, some three miles. In the early years of his young manhood he came to Champaign County, and there with his good wife, whose maiden name was Jane Osborn, they began to found a permanent home for themselves. The young couple experienced many trying hardships incident to pioneer life, but possessing strongly those qualifications which go to make up a splendid citizenship, industry, progressiveness and economy, they went to work with that determined energy that always marks the life of successful men and women of earth.

Progress was the keynote of their lives, and during the passing years their industry has met with pleasing success.

One especially pleasing feature of their life's work was the pains they exerted in the education of their children, fully realizing the advantage to them in future years of possessing this needful equipment for life's duties. It was especially gratifying to see them manifest an admirable interest in the pursuit of their studies, and, after graduating from the state university in Urbana, become popular and successful teachers in Champaign County. Anna, the daughter, is the wife of V. B. Rusk, and their two children are Mildred and Walter. Mary is the wife of Frank Rusk, and their home is near Armstrong, Illinois. Their children are Nellie, Rea, Russell, Harold and Lloyd.

The White family have experienced the usual joys and sorrows incident to the human family. The death angel visited the home at different times and the dear mother entered into rest after a long and useful life, in which her many acts of Christian kindness endeared her to a large circle of friends. She rests today with heaven's benediction resting upon her, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord." The daughter Tillie, who for years had been a beloved teacher in Champaign County, was also claimed by death. She was an admirable character who left a large circle of friends to mourn her loss. The remaining daughters, Grace, Florence and Margaret, are at home, being home makers for their father and their brother Thomas, who manages the farm.

The family are honored members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and their lives have been closely identified with the interests of Champaign County. In fact so much so that a history of Champaign County would be incomplete without a compilation of their lives in the records of the county's community builders. Therefore it is with pleasure that the above is compiled of this most worthy family.

BERT E. SPALDING was born in Champaign and has spent his life practically within the limits of that city. When little more than a boy he became self supporting, acquired business experience under others, and now for a number of years has been one of the leading druggists.

He was born in Champaign, January 7, 1868, son of John W. and Maria (Halford) Spalding. His father was a native of Hamilton, Ohio, and his mother was born in Nottingham, England. She was a sister of E. W. Halford, who a number of years ago was private secretary to President Benjamin Harrison. John W. Spalding came to Champaign in 1866. For many years he followed his trade as a wagon maker and subsequently was in the shoe business. During Harrison's administration he served as postmaster of Champaign. He died in 1911, an honored and respected citizen, while his wife passed away in 1903. They were the parents of eight children: Walter, deceased; Arthur, of Champaign; Lois, deceased; W. P., of Champaign; Bert E.; John, deceased; Margaret, widow of Joseph Laughlin, of Boston, Massachusetts; Jessie, wife of Charles Frison, of Bloomington, Illinois.

Bert E. Spalding obtained his early education in the public schools of his native city. After one year in high school he determined to give up his studies and fit himself for business. In 1885 he became a clerk in H. Swannell's drug store and learned the business as a profession and in all other details. He remained with that store until 1898, when he became associated with John T. Quirk in the same line of business. In 1909 the store was established at 602 Green Street, with Mr. Spalding and Mr. Quirk as partners. In February, 1915, the partnership was dissolved and since that time Mr. Spalding has conducted the Green Street store alone.

He has always been active and popular in local affairs and organizations. In 1894-95 he served as alderman and is now a candidate for a position on the city commission. He is a Republican, a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Woodmen of the World, the University Club, the Rotary Club, and is a member of the Country Club. He and his family worship in the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Spalding married Josephine Arie, a native of Champaign. They have two children, Russell and Halford.

MARY E. WATSON. In the home of her declining years in Rantoul Mrs. Mary E. Watson is one of the noble women of this county who experienced the pioneer hardships connected with establishing a home and developing a farm out of the raw prairie. Her late husband, James Watson, for long years had a substantial place in this community. He was honored for his work and for the influence of his character and his home. It was of such men that the Holy Writer spoke when he said: "Their bodies are buried in peace but their names live for evermore. The people will tell of their wisdom and the congregation will show forth their praise."

Mrs. Watson was born in the Blue Grass district of Kentucky, a daughter of William H. and Rachel M. Huffman. She was one of five children, the others being Susan J., Cynthia A., George W. and Wellington. She also had a half brother and two half sisters, John D., Ida C. and Donna E. The sons both died in infancy. The three sisters settled in different states, Kansas, Indiana and Illinois. When Mary E. Huffman was seven and a half years of age her mother died and she had only limited opportunities to attend school.

James Watson, whom she married when she was still a young girl, was the son of William N. and Ellen Watson of Chillicothe, Ohio. In the modern growth and development of Chillicothe some of its built up streets

have stretched out to the borders of the old farm where he was born. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. James Watson located in Champaign County and lived for a year two and a half miles east of Ludlow in a one-room house with a little summer kitchen attached. The land was owned by Mr. Watson's father. Subsequently they moved nearer to Rantoul and lived on a rented place. By strict economy and industry they were able after one year to make the first payment on an eighty-acre tract of railroad land. When they made that payment it was one of the proudest moments of their lives. Thus they had made a beginning in getting a home for themselves and, blessed with good health and strength, they went forward in their career until Mr. and Mrs. Watson owned an estate of 440 acres in Illinois and 317 acres in North Dakota. Three children were born to their union, William Allen, John Calvin and James Ernest. James E. died in infancy in 1877. The surviving sons were well educated. They first attended the district schools, and both were students of Eureka College, John C. spending five years there and he subsequently spent two years in Harvard University, where he was graduated. William A. was for two years a student in Eureka College. The Watson family has made a notable record as educators. Mrs. Watson taught in the old home district of Champaign County. Her son William A. was a teacher at Pleasant Ridge, Ludlow Center and other districts in Champaign County. John C. taught at Menominee, Michigan, and in Chicago, and from there went to Harvard University to do post-graduate work. For four years he was one of the instructors in Cornell University. Finally, for the benefit of his family's health, he went to the Northwest and bought a half section of land in North Dakota. John C. Watson married Miss Edna Hamilton of Harristown, Illinois, a former classmate, who graduated with him from Eureka College. She also had taught before her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. John C. Watson have three children, two daughters and one son, Constance, Malcolm and Beatrice. These grandchildren of Mrs. Watson have proved equally proficient in their studies. Constance has attended the University of Dakota two years, while Malcolm has had one year of instruction in that school.

William Allen Watson married an old schoolmate, Miss Maude Anthony, and they have a daughter, Zelda Irene, who is now a successful teacher east of Ludlow. Zelda I. enjoys the distinction of teaching in the same schoolhouse where her grandmother, Mrs. Watson, taught fifty-two years ago. The influence exerted by a teacher upon the generations is inestimable and beyond all computation. Members of the Watson family have done a splendid work in this field and they have the satisfaction of knowing that the influence they exerted did not cease when they closed their term of school.

Mr. and Mrs. Watson were active members of the Christian Church, which Mr. Watson served many years as deacon. In later years he was elected to the post of honorary deacon.

Besides her grandchildren Mrs. Watson now has only the comfort of one living son. Her son William A., a noble young character beloved by all who knew him, passed away in 1894.

Mr. James Watson's health began to decline in 1916 and his life came to a peaceful close on April 26, 1917. He had lived long and usefully and a host of friends paid tribute to his memory. The name Watson stands significant of deeds of kindness and upright character throughout the length and breadth of Champaign County. Mrs. Watson is an earnest Christian woman, cultivated and refined, and has made her life of benefit to her family and to a large community. Her only surviving son, John C., at the death of his father, resigned his position as dean and professor of Latin of Nevada University at Reno, Nevada, and returned to look after

the estate of his father in Champaign County and care for the mother in her declining years.

The late Mr. Watson served his community as constable and tax collector. He was one of the early day tax collectors and frequently collected large sums of public money. There being no bank available, he acted as his own banker and for all the sums he had at his home at different times the money was never molested. In later years he served as assessor of his township and supervisor and school director. Mrs. Watson has many happy memories of her early home, a log cabin in the timber near Paxton and later on a lonely prairie. Frequently she heard the howling of prairie wolves, and on some of the mornings of sunshine in winter could see the deer playing over the snow. The dark, graceful bodies of these animals made a striking contrast against the snowy background. Such were some of the features of the environment in which she and her husband began their careers, and in later life she found herself surrounded with every comfort and with the love and veneration of family and friends.

Daniel Morrissey. In the case of this well known citizen of Champaign success speaks for itself. Perhaps a few men remember the time when Daniel Morrissey was helping run a small weekly paper. That was more than half century ago. He early succumbed to an irresistible impulse to buy land. He bought with unlimited faith in the future of this locality, and his friends say that he also bought with almost unlimited skill and accuracy of judgment. Doubtless he made some mistakes, but they have not interfered with the big results. For the benefit of future generations, if not for the present, it is useful to state that Mr. Morrissey is one of the three largest land owners in Champaign County, and is president of the Morrissey Farm Land Mortgage Company.

He was born in New York State, August 4, 1844, a son of James and Mary (Murphy) Morrissey, both of whom were natives of County Mayo, Ireland. His parents spent the last years of their lives in New York State.

The spirit of independence, which is an Irish characteristic, was coupled in Daniel Morrissey's equipment with unlimited industry and energy. At the age of fourteen he left home and went to Detroit, Michigan. There he had his first experience in a printing office. Subsequently he worked on the old Chicago Times at Chicago. His work as a printer he gave up to take a position with the Western Union Telegraph Company on construction work. He helped build the line from Mendota, Illinois, to Burlington, Iowa.

A friend of his boyhood days, D. S. Crandall, had in the meantime come to Champaign, Illinois, and was conducting a newspaper known as the Union Weekly. Mr. Morrissey joined him here in 1863. When he arrived in the county his cash assets amounted to $13.75. Mr. Morrissey's chief success in life is coincident with and a reflection of the development of the magnificent agricultural resources of this part of Illinois. A lover of the country, he was alive to every opportunity to get possession of a piece of land. The progress in his accumulations would, if described in detail, be a quite accurate record of his growing financial asset. Whenever he had any money to spare, and sometimes on credit, he bought land that his judgment urged him to buy. Thus it is that now he is recognized as one of the largest land owners in Champaign County. He pays taxes on something more than three thousand acres in this county alone, while in the Northwest and in other parts of the country he owns between nine thousand and ten thousand acres.

All the while Mr. Morrissey has been a force in good citizenship and in



Dan Morrissey

good business at Champaign. He is active in the Citizens Commercial Club and the Chamber of Commerce, is a popular member of the Elks' Lodge, and he was reared in the Catholic Church. His wife, whose maiden name was Annie Donnelly, died at Champaign, January 20, 1916. Their three children were Daniel C., who is actively associated with his father in business; M. J. Morrissey, who died February 17, 1916; and Fay, also an associate of his father.

DELL E. HARRIS. In the University district of Champaign there is no merchant better known to the student population and citizens generally than Dell E. Harris, who for over twenty-five years has been in active business as a confectioner. Mr. Harris has succeeded because he has concentrated his energies largely along one line, has studied and worked to develop a product of superfine quality, and has made that product of such a standard of perfection that it now signifies quality and is distributed over a market by no means confined to Champaign or even to the state of Illinois.

Mr. Harris was born at Normal, Illinois, June 16, 1870, a son of Zera W. and Julia A. (Dyke) Harris, both of whom are still living. His father was a Union soldier during the Civil War, serving thirty-seven months in Company C., Fifth Illinois Cavalry. There were six children: Frank D., who is engaged in the real estate business at Champaign; Ray R., a physician practicing at Dubuque, Iowa; Ralph M., associated with his brother in the confectionery business at Champaign; Dell E.; Effie Estelle, wife of Professor E. J. Lake, an instructor in the University of Illinois; and Ruth, wife of William Dailey, of Mason City, Iowa.

Dell E. Harris spent his early youth principally at Decatur, where he completed the grade school work. He was about sixteen years of age when he engaged in the confectionary business for himself in that city. It was a moderate start, but he did not handle his establishment in a routine and negligent fashion, and in a short time his success was more than his most sanguine hopes had anticipated. He not only made a good living but also acquired an extensive knowledge of the confectionery business both as a manufacturing proposition and in the sale and distribution of the products.

In 1891 Mr. Harris came to Champaign. His first location was at 61 North Neil Street, where he had his store until March, 1908. In the meantime he opened a branch establishment in the University district on Wright Street. After selling his store on Neil Street in 1908 he bought the business property at 608 East Green Street where his handsome store now stands. The two stores were continued until the lease on the Wright Street store expired in 1914, at which time the enterprise was consolidated. He now handles all his trade at one store, which was opened January 1, 1910.

The popularity of his store and of his goods is a by-word in Champaign. His store is in the student district of the University of Illinois, and much of his patronage comes from the University. Mr. Harris originated the famous "La Noy" chocolates, and has the name, which is derived from the word Illinois, copyrighted and registered in the United States patent office. The La Noy chocolates are made and sold in Champaign, but they also go in package lots to every state of the Union and to China, Japan and the Philippine Islands. The mail order feature is now one of the most profitable parts of the business for Mr. Harris.

Mr. Harris is a past president of the University District Commercial Association of Champaign and has been a progressive factor in everything

concerning the commercial life of his section of the city. He is also a member of the Rotary Club, the Travelers Protective Association, the Sons of Veterans, the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mrs. Harris is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Harris was married December 8, 1908, to Miss Frances Roberts. She is a daughter of the late Joseph Roberts, a well known farmer of Champaign County. Mr. and Mrs. Harris have one daughter, Flora, now six years of age.

JAMES SPERRY, a well known contractor and builder at Ogden, is a native of Champaign County, and has spent his active career to good purpose early as a farmer and later in the business which has brought him such generous success.

Mr. Sperry was born north of St. Joseph, November 27, 1859, a son of Elias and Serena (Helton) Sperry. His father was born in Ohio and his mother in Virginia. Serena Helton was a daughter of Simeon and Sally Helton, who moved from Virginia to Kentucky and when Serena was twelve years of age settled in Indiana. Serena Helton was educated in the public schools of Indiana. She was a member of a family of nine children, three sons and six daughters. The Heltons afterwards settled in Champaign County north of St. Joseph. Serena Helton and Elias Sperry were married near Greencastle, Indiana, and then went to farming in this county. They had five children: Mary Ellen, now Mrs. Church Rush; Sarah Josephine, deceased; James, Elmer and Arthur C.

James Sperry attained his education in the public school known as the Old Blackberry Schoolhouse. When the Sperry family came to Champaign County the country was a virgin prairie, deer roamed about over the country, and wild fowls were in such abundance as at times to darken the skies in their flight. The Sperrys experienced many of the hardships connected with establishing homes in this new country.

On May 4, 1864, Elias Sperry enlisted in Company A of the One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry. His service was brief, since he contracted measles and had not yet recovered from that disease when he was placed on guard duty, and again fell ill. He received his honorable discharge July 17, 1864, at Pilot Knob, Missouri. He did not long survive the ordeal of warfare.

James Sperry was only a boy when his father died and he had to assume the serious responsibilities of life at an early age. He began farming on rented land and lived in bachelor's quarters for a time. On September 28, 1879, at the age of twenty, he married Martha Jane Hayes.

Mrs. Sperry was born in Oakwood Township of Vermilion County, Illinois, daughter of John and Martha J. (Gray) Hayes. Martha Hayes was seven years of age when her father died and she was reared in the home of her mother and attended public school at Ogden. Her mother, Martha J. Gray, was a daughter of William Gray, a native of Ireland. William Gray married Rosanna Hansel. The ancestry of the Hayes family goes back to Revolutionary days. David Gray, who was born in Ireland, served in the War of the Revolution, enlisting from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, August 1, 1776, and again in May, 1777. He fought in the battles of Staten Island, Brandywine, Germantown, and was in Washington's army. He served under Captains John Jamison, John Thomas, John Cope and William Ramsey.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Sperry engaged in farming in Vermilion County, Illinois, for three years, and they then removed to Ogden, where he has since successfully followed the business of contracting and building. Mrs. Sperry's father's family consisted of four children,

three daughters and one son, and also two half sisters. The brother died at the age of eleven years, his name being William Hayes. The sisters were Harriet and Elizabeth and the two half sisters Effie B. and Maryetta.

Mr. and Mrs. Sperry are the parents of one daughter, Della Sperry, born August 28, 1880. She was graduated with honors from the local high school May 10, 1899, and married Cyrus W. McPherren, July 13, 1905. Mrs. McPherren, through her mother's Revolutionary ancestry, is eligible to membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution and is a member of the Illinois Alliance, Chapter No. 642, of that order in Champaign. Mrs. McPherren has a bright and attractive daughter, Beula, now nine years of age and a student in the public schools of Ogden. She is still very much interested in her dolls, of which she has a generous supply. Her special favorite enjoys the distinctive name of Euodoria. Mrs. McPherren is a very capable business woman and is general manager of the Ogden Courier and for seven years was assistant postmaster there.

Mr. and Mrs. Sperry are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a Democrat, is a man of broad views, and in local affairs supports the man rather than the party. He served eight years as police magistrate and for twelve years as justice of the peace and was a member of the town board. While giving generously of his time and means to every community enterprise Mr. Sperry has been a very successful business man. Many fine country homes around and in the town of Ogden stand as monuments to his industry. It is often said that a tradesman's family are the last to get the benefit of his industry. Thus a carpenter's house leaks and a shoemaker's wife goes barefoot. Mr. Sperry has reversed that rule. Some years ago on Leney Street, in the north end of Ogden, he erected a fine, commodious residence, with every modern improvement, including acetylene light. This home is enjoyed by his good family, consisting of himself, his wife, daughter and granddaughter, and last but by no means least his dear mother who so faithfully looked after him during his youth and now in the setting sun of her life he is repaying some measure of her tender solicitude and care. Mr. Sperry is one of the charter members of the Woodmen's lodge of Ogden, organized in 1887.

Lee M. Van Wegen is one of Champaign County's well known citizens who started life with no particular advantages and assets and by self denial, thrift and industry gradually accumulated those means which represent financial independence. He was a successful farmer for many years, and was also at one time engaged in manufacturing at Champaign.

Mr. Van Wegen was born in New York State December 1, 1856, a son of James S. and Mary E. (Wells)Van Wegen, both of whom were natives of Orange County, New York. James S. Van Wegen brought his family to Champaign County in 1868, locating on a farm three and a half miles southwest of Champaign. He proved a valuable factor in that community and continued farming until within the last two years of his life, which he spent in Kansas. Mrs. Mary E. Van Wegen lived to the great age of eighty-eight years, passing away January 16, 1917. Their nine children were: Horton and Maria, both deceased; Lee M.; Clarissa, deceased; Sidney, a resident of Iowa; Ella and Emma, twins, the latter deceased, and the former the wife of Scott Raypholtz, of Medford, Oregon; Alexander, deceased; and Louis, of Ashland, Oregon.

Lee M. Van Wegen was twelve years of age when his parents removed to Champaign County. He had acquired some of his education up to that time and he also attended the country schools of this county. His father's home was also his home until he was twenty-two, and he then

put his experience and training to practical test, married and started a home of his own on a rented farm. He followed the plan of renting for six years. He and his wife lived frugally and his hard work enabled him to accumulate the capital required for the purchase of 160 acres of land. That was his first farm, and later he bought another of 160 acres. He sold both tracts and subsequently bought a half section of land near the city of Champaign, where he accumulated a large portion of his prosperity. Mr. Van Wegen also owns lands in the state of Louisiana.

In 1892 he retired from the farm to a residence in Champaign. In that city he served five years as superintendent of streets. He was also a financial and official member of the Champaign Cabinet Company, manufacturing as a specialty a fine type of kitchen cabinet. At the present time Mr. Van Wegen finds plenty to do in looking after his private investments.

He was married in February, 1878, to Miss Ella Hammer, a native of Bondville, Illinois. They are the parents of two children: Etta is the wife of Tony Saunders, of Greenwood, Mississippi, and they have two daughters, Madge and Ellen; Nellie is the wife of O. L. Gearhart, of Champaign, and they had one son, Van S. Gearhart, deceased. While living in the country Mr. Van Wegen served as supervisor of his township one term and was also a road commissioner for six years. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

GEORGE W. HERBERT, who is supervisor of Harwood Township, has been identified with Champaign County many years, and in the solution of the daily problems confronting him has found the opportunities for progress to success and prosperity. He is one of the leading farmers and has one of the most attractive homes in his township, located in section 36, north of Gifford, in Harwood Township.

Mr. Herbert was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, a son of Richard and Anna (Cox) Herbert. His parents were both born in England and their coming to America was their bridal tour. They came to this country three weeks after their marriage. For some time they lived in Syracuse, New York, and then moved to Illinois. There were eight children, George being about midway in age. When he was eight years of age his mother died, and he grew up on his father's farm in Vermilion County and attended the common schools there.

In 1894 Mr. Herbert married Catherine Sunderlin. The Sunderlins are one of the oldest and best known families of Champaign County. Mrs. Herbert was born in Kerr Township of Champaign County, daughter of James and Mary (Hartman) Sunderlin, her father a native of Ireland and her mother of Cincinnati, Ohio. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Herbert lived one year in Kerr Township and they then bought 160 acres near Gifford in Harwood Township. For this land they paid $70 an acre. They began housekeeping in a small home, with meager comforts, and the land had no improvements, no drainage and was often covered with water in certain seasons of the year. The young people were possessed of that "delightful content which the hope of better things inspires within," and by sturdy self-denial, by labor year in and year out, they have in time perfected their home surroundings and gained such prosperity as few people outside of Champaign County enjoy. They planted shade trees, built up a home and barns and other buildings to satisfy their needs, and have also acquired additional lands until they now own a full half section.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert are the parents of James R., George Francis,

John Aloysius and Catherine Vivian. These are all true types of American children and were educated in the local district schools. James R., after finishing the eighth grade, took the course of the Gifford High School, where he graduated, and subsequently was a student in the Bourbonnais school at Kankakee and from there graduated from the Champaign High School. He is a studious youth and has put his education to good advantage by the practical assistance he renders his father on the farm. The other two sons are in the grades of the Gifford school.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert are active members of St. Mary's Catholic Church at Penfield. In politics he is a Republican, and has always been loyal to the principles of that great party. His fellow citizens have shown their confidence in his judgment and ability by electing him for eight successive years as supervisor and for fourteen years he was school director.

VIRGIL W. JOHNSTON, banker, with offices at No. 10 Main Street in Champaign, has been a resident of this city for the past eighteen years.

He was born in McLean County, Illinois, March 15, 1871. His father James Johnston, a native of Ohio, grew up in Indiana and in 1852 removed to McLean County, Illinois, bought land from the government, developed it as a farm, and lived there prosperous and an influential citizen until his death in 1905. He was a Republican in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. James Johnston married Eleanor Marrs, who was born in Ohio in 1831, and was a young bride when she came to Illinois in 1852. Her death occurred in McLean County in 1901. Virgil W. Johnston was one of four children. His brother Lucien C. lives at Seward, Nebraska; his brother Alva E. lives at Monticello, Indiana; and his brother Milo D. at Olustee, Oklahoma.

Virgil W. Johnston was educated in country schools, had the environment of a typical Illinois farmer boy, and subsequently continued his education in the Fairbury High School. He was graduated from the Bloomington Law School in 1896. He has given most of his time and energies to the abstract business. He was in that business at Pontiac, Illinois, from 1896 to 1899, and in the latter year bought the old established abstract business of Colonel Wilcox at Champaign. He still owns and directs this abstract office. Since 1902 Mr. Johnston has been identified with banking.

He is a member of the Champaign Club, the Champaign City Club, the Elks, and in politics is a Republican. On August 3, 1898, at Normal, Illinois, he married Vinnie Vennum.

GEORGE ROBERT SHAWHAN was for twenty-one years county superintendent of schools in Champaign County, and in this county, which has been his home for over sixty years, he has found ample opportunities for a life of quiet usefulness and service.

He was born at Falmouth, Rush County, Indiana, March 20, 1844. His grandfather, John Shawhan, was probably a native of Pennsylvania, but was reared in Kentucky and combined his work as a minister of the Presbyterian Church with practical farming. He died in Kentucky. He married a Miss Flowers, who was born and reared in Virginia. William McCune Shawhan, father of George R., was born near Lexington, Kentucky, grew up in Bourbon County in that state, in 1837 removed to Rush County, Indiana, and on April 17, 1856, arrived in Champaign County, settling in Section 19 of Raymond Township. He was a practical farmer and also did considerable business as a cattle shipper. He lived on his farm in Champaign County until his death. He was attending church at Sidney and died without a word during the service on

May 5, 1875. He was an active member of the Church of Christ or Disciples Church, was a Democrat in politics, and at the time of his death was acting as supervisor of Raymond Township. He married Nancy Redmond, daughter of a Kentucky farmer. She was born on a farm near Cynthiana, Kentucky, and was married there in 1837. She died in Urbana, December 12, 1893. Her children were six in number, and besides George R. they were Margaret, Helen, George W., James K. and William T.

George Robert Shawhan was twelve years of age when he came to Champaign County. He attended the common schools both in Indiana and Illinois and was also a student in the University of Illinois, but then known as the Illinois Industrial University. During his boyhood he helped on the farm, but at the age of seventeen began teaching. That was his chosen work throughout the subsequent twenty years, and it was his experience and qualification as a teacher that caused him to be appointed in September, 1881, as county superintendent of schools by the board of supervisors of Champaign County. He held the office by appointment one year and was then successively elected five times, filling the office from December, 1881, to December, 1902. The efficiency and welfare of the county schools during that period testified to the able work of Superintendent Shawhan. Outside of his regular administration his chief work while in office was in formulating and establishing a regular course of study with township and central examinations for the country and village schools. He helped to carry that plan further and in conjunction with other superintendents developed a modified plan which was adopted for the state. The state superintendent now uses it in his questions on pedagogy in all his examinations. Since leaving the county superintendency Mr. Shawhan has been manager of the savings department of the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank of Champaign. While his life has been without dramatic incident, it has been filled with work and has been a means of exceptional service to the community. Mr. Shawhan is a member of the Church of Christ and is an elder in the University Church of that denomination. He belongs to the Masonic Lodge of Urbana and to the Modern Woodmen of America in Champaign. Politically he is a Republican.

In Raymond Township of this county, May 12, 1867, he married Sarah Vista Brown. They have two children, a daughter, Gertrude, born in Urbana, February 8, 1874, and a son, W. Warren, born in Raymond Township, August 9, 1877. The daughter gradnated from the University of Illinois in literature and science in 1895 and later from the Library School of the same institution. She is now the wife of Frank R. Shafer, an architect, and they live in Los Angeles, California. Warren Shawhan has become a farmer and is now on a farm in Central Louisiana, in Concordia County, with postoffice at Lismore.

James M. Reese has been a factor in the business life of the village of St. Joseph for nearly thirty years, and has made a success because he has given a service a little better than others in the same line and has constantly striven to please.

Mr. Reese was born in that historic section of northwestern Pennsylvania, Washington County, June 17, 1853, a son of William and Matilda (Mikesell) Reese. His parents were also natives of Pennsylvania. The father died in Iowa at the home of his son Henry at the advanced age of ninety-two. In 1864, when James M. Reese was eleven years of age, he came with his parents to St. Joseph Township, where his father for a number of years worked as a carpenter. There were seven children in

the family, James being the oldest. He attended school in Pennsylvania and also had one term in the St. Joseph school. When the Reese family came to Champaign County much of the land in St. Joseph Township was under water a part of the year, and to establish and maintain a home here was a task of many difficulties and hardships.

James M. Reese grew up to an industrious manhood, worked in the country and for a number of years was connected with a number of drainage projects in St. Joseph Township. In 1888 he established himself in the restaurant business at the village of St. Joseph and that has been his chief line ever since. He has studied the problems of this business and has solved them and has gradually increased his enterprise, not only in the way of stock handled but in facilities. He installed a soda fountain, has an ice cream parlor, handles candy, cigars, canned and bottled goods, and his place is an especially popular and welcome retreat during the summer season.

The profits of his success Mr. Reese has invested wisely in local real estate and has done much to improve the town. He bought a number of lots and has erected modern homes in the north part of the town.

In 1895 Mr. Reese married Miss Laura B. Cook, a native of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Ezekiel and Matilda Cook. She was eleven years of age when her parents came to Champaign County from Pennsylvania and located at Tolono, where she completed her education in the local schools. Mr. and Mrs. Reese had two children. The older, James Bernard, died at the age of three of infantile paralysis. The younger son was named Harry Cook in honor of his mother, and is now fourteen years of age. He is a very industrious and studious boy, attending the local high school, and is also doing much to develop his marked musical talent. He is a student of piano, and is also taking instruction in brass band music with the local organization under Professor Canouse of Champaign. He also plays as a member of the Sunday school orchestra in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mrs. Reese is a very active member of the Methodist Church and is and has been for some years president of the Ladies' Aid Society. She is a member of the Eastern Star and has served as marshal of that order. In politics Mr. and Mrs. Reese have opposite affiliations, she being a Republican and he a Democrat. Mrs. Reese is a very ardent supporter of the cause of temperance.

The success which he has enjoyed in a business way Mr. Reese owes not only to his own capable efforts but to the wisdom and counsel of the good wife who has stood by his side. They have one of the pleasant and hospitable homes of St. Joseph, on Lincoln Street, and while enjoying its comforts they may look back with pardonable pride upon the labor of the years which has made it all possible.

ANDREW EKBLAW. For forty-one years Andrew Ekblaw has been a resident of Champaign County. The management and cultivation of the land and its resources have furnished him an occupation and business, and as a practical agriculturist he has few peers in this part of the state.

Mr. Ekblaw was born in Sweden in 1854, a son of Johannes and Charlotte Ekblaw. He was reared and educated in his native land and was eighteen years of age when with other members of the family he came to America in 1872. The Ekblaws first located near Springfield, at New Berlin. There were seven children, Andrew being the third in age. All these children were educated in the schools of Sweden.

In 1880 Mr. Andrew Ekblaw married Miss Ingry Johnson, also a native of Sweden, and a daughter of John and Lena Johnson. When she was

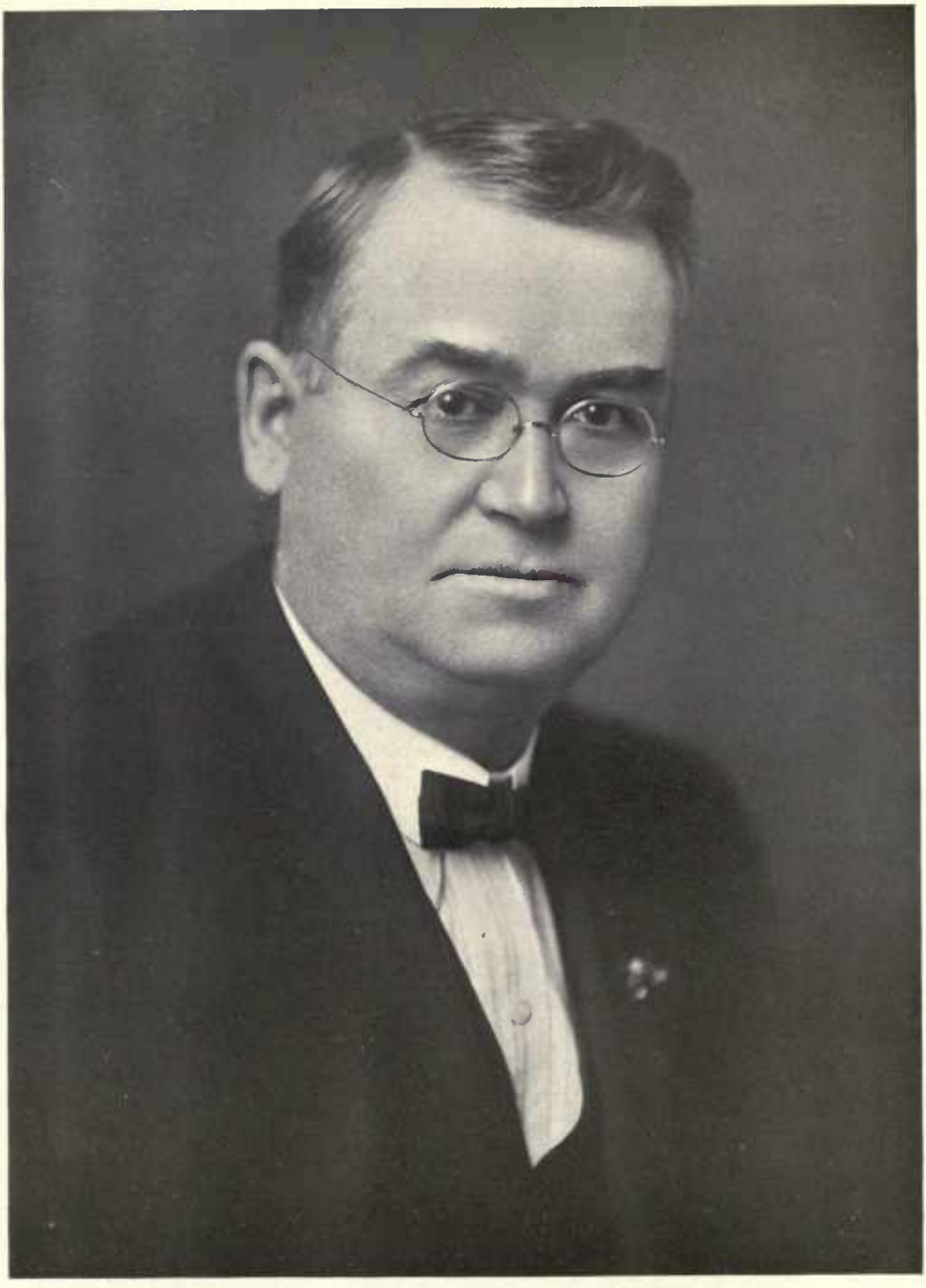
ten years of age her father died, and two years later, in 1872, she and a brother and her widowed mother came to America. Four of the Johnson children had preceded them to this country and had found employment in Chicago. Mrs. Ekblaw lived in Chicago until her marriage.

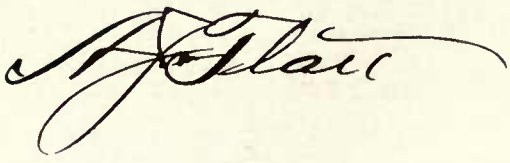
Mr. and Mrs. Ekblaw after their marriage located near Rantoul on the farm of John Collison. They were young, energetic, had the thrifty virtues of the people of Sweden, and by honesty of purpose have distinguished themselves as successful farmers and have reared a family of which any parents might well be proud. It is a growing practice among many farmers of modern times to handle land as managers rather than as owners. This has been Mr. Ekblaw's course during his long and active career. For thirty-two years he lived on the Collison place and for the past five years he and his wife have had their home on the Battles place, now the property of Lawyer H. I. Green of Urbana. During his entire career in Champaign County since 1876 Mr. Ekblaw has had only two places of residence and activity. He is a careful and methodical farmer, the well tilled fields giving every evidence of his ability, and his efforts have been liberally rewarded in the comfortable provision for themselves and in those means necessary to properly educate and train their children.

Mr. and Mrs. Ekblaw are the parents of six children, five sons and one daughter, named Walter Elmer, Carl John Theodore, Emma Irene, Eddie Lawrence, George Albert and Sidney Everett. Mr. and Mrs. Ekblaw from the start realized the advantage of good educational advantages, and sent their children to the district school of Pleasant Ridge. The children were all studious and attentive to their work, and all of them finished the course of the Pleasant Ridge school. Walter Elmer taught for three years at Harwood Center and in the Battles school for three years, after which he entered the University of Illinois, taking the regular scientific course in three years and two years later received his Master's degree.

The name of Walter Elmer Ekblaw has perhaps been spoken with more frequency in Champaign County in recent months than any other one citizen. In fact his fame is well established over the state and nation. In 1913, as geologist and chief assistant, he joined the Donald B. MacMillan Arctic expedition in search of Crocker Land. The University of Illinois helped defray the expenses of the expedition, which was fitted out chiefly by the American Museum of New York. Mr. Ekblaw was the special representative of the state university. The purpose of the expedition was to locate the land claimed to have been discovered by Admiral Peary. In this they were disappointed and when the expedition returned in 1917 the announcement was given the world that Crocker Land was a "mirage." Early in September, 1917, Mr. Ekblaw arrived at Champaign, having come post haste to his old home and his alma mater after getting off the boat at Sydney, Cape Breton Island. He was accorded an enthusiastic reception both at the university and in his home town of Rantoul and was paid such honors as few men of Champaign County have ever received. It is noteworthy that even the newspapers of the large cities, so completely filled in these days with war news, devoted a column or so to the arrival of the distinguished young explorer. The Chicago Tribune of September 11th reported Mr. Ekblaw as saying in part: "While we were disappointed because Crocker Land, in whose existence Admiral Peary believed, turned out to be a mirage, we felt that the expedition accomplished a great deal. At times we were confronted with the hardest of difficulties, but in some way succeeded in getting around them. We did not find the life so hard, however, after we became acquainted with the conditions and ways of the country and people.

"The expedition left New York and went from there to Sydney, Cape





Breton Island, where we were unable to proceed on account of our ship being wrecked. We fitted out another ship and the expedition again set out. This time we reached Greenland. It was along the last of August and by the latter part of September we had established our headquarters at a little village called Etah. Here we had built a house and other necessary buildings.

"The longest trip that I ever made was 1,200 miles. We discovered and explored three new fjords, after which we returned to our camp. All the time we were in Greenland we were about 750 miles from the North Pole, and the closest that I ever got to the pole was about 500 miles."

"Ekblaw," continues the Tribune account, "was a member of the Illinois football squad in his college days, and when he went North he put a football in his kit. This resulted in the organization by the scientist of the first Eskimo football team in history. 'My quarterback could not see over the center's head and all my men were built close to the ground,' said the explorer. They had a fine disdain for the rules and used to pile up promiscuously, but they had a good working knowledge of the object of the game and liked to play it on the ice.'

"Just before Ekblaw sailed for the polar regions his engagement to Miss Augusta May Krieger of Peoria, a graduate of the University of Illinois, then teaching in Highland Park, was announced. Miss Krieger agreed to wait and she was on the dock at New York to welcome her fiance."

The second son of Mr. Andrew Ekblaw, Carl Ekblaw, graduated from the Rantoul High School, taught for two years at Prairie Star school and has since taken his master's degree at the University of Illinois and for a time was an instructor there. In 1916 he completed further studies in Yale University. At the present writing he is professor of rural architecture in the Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kansas. Carl married Miss Alma Heuman of Elgin, Illinois, also a graduate of the university. The only daughter, Emma, is still at home with her mother. The son Eddie is his father's active assistant in the management of the farm. The fifth child, George, is a graduate of the Rantoul High School, taught two years at Wesley Chapel and also at Battles school, and entered the University of Illinois in the fall of 1917. The youngest child, Sidney, now fourteen, has completed the work of the grammar schools and is in the Rantoul High School. It is a source of pride not only to the parents but to all the people of Champaign County that the Ekblaw sons have so distinguished themselves in the work of teaching, scholarship and practical affairs.

Mr. and Mrs. Ekblaw are active members of the Lutheran Church at Paxton, still retaining the faith in which they were reared in the fatherland. Mr. Ekblaw is a Republican in politics.

ALBA J. FLATT. In a business way Mr. Flatt has been most prominently known in the community of Leverett in Champaign County, where he has the finest grain elevator in this section of the state and where for many years he has been the active medium through which an important bulk of the local grain production has been marketed. Mr. Flatt in recent years has had his home in the city of Champaign.

While a resident of Champaign County most of his life, Mr. Flatt was born near Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, July 6, 1863. His parents, James H. and Matilda L. (Campbell) Flatt, both natives of Canada, came to Champaign County in 1865, and both lived here the rest of their days. The father died in July, 1908, and the mother in June, 1912. James H. Flatt was for many years a well known farmer in Champaign County.

They were the parents of eight children: Charlotte, wife of William Whittmore, of Emporia, Kansas; Silas Edgar, who died at the age of eighteen; Ormond B., of Champaign; Alba J.; Carrie, wife of L. S. Rupert, of Blocmington, Illinois; Annie L., deceased; George J. of Champaign; and Ira J. W., of Denver, Colorado.

Alba J. Flatt grew up on the home farm in Champaign County, attended the local schools, and at the age of twenty-one began helping his father in the management of the large farm of four hundred eighty-seven acres near Leverett. He assumed most of the responsibilities connected with this place until he was married, and he then bought eighty acres for himself. From farming Mr. Flatt gradually enlarged his range of activities and in 1895 engaged in the general merchandise and grain business at Leverett. He has built two elevators in that town, and the second one is the best equipped structure of the kind in the central part of the state. He still continues his mercantile operations at Leverett under the firm name of A. J. Flatt & Son.

Mr. Flatt married January 5, 1887, Miss Mary F. Irle, a native of Champaign County. They have three children: Pearl L., wife of L. W. Roberts, of Leverett; Ross A., associated in business with his father as senior member of the firm A. J. Flatt & Son; and Nellie I.

In 1910 Mr. Flatt removed to Champaign and has since occupied his fine home at 1102 West Church Street. He has served as alderman from his home ward, and while living in the country was honored with several township offices. Mr. Flatt has attained the Scottish Rite Consistory degrees in Masonry and is also affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In politics he is a Republican, and his church home is the Presbyterian.

Benjamin H. McKinsey is one of the younger business element of Champaign, a vigorous and progressive citizen and a man who makes good his promises and professions at whatever cost or sacrifice to himself.

He was born in Urbana, August 21, 1888, son of Jacob and Mary E. (Young) McKinsey. His father was born at Antioch, Indiana, while his mother is a native of Leverett, Champaign County. Jacob McKinsey came to Champaign County about 1886, locating at Urbana, and for a number of years was an agent for Cole Brothers, lightning rod manufacturers. He continued a resident of Urbana until his death in 1896.

The only child of his parents, Benjamin H. McKinsey had the advantages of the common schools and early sought a means of earning his own living. In 1906, at the age of eighteen, he went with the Champaign Gas Company and worked as a gas fitter about two years. Another two years he was employed in Urbana as a boiler maker helper. Mr. McKinsey then entered the establishment of Mr. A. Peters, and for the past eight years has been in his employ.

On December 23, 1909, he married Miss Stacia Hall, a native of Champaign. They have one child, Lawrence. Mr. McKinsey is a Democrat and has served as alderman from the First Ward. He has always been interested in politics and has served three years as democratic committeeman. Fraternally he is identified with the Masonic lodge.

William J. Downing is one of the men of strength and successful record as a farmer in Ogden Township, and his name has also been identified with that locality in a civic way.

He was born in Ogden Township, a son of Alvin and Serene (Hayden) Downing. His parents were natives of Indiana. Mr. Downing was one of two children, his only sister dying in infancy.

Mr. Downing received his education in the Ogden schools and at the age of twenty-three he married Miss Cora Freeman. She was also born in Ogden Township, a daughter of Edmond Freeman and member of one of the pioneer families of Champaign County.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Downing settled on eighty acres in section 17 of Ogden Township, a place belonging to Edmond Freeman. This has been developed as their permanent home. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Downing, one of whom died in infancy. The other three are Chester, Verna and Virginia. Chester and Verna are of school age and are bright and intelligent students in the Ogden schools. In October, 1915, Mr. Downing was bereft of his beloved companion and wife, who died after an illness of six weeks. Thus left alone Mr. Downing has continued to live on the home place and has kept his children with him and is carefully directing their education and training.

Mr. Downing is an attendant of the Christian Church of Ogden and his wife was a member of the same denomination. He was reared a Republican and has always voted that ticket and fraternally is identified with the Knights of Pythias. He is a very successful farmer, raising large crops of oats, corn and wheat and is giving much attention to live stock. His record is that of a worthy and honorable citizen, one who enjoys a large circle of friends, and his name stands high among the men of Champaign County.

Charles E. Keller. The position of court stenographer is one which calls for speed and accuracy in execution and intense concentration of mind. The records of the testimony taken in court are too important in character to be handled in any slip-shod manner, and the individuals designated for this kind of work are therefore chosen for their reliability and fidelity as well as for their intelligence and mere physical attributes. The court reporter of the Circuit Court of Champaign County, Charles E. Keller, has been the incumbent of his present position since 1915 and his skill and exactness have gained him the approbation of the bench and bar. He is an alert and reliable young man, and as he is a product of Champaign County the people here have watched his advancement with interest.

Mr. Keller was born on a farm in Scott Township, Champaign County, Illinois, December 3, 1889, being a son of Peter and Ella Belle (Flowers) Keller. His father, a native of Hocking County, Ohio, came to Champaign County when a young man, and here adopted the vocation of farming, which he followed for many years, or until his retirement. He was industrious and enterprising and developed a handsome property in the vicinity of Bondville, but the accumulation of a competence made it unnecessary for him to labor any more and he is now living in comfort at his home in that village. Mrs. Keller, who also survives, is a native of Champaign County. There were two children in the family: Charles E.; and Bessie Opal, who is unmarried and resides with her parents. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Charles E. Keller's boyhood home was in the vicinity of Bondville, and the schools of that place furnished him with his preliminary education. He was reared on the farm and trained in the matters that go to make up the skilled husbandman, but like many other farmers' sons before him he answered the call of the city, and in order to train himself for a career in the busy, energetic life of the larger centers pursued a course in bookkeeping and stenography at the Brown Business College at Champaign. When he had completed his studies there, Mr. Keller secured a position in the office of Judge Boggs, of Champaign, with whom he re-

mained from July, 1908, until 1915, in which latter year he was appointed to his present position. As before noted, he has "made good" in the official capacity of Circuit Court stenographer, and has made numerous friends among the officials and attaches of the Court House at Urbana, where his office is located.

Mr. Keller was married October 4, 1911, at Champaign, to Miss Ethel Matilda Rayburn, who was born in Champaign County, and they are the parents of three children: Ernestine, born July 25, 1912; and Charles Irwin and Chester Edwin, twins, born July 20, 1916. Mr. Keller maintains an independent stand in politics. He is a Mason and a Pythian Knight, and he and Mrs. Keller belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church at Urbana.

MORTIMER KILBURY of St. Joseph is an old-time resident of Champaign County, having been identified with the cultivation of its soil and the management of increasing burdens of business and public life for over forty years.

Mr. Kilbury was born at Darby Plains, Ohio, a son of Asa G. and Ruth (Clark) Kilbury. The Kilbury family were Colonial settlers in Vermont. They started West about the time of the beginning of western migration in the early part of the nineteenth century. They drove to Ohio in covered wagons. There were two brothers making this journey, one of them the father of Asa Kilbury. One morning after breaking up their night camp one of the brothers hitched up and started on ahead, driving along until he came to a fork in the roads, where he took one route. His brother followed him somewhat later, and after making a careful examination decided that his brother had taken the road to the right, whereas, as a matter of fact, it was the left road. He drove on, and, thus separated, they continued their journeys and never met again.

Asa G. Kilbury was born June 24, 1806. He grew up in Ohio, and when he started out for himself he gave his father all the money he possessed, reserving only $1 as a luck piece. He settled at Darby Plains, Ohio, where he married Ruth Clark and as farmers they acquired a large amount of property. Asa Kilbury died January 5, 1884, and his wife, who was born February 27, 1815, died September 20, 1885. They were the parents of six sons and three daughters.

Mortimer Kilbury received his early education in Ohio and came to Champaign County in the spring of 1873, when a young man, locating in section 31 of Ogden Township. Here he and his brother James S. worked land which had been previously bought by their father from the Government at $1.25 an acre. It was an extensive tract and the two brothers did much to improve it and make a fine farm of the land.

On September 23, 1877, Mortimer Kilbury laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Mary Louise Frederick, who was born in Vermilion County, near Fithian, Illinois. Her parents were Richard A. and Parmelia (Allhands) Frederick. Mrs. Kilbury with her brothers and sisters attended the Central district school. She was one of a family of four sons and five daughters.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kilbury located on the farm where Mr. Kilbury had been previously employed, and they continued to reside there for a number of years and laid the foundation of their permanent prosperity. After the death of Mr. Kilbury's father in 1884 the son inherited a part of the land and gradually he expanded the scope of his holdings and his operations as a farmer and stockman.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Kilbury were born six children, named Asa, Edna, Fred, Mabel, Winifred and Jeannette. Mr. and Mrs. Kilbury

have devoted themselves to the proper rearing and training of their children. They sent them to the district schools and also to the St. Joseph High School, all of them graduating from high school. The sons were students in the University of Illinois and one of the daughters, Mabel, attended Northwestern University at Evanston. Winifred was a student in the Champaign High School and also the Academy at Evanston. The daughter Jeannette was graduated with honors from the Urbana High School with the class of 1917, having taken all her four years' work in that school and having gone back and forth from home to school on the interurban car morning and evening, rain or shine. She is now teaching the Shilo school.

The son Fred Kilbury is a farmer of St. Joseph Township and married Inez Mullen. The son Asa, a resident of St. Joseph, married Edna Norris of Frankfort, Indiana, and they have a son, Winston N., a manly youth, now numbered among the bright and promising students of the St. Joseph High School. The daughter Winifred married Raymond Jones, an architect practicing his profession at Danville, and they have two sons, Robert Kilbury and Raymond Grant. The daughter Edna died at the age of eight and a half months. The daughter Mabel, whose death in 1914 was a heavy loss to the family and her many friends, while a student in college, met Rev. Arthur A. Halter, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and they were afterwards married and she left a daughter, Mabel Rachel. Mrs. Halter was a fine Christian character, active in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a large community of friends felt that in her loss the old saying that death loves a shining mark was again corroborated.

For many years Mr. Kilbury has found himself profitably and pleasantly engaged in the varied pursuits of farming and stock husbandry. A number of years ago he established a herd of Shorthorn cattle and exhibitors at county and state fairs have long known his prize winning stock. He has been awarded numerous premiums, and he produced one fine steer that weighed 2,380 pounds.

A number of years ago Mr. Kilbury bought 130 acres of land adjacent to the village of St. Joseph and at the end of North Main Street erected a commodious and attractive residence, where the family have long had their home. This house, which combines the advantages of both town and country, has been greatly beautified in its surroundings by the planting of fruit and shade trees and careful cultivation with a view to adornment and utility. Mr. and Mrs. Kilbury are attentive members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at St. Joseph and he has served as a trustee of the church. One of his first important efforts in behalf of community improvement was to secure a division of the school district and he donated land from his own place as a school site. He has been elected to and has served in some of those offices which are a mark of public confidence and esteem and are an opportunity for much hard and conscientious work with no remuneration. He has served as school director, and is a stanch Republican in politics. He grew to young manhood when the Republican party was in its prime and the vitality it showed in grasping and solving many great national problems inspired a confidence which has caused him to keep firmly aligned within the party ranks. Fraternally he is a Knight Templar Mason and Shriner and his wife is a member of the Eastern Star. Mrs. Kilbury has served as associate matron and at present is treasurer of the Eastern Star. She is active in the Woman's Club of St. Joseph and in the Foreign Missionary Society of her church. Mr. Kilbury has been fortunate in having a good wife to stand by his side forty years, aiding him in counsel and advice, and carefully looking after the rearing of their family and the making of their home.

CHARLES ZILLY. One of the men whose sterling character, energy and industry have given an enviable prominence to Champaign as a commercial and financial center of Illinois is Mr. Charles Zilly, of the firm of Zilly & McKinley, mortgage loans, and who has been a resident of Champaign since 1890. His home has been in Illinois for more than half a century, and he is a veteran of an Illinois regiment in the Civil War.

Mr. Zilly is the example of a poor boy coming from a foreign land and eventually attaining and filling an honorable place in the business life of Champaign. He was born in Switzerland, February 11, 1842, a son of Frederick and Elizabeth Zilly. Both parents died during his early boyhood.

After having had some of the advantages of the schools of Switzerland, Charles Zilly at the age of fourteen immigrated to America. He was practically alone when he came and for the first year and a half he lived with some relatives in the East. From there he came West to Illinois, and while earning his living in the summer by farm work he made up for his earlier deficiencies in the way of an education and especially for his lack of fluency in the English language by attending school in winter seasons. While in school one winter he fell and broke his leg, an accident which disabled him for farm work. In consequence he removed to Chandlerville, Illinois, and was employed in mercantile lines until 1861.

Though a foreigner by birth, Charles Zilly lacked nothing of the patriotism of the true American, and soon after the Civil War broke out in 1861 he was enrolled in Company E of the Tenth Illinois Cavalry. He was with that gallant organization throughout most of the entire war. He rose to the rank of adjutant and was finally given an honorable discharge in 1865.

After the war, in 1867, Mr. Zilly became identified with a private bank, which afterward became the First National Bank of Petersburg, Illinois, and was with that institution for a period of twenty years. His financial judgment brought him other interests and he became associated with J. B. and W. B. McKinley, interested in Western loans, and has since been a member of the firm of Zilly & McKinley, loan brokers.

Mr. Zilly was elected president of the first Anti-License Board at Petersburg, Illinois, when residing there. He is a Republican in politics, an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic and affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In 1865, soon after the close of the war, he married in Chandlerville, Illinois, Emma Rickard. She died February 13, 1872, and the one child of the union, Carroll K., now lives at Portland, Oregon. On February 12, 1874, Mr. Zilly and Miss Helen L. McKinley were married in Petersburg, Illinois. Five children have been born to their marriage: Mabel H., wife of L. H. Hamilton, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Fred McKinley Zilly, of Portland, Oregon; Alice, deceased; Marie Louise Zilly; and Agnes Elizabeth, wife of F. E. Berger, of Davenport, Iowa.

WILLIAM H. SMITH, who owns and occupies one of the beautiful and attractive country homes near Urbana, represents one of the oldest and most prominent pioneer families of this county.

Here Mr. Smith was born July 22, 1844, a son of Jacob and Margaret J. (Beattie) Smith. His father was a native of Shelby County, Kentucky, and his mother of Virginia. Margaret Beattie went to Kentucky with her parents at the age of eight years, and somewhat later the family went on to Missouri. While en route through that state they were both taken ill, and both died near Jefferson City. They were survived by seven

children, who then had to shift for themselves. Margaret Beattie grew up almost among strangers, and after her marriage to Jacob Smith they migrated to Illinois with the Webber family and the family of Stephen Boyd.

It was about 1833 that the Smith family came into Champaign County. That was a very early year in the history of this county, and they located on land now included in Urbana Township. At that time the town of Urbana did not exist. Jacob Smith went to Danville to enter more than 600 acres of land, at the regular Government price of $1.25 per acre. He was a man of unusual industry and business ability and acquired a large estate. He and his wife had ten children, two of whom died in infancy. The others received their education in the district school known as the Bromley School No. 4, and grew to maturity, married and settled down, the sons becoming progressive farmers and men of recognized ability and success.

William H. Smith grew up in Champaign County and remained at home assisting in the management of his father's farm for a number of years. On August 22, 1880, he laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Miss Emma Elder. Mrs. Smith was born at Decatur in Brown County, Ohio, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Mattox) Elder, her father a native of Pennsylvania and her mother of Ohio. Mrs. Smith was one of nine children. When she was a small child her parents moved to Illinois and settled near the Star schoolhouse. In that school Mrs. Smith obtained her first instruction, beginning to attend when only five years of age. Her sister Bell Elder qualified as a teacher in Champaign County at the age of sixteen and for a number of terms taught school.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Smith they decided to establish themselves in a comparatively new country and went to the State of Texas, locating in one of the rugged and semi-mountainous districts of that great state. There Mr. Smith took up the sheep industry for ten years and at times had a flock of 1,500. He also engaged in the cattle business, the open range affording a fine opportunity for grazing. Mr. and Mrs. Smith lived in Texas for about twenty-five years. In the meantime nine children were born to them, named Grace, Elizabeth, Ruby, Willie, Mervin, Mada, Robert, Fred and Erma. The children Mada and Robert died in infancy. The others obtained their first advantages in the public schools of Texas and were then sent North to complete their training in the Urbana High School. It is an interesting fact that Professor J. W. Hayes, the venerable educator, was not only one of Mrs. Smith's instructors but also taught some of her children. At the present time Fred Smith is a student in the University of Illinois, while Erma is in the Urbana High School. The other children are all established in homes of their own.

Grace Smith married Sidney Prince, who is a contractor and builder at Fisher, Illinois. Their two children are Sidney and Nellie. Elizabeth Smith is the wife of E. J. Dunn, a farmer living at Urbana and their four children are Clyde, Louis, Emma and Roy. Ruby Smith married J. R. Saddler, a farmer at Ames, Iowa. They have two children, Frances and Henry. The daughter Willie married Ralph Dunn, and they live on a farm near the Smith homestead. Their four children are Frank, Ruth, Ralph and Wilma. Mervin Smith married Verna Johnson and has one daughter, Laura Emma.

About thirteen years ago Mr. and Mrs. Smith returned from Texas to the scenes of their early youth. In the meantime Mr. Smith had acquired 300 acres of Illinois farm land. On returning to Champaign County he located on a farm of 100 acres east of Urbana. Mr. Smith bought this land a number of years ago at prices ranging from $40 to $75

an acre. When he acquired it the land had no improvements, and eighty acres was a continuous grass sod. He has used time and means in developing it, has added many fruit and shade trees, and has a commodious residence situated on a slight eminence, surrounded by a fine grove of stately trees.

Mr. Smith is an ardent Democrat, and believes that President Wilson is the man of the hour and has the ability and the wisdom to bring the ship of state out of troubled waters.

The Smith farm is a place of much interest from an archaeological standpoint. At one time an Indian village stood on the land. Indian arrowheads have been picked up from the ground, and in a hollow are found many wild cucumber vines which competent authorities say the Indians planted. Mr. Smith has in his possession a fine specimen of Indian whetstone. It was made from a piece of petrified hickory wood, and through the center is bored a hole, through which a buckskin thong was strung so as to make it more convenient to carry.

SAMUEL B. VARNEY. As told on other pages of this work, the founding and early growth of Champaign was largely due to the construction of the Illinois Central Railway. One of the first active settlers in the community was Samuel B. Varney, a pioneer whose influence did much for Champaign in its formative stages and whose name is one to be spoken with respect and cherished with honor. He died when Champaign was still a small and struggling town, and the only one of his children still living is Mrs. L. V. Crane, who resides at 412 West Church Street in Champaign.

The late Samuel B. Varney was born in Albion, Maine, April 27, 1812. He spent many years in his native state, engaged in farming, in the strenuous endeavor to coax a living from the rocky soil, and was also a merchant, manufacturer and hotel proprietor. When the Illinois Central Railway was built large bodies of land were granted to the company as a bonus, and the company sold this land to investors in many parts of the country. One of the buyers was Samuel B. Varney, who acquired a quarter section four miles from the then new town of Champaign. After making this investment Mr. Varney came to Illinois in 1859, when the railroad had just been completed, and at the same time he bought four lots in the J. P. White Addition, the first addition made to the town of Champaign. On one of those lots he erected his home in 1859, and that old residence is still standing as a landmark of the larger city which has grown up around it. Mr. Varney was in a position to take advantage of the many opportunities then existing in Champaign County, and he not only acquired large property interests, but also did much to improve the city of Champaign. He was especially interested in the West Side Park, helped to plant many trees, and in other ways beautify the new town.

He lived only about a half dozen years in Champaign. His death occurred in the city of Chicago, at the home of his daughter Mrs. Crane, November 19, 1866. He had gone to Chicago for medical treatment, but did not survive.

Mr. Varney married in 1833 Miss Sarah Pierson, who was born in Montsville, Maine, but was a resident of Bangor at the time of her marriage. She died in Maine in 1844. In 1845 Samuel R. Varney married Lucy J. White, who died at Champaign in 1895. Samuel B. Varney was the father of eight children. His son Charles P. Varney, who died in 1900, made a record as a soldier in the Civil War, being a surgeon with the Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry for four years, and afterward served as revenue collector in Georgia.

Mrs. Lauzarah V. Crane, the only living child of the late Samuel B. Varney, was born at the old Varney home at South Levant, Maine, October 19, 1835. She now owns and occupies the old homestead acquired and improved by her father in 1859. She came out to Champaign with her father and was then twenty-four years of age. She had been liberally educated and was one of the first teachers in the public schools of Champaign. On August 26, 1863, she married Archibald M. Crane, of Chicago. Mr. Crane died in Livingstone County, Illinois, in 1879. In 1894 Mrs. Crane returned to her old home in Champaign and has lived here ever since. Mr. Crane was a member of the Masonic Order and was active in the Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Crane became the mother of six children, the two youngest dying in infancy. Edward S. is now a resident of Cleveland, Ohio; Charles M., of Chicago; Jonah, of Hartford, Connecticut; and Lauzara B. is the wife of Lee C. Emerson, of Champaign.

Benjamin Franklin McGath is one of the old-timers in Champaign County, and has witnessed its growth and development since 1861, the same year that he went out to do service as a Union soldier. He made a creditable record in the army and his entire life has been a record of patriotic devotion and duties worthily and successfully performed.

His birth occurred in Vermilion County, Indiana, March 15, 1841. He is the only survivor of a family of ten children, six sons and four daughters, born to William and Nancy (Fannon) McGath. He was the eighth in order of birth. His father was born near Wilmington, Ohio, grew up and received his education there and also married in Ohio and went across the country in pioneer style to Indiana and settled on a farm in Vermilion County in the valley of the Wabash River. His death occurred there about 1847 and he was one of the pioneers in that section. He was a Jeffersonian Democrat and he and his wife were active Methodists. His wife was born in Ohio and was of German ancestry. She was a kind and loving mother, and after her husband's death she lived for sixteen years at the home of her son Benjamin, and her death occurred in 1900. She was laid to rest at Mansfield.

Benjamin F. McGath grew up in Indiana, acquired a common school education, and came to Illinois when twenty years of age. He had been here only a short time when he enlisted in the Second Illinois Cavalry under Colonel Berry. He was trained and equipped in the Springfield barracks, and was never called into active service during his first four months' term of enlistment. After that he did some recruiting and then joined the Seventy-first Regiment of Illinois Infantry. This regiment became a part of the Army of the Tennessee under General Grant, and he performed his duties as a soldier in several of the memorable campaigns of the Mississippi Valley. He was present at the battles of Corinth and Iuka and was finally mustered out and received his honorable discharge at Mattoon, Illinois.

Mr. McGath made his material success in life as the result of hard work and persistent energy. As a young man he worked as a farm hand at $15 a month. Farming has always been his active pursuit and from the soil he has gathered sufficient wealth to provide for his family and for his own needs. In Champaign County he had accumulated a farm of eighty acres, but in 1873 he sold out and moved to Kansas, buying a half section of 320 acres in Russell County. His move to Kansas was an unfortunate one, since it took him into the state during the period when Kansas was scourged by grasshoppers, persistent drought and every other vicissitude known to a farming population. The five years he spent there he

raised only one satisfactory crop. Finally selling his land, he returned to Champaign County, soon afterward removed to Vermilion County, Illinois, but for the greater part of his active career was a farmer in Champaign County.

On July 3, 1873, the same year that he moved out to Kansas, Mr. McGath married Miss Permilla Jane Kilgore. Five children were born to their marriage, three sons and two daughters, and four are still living. Clella C., the oldest, is the wife of J. C. Herriott, and their home is at LaJara, Colorado. Mr. Herriott is a farmer and a barber. They have a daughter, Fay. Clella is an active member of the Methodist Church and received her education in the Mahomet High School and for a time taught in Vermilion County. Royal K., the oldest son, is also a resident of LaJara, Colorado, and is a barber running a shop with his brother-in-law. He was educated in the Mahomet High School, is a Republican in politics, and married Miss Katie Brown. Bertie, the third child, is a practical agriculturist at Lynne, Illinois, and has made a success as manager of a large farm of 320 acres. He was educated in the common schools, is a Republican and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his wife are active Methodists. He married Miss Carrie Moore, and their children are named Cleo, Lloyd and Opal. Mary A., the youngest child, is the wife of Edgar Moore, also a farmer, and they reside at East Lynne. Their children are Glenn and Bennie Guy. They are members of the Methodist Church.

The record of their children is one that Mr. and Mrs. McGath may review with pride and satisfaction. Mrs. McGath was born in White County, Indiana, January 22, 1848, and represents a family of early settlers in that section of Indiana. Her parents were John C. and Margaret (Carr) Kilgore. Her father was born in Indiana in 1813, three years before Indiana was admitted to the Union, and he died in 1892. He was a practical farmer, and moved to Mahomet, Illinois, when Mrs. McGath was ten months old. Her mother was also a native of Indiana and died when Mrs. McGath was five years old. In their family were six sons and six daughters, three now living. Mrs. McGath's sister Mary is a member of the Methodist Church and is married and lives in Livingston, Illinois. Her other sister, Silance, lives at Ogden, Illinois, the widow of William Hubbard, and she is also an active Methodist. Mrs. McGath was educated in the common schools and with her husband is a loyal and devout member of the Methodist Church. She has made her home a place of hospitality and has always been devoted to her children and her many friends. Mr. and Mrs. McGath now have a comfortable residence east of Mahomet on a tract of six acres, which furnishes them a beautiful environment for their declining years and also plenty of activity. Mr. McGath is a Republican and has given his zealous support to the public schools. Mr. and Mrs. McGath in their later years have made several trips to the far West, including Colorado, and have wisely and judiciously used the means accumulated by a lifetime of earnest effort and toil.

Chester D. Brownell is president of the Reliable Plumbing and Heating Company of Champaign. His career, which has been known to the people of this locality since he was a boy, has not been one of spectacular success, but a slow and steady progress from minor duties and responsibilities to something better and larger, and from an employe he became an employer, and is now at the head of a business second to none in efficiency and facilities in the county.

Mr. Brownell has been a resident of Champaign nearly all his life, but



C. D. Brownell.

was born in Chautauqua County, New York, April 10, 1873. His parents were Oliver D. and Lucy A. (Sabin) Brownell, also natives of Chautauqua County, New York. His father was a soldier in the Civil War and subsequently a conductor with the Erie Railway Company. In 1876 he removed to Champaign and engaged in the implement business with his brother-in-law, C. J. Sabin. He maintained an active connection with that firm until 1895, when he retired. He also served as chief of police of Champaign under Mayor Sabin and also during Mayor Woody's administration. He was a highly esteemed citizen and is still well remembered in the community. His death occurred April 11, 1905. His widow is still living in Champaign. Chester D. Brownell is their only son, and their only daughter, Pearl, is the wife of E. G. Greenman, of Champaign.

Chester D. Brownell was fortunate in his environment and the magnificent educational opportunities he enjoyed as a boy. He attended the public schools and also had about three years in the chemistry department of the University of Illinois. His first employment was as a bill clerk with the American Express Company, where he remained three years. In 1897 he became identified with the F. K. Robson department store, and for eight years was in the carpet and upholstery department. His experience and thorough knowledge of the business brought him an offer, which he accepted, to open the carpet department in the store of W. Lewis & Company, where he remained a year. From that he acquired an interest in a business of his own in the plumbing and heating department of Walsh, Heuck & Company. In 1905 Mr. Brownell organized the present business of the Reliable Plumbing and Heating Company, his former associate being Pearl Fisher. Subsequently Mr. Fisher sold his interests to Mr. E. G. Greenman, who is secretary and treasurer and Mr. Brownell is president of the corporation.

He was the first master of the Plumbers Association of Champaign, and for five years served as vice-president of the Illinois Master Plumbers Association. He has had some active part in local affairs, and for six years represented his ward on the board of aldermen. He is a member of the Champaign Chamber of Commerce, of which body he is president. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, the Sons of Veterans, and is a member of the Christian Science Church. Mr. Brownell's present public service is being given as a member of the board of education. In politics he is a Republican.

On June 8, 1896, he married Miss Maud Riffenberick, a native of Champaign. They are the parents of four children: Richard and Dean, twins, the former now deceased; Marion; and Chester, Jr.

Lucius Noyes Sizer was a member of the firm Sizer Brothers, comprising himself and his brother Oscar Bertrand Sizer, proprietors of the Maple Lawn Stock Farm in Newcomb Township. Both brothers became too well known to require any extended introduction. They proved themselves capable as farmers, stock raisers, business men and in every relationship of life.

Of the two brothers, Lucius Noyes Sizer was born in Kankakee County, Illinois, November 15, 1860. His brother Oscar Bertrand was born in Champaign County, December 29, 1863. His birth occurred on the farm where he now resides. He is the only survivor of seven children, four sons and three daughters, born to Albert Dann and Mary (Noyes) Sizer.

Mr. Bert Sizer was educated in the Mahomet public schools and acquired the equivalent of a high school training. His life has throughout been devoted to farming and Champaign County has always been his home. His wife, now deceased, bore the maiden name of Emma Judy. Bert Sizer is a Republican, served as road commissioner six years and

as supervisor of Newcomb Township four years. He is a member of the Elks Lodge at Champaign and belongs to the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church in Newcomb Township.

The two brothers acquired an estate of two hundred forty acres in Newcomb Township. The Sizer Brothers gave several years to the breeding of English Shire horses. Some of the finest animals of this class in the Middle West have been raised under their supervision. Their fine stock has been awarded many first prizes, trophies and gold medals, their trophy exhibition containing twenty-five silver trophies, three gold medals, won at the state fairs of Illinois, Indiana and Iowa and the International Stock Show at Chicago. One of the finest animals of this class on the Sizer farm today is Tatton Eldorado, which was a first prize winner in the four year class at the International Stock Show in Chicago in 1916. It is an animal of great value and it indicates how the Sizer Brothers were able to make their live stock enterprise a matter of practical benefit to a large community.

Albert Dann Sizer, father of these brothers, was born in Otsego County, New York, in 1823 and died in 1885. His ancestry is traced back to colonial days. His grandfather, Daniel Sizer, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was a private in the Fourth Company under Capt. R. J. Meys from Middletown and in the Second Connecticut Regiment under Col. Joseph Spencer. He served during the siege of Boston, and the remainder of his official record as given in the Revolutionary archives is as follows: Private, November, 1777; Prisoner of war and was exchanged July, 1778; was a corporal March 20, 1780, and sergeant January, 1781, in the Third Regiment from Connecticut; was in the line formation 1781 till 1783 under Col. Samuel B. Webb. Served as a private in the retreat from Rhode Island. Such is the record of his activities as found in the adjutant general's report.

Albert Dann Sizer was reared to manhood in his native state, was educated in common schools and the academy at Batavia, New York, and spent most of his active career as a teacher. His two sons are children of his second marriage. His second marriage occurred in Vermont and in 1857 he came to Kankakee County, Illinois, where he became principal of the Kankakee schools. In the fall of 1862 he removed to Newcomb Township of Champaign County, where in the meantime he had bought 160 acres of land. This purchase is part of the 240 acres now owned and managed by his sons. Fifty years have served to bring about remarkable changes in land values in Champaign County. He paid only $5 an acre for his quarter section, but it is now worth $200 or $300 an acre. It was Illinois Central Railroad land and in an absolutely raw and unimproved state when he bought it. In 1865 Albert D. Sizer assumed the principalship of the Mahomet schools, and when his death occurred twenty years later he had put in sixteen years of the time at these schools. Among old time teachers he is rated as one of the most successful and is remembered by many hundreds of men and women now in mature years who went to school to him when children. He was a Republican in politics and began voting in that political faith at the time the party was organized. He and his wife were also members of the Presbyterian Church. They are laid to rest in the Riverside cemetery.

The mother of the Sizer brothers was born in Vermont, September 1, 1831, and died in October, 1899. She was well educated. Her grandfather and her great-grandfather on the paternal side were in the Revolutionary War, the great-grandfather being a lieutenant. He was of English origin in the Noyes line.

The late Lucius Noyes Sizer was educated in the public schools at

Mahomet and also attended the State University of Illinois, where he was graduated in the civil engineering department with the class of 1884. Though his home was in the country and his time was devoted to the stock farm, Mr. Sizer gave the greater part of his thirty years after leaving college to the civil engineering profession. He made a record for himself in that line in Champaign and Ford counties. It was Mr. Sizer who planned one of the largest open ditches in either of these counties, the big Ford ditch in Ford County, built at a cost of a hundred thousand dollars. For three and a half years he served as city engineer of Champaign, during which period his chief work was paving.

In June 30, 1892, Mr. Sizer married Miss M. Anna Shurts. To their marriage were born four children, three sons and one daughter. Albert Dann, the oldest, is now principal of the public schools of Pesotum in Champaign County. He was educated in the Champaign High School, graduating in 1911, and three years after that pursued his studies in the University of Illinois, in the agricultural course. Albert D. Sizer married Miss Pauline Moss Carter, and they have a son, Albert Carter. Mr. Sizer is a Republican and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Bruce Lucius, the second son, finished his education in the Champaign High School with the class of 1912, then entered the State University and was given an appointment to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis and spent one year in training in that institution. On account of failing health he had to give up his intention of training for officer in the United States Navy and he is now at Las Animas, Colorado. Donald Eugene, the third of the sons, finished the course of the common schools and is now carrying forward his work of a higher education in the high school at Fisher. The only daughter, Dorothy M., has finished the work of the common schools and has spent one year in the Fisher High School. The parents of these children exercised much care in bringing them up and gave them an excellent training, above the ordinary in preparation for the duties and responsibilities of life.

Mrs. Sizer was born in Tazewell County, Illinois, November 14, 1865, the fourth in a family of seven children, five sons and two daughters. Her parents were Joseph Nitzer and Emily (Blair) Shurts. Three of the children are still living and Mrs. Shurts and her brother Fred are living in Champaign County. The father was born in New Jersey in 1824 and died in 1906. When a young man he accompanied the family to Ohio, lived there a number of years, and he then moved west and located in Delavan, Tazewell County, Illinois. He acquired land in that beautiful section of the state and finally retired from farming into Delavan, where he spent his last years. He was a Democrat in politics. His wife was born in Michigan in 1836 and died in 1900. She was an active member of the Christian Church. Mrs. Sizer was educated in the common schools and had two years instruction in the State Normal University at Normal, Illinois. After this preparation she became a teacher and followed the profession for eight years very successfully, and the satisfaction that her labors afforded is well indicated by the fact that she taught five years in one school in Tazewell County. For three years of her teaching she was at Delavan. Mrs. Sizer was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Champaign and of the Domestic Science Club at Fisher. She proved a very able and capable woman in the establishment of her home and in bearing her social duties.

Mr. Sizer was a Republican and the only office he accepted was director of the public schools. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Lucius Noyes Sizer passed away July 6, 1917, and after the funeral

services his remains were interred in Riverside cemetery at Mahomet, Illinois. The death of Mr. Sizer caused much sorrow amongst his many life long friends in Newcomb Township, as well as the cities of Champaign and Urbana. His life was one of honor, and upright living, and he left a worthy heritage to his children as a man amongst men. Mrs. Sizer died October 5, 1917.

WILLIAM OSCAR DALE. During many years of residence in Champaign County William O. Dale has reached that enviable position where his word is accepted in business matters the same as a bond, and all his friends and acquaintances repose the utmost confidence in his judgment and integrity. Mr. Dale, with the aid of his capable wife, has developed a fine country home in Mahomet Township, known as the Fern Dale Farm, and at the same time he has acted on the principle that the community deserved some of his work and has interested himself for a number of years to the benefit and improvement of the local schools.

The Dale family has lived in Champaign County since pioneer times, and the family record is one that can be viewed in detail without finding a single unfavorable distinction. William Oscar Dale was born in this county, June 4, 1864, and was the third of eight children, five sons and three daughters. Of the four still living William O. is the oldest. His sister Tena was liberally educated, having at one time been a student of the Illinois State Normal School and a teacher in both McLean and Champaign counties before her marriage to Mr. W. H. Webb. Mr. Webb is a practical farmer and they now reside in Rockwell City, Iowa, the parents of four children. Frank Lee, the third child, was educated in the Mahomet High School and has spent a number of years in Oklahoma, where he was formerly editor of the Minco Minstrel and is now a banker at Foyil, connected with the Foyil State Bank. He married Miss Edith Lucas, and they have a daughter. Charles Wilson, the youngest, is now editor of the St. Joseph Record of St. Joseph, Illinois. He married Miss Myrta Morehouse.

The parents of these children were Thomas and Mary E. (Mead) Dale. Thomas Dale spent the larger part of his active career in Champaign County. He was born near Marion, Ohio, March 19, 1834, and still retains his intellect and his faculties at the advanced age of eighty-three. He is now living at Rockwell City, Iowa. He came to Illinois when fourteen years of age. The family made the journey with wagons and teams, and were among the early settlers in Mahomet Township, where they bought land from the Government at $1.25 per acre. The Dale homestead on this eighty-acre tract was built of logs, and Thomas Dale during his youth frequently hunted the wild game which abounded in this section, and has killed deer within the limits of Champaign County. He secured his education in a log schoolhouse with its slab seats and other crude equipment, and he wrote his copy with a goose quill pen. Farming has been his vocation, and he was of an age to cast his first vote about the time the Republican party was organized. Both he and his wife early became identified with the Methodist Church, and he donated the ground where the present church at Mahomet stands. His wife was born in New Jersey in 1832 and died January 24, 1881. A monument stands at her grave in the Bryan Cemetery.

William O. Dale as a boy attended the common schools and was also a student for two years in the Mahomet High School while the principal was Professor A. D. Sizer. Since his studies were concluded his work has been as an agriculturist and stockman. He began as a wage worker at $18 a month and put in three or four years in that way and next rented

land. A number of years ago he went to Oklahoma and bought 400 acres near Frederick, and he still owns that property. He and his wife have 200 acres in Mahomet Township, this land being an estate that has not yet been divided.

March 5, 1891, Mr. Dale married Miss Grace E. Rayburn. From time to time children have come into their home to the number of eight, three sons and five daughters, and six of them are still living. Much of their hard work and self-denial have been done in order that these children might have superior advantages at home and in school and their family do them credit and honor by their accomplishments. The oldest is Belle, now the wife of Otis Pfiester, an agriculturist living in Scott Township. Mrs. Pfiester attended the Mahomet High School, the Illinois State Normal School, and for six years was a successful member of the teaching profession in Champaign County. Both she and her husband are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Ferne, the second daughter, had similar educational advantages with her sister Belle, and both were well trained in music. She is considered one of the most talented teachers in Champaign County, and has performed that work creditably for several years. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Lulu, the third daughter, was graduated from the Mahomet High School, spent one year in the State Normal, and also one year in the Normal at Charleston, Illinois. She is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The three younger children are Oscar, Mary R. and Robert. Oscar enters the Mahomet High School in 1917, Mary is in the sixth grade of the grammar school, while Robert is in the third grade.

Mrs. Dale was born in Champaign County, June 25, 1870, a daughter of Robert Gilbert and Isabel (Herriott) Rayburn. She grew up in this county, was educated in the common schools, and has deemed it a privilege to work beside her husband in establishing a home and in the careful rearing and training of her family. Her father was born in Ohio and his life has been successfully passed as an agriculturist. He is one of the leading citizens of Champaign County and has one of the beautiful country homes here. He is a Republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife was born in the Blue Grass State of Kentucky, and was a woman whose character and attainments commanded universal respect. Her death occurred September 5, 1912, and she was laid to rest in the Riverside Cemetery.

Mr. Dale is a Republican, having cast his first presidential vote for James G. Blaine. Both he and his wife have served as directors of the local public schools and have exerted their influence, whether officially or as private citizens, to secure the best teachers and the best equipment for the education of the younger generation. Mr. Dale has filled all the chairs except the East in the local Masonic Lodge No. 220, A. F. & A. M. The Fern Dale Farm, which he and his wife occupy, is a tract of the rich black soil characteristic of Champaign County, and its productiveness and value have been enhanced by the capable manner in which Mr. Dale has managed the land and its resources.

Mrs. Anna Marie Jones. In the making of the worthy history of Champaign County, woman as well as man has played a most worthy part. But too often the part of woman has been overlooked or slighted and yet in those things of which Champaign County is most proud, its homes, the wives and mothers share on an equal scale with the husbands and fathers. It is therefore most appropriate that this sketch should begin with the name of a noble Champaign County woman who has done her part both as a home maker and as a mother as well as in church and social affairs.

Mrs. Jones is a native of Champaign County, having been born here January, 23, 1866. She is a daughter of August and Anna Johanna (Burkhardt) Sperling. Her father, who is still living at the age of seventy-eight, was born June 14, 1839, in Stabelberg, Prussia. He has made seven trips across the ocean. The first of these long journeys was made when he was about eighteen years old. At the age of twenty-one he came again to America and located in Sheboygan County, Wisconsin. From there he went to Winona, Minnesota, and engaged in the grain business. About 1865 he came to Champaign County and turned his attention to agriculture on these rich and fertile acres. Subsequently for ten years he was again in the grain business and he finally retired and moved out to California about 1905 and has since lived retired at South Pasadena. He is still owner of 520 acres of the valuable Champaign County land. Politically he has been a Republican and is a Knight Templar Mason with membership at Gibson City, Illinois, and is also an Odd Fellow. He and his wife were reared as members of the Lutheran Church. His good wife, who was born at Rottenacher, Wurtemberg, Germany, not far from the city of Berlin, on October 30, 1842, passed away February 4, 1913, at Pasadena, California. She was a noble woman and did her part well by her children and family.

Altogether there were ten children, five sons and five daughters. Six are still living. Emma was educated in the common schools of Champaign County and is now living with her father at South Pasadena, California. J. A. F. Sperling is a well known citizen of Dewey, Champaign County, where he is serving as postmaster. He was a soldier in the Spanish-American War. In politics he is a Republican and is a member of Sangamon Lodge No. 801 of Masons and the Lodge of Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Dewey. Next in age comes Mrs. Jones. Alwin H. is married and is successfully pursuing his business as a farmer in East Bend Township. Godfrey is a civil engineer by profession, having graduated from the University of Illinois with the class of 1895. He is now practicing his profession at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He is married, is a Republican, and a member of the Christian Science Church. Johanna A. is the wife of William Burkhardt, who resides in Los Angeles, California, and is owner of a large ranch in that state.

Mrs. Jones was educated in the common schools of Champaign County and on March 7, 1888, at the age of twenty-two, was married in this county to John Morris Jones. To their marriage were born five children, four sons and one daughter all of whom are still living.

The oldest is J. Karl Jones, who attended the common schools, the Academy of the State University and spent three and a half years in the State University taking the civil engineering course. He followed his profession in the mountains of Idaho in 1910, and then returning to Champaign County entered his father's store at Dewey as a salesman and is now senior member of the firm of Jones Brothers at Dewey. This is a business which in scope and importance deserves first rank among the mercantile firms of Champaign County. About $50,000 is invested in capital and stock and equipment, and the annual turnover of business amounts to about $300,000. The firm has a large and complete stock of general merchandise, and also buys and sells grain, coal, tile, automobile supplies and agricultural implements. During 1916 their sales ranged all the way from a package of pins to a threshing outfit. Mr. Karl Jones is a Republican and cast his first presidential vote for Theodore Roosevelt. He is a central committeeman of East Bend Township and is also a member of the road committee and is an enthusiast in the advocacy of good country roads for Champaign County. He is in line to pass all the offices in

Sangamon Lodge No. 801, A. F. and A. M., at Fisher, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His home is at Dewey with his mother.

John M., the second son, was educated in the common schools, took two years of high school work at Champaign and finished his course in the South Pasadena High School in California, where he was graduated with the class of 1910. After that he was a student for two years in the University of Illinois. He is now associated with his brothers in the general mercantile business at Dewey and furnishes some of the enterprise and vigor by which that firm has steadily mounted to success. Fraternally he is affiliated with Sangamon Lodge of Masons at Fisher and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Dewey and has served as a delegate to the Grand Lodge. He is also a member of the local school board and belongs to the Methodist Church. He has traveled extensively over the western states and Canada and knows conditions not only at home but over a wide stretch of country. Both he and his brother Karl are members of the University fraternity Chi Phi at Champaign.

Emma Verna, the only daughter of Mrs. Jones, is the wife of Harry J. Hamm of Dewey. Mr. Hamm is associated with the banker C. E. Jackson in the automobile business. Mrs. Hamm was for three years a student in the Champaign High School and for one year was a student of instrumental music in the Von Stein Academy at Los Angeles. Her musical course was taken during the year 1910-1911. She is an active member of the Christian Church at Rantoul, while Mr. Hamm is a Methodist. He is a graduate of the Champaign High School and by his good work won a scholarship in the University. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he and his wife are active in the Rebekahs at Dewey, Mrs. Hamm having served as a delegate to the Grand Lodge. Theirs is one of the comfortable homes of the village and is a hospitable social center.

Alwin A., the fourth child of the family, was graduated from the Rantoul High School in 1913 and afterwards entered the University of Illinois. He continued his studies there two years and early in 1917 resigned from the University to accept one of the numerous calls made upon the patriotic youth of this country and joined the agricultural service for the United States Government. He is one of a number of competent young men from the University who have been assigned to duty in Western Canada, his present location being at Regina. He left his home at Dewey, April 27, 1917. He is a young man, the joy and pride of his home and family, and when the appeal was made for young men to join in the cause of universal defense against autocracy he was first and foremost and did not hesitate a moment to assume the responsibilities placed upon him by the president and the government. He has membership in the Christian Church at Rantoul, is a member of Sangamon Lodge No. 801, A. F. and A. M., at Fisher, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and both he and his brother John have been through the Encampment degrees of Odd Fellowship and are also members of the Rebekahs.

Sperling D., the youngest of Mrs. Jones' children, is now in the sixth grade of the public schools and is showing an unusual capacity for his studies. He has also taken instrumental music.

Mrs. Jones' only daughter has always been an active factor in her church, her social community, and in everything that pertains to her home, and is a thoroughly cultured young woman.

Mrs. Jones has given the best years of her life to her children and her home. Her children have well repaid this affection and care, and throughout she has endeavored to teach them the truth of a clean and upright life and an honorable and straight-forward course in all things.

The late John Morris Jones was born in Carmarron, Wales, January 7, 1861, but when five years of age came with his parents to America. The journey was made on a sailing vessel from Liverpool, England, to New York City. It was a long and tedious voyage as compared with the speed of the ocean greyhounds of modern times. While the vessel was in New York harbor the boy narrowly escaped death. While reaching for an apple he lost his balance and almost providentially escaped falling into the ocean and perhaps losing his life. The Jones family came direct to Champaign County and located just north of Dewey, where his father bought a farm of 300 acres in East Bend Township. That was the home of Mr. Jones during his youth and until his marriage. With his wife he started a career as an agriculturist on a small place of forty acres. Later he bought forty acres more, and having steadily climbed to prosperity as a farmer he entered the grain and implement business about 1901. In 1912 he erected the present store building at Dewey and entered upon the still larger business activity which is now carried on by his sons under the name Jones Brothers. He had been in the store only two years when he was taken away by death. The late Mr. Jones made a signal success in business affairs and had the good will of all who knew him. His family and their welfare were uppermost in his mind always. An active Odd Fellow, he was a charter member of the lodge of the order at Dewey and a delegate to the Grand Lodge. He also belonged to the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America. When an infant he was christened in St. Horeb Church in England, and at the age of sixteen joined the Independent School Society in 1877, and in 1890 became a member of the Christian Church at Fisher. For a number of years he served as superintendent of the Sunday School at Dewey.

He also participated in the life of his community in an official way. He served as tax collector for a number of years and was a director of the schools and wherever possible supported and advocated better schools. At the time of his death he was serving as township treasurer. He was an active Republican and his death left vacant the position of central committeeman. Mr. Jones passed away May 12, 1914, and his remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Fisher.

Mrs. Jones is still living at her old home in Dewey, surrounded by children and friends, and almost her lifetime has been spent in that one locality. Her choice of church is the Christian denomination, but she also attends the Methodist Church at Dewey.

Salem L. Ketterman, one of the oldest residents of the village of St. Joseph, has been there continuously for forty-four years. He has all the time been closely associated with its welfare and has lived to see many changes recorded in the history of Champaign County. The only other man still living in St. Joseph who was there when he first settled is Mr. T. Jefferson Wooden.

Mr. Ketterman is a native of the old State of Virginia, having been born in Hardy County, March 19, 1847, a son of John and Belinda (Full) Ketterman. His parents were also natives of Virginia and of German descent. The first American Ketterman was Christopher, who settled in Virginia in 1760. A son of this immigrant, Daniel Ketterman, a great-uncle of Salem L., was a Revolutionary soldier and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, the closing scene of the war for independence. John and Belinda Ketterman had only two children, Salem and Hannah J., Salem being the older. The mother died when Salem was a child and the father married again, and altogether had seven children, two sons and five daughters.

Salem L. Ketterman received his first advantages in the district schools of Virginia. He was ten years of age when, in 1857, his father came to Champaign County and he completed his education while living on the paternal farm in St. Joseph Township. He grew up here, made the best of his early advantages, and for twelve years was one of the successful teachers of the county.

In 1875, at the age of twenty-eight, Mr. Ketterman married Miss Mellie E. Utt. She is also of Virginia ancestry, having been born in what is now the State of West Virginia, near Morgantown, a daughter of James Utt. She was educated in the Glenburn Seminary at Morgantown.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ketterman located at the village of St. Joseph, where he engaged in the drug business for several years. Later he took up the business of house decorating and painting.

Mr. and Mrs. Ketterman had one daughter, Blanche. She completed her education in the high school at St. Joseph and fitted herself for school work and for a number of years taught in this county. She spent six years in the Ogden High School, taught the Bowers district school two terms, the Hunt school two terms, and then married Arthur E. White. Mr. White was then proprietor of a grain business at Ogden, but is now in the lumber business at St. Joseph. Mr. and Mrs. White have two children, Pauline and Wendell. Pauline is now a student in the St. Joseph High School.

Mr. Ketterman's family experienced the usual joys and sorrows of life and on January 8, 1909, the good wife and mother entered into rest.

Politically Mr. Ketterman is a man of broad views, supporting the principles rather than the party, though he has always been a Republican. His early work as a teacher has always led him to support and encourage public education. He also served from 1873 to 1880 as postmaster of the village of St. Joseph.

John Edward McJilton. Formerly an agriculturist in one of the greatest cornbelts in the world, still the owner of a large amount of valuable land in Champaign County, and now the proprietor of a leading and successful lumber business, John Edward McJilton is one of the residents of Fisher who is familiar with the county in which he has spent practically all his life. From a modest beginning he has succeeded in building up a prosperous trade in lumber, and his standing in business circles is that which is attained by men who have honorably worked out their own success.

Mr. McJilton was born in Woodford County, Illinois, April 9, 1862, and is the youngest of five children, three sons and two daughters, born to John Thomas and Elizabeth Jane (Shafer) McJilton. His father was a native of Ohio, born in January, 1822, and died about April, 1904, at Elm Creek, Nebraska. He was about twelve years of age when he came to Woodford County in pioneer style, in wagons, with his parents, and here secured his education in the early public schools, his boyhood training being along agricultural lines. He traced his ancestry to Scotland, the land of the thrifty and industrious, and had inherited the characteristics of his forefathers, so that he was not long a worker for others, but secured land of his own. He was married in Woodford County, where his children were born, and in 1868 came to Champaign County, purchasing eighty acres of land in East Bend Township. This original purchase was subsequently augmented from time to time until Mr. McJilton was the owner of 200 acres of well improved land in the county, when he sold out and went to Butler County, Kansas, there becoming the owner of a farm by purchase. Mr. McJilton made his home in Kansas for about five years,

following which he went to Buffalo County, Nebraska, and there rounded out his long and honorable career in the prosecution of agricultural operations. Mr. McJilton was not only one of the leading farmers of his section, but was prominent in township affairs, held a number of local offices, and for many years was a school director. He and his wife were consistent and faithful members of the Christian Church, to the movements and work of which they contributed liberally. In political affairs Mr. McJilton was a Democrat. Mrs. McJilton was born in 1828 in Woodford County, Illinois, where she was educated in the public schools, and died in June, 1906, in the same locality as her husband, Elm Creek, Nebraska, where a beautiful stone marks the resting-place of this devoted and highly respected couple. They were the parents of the following children: Mary, who is the wife of W. H. Swazey, a well known resident and merchant of Ashland, Kansas; Simon W., who is a resident of Overton, Nebraska, married and a retired farmer; Joseph W., who is engaged in agricultural work at Saint Louis, Michigan; Emma, the wife of Isaac Davis, who is connected with the United States mail service and is a resident of Towanda, Kansas; and John Edward, of this review.

John Edward McJilton is largely a self-educated man. He attended the district school of his neighborhood during his youth, but his time was largely occupied in assisting his father in the work of the home farm, on which he remained until reaching the age of twenty-two years, and the greater part of his education has come through experience, observation and mingling with men of affairs. When he was one year past his majority he became a renter of land in Kansas, whence he had been taken by his parents, and for three years gathered crops on property in that state thus secured. At the end of that period he came to Champaign County, where he had been given a forty-acre farm by his father-in-law. He farmed his father-in-law's land for seven years, and in the meantime purchased an additional thirty-five acres, for which he went into debt, but subsequently cleared off his indebtedness. Being at that time the owner of seventy-five acres, with good prospects for success in his undertakings, Mr. McJilton decided to establish a home of his own, and February 11, 1886, was united in marriage with Miss Augusta Heyer. They became the parents of five children, of whom the following still survive: Alva W., educated in the common schools and one winter at a business college at Marion, Indiana, now a successful agriculturist and stockman of East Bend Township, Champaign County, independent in politics, voting rather for the man than the party, a member of the Christian Church, as was his first wife, Ethel Bryan, by whom he had one daughter, and married for his second wife Nellie Williams, who attends the same church; Elsie, educated in the common schools, married Ernest Mink, an agriculturist of Champaign County, Illinois, has one son, Lyle, and is a member of the Christian Church; Leslie, who is in the third year of high school at Fisher; and Hazel, who is in the sixth grade of the common school at Fisher.

Mrs. McJilton is a native of Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, and was born March 5, 1860, being a daughter of William and Sophia Heyer. Her father was a native of Saxony, Germany, and after receiving a good education in his native land, came to the United States when still a young man. He was an agriculturist by vocation, and a man of unusual brilliance of mind and intellect, one of his favorite subjects being history, upon which he was exceptionally well informed. On first coming to America he located in Wisconsin, where he gained success both as an agriculturist and a manufacturer of cheese, and in the latter connection was the owner of a factory, in which Mrs. McJilton assisted her father when

a child. After leaving Wisconsin Mr. Heyer became one of the earliest settlers near Fisher, and here the remaining years of his life were passed in the pursuits of the soil, he becoming the owner of 395 acres of good Champaign County land. He died in 1896, at the age of sixty-five years, in the faith of the German Lutheran Church. Mrs. McJilton was educated in the public schools of Champaign and has made her home here since girlhood. She is a member of the Domestic Science Society at Fisher, and is generally popular among the ladies here, but finds her chief interests in her home.

Mr. McJilton embarked in the lumber business in Fisher in 1908 and has steadily built up an excellent trade. He now carries a complete and up-to-date line of lumber and all kinds of building material, and his treatment of his patronage, as well as of the public in general, is such as to accord him a place in their confidence and esteem. While the greater part of his attention is now given to his lumber business, he has by no means given up his interest in agricultural matters, for he is the owner of 180 acres of land in Champaign County, eighty acres in Gratiot County, Michigan, and twenty acres in Florida. He also owns his own home at Fisher, a comfortable and hospitable residence, where his numerous friends always find a warm welcome. With Mrs. McJilton, he belongs to the Christian Church, in which he is a deacon, and in addition to religion he is a friend of education and has served in the capacity of school director. In every way he is entitled to be numbered among the representative men of Champaign County.

William H. Thompson of Ogden first knew Champaign County in the years just before the outbreak of the Civil War, when most of this section of Illinois was a country of swamp and prairie and when its magnificent development had hardly begun. Mr. Thompson's individual career has been a factor in the improvement and development of Champaign County farm land, and out of that work he has acquired a commendable degree of prosperity that now enables him to live in comfort and plenty.

Mr. Thompson was born at Waynesburg in Greene County, Pennsylvania, a son of Andrew J. and Catherine (Shape) Thompson. He was one of a family of nine children, six sons and three daughters, who received their education in the district schools. In 1859, when William H. Thompson was fourteen years of age, the family came to Illinois and settled east of Homer in Champaign County. They were pioneers here and William H. Thompson grew up acquainted with the hardships and privations endured by the early settlers.

At the age of twenty-one he married Valencia Rice. She was born in the Blue Grass State of Kentucky. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Thompson located at Burr Oak, Illinois, on rented land. There they began to carve the future according to their own desires and ability, and for a number of years they lived on a virgin prairie looking out over a scene of high prairie grass alternating with wet sloughs. Mr. Thompson by his first marriage became the father of three children. The daughter Ora Lee died at the age of ten months. The other two children are Frank E. and Stella. Both of them were educated in the district schools. Frank is a farmer in Livingston County, Illinois, and married Clara Shinn. Stella is the wife of Charles Dubois and they live in Chicago.

About twenty-five years ago Mr. Thompson moved to Ogden Township and bought forty acres of land at $42.50 an acre. It had few improvements and at the time was considered a part of the wooded district of Champaign County, but by thorough drainage it is now high and dry and every foot of the ground is susceptible of cultivation. Mr. Thompson has

placed many farm improvements, including the planting of fruit and shade trees and the building of a commodious and attractive home and barns. He also owns forty acres in Vermilion County.

In October, 1878, Mr. Thompson married for his present wife Lizzie (Hayes) Huckin. She was born in Ohio, daughter of William and Mary (Burnett) Hayes. Her parents were born and reared in Ireland and came to America with two children, one of whom died immediately after they landed. While they lived in Ohio two other children were born, and when Lizzie was three years of age they migrated to Illinois, more than sixty years ago. At that time there was no Ogden and the entire country was a vista of prairie and swamp. Mrs. Thompson attended the public schools at Ogden and at the age of eighteen married Albert Huckin. The one child of that union, William Huckin, was born October 7, 1873. In October, 1874, while digging a well on his farm, a bucket fell into an excavation and injured Albert Huckin so seriously that he died fifty-six days later.

To Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were born six children, four sons and two daughters. Their names are Milton Winfield, Esther May, Ida Bell, Grover Cleveland, George and Herman. Both daughters died in early girlhood. The other children were well educated at Ogden and also in the University of Illinois.

Mrs. Thompson's son by her first marriage, William Huckin, graduated from Rush Medical College at Chicago and is now a practicing physician at Wasco, Oregon. He married Augusta Anderson of South Dakota, and they have one child, Augusta Lizzie.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson's oldest son, Milton, is a graduate of the University of Illinois, and is now connected with the Chamber of Commerce at Madison, Wisconsin. He married Beatrice Rogers. The second son, Grover Cleveland, is a successful farmer at Barney, thirty miles south of Fargo, North Dakota. He married Inez Alverson of Oakwood, and has a son and two daughters, Ray, Mildred and Helen Esther. George Thompson, a farmer in Ogden Township, married Lula Goss. The youngest son, Herman, who was born December 10, 1896, is still at home, a student in the Ogden High School and planning to complete his training in Urbana.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Ogden and he has been honored with the office of trustee for many years and is always among the most liberal supporters of the church and of any movement for the benefit of the community. His public spirit as a citizen has caused his fellow citizens to call upon him as school director and ditch commissioner. Mr. Thompson is affiliated with the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a Democrat. Mr. Thompson is now seventy-two years of age, but is quite as active as the average man of forty, and drives his car about the country with the careful skill of a veteran chauffeur. His automobile is one evidence of his having kept step with the progress of the times, and as he drives about he can overlook country whose development has taken place almost under his eyes and almost altogether within his own generation.

Robert Allen Sturgeon. For more than a quarter of a century Robert Allen Sturgeon has been a resident of Champaign County, and during this time it has been his fortune to have built up a prosperous business, to have established an extremely creditable record as a public official and to have made a lasting place for himself in the confidence of the community through honorable conduct of the activities of life. In the difficult field of realty operation Mr. Sturgeon has achieved standing

and reputation, and in the office of justice of the peace has proven a conscientious and efficient official.

Robert A. Sturgeon was born in Tazewell County, Illinois, October 29, 1861, being the third in a family of five sons born to Samuel and Margaret J. (Wilson) Sturgeon, all of these children surviving. His brothers are: William S., who is engaged in business at Chicago, Illinois, is married; Samuel W., who is married and engaged in agricultural operations in the vicinity of El Paso, Woodford County, Illinois; James F., who is married and a resident of El Paso, where he is cashier of the Woodford County National Bank, a graduate of Knox College, and admitted to practice in the courts of Illinois; and Charles B., a resident of Peoria, Illinois, where he is identified with the United States Mail service.

Samuel Sturgeon was born near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and there received his education in the public schools and upon reaching his majority adopted the vocation of agriculturist. He continued to reside in the Keystone state until 1858, in which year he removed to Tazewell County, and there continued as a tiller of the soil until 1868, when he went to Woodford County. There he purchased a farm, developed and cultivated it, and continued actively engaged in farming and stockraising until 1895, when he retired and passed on the heavier labors of the homestead to younger shoulders. From that time until his death, in 1908, he lived quietly in his comfortable home near El Paso, where he was widely known and highly respected. His first presidential vote was cast in support of a candidate of the Whig party, but he saw the birth of the Republican organization and thereafter was always a loyal and active supporter of the Grand Old Party. He was always ready to tender his abilities to his community in positions of public trust, and his fellow citizens, having confidence in his ability and judgment, frequently took advantage of this willingness and elected him to act in offices of preferment. Fraternally he was affiliated with the Masonic order, and both he and Mrs. Sturgeon were members of the Presbyterian Church, which they joined at Peoria and of which they continued devout supporters all their lives. Mrs. Sturgeon was born near the Susquehanna River in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, and there received good educational advantages, attending the common schools and the Dauphin Academy. Her parents having died when she was still a girl, she was left in charge as a "little mother" to care for three of her brothers and sister, and nobly she performed this loving task, guiding them to honorable manhood and womanhood. She met and married Mr. Sturgeon in Pennsylvania, and in death they remain united, for they both lie at peace in the cemetery at El Paso, where a handsome and appropriate stone marks their final resting-place.

Robert Allen Sturgeon was about seven years of age when his parents removed to Woodward County, and there he secured his education in the district schools and the El Paso High School, subsequently attending the Illinois State Normal School for one year. His first work on his own account consisted of working farms on shares, and his cash capital was small indeed. After several years of this kind of work he embarked in the grain business at Elliott, Illinois, a venture in which he remained for two years, and in which he was reasonably successful, but in 1890 he disposed of his interests at that point and removed to Dewey, where he also lived for two years. The year 1892 marked his advent in Fisher, where he first engaged in the grain business and became well and favorably known in commercial circles of the city. However, in the meanwhile he had become interested in realty matters and was convinced of the future prosperity of Champaign County. He began dealing in a small

way in real estate, and his business in this line soon grew to such proportions that he was compelled to give it all his attention, and he accordingly disposed of his grain enterprise. In 1900 Mr. Sturgeon was elected justice of the peace of Fisher, and during the seventeen years that he has held this office he has acted as counsel and adviser to his fellow citizens in a manner that has left no doubt as to his ability, tact and judgment, as well as his general usefulness to the community.

Mr. Sturgeon was married June 12, 1895, to Miss Lucy Leota Elliott, who, like himself, believes in the advantages of good educational facilities and in fitting children for the higher walks of life. The elder of their two daughters, Margaret E., did two years of work in the Fisher schools, graduated from the Champaign High School, and then taught successfully for two years in the schools of Champaign County. Her first wage was $55 per month, which was raised in the second year to $65, and in September, 1916, she entered the Illinois State University, where she is now a student. The other daughter, Carol Elliott, is in the second year of high school.

Mrs. Sturgeon is a native of Ford County, Illinois, born December 18, 1872, was educated in the Elliott schools, and for four years was a successful teacher. She is a daughter of Samuel and Anna (Crawford) Elliott, natives of Ohio, the former of whom, a farmer and stockman and later a pioneer grain merchant, laid out the town of Elliott. He was a stanch Republican, and both he and Mrs. Elliott were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Sturgeon also belongs to this church, and is likewise a popular and active member of the Domestic Science Society.

Always a stanch Republican from the time he attained his majority, Mr. Sturgeon cast his first presidential vote for James G. Blaine, the Plumed Knight, and has supported every candidate of that party since. As noted, he has been justice of the peace since 1900, and since 1902 has been township assessor of Brown Township, having held both offices continuously. He has likewise served in the capacity of village clerk, and at various times has been a delegate to conventions of his party. Fraternally a member of Sangamon Lodge No. 801, A. F. & A. M., he has filled all the chairs in that lodge, and is at present secretary, a position which he has held for a number of years. He is likewise a member of Camp No. 2534, Modern Woodmen of America, which he joined at the time of its organization. His religious belief makes him a Presbyterian, and he has always been a good friend of education, with four years' experience as a teacher to give him a knowledge of the needs of the public schools. The Sturgeon home at Fisher is one of the comfortable residences of the community, where hospitality reigns, and its occupants are numbered among the people who give strength and stability to this thriving Champaign County village.

Frederick Rose is in the grain business and handles his share of the grain that comes to Homer. He has been connected with the grain trade for the better part of his active career, and came to Champaign County about ten years ago, and his name and his enterprise are now known throughout that rich and splendid farming district surrounding Homer on all sides.

Mr. Rose was born in New York City, November 3, 1861, a son of Henry and Anna (Smith) Rose. Both parents were natives of Germany and his father came to America in 1846. He had served an apprenticeship at the blacksmith's trade in Germany and he worked at his trade in this country both in the East and West. In 1864 he located in LaSalle



Carl H. Gehrke

County, Illinois, and subsequently took up the business of farming. Both parents are now deceased. There were four children: Henry of Zion City, Illinois; Mary, wife of August Beck of Ford County, Illinois; George W. of Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Frederick.

Frederick Rose grew up on his father's farm in LaSalle County and received a common school education. At the age of twenty he left home and engaged in the merchandise business at Melvin, Illinois. Four years later he concentrated his attention upon the grain trade and from Illinois removed to Boswell, Indiana, where he bought and conducted an elevator for seven years. Following that he was in the grain business at Brookston, Indiana, for nine years, and in 1907 came to Homer and bought the old elevator of the town. He tore down this structure and replaced it with a modern grain elevator with a capacity for 100,000 bushels.

Mr. Rose married, March 6, 1885, Miss Margaret Jackson, who was born in Cook County, Illinois, near Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Rose have five children: Edward J. and Eva J., twins, the former a grain merchant at Champaign, and the latter the wife of William Mudge of Urbana; Leslie, who died in infancy; Frederick M., a dentist at Homer; and Henry H., who is associated with his father in business. Mr. Rose is a Republican in politics and he and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Carl Henry Gehrke has been a resident of Champaign for thirty-three years and many years ago he established a bakery which has grown and prospered, every year seeing additional equipment and increased trade, until the Gehrke Illinois Bakery now does an immense wholesale and retail business extending all over this section of Illinois. His business success consists in building up this large plant, and along with his prosperity has come the esteem of a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Gehrke was born in the city of Velpke, Province of Brunswick, Germany, June 18, 1852, a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Schultz) Gehrke. Both parents were born, lived and died in Brunswick, Germany. His father was a stone cutter by trade, while the grandfather, Henry Gehrke, was a school teacher. Mr. Gehrke thus represented the substantial stock of German citizenship, many of whose virtues his own life has amplified. Henry Gehrke and wife had eight children: Henry, now deceased; Carl H.; Herman, also a resident of Champaign, Illinois; Otto, deceased; August and Mary, still in Germany; Minnie, wife of Henry Schroeder, of Sidney, Illinois; and Alvina, still in Germany.

The compulsory system of education in Germany requires a boy's attendance at school until fourteen. At that age Carl Henry Gehrke left school to begin an apprenticeship in a baker's shop at Helmstead. Having completed the apprenticeship he returned to Brunswick, his home town, and then gave three years to his country as a member of the Black Hussars, a noted organization of the German army. After his military service he engaged in the bakery business at Magdeburg, Germany, for three years, and then returned to Brunswick and followed his trade until 1884.

Mr. Gehrke came to the United States and located in Champaign, Illinois, in 1884, and the first five years he spent in the city he worked as a journeyman baker. With this experience in American business life and with some capital representing his modest savings, he started a shop of his own at 207 East Clark Street. He has been continuously in that location for over a quarter of a century, and he has invested a large amount of capital in the construction and equipment of a modern two-story brick sanitary bakery known as Gehrke's Illinois Bakery. He has taken the greatest of pride in maintaining the high standard of his products and has

been as careful in his attention to the technical side of the business as to the commercial end of it. Mr. Gehrke is strictly independent in politics. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of St. Peter's Lutheran Church.

On January 25, 1881, three years before he came to America, he married Miss Sophie Bank, of Schoppenstedt, Germany. Mrs. Gehrke died January 2, 1913, the mother of five children: Robert C. is associated with his father in business. Otto C. was accidentally killed when struck by an Illinois Central train while driving one of the Jewel Tea Company's wagons on January 27, 1917. He had married Mary E. Short, but had no issue. Alma is the wife of John Ross, of Champaign. Jennie is the wife of Harry Havens, of Champaign. Amanda is the wife of Albert E. Hendricks of Urbana.

Robert C. Gehrke, who is associated with his father in business, is one of the progressive men of Champaign and is not only doing well in business but is rapidly becoming an important influence in local affairs. He was born in Brunswick, Germany, May 4, 1884, and was brought to America in early infancy. He attended the public schools of Champaign, took a course in a business college, and then joined his father in the Illinois Bakery. He has since become competent to assume the heavy responsibilities of that plant and thus relieve his father in a measure.

In politics he is an active democrat and served as alderman from the fourth ward until the adoption of the commission form of government on May 1, 1917. Robert C. Gehrke is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Loyal Order of Moose and is a member of St. Peter's Church. On August 14, 1902, he married Anna T. Lynch, of Quincy, Illinois. They have two children, Robert, born June 21, 1903, and Miriam, born October 28, 1906.

Charles Christopher Liestman. There was a time when farm life in Illinois was one of continuous hard work and more or less social exclusion, but no better proof is needed to mark the change than is afforded in Newcomb Township, Champaign County, by such careful and progressive agriculturists as Charles Christopher Liestman. With a finely improved estate of 160 acres, located in a section of the county where public spirit is shown in fine roads prevailing, Mr. Liestman for many years has proved that farming is now not only one of the most profitable of occupations but the most independent. He belongs to an old pioneer family of the state, extended mention of which will be found in the present work, in the biographical sketch of Mrs. Adam Kroner.

Charles C. Liestman was born in Piatt County, Illinois, July 8, 1878, the fifth in a family of twelve children born to Ludwig and Frederica (Karston) Liestman, who moved to Champaign County when Charles C. was a child. He grew up on the home farm and attended the public schools, afterward assisting his father and giving his time until he was twenty-three years of age. He has always devoted himself to agricultural pursuits and has conducted his different undertakings with so much energy, coupled with intelligent judgment, that they have been successful. In addition to general farming and raising cattle and stock, for twenty-three years he and his brother Herman have harvested all through this section for the same parties each season and also have operated their first class harvesting outfit in Piatt and McLean counties.

Mr. Liestman married February 18, 1902, Miss Anna Leischner, who was born in Piatt County, Illinois, October 12, 1882. Her parents were Nicholas and Johanna Leischner, who had eight children, the six survivors being: Herman, who lives in Piatt County on a farm, married

Carrie Our; William, who is a farmer in Newcomb Township, married Anna Liestman and they have four children, Orville, Earl, Mabel and Bernice; Ida, who is the wife of Fred Hansons, a farmer in Hensley Township, and they have three sons, Louis, Oscar and Albert; Minnie, who is the wife of Herman Liestman, a prominent farmer in Harris County, Texas, and they have two sons, Gilbert and Louis; Anna, who is Mrs. Charles Liestman; and Louise, who is the wife of Jason Synnott, owner of a ranch in Harris County, Texas, and they have three children, Eva, Clifford and Harold. The brothers of Mrs. Liestman are members of the fraternal order of Modern Woodmen of America, and the entire connection belongs to the Lutheran Church.

Nicholas Leischner, father of Mrs. Liestman, was born in 1842 in Germany and was a young man when he came to the United States, crossing the Atlantic Ocean in a sailing vessel that six weeks after embarking landed him safely in the harbor of New York. His older brother, John Leischner, had preceded him and had made a home for himself at Monticello, Illinois, and Nicholas joined him there. As he was without capital he had to work hard before he could negotiate the purchase of his first land, a tract of 120 acres, and even then had to assume a heavy debt. He was industrious, steady and saving and finally paid for it and added forty more acres to the first tract. When he retired he moved to Urbana, Illinois, where he yet resides. In politics he is a Democrat and he belongs to the German Lutheran Church. His wife was born in Germany in 1848 and died in 1902. A beautiful monument erected to her memory stands in the cemetery at Monticello.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Liestman lived on rented land for a time, although he owned eighty acres in Wisconsin. When his father died he was made administrator of the estate and located on the old homestead, assuming an encumbrance of $12,000, which has all been cleared off. Mr. Liestman has made so many improvements that the farm residence is as comfortable and convenient as many city homes. It is lighted by acetylene gas, which proves very satisfactory. Mr. and Mrs. Liestman have two daughters, Bertha L. and Minnie L., both at school and doing well and both taking lessons in instrumental music, their parents being determined to give them every advantage possible to fit them for the positions in life that probably await them.

Mr. Liestman is one of the busy men of his section. In addition to his many agricultural interests he is a director of the Lotus Grain & Coal Company, having served in that position for the last ten years, and for two years has been a director of the Lotus Special Drainage District, and also is somewhat prominent in county politics. On the Democratic ticket he has frequently been elected to township offices. He served three years as collector of Newcomb Township and several years has been a school director. He belongs to the order of Odd Fellows and attends the lodge at Foosland, Illinois. Both he and wife are active members of the Lutheran Church and were of great assistance when the new church was erected at Osman.

Naturally Mr. Liestman and family are best known in their own neighborhood, where they are held in the highest esteem, but they believe in some change and variety to add to life's innocent pleasures, hence they take many pleasant trips in their fine Studebaker touring car and have greatly widened their circle of acquaintance. As they choose, also, they make far distant pleasure trips and Mr. Liestman has made four visits to the vicinity of Galveston, Texas, and his wife and daughters accompanied him on two occasions. While in Texas he saw the beginning of the construction of the great sea wall at Galveston and its completion, believing

at that time, with others, that no ordinary force of Nature could destroy such a solid structure, but after the terrific storm of 1915 he saw it practically destroyed, an example of how weak is man's best handiwork pitted against wind and wave in mighty unison. Mr. Liestman is one of the solid, dependable men of his community, and the high regard in which he is universally held is thoroughly justified.

DAVID WILSON of section 24, St. Joseph Township, first became acquainted with Champaign County when he was fifteen years of age, and for nearly thirty years he has lived in this county continuously, having acquired and developed one of the splendid farms in his vicinity.

Mr. Wilson is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was born March 17, 1851, a son of Samuel and Rebecca (Laird) Wilson. His parents were born in Ireland, came to America about 1836, were married in Cincinnati, and spent their industrious and honored lives in that city, where both of them died. They had six children, five sons and one daughter.

David Wilson with his brothers and sister attended the public schools of Cincinnati. His coming to Illinois at the age of thirteen was in company with his uncle, David Wilson, for whom he was named. David Wilson and his brother Samuel had bought from the Government at $1.25 an acre two sections of land in Champaign County, in sections 11 and 13 of St. Joseph Township. David Wilson, Jr., remained a year with his uncle and helped with the management of the land. He then returned to Cincinnati, but after another year was back in Champaign County and found work in the distillery at Urbana owned by his father and uncle. While there he was severely injured by an explosion on November 15, 1871.

He then returned home with his mother to Cincinnati. In 1877 Mr. Wilson married Lessetta Lorenz. She was born at Cincinnati, daughter of Nicholas and Catherine (Klei) Lorenz. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wilson located in Cincinnati, where he continued the business of his father, a livery and teaming enterprise, which he successfully managed for a number of years.

In 1888 Mr. Wilson returned to Illinois, locating in Stanton Township upon forty acres that had been bought by his father from the railroad company. Mr. Wilson also acquired 160 acres additional and used that land as the foundation of his substantial enterprise as an agriculturist. The passing years have witnessed an increment to the land until his estate now comprises 280 acres, and he has greatly increased its value by improvements and careful handling.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were born six children, three sons and three daughters, named Clarence, Edward, Warren, Rebecca, Edna and Marjorie. The education of these children was carefully looked after at home and in the local schools, and all of them attended District School No. 176. Only one of them is married, Rebecca, wife of Harley Sanders. Mr. Sanders is a successful farmer in Stanton Township. They have two children, Russell and Marie, bright and attractive young people, and the only grandchildren of Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Wilson took care that his farm should not only represent the best standards of agricultural husbandry but should express his ideas of home making. He erected commodious buildings, set out fruit and shade trees, and in that attractive environment is now content to spend his remaining years. In 1913 he suffered his greatest bereavement in the death of his good wife. Mrs. Wilson had endeared herself to the community as a kind neighbor and good friend, had made her home an abode of hospitality, and many grateful memories continue to wreathe themselves about her name.

Mr. Wilson's people in Cincinnati were active members of the Presbyterian Church. In Champaign County he and his wife found no convenient Presbyterian Church in which to worship, and they therefore affiliated themselves with the Friends Church, of which they were liberal supporters. Since the death of his good wife Mr. Wilson has remained on the homestead, with his daughter Marjorie as a most capable home maker. His three sons look after the management of the farm and have largely relieved their father of the heavier burdens which he in earlier years so capably sustained.

Mr. Wilson is an ardent Republican and comes of a family that first voted for the Whig candidate and have supported the Republicans in an unbroken line since the organization of that great party. Fraternally Mr. Wilson is a Mason, and his sons Edward and Warren are Knights of Pythias and the daughter Marjorie is a member of the Eastern Star.

Mr. Wilson has done much for his community, and for twenty-two years was vitally interested in the welfare of the local schools as a director. He was also honored with the office of township supervisor four years. Thus his record is closely identified with Champaign County and is worthy of perpetuation in this publication.

Peter Hedrick Nelson. For fully half a century Mr. Nelson has known Champaign County. The development of its resources and the transformation of its lands from raw prairie into beautiful farms have taken place before his own eyes. In that development he has shared as an individual, has made a name for himself as a substantial and public-spirited citizen, and has acquired those things an ambitious man most desires—financial independence, the rearing and training of children to lives of usefulness and honor, a good name and many friends. For many years he and his good wife worked side by side in the mutual task of making a home and bearing their responsibilities as good citizens, and they are now in a position to enjoy the fruits of their well spent earlier years.

Mr. Nelson was born in Jefferson County, Iowa, July 24, 1856. He was the youngest of three children, two sons and one daughter, and is the only one now living. His parents were John and Barbara (Burrough) Nelson. His mother died in Iowa. His father was born in 1824, in the Old Dominion State of Virginia, and died in 1886. When but a young boy he went with his parents, in a wagon drawn by ox teams, over the mountains and across the prairies of the Middle West. The family first halted near Mahomet in Champaign County, but soon proceeded westward to Iowa. John Nelson began life in Iowa as a renter, but about 1862 returned to Illinois and located at Bloomington. From there he removed to Hayworth, and a year later chose a location near Bloomington. For seven years he was engaged in herding and handling cattle for the Orendorf farm along Salt Creek in McLean County. The Orendorfs and the Nelsons were close friends.

About 1865, in the spring, John Nelson and his son Peter brought a herd of cattle into Champaign County. It was customary to drive cattle into this county and keep them during the summer and then return to Bloomington for the winter.

During these early years Peter Nelson had some interesting experiences. At one time he was employed by James Orendorf to cut a cord of wood. He walked a mile and three-quarters to get to the timber, and was paid for his labor $1 a cord. He and his father lived the rough outdoor life of the real cowboy while herding along Salt Creek. In order to get a dining table they knocked one end out of a large box and thus improvised a rude table.

Peter Nelson when in his eleventh year was directed by the Orendorfs to take charge of a bunch of cattle consisting of 202 head. He began his duties as herdsman on the 5th of May and kept the cattle on good pasture until October. He then returned with them to Bloomington, and the cattle, being weighed on the same scales where their first weight was taken, showed an increase of 330 pounds apiece. Perhaps this record for cattle grazed on the open pasture has never been excelled. For this work of five months Peter Nelson was paid $45 a month, boarding himself. While he was in the herdhouse there came up from Farmer City, seven miles away, a hunter. Half a mile from where the headquarters of the herders were this hunter came upon a great flock of water fowls which in those days frequented by thousands and thousands the marshy places of Champaign County. In two shots from his gun the hunter killed thirty-four ducks, two brants and one goose. Had this been told Mr. Nelson he would not have believed it, but having witnessed the feat with his own eyes he is able to vouch for the complete accuracy of the count.

His father, John Nelson, began life without means and had only such education as was supplied by the old log cabin schools of the primitive style, the furnishings of which were wooden benches and the curriculum of the most meager classifications. He followed agriculture as his life-work, and was a Jeffersonian Democrat and a man of good character. He died in McLean County and was laid to rest in the Bellflower Cemetery.

Peter Hedrick Nelson attended common schools, but through the necessity of work his education was somewhat limited so far as books were concerned. He not only looked after his own prosperity, but cared solicitously for his father during his declining years. When the time arrived for him to start life on his own account he possessed a team and buggy, and the fortune he has since accumulated has been only a just recompense for many years of strenuous labor and effective management. While the years brought him considerable property, Mr. Nelson chose the role of a farm tenant or renter. He was the type of farmer such as any large land owner would delight to have as a tenant. In 1893 he rented a farm from M. W. Hays, and was continuously with Mr. Hays as a renter until 1916. This period of twenty-three years perhaps sets a record, so far at least as information is available, for continuous renting on one place.

Many years ago Mr. Nelson became widely known over this section of Illinois as a stock buyer. Much of his success in life has been due to his enterprise in that direction. He has bought stock from the leading farmers of McLean, Ford and Champaign counties. He has sold not a little of his own stock, and for many years has bred and raised Poland China hogs, Shorthorn and Hereford cattle.

The farm which Mr. Nelson owns and where he and his good wife now reside in comfort and plenty comprises 320 acres in Newcomb Township. In 1915 they erected there a beautiful home. It is only two and a half miles south of Fisher and is convenient to schools and other advantages which they enjoy. Their home is modern in every detail, is furnace heated and lighted by acetylene. Mr. Nelson also owns property in Fisher.

The real beginning of his life's happiness was with his marriage on December 14, 1887, to Miss Mary Ann Jervis. To their marriage were born ten children, five sons and five daughters, and nine of the number are still living. Gertrude Irene, the oldest, was educated in the Busey School and is now the wife of Earl Campbell, a practical agriculturist living in Newcomb Township. Mrs. Campbell is a member of the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church. Ernest John, the oldest son, completed the work of the eighth grade and for three months was a student in the Illinois Normal University. He married Miss Daisy Hawkins. He is also a

member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Alta Mae, after finishing the eighth grade, spent one year in the high school at Fisher and has also taken musical instruction. Harry, the second son, had the full eighth grade course and two years in the high school at Fisher. Leslie Dell is now in the seventh grade of the public schools. Cecil Calvert finished the work of the eighth grade and had one year in the high school at Fisher. Randall Linden is now in the eighth grade. Fern Rosetta is attending the sixth grade. The youngest, Lela Hannah, is in the fifth grade of the public schools. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are to be commended for their earnest desire to give their children the best home and school training.

Mrs. Nelson is a native of England, having been born in that industrial district around Manchester and Liverpool in the county known as Lancastershire. She was born July 24, 1863. She was the third in a family of twelve children, consisting of seven sons and five daughters. Nine of these children are still living, five of them in Champaign County. Her sister Sarah lives in West Lebanon, Indiana, her brother Andy is a resident of Continental, Ohio, and her sister Kate is a milliner at Granite City, Illinois. Mrs. Nelson is a daughter of Andrew and Hannah (Shergold) Jervis. Her father was a native of England and was educated in the National schools there. Farming was the occupation he took up in early life, and about 1864, when Mrs. Nelson was an infant, he brought his family by sailing vessel from Liverpool to New York City and from there to Champaign County. He acquired 120 acres of good land in Newcomb Township and was quite a successful man. Politically he cast his vote for the Republican party. His death occurred January 21, 1900, and he is now at rest in Mount Vernon Cemetery at Champaign. Mother Jervis is still living at Fisher with a daughter. She was born in 1839 and had a common school education. She and her daughter Lizzie reside together at Fisher.

Mrs. Nelson was educated in the local schools of Champaign County, and was well qualified for the duties which she assumed as a home maker. Her children have been all with her, and her practical wisdom and encouragement have many times sustained Mr. Nelson in his work. Their beautiful home is known as the Walnut Dell Stock Farm. It is a home of peace and comfort, of widespread hospitality, and is a favorite resort for the many friends of this worthy couple. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson keep in close touch with the modern world, and they share in its enjoyment. As a means of getting about the country and better commingling with their friends they have a large Case touring car. Mrs. Nelson is a member of the Methodist Church, and they have always endeavored to exemplify the tenets of true Christianity in their lives. They have aided financially in the erection of churches at Osman, Bellflower, Weedman, Walker, Shiloh, Oak Grove, Fisher and Blue Ridge. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were visitors to the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893. Politically Mr. Nelson is a Democrat. The success he has gained in his own affairs has naturally made him the object of confidence on the part of his fellow citizens and for two terms he was township assessor and for a dozen years or more was a director of his home school district. Thus he has lived usefully and well and played a part among the men of affairs in Champaign County.

Joseph C. Dodds, M. D., B. L. Long identified with Champaign County as a physician and surgeon and also as a citizen and business man, Doctor Dodds has lived in this county since he was ten years of age.

He was born on Long Island, New York, June 15, 1864. At the age of ten he came to Champaign to live with his uncle, Dr. J. G. Chambers, brother of his mother. Here Doctor Dodds was educated, graduating from

the Urbana High School, from the University of Illinois with the class of 1886, attended the University of Michigan Medical School and in 1889 graduated M. D. from Northwestern University at Chicago.

For twenty-five continuous years Doctor Dodds practiced medicine in Champaign County. He was an interne in the Marine Hospital of Chicago, and for some years was on the staff of the Kankakee Eastern Hospital and was district surgeon for the Illinois Central Railway between Gilman and Effingham. In 1908 he was appointed state medical director of the Modern Woodmen of America, and reappointed in 1911.

In 1901 Doctor Dodds moved to Denver, Colorado, where he practiced a year and following that for nine years was located at Tolono, Illinois. While at Tolono he held the various offices of the village from mayor down, and his present home is at 622 West Hill Street in Champaign, where he owns a beautiful home. He is also one of the principal stockholders in the Twin City Ice and Cold Storage Company, of which he is manager and formerly was secretary and treasurer.

Doctor Dodds is a member of the County and State Medical Society, is a director and the vice president of Burnham Library Board, is a Knight Templar Mason and Woodman, a member of the Country Club, and his wife is an active Presbyterian.

January 1, 1891, Doctor Dodds married Miss Mina Brown of Newport, Indiana. They have three children: Eva, wife of Harry B. Crowder of Seattle, Washington; Josephine, a member of Chi Omega Sorority and a graduate of the University of Illinois, class of 1917; and Donald C., a graduate of the Champaign High School and a member of the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, of three years' standing in the University of Illinois. When Battery F was organized he volunteered and was in Texas with the battery. He is now a corporal in Battery F with the One Hundred and Forty-ninth United States Field Artillery of the Forty-second Division in France.

JAY G. BUCHAN. The natives and their descendants of Scotland, the land of hills and heather, have played important parts in the history of the United States, and it is something that justifies pride to be able to trace a direct Scotch ancestry. This good fortune belongs to Jay G. Buchan, one of Newcomb Township's best known and most esteemed citizens. His father and grandfather were natives of Scotland, but his own birth took place in Champaign County, Illinois, March 12, 1877, being the fourth in a family of six children born to Rahymond and Margaret (Buchan) Buchan. The survivors are: James, a farmer and stockman, residing at Clarion, Iowa, married Luzetta Thompson; Raymond, who is in the automobile business at Spencer, Iowa, married Mary Ann Peterson; Mary E., who resides with her younger brothers in Newcomb Township; Colin C.; and Jay G.

Rahymond Buchan, father of the above family, was born in 1830, in the parish of Alford, twenty-seven miles from Aberdeen, Scotland, a distance he thought nothing of covering on foot. He grew to manhood in his native parish and received excellent school instruction, the minister of the Presbyterian Church being his teacher, and the name of this church was the "Priory of Money Musk." It was an old landmark, having been erected in 1080 A. D., and the entrance to the tower was built of Norway pine. For 400 years the ancestors of Mr. Buchan had been laid to rest when their lives were spent in the cemetery adjoining this ancient house of God. Another noted relic of long ago which Mr. Buchan knew well in his boyhood days was known as "The Breda House," which was probably built in 1700 and stood two miles from the village of Alford.

Rahymond Buchan was about twenty-three years of age when he took passage on a sailing vessel at Glasgow bound for Montreal, Canada, which consumed eight weeks crossing the Atlantic Ocean, but staunchly contended with every menace of the deep and safely landed its passengers. In June, 1854, Mr. Buchan located in Savannah, Ohio, remained there one year, and then came on to Bloomington, Illinois. There he engaged to work for Isaac Funk, one of the pioneers of McLean County, with whom he remained eighteen months. He was anxious, however, to secure land, and although he had to go into debt for a part of the purchase price he then bought 120 acres in Newcomb Township, in 1866, this being the present home place of Jay G. Buchan. With the thrift that is a marked characteristic, and an exceedingly commendable one, of the Scotch race, Mr. Buchan kept adding to his acreage, tract by tract, until it aggregated 2,500 acres, situated variously in Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska. Mr. Buchan developed into a very wealthy man, but his reputation was founded on other things than his wealth. He was known far and wide for his neighborly kindness and his name was a synonym for integrity. Public office in his township was almost thrust upon him because of his known honesty, but he served willingly as school trustee and director because he took a deep concern in educational matters and his suggestions and advice were welcomed by his fellow officials because they were sensible and practical. He was a strict Presbyterian and not only kept faithful to the word but the spirit of the law. He passed away in the present home residence, which he built in 1874, on March 23, 1907. His wife was born in Ashland County, Ohio, March 4, 1842, and died July 16, 1916, leaving behind her the memory of a beautiful, unselfish, helpful life. She was laid by the side of her husband in Shiloh Cemetery and a monument of Montello granite marks their last resting place.

Jay G. Buchan attended the public schools, but the larger part of his very liberal education has been self-secured through a love of reading. He early took an interest in his father's large farming operations and even in boyhood took pride in the fine herds of Shorthorn cattle that have been a feature of agricultural industry here. Mr. Buchan pays taxes on many acres of fine land, 876 acres lying in Champaign County and in Piatt County and 160 acres in Palo Alto County, Iowa. Although preferably independent in politics, he has served in public office when called upon to do so for the public benefit, being school director for three years and for eight years was a member of the drainage commission. He is an adherent of the Presbyterian Church and has been a liberal contributor to it and to other religious organizations. Mr. Buchan owns an Interstate touring car and with his brother and sister make it a means of pleasant relaxation on many occasions.

Otis G. Hawk, a native son of Champaign County, long identified with the agricultural enterprise of this section, has directed his efforts with such good purpose that now, at the age of fifty, he is able to retire and enjoy the comforts of a good town home in the village of St. Joseph.

Mr. Hawk was born southeast of Urbana, May 5, 1867, a son of Isaac and Mary F. (Hiett) Hawk. His parents were born and married in Ohio, and they came to Champaign County in the early days, where they endured many of the hardships incident to pioneer life. They were practical and successful farmers. In their family were four sons, Otis being the third.

Mr. Hawk was educated in the Radebaugh school north of Philo, and growing to manhood on his father's farm he found in agriculture a vocation that satisfied his inclinations and furnished scope for his best endeavors.

Mr. Hawk married Adda Turner. Mrs. Hawk was born at Millers-

burg in Mercer County, Illinois, daughter of Ross and Sarah (Boyd) Turner. It was while she was visiting friends in Champaign County that she met Mr. Hawk, and this acquaintance ripened into affection and love and terminated in their marriage. With the responsibilities of family upon him, Mr. Hawk settled on a farm in Stanton Township, buying eighty acres at $43.75 an acre. This land was quite barren of improvements, but with the best years of their lives before them Mr. and Mrs. Hawk deemed it no hardship to undertake its improvement, and the passing years have witnessed much work that is a permanent contribution to the prosperity of the county. Mr. Hawk cultivated the fields, set out fruit and shade trees, and gradually had his land in a condition up to the standard of Champaign County agriculture. He also bought 160 acres in Indiana, and still owns that, operating it under a tenant. For many years Mr. Hawk carried on intensive farming, grain and stock raising, handling the famous O. I. C. hogs and Barred Rock poultry. He also showed a commendable interest in local schools and served as school director.

One child was born to the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hawk, Charles C. He grew to manhood, attended the home district school and the St. Joseph High School, and was just to the point where he could look forward to a life of promise and justify the hopes and expectations of his parents when death struck him down in September, 1910. He was then nearly nineteen years of age.

In 1916 Mr. and Mrs. Hawk sold their farm and bought an attractive home on Main Street in the village of St. Joseph. Both of them are attentive members of the Prairie Hope Christian Church, with Rev. Simon Bennett as the present pastor. Mr. Hawk has filled the position of deacon in that church, and has liberally supported its every cause. Politically he is a Republican of liberal views and gives his support to principles rather than party.

George Cephus Williams. There is no citizen of Condit Township who more thoroughly enjoys the esteem and respect of his fellow citizens than George Cephus Williams. He is a native of Champaign County and has spent nearly all his active years here. He now occupies one of the best homesteads in the township, and his home is one of attractive exterior and all the comforts and conveniences which make life worth living. His individual prosperity has not been accomplished without benefit to the community in which he has lived. This is attested by the fact of his service in various official responsibilities, and by his present office as township supervisor.

Mr. Williams was born October 9, 1868. He was next to the youngest in a family of seven children, four sons and three daughters, five of whom are still living. His parents were James Edward and Lavina (Linkenhoker) Williams. Of the living children the oldest is Mollie, wife of Richard Harvey, who is a coachmaker in the Chicago & Alton shops at Bloomington, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Harvey have one son. Edward, the second child, is a retired farmer at Bellflower, Illinois, and married Vina Hopkins. Emma, the third child, lives at Fisher, Illinois, is a member of the Christian Church there and the widow of Charles Bryan, and has two living children. The next in age is George C. Frank A. is an agriculturist in Champaign County, and by his marriage to Miss Lulu Beatty has a son and a daughter.

James Edward Williams, the father of these children, was born in Virginia, grew up and received his education in and married a native of that State, and from there they came West to Indiana and a short time later to Champaign County, locating on a rented farm in Hensley Township.

He was a hard working man and eventually acquired a farm of his own and died in Piatt County when about fifty years of age. He was laid to rest in Mansfield Cemetery. His wife is also deceased. In politics he was a Democrat.

George C. Williams had an uphill struggle during his earlier years, and most of his education has come by private study and as a result of experience. He was self-supporting when fifteen, and as a boy he frequently worked for wages as low as 20 cents a day. While still a single man he rented a farm in Piatt County, near Mansfield, where he remained two years, and then while boarding with his sister Emma he farmed a rented place in Newcomb Township of this county. With his brother Edward he then went to McLean County, and they were partners on a rented farm until Mr. Williams took upon himself the responsibilities of a home and family.

On November 28, 1894, he married Miss Hattie Lee Taylor. While their other achievements deserve much credit, Mr. and Mrs. Williams may justly take the greatest pride in their fine family. Nine children were born to them, five sons and four daughters, and six are still living. Fred, still at home, has completed the course of the common schools and one year in the Fisher High School, and his inclinations in choice of a career are as a farmer. He is a member of the Christian Church. Mildred Bernice, the next in age, is a student in the Fisher High School and has taken musical instruction.. She is a member of the Christian Church. Lavina is now in the sixth grade of the common schools and has received musical training. Taylor is in the third grade of the public schools, James Edward has recently started to school, while the youngest and the baby of the family is Lee Cephus. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have submitted to many sacrifices in order that their children might have a good home and receive a good preparation for life's responsibilities.

Mrs. Williams was born in Champaign County, March 2, 1870, a daughter of Joseph Dudley and Nancy Belle (Spratt) Taylor. There were eleven children in the Taylor family, five sons and six daughters, and seven are still living. Joseph D. Taylor was born at Sharpsburg, Kentucky, was reared and educated in the Blue Grass State and married there, and came to Champaign County with his family in 1863-64. He has lived in this county for over half a century and by hard work has not only reared a fine family of children but has become possessor of 110 acres of rich farming land in the county. He is a Democrat and both he and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Mansfield. He is now eighty-two years of age, but his mind and intellect are still clear. His wife was born in Kentucky and died in October, 1913, her remains being at rest in Piatt County, where her family have erected an appropriate monument. Mrs. Williams received her education in the common schools and had prepared to take the teacher's examination, but duties at home prevented her from embarking on that career.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Williams started out to achieve success with only experience as their guide and with very little capital. They lived one year on a rented farm in Brown Township and then five years in Newcomb Township. It was not until 1906 that they were able to buy land of their own, eighty acres in Condit Township. A heavy obligation went with the purchase, but in less than ten years they had it all paid for and the farm now represents some of the best improvements and methods of management in the county. Mr. Williams now has twenty-five head of excellent horses, principally the English Shire. He has also raised with profit Poland China hogs, and he and his wife have become experts in the raising of blooded poultry, their stock being the Buff Orpingtons.

Their birds have won two silver trophies in exhibition and Mr. Williams has a number of first and second premiums awarded his stock at State and county fairs. Each year he enters exhibits from his farm in the fairs of both Illinois and Indiana. The Williams farm bears the appropriate name of Sunnyside Farm.

Mr. Williams was also one of the organizers and first stockholders of the Fisher Telephone Company and is now serving the company as treasurer. He is a stockholder in the Champaign County Fair Association.

Politically he is a Democrat and has been a delegate to various county conventions. In 1915 he was a delegate to the convention at Springfield of township supervisors, county clerks and probate judges. It was by the unanimous choice of his fellow citizens in Condit Township that he was elected to the office of supervisor. This is the chief township office in Illinois, and a better qualified man could not have been found in Condit Township. Mr. Williams is a very popular official, and both he and his wife have served some years as director of the local schools. He is affiliated with Sangamon Lodge of Masons at Fisher, and is a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Bellflower. He also belongs to Champaign Chapter No. 50, R. A. M. They have contributed generously of their means to the erection of the beautiful church of their choice at Fisher. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have practiced the principle of living well without extravagance. In earlier years they carried heavy obligations, but are now comfortably situated, and among other things that make their life attractive for them is a fine Jeffreys touring car.

JOHN RUSH RITTENHOUSE. Those acquainted with the substantial agricultural and stock raising activities of Champaign County scarcely need introduction to the name John Rush Rittenhouse. His fruitful and active years have been spent largely in northwestern Champaign County, and he is a native son of this section of Illinois.

Mr. Rittenhouse was born January 26, 1870. The Rittenhouse ancestry is traced back to the German fatherland. His parents had six children, three sons and three daughters, and he was the third in order of birth and the second in age among the four still living. Of the living children he is the only one a resident of Champaign County. The oldest, Addie, is the wife of Dudley Herriott, an agriculturist at St. John, Michigan. Levi, the younger brother of Mr. Rittenhouse, is successfully engaged in agriculture and stock raising at Fairfield, Iowa. He finished his education in the Danville Normal School, was a teacher one year, and on examination took the highest mark in the county. He married Miss Mary Betts. Kate, the youngest of the children, is the wife of Charles Herriott, a farmer at Fairfield, Iowa.

The parents of these children were Joseph Hill and Mary (Richards) Rittenhouse. The father was born at Roxabell, Ross County, Ohio, and spent his youth in that state, where he acquired a substantial education. He followed agriculture as his regular vocation until recent years, and he and his good wife are now living in comfortable retirement at Mahomet. He still owns 190 acres of the rich and fertile soil of Champaign County, and this farm is being successfully managed by his grandson, Vern Rittenhouse. Joseph Rittenhouse for several terms filled the office of township assessor, for years was a school director, and was a stanch upholder of education in every form. He came to Illinois in time to enlist in an Illinois regiment for service in the Civil War, and fought gallantly for the stars and stripes until mustered out and granted an honorable discharge. For years he has been a member of the Grand Army Post at Mahomet. His wife was born at Sidney, Ohio, and had a common school education. She was twelve

years of age when she came to Illinois. Her father went to California in the days of '49, making the trip overland by wagon, and died while in the Golden State, a victim of cholera. Mrs. Joseph Rittenhouse has given her life to her family and her home.

John R. Rittenhouse grew up on his father's farm in Champaign County. He attended the common schools and acquired a practical education as a foundation for life's serious responsibilities. At the age of twenty-one he took up an independent career, renting land and also working out by the day. For many months he worked at wages of a dollar a day. As a wage earner and renter he made slow but sure progress for a period of thirteen years. His first purchase of land was ninety-two acres in Mahomet Township. He went heavily into debt for this, to the extent of $2,800, but by his industry and with the aid of his capable wife he was able to come out free and he then traded and sold and bought his next farm near Mahomet, consisting of ninety-three acres. This he soon afterward sold and then bought 120 acres included in his present homestead. He subsequently added another eighty acres, and has it all well developed as a first class model stock farm. Besides his possession in Champaign County Mr. Rittenhouse owns 107 acres in Tennessee and 100 acres in Lapeer County, Michigan. This land is in the midst of the sugar beet district. It is thirty-five miles from Detroit and thirty miles from Port Huron, Michigan, and in one of the best agricultural districts of the state.

Mr. Rittenhouse for a number of years has made a specialty of Shropshire sheep and Shire horses. His stock has won several silver cups, and he has exhibited at stock shows and fairs in Cleveland, Columbus, Indianapolis and in the fairs of Kankakee and Champaign counties. One of his horses of special class was Mahomet Teddy, an animal for which he paid $2,000. Mr. Rittenhouse has also interested himself in various other lines of business. That he is one of the successful men of Champaign County needs no further proof than what has already been noted in a brief way.

On December 31, 1891, Mr. Rittenhouse married Miss Ida Elvada Stout. To their marriage were born a son and two daughters. The son and one daughter still live. Vern Ralph, the only son, has found a place and position among the successful young agriculturists of Champaign County. He was graduated with the class of 1915 and at the head of his class in the Mahomet High School. During his school career there was a period of five years in which he never missed a day from his school work and was never tardy. He is now the capable manager of his grandfather's farm. He married Miss Ruth Miner. She is a member of the Baptist Church, while he is a Methodist. Ruth Marie, the only daughter, has finished the work of the common schools and is now in the second year of the high school at Mahomet. She has also taken instrumental music. She is quite active in the Pathfinders, a literary society maintained as one of the adjuncts of the Baptist Church.

Mrs. Rittenhouse was born in Champaign County June 21, 1870. She was the youngest of three children and the only one still living. Her father was born in Illinois, was an agriculturist, and made a success of life with only a common school education. For a number of years he lived in Illinois and afterward went to Nebraska and Iowa, and died at Marshalltown in the latter state in 1910. His death occurred at the Old Soldiers' Home. He had fought with an Illinois regiment in the Civil War until honorably discharged, and was a very active member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His wife, also a native of Illinois, died when Mrs. Rittenhouse was an infant. Mrs. Rittenhouse grew up in the home of her aunt, Nancy Nelson. She attended the common schools, and in church matters is a member of the United Brethren Church at Oak Grove in Newcomb Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Rittenhouse have taken great pains to prepare and educate their children for useful and honorable careers. Mr. Rittenhouse with the interest of his own children in mind has done all he could to promote good schools and for eight years was a director of his home district. Politically he is a Republican and cast his first vote for William McKinley. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Rittenhouse in Newcomb Township is known as The Blue Ribbon Stock Farm. It lies four miles northwest of Mahomet, ten miles from Fisher and five miles from Mansfield. It is the center of profitable industry as well as a fine country home, is a source of pride to Mr. and Mrs. Rittenhouse and a valuable exposition of the art of agriculture and stock husbandry for the entire community.

ROY R. CLINE, one of the younger members of the Champaign County Bar, had as preliminary to his practice a number of years of experience in the patent office at Washington, D. C., carrying on his law studies in the national capital at the same time, and now besides his general practice, he is serving as inheritance tax attorney for the District of Piatt, Champaign and Moultrie counties. He was appointed to this position in February, 1917, by Attorney General Brundage.

Mr. Cline is a native of Illinois, born in Piatt County October 22, 1884, a son of Jacob H. and Josephine (Knott) Cline. His father was born in Piatt County and his mother in Cook County, Illinois. Jacob Cline was a merchant and banker, spent practically all his life in Piatt County, and died there August 29, 1913. The mother is now living in Urbana. They were the parents of five children: Anna, wife of James Stevens, of Urbana; Minnie, wife of Jerry Purcell, of Piatt County; Corria, an osteopathic physician in Piatt County; Ona, of Piatt County; and Roy.

Roy R. Cline had a good education during his youth and paid his own way while preparing for the profession of the law. He attended the high school at White Heath, Illinois, two years, also the Urbana High School, and spent one year in the State Normal School at Normal. He had a couple years' experience as a teacher in Piatt County. In 1906 he came to Champaign and subsequently took a Civil Service examination and was appointed Examiner of Trade Marks in the patent office at Washington, D. C. He held that position five years. In the meantime he studied law in the law department of Georgetown University in the District of Columbia and was graduated LL. B. in 1911 and with his Master's degree in 1912.

Mr. Cline returned to Champaign County in the spring of 1913, and began practice at Urbana with Franklin H. Boggs, now Circuit Judge. Since the fall of 1913 he has been located in Champaign and has rapidly gained a secure position in the law.

Mr. Cline married November 7, 1907, Miss Lena E. Dove, a native of Piatt County. They have two children, Josephine Catherine and Max Jacob.

CHARLES CHENOWETH. The name of Chenoweth is one held in high regard in Champaign County because it has always been borne by men of sterling traits of character who have led honorable and useful lives. A worthy and well known representative of this old pioneer family is found in Charles Chenoweth, who resides on his well improved farm of eighty acres, which is situated in Newcomb Township. Peace, plenty, thrift and prosperity are in evidence both within his hospitable residence and on the farm, and here may be found convincing proof that farm life in modern days may be wholesome, profitable and happy.

Charles Chenoweth has lived in Illinois since he was a boy, but his birth took place March 15, 1857, in Pike County, Ohio. His parents were James P. and Maria (Ragen) Chenoweth, the paternal ancestry being traceable to England. James P. Chenoweth was born in Darke County, Ohio, September 8, 1829, and died in Illinois, October 24, 1915. He grew to manhood in Darke County and in boyhood had some school advantages, but as he was one of a family of thirteen children, self-support early became a necessity. He learned the tanner's trade and worked on a farm in Ohio up to 1859, when, with his family, he came to Illinois, making the long journey in a covered wagon in pioneer style, bringing along the household goods. Mr. Chenoweth rented land at first in Logan County, about six miles from Lincoln, but in 1868 he came to Champaign County and purchased forty acres in Newcomb Township, although forced to borrow the money to pay for it. This land he improved and later sold to advantage and subsequently, in partnership with his sons, purchased 308 acres in McLean County, a fine body of land which the family still owns. He was alive to every favorable movement in his section, political, religious or educational. He was a Republican from principle and frequently was elected by that party to local offices, in which he served honestly and faithfully. For years he was a road commissioner when that office meant providing for the construction of highways through forests and over brawling streams that overran their banks in times of freshets, and also for their preservation in good order. He also was a school director in those days when schoolhouses were few and far apart, when teachers were difficult to secure and when the people were apt to consider school taxes unnecessary burdens. These conditions in some sections have not been altogether changed, but more stringent laws now stand behind the officeholder. In Ohio he had joined the fraternal order of Odd Fellows and he maintained an interest in the organization until the close of life. His remains were interred in Riverside Cemetery in Mahomet, Illinois.

James P. Chenoweth married in Ohio Maria Regan, who was born in Pike County, that State, May 15, 1833, and died January 18, 1902, and was laid to rest in Riverside Cemetery, where a beautiful stone marks the family burying ground. She was a woman of many virtues and was a devout member of the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church. To this marriage two sons and three daughters were born, the surviving children being: Lydia E., who is the widow of W. H. Hubbard, lives at Conway Springs, Kansas; Charles; Bertha, who is the wife of W. M. Hinton, who carries on a hardware and implement business in Rockwell City, Iowa; and Lillian, who is a resident of McLean County, Illinois. She is a highly educated lady, a graduate of the State Normal University, and has spent a number of years in educational work. She, like all other members of the family, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Charles Chenoweth was eleven years old when he accompanied his parents to Champaign County and he attended the public schools in boyhood, afterward remaining with his parents until his marriage, giving them filial care and attention.

Mr. Chenoweth married April 21, 1897, Miss Maria M. Lanam, who was born in Newcomb Township, Champaign County, Illinois, December 14, 1871. Her parents were Stewart and Eliza Jane (Wyant) Lanam, the former of whom was born in Noble County, Ohio, July 20, 1836, and died in Illinois, an honored veteran of the Civil War, April 4, 1916. His early boyhood was passed in Ohio and afterward he lived in Indiana, and from that State enlisted for service in the Civil War, becoming a member of the Third Indiana Cavalry, which was attached to the Army of the Cumberland. He served under General ("Pap") Thomas, a beloved commander, and took

part in the battles of Chickamauga and Stone River and also accompanied General Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. After three years of valorous service, during which he was fortunate enough to escape both wounds and imprisonment, he was honorably discharged. In 1868 he came to Champaign County and acquired 240 acres located in Newcomb and Brown townships. In his early manhood he was a Democrat in his political views, but later became a Prohibitionist, as he was an earnest advocate of temperance. He had membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church and belonged to the post of the Grand Army of the Republic at Fisher. He married Eliza Jane Wyant, who was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, August 24, 1845, and died in Champaign County, July 15, 1916. They had five children, one son and four daughters, all of whom reside in Champaign County. Mrs. Chenoweth was the second born and was educated in the public schools. She is a lady of most engaging personality, good, true, kind and womanly, and makes her home a place of content and comfort for all who come within its walls. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Chenoweth, Russell L. and Ruth A. The son at the time of writing has already passed one year of his high school course and is much interested in his studies, particularly mathematics and history. The daughter has advanced to the eighth grade in the Fisher public schools and is also being instructed in music, it being the intention of Mr. and Mrs. Chenoweth to give their children every possible advantage.

In politics Mr. Chenoweth has always been identified with the Republican party. He cast his first presidential vote for James A. Garfield and since then many other noble public men have had his support. He takes an interest in all that concerns his township and neighborhood and is especially active in the matter of public schools and has served as a school director for many years. With his family he belongs to the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church and all are willing helpers in promoting its various avenues of usefulness.

M. M. Harry, whose home is on Route No. 5 out of Urbana, is one of the honored veterans, a sergeant, of the Civil War still living in Champaign County, and has made his own career of industry count for a great deal in the development of this section during the past half century.

Mr. Harry was born in Lewis County, Kentucky, January 8, 1844, the third in a family of sixteen children born to Joseph M. and Lucinda (Ruggles) Harry. His parents were both natives of Kentucky. When M. M. Harry was four years of age he came to Illinois, locating in the town of Urbana, where his father followed the trade of carpenter. Several of the children died young, and of those who attained maturity M. M. Harry had the following brothers and sisters: H. James, who was a soldier in the Civil War; Wilson and Harkness, who own a foundry at Gibson City, Illinois; Oscar; Etna Roby of Danville; Bertha M., who died several years ago; and Francis M., a Methodist Episcopal minister living at Bloomington, Illinois.

M. M. Harry received his early education in the public schools of Urbana. He was seventeen years of age when the war broke out, and late in 1862 he responded to the call for troops to put down the rebellion and enlisted with other neighbor boys at Urbana in Company I of the Sixteenth Illinois Cavalry, under Captain Jackson of Kankakee. They were mustered in at Springfield and kept in training at Camp Butler for a time, then sent to southern Illinois and soon got into action in Kentucky. On one of the scouting raids made by his regiment through Lee County, Virginia, Mr. Harry and his comrades to the number of 185 were all captured. He was first sent to Lynchburg, Virginia, then to Richmond, and spent two months in the prison camp at Belle Isle in the James River. From there

they were sent to Andersonville, and in that notorious stockade suffered everything that human beings could be called upon to endure. For more than eleven months he was a prisoner of war. From Andersonville he was removed to Florence, South Carolina, and as at that time Sherman's army was rapidly advancing across the Carolinas the prisoners were kept moving. Finally the order came to exchange 10,000 sick and convalescent prisoners, and they were paroled at Benton Barracks in St. Louis. Unable to do further service on account of their weakened condition, they were kept at different points and Mr. Harry was finally discharged at Nashville, Tennessee, and mustered out at Chicago. He was in the army nearly three years, from December 3, 1862, until August 2, 1865.

On January 9, 1868, Mr. Harry married Olivine Dilling. She was born in Champaign County, Illinois, daughter of David Dilling. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Harry engaged in farming at Big Grove, Illinois. Two children were born to their marriage: Olivine, who died in infancy; and Effie May. Effie May is now the wife of Samuel Somers. Her children are Harry Kerr, Francis M., Ralph, Joseph and Dorothy.

On March 21, 1873, five years after their marriage, the death angel entered the Harry home and Mrs. Harry entered into rest. On October 30, 1877, Mr. Harry married Mary J. Boyd. She was born in Urbana Township, daughter of James W. and Frances (Rhoades) Boyd, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Illinois. In the Boyd family were the following children: John W., deceased; William M., deceased; Sarah E. Strover of Sacramento, California; and Alfred, who died at the age of twenty. Mrs. Harry also had two half sisters and a half brother: Mrs. William Jones of Urbana; Frank Boyd of Alma, Michigan; and Florence Sperling, now deceased.

Mrs. Harry with her brothers and sisters were educated in the public schools of Urbana Township. Mr. and Mrs. Harry have four children, Frances, Mary Ethel, James Lewis and Daisy E. Realizing the advantages of good training, Mr. and Mrs. Harry gave them a good education, finishing in the high school at Urbana. The daughter Frances is now the wife of Arthur L. Aiken, and they live at San Diego, California, where Mr. Aiken is employed in a furniture store. They have an adopted daughter, Leona. Mary E. married Ralph T. Smith, a practical farmer in Urbana Township, and their family consists of four children. Rollin, Harry, Mary and Rex. The son, James Lewis, is still at home with his parents. Daisy E. married Frank O. Edwards, who is in the baking business at Dayton, Ohio. They have one child, Lois.

Progressiveness has always been the keynote in the career of Mr. Harry. He has gained sufficient material success and all the time has had by his side a good wife to give him advice and Christian counsel. While they began life as renters, he made his first purchase of twenty-eight acres and used that as a nucleus of a permanent home. Mrs. Harry is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Urbana. Politically Mr. Harry is a Democrat and has served as school director, supervisor and road commissioner. Mrs. Harry is a most energetic woman, and has been enthusiastically a worker for the cause of temperance and prohibition and has never failed to lift her voice and use her influence toward the progress of that movement which even now is finding results in an almost total abolition of the liquor traffic. Mrs. Harry's great-grandmother was a cousin of President Zachary Taylor. In the passing years Mr. and Mrs. Harry's careers and work have been closely identified with Champaign County. They have endeared themselves to the community by their neighborly acts of kindness and their home has always been a center of true hospitality.

CYRUS E. JACKSON. In an enumeration of the magnificent resources of Champaign County too much cannot be said of the banks and the bankers, since without their functions and their power all industry would soon be paralyzed. In this group of live and enterprising business men stands Cyrus E. Jackson, cashier of the Dewey Bank at Dewey. Mr. Jackson has been identified with that center of trade and population for a number of years, and is not only a banker but a merchant and one of the leading men in public affairs.

Though a resident of Champaign County most of his life, Mr. Jackson was born in Piatt County, Illinois, September 4, 1872. He is a son of Isaac A. and Adaline (Smith) Jackson. Of their family of three sons and two daughters, three are still living. Isaac A. Jackson was born in Indiana in 1843 and died very suddenly in 1906. When he was ten years of age he accompanied his parents from Indiana to Illinois, the family locating near Farmer City. Grandfather Jackson was one of the early settlers in that part of central Illinois. Isaac Jackson acquired only a common school education and applied his efforts in a practical and energetic fashion to farming throughout his active career. At the time of his death he owned 260 acres of the splendid soil of Champaign County. This branch of the Jackson family is of English origin, the lineage being traced directly back to old England. Isaac Jackson was reared in the atmosphere of Whig politics when a boy, and on coming of age joined the Republican party and cast his first vote for Lincoln, the great war president. He himself had fought as a gallant soldier in the Civil War for three years, being finally discharged on account of disability. He enlisted with a regiment of Illinois cavalry, and though present and a participant in many hard fought battles was never wounded nor taken prisoner. He and his wife were long active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Champaign, to which city they had retired in 1898. Isaac Jackson was also an honored member of the Grand Army post at Fisher, Illinois. His wife was a native of Indiana and her parents were of English extraction. Both Isaac Jackson and wife are buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery in Champaign.

Cyrus E. Jackson was two years old when his parents removed to Champaign County. He is self-educated and early learned to depend on his own exertions as the key to substantial success. Up to the age of twenty-three he remained on his father's farm, and during that time acquired a thoroughly practical experience as a farmer, which has been utilized in his later career in the supervision of his own land. After his marriage he left home but continued farming until the fall of 1901. At that time he became a salesman in the large general store of Mr. Rome at Fisher, but on August 1, 1902, he established a small general store of his own at Dewey. This business he rapidly developed with corresponding increase of trade territory. In January, 1912, the store, containing a stock of $10,000 worth of goods, was destroyed by fire. Though he was protected by insurance to the value of $7,500, the fire proved a heavy loss and inconvenience. Since 1903 Mr. Jackson, in connection with his store, has conducted a banking business and after the fire he devoted all his time to banking and gave up his active career as a merchant.

On December 18, 1895, Mr. Jackson married Miss Clara Rome. They have three children: Cecil, who is in the eighth grade of the Dewey schools; Neva, also in the eighth grade and a student of music; and Lyle, the youngest, who is in the first year of the primary schools. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are taking great pains to give their children thorough and adequate educational advantages.

Mrs. Jackson was born in Bellflower, Illinois, June 6, 1878. She was educated in the public schools. Her parents were Robert and Agnes

(Brown) Rome. Her father was for many years one of the leading general merchants at Fisher in Champaign County, and since his death the large store has been continued successfully by his widow and their son. Both of Mrs. Jackson's parents were born in the land of the thistle and heather, Scotland. Mr. Jackson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while his wife belongs to the Christian denomination.

For a number of years Mr. Jackson has been before the public both as a business man and as a citizen, and has gained the complete confidence of all who know him. His banking house at Dewey has been maintained at a high standard, has a notable record of integrity and solidity, and its patrons are among the wealthiest farmers of this locality. In politics Mr. Jackson began voting as a Republican and has continued so to the present time. His first presidential ballot was given to President McKinley. He has served as supervisor of his township for eleven years and is still in office. He was also one of the main factors in urging his fellow citizens to construct good roads, the crying need of the central Illinois farming district today, and especially in the corn belt, where the heavy rich black soil grows a wealth of crops but is not a natural road material.

Fraternally Mr. Jackson is affiliated with Sangamon Lodge No. 801, A. F. & A. M., at Fisher. Besides his bank Mr. Jackson has a fine farm of 120 acres, and he also has the management of 960 acres for non-resident property owners from Chicago. This extensive body of land is situated in East Bend Township of Champaign County.

For several years Mr. Jackson has also been in the automobile business at Dewey, in partnership with Harry Hamm. They conduct the leading garage and are agents for the Ford car. These young gentlemen are doing a fine business and besides their capital they are known as obliging, cordial and genial men with hosts of warm friends. In 1906 Mr. and Mrs. Jackson erected their modern residence in Dewey. It is a home of comfort, where they extend their hospitality to their many friends.

F. M. Fagaly, a retired resident of St. Joseph, has many interesting distinctions, not least among which is the fact that he served more than three years in the Union Army during the Civil War. Mr. Fagaly and his family are widely known in Champaign County, where through all the years their names have been associated with that industry and good citizenship which are the bulwark of American institutions.

Mr. Fagaly was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, not far from the city of Cincinnati, a son of John and Mary (Stewart) Fagaly. His parents were also natives of Ohio. The Fagaly family is of German origin. An interesting story is told concerning his grandfather. He was a German youth who lived in the kingdom of Wuertemberg. He became acquainted with one of the daughters of the king of Wuertemberg and their acquaintance ripened into love. All the traditions and customs of the family for centuries prohibited the marriage of a royal daughter out of caste, since Grandfather Fagaly was a commoner. The young people determined to brave the wrath of the king, were married secretly, and eloped to America. The young princess was determined that her lot should be cast with her true love, and she was not afraid of the perils of a new adventure in a strange land. Coming to America, they settled at Cincinnati, where, though possessed of limited means, they had those characteristics which soon brought them a home, comfort, and the substantial honors of citizenship.

Mr. Fagaly's mother, Mary Stewart, was the daughter of a Mrs. MacElroy. This grandmother of Mr. Fagaly lived in Indiana. She was born in what is now a part of New York City. When a girl she was bereft of her parents, was reared by strangers, came to Indiana and lived a long

and useful life. As old age came on she was comparatively helpless and went to live with her children. One son, William Stewart, in anticipation of his mother's coming, erected a new house with a special room for her convenience and comfort. She had just got located in this house when the building took fire and burned to the ground, and the old lady, who was then one hundred and seven years of age, was unable to escape and was burned to death.

F. M. Fagaly was one of seven children. He obtained his early education in the district schools of Hamilton County, Ohio. He grew to manhood on his father's farm, and had acquired considerable knowledge of that industry before he entered the army.

He was nineteen years of age when he volunteered and went to Camp Dennison, eighteen miles from Cincinnati, where he was enrolled in Company K of the Eighty-third Ohio Infantry. With this regiment he marched away to the front and first took part in the campaign to protect Cincinnati from the second invasion of Kirby Smith. Kirby Smith had tried to capture and destroy Cincinnati, but the Federal troops gave him a merry chase and caused a complete change in his plan. Mr. Fagaly and his comrades fought at Camp Orchard, were then ordered back to Louisville, took boat to Memphis, and during the year 1862 did much patrol duty up and down the Mississippi from Island No. 10 to Vicksburg. He was part of Sherman's great army in the Vicksburg campaign. It will be recalled that the first plan to reduce that Mississippi stronghold was an expedition up the Yazoo River, allowing the troops to attack the city in the rear. The culmination of this was the battle of Haines Bluff, where the Union troops suffered heavy losses. Sherman was greatly criticized for this part of the campaign, but his troops loved him and, as Mr. Fagaly says, would have waded through fire and blood to follow their leader. After Haines Bluff Mr. Fagaly's regiment was ordered back to Arkansas Post and captured that entire garrison of 3,000 prisoners. His next duty was at Young's Point in Indiana and soon afterward he and his comrades were employed in the famous undertaking of digging a canal to divert the waters of the Mississippi. This occurred during the winter of 1862-63. It was an open winter, the waters of the river were very high, and after completing the work within half a mile of the river bank the floods broke through the narrow retaining wall and the next day the main current of the Mississippi River was sweeping down the canal. About 100,000 Federal troops were in the vicinity of Young's Point and thousands of them were working night and day in the digging of the canal, which they considered a pleasant diversion in spite of its actual hardships. The Confederates believed that Vicksburg was so strongly fortified that it could never be taken by the Union troops. Grant dug this canal so as to get his boats and supplies down to New Orleans unimpeded by the fire of the Vicksburg batteries. The canal enabled the boats to pass by the fortress without incurring any material damage from the batteries. The Confederates had only one gun that could reach the forces at work on the canal, and the Union troops called this the "Whistling Dick." Mr. Fagaly was witness, along with thousands of other Union troops, of one of the picturesque incidents of this campaign. A dummy boat was loaded above Vicksburg, consisting of two immense flatboats, piled high with many barrels, in all of which were placed lighted candles. When this grotesque structure floated down in range of the Vicksburg batteries all the guns opened fire. It was a dark night and the illumination from the flashing guns was a spectacle which Mr. Fagaly will never forget. At that time General Pemberton, the commander at Vicksburg, had a great gunboat which the Union forces dreaded more than anything else. Believing that the dummy flatboats were the entire Union fleet, Pemberton ordered

his gunboat blown up to prevent its falling into the hands of the Federal forces.

In all these exciting adventures Mr. Fagaly continued until April, 1863, when he and his command were sent below Grand Gulf to a place called Hard Times Landing, a shipping point where a great cargo of cotton was stored. On May 1, 1863, he fought in the first battle of the main attack upon Vicksburg and after that was under continuous fire every day until the 4th of July, when Pemberton surrendered his war worn forces and the Union troops entered the city and saw the stars and bars hauled down from the courthouse and the stars and stripes raised instead. Thus he had part in the campaign which even more than Gettysburg broke the back of the rebellion.

After Vicksburg Mr. Fagaly was at New Orleans, and while there was with the troops ordered to cross Lake Pontchartrain and attack a small fort. They captured this fort with 300 prisoners and returned with them to New Orleans. The troops were then ordered to Pensacola, Florida, and to Fort Blakely, Alabama, which after withstanding an eight day siege, surrendered to the Union forces. This occurred about the time Lee's army surrendered in Virginia, and that was practically the close of the war. From Alabama Mr. Fagaly and his comrades were sent to Galveston, Texas, again to combat the wily Kirby Smith, who was making his last stand in the Southwest. Mr. Fagaly remained in Texas until sent back to Camp Dennison, where he was discharged, after giving three years and ten days of service to the Union. He arrived home in August, 1865.

On August 14, 1866, Mr. Fagaly married Miss Caroline L. Shafer, a girl with whom he had grown up in southern Ohio. They then settled near Cincinnati in Hamilton County, where he engaged in farming for a year, after which he moved to Indiana. Mr. Fagaly enjoyed the companionship of his first wife only four years. She was taken away by death in 1870, the mother of one child, Emma Catherine. This daughter married William Greiser, and they live on a farm near Cincinnati. She is the mother of five sons, Edwin, Clarence, Clifford, Elmer and William.

For his second wife Mr. Fagaly married Elizabeth Buzon. She was born near Loogootee in Daviess County, Indiana, a daughter of George and Drusilla (Perkins) Buzon, who were also natives of Indiana. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fagaly settled on a farm in Elnora, Indiana, where he combined farming with teaching. For thirteen winters he taught in the district schools.

Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Fagaly: Cora, Arminta, Ella, Callie, Pearl, Roy, William and Edwin. These children were well educated in the high school at Worthington, Indiana. As they grew up they settled down in life for themselves, and a brief account of their family and whereabouts is as follows: Cora is the wife of Frank Locke, and they live on a farm near Fort Wayne, Indiana, and have two children, Nellie and Carl. The latter, Carl Locke, a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Fagaly, is keeping up the record of the family in patriotism and loyalty, and is a volunteer in the United States Army in Company D now drilling at Champaign preparatory for service against Germany. Arminta married William Harris; they live at St. Joseph and have one child, Hallie. Ella is the wife of Charles Locke, a farmer at Bondville in Champaign County, and they have two children, Floyd and Louise. Callie married Benjamin McLoughlin, an undertaker at St. Joseph. Pearl is the wife of Samuel Schofield, a grain merchant at Mahomet, their five children being Edwin, Howard, Dorothy, Donald and Dale. Roy is an extensive stock buyer and shipper and in the retail meat business at Philo, Illinois. He married Hazel Stayton, and their two children are Helen and James. The son William is proprietor of a grocery

and meat business at Flat Rock, Illinois, and married Ada Dwyer. Edwin, the youngest child, is a farmer at Philo and married Lois Thompson of Homer.

Mr. and Mrs. Fagaly are active members of the Christian Church at St. Joseph. In politics he votes the straight Republican ticket, and he believes that his political record is almost unique in Champaign County. With his sons and his sons-in-law he constitutes a voting strength of sixteen when the time comes to elect a President or governor. Mr. Fagaly is a charter member of the Grand Army Post at Worthington, Indiana, and has always taken a great interest in army affairs and his old comrades of the war. He was with the Union forces at a time when military life made a strong impress upon his mind and character, and in all the years since he has successfully endeavored to instill in his children the principles of loyalty which he himself exemplified. For many years he has had by his side a good woman, a Christian character, and one who has been in close sympathy with his life and work. Mr. and Mrs. Fagaly now enjoy the comforts of a pleasant home on Sherman Street in the village of St. Joseph.

William Allison Hinton. There is no better known citizen, nor one whose work and public services are more appreciated, than William A. Hinton of Newcomb Township. His career is significant of that industry and energy which suffice to carry a man from a position among the many into the ranks of the successful few. Champaign County has scores of men who through the domain of agriculture have accumulated a share in such prosperity as few other sections of the United States enjoy, and Mr. Hinton's present position is the more creditable because it has been won not by inheritance but through his own steady toil.

His loyalty to Champaign County is enhanced by the fact that he is a native of this rich and fertile section of Illinois. He was born November 26, 1857, the third in a large family of thirteen children. Seven of these children are still living and all of them but one have their homes in Newcomb Township. His father, Daniel F. G. Hinton, was born in Clinton County, Indiana, was reared there and attended the common schools, and after his marriage he moved in 1854 to Champaign County. This trip was made in true pioneer style, with wagon and team. The father had no capital to begin on and started at the very bottom of the ladder as a renter. After renting for a few years he bought 120 acres in section 18 of Newcomb Township. Not a furrow had been turned in the virgin soil. It was a raw and new neighborhood, and at that time only two other houses were in the locality. A part of the old building he first erected for his home is still standing on the premises. After selling this land to Mr. Buchan he removed to section 16 and bought eighty acres and then another similar tract, and was profitably engaged in its management and cultivation until he retired into Fisher, where he and his wife spent their last days. The father was a Jeffersonian Democrat. For years he served as township trustee and tax collector, and was a director of the local school twenty-one years. He was a fine type of citizen, one whose example and work brought about increasing betterment. He respected the true Christianity and his career was altogether exemplary. Both he and his wife are now at rest in the Willow Brook Cemetery, where a monument stands sacred to their memory. Mother Hinton was also a native of Indiana, gained her education there in the common schools, and gave her life to the welfare of her children and her home was her joy.

William Allison Hinton grew up on his father's farm in Champaign County. With his own eyes he has witnessed the remarkable development of this part of the State. Land that he now owns and part of which

cost only $28 an acre is now of such value that it could not be bought for less than $275 an acre. Wholesale changes have been made in the country and its industries within his lifetime. He had reached manhood before the first telephones were brought into Champaign County, and from time to time he himself has utilized in his home or on his farm the modern implements of industry, including the high power automobile. He fitted himself for life's serious responsibilities largely through his own exertions, and has acquired more education by experience and reading than he did from the local schools. The first money he ever earned was 50 cents a day drawing straw from the threshing machine. That first 50 cents benefited him little, since he lost it soon after earning it. As a wage earner he worked for several years, then rented land and finally was able to make his first purchase. He went in debt for part of the payment of this forty acres. Later he and his brother Winfield bought eighty acres in partnership, and in time Mr. Hinton bought his brother's interest. He paid up all his debts, and then added more land until his present place comprises 160 acres. For forty acres of this he paid $125 an acre. All the buildings on his farm have been erected by him or under his direct management, and he now has his magnificent rural home all paid for. He formerly owned a quarter section of land in the province of Ontario, Canada. The estate of Mr. and Mrs. Hinton in Newcomb Township bears the appropriate name of Park Lawn, and besides its superior comforts it has everywhere the sign and atmosphere of hospitality.

On September 18, 1883, Mr. Hinton married Miss Rose Shoppell. Two sons have been born to their union, and Mr. and Mrs. Hinton have taken the greatest of care in instilling in them the correct principles of living and guiding their useful ways to honor and integrity. James Myron, the older of these sons, is an agriculturist in Newcomb Township. He was educated in the common schools and has proved himself a practical man in his vocation. He married Miss Agnes Austin, and they have a little daughter, Helen Louise. James M. Hinton is a Democrat, a member of the Masonic order, belonging to Mahomet Lodge, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is now serving as school treasurer and tax collector, and has been treasurer of the school district six years.

Robert Wirt Hinton, the second son, is a practical farmer in Condit Township. He was educated in the common schools, the high school and Brown's Business College. He married Miss Zora Daly, and their happy companionship was terminated with her death on May 23, 1917. She left a little daughter, Lyla Marie. Mrs. R. W. Hinton's remains are at rest in Mount Hope Cemetery at Champaign. Robert W. Hinton is a member of the Masonic order at Fisher, Illinois, and he and his wife were regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mrs. William A. Hinton was born in Champaign County, April 11, 1858. She is the sixth in a family of eight children, one son and seven daughters, born to Jackson and Mary Ann (Starling) Shoppell. Of the four children living Mrs. Hinton is the only one in Champaign County. Her father was born in Pennsylvania, of Pennsylvania German stock. His birth occurred April 18, 1820, and he died in Champaign County, March 28, 1864. He was a young man when he came to Champaign County and had married in Ohio. By trade he was a carpenter, and he aided in the construction of many early buildings in this county. He was buried in the old cemetery at Mahomet. He was a Democrat, and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Church, in which he served as class leader. His wife was born and reared in Ohio. Mrs. Hinton attended the common schools of Champaign County and was well educated. She has been a

most faithful wife and mother, and has done her part in the making of a home and the rearing of her capable sons while Mr. Hinton was busy with the duties of field and farm.

Mr. Hinton is a Democrat. His first presidential vote was given to General Hancock. Both he and his wife have realized the need of good schools in their community and have done all they could to support such institutions. For fourteen years he served as director of the home school district. He was one of the building committee of the beautiful new church known as the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church, which was erected at a cost of $8,000 and when dedicated on May 13, 1917, was completely out of debt. Mrs. Hinton is a member of the Ladies' Aid Society. Fraternally Mr. Hinton is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Fisher. Mr. and Mrs. Hinton are now in a position to enjoy life. Their sons are independent and carving out their own careers, and Park Lawn represents to Mr. and Mrs. Hinton not so much a business as a home. For their diversion and the better enjoyment of their friends they have had a car in use for several years, formerly a Chalmers and now a Velie machine.

HENRY CHERRY. A complete picture of rural efficiency and beauty is furnished in the Cherry homestead of Ogden Township. Its proprietor is Mr. Henry Cherry, who in his early years did not find life a round of pleasure or luxury, and has had to make his own way in the world by hard work and unceasing efforts.

Mr. Cherry was born in Boone County, Indiana, and is the adopted son of William Cherry. That family were pioneers in Indiana and at an early day came to Illinois and settled on a farm in Ogden Township. Henry Cherry received his education in the old Brindle district school of Ogden Township.

When he was twenty-seven years of age he married Emma R. Smith. She was born in Vigo County, near Terre Haute, Indiana, daughter of Marshall and Evelyn (Bogard) Smith. Her father was for many years a railroad engineer and also owned and operated a sawmill. Mrs. Cherry was only three years of age when her mother died.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cherry located on eighty acres of land in section 6 of Ogden Township. Mr. Cherry had worked industriously as a farm hand for a number of years, and from his careful savings was able to buy this first farm at $30 an acre. The land had no improvements, and their first home was a small two-room structure, but confident of the future and with a determination to better their lot they began in this humble environment with complete happiness and accord. The passing years brought them abundance of success, and they did much to improve and beautify their land, clearing it, planting trees, and erecting commodious buildings. Mr. Cherry is a natural mechanic and besides cultivating his fields has erected most of his buildings and has done the work of painting and decoration. While he began farming with very meager assets, he has kept increasing his property until his estate now comprises 205 acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Cherry became the parents of three children, Mervyn, Nellie and Velma. Realizing the advantage of education, Mr. and Mrs. Cherry sent their children to the Hickory Grove School, and all of them grew up as splendid auxiliaries in the home. The only son, Mervyn, married Grace LaHue, a native of Indiana. Mr. Cherry wisely decided that he would keep his son at home and erected a new dwelling for them on the farm. The son grew up as a practical farmer and has applied his knowledge to the successful management of the homestead.

The daughters, Nellie and Velma, are still in the family circle, and Nellie is a very fine musician both by nature and by training. She is also

an artist, and for ten years has been a very successful music teacher and has done much to advance the cause of this art in Champaign County. Both the daughters are accomplished musicians, and music has always meant a great deal in the Cherry home.

Mr. and Mrs. Cherry are active members of the Prospect Christian Church, and by their means and influence have done much to advance the cause of this institution in the community. Mr. Cherry was a promoter of the University of Olivet, Illinois, and gave $1,000 toward its erection. Politically they are ardent supporters of the prohibition cause, and have never neglected an opportunity to advance the day when prohibition will be state wide, nation wide and world wide. Mr. Cherry's efforts have met with deserved success, and it should be mentioned also that through all the years he has had a good wife to stand side by side with him and share in these achievements. Mrs. Cherry when she began housekeeping had among other articles of furniture a modest little dresser made of a dry goods box with a calico curtain in front. She says that she took as much pride in this home made piece of furnishing as in any more substantial and costlier article which has since entered into her home.

Many years ago Mr. and Mrs. Cherry planted a number of walnut trees on the north and west of their house, and these, to the number of about 250, have since grown so as to constitute a beautiful grove that is one of the many attractive features of the Cherry farm. Mr. Cherry is a very successful stock farmer, has handled Holstein, Jersey and Guernsey cows of thoroughbred strain, has a few Shropshire sheep, and keeps an abundance of poultry. For a number of years he has been a very successful bee man. Mr. and Mrs. Cherry and their daughters see much of the country and of their friends by means of the fine five passenger automobile which is one of the evidences of family prosperity and of their willingness and readiness to enjoy life as they go along.

Joseph C. Johnson. Hale and hearty, with firm step and unclouded mind, Joseph C. Johnson at the age of eighty years is one of Champaign County's oldest living native sons. It has been his privilege to witness with his own eyes and bear a not unimportant part in the development of this rich and prosperous section of Illinois from a period when it was wild prairie and even wilder swamps. Mr. Johnson is now enjoying the comforts of a retired home in the town of St. Joseph.

He was born in Urbana Township of Champaign County, December 25, Christmas Day, 1837. He was one of the six children, three sons and three daughters, of Amos and Sarah (Moss) Johnson, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The birth of Mr. Johnson indicates that they were among the earliest pioneers of Champaign County. When they came the land was all new and it was possible to shoot deer on the prairies, while around the lonely cabins of the early settlers the wolves howled every night and inspired fear in the children and frequently devastated the poultry and sheep yards of the farmers.

Joseph C. Johnson attended school with other children of that neighborhood, the schoolhouse being built of logs with the curriculum as limited as the furnishings. Many of the people of that day in Champaign County lived in log buildings without floors.

At the age of twenty-eight Joseph C. Johnson laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Susan Ann Cloyd. She was born in Indiana, a daughter of William and Hannah Cloyd. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Johnson settled in St. Joseph Township and began farming on a rented place. They had youth, enthusiasm and industry, and out of their careful earnings and savings they bought their first farm of eighty acres in

section 16. This was school land and the price they paid was sixteen dollars an acre. There were no improvements, and it was necessary to convert the wild prairie into productive fields. In the course of time this land was producing crops, buildings arose from time to time with increased comfort and facilities, they planted fruit and shade trees, and to this day a fine grove of walnut trees stands as a monument to their early efforts at forestation.

Two children were born to this happy couple, William A. and Henrietta. The children were given the advantages of the district schools in Stanton Township and enjoyed the happy and care-free life of childhood. When they were still young their beloved mother was called by death, and Mr. Johnson for some years had the responsibilities of the farm and the care and training of his children. Later he married Celia A. (Prugh) Harris. Mrs. Johnson was born in Ohio, daughter of Aquilla T. and Rebecca (Dickinson) Prugh. Her parents were also natives of Ohio.

For a great many years Mr. Johnson continued to reside on his homestead, which he had increased to 120 acres. In 1911 he decided to leave the farm, his children having married and started homes of their own, and since that date he has lived in St. Joseph with a comfortable home on Lincoln Street.

His son, William Johnson, married Effie Radebogh. He is a successful farmer in Indiana, living five miles northeast of Winchester. His family of children consists of Mabel, Gladys, Cloyd, Leah, Willard and Ruth. Just recently the sad death of Mr. Johnson's little granddaughter, Ruth Elien Johnson, occurred at his home at St. Joseph, on August 23, 1917, when she was but two years, nine months and twenty-one days old. Her mother had come on a visit from Indiana, and the little child was taken sick and died here. The daughter, Henrietta Johnson, is the wife of George Phenicie. He is a farmer in Stanton Township, and they have children named Joseph Merle, Abner, Roy, Harold and Chester.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are active members and liberal supporters of the Christian Church. In matters of politics he is a Democrat and has always taken an active interest in local affairs and the welfare of his community. He was elected school trustee, also road commissioner, and served the public faithfully and well for seven years, finally resigning office because of poor health.

Mr. Johnson well remembers the time when Urbana consisted of a hamlet of a few houses, while not a single building stood on the present site of Champaign. He recalls the site of the present city buildings of Champaign as a pond or swamp with five or six feet of water even in dry weather. A great deal of credit is due a man like Mr. Johnson, since he was one of the individuals who performed that great aggregate undertaking of making Champaign County one of the garden spots of the world. As a boy in his excursions about the country he frequently saw the flats covered with wild ducks and geese, and as they rose from the water the numbers were so great that in their flight they darkened the sun. Much of this swamp land now so productive and valuable could have been bought in Mr. Johnson's time for twelve and a half cents an acre.

Lewis W. Martin. A district such as Champaign County, noted for its fine live stock, has special need for the services of a competent and trained veterinarian. In many ways the leader in this profession is Dr. Lewis W. Martin, who has had about twenty-seven years of active practice in and around Fisher. His skill is widely recognized, and he has frequently been called beyond the boundaries of the county to render professional service on some of the large stock farms of central Illinois, and

has been consulted in much of the organized work and effort for the safeguarding of the health of live stock.

Doctor Martin was born in Woodford County, Illinois, on January 20, 1858. He was the oldest child and only son of James T. and Jane (Arrowsmith) Martin. He has two sisters. Minnie, who was educated in the common schools and is a member of the Methodist Church, is the wife of Edward Ballinger, an agriculturist at Beebe, Arkansas. They are the parents of five children. Anna H., who lives at Pontiac, Illinois, is the widow of Jefferson Shrout, who was formerly an engineer, but at the time of his death was engaged in farming. Mrs. Shrout has five children.

James T. Martin was born in Ohio in 1830 and died in November, 1916. In earlier years he was a carpenter and contractor, but finally took up farming. He grew to manhood in his native State, acquired a good education and was well qualified for teaching, which he followed in Illinois, chiefly in Woodford County. At one time he owned about eighty acres of land in Woodford County, but sold that and removed to Livingston County, Illinois, where he acquired a place of 175 acres, which he still owned at the time of his death. He began voting as a Whig and gravitated naturally into the Republican party. At one time he served as township collector. Early in the Civil War he enlisted in Company F of the Seventy-seventh Illinois Infantry and was in active and continuous service for four years, participating in the grand review at Washington at the close of the war, and soon afterward receiving his honorable discharge, making a record of which his descendants will always be proud. Though he was exposed to shot and shell at Gettysburg, Bull Run and many other battles, he was never wounded nor taken prisoner. For years he was an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic and he and his wife were Methodists. His wife, Miss Arrowsmith, was born in old England about 1835, and came when a small girl with her parents to Illinois. In that State she attended the common schools. Though now eighty-two, she is still bright and active, has an excellent memory and is devoted to her home and church.

Doctor Martin attended common schools and through inclination and early experience was led into the business and profession which he has followed with so much success at Fisher for the past twenty-seven years. Doctor Martin has a splendid library devoted to veterinary science, medicine and surgery, and keeps a full supply of the best drugs and all the implements and appliances needed in his work. There is not a farmer or stockman in a radius of twenty miles around Fisher who does not know the capable attainments of Doctor Martin and most of them have employed his services at one time or other. He has a personal acquaintance with all the prominent horsemen and farmers in this part of Illinois and his practice extends into Ford and McLean counties. Like other successful professional men, he has found the automobile a great aid to his work and he drives a fine Chevrolet.

In 1878 Doctor Martin married Miss Susan Jane Cline. They are the parents of three children, one son and two daughters. George E., who was educated in the Fisher schools, is a successful young man in his profession as an electrician at Champaign. He is a Republican and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. The maiden name of his wife was Carrie Compton, and their three children are named Russell, Cloyd and Loas. Grace E., the older daughter, was educated in the common schools and is now the wife of Charles Farmer, foreman of a general store at Bakersfield, California. Mr. and Mrs. Farmer have a small son. Nora Lucile, the youngest, is the wife of Walter Rinehart, an agriculturist of East Bend Township, near Fisher. These children have all received good home advantages and the practical training afforded by the local schools.

Mrs. Martin was born in Livingston County, Illinois, was educated in the common schools and is an active member of the Christian Church. Doctor Martin is a Republican voter, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Fisher and was appointed as a delegate to the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has actively supported various churches and is a liberal contributor to the erection of the present beautiful Christian Church at Fisher. Besides their residence at Fisher, Doctor and Mrs. Martin have property in Chicago. They have made the interests of their community their own interests, and are people of the highest standing in this part of Champaign County.

ELIAS FREEMAN. For sixty years a resident of Champaign County, Elias Freeman is one of the citizens whose name and a brief record of whose career should be permanently recorded. He represents a family which had its start in the early development of the county, and his own life of substantial industry brought a generous reward in material circumstances and civic honor, and he is now properly enjoying the fruits of well directed toil in a comfortable home at the village of Ogden.

Mr. Freeman was born in what is now Ogden Township of Champaign County, June 22, 1857, a son of Edmond and Jemimah (Rush) Freeman. His parents, natives of Ohio, came to Illinois at an early day. James Freeman, the grandfather of Elias, came to this state when Edmond was two years of age. At that time there was not a house between Salt Fork and Burr Oak. It was all one stretch of raw prairie. The Freeman family settled at Salt Fork and some of the good land in that section was developed through their energies and purposeful activities. Edmond Freeman had a family of eleven children, Elias being the third in age.

The latter attended the local district schools with his brothers and sisters, grew up as a farmer on the home farm, and at the age of twenty-five, in 1883, married Miss Jennie Fisher. Mrs. Freeman was born in Randolph County, Indiana, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Fisher, being the second in order of age among their seven children. When she was a small girl her parents removed to Vermilion County, Illinois, and she was educated in the district schools there.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Freeman located on 150 acres belonging to his father four miles northwest of the town of Ogden. He capably managed this place for seven years, and while there he laid the foundation of his permanent prosperity. On leaving his father's land he moved to a farm of Mrs. Freeman's father south of Ogden, and here he continued his agricultural operations for ten years. At the end of that time he bought a farm of his own of 165 acres south of the village of Ogden and that he made his permanent home. The land had few improvements when he bought it, but it is now a splendid farm, with good buildings, with plenty of fruit and shade trees, and its value as a farm and a residence is greatly enhanced by its position on the interurban railway.

Mr. and Mrs. Freeman had two children, one son and one daughter, E. E. Freeman and Ella May. The son is proprietor of a large business as a hardware and furniture merchant at Fithian, Illinois. He married Hattie Yeoman and has a son, Carl Richard. The daughter, Ella May Freeman, is the wife of Frank Fenders, and they live next door to her parents in Ogden. Mr. Fenders is a grain buyer for the Zorn Grain Company. They also have one child, Ralph Freeman Fenders. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman take a great deal of pride and joy in their bright little grandson.

In 1910 Mr. and Mrs. Freeman left their farm and removing to Ogden bought a pleasant and attractive home, which in subsequent years they have done much to improve by remodeling and other changes.



J. A. Heinz

Politically Mr. Freeman is an active Republican. He has served his community and his fellow citizens as road commissioner, school director, school trustee, and member of the highway commission. He and his good wife have found all that reasonable ambition could desire, sufficient of this world's goods for all their needs, the esteem and kindness of friends and neighbors, and have themselves lived so as to deserve all that their industry and good character have won.

JULIUS A. HEINZ, while one of the younger men of Champaign County, has acquired many sucessful interests since coming to Pesotum and is a real leader in the life and affairs of that town.

Mr. Heinz was born in Kickapoo Township of Peoria County, Illinois, September 29, 1880. His parents Frank and Mary (Heitter) Heinz, were also natives of the same county. His paternal grandfather was a native of Germany, while the maternal ancestry came from France. Frank Heinz followed farming during his active career and he and his wife are now living retired in Peoria. They were the parents of these children: Ida and William, both deceased; Elizabeth, wife of Frank Bienemann, of Peoria; Mary, deceased; Julius A.; a daughter that died in infancy; Emil, of Peoria; Sylvester, deceased; Etta and Clarence, twins, the latter now deceased, while Etta is the wife of Henry Speck, Jr., of Peoria.

Julius A. Heinz attended the parochial schools in Peoria County until he was sixteen years of age. After that he lived on his father's farm and worked there until the age of twenty-two. Then, fifteen years ago, he arrived at Pesotum and began the active business career which has brought him such generous rewards. For two weeks he worked in an implement business and then bought out Mr. Kleiss and with his cousin, L. T. Heinz, continued the trade, handling implements, buggies, lumber, hardware and other supplies. In 1904 an undertaking department was added, and the cousins remained in partnership until 1909, when the business was reorganized and divided.

At that time Mr. Heinz took the undertaking line and also the real estate and insurance department. He still continues the undertaking business, and has a splendid equipment for a small town, including a motor hearse. He is also senior partner in the firm of Heinz & Creamer at Tolono, and is head of the Heinz-Riemke agency of automobiles at Pesotum. They make a specialty as sales agents of the Haynes and Reo cars.

In 1913 Mr. Heinz accepted the position of cashier of the Bank of Pesotum and now gives much of his time to the administration of the bank's business and is one of its directors.

His name is also associated with the public affairs of Pesotum. He was the first village treasurer and was tax collector one year. Politically he is a Democrat, is a member of the Catholic Church, and is affiliated with Champaign Lodge of Elks, has taken the fourth degree in the Knights of Columbus and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. November 22, 1916, Mr. Heinz married Kathryn Kerwin, a native of Marion County, Illinois.

ABRAHAM PAULUS. It is a distinction such as pertains to few living Champaign County residents that Mr. Paulus enjoys by reason of his continuous residence in the county since 1856. That was an early year in the pioneer history of this county and was a notable one in national affairs, since it saw the first entrance of the Republican party into national politics. Mr. Paulus has witnessed a remarkable development going on under his eyes during the past sixty years, and he and his good wife have borne their

shares of labor and responsibilities in this community. Champaign County in 1856 was a broad stretch of prairie land, open only here and there by the industry of the early settlers.

Mr. Paulus was born in Darke County, Ohio, September 9, 1843. He was one of a family of thirteen children, four sons and nine daughters, whose parents were Daniel and Louisiana (Treon) Paulus. Five of this large family are still living. Lydia, the oldest, resides in Indianapolis and is the widow of Jacob Ware. Lucy Ann lives at Mansfield, Illinois, the widow of John Hollihand. Sarah, a resident of Billings, Montana, is the widow of Levi Brooks. The next in the family is Abraham Paulus. Jonathan Francis, who served in an Illinois regiment in the Union army during the Civil War and was granted an honorable discharge, is now living at Marion, Indiana.

Daniel Paulus, father of this large family, was born in Maryland, January 12, 1807. He lived a long and useful life and passed away in 1902 in Indiana, at the age of ninety-five. When he was one year old his parents removed to Ohio, crossing over the mountain barriers and journeying westward in true pioneer style. They lived for some years in Preble County. Grandfather Paulus had the offer of ten acres of land gratis provided he would locate in Cincinnati, then a raw and unpromising community. This offer was given him because he was a blacksmith and men of that trade were sorely needed in Cincinnati. However, he chose Preble County instead. Daniel Paulus was a self-educated man and made farming his chief vocation. He owned 120 acres of land in Darke County in western Ohio. In 1856 he gave up his land there and came farther west into Champaign County and bought 160 acres in Newcomb Township. For this land he paid $25 an acre. At that price it had more improvements than many other of the newer farms of the township. It was located on the east side of Newcomb Township. Later Daniel Paulus sold this land and returned to Ohio about 1864, and remained in that State until the death of his wife. He was a Democrat in politics and a member of the Lutheran Church.

His good wife was born in Pennsylvania, February 9, 1810, and died December 1, 1877. She was a young woman when her parents removed to Ohio. Both she and her husband were interred in the Union City Cemetery in Ohio, where a monument marks their last resting place.

Mr. Abraham Paulus was only thirteen years of age when his parents came to Champaign County. While living in western Ohio he attended a log schoolhouse. Its seats were made of slabs held up from the floor by wooden pins, and he had all the experiences of a pioneer school boy, including the writing of a copy set by the master and with the old goose-quill pen, which was fashioned with a real "pen knife" by the schoolmaster himself. Mr. Paulus more than most people in Champaign County is able to appreciate the vast contrast between modern schools, their fine equipment and furniture and their course of instruction, and the temples of learning where he gained his first instruction. After getting his education Mr. Paulus took up farming as a practical pursuit and he was not yet twenty-one years of age when he married and set up housekeeping for himself. His marriage occurred in Champaign County, April 7, 1864. Miss Mary Jane Lane was the bride. They have been married now over half a century. Ten children have been born into their home, six sons and four daughters. Eight are still living. William was educated in the common schools, has been a Democrat in politics, and was formerly engaged in agricultural vocations, but is now a resident of Champaign City and pursuing his favorite work as a mechanic. Oliver is a successful agriculturist in East Bend Township. He married Miss Alice Robinett, and

they have a little daughter, Ruby. Oliver is a Democrat and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his wife are Christian Scientists. Cora lives in Pontiac, Illinois, the widow of Morris Haines. She has two children, Orville and Verla. She and her daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Louisiana married William Sheppard, a resident of Champaign. Mr. Sheppard is a Democrat. They have three children, Vern, Ray and Mary. Clara is the wife of Lee Mulvane, who lives near Saunemin, Illinois, where he is engaged in farming. Mrs. Mulvane is a member of the Methodist Church. Joseph is an agriculturist at Breckenridge, Michigan. He married Miss Ida Taylor, and they have a young son, Richard. They belong to the Methodist Church. Stella was educated in the common schools and married Walter Fielder. Mr. Fielder died in April, 1917. He left one son, Virgil, who was educated in the common schools and is now taking the second year of work in the Fisher High School and is one of the brightest students in his class. Mrs. Fielder now lives with her parents. She is a member of the Methodist Protestant Church. Frank, living near Proctor, Illinois, on a farm, married Miss Emma Adams, and they have three children, Evelyn, Harriet and Wilbur. They are members of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Paulus also reared in their home their grandson Jesse, educating him in the common schools, and he is now a practical farmer. He married Miss Marie Adams and they have two small daughters, Helen and Bernice, who afford the greatest delight to their great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Paulus.

Mrs. Paulus was born in Clinton County, Indiana, December 1, 1845, a daughter of William and Catherine (Blacker) Lane. She was one of six children, three sons and three daughters. She is the oldest of the three now living. Her sister Cynthia is the wife of Abram Ater, a resident of Urbana. Her brother John was formerly in the sales and livery business and is now living at San Diego, California, and is married.

Mrs. Paulus' father was born in Ohio and when young moved to Indiana and was married in that State. In 1857 he came to Champaign County and spent the rest of his life here. He was a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church. Mother Lane was also a native of Ohio, but grew up in Indiana. Mrs. Paulus' parents are both now deceased, and they were laid to rest in the City Cemetery at Mahomet, Illinois, where appropriate stones mark their last resting place. Mrs. Paulus was educated in the common schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Paulus started out to make their own destiny in the world without special help from anyone and relying almost entirely upon their own efforts and industry, inspired by their ambition. For a number of years they were farm renters. Their first purchase was eighty acres, and later they bought 160 acres in Newcomb Township. Half of this has since been sold, and they retain the rest of it as their attractive country home. Mr. and Mrs. Paulus began heavily in debt. They were able to make their first payment on their land only $100. By industry and rigid economy they pulled out of debt and at the present time they owe no one a dollar and have in addition to their farm a good town home in Fisher. They have enjoyed the highest esteem of their community throughout their residence in this county.

Mr. Paulus is a Democrat. He has passed all the chairs in Fisher Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his wife are active in the Methodist Protestant Church of Newcomb Township. He has been one of the trustees since the church was built and for years was superintendent of its Sunday school. He is also president of the Township Sunday School Convention, and year in and year out has

worked earnestly for the upbuilding of church. Sunday school and every worthy movement in the community. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Paulus is known as the Maple Lawn Farm. It is the abode of hospitality, and their many friends find a hospitable welcome within its bounds. In 1910 Mr. and Mrs. Paulus made a delightful tour of the far West, including Montana, San Diego and Portland, Oregon. It was a journey that brought them to some of the greatest natural wonders of America, and they returned home all the better satisfied with Champaign County and with the place which their own earnest efforts had given them to own and to possess in this rich garden spot of the world.

JACOB SWICK. A resident of Champaign County during a period of sixty-five years and still interested in the pursuit of agriculture here, Jacob Swick is one of the best known among the citizens of Broadlands and the vicinity. During his long career it has been his fortune to have gained many of the rewards of industry and integrity, and in addition to material remuneration to have attained a position of substantial prominence in his community and a place in the respect and confidence of those among whom his long life has been spent.

Mr. Swick was born in Germany, June 27, 1837, a son of Jacob and Christine (Oberly) Swick, both born in that country. The family came to the United States in 1852, first settling in Pennsylvania, from which state they moved to Ohio, and there the parents passed the remaining years of their lives engaged in farming. They were honest, industrious, God-fearing people who reared their children to lives of usefulness and honor and gave them all the advantages that they could afford. The children were as follows: Jacob, of this notice; Christina, who is the wife of John Vedder and a resident of Urbana; Christopher, who also resides at that place; and Mary, the wife of Joseph Marsh, of North Dakota.

Jacob Swick was about fifteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to the United States, and here in the public schools of Pennsylvania and Ohio completed the education which he had started in Germany. When he left the parental roof to engage in life's activities on his own account he went to Portsmouth, Ohio, where he worked on a farm for five years, after which the Civil War came on and he enlisted in Company F, First Ohio Heavy Artillery, with which he served for two and one-half years. He had an excellent record as a soldier, and upon receiving his honorable discharge returned to Ohio, but soon located in Morgan County, where he worked on a farm for five years, after which he came to Champaign County and took up his residence in Raymond Township, where he engaged in operations on a farm of eighty acres. Later he bought forty acres more, and to this added an additional tract of like size, and finally purchased 240 acres in Ayers Township, where his subsequent activities were carried on. Mr. Swick won success by reason of his constant industry, his fidelity to engagements and the honorable manner in which he carried on his transactions, and the record of his business life presents a clean and unblemished page.

Mr. Swick was married first to Katherine Kirchner, who died in Champaign County, leaving one child, who died in infancy. For his second wife Mr. Swick married Elizabeth Thady, and they became the parents of four children: Lillian May, Charles E., Ella Irene and Harry C. Mr. Swick is a Republican, but not a politician, although active in good civic movements in the community. His religious faith is that of the United Brethren Church. Since his practical retirement from active agricultural affairs Mr. Swick has resided at Broadlands, where he has a comfortable, modern home.

CHARLES FAIRFIELD. One of the most valuable and best cultivated agricultural estates in northern Champaign County is that owned by Charles Fairfield, a modern farm lying in Brown Township, not far from Fisher. For a number of years devoted to general farming, it has recently taken on the added department of blooded stock raising, and under the progressive and able management of its owner is developing into a farm that is extending its reputation beyond the limits of its immediate community. Mr. Fairfield is known in Brown Township as one of the agriculturists who has not allowed his extensive personal interests to blind him to the needs of the locality in which he lives. He has helped his community to grow and has supported good movements. His title as a representative citizen has been secured not only by individual gaining of material things, but by co-operation with other public-spirited men in forwarding Champaign County's general welfare.

Charles Fairfield was born in Livingston County, Illinois, January 20, 1866, and is the eldest of a family of four sons and two daughters born to John W. and Priscilla (Shirery) Fairfield. All are living and all are residents of Illinois with the exception of one daughter, who lives in Iowa. John W. Fairfield was born in Ohio in 1838, was married in his native State, and in 1865 came to Illinois, settling in Livingston County. He followed agricultural pursuits there until 1871, when he moved to Mahomet Township, Champaign County, where he rounded out his career, his death occurring in 1879. Originally an old line Whig, with the birth of the Republican party he joined that organization and supported its interests thereafter loyally. Fraternally he was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and Mrs. Fairfield were faithful members of the Christian Church. When he first came to Champaign County the church services were held in the Allison schoolhouse, situated two miles west of Fisher. Mr. Fairfield was laid to rest in the Naylor Cemetery. Mrs. Fairfield was born in 1840, also in Ohio, and still survives.

Charles Fairfield was about six years of age when he was brought by his parents to Champaign County, and here his education was secured in the public schools. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and when he was twenty-six years of age, having less than $500 capital at the time, felt enough confidence in his own abilities to embark upon an independent career. At that time, August 24, 1892, he was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Schenk. To them three children have been born. Roy J., educated in the public schools and at Brown's Business College, is one of the progressive and energetic young farmers of Champaign County, residing in Brown Township. He married Miss Augusta Heyer, a graduate of the Fisher High School. Floyd A. was educated in the public schools, and is training himself to become a first-class farmer and stockman. Emmet C. is attending the public schools. The children belong to the Christian Church.

Mrs. Fairfield was born in Champaign County, Illinois, and was reared on the farm on which she now resides, her education being secured in the public schools and the high school. For two years prior to her marriage she taught in the county schools. Her birth date was March 23, 1873, and she is a daughter of Anthony and Mary (Frichauf) Schenk, being one of a family of five sons and nine daughters, of whom seven children are living, although besides herself there is only one living in Champaign County, this being her sister Ella, who is the wife of J. A. Fairfield, a contractor and builder of Fisher. Anthony Schenk was born near the Rhine River in Prussia, October 28, 1832, and as a youth displayed remarkable talents in mathematics, being a teacher when he was only twelve years of age. Subsequently he learned the trade of molder,

hut when he was sixteen years of age came with his parents to the United States, via Havre, France, the sailing vessel on which they made the trip taking eight weeks for the passage. For a short time the family resided near Albany, New York, then going to St. Louis, Missouri, where they lived for five years. Mr. Schenk and his brother John then purchased 400 acres of land in Champaign County, a part of which is now included in the home farm of Mr. and Mrs. Fairfield. Mr. Schenk, who died in 1900, became not only one of the substantial farmers of his community, but also stood high in the esteem of his fellow citizens, who chose him as township treasurer for fourteen years and as supervisor of Brown Township two terms. Although a Democrat, he cast his vote for Benjamin Harrison for president. Always a religious man and a faithful member of the Christian faith, he assisted in the erection of three churches in his locality, and now lies at rest in Mount Hope Cemetery, where the first monument placed in that burial place marks the grave of one of his brothers. Mrs. Schenk was born near the city of Berlin, Germany, March 16, 1841, and was eight years of age when brought to the United States by her parents in a sailing vessel which took seven weeks to cross the Atlantic Ocean. She was educated in German and English, has always been a devout member of the Christian Church, and now makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Fairfield, being one of the best and most affectionately known ladies of the community.

When they started married life Mr. and Mrs. Fairfield were renters. They were energetic and industrious, worked hard to make themselves a home, and eventually came into possession of enough land to give them a start. From that time to the present they have added to their holdings and to their comforts, and now are in possession of 360 acres of finely cultivated and productive land, on which are located substantial buildings and all modern improvements. Their large and commodious residence and three fine barns have been erected and remodeled by them, and other indications of good management and prosperity abound. Mr. Fairfield has just started in to raise blooded Percheron horses and Shorthorn Durham cattle, and has already made a success of his venture. In addition to the 360 acres included in his own farm, he is also operating 160 acres, and is making each acre of land pay in full for the labor expended upon it.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Fairfield cast his first vote for Benjamin Harrison for president. He has been selected as a delegate to the county conventions, and the confidence in which he is held by his fellow townsmen is shown in the fact that he has been township treasurer of schools for seventeen years, school director for seven years and highway commissioner for twenty years. In addition to being deacon and trustee of the First Christian Church, he is chairman of the building committee in charge of the fine new church which will be completed during the autumn of 1917, at a cost of from $15,000 to $20,000. Throughout his career he has allowed his name to be connected only with honorable dealings, and as a result his record as business man, agriculturist and official is free from any manner of blemish.

L. P. Grimes. Many of the best homes in Champaign County have been won as a result of long and toilsome process, involving the clearing of the land, the draining of the swamps, the construction of ditches and fences, and every improvement has meant an expenditure of labor and care that only the very successful or those who have been through the experience can appreciate.

Among the men who have had that experience and have witnessed the evolution of Champaign County during the last forty years is Mr. L. P.

Grimes of St. Joseph Township. Mr. Grimes was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, August 12, 1852, a son of John and Hannah (Snyder) Grimes. His parents were also natives of Illinois. Grandfather Grimes came from Ohio and in the early days settled four miles north of Danville, when Danville was only a trading post. For a number of years there were hardly any families in that neighborhood except the Grimeses and their relatives. It is said that for two miles in every direction nearly every house contained a Grimes. John and Hannah Grimes had nine children, four sons and five daughters. These children were all educated in the district schools. In 1865 John Grimes took his family to Kansas and spent the rest of his days there.

In 1875, at the age of twenty-three, L. P. Grimes returned from Kansas to Illinois, for the purpose of visiting, and he found so many interests to claim his time and attention that the visit has been continued indefinitely to the present time. At the age of twenty-nine he married Miss Annie R. Ridinger. She was born in St. Joseph Township, daughter of Milburn and Margaret (Moore) Ridinger. The Ridinger family also came from Ohio, and Mrs. Grimes was third in a family of ten children. She was well educated in the local district school.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Grimes rented twenty-nine acres adjoining the Ridinger homestead. The outlook was not very encouraging. They had a small house, a log barn and a few rods of rail fence. In front of the house and shutting off the view of the road were trees and brush, while about the farm were sloughs in which the water was so deep in places that it came up to a horse's side. In spite of this fact the young people possessed the energy and determination to make their work count, and at the end of two years they had saved enough to make the first payment upon their land. It was a happy day in their lives when they secured a deed to this small tract, but their industry did not stop there and they have gone ahead with their work and improvements until they now have eighty acres of good farm land, well drained and cultivated, improved with fruit and shade trees, a commodious house, barns, and altogether constituting one of the valuable farms of Champaign County.

Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Grimes, one of whom died in infancy. The other is A. M. Grimes, who was educated in the local district school and finished in the St. Joseph High School, and he is now a careful and successful farmer on a place just across the road from his father's farm. A. M. Grimes married Cora Parks, and they have a bright young son, Claude L., who was born January 5, 1894. This boy has proved his ability in different ways, is an expert in handling a horse and has qualified as a chauffeur, being able to handle an automobile with skill and the expertness of a veteran.

Mr. L. P. Grimes has made his success as a grain and stock farmer. He now raises chiefly the Red Duroc hogs and has about seventy-five full blood animals, besides Jersey cows. He separates the cream on his farm and ships it to market.

Mr. and Mrs. Grimes are active members of the Christian Church at St. Joseph and worship in the beautiful brown stone and brick edifice that is one of the most attractive religious centers of the county. In politics Mr. Grimes is first, last and always a Republican, and fraternally is affiliated with the Royal Americans. His fellow citizens have shown their confidence in his ability and public spirit and have elected him to the office of road commissioner. Thus Mr. and Mrs. Grimes have attained the fullness of success out of their humble early efforts, and the credit for what they have accomplished and the influences that have emanated from their characters are due to them equally, since Mrs. Grimes has been a factor in the making of the home and has always stood beside her husband in counsel and advice.

JOHN F. TROTTER. In early days the superiority of soil and climate attracted to Champaign County as permanent settlers many eastern thoughtful and observing pioneer home-seekers, and one of the families firmly established here bore the name of Trotter, a name that has been an honored one in the county ever since. A worthy representative is found in John Franklin Trotter, one of Newcomb Township's most respected citizens. He was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, April 7, 1852. His parents were Hiram and Lydia A. (Alamang) Trotter. To them were born ten children and five of these survive, John Franklin, the fifth in order of birth, being the only son living. His four sisters are: Elizabeth, who is the widow of J. B. Lester and resides at Fisher, Illinois; Jennie, who is the widow of David Inskeep, resides at Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Barbara, who is the wife of George Teats of White Heath, Illinois; and Jane, who is the widow of Oscar Mullvain, lives at Thomasboro, Illinois.

Hiram Trotter, father of the above family, was born near Wheeling, West Virginia, and there grew to manhood and engaged in farming. After the death of his first wife he married Lydia E. Alamang and she it was who accompanied him first to Indiana and later to Illinois and died here in 1880. After reaching Indiana Hiram Trotter rented eighty acres of land and operated it for six years. The rent was high and Mr. Trotter often remarked that the money spent in rent during that time would have purchased a good farm in another section. Finally he decided to move with his family into an adjacent State and locate in Champaign County, of which he had had many favorable reports. Once more the prairie schooner was brought into use and in 1856 the family was comfortably settled in a log cabin standing on a tract of eighty acres in Newcomb Township. He had borrowed the money to purchase this first land, but through his industry it was soon paid for and he continued to add to his holdings until he owned 240 acres, all in the same township. Pioneer conditions prevailed when the Trotters came first to Newcomb Township and John Franklin remembers when he could count as many as fifteen deer in a drove passing the little cabin. Hiram Trotter was a man far beyond the ordinary in many ways. He was much more progressive than many of his neighbors and many improvements both in farming methods and in public matters were brought about through his influence. He was a Jeffersonian Democrat and at one time served as road commissioner, that being before the founding of the present flourishing towns of Fisher, Dewey, Foosland and Mahomet. He was one of the original members of the first church built in this section, which was named the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church, and in his home and in the schoolhouse near by the first church meetings were held. He served in church offices during the rest of his life. The death of this fine old pioneer occurred in 1900 and a beautiful memorial stone in Shiloh Cemetery marks the last resting place of Mr. Trotter and wife.

John Franklin Trotter has been a resident of Newcomb Township almost his entire life. He attended the country schools and for a short time was a pupil in the Mahomet High School, and the public schools have always claimed his interest. He has always engaged in farming, renting land in Newcomb Township for the first two years after his marriage and then buying eighty acres. Later he purchased 160 acres near Rising City, Nebraska, but remained on that place but one year, returning then to Illinois because the western climate had a bad effect on his wife's health. He now has seventy-one acres all in one tract, located at Shiloh Center, in the middle of the township. At one time the house he occupies was a postoffice.

Mr. Trotter married January 20, 1876, Miss Eliza Jane Funston, and

they have had four children, as follows: Ira, who is a practical and successful farmer in Newcomb Township, married Emma Ricks and they have five children, Edna, Roy, Elsie, Wayne and Lyle; Maude is the wife of Bartley M. Suttle, who owns a fine farm of 160 acres in this township, and they have five children, Oliver, Archie, Nellie, Mary and Lola; Grace is the wife of Herbert L. Hinton, a railroad brakeman, and they live in Chicago; and Daisy, who resides with her parents. She is highly educated, having had advantages in the State Normal University and taught school for three years in Champaign County. She is a member of the Domestic Science Club at Mahomet, Illinois. She is one of the active and useful members of Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church and under her management as Sunday school superintendent the school is in a highly prosperous condition, interest being stimulated and maintained and much practical good accomplished. Miss Trotter spent a part of the summer of 1905 at Denver, Colorado. She is a lady of engaging personality and is a welcome visitor everywhere.

Mrs. Trotter was born in Piatt County, Illinois, December 7, 1854. She completed her education in the Mahomet High School and taught school for three terms in Newcomb Township and now teaches a class in Sunday school. Extended mention of her family appears in this work in the sketch of her sister, Mrs. Nancy Downs, who is a highly esteemed resident of Newcomb Township. Both Mr. and Mrs. Trotter are willing workers in the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church, are liberal contributors to its various benevolent movements and by precept and example show the sincerity of their Christian belief.

Mr. Trotter has not bound himself to any political party, like many other intelligent men preferring to stand by the principles he believes to be right and give support to such candidates as best represent them, irrespective of party affiliation. He has been active and useful in township matters as a man of fine judgment and unblemished integrity and has served in responsible offices, having been tax collector, town clerk and for six years was a justice of the peace. Perhaps there is no more hospitable home in Newcomb Township than the Trotters, and their many friends are always sure of a hearty and sincere welcome.

William Morrison. Along the Interurban as it passes through Ogden Township are found some beautiful farms, all of them representing the toil, self-sacrifice and industry of either their owners or of those worthy people who first claimed the land from the wilderness. One of these homes that stands for a most estimable personal career is that of William Morrison in section 8 of Ogden Township.

Mr. Morrison was born in New York City in 1851. When he was ten years of age he was left an orphan by the death of his parents, and somewhat later a man named George H. Allen became interested in him and brought him out to Illinois, and he soon found a home in the family of Eleazar Freeman, with whom he was a bound boy and with whom he remained twelve years. He had very limited opportunities to obtain an education, never more than three months a year. He had to work early and late, herding and feeding cattle, plowing in the fields, and only now and then came a few weeks when he could attend school.

Thus as a boy he became inured to and disciplined in hard work, and he found it no special hardship when he went to earning his own way as a farm hand and worked in the fields from four o'clock in the morning until nine o'clock at night. His industry and good character commended him to the attention of Miss Callie Swearingen, and on January 24, 1878, they were married. She was a native of St. Joseph Township, a daughter of

Thomas and Elizabeth Swearingen. Their married life was brief, since Mrs. Morrison passed away July 11, 1880. They had lived on the Swearingen farm in the meantime. Subsequently Mr. Morrison married Lizetta Hixenbaugh. She was born in Virginia, daughter of Morgan and Sarah A. Hixenbaugh.

In the meantime Mr. Morrison had worked steadily with the end in view that some day he would become proprietor of a farm of his own. This eventful day arrived in 1885, when he contracted for the purchase of ninety-eight and a half acres in section 8 of Ogden Township. The land had few improvements and was of limited value as compared with its value today. Even at that Mr. Morrison had to go in debt to buy it, and some years passed before he had it free from incumbrance. In the meantime he drained the land, cut out trees, built a commodious home, and thus his personal efforts and management are responsible for this attractive bit of landscape that may be viewed from the windows of the interurban cars as they go by.

Mr. Morrison has two children, Charles J. and Cora E. They were educated in the Ogden High School. Charles is now connected with the city street railway system at Champaign.

In politics Mr. Morrison has always stanchly supported the principles and candidates of the Republican party. His achievements and position in the county mean a great deal. Beginning life a poor orphan boy, he has found success by strict application to industry and honorable principles. He has reared his children to honor the same principles which have been his own guide in life. He now enjoys a pleasant home, with his capable daughter, Cora, acting as his housekeeper. Mr. Morrison is a hospitable, kind neighbor, and out of his experience has always had a deep sympathy for the friendless and oppressed. He richly deserves praise for his industry and energy and his good citizenship.

Chester A. Williams. In calling attention to the men of worth in Newcomb Township, Champaign County, Chester A. Williams should hold a foremost place. He is one of the substantial men of his section, a first-class farmer and an intelligent, stable and useful citizen. He was born in Champaign County, Illinois, November 17, 1880, and is a son of Lucius and Mary C. (Shafer) Williams. He has one older brother, James A. Williams, who resides just east of his brother Chester A. He married Maggie Shafer, and they have four children.

Lucius Williams was born in 1835 in Licking County, Ohio, and died on his farm in Newcomb Township, Champaign County, April 6, 1916. He came from Ohio to Champaign County about 1868 and spent the rest of his life here, following farming as his occupation and acquiring eighty acres of land in Newcomb Township as a result of his industry. In politics he was a Republican, but took no active part in political campaigns and never aspired to public office. He was well known and highly respected. His burial was in Shiloh Cemetery and a stone marks his last resting place. He is survived by his widow, who was born in Ohio seventy-five years ago. She resides with her children and has a wide circle of personal friends.

Chester A. Williams was educated in the public schools and from early manhood has been successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits. With his brother James A. he owns 100 acres of fine land very favorably situated in Newcomb Township, which, under intelligent management, has become some of the most productive land in this section.

Mr. Williams married on March 22, 1915, Miss Sadie Wright, who was born in Newcomb Township, August 28, 1886, and is a daughter of Charles and Nancy (Hannah) Wright. Mrs. Williams is one of a family

of fourteen children and the youngest of the three who live in Champaign County, the other two being: Hiram, who is a farmer in Newcomb Township, married Effie Lester and they have six children; and Arthur, who is also a farmer in this township, married Minnie McCay and they have six children. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have one son, Arthur Williams.

Charles Wright, father of Mrs. Williams, was born in Licking County, Ohio, September 30, 1840, and died in Champaign County in 1892. During the Civil War he served as a member of the Ohio State Militia. He was married in Ohio to Nancy Hannah, who was born in that State and died in Newcomb Township July 20, 1911, and both rest in Shiloh Cemetery. They were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and were highly respected by all who knew them. They came to Champaign County when Mrs. Williams was a child of six years and she grew up on her father's farm, under the watchful care of a wise and loving mother.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Williams began housekeeping on the old Williams homestead and here have remained in the enjoyment of the plenty and comfort that good management and frugality are apt to bring to the modern farmer's household. Mr. Williams is an intelligent, practical agriculturist, keeping thoroughly abreast of the times in all that pertains to farm industries and has reason to be proud of a property that every year is increasing in value because of his excellent methods. Mr. and Mrs. Williams attend the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church, of which they are liberal supporters, and took part in the dedication of the new church edifice in May, 1917. In politics he is a Republican and follows party policy closely in national campaigns, but he is somewhat independent in township elections and very often casts his vote for candidates who, in his opinion, will serve the people most efficiently and economically. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have a wide circle of friends, to whom their hospitable home is ever open.

James Quincy Thomas of Mahomet is now in his eighty-ninth year. It is a remarkable span of life which his years cover. He was born when Andrew Jackson was President of the United States. Not a permanent settlement had been fixed in Champaign County at the time of his birth. There were no railroads in America, no telegraph lines, very few canals, and none of the labor-saving devices which have transformed industry and social life. As a young man he swung the flail and the scythe in cutting and threshing grain, and not only actively experienced all the hardships of that primitive time, but has lived on until he has witnessed flying machines and other wonders of the electrical twentieth century.

Mr. Thomas has lived in Champaign County for more than half a century. He is certainly one of the oldest citizens of the county and is perhaps the only survivor of the Mexican War living in this county. He was born in Bourbon County, Kentucky, November 26, 1828, the only son and only surviving child of William R. and Mary (Thomas) Thomas. He had four sisters. His father was born in Loudoun County, Virginia, and as a boy he saw General George Washington. He grew up in his native state and moved to Kentucky, where he married. He died in Kentucky in 1863. As a young man he voted the Whig ticket and afterwards became a Republican. His wife was a native of Kentucky and died there in 1841.

James Quincy Thomas received his education through four terms of attendance at subscription schools. He paid $2.50 for each term. He wrote with the old goose quill pen, studied the Webster's blueback spelling book, sat on the slab seats supported from the floor by wooden pins, and played all the tricks to which school boys of that time were accustomed.

He deemed it something strange when he was not flogged by the school master each day.

He was possessed of a vigorous constitution. He was thirteen years of age when his mother died and his father then told him that if he desired to earn money he could have all he earned. Accepting this invitation, he hired out to his Uncle William at $5 a month. He put in three months of hard labor, but never received a dollar for his time and effort. In the same year he changed his employment to a neighbor, with whom he worked for nineteen months at $7 a month and at the end of the time had $50 in cash.

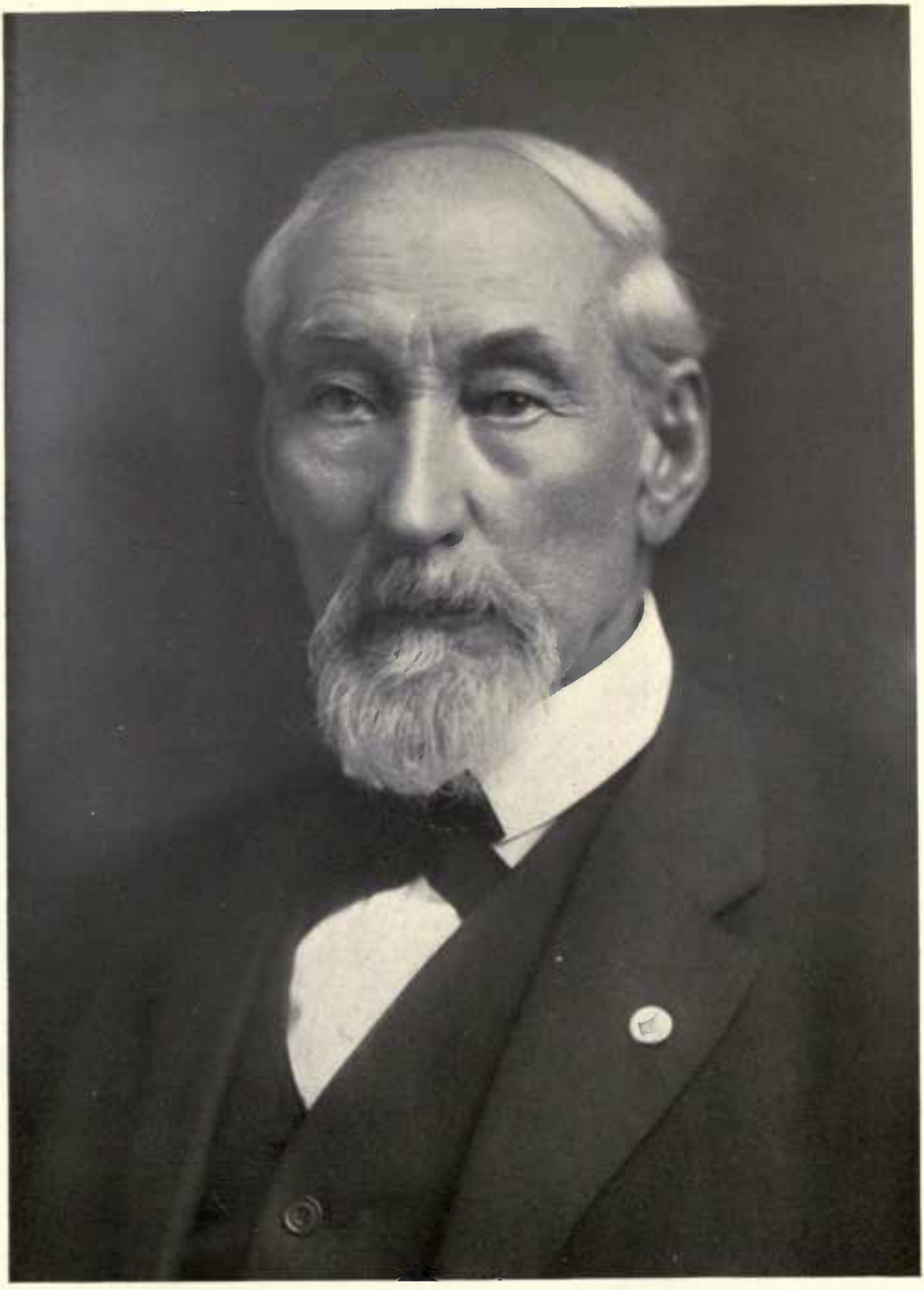
Mr. Thomas was not quite eighteen years of age when, on July 6, 1846, he enlisted in the United States army for service in the war with Mexico. He first went to Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis, went down the river to New Orleans, and there crossed the Gulf with his comrades to Vera Cruz, Mexico. He was in the army of General Winfield Scott and many times was assigned to stand guard at the tent of that great leader. He served throughout the campaign, one of the most brilliant in the annals of the American army, from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico. He participated in the battles of Cerro Gordo, where the Mexican commander Santa Ana lost his wooden leg, at the battles of Contreros and Cherubusco, both fought on the same day, and on September 13, 1847, was in the storming of the gates of Mexico after capturing the heights of Chepultepec. A number of his comrades were killed on that day and their bodies lay along the aqueduct. On the following day the American forces entered the City of Mexico, going in at one gate while Santa Ana led his troops out another. It fell to the lot of the regiment in which Mr. Thomas was a member to first hoist the stars and stripes over the halls of Montezuma. Mr. Thomas reiterates what has been affirmed by many other Mexican soldiers that no battle was fought at Pueblo, as many school histories have stated. The capture of the City of Mexico practically ended the Mexican War. During the storming of Mexico Mr. Thomas received two bullets through his clothes and was hit in the shoulder by a spent ball. Otherwise he escaped casualties, though he had many close calls.

On June 15, 1848, he was released from the army and returned to Kentucky, where he took a job at $9 a month as tollgate keeper, boarding himself. For seven months he clerked in a store and not long afterward he took upon himself the responsibilities of a home of his own.

December 23, 1851, he married Miss Mary A. West. Six children, two sons and four daughters, were born to their marriage and three are still living. The son John C. was educated in the common schools and is now a hardware merchant at Urbana, Illinois. He is a Democrat, and he and his wife belong to the Baptist Church. He married Miss Betty Williamson, and they have a son, Clyde M. Russell W., the second son, had a common school education and is now a retired farmer living at Mansfield, Illinois, owning a place of 180 acres in Champaign County. He married Miss Mary J. Spratt, and their son is James O. Susan M., the youngest of the three living children, is a member of the Baptist Church and is living in Mahomet Township, widow of George C. Parrett, and is the mother of one son, Fred R.

The mother of these children was born in Virginia, but was reared in Kentucky. She was a member of the Baptist Church, and she passed away in August, 1899.

On October 1, 1902, Mr. Thomas married Mrs. Mary A. Dale. She was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, June 7, 1830, a daughter of John S. Robinson. There were nine children in the Robinson family, three sons and six daughters, and her three brothers, Noah L., William H. and



H. J. Robinson

John G., were all Civil War soldiers, the oldest brother veteranizing after three years of service. Her father was born in Kentucky, grew up there and subsequently removed to Illinois, having a small farm in Champaign County. He died at Mahomet in 1861 and was laid to rest in the Bryant Cemetery. He was a Whig in politics. His wife was a native of Kentucky and was a great-granddaughter of the celebrated Daniel Boone. She was a member of the Baptist Church and her death occurred in 1862.

Mrs. Thomas was educated in the subscription schools of Sangamon County. Both she and her husband can relate many experiences of pioneer times. When she was a girl postage stamps were not in existence, and it frequently cost 25 cents to send a letter any distance. There were no matches, and the flint and steel was still used to light fires. Mrs. Thomas grew up in Sangamon County and her recollections here go back more than sixty years. She married for her first husband Isaac E. Wright. There were three children, one son and two daughters, but only the son is now living, Mr. F. O. Wright, who is a real estate man at Mahomet. Mr. Wright had one son, Paul, who has recently entered the United States navy. Mr. Wright was a Democrat and was formerly engaged in farming, with a farm in Mahomet Township. His death occurred in 1880. For her second husband Mrs. Thomas married Thomas Dale.

Mrs. Thomas is an active member of the Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are one of the happy old couples of Mahomet and are honored by all who know them. They have a cosy and comfortable home and have all that their declining years need to be comfortable and happy.

Mr. Thomas bought his first land in Mahomet Township, 120 acres, at $10 an acre. It did not have a sign of improvement, and his own labors developed a good farm. At one time he owned over 400 acres in the township and his hard work brought him abundant success. In earlier times he frequently spent the entire winter herding cattle over the corn fields. Politically he has been a Democrat and is a member of the Masonic order at Mahomet. He is a Christian gentleman, and has always done his part in charitable movements. For many years he has been the recipient of a pension of $1 a day and when the Liberty Bonds were on sale he exchanged his pension voucher for a Liberty Bond, which he considers a good investment for the benefit of coming generations.

Hugh Jackson Robinson. Going about the streets with firm step, attending to his affairs with unclouded mind, Hugh Jackson Robinson has attained the dignity and distinction of eight-three years of useful and honorable life. He is one of the oldest residents of Champaign County and has known this section of Illinois for over sixty years.

He was born near Belfast, Ireland, March 28, 1833, a son of Robert and Maria Margaret (Jackson) Robinson. His mother, it is said, was a first cousin of President Andrew Jackson. The Robinsons are of Scotch stock. The mother died in Ireland and the father subsequently came to the United States and first located in Dutchess County, New York. He lived there until 1848, and in that year moved west to Wisconsin, which had just become a state. He took up a claim in Fond du Lac County and cleared up a farm. This was his home until his death on June 15, 1852. They had six children, Mary, Jane, Eleanor, John, Hugh J. and William, Hugh being the only one now living. The sister Mary died when nearly ninety years of age.

Hugh J. Robinson acquired his early education in New York State, and at the age of nineteen, in the fall of 1852, came to Urbana, Illinois, with the Gere Brothers, tie and timber contractors. He spent four years with this firm getting out tie and bridge timbers.

In 1857 Mr. Robinson acquired his first interests in Champaign County as a farmer, buying a quarter section in Section 33, Sadorus Township. This is now known as the Pioneer Grove Farm. In 1860 he brought his family to Champaign County and in 1866 acquired the other half of the north half of Section 33, and has made that the scene of an extensive business as a stock raiser, cattle feeder and horse breeder.

Mr. Robinson married October 8, 1858, Jane Thrasher. She passed away in 1874, the mother of three children: Robert T., living in Minnesota; William C., on the old homestead; and Martha Jane, who married William Miller and has two daughters, Edith and Jessie Miller. In 1875 Mr. Robinson married Susan Jane Hutchinson. She was his faithful and trusted companion for over forty years and passed away only recently, in January, 1917. One son was born to their marriage, John Winfield, but he died at the early age of four years.

Mr. Robinson has been a prominent factor in Champaign County's public affairs and for thirty years, from 1866 to 1896, was a member of the county board. He was elected a member of the Legislature and served in the Forty-first and Forty-second General Assemblies, and carefully looked after the interests of his constituents and also impressed his ability upon the legislation affecting statewide interests. He also served as township school treasurer and director, as township collector and trustee, and has long been recognized as one of the leading Democrats of Champaign County.

Mr. Robinson was one of the five original directors of the First National Bank at Ivesdale when that bank took out a national charter, and he has continued a director to the present time. Quite recently he was elected vice president of the bank. Mr. Robinson has been a Mason for over half a century, and has attained the Knight Templar Commandery degrees. His church sentiments are expressed by the Universalist denomination. Mr. Robinson continues to reside at the old homestead, and his fine country residence is on Rural Route No. 51 out of Sadorus.

Fred L. Lowman. One of the most capable educators of Champaign County is the present superintendent of the Fisher public schools, Fred L. Lowman. He is a man of varied and versatile gifts and accomplishments, and well fitted for his place in the educational system of this leading Illinois County. He has come in close touch with the facts and problems of life, is a man of broad sympathies and enthusiasm and is in every way qualified to direct and administer a school and have charge of the training of the men and women of the next generation.

Mr. Lowman was born in Champaign County, February 8, 1885. He is the oldest of the seven children, five sons and two daughters, of John Lewis and Minerva (O'Bryan) Lowman. Five children are still living. His father was born in Douglas County, Illinois, October 20, 1858, was educated in the common schools, and is still living. His people came out of Ohio and settled near Cook's Mill in Douglas County in early days. John L. Lowman is a Republican and cast his first presidential vote for James A. Garfield, the president who began life on the towpath of a canal in Ohio. Mrs. John L. Lowman was born in Champaign County, February 8, 1855. She is still living, as is her aged mother, now eighty-five. A coincidence is the fact that Mr. Lowman, his mother and grandmother were all born on February 8th.

Mr. Fred L. Lowman, as the oldest in a large family, and his parents being people of moderate circumstances, he had to take the responsibilities of life at an early age and in his ambition to secure an education and make the best of his native talents had to go out and secure the means and

opportunities as best he could. He attended the common schools and in 1902 completed the course of the Parkville High School. After taking a review normal training course at Urbana, he took charge of the grade school work in the Parkville schools in the fall of 1902. While that was the beginning of his career as an educator, Mr. Lowman has never stopped in adding to his individual accomplishments. Much of his higher education was secured through correspondence courses with a correspondence school at Peoria, Illinois. He also took up the study of law and science at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana. He carried a very heavy amount of work in that institution and in 1907 received a well merited diploma as a graduate of the law department with the degree LL. B, having also received 98 of the 120 units necessary for the B. S. degree. He lacked only two weeks of work necessary to receive his degree Bachelor of Oratory. Through all this course of study he worked to pay his way. He taught school in his home district and boarded at home, where he did not have to pay board, and in this manner was able to save the means whereby he might attend college.

After graduating at Valparaiso Mr. Lowman went to Hammond, Indiana, in July, 1907, and entered the practice of law under the name White & Lowman. This partnership was continued until February, 1908, when Mr. Lowman sold his interests and then for a brief time practiced with a Mr. Riley. Giving up law practice, he returned to Champaign County and in the fall of 1908 became principal of the Penfield public schools. He remained there four years and made an enviable record as a teacher. In 1913 he resumed the superintendency of the Fisher schools, and has been in active charge there for the past four years. His work in these schools has contributed materially to his prestige as a successful educator.

The Fisher school building is thoroughly modern in every detail of construction and equipment. It is most healthily situated, standing on an eminence commanding a beautiful view of the town and surrounding country. Mr. Lowman has six teachers under his supervision. The commencement exercises for the class of 1917 occurred May 18, 1917.

Mr. Lowman married Miss Katharine Curzon of Champaign, Illinois, directly related with the family of English nobility of which Lord Curzon is a conspicuous member. Mr. and Mrs. Lowman were married March 18, 1906. They have one daughter, June, aged four years.

Mrs. Lowman was born at Darrien, Connecticut, October 30, 1885. She was educated in the Champaign High School, from which she graduated with the class of 1904. She also took musical studies in Valparaiso University and for two years was a popular teacher in Parkville, Champaign County. She is one of the active workers of the Domestic Science Club at Fisher. She is also an honored member of the Eastern Star Chapter. Mr. Lowman is a member of the Episcopal Church, while Mrs. Lowman is a member of the Scientist Church. He is a Republican politically and in the course of his voting he supported Mr. Taft for president. Fraternally he is affiliated with J. R. Gorrin Lodge No. 537, A. F. & A. M., of Sadorus, Illinois.

Mr. Lowman has also taken instruction in the Carnegie School of Correspondence at Pittsburgh and at the American University of Chicago. There are few men in Champaign County who have a better balanced and altogether more liberal education. For this he enjoys special respect and admiration because at the outset he was a boy without means and has struggled along, led by a strong ambition, until he has fitted himself for a place of thorough usefulness in the world.

OTHO PATTERSON, a native of Champaign County and representing a pioneer family, has for years been numbered among the progressive farmers and citizens, while as a horseman his reputation has extended pretty well over the state and throughout the country. He has bred and owned at his fine farm some of the fastest and finest horses ever produced in Illinois. Mr. Patterson is an expert in the raising and training of horses and for some years that has been his chief business occupation.

He was born in St. Joseph Township, December 16, 1851, son of J. K. and Catherine (Swearingen) Patterson. His father was born in Ohio and his mother in Kentucky, the latter coming to Illinois with her parents. J. K. Patterson and wife were married in this county. Of the events and experiences that make up the bulk of Champaign County's history during the past seventy-five years the Patterson family has had its full share. J. K. Patterson showed himself a man of spirit and enterprise even when young. In 1839 he rode horseback all the way from Columbus, Ohio, to Champaign County for the purpose of looking over the country. Though the land was a vast virgin prairie, abounding with sloughs, he recognized its fertility and the prospect of future development, and accordingly filed on 160 acres. At that time the land office was at Danville, and he went there to secure the papers and pay the regulation price of $1.25 per acre. On returning home to Ohio he told his uncle, Thomas Kilgore, of what he had done and also spoke of an adjoining forty acres which he greatly desired, but lack of money prevented his taking it up. His uncle, who admired the pluck of the young man, said, "If that is all that is lacking I will furnish the money," which he promptly did. Again J. K. Patterson made the long trip to Illinois and filed on the coveted forty acres at Danville. He took possession of this land and a year or so later he married the daughter of a neighbor, Catherine Swearingen. During the first year spent by the Patterson family in Champaign County they took their grist to mill at Covington, Indiana. The roads were little more than trails and often impassable on account of the mud. While a team could not drag a wagon over the highways of that time, it was possible by uncoupling the running gear and loading the grain in a box on the two front wheels to accomplish the journey to Covington, though not without a great deal of difficulty at that.

In the family of J. K. and Catherine Patterson were eight children, four sons and four daughters. By a singular coincidence six of these children were born in the month of December. They were educated in some of those old-time log schoolhouses which have been made familiar by many pictures of old-time conditions. This schoolhouse which the Patterson children attended had rough plank seats, supported by legs from the floor and a broad desk or board was fastened to the wall by pins and furnished space for writing. Otho Patterson has an interesting recollection of an incident of his boyhood, when he carried a dozen eggs to market. These eggs were sold at the little grocery store of Uncle Joe Kelley, proprietor of the famous old Kelley Tavern, the most historic landmark of early Champaign County.

J. K. Patterson proved equal to the burdens and responsibilities of making good as a pioneer. He was an industrious worker and farmer and enjoyed a large degree of prosperity. In the early days he hauled wheat to market at Chicago, and bought and sold stock on a large scale. After collecting a large number of hogs they were driven overland to market at Cincinnati. He and his wife were devoted members of the Church of Christ and they did a great deal of good in the community where they settled and where they left names associated with complete honesty and integrity of character.

Otho Patterson grew up in the midst of such pioneer conditions. When a young man he sought a wife and companion, and going to Economy in Wayne County, Indiana, married Miss Sarah E. Wood. Mrs. Patterson was born in Henry County, Indiana, daughter of Joseph and Mary A. (Davis) Wood. When their daughter Sarah was five months old her parents moved back to Ohio. Her father was a native of Virginia and was an early settler in Ohio. When Mrs. Patterson was thirteen years of age her parents returned to Indiana. She had in the meantime attended school at Wilmington, the county seat of Clinton County. She grew to young womanhood in old Wayne County, Indiana, and her home was close by the famous national road, recently called the "Gateway of the West." This is one of the most famous highways in America's history, and as a girl Mrs. Patterson daily witnessed long trains of emigrant wagons, frequently thirty covered wagons in a line, wending their way to the great West.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Patterson located on land belonging to his father. Four years later, in October, 1875, Mr. Patterson's father died. The next year the estate was divided and Otho inherited fifty-one and a half acres. Moving to that land he began its development and improvement, and that has been the scene of his splendid success as a farmer and stockman. He has increased his holdings, and has made improvements of the most substantial character, including a large home, surrounded with groves of fruit and shade trees, and the entire place stands as a monument to his industry. For years Mr. Patterson has been one of the liberal users of cement as a durable and practical construction material, and his home is surrounded with cement walks, the stock watering troughs are constructed of the same material and the character of this material is in line with the substantial nature of Mr. Patterson's industry and accomplishment in other lines.

For years he has given much of his attention to the raising and training of thoroughbred running horses. These horses have a national reputation. One of them, Doctor Murray, made a record of half a mile in forty-nine seconds, five-eighths of a mile in a minute and two seconds, and at the St. Louis races beat Bob Wade, holder of the first world's record for a quarter mile. In that race Bob Wade ran second in a race of three-eighths of a mile, the time of the winner being thirty-six seconds. In the blue grass regions of Kentucky it would not be possible to find a more enthusiastic horseman than Mr. Patterson. Some of the splendid animals that have been kept in his stables should be mentioned. They are: Sally Kelly, by Jim Kelly, dam Ruby D'Or, by Robert D'Or; Pearl Lewis, from Jim Kelly and Dolly Bell; Wild Cherry, by Wilford and Cerise; Ruby D'Or, out of Robert D'Or and Nannie B; May Cherry, sired by Robert D'Or, dam Wild Cherry Blossom by Wild Cherry; Oonoomoo, by Robert D'Or and Dolly Bell, Oonoomoo having been a great favorite in New Orleans and in one season winning twenty-two straight races. At the present writing the Patterson stables contain the following horses: Oónie, sired by Jim Kelly, dam Dolly Bell; Kitty Muldoon, by Hans Vanderbum and May Cherry II; Nellie Rawlings, by Jim Kelly and Tenny Miller; Billy Siders, by Hokobokee and Dolly Bell; Doctor Murray, from Hokobokee and May Cherry II; Tobias, by Hans Vanderbum and Ruby D'Or; Hans Vanderbum, by Jim Kelly and Dolly Bell; Hokobokee, by Jim Kelly and Ruby D'Or; Little Johnnie, by Jim Kelly and Sadie D'Or.

Breeding and raising and training of fine grades of stock has been Mr. Patterson's occupation and diversion for forty years. He is everywhere known among horsemen and his enterprise has added another laurel to Champaign County's crown of greatness as an agricultural and stock-raising

center. Some years ago Mr. Patterson sold six head of horses in Chicago for use as polo horses.

While his business has required his constant care and management Mr. Patterson has not neglected the public welfare. For thirteen years he was road commissioner of St. Joseph Township, and some of the best roads in the county are to be credited to his work in that direction. During all those thirteen years he missed only two meetings of the board of commissioners. He has also served as school director, has been first and last an enthusiastic advocate of a good drainage system both on individual farms and by districts. Politically Republican, he was reared in the atmosphere of that party, and since casting his first vote has never missed a presidential election. The Patterson home is noted for its hospitality, and not a little for the success which he has achieved Mr. Patterson credits to his good wife, who joined him on the road of life when their capital was exceedingly limited and has been by his side steadily through all the years that have followed. It was Mrs. Patterson who selected many of the distinctive and appropriate names for his race horses.

Frank Delaney. For forty years Champaign County has been the home of Frank Delaney, and his name, especially in Newcomb Township, is spoken with every degree of respect attaching to a man whose achievements have been commendable and whose influence has been in every degree salutary and beneficial in the community. Mr. Delaney is now serving as township supervisor.

He was born in McLean County, Illinois, September 13, 1868, one of the ten children of James and Bridget (Trainor) Delaney. Of the six sons and four daughters eight are still living. James Delaney was a native of the Emerald Isle, grew up in Ireland, and when he came to America he was truly a stranger in a strange land and almost penniless. He had to cross the ocean on a sailing vessel and it was eleven weeks before the vessel landed its passengers in New York. After a brief residence in New York State he came West to Bloomington, Illinois. He was not in financial circumstances that would permit him an independent career at the start, and as a wage earner he worked on farms until he could accumulate enough to become an independent farmer. Agriculture was his lifelong vocation. After strict economy for a number of years he was able to buy eighty acres of land, which original tract is in the fine farm now owned and occupied by his son Frank. That the subsequent years brought him ample prosperity and reward for his good judgment and industry is indicated by the fact that during his lifetime he acquired an estate of 860 acres, 540 acres in Champaign County and 320 acres in Hancock County, Iowa. The death of this hard working farmer occurred in Champaign County in 1892. He was a Democrat, and an active member of St. Malachi Catholic Church at Rantoul. His wife was also a native of Ireland and a devout Catholic. She died in 1912.

In the years of early boyhood Frank Delaney learned the lesson taught by experience that there is no excellence without labor and that the best rewards of life are paid to due diligence and an earnest pursuit of definite ends. By the same principle he obtained most of his early education. When he left home it was to become a wage earner and farm hand, and the first year he worked at $20 a month. He then started as a renter, and while he has long owned a share in the agricultural lands of Champaign County he continued as a tenant farmer until about five years ago. With three of his brothers he had bought 150 acres of land, and he and his brother Henry subsequently bought the other shares. With this as a nucleus Frank Delaney has increased his possessions until his estate now

comprises 396 acres situated in Newcomb and Brown townships. In these modern days such a farm spells independence and success. His home place is thoroughly improved and it has a comfortable residence. Besides his farm Mr. Delaney is a stockholder in the Lotus Coal and Grain Elevator Company at Lotus, Illinois.

The chief impetus to his efforts during all these years has been his good wife and their growing family. On April 5, 1893, he married Miss Anna L. McGuire. They have four living children, two sons and two daughters. Leonard F. was educated in the common schools and is now a practical young agriculturist. He is a Democrat and a member of the Catholic Church at Bellflower, Illinois. Wayne H., the younger son, has completed the common school course and is now in the second year of the Fisher High School. Catherine F. is a student in St. Joseph's Academy at Bloomington, Illinois, and along with literary studies has taken musical instruction. Hazel, the youngest, is in the Walker School. The children have all been carefully reared and the older ones have been confirmed in the Catholic Church.

Mrs. Delaney was born in DeWitt County, Illinois. She had a common school education. Her parents, Michael and Catherine McGuire, are still living and have their home in Fisher. They are members of the Catholic parish at Rantoul. Mrs. Delaney has her membership in the Catholic Church at Bellflower and both she and her husband did much to aid the parish in the erection of the church. Mrs. Delaney is strictly a home woman and finds her greatest delight in the duties of home making and her children.

Politically Mr. Delaney has always been a Democrat. His fellow citizens have sought his co-operation through public office and he served as road commissioner three years, and for eighteen years was a director of his home school district. In 1917 he was unanimously elected to the office of supervisor of Newcomb Township. This is the highest and most important township office. Mr. Delaney has always shown himself a ready advocate and supporter of the good roads movement. He is a member of the Catholic Church at Bellflower. Like many other prosperous Champaign County farmers, he has an automobile both for business and pleasure and his Buick touring car places his country home in close touch with church, school and the village and city centers.

A. J. Kirkpatrick. By many activities and associations the name Kirkpatrick is identified with the best traditions of Champaign County. Of this family A. J. Kirkpatrick is widely known as one of the most capable agriculturists and his success consists not only in the thorough management of the resources of the soil but also in his contributions to the improvement and beautifying of the rural landscape. Mr. Kirkpatrick is proprietor of the Blue Mound Farm in Stanton Township.

He was born at Champaign, February 17, 1854, a son of John C. and Mary C. (Busey) Kirkpatrick. His parents represented two of the noted pioneer families in this county. A. J. Kirkpatrick was the second among eight children, and during his boyhood days he attended the public schools of Champaign with his brothers and sisters. He can remember a time when Champaign consisted of a hamlet of only seven houses.

In the Mayview Methodist Episcopal Church, on September 5, 1875, with Rev. B. Bartholow officiating, Mr. Kirkpatrick married Miss Alice Barricklow. She was born at Urbana, daughter of John T. and Phoebe Jane (Hudson) Barricklow. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick continued to live in St. Joseph Township and started farming on the property of his father. Later he bought 120 acres in Stanton Township

adjoining the 120 acres which his father had given him. This new land had no improvements, and in the course of years he developed its virgin prairies into productive fields, put up commodious houses, planted fruit and shade trees, and the fruits of his industry there are in themselves an important contribution to the welfare and attractiveness of Champaign County.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick were born four children, two sons and two daughters: Myrtle, Maude and Claude, the last two being twins. The children were educated in the Hunt and Blue Mound district schools, while Earl and Maude attended the Urbana High School. They are now comfortably settled in life. Myrtle married William Woolever, a farmer at Auburn, Indiana, and her four children are Clare, Leal, Merle and Hazel. The son Earl is active manager of a fine farm of 280 acres owned by his father near Mayview. He married Miss Maymie Polter and has three children: Lysle, Raymond and Wilma. The daughter Maude Kirkpatrick is the wife of Wiley Johnson, a farmer in Stanton Township, and has two children, Nolan and Glen. Claude Kirkpatrick has accepted an opportunity offered him by his father in the management of the home estate, and with his family occupies a house specially built for them by his father. Claude married Miss Hazel Shaw, a native of Urbana, who was educated in the high school of that city.

The mother of these children saw them grow up and carefully supervised their early training, and her death on June 16, 1908, was a heavy bereavement to the family and the community. On September 11, 1913, Mr. Kirkpatrick married Mrs. Idabel (Fisher) Yerger. She was the widow of S. O. Yerger. Mrs. Kirkpatrick was born in Indiana, two miles from the famous Tippecanoe battleground. Her paternal grandparents, Daniel and Mary (Chapman) Fisher, were the first people married in Washington Township of Tippecanoe County.

The Kirkpatrick homestead of 297 acres is a splendid picture of comfort and rural adornment. A fine grove of trees near the home furnishes a cool and leafy retreat and a traveler may ride far and wide over Champaign County without witnessing a more complete picture of rural adequacy and agricultural efficiency. Besides being a practical and natural farmer, Mr. Kirkpatrick is an expert mechanic. His fine country home was built by himself as contractor and architect, and he also installed the acetylene light system, and the gasoline engine which furnishes power for pumping water through the house and about the grounds.

The Kirkpatrick family are active members of the Mayview Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Kirkpatrick has for many years held a membership. Mrs. Kirkpatrick was reared a Congregationalist. Mr. Kirkpatrick has served the church in official capacities and has been superintendent of the Sunday school. Politically he is a loyal supporter of the temperance cause, and wherever possible directs his influence and help in that direction. In 1916 he supported President Wilson for another term. Mr. Kirkpatrick is a man of public spirit and also interested in community welfare. For a number of years he served as director of the local schools and as township assessor.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick by her first husband had two children, Leland and Gertrude Yerger. Leland is a locomotive engineer with the Grand Trunk Railway and lives at Battle Creek, Michigan. He married Lydia Bull and has children named Elwood, Leland, Idabel and Leola. Gertrude Yerger married E. E. Weldy, a jeweler at Danville, Illinois. They have one child, Yerger Edward.

Mr. Kirkpatrick's parents were very active members of the Mayview Methodist Episcopal Church, and each of them donated a memorial window to that beautiful chapel. When a young man Mr. Kirkpatrick had hauled material for some of the university buildings at Urbana.

Mr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick celebrated their wedding by a 1,000-mile tour through Indiana, Ohio and Michigan, making that trip through the most beautiful months of the year, September and October. September is considered a lucky month in the Kirkpatrick family. Mr. Kirkpatrick was married in that month both times. and his twin children, Maude and Claude, selected that time for their weddings.

Mr. A. J. Kirkpatrick some years ago left the farm and took up study in the College of Hygiene at Champaign under Dr. Frank Ross. He graduated June 10, 1901, received a diploma, and went to Nashville, Tennessee, and engaged in the practice of medicine. He had begun the study of medicine for his own benefit and pleasure before taking it up as a profession. After a brief practice he found the lure of the farm irresistible and agriculture more congenial to his practical tastes. He is, as already stated, a natural farmer. His beautiful and well-kept fields and fine country home attest that fact, and while he is really a landlord, he is first of all a good business manager and a thorough farmer. He has been a useful man in his community and interested in the promotion of every movement for the general welfare.

Recently Mrs. Kirkpatrick sustained a double bereavement in the death of her parents at Salem, Oregon. She had at different times lived with them for several months at a time. While in the Northwest she took special pleasure in the beautiful scenery. She visited the city of Portland at the time of the great rose carnival, an exhibition of rare beauty to the eastern tourist. She witnessed the water pageant on the Willamette River with its miles of boats gaily festooned with roses, with King Rex crowned with regal authority on his throne of roses, accompanied by his court retinue, amid the salutes of hundreds of guns. Towering above the scene was Mount Hood, with its snow-capped crown in the clouds, and altogether it was a gorgeous spectacle such as deserves to be long remembered.

ALBERT A. HYDE. A native of Champaign County and one who has spent his entire life within its borders, watching its development throughout the years of its greatest growth, Albert A. Hyde is so well known to the citizens of this great agricultural center that it may seem supererogatory to give his record in detail in a work of this kind. On the other hand, Mr. Hyde is one of those who have helped to make history in the county. He has not merely been a witness to progress—he has also been a participant in the movements which have made for the same, and his record of citizenship is also worthy of note.

Albert A. Hyde was born November 7, 1856, in Champaign County, Illinois, the third in a family of six children born to Adolphus W. and Sophia H. (Choate) Hyde. Of these children five are living: Elizabeth, who is the wife of G. E. Durbin, an agriculturist in the vicinity of Backus, Minnesota; Peoria, who is the widow of Joseph L. Neal, also resides at Backus; Albert A., of this review; Carrie A., who is the wife of J. H. Abbott, a retired farmer of Lincoln, Illinois; and Adolphus Bruce, a prosperous farmer and miller of East Bend Township. The father of these children was born in Switzerland County, Indiana, February 16, 1825, and in his youth learned the trade of carpenter and joiner, which he had mastered before coming to this State in young manhood. In Illinois he was married, but returned to Indiana and spent four years in the Hoosier State, then coming back to the prairie country, where he settled on the land which had been taken up by his father from the United States Government, and the deed for which bears the bond and seal of Franklin Pierce, under date of January 3, 1856. This paper is still in the possession of Albert A. Hyde, and is a document which will be handed down with pride to his descendants.

Adolphus W. Hyde was first a Whig and later a Republican, and his vote was sturdily given to Abraham Lincoln at a time when the country needed every loyal citizen. While not a man who courted honors or sought preference above his fellows, he was one who recognized and appreciated the duties of citizenship, and for nineteen years served capably and conscientiously as township treasurer of East Bend Township. Mr. Hyde was of English stock and traced his ancestry to a family that was due to receive a large inheritance. However, he made no public mention of the fact, and seemed to be perfectly content to have his reputation rest upon the things that he did himself and not the accomplishments of those who had gone before him. When he died, October 27, 1907, a faithful member was lost to the Methodist Church, which he had joined in 1881 and which he had helped to build, as had also his son, Albert A., of this review. He was laid to rest in Mount Hope Cemetery. Mrs. Hyde was born in the same county as her husband, January 25, 1828, and died June 20, 1909. Her example and precept had been such as to guide her children along the right paths; her training was of the kind that brought them up to straightforward and sterling manhood and useful and modest womanhood; and her memory will be kept forever green in the minds of her children as a kind, loving and always self-sacrificing mother.

In a home of this kind it was not unnatural that Albert Hyde should grow up with ideals of clean and honorable living; nor is it surprising that he should remain under the parental roof until he was thirty years of age. Aside from the education that he secured in the public schools and the training that he gained during the leisure to be found in a family in which each member was supposed to do his or her part in contributing to the general income, he is a self-educated man. During his career he has seen much, has observed more, has gained information through association with his fellow men, has exercised a mind naturally bright, and as a result he is well informed, intelligent and alive to all that is going on in the great world, and able to converse upon it in a way that leaves no doubt as to his information. Brought up an agriculturist, he has been content to follow the vocation of the husbandman, and his fine tilled fields show the result of his industry and good management.

Mr. Hyde married March 18, 1886, Miss Alice M. Norton, and they are the parents of four children: Edith, who is the wife of P. M. Hamm, connected with the United States Mail Service at Dewey, Illinois; Nellie, who resides with her parents; Marian A.; and Paul A.

Mrs. Hyde is a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, born April 29, 1861, a daughter of Edwin D. and Mary (Rhoades) Norton. There were four sons and three daughters in the family, and of these five children are residents of Champaign County. Edwin D. Norton was born in Pennsylvania, February 26, 1830, and died December 20, 1898. He went to Ohio as a young man and resided there until 1865, and during his residence in that State served as postmaster at Tarleton during the administration of President Lincoln. In 1871 he came to Champaign County, Illinois, and made his home here until his death, which occurred on his farm in the vicinity of Bondville. He cast his vote for Fremont and was a stanch and sturdy Republican. Mrs. Norton was born in Indiana, January 13, 1838, and is still living, at the age of seventy-nine years, being a resident of Champaign. She is a faithful member of the Methodist Church and one of the most beloved ladies of her community. Mrs. Hyde, after completing the public school course, spent two years at Monticello High School, and for four years following was one of the most popular and successful teachers in Champaign County. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the work of which she takes an active part, as she does also in the

activities of the Ladies' Aid Society, to which she also belongs. Like her husband, she is a firm believer in the value of education, and the Hyde children have been given every opportunity to fit themselves for the battle of life.

Mr. Hyde's first vote was cast for President Garfield, and since that time he has been an active and helpful supporter of every candidate who has headed the Republican ticket. For the past six years he has been a member of the board of directors of the public schools. His fraternal connection is with Camp No. 6319, Modern Woodmen of America, at Dewey. The well-cultivated and handsome 160-acre Hyde estate is situated two and one-half miles east of Dewey, on the North and South Road, in East Bend Township, and upon it stands the modern and hospitable home where the family's many friends are always welcome.

CHARLES BOYS is one of the oldest residents of Champaign County, where he has witnessed the changes of fortunes of life in this community for over fifty years. Hard work has been the keynote of his career, and with that as a fundamental qualification it seems that everything he has touched has responded to his management and has served to increase his prosperity. Mr. Boys became one of the large land owners of Champaign County and was for years noted as one of the cattle kings of this section of Illinois.

He is a native of New England, son of Loren and Alvira Boys, also of New England stock. When he was a small child the parents removed to Chautauqua County, New York, and soon afterward to Michigan. Charles Boys while growing to manhood learned the trade of plasterer and bricklayer. From Michigan he went to Chicago, and remained there two years, working at his trade for wages of $1 a day, boarding and keeping himself.

It was on the 9th of September, 1852, that Mr. Boys left Chicago and came to Urbana. In that small town he spent another two years working at his trade. Then, at the age of twenty-two, he laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Matilda E. Morris. She was born in Pennsylvania, daughter of a physician and a well known former business man of Champaign County.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Boys remained in Urbana for six months, and he then accepted an invitation from Doctor Morris to move to Salt Fork and enter a partnership in a general mercantile store. Merchandising was an item of his experience for one year, but keeping store proved too confining and was not satisfying to his disposition for a more active life. Leaving the store, he rented a farm near St. Joseph for five years, and there laid the foundation of his permanent prosperity. From his savings as a renter he bought 120 acres in St. Joseph Township, and as that transaction occurred many years ago the price of the land was only $10 an acre. On that farm he made his real substantial start in life. It was only a short time before he began adding to his holdings, purchasing the next year forty acres in Stanton Township. He was concerned not only with the cultivation of his land in the most practical way, but the construction of good building improvements, the planting of trees, and always took care that his farm should measure up to the best standards of Champaign County rural life.

Mr. and Mrs. Boys had seven children: Benjamin, who died at the age of three years; Alvira, who died in infancy; and Ida M., Hannah H., Ella, Clint and William. The local district schools gave these children their early advantages, and those to grow up have since married and settled in homes of their own and have reflected honor upon their parents. Ida M. Boys is now the wife of Jesse Archer, a St. Joseph Township

farmer, and their family consists of four children, Myrtle, Charles, Clint T. and Chester. The daughter Hannah is the wife of Charles Lehr, and also has four children, Roscoe, Cody, Beatrice and Opal. Ella married J. E. Hiser and is the mother of Charles, Raymond, Grace and Ruby. Clint married Ada Peeps and has two children, Fern and John. William remains on the old homestead and manages the place for his father. He married Minnie Vest, and their family consists of Charles, Opal and Esther.

The home of the Boys family has always been noted for its hospitality and the kindly, neighborly influences emanating therefrom. Mr. and Mrs. Boys gave their liberal support and membership to the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1895 the death angel entered this home and Mrs. Boys entered into rest. After her death Mr. Boys found his children willing and kindly home makers and has continued to live on the old farm. The years have liberally rewarded him with substantial success, and at the present time his holdings aggregate 1,000 acres. For many years he fed cattle on a large scale, buying in the fall and feeding until the stock were right for market. He is one of the men who came to Champaign County with a very small stock of trade capital and has raised himself to a plane of affluence, has reared a family of industrious and capable children, and in his declining years a large community respects his activities and honors his character. His public spirit has been manifested chiefly in behalf of good schools in his community, and for a number of years he filled the office of school director.

Adam Kroner. In making productive the vast prairies of the Middle West no one class of people has borne a more steady and effective part than the German element, and particularly to those who came as colonists after the German revolutionary troubles of the '40s. Representing the second generation of this element is Mr. Adam Kroner, concerning whose work and standing as a Champaign County agriculturist only the highest words of praise may be spoken. Mr. and Mrs. Kroner occupy a fine home in Newcomb Township. Mrs. Kroner is also of a prominent German family of the county, and at all times has proved herself a valuable helpmate and counsel to Mr. Kroner in the establishment and building up of their beautiful rural home.

Mr. Kroner was born in Dearborn County, Indiana, July 29, 1865. He was the fourth in a family of six children, five sons and one daughter, whose parents were Frederick and Marie Kroner. Four of these children are still living: Emma, wife of Charles Zimmerman, a farmer at Wiseburg in Dearborn County, Indiana; Adam; Christ, who is unmarried and has a farm at Yorkville in eastern Indiana; and Martin, who is married and owns a good farm home in Dearborn County.

Frederick Kroner was a Bavarian German and was born in the old country in 1825. His death occurred in 1901. He served an apprenticeship and was a journeyman mechanic, but subsequently turned his attention to agriculture. He was educated in German schools and when a young man sailed for America, spending many weeks on the ocean in one of the slow-going sailing vessels. He first located in New York State, afterward lived in Cincinnati and finally in Dearborn County in southern Indiana. There he bought 120 acres, and though he went in debt he kept steadily at the task until he had his land paid for and was rated as one of the substantial agriculturists of that vicinity. Politically he became a Republican. He and his wife were members of the German Lutheran Church. His wife was born in Germany in 1834, and died in 1901, the same year as her husband.

Adam Kroner spent his childhood and early youth in his home county.

He attended school and received instruction in both the German and English languages. At the age of twenty-one he started out to make his own fortune in the world. Having no capital he had to depend upon the labor of his hands. His wages for a time were only $12 a month. On such a low salary he was able to test his ability as a thrifty man, and he put aside some of these meager earnings for future use. For seven years he continued to work at farm labor in Indiana and Illinois.

In 1889 he came to Illinois and spent the first year in Piatt County. From there he came to Champaign County and for two years was employed as a wage earner by Mr. Ludwig Liestman. He next rented some land, and by slow and steady progress has raised himself from comparative poverty until he now stands among the successful men of Champaign County.

On October 29, 1893, Mr. Kroner married Miss Lizzie Liestman. Into their home came three sons. In the goodness of their hearts they have also adopted a daughter, Lucile Liestman. Of their sons Frederick L., the oldest, finished the common schools and for three years was a student in the Mahomet High School. After that he taught two years in his home township and in 1915 entered the University of Illinois, where he studied journalism. He is now a student in the dental department of Northwestern University of Chicago, a member of the class of 1919. Politically he is a Democrat, a member of the German Lutheran Church, and belongs to several fraternities. William Otto, the second son, has finished his common school course and has shown unusual energy and ability as a practical farmer and stockman. He, like his brother, is a Democrat and a member of the German Lutheran Church. Louis Albert, the youngest child, is a bright and earnest student now in the third grade of the public schools. Mr. and Mrs. Kroner have always taken the utmost pains with the education and training of their sons.

Mrs. Kroner was born in Piatt County, Illinois, May 23, 1873. She was third in age among a family of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters. She is a daughter of Ludwig and Frederika (Kersten) Liestman. Of their family eight children are still living. Four have their home in Champaign County. Two sons, Herman and Frank, live at Alief in Harris County, Texas. Another son, William, is an agriculturist and gardener in Webster, Florida.

Ludwig Liestman was born near Berlin, Germany, in 1837. His life was a long and useful one, and came to a close in Champaign County in 1914. He grew up in his native land, was educated in the German tongue, and was twenty-two years of age when he came to America in 1859. The voyage was made on a sailing vessel, and he landed from the ship a stranger in a strange land, without money, without friends, and with only his earnest, hard-working German characteristics as a means of opening the door of success. A sister was living in Bloomington, Illinois, and that city was his first destination. He found employment at day wages. He was paid a meager salary, but it offered an opportunity for him to adapt himself to the ways and practices of the new country, and he was not long in getting ahead. He capitalized his earnings until he was justified in buying some land in sections 7 and 18 of Newcomb Township, Champaign County. For one who had come to America a poor immigrant there is scarcely a more striking case of conspicuous success among all the citizens of Champaign County. Out of his prosperity he was able to give 600 acres of rich land to his sons, and besides that he owned a large farm of 480 acres. He reared his large family to lives of usefulness and honor, and his name is still spoken with respect and esteem throughout the county. He was a Democrat and a member of the German Lutheran Church. In 1905 he retired from his farm to the city of Champaign and spent his last

years there. Mr. and Mrs. Kroner have in their home an engraving showing her father in the uniform of a body guard to Kaiser Wilhelm I, father of the present German emperor.

Mrs. Liestman, mother of Mrs. Kroner, was born almost in the same locality as her husband. She died in the city of Champaign in 1902. Life meant to her an unceasing round of devotion and duty performed in her home and to her children, and she was also strikingly generous and the poor and needy were never turned empty handed from her door. She and her husband now rest in Woodlawn Cemetery at Champaign, where a handsome monument stands sacred to their memory.

Mrs. Kroner attended the common schools, and at her marriage was well qualified for the duties of home making and as a counselor to her husband. She is cordial in manner and has a host of friends in Champaign County.

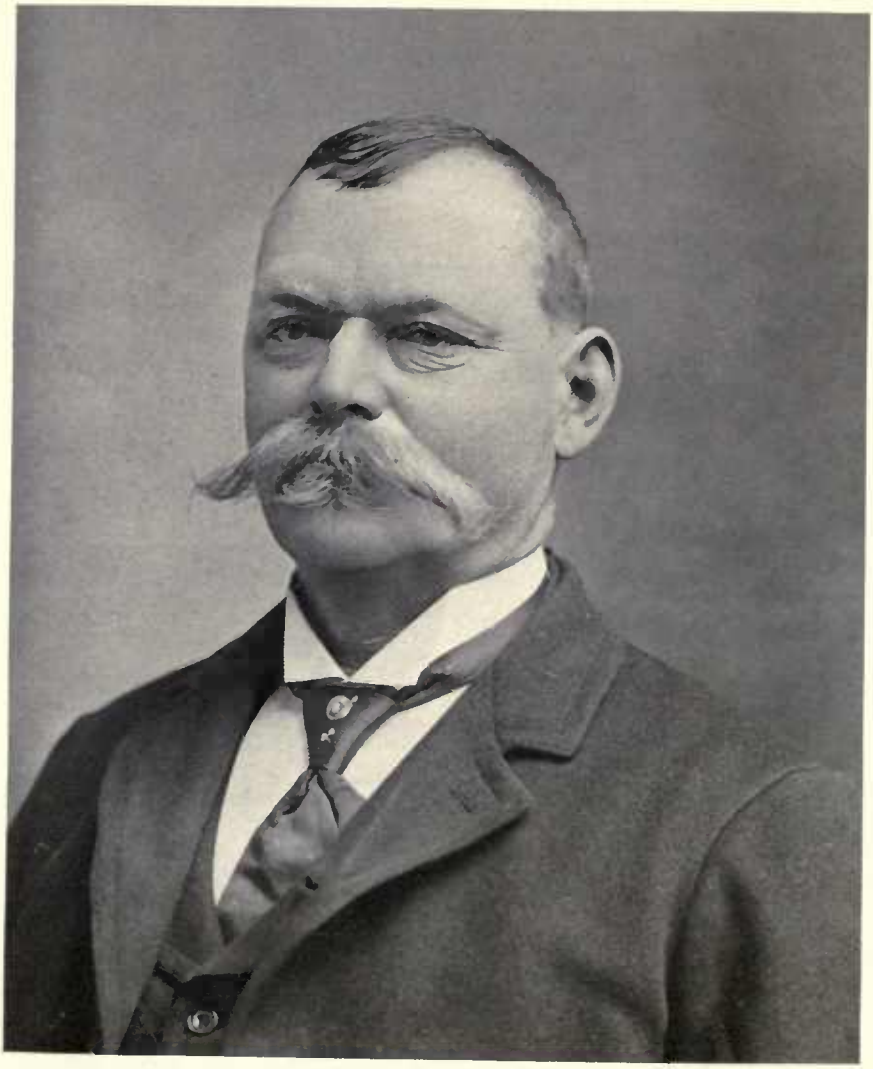
Mr. and Mrs. Kroner are Democrats in politics. They are regular members and aided substantially in the erection of the German Lutheran Church at Osman. Officially Mr. Kroner served four years as road commissioner, and for three years was school director, and Mrs. Kroner has also been a director of the public schools. Their home farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres of land, the southeast quarter of Section Twenty-nine in Newcomb Township. Better land it would be difficult to find anywhere in the length and breadth of Champaign County. Mr. and Mrs. Kroner have remodeled their residence and all the barns and outbuildings, and have shown great taste in securing homelike surroundings as well as developing the farm to a higher degree of efficiency.

Charles D. Thompson has been a resident of Ogden for many years, and enjoys a substantial position in that community because of his record as a good citizen and his honest workmanship as a painter and paper hanger.

Mr. Thompson was born August 24, 1853, at Leesburg in Kosciusko County, Indiana, son of John and Hester (Rhodes) Thompson. His father was born near Chillicothe and his mother in Marion County, Ohio. From Ohio the parents removed to Indiana and two months after the birth of Charles his mother died. Bereft of his mother, the infant was taken into the home of an aunt in Ohio, where he lived until 1861. He then joined his father and the other five children in Illinois. Charles D. Thompson is the only one of his brothers and sisters still living.

He attended public school in Ohio and finished school at Sidney in Champaign County. He grew to manhood near Homer and in 1881, at the age of twenty-eight, married Miss Frances Sweet. Mrs. Thompson was born near Manchester in Delaware County, Iowa, daughter of Samuel and Maria (Lee) Sweet. Her father was born near Rutland, Vermont, and her mother in Virginia. Her mother was a second cousin of General Robert E. Lee. Maria Lee's grandfather, James Lee, and the famous "Light Horse" Harry Lee of Revolutionary fame were brothers. When Mrs. Thompson was four and a half years of age her mother died, and at the age of six she came to Mahomet, Illinois, with her father, who passed away a year later. After that she was reared by her foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Lyons, a pioneer family of Champaign County. Mrs. Thompson acquired a good education and at the age of eighteen received her first certificate from the county superintendent to teach. Her first school was the Burr Oak School, five miles north of Ogden.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Thompson located in Ogden Township, near where the village of Royal now stands. They engaged in farming on rented land and went through a number of years in which thrift and economy were the prime necessities of existence. For twelve years they



George G. Orle

continued farming and then came to the village of Ogden, where they have had a pleasant home in the north end of town for the past twenty years. During that time Mr. Thompson's services as a paper hanger and decorator have been in great demand.

He and his wife are attentive members of the New Light Christian Church, known as Prospect Church, a center of religious enlightenment which has stood as a means and instrument of good in this community for many years. In politics both Mr. and Mrs. Thompson give their support to the Republican ticket, but chiefly to the man of principle and thorough fitness for the office in question. They are pronounced advocates of prohibition and temperance. Mr. Thompson has made a success in life and through all the years has had the aid and counsel of a good wife and a thorough home maker.

When Mr. Thompson moved out on to the prairie in 1869 there was no town of Ogden and no railroad, and only five houses in sight. All around was waving prairie grass and wet sloughs. He recalls that in the summer the stock suffered grievously from the horse flies. Many times when the women would drive to Rantoul to market, while the husbands remained at home working in the fields, the flies would attack the horses and in their suffering they would lie down and roll over to get rid of the pests. The women would then have to get down and get the team out of the tangle, and it might be necessary to repeat this performance several times before reaching Rantoul. Mr. Thompson's experiences go back to a time when the nearest postoffice was at Urbana and he appreciates the great contrast when mail is carried daily to the doorstep of every home in the county. When Mrs. Thompson was a small school girl in this county the teacher one day announced that school would be dismissed in order that the children might see the first train go by on the tracks of the I., B. & W. Railway. Mrs. Thompson and the other children climbed a plank fence in order to witness a spectacle the memory of which has never been erased from her mind. Fraternally Mr. Thompson is a Woodman and Odd Fellow and Mrs. Thompson is affiliated with the Royal Neighbors and the Daughters of Rebekah.

George G. Irle. In the famous farming district of Champaign County, where the possession of land spells prosperity, one of the active factors today is Mr. George G. Irle, whose well managed place is in section 16 of Somer Township. Mr. Irle began farming here over fifty-five years ago, and has been through practically every phase of experience as an Illinois farmer. He has had low prices and high prices for his crops, and through seasons both good and bad he has contrived to prosper and to grow in influence and affluence.

Mr. Irle has lived in Champaign County since childhood, but was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 31, 1852. His parents were Henry W. and Christina (Hohn) Irle. Both parents were born in Germany, the mother in Nassau. Henry W. Irle came to America in 1848, locating at Philadelphia, where he followed the trade of brass founder. In 1862 he brought his family west to Champaign County, and changing his occupation located on a farm in Somer Township. He became one of the substantial men of that district, and lived a long and useful career. His death occurred July 27, 1901. His wife passed away August 16, 1884. Their five children were: Hulda, deceased; Francesca, who died in infancy; George G.; Henry H., deceased; and Francesca, wife of Thomas B. Thomburn, of Urbana, Illinois.

George G. Irle was ten years of age when his parents came to Champaign County. In 1859, when a boy of seven, he had an exciting experience

and barely escaped becoming victim of a famous kidnapping case in Philadelphia. It all happened on Christmas Eve. On the same night and on the same street in the year 1876 a boy named Charlie Ross was kidnapped.

After coming to Champaign George G. Irle attended the local schools and lived with his father on the farm until 1880. He then went for himself, buying sixty acres in Somer Township. By diligence and efficiency his success has been a progressive one, and at different times he has purchased more lands until he now owns 376 acres in section 16 and twenty-four acres at another place in the township. He has pursued the plan of general farming and stock raising and is one of the men who have demonstrated the possibilities of successful farming on the high priced land of Champaign County. Mr. Irle started life with comparatively little, and for some years he and his wife lived in a log cabin home.

On March 17, 1881, he married Mary F. Arnold, who was born in Champaign County. They have four children: Anna, wife of John H. Pierce, of Bloomington, Illinois; George W., of Buhl, Idaho; William H., of Hamer, Idaho; and Nettie, who lives at home and is in the training school for nurses of Burnham's Hospital.

Mr. Irle has not neglected the interests of the community in which he lives, and has shown himself a public spirited citizen. He has served as commissioner of highways, as tax collector and for over thirty years was a director of his home school district. He is a republican and a member of the German Lutheran Church. His postoffice is Leverett.

JAMES F. RANKIN has proved his ability both in general business affairs and as a banker, and is the organizer and active official of the State Bank of Sidney.

Mr. Rankin was born near Deland, Illinois, October 31, 1879, a son of Joseph H. and Emma (Brown) Rankin. His parents were natives of Ohio, and his father was for a number of years a general merchant at Deland, but about 1902 removed to Champaign County and located in the city of Champaign, where he is still living. James F. is the only surviving child, his younger brother, Willis D., having died in infancy.

Mr. Rankin was graduated from the public schools of Deland in 1898, and soon afterward entered the employ of John Kirby, a private banker. With that experience he assisted in organizing the State Bank of Deland, which he served as assistant cashier. Then, realizing the needs of further education, he entered the Bryant & Stratton Business College at Chicago, and from there in 1901 went to the National Bank of Commerce at Kansas City, Missouri, one of the largest banks in the Missouri Valley. He served as teller there two years, and with this metropolitan experience returned to Champaign County and for four years was draft and collection teller with the First National Bank of Champaign, Illinois. He then gave up banking and for four years was assistant superintendent of the great plant of the Republic Iron & Steel Company at Moline, Illinois. It was in 1911 that Mr. Rankin organized the State Bank of Sidney and has since given it his chief time and energies.

On February 10, 1901, he married Miss Irma K. Dresback, a native of Deland, Illinois. They have four children: Esther B., Helen M., Dwight D., and Irma Catherine. Politically Mr. Rankin is a Republican voter. He has attained the thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Masonry and is present worshipful master of his lodge at Sidney. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a church man, active in the Methodist Society at Sidney, and is assistant superintendent of the Sunday school.

AMOS ELLIOTT has had his home in Champaign County fifty-four years, grew to manhood here, and his active life has been one of unremitting industry and capable management as a farmer. His home is in Ogden Township on Rural Route 15 out of St. Joseph.

His birth occurred at Rushsylvania in Logan County, Ohio, January 9, 1851. His parents were Moses and Mary (Bonner) Elliott, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. The Elliott family came to Illinois in 1860, lived in Coles County a time, but in April, 1863, while the Civil War was at its height, settled in Somer Township of Champaign County, not far from Urbana. Moses Elliott was a blacksmith by trade and he set up a shop and did work in Somer Township while conducting his farm. Amos Elliott was the oldest of seven children. He secured his education largely in the district school of Locust Grove.

Until he was twenty-seven he remained at home assisting his father in the work and then married Miss Sarah Kirby. Mrs. Elliott was born at Hannibal, Missouri, daughter of William and Charlotte Kirby. Soon after her birth her father died and when she was two years of age she was left an orphan by the death of her mother. There were four children in the Kirby family and after being left orphans they grew up among relatives. A great-aunt of the children was Lucy Clements, who lived in Illinois. Mrs. Clements took one of the Kirby children at the age of two years and some years later, when she again visited her people in Missouri, she brought back to her home the little orphan niece, Sarah Kirby, then nine years of age. Mrs. Clements and her good husband deserve more than a passing tribute. In the goodness of their hearts they reared not only six children of their own but seventeen orphan children, educating them and providing them homes until they were ready to take their places in the world. Some of these children they took when only six weeks old. An example of such generosity and large-heartedness is seldom found, and the world would be vastly better were there more such people. Mrs. Elliott and her children, and perhaps her children's children, will never be allowed to forget and pay gratitude to the names of James and Lucy Clements. Their home was in the southern part of Somer Township of this county. Here Sarah Kirby attended the Locust Grove district school.

Mr. and Mrs. Elliott were married March 17, 1878, when she was twenty-four years of age. At the time of their marriage they had little of this world's goods and they lived on a rented farm in Stanton Township for a few years. They next removed to Ogden Township, again rented land, and out of what they made and saved they were finally able to buy eighty-eight acres in that township at a price of $30 an acre. The only improvement was some old fencing and the land abounded in sloughs and wet places. While to many the outlook might have been discouraging, Mr. and Mrs. Elliott began at once with hope and energy, and the years have abundantly rewarded their efforts until today they own 240 acres of farm land and their present home is on an eighty-acre tract adjoining their first purchase. Their home surroundings are now of the best.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Elliott were named Clara, Fred, Mary, Emmett, Bertha and Nellie. Mary and Nellie died in childhood. The other children as they grew up were educated in the Union district school. Clara Elliott is now the wife of W. H. Davis, living at Muskogee, Oklahoma, and they have one child, Lavon. Fred Elliott is a farmer a mile and a half south of Ogden and married Maggie Freeman. Emmett Elliott remains on his father's farm as manager and married Zella Bradley. Bertha Elliott is the wife of Rolla Freeman, an Ogden Township farmer, and they have a son, Rolland.

Mr. and Mrs. Elliott are active members and supporters of the Pros-

pect Christian Church, Mr. Elliott being chairman of its board of trustees. For twenty-one consecutive years he served as school director and for the benefit of his own children and those of the entire community he gave much time and study to every problem involved in procuring the best advantages of instruction. For eighteen successive years Mr. Elliott served as commissioner of highways. He was reared in the Republican party and has always been faithful to its principles. Six of his uncles did service for the country in the dark days of the Civil War, and Mr. Elliott himself would have followed their example had he been old enough. He is a member of the Masonic order, and he and his wife are members of the Court of Honor and two of their daughters belong to the Eastern Star.

When the Elliott family settled in Champaign County not a rod of tile drainage existed anywhere. Mr. Elliott's father was one of the first to put in any tiling, and whether on their own land or in drainage districts, the Elliotts have always taken a firm stand in advocating this improvement, whose benefit and value can never be properly estimated. It is through drainage largely that Champaign County has become one of the garden spots of the world. Mr. Elliott as a boy recalls a time when the wet lands of eastern Champaign County were a haven for immense flocks of wild geese, crane, ducks, pigeons, and even deer and wolves roamed over the prairies when Mr. Elliott was a boy.

William Henry Trees has lived a career that entitles him to a place of honor and respect among the citizens of Champaign County. For years he was a successful farmer and is now a local business man at Sidney.

He was born in Champaign County February 5, 1872. He is a son of Ephraim and Helen (Martin) Trees. Both parents were born in Ohio. His father came to Champaign County in an early day and located on a farm near Thomasboro. That farm he cultivated and was getting to a position where he could be considered prosperous when he met death as a result of a stroke of lightning in June, 1876. He left his widow with a number of small children. His widow died in 1904. Eight children were born to them: Louisa, wife of William Arnold, of Iowa; Warren, living in Iowa; Belle, deceased; Marion, of Ohio; John, of Sidney Township; George, living in Ohio; William H., and Jennie, wife of Frank Armstrong, of Sidney Township.

William Henry Trees early learned to be dependent upon his own efforts and with only a common school education faced life on his own responsibilities. He made farming his independent vocation for a number of years, did well at it, and in January, 1917, bought a livery establishment at Sidney, which he now conducts. He also has one of the comfortable homes of that village.

In October, 1895, Mr. Trees married Mary B. Towner, a native of Champaign County. They have three children: Bernice, deceased; Leal Gleason, at home; and Dorothy Hilene. Politically Mr. Trees is a Republican. He has served his district as a member of the school board. He and his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Herman H. Behrens has been a resident of Champaign County for forty-four years. During all that time his home has been in section 18 of Ogden Township. In his immediate community he has witnessed changes and developments that would have been regarded as impossible in such a short time when he was a boy. In some of the more substantial items of progress Mr. Behrens has borne a most influential and worthy part himself.

Mr. Behrens is all but a native of Illinois. He was born February 21, 1857, and six months later he was carried, an infant in arms. by his

parents, Harm G. and Anna (Lichtsin) Behrens, accompanied by the ten older children, on the way to America. The Behrens family landed from a boat at New Orleans, came up the Mississippi River and first located in Adams County, Illinois, not far from Quincy. They remained there until 1873, when they came to Champaign County, where the father bought forty-eight acres in section 18 of Ogden Township. For that raw land he paid $18 an acre. The children who were then of school age attended the Pleasant Valley schoolhouse in the southwest corner of that section.

Herman Behrens was sixteen years old when he came to Champaign County, and he remained at home for ten years after that, attending school and assisting his father in the work of the farm.

At the age of twenty-six he married Eliza Park. She was born in Illinois, daughter of John and Tina (Duis) Park. The Park family were also natives of Germany. Mrs. Behrens was one of a family of nine children.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Behrens located on his father's homestead in section 18 and that has been continuously their home ever since. Mr. Behrens has shown himself to be a progressive and industrious farmer, and with the aid of his good wife has materially increased his estate until it now comprises 334 acres.

Into their home were born five children: John H., Anna, Tina, Harm and Catherine. These children were educated in the old home school of Pleasant Valley, where Mr. Behrens himself had received some of his instruction. They were also students in the German parochial school and were there taught the religious faith of their ancestors.

The son Harm fitted himself for pedagogical work and as a successful teacher of Champaign County taught in the Morning Star School and also had the honor of being employed by the board of the home district, the Pleasant Valley. The son John H. Behrens lives on land owned by his father and by his marriage to Anna Buhr has two children, Herman and John. The daughter Anna Behrens is the wife of John Osterbur, an Ogden Township farmer, their six children being Lizzie, Thea, Catherine, Herman, Anna and Helen. Tina Behrens married Henry Osterbur, who is also identified with the agricultural enterprise of Ogden Township. Their two children are named Louisa and Frank. The son Harm now lives at the old homestead and manages his father's farm. He married Nancy Loschen. Catherine Behrens is the wife of George Freriches, an Ogden Township farmer. Their two children are Eleanor and John.

June 5, 1898, the death angel came to the Behrens home and took away the good wife and mother. Mrs. Behrens was a woman of exceptional Christian character and was much beloved both in her family and by a large circle of friends. Since his wife's death Mr. Behrens has continued to live at the old homestead and has been devotedly cared for by his son Harm and wife.

The public spirit of Mr. Behrens has always been a strong point in his favor. He was elected and served twenty years as school director, nine years as road commissioner and eight years as drainage commissioner. Judge Roth appointed him drainage commissioner. The drainage system of Ogden Township was greatly advanced by Mr. Behrens' work as a commissioner and he is one of the men who can appreciate the value of this improvement. The Behrens home was surrounded by a vista of slough grass, prairie grass and in the summer season life was made almost unbearable for human beings and animals by the presence of the green-headed flies and mosquitos which propagated and flourished in the undrained district. Thus the drainage system has not only contributed to the welfare

of all the people living therein but has made the land more profitable for cultivation and has added hundreds of thousands of dollars to the value of Champaign County. Mr. Behrens is one of the directors of the Farmers Grain Elevator at Royal. In politics he votes as a Republican and altogether is a man of admirable integrity of character, never makes a promise that he cannot fulfill, and has reared a family who do credit to him. Mr. Behrens is now found in a comfortable home where he spent part of his boyhood and enjoys the shade of many grand old trees which were set out by the hand of his father more than forty years ago.

Charles A. Daly of Philo Township has surrounded himself with all the evidences of prosperity and enterprise as a farmer and stockman. Largely through his own efforts and enterprise he has acquired a large acreage of Champaign County farm land, has it under improvement, and for many years has been a successful raiser of good stock and gets his profit out of his land largely through feeding the crops at home.

Mr. Daly has lived in Champaign County most of his life, but was born in Ontario, Canada, February 8, 1859. His parents, John and Mary Ann (McKipill) Daly, were both natives of Ireland. From Canada the family came to Champaign County in 1868, locating in section 1 of Crittenden Township. John Daly followed farming, was a man of industry and stood well in the community, and lived there until his death on April 5, 1885. His widow survived him until January 8, 1892. They reared a family of ten children: Sarah, widow of William Moran of Philo; Hannah, widow of Michael Reiter of Philo; Andrew, deceased; Elizabeth, widow of Joseph Donalson of Urbana; Mary and Margaret, both living at Philo; John and Anna, also of Philo; Ellen, deceased; and Charles A. Daly.

Charles A. Daly finished his education in the district schools of Champaign County. Being the youngest child, he remained at home with his widowed mother for a year or so and in 1887 bought eighty acres in section 36 of Philo Township. That acreage was only a beginning and he has steadily increased his holdings until he now owns and controls the operation of 280 acres in that township.

Mr. Daly was married October 9, 1889, to Miss Susie Clennon. They have reared children who are a credit to the parents and there were seven of them: Margaret Mary, at home; John Joseph, at home; Ellen Loretta, wife of Vincent Cain; Myrtle Frances, deceased; Albert Vincent, at home; Mary Josephine and Leo Yunon. Mr. Daly is a Democrat, a member of St. Thomas' Catholic Church of Philo and affiliates with the Knights of Columbus. He has served as road commissioner and has always endeavored to do his part in community affairs.

Levi Mead Hall, who recently celebrated his ninetieth birthday, still walks with firm step and unclouded mind the streets of Homer, and during his long and useful life in Champaign County has witnessed almost its entire development and has borne a share in its progress. He still manifests a keen and intelligent interest in all that affects the welfare of his community and country, and is widely and favorably known as a man of progress and public spirit.

He was born in Indiana, a son of Frost Underlin and Maria (Mead) Hall. The traditional account is that the founder of this branch of the Hall family came to America with General Braddock's army and participated in that notable campaign which ended in western Pennsylvania on the march to Fort Duquesne, where Braddock was defeated and where the day was only partially saved by George Washington and his Virginia frontiersmen. This British soldier and his wife came from the vicinity

of Edinburgh, Scotland, and they remained in this country and died in New York City. They left only one son, David Hall. David Hall married Phoebe Allen. Her father, Andrew Allen, had come from Falkirk, Scotland, to America before 1756.

Frost Underlin Hall, father of Levi M., came from the East and was an early settler in Ohio. It is said that while he was traveling with the Mead family he came to the banks of the Ohio River. At that time he had only 25 cents in his pocket, and, pulling out this piece of money, he threw it into the river, saying, "I am going to begin life even." He lived in Butler County, Ohio, a number of years, but in 1840 moved to Indiana, and spent his last years at Quaker Point in Vermilion County. While in Ohio he had charge of a section of the old Miami Canal and lived at what was known as Hall's Locks. He often said that the Hall boys threw a wagon load of stones over the canal, aiming at birds on the other side.

Mr. Levi M. Hall was three times married. On September 20, 1846, he married Rachel Hollingsworth. On April 3, 1855, Mary Darling became his wife. His present wife was Mary Frances Patterson, and they were married October 12, 1876.

Levi M. Hall learned the trade of blacksmith, and in the early days he shod horses that drew stage coaches over the route from Covington, Indiana, to Johnston's Tavern. He is one of the best posted men on the old-time days and incidents in Champaign County. He had a large acquaintance with all the pioneers.

Mr. Hall arrived at the old town of Homer October 4, 1846. All there was of the village at that time was located by the creek near where Homer Park now is. In that community he has made his home all the years since then, a period of over seventy years. From his good business management he acquired a farm of over 200 acres and was for years extensively engaged in buying and selling farms. He made it a practice to buy up unimproved or rundown places, living thereon until the land was once more in a state of good cultivation, and then sell out at a profit.

Mr. Hall's children are noted as follows: Calvin Jenks Hall lives in Bond County, Illinois. He married Amy I. Dodd. Persis A. Bell, a widow, lives in Los Angeles, California. Mr. Hall's oldest son was William Smith Hall, who died and left two children, Nellie R. and Levi B. Mr. Hall has three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

At the ripe age of ninety he is still a well preserved man and the years sit lightly upon his head. He is a man of genial character, and in a business way his word has always been accepted as good as gold in the hand.

His present wife, whose maiden name was Mary Frances Patterson, was born near St. Joseph, Illinois, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth M. (Ray) Patterson. She was educated in the district schools near St. Joseph. To their marriage have been born five children: Charles A., who died at the age of four years; C. B.; Ada M.; Carl C., who died at the end of ten months; and Laura A. The children who grew up were educated in the district schools and attended the Homer High School. C. B., who also attended the business college at Decatur, is now in the transfer and storage business at Danville, Illinois. He married Lillian Pogue and has a son, Melvin P. Hall. Ada M. Hall is the wife of E. M. Beazeley and they live at Denison, Texas, where he is manager of a wholesale mercantile house. Laura A. Hall is a graduate nurse of Danville and is still located in that city. About eighteen years ago Mr. and Mrs. Hall left their farm and bought a pleasant home on West Street in Homer. Here they live with every comfort, and surrounded with friends and relatives

they have a most happy outlook on life and on all that awaits them in the future. They are active members and supporters of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a stalwart supporter of the Republican party. Mr. Hall has experienced the bitter along with the sweet of life, and has been called upon to lay away two wives and ten of his children. He and his present wife have been married now for over forty years and he considers it his high good fortune to have had such a capable woman at his side as an adviser and counselor during all these years. One of the most pleasant events in his life was the celebration of his ninetieth birthday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. E. M. Beazeley at Denison, Texas, on June 19, 1917. Mr. Hall has made a splendid record for himself in dealing with his fellow men, and his integrity of character has been a contributing factor in the development of his home county.

HENRY HUMMEL. Perhaps to no one nation does America owe more for the successful development of its farms than to Germany. No better or finer class of people ever came to this country than the German colonists of the '40s. On the broad prairies and in the forests of the West, in peace and in war, in every branch of human endeavor and human achievement, by brave and honest service they made compensation to the land of their adoption.

One of this class of citizens long identified with Champaign County is Mr. Henry Hummel of Dewey. He was born near that historic place celebrated in song and story, Bingen on the Rhine, August 28, 1840. His parents were Philip and Katherine (Bloss) Hummel. He was one of a family of seven children, four sons and three daughters, and it is an indication of the virility of the family stock that all these children are still living, all of them in America and five residents of Champaign County. Philip Hummel was a native of the same locality as his son Henry, and gave the best endeavors of his long lifetime to farming. In 1843, with the purpose to better his condition and secure better opportunities for his children, he set out for the New World. He and his family traveled on a sailing vessel and landing in New York City proceeded west to Kaneville in Kane County, Illinois. Like many of his compatriots he arrived poor in purse but rich in energy and resources of mind and body, and in Illinois he began work as a wage earner. He continued that until he was able to buy a team of horses, and in 1861 he came with his family to Champaign County. In this county he lived the rest of his days, and passed away in 1906. At the time of his death he owned 244 acres in East Bend Township, a farm adjoining that now owned by his son Henry. Politically he became a Republican. He was a strong friend of public education, served his school district as a director, and he and his wife were active members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Dewey. His wife was born in the same locality of Germany and has been dead now for many years. Both are interred in the Beekman cemetery, where monuments mark their last resting places.

Henry Hummel was three years old when he came to the United States. His parents were poor, and there were few opportunities for him to attend school when a boy and his best training was acquired by the wholesome work of the home place. He largely educated himself by study outside of school. He continued to live with his parents until he was twenty-seven, and all his active years have been given to farming and stock raising.

When it came time for him to make an independent start in the world he lacked none of the courage which had enabled his father to establish a home in a new and strange land. He bought eighty acres.

After paying his brothers and sisters their share he assumed an additional obligation of $1,200. He also bought another tract of eighty acres, where his beautiful country home now stands, at a cost of $3,000. Thus he started farming with the heavy incumbrance and handicap of a debt of $4,500. It was only an incentive to increased effort. With the aid of his good and loyal wife, and in spite of sickness, bad crops and interest rates frequently as high as fifteen per cent, he paid out dollar for dollar and after acquiring the 160 acres was still in his prime and ready for further efforts and extension of his holdings. Today, in 1917, he owns 529 acres, all of it in East Bend Township, and there is no other farm in the entire township which shows a finer outfit of barns and other equipment nor a more beautiful country home. Not a dollar of debt stands against this property, which has been won by his capable efforts and which represents a greater value today than almost any other form of wealth.

On February 10, 1879, Mr. Hummel married Miss Mary Catherine Hannagan. Six children, two sons and four daughters, have come into their home, and all of them are still living. Charles A., the oldest, is a resident of East Bend Township and engaged in agriculture, and in politics has been affiliated with the Republican party. He married Laura K. Nickell and they have a little son, Henry C. Both are active members of St. Malachi Catholic Church at Rantoul. Ellen E., the second child, is now the wife of Frederick Federer, a Champaign County agriculturist living in Rantoul Township. Both are members of the Catholic Church. Catherine A. was educated in the common school, has taken musical instruction and is still at home with her parents. She is a member of the St. Malachi Catholic Church at Rantoul and is active in the Rosary and the Altar societies. Margaret is the wife of Ernest Lorenz, a resident of Decatur, Illinois. Mrs. Lorenz is a Catholic and her two children are Charles and Mary Catherine. Aloysius is still with his parents and in active charge of the home estate. He was educated in the common schools, is a Republican and a member of the Catholic Church. Theresa Jane, whose church affiliation is also with the Catholic, married William Quirk, who is a plumber by trade and is now employed by the City Waterworks of Champaign, where he and his family reside. The despot of the Quirk home is their little son Billie. Mr. and Mrs. Hummel have every reason to be proud of their children, who have shown themselves young people of ready attainments and resourcefulness, capable of helping themselves and of rendering service to others.

Mrs. Hummel was born in Grundy County, Illinois, November 15, 1849, a daughter of Felix and Ellen (McCormick) Hannagan. Her parents had eleven children, five sons and six daughters, and all of them but one lived to adult age. Felix Hannagan was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, and when fifteen years of age came with his mother to America. He lived first in Rhode Island, and the mother subsequently moved to Philadelphia and later to Grundy County, Illinois. Mr. Hannagan had grown up in the East, and was a married man when he came to Illinois. For a number of years he followed agriculture in Grundy County, but in 1866 removed to Champaign County and this was his home until his death about 1894. Politically he was a strong Republican and was an active member of the Catholic Church at Rantoul. His family remember his great interest in reading, especially on historical subjects. As a farmer he acquired 160 acres of land in Compromise Township of Champaign County. Mrs. Hannagan was also a native of Ireland and came to the United States when about eighteen years old. She was a devout Catholic and a gentle, kind and loving mother.

Mrs. Hummel was educated in the common schools and in the Catholic Academy of St. Joseph at Bloomington and for six months was a student in the Illinois State Normal. Before her marriage she was engaged in teaching and put in ten years in the school rooms of Champaign County. To her task as a homemaker and mother she brought this long experience as a teacher and those qualities of true motherhood and devotion to all of life's best interests.

Mr. Hummel is a Republican. He has for a number of years served as a drainage commissioner of Champaign County and is as forceful in his public work as he is in his private business capacity. He is a director of the public schools and is a member of the German Lutheran Church at Dewey. His father aided in the construction of the church building there. Mr. and Mrs. Hummel have attained those things that are the best rewards of character and worthy ambition. They have a beautiful home, have the companionship of noble children, and have the respect and esteem of a large community. Their beautiful country estate bears the appropriate name of Forest Lawn.

LEW E. STEVENSON. The village and community of St. Joseph have had no citizen whose work and interests have been more closely identified with the general welfare than Lew E. Stevenson. His home has been there for forty years, and almost continuously during that time he was in business in the village, but has kept in close touch with the agricultural development as well. He has given liberally of his thought and purpose to the upbuilding of local institutions, particularly the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is now the only surviving original trustee.

Mr. Stevenson was born in Highland County, Ohio, April 21, 1850, by which token he is by no means an old man. His parents were Elisha and Nancy A. (Keelor) Stevenson, both natives of Ohio. His mother was born near Hillsboro, Ohio, a town notable for the fact that it was the birthplace of the little organization which has now expanded into an international instrumentality of good, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

On October 6, 1854, when Lew E. Stevenson was four and a half years of age, his father arrived in Urbana, bringing with him his wife and five children. Elisha Stevenson was one of the capable pioneer farmers of Urbana Township, and spent the rest of his days in this locality. He was the father of thirteen children, seven sons and six daughters, all of whom reached maturity except one that died in infancy.

Lew E. Stevenson acquired his education in the district schools of Champaign County, and his personal recollections of this locality go back nearly sixty years. On December 27, 1877, he married at Urbana Miss Ada O. Coffman. She was born north of Crawfordsville in Fountain County, Indiana, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Noah B. Coffman. Her father was a native of Virginia and her mother of Ohio. Her father was long a prominent and notable figure in the life of Champaign County. Mrs. Stevenson was educated in Urbana and in the University of Illinois. She was one of thirteen children, all of whom were carefully educated and made good records for themselves. Several of Mrs. Stevenson's brothers went out to the state of Washington and have long been prominent in the city of Chehalis. Her brother N. B. Coffman, Jr., is president of the Chehalis Bank and has long been a prominent Republican, having served his party at different times as a delegate to national conventions. Another brother, Joseph Coffman, now deceased, was president of the telephone company in Chehalis. A. L. Coffman is in the real estate business there, and H. B. Coffman is secretary and manager of the Chehalis Furniture Company.

A few hours after Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson were married at Urbana they took the train for the village of St. Joseph. Some months before, on February 1, 1877, Mr. Stevenson had bought the local drug store of that village, and he was thus a factor in its business life before he brought his wife there and established a permanent home. The passing years have meant much to Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson not only in the matter of material fortune but in the good they have been able to accomplish as citizens. For thirty-eight years Mr. Stevenson was a familiar figure in the mercantile affairs of St. Joseph, and continued his drug business until he sold out, April 24, 1915. While never an active farmer, he has kept in close touch with the basic interests of the county by investing liberally in farm land, and at the present time he owns 405 acres in one body in Lawrence County, Illinois, not far from Vincennes, Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson had one child, a daughter named Mae Agnes Stevenson. She received the complete devotion and care of her parents, was liberally educated, first in the public schools of St. Joseph, afterward in high school and finished her education in the Woman's College of Jacksonville, Illinois. Being musically inclined, she was granted every opportunity to improve that talent. The daughter married Otto B. Divelbiss, a native of Rantoul and a son of John W. and Hattie E. (Dodge) Divelbiss. Mr. Divelbiss was a young man of many capabilities and had laid the foundation of a promising career when he was taken away by death on October 3, 1903. He left his wife a widow and two weeks after his death their only child, a daughter, was born. This grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson bears the name Maeotta Divelbiss. Mrs. Divelbiss returned to the home of her parents with her little child and has continued to remain with them for the past fourteen years. The sunshine of the home all this time has been the granddaughter. She has made a good record in her studies and is now a member of the Champaign High School.

Mr. Stevenson's family are active members and liberal supporters of the Methodist Episcopal Church at St. Joseph. When he came to the village in 1877 he at once began an agitation for the erection of a church. For years he served as chorister and in the Sunday school of the church. The local church society was organized April 14, 1877, and Mr. Stevenson was one of the first trustees chosen by the twelve charter members. These trustees were V. J. Gallion, W. O. Shreve, W. B. Simms, Harrison W. Drillinger and Lew E. Stevenson. As noted above, Mr. Stevenson is the only one still living. Though the church was small at the beginning, the interest in its work and its membership have been growing and before long they had dedicated their first church building. This house of worship was subsequently burned and was replaced by a second, and a few years ago they completed the beautiful brown stone and brick church which now stands as a monument to the progressiveness and liberality of the church community and promises to continue a beacon light for the welfare of its worshipers for many years to come.

In the political field Mr. Stevenson has for twenty-five years been one of the leading Democrats of Champaign County. He is an enthusiastic and dependable party worker and has done much to strengthen the local organization. He served as postmaster of the village of St. Joseph during both of President Cleveland's terms, and has also been a member of the town council. Fraternally he is a charter member of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic. His membership in the Grand Army is not honorary, as one might infer from the fact that he was born in 1850. Mr. Stevenson is in fact one of the youngest veterans of the great War of the Rebellion. That war began when he was eleven years of age, and he was only fourteen when it entered upon its final stage in 1864. He real-

ized that he was too young, strictly speaking, to get accepted into the ranks of the Union army, but his loyalty and patriotism were of such determined character that he was willing to sacrifice the truth somewhat and gave his age as sixteen. He enlisted in the spring of 1864 and was mustered in at Mattoon, Illinois, into Company A of the One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry. Thus he had his ardent wish and marched away with the boys in blue to do whatever duty was required. His regiment was at first stationed in southern Missouri doing railway guard duty around Pilot Knob and Iron Mountain. When the war was over he was mustered out and given an honorable discharge at Mattoon.

Mr. Stevenson has been identified with most of the fraternal organizations in St. Joseph, having been a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Masonic lodge and the Woodmen order. He is also a charter member of the local chapter of the Eastern Star, and both his wife and daughter are also members. In Masonry he is affiliated with the Mystic Shrine. For forty years Mr. Stevenson has had the inestimable good fortune of having a wife of charming personality and culture to stand by his side and help forward their home, their power of doing good in the community, and they have well earned the right to enjoy the coming years in leisure and comfort in their pleasant home at St. Joseph.

Isaac T. Leas. It is by no means an empty distinction to have lived actively and usefully in any community for a period of over sixty years. At this writing Isaac T. Leas is in his eighty-third year and is one of the few men who knew Champaign County before the time of the Civil War. He has been both a witness and an actor in the changing developments of a long time and is a real pioneer. He has been successful in his work and business and is still a hale and hearty man, enjoying the highest esteem of a large community.

Mr. Leas was born near Covington, Indiana, October 27, 1833, a son of George and Lydia (Robinson) Leas. The ancestors of the Leas family came from England and were colonial settlers in Pennsylvania. George Leas had ten children, eight sons and two daughters, Isaac being the third in age.

The latter spent his boyhood days and youth in his native county and when a young man came to Champaign County with his father. His father entered 160 acres of land and the son also secured a tract of land in section 9 of St. Joseph Township.

In October, 1860, Mr. Leas laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Miss Ervilla Sumner. Mrs. Leas was also born near Covington, Indiana, a daughter of Selby and Rebecca (Hatheway) Sumner. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Leas settled down to begin wedded life on land which he bought, and with hope for the future, enthusiam and unlimited energy their prospects all partook of a rosy hue. Mr. Leas had many trials and privations in early years. His first land he bought in Champaign County cost him two dollars and a half an acre, and gradually his accumulations grew until he was paying taxes on 640 acres, a complete section.

Mr. Leas' brother William was a brave soldier in the Civil War, having spent more than three years in the army. As that was a long time to be away from home and friends an arrangement was made between him and Isaac that they would exchange places for a brief time to afford William an opportunity to visit home and friends. It was a risky thing to do, and had the exchange been discovered William would have been liable for arrest as a deserter. Isaac went to Louisville, changed clothes with his



J. J. Lees.



Enville, Texas.

brother, took his brother's place in the ranks and every morning answered to the roll call under his brother's name. Thus he too had a share of the service required for winning the war, though his name does not appear on the records of the great armies of the North.

During the passing years Mr. Leas gave the best of his energies to the improvement and development of his farm, erected many commodious buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, and the entire estate stands as an attractive monument to his industry.

Into their home were born nine children: Emma, Jennie, Clara, Gertrude, Sadie, Ernest, Ross, Nettie and Frank, the last three dying in childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Leas saw to it that their children were well educated, at first in the Argo district school and later some of them attended the fine old college in Sullivan County, Indiana, on the banks of the Wabash, known as Merom College, and also the University of Illinois. Gertrude graduated from the Indiana school. These children have since married and have become substantially located in the world of affairs. Emma is the wife of Christian Furst, a farmer at Muncie, Indiana, and she has four children, Ervilla, Oral, Russell and Stanley, the last being now deceased. The daughter Jennie married Charles Mallow and they live in Ohio and have children named Leroy, Guy, Orr and two daughters deceased. Clara L. married William Beverlin and lives in Urbana, the mother of Gladys and Mayme. Gladys is now Mrs. E. L. Coolidge of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Mayme was graduated from the Urbana High School in 1911, and then entered upon a course of instruction in the University of Illinois, but was prevented from finishing it by the sudden death of her mother on January 24, 1912. W. N. Beverlin, her father, was born near St. Joseph, Illinois, and finished his education in Earlham College in Indiana. He was a son of T. J. and Elizabeth (Stevenson) Beverlin. T. J. Beverlin was born near Centerville, Indiana, and was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil War. His wife was born near Ridge Farm, Illinois. Gertrude L. Leas is the wife of Dr. L. C. Phillips, a graduate of Merom College in Indiana, and they now live in Pensacola, Florida, and have seven children named Ian, Kent, Portia, Leeta, Mayme, Willis and Lawren. The daughter Sadie L. Leas married Edwin Keller, an insurance man of Frankfort, Indiana, and they have one child, Emerson Leas Keller. Ernest Orr Leas lives in Fountain County, Indiana, and married Miss Temperance Hayworth.

Mr. Isaac Leas, as is also true of his wife, has been a lifelong member of the Christian Church and for many years worshiped in the Prairie Hope Church, to which he was a liberal supporter. Mr. Leas had an important part in the building of this venerable religious structure. From his father's farm he hauled many logs to a mill in Indiana, and then hauled the finished lumber back to the site of the church building. The seats in the church contain a great quantity of choice walnut timber, a very rare wood at the present time. The weatherboarding on the church was sawed from fine poplar logs. This church is a splendid monument to the zeal and religious spirit of the pioneers who erected the structure and the church itself has stood as a beacon light in the community.

The influence of the Leas family has always been for good and uplifting work in that part of the county. Mr. Leas has courageously supported and upheld the principles of the Republican party, and has been firmly convinced that the best laws our nation has ever had emanated from that source. He is a great admirer of Roosevelt and looks upon him as one of the strongest men America has produced.

The crowning sorrow of the Leas family was the death in March, 1915, of Mrs. Leas, who for years had stood side by side with her husband in

the work of establishing a home and had been mother and adviser to her children. For twelve years before she died Mr. and Mrs. Leas had lived in the city of Urbana, where they kept up their associations with old friends from St. Joseph Township and also found many new friends in the city. When the name of Mr. and Mrs. Leas is mentioned in St. Joseph Township there are many who are eager to speak of the many deeds of kindness performed by them, and there still live in that section a number of families who were aided in their early struggles and eventually came to some considerable measure of success largely through help extended in time of need by Mr. and Mrs. Leas. Notably among these is the family of John Fiock, who enjoys relating his early experience in St. Joseph Township. Landing in St. Joseph with a wife and five children and a cash capital of 35 cents, a stranger to everybody, hunting for work, he was referred to Isaac Leas, who went his security for furniture and provisions and employed him for two years, at the end of which time he was able to purchase forty acres, making a payment of $60, the agent requiring him to sign an agreement that he was to forfeit the same if he could not pay $40 more within six months, said time to expire at 2 P. M. Being unable to raise the amount, he went to Isaac Leas at 11 A. M. of said day, telling him his troubles. Mr. Leas was busily engaged with farm hands building fence, but like the Good Samaritan of olden days, immediately stopped his work, had his team hitched up and drove with Mr. Fiock to Urbana in time to draw the money from the bank and secure the home to Mr. Fiock, who returned home with a glad heart to announce to his family their little home was safe. Some people strew their flowers to the memory of their friends after the weary heart and hands are stilled, but Isaac Leas has chosen to modestly and quietly strew his flowers along the pathway of a needful humanity, while the heart may be made to rejoice at their reception, the fragrance and beauty surviving as long as memory lasts. It is these worthy acts that causes one's memory to be enshrined within the hearts of the recipients of the same generous deeds.

Since the death of his good wife Mr. Leas has continued his home in Urbana, but usually spends his winters in Florida with friends and relatives. On some of his journeys his granddaughter Mayme Beverlin has been with him as traveling companion. Together they made a most enjoyable tour to the Pacific coast in 1915, visiting the exposition at San Francisco and also the fair at San Diego. They were impressed with the wonderful mountain scenery between Colorado Springs and Salt Lake City, went from Los Angeles to Catalina Island, where they viewed the wonders of the deep through the glass bottomed boat, also crossed the border to the quaint Mexican village of Tia Juana, and then returned by the southern route, first pausing at El Paso, Texas, and again crossing the border into Juarez. They also remained in New Orleans a few days and from there came back to Illinois.

Mr. Isaac Leas has always been a stanch friend of the cause of temperance. Temperance has not been merely a theory with him but a practice from youth to old age. He has never used either tobacco or liquor, and his life and character in its essential attributes has been consistent with these moral principles. In the matter of commercial integrity there is no question that the word of Isaac Leas is as good as a gold bond. In his business relations he has always been careful, and an incident testifying to his discretion is related. An agent was recently trying to sell him a $3,000 automobile, saying to him, "You might as well buy it and enjoy it, you cannot take your money along with you into the next world." To which Mr. Leas replied, "I think I might take it along as well as I could an automobile."

Rev. Andrew Scott. The qualities of real manhood and the power of leadership were never in greater demand in church work than today. The clergy have always been men of education and of fine moral standing, and with these qualities the successful pastor must now combine the spiritual enthusiasm and some of the same enterprise and energy which are such vital assets in the business world. A better type of this modern minister Champaign County does not have than in the case of Rev. Mr. Scott, pastor of the Christian Church at Fisher. Mr. Scott is a man of letters, has had the benefit of extensive travel, is a fluent and logical speaker, and in the course of his active career has shown unusual capacity as an organizer, administrator and a real church builder.

Some of these qualities he undoubtedly inherited from the land of his birth. He is a Scotchman by nativity, and was born at Melrose in Roxborough. His birth occurred February 13, 1857. He was the third in a family of six children, three sons and three daughters. All these children are living and all in Canada except Mr. Scott. His parents were Adam and Agnes (Gilroy) Scott. His father, who was born in the same locality as the son, was a Scotch teacher, an occupation also followed by the grandfather of Rev. Mr. Scott. In 1863 he determined to bring his family to the broader and more generous opportunities of the New World. The intention was to locate in the United States, but the war then raging between the North and the South caused a change of plans and he took his family to Canada and located near London, Ontario. An uncle had previously established a home in that community. After three years Adam Scott moved to Huron County, Ontario, bought a farm and followed agriculture the rest of his days. His death occurred on the old homestead at the age of eighty-nine. His wife was also born in Scotland and had a common school education. She died in Canada at the age of fifty, and both are now at rest in Sunshine Cemetery at Sunshine, Ontario.

Andrew Scott was about seven years years of age when his parents came to Canada. He had attended school in Scotland, and afterward had the benefit of the splendid public school system of Canada. One of his teachers to whom he has always paid homage was John T. Wood, who had the unusual record of teaching in one school for twenty-eight years. About 1877 Mr. Scott came to the United States and entered that well known Ohio institution of learning, Hiram College, of which James A. Garfield was at one time president. Mr. Scott has always had a high admiration for the "towpath boy" President. For three years he pursued the literary course in Hiram, at the end of which time he received a call from the Ontario Mission Board to take charge of a mission at Portage la Prairie, then far out in the western wilds, beyond the terminus of all railroad lines, in what is now the province of Manitoba. This mission was one of the outposts of the Christian Church. Mr. Scott went into the far west in 1881, about the time President Garfield was assassinated. Portage la Prairie is now a flourishing city sixty miles west of Winnipeg. Mr. Scott had a frontier missionary experience two years. The mission was composed of seven members when he took charge, and he held his first religious service in a private house and afterward in a small public hall. In less than a year he had bought ground and had erected a church at a cost of $4,000. At the end of his two years' missionary work the membership had increased to seventy-five. Some of those first members of the missionary church are still connected with the flourishing congregation as officials and members, and now Portage la Prairie has a handsome church building costing $25,000.

In the fall of 1883 Rev. Mr. Scott returned to Walkertown, Bruce

County, Ontario, and assumed a regular pastorate, which he held four years. There he had a church of about 150 members, and it was a prosperous and contented congregation. While acting as regular pastor there he was also connected with evangelistic work in the province of Ontario. In 1887 Mr. Scott went to Niagara Falls, where he gave all his time to his pastoral duties for three years.

He next received a call from Sterling, Illinois, and was located there two years. In 1895 he took charge of the church in Saginaw, Michigan. In all communities where he had his work he proved a vitalizer of church effort and activity, and the results of his work were not far to seek. The congregation at Saginaw when he took charge was worshiping in a small and inadequate building, and while he was there he erected a fine edifice costing $12,000. On the first church there was a mortgage, and he not only paid this off but gave the community an edifice of which they might be proud. For five years he remained at Saginaw, and besides his regular pastoral duties he spent every Sunday afternoon at a neighboring church. From Saginaw Rev. Mr. Scott was called to Butler, Bates County, Missouri, where he remained two years. He followed this with a pastorate at Pontiac, Illinois. He found there a mission, and was able to pay off another mortgage. About that time, his daughter desiring to enter the State Normal University, Mr. Scott took charge of a church there for two years. His following charge was at Danville, Illinois, where he again acted as a "mortgage burner," and gave the congregation new life and inspiration for larger work. During the last three years of his Danville pastorate he was district superintendent of the sixth district, and had active charge of the placing of ministers and the general upbuilding of church affairs throughout the district. Altogether he remained at Danville seven years, and this long pastorate is of itself a highly significant testimony to Mr. Scott's efficiency and ability.

From Danville he removed to Hoopeston, Illinois. He went there following an investigation which showed the affairs of the parish in such condition that his personal attention was required. The people at Hoopeston had been worshiping in a church edifice for sixteen years, and it was still burdened with a $6,000 mortgage. The resourcefulness of Mr. Scott in lifting mortgages did not fail in this crisis, and the second year he was there he paid off the mortgage and brought zeal and renewed courage to a thoroughly disheartened people.

In November, 1914, Mr. Scott assumed the pastorate of the Christian Church at Fisher, Illinois. The usual success has attended his efforts in this locality. Under his energetic leadership the people have undertaken the building of a modern church edifice which will be dedicated in the fall of 1917. The church, with the grounds, when completed will represent a cost of about $20,000. Of this amount the sum of about $17,000 in cash or collateral has been raised by Mr. Scott. For many years Mr. Scott has been chairman of the committee on ministerial standing.

In 1882 he married Miss Sophia Stait. Three children, two sons and one daughter, were born to their marriage and all are living. Errettine was educated in public schools in the various localities where her father lived, and after graduating from the State Normal University of Illinois she taught seven years in the Danville schools. She was especially successful in primary work. Besides her literary education she has taken musical instruction. She is now the wife of Elmer Barnes, who is manager of the Bank of Cheneyville, Illinois. Paul A. Scott, the older son, is a merchant now living at Waterloo, Iowa, and at present connected with the May Tag Company of Newton, Iowa. He is a very energetic young man. He had a common school education and also attended the high

school at Normal, Illinois. The maiden name of his wife was Sidney Smith, who was well educated and taught school at Danville, Illinois. They have two sons, Charles and John Andrew. Walter, the youngest of the children, is a talented musician, especially as a singer, with a voice of fine tone and compass, and has taken considerable part in evangelistic work. He is now an employe of the postoffice. He married Miss Lela Myers, and they have a daughter, Virginia Errettine.

Mrs. Scott was born in Hamilton, Ontario, in 1863, and was well educated in Canada. Her father was a native of England and came to Canada when a young man, marrying in the Dominion. He was an agriculturist, and died in Canada at the age of ninety. Mrs. Scott's mother was also a native of England, and is now living at Montclare, a Chicago suburb, at the age of eighty-five.

Ever since their marriage Mrs. Scott has been thoroughly in sympathy with her husband's aims and work, and has done much to give him practical aid in his successful endeavors in addition to caring for her home and looking after the training of her children. Rev. Mr. Scott has for a number of years been one of the leaders in the temperance movement. He is a very effective speaker, and is not only eloquent but has that poise and dignity which command the confidence of an audience. He has been heard on questions of public and current interest as well as on religious texts and has appeared in pulpits and lecture platforms in such cities as New York, Buffalo, Indianapolis and Cleveland. Rev. Mr. Scott has a thoroughly used and well read library of standard literature, comprising at least 500 volumes. He and his wife have a very comfortable home at Fisher, and a home that is a manifest of the culture and refinement of its inmates. In 1911 Mr. Scott and his daughter made a tour of about three months through his native land of Scotland, and also through England and France, and visited many of the places of historic interest. While abroad he preached in Edinburgh and London. For years he has been a regular contributor to the church papers. He now edits what is known as the Fisher Christian, which has a local distribution of about 200 copies and is a valuable medium for the dissemination of religious influences.

George W. Hill. As the nation grows older more and more honor is paid the men who offered their lives as sacrifice to the preservation of the Union in the dark days of the '60s. One of these veterans still living in Champaign County is George W. Hill, whose life since the war has been one of peaceful industry as a farmer and he is now enjoying a well earned retirement at his home in the village of St. Joseph.

He was born at Paola, Orange County, Indiana, February 22, 1840. It will be noted that his birth occurred on Washington's birthday and he was given the name of the father of his country. His parents, Erasmus and Huldah (Fawcett) Hill, were both natives of North Carolina and were early settlers in Indiana. George W. Hill received his education in a subscription school known as the Prospect School, kept in an old log schoolhouse. He grew up in Indiana, and was twenty-one years of age when the war broke out and he volunteered his services, enlisting in Company B of the Twenty-fourth Indiana Infantry. He enlisted at Orleans, Indiana, went South to St. Louis, up the river to Jefferson City, on to Sedalia, and from there to Springfield in the southern part of the state, returned to Sedalia and at St. Louis again took boat and went down the Mississippi to Cairo, Illinois, and from there proceeded up the Tennessee to Fort Henry and Fort Donelson, while Grant was waging his tremendous campaign around those outposts of the Confederacy. The record of

his service introduces many of the most notable battles and landmarks of the Civil War. After the fall of Fort Donelson he went to Pittsburg Landing, then to Corinth, to Memphis, crossed the river and participated at Ball's Bluff, a campaign in which his regiment did a great deal of skirmishing, and was also in that victorious engagement for the Union arms at Grand Prairie, Arkansas. Another river journey took them to Helena, Arkansas, where Mr. Hill and his comrades were encamped when the news of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation was received. The next movement was down the Mississippi to the campaign around Vicksburg. He and his comrades marched around Vicksburg to Grand Gulf and fought at Port Gibson, later at Campian Hills in the rear of Vicksburg, and then followed the real siege of the Mississippi stronghold. He was also at Jackson and in the ten days of continuous fighting around Vicksburg. After the fall of that city his regiment was sent down by river transport to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on to New Orleans, and participated in the Red River expedition. On returning to Algiers, Louisiana, Mr. Hill re-enlisted for three years or the war. He spent thirty days' furlough at home and again started South to Evansville, Indiana, where he took boat for New Orlean and then crossed the Gulf to Pensacola, Florida. He was in the noted engagement at Fort Blakely, one of the posts guarding the city of Mobile, and did considerable duty until that last southern stronghold was vanquished. The troops then went up to Selma, Alabama, from there to New Orleans, and again crossed the Gulf to Galveston, Texas, where Mr. Hill was mustered out. Thus he gave four years of service of almost continuous fighting and marching during the war. Though in almost constant danger he sustained only two slight wounds, one in the hand and one in the ankle. His two brothers were killed in the war, Alonzo at the siege of Vicksburg and Eli at the battle of Lexington.

On April 13, 1879, on Easter Sunday, Mr. Hill married Miss Sarah E. Butts. She was born at Winchester, Indiana, in 1857, a daughter of Oscar and Catherine C. Butts. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hill rented a farm at Homer in Champaign County and they continued the active life of farmers for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill have one son, Oscar A. Hill. He is a young man of more than ordinary attainments and abilities. He graduated from the high school at St. Joseph, was given a diploma as a teacher, and spent several years in that work. His first school was the Beverlin School and later he taught the Wilson School and Zion School. For a number of years he was also in the employ of Charles Dale, editor of the St. Joseph Record. From an early age he has been interested in electricity and he helped install the electric light and telephone systems at St. Joseph. He afterwards went to Florida, where he did electrical work, and also edited a newspaper known as the Lake Wales News. He is now connected with an electrical company at Akron, Ohio. Among other talents he is a noted musician, and while living in Champaign County took instruction from Professor White of Champaign. He is known as a composer of several popular melodies, two of the latest being "The Blue and the Gray" and "Stand by the Stars and Stripes Forever." Another song which gained much popular favor is entitled, "Is This the Road to Heaven?" Thus his life has been filled with interesting activities. He distinguished himself as a teacher, being an excellent disciplinarian as well as a thorough instructor. As a musician his services were much in demand as a choir leader. At the dedication of the fine Christian Church at St. Joseph he led the choir of sixty trained voices. In token of appreciation of his services in this way the church made him a present of a fine ring. While living in Florida he married Catherine Hickman.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at St. Joseph, and in politics he is a Republican, though a man of broad views, and supports the principles rather than the party. He is identified with the Grand Army of the Republic, and Mrs. Hill is a member of the Royal Neighbors.

PATRICK HENRY CAIN. For many years one of the highly respected and substantial citizens of Philo Township, Mr. Cain has been chiefly identified with farming, and has not only provided well for his family but is regarded as one of the men of influence of his community.

Though a resident of Champaign County since childhood, Mr. Cain was born at Peru in LaSalle County, Illinois, in 1865. His parents, Thomas and Bridget (Finn) Cain, were both natives of Ireland. In 1878 the family removed to Champaign County and located on a farm in Colfax Township. The parents both died on that old farm. Their family of children consisted of six: Austin, deceased; James T. and Thomas, of Colfax Township; Mary Ann, wife of John Giblin of Colfax Township; Patrick H.; and Sarah, wife of Lawrence Gallagher, of Colfax Township.

In the schools of Illinois Patrick H. Cain acquired a substantial training during his youth and he lived at home until the death of his parents. His best work has been accomplished on the 160 acres of land which he bought in 1903, located in sections 15 and 21 of Philo Township. Under his energetic direction this farm has been brought to a highly improved condition and has responded bountifully to his efforts as an agriculturist.

On February 4, 1891, Mr. Cain took upon himself the responsibilities of a family by his marriage to Anna Coady. Eight children have come into their home, and those that grew up have shown the characteristics of energy and ambition which are distinctive of their parents. Mary Gertrude, the oldest, is now deceased. Estella is still at home. Henry is deceased. Grace is now a Catholic sister in Springfield. The younger children, all at home, are Leo, Anna, Kathleen and Thomas Mathew. Mr. Cain is a Democrat in politics, is a member of the Knights of Columbus and he and his family worship in the Catholic Church at Philo.

FRED ROY PARRETT. Such capable citizens as Fred Roy Parrett are the men who are now bearing the brunt of the agricultural activities in Champaign County. He is a general farmer and stockman in Mahomet Township, and has one of the best improved places in that community. Mr. Parrett is one of the younger generation of Champaign County's native sons, and his name is one that is spoken with honor and respect due to the achievements and the character of those who have borne it in this section of the state.

He was born in Champaign County and in the house where he still lives on January 18, 1890, the only child of George C. and Susan Mary (Thomas) Parrett. His father, who was born in Ross County, Ohio, June 6, 1849, was brought to Illinois at the age of two years. His parents made this journey in pioneer style, with wagons and teams, crossing the intervening country and locating on rented land in Piatt County. They afterwards moved to Champaign County, where George C. Parrett was reared. He was well educated, having, in addition to the common schools, the advantages of a course in Oberlin College. After completing his education he farmed as a renter three years, and then bought eighty acres, going in debt in order to secure a home. He and his wife were married April 23, 1878, and together they worked loyally side by side until their

debts were paid and they were financially well to do. Most of the permanent improvements on the farm were made by George C. Parrett. He was a Prohibitionist, and advocated the temperance cause long before it became as popular as it is today. He was also identified with the Baptist Church, for twenty-five years served as deacon, was interested in the Sunday school and for years was superintendent. The death of this good man occurred November 18, 1916, and an appropriate stone marks his resting place in the Blue Ridge Cemetery.

Mr. Fred Parrett's mother was born in Champaign County, October 19, 1857, and is a daughter of the Mexican veteran, James Quincy Thomas, whose long and interesting career is the subject of an article on other pages. She is still living, at the home of her son, and has spent all her life in Champaign County, where she received her education in the common schools. She is a member of the Baptist Church.

Fred Roy Parrett grew up on the old homestead, attended the common schools, and early made choice of a career as an agriculturist, the returns from which have been highly satisfying in every particular.

His farm comprises 160 acres in Mahomet Township and he is also managing a farm of 160 acres belonging to his grandfather, Thomas. The soil is well adapted to the cultivation of crops of corn and oats, and he raises some good grades of horses and hogs. The Parrett home bears the appropriate name of High View Lodge. It is a home reflecting good management and is also the abode of hospitality and comfort.

Mr. Parrett devoted himself to the duties of home and looking after his parents, and for five years had active charge of his grandfather's estate. About the time he married he returned to the Parrett farm. February 22, 1911, he married Miss Mary Margaret Anderson. They are the happy parents of three sturdy young boys. Maurice Anderson was born July 24, 1912; Mervin Thomas was born October 31, 1913; and Frederick Harold was born October 21, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Parrett find one of the chief incentives to their labors and efforts in their plans for the appropriate education and training of these sons.

Mrs. Parrett was born in Champaign County, August 3, 1892, a daughter of John C. and Emily May (Samuelson) Anderson. There were seven children in the family, four sons and three daughters. Mrs. Parrett was educated in the public schools, and while her life has been a busy one, taken up with practical affairs at home, she has cultivated every opportunity to improve her mind by association with the best of literature and social life. She is an active member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Parrett is a Democrat and cast his first presidential vote for Woodrow Wilson. He also is a member of the Baptist Church at Mahomet. They have begun life well, and have the best things still in prospect for achievement and enjoyment.

Martin Joseph Clennon. That farming can be conducted as a successful business in the same class as a store or factory needs no other proof than a visit to the place under the management of Martin Joseph Clennon in section 33 of Philo Township. He has a large acreage under cultivation, a group of well arranged, substantially built structures for his home and barns, and on every hand are evidences of good management and efficiency.

Mr. Clennon is one of the younger farmers of Champaign County. He was born in Crittenden Township of this county December 12, 1880, a son of William F. and Adelia (Moran) Clennon. His father was born in Grundy County, Illinois, and his mother in Canada. It was in 1877 that the parents removed to Champaign County and located on a farm

in Crittenden Township, where the widowed mother still lives. The father died here May 16, 1906. They were the parents of a large family of nine children: Mary Agnes, still at home; Martin J.; Francis W., of Crittenden Township; Sadie, wife of Frank H. Cain, of Philo Township; Agnes, at home; Catherine, wife of Lawrence Flynn, of Philo Township; Lauretta; Lawrence, in Battery F, 149th Illinois Volunteers; and Raymond J., at home.

Martin J. Clennon attended the district schools in his early youth and also had a course in a business college at Decatur. He wisely made choice of agriculture as his vocation and has been steadily improving his opportunities granted by experience and is now capably managing one of the fine farms of Philo Township, containing 236 acres.

On September 4, 1907, he married Catherine Tyrrell, a native of Livingston County, Illinois. They have three young children, named Howard Ambrose, Mary Edith and Lois Adelia. In politics Mr. Clennon is a Democrat. He and his family are members of St. Thomas Catholic Church at Philo, and he is a member of the Knights of Columbus. His country home is supplied with the daily mail from rural route No. 1 out of Tolono.

James W. Harper, who is now living retired in a beautiful semi-country home at the village of Ogden, has been a factor in this section of Champaign County for many years. His associates speak of Mr. Harper as a man, meaning thereby not only his physical strength, but strength of determination, of purposeful conduct, and of notable public spirit displayed in his efforts to advance wherever possible the welfare of the community.

Mr. Harper was born at Dana in Vermilion County, Indiana, August 23, 1865, a son of John and Amanda (Dikes) Harper. Both parents were born at Rockville in the same Indiana county. The Dikes family came originally from Kentucky. John Harper and wife had five children, one son and four daughters. About fifty-two years ago the family moved to Vermilion County, Illinois, locating at Pilot Grove, and still later in Champaign County, settling in Ogden Township.

John Harper was one of the most successful men of Champaign County and much of his ability was inherited by his only son, James. He was quick, intelligent and industrious, and had the faculty of using his means for redoubled profit and advantage. At the time of his death he owned an estate of 800 acres.

The Harper children all attended the district school known as the Hope School. James W. Harper was educated there, and as he grew up he learned farming from his father and emulated his skill and competence as a business manager.

On October 1, 1890, Mr. Harper married Miss Mary E. Canady. She was born in Ogden Township, daughter of Asbury and Drusilla (Divan) Canady. The Canadys were prominent pioneers of Champaign County. Drusilla Divan had three brothers who offered themselves to the country for the purpose of preserving the Union during the Civil War. Their mother, Ellen Divan, was at the time a widow and sorely needed her sons at home, but she courageously gave them up for the benefit of the country and deserves every credit for keeping up the home during their absence.

John Harper's parents were Elijah and Hannah Harper, who were among the pioneer settlers of Indiana and spent all their lives there.

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Harper after their marriage spent one year at Hope, where Mr. Harper rented his father's farm. They then removed three miles north of the village of Ogden to 160 acres, which had been

given Mrs. Harper by her father. Her father gave a similar amount to all his children. Here Mr. and Mrs. Harper made their permanent home for many years, and carried forward their plans for improvement and home making. They erected a comfortable house and barns, and set out many trees, both shade and fruit. Mr. Harper has the distinction of giving Champaign County its largest grove of catalpa trees. He set out 2,500 of them, cultivated them and cared for them, and today it is the finest catalpa grove in the entire county. They serve a double purpose, being not only an attractive feature of the landscape but furnishing a splendid windbreak for the farm.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Harper were born three sons: Arlie C., who died at the age of eight months; Chester C. and Merle. The latter two were educated in the district school known as Prospect School, while Chester subsequently graduated from both the St. Joseph and Urbana High schools, and completed his education in the University of Illinois. On May 12, 1917, he married Miss Mabel Hubbard of Vermilion County, Illinois. Two days after his marriage he went to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, having volunteered his services as a soldier in the American National Army. There after a brief period of training he was released and returned home. The youngest son, Merle, is still a student in the public schools of Ogden.

In 1915 Mr. and Mrs. Harper decided to relieve themselves of the duties and responsibilities of their farm and coming to Ogden bought a beautiful modern home at the edge of town. They have nine acres of ground surrounding their home and that affords them every opportunity to indulge the pursuits of gardening on a small and intensive scale and at the same time they have the nearby advantages of the town.

Mr. and Mrs. Harper began with the 160 acres which she inherited, but their achievements in a business way brought them great increase to this talent, and Mr. Harper added 320 acres more. At the present time he owns 525 acres of as fine land as can be found anywhere, one of his farms being in the state of Indiana.

All this time he has manifested a commendable public spirit and has filled the offices of school director and school trustee and has worked for the advantage of everything that concerns his community. He and his wife are active members of the Prospect Christian Church, and in politics he is a Republican. He has always voted the Republican ticket and has found that party the most capable of satisfying his views on public questions. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

Elijah J. Anders is both a successful farmer and an active business man at Sidney. He has always lived in close touch with the soil and with agricultural conditions, and that experience has been invaluable to him as a grain merchant.

Mr. Anders has spent nearly all his life in Champaign County but was born at Canal Winchester, Ohio, May 19, 1875. His parents, John and Mary (Krumm) Anders, were both born in Germany. His father was brought to America by his parents when about two years of age, the family locating in Ohio. He grew up there, took up farming and in 1878 came to Champaign County, locating in Philo Township. He and his wife are still living at Sidney. They had a large family of children, named briefly as follows: William, of Sidney; Elijah and Etta, twins, the latter the wife of Charles Shipps of Fairmount, Illinois; Emma, wife of S. T. Mosier, of Fort Wayne, Indiana; Henry, of New Berlin, Illinois; Minnie, wife of Arthur Cole, of Block, Illinois; Mary, wife of Charles Thompson, of Urbana; Mrs. Archie J. Hall, of Sidney; and John, now deceased.

Elijah J. Anders grew up on his father's farm in Champaign County and lived at home with his parents until he was twenty-six. In the meantime he had acquired a good education in the district schools and also in the business college at Champaign. When he began farming on his own account it was as a renter of 155 acres, and after entering business at Sidney in 1913 he continued to supervise his farming interests. At Sidney Mr. Anders joined Mr. Golden in the implement business a year and a half. Then for fifteen months he was assistant bookkeeper in the State Bank and has since been manager of the Sidney Grain Company. He is utilizing his important connections and acquaintance with the grain raisers in this section of Illinois to build up a highly profitable and successful business.

Mr. Anders married, February 26, 1902, Miss Alice Porterfield. They have two bright young children, Dorothy Mildred and Clifford Burt, both of whom are receiving their education in the local schools. Mr. Anders is a Democrat and is a present member of the town board of Sidney. He and his family attend worship at the Methodist Episcopal Church.

J. K. P. Yeats, who before he reached his majority gave loyal service to the Union in the Civil War, has spent half a century as a practical farmer in Champaign County and his life is closely identified with its welfare and making.

The Yeats family were pioneers in southwestern Champaign County and lived as close neighbors to that great pioneer whose name appears so prominent in this history, Henry Sadorus. Mr. Sadorus often told the children of the Yeats family many interesting experiences of his pioneer life.

J. K. P. Yeats was born in Fountain County, Indiana, and was five years of age when his parents, Zepheniah and Matilda (Kerr) Yeats, came to Champaign County in 1850. His father was a native of Ohio and his mother of Kentucky. During the youth of Mr. Yeats the only school in the neighborhood was one maintained on the subscription plan and he learned his lessons in that institution.

He was nineteen years of age when he enlisted toward the close of the war in Company H of the Twenty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He went with other boys from Champaign County to Chicago, and almost immediately after his enlistment went on to Richmond, Virginia, and camped a mile and a half from that city. His company and regiment were in the Fourteenth Army Corps of the Army of the Potomac. Most of his duty was as guard around Richmond and he remained in the service until July 24, 1865, when he was mustered out and given his honorable discharge.

On August 26, 1867, Mr. Yeats married Elizabeth E. Johnston. She is a native of the Blue Grass State of Kentucky, daughter of Robert and Olivia (Muir) Johnston, also natives of Kentucky. Her parents came to Illinois and settled in Champaign County in 1854, when Elizabeth was a small child. She grew up in this state and gained her education in the Swearingen and the Kirkpatrick schools. After returning from the war Mr. Yeats was employed by Mr. Busey and boarded at the home of Mr. Johnston, and repaid his landlord's kindness by marrying his daughter.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Yeats located four miles north of St. Joseph, and for six years rented the farm of Harrison Drellinger. Later they moved to Sadorus, where they lived ten years on his father's farm. This land, comprising 160 acres, had been entered direct from the Government by his father at the price of $1.25 an acre. Mr. and Mrs. Yeats finally bought 160 acres in Stanton Township, and made that their

permanent home, and it is a place endeared to them and their children by many grateful associations.

Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Yeats: Clara, Minnie, Carrie, Elmer, Anna, Nellie, Jimmie, Pearl, Carlos and Bernice. The oldest, Clara, died at the age of four months, and the youngest, Bernice, died when two years of age. The other children were well educated in the Baldwin and No. 7 district schools and some of them attended high school. Minnie is now the wife of Charles Martin, a farmer at Lebanon, Indiana, and they have four children, three daughters and one son, Myrtle and Mabel (twins), Vern and Lois. The daughter Carrie is the wife of Lee Dunn, a resident of Champaign. and their five daughters and one son are named Raymond, Wintress, Wilma, Mildred, Olive and Myrtle. The son Elmer is a Stanton Township farmer, and by his marriage to Alta Yeazel has children: Ray, Ralph, Ruby, Russell and Roma. The daughter Anna married Nathan Rudolph, a farmer in Ogden Township, and their children are Jimmie, Hazel and Blanche. Nellie married R. L. Davis, a farmer in St. Joseph Township, and their five children are Beulah, Glen, Pearl, Bernice and Mabel. The son Carlos is a farmer in St. Joseph Township and married Etta Wilson. Pearl married Elmer Bantz, and she died fifteen years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Yeats have performed a noble part by these children, instilling in them principles of integrity and usefulness, and have the satisfaction of seeing them all well established in life.

Mr. and Mrs. Yeats are regular members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of St. Joseph. In politics he is a Democrat. Through the many years of his active work in Champaign County Mr. Yeats has had the counsel and assistance of a noble wife who has stood by his side, and it is now just half a century since they were married. Six years ago Mr. and Mrs. Yeats left their farm and located in the village of St. Joseph, where he bought a good home on Warren Street, just far enough out to combine the advantages of town and country.

Mr. Yeats has been a witness to the wonderful transformation which has recreated Champaign County from the days of the wilderness. As a boy he frequently saw deer in droves of fifty, and many other wild animals, including catamounts and an occasional panther, which struck terror to an entire neighborhood. Prairie wolves often wandered about the Yeats home and the boy J. K. P. frequently took refuge under a bed when these animals were prowling around the cabin home. As was the case with most of the homes, the Yeats house had its roof secured by weight poles. Not infrequently a heavy wind would blow part of the roof off and the beds underneath would be drenched with rain. Mr. Yeats' memory goes back to the days when matches were very scarce and cost 10 cents for a box of a dozen. Comparatively few homes had them at all and the common resource for starting a fire was to load a gun with powder and cotton, discharge it, thus igniting the cotton and gradually nurse the fire into a blaze. Iron and steel were exceedingly scarce, and nails were seldom used in building houses or for any other purpose. Thus Mr. Yeats has been one of those who bore the heat and burden of the day in the pioneer development of Champaign County and great honor is due him and to all others who were sharers in this great work.

Peter John Wagner has been for many years identified with the farming enterprise of Ogden Township, and still lives in a home and on a farm that are evidence of his hard work and intelligent care. This attractive rural home is in section 18 of Ogden Township, conveniently situated by the interurban road.



Peter J. Wagner
Minnie Wagner

Mr. Wagner was born at Brownhelm in Lorain County, Ohio, a son of Berkhardt and Catherine (Hahn) Wagner. His parents were both natives of Germany. Berkhardt came to this country when twenty-seven years of age. His wife was a year and a half old when her parents crossed the ocean and found a home in America. Peter J. Wagner was one of three sons, the oldest being Charles H. and the youngest Henry Charles. The Wagner family lived in a splendid German community of Lorain County, and had many close and intimate friends there. The Wagners honored some of these good friends in naming their children, but Peter John was named for the two great apostles. The Wagners were active members of the German Reformed Church.

Peter John Wagner received his education in a district school, and at the age of twenty-two he married Anna Caroline Loeffler. She was born in Illinois, a daughter of George B. Loeffler. After his marriage Mrs. Wagner's father sent for the young couple, inviting them to come to Illinois and settle in Ogden Township. Many attractive opportunities were described, but at first the young people became very homesick and it was some time before they accommodated themselves to the comparatively new country among strangers. They began as housekeepers for Uncle Chris Loeffler and rented forty acres of land. The next year Mr. Wagner paid $25 an acre for eighty acres and lived on that place a number of years.

Three children were born to his marriage, Minnie, Clara and Albert, the last dying in infancy. The mother was taken away by death, and Mr. Wagner was left with his little children, but with the aid of his mother and sister who came on from Ohio he reared them and kept the household together. Later he married a sister of his first wife, Elizabeth Loeffler, who came into the home as a Christian mother for his children. Three children were born to the second marriage, Edith, Charles and John. John died in childhood.

In the meantime Mr. Wagner bought forty acres of land in section 18 and later made the improvements which have resulted in his permanent home. He set out many trees and gradually accumulated other land until his estate consists of 160 acres. He also owns another farm of ninety-seven and a half acres, where he built a fine modern home, and it is now occupied by his son Charles. Charles married Grace Currie and has three children, Ralph, Peter and Merle.

Mr. Wagner also lost his second wife by death, and the daughter Minnie died at the age of nineteen, a lovable young woman who had gained a large circle of friends. Mr. Wagner's daughter Clara married John Firebaugh, and they live on a farm at Kell, Illinois. They have five young sons, true types of American boys, named Oral, Carrol, Clinton, Dale and Amel. The daughter Edith married Siegel Yeazle, a farmer, and their three children are Nellie, Glen and Helen.

For his third wife Mr. Wagner married Minnie Gregor. who was born at Urbana, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Rambo) Gregor. There were also three children of this marriage, Roy, Elmer and John. Roy died at the age of seventeen. He was a tall, muscular youth, a fine specimen of manhood, but in spite of everything that could be done for him he became a victim of the grim reaper. Mr. Wagner's last wife died of cancer, April 30, 1915. His son Elmer is still living at home.

All the children were given good advantages. Charles graduated from the high school at Ogden and was a successful teacher in the Clark School, and he also took special studies in the University of Illinois. He ranked first in the county in high school examination. The son Elmer attended the Urbana High School.

Mr. Wagner and family are active members of the German Reformed

Church, a splendid old church that has stood as a beacon light for many years in that community. Mr. Wagner served six years as school director and for a number of years was ditch commissioner and school trustee. He is one of the men who has been most active in promoting a drainage system in Champaign County. A number of years ago drainage was looked upon as an extravagance, but the people have been gradually educated until they now feel that money invested in this way brings more returns than any other. It is said that Mr. Wagner has done as much in the building of drains in Ogden as any other individual. He is a man of high principles, of absolute integrity of character, and has enjoyed the friendship and esteem of a large circle of friends. Politically he is a Democrat, though his broad views have frequently led him to support the man rather than the party. It is well known in that section of the county that his word is as good as a bond, and higher praise for his commercial integrity could not be uttered. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masonic order, Knights of Pythias, with the Eastern Star and Pythian Sisters.

David Harvey Lester. For almost a half century has David Harvey Lester been a resident of Champaign County and it has been his privilege to witness and bear a part in its remarkable development. He is a native of Indiana and was born in Switzerland County, October 18, 1848. His parents were David A. and Eliza A. (Gerard) Lester, who were the parents of eight children, the survivors being: Martha, who is the widow of Robert T. Graham, has five children and lives at Vevay, Indiana; David Harvey; Margaret, who is a resident of Saint Joseph, Champaign County; Mary, who is the wife of Eugene Abbott, a farmer in Wabash County, Indiana; Armenia, who is the wife of John More, a fruit dealer and grocer living in California; Clara, who is the wife of A. T. Clark and they live in Indiana; and John, who is an agriculturist and resides near Cromwell in Noble County, Indiana.

David A. Lester and his wife were born in Switzerland County, Indiana, where he died at the early age of thirty-five years. After the death of her husband the mother of the above family remained in Indiana until 1889, when she came to Champaign County, Illinois, where she yet resides. She has reached the unusual age of ninety years and, what is more remarkable, has retained her faculties unimpaired and enjoys general good health. She is tenderly cared for and resides with her daughter Margaret, and there loves to have her descendants gather about her.

David Harvey Lester is an example of the self made man. He had but few educational advantages in boyhood, a short time only in the subscription schools covering his entire opportunity, but general reading and years of association with men and affairs have made Mr. Lester one of the well informed men of his county. He was twenty years old when he started out on his own responsibility and he remembers the first 50 cents he earned by covering corn. When he came to Champaign County he had a cash capital of $20, but has lived to see the day when his name at the bottom of a legal paper is accepted in any bank in the state for any amount represented.

For three years after becoming a resident of this county, Mr. Lester worked as a farm hand, his wages being $18 a month, which he surely earned, considering how little farm machinery was then employed to assist in agricultural industries at that time. After his marriage in 1871 he decided to become a pioneer in Nebraska, glowing accounts of which territory being then circulated through the more closely settled states, and located on land in Otoe County, near Nebraska City, two years later moving to near Beaver City and lived one year on a homestead of 160 acres.

There were many hardships to be endured and by 1874 Mr. Lester determined to return to Champaign County, even if he had to begin once more at the bottom of the ladder. For eight years after coming back to Illinois he rented farm land and then felt justified in buying the first forty acres of his present ample estate and had it paid for in a comparatively short time. Through his own hard work and the judicious frugality of his estimable wife he made further progress and at the present time owns seventy-two acres of finely developed land and his wife had an equally valuable tract of thirty-two acres.

Mr. Lester was married November 17, 1871, to Miss Phoebe Brodrick, who was born in Champaign County, Illinois, January 8, 1855, and passed away in her home in Newcomb Township, November 8, 1915. She was a noble woman both within and without her family circle and there were many outside the domestic circle who felt bereaved, for she had been known for twenty years as a kind and faithful Sunday school teacher in her neighborhood prior to her marriage, and at the time of death was president of the Ladies' Aid Society of the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church. She was the beloved mother of four sons and two daughters, the four survivors of her children being: Effie, who married H. S. Wright, a prominent farmer in this township and they have six children; Bert, who was educated in the public schools, the Mahomet High School and the State University at Champaign, for two years has been superintendent of schools at Piper City, Ford County, Illinois, married Grace Addison and they have three children, Howard, Eloise and John, and he is identified fraternally with the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Royal Neighbors; Oran, who is a graduate of the high school at Mahomet and a successful teacher, lives with his father on the homestead; Daisy was a student in the State Normal University at Normal, Illinois, after being graduated from the Mahomet High School, and she married Elmer Rohlfing and they have two children, Elizabeth and Lucile.

William B. Brodrick, father of Mrs. Lester, was born in Ohio, moved from there to Indiana and from there came to Champaign County and acquired 160 acres of land in Newcomb Township. He became one of the leading men, was prominent in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for many years was a school trustee and also was township clerk. His death occurred in 1895. He married Phoebe Keelor, who was born in Indiana and is now deceased, and they had seven children born to them, four sons, two of whom served in the Civil War, and three daughters. Two sons survive: Charles, who is a resident of Santa Cruz, California, and Allen, who is a retired farmer of Newcomb Township.

Mr. Lester is a Republican and he cast his first presidential vote for Ulysses S. Grant and ever since has loyally supported the great men of his party who have been candidates, and frequently he has served as a delegate to the county conventions. He has conscientiously done his part at all times as a good citizen and his fellow men have shown their confidence by many times electing him to local offices. For twenty years he served as a school director, for one year was a school trustee, for ten years was highway commissioner of the township, and for two terms was assessor of his township, the duties of every office being performed honestly and efficiently. For many years he has been a member of the order of Knights of Pythias, attending the lodge at Fisher, Illinois. Mr. Lester has been one of the pillars of the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church. When this congregation resolved to erect a new house of worship a building committee was appointed that was made up of the prominent and substantial men of business experience and good judgment, and Mr. Lester

was one of these. The beautiful building was dedicated May 13, 1917, and was erected at a cost of $9,000. This edifice is a credit to Champaign County and to the progressive church organization whereby it was made a possibility. Mr. Lester is still a member of the financial committee. He is in every way recognized as one of the dependable and trustworthy men of his township and his name is justly included in a history of the worthy men of Champaign County.

PHILLIP MOHR arrived in Champaign County in 1874. He was then a young man, only a few years over from Germany, possessed a fair education, knew how to work, but was without friends of influence and without a personal fortune. Hard work and good judgment have been the route which he has followed on the road to success. He is widely known over the county, is a progressive and up-to-date farmer, and has earned all the competence which he and his family now enjoy.

Mr. Mohr is a native of Germany and represents that sturdy class of old country people who perhaps to a greater degree than any other nationality have proved successful and enterprising farmers in America. Like most of his fellow citizens, Mr. Mohr came to this country without money, but he availed himself of the wonderful opportunities of the new land and has been a factor in the progress of Champaign County for over forty years.

He was born in the village of Kultsee, not far from Stettin, in the province of Pomerania, on January 3, 1851. He was the youngest of six children, five sons and one daughter. His parents were Karl and Mary (Rosenthal) Mohr. His father was a native of the same province and cultivated a small tract of land there, where he lived and died. His death occurred about 1884. His wife was also born and spent her years in the same country. Both were active members of the German Lutheran Church.

Phillip Mohr grew up on his father's farm, was educated in the German language, and when about twenty he said goodbye to his friends and family and started for America. This was in 1871. The vessel that brought him from Hamburg was seventy-two days in crossing the Atlantic and he did not land in New York City until the month of December. He then paid his fare to Chicago, and arrived in that city with only $2.50 left. Here he found himself in a strange land, among a strange people, and unable to speak the English tongue. He bravely adapted himself to circumstances and sought every opportunity to earn an honest dollar. During the first winter he worked at putting up ice at $1.75 a day and afterwards found employment in lumber and brick yards. He remained in Chicago until 1874, in which year he came to Champaign City, which was then a small town with unpaved streets and with few of the buildings or other improvements that have since been made.

Here he did his first work as a farm hand at $16 a month. In this way he continued for eight years and put away nearly all his earnings with a view to the future. His next experience was as a renter in Mahomet Township, and he farmed land owned by others for six years. In the meantime he married, and the aid and counsel of his good and capable wife were no small factor in his success.

Finally he made a purchase of 100 acres, going in debt $2,200, and since then he has bought and sold and improved several farms. He finally traded his first tract and then bought 207 acres in Stanton Township, and there again assumed an indebtedness of $7,000. This he also sold after a time and moved to Somer Township, where he acquired 125 acres and kept it four years before selling. In 1898 Mr. Mohr came to Mahomet Township and bought 185 acres. To this he added eighty acres and now

has a total of 265 acres. in addition to 118 acres in Scott Township. His home farm is almost a model in management and improvement. In 1908 he built a beautiful home, modern in every detail, and one of the best residences in that section of the country.

In March, 1884, Mr. Mohr married Miss Ida Reyburn. To their marriage were born six children, all sons, and four are still living. These sons are all home and all of them received good advantages in the way of home training and discipline and the privileges of the local schools. Ernest J., the oldest, is a practical agriculturist on the home farm, is a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church. Louis is also a successful young farmer and a member of the same political party and of the same church as his brother. The two younger sons are Fred and Carl, the latter still attending school.

It would not be possible to speak too highly of the good and capable companion that Mr. Mohr chose for his wife and whose industry and thrift were such important factors in their success. She was born in Champaign County in 1863, a daughter of R. G. and Isabel (Herriott) Reyburn. She was reared and educated in this county and possessed more than ordinary ability and wisdom. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church and in that faith she passed away in October, 1915. Her remains are now at rest in the Riverside Cemetery.

Mr. Mohr has been a Republican since he acquired his American citizenship, and while always interested in the welfare of his community has never held any office. He is of the German Lutheran faith and is in every way a true and loyal American and has reared his sons to cherish the principles of his adopted land.

Lawrence E. Farlow. While one of the younger residents of Fisher as a business man, where he has lived for the past five years, Mr. Farlow lacks none of that enthusiasm, energy and enterprise which are fundamentals in success and the advancement of a community. His responsibilities in a business way are chiefly as manager of the Fisher Farmers Grain and Coal Company.

Mr. Farlow is a native of Jefferson County, Illinois, where he was born January 2, 1889, a son of S. M. and Marian (Redmond) Farlow. His father was also born in Jefferson County and the larger part of his life has been spent as an agriculturist. The common schools educated him and he also had a year of college training. For fifteen years he was successfully at work as a teacher in Jefferson County, and many of his students now grown to manhood and womanhood have a grateful memory of his work in their behalf. Politically he is a Democrat and has served his home county and township as an official for a number of years, having been justice of the peace sixteen years and school treasurer four years. Both he and his wife have been affiliated with the Missionary Baptist Church and he is now superintendent of the Sunday School, an office he has filled a number of years. The father resides at Belle Rive, Illinois. His wife, who was also born in Illinois, died in October, 1897, and is buried in her home township.

Lawrence E. Farlow in addition to the advantages of the common schools had one year of training in Ewing College in Franklin County, Illinois, and also took a course in Carleton College at Farmington, Missouri. His early work was in the same line as his father, teaching, which he followed successfully for five years in Jefferson County. Mr. Farlow came to Fisher, Illinois, in 1912, and was made bookkeeper of the Fisher Farmers Grain and Coal Company. Three months later the directors of that company, recognizing his thorough fitness and capability, made

him manager, and the business has since grown and flourished under his capable direction.

Mr. Farlow married, February 6, 1910, Miss Bertie Bumpus. They have two young children, Coenia B. and Edwin M. These children are the pride and delight of their parents.

Mrs. Farlow was born in Jefferson County, Illinois, in 1891, and besides the common school course she attended Mount Vernon High School and spent one term in Carleton College. She is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is secretary of the Domestic Science Club of Fisher.

The Farmers Grain and Coal Company of Fisher is one of the leading enterprises in that section of Champaign County. To the business Mr. Farlow has given the best that is in him and he is well fitted temperamentally for contracting business with the public. He possesses the qualities of cordiality and a pleasant greeting for all comers, and these, combined with his honesty and integrity, command for him an impregnable place of advantage in the community. Politically he is a Democrat, having cast his first presidential vote for President Wilson. He was one of the village trustees of Fisher for one year. Mr. Farlow is a member of Lodge No. 704 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Fisher and is treasurer of the lodge. While his church affiliation is as a Baptist, he is now superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Sunday school at Fisher, this being one of the most vigorous Sunday schools of the town. Mr. and Mrs. Farlow have a beautiful and modern bungalow residence on Fifth Street, and it is a home of peace, harmony and good cheer, where they extend their hospitality to many friends.

J. B. Dunn, after many years of activity as an agriculturist in Champaign County, is living retired in the comforts and conveniences of a good town home on Third Street in St. Joseph.

Mr. Dunn is a native of the grand old Blue Grass country of Harrison County, Kentucky. His parents were Benjamin F. and Rachel (Kerns) Dunn, also natives of Kentucky. Mr. Dunn grew up in Kentucky and acquired his education by attending about three months every year a subscription school. When he was ten years of age he lost the guidance and care of his mother and some years later his father moved to Illinois. The family arrived in Champaign County October 18, 1871, when J. B. Dunn was twenty years of age. This was only a few days after the great Chicago fire, and much excitement prevailed and all the talk on the train was of the terrible disaster. The family location was in Somer Township, near Locust Grove.

On coming to this county J. B. Dunn obtained work as a farm laborer, and afterwards, with a view to bettering his condition, farmed on the shares. He continued in this way three years.

August 3, 1878, he established a home of his own by his marriage to Matie L. Hunt. Mrs. Dunn was born in Stanton Township of Champaign County, daughter of Jonathan Hunt. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Dunn rented 200 acres in Stanton Township, and they worked hard, economized and remained on that site for eight years, at the end of which time they had acquired some capital with which to make a real start in life. Mr. Dunn then bought a farm for $40 an acre and when he got on land of his own his enthusiasm was born anew and with bountiful crops rewarding his labors he was soon on the highway to independence and success.

Into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dunn were born five children: Claud O., Lawrence E., Ethel Irene, Lena Ray and Merle. These children were

educated in the district schools of Stanton Township. Claud and Lawrence were also students in the St. Joseph High School, and later both of them took a business course in a college at Marion, Indiana. That gave them superior equipment for their respective callings in life. Claud O. Dunn is a successful farmer near Elwell, Michigan. He married Leonet Doll of Elkhart, Indiana, and their three children are Everett, Florence and Hilda. The son Lawrence E., a successful stockman in Indianapolis, where he is a commission merchant, married Nellie Snyder. The daughter Ethel Dunn married Raymond Besore, and they live at Alma, Michigan, where Mr. Besore is proprietor of a steam laundry. They have a son, Lisle. Lena Ray Dunn married Otis Phenicie, a farmer in Stanton Township, and they have a son, Arden. Merle, the youngest child of Mr. Dunn, is associated with his brother in the stock business at Indianapolis, and both of them are doing very well for young men. Mr. Dunn's children have thus proved their ability to go out and cope with the problems of the world, and they are a credit and satisfaction to their father.

The family has experienced the usual joys and sorrows of existence, and on July 23, 1903, the good wife and mother passed away. On October 24, 1906, Mr. Dunn married Mrs. Laura E. (Swisher) O'Day. They have a bright young daughter, Roxine Lucile, now seven years of age and in the third grade of the public schools.

In 1912 Mr. and Mrs. Dunn decided to leave the farm and remove to the village of St. Joseph, where they purchased a fine brick residence on Third Street. Having spent many years as a practical farmer, Mr. Dunn is now able to enjoy thoroughly the leisure and comforts won by so much expenditure of effort. He and his wife are regular attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church and their little daughter is a student in the Sunday school. In politics Mr. Dunn is a Democrat. He is affiliated with the Masonic order, being a charter member of St. Joseph lodge, while Mrs. Dunn is a member of the Eastern Star. Mr. Dunn is a man who with all the cares of his home and business has been willing to assume the burdens of public responsibility. He has filled several offices which indicate the confidence of the community in his judgment, such as road commissioner, township supervisor and school trustee. He is a man among men, interested in questions of vital interest to the public, and willing to get out and work for anything that concerns the welfare of Champaign County.

Morris F. Cole. The following sketch contains the important facts in the life and family record of a Champaign County citizen whose name always stood for all that was honest and of good report in the community. It also was significant of thrift and business integrity. Mr. Cole was a farmer, spent his life, which was prematurely cut short at the age of forty-nine, in Champaign County, and had gained a competence for himself by his well directed labors.

He was born on a farm in section 24 of Philo Township, November 27, 1867. His death occurred at his home April 8, 1917. His parents, Charles F. and Maria (Pease) Cole, were natives of Massachusetts and were early settlers in Champaign County. His father was a practical farmer, and died in this county January 7, 1899. The mother is still living at Philo. They had eight children: Nellie, deceased; Belle, wife of Millard Porterfield, of Fairmount, Illinois; Hattie, wife of J. N. Black, of Mahomet; Angie, wife of J. T. Black, of Peru, Indiana; Morris F.; Royal G., of Cortland, New York; and Stella and Charles, both of whom died in childhood.

The late Morris F. Cole was reared at home and in the local schools

acquired a good education. At the age of twenty-one he went out to Wyoming and put in three years of adventure and exciting experience as a cowboy on the ranches. He returned to Champaign County in the winter of 1892, was married soon afterward, and he and his wife started housekeeping on a rented farm. He handled about 300 acres of rented land and worked it profitably for himself and its owners for about seventeen years. In the meantime he began buying land of his own and at the time of his death had 200 acres in section 25 of Philo Township.

Mr. Cole was married February 2, 1893, to Lydia Thrash, daughter of John and Matilda (Knepper) Thrash. Her parents were born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and moved to Champaign County, Illinois, in 1873, locating on a farm in Philo Township. Her father died March 8, 1917, and thus Mrs. Cole suffered bereavement of her father and husband within a few weeks. Her mother passed away October 4, 1906. Mrs. Cole was one of seven children: Emma, wife of A. J. Pettigrew of Wayne County, Illinois; a daughter who died in infancy; Perry of Tolono, Illinois; the fifth child also died early; William lives in California; Mrs. Cole is the next; and John H. lives at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Cole had five children: Hazel Mae, Estella M., Nina B., Charles F. and Gladys L. All the children are still living except Nina.

Mr. Cole was not only a practical and progressive farmer but a man who commanded the confidence of his fellow citizens and was frequently entrusted with offices of responsibility in the community. He served as road commissioner, school director, was active in the Champaign County Agricultural Association and also held the offices of assessor and collector. He was affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Court of Honor, the Knights of Pythias, and the Loyal Order of Moose. He and his family worshipped in the Presbyterian Church.

J. L. Peters. Three years have gone by since Mr. J. L. Peters passed that landmark of mortal journey known as three score and ten, and he and his good wife, who has been counselor and adviser and companion by his side for more than half a century, are now enjoying the comforts of retirement at their pleasant and attractive country home near the village of Tipton in St. Joseph Township.

Mr. Peters is one of the oldest living native sons of St. Joseph Township, where he was born January 25, 1844. That date is of itself evidence that the Peters family came to Champaign County along with the earliest pioneers. His parents were William and Sarah (McNutt) Peters. They were born in Kentucky, were married there, and soon after their marriage they started for a new home in the North, making the journey in a covered wagon. At that time all of Champaign County was a new district, and Indians were still here in large numbers, and through their thieving and begging propensities were somewhat troublesome. Mrs. Peters had never been accustomed to such neighbors, and she lived in constant dread of the red men, though they confined their excursions to the Peters home to merely beg something to eat. When the Peters family came to Champaign County fully 500 Indians were living within its boundaries. They usually spent the winter in the South, but returned early in the spring and frequented the sugar maple groves, where they tapped the trees and made sugar. Amid the circumstances of pioneer life Mrs. William Peters would gladly have returned to her old home in the Blue Grass State, but such a course was not practicable and in time she became better satisfied and contented.

William Peters on coming to Champaign County filed on 160 acres

of Government land and paid $1.25 an acre. He was an energetic worker and a good business manager. There were few of the modern facilities and institutions in Champaign County, no railroads, no interurbans, and no modern highways. He usually went to Chicago to mill, driving in a big wagon and taking a week for the trip. On one of these trips he traded the only horse he had for some land and returned home on foot, carrying the flour on his back. He was determined to have as much land as he could care for, and he was granted his desire, and at one time owned more than 400 acres of the rich and fertile soil of Champaign County. The children of these parents had to make the most of their advantages in an old log schoolhouse, a building that was exposed to the elements and in spite of a roaring fire at one end was miserably cold.

In such circumstances J. L. Peters grew to manhood. The war came on when he was still a small boy, and during his twenty-first year he volunteered at Homer and enlisted in Company K of the One Hundred and Thirty-third Illinois Infantry. He marched away with the boys in blue, being first ordered to Camp Butler at Springfield, and was then sent to Rock Island on the Mississippi River, where he was one of the soldiers guarding 10,000 Rebel prisoners. Practically all his service was in performing this heavy guard duty, and he welcomed the restoration of peace and his relief from such burdensome responsibilities. He was mustered out at Springfield, given an honorable discharge, and set out for home.

It was a sad home coming, since his father had died during his absence in the army. On April 20, 1865, soon after the close of his military experience, Mr. Peters married Ann E. Moore. She was born at Greensboro in Henry County, Indiana, a daughter of William and Rhoda (Maudlin) Moore. When she was six years of age her parents came to Champaign County and she grew up and attended the same district school as her husband.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Peters started farming the old homestead and acquired part of the estate. Here they surrounded themselves with much material prosperity, but their chief pride has always centered in the fine family of children who have grown up around them. They are eleven in number, and were named Emmaline, Laura B., Lucinda A., Alta M., Milton, Lida M., John N., Grant, Maggie P., Minnie E. and Fred. These children were educated in the local district schools. The daughter Emmaline married Charles McElwee and her children are May, Oral, Jennie, Effie, Iscle, Thelma and Ray. Laura B. married William Coburn, and is the mother of two children, Fay and William. Lucinda A. is the wife of James Stayton, and their two children are Florence and Hazel. Milton, who married Clara Hixenbaugh, have two children, Cecil and Bessie. Lida M. married Adrian Overman, and they have a large family consisting of Hallie, Helen, Lawrence, Russel, Ruth and Ray. The son John N. married Anna Pieplow, their children being Gladys, Grace, Dallas, Wayne, Charles and Paul. The son Grant married Bessie Raderbaugh. Maggie P. is the wife of Ed Lientz and the mother of Francis, Opal, Carl and Pauline. Minnie E. married Floyd Stephenson and has a son Paul. Fred married Bertha Schmidts.

Death has not spared the Peters family circle and at different times three of the children have been taken away, Laura B., Alta M. and Milton, while the wives of the sons Grant and Milton are also deceased. Mr. Grant Peters, since the death of his wife, has lived at the old homestead with his parents, superintends the management of the farm and is a good, steady, hard working man whose presence is a great comfort to his father and mother in their declining days.

Mrs. Peters is an active member of the New Light Church at Tipton. Politically Mr. Peters has always been stanchly aligned with the Republican party, and has given it his best support since Civil War times. He has served as school director, and having a large family of his own to educate has been extremely interested in securing the best of instruction for the young people of the neighborhood.

WILLIAM B. BROWN. By a residence of fifty-seven years in Champaign County there is no place in the world so dear to William B. Brown as this picturesque and beautiful section of eastern Illinois. His successes have been gained here, he reared his family on his farm, and practically all the associations of a long life have been found here.

Mr. Brown was born in Monroe County, Indiana, September 22, 1854. He was the only son in a family of three children born to Milton Monroe and Sarah (Houston) Brown. His two sisters are Mary Jane and Eliza E. Mary Jane is the wife of C. T. Langwell, a farmer at Reynolds, Indiana. Mrs. Langwell was educated in the common schools and is a member of the Christian Church. Eliza is the wife of A. H. Dellman, also of Reynolds, Indiana.

Milton M. Brown was born in Monroe County, Indiana, October 25, 1829, and spent his life as a farmer. He was educated in one of the log cabin schoolhouses with its slab benches and its restricted curriculum. About 1855 he came out to Eastern Illinois, making the journey in pioneer style with wagons and teams. He bought land in Brown Township, but subsequently returned to his native county. A few years later he located in Champaign County, Illinois, and at the time of his death was the owner of 280 acres of this rich soil. He was a Democrat in politics. His first wife died when William B. Brown was four years old, on December 25, 1858. She is buried in the Devore cemetery, where a monument marks her last resting place. The father married for his second wife Rosa Torpy, and of their three children all are now deceased. The lineage of the Brown family goes back to England.

William B. Brown grew up in Champaign County, attended the common schools here, and early learned the lessons set for him in the fields and the meadows and the other workshops of his father's farm. When he left home it was as a wage earner and farm hand at a salary of $20 a month. In that way he continued working for six years, and he began truly at the bottom round of the ladder and steadily climbed by his own exertions by a strictly honorable relationship in all his dealings.

The first land he secured for himself was eighty acres three miles southeast of his present estate. He went in debt for most of the purchase price, having only $400 in capital at his command. For the balance he paid seven per cent interest. He made that purchase in 1880 and sold it in 1901 in order to buy his present farm of 160 acres, 140 acres being situated in section 10 and the remaining twenty in section 3. Every acre of the land is tillable, and altogether it makes a magnificent farming estate.

On January 1, 1880, Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Miss Amanda C. Blake. Seven children were the fruit of their union, four sons and three daughters. Only two are now living. Cynthia Ann is the wife of Frank Wilson. They lived at Foosland in this county until 1909, when they removed to North Dakota and they now have a fine farm of 320 acres at Fairdale in that state. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have two children: Hazel, now attending the fifth grade of the public schools, and Bessie B., who is also in school. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church while they lived at Foosland.

Robert C., the only living son of Mr. Brown, was educated in the common schools, has proved himself a practicable and thoroughly progressive farmer, and has active charge of his father's estate. He married Miss Pearl Zimmerman. Their two sons are Warren B. and Sherrill H., both of whom are in school and are noted for their excellence in their studies. Miss Pearl Zimmerman was born in Harper County, Kansas, on October 20, 1888, but when she was three years of age her parents came to Champaign County, where she attended the common schools. She and her husband are active members of the Christian Church. Her mother is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brown. She was one of six children, and three are now living, her two sisters being: Alta O., wife of J. A. Selberg, a successful stock buyer in Minnesota, and they have two sons; and Fannie M., wife of J. W. Way, a farmer at Tahlequah, Oklahoma, and they are the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters.

Mrs. Robert Brown's father, Mr. Zimmerman, was born in Germany and after coming to America located on a farm in Ford County, Illinois. He was a Democrat in politics.

William B. Brown and his son Robert are both members of the Democratic party. The senior Mr. Brown has served as tax collector two different terms and has been director of the local schools. His son has passed all the chairs in Lodge No. 842 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Frank Stout. Practically every successful career is actuated by an earnest purpose and an energy of action sufficient to carry out definite plans of accomplishment. Purpose and energy have been the keynotes of the career of Frank Stout, a fine old-time citizen of Champaign County and one of the best known residents in the northwestern part of the county. Mr. Stout is now enjoying the fruits of a well-spent career at his comfortable home in Mahomet Township near the village of Mahomet. Since an early age he has been self-reliant and independent, and owes his prosperity chiefly to the plans which have originated in his own mind and to the energy and thrift which dominated both him and his estimable wife in carrying them out.

Mr. Stout was born in Champaign County, August 27, 1857. He is the youngest of the three living children of Jacob and Louisa (Warner) Stout. His oldest brother, Charles, is a retired farmer in Champaign, a Methodist and a Republican, and he married Ella Heller. The second brother, Jesse, is now retired from farming and a resident of Champaign, is a Republican and a Methodist, and is married and has six children.

Jacob Stout, the father of these children, was born in Ohio, was reared and educated there, and came to Illinois a young man without capital. His first work was done as a farm hand at $18 a month, and he followed this kind of employment steadily for a number of years. For nine years he lived in Missouri and made his first purchase of land in that state. Altogether he made the trip between Illinois and Missouri three times and each time in the emigrant style, with wagons and teams. He finally bought 120 acres in Champaign County, in Scott Township, assumed heavy obligations, but had his property all clear of indebtedness before his death. He began voting as a Whig and was afterwards a Republican, and he and his wife were devout Methodists. His death occurred about 1887, and in the cemetery at Monticello a monument marks his last resting place. His wife was also a native of Ohio, had a common school education, and her death occurred in 1862. She is also buried at Monticello.

Mr. Frank Stout had to content himself with a common school education. Most of his career has been spent in Champaign County and his

older friends know the quality of his thrift and enterprise as a young man and the diligence with which he worked steadily to achieve the object of his worthy ambition. When he was twenty-two years of age he began working out on farms, and his first wages were $20 a month. In this way he continued some years, and finally felt justified in taking upon himself the responsibilities of a home of his own.

On January 1, 1886, he married Miss Leonora Clapper. When they married they still had success to achieve and they went earnestly to work and gained prosperity without aid from anyone, and all they have enjoyed is directly due to their thrifty energies. Three children have come into their home and it has been a matter of deep satisfaction that they have been able to train them well and furnish them good advantages in schools so as to fit them for worthy positions in the world.

Ernest A., the oldest child, attended school at Mahomet, is still a resident of Mahomet Township, and for the past ten years has carefully looked after his duties as a rural free delivery man. His long service is the best proof of his business capacity. He is a Republican, a member of the Masonic order at Mahomet and with his wife is affiliated with the Court of Honor. He married Miss Hazel Curtis, and their two children are Nadine and Paul.

Samuel, the second son, still claims his parents' home as his own, but at present is working on the aviation plant at Belleville, Illinois. He is a graduate of the Mahomet High School, of the State Normal University, and has spent one year in the Summer Normal at Menominee, Michigan, also in Normal School at Indianapolis, and one year at the University of Illinois. He has been a very successful teacher and for two years was connected with the high school of Decatur. He is a Republican and a member of the Masonic order.

Nellie B., the only daughter, is still at home with her parents. She spent one year in high school and has received considerable training in music.

Mrs. Stout was born in Champaign County, January 1, 1862, a daughter of Samuel and Frances (Biggs) Clapper, an old and well known family in this section of the state. She is one of five children, four daughters and one son, still living, and all residents of Champaign County. Her father was born in Pennsylvania in 1829 and died in 1908. He was a successful farmer and when only a boy went to Ohio and afterward worked at the tanner's trade in Indianapolis. He came to Champaign County, where he married, and as a farmer he accumulated eighty acres of good land. He was a Whig and afterwards a Republican, and both he and his wife were devout Methodists. His remains now rest in Riverside Cemetery. His wife was born in Ohio in 1836 and is still living, at the age of eighty-one, bright and active and looking after the duties of her home.

Mrs. Stout had a common school education, and for over thirty years has given her husband, children and her community the value of her capable energy and her well-poised character.

Mr. and Mrs. Stout made their first purchase of land in Newcomb Township, where they bought ninety acres. A year later they sold that and removed to Mahomet, where they have since had their home. They now own thirty-five acres just east of the town of Mahomet, also two lots in that town and one lot in Champaign, and have ten acres in Newcomb Township. These properties represent a sufficiency for all their needs and they have done much to develop and improve the land which has been under their management. Mr. Stout is a Republican, is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Mahomet, in which he has



Mr and Mrs Wm Shenick

passed all the chairs, and he and his wife are both active in the Rebekahs and are leading members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Mahomet.

WILLIAM M. PHENICIE, proprietor of the Sunny Prairie Farm in Stanton Township, has known Champaign County for over half a century and was a factor in making it one of the garden spots of the world whether considered from an agricultural standpoint or as the home of industrious and worthy people.

Mr. Phenicie is a native of Pennsylvania, having been born at Mercersburg in Franklin County, a son of Joseph and Susan (Conner) Phenicie. His parents were also natives of the same state and were of English and German ancestry. William M. was one of seven children, four sons and three daughters, all of whom were well educated in the district schools of Franklin County.

In 1861, the year the Civil War broke out, William Phenicie married Margaret Besore. She was also a native of Franklin County, a daughter of John and Mary (Mouen) Besore.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Phenicie located on one of his father's farms, but two years later came out to Illinois, where two of Mrs. Phenicie's brothers were living in Vermilion County. They spent only one year in that county, and then came to Stanton Township in Champaign County. Here they rented land and subsequently Mr. Phenicie bought 120 acres at $8 an acre from the Illinois Central Railway. It was a tract of virgin prairie, without a single improvement, and their first home was one of the cabins such as dotted this county in pioneer times. The passing years brought evidences of their industry and good management, a good house was built, fruit and shade trees were planted, and the land was redeemed from the waste prairie and converted into a fine farm.

In the meantime children were born into their home to the number of six, three sons and three daughters. These sons and daughters were named Stephen H., Della, George, Emma, Eva and Otis. All of them were educated in the local schools, while Otis completed his education in the St. Joseph High School. While Mr. Phenicie has been liberally rewarded in a material way, he finds the greatest satisfaction of his career in the worthy sons and daughters who have grown up and have found honorable positions in life for themselves. Stephen H. is a successful farmer in southern Michigan. He married Emma Funkhouser, and their seven children are Oscar, Ethel, Ernest, Opal, Claude, William and Ruth. The daughter Della is the wife of William Barricklow, also a Michigan farmer, and they have three sons, C. Dwight, Cecil and Carlos. George has one of the good farms of Stanton Township, and by his marriage to Etta Johnson is the father of five children, Merle, Abner, Roy, Harold and Chester. The daughter Emma is the wife of Adam Varner, and their family consists of Elmer, Vernie, Effie, Otis, Margaret, May, Letha and Clever. Eva is the wife of John Turner, a coal merchant at Urbana. Their children are Nellie, Marie, Ora, Amy, William and Norma. The youngest son and child, Otis, who lives on his father's homestead, married, September 26, 1906, Lena Dunn, daughter of John B. Dunn. Otis and wife have an energetic young son, Arden, now ten years of age and a student in the fourth grade. Though so young, he takes a keen interest in aviation and flying machines.

The Phenicie home has not escaped the visitation of death, and in 1910 the good mother entered into rest. The lives of her children are an expression of her character and training, and by many acts of kindliness and good she endeared herself to a large community. Mr. Phenicie and his late wife were active members of the Prairie Hope Christian Church, and for

years he was a trustee in that organization. In politics he is a Democrat, and proof of his public spirit is found in his service for a number of years as a school director.

When Mr. Phenicie came to Stanton Township there was not a public road, schoolhouse nor church in the entire community, and his own efforts and influence have co-operated with every movement for such improvement and advancement. Since the death of his good wife Mr. Phenicie has continued to live on the home farm, but has surrendered the responsibilities of its management to his capable son Otis, and in his cultured daughter-in-law finds a most capable home maker.

JOHN W. CHURCH, supervisor of Hensley Township, has been a resident of Champaign County since 1884. Those years have marked his progressive labor toward independence as a farmer and today there is hardly a better known citizen in the northern half of Champaign County than Mr. Church.

He is a native of Vigo County, Indiana, where he was born July 5, 1860, third in a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters. Two of the family live in Illinois, his sister Ellen being the wife of Charles Roberts. Four others live in Indiana, and one in Minnesota and one in Michigan.

Erastus Church, the father, was born in Vermont in 1833, of English lineage. At the age of twenty-one he came west and settled in Vigo County, Indiana, and became one of the substantial agriculturists of that section. He started life with only a common school education, but succeeded well in all he undertook. He owned a farm of eighty-three acres in Vigo County and occupied it until his death. He was a Republican and he and his wife were active Methodists. Erastus Church married Julia Barnard, who was born in New York State in 1832, daughter of a Baptist minister who preached in many localities of the South and at one time resided on the estate of Henry Clay.

John W. Church was reared and educated in Vigo County, and married there January 1, 1882, Miss Sarah Shanks. Two children have been born to their union, a son and daughter. The son is Clarence, who was educated in the common schools and graduated from Akers Business College at Terre Haute, Indiana. He is now doing well as an agriculturist in Edgar County, Illinois. He is a Republican, affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America, and with his wife is active in the Presbyterian Church. He married Miss Stella Harris and they have a daughter, Miriam. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Church is Mattie, who received a common school education and is a member of the Methodist Church. She is the wife of Arthur Epler, a farmer in Condit Township of Champaign County. Their two children are named Elmer and Helen.

Mrs. Church was born in Vigo County, Indiana, December 16, 1861, a daughter of George and Rachel (Hawkins) Shanks. She grew up in that locality, securing her advantages in the common schools, and has been a most capable helpmate and adviser to her husband.

In 1884, when Mr. and Mrs. Church came to Champaign County, they located on land as renters and raised the fruits of the soil on land belonging to others for several years. Mr. Church had a very limited capital when he came to this county, but hard work and economy on his part and the part of his wife have brought success in generous measure. At the present time the Church farm comprises eighty acres in Hensley Township, and its improvements rank it among the best places in this locality. They have remodeled the house and this farm together with

another place of eighty acres in Edgar County stand as monuments to their industry, without a single dollar of indebtedness against them.

Mr. Church is a Republican, and has always been a great admirer of Theodore Roosevelt. His fellow citizens have long regarded his position in the community as valuable from an official standpoint. While living in Condit Township he served three years as supervisor, resigning that office, and has been continuously supervisor of Hensley Township for the past fourteen years. This is the most important township office under the Illinois system of local government, and Mr. Church has made his official influence count in many ways. He is also director of his local school district, and has proved a steadfast friend of popular education. He is affiliated with Champaign Lodge No. 333 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Champaign and is a charter member of Dewey Lodge of that order. Mrs. Church is active in the Royal Neighbors. Both have long been identified with the Mount Vernon Methodist Church in Hensley Township, of which Mr. Church is a trustee and teacher of the Young Men's Class in the Sunday School.

The farm of Mr. and Mrs. Church is a fine tract of land in section 11. Its location makes its name, High View Farm, very appropriate. Besides general farming Mr. Church is much interested in good grades of live stock. His home is a place of good cheer and hospitality, and many friends have found a cordial welcome within its doors.

William Hayes. For many years some of the burdens of agricultural industry and business affairs have been carried by members of the Hayes family in Ogden Township. Mr. William Hayes is a young and progressive business man, manager of the local elevator at Ogden, and has also had practical experience from early boyhood as a farmer.

Mr. Hayes was born at Ogden, February 8, 1881, son of John and Elizabeth (Huckin) Hayes. His father was a native of Ireland and his mother of England. They married in Indiana, and about fifty years ago came to Champaign County, where the father lived to develop a good farm and witness the magnificent transformation of the county from a prairie to a landscape that has been fitly characterized as a garden. In the family were six children, four sons and two daughters, William being the third in age.

Mr. Hayes graduated from the Ogden High School in 1899. His boyhood days were spent on the farm and at the age of twenty-one he married Miss Laura A. Green. She was born in Oakwood Township, daughter of Wilson and Julia (Fredrick) Green. She was educated in the Union district school. Mr. and Mrs. Hayes after their marriage moved to Vermilion County, Indiana, and for six years farmed there. They then returned to Ogden and Mr. Hayes took charge of his father's homestead and the home of his youth. This farm consisted of 160 acres. After his parents died in Ogden he continued the management of the farm for a time and was then able to buy forty acres of the old home. He has since farmed this in general crops and live stock.

Mr. and Mrs. Hayes have two sons, John, who is a student in the grammar schools of Ogden and in another year will enter high school, and William, the baby. For the past seven years, in addition to farming, Mr. Hayes has been a coal dealer at Ogden and is now manager of Supple's grain elevator in that town.

The Hayes family have always been closely identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a Republican and was practically born and reared in that party. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Masonic lodge. Mrs. Hayes is an active member of

the Eastern Star. Like the majority of Champaign County citizens, progress has been the keynote of the Hayes family and they have manifested that spirit of push and energy that has brought about notable results.

CECIL L. GOLDEN, present mayor of Sidney, has built up a large hardware business in that Champaign County town, and has proved himself one of the live and energetic factors in the civic community. Mr. Golden is a veteran of the Spanish-American War.

He was born in Champaign County March 12, 1879, a son of Eugene S. and Mary E. (Mullen) Golden. His father was born in Menard County, Illinois, and his mother was a native of Pennsylvania. His father came to Champaign County when a young man, followed farming and afterwards engaged in the hardware business at Urbana. He was a merchant in that city for about sixteen years and then retired to Sidney, where he died October 4, 1913. The widowed mother still lives at Sidney. They had five children. Leonard M., deceased; Archie S., a resident of Champaign County; George A., a farmer in Jefferson County, Illinois; Cecil L. and Ross Burr, deceased.

Cecil L. Golden attended the public schools at Urbana, and then learned the trade of tinner in his father's store. At the age of nineteen he enlisted as a non-commissioned officer in Company M., organized in Champaign County for service in the Spanish-American War. He spent most of the period of his enlistment in concentration camps and was also for a time on duty in Cuba. After the war he followed farming three years, then went to work at his trade in Peoria. While there he was foreman of the Twentieth Century Heating and Ventilating Company about two years.

After his marriage Mr. Golden removed to Sidney and built a brick building 30x100 feet, which houses a very complete stock of general hardware implements and also furnishes quarters for the undertaking business.

On April 25, 1905, Mr. Golden married Miss Edna Rado Jones, of Jefferson County, Illinois. They are the parents of two children, Karma Ellen, who was born November 2, 1907, and Stanley Jones, who died in early childhood. Mr. Golden is a Republican in politics and is now serving as a member of the Republican Committee. He was village treasurer of Sidney two years and is now mayor of the village and in that office has done much to influence wise and conservative improvement and economical handling of the municipal revenues. Mr. Golden is affiliated with the Masonic Order, being past master of Sidney Lodge, No 347, with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge No. 473, the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his family worship in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JOHN M. PETERS, who now lives retired in the village of St. Joseph, has exemplified above everything else that quality of permanence which enters into the best class of personal and national character. Mr. Peters was for sixty-five continuous years a resident of one place, the farm where he grew up as a boy and whose acres he tended so skillfully and diligently during his own active life. From the work of his hands and brain he has prospered, has reared useful children, and has made his name widely respected over his native county.

Mr. Peters was born at Tipton, and lived in that rural locality until he came to St. Joseph a few years ago. He is a son of William and Sarah (McNutt) Peters. His parents were natives of Kentucky and came to Illinois at such an early period that his father was able to acquire 160 acres of Government land at $1.25 an acre. Besides farming and devel-

oping his raw land he also operated a saw mill for many years, manufactured much lumber, and was also a skillful cooper. He was a very successful and industrious man and at the time of his death owned an estate of 400 acres. He also served as justice of the peace for a long period and was widely known as Squire Peters. He educated his children in the old log schoolhouse which stood in his neighborhood, and it was in such a building that John M. Peters endured cold and other discomforts while learning his first lessons.

In 1868 John M. Peters married Miss Elizabeth Wood. She was born in Ohio, daughter of John and Sarah Wood, who came to Tipton in Champaign County at an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Peters had five children, Sarah Isabel, Eva, Oliver and Otis (twins), and Orin. These children were given the advantages of the Swearingen district schools and all of them have made successful records in life. The daughter Sarah is now the wife of Frank McAdams, a farmer at Defiance, Ohio, and they have one son, John. Eva married Alfred Blaker, and they live west of St. Joseph, their four children being Charles, Roy, Ruby and Raymond. The son Otis lives at Fairmount in Vermilion County and by his marriage to Jessie Alexander has three children, Lyle, Raymond and Bessie. Orin is connected with the grain elevator at Sidney, Illinois. He married Bertha Watson and has two children, Gladys and Dwight. Oliver, unmarried, is now baggage master in the Big Four Depot at Champaign and is an energetic young man, possessing many friends and having a bright future.

At the death of his father Mr. Peters inherited some of the estate and afterwards purchased more from the heirs, giving him a farm of 107½ acres. That land he diligently and closely cultivated and from it gained that prosperity which enables him to spend his last years in comfort.

On January 28, 1904, he was deprived of the companionship of his good wife and the mother of his children. On February 28, 1906, he married Mrs. Emily Cornelius. She was born near Troy in Miami County, Ohio, daughter of John S. and Mary C. (Day) Cox. Her father was a native of Ohio and her mother of Virginia, and in 1864, when Emily was nine years of age, the Cox family came to Illinois and settled near Fairmount in Vermilion County. There her father engaged in farming, but later was a druggist at Fairmount and in 1870 continued the same business at Ogden in Champaign County. He lived at Ogden until his death. Emily acquired her education in the district schools and in the graded school at Fairmount.

Mrs. Peters' first husband was William E. Cornelius. Of that union there are five children, Frank, Edna, Nell, Walter and Lela. These children were educated in the district schools. Frank married Mabel Mulroy and has one child, Clover Frances. Edna is the wife of Robert Strong, connected with the elevator at St. Joseph, and they have a son, Paul. Nell married John C. Loeffler, and her two children were Bernhardt and Elizabeth. The son Walter Cornelius is a resident of Rockford, Illinois, and by his marriage to Maud Brown has two sons, Raymond and Donald. The daughter Lela married Gus Loeffler, who is employed by a brick contractor, living at St. Joseph, and their one daughter, Emily, was named for her grandmother.

Mrs. Peters has laid two of her children to rest, Frank and Nell, and that was the severest bereavement she has been called upon to suffer. Up to six years ago Mr. Peters was identified with general farming, and he and his wife then moved to the village of St. Joseph, the first move Mr. Peters had made in his life of sixty-five years. Most of his pleasant memories of boyhood and of mature life are centered around the old home

place at Tipton. Mr. Peters has never been called upon in vain for a proof of public spirit. For thirty-three years he served as school director, and has always been drainage commissioner. Besides farming he has been an expert carpenter, and has erected many buildings over this part of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Peters are members of the Christian Church and in politics he is a Democrat, while his wife was reared in sympathy with the Republican party. On moving to St. Joseph Mr. and Mrs. Peters bought a good home on Main Street and they live now in peace and comfort, happy in the fact that their children are well situated in homes of their own.

Mr. Peters was the youngest in a family of thirteen children. He was reared to honesty and industry and has endeavored successfully to instill the same principles in his own household. He and his wife have made their home a most hospitable one, and they enjoy the complete confidence and esteem of a large community. Mr. Peters can look back to a time when Champaign County was without railroad transportation. In fact he went to Champaign to witness the arrival of the first engine over the Illinois Central Railway. He has accommodated himself to the marvelous advancement and progress of the time, and is now a careful and skillful driver of his own automobile. Several years ago a party came to him for the purpose of selling him a car and he finally accepted with the proviso that if the automobile people could teach him to run the machine he would buy. He meant what he said, proved an apt scholar in the mechanics and technique of automobile driving and has developed into a most skillful chauffeur and has absolute confidence in his own ability to get his car over the roads, his only fear being of the other man, that constant dread of the automobilist, the reckless driver.

Mrs. Nancy Irene Downs. At no time in the world's history has the position of woman been so notable, not merely as a factor in the home but as a power in economic and political affairs and in that practical philanthropy which serves to soften somewhat the cruel actions of conflicting nations. Champaign County has many noble women and there is every reason why special attention should be paid by this work to their achievements and lives.

One of them is Mrs. Downs, who since the death of her honored husband has taken his place as a practical farmer and has done that in addition to the responsibility of caring for and training a splendid family of children. Mrs. Downs resides in Newcomb Township on a fine estate and for years has been prominent in the church and social life of that community.

She is a native of Champaign County, born in a log cabin that stood two and a half miles east of her present home in Newcomb Township, August 1, 1860. She was the fifth in a family of thirteen children; six sons and seven daughters. Her parents were John H. and Elizabeth Ellen (Baily) Funston. Her father was an Ohio man, and the fact that General Fred Funston's family were also of Ohio makes it very possible that a family relationship existed there. Mrs. Downs is one of seven living children, and four of them are in Champaign County, she being the second in age. The oldest sister, Jennie, married John Trotter, a prosperous agriculturist. Mr. and Mrs. Trotter and their four children are all active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. George W. Funston is a retired resident of Champaign and married Martha Lanam, both being members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church at Champaign. Cora is the wife of Mark Hazen, of Champaign, and they are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church there. Of the children outside of Champaign County, Edmund B. is a successful architect practic-

ing his profession at Racine, Wisconsin. He was educated in the University of Illinois and made a splendid success in his calling. He married Miss Ella Kelphart, and they have one child, Jeannette. Jesse Grant, a graduate of the University of Illinois and an expert mechanic, lives at Vermillion, South Dakota. He married Miss Jinks Hume, and they have six children. They are also members of the Methodist Church. Minnie E., the youngest of the living children, is the wife of W. L. Hart, a wholesale ice cream dealer at St. Louis, Missouri. They have two sons and are Methodists.

John H. Funston was born in Ross County, Ohio, February 29, 1828. He died May 25, 1903. He grew up in his native state, having the advantage of the common schools and became an architect and cabinetmaker. About 1851 he came to Illinois, locating in Piatt County. He had no money, and though he found himself among strangers he soon gained the confidence of his community and found plenty of work at his trade. For several years he lived at Monticello, and the year he married he located in a log cabin in Newcomb Township in 1857, the same house where Mrs. Downs first saw the light of day. Mr. Funston was diligent at his business and therefore gained a substantial success in life. At his death he owned more than 400 acres of the rich land of Newcomb Township. For a number of years he had combined farming with his trade as cabinet maker. In the early days he was called upon to make many of the coffins for the burial of the dead. Mrs. Downs frequently aided her father in making caskets. He was also very progressive and enterprising. It was his distinction to own the first mower, the first self binder and the first corn planter in the township. The old log cabin home of the Funstons in Newcomb Township was a place of very meager comforts. There were no glass windows and light was admitted through greased paper. There was not even a board floor, and the bare ground, packed hard, furnished footing and Mrs. Downs as an infant played about on the dirt floor of this humble abode. John H. Funston was not only a successful man in business but a leader in the community and in its spiritual and moral uplift. He was one of the founders of the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church and for years was one of the officials. A substantial monument in Riverside cemetery marks his last resting place. His wife was born in Ohio, in Madison County, November 26, 1832, and died September 3, 1895. She moved with her parents to Piatt County, Illinois, about 1857 and soon afterwards married and located in Newcomb Township. She was the oldest of twelve children, her parents being John and Mary (Hubbard) Baily. She proved herself a loving and affectionate mother and devoted the best energies of her life to her family.

Mrs. Downs had an interesting childhood and girlhood in Champaign County. The first school she attended was a more or less exact copy of the primitive schoolhouse which has become so celebrated in song and story of the early times. The slab benches had no backs and she can testify to the fact that it was exceedingly tiresome to sit upon one of these benches for any length of time. The first book put in her hands was a little green primer. She has never forgotten her first lessons in school. Her first instruction was to memorize a stanza of poetry and the words of that little poem have never escaped her. They are as follows:

"Oh mother may I go to school with brother Charles today?
The air is very soft and cool, do, mother, say I may.
Well, little Mary, you may go if you will keep quite still,
'Tis wrong to make a noise, you know, I do not think you will."

Miss Funston grew up in the home of her parents in Newcomb Township, and on December 19, 1880, she became the happy bride of the late

Woodrow Downs. Mr. and Mrs. Downs became the parents of fifteen children, ten sons and five daughters. Thirteen of them are still living. It is a splendid family record. Dwight, the oldest, was educated in the common schools and is a practical agriculturist at Clyde, North Dakota. He married Miss Maud Lott and their four children are Rollo, Mary, Elsie and Josephine. Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Downs helped build the first Methodist Episcopal Church at Clyde, North Dakota. Mettie, the second child, was educated in the Fisher High School, with the class of 1904, and is still living with her mother, and she has taught school successfully in this county. Elizabeth was graduated from the Fisher High School in 1905 and is still at home. She is a member of the Domestic Science Club of Mahomet. Woodrow was educated in the common schools and is now following agriculture near Baker, Montana. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and married Miss Anna Becker. Pearl had a common school education and is now doing much of the work of the home farm for his mother. Bernice graduated from the Mahomet High School with the class of 1913, taught two years in this county, and is still at home. John Isaac had a common school education and two years in the high school at Mahomet and is now connected with a large automobile firm at Alma, Michigan. Nannie had two years in the Mahomet High School and is now the wife of E. J. Hammell, an agriculturist of Newcomb Township. They have a daughter, Mary Louise. Jesse Glenn, still at home, is attending high school at Fisher. Don Edmund has finished the common school course and in 1917 received his diploma from the Rakes Automobile and Tractor School at Kansas City, Missouri, and is now a very expert mechanic and thoroughly competent to handle all kinds of automobile and tractor machinery. Melvin is in the seventh grade of the common schools; Leslie S. is also in the seventh grade of the Fisher school and Carrol Newton, the youngest, is in the third grade.

Great credit is due Mrs. Downs for the way she has reared her children and the unusual advantages she has afforded them both at home and in school.

The late Mr. Downs was born in Logan County, near North Lewisburg, Ohio, February 27, 1852. He grew up there until he was fifteen and then came to Champaign County. He had the advantages of the common schools and early took up agriculture as his vocation. With the aid of his good wife, who stood constantly by him in practical assistance and in counsel and advice, he was highly prospered and stood high in community esteem. This esteem was well manifested at the time of his death on December 17, 1912, when it was generally felt throughout Newcomb Township that one of its ablest and best men had passed away. He is now at rest in the Shiloh cemetery, where Mrs. Downs has erected a monument to his memory. Mr. Downs was a Republican, and in a public way served as a justice of the peace and town clerk and for twenty-five years was a director of the public schools. He had the good of his community at heart and was always willing to work for the raising of standards and improvement of the locality. He was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and served as superintendent of the Sunday school. His parents and grandparents were Quakers.

For years Mrs. Downs has been foremost in all the good work of her township and particularly in her church, with which she is officially identified. She is also one of the teachers of the Sunday school. Mrs. Downs has given liberally of her means to the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church, of which her father was one of the founders. This church stands just across the road from Mrs. Downs' residence. The handsome and modern edifice was dedicated May 13, 1917, at a cost of $9,000. There

was still a deficit of $1,850 at the time of dedication and the members of the church at once subscribed $2,700, nearly $1,000 more than enough to pay off all indebtedness.

Mrs. Downs still lives on her farm of 270 acres in Newcomb Township. It is a splendid place, and for a number of years has been known as the home of some very fine Shire horses. It bears the title of Willow Brook Farm, but has long been known as the Pancake Point Farm, due to the fact that members of the Pancake family entered the land from the government.

Mrs. Downs has taken pleasure, recreation and additional means of culture from travel. She has visited many of the states in the Union, including the Dakotas, and has been through Canada. She has a fine home, many friends, and her high place in the community is not difficult to understand.

David Maddock, who died in 1909, was a citizen of the type and virtues who should long be remembered not only among his descendants but by all who find encouragement and inspiration in a life of practical utility and a devotion to the best interests of mankind.

Mr. Maddock lived in Champaign County for nearly half a century. He was born near West Elkton, Ohio, a son of Eli and Absillit (Woodward) Maddock. His father was a native of Ohio and his mother of North Carolina. When David was a young man, after he had obtained his education in the district schools, the family moved to Illinois and went through the experiences of pioneers on a farm in Vermilion County and later in Champaign County.

On February 21, 1861, David Maddock married Jane H. Mills. Mrs. Maddock, who is now living in the village of St. Joseph, gave him the inspiration of her presence and her companionship for nearly half a century. She is a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Mendenhall) Mills, both of whom were born in Tennessee. They first moved to Ohio and later to Vermilion County, Illinois. Mrs. Maddock completed her education in the old Vermilion Seminary near Vermilion Grove.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Maddock located five miles north of St. Joseph, where they bought 160 acres at $10 an acre. It was all virgin prairie, not a tree in sight, and it was possible to see over the prairies as far as Rantoul. They bought this home in 1865 and went through all the hardships and inconveniences devolved in making a good farm there. Later, in order to educate their children, Mr. and Mrs. Maddock moved to Indiana, and lived in that state for fifteen years.

Their six children were Oliver W., John M., Cora Ellen, William E., Anna E. and Emma J. They received their first advantages in the Stanton District School No. 4 and afterwards attended the Quaker school known as Bloomingdale Academy in Indiana. From the first Mr. and Mrs. Maddock endeavored to give their children every possible advantage. The three younger children completed their education in the famous old Quaker school, Earlham College, at Richmond, Indiana.

The oldest of the children, Oliver W., is a farmer three and a half miles north of St. Joseph. He married Lutora Thompkins, and their children are Edward W., Clifton, Earl, Lowell and Russell. Of these Edward and Clifton were educated in the St. Joseph High School, while Earl spent two years in the special study of agriculture in the University of Illinois. Earl is a successful farmer, and has been honored with the position of deacon in the New Light Church.

The son John M. is in the jewelry business at Manhattan, Kansas. He married Grace Lamb, and their only child, Ralph, is now in the new

National Army as a soldier. The daughter Cora Ellen is the wife of Charles Digby, and their home is at Charleston, Illinois. Their four children are Loren, Clara E., Paul and Charles. William E. is a school superintendent at Butte, Montana. He married Lida Shobe and has two daughters, Margaret and Helen. Anna E. is the wife of Dr. W. W. Pretts of Platteville, Wisconsin. Their three children are Elizabeth, Mary and William. The youngest of the children, Emma J., is the wife of Rev. Clarence Burkholder of Alpena, Michigan. They have a family of five children: Evelyn, Irene, Clarence E., Lucile and Henry.

After the education of their children was finished in Indiana, Mr. and Mrs. Maddock returned to Champaign County, lived in the village of St. Joseph eighteen months, and then went back to their old farm. They erected a fine new home and surrounded themselves with every comfort that goes with modern rural life. Mr. Maddock always took an active interest in his church, served it as overseer and Sunday school superintendent, and was a man of public spirit in every sense of the word. He was school director, township treasurer, town clerk and commissioner, and the last work of his life was in connection with the schools. He and his wife had driven to St. Joseph to look after some school matters, and after they returned home that evening he was stricken with a pain about his heart and died of neuralgia before 1 o'clock the next morning. Mrs. Maddock after the death of her beloved companion remained on the home farm until 1916, when she bought an attractive home on Main Street in the village of St. Joseph, where she now lives surrounded with good neighbors and with many friends, and with an unclouded retrospect over the past she looks forward to the future with anticipation and a hope born of a true Christian life.

Roy Youngblood, present assessor of Sidney Township, is a progressive young business man of that village. He began his career with limited capital and from employment by others has worked into a profitable business of his own.

He was born at Sidney, Illinois, December 23, 1880, and is a son of William H. and Savilla (Lucas) Youngblood. His father was born in Logansport, Indiana, and his mother in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. His father, who is still living at Sidney, is an honored veteran of the Civil War. He served almost throughout that great conflict, part of the time in the Thirty-fifth and part of the time in the Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry. As a result of the explosion of a caisson he became totally blind. He and his wife had six children: James, of Normal, Illinois; Anna, wife of William Eaton, of Sidney; Elizabeth, wife of T. L. Dalton, of Sidney; Howard, of Sidney; Grace, deceased; and Roy.

Roy Youngblood grew up in his native village, attended the local schools, and after finishing a course in the Indianapolis Business College in 1900 he returned to his home town and became assistant cashier and bookkeeper in the State Bank. He served faithfully in that capacity four years and then made an opportunity for a business of his own as a restaurant proprietor. He conducts a model establishment and has a fine trade.

On September 26, 1906, Mr. Youngblood married Lessie Yeazel, a native of St. Joseph Township of Champaign County. Mr. and Mrs. Youngblood have three children: Mary, Milton and Mildred, the latter two twins. Politically Mr. Youngblood has always acted in the Republican party and is influential in its councils. Besides his present office as township assessor, in which he is serving his second term, he is an alderman of the village, and was formerly village treasurer. In fraternal matters he is a Mason.

J. W. BENSYL, whose home is an attractive place just east of Urbana, enjoys the honor and respect of all the people of Champaign County, particularly for the valiant service he rendered as a soldier of the Civil War. Mr. Bensyl was in the army for over four years, and his subsequent life and activities have been of a piece with the loyalty and devotion he showed his country in time of stress.

Mr. Bensyl was born at Danville, Illinois, November 23, 1839, a son of John and Elizabeth (Corray) Bensyl. Both parents were natives of Ohio. Elizabeth Corray, a daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth Corray, was born in that state January 29, 1820. John Bensyl was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, December 5, 1808, a son of John and Mary Bensyl. John and Elizabeth Bensyl were married December 27, 1838, before a justice of the peace, Walter Roads. John Bensyl died January 23, 1844. J. W. Bensyl was one of two children. His sister, Mary Matilda, was born January 27, 1842, and died in Nevada.

The Bensyl family were pioneer settlers in eastern Illinois and the parents were married at Danville. John Bensyl took part as a soldier in the Black Hawk Indian War of 1832, a brief campaign in which many men had their first experience in military affairs. It will be recalled that Abraham Lincoln was captain of a company in that war. John Bensyl enlisted twice during the war. He was first under Captain James Parmer and afterwards under Captain Jesse B. Brown. Mr. Bensyl has in his possession the discharge papers of his father, dated June 23, 1832. This discharge states that John Bensyl carried the thanks and gratitude of his commanding officer, which is high evidence of his soldierly qualities. John Bensyl was a very active man, was of medium height, five feet ten inches, had a fair complexion, gray eyes and dark hair.

After the death of his father J. W. Bensyl's mother married James Springer and removed to northeastern Missouri. The half brothers of Mr. Bensyl are: J. E. Springer of Urbana Township; William I. Springer, deceased; and Thomas Springer of Salt Lake, Utah. J. W. Bensyl lived in Missouri from the age of ten until he was nineteen. He had obtained his first school advantages in the old Bromley School, where his first teacher was George Hoyt. Later he attended the St. Joseph School, where his teacher was Armstrong Rankin.

J. W. Bensyl was not twenty-one years of age when the Civil War broke out. He soon caught the enthusiasm and desired to enlist with the first call for three months' troops. However, he deferred on account of his mother's objection. His mother at that time was in poor health, and on October 16, 1861, she passed away. After she was laid to rest the young man felt that his duty had been done by granting her wish, and that nothing stood in the way of his service to his country, which was so sorely in need of brave men. On the 25th of October, 1861, he enlisted in Somer Township in Company I of the Tenth Illinois Cavalry, a gallant organization in which he did his full share of hardships and duty. The regiment was first ordered to Cairo, then was sent back to Camp Butler at Springfield, thence to Quincy, Illinois, to Benton Barracks at St. Louis, and from there sent into southwestern Missouri, being quartered during the summer at Sand Springs on guard duty, twenty miles from Springfield. During the next winter the regiment was at Brownsville, Arkansas, and in the spring was sent on to New Orleans, to Little Rock, and about that time the term of enlistment having expired, Mr. Bensyl re-enlisted. He and his comrades were granted a thirty days' furlough, which they spent at home and at Springfield, Illinois, where the ladies of the town entertained the soldier boys most royally, giving them a reception which they appreciated the more because of their long experience in camp life.

From Springfield, Illinois, the regiment was again sent South to Nashville, Tennessee, and to Little Rock, Arkansas, where their arms and horses were restored for duty. On first entering the service the members of the Tenth Illinois Cavalry had furnished their own horses, but at the second enlistment the Government furnished their mounts.

The Tenth Illinois Cavalry of which Mr. Bensyl was a member was recruited in the fall of 1861, was mustered into service at Camp Butler, and was discharged from service at the same place January 6, 1866, after four years, two months and seventeen days. It participated in the following notable engagements: Cane Hill, Clark's Mills, Niauqua Creek, Prairie Grove, Van Buren, Cotton Plant, Arkansas Post, Little Rock, Bayou Des Arc, Vicksburg and Mobile.

Mr. Bensyl was first discharged from service January 2, 1864, at Little Rock. At that time his captain was the gallant George L. Snelling. During his first enlistment he served as corporal. His second discharge was dated November 22, 1865, at San Antonio, Texas. He came out of the army with the rank of sergeant. His second captain had been William H. Coffman. Thus Mr. Bensyl was in the army four years, two months and ten days. Not long after he returned to Illinois he went to farming, and on September 25, 1870, married Armilda Brownfield. Mrs. Bensyl was born in Somer Township of Champaign County, a daughter of Benjamin and Lavina (Hayes) Brownfield. The Brownfield family consisted of four children and with her brothers and sisters Mrs. Bensyl attended the district schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bensyl went to Martin County, Minnesota, where they remained two years engaged in farming. Returning to Illinois, they settled in Somer Township on land which had been part of Mrs. Bensyl's father's estate and a portion of which she had inherited. Here they began building their permanent home, and in time they bought the interests of the other heirs and had a well improved farm of eighty acres.

Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bensyl, two of whom died in infancy. The only daughter, Kathryn, was educated in the home district schools and the Urbana High School, and after reaching young womanhood married Charles U. Ross. Mr. Ross had formerly been a resident of Urbana, but at that time was engaged in business at Oklahoma City. The wedded life of these two young people was brief. At the end of sixteen months Mr. Ross passed away. Thus left alone in her widowhood, Kathryn returned to the home of her parents at Urbana and has lived with them ever since.

Eighteen years ago Mr. and Mrs. Bensyl left their farm and moved to Urbana, residing there six years. They then sought a home near Urbana, where they acquired a small tract of ground just east of the city and built themselves a most commodious and modern home. The home is located close to the interurban line, and they thus enjoy the conveniences of the city and the comfort and quiet of the country. Uncle Sam delivers their mail every day, and with telephone and electric light they are able to enjoy the scriptural injunction to eat and drink and enjoy the work of their hands.

The family are active members of the Christian Church at Urbana. Mr. Bensyl has served his community as school director and school trustee, and politically has always voted in line with the principles that led him to serve his country in the dark days of the '60s. The Republican party has meant to him the greatest political organization in the world and the source of the best laws America has ever had.

Mr. and Mrs. Bensyl have witnessed many of the interesting changes and developments as a result of which Champaign County has become a



Elder Row, Grain and Stock Farm
A. C. McElwee



Mr. and Mrs. A. C. McElwee and Children

garden spot of the world. He recalls a time when the town of Urbana consisted of only a few buildings and the country around was a scene of waving prairie grass and sloughs. The original log jail was standing in Urbana when Mr. Bensyl first came to the county. On a farm that afterwards belonged to Mrs. Bensyl a man named Weaver, while under the influence of liquor, shot and killed a Mr. Hildebrand. Weaver was arrested and confined in the old jail at Urbana, and after trial was sentenced to be hanged. The night before the morning set for the execution he broke out of jail and was never apprehended. It was said that he went to Wisconsin, where his family joined him, and he spent his last years there.

Thus the main facts have been recited in the career of a worthy Champaign County citizen who as a youth marched away with the boys in blue to save the Union from disintegration and after more than four years of fighting returned home to enjoy the fruits of peace and take his place among those who were fighting for the victories of civilization. More than ever today the world realizes how much the victorious boys of the '60s contributed by their brave efforts to the well being of not only this nation but of the world, since it was the results of their sacrifices that made it possible for the allies to appeal for help to the United States and thus preserve the rights and liberties of freedom everywhere from the encroachment of monarchy and despotism.

A. C. McElwee. The township of St. Joseph has some of the best farms in Champaign County, and one that at once attracts attention by its well tilled fields and splendid improvements is the Elder Row Grain and Stock Farm, the proprietor of which is A. C. McElwee.

Back in 1856, more than sixty years ago, his grandfather, C. J. McElwee, acquired 120 acres. It was raw and unimproved and largely became a farm under his efforts. That was the foundation and nucleus of the Elder Row Grain and Stock Farm. Oddly enough, the land has not been retained in the family possession by the usual method of inheritance, but always by purchase from one member or one generation of the family from another. Thus what one generation developed has been taken by the next succeeding and every year has witnessed increasing value and care and management.

Mr. A. C. McElwee, the present proprietor of this fine farm, was born in Fountain County, Indiana, December 27, 1864, a son of Leonard C. and Anna M. (Simmons) McElwee. Leonard C. McElwee was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, November 3, 1837. His wife was born in Ohio, and they were married in Fountain County, Indiana. Leonard C. McElwee for many years combined the vocation of school teacher with that of farmer, teaching country schools in winter terms. He and his wife had a family of six children, three sons and three daughters, A. C. being the youngest son. The latter was educated largely in the Bowers District School in St. Joseph Township, his parents having moved to that township in 1874. The mother died there in 1899, and the father survived until 1915.

On May 13, 1890, A. C. McElwee married Miss Julia A. Green, who was born three miles east of Danville, Illinois, a daughter of William and Sarah (Davidson) Green. Both her parents were natives of Illinois, the Green family having come from Ohio and the Davidsons from Virginia. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McElwee settled on the J. S. Kilbury farm not far from Burr Oak Grove. They lived there eight years, leasing land and farming. At the end of that time Mr. McElwee bought the old home place from his father. His mother in the meantime had died, and his father desired to leave the farm. Here the young couple have made their permanent home, and with industry and intelligence have done

much to improve their lot in life and better the circumstances of the family in general. The Elder Row Grain and Stock Farm now comprises 248 acres. Mr. McElwee has constructed a fine and commodious home, a large assortment of fruit trees has been set out, and the place indicates even to the casual observer the evidence of intelligent farming. Mr. McElwee has found mixed farming the most profitable plan and combines the raising of grain crops with good stock. He keeps graded Shorthorn cattle, Belgian horses, and his chief field crops are oats, corn and some wheat and clover. Some years he threshed as much as 6,000 bushels of oats and gathered 8,000 bushels of corn.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. McElwee: Floyd L., Florence Ruby (deceased), Harry G. and Albert C. The education of these children was carefully looked after both at home and in the local district schools. The son Floyd L. is a successful young farmer and lives on part of his father's estate. He married Lucile Warnick of Bloomfield, Indiana, and they have two children, Rowena Laverne and Dorothy Florence. Mr. McElwee very wisely provided location and opportunity for his son, and their interests are mutual and each is assisting the other in the work. Thus Mr. McElwee not only has the satisfaction of having his son near him, but also in seeing his grandchildren grow up around him. Mr. and Mrs. McElwee are active members of the United Brethren Church of Union in Ogden Township, and Mr. McElwee is one of its trustees. In politics he is an ardent supporter of the Republican party, and it is his firm belief that this party has done more for the welfare of the country than any other organization. Mr. McElwee is interested in the local schools, has served as school director for fourteen years, and has also been ditch commissioner. He and his wife have contributed not a little to the upbuilding and growth of Champaign County during the many years of their residence here.

Clarence A. Rice. Some highly developed farms lie along rural route No. 56 in Philo Township, and one of them is the place of Clarence A. Rice, which is in section 24. Mr. Rice has given a good account of his energies and ability and deserves to rank well to the front among the farming men of one of the richest agricultural sections of the Middle West.

He was born in Bureau County, Illinois, April 7, 1861, a son of Samuel D. and Kate (Bergstra) Rice. His father was born in Massachusetts and his mother in New York State. It was in 1856 that Samuel D. Rice came West, first locating in Iowa and about two years later moving to Bureau County, Illinois. In 1881 he came from Bureau County to Champaign County and established his home in section 24 of Philo Township. He was successfully identified with farming in that locality until his death on December 23, 1914. His good wife and the mother of his only child died in 1863.

Clarence A. Rice grew up in his father's home, attended both the common and high schools, and for many years was associated with his father in the management of the fine farm in Philo Township. He is now individually the owner of 185 acres in section 24 and devotes it to general farming and stock raising.

On March 4, 1886, Mr. Rice married Carrie Hazen. Their two children, Katherine G. and Nathan L., have been afforded every advantage at home and in school and are now students in the State University at Urbana. Mr. Rice is a Republican in politics and is now serving as treasurer of his township school. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

The pretty estate of Mr. and Mrs. Rice is known as "Belle Vue," and it is the abode of hospitality and good cheer.

MATISON F. DUNN has spent a long and productive career as an agriculturist in St. Joseph Township, and for the last two years has lived retired from farming in the village of St. Joseph, and has conducted a very successful real estate enterprise.

Mr. Dunn is a native of Champaign County, having been born on a farm in St. Joseph Township, February 9, 1868, a son of Zephaniah M. and Elizabeth (Mapes) Dunn. His father was a native of Kentucky and his mother of Maryland. Zephaniah Dunn, who was born in 1831, was only two years of age when his parents migrated to Illinois and settled near Urbana among the few families then resident there in 1833. Thus the Dunns shared in the experiences typical of the country and described as pertaining to the early decade of the '30s. Zephaniah grew up in these pioneer conditions, and during his youth he worked for Mr. Busey, one of the prominent farmers of the day, for wages of only 25 cents per day. Zephaniah Dunn had a family of eight children, six sons and two daughters, all of whom were educated in the district school known as the Patterson School.

Matison Dunn after reaching his majority married Laura M. Berkshire, daughter of Jesse B. and Ida (Hawley) Berkshire. His marriage was the signal for the beginning of an industrious and active career as a farmer. For some years he rented eighty acres of land, but was not destined to remain long in that condition of semi-dependence. Prosperity has continued to smile upon him and his labors as an agriculturist had their due reward. A number of years ago Mr. Dunn bought 120 acres in Paulding County, Ohio, 240 acres in Minnesota, and at the death of his father became heir to 100 acres in St. Joseph Township.

By his first marriage Mr. Dunn had three children, Grace E., Ida M. and Arley O. These children, except Ida, who died at the age of three years and eight months, were educated in the St. Joseph High School. Grace married Carl E. Murphy, who lives at Richmond, Indiana, and is employed as interlocking tower man with the Pennsylvania Railway Company. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy have four daughters, Mildred, Gertrude, Louise and Esther. Arley O. Dunn is a locomotive fireman with the Chicago & Eastern Illinois, living at Danville. He married Hazel Davidson, and they have a daughter, Lavone, aged four years.

This little family household endured a heavy loss in the death of the good wife and mother on January 6, 1896. Later Mr. Dunn married Nora (Stewart) McCormick, widow of John McCormick. By her first marriage she had two children, Ollie M. and Mabel F. McCormick. Ollie is the wife of Banks Lambdin of Fisher, Illinois, and has a son and daughter named Fred and Marie. Mabel married Paul M. Freeman, an employe in the Big Four Railway shops at Urbana, and their family consists of two small boys, Donald M. and Stanley F.

By their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Dunn have a son and daughter, Lowell M. and Thelma Lavone. These children have been educated in the St. Joseph High School.

Throughout all these years Mr. Dunn has been successfully engaged in farming and stock growing, but in 1913 he left the active supervision of the farm and moved to the village of St. Joseph, where he erected a fine residence on Sixth Street and has done much to improve and beautify the home and grounds. While living in the country Mr. Dunn was noted as one of the men who could get the most out of a given acreage and with a given capital, and the same success has followed him to St. Joseph as a real estate man. He is engaged in that business as partner of his cousin, John B. Dunn.

In politics Mr. Dunn is a Republican and he and his wife are active

members and liberal supporters of the St. Joseph Christian Church. He is one of the trustees of the church. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen order, and Mrs. Dunn is a Pythian Sister.

Such are the principal facts in the history of one of the fine families of Champaign County. Mrs. Dunn is a most excellent wife and home maker and has encouraged her husband and performed a worthy part by her children.

ORIE A. COOK, D. V. M. The important responsibilities of carrying on the world's work are devolving upon younger men in every generation. It is the young men who furnish the enthusiasm and energy to industry and business and also to the professions. One of the young professional men of Fisher is Dr. O. A. Cook, a young veterinarian who has quickly gained the confidence and esteem of his patrons in veterinary surgery and is well deserving of that confidence.

He is a native of Ford County, Illinois, born April 11, 1894. His parents are Carvosso W. and Elma (Arnold) Cook. There were seven children, five sons and two daughters, in the family, and four are still living. Carvosso Cook was born in Indiana, was educated in the common schools, and his life has been successfully spent as an agriculturist, though for a short time he was a dealer in drugs. From Indiana he removed to Livingston County, Illinois, and later to Ford County, which has been his home for many years. His first purchase of land was eighty acres and after disposing of that he bought forty acres and still later 160 acres, and having accumulated a fine property of 200 acres of fine land in Ford County is now well deserving of the comforts which surround his retirement. In politics he is a Republican and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his wife own a good property in Roberts, where they now reside. Doctor Cook's mother is a native of New York State and was educated in the public schools. She worships in the Congregational Church.

Doctor Cook was reared in Ford County and had a common school education. As a boy his inclinations were plainly manifest for the profession of veterinary surgery and in 1913 he entered the Chicago Veterinary College, where he was graduated with high standing in a class of ninety-two in 1917. Prior to his graduation he had selected his future location in the great agricultural belt of the world, Champaign County, and has already acquired a good practice at Fisher and over the county at large. He located there in April, 1917. This part of the country has the best class of draft and work horses in the state.

Doctor Cook's office is located in the center of the business district and is thoroughly equipped with the most modern surgical instruments, while his laboratory has a stock of the purest of drugs and medicines. His equine sanitarium is as well equipped as any in the largest cities. Doctor Cook is an affable, cordial and genial gentleman and has those qualities which make him socially popular as well as the thorough ability which merits the confidence shown in his judgment and skill as a professional man. His practice has already extended over the northwestern part of Champaign County and even to Rantoul. His equipment of instruments and drugs represent an investment of fully seven hundred dollars. He is always prompt and ready to answer calls for service and has his own automobile to take him quickly to any farm in this part of the county.

Doctor Cook keeps in touch with all the latest points of his profession and has his library well stocked with medical journals as well as a complete collection of the best authors on the science of veterinary surgery. He is

extremely well fortified to pursue his chosen work in Champaign County and the prosperous and promising beginning he has made of his professional career well justifies placing his record in a conspicuous place in this publication.

WILLIAM L. YANCEY. The various items in the career of William L. Yancey show that he is one of Champaign County's farmers who have made more than an ordinary success, and that while acquiring material prosperity he has not neglected those public interests which claim his attention in common with all good citizens. Though he started life comparatively a poor man, he now has a farm in Mahomet Township which is easily among the best in that section. He is a native son of Champaign County and his record is such that everywhere his word is considered as good as his bond.

His birth occurred June 19, 1864. He was the younger of two children, his only sister being now deceased. His parents were Laten and Margaret (Everett) Yancey. His father was born in Lewis County, Kentucky, was reared and educated there, and was an early day arrival in Champaign County. He made settlement near the old Middletown postoffice, now Mahomet, and industriously pursued the career of farmer there the rest of his days. His remains now rest in the Riverside Cemetery, and his wife is also deceased. He was a Jeffersonian Democrat, a member of the Masonic order and both he and his wife were active in the Baptist Church. The Yancey family has long been identified with American history, and some of the earlier members served with credit as soldiers in the Revolutionary War.

William L. Yancey grew up on his father's farm in Champaign County and attended the Mahomet schools. When about nineteen years of age he started out to achieve his own success in life, and being without cash capital he made his start as a renter. Later he married, and with the aid of a competent wife has made a complete success. His first purchase of land was 153 acres, thirty-five acres in Newcomb Township and the rest in Mahomet. Mr. Yancey has managed his farming activities in a way to bring prosperity and to serve as a stimulating example in the handling of a farm. He has always taken just pride in his blooded sheep, and that is one of the chief features of his farm. The various improvements on his farm have been made by his own efforts.

Mr. Yancey married Miss Kate Scott. Of their three children, one son and two daughters, two are living. Harlow, the only son, was educated in the Mahomet High School and is a practical agriculturist now in charge of his father's farm. He is independent in politics and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Mahomet. Wilma, the only surviving daughter, is a graduate of the Mahomet public schools and was successfully engaged in teaching in this county before her marriage to Mr. Guy Jones. Mr. Jones is an expert automobile mechanic and lives in Mahomet Township. Mrs. Jones is a member of the Baptist Church.

Mrs. Yancey was born in Mahomet Township and she has a twin sister, Sarah, now living in St. Louis. Mrs. Yancey was educated in the common schools and is an active member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Yancey is a Democrat in national affairs, but has very frequently exercised his choice of candidate according to the dictates of his personal judgment. The local schools have always received a generous share of his time and attention, and for a number of years he acted as director of the school in Newcomb Township. He has passed all the chairs in the lodge of Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Mahomet and is a member of the Court of Honor. He has long held the position of deacon in the Baptist

Church, and has cordially supported every worthy movement of benevolence and the general welfare of his community.

JAMES LOUIS EDWARDS. One of the comfortable country homes of Philo Township, a place adding to the distinctive character of prosperity and well ordered enterprise in that section, is the Edwards place, now occupied by James Louis Edwards, who acquired it from his father, George Edwards. The Edwards family has been identified with Champaign County for over half a century. James Louis Edwards is unmarried and with his sister Anna looks after the management of the farm and they keep house together.

Mr. Edwards was born on the old homestead in section 18 of Philo Township in 1867, a son of George and Susan C. (Andrews) Edwards. His father was born in England and his mother in Baltimore, Maryland. The family came to Champaign County in 1865, locating in that year in section 18 of Philo Township. Land that was then only raw prairie was converted by the united efforts of the family into a fine and prosperous homestead. The father died July 3, 1916, and the mother in February, 1914. They had a large family of children: William, deceased; Anna, at home; John, of Urbana; Ruth, wife of Ora Lindley, of Urbana; Frank, of Warsaw, Indiana; Nellie, wife of John Elliott, of Cass County, Nebraska; James Louis; Minnie, wife of Irvin Maxwell; and Albert and Edward, both deceased.

James L. Edwards has farmed on the old homestead all his life and is now owner of 160 acres of the old place and besides has eighty acres not included in the original domain of his father. Mr. Edwards is a fine type of the Champaign County agriculturist and has proved the right man in the right place. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Philo.

JASON EUGENE CHURCHILL. One of the good farm homes in Philo Township is found in section 25, where Mr. J. E. Churchill shows his ability as a farmer and stockman and by dint of hard work and good management has acquired the ownership of a tract of land which he first farmed as a renter.

Mr. Churchill is a native of Champaign County, having been born in Crittenden Township April 3, 1892. His parents were Jason M. and Jennie E. (French) Churchill. His father was born in New York State and his mother in the State of Kansas. His father came to Champaign County when twenty-five years of age and lived an active life as a farmer until his death on July 16, 1911. The mother died in September, 1916. They had three children: Lottie J., Agnes E. and Jason Eugene, and all are living in Philo Township.

At the age of nineteen, in 1911, J. E. Churchill graduated from the Philo High School and almost at once began farming on the home place. A little later he transferred his operations to a rented farm of 160 acres in section 25. Each year brought him added capital as well as experience, and he is now the owner of eighty acres of land in section 25, and his accomplishments promise still greater achievements before he comes to the full maturity of his career. He is both a farmer and stock raiser.

Mr. Churchill was married January 1, 1913, to Fern Spencer, of Crittenden Township. Their three young children are: Jason Spencer, born June 1, 1914; Esther Marie, born July 7, 1915; and Mildred Jean, born September 12, 1916. Like many of the young men of modern times, Mr. Churchill chooses independently in matters of politics. He is a

member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Philo and also of the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his wife worship in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

M. Fenwick. Among the families of more than fifty years' residence in Champaign County, one which is well and favorably known is that represented by M. Fenwick, a prosperous business citizen of St. Joseph, who has made his home in this community since 1868. Mr. Fenwick was born in Indiana, June 14, 1842, a son of William and Mary (Gilbert) Fenwick. His maternal grandfather was an early frontiersman of Ohio. and in that state, in Ross County, Mr. Fenwick's parents were married. William Fenwick was born in Highland County, Ohio, and his father's birthplace was Fenwick's Island, Delaware.

The Fenwick family can be directly traced back to the days of bow-and-arrow warfare in Scotland, when members of the family, loyal Scots all, were among the best archers, there being at one time 500 of the name so armed fighting for the rights and liberties of the land of heather. Sir John Fenwick, one of Mr. Fenwick's ancestors, was beheaded in England for his patriotic activities, and it is thought that the original Fenwick in America, Thomas, who arrived in Virginia in 1630, came to this country to escape a like fate. In the Encyclopedia Et Heraldica it is found that the armorials of the family are deposited at the Lion office of Edinburgh, Scotland. The original orthography of the name Fenwick was given in 1567 as Fynwyk, this being changed in 1723 to Finwick and in 1793 to Fenwick. The first record given of the family in this country was in a reference made in the work, entitled "Southern Quakers and Slavery," by Stephen D. Weeks, Ph. D., published by Ballentyne, 1896. In the court records of Norfolk County, Virginia, the name of Thomas Fenwick is frequently found, either as a prosecutor or a defendant, and while his record shows that he surely led a stormy life, some of the penalties, fines and causes for proceedings were both laughable and absurd. He was granted at different times several thousand acres of land by the Virginia governors as recompense for bringing settlers into the county, and at one time transported sixty persons, for which service he was given 3,000 acres, a part of which was subsequently called Fenwick Island, lying off the coast of Delaware. The court record of May 21, 1679, shows that one Malachi Thruston received judgment against Thomas Fenwick for 365 pounds of tobacco; on September 5, 1679, Thomas Fenwick received a judgment against Nathaniel Brangwing for 400 pounds of tobacco; on February 15, 1680, Thomas Fenwick obtained judgment against Edward Wilder for 337 pounds of pork, and in another case Henry Creek obtained judgment against Thomas Fenwick for 130 pounds of tobacco and 108 pounds of pork. On October 15, 1684, William Porter obtained judgment against Thomas Fenwick for 1,000 pipe stems, to be paid at "Fenwick's Landing." In the land office at Richmond, Virginia, Liber. VII, folio 423, Francis Lord Howard, governor, is shown to issue to Thomas Fenwick a grant of 350 acres for the transportation of seven persons, and later it is shown where Thomas Fenwick traded a negro slave woman for 200 acres of land. On November 17, 1685, "Whereas, Philip Howard did detain a servant of Thomas Fenwick (named Humphry Dorman, who had three years to serve) for the loss of a bull hired to said Fenwick—in which hire the servant ran away, and if Howard do not return said servant within six months to Fenwick, he pay Fenwick 600 pounds of tobacco and costs." Later in 1700, he was made a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature and with other members was appointed at different times to call upon the governor and to present bills for consideration. In the Pennsylvania archives it is shown that Thomas

Fenwick was appointed justice of the peace for Sussex County, and that on May 4, 1703, one Edward Page was fined five shillings for swearing in his (Fenwick's) presence. Fenwick's Island is referred to in the celebrated case between William Penn and Lord Baltimore. The will of Thomas Fenwick is recorded at Georgetown, Delaware, Liber. A, folio 77, as follows: He first willed his soul to God and to his heirs his real estate, slaves and chattels; his daughter, Margaret Stretcher, and heirs his spinning wheels, cards and utensils, her choice of beds and his youngest negro girl; to Anna Clifton, his sea bed; to Margaret Hepburn, his old horse "Lodge" and four barrels of Indian corn; to Sarah Clifton, his silver baker; and to Thomas Clifton, half of his mares and an increase on Fenwick's Island.

From his native state of Ohio William Fenwick removed to Indiana and subsequently to Illinois, but after seven years in this state returned to Indiana and there passed the rest of his life. His son, M. Fenwick, was twenty-six years of age when he came to Illinois, being at that time the possessor of a common school education and the trade of carpenter, and settled in St. Joseph Township, Champaign County. He subsequently built the first house at St. Joseph, as well as the first ticket office at this point; likewise built the first house and ticket office at Ogden, Illinois, and scored and hewed the first ties used on the Union Pacific Railroad at Omaha, Nebraska, but after several years in the trade turned his attention to farming, a field in which he won enviable success through industry and good management, backed up by sound integrity in all transactions.

In 1871 Mr. Fenwick was married to Martha E. Johnson, who was born near Richmond, Wayne County, Indiana, daughter of William and Catherine (Ladd) Johnson, a member of a notable family which traces its ancestry back many generations in this country, and a granddaughter of a cousin of President John Quincy Adams. To Mr. and Mrs. Fenwick there were born the following children: Cary C., W. J., Inez C. and Zula B., all graduates of the St. Joseph High School, where they made exceptional records, and all now worthy and honorable citizens of their communities. Cary C. Fenwick married Juniata Graham, who was born at Vevay in southern Indiana, daughter of Robert and Martha (Lester) Graham, a family which owned and operated the ferry at Vevay. She has been granted a Government license as pilot on the Ohio River, dated August 9, 1915. Cary C. Fenwick is one of the foremost carpenters and contractors of St. Joseph Township, having built some of the finest structures in this part of the county, including the brick Christian Church at St. Joseph, of which he and his family are members and liberal supporters, he having served as superintendent of the Sunday school. Mr. Fenwick is one of his locality's honored citizens and the possessor of a refined wife and attractive home. W. J. Fenwick married Irma Martin of Louisa, and has one child, Louise. He resides at home and is engaged in assisting his father with the work of the homestead. Inez C. Fenwick married Alexander Penny and resides at Skykomish, Washington, where Mr. Fenwick is connected with railroad shops. Mrs. Penny was formerly for one year worthy matron of the Order of the Eastern Star at Urbana, Illinois. Zula B. Fenwick married Charles Davis, a farmer of St. Louis, Michigan, and has one child, Martha.

In various ways M. Fenwick has been a factor in bringing about the development of Champaign County, and his assistance has been constant in support of worthy measures. He has served as road commissioner and school director, and when the first drainage system was installed was elected drainage commissioner, and with his helpers dug and completed forty miles of open and tile ditches within three years in one township, a feat which is one that stands out as a great accomplishment in the history of

this section. In political matters he holds to broad views on various subjects and refuses to allow himself to be confined to party lines, his support being given to the men whom he believes best qualified for the office and to the policies that he feels are best for the general welfare. He has been a generous donator to the Christian Church, of which he and his family are members. For fifty years he has been identified with Masonry, in which he has attained to the thirty-second degree, and his son has also been a member of this order for some years. In every respect Mr. Fenwick is a representative citizen of his community, a man whose excellent reputation has been built upon a long period of straightforward dealing and clean living, and a worthy bearer of this honorable family name.

ROBERT J. MYERS. For forty-one years Robert J. Myers has lived in Champaign County. Those have been years of productive labor, of public spirited enterprise, and few men have left a stronger impress upon their home locality than he. He was not a wealthy man when he came to this county and his prosperity has been the fruit of long continued work, good management and an unselfish interest in the life and affairs of his community.

He is a native of the old Blue Grass State and was born in Lewis County, Kentucky, March 23, 1853. He is the oldest of four children, three sons and one daughter, born to John Means and Isabel (Markland) Myers. Three children are still living: Robert, Henry and Nannie. Henry, still living in Lewis County, Kentucky, is both a farmer and manager of a large tobacco warehouse. He is married and he and his wife are members of the Christian Church. Nannie is the wife of A. G. Wilson, a farmer and breeder of blooded horses in Lewis County, Kentucky.

John M. Myers was born in Lewis County November 2, 1812. His death occurred in 1896, at the age of eighty-four. He improved his limited advantages in the common schools so as to be able to teach for a number of terms. In politics he was an old line Whig and an admirer and supporter of Henry Clay. From that party he went into the Republican ranks upon the organization and cast his vote for Fremont in 1856. Besides the ownership of 572 acres in Lewis County he acquired 1104 acres of land in Newcomb Township of Champaign County, Illinois. Part of his Champaign County possessions he entered direct from the government. Land that he paid a dollar and a quarter an acre for could not now be bought for less than three hundred dollars an acre. He and his son Robert walked all the way from Kentucky to Illinois to enter the land in Champaign County. Combined with his ability and success in material affairs John M. Myers possessed the qualifications of the true Kentucky gentleman. He lived liberally and hospitably and was a man looked up to wherever he was known. His death occurred in the old home where he was born and reared. His wife was a native of Adams County, Ohio, born there September 20, 1818, and died a number of years ago. She grew to young womanhood in her native state, was educated in Ohio, and then accompanied her parents to Lewis County, Kentucky. Her father was William Markland. John M. Myers and wife were both members of the Christian Church.

Mr. Robert J. Myers grew up in his native state. The advantages he acquired in the local schools were supplemented by a rigid course of self training and study. At one time he attended school kept in a log cabin. He even used and made the old-fashioned goose quill pen as the implement of writing. For thirteen terms Mr. Myers was a school teacher, teaching twelve terms in his native state and one in Illinois. Some of his Ken-

tucky schools were supported on the subscription plan. His home was with his parents until he was twenty-three and part of his earnings always went into the family exchequer.

At the age of thirteen Mr. Myers met with an accident which made his left leg permanently crippled. In spite of that handicap his indomitable energy and ambition has made him a very successful man. Coming to Illinois, he took up a life of agriculture, and that has been his chief calling and the source of his best success. With the aid of his good wife he has accumulated 200 acres of the rich land in Newcomb Township and they also have a beautiful residence in Fisher.

On December 21, 1886, Mr. Myers married Miss Anna Belle Gilmore. Two children have been born to their union, a son and a daughter. John G., the son, has for the past seven years been a resident of Mansfield, Illinois, and is assistant cashier and bookkeeper in the State Bank of that town He was educated in the Fisher High School, and before entering the bank took a business course in the Bloomington Business College. He is a Republican, and in Masonry has advanced from the Blue Lodge to the thirty-second degree of Scottish Rite. He is a live and enterprising young citizen and besides his connection with the bank is associated with Alva James in the automobile business. John G. Myers was married in December, 1916, to Miss Phoebe James.

Lela M., the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Myers, married W. B. Scott. A resident of Fisher, he spends his time in travel as an employe in the United States mail service. Mrs. Scott was educated in the Fisher schools, is an active member of the Domestic Science Club and was its secretary four years. She and her husband are members of the Christian Church at Fisher. Mr. Scott was educated in the common schools and the Danville High School and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. The delight of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Scott and the grandparents, where Mrs. Scott resides, is the little daughter, Virginia Erretine.

Mrs. Myers was born in Licking County, Ohio, October 9, 1865, a daughter of George W. and Hannah J. (Holland) Gilmore. She was one of four sons and two daughters, five of whom are living and all residents of Illinois. Her father was a native of Virginia, where he grew to manhood and received his education. He and his wife were married about the time of the war and removed to Licking County, Ohio. He followed agriculture as his vocation and had seventy-five acres in Licking County. During the war he fought as a soldier and at the end of his term was granted an honorable discharge. His death occurred June 2, 1898. Politically he was a Democrat and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Church. Mrs. Gilmore, also a native of Virginia, where she was reared and married, attended the common schools and she died in Champaign County in 1901. Both of them are now at rest in the Mahomet Cemetery, where a monument marks their resting place. Mrs. Myers was educated in the common schools and has proved a most capable helpmate and counselor to her husband in the rearing of their children and the establishment of their home.

In politics Mr. Myers is a Republican and cast his first presidential vote for James G. Blaine in 1884. For nine years he served as assessor of Newcomb Township. He and his wife are active members of the Court of Honor at Mahomet and belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church at Fisher.

MARTIN ORLANDO STOVER. Farmers are the uncrowned kings of America today, and if they do not hold the political destiny of the country in their hands they are at least the custodians of the resources which are the

most vital and necessary to the welfare and existence of the millions who live in the great cities and industrial centers. Champaign County has a wealth of men who are doing their part in the development of American agriculture, and it is no disparagement of what others are doing and have done to name Martin Orlando Stover as a recognized leader among them all.

Mr. Stover has been identified with this county since 1883. His beautiful country home, known as Evergreen View, is located two and a half miles northwest of Mahomet on the Bloomington Road and it is one of the farms which might be selected as an example of what scientific and systematic management can accomplish.

Mr. Stover was born in Edgar County, Illinois, March 31, 1861. His parents were Ptollman and Mary E. (Earhart) Stover. He was the second of their three children, and his two sisters are both deceased. His father was born in West Alexandria, Preble County, Ohio, in 1833, and is still living at the venerable age of eighty-four, his home being in California. He was reared and educated in his native state and was for years a successful farmer and horticulturist. After his marriage in Ohio he moved to Wayne County, Indiana, lived there three years, and about 1860 settled in Edgar County, Illinois. A short time after the birth of his son Martin O. he went to Charleston, Illinois, and his first wife died there. He afterwards married Mrs. Mary Harris Dilling, and of the five children of that union three are living. Some time prior to the Civil War P. Stover invented a corn planter, and it was one of the first successful devices of the kind ever introduced. From Illinois he returned to Wayne County, Indiana, where he married his second wife and where he bought eighty acres of land. In 1871 he removed to Missouri, lived about twenty-five years there as a farmer and fruit grower, and about 1896 went west to California, where he is still living. He began voting as a Whig and for sixty years has supported the Republican candidates and principles. He is a Master Mason and in religion is liberal. His first wife was a native of Ohio, was reared and educated there, and was a member of the German Reformed Church.

Martin Orlando Stover lived with his father in Missouri from 1871 until 1883, but otherwise his experience has been chiefly in Illinois. After the common school course he entered the Versailles High School in Morgan County, Missouri, graduated in 1880, and also took a normal training summer school course at Versailles. From 1879 to 1889 he was successfully engaged in teaching. Four years of that work were done in Missouri and six years in Champaign County, partly near his present home and partly near Fisher.

In 1885 he and his wife located on the eighty acres in Newcomb Township which Mrs. Stover inherited. Their present home farm is 209 acres in Mahomet Township, and they still own forty acres in Newcomb Township. Some years ago Mr. Stover remodeled a beautiful residence and has made it one of the most attractive country homes in the county. Since giving up school teaching he has devoted his life to farming and on the scientific plan. He has judiciously combined experience and the theories taught in books and by professors of agriculture, and has reduced farming to a strict business principle. He keeps books on his farm and at any time he knows exactly where he stands in matters of assets and liabilities. For years he has practiced the principle of crop rotation, and all his fields in his farms in Newcomb and Mahomet townships are numbered and strict count is kept of each field. He has adopted the system advocated by the United States Department of Agriculture and the State University Agricultural Department, known as the Farmers Account Book. Mr. Stover is authority for the statement that about 125 farmers in Champaign County follow the same plan.

On December 24, 1885, Mr. Stover married Miss Laura B. Lyons. They are the parents of a son and daughter. Nellie E., the older, was educated in the common schools and for a short time attended the University of Illinois. She is now the wife of Ernest Mitchell, and they live on a farm in Newcomb Township. They have one daughter, Louise, now eight years of age and a student in the second grade. Nellie is a member of the Baptist Church. Orville O., the son, is still at home and is active manager of his father's farming enterprise. He was educated in the common schools, graduated from the Mahomet High School, and spent one year in the agricultural course of the University of Illinois. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Mahomet.

Mrs. Stover was born in Champaign County February 13, 1861, a daughter of Samuel and Martha (Newell) Lyons. She is the second of three living children. Her older brother, William B., has shown great ability as a business farmer and stock raiser and in Michigan is handling a farm for the breeding and raising of Hereford cattle. Her younger brother, Dwight, is a farmer in Condit Township of Champaign County.

Samuel Lyons was a native of Kentucky, and came to Champaign County in 1856, when a young man. He made his start here with little capital, though he was a member of a well to do family in Kentucky, and at the time of his death, which occurred about 1888, he left his children a goodly estate and also an untarnished name and a reputation for square dealing. Mrs. Stover was educated in the common schools and for years has been an active member of the Baptist Church at Mahomet.

The Stover home possesses one of the best private libraries found in that part of Champaign County. The 500 volumes range from the Encyclopedia Britannica to the classic works of literature, and all the books show wise and careful handling and study. Mr. Stover has always been a student, has kept in close touch with life and affairs and there is hardly a doubt that his well trained mind has had a great deal to do with his success as a farmer.

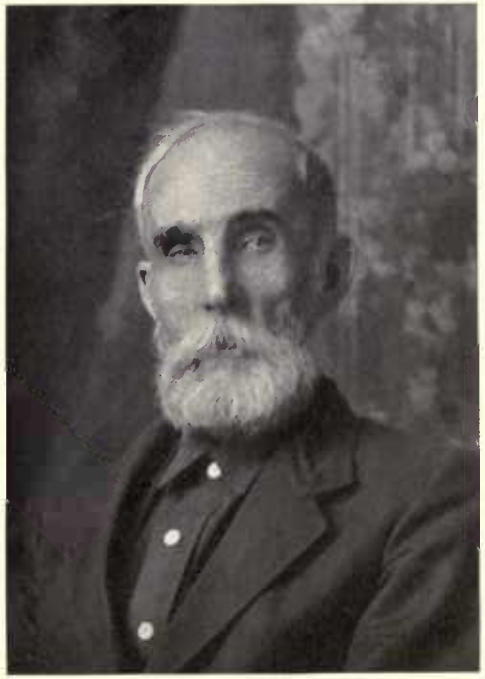
In past years he figured somewhat prominently in local politics as a member of the Democratic party. He represented his party in various county and state conventions and served six years as supervisor of Mahomet Township, as clerk of Newcomb Township, as a director of the schools and being an old teacher he has performed his greatest pleasure in sustaining and keeping up good educational institutions in his community. He has steadily advocated the hiring of the best talent and the securing of modern equipment for school use. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Mahomet Lodge of Masons, with Chapter No. 50, R. A. M., and Commandery No. 68, Knights Templar, at Champaign, and he is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Mahomet.

ISAAC HIXENBAUGH is an old time resident of Champaign County, was for many years identified not only with farming but also the civic affairs of Ogden Township, and is now enjoying the comforts of material prosperity and the rewards of his earlier strenuous efforts in a pleasant home at Homer.

Mr. Hixenbaugh was born near West Warren in Marion County, West Virginia, May 4, 1846, a son of Isaac and Martha (Ogden) Hixenbaugh. His mother's brother, John Ogden, was the man after whom Ogden town and Ogden Township in this county were named. Isaac Hixenbaugh was one of eight children, next to the youngest, and grew up and received his education in a backwood district of West Virginia, where he attended a log school conducted on the subscription plan. He sat on a rough board bench without a back, learned the lessons of the few text books, chiefly an



MARY M. HIXENBAUGH
First Wife



ISAAC HIXENBAUGH



PRISCILLA E. HIXENBAUGH
Second Wife

arithmetic, speller and reader, and had limited comforts and conveniences both in school and at home. When he was fourteen years of age his parents moved to Green County, Pennsylvania, locating seventeen miles west of Waynesburg. After three years they moved to Morrow County, Ohio, settling half a mile south of Sparta, on a farm.

Isaac Hixenbaugh was in Morrow County, Ohio, four years, and in 1868, at the age of twenty-two, came to Illinois, spending one year a mile east of Mount Vernon, Ohio. On August 19, 1869, he married Miss Mary M. Freeman. Mrs. Hixenbaugh was born in Homer Township of Champaign County, three miles southwest of Ogden, a daughter of Thomas and Nancy Freeman. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hixenbaugh located three-quarters of a mile north of where the town of Ogden now stands. At that time there was no Ogden, no railroad, and everything was new and primitive. Mr. Hixenbaugh paid $10.50 per acre for a tract of forty acres. Three years later he moved three and a half miles southwest of Ogden and bought fifty-one acres, which was one of the first improved farms in that section of the county. He paid $42.50 an acre for the land and forthwith began the task of making a permanent home there. His industry was rewarded and he became able to buy other land until he acquired 236 acres. Mrs. Hixenbaugh also inherited 170 acres. Mr. Hixenbaugh built two good barns, a commodious house, surrounded the home with fruit and shade trees, and in that pleasant environment his children grew up. Instead of buying more land for himself he wisely assisted his children in acquiring their homes.

Mr. and Mrs. Hixenbaugh had six children, Louie Margaret, Newton, Clara, Grace, Thomas and Ava. Grace and Thomas died in infancy and Clara died at the age of twenty-two. The children were educated in the Clark School in District No. 1. The daughter Louie M. married Thomas W. Richards, a retired farmer at Homer, and they have two children, Amanda and Bessie. Amanda is the wife of Frederick Umbenhour and has two children, Dorothy and Edward, while Bessie is the wife of Thurl Schaumburg, and has one child, Earl Richards.

Newton Hixenbaugh first married Eva Curry, who was burned to death thirty days after her wedding, and he subsequently married Mattie Nonemaker and by that union has two children, Dolly and Maud.

Ava Hixenbaugh is the wife of Charles Boyd, a farmer living on the old Hixenbaugh homestead. They have one child, Byrl. In the summer of 1917 a part of the cyclone which did such devastation in central Illinois tore the Boyd home to pieces. Mrs. Boyd was asleep in the house, while her little daughter, four years old, was playing outdoors. The daughter ran into the house and waked her mother just in time for them to escape into the cellar. The brick chimney tumbled down, a total ruin, striking the bed where Mrs. Boyd had been lying. Fortunately the floor fell with one edge resting on the bank cellar, and thus the mother and daughter were protected from harm.

On April 8, 1914, the good wife and mother, Mrs. Hixenbaugh, passed away, after having reared her children, and with their benedictions and the kindly memories of many friends following her. On August 31, 1914, Mr. Hixenbaugh married Mrs. Priscilla E. Richards. Her first husband was R. H. Trout, and before her marriage to Mr. Hixenbaugh she was the widow of Cyrus Richards. By her first marriage she had children named Charles, Boyd, Grace, Boyce and Lacy Trout. Charles Trout is a physician practicing in Missouri and by his marriage to Miss Lottie Maynard has two daughters, Thelma and Evelyn. Boyd Trout is a farmer near Fairmount, Indiana, and married Grace Bowers, their two children being Cecil and Irene. Grace Trout is the wife of William Jones of Shreveport,

Louisiana, and has two children, Eugene and Meredith. Boyce Trout is a barber at Muncie, Indiana, and married Gladys Hamilton, their four children being Mary, Oma, Virgil and Carl. Lacy Trout resides near Mathews, Indiana, married Quincy Tapman, and has two children, Evelyn and Paul.

In addition to rearing their own children Mr. and Mrs. Hixenbaugh have had in their home his granddaughter, Bessie Peters, who is now Mrs. Wakefield of Homer, Illinois.

Mr. Hixenbaugh is one of the men who has lived to see the low ground drained, the prairies cultivated and Champaign County blossom like a rose. In the early days of low prices he sold corn at 16 cents a bushel, oats at 11 cents and hogs at 2½ cents a pound. He had his share of the trials and adversities of pioneer days. He has not gone through life without giving his share to the public welfare. He served as school director seven years and was the first assessor to be elected in Ogden Township and also assisted in making the first poll book of that township. He and his wife are attendants at the Christian Church in Ogden and in politics he is a Democrat. In August, 1917, Mr. Hixenbaugh left his farm and bought a comfortable residence at 304 Fourth Street in the town of Homer. He felt that the time had come for his retirement from the active responsibilities of farming, and his material prosperity well justified such a move. He was not sure that he would be contented away from the farm and his accustomed work, but to his surprise he has found good friends and neighbors, and has thoroughly enjoyed his new life in this sociable and cultured community.

John Wesley Stipes. In the spring of 1917, after the declaration of war was made and preparations were hurried to convert and organize this nation for war, the United States Government made known its purpose for the selection of a location for an aviation field in Illinois and preferably convenient to the State University. A committee of half a dozen men were called together by President James of the University, and of this committee J. W. Stipes, of Champaign, was elected chairman. This committee gave careful study to the problems involved and after looking over many locations selected four possible sites, each a mile square, containing 640 acres. That was the work of the committee and after that the government had to choose among these four locations. The presence of the State University was a big factor in deciding the problem, since the university would undoubtedly furnish a large number of men for the aviation corps. The Champaign Chamber of Commerce, together with the committee, began an energetic canvass to convince the government that the Rantoul field would be the best suited for the purpose. Mr. J. W. Stipes went to Washington and for several weeks used his untiring efforts, as a result of which it was decided to acquire and develop the site at Rantoul.

In line with what seems a general policy of the Federal Government during the war, the improvement of this site was turned over to the civil authorities, and in this case largely to local men. Mr. Stipes, at the head of these local citizens, together with the English Brothers, secured the contract for improving and erecting the buildings on the ground, the contract to be completed in sixty days. Four days after the contract was signed 800 men were busily engaged, and at the end of ten days a force of 1,500 men and 225 teams were at work. By the end of June every building was under way and fifty per cent of the improvement was completed, and before the end of the summer the grounds were in use for the training of an aviation corps. The buildings consist of barracks, store buildings, hospital, school, and twelve hangars for the flying machines,

one capable of holding six machines, and altogether these buildings constitute a small city in itself. It was a heroic undertaking to develop the grounds. Nine miles of drain tile were laid, three miles of sewer, a septic tank was constructed, two and a half miles of water mains were put under ground, electric power was brought a distance of eighteen miles, a spur of a railway track was built, three and a quarter million feet of lumber was used, a hundred thousand cubic yards of earth were shifted for grading and filling, and a fine crop of four hundred acres of corn was destroyed to make way for this colossal government enterprise. All was done and finished satisfactorily within the sixty days allowed by the contract.

People who are in a position to know, give much of the credit of this achievement to John W. Stipes. That is only one of the big undertakings he has successfully carried out during a lifetime.

A well written book of fiction frequently pleases because the imaginary characters overcome handicaps and reach their various goals sometimes through almost unbelievable hardships. In looking about among real people it is possible, more often than one may think, without trying to find quiet men whose handicaps have not been imaginary and whose achievements prove that they have lived bravely outside the page of the story book. Many of the elements found in the pages of fiction have been exemplified in the career of Mr. Stipes, who is a self made, self educated man, and for years has been a factor in the life and affairs of Champaign County.

John Wesley Stipes was born in Montgomery County, Iowa, September 14, 1860. His parents were John and Harriet (Bean) Stipes, both of whom were born in Virginia. The family resided in Iowa when the Civil War broke out, the father being a supporter of the Union cause. In all times of public stress there is more or less excitement and sectional feeling is apt to be aroused, and it was through an outbreak of this kind, incident to the attempted arrest of an outspoken sympathizer with the secession movement, that John Stipes lost his life. He left his widow with five children, John Wesley being the youngest. The others also survive, as follows: Sarah, who is the widow of George Peterson, of Henderson, Iowa; George, a resident of Urbana, Illinois; Louise, wife of Edward Good, of Paxico, Kansas; Thomas, who is a resident of Wabash, Indiana. The mother migrated to Champaign, Illinois, when John Wesley was yet an infant.

By the time he was ten years of age John Wesley Stipes had made some progress in the district schools but after that age had little opportunity for study, as he then became a boy of all work on a farm, the proprietor of which, Mr. Barley, had quite a family of young children to be looked after as well as horses to be cared for and fields to be cultivated. No doubt it often required a stout bit of courage, especially on cold winter mornings, to be the first up on the farm, to make the fires and then do the farm chores and then to amiably take care of the children while the family ate breakfast. His own breakfast followed and then his day's work was supposed to start. Mr. Stipes remembers that his earliest attempts at handling a three-horse plow were not very successful, as he encountered much trouble in turning the plow at the end of the furrow. His plowing had to be kept up until noon, when he was permitted to return to the house and take care of the children while the other workers ate dinner, his meal following afterward. With changing seasons his work varied but never slackened, his wages being $5 a month. Mr. Stipes displayed even then a proper business sense, spending his first twenty dollars for a heifer. He continued on the farm under

the same conditions until two years had passed by and he was a fine, sturdy youth of twelve years.

In 1872 Mr. Sutton placed John W. Stipes and Homer Stillwell in his brickyard at Urbana, and this was a fortunate change for John Wesley and he soon developed an interest in this line of work and willingly and faithfully labored there for eight years, during this time mastering the details of the brick business and incidentally of the manufacturing of tile. He began to make plans for embarking in business for himself, and just here came in an element that some workers might have overlooked. This was that while working steadily with his hands he had also built up a reputation for fidelity to his employer, for honest effort and persevering industry, and this brought him the respect and confidence of the late Judge J. O. Cunningham. Judge Cunningham testified to his sterling character and readily recommended him to the farming community in need of tile, whereby he had no difficulty in contracting with them for their tile requirements on the basis of an advance of twenty-five per cent of the price of their contract. This would enable him to start the manufacturing and after the plant started the farmers were to have their pro rata of the manufacture as the work proceeded. It is not necessary to add that every contract was faithfully and honestly completed.

Mr. Stipes was thus soon on the highway of success. In the course of time Judge Smith, of Champaign, and L. L. Hayworth, of Decatur, engaged him to go over to Decatur, Illinois, and build a tile plant there for them, which work required a year of his time, after which he returned to Champaign and became associated with George F. Beardsley in organizing a company to build a tile factory in Champaign. He subsequently bought the Sheldon Tile Company of Urbana, the Madero Tile Company and also the stock and plant of the Urbana Brick Company, which had failed after operating three years.

In April, 1881, Mr. Stipes was married to Miss Eliza Garrison, who was born at Urbana, Illinois, and they have the following children: Royal A., of Champaign; Opal, wife of E. S. Pilcher, of Champaign; Bessie, wife of M. L. Hecker; Helen J., wife of Robert Eisner; and John W., of Texas. In politics Mr. Stipes is a Republican and has been a member of the school board for years. He is a member of the Methodist Church and fraternally is an Elk and Knight of Pythias.

T. F. Berkley, who for a number of years has been the leading flour merchant in the village of Ogden, is a miller by training and experience, as was his father before him.

Mr. Berkley was born at Maxburg in Muskingum County, Ohio, a son of C. F. and C. M. (Richardson) Berkley. This branch of the Richardson family were prominent both in Ohio and Kentucky. C. F. Berkley in the early days conducted a mill on the Muskingum River, but in 1851 removed to Charleston, Illinois, when his son T. F. was only three years of age. C. F. Berkley while at Charleston became a friend of Abraham Lincoln, then a prominent Illinois lawyer, and he often met this great statesman after that and was a warm and stanch admirer of him both personally and in politics. T. F. Berkley was the youngest of five sons.

On September 29, 1869, when T. F. Berkley was twenty-one years of age, he married Lydia A. Howver. She was born at West Middleburg, Ohio. After their marriage they lived for a time at Homer, Illinois, and then for twenty-seven years Mr. Berkley conducted a flour mill in Vermilion County. He also lived at Charleston, Illinois, ten years. He has conducted an extensive business as a flour and grain miller and is still active at Ogden.

Three children were born to him and his wife, Herbert, Tina M. and

Roy F. Herbert married Marie Dugan. Her father was a Baptist minister and her home was near Louisville, Kentucky, but while visiting in Illinois she met Herbert Berkley and they were soon afterwards married. Their children are Irene and Charles F., who assists his father in the business at Ogden. Roy Berkley is now a ticket agent in the Union Depot at St. Louis, Missouri. He married Edith Molmon, of Ohio, and has two children, Merle and Fred. The daughter Tina M. was taken away by death in beautiful young womanhood.

Mr. Berkley was deprived of the companionship of his wife on April 18, 1917, after they had been happily married for nearly fifty years. She was a most lovable woman and had endeared herself to a large circle of friends by her goodness of heart. Mr. and Mrs. Berkley usually attended the New Light and Methodist Episcopal churches. In politics he has always been a Republican. His sons are members of the Woodmen and Knights of Pythias orders. For eighteen years Mr. Berkley has lived at Ogden and has followed the business of miller and has enjoyed much success.

The Berkley family were natural musicians and possessed also many genial and sociable qualities. When the country was new and social opportunities and places of amusement were limited T. F. Berkley and other young men of kindred tastes organized a string band. He was one of the violinists, and should be mentioned as one of the old time fiddlers of Champaign County. For years their organization furnished music for dances all over the country. There was no gathering of young people considered complete without these young men to add to the cheer of the occasion, and for years they gave music for the entertainment of many communities. These public dances were noted for their splendid order and the fine class of people who patronized them. Many of the participants in those public dances have grown gray, but they often refer with pleasure to the old time dances. Through all the years of his life Mr. Berkley has retained the friendships made in his youth as well as many formed in later years, and the confidence and esteem given him then have followed him through all his years. He has been peculiarly blessed with a spirit of sociability and cheerfulness, and these taken in connection with his good business judgment have brought him a more than ordinary place of esteem and success.

Michael Lowry. One of the prominent and substantial families of Champaign County bears the name of Lowry and this name for half a century has represented here good citizenship, honest industry and faithful membership in the Roman Catholic Church. While not an unusually prolific family, it is a long-lived one and at present there are three generations residing at Philo, Illinois.

Michael Lowry was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, June 9, 1850. His parents were John and Margaret (Nolan) Lowry, natives of the same county, and from there they came to America and to Illinois in 1865. John Lowry settled on a farm in Will County, near Joliet, and remained there for six years and then removed to Crittenden Township in Champaign County, where he bought 160 acres of land. He cultivated and improved his property and died there in November, 1874. His wife survived him for thirteen years, her death taking place February 24, 1887. They were the parents of five children, namely: William, who is a resident of Peoria, Illinois; Michael; James, who is a farmer in Crittenden Township; and Thomas and John, both of whom are farmers in Champaign Township.

When the family removed from Will to Champaign County Michael Lowry went to Chicago and there for four years he was engaged in railroad work. He then returned home and assisted in the farm work on

the homestead until 1877 and then returned to Chicago. After his marriage in that city he returned to Crittenden Townhip and engaged in farming until 1881, when he moved to Philo and has resided here ever since, one of the most respected residents of the place.

Michael Lowry was married February 8, 1877, to Miss Catherine Dowling, who was born at Cascade, Wisconsin, February 14, 1857, and died at Philo, Illinois, October 14, 1896. Six children were born to them, all of whom survive, as follows: John F., who is a resident of Philo; Margaret, who is the wife of A. C. Paris, of Champaign; Martin J., who lives at Decatur; Charles E., who is postmaster at Philo; Walter A., who lives with his father; and Howard W., who is a resident of Champaign. While residing in Philo Township Mr. Lowry served for six years on the school board and for eight years was township supervisor, and he was postmaster at Philo for four years, his good judgment making him an excellent public official which his honest performance of duty made effective. He is a member of St. Thomas Roman Catholic Church, as was his wife, and he belongs to the Knights of Columbus.

Charles E. Lowry, postmaster at Philo, Illinois, and a well known business man of this place, was born at Philo, December 30, 1885, and is the fourth child and the third son born to Michael and Catherine (Dowling) Lowry. He was educated in the public schools and after his graduation from the Philo High School in 1903 he went to Decatur and for six months remained in that city as a clerk in a mercantile house. After returning to Philo he accepted a clerical position with the Wabash Railroad at the Philo depot, and remained discharging his duties for three years and then left the railroad and became associated as a clerk with his father in the restaurant business. After an experience of eighteen months, in partnership with his brother Walter he bought his father's interest and they conduct the business together. On February 11, 1914, Mr. Lowry was appointed postmaster at Philo, having taken the civil service examination in 1913. Philo is a growing town and the postoffice business here is heavy. Although appointed to office under a Democratic administration, Mr. Lowry has always been independent in his political views. He is a member of the Roman Catholic Church and belong to the Knights of Columbus.

M. H. Argo is one of the men who have spent their lives in Champaign County, have witnessed its growth and development from almost wilderness days, and their own share in the transformation of the country is such that no work of this character could afford omission of the names and deeds.

Mr. Argo was born on Salt Fork in St. Joseph Township of Champaign County, his birthplace being three miles northwest of the village of St. Joseph. His birth occurred there August 14, 1853, and he is a son of true pioneer people, Moses and Ellen (Shepard) Argo. His parents were natives of Ohio. Moses Argo was one of the notable men in his community. He came to Champaign county when the country was a vast stretch of prairie and swamp lands, abounding in sloughs, virgin meadows and with many wild animals abounding. Moses Argo was a botanical or herb doctor and very skillful in concocting healing remedies from roots and herbs and was the choice of physician to a large number of people in the early days. He was also a school teacher, and one of the first to teach school in his section of Champaign County. Thus he was a man of more than ordinary mental attainments and was a high class citizen in every respect. Some of the schools he taught were held in private buildings, frequently log houses. There are some evidences yet extant of his scholarship. One of these is a book of records, now among the prized possessions of M. H. Argo. The date

of this book is February 4, 1825, and it shows the fine penmanship and mathematical skill of the father. M. H. Argo also has his father's leather pocketbook, which is now over 100 years old.

Many of those incidents which are related on other pages of this publication as descriptive of pioneer things in Champaign County were part of the individual experiences of Moses Argo. In the early days he hauled grain threshed from his fields all the way to Chicago, where it brought a very small price. One of the necessary commodities hard to get in Champaign County was salt, and Moses Argo frequently brought a load of salt back from Chicago. In the matter of low prices M. H. Argo has had some experiences not unlike those of his father, since he has hauled corn to Urbana and sold it as low as 10 cents a bushel.

When Moses Argo came to Champaign County he entered his homestead from the Government. He and his neighbor, James Couden, went to the land office at Danville, each filing on a tract of land of their choice. On reaching home and having the land surveyed it turned out that each man had twenty acres which was most desired by the other, and thus there was mutual disappointment. To settle the matter they simply traded the two tracts, and according to the honest pioneer spirit that prevailed in those times neither was disposed to take advantage of the other in such a transaction.

M. H. Argo was only six months old when his good father died and he has therefore no personal recollections of that good old pioneer. The widowed mother was thus left with five children and she passed away when M. H. Argo was nine years of age. Thus he spent his boyhood as an orphan and acquired his education in the subscription district school.

At the age of twenty-two he married Miss Manda Worl, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Cox) Worl. Her mother came from Ohio. Mrs. Argo was one of ten children, and she too obtained her education in the subscription school.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Argo located on his father's farm on Salt Fork, comprising 240 acres, most of which had been bought direct from the Government. They lived there three years, made a beginning of prosperity, and later Mr. Argo bought eighty acres a mile and a half south of St. Joseph village, where he founded his permanent home. To his first marriage were born four children, two of whom died in infancy. The others are William H. and James Edward Argo. They grew up on their father's farm, went to school in the local district school, and are now married and both prosperously settled in life. William married Effie Brown, of Mount Vernon, and is engaged in farming on his father's place. James Edward lives at Mackinaw, Illinois, and married Miss Nettie Dixon.

When the youngest child was three years of age death entered the home and took away the beloved mother. Later Mr. Argo married Mary Worl, a sister of his first wife. Thus she came into her dead sister's home as an angel of mercy to the orphan children and filled the place of mother to them, rearing them and schooling them for life's duties. By the second marriage there was one child, who died in infancy. By a former marriage, to Harrison Argo, Mrs. Argo had three children, Bertha, John T. and Hezekiah. They were educated at St. Joseph and are already established independently. Bertha is the wife of W. W. Woody, a farmer three miles south of St. Joseph. Their four children are Loyde, Mae, Ruth and Paul, bright energetic young children, and in mentioning the family the usual phrase runs, "Lodye and Mae and Ruth and Paul and that's all." They are now students in the high school at St. Joseph and Lodye is preparing for the University of Illinois.

John T. Argo, the second child, is a farmer at Waukegan, Illinois, and by

his marriage to Essie Gordon has four children, named Bernice, Royce, Clyde and Dorothy. Of these children Bernice is the wife of Earl Winser, and they live in Odebolt, Iowa. They have a child, Dwight, the only great-grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. Argo, and of whom they are properly proud.

Hezekiah Argo, the youngest of the children, is a telegraph operator at Danvers, Illinois, and by his marriage to Emma Trickle has a son, Donald H. Argo.

Mr. M. H. Argo has spent a busy and energetic life, one of practical success as a farmer and stock raiser. His neighbors look upon him as a genius in the matter of raising hogs. He has raised and fed much livestock for the Indianapolis market. About twenty years ago he and his wife left their farm and located in the village of St. Joseph, where in order to keep in close touch with the country as well as the town they selected a home on the edge of the village. Here they enjoy the comforts of a very attractive residence. Mr. and Mrs. Argo are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the village, and its stone and brick edifice is a monument to the liberality of the people of that community and a beacon light in the lives of many. Mr. Argo served as school director a number of years, and has done everything he could to help forward the development of the country and its institutions and people. Through all his successful career his good wife has stood by his side, apt in counsel and advice, and always a true homemaker. She is one of the charming and interesting women of the community and her sincerity is in pleasing evidence when she bids a stranger good-bye, always adding the kindly injunction, "be good to yourself and everybody else." In politics Mr. Argo is an ardent Republican. He has kept in close touch with that party for over forty years, and believes that America's great destiny is largely due to this political organization.

Charles W. Reed is a farmer and successful stockman with home in section 16 of Philo Township. His rural mail delivery comes from Tolono on Route No. 48.

Mr. Reed was born in Marshall County, Illinois, March 11, 1869, son of John Caldwell and Mary (Bell) Reed. Both parents were born in Virginia and in early life moved to Illinois. In 1879 John C. Reed came to Champaign County, locating on the farm in section 16 of Philo Township where his son Charles now resides. Both parents are now deceased. Their five children were named: Charles W.; Henry K., deceased; Mary Bell, wife of Professor E. H. Wells, of the University of Nebraska; John, of Ligonier, Indiana; and James, of Philo Township.

Charles W. Reed grew up and received his education in Champaign County and at his father's death took charge of the farm for three years. He then went to Lincoln, Nebraska, bought eighty acres in that part of the state, but after a year went to Denver and in the fall of the same year returned to Philo, Illinois. In the spring of 1906 he entered upon his duties as manager of the old homestead of 160 acres, and has steadily and profitably directed the operations of that fine farm for over ten years. He raises the staple crops and also handles good live stock.

On December 24, 1895, Mr. Reed married Miss Abbie Jane Huhn. Mrs. Reed was born in Maryland. They have one son, John Ralph, a volunteer member of Battery B, Third Illinois Artillery. Mr. Reed is a Republican in politics.

Martin Kaucher Busey, cashier of the Mahomet Bank, is another member of that well known family in Champaign County which from pioneer times has been identified with the important work of developing the land and the business and financial affairs of this rich section of Illinois.

The wise and judicious management of the financial resources of the county was never more important than at the present time, and among the bankers of Champaign County Mr. Busey is entitled to special consideration because of his long and efficient service with one institution since early youth.

Mr. Busey was born in this county April 20, 1884. He is the oldest of the seven children, five sons and two daughters, of James B. and Katherine (Kaucher) Busey. The name Busey is of French descent, while that of Kaucher is German in origin. James B. Busey is also a native of Champaign County, born in 1856, and is now living retired at Urbana, though still president of the Mahomet Bank. He was educated only in the common schools, and the larger part of his active career was spent as a practical farmer in Newcomb Township. In 1902 he retired from farming and then bought the Mahomet Bank, of which he is sole owner and president. Like others of the name, his career has been one of substantial success and of great influence in the development of Champaign county agriculture and financial and business affairs. At one time he was one of the largest land holders in Newcomb Township. Politically he is a Democrat, and for many years has given substantial support to the educational institutions of the county. His wife, who was born in Champaign County in 1861, was well educated and was a successful teacher in the city schools of Urbana before her marriage. Both she and her husband are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

All their children are living except one. Simeon H., the second in age, is cashier of the First State Trust & Savings Bank of Urbana. He was educated in the common schools, in the University of Illinois, and is a graduate of Brown's Business College. He is married, is a Democrat in politics, and is affiliated with the Elks Lodge at Champaign. Frances, the oldest daughter, completed her education in the University of Illinois and is still at home with her parents. Josephine graduated from the State University with the class of 1917. Matthew W., who is assistant cashier of the Mahomet Bank, was well educated, completing his course in Brown's Business College, and was also a student in the Urbana High School. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. Donald is the youngest of the family.

Martin K. Busey grew up in his home county, and after the public schools entered the State University and subsequently graduated from Brown's Business College. He entered an active business career at the age of eighteen. At that time, in 1902, he became cashier of his father's bank at Mahomet, and has steadily looked after the management of that institution for fifteen years, his ability as a financier growing steadily with his experience. He is a thorough business man, but also possesses that cordial and genial manner which gives him the esteem of all patrons of the bank and influential associations with the leading men of the state.

On June 22, 1909, Mr. Busey married Miss Raye Grant Hanley. Mrs. Busey is a daughter of Thomas R. and Maggie G. (Dodson) Hanley, both now deceased. She was liberally educated, graduating from the School of Oratory in the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, and also in instrumental music in the conservatory of music of that college. For several years before her marriage she lived in Chicago, and still retains her membership in a Presbyterian Church of that city. She is active in the Domestic Science Club of Mahomet.

Mr. Busey served two years as tax collector of Mahomet Township, and for the past four years has been village treasurer. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Mahomet and with the Royal Arch Chapter and the Knights Templar Commandery No. 68 at Champaign, is also affiliated with Lodge No. 529 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Mahomet, and

with the local camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. and Mrs. Busey have one of the beautiful homes of Mahomet, and it is widely known for the cordial hospitality that prevails within its doors. Mr. and Mrs. Busey have traveled widely, and in 1909 made an extensive tour of Canada and the northeastern states, including Montreal, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Detroit and other principal cities.

JOHN W. BOCOCK, a retired business man at Sidney, has had an unusual range of experience varying from that of an old time telegraph operator to a cotton planter and farmer. Much of his active career has been passed in Champaign County but his business acquaintance is widely extended.

Mr. Bocock was born near Washington Courthouse in Fayette County, Ohio, December 20, 1849. His parents were Elijah and Louisa (Gregory) Bocock, both natives of Ohio. His father came to Sidney and Champaign County October 12, 1856, and identified himself with the pioneer element in this county as a farmer. He did not live long after coming, his death occurring July 4, 1864, in the village of Sidney. There were four children: Nancy Maria, who died June 3, 1862; Martha Jane, who died October 16, 1864; Belle, widow of J. S. Frantz and living at Danville, Illinois; and John W.

John W. Bocock was fifteen years old when his father died. His mother and two sisters being left upon their own resources it was necessary for the only son to put forth his efforts in assisting to support the family. His sister Belle did likewise but Martha Jane was ill and able to do but little. In June, 1866, the mother married Paul Laybourn, of Sidney, and John W. Bocock and his sister went to the new home in that village, Belle remaining until she married a few months later, while John W. was part of the family circle until the spring of 1870.

Paul Laybourn by his marriage to Mrs. Louisa Bocock had one child; Roberta, now Mrs. R. L. Thomas, of Detroit, Michigan. Paul Laybourn died in March, 1872. Mr. Bocock's mother, left twice a widow, survived to the good old age of seventy-eight, passing away March 24, 1901.

Even before his father's death, as early as 1863, John W. Bocock contributed in a measure to his own support by clerking in a grocery store owned by John Upp of Sidney. Later he did similar service in the grocery store of T. J. Youngblood & Company, in which his parents had a small interest. On April 1, 1870, he entered the store of Henry Coffeen at Homer, Illinois, his position on the payroll being at ten dollars per month. Three months later he went to Lafayette, Indiana, and spent some time peddling goods from a wagon throughout the country district. Returning to Homer, he worked for M. D. Coffeen in a general store until May 1, 1871. His next experience was at Chicago, where in Porter's National Telegraph College he was a student three months. In those days of his early career his means were very limited, consequently with three other young men he did the janitor work of the office and college hall for his room rent. This gave him free access to the instruments out of school hours and this opportunity was utilized late and early.

After three months Mr. Bocock secured his certificate for capability in sending thirty words and receiving twenty-five words per minute. Returning to Champaign County he entered the office of John Shutts, agent and operator for the Toledo, Wabash & Western Railway at Philo, in the capacity of a cub, and remained there until February 22, 1872, when he was assigned to the night office at Catlin, Illinois, and ten months later was transferred to the night office at Homer. He was finally advanced to day operator and continued handling the telegraph key there

until December 22, 1874, when he was given the joint position of agent and operator at Philo. On March 1, 1881, he resigned his position, thus closing his railroad and telegraph service. During these years of employment as an operator Mr. Bocock taught nine young men the art of the Morse system, and all of them did good work for themselves and their employers. Two of these young men have since risen to places of eminence in the railroad world. One is Mr. H. A. Boomer, now general manager of the Lake Erie and Western Railway, with headquarters at Indianapolis. Another is S. A. Hess, of Decatur, traveling passenger agent of the Wabash Railway.

On giving up railroad work Mr. Bocock came to Sidney and bought the old park elevator. He remained in the grain business there until the following winter, when he sold out, and on April 1, 1882, engaged in the general merchandising business at Sidney with his father-in-law, under the firm name of Fisher & Bocock. That firm continued for five years. The stock of merchandise was then traded for land in Coffey County, Kansas. It is only fair to say that Kansas land proved to be a poor investment and after a few years was disposed of at a discount. After the closing out of the general country store Mr. Bocock was associated with Winston's Bank for three years in the capacity of bookkeeper and cashier. Then with A. C. Woody he engaged in the wholesale confectionery and fruit business at Decatur, Illinois, for one year when they moved the business to Champaign. On February 7, 1893, the whole plant was destroyed by fire.

In 1896, when J. S. McCullough was elected auditor of public accounts, Mr. Bocock was chairman of the County Board of Supervisors while Mr. McCullough was county clerk. Hence they were closely associated in county affairs. Without any solicitations the newly elected auditor tendered an appointment to Mr. Bocock as state inspector of building and loan associations. This was accepted and in January, 1897 he was assigned work in Chicago. Just at that time there was much trouble among the building and loan associations and Mr. Bocock, together with Inspector C. B. Phaler, did a valuable work in putting Chicago associations in a more prosperous condition. For some of the associations he acted as custodian and otherwise entered vitally into the management and rehabilitation of the concerns. After a few years in building and loan association work Mr. Bocock was transferred to the banking department of the auditor in the capacity of bank examiner, serving the state altogether ten years in these two positions.

On July 1, 1900, Mr. Bocock was one of the four men who organized the Cotton Exchange Bank at Cleveland, Mississippi. Having acquired some interests in the south he gravitated naturally into real estate investments and with Mr. G. D. Boone bought a cotton plantation adjoining the town of Cleveland, consisting of 1,003 acres. They took title on March 1, 1904. For six years they continued as extensive cotton growers, Mr. Bocock spending much of his time on the plantation. He then bought out the interest of his partner and continued the operation of the plantation alone until 1912, when he sold out.

On September 1, 1912, Mr. Bocock bought the Nelson Sampson farm of 170 acres in Sidney Township and he still owns that property, and he and his wife jointly own the A. P. Coffeen farm. While he thus owns some of the best situated and most valuable farm lands of this part of Champaign County he has been practically retired from active business for several years.

Mr. Bocock married September 16, 1874, Mary Fisher, daughter of Martin and Jane (Hays) Fisher. Three children were born to their

marriage: Oral F., wife of E. J. Lehman, of Sidney; Jennie L., wife of W. C. Rice, of Fairmount, Illinois; and Mattie Fay, who died February 15, 1888.

In the spring of 1874, while he was working as a telegraph operator, Mr. Bocock bought a small residence property in Homer. This was the initial step toward making a home and he partly furnished it before his marriage. The newly wedded couple began housekeeping September 25th of the same year and on the 22nd of December following he took up his new work at Philo, as before stated. In 1877 he traded the Homer property in on 152 acres of land in Philo Township, getting a fair price for the town property and taking the land at a little less than $25 per acre. About 1883 he sold this land for $41.65 an acre on ten years time. Less than five years later he offered to buy it back at $75 an acre, but the owner refused to part with it.

In 1880 Martin Fisher settled upon each of his four children 160 acres of land, Mrs. Bocock receiving the northwest quarter of section 7, township 18, range 10 east, a tract which she still owns. At the death of her father by mutual consent of the heirs she received as her portion of her father's landed interest in Sidney Township the undivided one-half of the A. P. Coffeen farm, which had been acquired by the firm of Fisher & Bocock. In 1899 Mr. Bocock bought from A. M. Coffeen the west half of the northeast quarter of section 23, township 18, range 10 east for $75 per acre in cash. In 1904 he and his wife deeded this eighty acres to their two daughters. As already noted, on returning to Sidney in 1881 Mr. Bocock bought the residence property he now occupies and which has been the home of the family during all the passing years.

In matters of politics Mr. Bocock is a Republican. He has long been identified with public affairs in his home locality and county, has been president of the village board, a school director, member of the county board, and for several years acted as chairman of the county board.

Henry M. Brownfield is one of the old timers of Champaign County and has had his home in this region since early childhood and for a period of more than sixty years. The honor and respect due him are the result not only of long residence, painstaking work and management as a practical farmer, but also to his most creditable record as a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War.

Mr. Brownfield is a native of Missouri, having been born in Shelby County, October 15, 1842. His parents, John R. and Susan (Mullens) Brownfield, were both natives of Kentucky, and were pioneers in northeastern Missouri, where they married. In 1851 the family came to Illinois and settled eight miles north of Urbana.

Henry M. Brownfield was one of seven children. He obtained his early education by attending an old log school house on the prairie, known as the Peters' school. He had barely finished his lessons when the war cloud arose, and in the exciting times of 1861, when every youth responded to the call of patriotism, he enlisted at Homer, and was sent to Hannibal, Missouri, where on October 1, 1861, two weeks before his nineteenth birthday, he was sworn into the service of the United States. He remained performing camp duty at Hannibal from October to the following February. Mr. Brownfield was a member of Company F of the Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry.

He was in active service almost continuously throughout the four years of the war. His first service was with Pope's expedition down the Mississippi River to Island No. 10. He and his comrades fought at New Madrid, Missouri, had a skirmish at Point Pleasant, and were in the Missouri campaign from March 6, to April 6, 1862. Crossing the Mississippi, they cap-

tured Rebel prisoners at Island No. 10, and then at New Madrid they took a boat and went to Corinth, landing above Shiloh. They fought at Farmington, near Corinth, and took part in the siege of that Mississippi city. They next followed General Price down to Ripley, returned to Camp Clear Creek, and then had a part in the great battle at Iuka, Mississippi, where the Union troops won the day. The Union forces there were under the command of General Rosecrans and 400 of the Union command were killed. They fought Price's command two days at Corinth, on October 3 and 4, 1862, and then followed the retreating Confederates for two days from Corinth. Price made a turn and came back and struck General Hulbert, soon again in retreat, and the Illinois troops captured all his camp equipment. The command in which Mr. Brownfield was a member then returned to Corinth, and soon took up the Vicksburg campaign. Here under Sherman Mr. Brownfield was in some of the notable exploits of the campaign. He was on the transports convoyed down the Mississippi by Porter's fleet, running past the batteries at Vicksburg, down to the mouth of the Yazoo River and up that stream to Snyder's Bluff. Here they were in camp until Pemberton surrendered Vicksburg to Grant. They next took part in the sixteen days' siege of Jackson, returning to Vicksburg and taking boat for Memphis, and from there went east in the campaign involving the battles of Lookout Mountain and Chattanooga. He was in the battle of Missionary Ridge and was then part of the expedition sent to relieve the besieged Knoxville. After that the troops returned to Chattanooga and from there to Colliersville. On January 4, 1864, Mr. Brownfield re-enlisted for the three years or during the war. He had had a long and arduous experience, but was not yet satisfied, and determined to see the war victoriously completed. At his re-enlistment he and his comrades were given a thirty days' furlough and he spent that time pleasantly visiting his Illinois home. He rejoined his command at Colliersville, and was then on the march to the sea with Sherman. Many times he sang the famous song which celebrated that march, and it is the testimony of Mr. Brownfield that it was much easier to sing it than make the march itself. He fought at Kingston, and at Dallas, Georgia, on May 28th was wounded in the shoulder and jaw and was sent to a hospital. He was given a furlough July 12th, and again went home for thirty days. In November, 1864, he tried to rejoin his command, but got only as far as Chattanooga, where he spent the winter. He was then sent to Nashville, and took boat up the Ohio River. The boat stuck in the ice and the troops were taken off and transported by railroad through Cincinnati to Pittsburgh, to Harrisburg, to Annapolis, Maryland, and there conveyed down the bay and around the sea past Cape Henry and Cape Hatteras, where the vessel encountered a severe gale and he suffered the inclemencies of the rough sea for four days and four nights. The troops were finally landed at Morehead City, North Carolina, fought at Newbern and near Raleigh, and were clearing that district of the remnants of the Confederate Army when peace was declared and the glad tidings of Lee's surrender were hailed with joy by all the weary soldiers, particularly Mr. Brownfield, who had been out for nearly four years.

On July 2, 1865, the veteran soldier, still not yet twenty-three years of age, was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, and returned home.

During one of his furloughs he had married Miss Elizabeth McClughen. Mrs. Brownfield was born in St. Joseph Township of Champaign County, a daughter of Robertson and Jane (McCammon) McClughen. Her parents were natives of Ohio, and had come to Illinois when quite young and were married in Champaign County. Elizabeth McClughen was one of nine children and she received her early advantages with her brothers and sisters in an old log cabin school house.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Brownfield settled in Urbana. Ten children were born to them, named Oscar M., Clara Iona, Susan Orpha, Charles, George, Rosa, Freddie, Grace, Simeon and Jane. Mr. and Mrs. Brownfield gave their children all possible advantages and sent them to the Pleasant Grove school. Again and again have these worthy people experienced the sorrows of mortal life, and one by one they laid their children to rest, until only one now survives. This is the youngest daughter, Jane. She was liberally educated and was a successful school teacher in Champaign County, as was also her husband. She married Norton Mahorney. They have one child, Corrinne Elizabeth, born June 27, 1917, the only grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. Brownfield, and the delight of the entire family.

Mr. and Mrs. Brownfield enjoy a comfortable home in St. Joseph Township, and while the years have brought them many sorrows they have also brought them the satisfaction of efforts extended and the results of fruitful toil. Both are active members of the Christian Church, and in politics Mr. Brownfield is a Republican. He served as constable four years and has always done his part in community affairs.

Isaac Divan when a small boy fought for the preservation of the Union, some years later came to this part of Illinois, built a home and developed a farm, and for the past nine years has enjoyed the comforts of retirement in his pleasant and attractive home at Ogden.

Mr. Divan was born in Licking County, Ohio, September 26, 1848, son of Jacob and Ellen (Jones) Divan. His father was a native of Pennsylvania. There were nine children, six daughters and three sons, in the family, all of whom received their education in the primitive district schools of Licking County. There were no such opportunities for an education open to the boys of that day as at present, and Mr. Divan recalls the scantily furnished log buildings in which he learned his early lessons. When he was seven years of age his father was killed by a falling tree and at an early age he had to assume responsibilities in advance of his years.

He was not yet thirteen when the war broke out between the North and the South, and as the war progressed he found himself unable to restrain his enthusiasm and passion for his country, and with about eighteen other boys went to Newark, Ohio, and became members of Company L in the First Regiment of United States Engineers. This regiment was sent to relieve some of the veteran troops whose time had expired. They recruited and disciplined at Todd's Barracks in Columbus, were sent to Chattanooga, did garrison duty and other work in Tennessee, and after five months of active service Mr. Divan was mustered out at Nashville, and received his honorable discharge.

In the meantime his mother and family had moved to Indiana, and he joined them at Logansport in Cass County. He was there two years, and in the fall of 1867 his family made another stage in the western migration, moving from Cass County, Indiana, to Vermilion County, Illinois, and settling on a rented farm. Isaac had then to take active control of the farm, since his brothers and sisters had left home for themselves. His mother kept house for him from 1867 until his marriage in 1878.

At that date Mr. Divan laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Anna Rutledge. She was born near Danville, Illinois, daughter of William and Charlotte (McVicker) Rutledge, her father a native of Kentucky and her mother of Virginia. Both of them were brought to Illinois when children by their respective parents, and they grew up and married in Vermilion County.

Mr. and Mrs. Divan after their marriage located near Burr Oak Grove in Vermilion County, where he bought eighty acres of land at $9.70 per



MR. AND MRS. ISAAC DIVAN

acre. In that locality he kept his home for seven years, when he came to Champaign County and has since been a resident of Ogden Township. In the Vermilion County location he showed his best efforts as a farmer and the passing years brought him success until he had a finely developed farm of 100 acres. He had eighty acres in Vermilion County and 100 acres in Champaign County. He improved his land with good buildings and in other ways, and it stands as a monument to his work as a practical farmer.

Three children, two daughters and one son, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Divan, named Nellie, Walter and Stella Ellen. These children were educated in the Burr Oak School, while Walter studied in Urbana and in Brown's Business College. While in college he fell in love with one of his fellow students, Anna Arms, and they were married. His wife died in February, 1912. Walter is now connected with a clothing store at Champaign.

The daughter Stella E. married Fernie Clark, a farmer occupying the old Divan homestead. They have two children, Rexford Clark and Janice Virginia.

Nellie Divan married Warner Scott. Their one child, Goldie Leone, is now Mrs. Clyde Harry of Ogden. Goldie was a student of Olivet College near Danville. The daughter Nellie was a young woman of splendid intellect and many fine qualities of character. She suffered poor health, spent some time with her family in the healthful climate of Arizona to no avail, and finally contracted pneumonia and died September 23, 1907. Her little daughter was taken into the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Divan, and carefully reared and educated.

Mr. and Mrs. Divan have a very attractive and nicely located home just at the edge of the town of Ogden, where the advantages of the country are combined with the facilities and conveniences of town. This home was called the John Lee homestead. Since it came under the ownership of Mr. Divan he has made many improvements that add to its value and comfort. Mr. and Mrs. Divan are active members of the United Brethren Church and he served it as steward eight years. Politically he is a Republican, having cast his first vote with that party for General Grant nearly fifty years ago, and has never had a valid reason to change his party affiliation.

Pearl M. Hollingsworth. A newspaper which has had a fine and vitalizing influence in its community is the Fisher News, of which Mr. Hollingsworth is editor and proprietor. This publisher and editor is a journalist from the ground up, had his first acquaintance with the printing trade when a boy and has done much to develop the power of the press in this section of Champaign County and has made his paper indispensable to business men, farmers and citizens generally.

Mr. Hollingsworth is a native of Vermilion County, Illinois, where he was born December 20, 1890. He is the youngest of three children, two sons and one daughter, born to Henry and Anna (Martin) Hollingsworth. The daughter, Della L., is the wife of Howard Barnes, a well known evangelist living in Waukesha County, Wisconsin. The older son, Charles T., is a very successful evangelist and now ranks among the first in that profession in America. During the great revival which moved the country of Wales from center to circumference he was an active worker in that field.

The father of these children was born in Illinois, had a common school education, and is now living at Arrowsmith in McLean County. He is a blacksmith by trade. His lineage goes back to England. He was born

about 1852, has always been an ardent Republican and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge at Metcalf, Illinois, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. His church is the Christian. His wife was born in Illinois, was educated in the common schools, and was a member of the Methodist Church.

Pearl Hollingsworth had his first experience in a printing shop as a printer's devil at the age of thirteen. Being without means to attend school, he took this as a resource in order to pay his way and gain experience which would prove valuable to him in later life. Throughout his career he has stood on the platform of honesty and integrity. His first experience as a printer was with the religious magazine Metropolitan Church Association. He was there three years, and after that he put in practice the modern idea of continuing vocational education by attending school half a day and working half a day. He also did a great deal of study in his room and has always applied himself earnestly to the mastery of the many subjects which are essential to a practical newspaper man.

About October, 1905, Mr. Hollingsworth found employment with the well known firm of R. R. Donnelley & Sons at Chicago. Though only fifteen years of age at the time he was soon made "lock up" and "stone man" and assistant superintendent of his department. Though one of the youngest in the establishment he had some very taxing responsibilities. He was with that firm sixteen months, and then returned to the Metropolitan Church Association, which was then published at Waukesha, Wisconsin. He became foreman in the composing room. This publication was one of the largest business concerns in Waukesha City. In October, 1907, Mr. Hollingsworth went to Detroit to become identified with a large firm of that city, but in the panic of 1907 nearly all the force was discharged and he among them. He continued a resident of Detroit until August, 1908, when he went back to Waukesha and was there about a year and in 1909 entered the service of the American Tag Company at Chicago. He was there about two years and for a time was with the printing firm of Rogers & Hall, where he remained until 1912. On account of illness Mr. Hollingsworth was then compelled to leave the confining duties of city life and he came to Fisher, Illinois, to recuperate. This town has been his home since 1912 except for the portion of a year he spent with the Rantoul News at Rantoul. On returning to Fisher he went to work with the Fisher Reporter, and remained there until the present paper, The Fisher News, was establishd on May 8, 1913. Mr. Hollingsworth secured the full support of all the merchants of Fisher, and through the cordial co-operation of his fellow citizens has made the Fisher News a power throughout the northwestern section of Champaign County. The News is a weekly publication, six column quarto, and would be a credit to any county in Illinois. The circulation is fully represented in the surrounding country. In the equipment is a fine Diamond press. The paper is published independent in politics.

Mr. Hollingsworth married June 4, 1914, Miss Edna B. Armstrong, daughter of J. E. and Anna (Boskill) Armstrong, who are now living at Fisher. Mrs. Hollingsworth was educated in the common schools of McLean County. She is an active member of the Christian Church of Fisher and belongs to the Domestic Science Club. Politically Mr. Hollingsworth has worked with and has been a factor in the Republican party. His first vote was given to Colonel Roosevelt for President. He is now serving as clerk of Brown Township. Fraternally he is active in Lodge No. 704 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Fisher and belongs to the Camp of the Modern Woodmen of America at the same place. His church is the Christian denomination. Mr. Hollingsworth

was one of the leading spirits in the organization of the Community Welfare Association and served as its secretary two years. This association is composed of merchants, business men and all members of the community in and around Fisher who are truly interested in and willing to work for those objects which can only be accomplished by community co-operation. The membership now includes about seventy. Mr. and Mrs. Hollingsworth stand very high in the estimation of all the people of Fisher and they have well earned a place of esteem in the locality.

MARION E. LEIGH, whose home is in the village of St. Joseph, has spent a very active career in the agricultural pursuits of Champaign County and is a member of one of the old families of this section.

Mr. Leigh married Clara B. Leas. She was born in Stanton Township, Champaign County, a daughter of William C. and Margaret (Argo) Leas. Her father was a native of Indiana and her mother of Ohio, and the family were early settlers in Champaign County.

William C. Leas served three years in the Union Army in Company H of the Seventy-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry. This regiment was part of the famous brigade of General Wilder, commonly known as Wilder's Lightning Brigade, and saw some of the heaviest fighting of the war, including Chattanooga, Chickamauga, and the Atlantic campaign. William C. Leas was mustered out at the close of the war and on receiving his honorable discharge returned home to Indiana. He married in Illinois and reared a family noted for integrity of character and loyal citizenship. He was one of the charter members of Prairie Hope Christian Church and he and his wife were long identified with that congregation.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Marion E. Leigh remained on her father's farm until the death of her parents, and tenderly cared for them during the setting sun of life and handed them down to their graves in peace.

Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Leigh, Cora and Etta. They were given the best advantages of school and home. Cora completed her education in the Urbana High School and then married Vernon E. Varner, a farmer in Stanton Township, living on her father's place. The daughter Etta carried on her studies in the high school at St. Joseph. Mr. and Mrs. Leigh removed to the village of St. Joseph, procuring a residence on Third Street. Mr. Leigh while living somewhat retired finds plenty to do and goes to his farm every day, traveling in his automobile. Mr. and Mrs. Leigh are active members of the Prairie Hope Christian Church in Stanton Township and he is one of the deacons and trustees.

In politics he is a Democrat and a man of broad views, upholding the principles of his party and working steadily for good government both in county and nation.

Mr. Leigh has become more than locally known as an extensive breeder and raiser of Shorthorn cattle and Percheron horses. He keeps fine registered stock and his herd of fifty Shorthorns is regarded as one of the best in the entire state. Mr. Leigh has served as road commissioner, as school trustee and township supervisor, and in every office and public responsibility has justified the confidence of his fellow citizens.

William C. Leas had an interesting part in connection with the building as well as the maintenance of the Prairie Hope Christian Church in Stanton Township. Much of the timber entering into the construction grew on trees on his father's farm, and it was milled and hauled from Fountain County, Indiana. William C. Leas assisted in hauling the lumber and also in the work of constructing what was the first country church erected in that part of Champaign County. The old building still remains in a good state of

preservation, and its seats are of fine walnut timber, almost priceless at the present time. It has been a center of religious worship and social commingling for two generations of people, and both Sunday school and preaching services have been held there more or less regularly for many years. In the early times on account of the rough and muddy roads church services were difficult to maintain with any degree of regularity, but with the era of good roads the church has been open almost every Lord's day.

At the death of William C. Leas he left a farm to each of his three children. These three children are George N. Leas, Mrs. Della Christie of Urbana, and Mrs. Marion E. Leigh. Mrs. Leigh inherited the old homestead, which she still possesses and cherishes as the home of her birth and girlhood, with a host of pleasing associations and memories. George N. Leas has in his possession a small Testament which his father carried throughout the three years of his army service. During that time the cover was worn off the little book twice and he rebound it each time himself. The last time he put on a binding made from a piece of fine leather cut from the tops of his army boots. The Testament was given into his hands by his Christian mother whose prayers followed her boy throughout the many weary campaigns he experienced.

Mrs. Leigh has a greatly prized heirloom of her father, in the form of a diary which he kept throughout the war. Perhaps the most interesting feature of this is a poem which he wrote when a boy in the army and while he was on guard duty at Chattanooga, Tennessee. This poem reads as follows:

"My father is a farmer,
My brothers are the same,
But I for love of country
Have to the army came.

"And by the prayers of Christians
My life is spared thus far,
To them I am indebted
For God's protecting care.

"I know that mother often
In Fountain County there,
Pours out her soul devoutly
In humble, heartfelt prayer.

"And father, too, in secret
Is offering up his prayer
For his absent son who long since
Enlisted in the war.

"And there is sister Lizzie,
And Arthur and the rest,
Who often say to Jesus,
'My absent brother bless.'"

Robert Shields. Among the men who during the past half century have done their full share in the agricultural development of Champaign County is Robert Shields, who for the past ten years has been a valued resident of the village of Foosland. He was born in Washington County, New York, September 25, 1842, and is the fifth in order of birth of nine children, five sons and four daughters, born to Francis and Agnes (Oliver) Shields. Three of the sons reside in Champaign County, one in Ontario, Canada, one in Florida, and one in Chicago, Illinois.

Francis Shields and his wife were both born in Roxborough, Scotland, and they were married there and some of the older children were born in Scotland. In 1840 they started for America in a sailing vessel out of Liverpool, England, and it was three months before they reached Washington County, New York. There Mr. Shields acquired land, but in 1854 moved to Ontario, Canada, where he engaged in farming during the remainder of his active life and was unusually successful. While he lived in New York he voted with the Whig party. Both he and wife were faithful members of the Presbyterian Church and at death they were interred in the Presbyterian Cemetery at Strathroy, Canada, seventy-five miles east of Detroit.

Robert Shields was twelve years old when he accompanied his parents to Canada, having previously attended school in New York, which covered about his entire educational opportunities. He remained in Canada and worked on farms until he was seventeen years of age, when he decided to start out for himself, determining to reach Logan County, Illinois. When he reached Chicago in March, 1860, he found that he did not have enough money to reach his destination but fortunately was able to borrow one dollar and when he reached Atlanta, in Logan County, still had fifty cents of it. Thus Mr. Shields really did begin at the bottom of the ladder when he bravely started out to build up his fortunes. He found farm work near Lawndale with wages of $12 per month and probably would have continued had not the Civil War come on in 1861.

It is a tribute to Mr. Shield's courage and patriotism that he was one of the earliest to answer the first call of President Lincoln, enlisting on April 17, 1861, for three months, in Company H, Seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under the command of Captain C. W. Holden and Colonel John Cook. When his term of enlistment expired he returned home but in August, 1862, he re-enlisted, entering Company C, One Hundred and Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain B. B. Pegram and Colonel R. B. Latham, and was in the Sixteenth Army Corps until after the siege of Vicksburg, in which he took part. The siege over, this regiment was assigned to the Seventh Army Corps, under General Fred Steele. Their field of operations being Arkansas, they drove the enemy out of Little Rock and then engaged in the skirmish at Clarendon. In 1864 General Steele joined in an expedition with General Banks but was forced back to Little Rock, the main object of the Federal army being to keep the Confederates from crossing the Mississippi River to give aid to their forces operating in Mississippi. At Clarendon Mr. Shields received a slight wound in the leg from an exploding shell but was not otherwise injured and was never taken prisoner, although the major part of his company and even his captain were captured near Jackson, Tennessee. He was mustered out of the service at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, July 12, 1865, and was honorably discharged August 1, 1865. After three years of hard service for his country he then returned home and resumed peaceful life as a farmer.

Mr. Shields was married December 6, 1865, to Miss Harriet H. Maloney, and to them have been born nine children, five sons and four daughters, all of whom are living. Sarah, the eldest, married Hugh Donahue, a farmer in Brown Township, and they have two children, Earl and Nellie, both of whom are married, and there is a little granddaughter, Evaline Kathlyne. Mrs. Donahue is a member of the Methodist Protestant Church. Frank, the eldest son, resides with his parents in Foosland. Ella, the third member of the family, is the wife of Charles Hayes, of Melvin, Illinois, and they are members of the Methodist Protestant Church. Oliver B., the second son, is a successful farmer near Wales,

North Dakota, an Odd Fellow and a member of the Methodist Protestant Church. He married Sarah King and they have four children: Leda, Fern, Roy and Homer. William H., who is a resident of Foosland, is manager of the great Foos estate for the Foos family of New York. He married Elizabeth Ball, who is deceased and is survived by three children: Roscoe, Tracy and Helen. Mr. Shields is an Odd Fellow and a Knight of Pythias. Flora, the sixth in order of birth, resides with her parents at Foosland. Fred V., who operates his father's estate in Brown Township, belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He married Marie Anderson and they have three children: Harriet, Ralph and Robert. Alta M., who is the youngest daughter, is the wife of S. O. Keltner, who owns a cafe and tonsorial parlors at Selah, Washington, is a member, as are the other members of her family, of the Methodist Protestant Church. Mr. and Mrs. Keltner have one daughter, Ruth. Robert, who is the youngest of Mr. and Mrs. Shields' children, is a very highly educated and talented young man. After completing the public school course, he attended the State Normal University at Normal, Illinois, and afterward taught school in Brown Township. He is identified with the Odd Fellows and with the order of Modern Woodmen of America. From first to last this family may be held up as representatives of the best stock of old Champaign County, reflecting credit on their parents, on their home rearing and upon the state under whose wise laws they have grown to manhood and womanhood. Their father faced death on many a battlefield to insure them such a goodly heritage.

Mrs. Shields, the beloved mother of the above family, was born April 2, 1848, in Muskingum County, Ohio, and is a daughter of W. W. and Sarah A. (Mauch) Maloney. They had one son and six daughters, the survivors, all of whom live in Illinois, being: Harriet; Mary, who is the widow of John Keefer, resides at Farmer City; Tabitha, the widow of A. Music, is a resident of Chicago; Margaret is the wife of Max Kutnewsky, of Peoria; and W. W. is manager of South Park at Peoria. The father of Mrs. Shields was born at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, and when a young man rode on horseback from there to Ohio, where he married and afterward came to Illinois. Here the mother of Mrs. Shields died in 1873 and the father in 1881. They were members of the Christian Church. Mrs. Shields was but a child when her parents made the journey from Ohio to Illinois, coming by way of the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Pekin.

Mr. and Mrs. Shields have a very comfortable residence at Foosland. His valuable farm of 240 acres lies in Brown Township, and, as mentioned above, is under the management of one of the sons. Since retiring to Foosland Mr. Shields has taken a good citizen's interest in village affairs, but has never consented to serve in office although his Republican friends have often urged him to do so. It has been otherwise, however, in Stark Post No. 760, Grand Army of the Republic, at Bellflower, of which he is an honored member and has been commander and senior commander. Mr. and Mrs. Shields are very highly esteemed both in village and county. Their hospitable home is ever open to their friends, while to their children and grandchildren it is one of the dearest places on earth.

Joel Wood Pinkston. A portion of the Blue Grass State, long famous for the cordiality and southern hospitality of its inhabitants, may be said to have been transferred bodily to central Illinois in the beautiful rural home of Mr. and Mrs. Joel W. Pinkston, who are in every way representative of the best traits of their Kentucky origin. Mr. Pinkston is a former supervisor of Newcomb Township, and his farming interests are there, while his post-

office is Mahomet. Along with the hospitality that characterizes this place there is a high degree of business efficiency. The Pinkston home is known as the Gaywood Stock & Grain Farm. It is three and a half miles northwest of Mahomet, and fourteen miles from Champaign. Mr. and Mrs. Pinkston have come to disregard old time standards of distance, since they now enjoy and deserve the luxury of one of the latest models of the National touring car.

In the state whose earliest historical character was Daniel Boone, Joel W. Pinkston was born, March 31, 1860. He was the eighth in a family of ten children, three sons and seven daughters, born to John Wesley and Amy (Parham) Pinkston. The Pinkstons are lineal descendants from a family of Scotland. Of the ten children nine are still living and eight are residents of Champaign County. John W. Pinkston was also a native of Kentucky, was reared and educated there, and prior to the war was owner of some slaves. Politically he was an active Democrat. He died in April, 1886. He and his wife were both Methodists. His wife was born in Kentucky, March 30, 1824, and spent her last years at Mahomet, Illinois, where she died, April 7, 1905. Her lineage was English, since the name Parham is strictly English in origin. She was a noble mother and always maintained very complete discipline over her home and children. With her home and church were the chief interests of her life. She was always devout in the performance of her religious duties. She and her husband now rest side by side in the Riverside Cemetery, where a beautiful monument stands to their memory.

Joel Wood Pinkston grew up in Kentucky, secured his education there and lived at home until he was twenty-one, when he came to Champaign County and began as a farm laborer at wages of $18 a month. Thus the prosperity of his later years has been won by much self denying exertion and the diligence which makes men successful in every vocation. As a wage earner he continued three years, and for ten years was a tenant farmer in Mahomet Township. He finally contracted for the purchase of eighty acres in section 32, of Newcomb Township. He made that deal in 1893, the year of financial panic, and went in debt for a large part of the purchase money. By persistent effort and never ending vigilance and toil he paid out and then went in debt to the extent of $10,000 for another eighty acres. At the present time Mr. Pingston's home, the Gaywood Stock & Grain Farm, comprises 320 acres, all rich and fertile lands, with exceptional improvements in the way of buildings and barns, and there is not a dollar of indebtedness on the place. Mr. Pinkston also owns city property in Champaign, a short distance from the State University Buildings.

On March 25, 1884, soon after coming to Champaign County, he married Miss Julia Maxwell. To this union were born five children, four sons and one daughter. Jesse Earl, the oldest, has a clerical position in St. Louis, Missouri. He pursued his early studies in the Mahomet High School and also took a business course in Brown's Business College at Champaign. He is a Democrat and a member of the Knights of Pythias. Willie Lee, the second child, attended the Mahomet High School, Brown's Business College at Champaign, and by profession is a civil engineer. At present he is serving as auditor for the Pacific Fruit Express Company, with home and headquarters at Grand Island, Nebraska. He is a member of the Elks Lodge at Denver, Colorado, and politically is a Democrat. Susie May, the only daughter, spent four years in the Champaign High School and is now the wife of Ira Carl Abbott, a successful young farmer in Mahomet Township. Both she and her husband are members of the Baptist Church. They have two children, grandchildren of Mr. Pinkston, named Edwin Pinkston and Julia Ruth. Ervin J., the fourth child, graduated in 1912 from the Mahomet High School and followed agriculture at home with his father

until death claimed him on September 23, 1917. He lies buried in the Riverside Cemetery. He was a Democrat and a member of the Baptist Church. Julian O. has for the past two years been a cadet student in the Missouri Military Academy at Mexico, and belongs to the class of 1919. He has taken great interest in his work and military training. He has membership in the Baptist Church at Mahomet.

The mother of these children died November 9, 1899. Mr. Pinkston was married December 6, 1905, to Miss Harriet Gay Norton. Mrs. Pinkston was born in Missouri, but when four years of age her parents removed to Piatt County, Illinois, and eight years later to Champaign County. Mrs. Pinkston is a woman of culture and unusual education. For three years she was a student in the Champaign High School, spent one year in the Decatur High School and one year in the State University. For fourteen years she was a popular and successful teacher in Champaign County, and during the latter part of that work she was connected with the grade schools of Champaign. Mr. and Mrs. Pinkston are members of the Baptist Church at Mahomet, and he is one of the deacons of the church. She served as president of the Domestic Science Club at Mahomet, and since her marriage has devoted herself to the interests of her home, her community, and has proved an invaluable business counsellor to her husband in his business affairs. In 1909 Mr. and Mrs. Pinkston made an extended tour through the great Northwest and down the Pacific Coast, stopping at the cities of Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, San Francisco, and Salt Lake City. They also visited the Yellowstone National Park, Colorado Springs, and Denver. The outgoing trip was made by the Canadian Pacific, which took them through some of the most grandly scenic region on the American continent. At Salt Lake City they entered the Mormon Temple, and were given a practical test of its wonderful acoustic properties, when a lead pencil dropped at the extreme end of the building could be heard plainly from where they stood. For seven weeks Mr. and Mrs. Pinkston enjoyed the delights of this tour.

Mr. Pinkston is a Democrat and first voted for Grover Cleveland. He has always supported the principles of the party and at different times has been a delegate to county conventions. His official record is that of a public spirited and thoroughly progressive citizen. For fourteen years he served as school director and in June, 1905, was appointed township supervisor and thereafter was elected for each successive year until he had filled this important office, the highest in the township, for twelve years. Mr. Pinkston is a member of Castle Hall Lodge of Knights of Pythias at Mahomet.

Richard M. Franks. One of the representative citizens of Philo, Illinois, is Richard M. Franks, who not only is managing important business interests but is also one of the trustworthy public officials of township and village. Mr. Franks was born in Saxony, Germany, February 7, 1868, to which province his people have belonged for generations. His parents were Frederick and Julia (Wiedeman) Franks. They came from Germany to the United States in 1881 and located at Philo in Champaign County, Illinois. There the father died in 1897, the mother passing away at a later date in the city of Dubuque, Iowa. They were the parents of two sons, Richard M. and Otto, the latter of whom died in Germany.

Richard M. Franks was thirteen years old when the family came to Champaign County and his schooldays were about ended. He went to work on a farm and continued to be interested in agricultural pursuits until 1904, in which year he came to Philo village and established a lumber yard here and later a yard also at Sidney, and since then has done a large business in this line. He is also agent for the Ford and Studebaker automobiles. Mr. Franks is a man of unusual business enterprise

and in furthering his own business concerns has done well for others in affording employment to a number of men and paying good wages.

Mr. Franks was married December 27, 1895, to Miss Alice M. Trost, and they have become the parents of seven children, as follows: Lyman, who lived but two and one-half years; and Royal M., John Edward, Lyle Harold, Richard Eugene, Frederick Paul and Wayne Trost. Mr. Franks and his family belong to the Lutheran Church.

In politics Mr. Franks has always been a sincere Democrat and at all times loyally supports the party nominees. That he is a man in whom his fellow citizens place implicit confidence may be inferred from the fact that many times he has been elected to important public offices and at the present time is serving as village clerk of Philo and is a member of the village school board and is also assessor of Philo Township.

JAMES THOMPSON, a veteran Union soldier, and long identified with Champaign County as a practical farmer, has known this county through all its stages of progress and transformation for the past sixty-five years.

Mr. Thompson is still a hale and hearty man for all his seventy-five years. He cannot recall all the circumstances of his many birthday anniversaries, but one of these birthdays is lastingly impressed upon his mind. It was his tenth. On that day, sixty-five years ago, the Thompson family arrived in Champaign County and settled in Homer Township. James Thompson was born in Missouri, October 9, 1842, a son of David and Mary A. (Hechney) Thompson. The father was born in Ohio and the mother in Missouri, and in that state they were married. Of their five children James was the oldest.

When the family came to Champaign County in 1852, they located in the new and sparsely settled district of Homer Township, where James attended school and he also had some of the advantages of the public schools of Sidney Township. He had not reached his majority when the great Civil War broke out, and in that time of excitement and strenuous patriotism he determined to do what he could to guard the integrity of the Union. When he was about twenty-two years of age he enlisted in Company I of the Tenth Illinois Cavalry. This was a gallant regiment that did much effective service. He was with the regiment at Little Rock, Arkansas, where the Tenth Illinois Cavalry did a splendid service, foraging, breaking the enemy's line of communications, reconnoitering, and making extended forays into the enemy's country. From Little Rock they went to Camden, and then went south into Texas, later to Shreveport, Louisiana, to Mobile, Alabama, were ordered two different times to New Orleans, were sent to Memphis, were taken up and down the river three times and were almost constantly exposed to the hard work and danger of military life as scouts and aids to the infantry in holding strategical points. Mr. Thompson was with this regiment for nearly two years, and was finally mustered out at New Orleans, and returned to Springfield, Illinois, where he received his honorable discharge.

The war over, he resumed the occupations of peace, and on December 13, 1867, married Miss Ann Busey. Mrs. Thompson is a member of one of Champaign County's most notable families. She was born in Sidney Township, September 8, 1850, a daughter of Fountain J. and Marie L. (Shepard) Busey. Her father was born in Kentucky, and her mother at Darbysville, Ohio. They came to Illinois as young people and were married at Urbana. Mrs. Thompson was one of fifteen children. She received her early education in the district school of Sidney Township.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Thompson remained in Sidney Township and rented a farm, and subsequently moved to Urbana Township, where Mr. Busey had given his daughter a farm, on which they lived and laid the

foundation of their prosperity for twelve years. Later they went to St. Joseph Township and bought the 160 acres which they still own. This their labors have converted into a splendid farm and country place. They built a commodious home, many other buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, and the entire estate now stands as a monument to their long continued industry.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson may well take pride in their material achievements, but even more in the splendid family of children who have grown up in their home. They are nine in number, named Fred, Burt, Clint, Daisy, Millie, Winnie, Charles, Burley F. and Guy. These children did not lack for educational opportunities and advantages. They attended the public schools of St. Joseph Township and have had other advantages both at home and abroad. The son Fred is now a practical farmer in Somer Township, and by his marriage to Hattie Corey has three daughters, Ruth, Helen and Carrie. Burt, who lives at Weston, Ohio, retired, married Florence Caily; Clint, whose home is in Fort Wayne, Indiana, married Lillian Treese, and their five children are Jennie, Dorothy, James, Herbert and Dean Busey. The daughter Daisy is the wife of Burt Tompkins, and their three children are Rhuel, Marie and Leon. Winnie is the wife of Sanford White, of Urbana Township. Charles, a farmer in Stanton Township, married Marie Andre, and has a daughter, Marjorie. Three of the children are still at home assisting in the labors of the farm and the management of the household. They are Burley and Guy and Millie.

In matters of politics Mr. Thompson is stanchly aligned with the Democratic party. He believes that President Wilson is the man of the hour and has faith in his steady hand and calm judgment as the great resource for bringing the country out of its present time of trial and stress. Mr. Thompson filled many of those positions indicative of public esteem and has been school director fifteen years, road commissioner and in other local posts of responsibility. The six sons are all members of the Masonic order and the Knights of Pythias, while Fred is also an Odd Fellow and Woodman. Fred Thompson has served two terms as supervisor of Somer Township. The three daughters are all members of the Eastern Star. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson also have one great-grandchild, June Elizabeth Merchimer, daughter of Ruth Thompson, now Mrs. Ruth Merchimer. Mrs. Merchimer was graduated in music from the University of Illinois.

Mrs. Thompson, as member of one of Champaign County's oldest families, has some interesting family heirlooms. One is the mirror used by her Grandfather Busey, in Kentucky, when he first went to housekeeping. Her Grandmother Shepard came from Germany, and brought with her three sets of silver spoons, and these have since been distributed among friends and relatives. Mrs. Thompson also has a quilt pieced by her Grandmother Busey, in Kentucky, from linen woven by herself.

On Friday, September 8, 1917, the entire family of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson returned home to celebrate the mother's birthday, she being then sixty-seven years of age. This was a very great pleasure to both Mr. and Mrs. Thompson.

Elmer A. Rush has been individually carrying the burdens of agriculture in Champaign County for many years. Business has prospered under his hand and he has enjoyed many of the good things of life, including a good home and the riches of esteem paid him by his fellow citizens.

Mr. Rush was born in Philo Township of this county September 30, 1877, a son of William and Florence A. (Keeble) Rush. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of Vermont. William Rush came to Illinois when a young man and after a brief residence in Marshall



D. S. Coons Emma Coons

County removed to Champaign County and was engaged in farming in Crittenden Township until his death in August, 1910. The mother died in 1912. They were the parents of nine children: Elsie, who died in infancy; May, living at Philo; Bertha, who died in infancy; Viola F., wife of H. W. Fiscus, of Philo; Elmer A., Eva E., who lives with her brother Elmer; William A., Hubert and Sheridan, all deceased.

Elmer A. Rush received his education in the district schools of Champaign County. His earlier experiences were as a farmer and for a time he was in the drug business at Philo. In 1906 he began his career as a renter, having at first eighty acres for two years in Crittenden Township, following which he had 160 acres in Philo Township, and his subsequent farm enterprise has been conducted in Sidney Township, where he has the active management of 240 acres in section 7. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising. His home is on Rural Route No. 11 out of Urbana.

On February 18, 1903, Mr. Rush married Miss Blanche Minich, a native of Champaign County. Their only child, Wilma Eileen, was born in 1915 and died in infancy. While living in Philo Township Mr. Rush served as trustee of the local schools. He is a Republican, a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Joseph E. Lowery, M. D. As a competent physician and surgeon Doctor Lowery has been known in Champaign County for a number of years. He began practice over thirty years ago, his early experience in the profession being in the State of Iowa.

Doctor Lowery is a native of Stark County, Ohio, where he was born November 13, 1861. His parents, Joseph and Mary (Simmons) Lowery, were natives of Pennsylvania. His father was a farmer and school teacher. In 1869 the family located in McLean County, Illinois, and in 1882 went to Greene County, Iowa, where Joseph Lowery died in 1888 and his wife 1893. They were the parents of eight children: Frances, Wesley W. and Warren W., all deceased; Walter W., a farmer at Oxford, Nebraska; Nancy, wife of William Fleetwood, of Nebraska; Alice, wife of Dr. A. C. Allbright, of Danville, Illinois; Joseph E.; and Minnie Florence, deceased.

Doctor Lowery spent most of his early life on his father's farm in McLean County, Illinois. Besides the advantages of the country schools he attended the high school at Lexington, Illinois, and subsequently took up the study of medicine in the State University of Iowa City. He was graduated M. D. from Drake University at Des Moines in 1885, and the following year he practiced at Waukee and another year at Rippy, Iowa.

Returning to Illinois, Doctor Lowery practiced five years in McLean County, and after that was identified with a growing professional business at Foosland in Champaign County. In 1902 he removed to Homer, where he has had a large general practice as a physician and surgeon for the past fifteen years. Doctor Lowery is a good business man, and is the owner of two drug stores in Danville, his son Joseph being active manager of these stores. Doctor Lowery is a Republican in politics.

September 12, 1889, he married Georgia Leake, a native of Bloomington, Illinois. Their only child is Joseph C., of Danville.

Jacob S. Coons. For nearly sixty years Jacob S. Coons has been a resident of Champaign County. He knew the county when it was wild prairie and swamp, and knows it as one of the garden spots of the world. He came here in the flush of young manhood, with little more than his native thrift and industry, and has found all those rewards which satisfy

the ambitious man in material well being, family, home and community esteem.

Mr. Coons was born in Tompkins County, New York, eight miles from the University City of Ithaca, a son of William and Christina (Smith) Coons. His father was also a native of New York State and his mother of Virginia. Jacob was the second in a family of six children, all of whom were educated in the public schools of New York and of the state of Ohio. Jacob was a small child when the family removed to Ohio.

After reaching young manhood he went back to his native state, remaining there six years, and in 1858 came to Illinois. He settled in St. Joseph Township and found work with a farmer.

Mr. Coons married for his first wife Sarah Cowden, a native of Illinois. After her death he married Angela Cox. She was the mother of two children. Addie L. is now Mrs. Nelden, living in Oklahoma City and the mother of one child, Hazel Armstrong. Arthur Clement, the second child of this union, is a successful farmer, now occupying his father's old homestead in St. Joseph Township. He married Ollie Deer of Sidney, and they have four children, Ethel, Gilbert, Nora and Jacob S.

For his third wife Mr. Coons married Emma Z. Crowell, who was born in Indiana, a daughter of John and Diantha (Jennison) Crowell. She was only two years of age when the family came to Illinois, and as one of eight children she grew up and received her education in the public schools of Champaign County. Mr. and Mrs. Coons had two children, Edith and Walter. They were well educated in the local schools and the high school at St. Joseph. Edith also took a course in Brown's Business College at Champaign and is now the wife of Charles Morris, a farmer in St. Joseph Township. Mr. and Mrs. Morris have three children, Charles, Jacob and June Emeline.

When Mr. Coons came to Champaign County the land comprising the "Flats" in Compromise Township were all a vast stretch of wild prairie. He bought for his first purchase forty acres of this land and applied his youth and energy to its development and cultivation. Years brought him increasing success and he finally bought 160 acres in St. Joseph Township and was successfully engaged in farming and stock raising until about fifteen years ago, when he and his wife removed to the village of St. Joseph, leaving the farm in the hands of his son Arthur. The other son, Walter, is still at home and a barber at St. Joseph.

Mr. and Mrs. Coons are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at St. Joseph, and have been among its most liberal supporters for thirty-five years. In politics they are both strongly of the Republican doctrine and believe that party is the best equipped to insure the permanent prosperity and integrity of the country. Mr. and Mrs. Coons maintain a most hospitable home, and throughout their careers they have endeavored to instill the principles of true American citizenship in their children. Mr. Coons had two brothers, William and John, who were soldiers during the Civil War, and William died while in the service of his country. Mr. Coons has always practiced the Golden Rule, and in his declining years he has the pleasing retrospect of the past and looks forward to the future confidently and without fear.

Thomas D. B. Stucker is one of the honored citizens of Fisher, Illinois. His home has been in Champaign County for the past thirty-six years. His life deserves honor and respect for two reasons: First, because of the good and honest work he has done as a private citizen, and second, as an old soldier who helped to save the nation during the dark days from 1861 to 1865. Mr. Stucker, whose ancestry originally was

German, was born in Bartholomew County, Indiana, July 13, 1844. He was the fifth in a family of fourteen children, eight sons and six daughters, born to Jeptha and Elizabeth (Bowman) Stucker. Five of these children are still living. Jeptha Stucker was born in the Blue Grass State of Kentucky, June 22, 1805, and he died in Bartholomew County, Indiana, in 1890, when in his eighty-sixth year. On leaving Kentucky he first settled in Jefferson County, Indiana, where he married. Possessing a good education, he taught school and for thirty-seven years was justice of the peace in Bartholomew County. He also served as county assessor. He and his wife, who also died in Bartholomew County, were active members of the Baptist Church. His main occupation was farming and he possessed a well improved place of ninety-three acres situated seven miles from Columbus, Indiana. That farm is still owned and occupied by one of his sons. His wife was born in Indiana, October 31, 1812, and died June 28, 1886. She was reared in Indiana, and her children remember her as a kind hearted and loving mother. Through her mother she was also descended from German stock. Both Jeptha and wife are now at rest in St. John's Cemetery in Bartholomew County.

Thomas D. B. Stucker grew up on the old home farm in Indiana, was educated in the common schools, and attended school when they were supported on the subscription plan. Mr. Stucker well recalls the old log cabin building where he learned some of his first lessons. It was heated by a wide fireplace, and the pupils sat on seats made of split logs, and in the absence of individual desks for the pupils there was a broad board set at an incline on pins driven into the wall, at which the older scholars would stand and write out their copy with the old goose quill pen.

At the age of eighteen Mr. Stucker began making his own way in the world as a wage earner. He made thirteen dollars a month for hard work on a farm, and he worked from sunup to sundown. From the farm he went to work in a tannery at Columbus, Indiana, and put in nine years in that business. His final occupation was as a carpenter and joiner, and that trade he followed in Indiana and also in Champaign County until his retirement from active life.

When he was about twenty years of age Mr. Stucker enlisted at Columbus, Indiana, January 5, 1864, in Company A of the One Hundred and Forty-fifth Indiana Infantry, under Captain Henry Winters and Colonel Will A. Adams. This regiment was assigned to duty under General "Pap" Thomas, and his field of action was principally in Tennessee and Georgia. He participated in one of the most bitterly fought and glorious campaigns of the war, that hundred days of almost continuous fighting leading up to the siege and fall of Atlanta. He was present at the battle of Spring Place and Buzzard's Roost in Georgia and in the many other engagements preceding the taking of Atlanta. But through all his exposure to risk and hardship he was never wounded and never taken prisoner. Mr. Stucker was mustered out of service at Macon, Georgia, January 21, 1866, and received his final discharge at the same date.

After the war he returned home and put on the civilian garb and was soon busied with those duties of private life which engaged him for nearly half a century. On January 5, 1865, before he had finished his war record, Mr. Stucker married Miss Nancy Jane Schrougham. To these worthy parents were born five children, two sons and three daughters, all of whom are still living. Caroline, the oldest, is the wife of M. G. Barnhart, who is in the real estate business at Flanagan, Illinois. Mr. Barnhart is well educated and was formerly principal of schools. They have two children, both of whom are married. Mr. and Mrs. Barnhart are members of the Christian Church. Will S. Stucker, the oldest son, is a

resident of Fisher and a teamster. He married Miss Nora Hanna, and they have four children. He is a member of the Christian Church. Nettie, the third child, married J. E. Alder, who is a lumber dealer at Plainfield, Illinois. They have two children, and the family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Eva is the wife of I. I. Dowse, an agriculturist living near Nevada, Missouri. They have four children. Eugene B., the youngest of the family, is a resident of Fisher, Illinois, and married Miss Kate Wiggins. They belong to the Christian Church.

Mrs. Stucker was born in Indiana September 6, 1846, a daughter of William and Mary E. (Pierce) Schrougham. She was educated in her native state. Mr. and Mrs. Stucker have traveled the journey of life together, sharing in its pleasures and sorrows, its hardships and successes, for fifty-two years, more than half a century. Their golden wedding anniversary was celebrated in January, 1915, in the presence of their children and their many friends in Champaign County. Mrs. Stucker has nobly stood by the side of her husband all these years, and besides the diligence with which she has attended to the duties of her household has been invaluable to him in the way of counsel and advice. Both are active members of the Christian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Stucker have some possessions in their home which are of more than ordinary interest. One is a copy of the New York Herald published under date of April 15, 1865, and containing the news of the assassination of President Lincoln. Another is a copy of the Daily Citizen, published at Vicksburg, Mississippi, July 2, 1863, just two days before the fall of that great stronghold of the Confederacy. Throughout the South during the Civil War as it progressed newspapers found it more and more difficult to get a supply of print paper, and this particular copy was printed on the reverse side of some figured wall paper. Mr. Stucker has the Democratic ticket of 1864, containing the name of General George B. McClellan for President. Probably one of the oldest Bibles in Champaign County is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Stucker. It was published in 1802, and is therefore a hundred and fifteen years old. Mr. Stucker has a $5 bill of the noted "wildcat" money issued by the Bank of Illinois in 1859. He also has a Confederate $10 bill.

Mr. Stucker is an honored member of Lodge No. 704 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Fisher, has passed all the chairs in the local lodge and has been a delegate to the grand lodge. He and his wife are members of the Daughters of Rebekah. Mr. Stucker is also a very active member of the Grand Army of the Republic and has been commander of Van Wert Post No. 300 at Fisher, was adjutant of the post, and has attended the Grand Encampments at St. Louis, Columbus, Ohio, Indianapolis, Chicago, and Louisville, Kentucky. The Van Wert Post now numbers about fifteen survivors of the great war.

Mr. and Mrs. Stucker have done their work in life well, have enjoyed the happiness of family and friends, and none in that section deserves more the love and esteem paid them.

Frank Miller was until his recent death one of the enterprising farm managers of Champaign County and had under his adequate direction and control one of the largest individual farms in the entire county. It is the extensive Matis farm of 510 acres, situated in section 10 of Champaign Township. The home is on Rural Route No. 1 out of Champaign. During the six years he had charge of this estate he demonstrated his capacity for handling a big farming proposition on progressive lines and in a manner profitable to himself and to the owners of the land. Besides general farming he made something of a specialty of breeding and raising

thoroughbred Hereford cattle, English shire horses, and Duroc Jersey hogs. The finest animals of these types in eastern Illinois were found on his place.

Mr. Miller was a native of Champaign County, where he was born February 23, 1870, a son of Daniel and Mary (Potts) Miller. Both his father and mother were born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and his father came to Champaign County in the early '60s. He was one of the sturdy and progressive farmers of this county, and lived here until his death in 1897. The mother passed away November 30, 1915. They had eight children: Susan, William H. and Minnie, all deceased; Charles, of Mendota, Illinois; George, deceased; Frank; Catherine, wife of M. M. Wheatley, of Seymour; and Alice, wife of John Bevins, of Champaign.

Mr. Frank Miller had the life of the average farmer boy, attended the district schools, and he early assumed the responsibilities of caring for his widowed mother and his two younger sisters on the farm. On leaving the old home place here moved to Champaign and for about fifteen years was engaged in teaming and the livery business. He retired from that line in 1911 to take the management of the present place above mentioned.

Mr. Miller was married December 10, 1905, to Miss Mary E. Simeral, a native of Cumberland County, Illinois. Two children were born to their union: Daniel Ross, born July 5, 1907; and William Henry, born March 12, 1910. Mr. Miller besides the heavy responsibilities he carried in the management of his farm was serving as highway commissioner at the time of his death. He was a Republican and was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. Miller passed away September 13, 1917, and his remains were interred in Mount Hope Cemetery; he was buried under the auspices of the I. O. O. F., his lodge being in Champaign. Mr. Miller was a gentleman of the highest ideals, his friends were many and his funeral was one of the largest held in Champaign Township. Mrs. Miller is a lady who has the love and respect of all who know her. She and her two little sons, Daniel Ross and William Henry, are left to mourn the loss of husband and father.

Grover C. Kirby learned his business as a farmer and stockman when a boy in Champaign County, and having added to knowledge and experience the other qualities of industry and prudence, he has been getting steadily ahead in the world since he began his independent career.

Mr. Kirby was born in Sidney Township of this county January 22, 1885, a son of George Marion and Froella Catherine (Stillwell) Kirby. His father is still living in Sidney Township, where the mother died May 5, 1901. They were the parents of nine children: Cora of Sidney; Viola, wife of Frank Cannon of Homer Township; Albert of St. Joseph Township; Grover C.; Arthur of Decatur, Illinois; Frank of Sidney Township; Clarence, at the home place; Addison of St. Joseph; and the youngest, a son, died in infancy.

Grover C. Kirby grew up at his father's home and received his educational advantages in the district schools. At the age of twenty he left home and began farming for himself as a renter. The first two years he spent on a place of 160 acres in St. Joseph Township, and then removed to Sidney Township, where he has the active management of 400 acres in section 6. He is rapidly gaining an independent position in the world as a general farmer and stock raiser. Mr. Kirby is a Democrat in politics. His home is on Route No. 57 out of Sidney.

He married Miss Ella Marie Light, who was born in Philo Township. They are the parents of two children, Hazel, born September 10, 1908, and Helen Irene, born April 8, 1912.

GEORGE HOLTAPP is one of the conspicuous factors in the modern agricultural activities of Champaign County. The name is one that has been identified with Champaign County history for many years, and he is one of the younger generation and with a brother is managing the resources of a fine farm in Harwood Township in section 33. The home is on Rural Route No. 3 out of Rantoul.

Mr. Holtapp was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, a son of Joseph and Barbara (Hoffman) Holtapp. His parents were natives of Germany. There were seven sons in the family, George, Fred, Charles and John, residents of Iowa, and Frank, Lewis and George of Champaign County.

Joseph Holtapp passed away in 1914. He had spent many years of usefulness and was a man of neighborly kindness and enjoyed a large circle of friends. He lived to see his sons well reared and all of them splendid citizens. The mother died in 1900 and her remains are interred in Maplewood Cemetery at Rantoul. She was an active member of the Baptist Church, while her husband was a German Lutheran in faith.

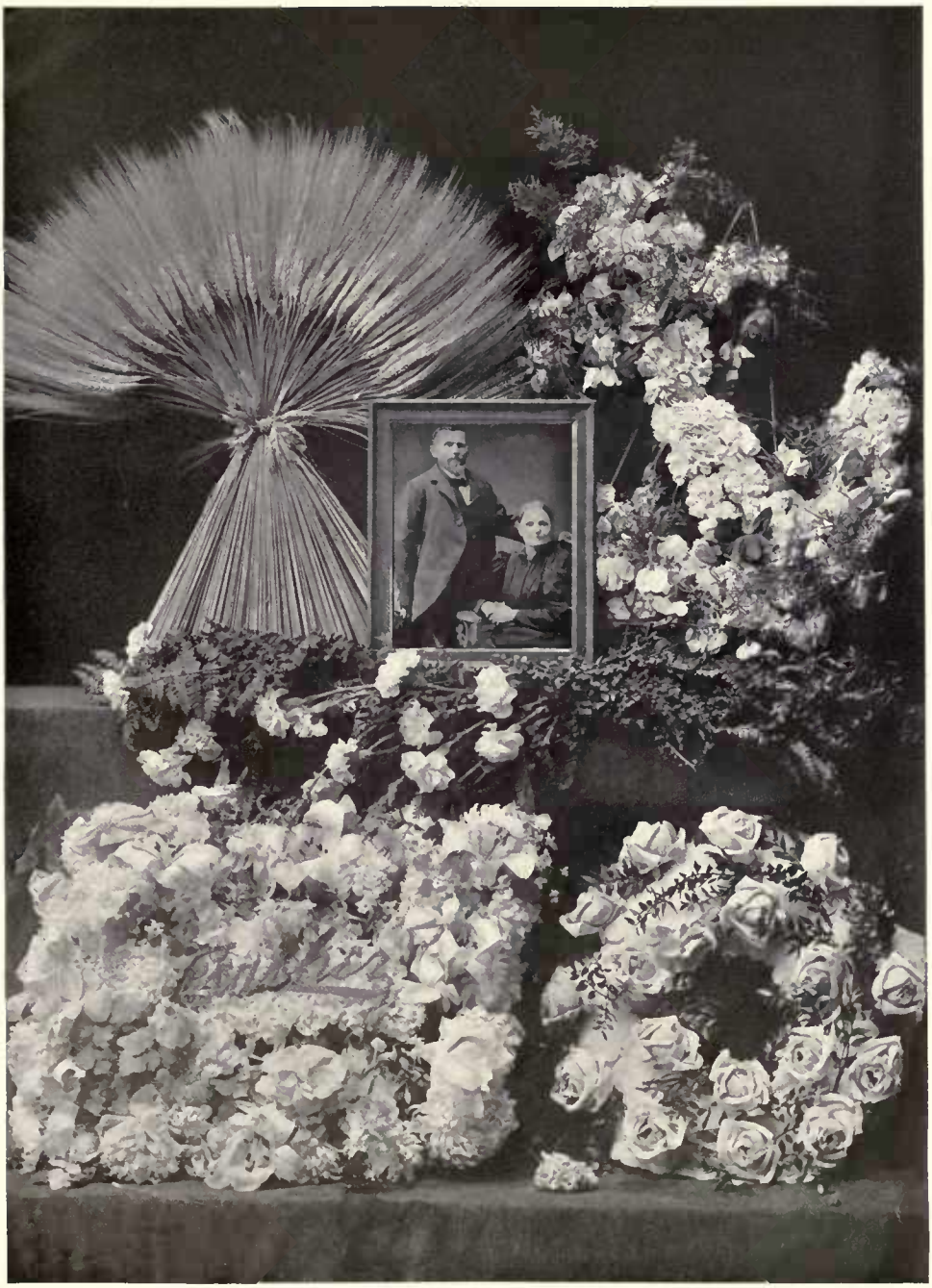
George Holtapp married, in 1915, Miss Elizabeth Moore. She was born in eastern Kentucky, a daughter of John and America (Johnson) Moore, her father a native of North Carolina and her mother of Kentucky. Mrs. Holtapp was educated in the Kentucky public schools and when a young lady she came to Vermilion County, Illinois, to visit her aunt, Flora Hogge. While here she became acquainted with George Holtapp, and the acquaintance ended in her changing her name from Moore to Holtapp. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Holtapp started life on his father's farm near Dillsburg, the old homestead of his parents. They have shown many excellent and commendable qualities as farmers and home makers and as factors in local society. Mr. and Mrs. Holtapp have one child, a bright and attractive boy named George Mervin.

Mr. Holtapp and his brother Frank are now running the old homestead of 160 acres. They are practical farmers and have made mother earth respond bountifully to their touch. Last year they raised 1,750 bushels of oats and 5,250 bushels of corn, their crop averaging fifty-three bushels of oats and seventy bushels of corn to the acre.

In 1915 Mrs. Holtapp's widowed mother came from Kentucky with her daughter Evelyn, and they have since made their home with Mr. and Mrs. Holtapp. Mr. Holtapp is a stanch Republican in politics and believes that the principles of that party best express American ideals.

DAVID A. SILVER is one of the men who claim Champaign County as their birthplace and the scene of their substantial activities. Mr. Silver has found in farming both a congenial and profitable occupation. The management of well tilled fields, the care and superintendence of good stock, the task of winning a living and at the same time increasing and improving the value of his farm, and the duties of good citizenship, have occupied him for many years. His home and farm are in Philo Township in section 3, and his mail is delivered on Rural Route No. 11 out of Urbana.

Mr. Silver was born in Philo Township, September 22, 1867, and is a son of Wallace and Mary D. (Karr) Silver. His father was born in Warren County, Ohio, and his mother in New Jersey. Wallace Silver arrived in Champaign County October 23, 1854. He had come overland from Ohio, bringing household goods and cattle. Locating in Philo Township, he bought in 1855 eighty acres in section 3, and proceeded forthwith to its development and improvement and followed farming successfully there until the last twelve years of his life, which he spent retired in Urbana. He died June 10, 1914, and his widow is still living in Urbana.



In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Holtapp.

The only child of his parents, David A. Silver grew up on the home farm, attended the local schools, and at the age of twenty rented a tract of land for his own purposes. In 1891 he bought eighty acres in section 10 of Philo Township, and in 1902 increased his farm by the purchase of eighty acres more in section 3. This land he has devoted to general farming and stock raising.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Silver served as township assessor five years and for nineteen years was a member of the school board. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masons, and he and his family are Presbyterians.

On March 7, 1893. he married Miss Mae Wells, a native of Champaign County. Their five children, one of whom is deceased and the others are at home, are named as follows: Wallace E., born November 26, 1895; Hazel M., born November 17, 1896; Mary V., born March 7, 1898; Frank W., born October 1, 1899; and Robert M., born November 3, 1900, died September 15, 1910.

Mrs. Silver is a daughter of Francis and Cordelia Jane (Evans) Wells. Both were born in Ohio and came to Champaign County about 1854, locating in Urbana Township, and from there moving to Philo Township. Her mother died May 27, 1908, and her father is now living with his children at Blackwell in Kay County, Oklahoma. Besides farming he took an active interest in local affairs in Philo Township and served as supervisor and assessor. During the Civil War he was a private and a member of Colonel Busey's Seventy-sixth Regiment. Mrs. Silver is the oldest of her father's eleven children. Thomas W. lives at Urbana; Ada is the wife of George Flewelling of Jackson, Minnesota; Elias Herbert resides at Lincoln, Nebraska; Elmer, at Pomeroy, Iowa; Arthur, at Los Angeles, California; and all the others at Blackwell, Oklahoma. Grace is the wife of Albert Lientz, Charlotte the wife of John Root, Chester M. and Irvin are the two youngest sons, and Nellie, the youngest of the family, is the wife of V. A. Gordon.

Joseph Brayshaw, M. D. The success of the capable and competent surgeon has attended the career of Dr. Joseph Brayshaw, who for the past fifteen years has been successfully engaged in practice at Homer.

Doctor Brayshaw was born in Perry County, Illinois, January 15, 1868, son of Helvetius Pyle and Elizabeth (Brayshaw) Brayshaw. His father, who was of mingled English and Greek descent, was born in Perry County, Illinois, while the mother was a native of England. The father was a farmer and spent the last twenty years of his life in Missouri, where he died January 1, 1895. Besides farming he was a skilled landscape gardener and a nurseryman. The widowed mother is still living at the old home in Missouri. Her six children are: James Edward, in Missouri; Sarah Ellen, wife of J. S. Langston, in Missouri; Anna D., widow of H. F. Welsh, in Missouri; Doctor Brayshaw; Lucinda, at home; and Charles William, who was killed by a stroke of lightning in 1916.

Doctor Brayshaw spent the latter part of his youth in Missouri and besides the common schools attended the Baptist College at Pierce City, Missouri. He graduated in 1888, at the age of twenty, and following this for three years he worked on the home farm. His ambition from an early age was to become a physician, and largely through his own earnings he paid his way through the University of Michigan, where he spent four years and where he took his medical degree. In 1896 Doctor Brayshaw located at Berlin, Illinois, and was in practice there until he removed to Homer in January, 1902. He has joined the Medical Officers Reserve Corps and has received his commission as first lieutenant.

While a resident of Berlin, Doctor Brayshaw served as mayor. He is a Republican in politics and is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World, the Masonic Order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He married Mary R. King on June 1, 1898. Mrs. Brayshaw is a native of Kansas. They have one child, Helen Matilda.

TRUMAN O. CORD has made a success of farm management and has in active operation one of the fine places in Sidney Township, located on Rural Route No. 58.

While Mr. Cord has spent most of his life in Champaign County, he was born in Indiana, October 26, 1872, a son of Simon and Milcah (Cawthorn) Cord. Both parents were natives of Indiana, and both are now deceased, the mother having passed away in 1884 and the father on July 13, 1890. They came to Champaign County about 1876 and the father was also a farmer. There were seven children: Charles E., in Iowa; Roma, wife of John C. Meyers of Mayview; Frank of Urbana; Truman O.; Benjamin, deceased; Rose, wife of U. S. Thompson of Homer; and Allen, in Chicago. For his second wife Simon Cord married Nancy Bettis, and there is one child of this union, Pearl, wife of Ernest Lyons of Madison, Illinois.

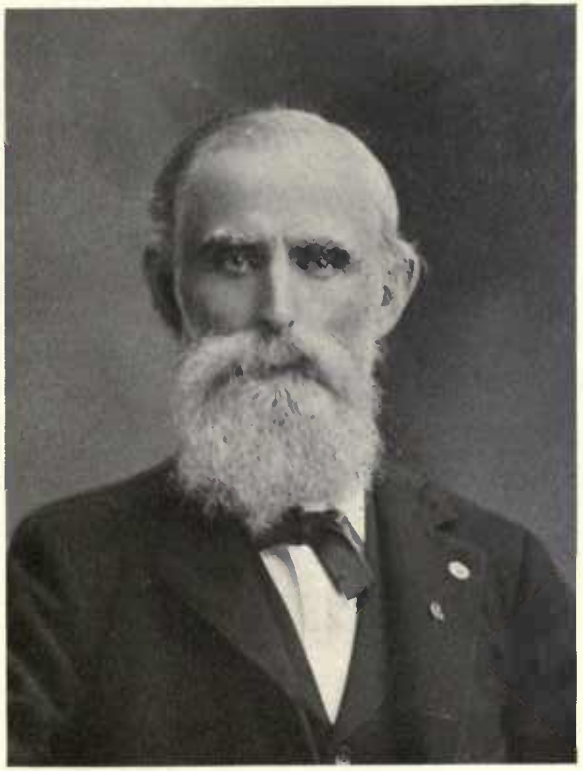
Truman O. Cord received a district school education and at the age of eighteen entered upon an active career as a farmer, renting eighty acres. He worked that for a number of years, then spent two years in Michigan, and since returning to Champaign County has had the active management of 280 acres in section 8 of Sidney Township. He is devoting this to general farming and stock raising.

On March 17, 1899, Mr. Cord married Media Lockwood. They have five young children: Joy, Thelma, Lenora, Edith and Robert T. Mr. Cord is a Republican in politics and is affiliated with the Masonic order and with the Court of Honor.

HENRY K. KELLER, superintendent of the Champaign County Home and Farm, was for many years an active business man of Urbana, and has spent the greater part of his life in this county.

Mr. Keller was born in the historic and picturesque region around Cumberland, Maryland, January 20, 1858. His parents were William V. and Susan (Cook) Keller. His father, a native of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, was a stone mason by trade. In October, 1864, the family came to Champaign County, locating at Urbana, where his father followed his trade until his death in 1876. The mother also died at Urbana. They had a large family of children: John W., James Milton, Scott, Mary and Annie all deceased; Joseph, a resident of Urbana; Laura, deceased; Henry K.; Martha, wife of John Buckley of Forest, Illinois; Emma, deceased; Susan, wife of George Stamp of Urbana; and two that died in infancy.

Henry K. Keller was seventeen years of age when his father died. Many of the responsibilities of keeping up the home and family then devolved upon him. He had received only such advantages as were furnished by the common schools. Soon after his father's death he went out to Moberly, Missouri, and was engaged in railroad work for about seven years. On returning to Champaign County he located in Urbana, entered the local brick works and was advanced to superintendent of the Sheldon Brick Company. He filled that position a number of years and in 1910 the Board of Supervisors appointed him superintendent of the County Home, an office he has held ever since. He is the right man for this place, and is giving a very careful and capable supervision of this important county institution.



Lintner, W. Baird.



Harriet Baird.

Mr. Keller married for his first wife Louise Weil, who was born at St. Louis, Missouri, and died in September, 1911. They had two children: William, of Champaign; and Lottie, wife of Laurel Truman, of St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. Keller married for his second wife Selma Benidott, who was born in Sweden. They have a daughter, Jet Virginia, born March 28, 1914. In matters of politics Mr. Keller is independent.

L. W. BAIRD was long a fixture in the business affairs of the town of Ogden as a lumber merchant, and is now living retired in that quiet village, surrounded with all the comforts and conveniences that a life of industry and honor have brought him.

Mr. Baird was born at Washington in Tazewell County, Illinois, son of Thomas N. and Mary (White) Baird. Both parents were born in Ohio. L. W. Baird was the third among twelve children, all of whom were educated in the Franklin District School. Two of his brothers fought as soldiers in the Union army, Thomas R. and George W. Baird.

In 1868 L. W. Baird married Lucinda Gland. a native of Ohio and a daughter of William and Nancy Gland. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Baird located near Bloomington, Illinois, where he engaged in farming for some years. They were getting established with a good home and were rearing their children when death came upon the scene and took away Mrs. Baird on April 1, 1879. Four children were born to their union: Olive N., Charles Lossen, Minnie and Fred. These children were educated chiefly in the high school at Ogden. Olive N. is now Mrs. Wampler and has three children: Flossie, Otho and Minion. Charles Lossen is a practical farmer in northwestern Missouri and by his marriage to Laura Young has three children, Lee, Oscar and Essie. Minnie died in Kansas City, Missouri, the wife of Benjamin Ladieu, leaving two daughters, Laura and Lillian. Fred Baird lives at Woodward, Oklahoma, and by his marriage to Miss Kirk has three children, Addison L., Cecil and Nellie.

On December 15, 1880, Mr. Baird married for his present wife Mrs. Harriet Bowman, widow of Captain Isaac L. Bowman. Captain Bowman and wife were married November 9, 1865. He had served gallantly as captain of Company G of the One Hundred and Sixth Illinois Infantry. Captain Bowman's father was a county and circuit judge of Logan County, Illinois. Captain Bowman passed away in January, 1872, leaving his widow with one son, Ralph Waldo. Ralph Waldo graduated from Northwestern University Law School at Chicago in the same class with Judge Kenesaw Landis, and is now a successful practicing lawyer in New York City. For ten years he was librarian of the Chicago Bar Association. He is also a legal author, having compiled the work known as Bowman's Illinois Cases and Citations, which has found a place on the shelves of most law libraries not only in Illinois but elsewhere.

Mrs. Baird was born at Galena, Illinois, a town famous not only for being the center of the great lead industry but also as the early home of General Grant. Her maiden name was Wilson and she is a daughter of Hiram and Caroline (Reed) Wilson, her father a native of Pickaway County, Ohio, and her mother of Buffalo, New York. Mrs. Baird was one of a family of eleven children. These children grew up at Galena and the Wilsons were close neighbors to General Grant's family and the Grant and Wilson children played together and attended the same school. Mrs. Baird had a brother, Albert Wilson, who served in the Civil War. She also has two nephews who are successful physicians, Dr. Ray Tearnan of Munising, Michigan, and Dr. Clyde Tearnan, who is a partner of the noted Doctor Barnes of Decatur, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Baird were married in Peoria, Illinois, and have con-

tinuously been residents of Ogden for over thirty-seven years. During all that time Mr. Baird carried on a successful business until February, 1909, when he retired. He and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Ogden. In politics he supports the principles of the Republican party and has always cast his vote for an organization which he feels has been the source of the best laws and policies of this nation. Both he and his wife have given the strength of their advocacy to the breaking of the yoke long maintained by the liquor traffic in this country. Fraternally Mr. Baird is affiliated with Masonry, being a Knight Templar of the Urbana Commandery, and also with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. Baird is a member of the Eastern Star and the Pythian Sisters.

In public affairs Mr. Baird served as tax collector thirteen years and also filled the offices of assessor and school director. His own work has been a factor in the development of Champaign County, and his early memories go back to a time when this country was little more than bare prairie and swamp. He has lived a life of industry, has reared his children for positions in which integrity of character and loyal citizenship count, and has identified himself with every progressive movement in the community. Mr. and Mrs. Baird now enjoy a very pleasant home at Ogden, close by the interurban line, their dwelling house being set in the midst of a large lawn where a number of trees furnish friendly shade and well set off the architectural features of the building.

JOHN J. REYNOLDS is one of the progressive agriculturists of Champaign County, with a well improved place in Sidney Township on Rural Route No. 57.

Mr. Reynolds is a native of this county, born in Rantoul Township, March 9, 1881, a son of Isaac W. and Mary (Stephenson) Reynolds. The parents were both natives of Pennsylvania and his father spent his boyhood days in Ohio and identified himself with Champaign County in 1862. He broke some of the first prairie sod near Rantoul, and though beginning comparatively poor accumulated three fine farms and spent his last years in comfortable retirement at Urbana, where he died January 1, 1917. His widow is now making her home with her son John. John J. Reynolds was the only child of his parents, but his mother by a previous marriage to Mr. McCowan had one daughter, Nora, now the wife of John Norton of Shell City, Missouri.

At the age of nineteen John J. Reynolds left the high school, where he completed his education, and began work in a department store at Urbana. After that he was in the grocery business for about four years, and in 1907 he bought out the Kilpatrick Department Store and was at the head of that well known business in Urbana for four and a half years. He gave up his successful career as a merchant to resume the occupation which he had followed as a boy, farming, and has since lived on his farm in section 2 of Sidney Township. He also owns thirty-five acres in section 11, eighty acres in section 32 and eighty acres in section 33, Urbana Township, eighty acres in Wayne County, and has considerable town property in Urbana.

On May 17, 1902, he married Fay Shepherd, who was born at Pesotum, in Champaign County, March 20, 1882. They have three young children, Helen M., Keith Isaac and Mary, and these children are receiving good school advantages and the best of home training.

Mr. Reynolds is a Republican in politics. He has served as secretary of the township high school, has been constable and has filled various minor offices. He is a Mason, a Mystic Shriner and present worthy patron

of the chapter of the Eastern Star at Sidney. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Sidney. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

GEORGE J. HURST. An experienced and successful general farmer and a highly respected citizen of Champaign County is George J. Hurst, who farms 240 acres situated in section 5, Ayers Township, this being the old homestead farm on which his parents first settled when coming to the county and taking up farming. George J. Hurst was born in Germany, September 21, 1879, and is a son of John George and Mary (Franks) Hurst.

The parents of Mr. Hurst were born in Germany. The father brought his family to the United States and came to Illinois in 1883, locating at Leverett in Champaign County and residing there until 1891, when he bought 160 acres of land in section 5, Ayers Township, and resided on the same until 1912, when he purchased forty acres in Champaign Township, which is his present home. A man of industry and good judgment, he has been successful in his undertakings and has long been numbered with the men of comfortable fortune in this neighborhood. To John George and Mary Hurst the following children were born: Belle, who is the wife of Walter Rice, of Murdock, Illinois; George J.; Carrie, who is the wife of Louis Wienke, of Homer, Illinois; Louise, who is the wife of Jesse Rice, of Murdock, Illinois; Christina, who is the wife of John Grien of Philo, Illinois; Mary, who is the wife of Clem E. Smith, of Champaign; Minnie, who resides at home; Annie, who is the wife of Vernon Rowland, of Champaign; William, who is deceased; and Carl, who lives with his parents in Champaign Township.

George J. Hurst obtained a good district school education and remained with his father until he was twenty-two years old and then rented a farm of 160 acres for two years. Before deciding to settle down permanently in Champaign County, Mr. Hurst determined to see other sections of the country and that led to his going to Oklahoma, where he remained as a farmer for one year and then returned to his native state and county. He settled then on a farm of 220 acres near Sidney, which he operated for two years and then removed to a farm of 240 acres which lay in Douglas County, and remained there one year and then came back to his father's old homestead. Here he continues general farming and raises some good stock.

Mr. Hurst was married December 27, 1905, to Miss Mattie Duggan, who was born in Kansas, and they have had six children, namely: Nellie Marie, William George, Martha M., Mabel B., Walter Ralph and Minnie May, all of whom survive except Martha M. and Mabel B. Mr. Hurst believes in education and proposes to give his children every advantage that is in his power, but he is a practical man and it is very probable that his sons will learn under his instruction how to become judicious farmers such as he is. Mr. Hurst and family belong to the Christian Church. In every way he is a good citizen and lends a hand when any movement is on foot to promote the general welfare, but he is not a politician and for many years has voted independently.

FRANK B. MEANS. As one of the leading business men of Fisher Frank B. Means is supplying a service which contributes to the standing and importance of that town among the communities of Champaign County and the skill and energy which he employs in the management of the only drug store and pharmacy in the town would be creditable to a city of much larger size.

Mr. Means belongs to the pioneer element of central Illinois, and particularly McLean and Champaign counties. It is a fact that should not be forgotten in the history of Champaign County that his father, the late David D. Means, in 1850 broke up the first acre of land in Newcomb Township. He had one of the old-fashioned plows and a team of oxen drew the heavy implement through the virgin prairie. That pioneer plowing was done near the present Phillips estate.

Frank B. Means was born in McLean County, May 18, 1875, and was the eleventh in a family of twelve children, eleven sons and one daughter, born to David D. and Rebecca (Cline) Means. Nine of these children are still living and all are in Illinois except David L., a resident of Post Falls, Idaho, and John R. of Arkansas.

David D. Means was a native of the Blue Grass State of Kentucky, where he was born May 4, 1827. His life was a long and useful one and was protracted to eighty-eight years. He passed away August 22, 1914. The Means family is noted for its longevity. There are few families in Illinois that can present a like record of age in individual members. While David D. Means died at the age of eighty-eight, his brother James died at eighty-nine, his brother Owen A. at eighty-six, and of his sisters Mrs. Van Scoyck died at eighty-five, Mrs. Snowdon Ball at eighty-two, Mrs. Jennie Stansberry at eighty-six and Mrs. Keturah McMacken at ninety. Thus seven children attained an aggregate of 606 years.

When David D. Means was three years of age his parents removed to McLean County, and the home of his mature years was within one mile of the original settlement. David D. Means himself was a pioneer in this great corn belt region of Illinois. He witnessed the remarkable march of progress and development which transformed Illinois within his personal recollection. When the Means family settled in McLean County it was two years before the Black Hawk War, and Jackson was still President of the United States. In the early days David Means assisted in driving stock to market at Chicago, when that city was clustered closely along the banks of the Chicago River. He also aided in the erection of the first log cabin at Ellsworth, Illinois. He was one of the old pioneers of central Illinois who were frequently called "The Snowbirds." As a farmer he came into the possession of and developed 240 acres near Saybrook, Illinois. In his later years he often referred to a time when the present wealthy city of Bloomington, with its population of 28,000, was a village and hamlet. He was on intimate terms with the prominent old family of Bloomington, the Funks. While a Democrat, David Means voted for Lincoln, and in the later years of his life he supported the Prohibition candidate, St. John. He and his wife were active Methodists and aided in building the various churches in their locality.

Mrs. David Means was born in Ohio, April 3, 1831, and is still living. At the age of eighty-six her intellect is as clear as a bell, her eye clear and sparkling, and all these years have not whitened her black hair. Mr. Means drove to Springfield to get his bride and took her home in a wagon. She has always been active in church and for many years was a worker in the W. C. T. U. Her home is still at Saybrook, and she and her children have their happy family reunions each year. It is an impressive as well as happy occasion where are gathered together four generations, the mother with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The presence of many descendants has been her chief source of solace and comfort in her declining years.

Frank B. Means grew up on the old homestead farm in McLean County, and besides the country school he attended the Saybrook High School. Later he took the full course in the Parsons Horological School at Peoria,

graduating with the class of 1896-97 as an expert watchmaker. To the age of twenty-two Mr. Means had lived on the home farm. In 1897 he took up the work of his profession in the watch and jewelry trades at Saybrook. He also was employed as a clerk in a local drug store, and there he gained his first practical knowledge as a pharmacist and subsequently became a licensed or registered pharmacist. In 1899 he went to Monticello, Illinois, was employed as a salesman for several years, in 1903 removed to Lovington, Illinois, which was his home and place of business for six years, and in 1909 he took charge of the store at Windsor, Illinois. In 1911 he removed to Sheldon, Illinois, where he spent one year in a drug establishment, and in 1912 he located in Fisher.

He began in this town as a salesman and at the present time he and his wife own one of the most complete stocks of pure drugs and other goods found in similar stores in towns of 3,000 population. In fact his store is classed as No. 1 among the 7,000 drug stores of Illinois. His goods are carefully purchased from some of the best wholesale houses in the United States. Since 1912 he and his wife have filled 11,096 prescriptions. Their store is the local distributing agency for the celebrated Rexall remedies, and they also carry a complete stock of toilet articles and have the agency of the Eastman Kodak, the National cigar stand and the veterinary remedies of Doctor Roberts.

On May 3, 1898, Mr. Means found his capable helpmate in his marriage to Miss Dora C. Short, daughter of Robert and Lucinda (Russell) Short. Mrs. Means was one of seven children, three sons and four daughters, all of whom are living in Illinois except their brother Alva, a farmer at Lake City, Iowa. Robert Short was a native of Washington County, Indiana, and always followed agriculture as his chief vocation. His death occurred in February, 1914, at the age of sixty-nine, and he is buried at Bellflower, Illinois. He removed to McLean County, Illinois, in 1886, when Mrs. Means was eight years of age. Politically he was a Democrat. Mrs. Short was born in Washington County, Indiana, and is still living at the age of seventy-three. She is an active member of the Christian Church, to which her husband also gave his affiliation.

Mrs. Means was well educated, having attended the common schools and Leroy High School. She was in the Leroy High School when Frank Blair was its principal. Frank Blair is now superintendent of public instruction of the State of Illinois. Mrs. Means' favorite study was mathematics, and her mathematical mind and her energy have made her an important factor in the success of the business now carried on by herself and husband. Mr. and Mrs. Means are active members of the Christian Church at Fisher. She belongs to the Domestic Science Club. Politically Mr. Means is a Democrat and cast his first vote for Bryan. He has also gone the route of York Rite Masonry, being a member of Cheney's Grove Lodge No. 468, A. F. & A. M., at Saybrook, Sullivan Chapter No. 68, R. A. M., at Sullivan, Maleta Commandery No. 37, K. T., at Tuscola, and Mohammed Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Peoria. He is also a member of the Oriental Shrine Band at Peoria and was with the Shriners at the Imperial Council at Buffalo, New York, in 1916.

Frank Morton Conkey has for more than a quarter of a century been identified with the town of Homer in his profession as a dentist. He is one of the most progressive men in his calling in the county, and began his work with a splendid equipment and has always kept up with every advance and improvement in the profession.

Doctor Conkey was born at Homer, Illinois, May 3, 1868. He is a son of William Alexander and Sarah Virginia (Sadler) Conkey, his

father a native of Pelham, Massachusetts, and his mother of Wheeling, West Virginia. The Sadler family were early settlers in Champaign County and Sarah Virginia came with her family when about twelve years of age, and rode into the county on horseback. William A. Conkey was graduated from the Louisville Medical College at Louisville, Kentucky, in 1856. In 1840 his family had located at Cayuga, Indiana, when he was ten years of age, and he lived in that vicinity until about twenty-two or twenty-five, when he removed to the district east of Champaign County on Salt Fork River, where a town was named for him Conkeytown. From there he removed to the old town of Homer, lived there about ten years and when the Wabash Railroad was built, causing a change in the location and the founding of the new town of Homer, he bought farming land a mile and a quarter west of the village and spent the rest of his days in the quiet vocation of agriculture. His death occurred December 2, 1908, and his wife passed away March 4, 1906. They were the parents of ten children: Aubert J., a retired farmer at Homer; the second, third and fourth children died in infancy; Lucy, wife of M. J. Spencer, now living retired at Homer; Bruce T., who died January 5, 1915; Carl A., a hardware merchant at Homer; Emma, wife of E. P. Babb, of Champaign; Frank M., of Homer; and Fred B., of Howe, Indiana.

Frank M. Conkey grew up in his father's home at Homer, graduated from the high school there and spent one year in the University of Illinois. For two years he worked and studied in a dentist's office at Crawfordsville, Indiana, and then spent two years in a dental school, one year at Indianapolis and in March, 1891, graduated from a dental college at Baltimore, Maryland. He at once returned to his old home town and has been steadily practicing here ever since.

Doctor Conkey married Laura V. Shepherd, who was also born in Homer, daughter of Parker E. and Lucinda (Thompson) Shepherd. Her father was born in Ohio and her mother at Homer, and both are now deceased. Her father was a farmer. Mrs. Conkey was the oldest of four children, the other three being: Bertha J., wife of J. M. Cooley; John A., who lives at New Orleans; and Ralph W., a resident of Yakima, Washington.

Dr. and Mrs. Conkey have one son, William Harold, who was born November 27, 1900. Doctor Conkey is a Republican in politics, a member of the Masonic Order and he and his wife belong to the Presbyterian Church.

Columbus Clinton McElwee is one of Champaign County's successful farmers and cattle feeders, and has come up from the bottom round of the ladder to a most successful position. The best type of success is that which depends upon personal energy and initiative in acquiring those things which a worthy ambition craves, and in this respect Mr. McElwee is one of the truly successful men of Champaign County.

He was born at Wallace, Indiana, June 4, 1873, a son of David and Melissa Jane (Harlow) McElwee. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of Indiana. His father enlisted in the Sixty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served throughout the war, being wounded three times. He died in Indiana, October 8, 1882, while his wife passed away August 6, 1881. They had a family of five children: Charles and James, both deceased; Everett of Dear Station in St. Joseph Township, Champaign County; Columbus C.; and Rachel, wife of Charles Rush of St. Joseph Township.

Columbus C. McElwee was nine years old when the death of his father

and mother left him an orphan. He had little chance to gain an education by regular attendance at school, and has made the most profit possible from circumstances and his opportunities of observation and contact with men and affairs. In 1884, the year that Cleveland was first nominated for the presidency and when Mr. McElwee was eleven years of age, he borrowed 35 cents to get from Indiana to St. Joseph, Illinois. He earned that money by cording wood. For four years he worked on a farm for board and clothes, and after that was paid steadily increasing wages as a farm hand. With growing experience and proficiency, he rented land and farmed it for two and a half years, and about that time he established a home of his own by his marriage. He took charge of his father-in-law's place and at the present time is engaged in farming 350 acres. He has acquired under his individual ownership 160 acres in Sidney Township and has been thoroughly progressive in all his methods.

Mr. McElwee built the first silo in Sidney Township. He now has four silos on his farm, and these he considers invaluable adjuncts to the cattle feeder.

Mr. McElwee married Ressie Olive Johnston. She is a daughter of James M. and Lucinda (Corry) Johnston, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Somers Township of Champaign County. Her father is still living, and for years has made a specialty of raising fine draft horses. Mrs. McElwee was eight years of age when her mother died. There were four children, Mrs. McElwee and her sister Daisy Ann being twins. The latter is the wife of James Rudisell of St. Joseph Township. The other two children, sisters of Mrs. McElwee, are Laura, wife of Jesse Furst of Grover Hill, Ohio, and Nellie, wife of Charles H. Greenwood of Chicago. Mrs. McElwee's father married for his second wife Millie Stewart, and by that union there are three children: Owen of Indiana; Fannie, wife of Lloyd Patch of Chicago; and Vern I., who is now in the United States navy.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. McElwee were born seven children. The first, a son, died in infancy; Guy C., still at home; Maude Esther, at home; Ermel James; Norma F.; Claude Martin; and Laverne Roy.

In 1901 Mr. McElwee organized the local telephone exchange in Sidney Township, getting a few neighbors to co-operate with him and installing a switchboard. Later he took over the interests of the other parties and incorporated the Sidney Home Telephone Company. Mr. McElwee is president of the Sidney Grain Company, is a Republican, a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, a Knight of Pythias and active in the Christian Church. He has served as school director, as supervisor, as deputy sheriff, and was on the building committee when the Knights of Pythias Hall and the town hall were erected in Sidney Township.

Scott Wilson Blaine is one of the fortunate younger men of Champaign County who elected to remain on the land where they grew up as children and have prospered exceedingly by the increasing fruitage and value of farm productive efforts.

Mr. Blaine was born September 15, 1874, on his father's farm in section 27 of Champaign Township. That is his present home and by due diligence and careful management he has surrounded himself with many of the best comforts and conveniences of modern rural life in this rich and prosperous section of eastern Illinois.

His parents were Edward W. and Sarah (Wilson) Blaine, both natives of Pennsylvania. His parents came out to Champaign County in 1865, and at that date located in section 27 of Champaign Township. Here the father died September 15, 1914, and the mother passed away in 1899.

They were the parents of five children: Shield, of Champaign; Walter, a physician now practicing at Tuscola; Scott W.; Edith, wife of Harvey English, of Champaign; Edna, wife of Myrl Deck, of Peoria.

With brief exceptions Scott Wilson Blaine has lived his entire lifetime so far on the place with which his first conscious recollections are associated. The country schools in that vicinity gave him his education and by his early training he was well fitted when he arrived at his majority to compete for success with the other farmers of the community. He now owns 100 acres of the old homestead and has it well improved. His home is located on rural route No. 1 out of Champaign. Mr. Blaine is a Republican, is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and is now serving as a director of the school board.

On February 24, 1904, he married Miss Sadie Dunn, a native of Michigan. They are the parents of three children: Irma, Edward Wilson and Mary Edith.

CHARLES W. WITT. Prominently known in Champaign County, and especially at Sidney, Mr. Witt is a native of that section and has made his years count for usefulness and service in different lines. He is now serving as postmaster of Sidney.

He was born in that village February 25, 1871, a son of William and Mary (Wilson) Witt. His father was a native of Germany, but his mother was born in Champaign County. William Witt followed farming for a number of years, afterwards was a railroad man, and he died at Sidney, February 25, 1912, on Charles Witt's forty-first birthday. The mother died in 1882. They have three children: Luther C. of Sidney Township; Charles W.; and George M., who resides in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Charles W. Witt attended the public schools at Sidney, and had his first experience in business as a restaurant man. For about a year and a half he conducted a restaurant at Tilton, Illinois, and then went to farming, which he followed twelve years.

In an official capacity Mr. Witt served as supervisor of his township, and on December 25, 1915, was appointed postmaster of Sidney. That office has recently been created a third class office, and Mr. Witt was reappointed his own successor by President Wilson on January 29, 1917. He has given a capable administration and has made stanch friends in this community irrespective of party affiliations.

On June 28, 1899, Mr. Witt married Hulda A. Mandeville. She was also born at Sidney and is a daughter of Samuel D. and Mary A. (Coffeen) Mandeville. Her father was born in Seneca County, New York, and her mother in Champaign County. Samuel Mandeville was at one time proprietor of the old Kelly Tavern, in partnership with Orton Woodward. The Kelly Tavern is historic because Abraham Lincoln, when a young Illinois lawyer, often stopped there. Mr. Mandeville is still living on his home farm, but his wife is deceased. In their family were seven children: Ira F.; Ollie, deceased; Hulda, Mrs. Witt; Ethel G., deceased; Anna B., wife of William H. Lehman of Decatur, Illinois; Paris R., an engineer of the Missouri Pacific Railway, living at Atchison, Kansas; Carrie, deceased. The last two are twins. Mr. and Mrs. Witt have one child, Ralph D., who was born July 5, 1902, and is now in the public schools at Sidney. Politically Mr. Witt is a Democrat, is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and his church is the Christian, while Mrs. Witt is a Presbyterian.

CARL ODEBRECHT. Some of the finest farms in Illinois are to be found in Philo Township of Champaign County. This also means that some of the ablest exponents of the art of agriculture are in the same



Prairie View Farm.



Harold B. Glascock.



Myrta M. Glascock



Jesse B. Glascock

locality. One of the men who have been especially successful in transmitting the resources of the soil into material benefit is Carl Odebrecht, whose operations as a farmer are carried on in section 28 of that township.

His entire life has been spent in Champaign County. He was born in Raymond Township, August 20, 1877, and is a son of Charles and Sophie (Raver) Odebrecht. His parents were both born in Germany. His father arrived in America December 1, 1873, and for several years lived near Winchester, Ohio. In 1877 he came to Champaign County. He was at that time poor in purse though with experience and a steadfast ambition. Locating in Raymond Township, he lived there as a renter one year and for six years rented land in Philo Township. The slow accumulations of his industry then bore fruit in the purchase of eighty acres in section 28 of Philo Township. His prosperity has been steadily on the increase. He bought 120 acres more in the same locality, acquired forty acres in Ohio and finally forty acres in section 28 of Philo Township. The home farm has been brought under cultivation and has been put in a measure in a magnificent state of improvement. The good wife and mother died here October 20, 1910. She was the mother of three children: Effie, wife of Herbert Krumm, of Philo Township; Carl F.; and Albert J., also of Philo Township.

Carl F. Odebrecht attended the district schools and secured his education partly from books and partly from practical experience. He worked with his father until 1904, and then after his marriage began life independently by renting half of the homestead. Two years later he took charge of the entire home place of 200 acres and is now working it to profit and advantage. He is owner of 103 acres of the rich farm land of Putnam County, Ohio, and also has forty acres in section 28 of Philo Township.

Mr. Odebrecht was married February 24, 1904, to Miss Edith N. Porterfield, a daughter of Lemuel C. and Mary (Toy) Porterfield. Five children have been born to their marriage, and these constitute a happy household of young people, though the two oldest are now deceased. A record of the children is: Walter E., born September 11, 1907, and died September 18, 1909; Lyman C. born December 11, 1910, and died March 7, 1911; Helen K., born March 2, 1912; Melba Frances, born December 16, 1913; and Mary Agnes, born January 23, 1917.

Mr. Odebrecht is a Republican and he and his family are members of the Lutheran Church. His fellow citizens have called on him to act as road commissioner and also as drainage commissioner, and he has supported the public schools both privately and through his work as a school director.

Jesse R. Glascock. Champaign County as a whole attests the truth of the observation that "Our civilization rests at bottom on the wholesomeness, the attractiveness and the completeness, as well as the prosperity of life in the country." It is surely the men of the open country who compose the stay and strength of the nation in time of war and its guiding and controlling spirit in time of peace.

This county has a number of men who measure up to the standards set in these words, and one of them is Mr. J. R. Glascock of St. Joseph Township. Mr. Glascock was born in that township, a son of Mahlon and Mary (Strong) Glascock, his father a native of Virginia and his mother of Illinois. His father was a pioneer farmer in Champaign County and went through many trials and privations to establish a home here in the early days. Mahlon Glascock was three times married, and his wife, Mary Strong, had four children, two sons and two daughters, Jesse being the youngest son.

With his brothers and sisters he received his education in the local schools, and on April 12, 1899, married Miss Myrta Curry. Mrs. Glascock was born in Edgar County, Illinois, a daughter of Joseph W. and Alice (Hickman) Curry. Her father was born in Indiana and her mother in Virginia, but they were married in Illinois, and Mrs. Glascock was one of their family of six children, three sons and three daughters.

After his marriage Mr. Glascock settled on part of his father's estate, having been given 115 acres. Later he bought fifty-three acres more, of unimproved land, and all of this has since responded to his faithful and intelligent endeavors as an agriculturist. Good buildings have been erected and Mr. and Mrs. Glascock have one of the most complete and attractive country homes of the township.

In the files of the St. Joseph village paper of eighteen years ago is found the following account of their marriage: "Mr. Jesse Glascock and Miss Myrta Curry surprised friends from the city by going to the parsonage after prayer meeting, where their wedding was solemnized by Rev. Eninger. Mr. and Mrs. Glascock are two highly respected young people of this community and have a large circle of acquaintances and scores of friends who wish them unbounded happiness. They start out in life under favorable circumstances, as the groom is possessed of a good farm three miles southeast of here and has just completed a beautiful modern residence, already furnished, to receive his lovely bride. Miss Curry, the bride, is a daughter of Joseph Curry and wife. She was a popular teacher in Champaign County for a number of years and possesses the accomplishments that elicit the love and admiration of a host of friends, who unite in wishing her an exceedingly happy voyage."

Mrs. Glascock was educated in the district schools and fitted herself for teaching, which she followed most successfully, her field of labor embracing the Bowers School, Districts No. 7 and No. 9, Hunt School, Pleasant Ridge and Science Point School. She was teaching at the latter place when she married. If the number of her students could all be gathered together and could relate the most impressive lessons they learned from her it would make a large assemblage and would be an occasion worth hearing and recording. One of Mrs. Glascock's former students was Elmer Eckblau, who gained fame for himself in the noted Alaskan expedition. He always said that he owed his early success to Miss Curry's careful training.

Mr. Glascock has proved himself one of Champaign County's most progressive farmers. He has interested himself extensively in grain and stock, for ten years kept a number of Holstein cattle and managed a fine dairy, handling only registered stock and shipping cream to market. He now specializes chiefly in the Duroc Jersey hogs and has also raised many Berkshires.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Glascock was born one son, Harold B. Glascock. He has attended the district schools, the St. Joseph High School, took a course in Brown's Business College at Urbana and graduated therefrom, and is a student for the year 1917-18 in the Urbana High School, preparatory to entering the University of Illinois. He is a good student and a popular young man.

Mr. and Mrs. Glascock are attentive members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at St. Joseph and have contributed liberally of their means to its various causes. In politics Mr. Glascock was born a Republican and has always found that party the most reliable expression of his views on political and economic questions.

Even to the casual observer the Glascock farm indicates the industry and intelligent care that has been expended upon its broad and rich acres.

The home is set in an attractive grove of fruit and shade trees, and one might travel far and never find a better managed farm in this part of Illinois. Recently Mr. Glascock threshed from a field of oats eighty-six bushels to the acre. His home is lighted with acetylene light, he has Uncle Sam's mail service every day in the week, telephone, and he and his wife enjoy life with a fine Hupmobile car. Mr. Glascock generously awards his wife much praise for their success, since she has always been by his side as a Christian counselor and good home maker, and her former experience as a teacher has spread an atmosphere of culture over all their undertakings. Mr. Glascock finds many ties that bind him to his present home, since it was the place where he grew up as a boy, and the associations of the Glascock family have centered there for two generations.

Mr. and Mrs. Glascock have been factors in the improvement of the standards of country life, and in 1913 Mrs. Glascock organized the Country Improvement Club of her neighborhood. The object of this is to promote culture, intellectual and social commingling and an interchange of ideas which will go far to enrich the lives of all participants. Beginning in the month of September, the association holds meetings every two weeks until spring. Once a month there is a special social feature, and at other times during the year papers are read and vital matters and current events are discussed. There are seventeen members in the organization, and it has already done much to promote mutual interest and good will in the rural district.

CHARLIE N. COTTON has lived in Champaign County over fifty years, and is rated as one of the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of Sidney Township. His well improved farmstead is on Rural Route No. 61 out of Homer.

Mr. Cotton was born in Madison County, Indiana, April 6, 1860, and was brought to this county by his parents in 1866. He is a son of Robert and Margaret (Williams) Cotton, his father a native of Indiana and his mother of Ohio. When his father came to Champaign County he located on a farm near Catlin, and became widely known and respected as a business man and citizen. His death occurred March 13, 1907. The mother, who was born in 1838, is now living at Homer in her eightieth year. They were the parents of four children: Charlie N.; Emma R., wife of L. C. Palmer of Homer; Josephus W., who died in childhood; and William E. of Homer.

Charlie N. Cotton had a farm as his early environment, and he learned the lessons taught in the local district schools. He was a factor in the family and at home until twenty-eight, and then rented ninety-seven acres in section 12 of Sidney Township. From there he moved to Lost Grove, Illinois, bought a place of 129½ acres, and five years later sold this and acquired eighty acres south of Broadlands. He farmed there for nine years and on selling that bought the old homestead of ninety-seven acres, which he has since increased by the purchase of eighty acres. All of this land is now thoroughly cultivated and used as a general farming proposition.

Mr. Cotton married December 27, 1888, Miss Alice Coddington. She was born in Sidney Township. They had three children: Robert F., an attorney at Newman, Illinois; Carl, who died at birth; and Frank Earl, still at home. Mr. Cotton is a Republican and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

CHARLES D. BABB. Established in 1900, the private banking house of Raynor & Babb, at Homer, Illinois, has enjoyed a prosperous existence of seventeen years, and through the financial ability, personal integrity and

good management of its owners has grown to be a recognized institution among the concerns of Champaign County which are engaged in the handling of the money of corporations and individuals. One of the members of this firm, Charles D. Babb, is a man of broad experience in business and financial matters, an excellent judge of realty and loan values, and a citizen who has at times taken more than a passing interest in public affairs. He belongs to the well known Champaign County family of the name, a review of which will be found in the sketch of E. P. Babb, elsewhere in this work.

Charles D. Babb was born in the northern part of Champaign County, January 2, 1867, and received his early education in the Homer schools. When fourteen years old he began to do his share of work on the home farm, and although he later entered the Illinois College at Jacksonville, circumstances made it necessary that he leave during his second year and he at that time returned to his home. When he was eighteen years of age he assumed the responsibility of caring for his mother's business in addition to his own, and his first business experience, aside from farming, was gained in the field of mortgage loans, which he carried on near Homer. Later he entered the Champaign National Bank and for five years was engaged in clerical capacities, thus gaining much information and knowledge regarding financial systems and methods of procedure. During his connection with that institution he was thrown into contact with Eugene N. Raynor, and with mutual respect for each other's abilities they formed a partnership and embarked in the real estate and loan business, in which they continued with marked success for three years. Mr. Raynor was a man of much experience and business training, and had formerly been manager of the great Broadland farm, an estate of 22,500 acres. In 1900 Messrs. Babb and Raynor formed the banking house of Raynor & Babb, which has since continued to grow and prosper, being one of the institutions of this part of the county which has the full confidence of the public. Mr. Babb is a Republican in politics and has been prominent in the ranks of his party, having served as delegate to a number of state and county conventions and being prominent in other ways. He was formerly a member of the town council and of the school board, and under appointment of the governor was for four years a member of the board of trustees of the State School for the Blind, and president of that board for an additional four years. He is a Mason, and his religious affiliation is with the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Babb was married north of Homer, April 20, 1892, to Miss Alta M. Woody, who was born in Champaign County and attended the public schools of Homer, as well as the Women's College at Jacksonville. She is a daughter of Ancil C. and Rachel M. (Poage) Woody, natives, respectively, of Kentucky and Virginia, and both now deceased. For a number of years Mr. Woody was engaged in mercantile pursuits both at Homer and at Decatur, and was well and favorably known in commercial circles. Mr. and Mrs. Babb are the parents of one daughter, Margaret Elizabeth.

Alva Gilmore. With all due credit to the great metropolitan dailies that keep people informed of the life of the world, the local paper now as always has its great field of influence and value and is an indispensable factor in the life of a community. One of the leading papers of Champaign County is the Fisher Reporter, which has been regularly published since 1890 and is now a weekly visitor to all the leading homes in the northern part of the county. Since 1902 its editor and proprietor has been Mr. Alva Gilmore, a practical journalist and business man, who has made his paper a medium of communicating his public spirit and enterprise to the public in general.

Mr. Gilmore is a native of Champaign County, where he was born January 15, 1871. He is the second in a family of seven children, consisting of three sons and four daughters. Their parents were David B. and Maria (Edwards) Gilmore. Only two of the children are living. Mr. Gilmore's younger sister, Minnie, is living at Fisher with her mother. She was educated in the common schools and is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

David Gilmore was born in 1835 in that section of old Virginia now the State of West Virginia. He grew up in his native state, and on coming West lived for a short time near Columbus, Ohio, and in 1869 located in McLean County, Illinois. He had a common school education, and in early days taught schools when education was furnished on the subscription plan. For the greater part of his years he was identified with agriculture. From McLean County he moved to Newcomb Township of Champaign County and bought 100 acres, which in time he increased to 180 acres and developed it as one of the model farms of the county. He also owned town property. His success in life was due to strenuous effort, since he began without capital, and in early years he paid interest at the rate of 12 per cent on borrowed money. In 1894 he retired from his farm to a home at Fisher, where he died in 1912. He was a great admirer of "the Little Giant," Stephen A. Douglas, and cast his first presidential vote for that Illinois statesman. Afterwards he went into the Republican party. He stood firm in his principles, was positive in his convictions and was always able to discern the difference between right and wrong. Popular as a citizen, he served as township clerk for several years. as assessor, road commissioner, township school treasurer and school director, and his community properly esteemed him as one of its most useful citizens. He and his wife were active Methodists and he assisted in the erection of the beautiful church of that denomination at Fisher. He also served as an official of the Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church in Newcomb Township and was teacher and superintendent of its Sunday school for a number of years. His forefathers back in Virginia had been strong Methodists, and he was interested in religion and the work of his church from early boyhood. His body now rests in the Willow Brook Cemetery at Fisher, and a monument stands sacred to his memory. His wife was born in McLean County, Illinois, near Leroy, about 1847, and is still living in Fisher. She had a common school education and, like her husband, has always been a member of the Methodist Church. She was a splendid mother, and her home, her children and her church have given her the best interests of her life. In ancestry her lineage goes back to Wales. She and her daughter Minnie now occupy the old home at Fisher.

Alva Gilmore attended the common schools, but gained most of his education by self-application. He also attended the business college at Champaign when J. B. McKee was president. This school is now one of the chain of excellent business colleges conducted by the Brown Business College Company.

By the time he was eighteen years of age Mr. Gilmore had acquired a practical experience as a farmer on the home place. At that age he began teaching and taught two terms at East Bend and Newcomb Township. For eighteen months he was in the employ of the Pacific Express Company at Champaign, and then joined his father in the general merchandise business at Fisher. They began merchandising there in 1895, and had built up a handsome trade. In 1902 their store was consumed, along with many other business structures, in the great fire of that year, and their total loss through this disaster was $7,000.

In August, 1902, Mr. Gilmore bought the Fisher Reporter and has

since been its sole proprietor and editor. It is a quarto paper, independent in politics, publishes all the news of interest through the northern part of Champaign County, and is an instrument for the effective welfare of that district.

Mr. Gilmore himself is a Republican. His first presidential vote was cast for McKinley. He has served as a trustee of the village board and is now a police magistrate for Fisher. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.

On November 30, 1906, Mr. Gilmore married Miss Anna M. Beckham. Mrs. Gilmore is a daughter of Nathan H. and Rebecca (Bishop) Beckham. Her parents reside at Leroy in McLean County. Her father was born near Bowling Green, Kentucky, was educated in the common schools there, and when a young man, about 1861, came to McLean County, Illinois. His work has been that of an agriculturist and he now enjoys the profits of a fine farm of 400 acres in McLean County and also owns town property. He has always stood high in farming circles in that rich agricultural district. Politically he is a Democrat, has for many years been a Mason, and he and his wife are active members of the Christian Church. He contributed to the building of the church home in which he and his wife now worship. He has held the office of school trustee and director. The Beckham lineage is traced back to English Quakers. Mrs. Gilmore's mother was born in McLean County, and her father was one of the pioneers of that section.

Mrs. Gilmore received her early education in the common schools. She is an active member of Chapter No. 244 of the Eastern Star at Fisher. They have a home of comfort and hospitality at Fisher and are moving spirits in the social life of the community.

William B. Lyman is now carrying on a successful farming enterprise on the estate where he was born and where he has spent practically all the days of his life. This is in section 20 of Champaign Township.

He was born at that farm June 26, 1884, a son of John P. and Julia (Ryan) Lyman. His parents were both born in Vermilion County, Illinois, but for many years have lived in Champaign County. Of their five children William B. was the second and is the only one now living. The others in order of age were named Mary, John and Julia, twins, and Thomas D.

William B. Lyman grew up in a rural environment, had the advantages of good home training in addition to the country schools and a course of one term in Brown's Business College. In 1908, at the age of twenty-four, he rented his father's farm of 120 acres, and has handled its operations with a high degree of success ever since. Besides general farming he raises considerable stock and is also one of Champaign County's farmers who devotes considerable attention to poultry.

On February 10, 1908, Mr. Lyman married Mary Jordan, a native of Champaign County and a daughter of Patrick and Ellen Jordan. Her father is now deceased and her mother lives in Champaign. Mr. and Mrs. Lyman are members of the Holy Cross Catholic Church at Champaign. He is affiliated with the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Knights of Columbus, and in politics is a Democrat.

Robert S. Ritchie. As in the war the burden of arms falls largely upon the youth of the nation, so to an increasing degree in America the heaviest responsibilities of business have likewise fallen upon those who are young and vigorous, with enthusiasm undimmed and with energies undiminished. Among this class of young and aggressive business men

of Champaign County mention should be made of Robert S. Ritchie, who for a number of years has been successfully identified with agricultural operations and with the grain business at Foosland in northwestern Champaign County. With the exception of his college career, practically all his life has been spent in Champaign County.

Mr. Ritchie was born in Champaign County, February 18, 1886, a son of William and Emeline (Ball) Ritchie. He was one of four children, one of whom is now deceased. John J. is a resident of Bloomington, Illinois; the next in age is Robert S.; and Corley S. is an agriculturist living at Foosland.

William Ritchie was born near Dumfrieshire, Scotland, in 1847, and grew to young manhood in his native country and was quite well educated. In 1869 he came with his parents to America and they all located in Champaign County. William Ritchie followed agricultural pursuits until 1899, when he moved into Foosland and entered general merchandising. In 1907 he retired with a financial competence. He and his brother Walter had acquired 400 acres of the rich soil of Champaign County, and that land is still owned by their descendants. William Ritchie was distinguished by his strong belief in and advocacy of the Prohibition cause. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Foosland and he and his wife were formerly Presbyterians, the faith in which they had been reared and to which the Ritchie family had been devoted for generations in Scotland. Finally, however, they united with the Methodist Protestant Church and aided in the erection of the church edifice in their home town. William Ritchie died in January, 1916, and his wife in February, 1908, and both are now at rest in Mount Hope Cemetery. Mrs. William Ritchie was born in Illinois in June, 1861. She was a loving and affectionate mother and a sincere Christian.

Robert S. Ritchie was educated in the schools of Foosland and took his higher education in Adrian College at Adrian, Michigan. As a boy he showed unusual talent in a musical direction, and that talent was trained along with a thorough literary course in Adrian. He did some successful orchestral work in Michigan for eighteen months, but gave up that as a career and returned home to assume the management of his father's farm. Mr. Ritchie was engaged in farming from 1907 to 1912, and in the latter year entered the grain business with Noble Brothers. Later he went into the business for himself and has developed a large and extensive trade. He is a man of cordial and genial demeanor and his integrity and ability have won the complete confidence of his customers. Besides the grain business at Foosland Mr. Ritchie conducts a large grain and stock farm two miles from the village.

On December 24, 1910, he married Miss Lucile Boulware. They have a little son, Robert Merrill, who is now five years of age. Mrs. Ritchie was born in McLean County, Illinois, July 8, 1891, and was educated largely in the common schools at Foosland. She is an active member of the Methodist Protestant Church. Her parents were Walker and Alice (Merwin) Boulware. Her father was born in Kentucky and his lineage goes back to France. Mr. Boulware conducted a general store in Stanford and Bloomington, Illinois, and in 1898, removing to Foosland, took up the grain trade. He was a man of good education, having had the advantages of not only the common schools but the normal course in the State Normal at Normal, Illinois. Before entering business he had taught in McLean County. Both he and his wife were active members of the Christian Church. Mr. Boulware died in January, 1915, and Mrs. Boulware is still living and makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie at Foosland.

Mr. Ritchie has found his political choice with the Republican party.

His first presidential vote was cast for William H. Taft. He served six years as township clerk of Brown Township and is now a director of the public schools of Foosland. His college fraternity at Adrian was the Alpha Tau Omega, and he belongs to Lodge No. 842 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Foosland. Besides passing all the chairs of the local lodge, he was a delegate to the grand lodge in 1914. He is affiliated with Camp No. 3807, Modern Woodmen of America, and has taken his first degrees in the Knights of Pythias.

FRED HOY is one of the younger factors in the agricultural enterprise of Champaign County. He took hold of farming as a practical proposition in early life, and the ten years or more he has applied to that business have been in a high degree profitable. He now looks after the management of one of the best places in Urbana Township, located in section 24.

Mr. Hoy was born on the old farm in that township June 10, 1885, a son of Rufus B. and Martha (Arrington) Hoy. His father was born in Ohio and his mother in Indiana. They came to Champaign County in 1880 and his father was actively identified with farming until 1903, when he removed to the city of Urbana, where he still resides. They were the parents of five children: Jesse; Bertha, wife of A. Duvall, of Rantoul; May, wife of Earl Swartz, of Matthews, Missouri; Fred; and Lucy, still at home with her parents.

Mr. Fred Hoy attended the district schools as the source of his early education. He learned farming under the direction of his father and at the age of twenty took active charge of the home place. He now has 180 acres in section 24 of Urbana Township and conducts it with high power efficiency and in a way to get the best results consistent with wise and conservative methods of agricultural management.

Mr. Hoy married, January 1, 1910, Opal Lockwood. She is a daughter of David and Sarah E. (Woodard) Lockwood, both natives of Indiana. The Lockwood family came to Champaign County in 1889, locating at Sidney. Her father, however, died in Indiana and her mother is now living in Urbana. Mrs. Hoy was the youngest of three children. Her sister Media is the wife of Truman O. Cord, of Sidney Township. Her sister Bertha is the wife of Roy Rankins, of Monticello, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoy have two young children. Marjorie Helen was born November 19, 1912. The only son, Donald Frederick, born March 28, 1913, lived only a few months and was taken away by death September 12, 1913. Politically Mr. Hoy is a Republican. Mrs. Hoy is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their home is on Rural Route No. 5 out of Urbana.

CHARLES CHESTER PLACE. For more than half a century the Place family has been identified with one locality in Champaign County, section 36 of Sidney Township. This is the farm home of Charles Chester Place, who was born there and has followed up the pioneer enterprise of his father with signally successful efforts of his own.

Mr. Place was born February 9, 1880, and is a son of Jefferson R. and Henrietta (Cash) Place. His father was a native of Ohio and his mother of Pennsylvania. Jefferson R. Place came to Champaign County in 1865, and at that time bought 120 acres in section 36 of Sidney Township. He did much to develop and improve the land, and at the time of his death in 1905 left it as property many times more valuable than when he bought it. His widow is still living at Sidney. They were the parents of three children: Edgar of Homer Township; Edna, wife of George Trees of Ohio; and Charles C.

Charles C. Place has lived on the home farm all his life. After attending the district schools he learned farming under the capable direction of his father and at his father's death became active manager of the homestead. He is now farming 240 acres and owns considerable of the land in his own right. He has successfully combined the raising of the staple crops with live stock. Mr. Place is a Republican in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He married Miss DeEtta Mumm, a native of Sidney. They are the parents of five children, all at home, named Oliver, Melvin, Carl, Opal, and Pearl.

JOSEPH M. MULLIKIN has made a name for himself in the farming enterprise of Champaign County and has been a land owner and progressive agriculturist for the past thirty years. His efforts in business and his attitude in civic matters have been in every way commendable, and there are few country places around Champaign which will better repay inspection than that of Mr. Mullikin, located on Route No. 1 out of the city of Champaign.

Mr. Mullikin was born in Johnson County, Indiana, February 7, 1863, but has lived in Champaign County since early infancy. He is a son of George C. and Nancy (Jones) Mullikin, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Kentucky. Joseph Mullikin is a brother of Mr. Charles J. Mullikin, now postmaster in the city of Champaign. His father was a prominent man and a splendid character and a more extended reference to his career will be found on other pages.

Joseph M. Mullikin remained at home until he was twenty-four years of age. In the meantime he attended the local schools and fitted himself by practice and exertion for the work that he has followed as a business career. At the age of twenty-four he located on 160 acres near Bondville in this county, and that was the stage of his activities as a farmer for eighteen years. In the meantime he bought eighty acres elsewhere, and kept increasing his farm enterprise until he was cultivating 370 acres as a general farmer. In 1902 he bought 160 acres, and in 1911 sold the eighty acres above mentioned. In the same year he purchased another 160 acres and at the present time his fine farm comprises 400 acres situated in sections 20 and 29. In 1915 Mr. Mullikin suffered the misfortune of having his entire home destroyed by fire, but has since replaced it with a modern two-story, eight room house that realizes some of the best ideals and standards of Champaign County rural homes.

On February 12, 1887, he married Miss Belle Lowman, who was born in Indiana County, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Allison and Sarah J. (Lytle) Lowman, both natives of Pennsylvania and both now deceased. The Lowman family came to Champaign County in 1867, locating south of Bondville. In 1868 occurred a destructive cyclone in this section of Illinois, and the first home of the Lowmans was blown down. After nightfall the daughter Belle was discovered in the garden near the home fast asleep, having been blown there during the storm and having slept peacefully through it all. Mrs. Mullikin was one of nine children, the record of the family being briefly as follows: Inez, wife of Chalmer Stitt, of Champaign; Alice, deceased; Mrs. Mullikin; Elizabeth, wife of Charles Mullikin, postmaster of Champaign; John L., who lives near Staley and is road commissioner of that district; Mary, wife of Charles Shotts, of Milmine, Illinois; Samuel L., in the grocery and grain business at Staley; William, deceased; and Cora, wife of Frank Brown, of Champaign.

Mr. and Mrs. Mullikin have two children, Maude Edith and George Allison. Maude Edith is the wife of George Armstrong and their home

is one mile west of Bondville. Their three children are named Dorothy Marie, Verlie and Marian Esther. George Allison is a farmer associated with the enterprise of his father. By his marriage to Blanche Fowler, a native of Urbana, he has one child, Marcella May.

Mr. Mullikin is a Democrat in politics. He is now serving his district as school director. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their postoffice is at Champaign and they are well known in that city.

FRANCIS M. LEIGH of St. Joseph village is one of Champaign County's veteran farmers. He is also one of those living who have seen most of the development of this section of the country. His own part has been not entirely that of a witness, and taking the aggregate results of the work and influence of the Leigh family it can truthfully be said that their lives are inseparably identified with all the real history of the county.

Mr. Leigh is one of the oldest native sons of St. Joseph Township, having been born on a farm a mile and a quarter north of the village of that name September 3, 1845. His parents were Henry and Jemimah (Fisher) Leigh, natives of Virginia who early settled in Ohio, where they married, and in the spring of 1836 journeyed westward on horseback to Illinois, living two years where the town of Catlin now stands in Vermilion County, and then coming to Champaign County and locating in St. Joseph Township. Francis Leigh was fourth in a family of seven children, three sons and four daughters.

There were few of the modern facilities for giving an education to a family when Francis Leigh was a boy, and he and his brothers and sisters would walk two and a half miles every day back and forth to the schoolhouse, where a three months' terms was about the extent of the book advantages for each year. Henry Leigh was never in rugged health, and his sons from an early age had to assist in the labors of the farm.

At the age of twenty-two Francis Leigh laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Martha Ross. She was a native of Edgar County, Illinois, and daughter of John and Catherine Ross. Mr. and Mrs. Leigh confronted life bravely and with every anticipation of success and had the youth and enthusiasm that insured a bright future. In looking after a home they bought eighty acres of Illinois Central Railroad land a mile north of the village of St. Joseph. For this land they paid only $10 an acre. The prairie had never been broken by the plow, and there were no building improvements. They began housekeeping in a very simple home, plowed and cultivated the fields, and as the fruit of their industry they were able to make from time to time many improvements that added to their comfort and convenience. They put up comfortable buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, and in course of time added to their estate until the farm consisted of 200 acres. When Mr. Leigh sold this farm four years ago it brought $225 an acre. It is noteworthy that when his father, Henry Leigh, entered his 120 acres from the Government the price was only $1.25 per acre.

To Mr. and Mrs. Leigh were born nine children, three of whom died in infancy. The other six are Catherine, Ivy, Lola, John Milton, Marion E. and William Everett. Mr. and Mrs. Leigh recognized their duty to these young people and saw to it that they had opportunities to attend regularly as possible school in District No. 171. The children grew up and they are now married and settled in life. Catherine is the wife of Lafayette Murphy, a Michigan farmer, and her children are named Frank, Lora, Ora, Fred and Ruth. The daughter Ivy is the wife of Elmer Stoup, a farmer north of Fythian in Vermilion County. Lola L. married Elmer Bantz,



FRANCIS M. LEIGH



MRS. FRANCIS M. LEIGH

living in Homer Township, and their three children are Frank. Clyde and Faye. John M., a farmer in St. Joseph Township, married Lula Jacobs and has three children, Rolla, Edward and Arvilla. Marion E. has had a very successful career as a farmer and is now living retired in St. Joseph. He married Belle Lease and their family consists of Cora and Etta. The son William Everett farms the old homestead of his father and by his marriage to Virginia Carr has three children, Ray, Louis and Ivy.

The companion of his early struggles as a farmer and the sharer of his joys and sorrows was taken from Mr. Leigh a number of years ago. Later he married Mrs. Clara Chase, widow of Albert Chase. Her two children by that marriage were Carl and Pearl Chase, both of whom received their education in the Catlin School. Carl is now train dispatcher at Peru, Indiana, and by his marriage to Alice Ginther has a daughter, Martha Temperance. Pearl is the wife of Charles Boughton and their family consists of two children, Rolland and Wilma.

The active years of his life Mr. Leigh spent as a farmer, grain raiser and handler of horses and other live stock. About ten years ago he gave up the responsibilities of the farm and removed to the village of St. Joseph, where he bought a good home on Main Street. This house he has extensively remodeled, adding to it and improving it and beautifying the grounds.

Many of the experiences of Mr. Leigh reflect the history of changes and developments in Champaign County. During the winter of 1862 he hauled corn to Champaign and sold it at 9 cents a bushel. The same year the taxes on his farm were $2.50 and he had difficulty in raising even that small amount. Even before then his father had hauled wheat to Chicago and was barely able to exchange a large load for a limited supply of groceries. That was a time when toil and hardship were scantily rewarded. In spite of the present era of high prices and the complaints made on that score it is evidence that a bushel of grain today will command more of the necessities and luxuries of life than at any time in history. Mr. Leigh was only nine years of age when he had his first experience as a practical farmer. He was set to work plowing corn for his father with one of the old-fashioned single-shovel plows. That was hard work. but he had no idea how hard it really was since he was unable to contrast the implements he used with the modern riding plow. Mr. Leigh can look back to a time when in the spring of the year half of the land in Champaign County was covered with water. Evidently all the changes and developments are the result of strenuous labors on the part of the farmers and the early settlers and those who have followed them, and it is impossible to pay all the honor that they deserve to such people. When Mr. Leigh was a small boy he drove in a wagon to Champaign with his mother to witness the first train pass through the county on the Illinois Central Railway. His father was a very successful hunter. At that time deer and other wild game abounded, and Mr. Leigh recalls a time when eleven deer carcasses were hanging up as the store of winter meat. His father also understood the art of tanning, and always converted the deer hides into a fine quality of buckskin. He was also expert in making whips and other useful articles out of buckskin. Mr. Leigh as a boy several times wandered over that portion of the land where the city of Champaign now stands, and he knew St. Joseph Township as a variegated vista of wild prairie and sloughs.

Mr. Leigh served as a director of his local schools for twenty years and also served as mayor of the village of St. Joseph two terms, being solicited to take the office again, but declining. He was an active member of the Christian Church at St. Joseph, is a Democrat in politics and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

JOHN W. REARDON. The people of a large section of central Illinois as well as northwestern Champaign County know the name Reardon because of its prominent associations with the live stock industry as well as with agriculture and commercial affairs. The Reardon family established its home in Champaign County nearly half a century ago, and with a farm as the foundation of their efforts steadily progressed until they became large and extensive land owners. A younger representative of this family is Mr. John W. Reardon, whose field of enterprise has been gradually extended until he has almost a state-wide, if not an interstate, reputation as a breeder and importer of fine draft horses.

Mr. Reardon was born in Champaign County, October 3, 1869, the only child of James and Ellen (Burns) Reardon. His father was a native of the Emerald Isle, born there in 1832. He lived long and usefully and well, and died on Washington's birthday, February 22, 1916. The close of his life found him honored, esteemed and to a degree a man of wealth. Far otherwise was it with him when he came to America at the age of fourteen. He was a penniless boy and arrived to find himself alone and among strangers. He had come across the ocean on one of the old-fashioned sailing vessels. He left the city of Cork, his native county being Cork, and landed in Baltimore. Here he soon found employment with the construction forces of the Pennsylvania Railway System. He aided in building one of the lines of that road to Pittsburgh.

James Reardon came to Illinois in 1857. He was then a young man without capital and started at the very bottom round of the ladder and climbed up from rung to rung, at first for several years as a renter in Carroll County, then four years as a wage earner in Bloomington, and with such modest capital as he had been able to accumulate during these years he came to Champaign County and bought forty acres west of Fisher. In that community he had his home and was actively engaged in superintending his landed interests until 1914, when he retired to the village of Fisher, where he died two years later. His success as a farmer and business man was represented by the accumulation of 840 acres of the rich and fertile soil of Champaign County. Politically he was a Democrat and was an active member of St. Malachi Catholic Church at Rantoul. He aided in the construction of the church edifice there. His good wife was a native of County Cork, Ireland, and her Burns ancestry originally had its seat in Scotland. She was an active and devoted member of the same church as her husband.

John W. Reardon had only the rudiments of a common school education. From boyhood he recognized life as a great opportunity for experience and the expression of the best talents within him, and his activities have occupied no restricted limits. For years he was active as a farmer, manager of his father's large estate, but some years ago he engaged in the importation of the noted draft horses of the Belgian and Percheron breeds, bringing them from France and Belgium before the war. That business he has followed for fourteen years, and is accounted an authority on these two strains. He has sold horses all over central Illinois, and has been the means of raising the standard and type of the animals that perform the heavy labor of this farming region. At present he has about ten head of fine horses, both mares and stallions, containing some of the best blood of the Belgian and Percheron breeds. The highest price he ever obtained for a horse was $2,200. He has bought and sold large numbers of these animals.

The live stock industry has always made a strong appeal to his tastes and inclinations, and he has been successful in that field since early manhood. He has raised and sold cattle, horses, sheep and hogs for a number

of years. Mr. Reardon is the owner altogether of 610 acres, most of it in Illinois and some in the State of Texas.

His business field has also been extended to dealing in agricultural implements and automobiles. He represents some of the best known manufacturers, including the Case, Mitchell, Chevrolet, National and Olds makes, and has sold a great number of the high class cars over central Illinois, a district with a population that can well afford automobiles. Mr. Reardon since 1910 has also conducted a grain business at Osman, where he has a large elevator with a capacity of 40,000 bushels.

Politically Mr. Reardon is a Democrat. His business affairs have taken his time and energies to the exclusion of politics, and he has never been an office seeker. He belongs to no fraternity, but is a very consistent and regular attendant and worshiper in St. Malachi Catholic Church at Rantoul. Thus his career has been spent in the county where he was born and where he grew up, and he is a man of the highest business standing and of unimpeachable citizenship.

JACOB W. SMITH, whose extensive farming interests are in Crittenden Township, has known Champaign County as a home for nearly thirty years. His work and management have brought him success to a high degree, and he has long enjoyed a position among the most influential residents of southern Champaign County.

Mr. Smith was born in Racine County, Wisconsin, November 30, 1858. His parents, Frederick and Catherine (Bienemann) Smith, were both natives of Germany, his father of Mecklenburg. The father came to America when about eighteen years of age and spent his active life as a farmer in Wisconsin, where he died in 1895. The mother passed away in 1869, when Jacob was eleven years old. There were eight children in the family, of whom two brothers and one sister of Jacob are living in Wisconsin, and four brothers are deceased.

Jacob W. Smith had a training in the district schools of Wisconsin and learned farming by practical experience. He began life for himself without capital at the age of seventeen, and has made steady progress against all vicissitudes and difficulties. In 1888, coming to Champaign County, he was able to acquire 160 acres in section 29 of Crittenden Township and has since increased his land holdings there to 440 acres, and at the same time has added marvelously to the value and the improvements. He is one of the leading general farmers and stock feeders in that section. Besides his interest as a farmer Mr. Smith is president of the Pesotum Bank. His farm home is supplied with mail from Pesotum over Rural Route No. 55.

Mr. Smith married for his first wife, Miss Mary Best, a native of Peoria County, Illinois. She died September 25, 1892, leaving five children: Frank, a resident of Colorado; Ella, who died at the age of fifteen; Joseph, also deceased; Leo, of Crittenden Township; and Bertha, who died in infancy. On January 25, 1894, Mr. Smith married for his present wife Anna Henry, a native of Morris, Indiana. To this marriage have been born nine children, all of whom are living and are still members of the unbroken family circle. Their names in order of birth are Herbert, Alvin, Walter, Raymond, Mary, Edith, Ruth, James and Alice.

While building up his private fortune Mr. Smith has not neglected the call of the community upon his services and has filled such offices, significant of community esteem and offering great opportunities for service without compensation, as township collector, road commissioner, assessor and school trustee. In politics he is a Democrat, and he and his family worship in the Catholic Church.

Oscar Walter Schindler. Since attaining his majority Oscar Walter Schindler has found himself busied with constantly increasing duties and responsibilities as a farmer and stockman in Sidney Township, and is now handling a large part of the farming estate acquired by his father in that section of Champaign County.

Mr. Schindler was born at Sidney, December 13, 1886, a son of Robert H. and Alvina P. (Block) Schindler. The parents were both natives of Germany. His father was brought to this country at the age of two years, spent his youth in New York State, and in 1860 joined the early settlers of Champaign County. For a time he lived in the village of Sidney and subsequently bought a farm in section 28 of that township. His efforts as a farmer were more than ordinarily successful and at the time of his death on January 13, 1912, he owned an estate of 600 acres, magnificently improved and recognized as one of the best individual farms in the entire county. The widowed mother is still living on the old homestead. There were five children: John E. of Sidney Township; Fred, who died in infancy; William H. of Sidney Township; Oscar W.; and Freda K., wife of Orville Zook of Danville, Illinois.

Oscar Walter Schindler grew up in a home of simple comforts, was educated in the district schools, and acquired a practical knowledge of farming even before he reached his majority. At the age of twenty-one he rented 120 acres, and farmed it until 1912. Then for two years he had 130 acres and is now handling 205 acres of the old homestead. He is rapidly developing the registered Shorthorn cattle as a primary interest in his farming.

Mr. Schindler is a Republican and a member of the German Reformed Church. His father was a man of well known public spirit and served at one time as supervisor and also as school trustee.

Clarence L. Williams is an enterprising farmer of Philo Township and is now living in section 25, on the land where he was born August 7, 1875.

The family is an old and prominent one of Champaign County. His parents were Elias and Hannah (Peterson) Williams. Both were born in Franklin County, Indiana. Elias Williams came to Illinois in early manhood and located in Champaign County during the early '60s. His first possessions here were eighty acres and he subsequently added another eighty acres and had the farm well improved and under profitable operation long before his death, which occurred June 19, 1914. His widow died May 22, 1917, at Philo. Their three children are: Clark E., of Bluffton, Indiana; Ella M., at home; and Clarence L.

Clarence L. Williams grew up on the homestead, attended the district schools, and at the age of nineteen began his independent career by renting a home place of eighty acres. He has since bought the entire farm of 160 acres and has it under splendid control. Mr. Williams is a Republican in politics. His interest in local schools is indicated by the fact that for the past fifteen years he has served as director of his home district. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

He married Catherine Churchill, who was born in New York State. Their four children, all at home, are Nellie, Roy, Dorothea and Karl.

Luther C. Wade. While the agricultural community of Champaign County is known as one of the most progressive and prosperous of the world, the same quality of enterprise distinguishes the commercial element. A business organization that has made a successful record due to the hard work and enterprise of its members is the hardware house of Chapman &

Wade at Fisher. Both members are young merchants. know thoroughly the art of sticking close to their business, and at the same time can take a long look ahead when that is required. They have made their house one of the leading establishments in the northwest part of the county, and the volume of their yearly business aggregates $30,000.

The junior member of this firm is Luther C. Wade, who has been a resident of Champaign County for twenty-two years. In that time in his relations as a merchant and as a citizen he has earned the respect of all who know him. Mr. Wade was born in Adams County, Ohio, November 1, 1886. He is the fifth in a family of six children, four sons and two daughters, born to Edmund and Susannah (Potts) Wade. Five of the children are still living. E. L. Wade, the oldest, was educated in the common schools, had two terms of instruction in Westfield College of Illinois, and is now married and a successful agriculturist in Brown Township, with home at Fisher. Charles H., the next in age, had a common school training, was an agriculturist and owns a well equipped farm of 160 acres in Colorado. He married Miss Lucy Ring, and they have six children. In politics he is a Socialist. Rosetta is the wife of Bert Chapman. The next of the family is Luther C. Wade. Orla J. resides in Champaign County.

Edmund Wade was born in Ohio, and throughout his active lifetime has followed agriculture as his main pursuit. The name Wade is of English or Welsh lineage. Mrs. Edmund Wade is now deceased.

Luther C. Wade was educated in the common schools, took a business course in Brown's Business College at Champaign, and was also a student of instrumental music at the University of Illinois. He began his career at the very bottom round of the ladder and has climbed steadily to the heights of success.

After his education was finished Mr. Wade spent eight years as a renter of land in Brown Township of Champaign County, and finally left the farm to join Mr. Chapman in a partnership in the hardware business at Fisher. In 1916 Mr. Wade entered the Worsham Embalming School at Chicago, took the full course, and the members of his firm are now the only undertakers and embalmers at Fisher. They are thoroughly competent for this useful calling.

On September 30, 1908, Mr. Wade married Miss Leila Gossard. They have two young sons, Willard Edmund and Robert Earl. Willard E. is now in the first grade of the public schools. Mrs. Wade is a native of Champaign County, where she was born November 18, 1888, a daughter of Urvin and Belle (Hoffman) Gossard. Mrs. Wade was her parents' only child. Her father was a native of Fayette County, Ohio, but was reared and educated in Illinois, learned the trade of blacksmith, and for a number of years has been engaged in merchandising at Fisher, where he still resides. He is a member of the United Brethren Church of that city and a Prohibitionist in politics. Mrs. Wade's mother is now deceased. Mrs. Wade was educated in the common schools and has also taken courses in instrumental music. She is an active member of the United Brethren Church and president of the Ladies' Aid Society. In matters of politics Mr. Wade is independent. He votes for the man he considers best fitted for the office, and is like thousands of other independent thinking young men of America today. Fraternally he is affiliated with the camp at Fisher of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. and Mrs. Wade are young people who command the complete respect of their neighbors and friends, take an earnest attitude toward the problems of life, and have done much to solve the problems connected with comfortable living. They have their own automobile and have surrounded themselves with many of the comforts and conveniences.

HARLAN W. SIX. To those who have never had an opportunity to visit a modern Illinois farm and watch its industries being carefully and methodically carried on, it would be an interesting and enlightening experience to take a vacation trip through the rich farming districts of Champaign County. They would find no better proof of intelligent, scientific cultivation of the soil and its marvelous effects in any section better demonstrated than in Ayers Township, where is located the finely improved farm of Harlan W. Six, who is one of the township's representative citizens and trustworthy public officials.

Harlan W. Six was born in Bourbon County, Kentucky, October 21, 1861, and is a son of Presley H. and Mary E. (Palmer) Six. The father was born in Kentucky and the mother in Pennsylvania. They were married and resided in Kentucky until 1870, when they came to Illinois. The father was a farmer and before purchasing a permanent home decided to look over different sections. From 1870 until 1872 the family lived near Lincoln in Logan County, and then came to Champaign County, and here in 1877 Presley H. Six purchased eighty acres of land situated in section 33, Ayers Township. Subsequently 160 acres were added to the original purchase, and all of the land has been put under a fine state of cultivation. The modern two-story brick residence was built in 1910, and it is equipped with conveniences that make it an ideal rural home. Presley H. Six died on this farm on February 7, 1900, having been the father of two children, Harlan W. and Emma B., the latter of whom is deceased. She was the wife of Joseph Alexander. The mother resides with her son on the homestead.

After completing his public school education Harlan W. Six very naturally gave his father assistance on the farm, and as his tastes lie in this direction has made agricultural industries his main interest although he is additionally concerned with other enterprises and is vice president of the State Bank at Allerton, Illinois.

Mr. Six was married in August, 1897, to Miss Nellie Telling, who was born in Morgan County, and they have three children: Olga Helen, Harvey Presley and Palmer Telling.

In politics Mr. Six has always been a Democrat and long has been an influential factor in township politics. Aside from politics, however, he has been one of the earnest, hardworking men of this section through whose efforts better conditions along many paths have been brought about. During his two terms as supervisor the township greatly profited and as township school treasurer, an office he has filled for the past fifteen years, the school funds have been wisely handled. He is a leading spirit in a number of local organizations and his fraternal memberships include the Modern Woodmen of America and the Masons, being a Knight Templar in the latter. He is a man of genial personality and even temperament, and his friends may be found everywhere.

CLYDE L. BUSEY, whose active part as a citizen of Champaign County is farming and managing one of the fine farms in Sidney Township, is one of the sturdy representatives of a name that has been identified with this section of Illinois since pioneer times.

His father, Simeon Fountain Busey, was born in Sidney Township, February 12, 1854, a son of Fountain J. and Maria (Sheppard) Busey. Fountain J. was born in Kentucky and his wife in Ohio. Fountain Busey came to Champaign County in the early '40s and acquired and developed a handsome estate of farming land. His death occurred July 24, 1894, and his wife passed away October 2, 1889. They were the parents of thirteen children, five of whom are still living.

Simeon F. Busey has always had his home in Sidney Township and his practical life has been spent in agriculture and its related activities. He is a Democrat and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. On January 16, 1879, he married Fannie B. Wilson, who was born in Ohio. They had only two children, Clyde L. and Ruth. The daughter was born April 6, 1887, and died June 9, 1908, at the age of twenty-one.

Clyde L. Busey was born on his father's farm in Sidney Township, March 4, 1880, and besides the rural schools he attended the high school at Sidney. His early experiences were as a farmer with his father and for two years he was in the wholesale grocery business at Danville, Illinois. Since then he has been at home and is now working 160 acres as a general farming and stock raising proposition.

On January 5, 1909, he married Leah Fisher. Mrs. Busey was born at Sidney, daughter of Luther and Eunice (Gard) Fisher, her father a native of Champaign County and her mother of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Busey had one child, a daughter, who died in infancy.

Mr. Busey is a Republican, a member of the Masonic order and the Knights of Pythias, and with his wife attends the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Edward C. Baker. Born on a farm in Champaign County, Edward C. Baker has never deviated to any extent from the vocations to which he was reared, and increasingly fruitful results have flowed from his efforts. He now has the handling and management of one of the finest stock and grain farms of Champaign Township, located on Rural Route No. 5 out of the City of Champaign.

Mr. Baker was born in Rantoul Township February 26, 1872, and is a son of Henry and Mary (Gehmrote) Baker. His parents were both born in Germany. Henry Baker came to America in 1837, and in the same year located at Champaign. For a short while he was a railroad workman, afterward did teaming in Champaign, and then removed to Rantoul Township, where he bought a farm. He was successfully identified with the management of that place until his death in February, 1896. His wife died there in 1880. Their children were nine in number: William, of Arcola, Illinois; Anna, wife of Adolph Langhoff, of Urbana; Lucy, wife of Charles Miers, of Thomasboro, Illinois; Henry, of Rantoul; Minnie, who lives at Thomasboro, widow of Jacob Miers; Edward C.; George, of Hensley Township; Albert, of Somers Township; and Louis, deceased.

The environment of the average farm boy encompassed Edward C. Baker while he was growing to manhood, and his early education came from the local schools. At the age of eighteen he began farm work at monthly wages. After two years he rented a place of forty acres, and then leased and had under his direct management for three years 120 acres of the home farm. When the homestead was sold and divided he acquired forty acres of it, but soon took up farming on the renting plan, which on the whole he has found eminently satisfactory, especially when the high prices of land are considered. He rented eighty acres, which he farmed two years, and in 1900 he rented the 290 acres of the Burnham estate in section 2 of Champaign Township. This is a model estate, and Mr. Baker has proved himself a competent man to handle it. He is a general farmer, but also has a large dairy of Jersey cows.

On April 22, 1896, Mr. Baker married Miss Charlotte Demien, a native of Champaign County. They have two children: Joseph Louie, born October 9, 1899, and Olive Esther, who was born August 25, 1903, and died September 1, 1904. Mr. Baker is a Republican, a member of the Lutheran Church, and has been a member of the local school board.

Mrs. Baker is a daughter of John and Caroline (Peters) Demien, both natives of Germany. Her father came to America about 1858 and was one of the pioneers at Champaign, Illinois. He assisted in building the Mark Carley home, the first house in Champaign, and he also helped set out the trees in the city park there. He was an employe of the Illinois Central Railway until injured, and then took up farming on eighty acres in Hensley Township. That was the stage of his active efforts and enterprise for seventeen years, after which he sold and bought 160 acres east of Thomasboro. He farmed that land for twenty-two years, and then retired and removed to Gifford, where his wife died March 19, 1911, and he himself passed away March 7, 1914. Mr. and Mrs. Demien had the following children: Otelia, deceased; Caroline, wife of Adam Heardt, of Burt, Iowa; Fred, of Pomeroy, Iowa; Martha, wife of Richard Altman, of Penfield, Illinois; Matilda, twin sister of Martha, wife of R. L. Washer, of Urbana; Charlotte, wife of Mr. Edward C. Baker; Verona, wife of C. F. Manke, of Thomasboro; Renatha, twin sister of Verona and living in Chicago; Lucy, wife of Henry Langhoff, of Somers Township; and Louie, of Rantoul Township.

Louis Denhart. If true success consists in a steady betterment of one's material circumstances, a growing enlargement of views and increasing influence as a member of the community, the life of Louis Denhart has been exceptionally successful by all the standards that might be applied to it.

Mr. Denhart, who though looking after the cultivation of a large amount of farming land, resides in the town of St. Joseph, was born in Harrison County, Indiana. His parents were John and Elizabeth Zimmerman Denhart, both natives of Germany. They came to America when still single, and were married in this country and located on a farm in Indiana. They had eleven children, Louis being the sixth. All these children grew up and received their education in district schools of Indiana.

Louis Denhart came when a youth to visit his brother George in Champaign County, and after being here four years was so favorably impressed with the country that he determined to make it his own home. The part of Indiana where he grew up was a rough and rocky region and he liked the contrast afforded by the fertile and level lands of old Champaign. Mr. Denhart has been a resident of Champaign County since 1884.

In 1888 he married Miss Sophia Keehn. She is also a native of Indiana, a daughter of Henry and Emma Keehn, and she grew up there and received her education in the public schools. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Denhart located on a forty-acre tract of land southeast of Mayview in St. Joseph Township. From the thrifty saving and accumulation of his work as a wage earner he bought this land on time, at a contract price of $40 an acre. Forty acres was hardly enough for his individual enterprise as a farmer and he rented the adjoining sixty acres, and with his team began the task of acquiring a substantial position in the community. There were trials and vicissitudes, setbacks as well as advances, and some years there was a partial crop failure, then again the market for grain went down to the bottom, and countless other discouragements had to be met. But he and his wife possessed courage and energy, and were willing to toil early and late in order to get the objects upon which their ambition centered. During the working season Mr. Denhart would spend practically the entire day, from sun up to sun down, away from home, while his young wife remained diligently at work in the home. They possessed few of the facilities for enjoying life. There were few buggies, and the old wagon answered the purposes of a Ford car in those strenuous



Louis Denhart
Sophia Denhart

times. But the sequel of this period of hard work is a pleasing story. In course of time Mr. and Mrs. Denhart had accumulated an estate of 620 acres and in many ways improved and beautified their farm. They set up a modern residence, planted fruit and shade trees, and all of it now stands as a monument to their persevering toil. Mr. Denhart has done a great deal in the line of fruit growing, and long ago made it a rule to set out each year some fruit trees either as an extension to his orchard or to fill in vacancies.

Into their home were born successively eight children: Clarence, Cora, Frank, Ollie, Floyd, Lawrence, Howard and Wilma. These children attended the high school at St. Joseph, and Clarence and Frank attended Brown's Business College at Champaign and also specialized in the study of agriculture. While four of the children still remain at home, the others have married and are successful people of the younger generation.

Clarence, who lives on one of his father's farms, married Luella Bridgewater and has two children, Beryl and Dorothy. The daughter Cora married Walter Manges and they live on her father's farm west of St. Joseph. Their three children are Louis, Freda and Robert. Frank Denhart, a successful farmer in St. Joseph Township, cultivating some of his father's broad acres, married Grace Stiner of Mayview. Ollie Denhart is the wife of William Hartman, and they have one small daughter, Helen Verdena.

Mr. Denhart through many years has been an extensive stock and grain raiser and has sold an immense volume of agricultural produce to the local traders and shippers. He is one of the most progressive farmers of the county. His business judgment has brought him to the attention of his fellow citizens, who have entrusted him with public responsibilities. For twelve years he has served as a member of the town council at St. Joseph. He and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in that village, and their children attend Sunday school. Fraternally Mr. Denhart is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and in politics he is a Democrat.

For the past eighteen years his home has been in St. Joseph and during that time he has actively supervised the cultivation of a fine tract of 330 acres of farm land adjoining the town. His home at the end of Sherman Street is an attractive one. The grounds are amply shaded, and the home has a restful and comfortable atmosphere that is of itself a token of the substantial character of its occupants.

Bert Leroy Chapman. Aggressive methods, keen insight into commercial conditions, a thorough and far-reaching appreciation of the needs of the trade, are characteristics which develop a man into a successful factor in the business life of any community and result in the founding and development of concerns that give that community prestige. Conditions today are so complex, competition is so keen, and the needs of the world are increasing so rapidly that every branch of commercial and industrial life feels the impetus of the times. The day of slow and sure business policies is gone; the business enterprises of today are conducted along entirely different lines than those of our forefathers, and the men who attain success are those who are possessed of power of initiative, resource and aggression. One of the most enterprising of the merchants of Fisher is Bert Leroy Chapman, senior member of the hardware firm of Chapman & Wade. This young business man has achieved success and reputation at a time when many men are merely starting upon their careers, and the characteristics above noted have been important concomitants in the working out of his career.

Bert Leroy Chapman was born in Vermilion County, Indiana, September 18, 1878, the third in a family of three sons born to Nelson and Rosanna (Sims) Chapman. He has one brother living, Pearl Albert Chapman, who was educated in the common schools and is now editor and manager of the Bellflower News at Bellflower, McLean County, Illinois. He married Miss Laura McGowan, and has four children. Nelson Chapman was born in Indiana of English ancestry, and spent his career as an agriculturist. He did not live to see his ambitions for success realized, as his death occurred when his son Bert was three years old, in 1882. His political belief was that of the Republican party. The mother of Bert L. Chapman was also born in Indiana, where she received a public school education, and after the death of her first husband she married a Mr. Baysinger, who is also deceased. For her third husband she married George Browne, an agriculturist, and they now reside on a valuable property in Champaign County.

The educational training of Bert L. Chapman was secured in the public schools, and when he was still a lad he gained experience in the line of self-support, working long hours in a tile factory at a wage of 50 cents per day. This discipline, while hard, was to prove valuable to him in after years and to make him place a just value upon the worth of money. When he left that vocation he began work as a wage earner on a farm, being thus occupied for ten years, at the end of which time he had accumulated sufficient capital to set himself up as a renter of land in Champaign County. His tastes, however, as well as his abilities, seemed to lie along mercantile lines, and after seven years of struggle with the soil he gave up agricultural operations and came to Fisher, where he established himself in business as the proprietor of a cafe. Less than one year of experience in this direction sufficed to show him that he had not yet found his proper groove, and he disposed of his cafe to embark, in a modest way, in the hardware business. Like all enterprises that grow to be anything worth while, the first several years were lean and hard ones, but Mr. Chapman was possessed of the necessary business acumen, had the courage of his convictions, and was determined to succeed, and through aggressive tactics and progressive and persistent methods won his way through, and the venture that started in a small and inconspicuous way has grown to be one of the foremost business establishments of the town of Fisher. On March 7, 1916, Mr. Chapman entered into partnership with Luther Wade, and at the present time the house of Chapman & Wade carries a full and up-to-date line of shelf and heavy hardware and furniture, and in addition conduct an undertaking department. The volume of the yearly trade is now from $25,000 to $30,000, this having been built up through honest policies, fair representation and honorable methods of procedure. Mr. Chapman is the owner of a handsome residence and is accounted one of the substantial residents of the community.

On January 14, 1903, Mr. Chapman was married to Miss Elizabeth R. Wade, and of the four children born to this union three are living: Mabel R., who is attending school as a member of the fourth grade; and Lucille and Russell L., who are at home. Mrs. Chapman was born in Adams County, Ohio, July 31, 1878, and was educated in the public schools. She is a daughter of Edmund and Susannah (Potts) Wade, her father being a native of Adams County, Ohio. Mr. Wade has been engaged in agricultural pursuits all his life, and at the present time is the owner of 160 acres of land in Brown Township, Champaign County. He is a Prohibitionist and is a member of the United Brethren Church, as was also Mrs. Wade. Mr. Wade has always been a friend of public improvements, one of the public-spirited men who have supported movements

making for the general welfare, and a believer in education who has served as a member of the board of school directors. Mrs. Wade, who was born in Ohio, died in Champaign County, January 23, 1897.

Mr. Chapman is a Republican. He cast his first presidential vote for William H. Taft, but has not been active in political affairs. However, he has always been ready to serve his community, and as an official is a member of the school board and of the town council. His fraternal connection is with Sangamon Lodge No. 801, A. F. & A. M., at Fisher, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which has a strong lodge at this place. Mr. and Mrs. Chapman are members of the United Brethren Church at Fisher, and Mr. Chapman serves as superintendent of the Sunday school, which has an attendance every Sunday of about fifty. A further fraternal connection of Mr. Chapman is with Camp No. 2534 of the Modern Woodmen of America, of which he has been clerk four years and of which he is at present banker.

Mr. and Mrs. Chapman are young people who enjoy life and who are eager to help others enjoy it also. While they are greatly attached to their home, they are also enthusiastic about other parts of the great central agricultural country of Illinois, which they frequently visit on sight-seeing trips in their automobile.

James Barber. Of the fine homesteads scattered about Champaign County one that betrays to the casual observer every evidence of thrifty and careful management and successful operation is that of James Barber, located in Champaign Township, on Rural Route No. 1 out of the city of Champaign.

Mr. Barber has been a practical farmer in Champaign County since early youth, is a young man, vigorous and far sighted and keen in handling every detail of agricultural management. He was born in Colfax Township of Champaign County April 1, 1886, a son of Alfred C. and Louisa (Peters) Barber. His father was born in England and his mother in Kentucky. Alfred C. Barber came to the United States in 1856 with his parents, who located in Champaign County on a farm. Alfred Barber lived a long and productive life, and at his death his estate comprised 320 acres. He died in Champaign in February, 1909, and his widow is still living in that city. They were the parents of fourteen children: Mollie, Cora and Laura, all deceased; Oscar, of Hamilton County, Illinois; Josie, wife of Layton Snyder, of Lebanon, Indiana; Benjamin, of Scott Township, Champaign County; Emma, wife of Cerrola Foster, of Scott Township; Nellie, wife of John Leach, of Champaign; James and John, twins; Bertha, deceased; Fannie, who lives in Champaign with her mother; Ethel, also in Champaign; and William, deceased.

Mr. James Barber has lived on his present farm since he was two years of age. He grew up here, acquired an education in the local schools, and at the age of twenty he and his brother John rented two hundred acres of the old homestead and they have jointly managed its affairs ever since. Their business is general farming, growing the staple crops of the fields and handling sufficient live stock to convert the raw materials and to keep up and preserve the fertility of the soil. Mr. Barber is a Republican in politics and is a member of the Methodist Church.

He was married December 12, 1906, to Nellie May Miller, a native of Mahomet, Illinois. Her father was George Miller. Mr. and Mrs. Barber have one daughter, Oleta May, born July 12, 1912.

Mr. John Barber married Mary Cole in September, 1909, and they also have a daughter, Julia Bernice, born March 16, 1912.

HOWARD F. LOVE. One of the best managed farms in Sidney Township is that of the Love family in section 19. The active managers of this estate are Howard F. Love and his brother, Clifford S. Howard F. Love gave up his course in agriculture at the University of Illinois to take active charge of the business following the death of his father.

His parents were John and Mary E. (Adams) Love, both natives of Ohio. John Love came to Champaign County in 1852 and at that time located in section 19 of Sidney Township, where he took land in the raw state and developed its many possibilities as a farm. He was a member of the Masonic order, of the Presbyterian Church and in politics a Republican. His death occurred June 2, 1910. There were five children, the oldest, a son, dying in infancy. The second is Clara, still at home; Mildred, the third child, was born in 1887; Howard F., the older son now living, was born January 25, 1889, on the home farm; and Clifford, the youngest, entered the University of Illinois in 1911 and graduated in the scientific agricultural course in 1916. He is also at home.

Howard F. Love has put in practice a combination of thorough experience with a liberal education. He attended the Champaign High School, of which he is a graduate, and spent two years in the agricultural course at the university. Since then he has had active charge of the home place and is now working 317 acres. He is specializing in live stock and has some fine registered Duroc Jersey hogs and is also a fancier of a pedigreed strain of Plymouth Rock fowls. Politically he is a Republican and is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

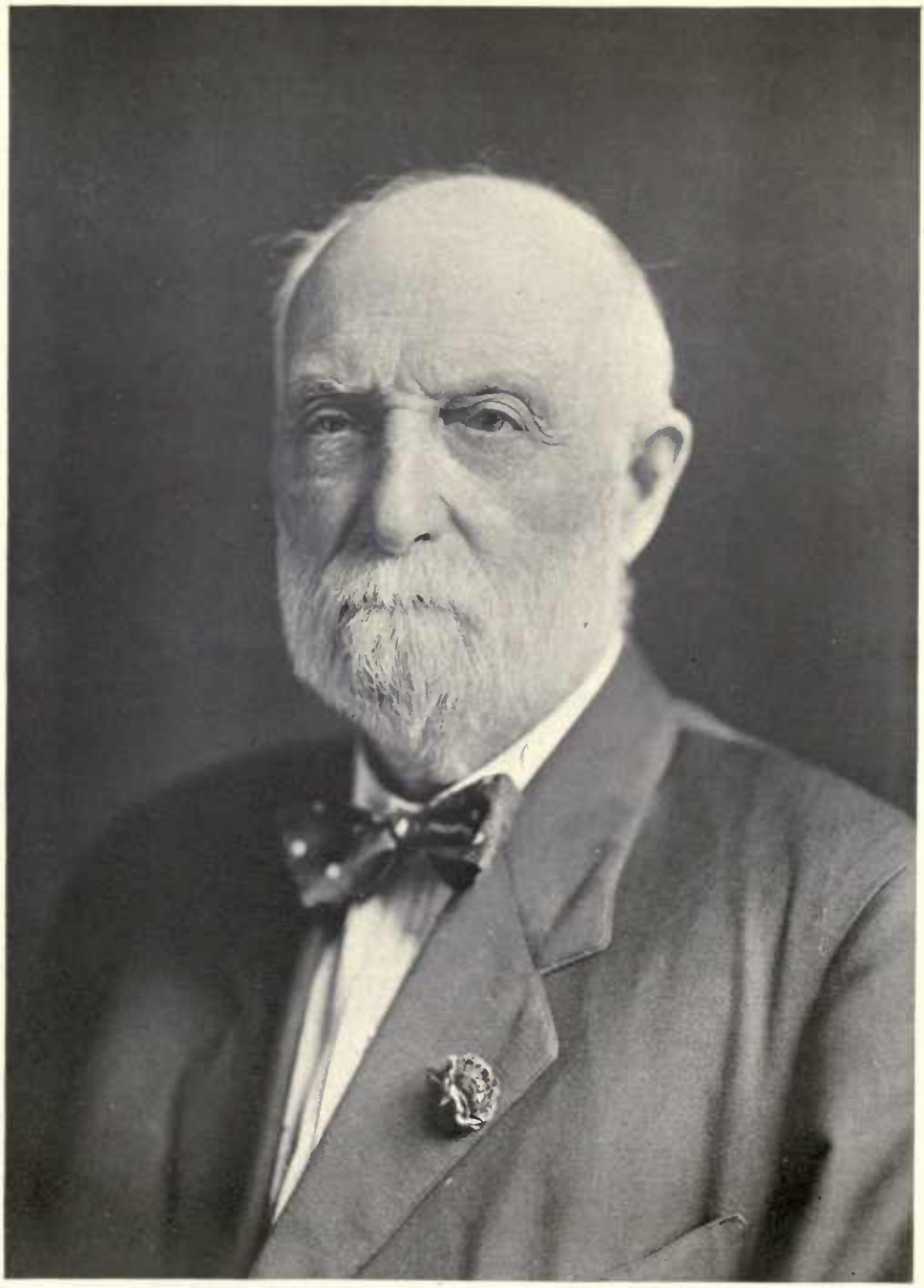
GEORGE C. GORDON. From farm renter George C. Gordon has progressed on the road of prosperity until he now owns one of the best farms in Urbana Township, located in section 13. He has a model country home and has all the facilities and conveniences of country life in Champaign County, including the daily delivery of mail over Rural Route No. 12.

Mr. Gordon was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, January 3, 1872, a son of Clinton and Mary (Henneberger) Gordon. His parents were both born in Pennsylvania and are still living there, his father being retired from active business, and during the Civil War he was a Union soldier. They had seven children: Addie, wife of Jacob Stine, of Pennsylvania; Celia, deceased; Ross, of Pennsylvania; Isaac H., who lives in St. Joseph Township of Champaign County; George C.; Susan Virginia, wife of George P. Gray, of Berkeley, California; and Charles Clinton, of Urbana Township.

George C. Gordon spent his early youth in Pennsylvania, attending the common schools, and finished his education in the Central Normal College at Danville, Indiana. He came to Champaign County in 1892, at the age of twenty, and for several years rented farm lands in St. Joseph Township. In 1896 he was able to buy his first land, sixty-three acres in section 24 of Urbana Township. He subsequently bought the fine farm he now lives on in section 13, comprising 132 acres. Here he has built a modern two-story home and has surrounded himself with many comforts such as his industry has well justified.

Mr. Gordon married Clara McClain, a native of Champaign County. Her parents, James H. and Nancy (Truman) McClain, were early settlers in this county, both being now deceased. There were five children in the McClain family, two of whom died early. Those still living are: Hattie, wife of William Albertson, of Warsaw, Indiana; Martha, wife of Alfred Frankenberg, of St. Joseph, Illinois; and Mrs. Gordon.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon were born four children:



D. H. Lloyde.

Glenn H., Mary Fannie, Herbert McClain and Hilda Lavone. Mr. Gordon is a member of the school board of his district and for years was a director of the Champaign County Fair Association. He is a Republican, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

DAVID H. LLOYDE is one of Champaign's oldest and most widely known business men. In fact, his business is practically as old as the University of Illinois, which, as is generally known, is one of the greatest educational institutions of its kind in the entire world. The Lloyde business was originally established for and has always been distinctively supported by the student body of the state university. Mr. Lloyde is also president of the recently organized First University Bank, located at 606 East Green Street, in the very heart of the student district. The chief business with which his many years of industrial activity have been identified are two extensive music, book and stationery stores, one at 7 Main Street and the other at 606 East Green Street, in the same brick structure which houses the Lloyde bank.

As a merchant he has for forty-three years supplied the needs of the students and others in the way of books and supplies, music, stationery, toys, photographic supplies, drawing instruments, pianos, organs, violins and small musical instruments, sewing machines, typewriters, talking machines and sporting goods, and is headquarters for novelties for holiday and other season's events. Mr. Lloyde has been a continuous resident of Champaign since 1874. His name and his stores are landmarks, institutions familiar to every resident of Champaign County, the Twin Cities, and those formerly here as students. His success has not only been the means of his own prosperity but has also contributed to the prosperity and substantial upbuilding of the entire community.

David H. Lloyde was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, June 11, 1835, but has lived in Illinois nearly all his life, enjoying his experiences from the period of the wild prairies to these days of live modern conditions. His father, Captain David Lloyde, also a native of Springfield, Massachusetts, was a mechanic, and at twenty-two years of age, after completing his three years' term of service required as a mechanic, received a gold medal as a reward, and for his temperance principles during the learning of his trade, given by the Hamden Mechanical Association of Springfield, Massachusetts, with the inscription, "Omnia Laboribus Sustinenda," but he afterward took up contracting and building. He married Eliza Seaver of Somerset, Massachusetts. They were the parents of five children: David H.; Mrs. Jennie Lees of Attica, Kansas; James H., who as a Union soldier participated among other engagements in the battle of Shiloh, and subsequently became a merchant and station agent at Milo, Missouri, where he died; Lucy, who married Frank Herrick, is living at Princeton, Illinois, where her husband is city editor of the Bureau County Republican and an ex-soldier of the Civil War; and George O., who was in the Civil War, is a contractor and builder at Bloomington, Illinois.

In 1838 Captain David Lloyde, Sr., brought his family to Illinois and established a home in what was then an unsettled and unplatted district of northern Illinois, Clarion Township in Bureau County, and was instrumental in establishing the Lloyde schoolhouse, the first one on the prairie. Because of his priority of settlement and the strength of his personal character, he was long recognized as a leader. For a number of years he taught school at LaMoille, one of the principal towns of Bureau County, and served as supervisor and justice of the peace. He established and conducted the first hotel at LaMoille. That was in the days when LaMoille was on one of the principal overland thoroughfares from Chicago to south-

western points, and the stages regularly stopped at his old wayside tavern. He did much to promote public improvement. He helped to bring about the construction of the present courthouse, jail and several business blocks and residences, one for William Cullen Bryant, the noted poet, also John Bryant, resident in Princeton. As he was a leader in civic affairs, so he became a rallying force for the volunteers at the beginning of the Civil War. He organized Company K of the Ninety-third Illinois Infantry, was commissioned captain, and his life was given as a sacrifice to the Union. Congressman Owen Lovejoy gave him valuable assistance in organizing Company K of the Ninety-third Regiment. During the siege of Vicksburg, on May 16, 1863, he was shot through the heart. The old veterans of Bureau County have frequently recalled and testified to the esteem in which they held their gallant leader and comrade. His widow survived him until a ripe old age and was ninety-three when she died at Attica, Missouri, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Jennie Lees.

David H. Lloyde remained in the pioneer home of his parents in Bureau County until the age of twenty-two. His education was acquired in the district schools and he later attended Judson College at La Salle and Illinois College at Jacksonville. During his early youth he took up contracting and building, the same business followed by his father, also conducting grain and stock raising farms. In the year 1874 he moved to Champaign and engaged in conducting the present music, stationery and book store, which was established in 1867, at the opening of the University of Illinois. That was the beginning of his long and active business associations with the university of the state. His store has kept pace with the development of the university, and his place on Main Street was enlarged to a three-story building with concrete basement and more recently he erected a two-story brick building at 606 East Green, near the corner of Green and Sixth streets, at the center of the university section. The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Lloyde Book and Music Stores is now being celebrated (June 21, 1917). The First University Bank was organized in September, 1915, in order to furnish banking facilities for this special district and for the accommodation of students who keep their accounts there. Mr. Lloyde is a stockholder in the Illinois Trust & Savings Bank and owner of farm land in Nebraska. He also owns some residences and other real estate and investments, mostly in Champaign.

He married, February 26, 1857, Miss Ellen P. Angier. Her father was a Baptist minister and brought his family from Vermont in 1855 and located at LaMoille in Bureau County. In Vermont he had married Eliza Luther, and in that state Mrs. Lloyde was born. She had a brother, Frank L. Angier, who died at Beardstown, Illinois, in 1908. He was also a veteran of the Civil War and three of his sons, active railroad men, are still living at Beardstown.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyde have three sons. F. H. Lloyde was actively associated with his father for twenty years in the store, as D. H. Lloyde & Son, on Main Street. He moved in 1904 to Venice, California, engaging in the real estate business. Clarence A. is auditor, manager of photograph, mimeograph, camera, typewriter and advertising departments of the stores, while Clifford L. is book and stock buyer, manager of the university store and vice president of the First University Bank. The various departments employ thirty or more salespeople. Through the professors, students and alumni of the state university the influence and reputation of the Lloyde stores are world wide. They have been helpful to the blessing of mental training and educational work for humanity at all times. The Lloyde slogan, "Books and Music," means the foundation of all usefulness in the world.

All of Mr. Lloyde's children were students of the University of Illinois. Robert K. Lloyde, son of C. A. Lloyde and grandson of David H. Lloyde, was a student at the University of Illinois and is a graduate of Cornell University at Ithaca, New York. He is now assistant horticulturist at the Mississippi State Agricultural A. M. College, Starkville, Mississippi.

Mr. Lloyde is a member of the Baptist Church. He has become widely known for his benevolences and has given liberally of his means to all worthy institutions, regardless of denomination. The activities of the family in Christian work have been continuous since his marriage in 1857, and the three sons and wives are equally earnest in the training of young people in church and Bible school influences. The Lloyde family gave several hundred dollars to the Baptist Church at LaMoille in Bureau County when the present church edifice was erected in 1858, and the present family contributed several thousands toward the First Baptist Church of Champaign in 1899. Both money and individual effort have proceeded from the Lloyde family in behalf of such organizations as the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the Anti-Saloon League, a cause in which they are especially interested, and for the establishment and upkeep of home and foreign missions. Among individual institutions or movements the Lloydes have donated to the Aged Ministers' Home and the Old People's Home. They were among the first to support the organization of the University of Chicago, Shurtleff College, and the academy for colored young people at Jacksonville, Florida, and for over twenty years contributed regularly to the boys' home on the Glenwood farm near Chicago. They helped organize the Y. M. C. A. at Champaign in 1889, and aided the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. at the university by liberal donations. The University Students' Baptist Church, the Wesley Foundation Building, the Irvington and other orphanages in Illinois, also Liberty Bond and Red Cross work, are some of the worthy objects of their interest and Christian zeal—a notable record of practical Christianity for one family.

Mr. Lloyde was a member of the Union League, organized during the Civil War, the only secret organization to help save the United States of America. He became one of the charter members of the present Sons of Veterans camp when it was organized in Champaign, encouraging the boys in many ways.

Mr. D. H. Lloyde has also quite an interesting musical career, given in the history of Baptist hymn and song writers, and other sources, and this has been a valuable asset and help to him in the sale of all kinds of musical instruments.

As a boy he evinced decided musical talent and early received instruction from his father, who was a music teacher. When eleven years old he sang alto in the old-time gallery church choir and later became a leader of singing in church and Sunday school, teaching music during winters in the schoolhouses near his home in Bureau County, using his violin as a handy instrument to carry. As he became more interested in music he made the acquaintance of P. P. Bliss, H. R. Palmer, H. S. Perkins and others, from whom he received instruction, inspiration and encouragement, and for several years devoted himself to the study and teaching of vocal music. Later he enjoyed conducting institutes, conventions and classes. Among his musical activities he was engaged in Sunday school work, was also in touch with Ira D. Sankey, D. L. Moody and K. A. Burnell in Y. M. C. A. work as singer and leader of Christian song services at state and other mass meetings.

At this time he gave special thought and attention to writing words and music of his own composition, published in "River of Life," "Royal Sons," "Songs of Faith," "Shining River" and other Sunday school song books.

His love for music made the family at home musical, Mrs. Lloyde teaching the boys piano, the three sons and father forming a male quartet and an orchestra, playing violin, cornet, flute and clarinet, making use of the same in Sunday school and church work and citizens' orchestra for several years.

Mr. Lloyde has also had large juvenile and advanced classes in the Twin Cities, having introduced teaching of music in the schools, through Professors J. W. Hays and Lansing, then superintendent of the schools, always insisting that music be taught the same as any other branch of education, which practice has now come to stay.

Mr. Lloyde in 1874-75 filled a vacancy in the vocal music department at the University of Illinois, training the choir and individuals in preparation for commencement, anniversary and other events. He won success as a conductor, inspired others and gave suitable instruction with pleasing results in conventions and large mass meetings of singing people.

These facts state briefly some of the things that have made the life of the subject of this sketch a busy and useful one, and the variety of vocations has given him interesting and enjoyable occasions in the different realms of the world's activities.

James Oscar Sayers of Fisher, one of the advisory board of editors of the Champaign County History, has had an active experience in this section of the county covering a period of forty-two years. He came here as a young man possessed of no financial resources, and by hard work and constant attention to his duties has built up a mercantile business whose volume is second to none in the village. Mr. Sayers is wideawake to all things that concern this locality and is generally recognized as one of the most capable men of Champaign County.

He was born in Morrow County, Ohio, April 29, 1862, the eldest of three children, a son and two daughters, of John Francis and Caroline (Banner) Sayers. The two daughters are: Rose, wife of John Priest of Ashland, Ohio; and Frances R., wife of Oscar Braderick of Fredericktown, Ohio. John F. Sayers, his father, also a native of Morrow County, Ohio, had a common school education and was a farmer by vocation. In 1865 he took his family out to Poweshiek County, Iowa, where he lived until his death in August, 1869, at the very early age of thirty-three. His widow, who was a native of Newark, New Jersey, was a young girl when taken to Ohio, afterwards returned to that state and died in Fredericktown. She was a member of the United Brethren Church. She was of Holland-Dutch stock, her father being unable to speak the English language until after the age of ten.

James Oscar Sayers was about three years old when his parents moved from Ohio to Iowa, and was only eight years old when his father died. At the age of eleven years he came to Champaign County, Illinois, which has been his residence ever since. His early education was acquired in the common schools. Later he took a course in the university at Valparaiso, Indiana. He early learned to depend upon his own exertions to put himself ahead in the world, and for two years he farmed as a renter in the northern part of the county. Later he took a position as clerk in the store of S. B. Sale at Fisher, and after two years he had advanced to a point where he was able to purchase an interest in the business. That was in 1887, and from that beginning has come the present firm of James O. Sayers. During the disastrous fire at Fisher in 1902 his store building was burned, but he at once rebuilt and now has one of the most commodious business structures in the village. Mr. Sayers carries a splendid line of staple groceries, hardware and paints, and his trade has yearly been attaining a larger scope and volume.

On February 19, 1885, he married Miss Fannie M. Sale, who was born in Champaign County in 1863. Both her parents are now deceased. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Sayers, the only one now living is Frank E. Sayers, who, after graduating from the Fisher schools, entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1911 and the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1913 from this institution. After completing his medical course he served one year as an interne in a hospital at Youngstown, Ohio. From August 1, 1914, to August 15, 1917, he engaged in the private practice of medicine at Normal, Illinois, at which latter date he entered the Medical Corps of the United States Navy with the commission of a first lieutenant. Doctor Sayers is married and has a son, Richard. In politics he is a Republican, is a member of the Masonic order, and belongs to the Phi Gamma Delta and Phi Beta Pi (medical) college fraternities. He is also a member of the McLean County and Illinois State Medical societies.

Mr. J. O. Sayers is a Republican, and has frequently been honored with political responsibilities. He has been a delegate to county and State conventions, was township supervisor of Brown Township eleven years and chairman of the county board of supervisors for four years. For several years he was a director of the local schools and did much to advance and improve the educational facilities. He is a member of the Masonic order, and with his wife a member of the Methodist Church.

James Clark McCullough. One of the prominent agricultural families of Champaign County bears the name of McCullough, and from the time it was established here in 1854 until the present its members have been representative of the county's best citizenship. They have been identified with the upbuilding of this section in every way, not only as industrious and successful farmers using methods that teach others to make agriculture profitable, but they have given hearty support to public movements and to educational and religious organizations. It may well be deemed an honor to belong to such a family, and one of its younger members may be found in James Clark McCullough, who is a general farmer in section 29, Urbana Township, Champaign County.

James Clark McCullough was born on the farm on which he lives, March 31, 1891, and is a son of John and Annie (Clark) McCullough. John McCullough was born in Champaign County, December 5, 1862. His parents were Alexander W. and Elizabeth (Siler) McCullough, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania and came to Champaign County, Illinois, in 1854. Alexander W. McCullough rented what was known as the Carrol farm for two years and then located in Urbana Township, in section 29, and here carried on general farming until the close of his life. He married Elizabeth Siler and the following children were born to them: James S., who is deceased; Adeline, who is the wife of W. N. Raymey, and they live in southwestern Missouri; Anna E., who is the widow of John Bond, of Tolono, Illinois; Frank, who lives at Dunnigan, California; Margaret, who is the wife of S. L. Burwash; Albert, who is a farmer in Urbana Township; Benjamin, who is deceased; John; and Sarah, who died in infancy.

John McCullough grew to manhood in Urbana Township and has been a farmer and stockraiser ever since his schooldays. He has acquired a large acreage here and is one of the county's big tax payers. He devotes his 560 acres to grain growing and stockraising. On January 22, 1890, he was married to Miss Annie Clark, who was born in Ohio but has spent almost her entire life in Champaign County. Six children were born to this marriage: James Clark, who is a successful farmer in this township;

Helen, Mary, Fred and Margaret, all of whom are at home; and Joseph, who died at the age of three years. Mr. McCullough and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a Republican and is serving as supervisor of Urbana Township. For many years he has been identified with the Masonic fraternity. He is one of the township's best known and most highly respected citizens.

James Clark McCullough was reared in the comfortable home that it was his good fortune to be born into and was given the best of public school advantages and after leaving the high school took a business course. In embarking in farming he followed his natural inclination and has devoted himself diligently to the cultivation and improvement of his 160 acres, a part of the old homestead. Mr. McCullough is an intelligent young man and has made himself acquainted with the underlying principles of his business, and it is to such men that the people not only in our own but in other lands ultimately will look for food for many years to come.

Mr. McCullough was married June 29, 1915, to Miss Edna Myers, who is a daughter of Grant and Rose (Brennan) Myers. The father of Mrs. McCullough came to Champaign County in the spring of 1899. He was born in Ohio and the mother of Mrs. McCullough was born at Gilman, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Myers have had four children: Edna Louise, who is the wife of James C. McCullough; Frances, who lives with her parents; a son who died in infancy; and Howard.

JOHN W. MUMM. Now living retired at Sidney, John W. Mumm for years controlled and directed the operations of some of the best farming lands in Champaign County. His career has been productive in the best sense of the term and has been significant of his sturdy character, upright manhood and long continued industry.

Mr. Mumm was born at Sidney in Champaign County, November 24, 1864, and represents a family of early settlers. His parents were John J. and Magdalena (Witt) Mumm, both natives of Germany. His father was a native of the old Danish province of Holstein. When a young man John J. Mumm came to America and located in Champaign County, and lived here to acquire a large holding of fertile farm land. He and his wife had eight children: Annie, wife of Henry Witt of Sidney; Emma, deceased; Mary, still at home; John W.; Peter, deceased; Henry of Sidney; Reimer, deceased; and a son that died in infancy.

John W. Mumm grew up on the home farm, attended the local schools, and at the age of twenty-one began his independent career as renter of sixty acres. Soon afterwards his father gave him eighty acres. He showed justifiable enterprise in handling this land and with the results of his labors was able to buy twenty acres. Later his father gave him another place of 120 acres and eventually eighty acres more. He worked the land, improved the buildings and other equipment and made for himself and family one of the most substantial rural homes in the county. A number of years ago he erected a handsome two-story veneer brick home.

On October 20, 1886, Mr. Mumm married Mame Malone, daughter of Christopher and Minnie (Gruel) Malone. Her parents were natives of Germany. Her father came to America as a young man and located in Champaign County, where he followed farming many years, but is now living at Pomeroy, Iowa. He and his wife had the following children: William of Rush Hill, Missouri; Elizabeth, wife of Harmon Passow of Jolly, Iowa; Mrs. John W. Mumm; Frederick, deceased; Christ W. of Pomeroy, Iowa; Caroline, deceased; Mollie, wife of Elmer Wells of Pomeroy, Iowa; Phillip, deceased; Mary, wife of Lewis Rost of Pomeroy,



Azro A. Arms

Mrs. A. A. Arms

Iowa; Emma of Pomeroy; and Sadie, wife of Arthur Brown of Fonda, Iowa.

The efforts put forth by Mr. Mumm as a farmer were always stimulated by the presence of wife and a family of growing children. The children born to their union were ten in number. DeEtta is the wife of Chester Place, a farmer; Frederick is deceased; Luther is still on the home farm; Otis of Tipton, Illinois, resides on an eighty-acre farm owned by his father; Myrtle is the wife of Rudolph Kiewitt, of Tipton, Illinois; the other children, all at home, are Vera, Luella, Hazel, Cordella and Wilson.

In political matters Mr. Mumm has followed an independent course as a rule. He has served as school director and as school trustee, and in fraternal matters is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Masonic order. He and his family worship in the Methodist Episcopal Church at Sidney.

THOMAS J. EARLY. The Early family has been identified with Champaign County for over a half a century. The name is one around which many interests center. They have been industrious and capable farmers, good home makers and upright and honorable citizens in all the relations of life.

One of the younger members of the family is Mr. Thomas J. Early, who is now active manager and farmer of the old homestead in Champaign Township. He was born in Colfax Township of this county December 19, 1882, a son of John W. and Bridget (Lyman) Early. His mother was a member of the well known Lyman family of Champaign County. John W. Early, who was born in Ohio, came to Champaign County in 1861, lived for a time in the city of Champaign, and subsequently bought a farm of 160 acres in section 19 of Champaign Township. For upwards of half a century he gave diligent attention to its cultivation and improvement and he died there October 28, 1911. His wife passed away May 4, 1909. They had a large family of thirteen children, Thomas being the oldest. The others are: Mary A., at home; Margaret, wife of James Mooney, of North Dakota; Julia F., wife of Bernard Flaharty, of Bismarck, Illinois; John P., of Rankin, Illinois; William S., whose home is at Bondville in this county; Peter, of North Dakota; Catherine, who died in August, 1916; Walter, still at home; Ignatius, of Gerald, Illinois; Lucinda, a teacher at Ivesdale, this county; Arthur at home; Marcella B., attending the Longwood Academy in Chicago.

Thomas J. Early grew up on the farm where he still resides, attended the public schools, and is now renting the farm from the other heirs and is devoting it to the general crops and to the live stock industry. His father was a member of the school board in this district for twenty years. Mr. Early is affiliated with the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Catholic Knights of America, and his church affiliation is with the Holy Cross Catholic Church of Champaign.

A. A. ARMS, now living retired at Thomasboro, has truly lived the strenuous life. He has entered heartily into all the experiences that come to the farmer in a new country and after subduing his own acres and acquiring the fatness of the land he was not content to settle down into a life of studied ease, but has sought adventure and knowledge far afield. Mr. Arms is without doubt the best known hunter in Champaign County. He has the riches of trophies gained from the chase sufficient to stock a museum. He has traveled to many remote fastnesses of the wild game and knows the haunts and character of wild animals from the standpoint of the naturalist as well as the hunter.

Mr. Arms comes of pioneer stock. He is a son of Orrin and Cynthia A. (Hubbard) Arms. His grandfather Hubbard spent his early life at Sheffield, Massachusetts, and soon after Indiana was admitted to statehood, which occurred in the year 1818, he migrated to this far western country and settled at the highest point then occupied by a white resident on the Wabash River at the mouth of the Vermilion. He arrived in the spring and his nearest neighbor, excepting Indians, was a white family ten miles below who arrived in the following November. In that frontier district he began making a home, and he went three miles from his cabin to break up land for his first corn crop in what was known as Meed Prairie.

Orrin Arms was born near Montpelier, Vermont, son of Jesse Arms. Orrin Arms moved to Attica, Indiana, and his first deed to land there was dated 1828. He died June 5, 1885, on the same place where he had located in 1828. While a cabinetmaker by trade, he spent most of his active career as a farmer. Orrin Arms and wife had the following children: Mrs. Lucetta Paine, living at Wabash, Indiana; Solon H., who was born in 1833 and lived at Attica, Indiana; Azro A.; Laura A., who married John Dungan and died at Boswell, Indiana; and Ira. Cynthia Arms died at Attica, Indiana, and Orrin Arms married for his second wife Elizabeth Stephens. Their children were named Amanda, Cynthia and Charles. All these children received their preliminary advantages in one of the log cabin district schools of Indiana.

On January 18, 1856, A. A. Arms and his brother Solon arrived in Champaign County, Illinois. Mr. Arms has been a resident of Rantoul Township since April 5, 1866. The two brothers bought 320 acres, comprising the west half of section 13, township 21, range 9, in the third principal meridian. The brothers were in partnership in this land deal and their deed to the land was signed by President Franklin Pierce. The purchase price was $2.50 an acre. The same land is now worth $250 an acre, an increase fully a hundredfold. Mr. Arms lived there sixteen years.

He married Elizabeth Stockdale, a daughter of Hugh and Harriet Stockdale, the former a native of England and the latter of Castlemahone, Ireland. In the Stockdale family were the following children: Mary J., Harriet, William, Eugena, Joseph, Elizabeth, Arabella, Grace, Jessie and Mabel. Hugh Stockdale was a boot and shoe dealer. In March, 1861, he brought his family to America, lived a time in Pennsylvania and from there came to Illinois.

After their marriage Mr. A. A. Arms and wife started out to build a home and fortune for themselves. They bought land and by application of the principles of industry and economy their labors have met with pleasing success. Mr. Arms has proved a vigorous farmer and has exercised great wisdom in his investments. At the present time his holdings as a real estate man include 5,409 acres, scattered over the states of Illinois, Indiana, Arkansas and Texas, and peopled by an industrious, contented tenantry, all working harmoniously for mutual interests, and who unanimously pronounce him the prince of landlords.

Mr. Arms believes that his success in life has been due to the rigid adherence to three cardinal principles. The first is that the primary law of nature is self-preservation; the second is care of health; and the third is an admonition to take care of wealth, including home and possessions, liberty and family. Some years ago Mr. Arms removed to Thomasboro, and established himself in one of the most beautiful and commodious homes of that village.

Mr. Arms has a truly mechanical genius. In many ways he has sought to lighten the burden of farm management and farm labor. On his place he has installed an electric motor which serves to pump the water for house

and barn, shell the corn in one hopper and grind in another, runs the washing machine, and the power thus derived is in fact employed for nearly everything except milking the cows. Mr. Arms has also used concrete to advantage in many ways, including the building of walks, cement floors and large drinking troughs for his cattle. He is one of the farmers in Champaign County who have cement floors in the barns.

At his Thomasboro home Mr. Arms has almost innumerable trophies, and among other things a sportsman's cabinet which contains almost an arsenal of firearms. He has some examples of the old flintlock guns and from that the collection ranges to the most modern repeating rifles and shotguns, including the Winchester and Savage makes. Some years ago he won in a shooting match a fine double-barreled Parker Brothers Meredith gun valued at $80, and has used it frequently in his sporting expeditions. For twenty-two winters out of the past twenty-five Mr. Arms has been in Texas, Louisiana and Florida, in the remote and wild districts of those states on big hunting expeditions. One of the trophies in his home is a mounted deer head which he secured in LaSalle County, Texas. His hunting companion in Texas is J. W. Buckow and together they have killed over 200 deer. The favorite gun with which he hunts big game is a Marlin rifle. Mr. Arms is not content with the ordinary sights found on the best of guns, and he makes his own, and they are better and truer than any found on the market. A hunter of no mean reputation himself, Mr. Arms has always been an admirer of the great Americans who have been similarly famed. In his library he possesses and has read through from cover to cover the lives of such American hunters and frontiersmen as Wild Bill, Kit Carson, William Drannan, Texas Jack, California Joe, Buffalo Bill (William F. Cody) and Theodore Roosevelt.

In his hunter's museum Mr. Arms has a beautiful seven-foot diamond rattler skin. The snake was shot by his brother Ira in the latter's door-yard in Florida. Another curio is a rich brown necktie made from a brown rattler skin, with the rattlers for pins. Other specimens include an armadillo, a sawfish killed in Texas, a number of articles from the noted San Pedro Park at San Antonio, a Texas leopard cat, an ant-eater, civet cat and many other rare animals. In 1874 Mr. Arms participated in a buffalo hunt. That was only a few years before those vast herds of bison were practically exterminated from the American prairies. In that hunt he killed four buffalo and has the horns and robes in his home. There is an alligator skin from an animal seven feet long, numerous beards of wild turkey, the tusks of the wild hog known as the peccary, the tusks of wild boars, sea beans from the Gulf of Mexico, any number of Indian arrowheads and samples of Mexican onyx. There is a cane made of Texas ebony. Two of the firearms are the old-fashioned muzzle-loading rifles with which the early American hunters killed the antelope and buffalo.

Mr. and Mrs. Arms are connoisseurs of Japanese art. In their parlor stands a vase 3½ feet tall with a pictured illustration of Japan's bravest generals and their wives, and containing the history of that country dating back for 500 years. The parlor is completely furnished in costly Japanese wares. Much of it is made of the famous Anoka, richly carved with dragons, the emblems of Japan. The chairs contain carvings of dragonheads, each holding between its jaws an apple, this being a symbolic representation of the old story of the temptation of Eve. On the wall of the parlor hangs a piece of Japanese royal tapestry. Worked in the design are two large white swans, a body of water surrounded with a grove of evergreens. The tapestry is made of the finest of silk, and it is a rich and handsome piece of artistic embroidery.

Any exposition would set a high value upon such a collection of

souvenirs and trophies as is possessed and cherished by Mr. and Mrs. Arms. It requires a long examination to really understand how widely Mr. Arms has sought wild game and how well justified his fame as a Nimrod is. Mr. Arms has spent many happy vacations on Texas ranches, especially the ranch of his friend and comrade, Jim Dougherty. He has in his collection a photograph of a real Texas longhorn, once owned by Dougherty. From tip to tip these horns measured 9 feet 2 inches.

In politics Mr. Arms has been first and always a stanch supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln and has been voting the ticket regularly ever since. He has been affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for the last forty-eight years, having joined that order before he was married. Mr. and Mrs. Arms have lived in close affiliation with the best interests of Champaign County. This county they have witnessed transformed under their very eyes from a rude and little productive community into what is now one of the richest farming sections in the entire world. Mr. Arms voted for and did all he could to secure the University of Illinois for this county and has lent a similar support to every other progressive movement. His wife is an active member of the Episcopal Church at Rantoul.

Mr. Arms has long been a successful stock raiser and his herds of Holstein, Red Poll and Shorthorns have long been noted.

Mrs. Arms has enjoyed frequent trips with her husband and is a congenial comrade and completely in sympathy with his outdoor sports and recreations. She received her education in the Rantoul High School, finishing at Champaign, and prior to her marriage was a successful teacher in this county. Mrs. Arms is a cultured woman, of striking appearance, broad minded, an entertaining conversationalist and is a splendid type of the true American woman.

CHARLES F. WENDLING'S farm enterprise is identified with the southeastern part of Champaign County, in Raymond Township. His fine farm home is situated in section 10, on Rural Route No. 36 out of the town of Broadlands.

Mr. Wendling has been a man of affairs in this community for the greater part of his life. He was born in Sangamon County, Illinois, December 15, 1874, a son of John and Margaret (Monigan) Wendling. His father was a native of Alsace, France, and his mother of Ireland. The father was born in 1842, came to America in 1854, at the age of twelve, lived first in Macon County, Illinois, and later in Sangamon County, and in his early years, a young man with no capital, he did cattle feeding and farming. In 1876 he came to Champaign County, locating in Raymond Township, where he was successfully identified with the business of farming until his death in October, 1916. His wife also passed away on the old homestead in that township. They were the parents of six children, three of whom died in infancy. Annie is still at the home place and the mother of two children, named Roy and Ethel. The second in age is Charles F. The daughter Mary is also at home.

Charles F. Wendling acquired his education in the district schools of Champaign County and at the age of nineteen went to work on a farm, hiring out his labor for three years. He then rented a place of eighty acres, and subsequently one of 160 acres, and at his father's death he took charge of the 180 acres comprising the fine farm in section 10 of Raymond Township. Here he followed general farming and stock raising and his work is marked by distinctive success.

February 5, 1902, Mr. Wendling married Bertha Vaden, who was born at Sidney, Illinois, daughter of William A. and Sarah Elizabeth (Hughes)

Vaden. Her father was born in North Carolina and her mother in Virginia. The Vaden family came to Champaign County in 1865. Mrs. Wendling's father is an attorney by profession and is now living at Pensacola, Florida, at the age of eighty-one. Her mother died in December, 1901. Mrs. Wendling was the youngest in a family of three children. Her sister Laura is the widow of Isaac Palmer. Her sister Mary is the wife of Thomas Peake of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Wendling have two children: Roy Vaden, born July 7, 1910; and Mary Virginia, born March 22, 1914. In his political support Mr. Wendling is a Democrat.

LEWIS PRATHER has been a resident of Champaign County for many years. He has been one of the live and energetic business men and farmers of the community, though he was well educated for the law. Successful in business, he has not neglected the public welfare and is a man who can be depended upon for helpful support wherever the best interests of his home community are concerned.

Mr. Prather was born in Cumberland County, Illinois, April 20, 1862. His parents were James and Delilah (White) Prather, his father a native of Indiana and his mother of Illinois. The mother died in May, 1901, and the last five years of his life the father spent with his son Lewis and died March 10, 1906. He was an active farmer and developed and improved a good estate in Cumberland County. There were nine children in the family: Nettie, wife of William McGinnis, of Kansas; Lewis; Mamie and John, both deceased; Bartholomew, of Ludlow, Illinois; Josephine, deceased; Dollie, wife of Benjamin Neal, of Toledo, Illinois; Adolphus, of Champaign; and the youngest, a son, died in infancy.

Lewis Prather was educated in the district schools of Cumberland County and spent three years in Valparaiso University in Indiana. He was graduated in the law course in 1893. Instead of taking up the legal profession he taught school twelve years, three years in Cumberland County and nine years in Champaign County. In 1897 he married and soon afterwards bought the interests of the other heirs in the old homestead. Mr. Prather has under his management a farm of 177 acres in section 23 of Urbana Township. This he has profitably devoted to grain and stock farming, and he is making the place pay good dividends both on the capital invested and for labor and management.

Mr. Prather married Lula Werts, a daughter of Jesse and Mary (Schlosser) Werts, both natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Prather have two children: Dewey and Jesse, both at home. Mr. Prather is now serving as school director, has been drainage commissioner and was the only township assessor elected in his home township on the Democratic ticket since the Civil War. He and his family are attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their home receives daily mail delivery over Rural Route No. 12 out of Urbana.

BERT E. LYNCH has made his career one of fruitful endeavor amid the scenes and associations of his early childhood and youth. He is leading a very active and enterprising life as a farmer in Sidney Township, and has a well-ordered farm and good country home on Rural Route No. 57.

Mr. Lynch was born in section 14 of Sidney Township, March 17, 1870, a son of William F. and Cynthia E. (Lunger) Lynch, both of whom were natives of Indiana. His father came to Champaign County in the fall of 1862 and located his cabin home on section 14 of Sidney Township. In the course of years he converted a large section of prairie land into fertile fields, and spent his last years with ample comforts after making a generous

provision for those dependent upon his labors. He and his wife are now deceased, his death occurring September 3, 1902. They had five children: Greeley I., living in southwest Missouri; Ida M., wife of Camuel Stewart of Philo, Champaign County; Emma of Sidney; Bert E.; and Etta of Sullivan, Illinois.

Bert E. Lynch remained a factor at the homestead until he was twenty-one and in the meantime secured a substantial education from the district schools. He had become a farmer on his own account before reaching his majority and has gone steadily ahead in this vocation until he now controls the operation of 180 acres and is individual owner of 125 acres.

December 24, 1891, Mr. Lynch married Ida Belle Brown of Homer, Illinois. Three children were born to them: William Ralph, who died at the age of eighteen months; Opal J. and Arthur Dean, both at home. Mr. Lynch is a Republican, is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his family worship in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Howard Wisegarver. Profitable farming depends upon a number of essential things. First, perhaps, there must be good soil, incidentally the climate has much to do with it, and transportation facilities have to be considered, but last and by no means least, is the farmer himself. In modern days the farmer is a man not only of industry but also of a great deal of knowledge and the more experience he can call to his aid the more chance has he of being able to make every inch of his domain return him a profit. Judging by the success that has attended his agricultural efforts, Howard Wisegarver, one of Champaign Township's most respected citizens, is also one of her best farmers.

Howard Wisegarver was born August 31, 1873, in Champaign Township, Champaign County, Illinois, and is a son of William H. and Myra (Hetrick) Wisegarver. They were both born in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, and were reared, educated and married there. The father came to Illinois in 1869 and his wife came in 1872. He settled first in DeWitt County but afterward purchased 160 acres in Section 35, Champaign Township, Champaign County. Here he carried on general farming and stock-raising and this continued his home until the time of his death, May 30, 1913. He left a fine, well improved property. To his marriage with Myra Hetrick, who survives and lives with her eldest son, there were three children born, namely: Howard, Mary and William H. Mary died in infancy.

Howard Wisegarver attended the public schools in Champaign Township, thereby securing a good, solid common school education, which is an admirable foundation upon which to build in carrying on any business. He remained at home and helped his father until 1901, after which he farmed for himself on a rented tract of eighty-five acres and for three years more carried on farming operations on a still larger tract, having 100 acres to manage. In the meanwhile his attention had been called to the great opportunities offered settlers in San Luis Valley, Colorado, and becoming interested he decided to go out there and prospect a little, which resulted in his purchasing eighty acres in San Luis Valley and Conejos County, Colorado, and he spent the next four years there. Mr. Wisegarver returned then to Champaign County, his father having died in the meanwhile, and took charge of the home farm and has remained here ever since. He carries on general farming and stockraising and has the reputation of being one of the most successful agriculturists in the county.

Mr. Wisegarver was married May 1, 1901, to Miss Mary Rea, who was

born in the State of Ohio and died in Conejos County, Colorado, in February, 1908. In January, 1914, Mr. Wisegarver was married to Miss Minnie Emig, who was born in Piatt County, Illinois. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are not only attendants, but active workers and dependable contributors. In politics Mr. Wisegarver has never been unduly active and maintains an independent attitude, casting his vote according to his own excellent judgment.

HENRY J. F. EDENS. One of the younger men carrying the responsibilities of agricultural management in Raymond Township is Henry J. F. Edens, son of parents who were pioneers in this county, and he is now cultivating one of the best farms of Raymond Township.

Mr. Edens was born on the old farm in section 10 of Raymond Township, February 22, 1885. His parents, Peter and Mary (Kant) Edens, were both natives of Germany. His father on coming to America located in Champaign County, near Sidney, and from there moved to the homestead in Raymond Township. Though he began life with comparatively nothing, he prospered by his steady industry and is now owner of 400 acres of the rich and fertile acres of Champaign County. He and his wife are living retired in Urbana. They had only two children, Alvina and Henry. Alvina is the wife of Fred J. Mohr of Raymond Township.

Henry J. F. Edens grew up on his father's farm, gained his instruction in the local district schools, and from an early youth was disciplined to handle the plow and do the other work of the farm. For several years he managed his father's entire place, and then took charge of 240 acres, which he cultivates as a general farming and stock raising proposition.

On February 5, 1913, Mr. Edens married Mary A. Etter, who was born in Champaign County, daughter of Conrad and Anna (Mumm) Etter. Her parents are now living at Philo. Mr. and Mrs. Edens are members of the Lutheran Church at Philo, and their home is on Rural Route No. 36 out of Broadlands.

HERMAN H. BUHS. Urbana Township, Champaign County, offers many examples of successful farming and no one could overlook, in this connection, the many richly cultivated acres that belong to the old Buhs homestead, 160 of which are under the direct care of Herman H. Buhs, one of the township's most highly respected citizens.

Herman H. Buhs was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, August 25, 1872. His parents are John C. and Fredricka (Albright) Buhs. The father, who is now one of Champaign County's men of wealth and the owner of 480 acres of valuable land, was born in 1847, in Germany, and came to America at the age of nineteen years with his widowed mother. He has been a very industrious man wherever he has lived, and also a dependable man, so that now his advice on agricultural matters is often sought by his neighbors, who have found it sensible and worth taking. He was married in Ohio to Fredericka Albright, and they have three sons and one daughter: Frank C., Herman H., Edward E. and Anna Fredericka, who is the wife of John Krumm, and they have a daughter.

Herman H. Buhs was brought up on a farm and his knowledge of agricultural affairs is solid and practical. He obtained his education in the public schools and has always lived on the home farm, a part of which, as noted above, he is now working. He keeps well posted on all matters relating to general farming and stockraising and is numbered with the best informed and most successful agriculturists in Urbana Township. He owns some first-class agricultural machinery.

Mr. Buhs was married November 22, 1905, to Miss Sophie Wolfley,

who was a popular young lady of this neighborhood but a native of Indiana, and they have had six children, two of whom, Clarence, the second born, and Mildred, the fifth in order of birth, are deceased. The others are: Edward W., Herman H., Charles J. and Vilma Katherine. They will all have public school advantages, as their father believes in public education and at present is serving as a member of the township school board. He belongs to the German Lutheran Church, in which faith he was reared by devout parents. In his political views he is a Democrat and gives a hearty support to the candidates of that party.

JOHN C. BUHS. One of the sound, substantial men and successful general farmers and stockraisers of Champaign County is found in John C. Buhs, who is located in section 33, Urbana Township. Mr. Buhs is one of the heavy landowners of this section and his finely improved farm extends also into sections 34 and 21, all in Urbana Township.

John C. Buhs was born in the village of Baritz, in the province of Mecklenburg, Germany, September 11, 1847. His parents were Carl and Fredricka (Raforth) Buhs. His father died in Germany and the mother continued to live there until John C., her only child, was nineteen years of age. She was a wise and far-seeing woman and not only consented when he proposed seeking better opportunities in America, but agreed to accompany him. They reached the United States safely and found a home to please them in Fairfield County, Ohio. There John C. Buhs engaged in farming and continued until the spring of 1876. In the meanwhile, on September 23, 1870, Mr. Buhs was married to Fredricka Albright, and on March 10, 1876, they came to Champaign County, Illinois, and lived at Philo until the fall of 1887, Mr. Buhs all the time keeping himself employed in agricultural pursuits.

In 1893 Mr. Buhs bought 240 acres of land in Urbana Township and since then has kept adding to his possessions until he now has 480 acres, all finely cultivated and well improved. Mr. Buhs devotes this large body of land to crop raising and to stockraising, finding a ready market for all his land can be made to yield. He has always set an example of industry and his large amount of property has been acquired in the way of hard work.

Mr. and Mrs. Buhs have four children, namely: Frank C., who is his father's right hand man on the home farm; Herman H., who is a farmer in Urbana Township; Edward E., who resides at home; and Anna Fredricka, who is the wife of John Krumm, and they have a little four-year old daughter named Marie. Mr. Buhs and his family belong to the German Lutheran Church. He belongs to no political party but, nevertheless, always casts his vote, and it is for a candidate who has won his approval because of his honesty and his fearlessless in doing the will of the people. As for himself, Mr. Buhs has never accepted any public office, finding his time sufficiently occupied in looking after his own affairs. He is known all over the county and is everywhere respected.

PARK T. IRWIN. Ever since the early '70s the name of Irwin has stood for agricultural and commercial integrity and good citizenship in Champaign County, for faithful performance of duty in peace or war, and for helpful support of progressive measures. Particularly is this true in the community of Longview, a town which was laid out by James W. Irwin, father of Park T. Irwin, the latter one of the representative young business men of this place. Park T. Irwin was born at Longview, July 13, 1881. his parents being James W. and Margaret (Fisher) Irwin.

James W. Irwin was born in Ohio, and during the early '70s came to



Rufus. B. Hoy

Martha J. Hoy

Champaign County. At that time he was a veteran of the Civil War, having enlisted in his native state in the Seventeenth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, at the outbreak of hostilities, and subsequently being connected with the heavy artillery. He served three years and three months in the Union army, taking part in numerous important battles, and on one occasion being captured by the enemy but subsequently paroled, and had a fine record as a soldier. On coming to Champaign County he secured land and engaged in farming, accumulating 200 acres, on which was later laid out the present town of Longview, the founders of which were Mr. Irwin and J. W. Churchill. Mr. Irwin was a man of excellent judgment, and his foresight enabled him to choose for his location a property which would later be in a position to attract settlement and business enterprises. He is now retired from active pursuits and makes his home at Longview. He has never lost his interest in his old army comrades, and is still a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and one of the most popular comrades of his post. In Masonry he has attained a high position, having reached the thirty-second degree. Mrs. Irwin, who was a native of Pennsylvania, died in 1899, having been the mother of the following children: Corda, who is deceased; Paul F., a resident of Chicago; Blanche B., the wife of Charles H. Watts of Urbana, county superintendent of schools; Claude G., a resident of Omaha, Nebraska; Park T.; and Daisy D., the wife of George E. Bronson, a division city engineer of Chicago.

After attending the country schools of Champaign County and the public schools of Longview, Park T. Irwin spent three years at Westfield College, and at the age of twenty-one years entered upon his commercial career as proprietor of a grocery business at Westfield. He was successful in this venture, but after two years was compelled to dispose of his interests because of failing health, and for the next year traveled to various points. Returning to Longview, he embarked in the grain business, and to this enterprise has since given his attention, having built up an excellent trade at Longview and in the surrounding territory. Mr. Irwin is a young man of push and enterprise and has inherited much of his father's business acumen, while the integrity which he has shown in his business operations has gained him a name for probity in commercial circles. He is a Republican, although not active in politics, and his fraternal connection is with the Modern Woodmen of America, in which order he has numerous friends.

Mr. Irwin was married May 26, 1907, to Miss Emma White of Westfield, Illinois, and they have three children: Frances, born July 20, 1911; Margaret, born August 29, 1913; and Elizabeth, born January 15, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Irwin are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Rufus B. Hoy. A resident of Champaign County almost forty years, Rufus B. Hoy after a brief visit determined that this county should be his permanent home, and here his industry has borne fruit and his name is one that is spoken with honor and respect.

Mr. Hoy was born in Hancock County, Ohio, November 6, 1850, son of Abraham and Mary (Fellers) Hoy. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of Ohio and both their ancestors several generations back came from Germany. Abraham Hoy and wife had twelve children, six sons and six daughters, Rufus being the youngest son. These children were educated in a district school known as the Hoy School, situated on a corner of their father's farm back in Ohio.

Rufus B. Hoy when twenty-eight years of age came to Illinois for the purpose of working one summer on the farm of his brother Abraham, located east of Urbana and known as the old Cook farm. The country and its people had a special charm for the young man and he prolonged

his visit indefinitely. He worked on various farms in the county, and at the age of thirty he laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Miss Martha J. Arrington.

Mrs. Hoy, who has stood beside her husband in all his work and in the ordering of her home and the training of her children for the past thirty-five years, was born in Hancock County, Indiana, daughter of Samuel and Matilda (McDuffey) Arrington. Her parents were natives of North Carolina and were early settlers in Indiana, whither they went with their only child. Their other children were all born in Indiana. The McDuffey ancestry originated in the land of hills and heather, Scotland. The six children of the Arringtons comprised four daughters and two sons, both sons dying in infancy. Martha was the youngest daughter and the only one still living. She was educated with her sisters in the Wright district school. In 1860 the Arrington family moved to Champaign County and settled near Mayview.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoy after their marriage began farming on rented land a mile and a half south of Mayview. Possessing youth, enthusiasm, energy and ambition, they made each year count for something definite in their scheme of life and in the matter of progress, and in the course of time were able to buy out the other heirs of the Arrington estate, and while they lived there they added many improvements to that beautiful farm. They now have 340 acres in Illinois and 640 in Missouri.

Two sons and three daughters were born to their marriage, named Jesse F., Bertha M., Gertrude May, Fred and Lucy F. These children were well educated both at home and in the district school known as the Willard School. Bertha graduated from Brown's Business College at Champaign, fitted herself for work as a teacher and taught in the College Corner School and the Kirkpatrick School. She is now the wife of A. N. Duvall, and they live in Rantoul, where Mr. Duvall is a postal employe. Their one child is named Gladys Bernice. Gertrude, the second daughter, was educated in the University of Illinois at Champaign and was a teacher of public schools in Champaign County. She taught the Allen and York schools, spending two years at each place. She married Earl Swartz, and they live at Matthews, in New Madrid County, Missouri, where he is a grain dealer. Fred is a farmer on his father's place at Mayview. He married Opal Lockwood, and of their two children one died in infancy, the one still living being Marjorie. Jesse, also a farmer on one of his father's places south of Mayview, married Mary Brooks and has a daughter, Lavinia. Lucy F. graduated from the Urbana High School and took the full college course in the University of Illinois. She is a cultured and capable young woman, still at home with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoy have always been interested in every work for the upbuilding of the social and religious community in which they have lived. Early in life he accepted the doctrines and principles of the great Republican party and has found that organization most expressive of his mature convictions and experience in the regulation of political affairs. He is an ardent Mason, having joined that order back in Ohio when a young man and is a charter member of the Court of Honor.

Thirteen years ago, having seen their efforts duly rewarded, Mr. and Mrs. Hoy left their farm and came to Urbana, where he bought a pleasant and attractive residence on Elm Street. Here this worthy couple have surrounded themselves with the comforts of life and live in the enjoyment of their family and their numerous friends.

Such people as Mr. and Mrs. Hoy are counted among the builders of a county, always interested in every good work for the promotion of the good of the community socially and religiously. Converted in early life,

in 1891, they both took their place in the home church at Mayview, the Methodist Episcopal, as earnest, conscientious members, and have found their deepest source of joy in working in the interests of the Man of Galilee. The day of their conversion was a milestone in their lives and they always pleasantly refer to that time which with devout Christians is the day of all days. This decision came early in their lives, and has influenced and regulated all their subsequent actions and has proved fruitful in deeds of kindness so that the name Hoy is wreathed with pleasing memories. On moving to Urbana Mr. and Mrs. Hoy united with the Methodist Church there and have been liberal supporters of its every cause, and Mr. Hoy is now serving as a church steward.

James A. Wilson. Some of the finest and best cultivated farms of Champaign County are located in the southern townships and among these it is no disparagement of the efforts of others to mention the fine place of James A. Wilson in Raymond Township. Mr. Wilson is a practical and progressive farmer and owns and occupies a part of the land which the Wilson family have cultivated for fully half a century.

Mr. Wilson was born near Ridge Farm in Vermilion County, Illinois, April 29, 1859, but has lived in Champaign County since early childhood. His parents, William and Martha (Fulton) Wilson, were both natives of Ireland. His father on coming to America followed teaching in the schools of Ohio and a similar occupation after locating in Vermilion County, Illinois. In 1866 he came to Champaign County and began life as a farmer on section 9 of Raymond Township, where as a result of his well-timed industry he built up an estate of 240 acres. On that old farm he passed away October 18, 1874, leaving ample material possessions and an honored name to his descendants. His wife died there February 3, 1894. They had nine children: George of Long View; Maria, deceased; William of Mount Vernon, Illinois; Thomas of Raymond Township; John and Henry, twins, both deceased; Martha Jane, who died in 1883; Sarah Mary, deceased; and James A.

Nearly all the experiences of James A. Wilson, whether as a child or as a mature man, center around section 9 of Raymond Township. He grew up there and besides the district schools he attended the Champaign High School, from which he was graduated in 1883. For two terms he taught in his home township, and after his marriage he took charge of the home place. When the estate was divided he received 160 acres, and has gradually enlarged this as his farming business has grown, first buying eighty acres in section 10 and later buying another eighty acres of the homestead. Thus he has under his control a full half section, and the bountiful crops of his fields and the splendid improvements and equipment testify to his efficiency as a farmer without recourse to other descriptions.

On January 22, 1887, Mr. Wilson married Rachel Catherine Hughes of Bates County, Missouri. They had a happy married life of a little less than five years, until her death on February 3, 1892. She was the mother of three children: Harriet, who died in infancy; Frances Gertrude, wife of Richard Davis of Raymond Township; and William Walter of Hensley Township. On March 22, 1894, Mr. Wilson married for his second wife Mary Graham, a native of Hamblen County in East Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are the parents of six children: Frederick Roscoe of Edgar County, Illinois; Ruth Ellen, wife of Alfred Toppie; Grace Edith, who graduated from the Champaign High School in 1917 and is now attending the Teachers' Institute in that city; Ernest, Thomas Graham, and Blanche Olive, all at home and attending the local schools.

Mr. Wilson has done his part as a public-spirited citizen and served

two years as assessor and two years as collector. He is a Democrat, a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and with his family worships in the Methodist Episcopal Church. His fine home is on Rural Route No. 58 from Sidney.

HERMAN M. SMOOT has had a very determined and energetic business career at Homer and at the age of forty his prosperity is now assured as well as his position as a man of affairs and influence in his community.

Mr. Smoot was born on a farm in Vermilion County, Illinois, June 19, 1877. His parents were John and Sarah C. (Lewis) Smoot, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. They were brought to Illinois when children, and grew up in Vermilion County, where after their marriage they lived on a farm in Vance Township. In 1895 John Smoot moved to Homer and with Mr. J. Stingle opened a lumber business. He remained in that business until 1898, when he was succeeded by his son Herman, and he then retired. His death occurred January 4, 1917, but his widow is still living in Homer. John Smoot was a member of the Masonic Order and of the Episcopal Church. There were five children, the two oldest, both sons, dying in infancy. William S. is a carpenter by trade and lives in Kansas City, Missouri. The fourth in age is Herman M. Bertha E., the only daughter, is the wife of J. Charles Franz, of Homer.

Herman M. Smoot was eighteen years of age when the family left the farm and removed to Homer. Up to that time he had attended country schools and he then put in a fall and one winter in the high school, working out by the day during the rest of the year. The next winter he returned to high school and that term was followed by other work on the farm at monthly wages. During those two years he saved enough to enable him to take the course in Brown's Business College at Decatur. Having proved himself a young man of considerable ability and active resolution, his father then loaned him his half interest in the lumber business, and in a short time he had made good in these responsibilities and in 1904 bought out Mr. Stingle and has since bought out two other local competitors and now has practically a monopoly of the local lumber trade.

Mr. Smoot married Miss Elizabeth Shaw, who was born at Homer, daughter of Dr. Homer C. and Eliza V. (White) Shaw. Mr. and Mrs. Smoot have two children: John I., born July 3, 1900; and Catherine E., born January 22, 1903.

Mr. Smoot has done more than carry on a very successful business at Homer. He served two terms as mayor, and is now vice president of the Champaign County Highway Improvement Association, is president of the Community Improvement Association of Homer, and president of the local Chautauqua Association. He is a Republican, a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, and in Masonry is affiliated with the Lodge, Chapter and Knight Templar Commandery. He and his family worship in the Presbyterian Church.

PATRICK T. MADIGAN. In the erection of a substantial business structure in the field of insurance Patrick T. Madigan of Longview, Illinois, was able to build upon a foundation formed by a good business education, a worth-while and practical training and an inherent ambition. These have formed the real concomitants of his success, although combined with them have been the accompanying desirable factors of perseverance and natural ability. Mr. Madigan was born on a farm in Raymond Township, Cham-

paign County, Illinois, July 8, 1878, a son of John F. and Katherine (Foley) Madigan, natives of Illinois.

John F. Madigan came to Champaign County in 1874 and took up his residence on a farm on section 27, Raymond Township, where for many years he carried on successful agricultural operations, developing a good property and winning prosperity by industry and good management of his investments. He has now retired from active pursuits and is residing at Philo, where Mrs. Madigan died September 30, 1911. Mr. Madigan is one of the well known citizens of his locality who has the confidence and esteem of his fellow men, and while residing on the farm held township offices on various occasions. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Patrick T.; Dennis F., born November 21, 1879, and died May 15, 1899; and Josie, born in 1882, who is now the wife of Edward O'Neill of Philo.

Patrick T. Madigan was reared on the home farm and received his early education in the rural schools. He was prepared for a commercial career by a course at the Quincy Business College, and in 1907 left the farm and came to Longview, where he has since made his home. On his arrival here he accepted a position in the employ of the Indianapolis Grain Company, with which he has been identified to the present time. After having been at Longview several years, Mr. Madigan began to be interested in the insurance business, and subsequently devoted more and more of his attention to this line of work, until he is now one of the well known men in this field in Champaign County. He represents the Aetna, Phoenix and Hartford, all excellent old-line companies, and has built up a large business, having sold some appreciably large policies. He is accounted one of the energetic and progressive men of this thriving community and has made numerous stanch friends both in and outside of business circles.

Mr. Madigan was married January 15, 1908, to Miss Helena E. Smith, who was born in Edgar County, Illinois, and to this union there have been born two children: Paul J., born July 18, 1911; and Katherine Marie, born November 21, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Madigan are members of the Catholic Church. In politics he is a Democrat, but his connection with public affairs is only that of a good citizen who performs his civic duties well and has no desire for public preferment.

James H. Umbanhowar. It may be cited as proof of the stable character of the people of Champaign County that many of the finest farms here are owned by direct descendants of the original settlers, and the land has never been out of the family since it was secured from the government a half century or more ago. The Umbanhowar farm is a case in point. Its owner is James H. Umbanhowar, who was born on this place, situated in section 17, Homer Township, September 25, 1853.

The parents of James H. Umbanhowar were Samuel and Julia Anna (Spencer) Umbanhowar, the former of whom was born in either Virginia or Pennsylvania and the latter in Ohio. They came to Champaign County in 1840 and settled on this farm in 1852, a wild tract at that time, but favorably situated and well watered. Its choice illustrated the good judgment of Samuel Umbanhowar, which has been a characteristic of his descendants. During his subsequent nine years of life he worked hard to clear and improve his land but he died April 15, 1861, hence much of the laborious work fell to his sons. He was survived by his wife until August 20, 1876. They were the parents of eight children, as follows: a son who died in infancy; Margaret Anna and Mary, both of whom are deceased; Matthew, who is deceased; Samuel, who is a resident of Hoopston, Illinois; Elizabeth, who is the wife of Z. T. Moran, of Hartford, Nebraska; James H.; and Abigail, who is deceased.

James H. Umbanhowar attended the district schools in boyhood when he had the chance, but the early death of his father made it necessary for him to assume responsibilities while still young, and as soon as possible he took over the management of the farm and continued to operate it for his mother until her death in 1876. He continued to work the farm and his sister Mary kept house for him until her death in 1883. Mr. Umbanhowar received twenty-four acres as his part of the estate. He now owns 172 acres of finely improved land, it being the fruits of years of toil and self denial, combined with good judgment. The time has come when he can rest and for some years he has been retired, his second son being a capable and practical farmer and carrying on all the farm industries very profitably.

Mr. Umbanhowar was married February 16, 1888, to Miss Elizabeth Hall, who is a daughter of Edward and Sarah (Yeazell) Hall, and they have four children, three sons and one daughter: Charles E., a railroad man with the Big Four, lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; Fred S., who rents and operates the home farm; Audry O., who is a member of Battery F, Tenth Artillery, United States Army, now stationed at Douglas, Arizona; and Julia Anna, who is with her parents. Mr. Umbanhowar and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a sound Republican, believing firmly in the principles upon which this organization was founded. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, attending lodge at Homer, and for many years has belonged to the Masonic fraternity.

John E. Raymond, one of the best known and most active figures in the general farming and live stock industry of southern Champaign County, is a grandson of the man for whom Raymond Township was named.

This grandfather was Nathaniel Raymond. a native of Milford, New Hampshire. He came to Champaign County in pioneer times, became a large land owner, and after taking the lead in having a separate township set off from the original Sidney was elected the first supervisor of Raymond Township. Nathaniel Raymond married Melissa Stuart, a native of New York State, and both of them died in Champaign County and they had five children: Josephine, widow of W. S. Maxwell of Bayside, Long Island; Sarah, widow of J. B. Green of Sioux City, Iowa, both Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Green having been pioneer merchants of Champaign; John, who lives in Girard, Kansas; Isaac S.; and Jane, who died in 1884.

Isaac Stuart Raymond, father of John E., was born in Ohio and came to Champaign County with his parents in 1866. He graduated from the University of Illinois in the class of 1872 as a civil engineer. He was offered a position with the Illinois Central Railway Company, but as his father owned a large amount of land his son accepted his advice to stay at home and he became a practical farmer. For two years after his marriage he taught school, and then began farming and finally accumulated over 600 acres. In 1884 he bought the old homestead from the rest of the heirs and this one place has been in the possession of the Raymond family over half a century. Isaac S. Raymond was one of the notable men of Champaign County. For twenty years he was on the board of supervisors, was school trustee of Raymond Township from 1873 until his death, and in 1892 was elected a trustee of the University of Illinois and served six years. He was also president of the Farmers' County Institute for fifteen years and took a lead in every progressive movement in matters of agriculture or civic improvement. The death of this prominent Champaign County citizen occurred July 19, 1915. He married Edith Eaton, a native of New Jersey, on October 17, 1875, and she is still living in Raymond Town-

ship. Isaac S. Raymond was a Mason. He and his wife had two children, John E. and Ruth Cleveland, the latter the wife of W. E. Haseltine of Berkeley, California.

John E. Raymond was born at the old homestead in Raymond Township in section 8 on November 19, 1876. Most of his life has been spent in that community, and he grew up to the well ordered industry of his father's farm. In 1899 he completed the agricultural course in the University of Illinois, and in 1900 he went abroad with Henry Dunlap and assisted in arranging and maintaining the Illinois fruit display at the Paris Exposition. The following year he took up farming in connection with his father, and has since devoted his efforts to the development of an extensive grain and stock farm.

September 3, 1909, he married Grace M. Lane, a native of Hamilton County, Illinois. Mr. Raymond is a Democrat, is a school trustee, a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and is an able and energetic worker for anything that concerns the welfare of his community.

W. H. Woodin, now living in the village of St. Joseph, has had a very active and useful career in Champaign County as a farmer, contractor, business man and public spirited citizen.

He was born at Catlin, Illinois, a son of Moses and Caroline (Walcott) Woodin. His father was born in New York and his mother in Indiana, and they were among the pioneers of Champaign County, coming from Indiana and locating east of St. Joseph, spending several years at Burr Oak Grove. Moses Woodin developed a large business as a farmer. With his three sons he carried on an extensive estate. At one time he farmed the land where the village of St. Joseph now stands. The last time the site of that village was a scene of waving grain the fields were cultivated by the Woodin family. His son Ira drove a team helping grade the railroad through St. Joseph. Ira is now a prominent farmer in Southern Missouri. When the Woodin family came here most of the country was wild, and deer ran over the prairies in large droves. The hunters chased them with hounds, and furnished a sport which the little boys greatly enjoyed watching. The family of Moses Woodin consisted of six children, three sons and three daughters.

W. H. Woodin grew up in this county, received his education in the local schools, and at the age of thirty-four married Sarah J. Sperry. She was born north of Urbana, daughter of Elias and Serena Sperry. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Woodin located in St. Joseph Township and for several years he was engaged in farming. About that time the problem of drainage became acute and the efforts of individuals and communities were concentrated upon its solution. Large sums of money were invested in digging ditches, and Mr. Woodin and others took up ditch contracting. He kept several teams and hired men and built some of the largest ditches in the county. He also did contract work when the Interurban Railway was constructed through St. Joseph.

Always a very busy man, Mr. Woodin has at the same time possessed that public spirit which causes him to sacrifice some of his private interests in order that he may serve the public. He was elected to the office of constable and served sixteen years. He was many times called upon to perform his official duties in St. Joseph, Stanton and Ogden townships and had some trying experiences. He was oftentimes called upon to hunt down hardened criminals and arrest them. The most unpleasant task he ever had to perform was when a warrant was placed in his hands to arrest a woman. Mr. Woodin confesses that he would rather arrest five men than one woman. A woman invariably breaks down and cries,

and he would rather confront physical violence than tears. At the present time Mr. Woodin is serving as assessor of St. Joseph Township. Three children were born to him and his wife, one son and two daughters, Lester, Isa and Maud. They were educated in the public schools of St. Joseph Township. Maud obtained a first grade teacher's certificate and did some very successful work in the schools of Champaign County, teaching in the Argo, South Mayview and Tipton schools. She was much beloved personally and for the sake of her work. It is an old saying that death loves a shining mark, and this girl proved the truth of the rule when she was taken away at the age of twenty-two. She was an honored and active member of the Christian Church at St. Joseph. Everything was done by her parents to effect her recovery, but with no avail.

Before her death the Woodin family had been visited by the death angel, when Mrs. Woodin entered into rest. She was a loving wife and mother and a kind neighbor, and many grateful memories wreath her name.

Since the death of his wife Mr. Woodin has continued to live at the old home with his children and since his daughter's death Isa has been his housekeeper. The Woodin family are attendants at the Christian Church, and Miss Isa is one of its active members.

Fraternally Mr. Woodin is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge and the only charter member of that order living in the village of St. Joseph. He is also a member of the Woodmen Order. In matters of politics he is a stanch Republican, having cast his first vote for that party and has never experienced a change of heart nor has he found a solid reason why he should deviate from the support of an organization which has done so much to maintain the integrity of this country.

John Carl Wegeng has the good fortune to call Champaign County his home from birth to the present time, and his life's activities have been chiefly expressed through the business of farming, in which he has made a notable success. Mr. Wegeng's home is in Raymond Township, near the village of Bongard.

Mr. Wegeng was born in Raymond Township, July 25, 1868, a son of John and Margaret Wegeng. His parents were both natives of Germany and they came to America a few weeks before their son John C. was born. They located in Raymond Township, where the father became a prosperous farmer and at the time of his death, on December 22, 1898, owned a half section, or 320 acres of land. He also served as school director and was a man of importance in the community in many ways. His widow is still living at Villa Grove, Illinois. They had the following children: Bertha, wife of Pat Mooney of Crittenden Township of this county; Phoebe, wife of John Beatty of Raymond Township; John C.; Francis of Villa Grove; Simon, who lives on the old homestead; Philip of Champaign; Emma, wife of Henry Mooney of Champaign; Annie, deceased; Martha, wife of Roy Sheppard of Pesotum; and Katherine, a resident of Villa Grove. The father by a previous marriage to a Miss Richter had two sons, Otto, deceased, and August, a resident of southern Missouri.

John C. Wegeng grew up on his father's farm in Champaign County and was educated in the district schools. At the age of twenty-one he began working as a farm hand, continuing for two years, and his father then bought a tract of 160 acres in section 18 of Raymond Township. Mr. Wegeng did his part in developing this land for about three years and then rented a portion of the homestead for five years. At the age of twenty-nine Mr. Wegeng married, and at his father's death he bought eighty acres of the old homestead, later another eighty acres, and the last addition to



RESIDENCE OF GEORGE N. LEAS



WILLIAM C. LEAS



MARGARET LEAS



GEORGE N. LEAS AND FAMILY

his landed property came when Eli Chapman willed him eighty acres. All of this has been highly developed and improved and under Mr. Wegeng's capable direction it is one of the most productive farms in the southern part of Champaign County.

June 4, 1896, he married Margaret Fitzgerald. They are the parents of a fine family of eight children: John T., Pearl M., Russell Leo, James Francis, Rex Joseph, Mary Dorothy, Frances June, and Ruth Marcella. These children have received excellent advantages both at home and in the local schools. Mr. Wegeng has proved himself a friend of education and has served as school director. He is a Democrat in politics and a member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Crittenden Township. His home farm is on Rural Route No. 64 out of Longview.

George M. Porter, a veteran of the Philippine War, has had a very strenuous and active career, but is now quietly engaged in the business of farming and stock raising near Homer, where he was born November 29, 1881. Mr. Porter represents some old settlers in this section of Illinois. His parents were Charles D. and Effie M. (Custer) Porter. His father was born in Ireland and was brought to America when a child, the family locating in Pennsylvania. The grandfather, Thomas Porter, finally brought his family to Homer, Illinois, and was the first cobbler in that town. Charles D. Porter became a railroad man and was killed at Springfield in 1902. He was switching cars when he slipped and went under a moving train to his death. Mr. Porter's maternal grandfather, Martin B. Custer, walked all the way from Buffalo, West Virginia, to Homer, and for several years clerked for M. D. Coffeen in the latter's store. He also became a commission buyer of live stock for Mr. Coffeen and in that way got his start in life. He became a wealthy man and owned eight hundred and sixty acres in Vermilion County besides lots in Chicago Heights and Danville. Through his daughter, Mrs. Porter, all this property eventually descended to his grandson, George M. Porter. Mrs. Effie Porter died at Tampa, Florida, in 1907.

George M. Porter, the only child of his parents, spent his early life on a farm, and secured his education in the common schools. He was seventeen years of age when the war with Spain broke out and he then joined Troop G of the Fourth United States Cavalry. He was all through the Philippine War, and was in active service for four years. After his marriage he returned home and for seven years was a railroad man with the Chicago and Alton. Since then he has had active management of the extensive farm interests he owns in the vicinity of Homer and makes a specialty of feeding cattle and of handling thoroughbred Hampshire hogs.

On May 30, 1902, Mr. Porter married Fannie B. DeFrates, of French parentage. They have one son, Charles George, born August 3, 1903, and they also have two daughters, Hilda and Dorothy E. Mr. Porter is one of the best known citizens of Homer. He is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of various other Masonic bodies, belongs to the Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Homer and in politics is a Republican.

George N. Leas. No name can be recalled more profitably for the instruction and enlightenment of future generations in Champaign County than that of the Leas family. One of its representatives is Mr. George N. Leas, a prosperous land owner, farmer and business man at St. Joseph.

Mr. Leas is a native of Champaign County, having been born in Stanton Township, April 10, 1869, son of William C. and Margaret (Argo) Leas.

His paternal ancestors were from Indiana, while the Argos came from Ohio. The Leas family located in Champaign County in early days. William C. Leas was a gallant soldier of the Civil War. He served his country three years, marching and battling for the cause of the Union, and did not return from the front until the flag was waving in triumph over all the states. After the war he settled down and reared a family of honorable children, educating and training them for the responsible duties of life. He was wounded in the battle of Chattanooga, and just forty years to the day from that event he attended the reunion of Wilder's brigade on the battlefield of Chattanooga, being accompanied by his son George N. and wife.

George N. Leas was one of three children, the other two being daughters. Mr. Leas married Martha Bowers, member of another notable family in Champaign County. She was born in Indiana, November 28, 1870, a daughter of A. J. and Ruth (Raper) Bowers, also natives of Indiana. Mrs. Leas was educated in the Bowers district school in Champaign County.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Leas farmed for one year eighty acres of land belonging to his father in Stanton Township. His father was so much pleased with the manner in which his son did the farm work that at the end of the year he placed a deed for the eighty acres in George's Christmas stocking, and at the same time gave a similar deed to his daughter, Mrs. Christie. Later he gave another eighty acres to the other daughter, Mrs. Leigh. William C. Leas was always impartial and treated all his children alike.

For five years Mr. and Mrs. Leas occupied the eighty-acre farm in Stanton Township. About that time Mrs. Leas' father, A. J. Bowers, desired to sell his place and expressed a wish that some of his family should be its owner. Therefore Mr. Leas with his father, William, bought the Bowers estate, where Mrs. Leas had spent her girlhood. Thus the place is endeared to her by many associations.

A. J. Bowers was a minister of the Dunkard or the Brethren Church. He ministered to the organization at Urbana and also the congregation in the Swearingen schoolhouse four miles southeast of St. Joseph. He was a faithful minister for seventeen years, and during all kinds of weather he never failed to be on hand to hold services. It is the rule of the church of the Brethren that ministers shall serve without financial recompense, and this adds to the merit of Mr. Bowers' splendid fidelity and work. He was a splendid citizen, widely informed in secular as well as biblical knowledge, and his life was one of Christian action. His widow remained at the old homestead with the family of her daughter, Mrs. Leas, until September 24, 1917, when she entered into rest, her husband preceding her to the realm of the dead five years previous. The land of this estate was first acquired from the Government by Benjamin F. Argo, and he sold 120 acres to Mr. A. J. Bowers in 1872. At that time the land had very few improvements. Mr. Bowers owned the property for thirty years, and during that time he beautified the place with commodious buildings, set out fruit trees and shade trees, including a fine grove of evergreens in front of the house and lined the driveway with maples and pines. Thus, as a result of his labors, it was converted into one of the conspicuous country seats of St. Joseph Township. Mr. Bowers took special pride in his fruits, and at one time had seven varieties of yellow peaches growing in his orchard. He practiced agriculture with the faith of the true Christian, believing that where he sowed there also should he reap, and he had many evidences that his diligence and faithfulness were liberally rewarded. He also took pride in his home, and it was one of his greatest pleasures that his daughter's family finally took charge of the

management of the estate where he had worked so long and faithfully. The Bowers property comprised 200 acres originally.

Since he took active charge Mr. Leas has done much to increase the value and attractiveness of the farm, and all is now in a shining state of improvement and cultivation. Mr. Leas is one of the leading stock farmers of Champaign County, has a number of full blooded Percheron horses, Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs.

Mr. and Mrs. Leas have two sons, George William and Arthur Bowers, aged respectively seventeen and twelve years. The Bowers district school furnished them their early advantages and George is now a student in the St. Joseph High School.

Mr. Leas and wife spent seven years in western Canada, in what is now the Province of Alberta. They made this change for the benefit of the health of Mrs. Leas. Mr. Leas now owns 960 acres of the land of western Canadian prairies and is very enthusiastic about the country, and is certain that it is now the greatest land of opportunity in the western hemisphere. While in western Canada they saw much of the scenery of the Canadian Rockies and also visited Portland, Oregon.

Mr. and Mrs. Leas are members of the Christian church, the Prairie Hope Church, a splendid little chapel which was built from lumber taken off Grandfather Leas' estate in Indiana and was hauled by his sons to the site of the present building. Grandfather Leas was a charter member of the church, and thus that place of worship has many happy associations for the family.

In politics Mr. Leas is an active Republican, is identified with the Masonic order, and has been a stanch friend of education and schools, having served as director of the local school. Thus the lives of the Bowers and Leas families have been in many ways identified with the best life of Champaign County.

In conclusion a word should be said concerning the life and character of Mrs. Margaret (Argo) Leas and her husband, William Leas, the parents of George N. They possessed many admirable traits of character, but especially were noted for their generous hospitality and kindness to the poor and needy. After her death it was well said that no one could ever take her place in the community. Whenever a needy family moved into the neighborhood this worthy mother, with her heart filled with love, was the first to be there, a ministering angel of mercy, and many a heart and home were gladdened by her presence. They were constant in Christian practice and charity, relieving distress, lightening burdens, enkindling hope, and no one ever called upon them in vain. It seemed to be Mrs. Leas' special mission to help the poor and unfortunate in the bearing of their burdens, and like the woman of old it will be written of her in letters of imperishable gold, "She had done what she could." Father Leas was a devoted member of his church and one of his rules of life was that when he had Sunday visitors they were invited to attend religious service with him or remain at home until his return, recognizing thus his Christian obligation to his church and its importance.

JERRY GORMAN. One of the most widely known men of Champaign County is Jerry Gorman. Mr. Gorman has had an unusual career of achievement. He is a hard working and thrifty Irishman, never had any special advantages when a boy, and has relied on honest toil and judgment born of experience to place him in the front rank of farmers and land owners.

He was born in Ireland, came to America when a young boy, grew up on farms in Grundy County, Illinois, where he worked out as a hired

laborer, and in 1875 he came to Champaign County. At that time he located on section 7 of Raymond Township, and began as a modest but substantial farmer. His success has been growing year by year, and out of the proceeds of his work as a general farmer and stock raiser he has increased his holdings to 1,200 acres and has some of the best improvements found on any individual tract of land in the southern part of Champaign County. Mr. Gorman is a vigorous Democrat, and he and his family worship as members of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church of Crittenden Township.

He married Mary Fitzgerald, a native of Champaign County, and sixteen children were born to their union. Fourteen of these are still living, named as follows: John, on the home place; Maggie, wife of Terrence Williams of Danville; Mary, wife of Mathew Reynolds of Springfield; Catherine, wife of M. Lowry of Crittenden Township; while the other children, all at home, are named Fannie, Annie, Josephine, Hester, Ruth, Gertrude, James, Jeremiah, Lawrence, and Martin. Truly, this is one of the notable families of Champaign County.

David B. White. For sixty-three years one of the fine farms of Homer Township, Champaign County, has stood in the name of White, which is an old and respected name in this section, where it has always meant good citizenship, sterling integrity and those personal qualities which engender friendly feeling in a neighborhood. The present owners of the old White homestead are heirs of Henry Clay White by his first and second marriages. David B. White was born here November 19, 1871. His parents were Henry Clay and Elizabeth (Stayton) (Sweringen) White.

Henry Clay White was born in Ohio. He was reared on a farm and was accustomed early to the handling of cattle and he often in later years told of a journey he made in early manhood to New York City in company with others, when they drove a bunch of beef cattle to the metropolis. He never complained of the hardships of the trip although he traveled on foot the whole distance there and back. Such an enterprising young man was just such a pioneer as was needed in Illinois and when he came from Ohio he brought his household possessions with him with a team of oxen. They proved very useful in breaking up the tough prairie sod when he settled on his tract of 160 acres on section 20, Homer Township, in Champaign County. He was a man of great enterprise and gave encouragement to many of the early business ventures in this section, especially the building of mills. Later in life he lent his influence to progressive movements in township and county and was a friend of the County Fair Association. Being better educated than many of the early settlers, his advice was frequently sought, and for sixteen years he served as township commissioner. His death occurred April 16, 1913.

Henry Clay White was thrice married. His first wife was Emily Laborn, and they had four children, namely: Abraham L., who lives in the city of Indianapolis; Charles F., who lives at Danville, Illinois; and two daughters who died in infancy, the death of the mother following. Mr. White's second marriage was to Mrs. Elizabeth (Stayton) Sweringen, a widow whose husband had been killed in the Civil War. She had one son, Henry Sweringen, who is now deceased. She was born in Illinois and died in this state. There were children born to the second marriage as follows: John C., who lives at Homer, Illinois; David B.; Sadie E., who is the wife of Marley Davidson, of Defiance, Ohio; Frank B., who lives at Danville, Illinois; James S., who is deceased; and Elizabeth E., who is also deceased. To the third marriage of Henry Clay White, with Caroline Upp, no children were born.

David B. White had educational advantages in the public schools. He has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits and has been farming for himself since 1893. He entertains modern ideas concerning his business and believes in the keeping of good stock and caring for them as valuable property, and the use of first class farm machinery. His is one of the best improved farms in the township.

Mr. White was married on March 21, 1895, to Miss Minnie Clutter, who was born in Vermilion County, and is a daughter of Abraham and Matilda (Carrol) Clutter, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania and both died in Vermilion County, Illinois. Mrs. White was the youngest born in their family of five children, the others being: Samuel, who is a resident of Homer; John, who makes his home in Pennsylvania; William, who lives in Vermilion County; and Alice, who is the wife of Wayne Smith, of Danville, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. White have two sons: Glenn C., who was born May 6, 1898; and D. Gordon, who was born June 8, 1908. Mr. White and family belong to the Presbyterian Church. In politics he is a Republican and for twenty years has served as a school director, and it may not be out of place to mention that Homer Township is proud of its reputation for its excellent schools. Mr. White is a Mason and also an Odd Fellow.

Benjamin C. Paine. Among the substantial citizens and large property owners of Champaign County, one who has contributed to his community's welfare and prestige by his splendid citizenship no less than by the honorable success which he has gained in a material way, is Benjamin C. Paine. Belonging to a family that has been well known in the county for more than sixty years, Mr. Paine has maintained the high reputation borne by the family name and in offices of public trust and responsibility has vindicated the faith and confidence placed in his ability and integrity.

Mr. Paine was born near Sidney, Champaign County, Illinois, May 12, 1867, a son of Andrew J. and Elizabeth (Shackelford) Paine. His father, born August 19, 1832, in Worcester County, Massachusetts, was twenty-three years of age when he came to Champaign County, Illinois, settling in Philo Township, where he resided for two years. He next purchased eighty acres of land near Sidney, but in 1868 removed to Raymond Township, where he bought a like tract, and this he had increased to 180 acres by the time of his death, September 15, 1903. Mr. Paine was a Democrat in politics and one of the influential men of his community, serving as town clerk for fifteen years and as justice of the peace from 1872 until his death. He was a man of upright character, upon whose judgment his associates depended in matters of business and civic importance, and who took the initiative in movements for the general public welfare. With Mrs. Paine he attended the Christian Church. Mr. Paine was married April 26, 1861, to Elizabeth Shackelford, who was born in Kentucky, came in young womanhood to Illinois with her parents, and died June 2, 1898. They were the parents of three children: Sarah and Leanah J., who are deceased; and Benjamin C.

Benjamin C. Paine was given good educational advantages in his youth, first attending the district schools of Champaign County, later the high school at Sidney, and finally Eureka (Illinois) College, where he was a student for one year. He then returned to the home farm, where he assisted his father until his marriage, when he rented 160 acres of land and worked this for about fifteen years. Removing then to Fairland, he became cashier of the Farmers Bank, a position which he held for two years, and then returned to the farm, where he resumed his general farming and stock raising operations. He is now the owner of 400 acres of land, a part of

this being in Douglas County, and he makes his home at Longview, from whence he superintends the work on his property. In business circles Mr. Paine has an excellent standing and his integrity in civic affairs has been no less pronounced. He has served as supervisor, town clerk, assessor and collector, and in each position has unselfishly devoted himself to a conscientious discharge of his duties, applying his best energies in a proper administration of affairs for the benefit of his community. He is fraternally affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Fairland Camp No. 791; Longview Camp No. 2852, Modern Woodmen of America; and Fairland Lodge No. 327, Court of Honor. He supports the Christian Church in its various movements, and is a Republican in his political views.

On October 17, 1889, Mr. Paine married Miss Emma M. Rees, born in Iroquois County, Illinois, daughter of Robert and Harriet (Gibson) Rees, natives of Indiana, who came to Broadlands, Illinois, in 1885. There Mr. Rees died March 9, 1914, and Mrs. Rees in March, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Rees had twelve children, those living being: Louis of Broadlands; Thomas B.; Mary, the widow of Gilford Sims of Chicago; Julia, the wife of J. J. Douthitt of Broadlands; Emma M., now Mrs. Paine; Elizabeth, the wife of G. C. Vance of Longview; and Addie, the wife of Charles Levie of Iroquois County. Mr. and Mrs. Paine have three children: Ada Emma, born May 30, 1905; Eva Julia, born April 22, 1906; and Andrew J., born September 8, 1907.

Peter H. Mulligan, present postmaster of Tolono, has been so long identified with the citizenship and farming activities of southern Champaign County as to require no special introduction.

Mr. Mulligan was born at Tolono July 4, 1865. His parents, Peter and Margaret (Lynch) Mulligan, were both natives of Ireland. The father came to this country when a young man, lived in New York about three years, spent another two years in Indiana and then joined the early settlers of Champaign County, establishing his home on a farm near Tolono. There he followed his vocation as a farmer until his death in 1895. His wife had passed away January 4, 1895. They had seven children: Margaret, of Tolono; William, of Tolono; Thomas, of Champaign; Peter H.; Ellen, who died in infancy; Lewis, of Tolono; and Daniel, deceased.

Peter H. Mulligan grew up on his father's farm in Champaign County. He learned the lessons as taught in the district schools and was at home helping his father in the fields until the age of twenty-three. He and his brother Lewis then rented 160 acres of land for a couple of years, after which he bought the farm he still owns in Tolono Township. Mr. Mulligan has lived in the village of Tolono since 1912, and in 1913 received appointment as postmaster and has given all his time to the capable administration of that office.

In April, 1903, he married Elizabeth Sandwell, a native of Philo Township. Their only child died in infancy. Mr. Mulligan is an active Democrat and he and his wife are members of the Catholic Church.

E. Clarence Churchill. With the exception of a short period spent at St. Louis, E. Clarence Churchill has passed his entire career in Champaign County, where he is now known as a representative of the class of men who have added impetus and encouragement to business, financial and agricultural development. Mr. Churchill entered the Longview Bank in the fall of 1906, and has steadily risen in prestige and position until at this time he is occupying the office of vice president of this institution, to the success of which his abilities and energies have greatly contributed.

E. Clarence Churchill was born on the family farm in Raymond Township, Champaign County, Illinois, January 23, 1882, a son of John W. and Alice I. (Martinie) Churchill, the former a native of Cortland County, New York, and the latter of Kentucky. His father was still a youth when he came to Champaign County in 1857, and when the Civil War came on enlisted as a private in Company G, Seventy-sixth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Ingersoll. His service began in 1862 and continued until he received his honorable discharge, July 22, 1865, at Galveston, Texas, and between these dates he had seen some hard fighting and some exciting experiences as a soldier. Among the engagements in which he participated were the siege of Vicksburg, the engagements at and around Jackson, Mississippi, the sanguinary fighting at Fort Blakeley, and the battles at Mobile, and while he was with the Federal forces in Georgia, was captured by the enemy and held a prisoner for six months. After his military service was completed Mr. Churchill returned to Champaign County, where he continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits for a number of years, but finally turned his attention to mercantile affairs and rounded out a long, successful and honorable career at Longview, where his death occurred in 1910. He was one of this community's citizens who was not selfish in his aspirations, giving his support always to enterprises and institutions which assisted the community in it commercial, moral and civic growth. That he was successful in a material way is shown by the fact that before his death he had accumulated about 900 acres of land, in addition to having other holdings and interests. Mr. Churchill and his wife, who is also now deceased, had three children: Mary C., who is the wife of Horace B. Stevens, of Homer, New York; Charles F. and E. Clarence.

After attending the public schools of Longview, E. Clarence Churchill pursued a three-year course at the Westfield (Illinois) College, and with this preparation accepted a position with the American Radiator Company of St. Louis, Missouri. His connection with this concern extended only over a short period, however, for he was offered and accepted an engagement with the Longview Bank in the fall of 1906, and, as before noted, has advanced steadily with this banking house, of which he is now vice president. In addition, in partnership with his brother, Charles F. Churchill, he is engaged in superintending the operations of 680 acres of Champaign County farming land, some of which was purchased by his father at $6 per acre and more of which cost him $200 and $212 per acre for its purchase. In banking, business and financial circles, he has established and retained a reputation for sound judgment, reliability and acumen, and the confidence in which he is held by his fellow citizens was recently evidenced by his election to the office of village treasurer, to the duties of which post he is giving his abilities at the present time. Mr. Churchill is a Republican.

On June 7, 1909, Mr. Churchill was married to Miss Myrtle Goble, who was born in Clark County, Illinois, and they are the parents of two children: Winston Goble, born June 23, 1912; and Asenath Irene, born March 6, 1914.

Albert R. Cooper, postmaster of Pesotum, has spent most of his life in this county as a practical farmer and also as a teacher, and is one of the dignified and influential leaders in his community.

Mr. Cooper was born in Pesotum Township October 7, 1870, a son of John A. and Mary L. (Prose) Cooper. His mother was born in Ohio. The father, a native of West Virginia, first went west to the State of Missouri and from there came to Champaign County in 1863. Locating

on a farm in Pesotum Township, he went through the trials and adversities of the pioneers and finally accumulated an estate which enabled him to retire and enjoy life in comfort. The mother died in April, 1880. They had seven children: Minnie, wife of Frank Dowler, of Hindsboro, Illinois; Myra, who died in childhood; Albert R.; Laura, wife of Albert Tjossem, of Ellensburg, Washington; Curtis, of Decatur, Illinois; Chester, who died at the age of twenty-one; and Lucy, who died in infancy.

Albert R. Cooper grew up on his father's farm in this county, attended the district schools, and in 1891 finished the course of the Tolono High School. For one year he was a student in the University of Illinois. Mr. Cooper did a splendid work as a teacher, his experience including two terms in Champaign County and four terms in Douglas County, Illinois. After giving up the work of the schoolroom he spent two years on a farm owned by his father in Douglas County, and then returned to the old homestead in Champaign County in 1900 and was a practical farmer on its acres until the fall of 1911.

Mr. Cooper took the civil service examination of the Federal Government and on September 8, 1910, was appointed postmaster of Pesotum under the Taft administration. Under the civil service rules he remains in the office and is giving an administration satisfactory to all the patrons. While living on the farm he was twice elected assessor of Pesotum Township, and has also served as director of the local schools.

June 29, 1898, Mr. Cooper married Miss Nettie Knapp. She was born at Arcola, Illinois. Their family consists of seven children, all living and all in the family circle. Their names are Eva Lena, Hattie Leah, John Maurice, Albert Ralph, Selma Edith, Paul Rex and Guy Anton.

Mr. Cooper is a Republican in politics. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, and with his family worships in the United Brethren Church.

Charles Frank Van Vleck. It is not so very many years ago since the first American automobile attracted interest and curious comment as it rather cautiously sped up and down the highways of town and country, and few people had sufficient confidence in the new machine to predict that the time would come when it would practically supplant all other ordinary means of transportation. Its development has been so rapid and substantial that business men in all lines, all over the country, soon found themselves becoming first interested and later concerned with the automobile industry in some way. One of the necessary adjuncts is the public garage, and many men of solid business experience have found that they have made no mistake in investing in enterprises of this kind. One who is doing a fine business at Philo is Charles Frank Van Vleck.

Charles F. Van Vleck was born at Philo, Illinois, August 10, 1870. His parents were Charles H. and Jennie M. (Palmer) Van Vleck, the former of whom was born in the state of New York and the latter at Joliet, Illinois. They came to Philo in 1868 and the father embarked in a grain business at this point, in which he continued to be interested for many years. His death occurred at Philo February 8, 1916, his reputation as an upright business man never having been impaired. The mother died at Philo in October, 1872, when their only child was but two years old. He was educated in the public schools and remained with his father and when twenty-one years of age went into the grain business with him and continued to handle grain in this section for the next fourteen years. After Mr. Van Vleck sold his grain interests he went into the contracting and building business and erected a number of buildings in this vicinity before he went into the automobile business, in which he is greatly pros-



JAMES C. MCCASKRIN
RANTOUL, ILLINOIS



MRS. MARGARET MCCASKRIN



HARRY M. MCCASKRIN AND WIFE
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS



GEORGE W. MCCASKRIN



J. D. STAYTON AND FAMILY
RANTOUL, ILLINOIS

pering. He built a commodious garage with dimensions 59x74 feet and makes a specialty of handling the Overland cars.

Mr. Van Vleck was married March 4, 1891, to Miss Anna E. Hoover, and they have had three children, namely: Vere, who died at the age of six months; Mary, who is the wife of John Mooney, of Indianapolis, Indiana; and Lorraine, who lives with her parents and assists her mother in dispensing hospitality in their pleasant home.

In politics Mr. Van Vleck is a sound Republican and on numerous occasions he has been elected by his party to important public office, at present serving as township supervisor and with the utmost efficiency. Fraternally he is an Odd Fellow and a Thirty-second degree Mason.

James P. McPherren, present postmaster of Homer, and a native of this section of Illinois, has been a successful business man for many years and has exemplified the energetic qualities of the real business builder.

Mr. McPherren was born in Ford County, Illinois, July 22, 1871, but has spent practically all his life in Champaign County. His parents were Thomas J. and Amanda J. (Roberts) McPherren. They were born in Indiana and came to Illinois in 1857, locating on a farm in Champaign County. His father died at Homer November 16, 1891, and the mother is now living with her son James. There were ten children in the family: Maria, widow of Dan Miller, living in Indiana; Rachel, deceased; Alice, wife of Nels Christison, of Nebraska; Josephine, wife of J. C. Flanding, of Indiana; Thomas, of Mount Vernon, Illinois; James P.; Robert, of Denison, Texas; Cyrus, living in this state; Mary, whose home is at Homer; and Nellie, wife of L. N. Hall, of Champaign.

James P. McPherren grew up on his father's farm, receiving a common school education, and stayed with his parents and helped manage the farm until 1896. He then took up the contracting business, and for three years was a manufacturer of brick and tile at Homer. Following that for eight years he was a concrete contractor, and then during President Wilson's first term was appointed postmaster of Homer and has looked after the administration of the local postoffice to the satisfaction of all his constituents. Mr. McPherren is a Democrat, a member of the Masonic order and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. He married Miss Nellie Trimble, a native of Champaign County.

J. C. McCaskrin. Of the families that have contributed much to the life and substance of Champaign County during passing years that of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. McCaskrin of Rantoul stand conspicuous.

They came as young married people to Champaign County more than forty-five years ago. J. C. McCaskrin was a son of Harrison M. and Louisa E. McCaskrin, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. The mother's family moved from Ohio to Indiana and entered a Government tract of land. Harrison McCaskrin was a miller by trade and followed that occupation in Tippecanoe County, Indiana. J. C. McCaskrin was the fourth in a family of five children, four sons and one daughter. The daughter, Mary Elizabeth, married Mr. Holliday and moved to Oswego, Kansas. Two of the sons, Reuben B. and George W., were Union soldiers and both lost their lives during the service. When the McCaskrin children were quite young their father died in White County, Indiana, and the widowed mother then took her children back to Tippecanoe County, where she fell heir to the family estate and lived there to see her sons grown to worthy manhood. The other son, Winfield Scott, lived with his mother and cared for her throughout her lifetime, subsequently removing to Kansas, where he died.

J. C. McCaskrin married, in December, 1869, Miss Margaret Cloyd. She was a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Nicewander) Cloyd. The Cloyd family consisted of six children, Maria, William, Margaret, Louisa, Albert and Lydia. They were educated in the public schools of Tippecanoe County, Indiana. John Cloyd was noted for his fine bred stock.

A few months after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McCaskrin came to Champaign County, Illinois, and built a small house twelve by fourteen feet out on the broad prairie. They also had a small hay stable and one team of horses. This was the equipment with which the industrious young people began their lives in Champaign County. They were willing to work, possessed health and strength, and with those assets the future stretched before them with many rosy prospects. The nucleus of their landed estate consisted of eighty acres. Mr. McCaskrin worked strenuously in early years and gradually paid not only for his first farm but by adding forty acres at a time increased his holdings until he now owns 200 acres of fine, rich land.

Politically Mr. McCaskrin has always given loyal support to the principles of the Republican party, though he himself has refused any official position.

A special part of this record should concern itself with the three children, two sons and a daughter, who are the crown of Mr. and Mrs. McCaskrin's career. The sons are H. M. and G. W., and the daughter is Louise. From childhood they showed a bent for study and scholarly pursuits, were educated in the district schools, afterward in the high school at Rantoul, and following their graduation in that institution they entered the University of Illinois, where all of them completed courses. The sons studied law in the University of Michigan and are both alumni of that institution. H. M. McCaskrin is now a successful lawyer at Rock Island, Illinois. G. W. McCaskrin, who formerly practiced at Rock Island, now controls a large law business with offices in the Lincoln Building at Champaign. G. W. McCaskrin has had a life of exceptional activity and many honors. He served as alderman and twice as mayor of Rock Island, and was also a member of the State Legislature. In 1908 he was candidate for governor on an independent ticket. He went to the Legislature as a recognized exponent of the 2-cent fare on railroads in the State of Illinois. He originated and introduced the measure into the Legislature, which was passed in 1905 and brought about the reductions from the long-existing 3-cent fares to 2 cents. While his active part in this piece of legislation brought him the hostility of the transportation interests, it gained for him the approval of the general public, who have long enjoyed the decrease in transportation.

The daughter, Louise McCaskrin, after graduating from the university, took post-graduate work in pedagogy and also musical training under Miss Clara Maud Kimball at the state university. For six years she was a successful teacher in this county, and she then married John D. Stayton. Mr. Stayton was formerly a farmer, but is now successfully engaged in the real estate business at Rantoul. Mr. and Mrs. Stayton have had four children: Laura S., Jean M., Paul M. (deceased) and Leo Cloyd. Education and culture have always been strong motives in the McCaskrin family and have been equally manifested in the Stayton household, where the children are bright and energetic students in the Rantoul High School. Their musical training has been carefully supervised by their mother, and all the children have excellent voices and have contributed notably to many public entertainments. Only recently the baby of the family, Leo, aged five years, gained hearty applause by singing a solo.

The McCaskrin family are mostly active members of the Methodist

Episcopal Church, but Mrs. McCaskrin has always been a member of the Christian Church, and all the children grew up to support the same faith. Mr. and Mrs. McCaskrin have been closely identified with the interests of Champaign County for many years. They properly take pride in the progress made by their children, and through them they realize their ambitious plans and desires of early years. They have also performed their part in matters of neighborly kindness and good will toward their fellowmen, and as they look back upon a past that is filled with accomplishment and worthy influences they also look to an unclouded future.

CHARLES GEORGE DECKER. Since coming to Champaign County twenty-four years ago Charles G. Decker has demonstrated his thorough capacity and broad knowledge of farming and stock raising. His many years of practical experience contribute to his agricultural equipment, and his entire career has been devoted to the cultivation of the soil.

Mr. Decker was born in Jennings County, Indiana, October 28, 1864, a son of George and Mary (Johannes) Decker. His parents were born in Germany. His father was brought to America when a boy, lived in Ohio and in the early days took rafts of provisions down the Ohio and Mississippi to New Orleans, Louisiana. He finally moved to a farm in Indiana and both he and his wife are now deceased. Their children were: Mary and Margaret, deceased; Rosa, wife of Charles Grunert, of St. Annes, Indiana; Jacob, deceased; Anna, wife of John Schuster, of Cincinnati; Catherine and Lena, deceased; Charles G.; and Winnie, wife of John H. Meyer, of Cincinnati.

Charles George Decker learned farming in Indiana and for a time had the active management of the home place. It was in 1893 that he came to Champaign County. For eight years he rented land, and then bought his present fine homestead of 230 acres in section 13 of Philo Township. He has made many improvements, has adapted himself to local conditions and besides general farming is handling Percheron horses as one of the chief features of his stock husbandry. He also makes a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and spotted China swine.

Mr. Decker married Elizabeth Johanna Kipper, a native of Indiana. Their five children are Herman Nicholas, Alfred Jacob, Stella Mary, Florence Magdalene and Walter Steven. Politically Mr. Decker is a Democrat. He and his family are active members of St. Thomas Catholic Church and he belongs to the Knights of Columbus.

THOMAS JEFFERSON WOODIN. Of the lives that have been a real contribution to the upbuilding and development of Champaign County during a long period of years that of Thomas Jefferson Woodin deserves more than passing consideration. Mr. Woodin and his good wife live in one of the most beautiful and attractive homes in the St. Joseph community, their home combining the attractions of both the town and country and being located within the village limits.

Mr. Woodin was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, September 6, 1841, and his birthplace was the community known as Butler's Point. He was the second in a family of four sons and one daughter born to Elmore and Rebecca (Springer) Woodin. His father was born in New York State and his mother in Ohio, and both of them came to Illinois with their parents when children. The father served as a soldier in the Black Hawk War.

Mr. Woodin had his early education in the district schools of Vermilion County. He was nineteen years of age when the war cloud arose and excitement ran high because the union of states was threatened. The bravest and best men in the country volunteered their services in that crisis, and

in September, 1861, Thomas Jefferson Woodin left his father's home and was one of thirty young men who enlisted at the village of St. Joseph. These recruits were sent to Chicago and joined a company under Captain McWilliams, known as the Chicago Legion. After some preparatory drilling they were sent to Cairo, Illinois, and from there to Corinth, on to Island No. 10, then back to Corinth, where they did guard duty, took part in several of the many campaigns through Tennessee and finally from Nashville moved to the great battleground at Stone River or Murfreesboro. Mr. Woodin and his comrades took an active part in that engagement, one of the severest battles of the war. While it was a hotly contested field it was a virtual victory to the Union troops, and after a long day of fighting the Federals lay down to rest, feeling that the day was won. The next day the telegraph wires carried the glad news of the victory all over the United States. From Stone River the regiment of which Mr. Woodin was a member marched through Tennessee into Georgia and he was on continuous duty in skirmishing and then came the great battle of Chickamauga. During the first day of that battle the Union troops were driven back to Chattanooga. Then on the following day there was a turn of the tide, when the Federals regained the lost ground and Chickamauga became another milestone in the progress of the Union armies through the South. For three months the troops lay in camp and then fought the battle of Missionary Ridge. Mr. Woodin in that battle saw the heaviest fighting of his entire military experience. The Southerners had seventy-two pieces of artillery and thought it impossible for the Union troops to dislodge them. During a brief rest at one point on Missionary Ridge Mr. Woodin had a view of the surrounding country which gave him a prospect of almost the entire battleground. From here he could survey and witness a solid mass of Union troops extending over a four mile front going into battle with the enemy. After Missionary Ridge Mr. Woodin accompanied the troops back to Knoxville, Tennessee, to reinforce Burnside, and after a march of one hundred and fifteen miles they drove Longstreet away and relieved that besieged point. On the 18th of June began the noted Atlanta campaign. Mr. Woodin participated in only part of that hundred days campaign, and at the battle of Mud Creek he was severely wounded, after his division had made a charge and captured the objective and made many prisoners. Taken to the field hospital, he was then sent to Nashville, then to Louisville and finally to Springfield, Illinois, where during the month of August he lay in the hospital suffering with a gangrened wound and with typhoid fever. By careful nursing and with the resource of a strong constitution he recovered from his wound, and he has always given much credit to Mrs. Gregory, his good and faithful nurse, to whom he feels he owes his life.

At the end of the war was the declaration of peace over North and South and Mr. Woodin was honorably discharged in June, 1865, and then returned home.

On March 5, 1878, he married Miss Carrie A. Hunt. Mrs. Woodin was born at Eden in Erie County, New York, October 30, 1854, and when only four years of age, in 1858, her parents came West by railroad to Illinois. She has a recollection of that early journey in her life. Her parents were Jonathan and Caroline (West) Hunt, her father a native of New Jersey and her mother of New York. Mrs. Woodin was only fourteen years of age when her mother passed away on August 25, 1868. She received her education in the district schools of Champaign County, where the Hunt family were among the early pioneers. She completed her studies in the Urbana High School and afterward became clerk in a store at St. Joseph, where she remained until her marriage. After their mar-

riage Mr. and Mrs. Woodin located in St. Joseph and Mr. Woodin continued his business as a stock buyer. They prospered, and one after another there came into their home three young sons, named Walter L., Earl B. and Ernest C. Realizing the advantages of an education, Mr. and Mrs. Woodin sent them to the local schools, the St. Joseph High School, and all of them completed the studies and came home proud possessors of diplomas. Earl continued his education in a business college at Marion, Indiana, two years, and took a scientific course at Dixon, Illinois. From there he entered the University of Illinois, having previously won the county scholarship, and he completed a six years' course in four years, graduating as a civil engineer. In that profession he has already gained a most gratifying position. He worked for a time at Ambridge, Pennsylvania, later in Pittsburg, and is one of the competent men in his profession. He married Miss Grace Mast, of Urbana, Illinois, and has a little daughter, Gwendolyn.

The son Walter after graduating from the local schools took a place on his father's farm and is now a practical and progressive farmer in Vermilion County. He married Grace Gibson, of St. Joseph, and they have three children, Agnes dying at the age of one year, and the two still in the home circle are Carl and Lucile.

The son Ernest Woodin entered the University of Illinois, spending one year in the preparatory course, and for four years was a member of the military band. From college he went to Chicago, and starting on a salary of sixty dollars a month with the Gas & Coke Company has been steadily promoted until he now fills one of the high salaried positions with the company.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodin are attentive members of the Church of Christ at St. Joseph and are among its liberal supporters. They give their political allegiance to the Republican party, and Mrs. Woodin has for years been actively identified with the prohibition cause. She is a woman of unusual executive ability and has sought to exercise her influence always on the side of right. In 1897 Mr. Woodin erected a fine modern home south of St. Joseph on a forty acre tract of land, and adjoining their home is a grove of beautiful trees constituting a widely known park of twenty acres, with a fine water supply and one of the favorite spots for picnickers in this part of the county.

During the greater part of her life Mrs. Woodin has been afflicted with poor health. She has overcome that infirmity with a courageous spirit that has kept her constantly striving and has enabled her to rear and educate her boys and send them into the world well equipped for their duties.

Another member of the Woodin household must be mentioned. This is Mr. Woodin's half sister, Sina B. Richardson. She came into his home at the age of sixteen, an orphan in poor health, and has ably assisted Mrs. Woodin in rearing the sons and did much to encourage them in every way while they were obtaining their educations and coming to manhood. She shared the joys and sorrows of the household, and is one of the most faithful women of Champaign County. Mr. and Mrs. Woodin have made ample provision in case she should survive them that her last days may be spent in comfort and peace. For a number of years she has had active charge of the beautiful park at the Woodin home. In order to encourage the building of the Interurban Railroad Mr. and Mrs. Woodin donated a part of their own land to the road, and their public spirit in this instance has been one of many cases in which they have worked for the betterment and uplift of the community.

ALBERT LEHMAN SOUTHWORTH, living retired at Longview, represents one of the old and substantial families of Champaign County, his people having located here more than sixty years ago and having played worthy and active parts in the development and transformation of Raymond Township.

Mr. Southworth was born in Erie County, Ohio, August 14, 1850, son of John Randolph and Anna (Akers) Southworth. His father was a Connecticut man by birth while his mother was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. It was in 1855 that the family came to Champaign County and settled on a tract of raw and unimproved land in section 29, Raymond Township. The father lived there and cultivated the soil until his death in 1885, while the mother passed away in 1893. They were the parents of six children: Mary Adelaide, widow of Martin B. Reed, living in Colorado; Julia Ann, deceased; Horace Franklin, deceased; Albert L.; John J., of Danville, Illinois; and May Lilly, wife of James Watts, of Fairland.

Albert L. Southworth has had an active career, was reared on the home farm in Raymond Township, attended the local schools, and at the age of twenty-three left home and went to Parsons, Kansas, where he lived on a farm for seven years. His next experience was near Soda Springs, Colorado, where he spent three years as a miner. On returning to Champaign County he rented the home place for about three years, and again went back to Kansas and did farming for seven years. Since then he has lived at Longview and is retired. Mr. Southworth is a Democrat in politics.

JOHN T. FREEMAN. Because of the intelligence and good judgment of many of the large farmers of Champaign County, this section of the state contributes much to the general food supply and scarcely any other industry is so well worth engaging in or so compensating when everything else is considered. One of the wide awake, modern and prosperous farmers of this section of Illinois is found in John T. Freeman, who owns large tracts of cultivated land in Homer and Ogden townships.

John T. Freeman was born in Champaign County, Illinois, July 25, 1854, and is a son of Thomas and Nancy (Redman) Freeman, both of whom were born in Ohio. From that state they came to Illinois and during the first year lived in Vermilion County, moving in 1851 to Champaign County and settling in Homer Township, where Thomas Freeman engaged in farming during the rest of his active life. He was born in 1826 and died in 1908. His wife was born in 1826 and died in 1902. They were estimable people and are kindly remembered by their neighbors. They were the parents of six children, namely: Mary M., who is deceased; Edmund R., who is a resident of Ogden, Illinois; John T.; James J., who also lives in Homer Township; William H., who died at the age of two months; and Martha, who died in infancy.

John T. Freeman grew to manhood on his father's farm in Homer Township and gained his education in the district schools. His first farming venture on his own account was in the vicinity of Ogden, Illinois, where he remained for three years. He then moved to Homer Township and bought 380 acres lying on the State Road, his present acreage and the location being as follows: 160 acres in section 29, Homer Township; 100 acres in section 32, Homer Township; 120 acres in Ogden Township situated in sections 29 and 30. Mr. Freeman carries on general farming and according to the most approved methods.

Mr. Freeman was married October 23, 1879, to Miss Jennie B. Silkey, who was born in Ohio, and they have had two sons, the younger of whom

died in infancy. The older, Roy C., is county judge of Champaign County.

The parents of Mrs. Freeman were John P. and Mary (McMahn) Silkey. The father was born in New Jersey and the mother in Ohio. They came to Champaign County in 1863 and at first Mr. Silkey worked at his trade, that of a tinner, but later went into the monument business. They were well known and highly respected people. They had six children, namely: Thomas E., who lives at Danville, Illinois; Joseph B., who is a resident of Royal, Illinois; Fremont, who is deceased; Jennie B., who is the wife of John T. Freeman; Charles M., who lives at Mt. Pulaski, Illinois; and Annie M., who is the wife of James H. Freeman, of Ogden, Illinois.

In politics Mr. Freeman is a Republican and for six years he served as commissioner of highways, giving universal satisfaction. He has belonged to the Masonic fraternity for many years past and attends the lodge at Homer.

JOSEPH E. JOHNSON. While he is still a young man, the career of Joseph E. Johnson has been one filled with successful participation in a number of ventures, and in its range and activities has invaded the fields of both commerce and finance. In the former direction he is at the head of a grain and lumber business that is recognized as one of the necessary commercial adjuncts of Broadlands, and in the latter capacity he is cashier of the Bank of Broadlands and a man of much financial knowledge and ability. Likewise, Mr. Johnson is a citizen who has spent his entire life at Broadlands, is well acquainted with its needs in a civic way, and has always been eager to further its interests.

Joseph E. Johnson was born at Broadlands, Champaign County, Illinois, September 11, 1881, and is a son of Charles J. and Barbara (Mack) Johnson, the former a native of Sweden and the latter of Bohemia. Charles J. Johnson was about at his majority when he immigrated to the United States in 1877, and his first location was on a farm in Ayers Township, Champaign County. During the remaining active years of his career he continued to follow agricultural pursuits with much success, but recently has retired and he and Mrs. Johnson are living at Broadlands, in the enjoyment of all the comforts and conveniences which may be won through industry and right living. They are the parents of three children: Anna, the wife of Ira Laverick, who is engaged in farming in Ayers Township; Joseph E., of this notice; and William H., who is engaged in farming in Douglas county.

After attending the public schools of the vicinity of his home Joseph E. Johnson further prepared himself by taking a course at Brown's Business College at Champaign. While a youth he had thoroughly learned the business of farming through assisting his father during the summer months, and when his commercial course was completed he returned to the homestead, where he spent five years at the vocation of agriculturist. He then decided to put his business training to some use, and, coming to Broadlands, entered the Bank of Broadlands as bookkeeper. He retained this position for three years, when, because of his general ability, fidelity and industry, on January 1, 1917, he was given the post of cashier and still retains this office. In the meantime, during the time he was acting as bookkeeper, he had entered commercial affairs on his own account, having founded a lumber, coal and grain business, which he built up to large proportions. After assuming the duties of cashier Mr. Johnson found that his responsibilities were too heavy and he was compelled to drop the coal business, although he still handles lumber and grain in large quan-

tities. He is one of his community's sound and substantial business men, and his personal probity of character has done much to increase the business of the bank with which he is connected. He is a Republican, but not a politician or office seeker, is fraternally identified with the Masons, and his religious connection is with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Johnson was married February 10, 1904, to Miss Lulu D. Morris, and to this union there has come one son, Charles Morris, born October 2, 1909, and now attending the public schools.

James M. Current. One of the oldest business men in Champaign County is James M. Current, of Homer. He and his family have conducted a grain business for a great many years in this and in Vermilion County. His life has been one of constant activity and from small beginnings he has acquired a competence and an honorable reputation.

Mr. Current was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, January 21, 1842, a son of William and Mary (Bastion) Current. His parents were both born in Virginia, his father in 1803 and his mother in 1807. His father located in Vermilion County among the pioneers in 1826 and six years later was a soldier in the Black Hawk War. He was a farmer and his death occurred August 6, 1851. There were fourteen children in the family, and four sons are still living: George, now in the Soldiers Home at Danville, Illinois; James M.; Isaac, of Danville; and Samuel, who lives in Nebraska. Another son, Samuel, was a soldier and was one of the guards at Lincoln's funeral in Washington.

James M. Current grew up in Vermilion County and remained there as an active farmer until 1871. For three and a half years he was in the meat and grocery business at Danville, but in 1875 moved to a farm six miles southeast of Homer in Vermilion County. In 1892 he engaged in the grain business at Fairmont, and in 1901 moved his business headquarters to Homer, where he is still active, though now past seventy-five years of age.

On October 18, 1859, when not yet eighteen years of age, Mr. Current married Miss Mary E. Lynch. Six children were born to them: William H., now associated with his father in business; Abraham L., of Danville; Mary Jane and Sarah Melissa, both deceased; Martin A., of Danville; and Fay R. Fay R. served three years as mayor of Homer. He is an active member of the Masonic Order. Fay Current married Florence Giddings, a native of Kentucky, and four children were born to their marriage: George J., deceased; Victor V.; Vernon R., deceased; and Alta Belle. The son William H. married for his first wife Lovina Gibson and they were the parents of six children: Etta and Frank, both deceased; Fred; Bertha, wife of Ralph Kelsheimer; Clark; and Seymour. William H. married for his second wife Gretchen Whitshof.

James M. Current is a Republican in politics, a member of the Masonic Order and has long been active in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a local preacher and at the special request of the official board he delivered a sermon at Homer on his seventy-fifth birthday.

Fred W. Howell. While the greater part of Champaign County may be included in the agricultural belt, many of the finest farms may be found in Homer Township, where the type of citizenship is high and unusually intelligent. Modern methods prevail, the farmers use the very best farm machinery and are generally open minded, yet practical, as to improved ways of carrying on their important industries. One of these well informed agriculturists is Fred W. Howell, who has lived on his

present farm in section 29 since he was eleven years old. He was born in Homer Township, July 23, 1885, and is the only child of his parents, Samuel W. and Savannah (Brown) Howell, natives of Indiana, who are now living at Fort Collins, Colorado.

Fred W. Howell obtained his education in the public schools. He was reared on the farm now owned by his parents and has made farming and stockraising his business. He has 160 acres here, well developed and richly cultivated and has made such substantial improvements that all the surroundings are comfortable and a prevailing air of thrift is immediately noticed.

Mr. Howell was married on February 1, 1912, to Miss Edna Snyder, who was born in Champaign County and is a daughter of Monroe and Flora (Bowen) Snyder. The father of Mrs. Howell was born in Illinois and the mother is a native of Ohio. They reside in Indiana, where Mr. Snyder is a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have seven children: Mrs. Howell and Roy, who are twins, and the latter is a resident of Urbana, Illinois; Jessie, who is the wife of Floyd Harvey, of Wesley, Iowa; Nellie, who is the wife of Ward Ruddicil, of Homer; and Mattie, Hazel and Herman, all three of whom live with their parents.

Mr. Howell has never been very active in politics nor has he been an office seeker, but he is a careful and interested citizen and has always voted with the Republican party. He is a Mason of many years standing and belongs also to the Loyal Order of Moose.

Jehu Everett Davis, a prominent banker and business man of Pesotum, has pursued a very active career ever since leaving school. He represents one of the old established families in this section of Champaign County.

Mr. Davis was born at the village of Pesotum July 4, 1874, a son of James Edwin and Lavina (Crawford) Davis. Both parents were born in Ohio and came to Champaign County in 1867, locating at Pesotum, where they still reside. His father has been in the grain business and in other activities for many years.

The only child of his parents, Jehu Everett Davis was well educated in the local schools, and at the age of sixteen entered the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where he pursued special courses for two years. For one year he attended the business college at Valparaiso, Indiana. His first regular position was with the firm of Baughman, Orr & Company, bankers at Tuscola, Illinois, where he remained fourteen months. He then bought B. Gardiner's undivided interest in the lumber, implement and harness business at Pesotum and was connected with that enterprise seven years. Then with his father in 1907 he organized the Bank of Pesotum, the first financial institution of the town. On account of failing health he sold his interests there and on April 1, 1912, bought from William Kleiss an interest in the Kleiss & Gilles elevator at Pesotum. He is still connected with the local grain firm of Davis, Burton & Gardiner, though since July, 1912, his chief time has been devoted to banking. At that date Mr. Davis organized the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Pesotum, of which he is cashier. P. J. Gates is president and Henry Pfeffer, vice-president. The bank has a capital stock of $30,000 and every year since its organization it has paid ten per cent dividends to its stockholders.

Mr. Davis married October 14, 1897, Loutie G. Gardiner. Mrs. Davis was born in Champaign County, daughter of Benjamin and Adeline (Coffin) Gardiner. Her father was born in Canada and was an early settler in Champaign County. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have three children: Mildred, born September 13, 1900; Constance, born February 3, 1903; and Helen, born February 15, 1914.

Mr. Davis besides his very busy life in practical affairs has served as township school treasurer for ten years and one of his very active interests is his membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church and Sunday school. He has been Sunday school superintendent twelve years. He is a Democrat, a member of the Masonic Order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Modern Woodmen of America.

MERIT V. CUPPERNELL and his wife, Mary M., were both born near Sackett's Harbor in New York State, were married there and in 1870 came to Champaign County, Illinois, where they spent the rest of their years, performing the duties of their home and private business and also extending their influence widely throughout the community.

On coming to Champaign County Mr. Cuppernell located in Rantoul, where he engaged in the milling business. He was at first employed by Peter Myers. As the years went by strict attention to business and economy enabled him to buy a mill of his own, and he operated that until the end of his life. For his permanent home he purchased eighty acres of land a half mile southeast of Rantoul, and gave his children an environment of the wholesome country atmosphere. He and his wife had nine children, four daughters and three sons growing up and two dying in infancy. These children were named Addie, Horace, Allie, Della, Mayme, Bert and Arthur. All of them attended district school and also the high school at Rantoul. Addie and Allie both completed their studies at Rantoul.

Addie Cuppernell was married in 1882 to Mr. J. B. Martin, a printer by trade. In 1889 they moved to Homer, where Mr. Martin for twenty-two years owned and published the Homer Enterprise. He was a thorough newspaper man and was also public spirited in relation to everything that went on in his community. He served in the town council and was one of the most devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Homer. He liberally supported that church and served it as trustee and member of the official board. In 1911 the death angel claimed this worthy man, death coming suddenly. He went to his office in the morning and was soon afterwards stricken by death. His death marked the passing of one of Homer's most capable citizens and his memory is still green in that community. Only a day or so before, at the Sunday evening church service, he had spoken cordially with most of the members of the congregation, and none felt that death was so soon impending. Mr. and Mrs. Martin were congenial people and she enjoyed the work of her church as much as her husband. For six years she was president of the Ladies' Aid Society. Mr. Martin was a fine type of the true American, was affiliated with Homer Lodge of Masons, and also with Lodge No. 199, Knights of Pythias, and the Tribe of Ben Hur. He died at his post with his armor on, and the place of this good man has not yet been filled. A beautiful memorial service to his memory was held at his old church, and the edifice was unable to accommodate the great crowd that gathered to pay their respect to his good work. A testimony meeting was also held in the school and each child, one by one, arose and told of some kind deed or word by which Mr. Martin had benefited them.

Horace Cuppernell has his home in Urbana. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Knights of Pythias. He married Addie Carpenter, and their seven children are Abbie, Clarence, Lena, Merit, Horace, Thomas and Frank.

Allie Cuppernell is the wife of Mr. W. E. Trees of Mulberry. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and with his wife worships in the Christian Church.



CUPPERNELL FAMILY

Bert Cuppernell had an interesting career in which his energy and ambition took him far. For a number of years he held a Government position in the agricultural department at Washington, and by attending night school graduated in pharmacy. He died there at the age of thirty-three years. He possessed much ability and left many friends to mourn his loss.

Arthur Cuppernell, who is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, lives with his two sisters, Della and Mayme, at the old homestead.

Merit and Mary Cuppernell were devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rantoul. Fraternally he was a Mason and both he and his wife were active in the Eastern Star, as is their daughter Mayme. In politics he was a Republican. He reared his sons to honor the same political party. The parents gave the best of themselves to their children and the latter do credit to their rearing. The Cuppernell home has always been noted for its hospitality and has been a center for the radiating kindness of worthy and tender-hearted people. In the last days of the parents the presence of their children at home, Arthur, Della and Mayme, was a source of continual comfort and by their devotion these children were able to repay in some measure the care bestowed upon them during their childhood. They relieved their parents of many responsibilities in the conduct of business matters, and it is a grateful matter of record that some reference to these worthy people, both parents and children, can be included in this publication.

JOHN P. HUDSON is one of Champaign County's most successful farm owners and farm managers. He is a young man, and for all his success to date has the best years of his life still before him.

Mr. Hudson was born in Sidney Township of this county November 12, 1885, a son of Albert and Mary (Deer) Hudson. His father and mother were both natives of Champaign County and his father has been a very successful farmer and land owner, but is now living retired. The mother died in 1893. There were five children in the family: Elsie, wife of George Brash, of Decatur, Indiana; John Poke Hudson; Sophie, wife of Howard Rogers, of Gifford, Illinois; Robert, now deceased; and Jesse, of Homer, Illinois.

John P. Hudson grew up on his father's farm and had the advantages of the district schools. When he was twenty years of age he began farming as a renter on 200 acres, and after a successful experience there for two years went to Ohio and rented a 160 acre farm owned by his father. Mr. Hudson lived in Ohio five years and then returned to the home place, of which he manages 160 acres and rents eighty acres. In improvement and cultivation this ranks among the best kept farms in Champaign County. The Hudson home is on Rural Route No. 57 out of Sidney.

Mr. Hudson married an Indiana girl, Miss Iva Murrah. They have four children, Vera, Vivian, Vernon and Mary. Mr. Hudson is a Democrat and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Sidney.

MARTIN V. MOORE. One of the most interesting old time citizens of Homer Township is Martin V. Moore, who when a young man enlisted from this county and went out to fight the battles for the preservation of the Union, and in all the years since then has maintained the traditions of honor that actuated him on many a hard fought battlefield.

Mr. Moore was born at Eugene, Indiana, a son of Enoch and Adaline (Force) Moore. His father was a native of New York State and his mother of New Jersey. Enoch Moore when a small boy migrated with his

family to Indiana. This was in the year 1832. From old New York State they traveled by water around the Great Lakes to Chicago, and reached that settlement when old Fort Dearborn was still standing and only a short time after the organization of the village of Chicago, which then contained only a few houses. Indians were perhaps more numerous than white men, and while the Moore family were there the Indians were receiving their last payment from the government. The Indians who lived in and around Chicago were great fishers and brought a large quantity of fish which they sold to the captain of the vessel that brought the Moores. Some of the children of this family had never seen an Indian before. Martin Moore was one of the five children of his father's second marriage and there were also five by the first union. Martin's brothers and sisters were Anson B., Jane L., Angeline and Howard. Howard Moore when a boy was a student of the late Judge Cunningham of Champaign County. Judge Cunningham was at that time a young man employed as teacher in the school at Eugene, Indiana. Many pleasant recollections are retained of this old neighborhood school. The boys once in a spirit of mischief led horses upstairs and it required a long time and much trouble to get them down. The boys and girls thought a great deal of Cunningham as a teacher and he was very popular. The board urged him to remain for another term, but just then he decided to study for the bar.

When Martin V. Moore was six years of age he lost his father by death. The responsibility and care of the children were then thrown upon his widowed mother, who did all she could under the circumstances.

When Mr. Moore was ten years of age M. D. Coffeen, who was a resident of Illinois, was making a business visit to Eugene, Indiana. He saw Martin Moore down on his knees playing marbles with other boys and going up to him pleasantly asked if he did not want to take a ride. Like all boys Martin was ready for any adventure that promised novelty, and after obtaining the consent of his mother Coffeen brought him down to old Homer, Illinois. There he grew up in the home of Mr. Abraham Yeazel. Thus was Martin V. Moore introduced to Champaign County in the month of May, 1849.

While growing up he learned the lessons of industry and of good thrifty habits, and these were of even more value to him than the lessons he learned in school. He was twenty-two years of age when the war clouds arose over the country and with his brother Anson B. he enlisted at Homer in Company C of the Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry. They were mustered in June 1, 1861, and soon went to St. Louis, where they received their arms and accouterments from the arsenal. They were next sent to Jefferson City, Missouri, took part in the engagements at Lexington and Booneville in the attempt to drive General Price out of the state, later were stationed at Rolla in southern Missouri, and then had some skirmishes around Springfield, Missouri. The first big battle was that of Wilson Creek. Mr. Moore was under the command of Captain C. A. Summers, and the general leading his brigade was the noted Sigel. It was at Wilson Creek that General Sigel was deceived by the Rebel troops coming up dressed in Union uniforms and carrying the Union flag. The rebels did not open fire until they were quite near and General Sigel was compelled to retreat. After the next winter at Rolla they were again in the field fighting General Price and took part in the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, where the Union troops practically sealed the victories of the campaign, as a result of which the Confederates permanently lost Missouri. In Pea Ridge the forces of which Mr. Moore was a part were nearly surrounded by the Confederacy. General Sigel, when told that surrender was imperative, responded, "I never was beaten." Curtis, then his superior

in command, insisted upon surrender, but Sigel interposed, "Give me the command and I will whip them in two hours." Curtis replied, "Take it." Sigel asked, "Put it in black and white." The order was written, Sigel took command, gave the order for battle, and the result is known to every reader of Civil War history. After that Mr. Moore went to Little Rock, Arkansas, and soon afterward was sent to Pittsburg Landing to help out Grant, who was sorely pressed in that great two days engagement. During the Tennessee campaign he was at Murfreesboro, in camp for a time at Nashville, also at Knoxville, and then spent the winter at Nashville. General Bragg had massed a great army at Murfreesboro and General Rosecrans, in command of the Federals, moved down upon that point and fought the historic conflict known as Murfreesboro or Stone River. During the subsequent months Mr. Moore covered a large part of Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee and Kentucky. He was also in the early advance through the heart of the Confederacy towards Atlanta and the heaviest fighting he ever saw in the war was at Chickamauga. He also fought at Missionary Ridge, but before the opening of the Atlanta campaign his term expired and he was mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, September 5, 1864.

Returning home to Homer Township, Mr. Moore in 1865 married Sarah A. Hayes. She was born in Homer Township, daughter of Moses and Martha Hayes. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Moore rented a farm in Homer Township for two years and then located on land which Mrs. Moore had inherited, situated in section 17. Here they undertook the task of making a permanent home and had behind them strength, courage, hope and industry, so that the future was absolutely unclouded.

At that time their own land and much of Champaign County was a virgin prairie. It was possible to go from their farm to Tuscola without seeing a single tree, while one might make a journey from Homer to Chicago and never encounter a fence. Mr. Moore, aided by his capable wife, has accomplished what he set out to do and has made his particular portion of Champaign County truly to blossom as the rose and meet every test of fruitfulness and beauty.

To Mr. and Mrs. Moore were born two children, Abraham and Martin V. The son Martin died in infancy. Abraham was educated in district school No. 10 and has always lived at home with his parents and is now active manager of the old farm.

In 1895 the death angel came into the home and took away Mr. Moore's mother, who had lived with him for many years.

Reference to his brother Anson B., who was his companion in arms during the war, has already been made. Anson was one of the brave color guards appointed with five others to guard the color bearer at the battle of Missionary Ridge. These color bearers were always a conspicuous object to the enemy and the musketry fire was usually concentrated upon the standard of colors. In the battle of Missionary Ridge Anson Moore was mortally wounded and his brother Martin saw him only once after he was wounded until he died.

Mr. Moore's other brother, Howard, has lived at the Moore home for many years. These three brothers, who were deprived of each other's companionship in boyhood, are united in later days and have found a great deal of pleasure and mutual aid in each other's company.

Politically Mr. Moore is a Republican, and has sustained the principles by ballot which he fought for as a soldier. In fraternal matters he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and his son Abraham is enthusiastic in the work of the local lodge and also in the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen. Throughout his service as a soldier Mr. Moore

kept a diary and put down all the interesting things that occurred. This diary makes most interesting reading today, and recalls with great vividness the many fearful scenes through which he passed as a soldier and it is also valuable in that it enables the people of the present generation to better understand and appreciate the sacrifices made by those gallant boys of the '60s for the preservation of the Union. Mr. Moore, though more than half a century has passed since the war, possesses a splendid memory and is considered an authority on many old time events of both then and of later occurrence.

FRED A. MESSMAN. The business interests of Broadlands have an energetic and progressive representative in the person of Fred A. Messman, who belongs to the younger generation of men engaged in commercial enterprises in Champaign County. To a very considerable extent it is this element in any community, especially outside of the large cities, which infuses spirit and zest into the activities of the place. Mr. Messman is a pronounced type of this class of tireless workers, and during his comparatively short career has been identified with agriculture, the buying of grain, and the implement and harness business, to which last named he at present gives the greater part of his attention.

Mr. Messman was born in Ayers Township, Champaign County, Illinois, April 7, 1886, a son of Charles and Minnie (Dohme) Messman, natives of Germany, the former of whom came to the United States at the age of fifteen years and the latter as a child. For a number of years Charles Messman was engaged in farming in the vicinity of Sadorus in Sadorus Township, but at present is retired from active operations and a resident of Broadlands, where he is held in high esteem as a substantial citizen. He and his wife have been the parents of the following children: Carl, who is engaged in farming in Homer Township; Albert, a resident of Tolono; Amelia, who is the wife of Robert Smith, of Allerton, Illinois; Henry, whose home is in Douglas County; Louisa, the wife of Herman Struck, of Raymond Township, this county; Fred A., of this notice; and Marie, the wife of Otto Struck, of Raymond Township.

Fred A. Messman was given his education in the country schools and until he was twenty years of age remained on the home farm. At that time he became a renter in Homer Township, where for two years he worked a 200-acre farm and subsequently went to Ayers Township, where he rented 260 acres. At the end of three years he was able to buy an eighty-acre farm in Ayers Township, and to this he has since added by industry and good management until today he is the owner of 360 acres, which land is being worked by renters. After engaging actively in agricultural work for some year Mr. Messman became a grain buyer for the Broadlands Grain and Coal Company, although he still retained his farming interests, and in January, 1917, bought a one-half interest in an implement and harness business. He is an exceptionally enterprising young man and thoroughly competent in business transactions. The honesty of his dealings is fully recognized by his fellow townsmen, and although his advent in Broadlands is of recent date, the patronage which he enjoys presages a successful future.

Mr. Messman was married December 25, 1916, to Miss Ida Marity, a native of Douglas County, Illinois. A Republican in his political adherence, Mr. Messman has taken quite an active part in public affairs, having served three years as a member of the town council and being the present assessor of Broadlands. He belongs to the Lutheran Church and has done his full share in supporting worthy and worth while movements.

ARCHIBALD B. CAMPBELL went through a long and thorough apprenticeship in business affairs, at first as a railway employe, afterwards as a newspaper editor and publisher, later as postmaster, and for a number of years before his death as a banker at Tolono, where he was one of the effective leaders in business and civic affairs.

Mr. Campbell was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, August 4, 1870, a son of Archibald B. and Christina (Stewart) Campbell. His parents were both natives of the bonny land of Scotland. The father followed the business of contracting for the laying out of estates. He died in the old country in 1872. The year following his death the widowed mother brought her family to America and joined her sister at Tolono, Illinois. She died there October 19, 1916. She was the mother of seven children: Alexander A., who died April 26, 1888, was cashier of the Bank of Tolono; Jennie, wife of G. L. Baker, of Champaign; Mary, widow of Robert Leslie, living at Pittsfield, Illinois; John, who died at the age of three years; William S., who died in Tolono in 1896; Peter S., of Urbana; and Archibald B.

Archibald B. Campbell had no recollections of his native land, having been brought to America in early infancy. He grew up at Tolono, attended the grammar and high schools, and in 1887, at the age of seventeen, began earning his own way as a worker for the railroad company. He spent four years in the railroad office, and then in 1891, at the age of twenty-one, took charge of the Tolono Herald, which he leased for three years and then bought the plant. He conducted this weekly journal on a flourishing scale for several years.

July 13, 1897, Mr. Campbell was inducted into the office of postmaster at Tolono and served for over six years, finally retiring in December, 1903. On February 4, 1904, Mr. Campbell had the responsibility and distinction of opening the doors of the Citizens Bank of Tolono. The principal stockholder of the bank was Mr. Isaac Raymond, who became the first president. Mr. Campbell from the first served as cashier, and the majority of the patrons of the institution associated him almost synonymously with the bank itself.

September 21, 1893, Mr. Campbell married Bertha F. Skinner, daughter of A. D. and Sarah (Rich) Skinner. Her parents were both born in Ohio and moved to Champaign County immediately after the war, locating on a farm in Tolono Township. Her father is now living retired at Tolono, his wife having passed away in 1893. There were six children in the Skinner family: Harriet, wife of C. H. Shaffer, of Freeport, Illinois; Alice B., wife of J. B. Behymer, of St. Louis, Missouri; Maude O., wife of E. B. Rogers, of Champaign; Mrs. Campbell; Harry M. and William S., both at Indiana Harbor, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell had one daughter, Florence M., who in 1917 graduated from the University of Illinois and is now one of the teachers in the Tolono High School.

Mr. Campbell was an active Republican, was chairman of the township committee and the precinct committee and was formerly town and village clerk, and it was largely through his efforts that a model system of waterworks was established at Tolono in 1895. Tolono now has a water system second in efficiency to no other town of Champaign County. Mr. Campbell was chairman of the Champaign County Bankers Association, served as master of the Tolono Masonic Lodge five terms, was past chancellor of the local lodge of Knights of Pythias, was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and attained the Royal Arch Chapter degree in Masonry.

Mr. Campbell passed away August 21, 1917, and he was a citizen who is sadly missed by all who knew him. He was interred in Mount Hope Ceme-

tery. There are left to mourn his death his wife and daughter of Tolono, Illinois.

HARVEY ALLISON is one of the prominent land owners and agriculturists in the vicinity of Homer, where he has spent the best part of his active career. Mr. Allison knows farming from A to Z and his capabilities have been developed by long and thorough experience.

He was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, January 16, 1870, a son of James A. and Willmoth (Dunnivan) Allison. His father was born in Indiana and died at Homer July 10, 1899. The mother is a native of Vermilion County and is still living on the old home farm. The parents removed to Champaign County in 1889. They had only two children, the older being Nora, who died January 28, 1892.

Mr. Harvey Allison has always lived at home, prepared for life by an education in the common schools, and gradually took over the management of the farm and he now owns and operates 500 acres on a systematic plan of efficiency. He has been successful in spite of several serious setbacks as a result of fire. His home was burned in 1903 and in 1913 there was another destructive fire which destroyed his barns and silos. Mr. Allison has named his farm Piety Knob, and as such it is one of the valuable and picturesque parts of the landscape around Homer. He does general farming and considerable stock raising. The only important interruption to his steady career as a farmer was two years spent in the Klondike gold regions of Alaska. That was in 1902-03 and he represented a Chicago concern in the development of Placer mines.

Mr. Allison is a Democrat and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He married Miss Alta Russell, a native of Vermilion County.

MARION M. RICKETTS, M. D. The leading physician and surgeon of Ivesdale and well known for his ability and service all over southwestern Champaign County is Dr. Marion M. Ricketts, who has enjoyed a successful practice there for the past six years.

Doctor Ricketts was born in Clay County, Illinois, October 20, 1877, a son of Jasper and Hannah (Stanford) Ricketts. His father was born in Ohio and his mother in Illinois. Jasper Ricketts has had an industrious career as an agriculturist and is still living at Pesotum. He moved to Champaign County with his family in 1881. The mother had died in Clay County before the removal to Champaign County. They had six children: Mrs. Emil Andre, of Eaton, Colorado; Harvey, of Vincent, Iowa; Charles, deceased; Homer, of Eaton, Colorado; Doctor Ricketts; and Lyda, deceased.

Doctor Ricketts was four years of age when the family came to Champaign County and grew up on his father's farm, at the same time wisely improving the advantages offered in the local schools. His active career began at the age of sixteen, when he hired out to work as a farm hand, taught school one year, took the normal course in Austin College at Effingham, Illinois, and after that was one of the successful and popular teachers of Champaign County for twelve years. Thus Doctor Ricketts from his own earnings paid for his professional preparation. In May, 1911, he graduated from the Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery and in his last year in college he had considerable practical experience in hospital work. After getting his degree Doctor Ricketts located at Ivesdale and has enjoyed an increasing appreciation of his able services in the profession.

May 18, 1905, he married Elma Pundt, of Tuscola, Illinois. They are

the parents of two sons, Frederick J., born March 8, 1912; and Marion M., Jr., born October 5, 1916. Doctor Ricketts is a Republican, is affiliated with the Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his wife are active in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JOHN W. BROWN. From a twentieth century point of view it may be difficult to fill out a picture of comfortable living in Champaign County in the primitive days when even no railroads reached this section, bringing news, commodities and visitors from the outside world, but it must be remembered that life is more complex now, that horizons are wider, demands greater and expectations higher. Undoubtedly those whose lot it was to carve out the pioneer path here and elsewhere ultimately found happiness and contentment despite the dangers and deprivations. Among the settlers of an early day in Homer Township, Champaign County, was John Brown, for many years an honored resident of this part of the county and the father of John W. Brown, one of the substantial men and leading farmers.

John W. Brown was born in Homer Township, Champaign County, Illinois, February 2, 1877. His parents were John and Jane (Stafford) Brown. The father was a native of Ohio and the mother of Pennsylvania. When they came to the county many parts of it were practically unsettled. John Brown devoted all his active years to developing his land in Homer Township and accumulated 214 acres, a fine property on which all the rest of his life was spent, his death occurring March 23, 1913. He had survived his wife since 1884. They were the parents of eight children, namely: Ellen, who is the wife of John T. Palmer, of Homer, Illinois; Austin C., who is deceased; Belle, who is the wife of B. E. Lynch, of Sidney, Illinois; Frank, who is deceased; a daughter who died in infancy; John W.; Josephine, who is the wife of Minford Brown, of Goshen, Indiana; and another daughter who died in infancy.

The public schools in Homer Township afforded John W. Brown his education and his present farm has been his home all his life. Of the homestead he owns seventy-eight acres but his agricultural operations cover 146 acres, all of the land being devoted to general farming. He works his land carefully and intelligently and is numbered with the most successful farmers in the township.

Mr. Brown was married August 9, 1899, to Miss Emma George, who was born in Champaign County and is a daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth (Coddington) George, both of whom were born in Illinois and the father died here January 26, 1890. He was a well known farmer. The mother of Mrs. Brown resides at Homer. Mr. and Mrs. George had five children, namely: Nora, who is deceased; Walter, who lives in Sidney Township; Gertrude, who is the wife of Clement Sanders, of Sidney; Emma, who is the wife of John W. Brown; and Benjamin, who lives at Homer. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have no children. In politics he has always been affiliated with the Republican party. These old families are widely known and are representative people of the county.

JAMES A. CREAMER, one of the business leaders of Tolono, has lived in this locality all his life, began his career as a farmer and still owns a large amount of Illinois soil, though most of his time and energies are taken up with local business affairs at Tolono.

Mr. Creamer was born in Tolono Township, February 25, 1870, a son of Ephraim C. and Sarah (Espy) Creamer, his father a native of New Jersey and his mother of Ripley, Ohio. His mother's father was killed by a stroke of lightning about forty-eight years ago. Ephraim Creamer

came to Champaign County about 1857, locating on a farm in Tolono Township and followed farming for a great many years but is now living retired in Tolono. Through his efforts he accumulated a considerable fortune in land. He and his wife had nine children: Mary, deceased; James A.; Edward, who died in 1897, being a graduate of the law department of Wesleyan University at Bloomington; Howard, deceased; Etta, wife of F. E. Williamson, of Urbana; Estella, wife of W. W. Hill, of Tolono; Lyda, wife of Albert McBratney, of Tuscola; William C., who lives on the old home farm; and Charles F., of Tolono Township.

James A. Creamer finished his education with the Tolono High School. He lived at home until twenty-seven, and then took charge of the homestead of 414 acres. After working that for a time he bought eighty acres, sold it and purchased 160 acres east of Tuscola, and finally sold that and is now owner of 867 acres in White County, Illinois.

In 1908 Mr. Creamer engaged in business at Tolono as a grain merchant with A. H. Edwards. After a year he took over the elevator, of which he is now sole proprietor. The elevator has a capacity of 40,000 bushels and it is the center of a flourishing grain trade. Mr. Creamer also owns the local garage and has the agency for the Overland, Hudson, Studebaker and Ford cars. With Mr. J. A. Hines as a partner he conducts an undertaking establishment. All his affairs have prospered and he is rightly considered one of the leading men of Tolono.

On February 18, 1897, Mr. Creamer married Miss Mattie Moore, of Pesotum. They have two children: Carl M., born May 1, 1901; and Helen Alma, born April 28, 1903. Mr. Creamer is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the Masonic Order and an active Presbyterian, having served as superintendent of the Sunday school three years.

Solomon Mantle. Of the families whose lives of integrity and industry have identified them permanently with the best interests of Champaign County, one that deserves special mention is that of Solomon Mantle, who now lives with his family in Rantoul, and from that village still superintends his extensive farming interests.

Mr. Mantle is a son of Isaac and Mary J. (Kuder) Mantle. Mary Kuder's father was born in Pennsylvania. Isaac Mantle, a native of Ohio, came to Illinois when a young man, lived for a number of years in Champaign County and afterwards moved to Vermilion County. Solomon Mantle had grown to young manhood before they removed to Vermilion County. Isaac Mantle and wife had eight children, four sons and four daughters, all of whom were educated in the district schools. Their names were John, George, Charles, Solomon, Mary J., Francis M., Lizzie and Alice, two of whom died in youth.

Solomon Mantle was twenty-seven years of age when his father's death occurred. He then assumed the active responsibilities of looking after his widowed mother and his two sisters. Through the remaining years of his mother's life he provided and tenderly cared for her and repaid by filial devotion the love and care she had given him and all her children when they were young. It was a sad day in the Mantle home on September 3, 1898, when the beloved mother, after a busy life of industry and toil, was claimed by death. The loneliness of the home was keenly felt by those left behind, since when a mother dies the light of a home goes out.

Mr. Solomon Mantle was forty-three years of age when, on October 6, 1898, he married Miss Alice Shumate, daughter of George and Sarah Shumate, both natives of Illinois and reared in the state. Mr. and Mrs. Shumate still live in Champaign County. They had seven sons and three daughters: Harry, John N., George, Scott, Elmer, Ira, Oliver, Alice, Elsie



S. Mantle
and
Family

and Ella. The Shumate children acquired their early training in the district schools of Champaign County. Mr. and Mrs. Shumate are devoted members of the Christian Church.

After his marriage Solomon Mantle and wife settled down on the Mantle homestead, which he actively managed. In the course of time there came into their home a little daughter to gladden them by the sunshine of her presence. She was born March 22, 1900. After attending the Kuder district school one year, her parents moved to Rantoul in order to give her the better advantages of the schools there. She was of studious nature and was graduated with the highest honors from the eighth grade or grammar school. As a reward for her excellence in her studies she was given a free scholarship in a normal course. She was pronounced the best scholar in the eighth grade in the Rantoul school, and during the year 1916 ranked No. 1 in every month except two in the year. Those two months she was hindered in her studies on account of illness. At the present writing she is in the first grade of the high school. Besides her literary studies she has taken instrumental music, is a capable performer on the violin, and is still taking lessons in music from Miss Ida Little. She is a member of the High School Orchestra, the orchestra of the Methodist Episcopal Church and also a member of the church choir, possessing a beautiful and well cultured voice. Mr. and Mrs. Mantle, realizing the advantages of a good education, have endeavored to give their daughter every encouragement in the development of her talents.

Mrs. Mantle and daughter are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Rantoul. Mr. Mantle in politics is a Republican and has given his support to that party first, last and always. When in 1909 Mr. and Mrs. Mantle moved to Rantoul they bought themselves a comfortable and attractive residence on Main Street. Mr. Mantle has a tenant on the old homestead and still keeps active superintendence over the management of the farm and fields.

On the old Mantle farm there still stands the old log schoolhouse where Mr. Mantle's mother attended school when she was a girl. Mr. Mantle has taken great pains to preserve this school building as a landmark and as a lesson to coming generations, whereby they may see and realize some of the hardships through which their forefathers passed. An interesting relic of the past in Mr. and Mrs. Mantle's home is his Grandfather Kuder's clock. It is now 100 years old, and the tired hands that for a century pointed the family to the time are at last stilled, and the clock stands in the corner, a silent reminder of days long gone by.

Ambrose W. Strong, who is spending the quiet years of his retirement in a beautiful home at 706 Main Street in Urbana, is one of the few men now living whose recollections go back in Champaign County for nearly eighty years. Though not a native of the county Mr. Strong came here in early infancy and as a boy he knew many of the first settlers and his own life has been closely identified with those changing developments which have transformed this part of the state into a garden spot of the world.

Mr. Strong was born in Hancock County, Ohio, October 4, 1834, a son of John and Mary (Moore) Strong. His parents were also natives of Ohio. When Ambrose was one year old the family came to Illinois. There were six children, three sons and three daughters, Ambrose being the oldest. The family located in St. Joseph Township, where they improved a tract of raw land and where the parents spent the rest of their lives.

Grandfather Cyrus Strong had preceded his son John to St. Joseph and was a prominent character among the pioneers. It was his dis-

tinction to erect the notable old tavern known as the Kelley Tavern. It was a popular and notable hostelry and a famous landmark of early days. Much of the fame that is associated with this tavern is due to the fact that Abraham Lincoln frequently was entertained there during his career as a circuit riding lawyer attending court at Danville and Champaign. Lincoln made these trips on horseback, and a personal friendship existed between him and Cyrus Strong.

Ambrose W. Strong acquired his early education in a district school kept in a log building. This was one of the most primitive types of log school houses in Champaign County. One log was left out from the side of the building and the opening was covered over with greased paper instead of glass window lights. The equipment was equally primitive, and the instruction was confined rigidly to the three R's.

Attending school and working in the fields and meadows made up the sum and substance of Mr. Strong's early career until 1853, when he established a home of his own by his marriage to Martha Ann Peters. She was born in St. Joseph Township, a daughter of William and Sarah (McNutt) Peters. Her peeople were also prominent pioneers of the county. Her father, Squire Peters, was a familiar character in the country and a very popular man. There were twelve children in the Peters family. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Strong rented a farm the first year and the second year they bought eighty acres of land, for which the purchase price was $6 an acre. With little capital except their native industry they entered upon their undertaking with enthusiasm and in the course of time had the raw prairies changed into cultivated fields and improved their home by gradual additions until it sufficed for all their needs. Fruit trees were planted, shade trees also, and the raw prairie became a center of good and comfortable living.

Mr. Strong was an active farmer and continued to be identified with the rural districts of Champaign County until twenty-eight years ago, when he removed to a residence in Urbana. He built his home on Main Street, which he occupies today. At that home in 1894 death came and Mrs. Strong entered into rest. She was a woman of many estimable qualities and had a large circle of admiring friends.

For his second wife Mr. Strong married Mrs. Mary E. Smith, widow of Elijah T. Smith. Her maiden name was Mary Etta Camerer. She was born in Indiana, a daughter of Marcus and Suzanna (Jones) Camerer, her father a native of Ohio and her mother of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Strong obtained her early education in the district schools. She was married at Broadlands, Illinois, to Elijah T. Smith, and of their three children two died in infancy, the other being Ray H., who lives with Mr. and Mrs. Strong in Urbana.

Mr. and Mrs. Strong are active members of the University Place Christian Church at Urbana. Politically he is a Democrat, and has twice supported President Wilson and believes that he is a man of wisdom capable of guiding the country through the present world turmoil.

Mr. Strong as a young man did his duty as a loyal patriot and preserver of the Union. He enlisted in Company C of the Seventy-first Illinois Infantry, marched away to the South to Cairo, Illinois, and his regiment was chiefly engaged in guard duty around Columbus, Kentucky. He was finally mustered out at Chicago and returned home. Mr. Strong has many interesting recollections of early times in Champaign County. Where his house now stands in Urbana was within his memory a cornfield. He used his team and was employed as a contractor during the construction of the Illinois Central Railway through Champaign County. Even further back, as a small boy, he and his pet dogs were assigned the

duty of keeping the wolves away from the geese and sheep which the family had brought with them from the East. Mr. Strong has counted twenty-four deer in one drove feeding near his father's home, and there was much other wild game in abundance.

Mr. and Mrs. Strong have a hospitable and most attractive home at Urbana. One member of the family should not be omitted. That is a splendid parrot with beautiful plumage, known as Polly. This parrot affectionately calls Mr. Strong "Uncle" and in calling for its bill of fare it frequently mentions its fondness for pie. It also whistles and sings "Glory, Glory for Polly."

DeLong Brothers. That push and enterprise which take men over the heights of success has been the distinguishing quality of DeLong Brothers at Sadorus. In the southwestern part of Champaign County at least their achievements and their circumstances are almost too well known to need special reference, but for the benefit of the more remote sections of the county and also as a record for the future something should be given as an outline of their careers.

The firm consists of William H. and Edward B. DeLong. Both of them are natives of Champaign County and belong to an old and honored family. William H. was born in Sidney Township, November 2, 1873. The parents were Charles G. and Edna (Moore) DeLong, the former a native of New York and the latter of Massachusetts. They came to Champaign County in 1859, living one year in Philo Township, and the next year they spent in Wisconsin. On returning to Champaign County they located in Sidney Township in 1861 and brought with them from Chicago a flock of sheep, which they drove overland. Charles G. DeLong was a successful farmer of the county and died here in 1913. His widow is still living at Sadorus. They had eight children: George A., of Foosland; C. B., of Fithian, Illinois; Effie M., deceased; Minnie, wife of Eugene Burr, of Sidney Township; Clinton E., of Rocky Ford, Colorado; Clarence, deceased; William H. and Edward B.

Thus the DeLong Brothers are the youngest of the family. They began business as a firm in the grain trade on July 1, 1896, with headquarters at Sadorus. They did not have a dollar of money of their own, and it serves to heighten the appreciation of their subsequent success when it is remembered that nothing has been given them which they have not earned. In order to purchase the local elevator from David Rice they gave notes for $5,500, secured by the names of their father, C. G. DeLong, and their brothers George A. and C. B. DeLong. They also borrowed money from their brothers to buy the first consignment of grain. There were many people who wished the young men well, and doubtless there were others who were pessimistic as to their future. However, they justified the favorable expectations, and in a short time had their credit thoroughly established and owned their plant outright. Since then the business has been growing apace. They have a large amount of money invested in their elevator, coal house and other local properties and besides being grain merchants they have kept in close touch with the great agricultural industry. The brothers own about 2,700 acres of rich land in Western Canada in the Province of Saskatchewan, besides 320 acres in Washington County, Mississippi, 320 acres of rice land in Arkansas, and several hundred acres in Champaign County. In 1915 they raised a crop of over 40,000 bushels of wheat and oats in Canada and in that year and 1916 they sold their crops on Canada soil for over $60,000, leaving a profit of $40,000 for their transactions of two years. At Sadorus DeLong Brothers handle an extensive business in grain, automobiles, insurance and

as bankers, and have about fifteen men in their employ and pay out over $1,000 a month in wages.

The Bank of Sadorus is another enterprise of DeLong Brothers, and behind it stands their unassailable integrity and financial resources, which have been estimated at well upwards of $300,000. The Bank of Sadorus was opened for business May 21, 1899. In June, 1917, $181,000 was deposited in the bank, amply secured by the reserve handled in several state and national banks in Illinois and by the net worth of DeLong Brothers, which is considerably more than the total liabilities of the institution.

The chief point of all these details is that DeLong Brothers belong in the ranks of the highly successful men of Champaign County, those who began on the first round of the ladder and have climbed steadily to larger things, their capacities increasing with their opportunities and their ability to serve growing with their success.

William H. DeLong married, June 24, 1896, Lydia Lavenhagen, a native of Raymond Township and a daughter of Louis and Theresa (Moore) Lavenhagen. Her parents were natives of Germany and in 1874 settled in Philo Township of Champaign County. In the Lavenhagen family were four children: John, of Philo; Phena, wife of William Anders, of Sidney; William, of Philo; and Mrs. DeLong. Mr. and Mrs. William H. DeLong have two children: Edna Theresa, born June 19, 1897, and Kenneth, M., born October 25, 1907. William H. DeLong is a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church.

His brother Edward married, in November, 1903, Bertha Attebery. They also have two children, Clifton Charles and William Wayne. Edward DeLong is a Republican, a Mason, a Knight of Pythias and a Woodman and is active in the Presbyterian Church.

George Clinton Brown. When the early settlers came to Champaign County perhaps few of them realized that they were seeking homes in a very desirable part of the state in relation to profitable farming. Those who were industrious and frugal had the satisfaction of finding this out and no family has been more deserving of its good fortune than that founded by the late David Brown and now worthily represented here by George Clinton Brown, one of the substantial farmers of Homer Township, who is also widely known as a breeder of race horses.

George Clinton Brown was born in Homer Township, Champaign County, Illinois, April 5, 1865, and is a son of David and Eva (Clester) Brown. The father was born in Pennsylvania and the mother in Illinois. In childhood David Brown accompanied his father to Ohio and later they came to Paris, Illinois, having to walk through Champaign County because there were no railroads or other public means of transportation at that time. The lay of the land and other features in the county made a pleasant impression upon David Brown and one year later he returned to Champaign, which was then a little settlement of three houses. He went on to Sidney, where his uncle was living at that time, and worked for him for a time and then returned to Pennsylvania to be married. When he returned with his wife they settled in Homer Township, Champaign County, and that farm remained their home as long as they lived, David Brown dying in January, 1910, his wife having died in 1892. To the first marriage of David Brown there were three children born, all of whom survive: Basil, who is a resident of Champaign; Ellwood, who lives in Michigan; and Mrs. Thomas Orr, who resides at Homer. The second marriage of David Brown was to Eva Clester, who was born in Illinois, and eight children were born to this union, as follows: George Clinton;

Jeremiah, who died in 1904; Emma, who is deceased; Sadie, who is the wife of Simon Stuckey, of Washington Court House, Ohio; Belle, who is the wife of Frank Garrison, of Jerome, Idaho; Clara, who is deceased; Mary, who is the wife of Archie Cox, of Carmel, Illinois; and Oliver, who lives at Jerome, Idaho. These children were all reared on the farm of 120 acres situated in section 21, Homer Township.

George Clinton Brown atttended the township schools during boyhood and youth and assisted his father until he was twenty-one years old. He then began farming for himself, on a rented farm of eighty acres and remained there for three years and then bought his present farm of 160 acres, situated on section 17, Homer Township. Mr. Brown has shown good judgment and good taste in the fine improvements he has placed on his property. He has made a specialty of breeding race horses for some years, and owns the thorough-bred seven-year old mare Redetta, which has a record of 2.10.

Mr. Brown was married September 4, 1889, to Miss Agnes Stewart, who was born at Philo, Illinois, and they have had three children: Glenn, who is deceased; and Eva and Edna, who reside with their parents.

Mr. Brown has served for many years in public office, having been a member of the school board for twenty years and is now in his second term as road commissioner, and in many ways is an important and influential man in Homer Township. In politics he is a Republican and fraternally is a Mason.

Herman W. Bundy, M. D. As a physician and surgeon Doctor Bundy enjoys the complete confidence and most of the patronage of the community in and around Pesotum, where he has practiced actively for the last five years.

Doctor Bundy is a Kansas man by birth, having been born at Nickerson, March 11, 1879. His parents, Isaac Newton and Helena (Smithson) Bundy, were both born in Ohio. His father was an attorney who enjoyed a good practice and name as an orator in eastern Illinois, and it is recalled that he stumped the district for Joe Cannon when that Illinois celebrity made his first race for Congress. From Illinois Isaac N. Bundy moved to Nickerson, Kansas, and he died at Hutchinson in that state at the age of forty-three. His wife died in 1882. They had three children: Dr. C. D. Bundy, of Sadorus; Ralph P., an attorney at Zionsville, Indiana; and Dr. Herman W. Bundy.

Doctor Bundy grew up in the home of his maternal grandparents in Champaign County. He was still continuing his studies in high school when at the age of eighteen he enlisted with Company M at Champaign for service in the Spanish-American War. After he was mustered out he returned home and finished the high school course at Tolono. In 1901 he entered the University of Illinois, took three years of special work preparatory to a medical career and then for four years was in the Illinois College of Physicians and Surgeons at Chicago, the medical department of the State University. He received his degree from that institution in 1907 and in 1908 began practice at Pesotum with Doctor Hoffman. A year later he located at Sadorus, but in 1912, Doctor Hoffman having died, he returned to Pesotum and took up the practice of that veteran physician and has since become well established in his profession, his name being associated with ability and conscientious service all over southwestern Champaign County.

September 29, 1909, Doctor Bundy married Miss Edith Stone, of Tolono, where she was born. They have one child, Winford Newton, born February 3, 1914. Doctor Bundy is a Republican, a member of the

Masonic Lodge, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his wife are members and attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ALONZO S. BRAND. The career of Alonzo S. Brand, whose home is in Sidney Township, on Rural Route No. 58, has been characterized by that vim and vigor of achievement which is the admiration of all purposeful men. To say that he is a self-made man is hardly doing credit to his ability at overcoming difficulties in his way to success.

Mr. Brand was born in Noble County, Ohio, January 15, 1872, a son of Greenberry and Mary (Baker) Brand. His parents were also natives of the same county and his father a farmer. Alonzo was the oldest of their three children, the youngest, William, being deceased, and the only daughter, Olie, being the wife of J. H. McCoy, of Zanesville, Ohio. The father of the family died in 1876, when Alonzo was four years old, and the other children mere infants. It devolved upon Alonzo to contribute to the support of this household as soon as his tender years permitted. As a small child he frequently worked out on farms for ten cents a day until he was twelve years of age, after which he received $4 a month until he was sixteen and then for nine months worked in a general department store at $20 a month. Another nine months he spent at the hard labor of the coal mines. All his wages went to support his widowed mother and the other children. His mother passed away in 1915 and her later years were made comfortable largely through his efforts.

Mr. Brand finally rented eighty acres for a year and following this worked in a sawmill a year, and then in a store. From Ohio he came to Illinois, locating at Tolono, and arrived there with only seventy-five cents in his pocket. He worked out by the month for five years and then began a career as a renter which gradually brought him his successful position among Champaign County farmers. He bought eighty acres in Clark County, but sold that, and then bought 240 acres in Philo and Crittenden townships, later purchasing eighty acres more in Philo Township making a total of 320 acres. At the present time he owns a fine farm and is handling 560 acres on a broadly diversified basis.

The struggles of his earlier years in supporting himself and his widowed mother measure only part of the responsibilities he has carried. For the past twenty years he has had a home of his own and has been rearing and training and liberally providing for a large family of children. He married February 24, 1895, Miss Zella Chippendale, a native of Champaign County. They are the parents of nine children, named as follows: Leroy of Philo Township; Gladys; Charles M.; Earl F.; Fred V.; Bernice E., who died when four years of age; Irven G.; Clifford A.; and Thurman K., all of whom are living at home except the eldest. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church at Philo, Illinois, and Mr. Brand is a Republican.

HERMAN J. BIALESCHKE. For upward of sixty years the Bialeschke family has had a prominent part in the farming and business activities of southwestern Champaign County. Herman J. Bialeschke came to this county when a small child, industriously followed farming for many years, has played a very vigorous and public spirited part in local affairs, and is now enjoying the comforts of retired life in the village of Sadorus.

He was born in Germany, July 28, 1855, a son of Frederick and Minnie (Nofftz) Bialeschke, who were also natives of the fatherland. In 1857, when he was about a year old, the parents came to America, first locating in New York and afterwards in Chicago, and about 1858 settled

in Champaign County. His father did farming at Sadorus and for two years lived on the farm of the old pioneer, Henry Sadorus. In 1865 the fruits of his industry enabled him to buy forty acres in section 8 of Pesotum Township. In the past fifty years his name has become associated with the ownership of some of the best farming land in that township and he is still owner of 320 acres. He is now eighty-six years of age and his wife is eighty-eight. This venerable couple had eight children, Herman J. being the oldest. Amelia and Hulda are both deceased; Lafayette and Albert live in Pesotum Township; Emma is the wife of William Bachert, of Pesotum; Martha is the wife of Henry Butzloff, of Indiana; and the youngest child, Elizabeth, died quite young.

Herman J. Bialeschke grew up on his father's home in Champaign County, attended the local schools, and as a youth learned the trade of carpenter. He followed that only a brief time and began his real career as a farmer on 160 acres of land which he rented. After several years he invested his thrifty savings in ninety acres and lived there five years. He then bought the rest of his present farm, making a place of 179 acres. Still later he bought 160 acres, selling half of it to his brother-in-law and trading the other half for 184 acres near Sadorus. Through the efforts of many years he found himself possessed of a large amount of valuable Champaign County soil. His last purchase was 120 acres in Pesotum Township. Since 1912 Mr. Bialeschke has retired from the active business of farming and has lived in Sadorus.

He married Christina Miller, also a native of Germany, who came to Champaign County when a young girl. Mr. and Mrs. Bialeschke had four children; Frederick, of Pesotum Township; Lilla, wife of Jacob Krumm, of Pesotum; Ida, wife of Alfred Warfle, of Pesotum Township; and Arla, wife of Louis Kaske, of Tolono Township.

The acquisition of a generous material prosperity has not been the sole end and object of Mr. Bialeschke's efforts. He has always done his part as a citizen, served as township supervisor two years, as road commissioner and assessor, for fifteen years was a member of the drainage board, and for a similar period was a director in the public schools. He did much to perfect the system of drainage in this part of the county. He is a Republican and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and is active in the Evangelical Reformed Church.

William G. Fulton. The opinion has been expressed that opportunities today for the farmer are just as great as they were in pioneer times when land could be obtained for little or nothing. The career of William G. Fulton furnishes testimony in point. Mr. Fulton began his career in Champaign County with hardly enough capital to buy a single acre of the high priced land of this section of Illinois. He is now one of the wealthy and most prominent farmers in the southern part of the county and his accomplishments show what a man of determination and iron will may achieve.

Mr. Fulton was born in Raymond Township, January 1, 1870, a son of Henry and Eliza (Fulton) Fulton. Both parents were born in Ireland but of Scotch ancestry. His father came to America in 1868, locating in Champaign County, and spent an active career as a farmer here. He died July 9, 1908, while the mother passed away August 9, 1905. They were laid to rest in the Woodlawn cemetery in Urbana. They were the parents of five children: George, who died in infancy; Mary, who died in 1909, married M. M. Want, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church; William G.; Jennie, widow of W. T. Gwinn, of Douglas County, Illinois; and Thomas, who died in childhood. Mrs. Mary Want was the mother of

four children: Cullen, Ruth, Fulton and Mary Lewis. Her son Cullen when a young man was appointed to a cadetship in the Annapolis Naval Academy, spent four years there, and four years at sea apprenticeship, and has recently been appointed a member of the Construction Board at Annapolis and now has charge of the equipment of mine laying boats in the present war. The daughter Ruth graduated from the Woman's College at Jacksonville and is now the wife of Charles Stewart, one of the instructors in the Agricultural College at Urbana.

William G. Fulton after leaving the district schools attended the Normal School at Danville, Indiana, where he was graduated at the age of eighteen. For two years he taught school in his home county and then began farming. Though he had a capital of less than a hundred dollars he courageously bargained for an eighty acre tract of land, and in a few years not only had that paid for but began the accumulations which are now represented by 420 acres of fine land in Champaign County and two farms in Arkansas. Mr. Fulton is both a crop and stock farmer and in an active career of about twenty-five years has achieved all the success that a man of modest ambition might crave.

On October 9, 1907, he married Miss Naomi Price, a native of Lebanon, Indiana, and a daughter of David and Ida Belle (Boring) Price. Her parents were both born in Ohio and when she was a small child moved to Champaign County, locating in Crittenden Township. Mr. and Mrs. Fulton have four children: Dale H., Idabelle, Glenn Price and Dean George, the last named having been born on the 13th of August, 1917.

Mr. Fulton is a Democrat in politics. He was formerly connected with the First Naational Bank at Philo. An active Methodist, he has served as superintendent of the Sunday school and was formerly superintendent of the County Sunday School Association of Douglas County for seven years. He has also been active in school work and served as trustee of his local district.

JOHN T. RIEMKE, one of the leading grain and elevator men of southwest Champaign County, began his career in humble circumstances. and has raised himself by sheer force of will and determination to a position of independence and influence.

Mr. Riemke was born in Pesotum Township of this county August 29, 1877. His parents were Henry and Anna (Richmond) Riemke, his father a native of Germany and his mother of England. Henry Riemke came to America in 1854, spending two years in LaPorte, Indiana, before he joined the early settlers of Champaign County. He cleared up some of the land in this county and was successfully engaged in farming until his death in 1905. His wife passed away in 1904. They had nine children: Catherine, deceased; Henry of El Reno, Oklahoma; Mary, wife of Matthew Miller, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Jane, wife of Joseph E. Lustig, of Champaign County; Edward of Pesotum Township; Alice, wife of John Magsam, of Monroeville, Indiana; Anna, wife of M. J. Maley, of Fort Wayne, Indiana; John T.; and William, of Douglas County, Illinois.

John T. Riemke grew up on the home farm, attended the local schools, and at the age of nineteen went to work on a farm for J. A. Cramer as engineer with the threshing outfit and later as traction engineer with Dosey Brothers. He followed threshing as an occupation for eleven years. Later he served the firm of Condon & Kleiss in the elevator at Pesotum until 1905, when he bought Mr. Kleiss' share in the business, and since 1907 has conducted this elevator under his own name. He buys a large amount of the grain raised around Pesotum, and altogether is at the head of a prosperous business.



Henry. B. Clark.

Jessie B Clark

On February 4, 1904, Mr. Riemke married Judith Lieb, a native of Champaign County. They have one son, Charles Henry, born January 17, 1916. Mr. Riemke is a Democrat in politics. He is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and he and his family are members of the St. Joseph Catholic Church at Pesotum.

HENRY BERNARD CLARK. Life is a great drama, and many men play various roles and on many stages of activity. Such has been the experience of Henry Bernard Clark, a veteran jeweler, now living retired from a long business career at Rantoul.

Mr. Clark is probably the only man in Champaign County and perhaps the only one in Illinois whose birthplace was the historic Isle of St. Helena, associated in the memories of men chiefly because it was the prison home of Napoleon Bonaparte and also the place where he died. He was born there, a son of Thomas and Louisa (Lowden) Clark. His father was a native of England and the mother was born at St. Helena of Scotch parents. When H. B. Clark was a few days old his father died, and when he was seven years of age his widowed mother came to America. His mother was a school teacher, and the English Government gave her the management of the fortified village of Longwood, where Napoleon had had his home. A strong guard of English troops had been kept at Longwood while Napoleon was there in order to prevent his escape and foil any attempts made by the French to spirit him away from the island. In such surroundings Mr. Clark spent the first seven years of his life. His brothers were James, Thomas, William and John. He retains many memories of his early life at St. Helena. Perhaps the chief incident of his early memory was when he and some playmates filled the bathtub in the old home at Longwood which the French had built for Napoleon and played on the water some ducklings and watched their antics with great enthusiasm.

Mrs. Clark was an ambitious, energetic mother, and recognizing in the advantages of America such as were not found in Europe she came to this country hoping to better the conditions of her sons. Her oldest son, James, kept the only bakery at St. Helena, and also came to America, but was taken ill on the voyage and died three days after landing in New York. Her sons William and Thomas took to the sea while at St. Helena, and afterward became captains of vessels. Mrs. Clark brought with her to America her two sons H. B. and John. The other three sons followed her some years later. William became a captain on the Great Lakes, sailing a vessel from Buffalo to Chicago. The family were eighty days in making the voyage on a sailing vessel from St. Helena to New Bedford, Connecticut. From there Mrs. Clark went to Chicago. Her friend, Mrs. Blachford, had offered inducements which caused Mrs. Clark to come west with her sons, and she took up her home at St. Charles, Illinois, where she educated her younger boys.

H. B. Clark was only sixteen years of age when the Civil War broke out. His brothers Thomas and John enlisted in 1861. John was stricken with the measles while in the army, and while still convalescent went into action at the battle of Pea Ridge. After the strenuous exertions of that day's fighting and while stooping to enter his tent at night he dropped dead. Thomas was in the Nineteenth Illinois Infantry, was wounded three times, and died a few years ago at Chicago.

H. B. Clark enlisted in the One Hundred and Forty-first Regiment of Illinois Infantry and was first sent to Cairo, Illinois, and then into Kentucky to retard the raid of General Forrest against Illinois. He was with the troops that proceeded up the Tennessee River and drove Forrest's cav-

alry back to Memphis. Mr. Clark saw fourteen months of active service and witnessed some of the heavy fighting and arduous campaigning in the Mississippi Valley. He was mustered out at Memphis, Tennessee, and given his honorable discharge at Springfield. He then returned to Chicago.

In 1873 he married Jessie Ferson, a native of St. Charles, Illinois, and a daughter of James and Mary (Hall) Ferson. Her father was born in New Hampshire and her mother in Vermont. The Ferson children were John H., Mary A., Louisa, Julia and Jessie. They were all educated at St. Charles, Illinois.

After his marriage Mr. Clark set up a home in Chicago, where he had become identified with the jewelry business. In 1876 they came to Rantoul and Mr. Clark was continuously engaged in the jewelry business in that city for forty years. He finally retired in 1916.

To their union were born two children, one son and one daughter, James F. and Edna. Edna married Dr. W. J. Fernald, who formerly practiced in Champaign County and subsequently removed to Frankfort, Indiana. Mrs. Fernald died in Frankfort. There were four children in the Fernald family, two sons and two daughters, named Bernice, Mildred, Paul and Leroy. Bernice and Mildred graduated from the Frankfort public schools. The former is now the wife of Lieutenant Morse of the United States army and assistant band master. Their wedding was celebrated at the home of his commanding officer in Hartford, Connecticut.

The son, James F. Clark, has distinguished himself as a very capable and ambitious student and later as a successful lawyer. He attended the Rantoul High School, and then entered the law department of the University of Michigan, where he was graduated LL. B. He is now in successful practice at Rantoul and has won a fine clientage. He married Miss Eunice Craigmile, a daughter of Alexander Craigmile, a prominent citizen of Champaign County, now living at Rantoul. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have two bright young daughters, Elizabeth and Janis.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark are active members of the Congregational Church. She possesses an unusually well cultivated and perfect singing voice, and for years sang and took an active part in musical affairs in various Chicago churches and since coming to Rantoul has been an active member of the choir of her church. Fraternally Mr. Clark is affiliated with the Masonic order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Grand Army of the Republic. In this brief review Mr. Clark's long and active career has been followed from his boyhood days in St. Helena until he is now, with his wife, enjoying the comforts and happiness of a good home in Rantoul and surrounded with children and grandchildren and hosts of friends.

William A. Coolley. Of the financial institutions of the smaller communities of Champaign County, which, by reason of the character of their officials and the manner in which their business has been conducted, have acquired and held in greater or less degree the confidence of the public, one of the best and most favorably known is that operating as the Bank of Broadlands, a house which has been builded upon an honorable policy and maintained along straight-forward lines. Much of the success that has attended this institution has been brought about through the splendid business and financial ability of William A. Coolley, one of its founders and now its president. Formerly an agriculturist, Mr. Coolley is familiar with this part of the country, where he has built up a reputation for sound integrity and practical ability.

Mr. Coolley was born in Douglas County, Illinois, March 4, 1862, being a son of John A. and Harriet (Wyckoff) Coolley, the former a native

of Indiana and the latter of Ohio. John A. Coolley was for many years engaged in farming in Douglas County, where he owned a large and valuable property, but after his retirement came to live at Broadlands, where he died June 8, 1915, Mrs. Coolley having passed away August 30, 1903. There were six children in the family, as follows: William A.; Nettie, who is the wife of D. P. McIntyre, of Champaign; Luella, the wife of A. M. Kenny, of Decatur; Jonathan M., who lives on the farm in Douglas County formerly owned by his father; and two boys who died in infancy.

William A. Coolley secured his education in the public schools of Douglas County and grew up in an agricultural atmosphere, his boyhood and youth being filled with the tasks that train men to become farmers. When ready to adopt a vocation he took up the cultivation of the soil as his life work, and his energy and industry were rewarded by the accumulation of much valuable farming property. Having succeeded in this direction, and having become interested in monetary matters, as connected with farm loans and other ways, in 1892 he joined Messrs. Kenny and McIntyre in the formation of the Bank of Broadlands. At the time of the organization Mr. Kenny, now a resident of Decatur, was made president, and when he left that office was succeeded by Mr. McIntyre. Subsequently the latter removed to Champaign, and Mr. Coolley succeeded to the presidential position, which he still retains. He is rather of the conservative type of banker, but has the courage to enter into large undertakings when assured that they are absolutely safe and legitimate. His policies have served to attract and hold the faith and esteem of the public, and the depositors come from all over the countryside adjoining Broadlands. Politically Mr. Coolley is a Republican, but he has only taken a good citizen's interest in public matters, and has not cared to have his name used in connection with candidacy for public office. His fraternal identification is with the Masons. In the civic affairs of Broadlands he has done his part to help good movements and to conserve the best interests of the thriving little city.

On October 10, 1894, Mr. Coolley was united in marriage with Miss Jeannette McIntyre, who was born in Ontario, Canada, and to this union there has been born one daughter, Anna, who is single and resides with her parents.

Alpheus C. Swearingen. At a pleasant home on Sherman Street in the village of St. Joseph reside a couple who carry with them many memories of Champaign County both old and new and are enjoying the declining years of life with comforts and the riches of esteem befitting their worthy careers. Mr. and Mrs. Swearingen spent their active lives on a farm, garnered many harvests therefrom, reared their children to worthy and useful lives, and then gave up their home in the country for the one they now occupy at St. Joseph.

Mr. Swearingen is a native of Champaign County, a son of Andrew and Rebecca (Hayden) Swearingen. His parents were among the pioneers of this section of Illinois, and around their log cabin home in the early days the Indians were frequent visitors. They helped convert the prairies and the swamps into arable farms, and had many hardships to contend with.

Alpheus C. Swearingen grew up in a pioneer home and had his education in the public schools. He married Mary Strong, also a native of Champaign County, of St. Joseph Township. She is a daughter of John H. and Eliza Ann (Rice) Strong. The Strongs were likewise among the pioneers, and John H. Strong was a stock buyer for forty years. Mrs.

Swearingen's grandparents were John Orange and Nancy Strong, who came to Champaign County from Kentucky. At that time Indians were very numerous. The family kept large dogs in order to scare the Indians from the home while the men were away. The Indians feared the dogs and would only come up to the fence, where they would cry "Hoo-Hoo." The red men were great beggars and always wanting something to eat. Mr. Swearingen's uncle, Christopher Hoff, also lived in Champaign County at this time. The government had purchased the land from the Indians and gave them a certain date to evacuate. The time passed by but the Indians were slow about leaving. Mr. Hoff and his neighbors went down to their encampment south of the Kelley Hotel on the creek. There were about 500 Indians. The white men told them the time was up, to which the Indians replied "Puckachee, Puckachee," that is, we will go by and by. Christopher Hoff spoke up and said, "You puckachee now, time is up." The next morning the entire camp had moved West, greatly to the relief of the white settlers. Christopher Hoff was a genial, wholesouled man who always had some pleasant story to relate, in fact his supply of stories was inexhaustible. His memory is still gratefully preserved among the old settlers.

Mr. Swearingen's mother, when a young girl used to work at the old Kelley Tavern when Abraham Lincoln, Douglas and other noted men were guests.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Swearingen started their wedded life in St. Joseph Township, the first year renting a farm of his brother, V. Swearingen. They had all the elements of character necessary to success as thrifty farmers and out of their earnings of hard work they bought their first eighty acres, and their first improvement there was a log house with hewn logs, comprising three rooms. Some years later, they traded this for another eighty acres and Mr. Swearingen entered upon his active career as general farmer and stock raiser. He sold many bushels of corn at twenty-five cents a bushel and at one time he sold a car load of hogs for $3.10 a hundred. After many years of steady cultivation of the soil Mr. and Mrs. Swearingen bought their cosy home on Sherman Street in St. Joseph, and there they may be found today. Mr. Swearingen is a man of public spirit and has served the village ten years as postmaster and also as school director.

Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Swearingen: Alta M., John V., Elza C., Edith E., Lillian O., Cora A., Chester B. and Leona T. Mr. and Mrs. Swearingen took great pains with the education of their children and all of them attended the public schools of St. Joseph. Their first heavy loss was the death of their oldest child, Alta, at the age of twelve years. Their son John V. Swearingen, now an undertaker at Champaign and county coroner, married Alta M. Glasscock and they have three sons, Paul Vere, Clare and Virgil. Elza C. Swearingen, a farmer in St. Joseph Township, married Lutie Ridinger, and their children are Orville, Omer, Pearl, Clora, Vern, Margaret, Evalyn, Florence and Vere. Edith Swearingen married Otis Cowden, and at her death she left three children, named Trevert, Lavelle and Lyle. Lillian O. died after her marriage to Orin Reese and left one child, Glen. Cora A. Swearingen is the wife of Fred Cowden and has two daughters, Thelma and Roberta. Leona T. Swearingen married Louis Foulk, and their two daughters are Neva and Morine. Chester B. Swearingen, the youngest son of the family, was educated in the public schools of St. Joseph and from an early age his ambition was centered upon the navy. Such a career was his leading thought while a boy on the farm, and he talked of it until he finally persuaded his father to give his consent, and at Danville, at the age

of eighteen, he enlisted. For eight years he served his country as a musician in the government band, and has been promoted from time to time and has made a fine record for himself. His first four years were spent on the battleship Virginia, and for the last three years he has been on the United States repair ship, now located at Norfolk, Virginia. He has visited Paris, London and many other principal centers of Europe. Mrs. Swearingen has in her home a pillow with a picture of the battleship and the United States coat of arms, bordered with a golden chain and anchor.

Mr. and Mrs. Swearingen are active members and liberal supporters of the Christian Church at St. Joseph. In politics they are ardent Republicans. Mrs. Swearingen imbibed the principles of that great party from her father, a pioneer and most loyal Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Swearingen, always loyal to Champaign County, have at the same time used their means for extensive travel, especially in the western states. They have made several tours through the West, visiting Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, Bellingham, Washington, and Denver, Colorado. It has been their lot to witness the many changes for good made in Champaign County. Both of them remember the primitive types of the old time threshing machine, operated by horse or cattle power. When they were children the town of Champaign did not exist, and nearly all the other marvelous developments described on other pages of this history were witnessed before their eyes. Mr. Swearingen has as a family relic a fine old Bible which was published in Philadelphia in 1825, and is now over ninety years of age and contains many interesting items concerning the family history of the Haydens.

James P. Yeazel. In the fertile agricultural country of Champaign County there are found many men who have passed their entire lives within its borders and have won success and standing. In this class is undeniably James P. Yeazel, who is now carrying on agricultural operations in section 8, Homer Township, which has been his home for nearly thirty-one years. He was born in this township, here received his training, both educational and agricultural, and here has passed his entire career, winning straightforward success with honor, and a strong place in the confidence of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Yeazel was born February 14, 1847, on the old Yeazel family homestead farm in Homer Township, a son of Adam and Maria (Crable) Yeazel, natives of Ohio. His father came to this community at a very early date in the history of the county, and, locating in Homer Township, took up land and applied himself to the cultivation of the soil. He continued to be engaged in farming during the remainder of his life, but did not live to enjoy the success which his industry and good management merited, as his death occurred in middle age, June 1, 1852. Mrs. Yeazel survived him for a long time and passed away in Homer township in 1886. There were ten children in the family, namely: Eliza Jane, Sarah, John and Mary, who are all deceased; Elizabeth, who is the widow of Captain Zeblin Hall, who earned his title while serving with Company C, Twenty-fifth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil War; Isaac, deceased; James P.; William, of Tazewell County, Illinois; Wallace, of Homer; and Abraham.

James P. Yeazel attended the district schools of Homer Township and was brought up to be a farmer, the only vocation which he has ever followed. Until five years after his marriage he remained with his mother, for whom he operated the home farm, and then purchased a property of his own, 100 acres on section 8, Homer Township. To this original purchase he has since added, and he is now the owner of one of the valuable farms of the township, a tract noticeable for its many fine

improvements, its good buildings and its general prosperous condition. Mr. Yeazel carries on his operations along modern lines, and is quick to note the value of innovations. In his conduct of his business transactions he has always been upright and honorable, and as a result has gained a position where his fellow citizens place their trust and confidence in him and consider his word as something as valuable as his bond. His operations in farming have been general in character, and as he is equally skilled in all departments his property shows a well-balanced success.

Mr. Yeazel was married December 11, 1878, to Miss Lucy A. Taylor, of Vermilion County, Illinois, and one daughter has been born to this union; Ethel M., who is now the wife of Barton Parrish, of Allerton, Illinois. Mr. Yeazel is a Republican, but takes only a voter's part in political affairs. He belongs to the Masons and the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and Mrs. Yeazel belong to the Presbyterian Church.

FRED J. HOLL, who has lived in Champaign County for half a century, having grown to manhood here, has made his career chiefly that of merchant, and is proprietor of one of the oldest and most completely stocked mercantile establishments in the village of Sadorus.

Mr. Holl in his career has exemplified the sturdy virtues of the German fatherland, where he was born December 16, 1861, a son of Fred and Christina (Kreager) Holl. His parents immigrated from the fatherland in the spring of 1867, bringing their little family to Champaign County and locating on a farm in Pesotum Township. Here the farmer industriously pursued his career as an agriculturist until his death in 1897, being survived by his widow until 1903. Fred Holl, Sr., was honored with several minor township offices and was a splendid citizen. There were five children in the family: Fred J., William, of Pesotum; Augusta, wife of A. J. Nofftz of Champaign; Henry W., of Sadorus; and Benjamin C., of Pesotum Township. By a previous marriage the mother had a son Charles, now deceased.

Fred Holl grew up on his father's farm in this county and was twenty-eight years old when he started out to make his own way in the world as a farmer. He did farming two years and then engaged in the general mercantile business at Sadorus with George Luhrsen. They were partners three years and then Henry Holl, brother of Fred, bought the interests of Mr. Luhrsen and the business grew and prospered under the joint enterprise of the Holl brothers for eighteen years. At the end of that time Fred Holl bought out his brother and has since been sole proprietor of the fine two-story modern brick store that is a center of trade for a large district in the southwest corner of Champaign County.

Mr. Holl married, August 19, 1894, Emma Rahn, a native of Pesotum Township. They are the parents of a family of four children: Clarence A., Edna, Everett and Alfred.

Besides his very busy career Mr. Holl has found time to serve as tax collector of Pesotum Township and as a member of the town board. He is interested in Democratic party affairs and is a regular worshiper in the Lutheran Church.

JAMES J. FREEMAN, of Homer, represents the second generation of a family that has played a worthy part in the affairs of Champaign County for over sixty years, and he is managing with thrift and a high degree of prosperity a fine farm in the locality where he was born.

Mr. Freeman was born in Champaign County, May 27, 1858. His parents were Thomas and Nancy (Redman) Freeman, the father born in

Ohio and the mother in Illinois. His father was one of the early agriculturists in this county and died in Champaign County in 1910, while the mother died here in 1902. Both of them died in the month of April and their birthdays were in the same month. There were six children: Mary M., deceased; Edmund R. of Ogden, Illinois; John T. of Homer; James J.; and William and Margaret, both of whom died in infancy.

James J. Freeman lived with his father until he was twenty-five years of age, and in the meantime had the advantages of the local schools and also a training which well fitted him for the responsibilities he has later assumed. At the age of twenty-five he bought a farm, subsequently having a brief mercantile experience in Homer, then returned to the farm, and for another short period was engaged in the lumber business at Homer. Mr. Freeman owns 110 acres of the old homestead of 280 acres, and also has a quarter section north of Ogden. His business is stock and grain farming and he has brought about many improvements and much increased productiveness on the land which he helped work as a boy.

Mr. Freeman married Flora E. Yount, a native of Vermilion County. Three children were born to their marriage: Cleavie, who died at the age of four years; a daughter that died in infancy; and Gordon A., at present in Battery C, Seventeenth Field Artillery. Mr. Freeman is independent in politics. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Benjamin M. Custer, of Homer, where he lives retired, is now serving as township supervisor. His main business in life has been farming, and he still owns a fine place in Champaign County, where the family were among the pioneer settlers. Mr. Custer is one of the many men in Champaign County who have won financial independence through the avenue of agriculture.

He was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, January 23, 1852, a son of Jacob M. and Elizabeth O. (Ochiltree) Custer. His parents were both natives of Virginia, and they came to Illinois in 1848, locating in Vermilion County. In 1856, soon after the village of Homer was started on the newly completed Wabash railroad, the family moved to that town and Jacob Custer erected the first hotel in Homer. After managing it for three and a half years he turned to farming and in that occupation spent his life until his death on September 13, 1865. His widow survived him until November 1, 1899. They were the parents of nine children, the record of each being briefly stated as follows: Margaret, born October 5, 1834, died November 5, 1843; Martha E., born September 4, 1836, died April 14, 1907; Mary E., born October 10, 1838, is the widow of James Hays, of Chicago; William C., born January 8, 1841, died April 8, 1899; John M., born April 26, 1843, died August 12, 1913; James F., born May 27, 1845, died May 18, 1862; George W., born September 5, 1847, died September 6, 1848; Jacob A., born February 24, 1850, is still living at Homer; and the youngest is Benjamin M.

Benjamin M. Custer spent his early life in and around Homer, secured his education in the public schools and was on the home farm as a factor in its work and management until 1877. In that year he rented ninety acres of the home place, and after his mother's death he bought the entire farm. After forty years of continuous work as an agriculturist Mr. Custer retired and in 1912 bought his comfortable modern home on South Main Street at Homer, where he now spends his time.

Mr. Custer is a Republican in politics and on that ticket was elected to his office as supervisor. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Pythias and the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He married Miss Carrie Radebaugh, a native of Pennsylvania. Two children were born to their marriage, Harry, the older, dying in infancy. Oral B., the only daughter, is the wife of W. F. Barton, a Champaign County farmer.

Oscar J. Henderson. Many years of association with the agricultural interests of Champaign County have given Oscar J. Henderson a recognized position among the husbandmen of Homer Township, where he now has a well cultivated property of 110 acres. He has passed his entire career within the limits of the county, and is known as a skilled tiller of the soil and as a citizen who gives his aid and influence to worthy civic measures and movements, while his business record is a clean one and his success in life has been cleanly and fairly won.

Mr. Henderson was born on the home farm in Homer Township, September 1, 1872, and is a son of William and Nancy J. (Hoff) Henderson. His parents, who were natives of Montgomery County, Indiana, came to Champaign County in 1867, in which year they located on a farm in section 19, Homer Township. William Henderson was an industrious and enterprising man, who, starting life with energy and ambition as his only capital, worked out a splendid success for himself and won well deserved notice in the locality in which his home was made. His death occurred February 7, 1896, while Mrs. Henderson, a woman of many estimable qualities, survived him until March 12, 1901. In addition to his farming operations William Henderson was for several years one of the pioneer school teachers of Champaign County, being a man of superior education. He did not enter public life, but was an influence in promoting and fostering beneficial movements and had his fellow-citizens' esteem. He and his wife were the parents of six children: Minnie, Edgar and Alice, who are all deceased; and Oscar J., Emma and Alma, who reside at home.

The district schools of Homer Township furnished Oscar J. Henderson with his elementary education, following which he attended the Homer High School for two years. When he started upon his career he adopted teaching as his vocation, but after spending two years in the schoolroom decided that farming was his particular forte and accordingly returned to the home place, which he has since been conducting with splendid success. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and the prosperity which has rewarded his efforts would seem to indicate that he is both a skilled agriculturist and a good judge of live stock. The property consists of 110 acres, and is under a high state of cultivation, with modern improvements and a good set of buildings to enhance its value. The modern home is located on Homer Rural Route No. 60. Mr. Henderson is unmarried and lives with his two sisters. He is a Republican in politics, although not actively identified with political affairs save as a voter, while his fraternal association is with the Tribe of Ben Hur and his religious membership is in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has many friends in the community who have watched his upward progress with much interest.

Jacob Redmon. In these days when the American nation is once more girded for battle, the people pay increasing honor and respect to the comparatively few survivors of that great struggle of fifty years ago when the object was the destruction of the institution of slavery as it is now the abolition of autocratic governments from the face of the earth.

One of the veterans of that war against slavery living in Champaign County is Mr. Jacob Redmon of Ogden. He has lived to attain and pass the age of three quarters of a century and practically all his life has been

spent in Champaign County. He was born near Sidney, Illinois, in 1841, a son of Isaiah and Mary (Thomas) Redmon. His father was a native of Pennsylvania. He was only a small child when his mother died, and he grew up practically among strangers near Homer. Jacob Redmon had one sister, Elizabeth, who became the wife of Gersham Wright.

Jacob Redmon was twenty years of age when war broke out between the North and the South. One day he was attending Sunday school at the old Cottington schoolhouse. At this session of Sunday school there was also present Lieutenant Ed Hall. The lieutenant had in his pocket a company roll and young Redmon before the session was over asked Hall to put down his name for enlistment. He was mustered into service at St. Louis, Missouri, the same year and thus responded to the first call for three years men to put down the rebellion. As a member of Company C of the Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry he was sent with his comrades to Jefferson City, Missouri, and soon took part in that great campaign through southern Missouri and northern Arkansas, which was one of the hardest blows struck at the Confederacy. He fought in the battle of Pea Ridge and other engagements of that campaign until Price and the Confederate forces were driven out of the country. The regiment then crossed the Mississippi and took part in the siege and battle of Corinth, and later in the tremendous fighting of Stone River at Murfreesboro. Then followed almost continuous fighting through Tennessee, Kentucky and northern Georgia, and for three years Mr. Redmon endured the hardships and dangers of army life without a murmur. He was in part of the great Atlanta campaign, fighting at Peach Tree Creek, Kenesaw Mountain, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain, but before the campaign was over he was relieved from duty on expiration of his enlistment and returning home was mustered out at Springfield, Illinois.

With a record made as a veteran soldier, a distinction that will be cherished by his descendants in all generations, he returned to the old place near Homer where he had spent his boyhood days. There in 1867 he married Miss Minerva Anderson, who was born near Danville, Illinois. They took up their home on the farm of his aunt, Elizabeth Redmon, near Homer, but after two years the death angel visited the home and Mrs. Redmon entered into rest in 1869. The only child of the union, Robert Redmon, died at the age of eighteen months.

In 1871 Mr. Redmon married Lovica E. Fowler. She was a native of Ohio, daughter of George and Miranda (Butts) Fowler. Her father died before she was born and when she was six years of age her mother passed away, so that she grew up in the home of her grandmother in Indiana. After the war the family moved to Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Redmon began their wedded life near Homer, where for six years he operated a sawmill. He then came to Ogden, where he has had his home for a long period of years. He was first engaged in the trade of plasterer and brick layer, but for twenty years followed harnessmaking as a trade and conducted a shop which was the center of a large and flourishing business.

Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Redmon, Ulysses Vernon, Bertha Florence, Oscar, Cora Elizabeth, Frank M., Harry E. and Nellie. The son Oscar died at the age of twenty years. These children were given the advantages of the public schools of Ogden. Ulysses, the oldest, lives at Rockford, Illinois, and by his marriage to Mary Richards has two children, Hazel and Merle. The daughter Bertha is the wife of William Hasty, a clerk at St. Joseph Village, and their children are Fern and Harold. Cora E. married Dell Strong, a poultryman at Fithian, Illinois. They have a household of five children, Gladys, Goldie, Arthur, Wayne and Rema. Frank M. Redmon is a printer by trade and lives at Bloom-

ington, Illinois. He married Bertha Peters and has a daughter Laneva. Harry Redmon is a harness maker by trade living at Urbana, and by his marriage to Pearl Barnhart has three children, Carl, Clyde and May. The youngest child, Nellie, is the wife of Fred Priblo, a farmer near St. Joseph. They have one son, Darwin.

Mr. and Mrs. Redmon have for many years been sustaining members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Ogden. In politics Mr. Redmon has never deviated from the principles which he supported in casting his first vote. This vote was given to Abraham Lincoln in 1864, about the time he returned from his army service. Mr. Redmon fought as a soldier for the triumph of the principles advocated by the Republican party at the beginning, and has kept his allegiance true through all the half century that has followed. His career in civic affairs and in business life has been as straightforward and honest as his early service in following the flag was steadfast and courageous, and the years have brought him abundant success and community esteem. He has served as member of the town board of Ogden, and in his later years he and his good Christian wife have enjoyed the pleasures of a good home in the village and the associations of a fine family and many friends.

SAMUEL LIVINGSTON is of the pioneer element of Champaign County. He came to this region sixty years ago. It was nearly sixty years ago that he and his young wife began the battle with existence on some of the broad and virgin prairies of this section, and what they endured, what they achieved, the family that grew up around them, and the riches of esteem that were paid to them by their neighbors is worthy of something more than passing record.

Now living retired, Mr. Livingston since the death of his wife has found a home of every comfort for his declining years with his daughter, Mrs. Rosa Lee Donovan, on Congress Avenue, in Rantoul. Samuel Livingston was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, one of the ten children of John and Margaret (May) Livingston, who were also natives of the Old Dominion. When he was two years of age his parents moved to Montgomery County, Ohio, near Dayton. He grew up there and acquired his education in the local schools. At the age of twelve years he left home and worked for his board and clothes, and when he was fourteen he hired out for $3.50 per month and performed a man's work. He hauled as much cordwood to the town as his employer. During that time he would go home on Saturdays and carry the mail bag six miles, walking the distance. He always worked out by the month. At the age of twenty Mr. Livingston went still farther west, locating near Terre Haute, Indiana. He was there two years and in 1855 arrived in Champaign County, Illinois. Then followed a period of capable industry and hard work as a hand on the Genung farm. He worked for Mr. Genung one year and then bought twenty-one head of oxen and operated three breaking teams, breaking prairie for $3 per acre. He estimated that he broke 1,000 or more acres of prairie in the neighborhood. He went through severe hardships during that time. He carried an ox yoke on his shoulder on horseback ten miles to Rantoul, in many places wading through sloughs and basins of water two feet deep at times. With his oxen he worked all day long and during the hot part of the season he would get up at 3 o'clock in the morning and let his oxen graze until light enough to see to plow. He had a bell on one so they could not stray away. On one job of breaking where he boarded the people were very poor and they had to eat off of dry goods boxes and sleep on the floor. There were seven of them all lying in a row on the floor. When the owner of the land, which was ten miles





Samuel. Livingston and Wife

away, went with him to look at the work they only had one horse. One would ride a mile or two, then hitch the horse to some rosin stalks until the other caught up, then he would walk. When they reached their destination it was about noon, and they both had to eat off of one plate on a box. Some of them had to eat with their jackknives. Mr. Livingston worked steadily four years, saved his wages, and all the time had an eye to the future.

In 1859 he went back to Indiana, where he had left his sweetheart, Miss Letitia Shores. She was born in Indiana, a daughter of Meredith and Frankie L. Shores.

The father of Mrs. Livingston, Meredith Shores, had traveled all the way on horseback from North Carolina to New Goshen, near Terre Haute, Indiana. He was a young man at the time and was viewing out a place for a future home. One night he stopped at a farmhouse. All the family were out in the fields except a daughter, Frankie Tizer, a seventeen-year-old maiden, who was preparing dinner and going about her work with a great show of industry and energy. The principal and, to the young traveler, the most attractive part of the food was a loaf of corn bread which she was baking in an old-fashioned skillet at the open fireplace. As the tired and hungry traveler looked at the loaf he thought that he could eat it all, and at the same time with hunger there entered into his heart a desire to win and have the beautiful young cook for his bride. He was invited to dine after the fashion of pioneer hospitality that then prevailed, and while the bountiful but simple meal soon appeased his hunger, his love for the young girl strengthened and increased. The acquaintance thus begun ripened into love and ended with wedding bells. Meredith Shores lived to the age of forty-eight, but his wife, Frankie, attained the venerable age of ninety-seven. The energy which she displayed on that day when her future husband arrived at her home was characteristic of her entire life and she proved a very excellent manager and developed a splendid character of true womanhood.

When Samuel Livingston returned with his bride from Indiana he rented the Genung farm and conducted it for five years. He had the qualifications which make the successful man in every sphere and in time he and his wife were able to buy eighty acres, and later forty acres more, making them the owners of 120 acres, seven miles northwest of Rantoul. They paid $13 an acre for this land, but many years later they sold it for $225 an acre. In 1882 they left the farm and removed to Rantoul.

To Mr. and Mrs. Livingston were born six children: Ida M., Warren B., Rosa Lee, Minnie B., Cora E., Charles R. These children had the advantages of a good home and also attended the Maple Grove district school and the high school at Rantoul. Warren B. also attended school at Paxton, Illinois, and the Terre Haute Business College. Ida M. Livingston married Josiah Chaney, a farmer, and their home is in Burns, Kansas. Their five children are named Cora R., Ivaloo, Marian, Wilbur and Freddie. Rosa Lee married William B. Donovan, a painter and decorator at Rantoul. They have a daughter, Rena May, who was educated partly in Chicago and partly in the high school at Rantoul, and is now the wife of Edgar J. Burns, a resident of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Burns have two children, Leroy B. and Edgar Dale, these being great-grandchildren of Mr. Samuel Livingston. Minnie B. Livingston married Professor Harold Lawrence, a resident of Yakima, Washington. Charles R. Livingston, who lives at Chrisman, Illinois, and is editor of the Chrisman Courier, married Nellie Murphy, and they have a daughter, Deniza Fayelle Livingston.

The usual assortment of joys and sorrows came to the Livingston family, and death took away the children until the only ones now living

are Charles and Rosa Lee. The good mother passed away in 1913. Through her long life she had endeared herself to a large community by her Christian neighborliness and kindness, and she entered into rest with the benedictions of her family and friends. When her health began to fail her daughter, Mrs. Donovan, removed to Rantoul from Chicago and carefully nursed her through her last illness. Later Mr. and Mrs. Donovan built for themselves a commodious bungalow on Congress Avenue in Rantoul and here, with every comfort and the companionship of his devoted daughter, Mr. Livingston is spending his last days.

Both the Livingston and Donovan families are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rantoul. Samuel Livingston has long been a regular voter of the Democratic ticket. Mr. Donovan usually supports the principles of politics rather than the party. In his younger years Samuel Livingston served eighteen years as constable of Rantoul.

Few families have been more closely identified with developing Champaign County over a longer period of years than the Livingstons. When Mr. and Mrs. Livingston first settled here the land was raw prairie. They bore the hardships with patience and perseverance and their labors were eventually crowned with success. When Mr. Livingston broke his prairie land, following the oxen back and forth over the fields, the wolves would frequently appear and at a safe distance follow him and the animals up and down. Both in the earlier years and later the Livingston home was noted for its hospitality. No needy person was ever turned away from the door uncared for.

MATHEW L. YEAZEL. One of the old and honored families of Champaign County is that which bears the name of Yeazel and which has been represented here for more than three-quarters of a century. Its members have been mainly engaged in agricultural pursuits and have been noted for their honorable and upright dealings and their good citizenship. A worthy representative of the name is found in the person of Mathew L. Yeazel, who for nearly sixty years has been a resident of Homer Township, where he is now carrying on operations on the Old Homestead farm.

Mr. Yeazel was born on the farm to the supervising of the operations on which he now devotes his attention. This is located in section 7, Homer Township. He was born June 12, 1858, a son of James and Mary Maria (Spencer) Yeazel, natives of Ohio. James Yeazel came to Champaign County in March, 1840, and from small beginnings grew to be one of the most substantial farmers in this part of the county, having accumulated a property of 640 acres and various other holdings, including realty and business interests. Also he was prominent in the affairs of his community and was frequently elected to office in the township, where he held, among others, the position of township supervisor. Mrs. Yeazel died when her son Mathew L. was eight years of age. The children were as follows: John and William, deceased in infancy; Alice, who is the wife of Hugh O'Neil, of Homer; Abraham and Abigail, who are deceased; Mathew L.; and Inez, the wife of C. G. Squires, of Indianapolis, Indiana.

The public schools of Homer Township furnished Mathew L. Yeazel with his education, and his boyhood and youth were spent on the home farm, where he assisted his father. Married at the age of twenty-one years, at that time he began operations on his own account on a rented farm of eighty acres, on which he lived for five years, and at the end of that time rented another property, one of 160 acres, and spent a like period thereon. In the meantime his father had died, and his father-in-law had purchased 260 acres of the present farm. Two years later he passed away, leaving his son-in-law and daughter 225 acres, and when Mr. Yeazel settled

thereon he named it the Old Homestead farm, in honor of his and his wife's parents. He is now engaged in general farming operations, but more as an overseer than as an active worker, and is recognized as one of the skilled and substantial agriculturists of his community and a business man of ability and honor.

Mr. Yeazel was married October 9, 1879, to Julia E. Smith, a native of Champaign County and a daughter of Mortimer and Jennie (Tresler) Smith. Mr. Smith was one of the prominent men of Homer Township, having started the second tile manufacturing plant in the State of Illinois, and he died a very wealthy citizen, passing away May 21, 1906. He and his wife were the parents of eight children: Julia E., the wife of Mr. Yeazel; Clara, deceased; William, a resident of Homer; Mary, the widow of Byron S. Poisal, of the Auditorium Hotel, Chicago; Jennie, the wife of Wyley C. Wamsley, of Long Beach, California; Nellie, who is deceased; Charles, of Danville, Illinois; and Harry J., of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Yeazel have had four children: Estella J., who is the wife of Charles Havard, of Homer; Jennie, who met death as an infant by burning; Nellie M., the wife of C. V. Davis, of Sheridan, Wyoming; and Lelia, the wife of Owen Johnson, of Marshfield, Indiana. Mr. Yeazel is a Republican, and his influence is felt in fraternal circles, he being a member of the local lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. His religious connection and that of Mrs. Yeazel is with the Presbyterian Church.

Ross A. Flatt represents the younger and progressive business element of Champaign County, and in many ways has shown his splendid capabilities in business affairs. He is a son of A. J. Flatt, the well known grain and general merchant at Leverett, concerning whom further mention is made on other pages.

Ross A. Flatt was born on his father's farm in Somer Township of Champaign County April 10, 1890. He grew up on the farm, attended the common schools and finished his education in the Champaign High School. When his school work was finished he began assisting his father in the business at Leverett, and gradually acquired a thorough and detailed knowledge of general merchandising, grain and farm implement trade. In 1909 he became a partner with his father under the name Flatt & Son, and their store, elevators and other activities constitute a bulk of the business transacted in the community at Leverett.

Mr. Flatt was married to Ella S. Roberts, daughter of Joseph B. and Elizabeth Roberts of Somer Township. They have one son, now three years of age, Ross, Jr. In politics Mr. Flatt is a Republican, and is affiliated with Urbana Lodge No. 991 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

J. B. Bensyl. The Bensyl family came to Champaign County in pioneer times, and one of the number is Mr. J. B. Bensyl, now in business at Ogden. His active career has been spent in the county, and he was born in St. Joseph Township May 9, 1855.

He was the fourth in the family of nine children born to Lewis and Mary (Corray) Bensyl. His parents were both born in Ohio, and each was two years old when their respective families came to Illinois. Lewis Bensyl and wife were married in this state, and Lewis Bensyl was long a prominent figure in the life of this county.

J. B. Bensyl grew up at home and attended with his brothers and sisters the Clark school a mile north of Mayview. When not in school he assisted his father on the farm, and at the age of twenty-two he married Miss Mary

Braten. Mrs. Bensyl was born in Urbana Township, daughter of August and Anna (Winkleman) Braten. Her father was a native of Germany and her mother of Switzerland, and they married after coming to America. The Bratens acquired a fine farm in Champaign County. Mr. Braten served as constable in Somer Township and for many years as deputy sheriff at Urbana. Mrs. Bensyl was one of nine children, all of whom were educated in the public schools.

Mr. and Mrs. Bensyl after their marriage located in Urbana, where he took the management of some of the land owned by Mrs. Bensyl's father. Having the qualities of youth, industry and energy, they were soon making good progress and after farming the Braten estate for ten years they removed to Ogden Township and continued as renters in that section of the county for another twelve years. Their accumulations then enabled them to buy eighty acres of their own north of the town of Ogden, and this became their permanent home in the country. While the land had no improvements, they developed it rapidly, put up good buildings, set out trees, and left it a monument to their effective industry and husbandry.

The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bensyl: Lulu, Amanda, Otis, Ora, Verna and Nora. From the first Mr. and Mrs. Bensyl appreciated the value of training and of education and sent their children to the Central School and so far as possible helped them to acquire a liberal education and fit themselves for positions of usefulness in the world. Amanda and Verna and Nora all became successful teachers and did their work in that vocation in Champaign County and also in Vermilion County. The good they accomplished as teachers during all the years they spent in that vocation can hardly be estimated. Nora Bensyl received her first certificate in 1916 and is engaged to teach the Cottonwood School in Urbana Township for the year 1917-18. Eighteen years ago the daughter Amanda attended the teachers examination at Danville and was awarded her first certificate. Then after teaching one year she was given a first grade certificate. The daughter Verna took the entire course of Brown's Business College at Urbana, becoming an efficient shorthand operator and also a typist and bookkeeper. The daughter Nora attended the high school at Ogden and later Mrs. Brown's Normal Training School for Teachers at Homer. She taught the Danforth School in Raymond Township, near Sidney. In addition to her literary studies Miss Nora has been an interested student of music under the direction of Professor C. L. Foster in his musical studio at Champaign. The daughter Amanda married Abner Silkey. Mr. Silkey was principal of the St. Joseph High School two years, and principal of the high school at Ogden two years. He is now a well known business man of Urbana, being cashier of the First Trust & Savings Bank. Mr and Mrs. Silkey have two children, Harriet and Mary.

The Bensyl family have not been spared the visitations of death, and on December 2, 1916, the beloved son Otis passed away. He was a young man of much ability and had acquired a large circle of devoted friends. He married Ruth Hool.

The son Ora is successfully managing his father's farm. By his marriage to Bessie Bradley he has three children, Mary Elizabeth, Vance Leroy and Ora.

The daughter Verna is now the wife of Ora Hall, who is connected with the Standard Oil Company living at Ogden. The other two daughters, Lulu and Nora, are still at home with their parents.

For the last two years Mr. Bensyl has been engaged in the operation of a livery business at Ogden. His methods of doing business have brought him a large patronage and he is a thorough business man. Mr. and Mrs. Bensyl are active members of the Prospect Christian Church at Ogden

and in politics he is a Democrat. Progress has always been the keynote of Mr. Bensyl's career, and his industry has brought him success, while during many years he has had a good wife to establish the home and train their children and add to the many pleasant things for which the name Bensyl is noteworthy in Champaign County.

Louis V. Jurgensmeyer. In the community of Homer one of the names most significant of large business activities is that of Jurgensmeyer. Mr. Louis V. Jurgensmeyer has spent his life in that town and surrounding community and it would be difficult to say in what one field his accomplishments are best known. He has been a merchant, has done much to develop Homer as a business town, but he is also an extensive farmer and stock breeder, and has some of the finest hogs found in this section of Illinois.

He was born at Homer May 3, 1876, a son of William and Mary Elizabeth (Hengst) Jurgensmeyer. His father was born at Logan and his mother at Lancaster, Ohio, and in 1869 they settled on a farm in Vermilion County, Illinois. His father was also a successful stock raiser and farmer. In 1900 the parents removed to Homer, where they spent their last days retired and where the father died January 13, 1907 and the mother January 27, 1905. There were only two children, the older being Elizabeth, wife of C. A. M. Smith of Danville.

Louis V. Jurgensmeyer had in addition to a common school education the two years course of Bryant & Stratton College at Chicago. He early showed business ability, and is one of the few men who can handle various interests capably and profitable. In 1902 he established a general department store in the Opera House Block at Homer, and conducted a large business in that location for six years. He has also built a garage in Homer, was formerly active in the automobile business and is the owner of several buildings in the town, including his handsome brick residence, the best of the village, which he erected in 1910.

For a number of years Mr. Jurgensmeyer's time has been well taken up with his farming and stock raising. He makes a specialty of the O. I. C. hogs and has over two hundred head of this registered strain. His farming interests are operated on 525 acres in Vermilion County, and he also owns 160 acres in the Province of Ontario, Canada.

Mr. Jurgensmeyer is a Republican, was formerly a member of the town board and is affiliated with the Masonic Order and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and attends the Methodist Episcopal Church. He married Miss Dollie May Palmer, a native of Homer, daughter of J. T. Palmer of that town. Mr. and Mrs. Jurgensmeyer have two daughters: Hazel Margaret and Marjorie Ellen.

Charles W. Dale. Among the citizens of Champaign County who are carrying exceptionally heavy burdens and responsibilities is Charles W. Dale, editor of the St. Joseph Record, the Ogden Courier and the Pythian Herald. Mr. Dale is a newspaper man of long experience and splendid ability and has the valued services and counsel of his capable wife in the management of these papers.

Mr. Dale was born at Mahomet, Illinois, a son of Thomas and Mary (Mead) Dale. His maternal grandfather Mead was the first superintendent of schools in Champaign County.

Mr. Dale was educated at Mahomet, and on August 8, 1900, he married Miss Myrta Morehouse. She was also born at Mahomet, a daughter of Heber Judson and Laura (Abbott) Morehouse, her father a native of Michigan and her mother of Illinois. Mrs. Dale was educated in the

Mahomet High School and before her marriage was a popular teacher, being connected with the Mahomet schools four years and also with the high school at Rantoul.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Dale located at St. Joseph, where he was associated with his brother as editor of the local paper. Later, in 1904, he bought his brother's interest and has since conducted and managed the entire business with the assistance in recent years, of Mrs. Dale.

Three bright young children constitute their family circle: Ralph Emerson, Virginia and Kent Morehouse. These children are all now attending the local schools of St. Joseph. Mr. and Mrs. Dale are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias, the Loyal Americans, the Pythian Sisters and the Eastern Star, while Mrs. Dale is active in both the Eastern Star and the Pythian Sisters, being past worthy matron and at present secretary of the Eastern Star.

Mr. Dale has filled several offices which are indicative of the esteem in which he is held in the community. For two terms he was township supervisor and for thirteen years held the office of town and village clerk. He is known as a man among men and has built up a very successful journalistic enterprise. The three papers published at the St. Joseph office cover a large territory and have a combined circulation of 2,000 copies. St. Joseph is fortunate in having these energetic people among its citizens.

Mrs. Dale is a highly cultured woman and of most attractive personality. She is president of the Woman's Club at St. Joseph, an organization for both literary study and general social and public improvement. Mr. and Mrs. Dale are greatly interested in music. For a number of years he was instructor of bands at different places, while Mrs. Dale comes of a family of musicians. They have as a matter of course made music a feature of their home and in the training and education of their children, who take much interest in that study. Mr. Dale is also a composer of some popular airs. One especially worthy of note is a two-step march, dedicated to Company M, Fourth Illinois, which is pronounced by critics a fine piece of music. On the back of the copies is contained the names of members of Company M in Cuba.

Van B. Swearingen was at once one of the most successful business men and most honored citizens of Champaign County. His name is especially associated with the community of St. Joseph, where the best years of his life were spent.

Mr. Van Swearingen was born in Adams County, Ohio, June 2, 1837, and died January 21, 1901. His father, Andrew J. Swearingen, was a native of Pennsylvania who early migrated to Ohio, where he married Mary Brady. From Ohio he brought his family to Illinois, first locating near Homer and afterwards a mile south of the village of St. Joseph.

Van B. Swearingen was ten years of age when he accompanied his father to Illinois in 1847. He completed his education in the common schools of St. Joseph Township. He was fourteen when his father died and after that he lived with Benjamin Bartley until reaching his majority. Though he had little capital, he possessed that independence which made him willing to venture on his own account and success followed his efforts from the beginning. He first farmed as a renter, and also made an early beginning of buying and selling stock. He possessed natural gifts as a shrewd business man, and two years after he started out for himself he had enough capital to take his place in the ranks of business men.

In 1863 Mr. Swearingen bought his first land near St. Joseph and for a



V B Swearingen



Mrs. A M Swearingen

number of years followed the business of trading in stock, a pursuit which he made remunerative and profitable. In 1870, with William Shreve as a partner, he engaged in merchandising and established the first store of the village of St. Joseph. That store was conducted on very successful business principles and soon became a popular and favorite trading place for all that section of the country. Though a merchant for many years, his natural inclination was for outdoor life and he always kept in close touch with the farming interests and grew stock and grain on a large scale. He was also an extensive grain buyer, and he made this feature his main business for many years.

In 1861 he married Lydia Bartley, daughter of Benjamin Bartley. She died April 18, 1867, leaving one son, Mr. U. G. Swearingen, whose career is sketched on other pages of this publication. In March, 1871, Van B. Swearingen married Amanda Patterson, daughter of John K. Patterson, of St. Joseph. The only surviving child of that union is Mrs. Doctor Henry E. Davis of St. Joseph, the other daughter, Mattie, being deceased.

The late Mr. Swearingen was an ardent Republican and gave a steady allegiance to that party from the time he cast his first vote for Lincoln in 1861. He was a recognized leader in his township and his influence was instrumental in accomplishing many things that had a direct and vital relationship with the welfare of the community. In 1866 he was elected supervisor of the township. In his private business affairs his success was measured by the accumulation of over a thousand acres of farm land and much valuable property besides, but best of all he left behind a record of unimpeachable integrity and a large circle of friends among the best people of the county, all of them grateful for his associations and glad of the enviable record that clings to his name.

A family that stands for the best in social life as well as representative of the industrial and business affairs of St. Joseph Township is that of Doctor and Mrs. Davis of St. Joseph village. Doctor Davis was for many years actively engaged in the practive of dentistry but gave up that work on account of ill health and is now looking after other business affairs in this locality.

Doctor Davis was born in Mackinaw, Illinois, a son of Henry and Clara (Hittle) Davis. When he was a child his parents moved to Eureka, Illinois, where he spent his early years. He received his literary education in Eureka College, completing it in Ohio College at Cincinnati, where he took up the study of dentistry. He graduated in dentistry and also had practical experience in the office of Doctor Hoover of Washington, Illinois.

In January, 1902, Doctor Davis married Miss Maud Swearingen, a native of St. Joseph Township and a daughter of Van B. and Amanda M. (Patterson) Swearingen. The Swearingens are prominent among the pioneer names of Champaign County. The Pattersons were among the very earliest settlers of Champaign County and did much through their aggregate efforts to make this one of the garden spots of the world. Mattie, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Swearingen, died at the age of four years. Doctor Davis and Miss Maud Swearingen were both students in Eureka College. She was taking special instruction in music there. They became acquainted as college mates and this acquaintanceship ended in a happy marriage.

After their marriage they removed to Bloomington, Illinois, where Doctor Davis was in successful practice for nearly a year. On the request of Mrs. Davis' mother they located at St. Joseph, since the mother was lonely and desired her children with her. Doctor Davis then opened an office at the village of St. Joseph and conducted a large practice for some years.

Mrs. Davis' mother joined her husband in the realm beyond in 1913.

They were splendid people and their lives were intimately associated with the good and welfare of Champaign County. They maintained a most hospitable home, and there are many kindly memories that follow them.

Doctor Davis and wife still remain in the old Swearingen homestead. After giving up his active practice Doctor Davis changed his business and for the past three years has been an automobile dealer in St. Joseph and conducts a first class garage, with all the accessories for supplying automobiles and with a skilled mechanic to make repairs.

Doctor and Mrs. Davis have used their means to enjoy life. They are active members of the Christian Church and very liberal supporters, thus following the example of Mr. and Mrs. Swearingen, who did much to build up that institution in St. Joseph. Mrs. Davis has been a worshiper in the local church since early girlhood. Politically they are ardent Republicans, though Doctor Davis, like many other thinking men, espoused the progressive principles and followed Roosevelt during the campaign of 1912. Fraternally they are active members of the Eastern Star and in 1915 Doctor Davis served as Worshipful Master of the Masonic Lodge in St. Joseph. He has taken thirty-two degrees of Scottish Rite Masonry. Doctor and Mrs. Davis enjoy a beautiful home at the corner of Sherman and Main streets in St. Joseph, and this community is especially endeared to Mrs. Davis by associations from early girlhood to the present.

Ira H. Dodson. Among the families that have been identified with Champaign County for more than half a century are the Dodsons, represented by Mr. Ira H. Dodson, who still has a portion of the old homestead in Urbana Township.

Mr. Dodson was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, August 10, 1855, a son of John and Elizabeth (McGee) Dodson. His father was born in Ohio and his mother in Indiana. In 1865 the Dodsons came to Illinois, locating in Urbana Township, where the father bought 192 acres of land. John and Elizabeth Dodson had two sons, Edward and Ira, and there was also a half brother, Henry Dodson, who served as a soldier in the Civil War. John Dodson was a notable character in Champaign County, where he lived for a great many years and where he died at the venerable age of ninety-two in 1908. He was one of the greatest wheat raisers in the county. His wife passed away January 16, 1917, aged eighty-two.

Ten years of age when the family came to Champaign County, Ira Dodson grew up here and attended district school No. 4 in Urbana Township. He remained with his parents, taking a helpful part in the management of the farm, and was a prosperous agriculturist before he married and set up a home of his own.

March 13, 1889, Mr. Dodson married Miss Carrie Bell Slayback. She was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, daughter of Wilson and Mary Ellen (Vance) Slayback. Her father was a native of Ohio and her mother of Illinois, and Mrs. Dodson was one of five children. She was educated in the public schools of Indiana, at Dayton School No. 4.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Dodson settled down and began their wedded life on his father's homestead where he had spent his boyhood days. This homestead has received many pleasing improvements at the hands of Mr. Dodson. It is located on the Interurban Railroad, and while a country home it is accessible to all the advantages and conveniences of the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Dodson are the parents of one daughter, Martha. She was educated in the home district school, where she spent eleven years, and then completed her literary training in the Urbana High School and also took musical instruction.

The lives of Mr. and Mrs. Dodson have been closely identified with Champaign County for many years, and their efforts have contributed to the fulfillment of the old scriptural phrase of making a former desert blossom as a rose. Mr. Dodson has many memories of the time when Champaign County was a region of raw prairie and swamp, and the present condition of the county has been accomplished largely through the miracle of drainage.

The Dodson family located in Champaign County before the Big Four Railway was constructed, and their first home was on the original farm. The old district school was near by, and subsequently the district was divided and a new schoolhouse built on Mr. Knox's land. Mr. Ira Dodson attended both of these schools. Among his early teachers the one best remembered by all the students was a Mr. Cunningham, who was distinguished by the peculiarity of his costume, consisting of a calico gown and slippers. Mr. Dodson attended his last school in the high school at Urbana, under J. W. Hayes.

Mrs. Dodson and her daughter are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. Dodson has given his undivided support to the Republican party since he was able to cast his first vote. He has done more than merely vote and has used his public spirited efforts to forward the good things of the community. For six years he served as a director of the public schools and has always sought to make the local schools the best possible. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, and his wife is a member of the Royal Neighbors and the Pythian Sisters. Miss Martha Dodson has for years shown special interest in church affairs, her membership being with the Urbana Methodist Episcopal Church. Her working membership is just what is needed for every progressive church in the country.

The industry of Mr. Dodson has brought him abundant success and he now enjoys a large and complete farm of 108 acres. Progress has been the keynote of his life and his well tilled fields are ample evidence of that quality. He is also a very systematic and orderly man in regard to his farm work, and everything is done just at the proper time and in the manner best fitted to accomplish results.

His father, Mr. John Dodson, was for thirty years a successful mechanic in Indiana, being a blacksmith and wagon maker. He worked at his trade before the Civil War. Among other useful things which were made in his shop were the old-fashioned grain cradles. Mr. Ira Dodson has as one of his most prized possessions one of these old fashioned cradles made by his father. John Dodson also employed several hands in conducting his blacksmith shop in Indiana. His home was near a Dunkard settlement, and he made the old-fashioned buggies for the Dunkard people to ride in. It was many years before the Dodson family acquired their first self-binder for harvesting grain. Mr. Ira Dodson always associates the purchase of that modern farming implement with the year that General Coxey's army marched to Washington, D. C. The army marched past the Dodson home. One other notable procession went by the Dodson place. At the time of McKinley's inauguration a great horn, six feet across the bell, was made at Decatur, Illinois, and was carried past the Dodson place on the shoulders of six men. It was used in the great inaugural parade at Washington.

After coming to Champaign County John Dodson gave his principal time and attention to farming. He was an excellent manager and at the time of his death possessed 214 acres. He had drained this land, had improved it with good buildings and with trees, and today it stands as a monument to his industry. When he made his will he directed that his

two sons, Edward and Ira, his sole heirs, should each choose a man, who in turn should choose a third, and this arbitration committee should divide the property equally between the sons. But wisely enough the two sons, working in complete amity and agreement, did the work of division for themselves and thus kept the entire matter out of court, avoiding any litigation or delay and much expense.

CHARLES H. WALLACE. Among the ambitious young men who came to Champaign County some forty years ago with the intention of making it his future home and has proved his foresight and good judgment in making his selection was Charles H. Wallace, who needs little introduction to the people of Homer, which has always been his place of residence. His present position in the financial field places him among the capitalists of the state, his large possessions make him one of the great landowners. Mr. Wallace is a graduate of the agricultural department of the University of Illinois, and his vast agricultural operations are based on sound scientific knowledge.

Charles H. Wallace comes of Scottish ancestry but of American parentage. He was born at North Ridgeville, Lorain County, Ohio, November 4, 1856, and is the second born son of William S. and Helen (Bryant) Wallace. The father was a farmer, later a manufacturer, and still later became identified with banking interests, being a man of great business enterprise. His death occurred at Trinidad, Las Animas County, Colorado. The mother died at Elyria, Ohio. They were the parents of seven children, namely: James E., who is a resident of Cleveland, Ohio; Charles H.; Frances A., who is deceased; Nellie J., who is the wife of the Hon. F. R. Wood, of Trinidad, Colorado; and Lewis D., Margaret and Rosaltha, all of whom are deceased.

When Charles H. Wallace reached Champaign County, Illinois, on March 26, 1878, he located at Homer and as farming was his object, he rented a tract of land and there put into practice the knowledge he had gained during his university course. As time passed he began to acquire land and still more land until now Mr. Wallace has sixteen hundred acres and these, under his intelligent methods, yield so abundantly that he is looked upon as an authority on all things agricultural. Mr. Wallace for many years has been interested in a number of banking institutions, and is an official in the Elyria Savings and Banking Company, of Elyria, Ohio; the Allerton State Bank, at Allerton, Illinois; and is vice president and a director in the First State Trust & Savings Bank at Urbana, Illinois, which he assisted to organize.

The First State Trust & Savings Bank is one of the soundest financial institutions in the state. According to its statement at the beginning of business May 2, 1917, its resources are as follows: Loans and Discounts, $137,760.82; Overdrafts, $2,338.22; Banking House, Furniture and Fixtures, $40,000.98; Other Real Estate, $7,800.00; Due from Banks, $61,928.80; Cash on Hand, $7,281.94. Total, $257,110.76. The liabilities are as follows: Capital Stock, $60,000.00; Undivided profits, $3,566.62; Deposits, $176.000.38; Certified Checks, $43.76; Bills Payable, $17,500.00. Total, $257,110.76. The officers of this bank are: S. E. Huff, president; C. H. Wallace, vice president; Harry Gardner, vice president; Abner Silkey, cashier; S. H. Busey, cashier; H. L. Ascher, assistant cashier. The board of directors is made up of the following capitalists: S. E. Huff, C. H. Wallace, Harry Gardner, Abner Silkey, S. H. Busey, F. E. Williamson, John Vedder, Joseph W. Vedder, H. V. Cardiff, J. O. Goodmann, L. F. Wingard. This bank was authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States to receive subscriptions to the first



ANTHONY COYLE AND HIS FAMOUS WAR HORSE
"CRUSHER"

Liberty Loan and the bank handled these subscriptions without profit or commission.

Mr. Wallace was married to Miss Effie O. Core, the only daughter of Dr. James Core. She had one brother, Charles F., who is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace have had seven children, as follows: A son who died in infancy; Ralph C. J., who is cashier for the manufacturing firm of Lynn & Bowler at Stuttgart, Arkansas; Helen J., who is the wife of Howard Smith, of Sidney, Illinois; Lewis B., who is a teacher in the high school at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia; and Ruth, Julian and Irene, all of whom reside with their parents.

In politics Mr. Wallace has always been a supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He has never accepted public office, as his many private interests have closely engrossed him, but he is a wideawake citizen and when necessary lends helpful influence in the right direction unofficially. For twenty-five years he has been on the official board of the Methodist Episcopal Church and its secretary during this time. The only fraternal organization with which he is identified is the order of Ben Hur.

ANTHONY COYLE. With the lengthening perspective of years more and more honor is paid the participants in that struggle by which the Union was preserved and the liberty of all men assured in the United States. Only a handful of the survivors of this great struggle remain as a reminder to patriotism in Champaign County. Those who are familiar with his career say that Anthony Coyle was one of the bravest men Champaign County sent into the war. Mr. Coyle, after a life of honorable effort and service, is now enjoying the comforts of a pleasant country home a half mile north of Pennfield in Kerr Township.

Mr. Coyle was born in Baltimore, Maryland, but has lived in Champaign County since 1854. He is a son of Martin and Mary Coyle, the former a native of North Carolina and the latter of Maryland. The names of their children were Mary, Ellen, Martin and Anthony.

Anthony Coyle was fifteen years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois, and soon afterwards he found employment on Charles McHenry's farm near Urbana. He was twenty-one when the war broke out and he soon enlisted and marched to the sound of the fife and drum to defend his country's flag. He enlisted July 10, 1861, in Company I, Second Regiment of Illinois Cavalry, under Colonel John J. Mudd, for three years, or during the war.

In the year before the outbreak of the war Mr. Coyle had gone to New Orleans on a business trip. While in that city he was at the St. Charles Hotel. He became a witness to an altercation between John J. Mudd, who was then a St. Louis commission merchant, and a group of hot-headed Southerners. Mudd expressed himself as loyal to the elected President Lincoln, declared that Lincoln had been elected by a majority of the people and not only ought to be President but the people ought to abide by the decision of the majority. For all this Mudd was derided as an Abolitionist and his life was threatened. This scene occurred on the last day of December, 1860. It was the bold and fearless young Northerner, Anthony Coyle, who probably saved Mr. Mudd from the fury of the mob. He stepped in and showed such determination and vigor that the ardor and expressed intention of the mob to hang Mudd was somewhat cooled. By a strange coincidence when Mr. Coyle went into the army the colonel of his regiment was John J. Mudd. There always existed a warm friendship between the two men, and after the death of Colonel Mudd his grateful family wrote a special letter to Mr. Coyle, thanking him for the bold manner in which he had expressed his bravery in New Orleans. It was

also while he was in New Orleans that Mr. Coyle first became acquainted with General Sherman, who was then serving as military instructor at a school at Alexander, Louisiana.

Impressed by all he had seen and heard in the Southern city, and recognizing that secession was an imminent danger and that the Union was seriously imperiled, Mr. Coyle, hastily closing up his business affairs, came North and rode through Illinois on horseback to Chicago and over many of the counties, warning and arousing the people. In those early days he raised more men for enlistment than any other person. Some laughed at his fears, but he said, "Boys, this is no little play before breakfast; our country is imperiled." Riding up to the home of Russell Kerr, who was stacking hay with six men, he said: "Russell, our country is in danger, and every man is needed." He then gave him further facts as he knew them by personal experience. Mr. Kerr stuck his fork in the half-finished hay rick, remarking, "Boys, there will be no more haying until our Union is saved," and with all his men he enlisted and went to the front.

The Second Illinois Cavalry went first to Fort Massac on the Ohio River, a month later to Paducah, Kentucky, and from there to Columbus, Kentucky, and the Second Regiment was among the first of the troops to enter and capture that town in March, 1862. At the time General Sherman was at Cairo, Illinois, and did not arrive on the scene until the dashing Northerners had taken the city. The Second Illinois was soon ordered back to Paducah, later returned to Columbus, and from there moved to Jackson, Tennessee. In the two severe engagements at Bolivar, Tennessee, on August 30, 1862, the Second Regiment lost all its officers. Mr. Coyle was one of the men who saved Grant's supplies at Bolivar on that day. He possesses a copy of the complimentary special field order issued by General Grant complimenting the Second Illinois Cavalry on its gallantry. It is said that this was the only time a general order ever paid special complimentary praise to an individual regiment.

At Bolivar, when Colonel Leggett was ordered to charge the Rebel front, expecting to find 600, he found instead he had a force against him of 6,000. His men engaged in a hand-to-hand conflict, fighting six times their own number. Realizing the importance of reinforcements, the colonel detailed five of the cavalry to go meet General McPherson, who was slowly coming with artillery and infantry from Jackson, Tennessee. Anthony Coyle and his noted cavalry horse, Crusher, was one of these five men. Their orders were to ride for their lives as they valued the lives of their imperiled comrades. From the time they started they were constantly harassed by guerrillas and bushwhackers. Four of the horses tired out in that mad ride and their riders had to return to camp. Anthony Coyle was the only man who got through, delivering his orders to General McPherson. He then returned, his brave horse carrying him on the round trip, three days and nights. All the world knows the result of the battle by which McPherson's troops saved the day. When Anthony Coyle rode back into camp a wild cheer went up from the boys in blue for the horse and his brave rider.

During the campaigns that followed the Second Regiment was continually on the firing line and did much notable service in the campaigns around Vicksburg. Mr. Coyle was wounded five times and after the fall of Vicksburg was honorably discharged. In his last engagement he was shot through the body and remained for two days and a night on the battlefield while the other wounded were gathered into the hospitals. His comrades thought him past all human aid and therefore turned their attention to others less severely wounded. He was finally put in a box car with the dead and dying and by that time the wound had festered and was

filled with maggots. After being removed to hospital the wound was dressed, a silk handkerchief was drawn entirely through the body, and General Grant detailed two special nurses to watch over this brave and gallant soldier. Anthony Coyle has frequently been called the "minute man" of Champaign County. He was ever alert to warn the people of danger. At one time he was completely surrounded by Rebels who determined to close in on him and put an end to his dashing career. To their surprise he headed his faithful charger, Crusher, down a steep embankment where it was supposed no man could walk. At the foot was a high fence, but Crusher never stopped at anything he could see over, and vaulting the fence he carried his rider to safety. There is in the home of Mr. Coyle an enlarged photograph, framed, showing him and his splendid cavalry horse Crusher. After his discharge from the army he bought his horse which had carried him through so many engagements, and Crusher spent his last years in comfort and ease in Champaign County.

Mr. Coyle has as another souvenir of his war service a certificate of membership in the Lincoln Memorial Association. He was very active in the movement and had charge of raising funds for Lincoln's monument. Among other souvenirs Mr. Coyle possesses some Rebel envelopes and literature and also the Rebel flag which he captured at Columbus, Kentucky, March 7, 1862. This is the noted "Bonnie Blue" flag, the theme of Southern song and story. The flag carries on the blue field a white star for every seceding state. The flag when it was captured was riddled with bullets.

There is perhaps no man living today who was better acquainted with Abraham Lincoln than Anthony Coyle. During Lincoln's travels as an Illinois lawyer, following the movement of court from county to county, Mr. Coyle was frequently employed to convey the railsplitter from one point to another. At the time of the Lincoln and Douglas debate Mr. Coyle became so interested that he followed them around and heard several of the debates. Lincoln's earnestness and keen wit and knowledge of law made such a deep impression on his mind that today, after nearly sixty years, he can quote Lincoln's sayings almost verbatim.

At the age of twenty-six Mr. Coyle laid the foundation for his own home by his marriage to Manda J. Cooder, daughter of John and Permelia (Edison) Cooder, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of North Carolina. When Manda Cooder was eight years of age her people came to Illinois and located in Champaign County. All the children except Manda and her brother William died in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Anthony Coyle rented land the first year and in time he was able to buy a place of forty acres, paying only $8 an acre, whereas the same land today is worth $250. His industry had its reward and later he acquired another tract of forty acres and has gradually developed a farm sufficient for the needs and comforts of himself and his growing family. Mr. and Mrs. Coyle had one son and one daughter, Frank and Clara. These children they educated in the Penfield school. Frank also attended the University of Illinois, taking the mechanical engineering course, and he worked at his profession at Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, three years and afterwards was in the employ of the National Cash Register Company of Dayton, Ohio, being located at Cleveland, in Michigan and various parts of the West. He is a very successful man, and his active career has covered a number of years. At present he is at home assisting his father on the farm. The sister, Clara, is also still living with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Coyle and family are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Penfield. In politics he is a Democrat, though he

cast his first vote for Lincoln. A public spirited man and always enjoying the confidence of his fellow citizens, he was elected supervisor of Kerr Township, and has also served as a trustee of the local schools. Mr. Coyle is a member of the Knights of Pythias, of the Grand Army of the Republic, and he was instrumental in instituting the first Union League in this section of Illinois. For a number of years Mr. Coyle was entrusted with the management of the large Parsons estate farm and also the farm belonging to the Battles estate.

Mr. and Mrs. Coyle have seen Champaign County develop from a primitive condition into one of the garden spots of Illinois. They have done their part in life, have been attentive to the duties that lay nearest them, and besides the honor and credit that belong to his record as a valiant soldier Mr. Coyle has the esteem paid to the worthy and upright citizen at all times.

HUGH GRAHAM. Coming to Illinois over half a century ago, a young and ambitious Irishman but with little capital except that contained in the resources of his individual character, Hugh Graham is living today in one of the most complete country homes of Champaign County, located in section 22 of Harwood Township. His wealth consists not alone in many broad acres, well tilled fields and sleek stock, but in the riches of esteem paid him by a large community of friends and acquaintances, and even more in the capable and trustworthy sons and daughters who are still part of the family circle.

Mr. Graham was born in County Monaghan in the Province of Ulster, May 22, 1844. He was the seventh of nine children born to Hugh and Sarah (McMahon) Graham. Mr. Graham obtained his early education in the National Schools of Ireland. This was a very satisfactory system and he attended throughout the year except for two weeks at Christmas, two weeks at Easter and the month of August. The school hours when he was a boy ran from 10 to 3 in the afternoon.

He was about twenty years of age when, having heard of the wonderful opportunities of America and not being satisfied to live in a country burdened with British rule, he expressed his spirit of adventure by immigrating with relatives and landed at New York on October 25, 1864. A sister was already living in New York and a brother in Sangamon County, Illinois.

On the 12th of December, 1864, Mr. Graham reached Macon County, Illinois. At that time most of central Illinois was a raw prairie and looked like a complete wilderness to the young Irishman who was accustomed to the fertile and closely tilled estates of Ireland. In Macon County he found work as a farm hand and remained there until 1869, and afterward, as a result of well directed industry, bought some land in Champaign County, where at the age of forty he established a home of his own.

Mr. Graham married in 1885, at Rantoul, Miss Johanna Murphy. She was born in Morgan County, Illinois, a daughter of William and Mary Murphy, natives of southern Ireland. Mr. Graham took his bride to the farm of eighty acres in section 22 of Harwood Township which he had previously purchased. For this land, the nucleus of his present handsome estate, he paid $37.50 an acre, and that was considered a very high price for land at the time. Mr. and Mrs. Graham had the requisite qualifications of industry and thrift, and they made these qualities count until at the present time their possessions embrace 520 acres of as fine land as can be found in the State of Illinois. They have been satisfied not with crops alone but have expressed their energies in numerous improvements that add to the attractiveness and value of their possessions.

The best part of the entire record is that pertaining to the children. Eight sons and two daughters have come into the home, the names of these sturdy young people being William A., Hugh D., Sarah, John J., Arthur, Margaret, Tom C., Edward, Francis Paul and Joseph Leo. From the first Mr. and Mrs. Graham have furnished the young people every incentive at home and every advantage in the local schools. The children all attended the Harwood Center district school. William completed his education in Brown's Business College, while Hugh and Tom were students of St. Viator's College at Kankakee. John and Arthur were also students at St. Viator's. Sarah completed her education in St. Mary's school at Champaign, Margaret studied at the Sacred Heart Academy in Springfield, Francis attended the Donovan Memorial School at Rantoul, and Joseph is still in the Harwood Center school. Not only did the older children wisely improve the advantages of schooling given them by their parents, but they have put their education to good use and have ably assisted the father in the management of the farm. The son William A., who married Catherine Kirk, is a practical farmer living on some of his father's land in section 12 of Harwood Township. Mr. Graham has been liberal in extending opportunities to his sons, and has done all he could to get them located near by and as sharers in the prosperity which his capable efforts have won.

The family are all active members of the Catholic Church at Ludlow. Mr. Graham is a stanch Democrat in politics and has served in such positions as town clerk, collector and school trustee. As a farmer his place is known not only for the quantity but for the quality of its products. Last year his land produced 8,800 bushels of oats and 6,400 bushels of corn. In the way of stock he raises Polled Durham and Shorthorn cattle and fine horses of the Percheron and Shire breeds. His progressiveness as a farmer is well attested by his fields and the systematic management of the farm in every detail. Mr. Graham through his experience is in a position to appreciate the wonderful changes that have come over the country. He recognizes the value of improved machinery, and he also knows that the character and industry of the man is the chief factor in any worthy success. There was no thought in the early days of germs or danger lurking in drinking water. Today, as he enjoys the pure water that comes from deep wells, he looks back and wonders how the people lived and prospered. All the many other inconveniences he endured without murmur, such as lack of roads, which at certain seasons of the year were almost bottomless, and lack of drainage also made some of the most fertile lands of Champaign County useless for agricultural purposes. The history of the Graham family is a real factor in the development of Champaign County. Mr. and Mrs. Graham have successfully exerted their efforts to make their farm and home attractive for their children, and the young people have found their permanent interests here rather than in the more superficial life of the large cities.

Mrs. Mary A. Taylor has for many years had her home in Champaign County, and is now living on the old homestead farm at Penfield in section 30 of Kerr Township, where with the aid of her son she is carrying on the farm management left in her hands after the death of her husband.

Mrs. Taylor is a native of Dundee, Scotland, and a daughter of John and Jean (Davidson) Rennie. She grew up in Scotland and received an education in the schools of that country. After reaching young womanhood she married Mr. C. B. Taylor, also a native Scotchman and a son of John and Helen (Gordon) Taylor. While they lived in Scotland Mr. and Mrs. Taylor had four children: Jennie, John, Mary and Helen.

At different times they thought and talked much of the land of America and Mrs. Taylor was especially influential in urging her husband to leave

Scotland and seek the opportunities of the New World. Thus the little family embarked on a vessel, the Venetian, a ship which later went down in South American waters. They landed from this boat at Boston, and went from there to Chicago, where Mr. Taylor, a butcher by trade, found employment in the great Armour packing plant which was presided over by that genius of the packing industry, the late P. D. Armour. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor lived for many years at Chicago. While there other children were born, named Annie, Charles R., Jennie, Alexzina, Gordon and Rennie, the last being twin sons. Of these Annie, Jennie and Rennie are deceased. From Chicago Mr. and Mrs. Taylor moved to Gifford in Champaign County, where he engaged in the butcher business until his death in 1894. Mr. Taylor was a fine business man, an industrious worker, and his citizenship meant much to any community where he lived. After coming to Champaign County he had bought eighty acres of land and he also bought fifty acres at Penfield.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Taylor bravely faced the duties of life, her twin boys being then only four months old. Her daughter Mary married Elmer F. Henry and they live on a farm in Iowa. Helen Taylor married S. A. Smith, a railroad contractor living at Chicago, and her three sons are named Walter, Edward and Samuel. Alexzina is the wife of Albert Mauser and they live on a farm near Rantoul and have two children, Fern and John. Charles R. Taylor is a railway employe and married Maud Schultz.

In addition to rearing her own children Mrs. Taylor has carefully looked after the training of her grandson, James R. Croger, a son of Mrs. Helen Smith. Her life has been devoted to the welfare and training of her children and they have in many ways repaid the debt they owe such a brave and conscientious woman. Mrs. Taylor is an active member of the Episcopal Church at Rantoul and in politics she is a stanch Republican and has reared her children in the same faith. Her motto has always been America for Americans, and while thoroughly patriotic she is not convinced of the wisdom of having American sons serving in foreign countries under a foreign flag.

Her son Gordon is one of the able younger citizens of Champaign County and is the successful manager of the home farm. He is an admirer of good horses and other live stock, and his well kept fields are a splendid proof of his ability in agriculture.

Edward Butzow, a resident of St. Joseph Township for a long period of years, has had a career that challenges admiration and respect. It has the solid basis of industry and is crowned by a success of his own achieving, won by the strictest regards to honest principles and integrity of character.

Mr. Butzow is one of the sturdy sons of the fatherland who in such numbers came to America in early years, poor in cash but with ambition and energy. He was born October 23, 1839, at Walkendorf in Mecklenburg Schwerin, son of Ernest and Sabina (Brosaman) Butzow. Ernest Butzow lived on a farm owned by a German nobleman, and about eighty families altogether had their home there. Ernest Butzow was employed as teacher of the community school, and at one time had 120 students, being their only instructor. Edward was one of four children, three sons and one daughter. He first attended school under his father and later at the town of Tessin, and finally completed his education by private instruction.

While in Germany he served an apprenticeship at agriculture, but in that vocation he could see no future except as a tenant or farm manager, and therefore at the age of twenty-five, in the fall of 1864, he set his face for the land of America, where his two brothers had already preceded him. He had been encouraged to make the journey by enthusiastic letters from



Edward Butzow

Jennie Butzow

these brothers. He took ship at the city of Hamburg, and after a number of days of voyage landed at New York. The following winter he spent at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he was employed on construction of Government gunboats for use in the Civil War. He next went to Oil City, Pennsylvania, and was employed as an oil driller. In 1865 Mr. Butzow arrived in Iroquois County, Illinois, where he worked at making railway ties. In the fall of 1865 he joined his brother Louis at Urbana. Louis was engaged in the brewery business at Urbana as partner of some other parties who were not distinguished for scrupulous honesty and were rapidly getting the better of Mr. Butzow's brother. He finally lost nearly all his capital and was compelled to take the $300 that remained to his credit in notes of the brewery with the understanding that he should buy enough beer to cancel the account. In this dilemma he set up as a retail liquor dealer, and employed his brother Edward as salesman. Edward Butzow saw so many unpleasant things connected with the business that he soon became disgusted, and though very poor and without extended opportunity he refused to have anything to do with the liquor trade. Early experiences make strong impressions, and it is noteworthy that from that day to this Edward Butzow has been one of the strongest and most determined opponents of the liquor traffic and there is no truer friend of the temperance cause anywhere in the country. It should be remembered that fifty years ago, when he became aligned with the temperance people, liquor manufacture and liquor selling were accepted as a matter of course and there was no general public opinion against the traffic. Thus through all these years Mr. Butzow has been a nucleus in that gradually enlarging movement which now happily promises to destroy the liquor evil for all time to come.

After this early adventure at Urbana Mr. Butzow bought a half interest in a shingle mill. The mill turned out a fine grade of shingles. These were cut in blocks, boiled in water and cut into shingles, but the business was not profitable. He then turned over his share to his partner, and after that bought forty acres in section 27 of St. Joseph Township. Here he established a brick yard, making brick for one year and the following year engaged in the manufacture of tile. He was really in advance of his time as a tile manufacturer, since land owners had not yet learned to appreciate the value of subsurface drainage by means of tile, and in a short time he found himself bankrupt and burdened with a large debt of $1,150 after selling all his land. When he had solicited a local merchant for financial aid in the tile business, Mr. Butzow assured his creditor that he would see that he incurred no loss by the venture. He made good his word, though it took five years of hard, steady and heavy manual toil at ditching to pay off his note of $1,150 and its accumulating 10 per cent interest. It was an honest debt, and Mr. Butzow could not rest until it was paid, and he has always looked back upon that transaction as one of the most satisfactory in his entire career and furnishing him more pleasure than even the abundant possessions which he now enjoys.

One incident occurred in the life of Mr. Butzow which he always called "Two seconds from death." While in Germany, he was working with another man in a "marl pit," a mixture of clay and lime. They were working under a great undermined embankment of earth. Observing a boy driving up to it with a blind horse, he stepped out from under it to caution him, when the props gave way and the entire embankment fell, burying his companion.

In 1874 Mr. Butzow was elected town clerk of St. Joseph. While looking after the duties of that office he took up the study of law in a practical fashion. He was possessed of a good education, was a good talker and man of experience. and there being no lawyer in the community, he carried on

a considerable practice, especially in drawing up legal documents and performing such other services as have popularly been denominated as pettifogging.

In the meantime Mr. Butzow bought 120 acres of land in section 2 north of the village of St. Joseph at a price of $20 an acre. He went to work clearing it up and cultivating it, saved every dollar he earned, and gradually was in a fair way to the success which later years and labors assured him.

In 1880 Mr. Butzow married Miss Lenna E. Cross. She was a native of Ohio. Mr. Butzow took his bride to his farm of 120 acres, and together they laid the foundation of a good home. It was improved with substantial buildings, with the planting of trees and other improvements, and in 1892 Mr. Butzow sold to advantage and subsequently bought the magnificent place of 440 acres which he still owns in section 34 of St. Joseph Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Butzow have four children, one of whom died in infancy. The other three are Louis James, Edward Charles and Clara Bertha. Mr. Butzow saw to it that they had the advantages of the local district schools and also the high school at Sidney. Louis subsequently graduated from the University of Illinois in the technical course and is now an electrical engineer in Chicago. He has made a splendid record for himself, and enjoys a good position and has an ideal family life. He married Louisa Hermison, and their two children are named Mary and John. The son Edward C. is a practical farmer and manages his father's estate in section 34. He married Zora Rudisell, and their family consists of three sons, Harold, Gleason and Darnel. The daughter Clara, after graduating from the Urbana High School, took a bookkeeping course in a business college at Chicago, and is now the wife of Oliver Plummer, a successful teacher of Champaign. Mr. Butzow has given each of these three children eighty acres of land, and Mrs. Clara Plummer is now preparing to move to her farm.

In 1900 the death angel visited the Butzow home and took away the good wife and mother, leaving Mr. Butzow with his three young children. In 1905 he married for his present wife Mrs. Jennie Reese, who was born in St. Joseph Township, a daughter of Henry and Catherine (Argo) Reese. Her people were pioneers in Champaign County. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Butzow was educated in the district schools, and was left fatherless and motherless at an early age. For several years she was employed as a housekeeper in the family of Mr. Butzow until their marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Butzow have five young children, Grace, Waldo, Ruth, Marshall and Gladys.

Politically Mr. Butzow is an ardent Republican and has supported that party first and last ever since casting his first vote in America. He and his wife are regular members of the Christian Church at Tipton. It is certainly with pardonable pride that he may look back upon his career in Champaign County. He overcame much in his early experiences, as already noted, and having paid every obligation and every honest debt, it is with unusual satisfaction that he enjoys the fine estate which has grown and accumulated under his enterprise and which furnishes a splendid home for his later years.

A. F. Meuser has been a resident of Illinois and the greater part of Champaign County for fully fifty years, and his labors long since became so productive as to enable him to live in retirement. He and his wife now have a large and comfortable home in Rantoul, on Grove Avenue. In earlier years they worked hard, were content with simple comforts and necessities, and were willing to sacrifice many things in order to secure a home, rear their children properly, and have a competence for their later years. In

all this they have succeeded, and they deserve the respect and honor paid to hard working and excellent citizens.

Mr. Meuser was born at Garz on the River Oder, Germany, one of the seven children of John D. and Minnie (Bishof) Meuser. When he was three years of age his mother died, and his father subsequently married again and came to America.

Mr. A. F. Meuser was twenty years old when he came to this country in 1867, in company with his brother Frederick. They landed at New York, went west to Chicago, and from there A. F. Meuser journeyed to Minonk, Illinois, where his married sister, Fredericka Westermann, lived. He found employment with his brother at the carpenter trade, and subsequently engaged in farming.

In 1875 Mr. Meuser laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Fredericka Bermaum. She was born in the village of Voigstdorf, Germany, a daughter of Gustave and Sophia (Casdorf) Bermaum. The Bermaum family and also the parents of Gustave and Sophia came to America, and Grandfather and Grandmother Casdorf died and were buried in Champaign County.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Meuser started farming on a place three miles northwest of Rantoul. It was prairie land, eighty acres, which Mr. Meuser's father had bought from the Illinois Central Railway Company in 1868. They paid $12 an acre for it, though now it is worth many times that sum. Mr. Meuser knows full well the condition of Champaign County fifty years ago. Much of the land was raw prairie, there were numerous sloughs filled with water a large part of the year, and in the swampy section wild game abounded, especially water birds, geese, ducks and cranes being counted by the thousands. Mr. and Mrs. Meuser began housekeeping in a small place fourteen by twenty feet. One compensation for such small quarters in the estimation of Mrs. Meuser is that in those days she was not troubled with extensive house-cleaning operations. This couple possessed the qualities of German progressiveness, energy and economy, they worked diligently, and were always buoyed up with hope of the future and by the widening opportunities of life in the New World.

Into their home there came in time three children, William, Gustave and Rosa. The daughter died at the age of twelve years. The children were educated in the Ludlow Center school. This school was three miles away, and frequently the roads were very bad, but the children went back and forth every day.

In the meantime Mr. Meuser found opportunity to add to his possessions, bought small tracts of land from time to time, and finally found himself possessed of a full half section, which he still owns.

Both of his sturdy sons married sisters, daughters of John and Lena Blue, a well known Champaign County family. William Meuser married Alma Blue, and their three children are Minnie, Herman and Gertrude. Gustave Meuser married Jane Blue and has four children, Augusta, Albert, Rosa and John. William Meuser is a successful farmer in Ludlow Township, a mile and a half from Rantoul, and Gustave does his farming in the same township.

Mr. and Mrs. Meuser are active members of the German Lutheran Church, and their sons were confirmed in the same faith. In a public way Mr. Meuser has always done what he could to promote the public welfare. He served three terms as drainage commissioner, was a member of the town council at Rantoul three years, and one year was mayor. He takes a broad-minded view of politics and government, and believes that the man rather than the party is chiefly entitled to support. Mr. and Mrs. Meuser are loyal Americans, and have reared their sons with the same sturdy principles which have guided their own lives so prosperously. Mr. and Mrs. Meuser have lived in the town of Rantoul for the past eighteen years.

Among their old family possessions is a book which for age is probably the oldest in Champaign County. It was published 400 years ago, and is a collection of sermons of German Lutheran Evangelical preachers. This book was the property of Mr. Meuser's stepmother. She so prized it that she requested it to be buried with her. At the time of her death the family hunted diligently but were unable to find the volume. Later, when it was found, the pastor of the church told them not to worry since the book was of more value above ground than in the grave. Mr. and Mrs. Meuser also have a book of hymns which was published fully 100 years ago.

NORMAN C. HOYT has spent the best years of his life in one of the rich agricultural districts of Champaign County, has become prosperous from his handling of the soil and its crops, has reared a capable family, and has many reasons to be well satisfied with the retrospect that he can now contemplate while living at his beautiful old home at the north end of Main Street in the village of St. Joseph.

Mr. Hoyt was born in St. Joseph Township, June 6, 1863, son of James N. and Sarah (Hoss) Hoyt. His father was born at Moreau, Saratoga, New York, May 20, 1824, of Scotch ancestry. His parents were Nathan and Lucretia (Stevenson) Hoyt. Her father was pressed into service on the British side in the Revolutionary War, but was captured and fought on the American side. Sarah Hoss was born in Brown County, Ohio, January 1, 1825. Her paternal grandfather came from Germany and was a soldier in Washington's army. James and Sarah Hoyt were quite early settlers in Illinois. Sarah Hoyt came to this state in 1836 with her mother and two brothers and sister. The mother entered forty acres of Government land on Salt Fork Creek in Champaign County and that land has continued in the family possession to the present day. James N. Hoyt and wife had two sons, George and Norman. George is also a resident of St. Joseph, but spent thirty-seven years of his life in the West.

Norman Hoyt acquired his education in the district schools of St. Joseph Township and at the age of twenty-two he married Miss Mary E. Walker. She was born in Indiana, a daughter of Joseph R. and Catherine (Young) Walker. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt began housekeeping in his father's old home, and the place where he was born and reared. Later his parents removed to the village of St. Joseph, and Norman and wife continued to live on the old homestead for twenty years.

To their marriage were born nine children: Dolly E., Anson J., Minnie E., Ralph W., Ealy N. and Nealy G. (twins), Mildred C., Sarah L. and Zella E. Mr. Hoyt was very much concerned with the education of his children, and sent them to the public schools of the township and also to the high school at St. Joseph village. The son Anson J. is a farmer on the old homestead and by his marriage to Rosa Sinks has four children, Rolla, Robert, Leon and Charles. The daughter Dolly married Fred Roney, and at her death she left one child, Forest, and there was one that died in infancy. Ralph W. Hoyt lives in Minnesota. Minnie E. is the wife of Frank M. Jones. a resident of Champaign County. The son Ealy Hoyt is one of the young volunteers from Champaign County for the liberty war, and has enlisted in the artillery service, in Battery B, Third Infantry, and is at present located at Houston, Texas. Mr. Norman Hoyt has an interesting relic of Civil War times in the form of a bond issued July 11, 1864, drawing 6 per cent interest for three years. His brother George has a similar bond for $100, a 5 per cent issue for five years.

A number of years ago Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt moved with their family to the state of Kansas, where he bought land and was engaged in farming. While living in that state the death angel visited the home and on Decem-



NORMAN C. HOYT AND MARY E. HOYT AND CHILDREN



Residence of Norman C. Hoyt



Norman C. Hoyt and Julia E. Hoyt and Children

ber 21, 1909, Mrs. Hoyt passed away. Left with the care of his young children Mr. Hoyt then returned to Champaign County and on the old homestead adjacent to St. Joseph village built the fine residence which he still occupies. In 1910 he married Mrs. Julia Etta (Clements) Appling. She was the widow of John H. Appling, and by that marriage was the mother of three children, William J., Grace C. and George E. Appling. William Appling was educated in the high school at Urbana, graduating in 1917 at the age of seventeen, while the other two children are still pursuing their studies in the local high school. Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt have one child, James C., now six years of age, and just beginning his educational preparation. Mrs. Hoyt's mother, Mrs. Julia (Kirby) Clements, was born where the Blackberry Schoolhouse now stands in Champaign County. At the age of eight years she went with her parents to Wisconsin in a covered wagon. She now lives in Urbana, at the age of eighty-two years, with faculties well preserved.

For many years Mr. Hoyt has been a successful grain and stock farmer. His industry has met with pleasing success and one of the best fruits of it all besides his fine family is the beautiful and attractive home in North St. Joseph. As a background to his residence there is a dense wood of large elms and oaks which has stood there for generations, and Mr. Hoyt wisely held on to his inheritance of Champaign County soil and has always honored and appreciated the county where he was born and where his efforts have been most productive in the world's work.

Mr. Hoyt's mother passed away March 26, 1905, and his father joined her on August 8, 1911. They were among the highly respected residents of Champaign County. The father died in Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hoyt are attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mrs. Hoyt is a member. In politics he is a man of broad views and principles and interested in the man rather than the party. In many ways he has exemplified his public spirited interest in the local welfare and has been especially concerned with the maintenance of good schools. He served as director of District No. 1 for several years. Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt have endeavored to rear their children with utmost care and with a training that would make them loyal to their country and fitted for all the duties of citizenship.

Mr. Hoyt has always taken special interest in the breeding of good stock, and his farm contains some as fine Belgian horses as are to be found in the country. One fine imported mare is Lisa Baron (98467) 3788, imported by Finch Brothers, November 16, 1913, sired by Fleurin (14928), he by La Fleur (8616) dam Olga Baron (14605). Other noted animals are: Gravenelle, 3785 (98475), was imported in 1913; sire, Certain (31606), by Bienvenu (13292), out of Vitesse (42675); dam, Louise De Reves (76871). Gavenelle has taken first premium in a two and four horse team and in a six-horse team in the International show at Chicago. Mr. Hoyt also owns some fine Hereford stock, among them Flora Donald IV (348400), Miss Gipsy Maid II (496972), and he has recently added fifteen more fine registered Herefords. These animals are a fine acquisition and a valuable asset to the county.

Jesse Newton Dick. The communities which do not have the proportion of intelligent retired farmers, many of whom are capitalists, as residents lack an element that may be one of great importance. The farmer's life leads to thought and contemplation and a man who through his own toilsome efforts can acquire a competency and retire to enjoy it while yet in middle life must be possessed of excellent judgment, which should be a valuable addition to community life. He should be a man

with clearer views concerning many things and more able to give sensible advice and offer practical suggestions in regard to the everyday problems that have to be settled when interests clash, as they do in congested sections contrasted with the larger freedom of country life. In the pleasant town of Philo may be found fine examples of the retired farmer who have become exceedingly useful members of this community, and one who was held in general esteem was Jesse Newton Dick, who was called from this life on the 10th of August, 1917. He lies buried in the Maharry Cemetery near Wingate, Indiana.

Jesse N. Dick was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, December 7, 1857. His parents were Eli H. and Jane P. (Maharry) Dick, the former of whom was born at Baltimore, Maryland, August 15, 1822, and the latter in Indiana, February 10, 1829. They came to Champaign County in 1878 and settled on a farm in Philo Township which Mr. Dick had purchased in 1876. He carried on the usual agricultural industries here during the rest of his active life, and died at Philo January 30, 1897. His widow survived for many years afterward, her death occurring at Philo September 15, 1915. Of their three children, one son and two daughters, all are now deceased. The daughters were Ellen and Emma.

Jesse N. Dick attended the public schools in Indiana and was a student of De Pauw University for two years. In 1878 he accompanied his parents to Champaign County. In 1879 he began his farming operations on the homestead and continued to reside in Philo Township, where he owned 320 acres of fine land. He moved then to the village and in 1910 built his handsome modern residence, one of the finest in the place and a model of comfort and convenience.

Mr. Dick was married April 15, 1879, to Miss Harriet Emily Luse, who was born in Montgomery County, Indiana, and is a daughter of Jacob and Charlotte (Martin) Luse. The father of Mrs. Dick was born in Pennsylvania and the mother in Ohio. They had the following children: Rhoda A., who is deceased; Belinda, who is the wife of J. Bottenburg, a farmer; Amos M., who lives at Waynetown, Indiana; Harriet Emily, who is Mrs. Dick; Albert, who is a resident of Lebanon, Indiana; and Estella, George W. and William, all of whom are deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick had two daughters: Pearl, who is the wife of Mark Maddux, of Wingate, Indiana; and Elma Jane, who is the wife of W. H. Hickman, of Paris, Illinois. Mr. Dick was quite prominent in Democratic politics.

Henry Roscoe Shade is a graduate of the agricultural department of the University of Illinois, and since that time has applied his efforts successfully to farming in Champaign County. He has mixed the correct proportions of science, brains and practical experience in his work, and as to his success his fine farm in Somer Township, his standing and position in the business and civic community, can testify better than words.

Mr. Shade was born in Dale Township of McLean County, Illinois, November 1, 1880. He is a son of John K. and Anna (Bower) Shade, both of whom were Pennsylvanians. His father came out to Illinois about 1874, locating on a farm in McLean County, and living there until his death on June 2, 1896. His mother passed away on the 18th of March, 1898. Henry R. Shade was their only son. He has one sister, Imogene, wife of Charles A. Shoults, of Detroit, Michigan.

Henry R. Shade was sixteen years of age when his father died. He had in the meantime attended the country schools, and had acquired considerable knowledge of farming on the home place. Subsequently for four years he worked on the farm and at the same time attended the Blooming-

ton High School, from which he was graduated in 1900. Mr. Shade has had considerable business experience as well as association with farming. For three years after leaving high school he traveled, handling household specialties. Largely with such money as he was able to acquire by his own efforts he entered the University of Illinois and pursued the agricultural course from the fall of 1903 until his graduation in 1907. The vacations he had utilized as an employe of the International Harvester Company. He traveled for this company as salesman and collector in the states of Iowa and Illinois and also in Canada.

On December 24, 1906, Mr. Shade married Mary Thornburn, a native of Urbana. After graduation from the University of Illinois in 1907 Mr. Shade and wife went to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and resided there until January 1, 1908. While there Mr. Shade was employed by the International Harvester Company. In the spring of 1908 the young couple located on Mr. T. B. Thornburn's farm six miles north of Urbana, where Mr. Shade had ample opportunity to demonstrate his ability as a farmer and the value of his university course. They remained there until the spring of 1914, when they removed to Mr. Shade's own farm of 100 acres in Somer Township. His farm lies in sections 16, 15 and 20. Mr. Shade made considerable profit by raising seed corn, and he also specializes in the Duroc hogs and Holstein cattle. Besides his Illinois farm, which is a model place, Mr. Shade owns 320 acres in the Province of Alberta, Canada, and also 170 acres in Owen County, Indiana.

He is secretary of the Somer Township Telephone Company, has been township supervisor two years, being chairman of the printing and stationery committee and a member of the buildings and grounds committee of the board, and for a number of years he has been director and president of the local school board. He is a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church and affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Mr. and Mrs. Shade have two children: Genevieve Frances, born April 26, 1908, and Richard Norman, born April 15, 1912.

Patrick Brennon was for many years identified with the community of Ogden as a stanch and reliable merchant, a citizen who was never negligent of his responsibilities and duties, and altogether completed a well rounded life of activity and service.

A native of Dublin, Ireland, where he was born in 1844, he came to America at the age of fourteen. He had limited advantages in his youth, and by sheer force of will and determination gained a substantial position in the world. He lived in New York State for a time and then came west and located in Vermilion County, Illinois. He went from that county into the ranks of the Union army and three years after his honorable discharge in 1868 he laid the foundation of his own home by his marriage to Miss Cornelia Terrell.

Mrs. Brennon, who is still living at the old home in Ogden, was born at Georgetown, Illinois, and grew up and married there. Her parents were William and Artemesia (Douglas) Terrell, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Kentucky. Artemesia Douglas' family was related to that which gave Illinois and the nation the great figure of Stephen A. Douglas.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Brennon came to Ogden, which was then a small hamlet consisting only of a postoffice and a general store. Mr. Brennon taught school for several years here and also in the Fairmount school. The young people bought a home at Ogden and, possessing youth, industry and energy, they were not long in establishing themselves

permanently. For some time Mr. Brennon was passenger agent for the I. B. & W. Railroad, and at the same time extended his activities to the buying and shipping of grain. He did that on a commission basis, but in course of time his success enabled him to branch out as a buyer for J. W. Leney. He had splendid native business ability. His first independent effort was the establishment of a grocery store at Ogden, and as his trade increased he added other departments until he supplied all the general merchandise required by that community. Merchandising was the business to which he gave all his later years.

He was very young when he responded to the call of patriotism and enlisted with other boys from Vermilion County at Georgetown in Company C of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry. He took part in a number of notable engagements, and for three years followed the flag as a gallant soldier. After his discharge and in later years his sympathies were always with his army comrades, and it gave him the keenest pleasure to gather with them at reunions. He continued to attend those assemblages of the old soldiers as long as his health and strength permitted.

Mr. and Mrs. Brennon were the parents of two children, a son and daughter, William and Wintress. The name of the daughter was selected by her father. Realizing the advantages of a good education, Mr. and Mrs. Brennon supplied their children with the best facilities of the home schools and of outside institutions. William took his preparatory work in the Methodist Academy at Danville, a branch of the Illinois Wesleyan College, and afterwards completed the regular course of the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where he graduated in law. He made a splendid record as a student and for a time after his graduation was associated with Judge Benjamin in his office at Bloomington. Later he joined Mr. J. B. Mann, one of the prominent attorneys of Danville, and Mr. Mann desired that the young man should accompany him to Chicago. At that time young Brennon realized that his father needed him to assist in the local business, and an arrangement was made whereby the son assumed many of the responsibilities connected with the conduct of the store at Ogden and entered a partnership with his father. William Brennon married Miss Mary Louise Whitzell, of St. Joseph village. Four children have been born to them, Jessica, Virginia Terrell, named for her grandmother, Mary Elizabeth and Dorothea Patricia. These constitute a fine group of young people, the joy and comfort of Mrs. Brennon.

The daughter Wintress Brennon after finishing the course of the public schools at Ogden entered the famous St. Mary of the Woods school near Terre Haute, Indiana, and then for six years was a student of the University of Illinois. She graduated in the literary and art department in 1914 and in 1917 completed the course of the Library School. She is a thoroughly trained and graduate librarian and has recently accepted the post of branch librarian at Gary, Indiana, where her duties began September 1, 1917.

In the fullness of years and in the fullness of accomplishment as a business man and citizen Patrick Brennon passed away August 19, 1913. He was long regarded as one of the most reliable business men of Champaign County, and possessed many other excellent traits of character, so that his memory is secure. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Brennon has continued to live in the old homestead at Ogden, with her daughter as her chief companion. The Brennon family have long been identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Ogden. In politics the late Patrick Brennon was a Republican and was affiliated with the Masonic Order, the Order of Palm and Shell, and was an honorary member of the

Eastern Star, in which Mrs. Brennon is an active member. Long before his death Mr. Brennon was made happy in the realization that his son would continue the business, and today that fine old establishment is continued at Ogden under the capable management of William Brennon.

ALONZO O. MORRISON. One of the families that was established in Vermilion County, Illinois, in the early '40s and has ever since been a representative agricultural one in east central Illinois bore the name of Morrison. This branch of the family was of pioneer stock in Ohio and doubtless can trace its far back ancestry to Scotland. The leading representative in Champaign County is Alonzo O. Morrison, a highly respected resident of Homer, Illinois.

Alonzo O. Morrison was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, November 17, 1859. His parents were James Perry and Harriet A. (Sterns) Morrison. The father was born in Ohio and the mother in Virginia. When they came to Illinois James Perry Morrison secured land from the government, and this land he developed and his subsequent life was devoted to general farming and stock-raising. He was a man of sterling character, just in all his dealings with his neighbors and generous to his children. His death occurred in 1888. His widow survived until 1894. They were the parents of the following children: Elijah, who is a resident of Homer, Illinois; James, who died in infancy; Alonzo O.; Jasper, who died in childhood; Florence, who is the wife of J. M. Boggess, of Homer; and Harland P., who resides at Homer.

Alonzo O. Morrison attended the public schools and remained at home assisting his father. When he was twenty-seven years old he took charge of a farm of 120 acres that his father had given him in Vermilion County, on which he carried on farming for two years and then sold advantageously and bought a part of the old homestead and still owns eighty acres of the original land that his father secured from the government some seventy years ago. To the above purchase he added others, and continued his agricultural operations in Vermilion County for eleven years. In 1907 Mr. Morrison came to Homer and since then has been dealing in Belgian and Percheron horses.

Mr. Morrison was married March 24, 1886, to Miss Elizabeth Clutter, who was born in Vermilion County, Illinois, and they have one son, Howard Monroe, who is associated with his father in the horse business. The family home is a fine, modern structure of brick which stands in a pleasant part of the town. Mr. Morrison and family are members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics he is a stanch Republican. For many years he has been a member of the order of Knights of Pythias. Mr. Morrison is numbered with the solid, substantial and dependable citizens of Homer.

GEORGE W. FENIMORE. After half a century of almost uninterrupted peace and prosperity America is again at war, and in this condition the people appreciate more than ever the splendid services and devotion of those brave boys in blue who defended the Union at the time of the Civil War. That war made America a great and united nation, unexampled in resources and material achievement, and there is a direct logical connection between the victories of the Union troops on Southern battlefields fifty years ago and the present great world struggle, when America, by lending its resources and soldiers to war-stricken Europe occupies the dominant position in the world's affairs and can practically dictate the terms on which national life everywhere shall be reorganized on a basis of permanent democracy.

Hence there is every reason to refer gratefully to the soldiers of our own Civil War, and pay tribute to the guardians of the nation in those critical times. One of them in Champaign County was George W. Fenimore, proprietor of the Fenimore House of Sidney. After a long life of arduous labor and industry he spent his declining years with the tender devotion and care of his wife and daughters, and answered the final summons of death on October 29, 1917.

George W. Fenimore was born in Randolph County, Indiana, February 22, 1842, a son of Pierson and Eliza Fenimore, both natives of New Jersey, of English descent. His parents came to Indiana at an early day, and were married in that state. Pierson Fenimore was a well known road contractor and spent a useful, industrious career.

Second in a family of five sons, George W. Fenimore, at the age of twenty-one, volunteered at Indianapolis in Battery A of the Fourth Indiana Light Artillery. This battery was sent south, first to Nashville, Tennessee, where it participated in one of the struggles of the war, afterwards did guard duty at Murfreesboro, and was in service in that part of Tennessee until the close of the struggle. Only by change of plans was Mr. Fenimore deprived of the privilege of accompanying Sherman on the great campaign from Atlanta to the sea, and he has always regretted that he could not have taken part in that glorious campaign. He was mustered out of service and given his honorable discharge at Indianapolis on August 1, 1865.

He then went back to his old home in Indiana, but in the fall of the same year came to Champaign County, Illinois, and joined friends at the town of Sidney. September 18, 1866, he married Miss Catherine Morgan, who has been his faithful companion and sharer of joys and sorrows over half a century. Mrs. Fenimore is of German and Irish descent and a daughter of Job and Susan (Shrigley) Morgan, both natives of Virginia. From Virginia they moved to Ohio, locating near Zanesville, where her father became a farmer. Mrs. Fenimore was fifth in a family of five sons and three daughters, all of whom were educated in the public schools of Ohio. The Morgan family finally came to Sidney, Illinois.

At the time of their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Fenimore located on a farm eight miles southwest of Sidney, near Linn Grove, and began the cultivation and improvement of an almost raw tract of 160 acres out on the broad prairie. They had the courage and enthusiasm of young people and made some additions to their prosperity during the five years they spent in that district. Later they bought eighty acres and remained on and cultivated that farm for seven years. On selling it they bought a place near Fithian in Vermilion County, and after making that their home for nine years removed to Sidney and bought the property then known as the Black Hotel. For thirty years Mr. and Mrs. Fenimore conducted this as a model country hotel, under the name Fenimore House, and they enjoyed a prosperous business and rendered a splendid service to all who were entertained within their gates.

Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Fenimore, three sons and five daughters, Alice, William, Otis, May and Minnie, twins, Elizabeth, Anna and Charles. The oldest son William was taken away from the family circle at the age of eleven years. From the first the training and education of these children were matters close to the hearts of Mr. and Mrs. Fenimore, and they sent the children regularly to the public schools of Fithian and Sidney. Anna became a student of the Normal School at Danville, Indiana, and for several years was a successful teacher in Champaign County. She then married Frank Freeman, and was the mother of two children, Lucile and Carl. Mrs. Freeman died when these children were still young, and both of them were then taken into the home

of their grandparents and have received their utmost devotion and affection. Both are now students of the public schools of Sidney.

Otis Fenimore married Pearl Mansfield and they reside in Oklahoma City, where he is successfully engaged in the automobile business. They have two children, Alma and Robert. Otis Fenimore made a splendid record when a young man for his industry. He began his career as a telegraph operator at Sidney, and possessing good and thrifty habits somewhat later removed to Oklahoma and invested his capital in land. He became cashier in a bank at Lambert, Oklahoma, where he remained six years, and then removed to the capital of the state and engaged in the automobile business. May Fenimore married Arthur Busey, who is in the brokerage business in Oklahoma City. Their three children are Elsie, George and Roy. Charles Fenimore is engaged in farming near Salt Lake City, Utah, where he and his wife, whose maiden name was Florence Towne, reside. Their one child is named George.

The three remaining daughters, Alice, Elizabeth and Minnie, remain at home with their mother and their presence is a constant source of comfort to her. By their loving and unselfish devotion they have done much to smooth out life's pathway, and have repaid in a generous measure some of the parental love and watchful care bestowed upon them as children.

The Fenimore family are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically they give their allegiance to the Republican party. Mr. Fenimore was one of the charter members of the Grand Army Post at Sidney, was active in its organization and for years served as commander of the post.

In addition to the above, compiled from material while he was living. it is fortunate that an estimate of this valued old citizen of Sidney can be published as written in the words of a friend. With some repetition, it will serve to complete a well rounded account of his life.

Again the Lord of battle has given command, taps have sounded and another "boy in blue" has been "mustered out." George Washington, son of Pierson and Eliza Fenimore, was born February 22, 1842, near Huntsville, Randolph County, Indiana, and died at his home in Sidney, October 29, 1917, aged seventy-five years, eight months and seven days. He was the second of five sons, three of whom grew to manhood. His early life was spent in the Indiana home and not unlike the boyhood of other boys. Facilities for school were meager in those days, and he attended a subscription school that was opened in the vicinity. When the Civil War broke out it was his intention to enter the army. Twice he applied for admission, but not having the required chest expansion was rejected. He was determined to overcome this disability and did. He enlisted in Company A, Fourth Indiana Light Artillery at Indianapolis early in 1864 and served until the close of the war. He started with Sherman on his famous march to the sea, but was cut off by General Hood at Murfreesboro. Mr. Fenimore was not in the thick of this battle, but did valiant and commendable service in caring for the dead and wounded. It was always with enthusiasm that he recalled these war experiences, and great was his pride that he had given service to his country in its time of need. He received his honorable discharge at Indianapolis, August 1, 1865.

In October of that year he came to Illinois and made his home with relatives—the family of Richard Bloxsom—near Sidney. On September 18, 1866, he was married to Miss Catherine Morgan. The early years of their married life were spent on a farm near Lynn Grove. In 1879 they disposed of this farm and purchased land near Fithian, where they lived until 1887 when they removed to the present home. The "Fenimore House" has become a landmark in and about Sidney, and its genial host will be

sadly missed, not only by the residents of this community, but by a large traveling public. Mr. and Mrs. Fenimore were accorded a happy privilege in the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary on September 18, 1916. Mr. Fenimore is survived by the widow and the following children: Otis and Mrs. Mae Busey of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Charles of Salt Lake City, Utah; and Alice, Minnie and Elizabeth at home. Two grandchildren, Lucile and Carl Freeman, have lived in the home since infancy, and one of Mr. Fenimore's great desires was to be spared to see this girl and boy able to care for themselves. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Other grandchildren left are: Elsie, George and Roy Busey, and Alma, Robert and George Fenimore. Two brothers, Edward and Samuel, live at Rockville, Missouri. One son, Willie, died in 1880 while the family lived near Fithian, and a daughter, Anna, died at home October 1, 1907.

Sidney Post G. A. R. has lost a stanch and loyal member. This comrade, who has gone, was very proud to wear the little brown army button, to give service to the soldier living and to do honor to the soldier dead. Memorial Sunday and Decoration Day in Sidney will not be the same with Mr. Fenimore away. He was converted and united with the Methodist Church in Fithian. His chief thought was always for others, and he enjoyed having his family and friends about him and he did gladly for them all that he could. All during his long and painful illness he was patient and grateful for everything that was done for him. He had a firm belief in an all-wise God and a life eternal, and repeatedly gave assurance that "all is well." For—

"He who marks the sparrow's fall
Knows where each hero lies,
And humble blood for justice shed,
By Him is not despised;
And when in the last reveille
The dead ranks throng about,
Foremost among the just shall stand
These soldiers mustered out."

William J. Quinlan. Any list of the big farmers and land owners of Crittenden Township would include the name of William J. Quinlan. Mr. Quinlan has been a resident of Champaign County for nearly half a century, and he used the generous rewards of his agricultural labors here to extend his investments to several states.

Mr. Quinlan was born near Covington, Kentucky, March 15, 1856, a son of Daniel and Margaret (Harty) Quinlan. Both parents were born in Ireland. His father came to America in 1847, locating in Kentucky. In June, 1856, a few weeks after the birth of William J., the family moved to Illinois, locating in Peoria county, and in 1868 they came to Champaign County, locating in section 20 of Crittenden Township. Daniel Quinlan was a man of marked prosperity and industry. He died at Tolono, Illinois, in 1899. His widow is still living in Ohio, at the advanced age of ninety-two. They have six children: Margaret, who died in infancy; William J.; John, who died in childhood; Bridget, wife of Frank Hesler, of Ohio; Mary, who died in 1891; and Ellen, wife of W. J. Reinhart, of Ohio.

William J. Quinlan has always lived close to the old home, grew up and received his education largely in Champaign County, and after reaching manhood his father gave him as a start eighty acres. The passing years have brought notable increases to his holdings and he is now the

fortunate possessor of 560 fertile acres in sections 20 and 29, Crittenden Township. He also owns a farm of 320 acres in Iowa and another place of eighty acres in the State of Ohio. Mr. Quinlan has made his prosperity as a general farmer and stock raiser and hard work and intelligent management have been the keynote of his career. He is a director of the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Pesotum and has also been a prominent figure in public affairs in Crittenden Township. Four years he served as assessor, as collector fourteen years, and was a director of the local schools for thirty-five years. Mr. Quinlan is a Democrat and a member of the Catholic Church.

He gets his daily delivery of mail from rural route No. 46 out of Tolono. On April 23, 1879, Mr. Quinlan married Mary A. Ryan, a native of Ohio. Eight children have been born into their home: Margaret; John T., deceased; James E., at home; Nellie; Mae; William T.; Josephine C.; and Daniel Francis, deceased. These children were liberally educated and Mae and Josephine C. are successful teachers.

JOHN RUSSELL STEWART. As a citizen who for many years was closely identified with journalism and local affairs in Champaign County, the people of this section feel a corresponding interest in the personality and career of John Russell Stewart. As supervising editor of this publication, the publishers feel that this interest should be gratified by the inclusion of a brief personal biography.

He was born on his father's farm in Butler County, Pennsylvania, November 6, 1840, a son of William and Eliza Jane (Gibson) Stewart, who were both of direct Scotch-Irish descent. Mr. Stewart received his education in the local public schools and private academies, grew up on his father's farm, and at the age of eighteen qualified for work as a teacher and was in the schoolroom in that capacity for four terms.

Coming west in 1863, he found work in the public schools of Scott County, Iowa. In the same year he had volunteered his services to the Union army in the Civil War, but was rejected on account of defective eyesight. After four years in Scott County, Iowa, he moved to Tama County, and became superintendent of schools at Toledo, the county seat. In 1868, he was elected superintendent of the Tama County public schools and filled that office until the time of the Chicago fire in 1871.

As early as 1860 Mr. Stewart became deeply interested in politics and for more than half a century has actively championed the principles of the Republican party as writer, as speaker and as local campaigner. While in Iowa his active work in politics led to a connection as one of the owners of the Republican newspaper published at the county seat of Tama County. Soon after the great Chicago fire in 1871 he was called to the Milwaukee Sentinel and made telegraph editor of that paper. In 1875 he removed to Quincy, Illinois, as solicitor and associate editor of the Quincy Whig, and in 1881 assumed the desk of night editor and editor's assistant on the Illinois State Journal at Springfield. Mr. Stewart was connected with the Illinois State Journal for ten years.

On January 1, 1891, he became editor of the Champaign Gazette, then owned by the late Henry H. Harris. Ten years later Mr. Stewart, with E. C. Flanigan and O. L. Davis, bought the Gazette and incorporated it. Mr. Stewart became president of the company and editor in chief of the paper, and was actively identified with the enterprise until about 1911, when he retired and practically gave up all active newspaper work.

He was four times elected president of the Illinois Republican Editorial Association and was an influential member of that organization until the close of the campaign of 1904. Since early youth his church association

has been with the Presbyterians. On December 27, 1868, at Clinton, Iowa, Mr. Stewart married Adella M. Morris, daughter of Anson L. and Maria G. Morris. Their only child is John Starr Stewart, who in 1908, at Springfield, married Alice Mary McIntyre, and this marriage has given Mr. and Mrs. Stewart a granddaughter, Alice Adella Stewart.

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

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

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

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA
977.366ST4S C003
A STANDARD HISTORY OF CHAMPAIGN COUNTY I
2
3 0112 025396091



Thank you for your order !

This media compilation, our respective advertisements and marketing materials are protected under U.S. Copyright law. The Federal Digital Millennium Copyright Act and various International Copyright laws prohibit the unauthorized duplication and reselling of this media. Infringement of any of these written or electronic intellectual property rights can result in legal action in a U.S. court.

If you believe your disc is an unauthorized copy and not sold to you by Rockyiguana or Ancestry Found please let us know by emailing at

mailto:dclark4811@gmail.com

It takes everyone's help to make the market a fair and safe place to buy and sell.